

Cottam Solar Project

Environmental Statement Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

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Issue Sheet

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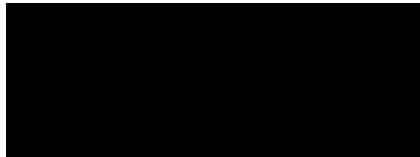
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8 LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 This chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES) provides a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) that assesses the potential landscape and visual effects of the Scheme. The emphasis in this chapter is to set out the approach that has been undertaken to the LVIA process and to identify the likely significant effects of the Scheme.

8.1.2 For the relevant introductory information about the Scheme, please refer to **ES Chapter 1** Introduction [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.1]

[Appendices and Figures: Main Division](#)

8.1.3 This LVIA chapter is supported by the following Appendices and Figures provided in the ES Volume 2:

- **Appendix 8.1** LVIA Methodology [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1]
- **Appendix 8.2** Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2]
- **Appendix 8.3** Assessment of Potential Visual Effects [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3]
- **Appendix 8.4** Consultation [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4]
- **Appendix 8.5** Policy Commentary [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.5]
- Figure 8.1 Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Site Location and Study Area [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.1]
- Figure 8.2 Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Aerial Photography [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.2]
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- Figure 8.2.3 Cottam 3a and 3b Aerial Photography [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.2.3]
- Figure 8.2.4 Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1 Aerial Photography [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.2.4]
- Figure 8.3 Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Landform [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.3]
- Figure 8.4 Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Landscape Character – National [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.4]
- Figure 8.5 Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Landscape Character – Regional [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.5]
- Figure 8.6 Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Landscape Receptors [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.6]
- Figure 8.6.1 Cottam 1 Landscape Receptors [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.6.1]
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- Figure 8.7.4 Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1 Visual Receptors [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.4]
- Figure 8.7.5 Cottam 1 Residential Receptors Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.5]
- Figure 8.7.6 Cottam 2 Residential Receptors Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.6]
- Figure 8.7.7 Cottam 3a and 3b Residential Receptors Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.7]
- 8.7.8 Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1 Residential Receptors Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.8]
- Figure 8.7.9 Cottam 1 Transport Receptors Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.9]
- Figure 8.7.10 Cottam 2 Transport Receptors Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.10]
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- Figure 8.7.13 Cottam 1 PRoW Receptors Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.13]
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- Figure 8.7.15 Cottam 3a and 3b PRoW Receptors Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15]
- Figure 8.7.16 Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1 PRoW Receptors Plan [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.16]
- Figure 8.7.17 Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Bare Earth ZTV [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.13]
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- Figure 8.10.1 Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.10.1]

- Figure 8.11 Cottam 1 Augmented ZTV (including viewpoint locations) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.11]
- Figure 8.12 Cottam 2 Augmented ZTV (including viewpoint locations) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.12]
- Figure 8.13 Cottam 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV (including viewpoint locations) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.13]
- Figure 8.14 Cottam Viewpoint Verified Photography and Photomontages [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14]
- Figure 8.15 Cottam Cumulative Developments [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15]
- Figure 8.15.1 Cumulative Sites Cottam 1, 2 and 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV (including viewpoint locations) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.1]
- Figure 8.15.1.1 Cumulative Sites Cottam 1 Augmented ZTV (including viewpoint locations) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.1.1]
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- Figure 8.15.2 Cumulative Developments Cottam 1, 2 and 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV (including viewpoint locations) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2]
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- Figure 8.15.2.2 Cumulative Developments Cottam 2 Augmented ZTV (including viewpoint locations) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.2]
- Figure 8.15.2.3 Cumulative Developments Cottam 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV (including viewpoint locations) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.3]
- Figure 8.15.2.4 Bumble Bee Farm Cumulative Developments Cottam 1,2 and 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.4]
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- Figure 8.15.2.6 Gate Burton Cumulative Developments Cottam 1,2 and 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.6]
- Figure 8.15.2.7 High Marnham Cumulative Developments Cottam 1,2 and 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.7]
- Figure 8.15.2.8 Tillbridge Cumulative Developments Cottam 1,2 and 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.8]
- Figure 8.15.2.9 West Burton Cumulative Developments Cottam 1,2 and 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.9]

- Figure 8.16 Central Lincolnshire Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping
- Figure 8.16.1 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan- Cottam 1 North (sheet 1) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.1]
- Figure 8.16.2 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan - Cottam 1 North (sheet 2) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.2]
- Figure 8.16.3 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan Cottam - 1 North (sheet 3) [EN010133/APP/6.4.8.16.3]
- Figure 8.16.4 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan - Cottam 1 South (sheet 1) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.4]
- Figure 8.16.5 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan - Cottam 1 South (sheet 2) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.5]
- Figure 8.16.6 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan - Cottam 1 West (sheet 1) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.6.]
- Figure 8.16.7.1 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan - Cottam 1 West Option A (sheet 2) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.7.1]
- Figure 8.16.7.2 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan - Cottam 1 West Option B (sheet 3) [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.7.2]
- Figure 8.16.8 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan - Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.8]
- Figure 8.16.9 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan - Cottam 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.9]
- Figure 8.16.10 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation & Enhancement Plan - Cottam 3a [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.10]
- Figure 8.16.11 Detailed Landscape Sections [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.11]

Appendices and Figures: Subdivision

8.1.4 The LVIA Methodology is based on recognised national guidelines and is outlined in section 8.4. A full methodology suite is included in **Appendix 8.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1]**, with the following subdivisions:

- **Appendix 8.1.1** LVIA Methodology [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.1]
Appendix 8.1.2 Visual Assessment of Residential Properties Methodology [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.2]
- **Appendix 8.1.3** Cumulative Methodology [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.3]
- **Appendix 8.1.4** Zone of Theoretical Visibility Methodology [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.4]
- **Appendix 8.1.5** Viewpoint Photography and Photomontage Methodology [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.5]

8.1.5 The Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects is included in **Appendix 8.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2]** to cover the overall landscape character at a broad grained scale and also a series of individual contributors to landscape character at a fine-grained scale, with the following subdivisions:

- **Appendix 8.2.1** Landscape Character Overview [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.2** Regional Character Overview [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.3** Individual Land Use Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.4** Individual Topography and Watercourses Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4]
- **Appendix 8.2.5** Individual Communications and Infrastructure Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5]
- **Appendix 8.2.6** Individual Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6]
- **Appendix 8.2.7** Individual Public Rights of Way and Access Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7]
- **Appendix 8.2.8** Individual Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8]
- **Appendix 8.2.9** Individual Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9]
- **Appendix 8.2.10** Individual Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10]

- **Appendix 8.2.11** Individual Cable Route Corridors Sheets
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.11]

- **Appendix 8.2.12** Individual Substations Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12]

8.1.6 The Assessment of Potential Visual Effects is included in **Appendix 8.3** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3], with the following subdivisions:

- **Appendix 8.3.1** Viewpoint Overview [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.1]
- **Appendix 8.3.2** Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2]
- **Appendix 8.3.3** Individual Residential Receptor Sheets
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3]
- **Appendix 8.3.4** Individual Transport Receptor Sheets
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4]
- **Appendix 8.3.5** Individual PRow Receptor Sheets [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5]

8.1.7 A number of meetings have taken place with statutory and non-statutory consultees and details of this are included in **Appendix 8.4** Consultation [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4], with the following subdivisions:

- **Appendix 8.4.1** Scoping Consultation [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.1]
- **Appendix 8.4.2** Section 42 Consultation with Local Authorities
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]
- **Appendix 8.4.3** Heritage Topic Area [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.3]
- **Appendix 8.4.4** Workshop Minutes [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.4]

8.1.8 As part of the decision making process for NSIPs, the LVIA must have regard to important and relevant policy matters and this is included in **Appendix 8.5** Policy Commentary [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.5].

[Appendices and Figures: Site Specific Division](#)

8.1.9 The assessment of the landscape and visual effects is undertaken on a site-by-site basis and each figure and appendix takes this into account, where applicable, under the further subdivisions.

8.1.10 For the Assessment of Potential Landscape Effects at the broad grained scale, there are Regional Landscape Character Areas that are scoped out of the assessment and these are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.2.2.1.1** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.1.1] to **Appendix 8.2.2.1.8** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.1.8].

8.1.11 There are Regional Landscape Character Areas at the broad grained scale, that are carried forward into the assessment and these are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.2.2.2.1** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2.1] to **Appendix 8.2.2.2.9** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2.9],

8.1.12 There are individual contributors to landscape character at the fine-grained scale, that are carried forward into the assessment, with the following sub-divisions:

- **Appendix 8.2.3.1** Land Use Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.3.2** Land Use Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.3.3** Land Use Cottam 3a and 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.4.1** Topography and Watercourses Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.4.2** Topography and Watercourses Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.4.3** Topography and watercourses Cottam 3a and 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.5.1** Communications and Infrastructure Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.5.2** Communications and Infrastructure Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.5.3** Communications and Infrastructure Cottam 3a and 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.6.1** Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.6.2** Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.6.3** Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure Cottam 3a and 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.7.1** Public Rights of Way and Access Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.7.2** Public Rights of Way and Access Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.7.3** Public Rights of Way and Access Cottam 3a and 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.8.1** Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.8.2** Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.8.3** Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes Cottam 3a and 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.3]

- **Appendix 8.2.9.1** Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.9.2** Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.9.3** Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens Cottam 3a and 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.10.1** Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.10.2** Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.10.3** Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations Cottam 3a and 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.11.1** Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam Power Station) [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.11.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.11.2** Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam 2) [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.11.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.11.3** Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a to 3b) [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.11.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.12.1** Substation Site – West A Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.1]
- **Appendix 8.2.12.2** Substation Site– West B Cottam 1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]
- **Appendix 8.2.12.3** Substation Site–Cottam 2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.3]
- **Appendix 8.2.12.4** Substation Site– Cottam 3a [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.4]
- **Appendix 8.2.12.5** Substation Site– Cottam 3b [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.5]

8.1.13 The full list of Viewpoint Receptors are set out within the Overview Table at **Appendix 8.3.1** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.1].

8.1.14 The Viewpoint Receptors that are scoped out of the assessment are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2.1** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2.1] to **Appendix 8.3.2.2.28** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2.28].

8.1.15 The Viewpoint Receptors that are carried forward into the assessment (with potential significant effects) are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.3.1** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3.1] to **Appendix 8.3.2.3.30** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3.30].

- 8.1.16 The Viewpoint Receptors that are carried forward into the assessment (with potential for no significant effects) are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.4.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4.33 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2.33]**.
- 8.1.17 The full list of Residential Receptors are set out within the Overview Table at **Appendix 8.3.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.1]**. This list includes the receptors that are scoped out of the assessment.
- 8.1.18 The Residential Receptors that are carried forward into the assessment (with the potential for significant effects) are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.3.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.3.2.8 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.3.2.8]**.
- 8.1.19 The Residential Receptors that are carried forward into the assessment (with the potential for no significant effects) are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.3.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.3.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.3.3.15 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.3.3.15]**.
- 8.1.20 The full list of Transport Receptors are set out within the Overview Table at **Appendix 8.3.4.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.1]**. This list includes the receptors that are scoped out of the assessment.
- 8.1.21 The Transport Receptors that are carried forward into the assessment (with the potential for significant effects) are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.4.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4.2.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.4.2.14 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4.2.14]**.
- 8.1.22 The Transport Receptors that are carried forward into the assessment (with the potential for no significant effects) are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.4.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4.3.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.4.3.26 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4.3.26]**.
- 8.1.23 The full list of PRoW Receptors are set out within the Overview Table at **Appendix 8.3.5.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.1]**. This list includes the receptors that are scoped out of the assessment.
- 8.1.24 The PRoW Receptors that are carried forward into the assessment (with the potential for significant effects) are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.5.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.5.2.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.5.2.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4.2.5]**.
- 8.1.25 The PRoW that are carried forward into the assessment (with the potential for no significant effects) are included in the individual sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.5.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.5.3.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.5.3.12 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.5.3.12]**.
- 8.1.26 The Cumulative Developments that are taken into consideration in the assessment (with the potential for significant effects) for the Viewpoint Receptors are included in the table at **Appendix 8.3.2.1 [C6.8.3.2.1]**.

- 8.1.27 The Cumulative Developments that are taken into consideration in the assessment (with the potential for significant effects) for the Residential Receptors are included in the table at **Appendix 8.3.3.1.2 [C6.8.3.3.1.2]**.
- 8.1.28 The Cumulative Developments that are taken into consideration in the assessment (with the potential for significant effects) for the Transport Receptors are included in the table at **Appendix 8.3.4.1[C6.8.3.4.1]**.
- 8.1.29 The Cumulative Developments that are taken into consideration in the assessment (with the potential for significant effects) for the PRoW Receptors are included in the table at **Appendix 8.3.5.1.2[C6.8.3.5.1.2]**.
- 8.1.30 This LVIA chapter and supporting appendices was prepared by Chartered Landscape Architects at Lanpro. Please refer to the Statement of Competence at **Appendix 1.1** of the ES [EN010133/6.3.1.1].

8.2 Consultation

- 8.2.1 IGP are also progressing the West Burton Solar Project, which is within the same locality as the Scheme. Whilst the West Burton Solar Project is being run in parallel with the Scheme, it is the subject of a separate DCO application and is therefore the subject of a separate ES. The statutory consultation periods for the two projects were run in conjunction with each other.
- 8.2.2 A number of meetings have taken place with statutory consultees to introduce the Scheme and commence discussions and engagement on detailed matters relating to the Scheme which include:
- West Lindsey District Council (Planning Officer)
 - Lincolnshire County Council (Head of Planning)
 - Lincolnshire County Council Countryside Services (Place Directorate)
 - Lincolnshire County Council (Planning Officer, Planning Policy)
 - Lincolnshire County Council (Landscape Architect)
 - Bassetlaw District Council (Team Manager, Planning Policy)
 - Bassetlaw District Council (Conservation Manager, Planning Services)
 - Nottinghamshire County Council (Team Manager, Planning Policy)
 - Nottinghamshire County Council (Principal Planning Officer, Planning Policy)
 - Nottinghamshire County Council (Landscape Architect Manager Via East Midlands Ltd)
 - Nottinghamshire County Council (Landscape Architect Environmental Manager and Design)
 - Canal & Rivers Trust (Area Planner)

- Environment Agency (Planning Advisor, Sustainable Places)
- Natural England (Lead Adviser – East Midlands Area Delivery)
- Historic England (Development Advice Team Leader (North)); and
- Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust (Senior Conservation Officer)

8.2.3 All of the pre-application consultation that has been undertaken on the Scheme (and how regard has been had to the feedback received) is described in the Consultation Report **[EN010133/APP/C5.1]** that forms part of the DCO application. There is further detail on ‘LVIA specific’ consultations that have taken place to date. In respect of the EIA Scoping Consultation and Section 42 Consultation stages, specific details are set out in further detail in the tables within **Appendix 8.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4]** and split into 4 separate appendices. Any key matters raised in this consultation process and any comments and responses are covered in this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices, where relevant:

- **Appendix 8.4.1** Scoping Consultation **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.1]**
- **Appendix 8.4.2** Section 42 Consultation with Local Authorities **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]**
- **Appendix 8.4.3** Heritage Topic Area **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.3]**
- **Appendix 8.4.4** Workshop Minutes **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.4]**

[EIA Scoping Consultation](#)

8.2.4 The Scheme was subject to EIA scoping with a Scoping Opinion issued on the 9th March 2022 **[EN01033/APP/C6.3.2.2]**. Specific responses to the LVIA Scoping comments are located within **Appendix 8.4.1** Scoping Consultation **[EN01033/APP/C6.8.4.1]**.

[Pre and Post Section 42 Consultation](#)

8.2.5 Non-statutory consultation and engagement with local authorities was undertaken to introduce the Scheme and to commence and continue discussions on detailed matters relating to this LVIA chapter and in supporting **Appendix 8.4.2** Section 42 Consultation with Local Authorities **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]**.

[Section 42 Consultation](#)

8.2.6 A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) was published in June 2022. This included a preliminary landscape and visual impact assessment which set out the methodologies and assessment used to undertake the LVIA. The host authorities (LCC, WLDC, NCC and BDC) were invited to comment in response to the statutory consultation held between 15 June and 27 July under Section 42(1) (b) of the 2008 Planning Act and the EIA Regulations. The key matters raised in these responses have been taken into account in preparing the LVIA and are set out within **Appendix 8.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4]**. This Section 42 consultation extended throughout

the duration of the Scheme development and preparation of the ES including on-going engagement at workshops held throughout April, May, June, July and August 2022. Regard has been had for the feedback received from the workshops within this LVIA chapter and supporting **Appendix 8.4.4** Workshop Minutes **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.4]**.

- 8.2.7 The PEIR was published in June 2022. This included a landscape and visual impact assessment which set out the methodologies and assessment used to undertake the EIA. On 16 June 2022, Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), landscape consultants employed by LCC and other representatives from the other host authorities were invited to comment in response to the statutory consultation held between 15 June and 27 July under Section 42(1) (b) of the 2008 Planning Act. Any key matters raised in those responses have been taken into account in preparing this LVIA chapter and supporting **Appendix 8.4** **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4]**, where relevant.

Section 47 Consultation

- 8.2.8 Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 confers a duty on the Applicant to consult the local community affected by the development. The Applicant has already undertaken two stages of public consultation, non-statutory throughout November and December 2021, followed by a second statutory stage throughout June and July 2022. A summary of the feedback received through the non-statutory consultation and statutory consultation was made available to stakeholders via the project website. Responses to the consultations have been taken into account within this LVIA chapter as part of the design process, where applicable and further details are set out in the Consultation Report **[EN01033/APP/C5.1]**.

Voluntary Consultation

- 8.2.9 Voluntary consultation with individual property owners was also undertaken throughout the duration of the Scheme development and the preparation of the ES including discussion of bespoke mitigation relevant to individual properties. Further details are set out in the Consultation Report **[EN010133/APP/C5.1]**.

ES Topic Area Consultation

- 8.2.10 Interrelationships with Ecology and Biodiversity **[EN010133/APP/C6.2.9]**, Cultural Heritage **[EN010133/APP/C6.2.13]** and Glint and Glare **[EN010133/APP/C6.2.16]** ES topic areas and detailed consultation has been undertaken when developing the landscape and visual baseline and in identifying landscape and visual effects for this LVIA chapter and supporting **Appendix 8.4.3** Heritage Topic Area **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.3]**.

8.3 Policy Context

8.3.1 For Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs), a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) is required to be undertaken as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment. As part of the decision-making process for solar NSIPs, the Secretary of State must have regard to important and relevant matters, including any relevant National Planning Statement (NPS). Applicants should therefore ensure that their applications, and any accompanying planning documents demonstrate that the Scheme in question is compliant with the policy tests set out in any relevant NPS. The legislative and policy context relating to the Scheme is set out in Chapter 6 of the ES (Energy Need, Legislative Context, and Energy Policy [EN010133/APP/C6.2.6].) Policy relevant to landscape and visual matters is set out below.

National Planning Policy Statements

8.3.2 At the time of writing, there is no designated NPS which specifically deals with ground mounted solar developments. However, there are aspects of three of the designated energy NPSs and three draft NPSs which are relevant to decision making of the Secretary of State and are likely to be deemed important and relevant considerations in any examination of a ground mounted solar farm DCO (to the extent they have not been superseded by the time this application is being examined). This LVIA chapter and supporting **Appendix 8.5** Policy Commentary [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.1], therefore has regard to the following NPSs:

- National Policy Statement EN-1 (adopted)¹
- National Policy Statement EN-1 (emerging)²
- National Policy Statement EN-3 (adopted)³
- National Policy Statement EN-3 (emerging)⁴
- National Policy Statement EN-5 (adopted)⁵

¹ Department of Energy and Climate Change, *Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)*, July 2011 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

² Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, *Draft Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)*, September 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

³ Department of Energy and Climate Change, *National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3)*, July 2011 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

⁴ Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, *Draft National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3)*, November 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

⁵ Department of Energy and Climate Change, *National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (EN-5)*, July 2011 [Online] [Accessed 14 December 2022]

- National Policy Statement EN-5 (emerging)⁶

[Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy \(EN -1\) \(July 2011\)](#)

8.3.3 The adopted Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) sets out national policy for the energy infrastructure on the decisions by the Secretary of State. At paragraph 2.2.1, the targets to cut greenhouse gas emissions are defined, but this target has been superseded by a 2019 amendment to the Climate Change Act 2008⁷ with a fundamental shift from 80% to 100%.

"The target for 2050

(1) It is the duty of the Secretary of State to ensure that the net UK carbon account for the year 2050 is at least [100%] lower than the 1990 baseline",

8.3.4 At paragraph 2.2.2, the adopted NPS gives due regard to delivering this change on the road to 2050, stating that:

"Delivering this change is a major challenge not least for the energy providers, and the Government is working to ensure their efforts produce the major, rapid change the UK needs. Within a market-based system and with severe constraints on public expenditure in the near-term, the focus of Government activity in this transformation is clear. It should be on developing a clear, long-term policy framework which facilitates investment in the necessary new infrastructure (by private sector) and in energy efficiency).

8.3.5 The policies relevant to LVIA within the adopted NPS that afford important and relevant consideration are set out as follows.

8.3.6 Paragraph 5.9.5 requires the applicant to undertake a landscape and visual assessment and report it in the ES. These assessments should include reference to any landscape character assessment and associated studies and also that any relevant policies based on these assessments should also be taken into consideration. Paragraph 5.9.6 also refers to the need for these assessments to include the effects during construction of the project and the effects of the completed development and its operation. Paragraph 5.9.7 requires the visibility and conspicuousness of the project during construction and of the presence and operation of the project and potential impacts on views and visual amenity to be considered. Light pollution effects should also be taken into consideration at paragraph 5.9.7.

8.3.7 With regard to decision making paragraph 5.9.8 states that the aim should be to minimise harm to the landscape and provide reasonable mitigation where possible and where appropriate. This paragraph also sets out the matter of landscape effects and the consideration of landscape value:

⁶ Department for Business, Energy Industrial Strategy, *Draft National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (EN-5)*, September 2021 [Online] [Accessed 14 December 2022]

⁷ Climate Change Act 2008 [Online] [Accessed 15 December 2022]

"Landscape effects of the project depend on the existing character of the local landscape, its current quality, how highly it is valued and its capacity to accommodate change. All of these factors need to be considered in judging the impact of a project on landscape".

8.3.8 Paragraph 5.9.16 notes that in reaching a judgement, the Secretary of State should:

"consider whether any adverse impact is temporary, such as during construction, and/or whether any adverse impact on the landscape will be capable of being reversed in a timescale that the IPC considers reasonable".

8.3.9 Paragraph 5.9.17 sets out design considerations and aspects of mitigation, with these being:

"whether the project has been designed carefully, taking account of environmental effects on the landscape and siting, operational and other relevant constraints, to minimise harm to the landscape, including by reasonable mitigation".

8.3.10 With regard to visual impact, paragraph 5.9.18 acknowledges that visual effects are likely, and that:

"The IPC will have to judge whether the visual effects on sensitive receptors, such as local residents, and other receptors, such as visitors to the local area, outweigh the benefits of the project".

8.3.11 Paragraph 5.9.22 considers mitigation in the context of siting and design of infrastructure, noting that:

"adverse landscape and visual effects may be minimised through appropriate siting of infrastructure within that site, design including colours and materials, and landscaping schemes".

[Draft Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy \(EN-1\) \(September 2021\)](#)

8.3.12 The emerging Draft Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) sets out national policy for the delivery of major energy infrastructure.

8.3.13 The draft NPS states with regard to Government policy on energy and energy infrastructure development at paragraph 2.1.3 that:

"The National Infrastructure Strategy (NIS) committed to boosting growth and productivity across the whole of the UK, levelling up and strengthening the Union through investment in rural areas, towns, and cities, from major national projects to local priorities. It is also committed to government putting the UK on the path to meeting its net zero emissions target by 2050 by taking steps to decarbonise the UK's power networks which together account for over two-thirds of the UK emissions – and take steps to adapt to the risks posed by climate change."

8.3.14 Chapter 4 of the draft NPS sets out the assessment principles, including general policies and considerations and introduces at paragraph 4.1.3 the provision for ecological enhancements:

"In considering any proposed development, in particular when weighing its adverse impacts against its benefits, the Secretary of State should take into account:

its potential benefits including its contribution to meeting the need for energy infrastructure, job creation, ecological enhancements, and any long-term or wider benefits"

- 8.3.15 The draft NPS also sets out the importance of early engagement within the planning process within paragraph 4.1.9:

"Early engagement at the pre-application stage with key stakeholder, including public regulator, Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies (SNCBs), and those likely to have an interest in a proposed energy infrastructure application, is strongly encouraged. The benefits of early engagement with key stakeholders are numerous. Early engagement can aid in ensuring that all relevant information can be properly assessed by the Examining Authority at the examination stage of the project and in the subsequent report."

- 8.3.16 The draft NPS also stresses the importance of good design at paragraph 4.1.10:

"Applicants need to consider the importance of 'good design' criteria. Such consideration of 'good design' criteria should be demonstrated when submitting applications for energy infrastructure to the Secretary of State."

- 8.3.17 The policies relating to landscape and visual effects are largely the same as those for the adopted EN-1, with exceptions of policy relating to management plans at paragraph 5.10.10, which states that:

"Applicants should consider how landscapes can be enhanced using landscape management plans, as this will help enhance environmental assets where they contribute to landscape and townscape quality".

[National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure \(EN-3\) \(July 2011\)](#)

- 8.3.18 The adopted National Policy Statement EN-3 sets out national policy for the delivery of electricity generation from renewable sources of energy as being an important element in the Government's development of the low-carbon economy.

- 8.3.19 The adopted NPS states with regard to design at paragraph 2.4.2 that:

"Proposals for renewable energy infrastructure should demonstrate good design in respect of landscape and visual amenity, and in the design of the project to mitigate impacts such as noise and effects on ecology."

[Draft National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure \(EN-3\) \(September 2021\)](#)

- 8.3.20 The emerging Draft National Policy Statement EN-3 sets out national policy for electricity generation from renewable sources of energy as an essential element of the transition to net zero and states at paragraph 1.1.1 that:

"Our analysis suggests that demand for electricity is likely to increase significantly over the coming years and could more than double by 2050. This could require a fourfold

increase in low carbon electricity generation, with most of this likely to come from renewables.”

- 8.3.21 The policies relevant to LVIA within the draft NPS that afford important and relevant consideration apply to solar panels, particularly the approach to assessing cumulative impacts, which are set out in paragraph 2.51.2:

“The approach to assessing cumulative landscape and visual impact of large-scale solar farms is likely to be the same as assessing other onshore energy infrastructure. Solar farms are likely to be in low lying areas of good exposure and as such may have a wider zone of visual influence than other types of onshore energy infrastructure. However, whilst it may be the case that the development covers a significant surface area, in the case of ground-mounted solar panels it should be noted that with effective screening and appropriate land topography the area of a zone of visual influence could be zero”.

- 8.3.22 Paragraph 2.51.3 recognises that *“visualisations may be required to demonstrate the effects of a proposed solar farm on the setting of heritage assets and any nearby residential areas or viewpoints”.*

- 8.3.23 Paragraph 2.51.4 places emphasis on good design noting that when developing projects and *“will be expected to direct considerable effort towards minimising the landscape/visual impact of solar PV arrays”.*

- 8.3.24 With regard to design and layout, there is also consideration at paragraph 2.51.5 over the importance of vegetation:

“The applicant should have regard in both the design layout of the solar farm, and future maintenance plans, to the retention of growth of vegetation on boundaries, including the opportunity for individual trees within the boundaries to grow on to maturity. The landscape and visual impact should be considered carefully at the pre-application stage. Existing hedges and established vegetation, including mature trees, should be retained wherever possible”.

- 8.3.25 There is also consideration at paragraph 2.51.6 of alternative ways to apply mitigation, which minimises impact:

“Applicants should consider the potential to mitigate landscape and visual impacts through, for example, screening with native hedges. Efforts should be made to minimise the use and height of security fencing. Where possible projects should utilise existing features such as hedges or landscaping, to screen security fencing and use natural features, such as vegetation planting to assist in site security. Projects should minimise the use of security lighting. Any lighting should use passive infra-red (PIR) technology and should be designed and installed in a manner which minimises impact”.

[National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure \(EN-5\) \(July 2011\)](#)

- 8.3.26 The adopted National Policy Statement EN-5 sets out national policy for the delivery of electricity generating infrastructure that the UK needs to move to a low carbon

economy while maintaining security of supply will be heavily dependent on the availability of a fit for purpose and robust electricity network.

- 8.3.27 The policies relevant to LVIA within the adopted NPS that afford important and relevant consideration are within Section 2.8, specifically at paragraph 2.8.3 that states:

"Sometimes positive landscape and visual benefits can arise through the reconfiguration or rationalisation of existing electricity network infrastructure".

- 8.3.28 With regards to mitigation, paragraph 2.8.11 comments on specific measures of mitigation that are also important and relevant:

*"**Screening**, comprising localised planting in the immediate vicinity of residential properties and principal viewpoints can also help to screen or soften the effect of the line, reducing the visual impact from a particular receptor".*

[Draft National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure \(EN-5\) \(September 2021\)](#)

- 8.3.29 The emerging Draft National Policy Statement EN-5 gives consideration to the environmental constraints associated with the electricity networks infrastructure and sets out at paragraph 2.2.3 that:

"Applicants should bear in mind that the connection between the initiating and terminating points of a proposed new electricity line need not go via the most direct route. Indeed, engineering, environmental, and community constraints may make this infeasible or unsuitable".

- 8.3.30 The draft NPS also refers to the need for flexibility in the location of substations at paragraph 2.2.4:

"There will usually be a degree of flexibility in the location of the development's associated substations, and applicants should consider carefully their placement in the local landscape. In particular, the applicant should consider such characteristics as the local topography and/or the possibilities for screening of the infrastructure. (See Section 2.11 below and Section 5.10 in EN-1.)".

- 8.3.31 The policies relevant to LVIA within the draft NPS that afford important and relevant consideration specific considerations relate to the implications of new substations at paragraph 2.11.3 that:

"New substations, sealing and end compounds, and other above-ground installations that serve as connection, switching, and voltage transformation points on the electricity network may also give rise to adverse landscape and visual impacts. Nonetheless, government does not believe that the development of these installations is incompatible in principle with developers' statutory duty under Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989".

- 8.3.32 The draft NPS also refers to The Horlock Rules at paragraph 2.11.11: "Guidelines for the design and siting of substations were established by National Grid in 2009 in pursuance of its duties under Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989. These principles

should be embodied in Applicants' proposals for the infrastructure associated with new overhead lines."⁸

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (as amended July 2021)

8.3.33 The Framework does not contain specific policies for nationally significant infrastructure projects, but based on the current status of draft NPS EN-3, this DCO application will be determined under section 105 of the Planning Act 2008, under which the draft NPS and the NPPF will both be "important and relevant" matters. The following paragraphs from the Framework are considered to be important and relevant considerations in respect of landscape and visual amenity.

8.3.34 Paragraph 100, in respect of protecting and enhancing public rights of way (PRoW):
*"Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails."*⁹

8.3.35 Paragraph 130, which requires development to be sympathetic to local character and setting:

b) are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping;

*c) are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change (such as increased densities)*¹⁰

8.3.36 Paragraph 131 in respect of making sure that appropriate measures are in place for the planting of new trees:

*"Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments and can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments (such as parks and community orchards), that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible. Applicants and local planning authorities should work with highways officers and tree officers to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places, and solutions are found that are compatible with highways standards and the needs of different users."*¹¹

⁸ The Horlock Rules [Online] [Accessed 14 December 2022]

⁹ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, *National Planning Policy Framework* Para 100, July 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

¹⁰ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, *National Planning Policy Framework* Para 130, July 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

¹¹ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, *National Planning Policy Framework* Para 131, July 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

- 8.3.37 Paragraph 174, which states that planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
- a) *“Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);*
 - b) *Recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;*
 - d) *minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.¹²”*
- 8.3.38 Paragraph 179, in relation to habitats and biodiversity, sets out that *“To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:*
- “b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity”.*
- 8.3.39 Paragraph 180 (c), in relation to ancient woodland or veteran trees that:
- “(c) development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists”.*
- [Planning Practice Guidance - Natural Environment \(21 July 2019\)](#)
- 8.3.40 This guidance explains key issues in implementing policy to protect and enhance the natural environment, including local requirements. Relevant topics are:
- Green Infrastructure
 - Biodiversity, geodiversity, and ecosystems
 - Landscape
- 8.3.41 Green Infrastructure: Paragraph 006¹³ states that:
- “High-quality networks of multifunctional green infrastructure contribute a range of benefits, including ecological connectivity, facilitating biodiversity net gain and nature recovery networks and opportunities for communities to undertake conservation work.”*

¹² Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, *National Planning Policy Framework* Para 130, July 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

¹³ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, *Planning Practice Guidance Green Infrastructure* Paragraph: 006 Reference ID: 8-006-20190721, Revision date: 21 July 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

8.3.42 Biodiversity, geodiversity, and ecosystems: Paragraph 012¹⁴ states that:

“As set out in the Government’s 25 Year Environment Plan, the Nature Recovery Network is an expanding habitat across England. It comprises a core network of designated sites of importance for biodiversity and adjoining areas that function as stepping stones or wildlife corridors, areas identified for new habitat creation and up to 25 nature recovery areas for targeted action. Defra, Natural England, and other government bodies are working with national and local partnerships to deliver the Network, which includes support for developing maps and advice to show where actions to improve and restore habitats would be most effective.”

8.3.43 Landscape: Paragraph 036¹⁵ states that:

“The National Planning Policy Framework is clear that plans should recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and that strategic policies should provide for the conservation and enhancement of landscapes. This can include nationally and locally designated landscapes but also the wider countryside.”

[Emerging Draft Central Lincolnshire Local Plan \(Proposed Submission\) March 2022](#)¹⁶

8.3.44 The Scheme is predominantly located within the jurisdiction of Central Lincolnshire. Plans to steer the future of Central Lincolnshire cover the combined area of the City of Lincoln, West Lindsey and North Kesteven were initially adopted in 2017 and are now being revised. Key policy changes include:

- **Climate Change:** *The plan is ambitious in trying to address climate change in a number of policies, including a requirement for net-zero-carbon homes and a framework for considering renewable energy.*

[Local Planning Policy: Central Lincolnshire Local Plan 2012-2036 \(Adopted April 2017\)](#)¹⁷

8.3.45 Central Lincolnshire refers to the combined area covered by the City of Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey. These three councils have come together in a formal partnership with Lincolnshire County Council to prepare a joint Local Plan for the area. The following policy is considered to be an important and relevant matter in respect of landscape and visual amenity.

¹⁴ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, *Planning Practice Guidance Biodiversity, geodiversity and ecosystems* Paragraph: 0121 Reference ID: 8-0012-20190721 Revision date: 21 July 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

¹⁵ Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, *Planning Practice Guidance Landscape* Paragraph: 036 Reference ID: 8-036-20190721, Revision date: 21 July 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

¹⁶ Central Lincolnshire, *Emerging Draft Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (Proposed Submission) March 2022*

¹⁷ Central Lincolnshire, *Central Lincolnshire Local Plan 2012-2036* Adopted April 2017 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

8.3.46 Policy LP17: Landscape, Townscape and Views: The Local Plan states that *“Central Lincolnshire has a rich and distinctive environment that is valued and enjoyed by those who live, work, visit and invest here”*. In terms of character and setting, the wording of the policy states that:

“To protect and enhance the intrinsic value of our landscape and townscape, including the setting of settlements, proposals should have particular regard to maintaining and responding positively to any natural and man-made features within the landscape and townscape which positively contributes to the character of the area, such as (but not limited to) historic buildings and monuments, other landmark buildings, topography, trees and woodland, hedgerows, walls, water features, field patterns and intervisibility between historic settlements. Where a proposal may result in significant harm, it may, exceptionally, be permitted if the overriding benefits of the development demonstrably outweigh the harm: in such circumstances the harm should be minimized and mitigated.”

8.3.47 Policy LP17 with regard to the Areas of Great Landscape Value, states in the policy wording that:

“The considerations set out in this policy are particularly important when determining proposals which have potential to impact upon the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB and the Areas of Great Landscape Value (as identified on the policies map) and upon Lincoln’s historic skyline.”

8.3.48 Policy LP18: Climate Change and Low Carbon Living: It is widely recognised that mankind’s use of fossil fuels is contributing to climate change. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is a key part of limiting climate change, and will require concerted action at all levels, from international to local. The policy wording with regard to energy production sets out that:

“development could provide site based decentralized or renewable energy infrastructure. The infrastructure should be assimilated into the proposal though the careful consideration of design. Where the infrastructure may not be conspicuous, the impact will be consider (sic) against the contribution it will make.”

8.3.49 The wording of Policy LP18 also sets out with regard to carbon off setting that *“development could provide extensive, well designed, multi-functional woodland (and, if possible, include a management plan for the long term management of the wood resource which is produced), fenland or grassland. The Central Lincolnshire Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping (or subsequent relevant document) should be used to guide the most suitable habitat for a particular area”*.

8.3.50 Policy LP19: Renewable Energy Proposals: This policy states that:

“Proposals for non-wind renewable technology will be assessed on their merits, with the impacts, both individual and cumulative, considered against the scheme, taking account of the following:

- *The surrounding landscape and townscape...*

...Proposals will be supported where the benefit of the development outweighs the harm caused and it is demonstrated that any harm will be mitigated as far as is reasonably possible.

8.3.51 Policy LP20: Green Infrastructure Network: This policy recognises the Central Lincolnshire Green Infrastructure Study, which highlights areas of existing habitats and areas where there are deficiencies in green infrastructure at the strategic level across Central Lincolnshire and identified opportunities to enhance the network. The policy states that:

“Development proposals which are consistent with and help deliver the opportunities, priorities and initiatives identified in the latest Central Green Infrastructure Study and Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Study, will be supported.”

8.3.52 Policy LP21: Biodiversity and Geodiversity: This policy notes that a Biodiversity Mapping Study¹⁸ has been prepared for Central Lincolnshire. The maps identify the known areas of opportunity for local landscape-scale habitat improvement within Central Lincolnshire, and as such they represent strategic areas for biodiversity. The policy states that:

“Development proposals should create new habitats, and links between habitats, in line with Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping to maintain a network of wildlife sites and corridors to minimize habitat fragmentation and provide opportunities for species to respond and adapt to climate change. Development should seek to preserve, restore and re-create priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species set out in the Lincolnshire Biodiversity and Geodiversity Action Plan.”

8.3.53 Policy LP26: Design and Amenity: The wording of this policy sets out that:

“All development, including extensions and alterations to existing buildings, must achieve high quality sustainable design that contributes positively to local character, landscape and townscape, and supports diversity, equality and access for all... As such, and where applicable, proposals will be required to demonstrate, to a degree proportionate to the proposal, that they:

c. Respect the existing topography, landscape character and identity, and relate well to the site and surroundings, particularly in relation to siting, height, scale, massing, form and plot widths;

f. Incorporate and retain as far as possible existing natural and historic features such as hedgerows, trees, ponds, boundary walls, field patterns, buildings or structures;

g. Incorporate appropriate landscape treatment to ensure that the development can be satisfactorily assimilated into the surrounding area.

i. Protect any important local views into, out of or through the site”.

¹⁸ Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership, *Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership 2022* [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

8.3.54 Policy DM5: Landscape Character. The policy introduction notes that *“People value the countryside and its landscape for many different reasons, not all of them related to traditional concepts of aesthetics and beauty. It can provide habitats for wildlife and evidence of how people have lived on the land and harnessed its resources”*. The policy criteria set out that:

“3. Landscaping, planting and restoration proposals should take account of the relevant landscape character policy area as set out in the Landscape Character Assessments covering Nottinghamshire”.

[Nottingham City Council Local Plan Part 2 \(2020\)](#)¹⁹

8.3.55 Whilst the Scheme and associated Study Area is predominantly located outside the jurisdiction of Nottingham City Council and Bassetlaw District Council part of the Cable Route Corridor lies within the jurisdiction of this Local Planning Authority. The following local planning policy is relevant:

- Policy EN6 Biodiversity
- Policy EN7 Trees

8.3.56 Policy EN6 Biodiversity: This policy seeks to increase biodiversity to deliver benefits and to contribute to Nottingham’s ecological network both as part of on-site development and through off site provision. The policy requires that:

“3. Development will only be permitted where significant harmful ecological impacts are avoided. Where harmful impacts cannot be avoided they should be mitigated through the design, layout and detailing of the development, or as a last resort compensated for, which may include off-site measures”.

8.3.57 Policy EN7 Trees: This policy recognises the importance of trees and states that:

“Consideration will be given to the management and maintenance of retained trees, new trees (sic) and planting as part of the assessment of planning Applications and any losses will be mitigated by additional planting where possible”.

[Emerging Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2037 \(Publication Version\) August 2021, Addendum January 2022 and Second Addendum May 2022](#)²⁰

8.3.58 This Local Plan sets out the Council’s development strategy, planning policies and proposals, including site allocations, to guide land use and planning decisions in the District up to 2037.

8.3.59 Policy ST37: Landscape Character: The plan notes that Bassetlaw is predominantly a rural district that is characterised by its diverse landscapes and arable countryside.

¹⁹ Nottingham City Council, *Land and Planning Policies, Local Plan Part 2*, January 2020 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

²⁰ Bassetlaw District Council, *Emerging Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2036 (Publication Version) August 2021, Addendum January 2022 and Second Addendum May 2022* [Online] [Accessed 12 December 2022]

The policy sets out that *“Proposals that contribute to the nature and quality of Bassetlaw’s landscapes will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:*

a) it protects and where possible enhances the distinctive qualities of the relevant landscape character policy zone, as identified in the Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment 2009 by conserving, restoring, reinforcing or creating relevant landscape forms and features”:

8.3.60 Policy ST39: Green and Blue Infrastructure: The policy notes that *“The connectivity, quality, multifunctionality, biodiversity and amenity value of the green and blue infrastructure network will be enhanced, extended and managed through:*

b) Protecting, enhancing and restoring watercourses, ponds, lakes and water dependent habitats where appropriate;

c) Providing for biodiversity net gain, including reconnecting vulnerable and priority habitats (see policy ST41);

d) Protecting and enhancing ancient and mature woodland and hedgerows, and providing for tree planting to secure recreational benefits and/or to aid carbon offsetting;

g) linking walking and cycling routes, bridleways and public rights of way to and through development, where appropriate”;

[Bassetlaw District Local Development Framework Core Strategy Development Management Policies DPD \(2011\)](#)²¹

8.3.61 The Bassetlaw District Local Development Framework (2011) was adopted by Bassetlaw District Council on 22 December 2011. It sets out a vision for change in Bassetlaw to 2028, along with space-specific policy approaches to be taken in order to achieve this vision The following policies are deemed to be relevant to this assessment:

- Policy DM4: Design & Character
- Policy DM8: The Historic Environment
- Policy DM9: Green Infrastructure; Biodiversity & Geodiversity; Landscape; Open Space & Sports Facilities
- Policy DM10: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

8.3.62 Policy DM4: The supporting policy text at paragraph 5.9 sets out a direct quotation from Planning Policy Statement 1 that *“Good design is indivisible from good planning”* and the policy wording also sets out that *“All Major development proposals will need to demonstrate that they:*

²¹ Bassetlaw District Council, *Local Development Framework, December Core Strategy Development Management Policies DPD 2011* [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

ii. compliment and enhance the character of the built, historic and natural environment”.

8.3.63 Policy DM8: The supporting policy text at paragraph 5.24 sets out that *“The historic environment is an asset of enormous cultural, environmental and social value. It contributes significantly to our quality of life and to the quality of our places”.*

8.3.64 Policy DM9: The wording of the policy sets out that *“Development proposals will be expected to support the Council’s approach to the delivery, protection and enhancement of multi-functional green infrastructure, to be achieved through the establishment of a network of green corridors and assets (please refer to the Council’s Green Infrastructure work for a full list of green corridors and nodes within, and running beyond, the District”.*

8.3.65 The wording of Policy DM9 also sets out that *“Development proposals will be expected to demonstrate, in line with the Council’s Green Infrastructure work, that:*

i)they protect and enhance green infrastructure assets affected by the development and take opportunities to improve linkages between green corridors;

ii)where they overlap with or will affect existing green infrastructure nodes or corridors, such assets are protected and enhanced to improve public access and use:

iii)where opportunities exist, development proposals provide improvements to the green infrastructure network that benefit biodiversity through the incorporation of retained habitats and by the creation of new areas of new habitats; and

iv)they provide robust delivery mechanisms for, and means of ensuring the long-term management of green infrastructure”.

8.3.66 With regards to landscape character, the wording of Policy DM9 sets out that:

“New development proposals in and adjoining the countryside will be expected to be designed so as to be sensitive to their landscape setting. They will be expected to enhance the distinctive qualities of the landscape character policy zone in which they would be situated, as identified in the Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment²². Proposals will be expected to respond to the local recommendations made in the Assessment by conserving, restoring, reinforcing or creating landscape forms and features accordingly”.

8.3.67 DM10: This policy sets out that *“The Council will be supportive of proposals that seek to utilise low carbon and renewable energy to minimise CO2 carbon emissions. Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure will need to demonstrate that they;*

i. Are compatible with policies to safeguard the natural and built environment, including heritage assets and their setting, landscape character and features of recognised importance for biodiversity”.

²² Please contact the Council for further information.

[Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2037](#) ²³

8.3.68 The draft Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2037 (published August 2021) has been reviewed for relevant policies and it has been determined that the following are relevant to this LVIA chapter and supporting **Appendix 8.5** Policy Commentary [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.1]:

- Policy ST37: Landscape Character
- Policy ST39: Green and Blue Infrastructure
- Policy ST40: Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- Policy 41: Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
- Policy ST42: The Historic Environment
- Policy 43: Designated and Non-Designated Heritage Assets
- Policy 48: Protecting Amenity
- Policy ST50: Reducing Carbon Emissions, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
- Policy ST51: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation

8.3.69 Policy ST37: This policy supporting text recognises that *“Bassetlaw is predominantly a rural district that is characterised by its diverse landscapes and arable countryside”*. The policy also notes that development can make a positive contribution towards preserving and enhancing character and that landscape character assessment has a key role to play in influencing the design of development. With regard to landscape character assessment, the policy wording states that: *“Proposals that contribute to the nature and quality of Bassetlaw’s landscapes will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:*

- a) it protects and where possible enhances the distinctive qualities of the relevant landscape character policy zone, as identified in the Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment 2009²⁴ by conserving, restoring, reinforcing, or creating relevant landscape forms and features”.*

8.3.70 Policy ST39: This policy stresses the benefits of green infrastructure and how in using a landscape-scale approach the land can be used and managed for natural capital such as biodiversity enhancement and landscape restoration. The policy wording emphasises the importance of biodiversity net gain and making provision in new developments. *“The connectivity, quality, multifunctionality, biodiversity and amenity*

²³ Bassetlaw District Council, *Bassetlaw Local Plan, 2020-2037* August 2021 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

²⁴FCPR, *Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment*, August 2009 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2021]

value of the green and blue infrastructure network will be enhanced, extended and managed through:

b) protecting, enhancing and restoring watercourses, ponds, lakes and water dependent habitats where appropriate;

c) providing for biodiversity net gain, including reconnecting vulnerable and priority habitats (see policy ST41);

d) protecting and enhancing ancient and mature woodland and hedgerows and providing for tree planting to secure recreational benefits and/or to aid carbon offsetting”.

8.3.71 Policy ST40: This policy recognises that biodiversity and geodiversity are important components of the planning system and that in all cases, where the principle of development is considered appropriate, the mitigation hierarchy must be applied. The policy supporting text notes that *“Policy ST40 aims to prevent harm to biodiversity and geodiversity from direct impacts such as land take, and from indirect impacts such as recreation, changes to the quality of a watercourse, as well as any potential cumulative impacts”.* With regard to mitigation, the policy wording sets out that *“In all cases, where the principle of development is considered appropriate the mitigation hierarchy must be applied so that:*

a) firstly harm is avoided wherever possible; then

b) appropriate mitigation is provided to ensure no net loss or a net gain of priority habitat and local populations of priority species”.

8.3.72 The wording of Policy ST40 also states that *“All new development should make provision for at least 10% biodiversity net gain on site, or where it can be demonstrated that for design reasons this is not practicable, off site through an equivalent financial contribution”.*

8.3.73 Policy 41: This policy notes that trees and woodlands have long been part of Bassetlaw’s heritage and landscape and that *“The council will protect existing trees, woodlands and hedgerows and secure additional planting that increases canopy cover in the interests of biodiversity, amenity and climate change adaptation”.*

8.3.74 Policy ST42: This policy emphasises that Bassetlaw’s historic environment contributes significantly to quality of life, to a sense of place and to a tangible link to the past. The policy states that *“Proposals will be supported where they:*

g) improve access and enjoyment of the historic environment where appropriate, particularly where they retain, create or facilitate public access to heritage assets to increase understanding of their significance”.

8.3.75 Policy 43: This policy states that *“Proposals for development, including change of use that involve a designated heritage asset, or the setting of a designated heritage asset will be expected to:*

d) ensure significant views away from, through, towards and associated with the heritage asset(s) are conserved or enhanced”.

8.3.76 Policy 48: This policy notes that new development should be designed to consider amenity where the supporting states that *“The planning system plays an important role in safeguarding the quality of life of residents and improving the environmental quality of the District”*. The policy wording sets out that:

“Proposals for development should be designed and constructed to avoid and minimise impacts on the amenity of existing and future users, individually and cumulatively, within the development and close to it. As such, proposals will be expected to:

- a) not have a significant adverse effect on the living conditions of existing and new residents and future occupiers of the proposed development through loss of privacy, excessive overshadowing or overbearing impact; and*
- b) not generate a level of activity, noise, light, air quality, odour, vibration or other pollution which cannot be mitigated to an appropriate standard”*.

8.3.77 Policy ST50: stresses that climate change is more likely to bring about more extremes of weather locally and that planning for change should seek to limit the impact of development on the climate. The policy wording states that *“Proposals should incorporate measures that address issues of climate change mitigation through:*

h) making best use of available opportunities to reduce the impact of climate change on biodiversity and the natural environment by providing space for habitats and species to move through the landscape and for the operation of natural processes”.

8.3.78 Policy ST51: This policy commits to a reduction in carbon emissions to net zero by 2050 and stresses that strategic planning can contribute towards this by supporting forms of renewable and low carbon energy developments across the district. The policy wording states that:

“Development that generates, shares, transmits and/or stores renewable and low carbon energy, including community energy schemes, will be supported subject to the provision of details of expected power generation based upon yield or local self-consumption of electricity and by generation based upon yield or local self-consumption of electricity and by demonstrating the satisfactory resolution of all relevant wider impacts (including cumulative impacts) upon:

- a) location, setting and position in the wider landscape, resulting from its siting and scale;*
- b) the historic environment and natural environment, the most versatile agricultural land, air and water quality resulting from its location, scale, design, height or construction;*
- c) affected existing dwellings and communities from its scale, noise, light, glare, smell, dust, emissions or flicker;*
- d) existing highway capacity and highway safety.*

[Green Infrastructure Study for Central Lincolnshire \(December 2011\)](#)²⁵

8.3.79 The study aims to provide a strategic framework for guiding the planning and delivery of green infrastructure across Central Lincolnshire. The findings of the Study are presented as two volumes:

- Volume 1 – Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Volume 2 – Green Infrastructure Audit and Assessment

8.3.80 The study forms part of the evidence base for the combined Local Plan. In 2013 a Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping study was completed in order to take the Council's work on green infrastructure further. The extent of these areas is shown on **Figure 8.16 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16]** Central Lincolnshire Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping plan. The final network relies upon the pattern of existing green infrastructure to identify priorities for new green infrastructure creation. The network has three main components:

- Strategic Green Corridors: the priority areas for green infrastructure enhancement, linkage and creation. They are intended to become multi-functional zones but also include core-areas of natural habitat with areas for expansion and restoration.
- Strategic Green Access Links: within and connecting the Strategic Green Corridors. These are mainly off-road and should be designed for a mix of uses, e.g., pedestrian and cyclists, linking and integrating residential and business communities across the area to key services, leisure destinations and greenspaces.

[Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Study for Central Lincolnshire \(October 2013\)](#)²⁶

8.3.81 The study aims to provide an evidence base for the combined Local Plan. The Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Study (BOM) was a follow-on study from the Green Infrastructure Study (GI) of 2011. A recommendation of the GI Study was to develop Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping to update and inform the delivery of the GI Strategy, including the proposed Central Lincolnshire Ecological Network Strategy and Local GI Delivery Plans.

8.3.82 The BOM provides an overview of the broad spatial characteristics for the protection, recreation and expansion of Central Lincolnshire's ecological network. Figure 3.1 of the BOM shows the Woodland Habitat Opportunity Mapping where the existing habitats comprise Ancient Woodland, Planted Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS), other broad-leaved woodland and plantation woodlands. Figure 8.16 of the

²⁵ Chris Blandford Associates, *Green infrastructure Study for Central Lincolnshire*, December 2011 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

²⁶ Chris Blandford Associates, *Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Study for Central Lincolnshire*, October 2013 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

BOM shows the Wetland Opportunity Area Mapping where the existing habitats comprise rivers and watercourses, wetlands comprising of open waterbodies, fens, reedbeds, wet woodland and neutral grassland (comprising almost entirely of grazing marsh and small areas of lowland meadows. Figure 3.4 of the BOM shows Calcareous Grassland Opportunity Mapping and Figure 3.6 of the BOM shows that the Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) E (known as River Till and Fosdyke Navigation). The Central Lincolnshire Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Areas are shown in more detail on **Figure 8.16 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16]**.

Planning Policy Commentary

- 8.3.83 The table within **Appendix 8.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.5]** provides a commentary on the landscape-related planning policy and where relevant, how this LVIA chapter and supporting **Appendix 8.5** Policy Commentary **[EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.1]**, has covered any key criteria or matters within the policy.

8.4 Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria

Introduction

- 8.4.1 The methodology for this LVIA chapter is based on the general recommendations set out in Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition, LI IEMA, 2013²⁷. The guidelines are not prescriptive and set out a general approach that should be tailored to specific circumstances of the project that is being assessed. The methodology adopted for this assessment is set out in **Appendix 8.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.1]**. The assessment process comprises broadly of three stages: baseline appraisal (including fieldwork), production of visualisations and assessment of effects, including cumulative and in-combination effects, within the following step by step process:

- A desk study to assess the landscape and visual baseline is supported by a suite of landscape figures as listed in paragraph 8.1.4 within **Section 8.1**. which includes a review of published landscape character assessments as set out within **Section 8.5**. This baseline stage of the process was undertaken to identify the landscape and visual receptors to be assessed. These landscape and visual receptors have been finalised following consultation with statutory consultees at a series of meetings and workshops, the outcome of which is summarised in **Appendix 8.4** Consultation **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4]**. The appendix is split into four separate appendices where **Appendix 8.4.1** Scoping Consultation **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.1]** and **Appendix 8.4.2** Section 42 Consultation **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]** are relevant and important.

²⁷ Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment*, 3rd Edition, Routledge, London. 2013

- Detailed fieldwork to confirm aspects of the desk study and to verify proposed viewpoint locations.
- An assessment of the sensitivity (nature of the receptor) of landscape and visual receptors. This is defined through a combination of their value and susceptibility to change.
- An assessment of the magnitude of impact (nature of effect) of the Scheme during the construction period (winter), operation at year 1 (winter) and operation at year 15 (summer) and at decommissioning stage (winter). The magnitude of impact is assessed in relation to the size, scale, duration, and reversibility of the effect.
- An assessment of the significance of the effect to the landscape and visual receptors for the four stages of the Scheme (construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15), and decommissioning). This process systematically and transparently assesses the likely significant effects of the Scheme taking into account both embedded mitigation and additional mitigation at each of the four stages.
- Mitigation proposals are set out to prevent/avoid, reduce, and where possible offset or/compensate for any significant adverse landscape and visual effects. The approach to mitigation takes account of three phases, the primary mitigation phase (embedded mitigation), the secondary phase (additional mitigation) and the tertiary phase (residual Mitigation) which takes into consideration those measures outside the DCO application that has the potential to be secured under separate legal obligation, where appropriate.
- Re-evaluation of the significance of effect based on the mitigation proposed, to identify any residual landscape and visual effects. This step in the process considers how tertiary mitigation could potentially be bought forward as part of the Scheme to satisfy the wider strategic planning policy objectives. This re-evaluation phase is a valuable step of the process in order to recognise the importance and emphasise the role that landscape can play in our day-to-day lives and how the long-term benefits of tertiary mitigation are seen to contribute to LVIA process in the context of being custodians of the landscape resource of the UK.
- An assessment of the cumulative effects of the Scheme under two divisions being; the assessment of Cumulative Sites based on the four areas of land forming the Site, and the assessment of Cumulative Developments being the Scheme in combination with other similar developments, these being solar projects in the local area.
- Preparation of an Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) **[EN010133/APP/C7.3]** with a proposed schedule to be implemented throughout the lifetime of the Scheme. The Outline LEMP prescribes how the mitigation measures identified and proposed are to be implemented and managed to ensure the effectiveness and certainty in achieving the objectives of the mitigation strategy. This stage has been undertaken in conjunction with the ecology consultants.

- 8.4.2 This LVIA chapter and supporting appendices considers ‘*Technical Guidance Note (TGN) 2/21 Assessing landscape value outside national designations*’, May 2021 and also ‘*Technical Information Note 01/21 GLVIA Webinar Q&As*’.
- 8.4.3 Landscape effects and visual effects are considered separately in this assessment. Landscape effects relate to both direct physical effects of the Scheme (for example loss of existing trees) and effects on wider landscape character, including perceptual effects. Visual effects relate to the effect on views and visual amenity experienced by various receptors including residents, users of PRoW, road users and recreational users. Views from conservation areas, listed buildings, scheduled monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens are also considered where these features include recognised viewpoints, for example, used by tourists or other receptors. It should be noted that this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices, addresses effects on recognised views from cultural heritage resources; effects on ‘setting’ are not considered in this assessment and are presented in Chapter **13.0 [EN010133/APP/C6.2.13]** Cultural Heritage.
- 8.4.4 Effects are identified as being either reversible or irreversible and the duration of effects is also considered. Effects are described as being either beneficial, neutral or adverse depending on whether they are considered to have a positive or negative effect on the landscape or within views.
- 8.4.5 Impact assessment of any proposed development is an iterative process, with the overall aim being to avoid environmental impacts or, where impacts cannot be avoided completely, reducing identified impacts to acceptable levels. Based on the findings of this assessment, landscape and visual mitigation measures are designed to help integrate the Scheme into its landscape setting and mitigate any specific visual or physical effects that are identified. This LVIA chapter and supporting appendices considers the effects of mitigation measures being in place and identified residual impacts.
- Baseline
- 8.4.6 In order to evaluate likely significant effects, existing baseline conditions have been evaluated through a combination of desktop and physical surveys, and assessment work. This involves the Sites and Cable Route Corridor, as well as the surrounding area.
- 8.4.7 The methods of data collection have been discussed with relevant statutory and non-statutory consultees as appropriate. Consideration is also given to how the baseline conditions will evolve, (the ‘future baseline’). The landscape and visual baseline was finalised following consultation with statutory consultees at a series of meetings and workshops, the outcome of which is summarised in **Appendix 8.4 Consultation [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4]**. The appendix is split into four separate appendices where **Appendix 8.4.1** Scoping Consultation **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.1]** and **Appendix 8.4.2** Section 42 Consultation **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]** are relevant and important

Spatial Scope: Study Areas

- 8.4.8 The extent of the Study Areas adopted for this assessment have been derived from a combination of desktop study, site investigation and a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) analysis. The Study Areas include the area of each Site and Cable Route Corridor, and the full extent of the wider landscape which the Scheme may influence in a significant manner. These Study Areas have been finalised following consultation with statutory consultees at a series of meetings and workshops, the outcome of which is summarised in **Appendix 8.4** Consultation [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4]. The appendix is split into four separate appendices where **Appendix 8.4.1** Scoping Consultation [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.1] and **Appendix 8.4.2** Section 42 Consultation [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2] are relevant and important. There are four Study Areas that are considered in detail in the assessment process which are set out below. These four Study Areas extend to a 5km, 2km and 1km radius from the boundary of each Site and 0.5km buffer from the boundary of the Cable Route Corridor which run between each of the Sites. The extent of the 5km, 2km and 0.5km Study Areas are shown on **Figure 8.1** [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.1] and the 1km Study Area is shown on **Figures 8.7.5 to 8.7.8** [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.5 to EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.8].
- 8.4.9 The following paragraphs provide a statement on the justification for the extent of these four Study Areas.
- 8.4.10 The 2km Study Area: This is for the area of each Site and the built infrastructure within each of them, including the substations/energy storage areas and is based on the visibility of the Scheme. This radius is considered appropriate as the primary focus of the assessment due to the low height of the components, the existing flat topography and intervening built form and vegetation. This assessment within the 2km Study Area focuses upon greater detail on the effects on local landscape character and key visual receptors since significant effects are not expected beyond a 2km zone from the boundary of each Site. The key visual receptors are more likely to experience views or experience significant effects at this proximity to the Scheme. Any visual receptors outside the 1km Study Area and 0.5km Study Area that are identified with direct, extensive and/or open views towards the Scheme (particularly larger and taller elements or large open expanses of PV arrays) would be separately identified and included within this 2km Study Area, where appropriate. Within the assessment, this parameter is referred to as the '2km Study Area'.
- 8.4.11 The 5km Study Area: This is for the area of each Site and the built infrastructure within each of them and is based on the visibility of the Scheme. This radius does not apply to the substations/energy storage areas, in which case a 2km Study Area is considered to be adequate since the potential effects are not expected to extend beyond 2km. This radius is considered appropriate as the secondary focus since beyond this distance, even with good visibility it is deemed that the Scheme would be barely perceptible due to the low height of the components, the limited vertical elements of the Scheme and the layering provided by the strong framework of

hedgerows and tree cover. Within this radius, high sensitivity receptors are identified within the wider landscape such as Ridge Area of Greater Landscape Value (AGLV) and Gainsborough AGLV. Settlements to the east along the Limestone Escarpment in an elevated position such as Grayingham, Blyborough and Kirton in Lindsey that have views of the Scheme, and also the Scampton Viewing Area are identified. There is also potential for long distance views from key Lincolnshire landmarks; namely Lincoln Castle and Cathedral, which are identified in the 5km radius, albeit outside this Study Area. Within the assessment, this parameter is referred to as the '5km Study Area'.

8.4.12 The 1km Study Area: This is for the area extending as a radius for the Visual Assessment of the Residential Properties (the 'Residential Receptors') and for the Transport Receptors and is based on the visibility of the Scheme. This radius is considered appropriate for the residential receptors and transport receptors, since beyond this distance, even with good visibility it is deemed that the Scheme would be barely perceptible. Any residential and transport receptors outside the 1km Study Area that are identified with direct, extensive and/or open views towards the Scheme (particularly larger and taller elements or large open expanses of PV arrays) would be separately identified and included within the 2km Study Area, where appropriate. Within the assessment, this parameter is referred to as the '1km Study Area'.

8.4.13 The 0.5km Study Area for the Cable Route Corridor is proposed from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. This radius is considered appropriate for the Cable Route Corridor, since this involves the construction phase only, which is short term and temporary. Beyond this distance, even with good visibility it is deemed that this element of the Scheme would be barely perceptible. Within the assessment, this parameter is referred to as the '0.5km Study Area'.

Temporal Scope: Assessment Years

8.4.14 The assessment scenarios for the purposes of the EIA (and considered in this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices) are:

- Existing Baseline 2021.
- Construction: 2024 - 2026. The entire Scheme is anticipated to be 24 months with the potential likelihood of overlapping construction works on the different Sites.
- Operation: 2026. It has been assumed for the purposes of the EIA that the Scheme will be operational by end of Q1 2026.
- Decommissioning 2066. This would be the year when decommissioning of the Scheme would commence and has been based on a typical 40-year operational lifetime for solar projects. It has therefore been assumed for the purposes of the EIA that the Scheme will be decommissioned no earlier than 2066. Decommissioning is expected to take between 12 and 24 months. A 24-month

decommissioning period has been assumed for the purposes of the realistic worst case assessment in the LVIA, unless specifically stated otherwise.

- A future year of 2041 (15 years post first operation of the Scheme) is considered for this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices i.e., 15 years after commissioning, which is the typical period for the maturation of landscape planting.
- ‘Shared Cable Route Corridor’. Part of the Gate Burton Energy Park cable route and West Burton Solar Project cable route will fall within the Cable Route Corridor for the Scheme, in the vicinity of the Cottam Power Station. The cumulative environmental effects of the simultaneous or sequential construction of these cables has been assessed in this LVIA chapter. To accommodate the potential sequential installation of all three projects’ ducts and cables, a five-year construction duration is adopted for this, and assessed in this LVIA chapter. This will be over the period Q1 2024 to Q1 2029. For the purposes of the assessment, the construction phase effects are effects that result from activities during site preparation / enabling works, construction, and commissioning activities, for example, effects such as construction traffic, noise and vibration from construction activities, dust generation, site runoff, mud on roads, and the visual intrusion of plant and machinery on site.

8.4.15 *Construction Phase.* For the purposes of the assessment, the construction phase effects are effects that result from activities during site preparation / enabling works, construction, and commissioning activities, for example, effects such as construction traffic, noise and vibration from construction activities, dust generation, site runoff, mud on roads, and the visual intrusion of plant and machinery on site. Construction durations are described in Chapters 2 (EIA Process and Methodology) [EN010133APP/C6.2.2] and 4 (Scheme Description) [EN010133/APP/C6.2.4] of the ES. An overall 24-month construction period is anticipated for the Scheme. In addition, in respect of the Shared Cable Route Corridor (which is where part of the Gate Burton Energy Park cable route and West Burton Solar Project cable route fall within the Cable Route Corridor for the Scheme, in the vicinity of Cottam Power Station), the cumulative environmental effects of the simultaneous or sequential construction of these cables has been assessed in the ES. To accommodate the potential sequential installation of all three projects’ ducts and cables, a five year construction duration is adopted for this and assessed in this ES.

8.4.16 *Operational Phase.* These are effects associated with operation and maintenance activities during the generating lifetime of the Scheme, for example, the effects of the physical presence of the solar arrays and associated infrastructure, and their use and maintenance. Timescales associated with these effects are defined. In EIA terms, effects can be defined as short term (lasts for up to 12 months); medium term (lasts for 1 - 5 years); long term (more than 5 years); reversible long-term effects (long-term effects, which last for the lifetime of the Scheme, but which cease once it

has been decommissioned; and permanent effects (those which cannot be reversed following decommissioning).

- 8.4.17 *Decommissioning Stage.* Effects are those arising from activities for the duration of the decommissioning stage and will likely be short term, for example, site traffic, noise and vibration from decommissioning activities, dust generation, site runoff etc).
- 8.4.18 *Assessment Years.* The EIA considers the environmental impacts of the Scheme at all three stages described above. The operational life of the Scheme is anticipated to be 40 years and decommissioning is therefore estimated to be no earlier than 2066. This time period is assessed in the EIA (and within this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices).
- 8.4.19 The 'existing baseline' year for assessment is 2021 as this is the date on which baseline studies for the project were commenced. A future baseline is also considered within this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices. The future baseline considers factors that will change the current baseline, without the Scheme proceeding. Committed developments within the 5km Study Area for this LVIA are one factor that can influence the future baseline ('committed developments', which are those with current planning permission or allocated in adopted development plans). The potential effects of the Scheme is considered against both the current baseline and the future baseline in this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices.

Site Visits and Fieldwork

- 8.4.20 Following desk-based assessment, fieldwork was undertaken at six key stages during the EIA and augmented by additional fieldwork where necessary, which are:
- Section 42 Local Planning Authority Consultation stages
 - Section 47 Community Consultation stages
 - PEIR stage
 - LVIA chapter and appendices, baseline appraisal stage
 - LVIA chapter and appendices, production of visualisations stage; and
 - LVIA chapter and appendices, assessment of effects stage.
- 8.4.21 The majority of the fieldwork was undertaken on a worst-case basis, between November 2021 and April 2022 when there were no leaves on hedges and trees. Subsequent visits were undertaken in June, July, and August 2022 when there was greater vegetation cover.
- 8.4.22 Site assessment was undertaken for each Site and Cable Route Corridor using publicly accessible viewpoints. Assessment of residential property and other non-accessible receptors was estimated based on effects identified from the closest publicly accessible areas.

Two Components of LVIA

- 8.4.23 There are two components of LVIA that are described in GLVIA²⁸ as follows:
1. **“assessment of landscape effects:** *assessing effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right*
 2. **assessment of visual effects:** *assessing effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people”.*
- 8.4.24 This LVIA chapter and appendices have taken into account both the landscape and visual effects throughout the assessment process and this is set out within the full methodology suite included in **Appendix 8.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1]**. This appendix is split into four separate sub appendices, including **Appendix 8.1.1** LVIA Methodology **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.1]**, **Appendix 8.1.2** Visual Assessment of Residential Properties Methodology **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.2]**, **Appendix 8.1.3** Cumulative Methodology **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.3]** and **Appendix 8.1.4** Zone of Theoretical Visibility Methodology **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.4]**.
- 8.4.25 The consideration of the effects on the landscape resource is therefore based on the landscape receptors shown on **Figure 8.6 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.6]** and the visual resource is based on the visual receptors shown on **Figure 8.7 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7]**. A series of ‘representative and specific viewpoints’ are shown on **Figures 8.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.11]** to **Figure 8.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.13]** and verified photography and photomontages are shown on **Figure 8.14 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14]**. These viewpoints have been selected to represent the experience of different types of visual receptor, including users of PRow, residential properties, transport routes, heritage, and recreational sites. Selected viewpoints include specific locations that are popular vantage points or tourist destinations, and those suggested through Section 42 and Section 47 consultation. Viewpoints have also been selected to illustrate landscape character effects or likely cumulative effects of the Scheme.

Categories of Effect

- 8.4.26 The significance of predicted landscape and visual effects has been considered with findings based on the work undertaken to date. In identifying these effects, important and relevant consideration has been given to both effects on the landscape as a resource and the effects on receptors experiencing views. The findings set out a series of thresholds for different levels of significance (for example a four-point scale) and distinguish clearly between what are considered to be the significant and non-significant effects.
- 8.4.27 Landscape and visual effects identified as being **moderate**, **moderate-major** and **major** are considered to be significant effects and are taken into account during the

²⁸ The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA) 3rd Edition*, Page 21, 2013

decision-making process for this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices, and the DCO application. Landscape and visual effects identified as being **negligible, minor, minor-moderate** and **moderate-minor** are not considered to be significant effects and are not considered further during the decision-making process for this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices, and the DCO application.

Visual Assessment of Residential Properties

8.4.28 Current guidance on Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) is contained within the Landscape Institute's Technical Guidance Note (TGN) 2/19.

8.4.29 Steps 1-3 of RVAA guidance align with the standard LVIA based approach defined in GLVIA3. The guidance recommends that the effects on residential amenity should be assessed as follows:

- Step 1 – Definition of Study Area and scope of the assessment
- Step 2 – Evaluation of Baseline Visual Amenity
- Step 3 – Assessment of likely change to visual amenity of properties
- Step 4 – Forming the RVAA judgement

8.4.30 Stage 4 of the RVAA is defined as being required as follows:

"In this final step, and only for those properties where the largest magnitude of effect has been identified, a further judgement is required."

8.4.31 This LVIA chapter and appendices has therefore been undertaken to take account of steps 1-3 for the Scheme and if following assessment of affects upon residential properties at year 15 there remain significant effects at the highest magnitude of significance (major) then a full RVAA is undertaken where appropriate for those properties affected.

8.4.32 The assessment of visual effects for all residential receptors for Stage 4 of the RVAA is based on the extent to which development/landscape changes would be visible from the property (or parts of) having regard to views from principal rooms, the domestic curtilage (i.e., garden) and the private access route, taking into account seasonal and diurnal variations.

Assessment of In-Combination Effects

8.4.33 The assessment of 'In-Combination' effects has been undertaken as part of the assessment of cumulative effects in this LVIA chapter and the findings are set out within the individual assessment sheets at **Appendix 8.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.8.2]** and **Appendix 8.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.8.3]**.

Assessment of Cumulative Effects

- 8.4.34 The assessment of cumulative effects being defined in GLVIA3²⁹ at paragraph 7.3 as:
“Cumulative effects as ‘the additional changes caused by a proposed development in conjunction with other similar developments or as the combined effect of a set of developments, taken together’.
Cumulative visual effects as effects that can be caused by combined visibility, which ‘occurs where the observer is able to see two or more developments from one viewpoint’ and/or sequential effects which ‘occur when the observer has to move to another viewpoint to see different developments’”.
- 8.4.35 GLVIA3 then continues at paragraph 7.4 to set out that cumulative assessment is an evolving area of practice, but that the challenge is to keep the task reasonable and in proportion to the nature of the project under consideration and that common sense has an important part to play in reaching agreement about the scope of the assessment and notes in this regard that:
*“When the competent authority and other stakeholders are uncertain about the preferred approach the landscape professional may have to exercise judgement about what is appropriate and proportionate and be able to justify the approach taken. It is always important to remember that the emphasis in EIA is on **likely significant** effects rather than on comprehensive cataloging of every conceivable effect that might occur”.*
- 8.4.36 As the extent of Study Area/s for the Scheme is made up of four areas of land: Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b, we have therefore exercised judgement about what is appropriate and approached the cumulative assessment in two separate divisions under the following headings:
Cumulative Sites this is based on Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b and the disassociated nature of these four areas of land. Whilst there is limited intervisibility between each Site (due to the distances between each), we have assessed the cumulative effects of each individual land area as a combined set of effects as ‘**Sites**’ and reached an overall conclusion on where **likely significant** effects might occur.
Cumulative Developments this is based on the additional changes caused by the Scheme in combination with other similar developments, these being other solar projects in the local area. In this case, we have assessed the cumulative effects as a combined set of effects as ‘**Developments**’ reaching an overall conclusion on where **likely significant** effects might occur.
- 8.4.37 The methodology adopted for the cumulative assessment in preparation of this LVIA chapter and appendices is set out in **Appendix 8.1.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.3]**.

²⁹ The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA) 3rd Edition*, Page120, 2013

Zone of Theoretical Visibility

- 8.4.38 ZTV mapping is computer generated from a digital terrain model that uses Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) Composite Digital Terrain Model (DTM) 2019 2m data as the basis for the DTM.
- 8.4.39 Woodland and other significant areas of vegetation were incorporated into the DTM using online aerial mapping and observation at each Site. Buildings were incorporated into the DTM model using OS data. Heights used for both vegetation and building modelling were generic heights that are considered to be conservative estimates. ZTV mapping cannot incorporate the matrix of varying features and heights of those features. Mapping is assumed to present a 'worst case' scenario and is used as a *guide only* for Site-based survey to enable the selection of representative viewpoint locations and determine the possible extent of landscape areas affected.
- 8.4.40 ZTV mapping is based on analysis points set to the tops of tallest proposed structures. Mapping does not therefore differentiate between the full extent of a proposed structure being visible or only the top section being visible. The Bare Earth ZTV mapping is shown on **Figure 8.7.17 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.17]** and shown on **Figures 8.8 to 8.10 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.8 to EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.10]**. The Augmented ZTV mapping is shown on **Figure 8.10.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.10.1]** and shown on **Figures 8.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.11] to 8.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.13]** and **Figures 8.15.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.1] to 8.15.1.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.3]** and **Figure 8.15.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2]** and on **Figures 8.15.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.1] to 8.15.2.9 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.9]**.
- 8.4.41 The methodology adopted for this assessment is set out in **Appendix 8.1.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.4]**.

Ecology and Biodiversity

- 8.4.42 This LVIA chapter and supporting appendices considers the findings of the Ecology and Biodiversity chapter of the ES (**Chapter 9.0**) and close liaison with the ecology consultant has formed a key part of the landscape mitigation strategy. Whilst ecological effects are dealt with wholly in the Ecology and Biodiversity **[EN010133/APP/C6.2.9]** chapter of the ES this approach ensures that the landscape mitigation proposed for landscape and visual requirements is considered holistically with ecological requirements to maximise the benefits of the Scheme in terms of green infrastructure scale interventions. This mitigation is also in line with the Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Study (BOM) undertaken by the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership in order to maximise habitat creation and ecological mitigation as well as landscape and visual mitigation.

Cultural Heritage

8.4.43 This Chapter has taken into account the conclusions presented in Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (**Chapter 13.0**). This LVIA chapter and supporting appendices focuses on likely significant effects of views from heritage assets but does not comment upon the setting of such assets, this is undertaken as part of the cultural heritage chapter of the ES. Consultation has been undertaken with the cultural heritage consultant for the applicant through the LVIA process to help inform landscape character and the effects on visual receptors associated with changes in views and the details are set out in **Appendix 8.4.3** Heritage Topic Area [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3] Consultation.

Glint and Glare

8.4.44 This Chapter has taken into account the conclusions presented in the Glint & Glare chapter of the ES (**Chapter 16.0**) in association with an assessment of the magnitude of landscape and visual impacts using the methodology prescribed in detail in **Appendix 8.1** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.1].

8.5 Baseline Conditions

8.5.1 This section of the assessment describes the existing baseline landscape and visual conditions for the Site/Sites as well as the surrounding area. The existing baseline is set within the following areas for the Scheme:

- Site/Sites for built development; and
- Cable Route Corridor.

Site/Sites for built development

8.5.2 The Site/Sites identified for built development, namely solar arrays, substations, energy storage, inverters/transformers, security features such as CCTV and fencing for the Scheme are located within a 19km radius of the gird connection at the former Cottam Power Station. The Site/Sites are all within the District of West Lindsey and comprise the areas described below.

8.5.3 Cottam 1 is made up of a multiple collection of fields clustered within an area of countryside centred around the village of Coates. Cottam 1 covers an area of 812.1 ha.

8.5.4 Cottam 2 sits to the north of Cottam 1 and is made up of a single collection of fields within an area of countryside to the east of the village of Corringham. Cottam 2 covers an area of 132.66 ha.

8.5.5 Cottam 3a is made up of a multiple collection of fields within an area of countryside to the north-east and the south-east of the village of Blyton. Cottam 3a covers an area of 169.49 ha.

8.5.6 Cottam 3b is made up of a single collection of fields within an area of countryside to the east of the village of Pilham. Cottam 3b covers an area of 74.27ha.

8.5.7 The Cable Route Corridors and means of access includes the cable corridors, means of access to the Sites, Cottam 1 permissive footpath and any isolated areas of works required for facilitating Abnormal Indivisible Loads accessing the Sites and covers an area of 262.8ha.

Cable Route Corridor

8.5.8 The areas identified for the Cable Route Corridor, that extend beyond the Site Study areas, consist of:

- A corridor running from the Cottam 1 substation to the Cottam substation at Cottam Power Station. This route will run through West Lindsey between Willingham by Stow and Stow, then south of Marton. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) techniques will be used to cross the River Trent into Bassetlaw District, where the cable will extend round the north and then west of the existing Cottam Power Station. This part of the route will be approximately 13.34 km long.
- The corridor running from Cottam 1 to Cottam 2 runs through an area of countryside to the east of Kexby, Upton, Sturgate, Springthorpe, Heapham and Corringham. This part of the route is approximately 9.27 km long.
- The corridor running from Cottam 3a to Cottam 3b and then on to Cottam 2 runs from the Blyton area to the east of Pilham. This part of the route is approximately 4.9 km long.

8.5.9 This section established the baseline landscape and visual conditions in line with guidance set out in GLVIA3³⁰:

- *For the landscape baseline, this includes an understanding of the landscape in the area that may be affected – its constituent elements, its character and the way this varies spatially, its geographic extent, its history (which may require its own specialist study), its condition, the way the landscape is experienced, and the value attached to it.*
- *For the visual baseline the aim is to establish the area in which the development may be visible, the different groups of people who may experience views of the development, the places where they will be affected and the nature of the views and visual amenity at those points.*

³⁰ Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment*, 3rd Edition, Routledge, London. Page 32, Paragraph 3.15 2013.

LANDSCAPE BASELINE

8.5.10 This section establishes an understanding of the landscape in the areas that may be affected by the Scheme within the Study Areas for the Site/Sites for built development and the Cable Route Corridor. The main objective is to set out the assessment parameters that underpin the assessment of any likely significant landscape effects that has been undertaken to inform the ES.

Published Sources of Landscape Character

8.5.11 The landscape character baseline makes use of existing (secondary) information or data collected by way of site-specific assessments including a hierarchy of landscape character assessments that have been carried out in England, from national level down to regional level.

National Landscape Character

8.5.12 This section draws upon published landscape character assessments at the national level to describe the baseline landscape character within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These Study Areas are shown on **Figure 8.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.4]** and described below.

8.5.13 Landscape Character at the national level is identified by Natural England on the England-wide mapping and shows there are a number of character areas within the Study Area for the Scheme as being:

- NCA Profile 39 Humberhead Levels
- NCA Profile 45 Northern Lincolnshire Edge with Coversands
- NCA Profile 48 Trent and Belvoir Vales

8.5.14 NCA Profile 39 Humberhead Levels is broadly characterised³¹ as a flat, low-lying, and large-scale agricultural landscape bounded to the west by the low ridge of the Southern Magnesian Limestone and the east by the Yorkshire Wolds (north of the Humber). To the north it merges into the slightly undulating landscape of the Vale of York, at the line of the Escrick Moraine, and in the south it merges into the Trent and Belvoir Vales and Sherwood. The NCA describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

- *“A low-lying, predominantly flat landscape, with large, regular and geometric arable fields without hedges but divided by ditches and dykes, many of which form important habitats and key corridors for species movement.*

³¹Natural England, *NCA: 39 Humberhead Levels (NE339)*, Page 3, 1 July 2012 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

- *Much of the land is at or below mean high-water mark and maintained by drainage, with fertile soils giving rise to one of the most productive areas for root crops and cereals.*
- *Variations in underlying deposits create differences within the overall flat farmed landscape, including lowland raised mires and lowland heathland, many of which are of international ecological and historical importance.*
- *Sandy deposits give rise to lowland heath, which in places supports remnant birch and oak woodlands, with some conifer plantations.*
- *Heavier soils around Fishlake and Sykehouse result in a smaller scale pastoral landscape, with small, thickly hedged fields, ditches and ponds, and a network of small lanes.*
- *Important historic landscapes include Isle of Axholme, with evidence of medieval open fields, the warps (land enriched by regular silting) near Goole and cables (long thin strip fields) around Thorne.*
- *Widespread evidence of drainage history, in particular the extensive drainage from the 17th century, revealed through canalised rivers, dykes, old river courses, canals, bridges and pumping stations.*
- *Views to distant horizons are often long and unbroken, with big expansive skies, and vertical elements like water towers, power stations and wind turbines are very prominent.*
- *Floodplains, washlands and traditionally grazed alluvial flood meadows (or ings) associated with the major rivers and canals that cross the Levels give rise to important wetland habitats, supporting large numbers of wetland birds and wildfowl, especially over winter.*
- *The waterlogged soils hold internationally important archaeological and palaeo-archaeological deposits.*
- *Despite settlements, motorways and main roads, there is still a sense of remoteness to be experienced on the Levels, in particular on Thorne and Hatfield Moors and along the Lower Derwent Valley.”*

8.5.15 NCA Profile 45 Northern Lincolnshire Edge with Coversands is broadly characterised³² by a ridge of Jurassic limestone running north from Lincoln to the Humber Estuary where the scarp slope rises prominently from adjacent low-lying land, forming the Edge or Cliff, and giving panoramic views out, in particular to the west. The NCA describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

³² Natural England, *NCA Profile: 45 Northern Lincolnshire Edge with Coversands (NE554)*, Page 3, 22 April 2004 [\[Accessed 06 December 2022\]](#)

- *“Elevated arable landscape with a distinct limestone cliff running north-south, the scarp slope providing extensive long views out to the west.*
- *Double scarp around Scunthorpe of ironstone, and extensive areas of wind blown sand, the Coversands, giving rise to infertile soils supporting heathland, acid grassland and oak/birch woodlands, with rare species such as woodlark and grayling butterfly.*
- *Underlying limestone supporting small areas of calcereous grassland.*
- *Few watercourses on the plateau, which lies between the rivers Trent and Ancholme which flow into the Humber, and is cut through in the south by the River Witham.*
- *Semi-natural habitats of acid and calcareous grassland and broadleaved woodland are small and fragmented, and often associated with disused quarries.*
- *Limited woodland cover, with patches of both broadleaves and conifers associated with infertile sandy soils, elsewhere occasional shelterbelts.*
- *Long, straight roads and tracks, often with wider verges: Ermine Street follows the route of a key Roman North-south route.*
- *Nucleated medieval settlement patterns following major routes, especially Ermine Street: Sparse on higher land, with springline villages along the foot of the Cliffe and some estates and parklands.*
- *Other development comprises the major settlements of Lincoln and Scunthorpe, with their prominent landmarks of the cathedral and steelworks, and several active and re-used airfields prominent on the ridgetop.*
- *Vernacular architecture and walling, especially in villages, of local warm-coloured limestone with dark brown pantiles.*
- *Several ground features, especially on the plateau, include historic burial mounds, Roman artefacts and abandoned medieval villages.”*

8.5.16 NCA Profile 48 Trent and Belvoir Vales is broadly characterised³³ by undulating, strongly rural and predominantly arable farmland, centred on the River Trent. A low-lying rural landscape with relatively little woodland cover, the NCA offers long, open views. Newark-on-Trent (generally referred to as Newark) lies at the centre with Grantham, Nottingham, Lincoln, and Gainsborough on the peripheries. The southern and eastern edges of the Vales are defined by the adjoining escarpments of the Lincolnshire Edge and the Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire Wolds NCA. The NCA describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

³³ Natural England, *NCA Profile: 48 Trent and Belvoir Vales (NE429)*, Page 3, 8 April 2013 [Online] [\[Accessed 06 December 2022\]](#)

- *“A gently undulating and low-lying landform in the main, with low ridges dividing shallow, broad river valleys, vales and flood plains.*
- *The bedrock of geology of Triassic and Jurassic mudstones has given rise to fertile clayey soils across much of the area, while extensive deposits of alluvium and sand and gravel have given rise to a wider variety of soils, especially in the flood plains and over much of the eastern part of the NCA.*
- *Agriculture is the dominant land use, with most farmland being used for growing cereals, oilseeds and other arable crops.*
- *A regular pattern of medium to large fields enclosed by hawthorn hedgerows, and ditches in low-lying areas, dominates the landscape.*
- *Very little semi-natural habitat remains across the area; however, areas of flood plain grazing marsh are still found in places along the Trent.*
- *Extraction of sand and gravel deposits continues within the Trent floodplain and the area to the west of Lincoln. Many former sites of extraction have been flooded, introducing new waterbodies and new wetland habitats to the landscape.*
- *Extensive use of red bricks and pantiles in the 19th century has contributed to the consistent character of traditional architecture within villages and farmsteads across the area. Stone hewn from harder courses within the mudstones, along with stone from neighbouring areas, also feature as building materials, especially in the churches.*
- *A predominantly rural and sparsely settled area with small villages and dispersed farms linked by quiet lanes, contrasting with the busy market towns of Newark and Grantham, the cities of Nottingham and Lincoln, the major roads connecting them and the cross-country dual carriageways of the A1 and A46.*
- *Immense coal-fired power stations in the north exert visual influence over a wide area, not just because of their structures but also the plumes that rise from them and the pylons and power lines that are linked to them.”*

8.5.17 The Scheme and 5km Study Area fall within the National Character Area Profiles as set out in **Table 8.1** below.

Table 8.21: National Character Areas: Site/Sites

Site/Sites	NCA 39	NCA 45	NCA 48
Cottam 1	No	Yes	Yes
Cottam 2	No	Yes	Yes
Cottam 3a	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cottam 3b	Yes	Yes	Yes

8.5.18 The areas identified for the Cable Route Corridor and 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary falls within the National Character Area Profiles as set out in **Table 8.2** below.

Table 8.2: National Character Areas: Cable Route Corridor

Site/Sites	NCA 39	NCA 45	NCA 48
Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1	No	No	Yes
Cottam 1 to Cottam 2	No	No	Yes
Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a to 3b	No	Yes	Yes

Regional Landscape Character

8.5.19 This section draws upon published landscape character assessments at the regional level to describe the baseline landscape character within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These Study Areas are shown on **Figure 8.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.5]** and described below.

8.5.20 Regional Landscape Character Types (RLCT) are identified by The East Midlands Landscape Partnership (EMLP) within the East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment (EMRLCA)³⁴ and shows there are a number of character areas within the Study Area for the Scheme and the Cable Route Corridor as being:

- RLCT 2b Planned and Drained Fen and Carrlands
- RLCT 3a Floodplain Valleys
- RLCT 4a Unwooded Vales
- RLCT 4b Wooded Vales
- RLCT 6a Limestone Scarps and Dipslopes

8.5.21 RLCT Profile 2b Planned Drained Fens and Carrlands is broadly characterised³⁵ by the low-lying terrain, some of which lies below sea level and the rigid geometry of field drainage ditches and roads, extensive arable farms and limited settlement. The RLCT describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

³⁴ East Midlands Landscape Partnership, *East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment*, April 2010 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

³⁵ East Midlands Landscape Partnership, *East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 108, April 2010 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

- *“Consistently low-lying terrain and simple palette of land uses and landscape features gives visual unity and strong sense of identity.*
- *Large scale open landscape of flat farmlands with extensive and uninterrupted vistas to distant horizons beneath vast skies.*
- *18th and 19th century enclosure characterises historic landscape patterns underpinned by complex history of drainage and enclosure stretching as far back as the late Saxon period in some places.*
- *Significant areas at or below sea level, with modestly elevated areas acting as the focus of the settlement.*
- *Hierarchy of canalised rivers, high level drains and ditches divide the landscape up into rigid geometric patterns, dictating the grain of the landscape and patterns of movement and settlement.*
- *Limited settlement pattern characterised by isolated farms and linear villages strung out along roads, majority of buildings in brick with tile roofs, further adding to uniform character of the landscape.*
- *Rich and varied arable land uses, root crops, bulbs, vegetables and horticultural glass houses give the landscape a highly productive character and seasonal variations in colour and texture; and*
- *Strong sense of remoteness in expansive and sparsely settled areas although periods of intense activity during harvest.”*

8.5.22 RLCT Profile 3a Floodplain Valleys is broadly characterised³⁶ by the broad valleys of the Trent, Nene, Welland, Wreake, Soar and Dove, and short stretches of the Derwent and Witham. The RLCT describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

- *“Deep alluvium and gravel deposits mask underlying bedrock geology to create wide, flat alluvial floodplains surrounded by rising landform of adjacent Landscape Character Types.*
- *River channels, often managed courses, bordered by riparian habitat.*
- *Predominance of pastoral land use, with cereal growing increasing in some areas. ‘Warping’ areas subject to more intensive cereal growing.*
- *Limited woodland cover; however, steep riverside bluffs and areas close to settlement or on former gravel extraction sites notable for a higher-level woodland cover.*

³⁶East Midlands Landscape Partnership, *East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 122, April 2010 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

- *Regular pattern of medium to large fields defined by hedgerows or post and wire fencing, breaking down and becoming open in some areas.*
- *Hedgerow and riverside trees important component of landscape. Alder, Willow and Poplar are typical riverside trees.*
- *Limited settlement and development in rural areas.*
- *Sewage Treatment Works and power stations common close to larger settlements that fringe the floodplains; and*
- *Restoration of sand and gravel extraction sites to open water creates new character across many areas.”*

8.5.23 RLCT Profile 4a Unwooded Vales is broadly characterised³⁷ as being within a central area of the region on a broadly north south axis where superficial bedrock deposits create a softly undulating landscape. The RLCT describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

- *“Extensive low lying rural landscape underlain by Triassic and Jurassic mudstones and clays and widespread superficial deposits.*
- *Expansive long distance views from higher ground at the margin of the vales gives a sense of visual containment.*
- *Low hills and ridges gain visual prominence in an otherwise gently undulating landscape.*
- *Complex drainage patterns of watercourses that flow within shallow undulations often flanked by pasture and riparian habitats.*
- *Limited woodland cover; shelterbelts and hedgerow trees gain great visual significance and habitat value as a result.*
- *Productive arable and pastoral farmland, with evidence of increasing reversion to arable cropping in recent times.*
- *Regular pattern of medium sized fields enclosed by low and generally well maintained hedgerows and ditches in low lying areas; large modern fieldscapes evident in areas of arable reversion; and*
- *Sparsely settled with small villages and dispersed farms linked by quiet rural lanes.”*

8.5.24 RLCT Profile 4b Unwooded Vales (East Midlands) is broadly characterised³⁸ as generally having a strong sense of place, with major landform features flanking the

³⁷ East Midlands Landscape Partnership, *East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 138, April 2010, [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

³⁸ East Midlands Landscape Partnership, *East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 144, April 2010 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

lower lying areas creating broad scale visual containment. The RLCT describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

- *“Gently undulating landform formed over soft mudstone and clay geology, sharing many characteristics with the wider Unwooded Vales Landscape Character Type.*
- *Deposits of superficial geology, particularly cover sands and till influences local land use and semi-natural habitat cover.*
- *Low hills and ridges gain visual prominence; elevated landform fringing vales give broad sense of containment.*
- *Numerous watercourses flow within shallow undulations often flanked by pasture and riparian habitat.*
- *Relatively high levels of woodland cover, with notable tracts of ancient semi-natural woodland along outer fringes of parishes and large coniferous plantations.*
- *Productive arable and pastoral farmland, with evidence of increasing reversion to arable cropping.*
- *Irregular shaped assorted fields marked by belts of trees and tall hedgerows, juxtaposed with regular pattern of medium sized fields associated with enclosure of land, with low and generally well maintained hedgerows and ditches in low lying areas.*
- *Open, modern fieldscapes created by hedgerow removal in areas of arable reversion.*
- *Sparsely settled with small villages and dispersed farms linked by quiet rural winding lanes often flanked by tall hedgerows and tree belts; and*
- *Rural and historic prevails, although coniferous plantations and modern arable fields diminish sense of antiquity.”*

8.5.25 RLCT Profile 6a Limestone Scarps and Dipslopes is broadly characterised³⁹ as a Jurassic limestone belt that runs from Dorset to the Humber. The area is reminiscent of the Cotwolds, both in its physical structure, large scale arable land uses and the character of many of the stone-built villages along the lower scarp slopes. The RLCT describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

- *“Limestone escarpment and dip-slope with strong north south alignment.*
- *Diverse patterns of land use and regular spring line settlements along scarp in contrast to the more open and exposed dip slope.*

³⁹ East Midlands Landscape Partnership, *East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 178, April 2010 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

- *Limestone villages retain strong historic character and provide strong link to the nature of the underlying geology.*
- *Ermine Street forms a significant feature of the landscape and continues to dictate landscape patterns and boundaries.*
- *Place names and some indicator species are reminders of once widespread heathland; and*
- *Evidence of declining landscape condition across intensively farmed areas.”*

8.5.26 The Sites for the Scheme and 5km Study Area fall within the Regional Landscape Character Types as set out in **Table 8.3** below.

Table 8.3: Regional Landscape Character Types: Site/Sites

Site/Sites	RLCT 2b	RLCT 3a	RLCT 4a	RLCT 4b	RLCT 6a
Cottam 1	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cottam 2	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cottam 3a	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Cottam 3b	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No

8.5.27 The area/areas identified for the Cable Route Corridor and 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary falls within the Regional Landscape Character Types as set out in **Table 8.4** below.

Table 8.4: Regional Landscape Character Types: Cable Route Corridor

Site/Sites	RLCT 2b	RLCT 3a	RLCT 4a	RLCT 4b	RLCT 6a
Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Cottam 1 to Cottam 2	No	No	Yes	No	No
Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a to 3b	No	No	Yes	No	No

8.5.28 Land within the Study Area also contains areas defined as ‘Built Up Area’ which is associated with the primary settlement of Gainsborough and other settlements including Blyton, Scotter, Scampton, Saxilby and Sturton by Stow, and the main highway corridors including the A1500 (Tillbridge Road), A15 (Ermine Road), A631 (Harpwell Lane), and the A59 (Gainsborough Road). The Study Area for the Cottam 3a Site includes areas to the west that are located within this ‘Built Up Area’.

Local Landscape Character

8.5.29 This section draws upon published landscape character assessments at the local level to describe the baseline landscape character within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route

Corridor. These Study Areas are shown on **Figure 8.1[EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.1]** and described below.

8.5.30 Landscape Character at the local level is identified by West Lindsey District Council within the West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment (August 1999)⁴⁰ (WLLCA) and shows there are a number of local character areas (LCAs) within the Study Area for the Scheme and Cable Route Corridor, as follows:

- LCA 1 Laughton Woods
- LCA 2 Trent Valley
- LCA 3 The Till Vale
- LCA 4 The Cliff

8.5.31 LCA Profile 1 (Laughton Woods) is broadly characterised⁴¹ as an area dominated by the dark conifer plantation of Laughton Woods. This is a predominantly agricultural landscape with smooth textured arable fields. There are wide panoramic views across this flat landscape and a strong perception of big skies. The Profile describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

- *“Flat, open agricultural landscape dominated by large conifer plantations.*
- *Large, smooth textured fields, with few hedgerow or boundary fences, subdivided by a grid of drainage ditches.*
- *Small blocks of deciduous woodland shelter belts and occasional individual oaks.*
- *Settlements are ‘islands’ of buildings and trees in the flat landscape; churches are landmarks.*
- *String of small settlements along the River Trent with few trees and no churches.*
- *Panoramic views and big skies.”*

8.5.32 LCA Profile 2 (Trent Valley) is broadly characterised⁴² as an area that stretches from Gainsborough and its suburbs to the southern district boundary near Newton on Trent. Gainsborough, the major settlement in this area, is located at one of few crossing points of the River Trent. The combination of tree cover and an undulating landform provides a sense of enclosure; long views are generally contained, particularly to the east of the A156 and A1133 spine roads. The Profile describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

⁴⁰ West Lindsey District Council, *West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment*, August 1999 [Online] [[Accessed 06 December 2022](#)]

⁴¹ West Lindsey District Council, *West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 13, August 1999 [Online] [[Accessed 06 December 2022](#)]

⁴² West Lindsey District Council, *West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 17, August 1999 [Online] [[Accessed 06 December 2022](#)]

- *“Low-lying, gently undulating landform with higher terrain to the east and south of Gainsborough.*
- *Significant blocks of deciduous woodland, good hedgerows and hedgerow trees create a relatively enclosed landscape.*
- *River Trent and its adjacent washlands are enclosed by steep flood embankments.*
- *Historic parkland landscapes including medieval deer park, and landmarks such as the ruins of Torksey Castle.*
- *Main roads are significant features in the landscape; recent development concentrated along the main roads, bypassing original village centres.*
- *Views towards the west are dominated by the power stations along the River Trent.”*

8.5.33 LCA Profile 3 (The Till Vale) is broadly characterised⁴³ as an area located to the east of Gainsborough and the *Trent Valley*, and to the west of the scarp known as *Lincoln ‘Cliff’*. The area is crossed by three east-west main roads; the A631 to Gainsborough in the north, the A1500 Roman road near Sturton by Stow and the A57 alongside the Fossdyke in the south. The Profile describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

- *“Agricultural landscape with large, flat open fields.*
- *Some fields have low hawthorn hedgerows, with few hedgerow trees.*
- *Small blocks of mixed woodland and shelterbelts.*
- *Extensive network of rivers, dykes and ditches, which have little visual presence in the landscape.*
- *String of small nucleated settlements on higher undulating ground along a minor north south route; sequence of views to landmark churches.*
- *Large farm buildings and individual farmhouses on flatter land to the east.*
- *Ancient enclosure roads with characteristic wide verges and hedgerow boundaries, particularly in the east.*
- *Long westward views to the power stations on the River Trent, and eastward views to the scarp face of Lincoln ‘Cliff.’”*

8.5.34 LCA Profile 4 (The Cliff) is broadly characterised⁴⁴ as a straight and prominent, limestone capped, scarp slope extending north-south across the centre of the district. It is the narrowest part of an extensive band of resistant limestone which stretches from the Humber to the South Kesteven Uplands. There are long views

⁴³West Lindsey District Council, *West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 21, August 1999 [Online] [\[Accessed 06 December 2022\]](#)

⁴⁴West Lindsey District Council, *West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 25, August 1999 [Online] [\[Accessed 06 December 2022\]](#)

from many points along the ridge-top road. The Profile describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

- *“Straight, limestone capped scarp slope, with a due north-south alignment.*
- *Diverse pattern of mixed pasture and arable land with good hedgerow boundaries.*
- *Springline villages at the foot of the scarp with historic character and many trees.*
- *Historic halls and associated parkland landscapes.*
- *Ponds and lakes along the springline.”*

8.5.35 The Scheme and 5km Study Area fall within the Local Landscape Character Profiles as set out in **Table 8.5**.

Table 8.5: Local Landscape Character: Site/Sites

Site/Sites	LCA 1	LCA 2	LCA 3	LCA 4
Cottam 1	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cottam 2	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cottam 3a	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cottam 3b	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

8.5.36 The area/areas identified for the Cable Route Corridor and 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary falls within the Local Landscape Character Profiles as set out in **Table 8.6** below.

Table 8.6: Local Landscape Character: Cable Route Corridor

Site/Sites	LCA 1	LCA 2	LCA 3	LCA 4
Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1	No	Yes	Yes	No
Cottam 1 to Cottam 2	No	No	Yes	No
Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a to 3b	No	No	Yes	No

Trent Vale Landscape Partnership

8.5.37 The Trent Vale Landscape Partnership (TVLP) Scheme was a three-year programme which ran from January 2010 to December 2012. The Partnership consisted of 15 organisations and was led by the Canal and River Trust (formerly British Waterways). The aims of the TVLP Scheme were to conserve and enhance the natural and built features that make up the historic landscape of the Trent Vale and included the preparation of a number of publications in support of these aims including landscape character assessment and management plans. This section therefore

takes account of the Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment⁴⁵ and the Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan (June 2013)⁴⁶.

Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment

8.5.38 This section summarises the Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment which takes account of the Trent Vale landscape and identifies four Trent Vale Profiles (TVPs) with three being relevant to the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These Study Areas for the Sites and the Cable Route Corridor and three relevant TVP Landscape Character Types are shown on **Figure 8.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.5]** and described as being:

- TVP Two – Vale Meadowlands
- TVP Three – Industrial/Restored Vale
- TVP Four – Vale Farmlands

8.5.39 TVP Two – Vale Meadowlands is broadly characterised⁴⁷ as *“a flat, low lying riparian landscape characterised by a pattern of small and medium sized alluvial meadows, grazing animals and remnant wetland vegetation. The areas tend to be narrow and flanking the meandering river”*. The Profile describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor:

- *“The character and unity of the river corridor, which would once have been in the main part Vale Meadowlands, has broken down in recent decades, largely as a result of flood protection and drainage works promoting the arable conversion of large areas of alluvial meadowland.*
- *However, where [sic] areas of intact meadowland have survived, they possess a peaceful, undisturbed pastoral character with the meandering river channel (albeit primarily hidden behind flood embankment), permanent pastures, flood meadows, willow holts and grazing animals.*
- *Remnant patches of marginal wetland vegetation fringe the river channels in some areas, enhancing the riparian character of the vale.*
- *Historic willow holts are located at a number of points along the river; these increase diversity in the landscape and add to the strong sense of place.*

⁴⁵ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment* [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

⁴⁶ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan*, June 2013 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

⁴⁷ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 19 [Online] [Accessed 17 December 2022]

- *The meadowlands are often defined by long hedges which now mark the boundary with the arable landscapes.*
- *The raised floodbanks confine views to the river channel and exclude the surrounding landscape and disrupt visual continuity.*
- *The impact on these areas from the conversion to intensive arable of the Vale Farmlands and loss of tranquility through the neighbouring Rural Industrial landscapes increases a sense of disunity within the landscape.”*

8.5.40 TVP Three – Industrial/Restored Vale is broadly characterised⁴⁸ as “a diverse range of highly modified landscapes created by minerals extraction and power production. These areas which have been, or are planned to be, fundamentally affected through the process of sand and gravel extraction or the location of power stations. No common landscape structure or sense of harmony can be distinguished within these disturbed and often degraded landscapes”. The Profile describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor:

- *“The impact of these areas ripples outwards from the actual sites through the domination of the views and the physical infrastructure and support required by the industries, fundamentally affecting the “tranquillity” of the countryside.*
- *The power station facilities and their infrastructure demonstrate their impact for many miles. However, the degree to which mineral extraction affects the quality of the landscape varies from area to area with location, visibility of plant and equipment and screening moderating their impact.*
- *Mineral extraction fundamentally changes the nature of the landscape in which it operates, whereas power production, with the exception of the footprint of the buildings and cooling towers, is “overlaid” on the landscape.*
- *Restoration of these industrialised landscapes has been to a range of different after – uses including areas of open water, mature wetland habitats, formalised recreation and agriculture.*
- *This process has resulted in the development of a wide range of landscapes, at different stages of maturity, with the changing policies and priorities for restoration over the years contributing to the number and variety of landscapes found.”*

8.5.41 TVP Four – Vale Farmlands is broadly described⁴⁹ as “a flat low-lying agricultural landscape characterised by a traditional pattern of hedged fields and nucleated village

⁴⁸ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 20 [Online] [\[Accessed 17 December 2022\]](#)

⁴⁹ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 21 [Online] [\[Accessed 17 December 2022\]](#)

settlements". The Profile describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor:

- *"Large areas of the former River Meadowlands have now been converted to arable land. This encroaches to the river channel edges in some areas disputing the unity of the river corridor.*
- *Away from the river the landscape is defined by medium to large scale regular and semi-irregular field patterns. Field rationalisation has led to the loss of hedgerows in many areas, producing more open landscapes with a very weak riparian character.*
- *There are some very small areas of deciduous woodland and willow holts remaining, but ash, oak and willow hedgerow trees are the most important components of the overall tree cover. These enhance the sense of enclosure and allow some filtered views.*
- *Where hedgerows are intact and well managed, summer views are rarely of any distance, the level landform and hedgerows helping to restrict longer distance views.*
- *More open views across the landscape are experienced in many areas, due to a break in the field pattern, with field edges defined by ditches and roads, and remnant hedgerows often dominated by growing crops.*
- *Where the field pattern is still well defined the occurrence of hedgerow trees enhances the enclosed nature of the landscape and gives structure and form.*
- *Settlements are mainly nucleated villages and farmsteads located on the dry sites just above the level of the flood plain, with traditional red brick and pantile roofed buildings.*
- *Narrow hedged lanes link many of the settlements. These run across the terraces to the river in a number of places, often to historic crossing places. The river itself is typically not a dominant feature with floodbanks and hedgerows shielding it from view."*

Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan

8.5.42 This section summarises the Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan (June 2013) (TVMP) which took into account the information learnt from the development and delivery of the Trent Vale Landscape Partnership between 2007 and 2013. The TVMP sets out a vision⁵⁰ and recognises that the TCLP Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) has already delivered the first stage in implementing this long-term vision noting that *"The programme has been particularly effective in demonstrating delivery of 'people' benefits at the same time as achieving conservation*

⁵⁰ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan*, Page 3, June 2013 [Online] [\[Accessed 17 December 2022\]](#)

outcomes for the natural and built heritage, although it is questionable whether these have been at a landscape scale”.

- 8.5.43 The Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan follows on from the Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment produced in 2007 which identified four key different landscape types with a clear set of priorities for each TVP type.
- 8.5.44 TVP Two – Vale Meadowlands recognises⁵¹ that *“it is important that a Trent Vale landscape-scale strategy continues to be adopted for the conservation and restoration of this landscape type”*. The profile sets out the following priorities that are relevant to the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor:
- *“Conserve/restore unimproved permanent pasture,*
 - *Conserve/restore traditional grassland management techniques including grazing,*
 - *Restore/create wetland habitats to provide larger areas, linkages and steppingstones for wildlife,*
 - *Conserve/restore traditional hedgerows and historic field boundaries,*
 - *Develop circular walks, heritage trails (natural, built and cultural) and guides,*
 - *Enhance/create sites which have sensitive approach to the balance of recreation and the heritage and wildlife of the area.”*
- 8.5.45 TVP Three – Industrial/Restored Vale recognises⁵² that *“the priorities for the Industrial/Restored Vale continue to focus on the delivery of a connected landscape. The restoration of these sites offer the most potential for future large scale habitat enhancement and creation of [sic] opportunities particularly relating to the reversion of large areas to priority habitats including wet grassland, reedbed, ditches and ponds”*. The profile recognises that TVLP partners will continue to work with the aggregate and power companies to ensure that high quality restoration plans are put in place for future schemes.
- 8.5.46 TVP Four - Vale Farmlands recognises⁵³ that *“the Vale farmlands is the rural landscape of Trent Vale that most people interact with and, whilst not offering the variety of habitats and wildlife that the meadowlands provide, it still presents opportunities for people to connect with an “older age””*. The profile sets out the following priorities that are relevant to the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor:

⁵¹ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan*, Page 9, June 2013 [Online] [Accessed 17 December 2022]

⁵² Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan*, Page 9, June 2013 [Online] [Accessed 17 December 2022]

⁵³ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan*, Page 9, June 2013 [Online] [[Accessed 17 December 2022](#)]

- *“Restore farmland habitats and better integrate wildlife conservation with other land management practices, such as drainage.*
- *Conserve and restore traditional hedgerows, historic field boundaries and other archaeological features.*
- *Develop sensitive management practices on more marginal pockets of land and field corners to enhance biodiversity.*
- *Development and promotion of circular walks, heritage trails and guides.*
- *Promote links between urban and rural communities.*
- *Promote developments which are environmentally sustainable.”*

8.5.47 The Scheme and 5km Study Area fall within the Local Landscape Character Profiles as set out in **Table 8.7** below.

Table 8.7: Trent Vale Partnership: Sites

Site/Sites	TVP Two	TVP Three	TVP Four
Cottam 1	No	No	Yes
Cottam 2	No	No	Yes
Cottam 3a	No	No	Yes
Cottam 3b	No	No	Yes

8.5.48 The area/areas identified for the Cable Route Corridor and 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary falls within the Trent Vale Partnership as set out in **Table 8.8** below.

Table 8.8: Trent Vale Partnership: Cable Route Corridor

Site/Sites	TVP Two	TVP Three	TVP Four
Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cottam 1 to Cottam 2	No	No	No
Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a to 3b	No	No	Yes

Historic Landscape Characterisation

8.5.49 This section takes into account the information collated as part of the Historic Landscape Characterisation Project: The Historic Character of The County of

Lincolnshire (September 2011)⁵⁴ (HCCL) to ensure that the assessment takes account of the historic landscape. Character Zone TVL1 – The Northern Cliff Foothills is relevant to the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These Study Areas and Character Zone TVL1 are shown on **Figure 8.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.5]** and described below.

8.5.50 Character Zone TVL1 is broadly categorised as being *“largely flat, with a gentle upward slope from the River Trent in the west to the foot of the Northern Cliff in the east. The level topography allows wide views of large features in the landscape [sic], especially the large power stations on the west bank of the Trent whose exhaust plumes can be seen across the zone”*. The HCCL describes the following key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area:

- *“A line of settlements, aligned approximately north to south, runs through the middle of the zone from Messingham in the north to Sturton-by-Stow in the south.*
- *There are also scattered across the zone, several isolated farmsteads the majority of which have expanded significantly from their original size to include modern barns and animal pens.*
- *The largest settlement in the zone is Gainsborough, and historic town situated on the east bank of the River Trent.*
- *The fields in the zone comprise a balanced mix of types. Close to the historic settlements at the western edge of the zone there is a preponderance of surviving ancient enclosures, characterised by small field sizes. Away from the settlements there are a number of ancient enclosures of larger size which seem to be associated with specific isolated farmsteads.*
- *There is also strong survival of planned enclosure landscapes across the character zone, and the modern fields, produced through a process of consolidation in the twentieth century, seem to retain much of the rectilinear character of the underlying planned enclosures. Most of the modern fields and planned enclosures have strong east to west orientation, evident from the long boundaries that have survived the process of consolidation.*
- *Much of the road network reflects the strong east to west alignment of the fieldscapes, apart from the road linking the central settlement line, which is aligned north to south and roughly follows the 20m contour line. The east to west aligned roads are all characterised by their wide, sinuous nature.”*

8.5.51 The Scheme and 5km Study Area fall within the Historic Characterisation Types as set out in **Table 8.9** below.

⁵⁴ Lincolnshire County Council, *The Historic Character of The County of Lincolnshire*, [Historic Landscape Characterisation – Lincolnshire County Council](#), September 2011 [Online] [[Accessed 06 December 2022](#)]

Table 8.9: Historic Characterisation Types: Sites

Site/Sites	TVL 1
Cottam 1	Yes
Cottam 2	Yes
Cottam 3a	Yes
Cottam 3b	Yes

8.5.52 The area/areas identified for the Cable Route Corridor and 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary falls within the Historic Characterisation Types as set out in **Table 8.10**.

Table 8.10: Historic Characterisation Types: Cable Route Corridor

Site/Sites	TVL 1
Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1	Yes
Cottam 1 to Cottam 2	Yes
Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a to 3b	Yes

Landscape Character Area Table

8.5.53 Each of the key characteristics (above) identified with the sections covering National, Regional and Local Landscape Character, the Trent Vale Partnership and Historic Landscape Characterisation are set out in the Landscape Character Area Table at **Appendix 8.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.1]**. Those key characteristics that are relevant to the Study Area for the Scheme and the Cable Route Corridor are taken forward for further discussion within this LVIA chapter. The remaining key characteristics outside the Study Area are not discussed further in this LVIA chapter due to combination of distance from the Sites and Cable Route Corridor and/or general lack of intervisibility and this is set out in more detail within **Appendix 8.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.1]**.

Landscape Character Analysis and Evaluation Tables

8.5.54 The Landscape Character Analysis and Evaluation Tables at **Appendix 8.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2]** then break down each of the key characteristics to provide an understanding of the landscape in the area that may be affected, for example, which land area contains constituent elements, features, aesthetic, and perceptual factors that contribute to it. The analysis and evaluation also cover key aspects of character and the way this varies spatially, its geographic extent, its history, its condition, the way the landscape is experienced, and the value attached to it.

- 8.5.55 For the National Character Area Profiles, each NCA profile brings forward the natural and cultural features that shape the landscapes, how the landscape has changed over time, the current key drivers for on-going change, and a broad analysis of each area's characteristics and ecosystem services. 'Statements of Environmental Opportunity' (SEOs) are also considered further within this LVIA chapter.
- 8.5.56 For the Regional Landscape Character Types, each RLCT profile brings forward the 'Forces for Change' that are currently acting to change the landscape. In addition, the implications of these changes and suggested mechanisms to counter adverse impacts and promote positive change and these are also brought forward into this LVIA chapter and supporting **Appendix 8.2.2** Regional Character Overview [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2] from the section under 'Shaping the Future Landscape'.
- 8.5.57 For the Local Character Areas, each LCA profile brings forward the pressures for built development within the most sensitive parts of the landscape. The review also sets out descriptions of landscape character to incorporate guidelines as set under 'Principles for Landscape Management' and 'Principles for Accommodating New Development'.
- 8.5.58 For the Trent Vale Partnership, each TVP type brings forward the priorities set out in the Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment and the Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan. The review also sets out descriptions of the TVP types to incorporate the long-term vision from the management plan, the forming of the Trent Vale, why the character of the Trent Vale is important and people's perceptions.
- 8.5.59 For Historic Landscape Characterisation, each HCCL profile brings forward a review of the development of the character and how it has been driven and those processes set under the section 'Historic Landscape Evolution'. The review also sets out aspects on how the process of change relates to traces of previous land uses set under the section on 'Legibility'.

Landscape Character Types or Areas: Establishing Value

- 8.5.60 This section makes judgements on the value of the Landscape Character Types or Areas that may be affected, based on review of any designations at national, regional, and local level. Where there are no designations, judgements are based on criteria used to establish landscape value within the LVIA Methodology at **Appendix 8.1.1** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.1] as set out in Table 8.1.2 within this appendix.

National Landscape Character

- 8.5.61 This is a national scale assessment and though it provides a useful broad scale overview of landscape character, the detail of the regional and local scale character assessment studies are considered to be more relevant. As set out within GLVIA3⁵⁵,

⁵⁵ Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment*, 3rd Edition, Routledge, London, Page 32, Paragraph 3.15, 2013

the more detailed scale for the landscape baseline is helpful “*in providing an understanding of the landscape in the area that may be affected – its constituent elements, its character and the way this varies spatially, its geographic extent, its history (which may require its own specialist study), its condition, the way the landscape is experienced, and the value attached to it*”.

Regional Landscape Character

8.5.62 Based upon site observation and professional judgement, it was clear that the Scheme would incur some effects upon landscape character within the Regional Character Areas within the East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment (EMRLCA)⁵⁶, as such these are discussed further within this LVIA chapter and supporting **Appendix 8.2.2** Regional Character Overview [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2]. The value judgements are set out within the Landscape Character Analysis and Evaluation Tables and summarised below.

Cottam 1

8.5.63 The judgements on value for Cottam 1 take account of four Regional Character Types (RLCT) which comprise RLCT 3a, 4a, 4b and 6a. Overall, with RLCT 3a: Floodplain Valleys the value (*medium to high*) is shaped by the historical predominance of permanent pasture on riverside meadows that constitute some of the most remote and peaceful terrestrial lowland areas of the East Midlands. This lowland landscape is sparsely settled and tranquil in parts. This is in contrast to the landscape to the west where the influence of urban areas and sand and gravel extraction have given rise to significant encroachment. Overall, with RLCT 4a: Unwooded Vales the value (*medium*) is shaped by the strong agricultural character, with wide areas retaining a strong sense of rural tranquility. In contrast, the low levels of woodland cover create a relatively open and expansive landscape. Overall, with RLCT 4b: Wooded Vales the value (*medium to high*) is shaped by the sparsely settled landscape that has seen relatively little urban growth. The landscape possesses an ancient framework of sinuous belts of trees and hedgerows defining irregular shaped fields and parish boundaries. However, in recent decades, the prominence of arable farming has resulted in the loss or damage of some typical landscape features. Overall, with RLCT 6a: Limestone Scarps and Dipslopes the value (*medium*) is shaped by the Jurassic limestone belt that is reminiscent of the Cotswolds, particularly in terms of the large-scale arable land uses. The straightness and sharpness of the escarpment is a key feature and makes up for where the edge is lower in areas such as Fillingham and Ingham.

8.5.64 Overall, the value of the Landscape Character Types or Areas for Cottam 1 is considered to be **medium** because there are scenic qualities such as vast stretches

⁵⁶ East Midlands Landscape Partnership, *East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment*, April 2010 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

of flood plain that retain an intact and traditional character. There are however influences that have shaped the landscape including the impact of settlement on the edges of the floodplain, sand and gravel extraction and power and energy infrastructure. The roads and watercourses combine to give a subtle grain to the landscape and the bridge crossings provide a 'sense of place', however, there is a very limited network of PRoW and intensive agriculture has stimulated widespread change in the rural landscape. The landscape still possesses an ancient framework of hedgerows and trees, however in recent decades, the prominence of arable farming has resulted in the loss or decline of some of these features. The consistent alignment of the 'Edge' or 'Cliff' has created a strong sense of linearity to the landscape, reinforced by ancient transportation routes.

Cottam 2

8.5.65 The judgements on value for Cottam 2 take account of three Regional Character Types (RLCT) which comprise RLCT 4a, 4b and 6a. Overall, with RLCT 4a: Unwooded Vales the value (*medium*) is shaped by the strong agricultural character, where in recent decades, the productivity of the land has stimulated widespread change in the rural landscape. Large areas of permanent grassland have been ploughed up and the removal of hedgerows and ditches to accommodate large scale machinery has lost many clues of former field patterns. Overall, with RLCT 4b: Wooded Vales the value (*medium to high*) is shaped by the distinctive character of the settlements and their churches which are local landmarks. The landscape possesses areas of ancient and species-rich native woodland, including wet woodland. However, in recent decades, agricultural intensification and farm amalgamation is leading to a more homogenous landscape. Overall, with RLCT 6a: Limestone Scarps and Dipslopes the value (*medium*) is shaped by the pressure from arable cultivation where field enlargement is removing boundaries and creating a more open landscape. The consistent alignment of the escarpment has created a strong sense of linearity, further emphasised by ancient transport routes.

8.5.66 Overall, the value of the Landscape Character Types or Areas for Cottam 2 is considered to be **medium** since there are views across the landscape to the higher landform fringing the vales. There is also evidence of historic settlement and small hamlets such as Yawthorpe, the surrounding area remains deeply rural and tranquil in character. Agricultural intensification has implemented a significant change from pastoral to arable cropping that has resulted in the loss of hedges and consequently an increase in field size, losing many clues to former field patterns. Farm amalgamation has also resulted in the loss or damage of many typical landscape features.

Cottam 3a

8.5.67 The judgements on value for Cottam 3a take account of three Regional Character Types (RLCT) which comprise RLCT 2b, 4a and 4b. Overall, with RLCT 2b: Planned and Drained Fens and Carrlands the value (*medium to low*) is shaped by its drained and settled past that is overlain with a geometric formal landscape of later parliamentary

enclosure⁵⁷. There is some time depth associated with the old drove roads that often lead away from the River Trent in an easterly direction towards Cotter, Scotton and Laughton, otherwise the landscape presents a simple palette of land uses and features. Overall, with RLCT 4a: Unwooded Vales the value (*medium*) is shaped by the former airfield use along with agricultural character, with wide areas retaining a strong sense of openness. In contrast, the low levels of woodland cover create a relatively expansive landscape. In recent decades, the productivity of the land has stimulated loss of pasture, loss of hedges and increase in field sizes. Overall, with RLCT 4b: Wooded Vales the value (*medium to high*) is shaped by the presence of Laughton Woods that has seen relatively little settlement intervention. The landscape possesses a former framework of drainage dykes that feed the River Trent to the west. However, in recent decades, the prominence of arable farming between the woodlands is impacting on the setting of these areas.

- 8.5.68 Overall, the value of the Landscape Character Types or Areas for Cottam 3a is considered to be **medium** since there is some time depth associated with the old drove roads. There is also a high level of visual unity where sparse settlement barely interrupts the skyline. Otherwise, the landscape pattern presents a simple pattern of land use and features, and woodland cover is generally sparse giving a strong sense of openness. The productivity of the land has also added to the expansive landscape due to loss of pasture, loss of hedges and increase in field sizes.

Cottam 3b

- 8.5.69 The judgements on value for Cottam 3b take account of three Regional Character Types (RLCT) which comprise RLCT 2b, 4a and 4b. Overall, with RLCT 2b: Planned and Drained Fens and Carrlands the value (*medium to low*) is shaped by the visual unity to the landscape that is typified by a geometric modern pattern of parliamentary enclosure. The topography is also flat and featureless and agricultural intensification, with fast growing energy crops, is changing the landscape. Overall, with RLCT 4a: Unwooded Vales the value (*medium*) is shaped by the strong agricultural character and presence of the mainline railway, with wide areas retaining a sense of openness. Woodland cover does also not form a significant component in this relatively expansive landscape. In recent decades, the demand for housing, commerce and industry is creating visual intrusion and extending development pressures into the countryside. Overall, with RLCT 4b: Wooded Vales the value (*medium to high*) is shaped by the rising landform that allows opportunity for extensive views from the edges of Laughton and Blyton. The landscape possesses a strong framework of woodland cover with gently undulating landform, The rural and historic character prevails, although coniferous plantations and modern arable fields diminish the sense of antiquity in some parts.
- 8.5.70 Overall, the value of the Landscape Character Types or Areas for Cottam 3b is considered to be **medium** since the absence of settlement and activity creates a

⁵⁷ The Inclosure Act 1773

remote tranquil character. There are however expanses of arable landscape, which, although carefully managed, result in few areas of semi-natural habitat. As a result of the expansive landscape, the areas of scrub, semi-natural woodland and reedbed gain significance. The topography is also flat and featureless and agricultural intensification is changing the landscape with fast growing energy crops, general increase in farm size and large-scale agricultural buildings.

Cable Route Corridor: Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1

- 8.5.71 The judgements on value for Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1 Cable Route Corridor take account of two Regional Character Types (RLCT) which comprise RLCT 3a and 4a. Overall, with RLCT 3a: Floodplain Valleys the value (*medium to high*) is shaped by the unsettled character of a landscape that is competing with the impact of settlement at the edges of the river floodplain. The cultural associations linked to the river corridor as a historic crossing point are an important and relevant consideration in terms of the value of this landscape character type. Overall, with RLCT 4a: Unwooded Vales the value (*medium*) is shaped by its visual senses where roads and watercourses combine to give a subtle grain to the landscape. In contrast, the Roman roads that pass across the area stimulate development pressures that continue with the demand for housing, commerce, and industry in these parts. In recent decades, the productivity of the land and change to arable cropping has stimulated widespread change in the rural landscape.

Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 1 to Cottam 2

- 8.5.72 The judgements on value for Cottam 1 to Cottam 2 Cable Route Corridor take account of one Regional Character Type (RLCT) which comprises RLCT 4a. Overall, with RLCT 4a: Unwooded Vales the value (*medium*) is shaped by the interruptions at bridge crossings that provide local points of interest and the opportunity to capture views across the landscape to higher landform fringing the Vales. In contrast, these lower lying areas support intact hedgerows and belts of riverside trees that truncate views.

Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b

- 8.5.73 The judgements on value for Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b Cable Route Corridor take account of one Regional Character Type (RLCT) which comprises RLCT 4a. Overall, with RLCT 4a: Unwooded Vales the value (*medium*) is shaped by the historic settlement with farms, nucleated villages, and small hamlets such as Aisby, Corringham and Pilham. In contrast, the most widespread change has been in agricultural intensification from pastoral to arable cropping that has resulted in an open and expansive character.
- 8.5.74 Overall, the value of the Landscape Character Types or Areas for the Cable Route Corridor is considered to be **medium** since the landscape shows evidence of historic settlement with farms and nucleated villages and small hamlets. There are also deeply rural areas with a tranquil character that surround these settlements where farms are linked by minor roads and lanes. There is a very limited network of PRoW

leading to the dependence on the more arterial routes that run east west across the area linked by a series of narrow straight lanes.

Local Landscape Character

- 8.5.75 Based upon Site observation and professional judgement, it was clear that the Scheme would incur some effects upon landscape character within the Local Character Areas within the West Lindsey District Council West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment (August 1999)⁵⁸ (WLLCA). This local scale assessment is used as a basis within this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices (**Appendix 8.2.3** Land Use [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2] to **Appendix 8.2.10** Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations) to define value judgements as set out within the Individual Landscape Receptor Sheets. The character assessment is used in particular to define value judgements for the AGLV as set out within the Individual Landscape Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.2.8.1** [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.1] to **Appendix 8.2.8.3** Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.3].

Trent Vale Landscape Partnership

- 8.5.76 Based upon site observation and professional judgement, it was clear that the Scheme would incur some effects upon landscape character types within the the Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment⁵⁹ and the Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan (June 2013)⁶⁰. This TVP scale assessment is used as a basis within this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices (**Appendix 8.2.3** Land Use [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2] to **Appendix 8.2.10** Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations) to define value judgements as set out within the Individual Landscape Receptor Sheets.

Historic Landscape Characterisation

- 8.5.77 Based upon site observation and professional judgment, it was clear that the Scheme would incur some effects upon landscape character within the Historic Landscape Characterisation Project: The Historic Character of The County of Lincolnshire (September 2011)⁶¹ (HCCL). This historic assessment is used as a basis within this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices (**Appendix 8.2.3** Land Use [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2] to **Appendix 8.2.10** Ancient Woodlands and Natural

⁵⁸ West Lindsey District Council, *West Lindsey Landscape Character Assessment*, August 1999 [Online] [[Accessed 06 December 2022](#)]

⁵⁹ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Character Assessment* [Online] [[Accessed 06 December 2022](#)]

⁶⁰ Trent Vale Landscape Partnership, *Trent Vale Landscape Conservation Management Plan*, June 2013 [Online] [[Accessed 06 December 2022](#)]

⁶¹ Lincolnshire County Council, *The Historic Character of The County of Lincolnshire*, Historic Landscape Characterisation September 2011 [Online] [[Accessed 06 December 2022](#)]

Designations) to define value judgements as set out within the Individual Landscape Receptor Sheets.

[Individual Contributors to Landscape Character: Overview](#)

8.5.78 This section draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the individual contributors to landscape character within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These Landscape Receptors are shown on **Figures 8.6.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.6.1] to 8.6.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.6.4]** Detailed Landscape Receptors and described under the following headings:

- Land Use
- Topography and Watercourses
- Communications and Infrastructure
- Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure
- Public Rights of Way and Access
- Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape
- Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens; and
- Ancient Woodland and Natural Designations

Land Use

8.5.79 This section draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the Land Use receptors within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. The Land Use Analysis and Evaluation Tables at **Appendix 8.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3]** then break down each of the key characteristics.

Topography and Watercourses

8.5.80 This section draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the Topography and Watercourses receptors within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. The Topography and Watercourses Analysis and Evaluation Tables at **Appendix 8.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4]** then break down each of the key characteristics.

Communications and Infrastructure

8.5.81 This section draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the Communications and Infrastructure receptors within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. The Communications and Infrastructure Analysis and Evaluation

Tables at **Appendix 8.2.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5]** then break down each of the key characteristics.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

8.5.82 This section draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure (SICL) receptors within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. The SICL Analysis and Evaluation Tables at **Appendix 8.2.6 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6]** then break down each of the key characteristics.

Public Rights of Way and Access

8.5.83 This section draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and Access receptors within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. The PRoW and Access Analysis and Evaluation Tables at **Appendix 8.2.7 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7]** then break down each of the key characteristics.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

8.5.84 This section draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape (NLDL) receptors within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. The NLDL Analysis and Evaluation Tables at **Appendix 8.2.8 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8]** then break down each of the key characteristics.

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

8.5.85 This section draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the Cultural Heritage receptors within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. The Cultural Heritage Analysis and Evaluation Tables at **Appendix 8.2.9 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9]** then break down each of the key characteristics.

Ancient Woodland and Natural Designations

8.5.86 This section draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the Ancient Woodland and Natural Designations (AWND) receptors within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. The AWND Analysis and Evaluation Tables at **Appendix 8.2.10 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10]** then break down each of the key characteristics.

Individual Contributors to Landscape Character: Establishing Value

8.5.87 This section makes judgements on the value of the individual contributors to landscape character, especially the key characteristics, which may include individual elements of the landscape, particular landscape features, notable aesthetic, perceptual or experiential qualities and combinations of these contributors. Judgements are based on criteria used to establish landscape value within the LVIA Methodology at **Appendix 8.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.1]** as set out in Table 8.1.2 within this appendix.

Cottam 1

Land Use

8.5.88 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of Land Use for Cottam 1 is shaped by this being an extensive low-lying landscape with relatively limited woodland cover, where shelterbelts and hedgerow trees gain greater visual significance as a result. As the area has been extensively farmed over a long period, very little semi-natural habitat remains, and the agricultural intensification has diminished the 'sense of place' in parts. This has included drainage of flood plains, conversion of pasture to arable, removal of hedgerows, loss of old farm buildings and damage to historical remains.

8.5.89 For the Cottam 1 Site, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the predominance of a farmed landscape and associated agricultural intensification that has diminished the 'sense of place' in parts. As a result, the Site mainly consists of modern fields and planned enclosure with only limited areas of ancient enclosure. This ancient enclosure is mainly associated with the settlement of Thorpe le Fallows and with land surrounding Hall Farm and Grange Farm at the settlement of Coates.

Topography and Watercourses

8.5.90 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of Topography and Watercourses for Cottam 1 is shaped by the River Trent, the River Till and its network of tributaries, valleys, corridors, and flood plains that are key features in the landscape. The intensive farming that has also diminished the 'sense of place' in parts including the drainage of flood plains and physical modifications of the river channel. The flood plains are distinctive features, however the rivers themselves are often hidden from views by levees.

8.5.91 For the Cottam 1 Site, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the predominance of intensive farming that has affected the presence of natural habitat associated with the water courses, apart from the River Till and its complementary riparian vegetation that strikes a distinctive thread through the landscape. Although the simple palette of the low-lying terrain provides a strong sense of identity and unity across the Site, this feature is not easily readable in some parts of the area due to the presence of other detractors such the strong road network. The occasional woodland blocks and layering of hedgerows also belie the presence of the uniform agricultural landscape. The long views east towards the 'Cliff', particularly from

Ingham Road have a strong presence and compete with other views across the area. These other views tend to be towards the settlements such as Coates, Thorpe le Fallows where landform or watercourses are not the prominent feature.

Communications and Infrastructure

8.5.92 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of the Communications and Infrastructure for Cottam 1 is shaped by the wide range of features which make one landscape type or area different from another. The strategic major road network is defined by important historic routes and in contrast, the strategic minor road network links a number of historic and distinctive smaller string of settlements across the area. Overall, the prevailing road network is formed by narrow lanes that are often tranquil and hedged to both sides with wide grassed verges.

8.5.93 For the Cottam 1 Site, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the east west minor road network that links the historic and distinctive string of smaller settlements across the area such as Sturton by Stow in the west with Brattleby in the east. Overall, this prevailing road network is often formed by narrow lanes that are often tranquil and hedged to both sides with grass verges, and the lanes that lead from Brattleby and Aisthorpe towards Thorpe le Fallows are particularly distinctive.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

8.5.94 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium to high**) of Settlements, Industry, Commerce, and Leisure for Cottam 1 is shaped by the nature of the predominantly rural and sparsely settled area with small villages and dispersed farms linked by quiet rural lanes, contrasting with the busy city of Lincoln and town of Gainsborough. The villages have a broad landscape setting and the sequence of views towards churches is an important feature along with the other long views across the landscape.

8.5.95 For the Cottam 1 Site, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the presence of the small country lanes that connect the smaller settlements and provide opportunities for recreation, since there are few public rights of way (PRoW) associated with the Site. Due to the strong east west alignment some of these minor routes such Thorpe Lane allow for east views towards the string of settlements, such as Ingham and Fillingham, on the limestone capped scarp slope and this adds to the overall 'sense of place'.

Rights of Way and Access

8.5.96 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**high**) of Public Rights of Way and Access for Cottam 1 is shaped by the network of footpaths and bridleways that offer a sequence of views to landmark churches, particularly along the B1241. Some views from the footpaths also offer westward views to the power stations on the Trent, and eastward views to the scarp face of Lincoln 'Cliff'.

8.5.97 For the Cottam 1 Site, the judgement on value (**high to medium**) is shaped by the strong rural character of the landscape, but also that the tranquillity levels of some of the PRow are influenced by the nearby settlements and the routes that pass between them. There is also a limited network of PRow, however where the minor roads and tracks have legitimate access for recreation there is scope for providing improvements. There is still a distinct lack of connectivity across the area and limitations to the PRow network that is placing pressure on the existing network.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes

8.5.98 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**high**) of Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes for Cottam 1 is shaped by the striking differences in character east to west that forms a strong backdrop in views across the area. This difference is noted by the marked contrast between AGLV1- The Ridge and AGLV 2 - Gainsborough. The steep minor lanes that descend from the ridge-top route of the B1398 offer valuable views over the Till Vale from The Ridge. The landscape settings of historic parklands and built features within the Till Vale are often shrouded within woodland, shelterbelts, or hedgerows at their edges. The skylines, key views, watercourses, and river corridors are key features, but they are particularly vulnerable to landscape change.

8.5.99 For the Cottam 1 Site, the judgement on value (**high to medium**) is shaped by the strong relationship between landscape character and the landscape setting of the settlements where many of the areas derive their 'sense of place' from these settlements and particularly how they appear in the context of the AGLV. The district has relatively few tourist attractions and many enjoy the scenic and long views east and west provided by the strong back cloth of the AGLVs. Some of the views experienced within the Site, in particular towards The Ridge AGLV and its associated Lincoln 'Cliff' are important especially where they are open views that extend across the low-lying Till Vale. Some of these views capture the intervening settlements that are often shrouded in tree cover and punctuated with church towers.

Cultural Heritage

8.5.100 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium to high**) of the Cultural Designations for Cottam 1 is shaped by the ancient enclosures and their contrast with the modern fields and planned enclosures that have a strong east to west orientation. The road network also reflects this pattern where Till Bridge Lane follows the course of a Roman road from Ermine Street on the top of the cliff to the former river crossing on the Trent.

8.5.101 For the Cottam 1 Site, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by a settlement pattern that defines the contrast between small compact villages and hamlets and the larger market towns. This settlement pattern is also defined by the collection of ancient enclosures, private planned enclosures, plantation woodland and isolated farmsteads, and the sense of history is also revealed though the medieval settlement at Coates and Thorpe le Fallows. The road network also reflects this

historic pattern with a strong east west minor road network strategically linking the river crossing on the Trent with the course of the Roman road on Ermine Street.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.5.102 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) of the Natural Designations for Cottam 1 is shaped by the rich geodiversity, however the predominant use of the land for agriculture means that very little semi-natural habitat remains across the area. Changes to morphological and hydraulic characteristics have affected species abundance and decreased the range of population of some species. The increase in episodic events such as precipitation, flow rate and temperature caused by extreme events is also a key cause for change.
- 8.5.103 For the Cottam 1 Site, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the rural roads that cut east west across the area such as Willingham Lane Verges Local Wildlife Site (LWS). Other areas of pasture and grassland habitats add to the natural function of the landscape, particularly where they add interest to the wider arable landscape that is largely devoid of semi-natural habitats. Along with a distinct lack of semi-natural habitats, the heavy mowing of the verges and lack of succession of tree stock is changing the landscape and overall, the presence of the north south road network acts to sever the east west connectivity between the Trent flood plain in the west and the Till Vale landscape that surrounds the Site.

Individual Contributors to Landscape Character: Overall Value

- 8.5.104 Overall, the value of the Cottam 1 (5km Study Area) is considered to be **medium to high** since the area is shaped by a predominantly low-lying landscape where the tree cover and layering of hedgerows have great significance in some parts. The River Till and its tributaries are also key features, however, the intensive farming has diminished their 'sense of place' in parts. There are narrow lanes that are often tranquil and distinctive in places and coupled with the sparsely settled nature this gives the area a unique resonance. The public rights of way often reveal views to landmark churches and long visibility eastwards towards the scarp face of the Lincoln 'Cliff' and the associated AGLV – The Ridge. There are also ancient field enclosures and a notable Roman road network, however very little of the semi-natural habitat remains across the area due to the agricultural intensification.
- 8.5.105 Overall, the value of the Cottam 1 Site is considered to be **medium** since the landscape is shaped by the predominance of a farmed landscape and agricultural intensification. The low-lying terrain creates a simple palette and strong sense of identity, but this feature is not always easily readable due to the presence of detractors associated with the major road network or the heavy layering of the hedgerows. In contrast, the minor road network is often formed by narrow lanes that are hedged to both sides. These smaller country lanes also provide valuable access for recreation as there is a limited PRow network that place additional pressure on these lanes. The landscape setting of the settlements often feature in long views eastwards and this is important where there are open views with a low-lying foreground punctuated with occasional woodland blocks. There are medieval

settlements at Coates and Thorpe le Fallows and a sense of history is also revealed through the presence of ancient enclosures. In terms of natural factors, there is a distinct lack of semi-natural habitats and the heavy mowing of verges and lack of succession of tree stock is changing the landscape.

Cottam 2

Land Use

- 8.5.106 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of the Land Use for Cottam 2 is shaped by an area of farmland where the hedgerow quality tends to be low due to the predominance of arable cropping. Areas of semi-natural habitat are also very limited and fragmented due to agricultural intensification. Hedgerow trees are also scarce and generally limited to oak and ash, and willow along watercourses. The watercourses are also not readily distinguished in the landscape due to lack of waterside trees and riparian habitats.
- 8.5.107 For the Cottam 2 Site, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the medium to large field systems where hedgerow trees are scarce. The hedgerows are present and generally uniform, but they have gaps in places and some areas of scrub add to the wooded character. The field systems are predominantly a mix of parliamentary planned enclosure and modern fields. There is only a small area of ancient enclosure at the south-eastern most extent of the Site that extends from Brown's Holt as far as Yawthorpe Beck with the small hamlet of Yawthorpe beyond.

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.5.108 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of Topography and Watercourses for Cottam 2 is shaped by a low-lying flat agricultural landscape characterised by large areas of former River Meadow lands that have now been converted to arable land. This arable land encroaches down to the river channels in some areas, disrupting the unity of the watercourses. The landscape adjoining the watercourses has however a relatively remote and undeveloped character.
- 8.5.109 For the Cottam 2 Site, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the presence of a network of tributaries, but that they have little visual presence in the landscape and in their contribution to the landscape setting of the Site. Corringham Beck Drain and its tributary drains that pass almost north to south to the west of the Site and Yawthorpe Beck to the east. The visual and physical association with these adjoining watercourses to the east and the west is not an easily readable feature in the landscape context of the Site.

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.5.110 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of Communications and Infrastructure for Cottam 2 is shaped by the local roads (that gain access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal recreation since they provide attractive destinations as narrow country lanes often with high levels of tranquillity

and isolation. The major road network also often bypasses the smaller villages leaving them as refuges of calm and unspoilt character.

- 8.5.111 For the Cottam 2 Site, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the absence of a minor, local road network to the north, and east of the Site, but to the west and south, East Lane is part of this network and Pilham Lane to the north. The minor road networks only have very limited influence on the Site. In terms of major road networks, the A631 (Corringham Road) is the main influence but this provides very little in the way of recreation or other contribution towards the enjoyment of the landscape.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.5.112 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of Settlements, Industry, Commerce, and Leisure for Cottam 2 is shaped by the nucleated nature of the settlement pattern that adds to the sense of place in views across the area. However, in places the scale of major roads such as the A631 (Corringham Road) dominates the landscape and overpowers the 'sense of place'. This is particularly evident in capturing the long westward views to the power stations on the River Trent and views towards the limestone capped scarp slope in the east.

- 8.5.113 For the Cottam 2 Site, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the presence of two main settlements which demonstrate the contrast of scale that add to the character of the landscape. For example, the larger settlement of Corringham is evident in the landscape to the west in contrast to the smaller settlement of Yawthorpe to the east of the Site. Recreation in the area is generally provided by a matrix of country lanes since there are few public rights of way (PRoW). However, the Site does not benefit from the presence of these lanes in close proximity.

Rights of Way and Access

- 8.5.114 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**high**) of Public Rights of Way and Access for Cottam 2 is shaped by the limited network of footpaths and bridleways giving rise to the importance of the local lanes and tracks for recreation and the overdependence of the footpaths that do exist. The sequence of views across the area towards village churches and approaches to settlements from these public rights of way are sensitive features.

- 8.5.115 For the Cottam 2 Site, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the attractiveness of the landscape and the close proximity to the AGLV to the east and the west. The close proximity to two AGLV (AGLV1 The Ridge to the east and AGLV2 Gainsborough to the west) help shape the attractiveness of the landscape and raise its overall value. There is however a very limited public right of way (PRoW) network from which to appreciate the landscape and views towards the surrounding features and wider setting of the AGLV. This landscape provides an invigorating and important backdrop for recreation and enjoyment; however, the PRoW networks offer limited scope for access to enjoy these features.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes

- 8.5.116 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**high**) of National and Local Designations for Cottam 2 is shaped by relationship with the adjoining settlement of Gainsborough and its associated strong woodland blocks. There are also robust hedgerows with smaller fields and many trees in these locations that assist with closing down of views across the area adding to the intimacy of the landscape overall.
- 8.5.117 For the Cottam 2 Site, the judgement on value (**high to medium**) is shaped by the close proximity of the two AGLVs, these being the Gainsborough AGLV to the west and the Ridge AGLV to the east, and their striking differences. There is a more direct relationship with the Ridge AGLV and the Site due to the elevated nature and intervisibility with the rising landform, particularly where this forms a background feature in long views towards the east. In contrast, the Gainsborough AGLV is more visually disconnected and mostly separated from the Site by the settlement of Corringham. Furthermore, access and footpath linkages between this AGLV and the Site is constrained.

Cultural Heritage

- 8.5.118 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium to high**) of the Cultural Designations for Cottam 2 is shaped by the central settlement line that broadly follows the 20m contour of the scarp and ridge. Gainsborough also includes a large deer park and its wooded setting to the north-east is a key feature. The ancient enclosures and deserted villages and their contrast with the modern fields and planned enclosures are also a key feature.
- 8.5.119 For the Cottam 2 Site, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the rural tranquillity. However, development pressures arise from the major routes such as Corringham Road (A631) to the south. This is one of the routes passing east west connecting the Trent to the Roman routes on the ridge line. The mixed field system heritage of the landscape is also important ranging from modern fields, parliamentary enclosure to ancient enclosure just outside the south-east boundary of the Site. These features help to broaden the historic context of the Site to a minor degree.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.5.120 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of the Natural Designations for Cottam 2 is shaped by the agricultural activity that has modified habitats. However, the woodlands that are least modified in the area are formed on the historic heath at Morton and Laughton Commons and to the east of Gate Burton. The natural character of the local road network is also a key feature that offers scope to improve habitat connectivity between the Till Vale and the Trent flood plain.
- 8.5.121 For the Cottam 2 Site, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the limited network of semi-natural habitats and other important designations such as Ancient Woodlands and SSSIs. There is also a scarcity of Local Nature Reserves

(LNRs) and Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs), and the absence of quiet lanes, watercourses, woodlands, and woodland edge habitats are also constraints to the natural character of the Site.

Individual Contributors to Landscape Character: Overall Value

- 8.5.122 Overall, the value of Cottam 2 (5km Study Area) is considered to be **medium** since the area is shaped by farmland where the hedgerow quality tends to be low and semi-natural habitat is limited. There is a network of watercourses, tributaries, and land drains but the arable landscape tends to encroach, disrupting the unity of these watercourses. The settlement pattern is not complex, and the major road network overpowers the 'sense of place' in parts. Although the network of public rights of way are a valuable resource they are scarce and so recreation descends onto the local road network as an alternative. The minor road network is confined to the south-west of the area around the settlement of Corringham and provides very little in the way of contribution towards the enjoyment of the landscape. The relationship with the Gainsborough AGLV is also limited both physically and visually despite the close proximity to this landscape at the west of the Study Area.
- 8.5.123 Overall, the value of Cottam 2 Site is considered to be **medium to low** since the area is shaped by the modern field systems and parliamentary enclosure where hedgerow trees are scarce, and the hedgerows that are present are generally uniform. There are watercourses and associated tributaries, but they make little contribution to the landscape setting of the Site. The local road network is confined to the East Lane, and this has little influence on the enjoyment of the landscape in the context of the Site. There are larger settlements such as Corringham in contrast to the smaller hamlets such as Yawthorpe, but there are few public rights to appreciate this context and the contribution their settings make to the landscape. Likewise, The Ridge AGLV provides an invigorating back drop but there are very few public rights of way and publicly accessible locations from which to enjoy this feature from the Site.

Cottam 3a and 3b

Land Use

- 8.5.124 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of Land Use for Cottam 3a and 3b is shaped by an arable landscape with a strong influence of former airfields adapted for alternative uses. These airfields occupy the higher plateau of the limestone cliff and are visible in long views across the area. There are a range of habitats, but they are mainly centred on the fine network of tributaries of the River Till. The productive arable cropping from large farmsteads has given a prevalence to large rectilinear fields bound by tightly cropped hedgerows.
- 8.5.125 For the Cottam 3a and 3b Sites, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the predominance of the military airfield with the remaining use in parliamentary planned enclosure and modern fields. Aside from the airfield, these fields are mostly

large and rectilinear with tightly cropped hedgerows and few trees. Woodland plantations are also scarce, and the area is lacking in PRow connections.

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.5.126 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of Topography and Watercourses for Cottam 3a and 3b is shaped by the presence of springs and flushes on the edge of the limestone plateau where the water meets the underlying impermeable layers. Wetland habitats are limited to a few wet woodlands and small areas of grazing marsh. The area supports a number of rectilinear reservoirs for irrigation supplies.
- 8.5.127 For the Cottam 3a and 3b Sites, the judgment on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the arable landscape that is mainly centred on the fine network of tributaries of Northorpe Beck. However, the presence of these watercourses is hardly distinguished in the landscape due to the scarcity of vegetation such as oak and willow, which tends to be more prevalent in areas to the south and tributaries of the River Till.

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.5.128 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of the Communications and Infrastructure for Cottam 3a and 3b is shaped by the growth and development of nearby settlements that is changing the road networks. These changes present considerable challenges around highway management interventions and an increase in traffic using the east west routes across the area. The sense of enjoyment still however stems from the local lanes which continue to retain a special character.
- 8.5.129 For the Cottam 3a and 3b Sites, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by a distinct lack of communication routes or presence of minor roads that connect east west across the area, in contrast to the landscape to the south of the mainline railway. Kirton Road is the main route east to west and the traffic using this route imparts disturbance due to noise and vehicle speed. There is a sense of escapism within this area, but very few minor routes on which to experience enjoyment of the countryside.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.5.130 For the 5km Study Area, judgement on the value (**medium to high**) of Settlements, Industry, Commerce, and Leisure for Cottam 3a and 3b is shaped by it being an area that is relatively sparsely populated with isolated residential properties and farmsteads dotted throughout the surrounding countryside. There are a series of rural settlements and their settings contribute to the character of the landscape with the closest settlement to the Sites being Blyton and Pilham.
- 8.5.131 For the Cottam 3a and 3b Sites, the judgment on value (**medium**) is shaped by the main settlement of Blyton to the south-west, otherwise the landscape is sparsely populated with very few compact villages and a distinct absence of other built

features. Although there is a string of settlements on the limestone capped scarp slope to the east, they have no direct visual relationship with the Sites. The area also has a poorly connected road network and few minor roads and so there are very few outlets for leisure, recreation, and access to the countryside in general.

Rights of Way and Access

8.5.132 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**high**) of Public Rights of Way and Access for Cottam 3a and 3b is shaped by the landscape that has a strong rural character, but tranquillity levels are being disturbed by development pressures from the larger scale settlements and major routes across the area. The PRoW network is generally concentrated around settlements of Laughton, Blyton and Pilham, where it is mostly focused along field boundaries and drainage features. Overall, the landscape to the south-west and west (around Blyton and Laughton) has a higher number of footpaths and bridleways in contrast to the landscape to the north and east around Northorpe and Scotton. The B1205 (Kirton Road) is a significant route as it connects Blyton to Northorpe and passes east-west across the area. This is a busy road with little refuge as a recreation route. Green Lane however is quiet and attractive local lane that almost runs parallel with the footpath (Pilh/20/1) to the north. Recreation is provided by the numerous local lanes and public rights of way, some of which remain tranquil, and these features contribute strongly to the 'sense of place'.

8.5.133 For the Cottam 3a and 3b Sites, the judgement on value (**high to medium**) is shaped by the presence of some footpaths and bridleways that offer long eastward views to the scarp face of the Lincoln 'Cliff'. The landscape has a strong rural character, but the public right of way (PRoW) network is disconnected in parts from these assets, particularly the extensive area of Laughton Woods to the north-west of the Sites.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes

8.5.134 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**high**) of Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes for Cottam 3a and 3b is shaped by the wider landscape setting of the settlements of Blyton and Laughton that promote the importance of the landscape and form strong visual relationships between adjoining AGLV (AGLV1 The Ridge to the east and AGLV3 Laughton Wood to the north west). The airbases can generally have a degrading influence on this landscape setting since they are prominent on exposed sites, and they contribute little to surrounding landscape character, however there is scope to improve their landscape structure.

8.5.135 For the Cottam 3a and 3b Sites, the judgement on value (**high to medium**) is shaped by the close proximity of two AGLVs, these being The Ridge AGLV and Laughton Wood AGLV, and their striking differences. There is a more direct relationship with the Ridge AGLV and the Sites due to the elevated nature and intervisibility with the AGLV, particularly where this forms a background feature in long views towards the east. In contrast the Laughton Wood AGLV is more visually disconnected and mostly separated by the settlements of Blyton and Laughton. Furthermore, access and footpath linkages are constrained between the Sites and the Laughton Wood AGLV.

Cultural Heritage

- 8.5.136 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium to high**) of the Cultural Designations for Cottam 3a and 3b is shaped by the historic evidence of the Roman period, with a network of long straight roads, in particular Ermine Street which links Lincoln to the crossing point of the Humber. The ‘sense of place’ and inspiration is mainly derived from accessible viewpoints that enjoy the long-distance views across adjacent areas from the top of the ‘Cliff’.
- 8.5.137 For the Cottam 3a and 3b Sites, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the presence of the former airfield that creates a particular ‘sense of place’ and historical continuity. Otherwise, the settlement pattern is limited to Blyton, Laughton and Scotton that are closely associated with the Laughton Woods AGLV, and although this woodland provides a distinctive setting, this is not an evident feature with the landscape context of the Sites. However, the relationship of the Sites with the settlements to the south at Pilham and the former medieval settlements of Dunstall and Gilby forms a closer association.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.5.138 For the 5km Study Area, the judgement on the value (**medium**) of the Natural Designations for Cottam 3a and 3b is shaped by the areas of broadleaved woodland that are often small and fragmented, but on a whole help bolster the presence of tree cover in combination with the intervening shelterbelts and hedgerow networks. Coversands heathlands support nationally rare and important species and create a mosaic across the landscape, and several are designated as SSSI. There is very little Ancient Woodland within the Study Area, but where oak/birch woodland has formed this should be given priority as a feature for enhancement and restoration.
- 8.5.139 For the Cottam 3a and 3b Sites, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the lack of proximity to Ancient Woodland habitats, the closest being (approximately 2.6km) Wharton Wood (Index MLI50656) to the east of Gainsborough. The closest SSSI (approximately 1.5km) is Scotton and Scotton Beck Fields and also separated from the Sites by the intervening Laughton Wood. The network of hedgerows and species rich permanent grass margins are the key features that have the scope to connect the semi-natural habitats, otherwise the former airfield is the dominant land use.

Individual Contributors to Landscape Character: Overall Value

- 8.5.140 Overall, the value of Cottam 3a and 3b 5km Study Area is considered to be **medium to high** since the landscape is shaped by arable land use, but with a strong influence of intensification and by the presence of former airfields. The topography is influenced by the presence of minor watercourse tributaries, land drains and springs and flushes, but their habitats are limited to a few wet woodlands. There are major transport routes that give rise to increased traffic, however, the sense of enjoyment of the landscape stems from the local lanes which continue to retain a special character. The area is also sparsely populated between the main transport

routes, but there are a limited number of public rights of way. There are some tranquil areas with features that contribute strongly to the 'sense of place', but with limited access. The airbases generally have a degrading influence but their open aspect, at least, allows long views to continue across their interior towards the wider setting of the AGLVs.

- 8.5.141 Overall, the value of Cottam 3a and 3b Sites is considered to be **medium** since the landscape is shaped by the predominance of the military airfield with the remaining land in parliamentary planned enclosure and modern fields. There are tightly cropped hedgerows and woodland plantations are scarce. The minor tributaries of Northorpe Beck are additional features, however, the presence of these watercourses is hardly distinguished due to the scarcity of riparian tree cover. There is a sense of escapism associated with parts of the Sites, but very few minor routes or publicly accessible areas by which to experience this, and limited outlets in close proximity by which to build connections between outlying routes. The extensive area of Laughton Woods to the north-west is a key feature but significantly disconnected from the Sites by the presence of the A159 and the intervening settlements of Blyton and Laughton. There is some association with other features such as the medieval settlements at Dunstall and Gilby by virtue that they are closer in proximity than the AGLV. The network of hedgerows is strong and there is scope to improve their habitat connectivity, otherwise the former airfield is a dominant feature overall.

Cable Route Corridor: Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1

Land Use

- 8.5.142 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the land being extensively in arable use as larger field systems, but with some areas of pasture to each side of the River Trent and its flood plain.
- 8.5.143 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the land being predominantly large-scale arable, divided by hedgerows with individual trees and groups of trees. Some of the field systems to the west of the Trent are bordered by straight land drains in a formal pattern, whereas those to the east are more informal to reflect the minor tributaries of the River Till.

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.5.144 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the low-lying terrain and the powerful presence of the River Trent and its floodplain. The River Till and its minor tributaries are also a key feature to the east of the River Trent.
- 8.5.145 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the field systems forming part of the low-lying landform, where to the west of the River Trent this falls to approximately 3m AOD and around 5m to 10m AOD to the west of the power station. There are no major watercourses affecting the land to the west of the River Trent. To the east of the

River Trent, there are crossings of minor tributaries of the River Till to the southwest of Marton and to the west of the settlement of Stow.

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.5.146 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the major road network comprising the A1133 (Newark Road, the A156 and the A1500 (Stow Park Road then Till Bridge Lane). The local road network takes a sparse irregular pattern to the east of the River Trent. In contrast, there is a 'grid' pattern with a greater concentration of local roads to the west of the River Trent.
- 8.5.147 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1), the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the local road network and farm tracks being utilised as a route for the cable, including Wooden Lane, the farm track leading from East Farm at Normanby by Stow towards Normanby Gorse and a short section of the green lane heading south towards Ingham Road.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.5.148 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium-high**) is shaped by the presence of Gainsborough as a historic port in contrast to the smaller settlements, some of which are typically villages of medieval origin.
- 8.5.149 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1), the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the landscape proving the landscape setting to the Cottam Power Station. The industrial heritage is a key feature of the River Trent and its flood plain where the power stations exert a visual influence over a wide area, particularly the plumes that rise from them and their linking pylons and power lines.

Rights of Way and Access

- 8.5.150 The Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and Access receptors are covered in more detail under **Appendix 8.3.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5]** of the assessment.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes

- 8.5.151 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**high**) is shaped by the Laughton Wood Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV), which only just falls within the Study Area just to the north of Marton, where its southern tip is bordered by the mainline railway and Willingham Road. This AGLV is centred on the flat, open landscape that is dominated by large areas of woodland sandwiched between the settlements of East ferry, Laughton and Scotter.
- 8.5.152 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1), the judgement on value (**high-medium**) is shaped by the landscape in providing the southern setting to the Laughton AGLV and forming part of the wide panoramic views across this area with the strong perception of big skies.

Cultural Heritage

- 8.5.153 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the presence of listed buildings within the local settlements that are mainly Grade II listed. The Church of St. Margaret of Antioch (List Entry: 1359484) is a Grade I listed building. The churches and their towers add interest to the landscape setting of the settlements and form features in views across the area.
- 8.5.154 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1), the judgement on value (**medium**) is based on the roads and field patterns being part of the historic development of the landscape since the Roman period, where the local road network provided important connections east west across the area between Ermine Street and the River Trent.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.5.155 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the value of the River Trent and its flood plain as a wildlife and nature conservation resource. Areas of pasture and grassland habitats bordering flood plain are key features including the Local Wildlife Site (LWS) at Torksey Lock.
- 8.5.156 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the field systems that form a part of the wider arable and grassland habitats bordering the River Trent. There are no Ancient Woodlands or Natural Designations associated with these field systems.

Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 1 to Cottam 2

Land Use

- 8.5.157 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the very gently undulating and low-lying landform where the landscape follows a north-south pattern due to the orientation of the underlying Triassic and Jurassic geology. The landscape mainly comprises open arable and pastoral farmland with good hedgerow boundaries.
- 8.5.158 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam 2), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the field systems with interspersed rectangular woodland blocks, which are often connected by wide shelterbelts. The woodlands and shelterbelts add some intimacy to the landscape and help reduce the scale of the expansive arable fields.

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.5.159 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the distinct landform ridge to the east that forms a backdrop in views across the Till Vale with the abundance of woodland providing a strong feature on the horizon. The River Till is a key watercourse which has shaped the landform and provides a network of tributaries and ditches that feed its middle reaches of the river between Saxilby and Sturton by Stow.

8.5.160 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam 2), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the field systems forming part of the very gently undulating landform, where to the west of the River Till this rises to approximately 15m AOD around Stow Park. There are no major watercourses affecting the land to the west of the River Till, but the route for the cable will cross two minor tributaries of the river.

Communications and Infrastructure

8.5.161 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by a landscape that is crossed by minor roads leading to the ridge top route where the steep lanes that descend the scarp slope provide valuable views over the Till Vale.

8.5.162 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam 2), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by these lanes that form part of the local road network running in a predominantly north south and east west direction across the landscape. The Cable Route Corridor follows a route along Gypsy Lane and Cow Lane (which run north south) then crossing a number of east west roads, including Common Lane at Heapham, Bratt Field Middle Road and Bratt Field Road South at Sturgate and School Lane at Springthorpe.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

8.5.163 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the nearby settlements of Willingham by Stow, Kexby, Upton, Sturgate and Springthorpe. The presence of the medieval deserted settlements that populate this area between the higher ridgeline and the Trent to the west also contribute to the value of this landscape.

8.5.164 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam 2), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the relationship between scenic quality and settlement where many villages derive their character from distinctive views, local landmarks, and features around their edges.

Rights of Way and Access

8.5.165 The Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and Access receptors are covered in more detail under **Appendix 8.3.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5]** of the assessment.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes

8.5.166 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**high**) is shaped by the Ridge Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV), which is located outside the Study Area. The AGLV is centred on the landscape associated with the distinct landform ridge and around Grayingham, Blyborough, Willhoughton, Hemswell and Harpswell, to the east of the Cable Route Corridor, which defines this low-lying landscape to the east, and this is an important landscape feature.

8.5.167 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam 2), the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped on the landscape that mainly comprises open arable and pastoral farmland with good hedgerow boundaries. This character extends to

comprise the minor road network and the collection of medieval deserted settlements that populate the area between the higher ridge line and the Trent to the west.

Cultural Heritage

8.5.168 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the Grade II listed Corringham Windmill (List Entry: 1359417), otherwise there are no listed buildings. The historic settlements of Glentworth and Fillingham are noted as a backdrop for views across the Till Vale due to the abundance of woodland cover associated with Fillingham Castle.

8.5.169 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam 2), the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the strong relationship between scenic quality and settlement where many villages derive their character from distinctive views, local landmarks, and features around their edges.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

8.5.170 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the network of quiet lanes that lead to the villages, especially where they are associated with the watercourses. Where woodland cover is limited, these watercourses and quiet lanes and their verges provide an important substitute woodland and woodland edge habitat as well as being significant linear features in the landscape. The Study Area includes the Willingham to Fillingham Road Verges Local Wildlife Site (LWS).

8.5.171 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam 2), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the woodlands forming part of the route for the cable and acting as linear features in association with the road verges. There are no Ancient Woodlands, Local Nature Reserves, or Sites of Special Scientific Interest associated with the Cable Route Corridor; however, there is a Local Wildlife Site called Upton Grange Road Verges which runs along Cow Lane along and to the west of the Cable Route Corridor. The LWS lies just within the corridor boundary with verges occupying approximately 4,635m² of the route.

Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b

Land Use

8.5.172 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the agricultural land with small pockets of woodland, where settlements and villages, such as Pilham and Aisby break up the landscape. There are a very few large woodlands in the immediate landscape that helps to retain inspirational long views towards the south and east towards Yawthorpe and Aisby.

8.5.173 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b), the judgement of value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the larger field systems that are irregular in pattern, adding to the value where they are dissected by the meandering alignment of the tributaries of the River Till. The settlements of Pilham and Aisby add to the variety

of land use and value of the landscape in combination with the minor watercourses. Fields are more geometric in pattern to the north of the Study Area, where they border the mainline railway in contrast to the south, which adds a further level of complexity.

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.5.174 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement of value (**medium**) is shaped by the fields that are divided by ditches and dykes with small tributaries of the River Till passing across the landscape in a diagonal alignment. Some of these fields remain separated by hedgerows with trees and the landscape is generally flat with some slight undulations around the settlements of Pilham and Aisby.
- 8.5.175 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b), the judgement of value (**medium to low**) is shaped by the alignment of the roads that tend to cut across the diagonal river tributaries. This pattern is unlike the landscape to the west where the roads follow the watercourses, for example Laughton Road is almost parallel to the River Trent and the 'grid' road systems follows the adjacent field drains.

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.5.176 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement of value (**medium**) is shaped by the small roads running in a predominantly east west or north south direction across this landscape.
- 8.5.177 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped these lanes where many are bordered by isolated farmsteads and residential dwellings, often with very narrow grass verges and high hedgerows that add elements of intimacy to the routes. The sense of natural enjoyment adds to the value, which stems from the local lanes, small villages, arable fields, and the peacefulness of the landscape.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.5.178 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium to high**) is shaped by wider settlement pattern that includes the medieval villages of Southorpe, Dunstall and Gilby, but these are located outside the Study Area.
- 8.5.179 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b), the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by the settlements of Blyton and Pilham which are also strong features in the landscape where the church spires are captured in views across the area, but they are not directly affected by the Cable Route Corridor.

Rights of Way and Access

- 8.5.180 The Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and Access receptors are covered in more detail under **Appendix 8.3.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5]** of the assessment.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes

- 8.5.181 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**high**) is shaped by the Gainsborough Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV), which is located outside the

Study Area. This is centred on the landscape associated with the outskirts of Gainsborough to the west of the Cable Route Corridor.

- 8.5.182 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b), the judgement on value (**high to medium**) is shaped by the field systems that form part the low-lying, gently undulating terrain that rises to the north-east of Gainsborough in the vicinity of Thonock Grove and Castle Hills. This relatively elevated land extends as far south as Marton and this eastern boundary of the AGLV marks a very distinct transition between the Trent Valley area and the Till Vale where significant blocks of woodland mark the boundary.

Cultural Heritage

- 8.5.183 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by views to the villages and their churches that are a feature of the area. The landscape setting to these villages are also remote due to the poorly connected road networks. As a result, this local area is defined by quiet compact villages and dispersed farmsteads.
- 8.5.184 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b), the judgement on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by there being no Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas or Registered Parks and Gardens in direct association with the Cable Route Corridor or within the Study Area. The field systems provide an important spatial function for the setting of the villages despite the absence of designations.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.5.185 For the 0.5km Study Area, the judgement on value (**medium**) is shaped by small pockets of woodland mainly concentrated to the east that include geometric shaped shelterbelts and also woodland plantations consisting of predominantly native species at Yawthorpe Fox Covert and Blyborough Covert.
- 8.5.186 For the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b), the judgment on value (**medium to low**) is shaped by there being no Ancient Woodlands or Natural Designations in direct association with the Cable Route Corridor or within the Study Area. The wide verges and road networks provide an important spatial function for the open setting of the villages despite the absence of designations.

VISUAL BASELINE

- 8.5.187 This section establishes the areas in which the Scheme may be visible within the Study Areas for the Scheme and the Cable Route Corridor. The main objective is to set out the assessment parameters that have underpinned the final detailed assessment of any likely significant visual effects that is set out in this chapter.

Viewpoint Receptors

- 8.5.188 This sets out the broad group of visual receptors that will be affected and is based on the LVIA Methodology at **Appendix 8.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.1]**.

8.5.189 The findings draw upon desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the group within the 2km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These Viewpoint Receptors are shown on **Figures 8.7.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.1] to 8.7.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.4]** and the Viewpoint Overview is set out within the tables at **Appendix 8.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.1]** and **Appendix 8.3.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.1]**. The viewpoint baseline is set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.

Residential Receptors

8.5.190 This sets out the residential receptors that will be affected and is based on the Visual Assessment of Residential Properties Methodology at **Appendix 8.1.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.2]**.

8.5.191 The findings draw upon desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the residential receptors within the 1km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These Residential Receptors are shown on **Figures 8.7.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.5] to 8.7.8 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.8]** and the Residential Overview is set out within tables at **Appendix 8.3.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.1]**. The residential baseline is set out within the Individual Residential Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]**.

Transport Receptors

8.5.192 This sets out the transport receptors that will be affected and is based on the LVIA Methodology at **Appendix 8.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.1]**.

8.5.193 The findings draw upon desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the transport receptors within the 1km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These Transport Receptors are shown on **Figures 8.7.9 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.9] to 8.7.12 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.12]** and the Transport Overview is set out within the tables at **Appendix 8.3.4.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.1]**. The transport baseline is set out within Individual Transport Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.4.2]** and **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.4.3]**.

Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Receptors

8.5.194 This sets out the PRoW receptors that will be affected and is based on the LVIA Methodology at **Appendix 8.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.1]**.

8.5.195 The findings draw upon desktop studies and fieldwork to describe the PRoW receptors within the 1km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These PRoW Receptors are shown on **Figures 8.7.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.13] to 8.7.16 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16]** and the PRoW Overview is set out within the tables at

Appendix 8.3.5.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.1]. The PRoW baseline is set out within Individual PRoW Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]** and **Appendix 8.3.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3]**.

Viewpoints: Initial Selection

8.5.196 There are a total of 91 viewpoints covering the Study Areas for the Sites and Cable Route Corridor. These viewpoints comprise initial viewpoints selected for the purpose of the assessment and likely to be affected by the Scheme and then additional viewpoints provided by the County Council as part of the Section 42 Consultation. The viewpoint locations are shown on **Figures 8.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.11] to 8.6.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.13]** and the Viewpoint Verified Photography and Photomontages are shown on **Figure 8.14 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14]**. The viewpoint locations are set out in **Table 8.11** and **Table 8.12** below and the Verified Photography and Photomontages are taken from the viewpoints specified in these two tables.

8.5.197 **Table 8.11** below lists out the initial viewpoints for the purpose of the assessment and reason for their selection.

Table 8.11: Viewpoints: Initial Selection

Viewpoint Number	Viewpoint Name	Reason for Selection of Viewpoint
01	Tillbridge Lane	Specific location at local, well-used vantage point. Gateway from the south and one of the first opportunities to experience views over the agricultural landscape to NW of Lincoln. To the wider SE of Cottam 1.
02	Scmp/195/2	Representative location on PRoW network to SE of Cottam 1. Close to settlement of Scampton.
03	Scmp/31/1	Representative location on PRoW network to south of Cottam 1. Isolated location, but close to road network.
04	Thorpe Lane, Local Bridge	Specific location at Thorpe Bridge crossing over local watercourse. Well-used location SE of Cottam 1 with variety of receptors.
05	TLFe/31/2	Specific location on local bridleway network leading from Thorpe le Fallows. There are a limited network of PRoW in this area. Within the southern part of Cottam 1.
06	Thorpe Lane	Specific location from edge of hamlet of Thorpe le Fallows, which has cultural heritage associations, comprising the Scheduled Monument of Thorpe Medieval Settlement (List

		Entry Number: 10106978) and the listed farmhouse (List Entry Number: 1308921).
07	Thorpe Bridge TLFe/32/1	Specific location at Thorpe Bridge crossing over local watercourse. Pleasant views across the landscape.
08	Stur/80/1	Representative of the wider landscape context of Cottam 1 from the PRow network.
09	Fleets Road, Stur/79/1	Specific location at the residential edge of Sturton by Stow to west of Cottam 1.
10	Stur/3/1	Representative of the PRow network and intersection with local lane. Adjacent to boundary of Cottam 1.
11	TLFe/31/2	Representative of the PRow network at southern extent of Cottam 1.
12	Camm/31/1	Representative of the PRow network at southern extent of Cottam 1 for both horse riders and walkers.
13	Fleets Lane, Stow Pasture	Representative of minor road network adjacent to boundary of Cottam 1.
14	Ingham Road	Representative of local green lane off Ingham Road to west part of Cottam 1.
15	Squire's Bridge	Specific location at Squire's Bridge crossing over local watercourse to SW of Cottam 1.
16	Bridleway Camm/31/1 and Ingham Road, Furze Hill	Representative location within southern extent of Cottam 1.
17	Stow/83/1	Specific location in close proximity to hamlet of Coates Hill and associated cultural heritage within central part of Cottam 1.
18	St Edith's Church and Coates Hill	Specific location in close proximity to hamlet of Coates Hill and associated cultural heritage within central part of Cottam 1.
19	Bridge over River Till	Representative of local green lane and crossing of River Till to west of Cottam 1.
20	Normanby Road	Representative of strategic north-south road network to west of Cottam 1.
21	Stow/83/1	Representative of PRow network passing between Ingham and Coates to east of Cottam 1.

22	Ingh/27/5	Representative of PRoW network passing between Ingham and Ingham Road to east of Cottam 1.
23	Ingh/27/5 and Ingham Road	Representative of PRoW network where it joins with Ingham Road to the east of Cottam 1.
24	B1398	Specific location from residential edge of Cammeringham to the east of Cottam 1.
25	Stow Lane and Lincoln Road Crossroads	Representative of strategic road network to east of Cottam 1.
26	Ingh/24/2	Specific location from residential edge of Ingham to east of Cottam 1.
27	Junction of Church Hill and the B1398	Representative of strategic north south road network running along ridgeline to east of Cottam 1.
28	Junction of Ingh/17/1 and Ingh/17/2 and Ingh/18/1 and Ingh/18/2.	Representative of PRoW network north south running along ridgeline to east of Cottam 1.
29	Ingh/17/2 just off B1398	Representative of strategic north south road network running along ridgeline to east of Cottam 1.
30	Junction of High Street and the B1398	Representative of strategic north south road network running along ridgeline to NE of Cottam 1.
31	Fill/87/1 just off Willingham Road	Specific location from residential edge of Fillingham to NE of Cottam 1.
32	Fill/86/1	Representative of PRoW network north south running directly adjacent to Cottam 1.
33	Fill/86/1 off Willingham Road	Representative of PRoW network where it joins with Willingham Road almost adjacent to Cottam 1.
34	Fill 85/2	Representative of PRoW to the NE of Cottam 1.
35	Junction of Fill/85/1, Fill/85/2 and Fill/767/1	Representative of PRoW to the NE of Cottam 1.
36	Fill/767/1	Representative of PRoW to the NE of Cottam 1.
37	Junction of Gypsy Lane and Willingham Road	Representative of junction of minor road network to the NW of Cottam 1.
38	South Lane	Representative of minor road network to NW of Cottam 1.

39	Junction of Cot Garth Lane and Stone Pit Lane	Specific location from residential edge of Willingham by Stow to NW of Cottam 1.
40	Junction of Fillingham Land and Stone Pit Lane	Specific location from residential edge of Willingham by Stow to NW of Cottam 1.
41	Gltw/85/1 just off Kexby Road	Representative of minor road and junction with PRoW network to north of Cottam 1.
42	Gltw/88/1	Representative of PRoW network to NE of Cottam 1.
43	Owmb/5/2 just off A15	Representative of strategic north south road network running along ridgeline to NE of Cottam 1.
44	Junction off School Lane and Chapel Lane	Specific location from residential edge of Springthorpe to south of Cottam 2.
45	A361	Representative of strategic east west road network between Hemswell and Corringham to south of Cottam 2.
46	Corringham Windmill	Representative of strategic east west road network between Hemswell and Corringham to south of Cottam 2 with associated cultural heritage.
47	Junction of Mill Mere Road and Pilham Lane	Representative of minor road network within the wider landscape to the west of Cottam 2.
48	East Lane	Specific location from residential edge of Corringham to SW of Cottam 2.
49	East Lane	Representative of minor road network immediately adjacent to the south boundary of Cottam 2.
50	Yawthorpe	Specific location from residential edge of Yawthorpe to the east of Cottam 2.
51	Wltn/13/1	Specific location from residential edge of Blyborough within the wider landscape to the NE of Cottam 2.
52	Pilham Lane	Representative of minor road network immediately within the wider landscape to the NW of Cottam 2.
53	Corr/22/1	Specific location from residential edge of Aisby within the wider landscape to the NW of Cottam 2.

54	Bonsdale Lane just north of Corringham Beck	Representative of minor road network immediately within the wider landscape to the NW of Cottam 2.
55	Pilham Lane	Specific location from residential edge of Pilham within the wider landscape to the NW of Cottam 2.
56	Pilh/20/1	Specific location from PRow at residential edge of Pilham within the wider landscape to the NW of Cottam 2.
57	Bonsdale Farm	Representative of minor road network within the wider landscape to the north of Cottam 2.
58	Junction of Pilh/20/1 and Bonsdale Lane	Representative of minor road network and junction with local road network within the wider landscape to the north of Cottam 2.
59	Blyton Level Crossing	Specific location from railway crossing within the wider landscape between Cottam 2 and Cottam 3a and 3b.
60	B1025 (Kirkton Road)	Representative of minor east west road network within the landscape between Cottam 2 and Cottam 3a and 3b.
61	B1025 (Kirton Road)	Representative of minor north south road network immediately adjacent to the SE boundary of Cottam 3a and 3b.
62	B1025 (Kirkton Road)	Specific location at residential edge of Blyton to the west of Cottam 3a and 3b.
63	A 159 (Laughton Road)	Representative of strategic north south road network immediately adjacent to the NW boundary of Cottam 3a and 3b.
64	A159 (Laughton Road)	Specific location at edge of Laughton Wood within wider landscape to the north of Cottam 3a and 3b.
65	Scotton Common Nature Reserve	Specific location at entrance to Scotton Common Nature Reserve within wider landscape to the north of Cottam 3a and 3b.
66	Nthp/504/1	Representative of PRow network within wider landscape to the NE of Cottam 3a and 3b.
67	Monson Road	Specific location from residential edge of Northorpe within the wider landscape to the NE of Cottam 3a and 3b.

8.5.198 These viewpoints have been identified through desk studies which have then been verified through fieldwork in February and March 2022 when there were no leaves on hedges and trees to establish the worst-case scenario. Subsequent visits were then undertaken in June, July, and August 2022 when there was greater vegetation cover to understand the seasonal differences between winter and summer.

[Viewpoints: Section 42 Consultation](#)

8.5.199 The locations of the viewpoints have been subject to consultation with the relevant consultees and planning authorities under Section 42 Consultation, where a total of 24 additional viewpoints have been included and photography undertaken. The additional viewpoints are set out in detail within **Appendix 8.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2]**. Discussions over these viewpoints as part of the Section 42 Consultation are set out within the tables at **Appendix 8.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]**.

8.5.200 **Table 8.12** below lists out the Additional Section 42 Consultation Viewpoints and reason for their selection.

Table 8.12: Viewpoints: Section 42 Consultation

Viewpoint Reference	Viewpoint Name	Reason for Selection of Viewpoint
LCC-C-A	Ingham Road	Specific location to capture sequential views along A15 to SW of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-B	PRoW Stur/72/3	Specific view from the residential edge of Sturton by Stow to the SW of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-C	PRoW Stur/73/1	Specific view from the residential edge of Sturton by Stow to the SW of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-D	Blackthorn Lane	Representative location on minor road network to the immediate SW of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-E	PRoW Ingh/27/2	Specific view from the residential edge of Ingham to the east of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-F	Prow Ingh/24/1	Representative location on PRoW network to the immediate east of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-G	PRoW Fill/85/2	Representative location on PRoW network directly adjacent to the NE of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-H	PRoW Fill/767/1	Representative location on PRoW network directly adjacent to the NE of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-I	Willingham Road	Representative location on minor road network within the northern part of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-J	Fillingham Lane	Representative location on minor road network within the northern part of Cottam 1.

LCC-C-K	Fillingham Lane	Representative location on minor road network within the northern part of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-L	B1398	Specific view from the residential edge of Glentworth to the NE of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-M	Kexby Road	Representative location on minor road network within the NE part of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-N	Glentworth Road	Representative view from minor road network at the residential edge of Glentworth to the NE of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-O	Glentworth Road	Representative view from minor road network at the residential edge of Corringham to the NW of Cottam 1.
LCC-C-P	Corringham Beck	Representative view from minor road network at the residential edge of Kexby to the NW of Cottam 2.
LCC-C-Q	Junction at Temple Field Road and Yawthorpe	Representative view from minor road network within the wider setting of Yawthorpe to the SW of Cottam 2.
LCC-C-R	A159	Specific view from railway overbridge and strategic road network to the SW of Cottam 3a and west of Cottam 3b.
LCC-C-S	PRoW Blyt/24/2	Representative view from PRoW network to the SW of Cottam 3a and west of Cottam 3b.
LCC-C-T	Kirton Road	Representative view from secondary road network to the SW of Cottam 3a and NW of Cottam 3b.
LCC-C-U	PRoW Blyt/32/1	Specific view from the edge of Laughton Wood to the NW of Cottam 3a.
LCC-C-V	Dring Lane	Representative view from strategic road network to the NW of Cottam 3a.
LCC-C-W	Northorpe Road	Representative view from secondary road network to the NE of Cottam 3a.
LCC-C-X	Scotton Nature Reserve	Specific view from the edge of Scotton Nature Reserve to the north of Cottam 3a.

- 8.5.201 Viewpoint selection has followed best practice, that is set out at paragraphs 6.18 to 6.20 of GLVIA3⁶²
- 8.5.202 The selection of viewpoints was made on the basis of the following types of publicly accessible viewpoints, as follows:
- Representative viewpoints (representative of views from particular PRow)
 - Specific viewpoints (such as key views from a specific visitor attraction)
 - Illustrative viewpoints (chosen to demonstrate a particular effect/specific issue)
 - Any important sequential view, for example, along key recreational or transport routes; and
 - Any additional agreed viewpoints that have been requested by consultees and the relevant planning authorities.
- 8.5.203 For the purposes of the assessment, all the viewpoints are taken from publicly accessible land and photography undertaken in both summer and winter to ensure a worst-case scenario is assessed and illustrated.
- [Viewpoints: Final Selection](#)
- 8.5.204 Consultation with the relevant consultees and planning authorities under has played an important part in selecting the viewpoints to support the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) process. This consultation process has played a role in gathering specific information about the Sites, the Cable Route Corridor and the associated views. Section 42 Public Consultation also played a role in canvassing feedback from the public on the visibility of the Scheme. This process has been a valuable tool in seeking an understanding and agreement about the key views and to highlight the local interests and values that may otherwise have been overlooked. This commitment and engagement has been undertaken in a genuinely open and responsive process through a series of workshops and public consultation events as set out in Section 8.2 (Consultation).
- 8.5.205 The objectives of the consultation has been to clearly identify those matters of visibility which are important to stakeholders to inform the LVIA process. As a consequence, this process has identified the key viewpoints to be taken forward within this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices. This process also identified some initially selected viewpoints which make a limited contribution to the value of the area and are therefore to be given no further consideration in respect of landscape and visual amenity.
- 8.5.206 **Table 8.13** below lists out the initially selected viewpoints, which have not been considered further within this LVIA chapter. Supporting **Appendix 8.3.1: Viewpoint**

⁶² Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA), 3rd Edition, Routledge, London, Page 109, 2013.

Overview Table [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.1] provides a summary reason for their de-selection or scoping out.

Table 8.13: Initial Selection Viewpoints: Scoping Out

Viewpoint Number	Viewpoint Name	Reason for Scoping Out
02	Scmp/195/2	PRoW network to SE of Cottam 1 and close to settlement of Scampton. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening layering of hedgerows.
03	Scmp/31/1	PRoW network to south of Cottam 1. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography and intervening hedgerows, and settlement at Thorpe le Fallows.
09	Fleets Road, Stur/79/1	Specific location at the residential edge of Sturton by Stow to west of Cottam 1. Similar view provided by Viewpoint VP08, although at closer proximity to Site/Sites.
24	B1398	Representative of secondary road network at the residential edge of Cammeringham. No meaningful views due to distance, topography and intervening hedgerows and woodland at Brattleby Gorse, Cammeringham Low Covert and Beck Spinney.
25	Stow Lane and Lincoln Road Crossroads	Representative of strategic road network to east of Cottam 1. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
26	Ingh/24/2	Representative of bridleway network to west of Ingham. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography and intervening hedgerows and mature tree cover.
27	Junction of Church Hill and the B1398	Representative of strategic north south road network running along ridgeline to east of Cottam 1. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography and intervening settlement and hedgerows.
28	Junction of Ingh/17/1 and Ingh/17/2 and Ingh/18/1 and Ingh/18/2.	Representative of PRoW network north south running along ridgeline to east of Cottam 1. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
31	Fill/8/1 Just off Willingham Road	Representative of PRoW network to south of Fillingham. No meaningful views available due

		to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
40	Junction of Fillingham Land and Stone Pit Lane	Specific location from residential edge of Willingham by Stow to NW of Cottam 1. Similar view provided by Viewpoint VP39.
42	Gltw/88/1	Representative of PRoW network to NE of Cottam 1. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
43	Owmb/5/2 just off A15	Representative of strategic north south road network running along ridgeline to NE of Cottam 1. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
51	Wltn/13/1	Specific location from residential edge of Blyborough within the wider landscape to the NE of Cottam 2. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
52	Pilham Lane	Representative of minor road network immediately within the wider landscape to the NW of Cottam 2. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography and intervening hedgerows and settlement.
53	Corr/22/1	Specific location from residential edge of Aisby within the wider landscape to the NW of Cottam 2. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
64	A159 (Laughton Road)	Specific location at edge of Laughton Wood within wider landscape to the north of Cottam 3a.
65	Scotton Common Nature Reserve	Specific location at entrance to Scotton Common Nature Reserve within wider landscape to the north of Cottam 3a. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.

8.5.207 **Table 8.14** below lists out the Additional Section 42 Consultation Viewpoints which have not been considered further within this LVIA chapter. Supporting **Appendix 8.3.1** Viewpoint Overview Table **[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.1]** provides a summary reason for their de-selection or scoping out.

Table 8.14: Section 42 Consultation Viewpoints: Scoping Out

Viewpoint Reference	Viewpoint Name	Reason for Scoping Out
LCC-C-B	PRoW Stur/72/3	Specific view from the residential edge of Sturton by Stow to the SW of Cottam 1. Replace with LCC-C-C.
LCC-C-L	B1398	Representative view from secondary road network between Fillingham and Glentworth to the NE of Cottam 1. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
LCC-C-O	Glentworth Road	Representative view from minor road network at the residential edge of Corringham to the NW of Cottam 1. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
LCC-C-Q	Junction at Temple Field Road and Yawthorpe	Representative view from minor road network within the wider setting of Yawthorpe to the SW of Cottam 2. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
LCC-C-R	A159	Specific view from railway overbridge and strategic road network to the SW of Cottam 3a and west of Cottam 3b. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
LCC-C-S	PRoW Blyt/24/2	Representative view from PRoW network to the SW of Cottam 3a and west of Cottam 3b. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, mainline railway, and intervening hedgerows.
LCC-C-U	PRoW Blyt/32/1	Specific view from the edge of Laughton Wood to the NW of Cottam 3a. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.
LCC_C_V	Dring Lane	Representative view from minor road network within the wider setting to NW of Cottam 3a. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography and intervening Green Respect Burial Park.
LCC-C-W	Northorpe Road	Representative of views available to users of Northorpe Road which then leads into Monson Road when approaching the settlement of

		Northorpe. There are no meaningful views towards the Sites due to distance, intervening topography and built form.
LCC-C-X	Scotton Nature Reserve	Specific view from the edge of Scotton Nature Reserve to the north of Cottam 3a. No meaningful views available due to distance, topography, and intervening hedgerows.

Residential Receptors: Initial Selection

8.5.208 **Table 8.15** lists out the initial residential receptors for the purpose of the assessment. The reason for their selection are those receptors within the 1km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor.

Table 8.15: Residential Receptors: Initial Selection

Reference	Name	Type	Site/Sites
R03	Mount Pleasant Farm	Singular building	Cottam 3a
R07	Grange Farm	Singular building	Cottam 3a
R08	Dring Lane	Singular building	Cottam 3a
R09	Cold Harbour	Singular building	Cottam 3a
R10	Cold Harbour	Singular building	Cottam 3a
R11	Blenheim Farm	Singular building	Cottam 3a
R13	Blue Bell Farm	Group of buildings	Cottam 3a
R15	Sewage Works	Singular building	Cottam 3
R18	Southorpe Farm	Singular building	Cottam 3a and 3b
R19	Unnamed	Group of buildings	Cottam 3a and 3b
R20	The Fields Farm	Singular building	Cottam 3a and 3b
R21	Grange Farm	Singular building	Cottam 3a and 3b
R22	Top Farm	Singular building	Cottam 3a and 3b
R23	Blyton	Town or Village	Cottam 3a and 3b
R25	Glebe Farm	Singular building	Cottam 3a and 3b
R26	Bonsdale Farm	Group of buildings	Cottam 3b
R27	Pilham Lane	Group of buildings	Cottam 3b
R28	Pilham	Group of buildings	Cottam 3b
R30	Dunstall	Group of buildings	Cottam 3b
R31	Gilby	Group of buildings	Cottam 3b

R32	Aisby	Group of buildings	Cottam 2
R33	The Cottage	Singular building	Cottam 2
R34	Yawthorpe	Group of buildings	Cottam 2
R35	Hall Farm and Old Farm	Group of buildings	Cottam 2
R36	Corringham Grange Farm	Singular building	Cottam 2
R38	Corringham	Town or Village	Cottam 2
R39	Corringham Windmill	Singular building	Cottam 2
R40	Magin Moor Cottages	Singular building	Cottam 2
R51	Westlands Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R52	Low Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R53	Glentworth Grange	Singular building	Cottam 1
R54	Spitals Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R60	Glebe Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R61	Greystones Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R62	Turpin Farm	Group of buildings	Cottam 1
R63	Side Farm and North Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R64	Slate House Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R65	Lowfield Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R66	Willingham by Stow	Town or Village	Cottam 1
R67	Moor Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R70	Grange Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R71	Low Farm	Group of buildings	Cottam 1
R72	Hall Farm	Group of buildings	Cottam 1
R73	East Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R74	West Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R75	Furze Hill	Singular building	Cottam 1
R76	Stow Pasture	Village or Hamlet	Cottam 1
R78	Stow	Town or Village	Cottam 1
R80	The Grange	Singular building	Cottam 1
R82	Thorpe Lane Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1
R84	Clandon House	Group of buildings	Cottam 1
R87	Lancaster Farm	Group of buildings	Cottam 1
R88	Tillbridge Farm	Singular building	Cottam 1

Residential Receptors: Final Selection

- 8.5.209 These initial residential receptors were identified through desk studies which were then verified through fieldwork in February and March 2022 when there were no leaves on hedges and trees to establish the worst-case scenario. Subsequent visits were then undertaken in June, July, and August 2022 when there was greater vegetation to identify the seasonal differences between winter and summer.
- 8.5.210 **Table 8.16** below lists out the initial residential receptors which have not been considered further within this LVIA chapter. Supporting **Appendix 8.3.3.1 Residential Overview Table [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.1]** provides a summary reason for their de-selection or scoping out.

Table 8.16: Residential Receptors: Scoping Out

Reference	Name	Reason for Scoping Out
R03	Mount Pleasant Farm	Partially enclosed aspect of property curtilage intervening hedgerows and flat, low-lying topography.
R07	Grange Farm	Fully enclosed aspect of property curtilage intervening hedgerows and flat, low-lying topography.
R08	Dring Lane	Fully enclosed aspect of property curtilage intervening hedgerows and flat, low-lying topography.
R11	Blenheim Farm	Partially enclosed aspect of property curtilage intervening hedgerows and flat, low-lying topography.
R15	Sewage Works	Not in residential use.
R18	Southorpe Farm	Fully enclosed aspect of property curtilage intervening hedgerows and flat, low-lying topography.
R21	Grange Farm	Partially enclosed aspect of property curtilage intervening hedgerows, flat, low-lying topography and vegetation along mainline railway.
R26	Bonsdale Farm	Fully enclosed aspect of property curtilage intervening hedgerows, flat, low-lying topography and vegetation along mainline railway.
R27	Pilham Lane	Partially enclosed aspect of property curtilages intervening hedgerows, flat, low-lying

		topography and vegetation along mainline railway.
R28	Pilham	Partially enclosed aspect of property curtilages intervening hedgerows and flat, low-lying topography.
R30	Dunstall	Not in residential use.
R31	Gilby	Partially enclosed aspect of property curtilage intervening hedgerows, flat, low-lying topography and interim settlement of Aisby.
R32	Aisby	Partially enclosed aspect of property curtilages intervening hedgerows and flat, low-lying topography.
R34	Yawthorpe	Partially enclosed aspect of property curtilages intervening woodlands and hedgerows.
R38	Corringham	North south orientation of properties and strong woodland at edge of settlement.
R39	Corringham Windmill	Not in residential use.
R40	Magin Moor Cottages	The distance and the strong tree cover within the rear garden to the north, west and south boundaries.
R51	Westlands Farm	Property curtilage fully enclosed with large woodland blocks.
R52	Low Farm	Property curtilage fully enclosed with large woodland blocks.
R54	Spitals Farm	Property curtilage being fully enclosed with tree planting and with being set back from the road frontage.
R64	Slate House Farm	Property curtilage being fully enclosed with tree and hedgerow cover and agricultural buildings.
R66	Willingham by Stow	Extensive property grounds, including long front and rear gardens being fully enclosed with tree cover. The strong riparian vegetation bordering the River Till and large-scale agricultural buildings at Grange Farm also provide additional screening.
R70	Grange Farm	Extensive area of large-scale agricultural buildings. The property is also enclosed by strong hedgerows, woodland, and tree cover to the north and west boundaries of its garden curtilage.

R71	Low Farm	The distance, the riparian vegetation bordering the tributary of the River Till, the large-scale agricultural buildings, and the mature tree cover within the garden curtilages.
R72	Hall Farm	The distance, the large-scale agricultural buildings, mature woodland and tree cover within the garden curtilages and the presence of the Grade I listed St Edith's Church to the west of the plot.
R75	Furze Hill	The distance, the intervening substation, the raised levee bordering the River Till and the strong field boundary beyond.
R78	Stow	The distance, the intervening woodlands, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
R80	The Grange	Derelict building.
R82	Thorpe Lane Farm	The distance, the intervening woodlands, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
R87	Lancaster Farm	The distance, the intervening woodlands, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
R88	Tillbridge Farm	The distance, the intervening woodlands, and the strong field boundaries beyond.

[Transport Receptors: Initial Selection](#)

8.5.211 **Table 8.17** below lists out the initial transport receptors for the purpose of the assessment. The reason for their selection are those receptors within the 1km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor.

Table 8.17: Transport Receptors: Initial Selection

Reference	Name	Site/Sites
T004	Lane to Mount Pleasant Farm off C229, Scotton	Cottam 3a
T006	Park Lane, Laughton near Gainsborough	Cottam 3a
T010	Unnamed Road, Laughton near Gainsborough	Cottam 3a
T011	Unnamed Road, Laughton near Gainsborough	Cottam 3a
T012	Dring Lane, Laughton near Gainsborough	Cottam 3a
T013	Gainsborough Rd, Laughton (A159)	Cottam 3a
T014	Blyton Road, Laughton near Gainsborough	Cottam 3a
T015	Lane to Grange Fm off B1205, Northorpe, Scotter	Cottam 3a

T016	B1205 Kirton Road to C228 Monson Rd, Northorpe	Cottam 3a and 3b
T018	Laughton Road, Blyton (A159)	Cottam 3a and 3b
T019	Kirton Road, Blyton	Cottam 3a and 3b
T021	Bonsdale Lane, Blyton	Cottam 3a and 3b
T022	High Street, Blyton (A159)	Cottam 3a and 3b
T023	Station Road, Blyton	Cottam 3a and 3b
T025	Bonsdale Lane, Bonsdale	Cottam 3a and 3b
T028	Green Lane, Pilham	Cottam 3b
T029	Pilham Lane, Blyton	Cottam 3b
T032	Road to Dunstall, Aisby near Gainsborough	Cottam 3b
T034	Pilham Lane, Aisby near Gainsborough	Cottam 2, 3a and 3b
T036	Pilham Lane, Pilham	Cottam 3b
T037	Yawthorpe Lane, Willoughton	Cottam 2
T038	Field Farm Lane, Corringham	Cottam 2
T040	Access to Corringham Grange, Corringham	Cottam 2
T042	East Lane, Corringham	Cottam 2
T043	Mill Mere Road, Corringham	Cottam 2
T045	From East Lane to A631, Corringham	Cottam 2
T046	Middle Street, Corringham	Cottam 2
T048	Springthorpe Road, Corringham	Cottam 2
T049	Grange Lane, Springthorpe	Cottam 2
T059	Northlands Road, Glentworth	Cottam 1
T064	Kexby Road, Glentworth	Cottam 1
T066	Glentworth Road, Kexby	Cottam 1
T072	Access to Fillingham Grange, Fillingham	Cottam 1
T074	Willingham Road, Fillingham	Cottam 1
T075	Fillingham Lane, Willingham	Cottam 1
T076	Gainsborough Road, Willingham (B1241)	Cottam 1
T077	Unnamed Road, Ingham	Cottam 1
T078	South Lane, Willingham	Cottam 1
T079	High Street, Willingham	Cottam 1
T080	High Street, Willingham (B1241)	Cottam 1
T081	Access to Park Farm, Willingham	Cottam 1

T082	Grange Lane, Willingham by Stow	Cottam 1
T083	Cot Garth Lane	Cottam 1
T084	Unnamed Road, Coates by Stow	Cottam 1
T085	Stone Pit Lane, Willingham by Stow	Cottam 1
T086	Short Lane, Ingham	Cottam 1
T087	Stow Road, Willingham	Cottam 1
T091	Long Lane, Ingham	Cottam 1
T092	Marton Road, Willingham	Cottam 1
T094	Track between South Ln and Coates Ln, Willingham	Cottam 1
T096	Coates Lane, Coates by Stow	Cottam 1
T097	Normanby Road, Normanby by Stow	Cottam 1
T098	Unnamed Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T099	Coates Lane, Stow	Cottam 1
T104	Unnamed Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T105	Stow Lane, Ingham	Cottam 1
T106	Normanby Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T107	Ingham Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T108	Church Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T109	Unnamed Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T110	Blackthorn Lane, Cammeringham	Cottam 1
T112	School Lane, Stow	Cottam 1
T113	Furze Hill, Stow	Cottam 1
T114	Church Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T116	Sturton Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T118	Stow Park Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T119	Fleets Lane, Sturton by Stow	Cottam 1
T120	Unnamed Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T121	Unnamed Road, Brattleby	Cottam 1
T122	Unnamed Road, Stow	Cottam 1
T123	Stow Road, Sturton by Stow	Cottam 1
T125	Thorpe Lane, Brattleby	Cottam 1
T127	Thorpe Lane, Thorpe le Fallows	Cottam 1
T129	Fleets Road, Sturton by Stow	Cottam 1

T131	Thorpe Lane, Sturton by Stow	Cottam 1
T132	Lowfields, Aisthorpe	Cottam 1
T133	Tillbridge Road, Sturton by Stow (A1500)	Cottam 1
T134	Lincoln Lane, Thorpe le Fallows	Cottam 1
T135	Tillbridge Lane, Sturton by Stow (A1500)	Cottam 1
T138	Main Street, Bransby	Cottam 1
T139	Tillbridge Lane, Scampton (A1500)	Cottam 1

Transport Receptors: Final Selection

- 8.5.212 These initial transport receptors have been identified through desk studies which were then verified through fieldwork in February and March 2022 when there were no leaves on hedges and trees to establish the worst-case scenario. Subsequent visits were then undertaken in June, July, and August 2022 when there was greater vegetation to identify the seasonal differences between winter and summer.
- 8.5.213 **Table 8.18** below lists out the initial transport receptors which are not to be considered further within this LVIA chapter. Supporting **Appendix 8.3.4.1** Transport Overview Table [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.1] provides a summary reason for their de-selection or scoping out.

Table 8.18: Transport Receptors: Scoping Out

Reference	Name	Reason for Scoping Out
T004	Lane to Mount Pleasant Farm off C229, Scotton	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential properties including Mount Pleasant Farm, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries, and the small woodlands. Woodland along Dring Lane surrounding the Respect Green Burial Park also provides intervening screening.
T006	Park Lane, Laughton near Gainsborough	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential properties including Mount Pleasant Farm, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries, and the small woodlands. Woodland along Dring Lane surrounding the Respect Green Burial Park also provides intervening screening.
T011	Unnamed Road, Laughton near Gainsborough	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential properties including Mount Pleasant Farm, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries, and the small woodlands. Woodland along Dring Lane surrounding the Respect Green Burial Park also provides intervening screening.

T015	Lane to Grange Fm off B1205, Northorpe, Scotter	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential properties including Blenheim Farm, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries, and the small woodlands.
T016	B1205 Kirton Road to C228 Monson Rd, Northorpe	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential properties including Blenheim Farm and Cold Harbour Farm, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries, and the small woodlands.
T019	Kirton Road, Blyton	The distance and the intervening hedgerows as strong field boundaries.
T022	High Street, Blyton (A159)	The distance, the intervening settlement of Blyton, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries, the riparian vegetation lining Laughton Highland Drain and the small woodlands.
T023	Station Road, Blyton	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings and the intervening vegetation bordering Laughton Highland Drain.
T025	Bonsdale Lane, Bonsdale	The distance and the hedgerows as strong field boundaries.
T029	Pilham Lane, Blyton	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings and the settlement of Pilham, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries and the woodlands around Pilham.
T032	Road to Dunstall, Aisby near Gainsborough	The distance and the intervening farmsteads, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries and the woodlands around Dunstall.
T034	Pilham Lane, Aisby near Gainsborough	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings and the settlement of Aisby, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries and the woodlands around Gilby and Aisby.
T036	Pilham Lane, Pilham	The distance, the intervening settlement of Gilby and Aisby and the hedgerows as strong field boundaries.
T042	East Lane, Corringham	The distance, the intervening settlement of Corringham, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries, the riparian vegetation lining Corringham Beck and the small woodlands.
T043	Mill Mere Road, Corringham	The distance and the intervening settlement of Corringham.
T046	Middle Street, Corringham	The distance, the intervening settlement of Corringham, the hedgerows as strong field

		boundaries, the riparian vegetation lining Corringham Beck and the small woodlands.
T048	Springthorpe Road, Corringham	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries and the small woodlands.
T049	Grange Lane, Springthorpe	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries and the small woodlands.
T066	Glentworth Road, Kexby	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings, the hedgerows as strong field boundaries and the woodlands including Heaton's Wood, Turpin Wood and Fillingham Low Wood.
T076	Gainsborough Road, Willingham (B1241)	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings, the hedgerows and the strong field boundaries and the riparian vegetation lining the tributaries of the River Till.
T079	High Street, Willingham	The distance, the intervening settlement of Willingham by Stow, the hedgerows and the strong field boundaries and the riparian vegetation lining the tributaries of the River Till.
T080	High Street, Willingham (B1241)	The distance, the intervening settlement of Willingham by Stow, the hedgerows and the strong field boundaries and the riparian vegetation lining the tributaries of the River Till.
T081	Access to Park Farm, Willingham	The distance, the intervening settlement of Willingham by Stow, the hedgerows and the strong field boundaries and the riparian vegetation lining the tributaries of the River Till.
T082	Grange Lane, Willingham by Stow	The distance, the intervening settlement of Willingham by Stow, the hedgerows and the strong field boundaries and the riparian vegetation lining the tributaries of the River Till.
T086	Short Lane, Ingham	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings, the hedgerows and the strong field boundaries and the riparian vegetation lining the tributaries of the River Till.
T087	Stow Road, Willingham	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings, the hedgerows and the strong field boundaries and the riparian vegetation lining the tributaries of the River Till.
T091	Long Lane, Ingham	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings, the hedgerows and the

		strong field boundaries and the riparian vegetation lining the tributaries of the River Till.
T092	Marton Road, Willingham	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings, the hedgerows and the strong field boundaries and the riparian vegetation lining the tributaries of the River Till.
T098	Unnamed Road, Stow	The distance, the intervening farmsteads and residential dwellings, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T104	Unnamed Road, Stow	The distance, the intervening hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T106	Normanby Road, Stow	The distance, the intervening settlement of Stow, the intervening Thorpe Wood, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T108	Church Road, Stow	The distance, the intervening settlement of Stow, the intervening Thorpe Wood, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T112	School Lane, Stow	The distance, the intervening settlement of Stow, the intervening Thorpe Wood, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T114	Church Road, Stow	The distance, the intervening settlements of Stow and Sturton by Stow, the intervening Thorpe Wood, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T116	Sturton Road, Stow	The distance, the intervening settlements of Stow and Sturton by Stow, the intervening Thorpe Wood, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T118	Stow Park Road, Stow	The distance, the intervening settlements of Stow and Sturton by Stow, the intervening Thorpe Wood, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T121	Unnamed Road, Brattleby	The distance, the intervening woodlands at Brattle Gorse, Beck Spinney and South Spiney, the hedgerows and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T123	Stow Road, Sturton by Stow	The distance, the intervening settlements of Sturton by Stow and Stow, the small woodlands, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T129	Fleets Road, Sturton by Stow	The distance, the intervening settlements of Sturton by Stow, Stow and Thorpe le Fallows, the

		small woodlands, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T131	Thorpe Lane, Sturton by Stow	The distance, the intervening settlements of Sturton by Stow, Stow and Thorpe le Fallows, the small woodlands, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T132	Lowfields, Aisthorpe	The distance, the intervening settlements of Sturton by Stow and stow, the small woodlands, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T133	Tillbridge Road, Sturton by Stow (A1500)	The distance, the intervening settlements of Sturton by Stow and Stow, the small woodlands, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T134	Lincoln Lane, Thorpe in the Fallows	The distance, the intervening large woodlands, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T135	Tillbridge Lane, Sturton by Stow (A1500)	The distance, the intervening small woodlands, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T138	Main Street, Bransby	The distance, the intervening settlement of Bransby, the small woodlands, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.
T139	Tillbridge Lane, Scampton (A1500)	The distance, the intervening small woodlands, the hedgerows, and the strong field boundaries beyond.

PRoW Receptors: Initial Selection

8.5.214 **Table 8.19** below lists out the initial PRoW receptors for the purpose of this assessment. The reason for their selection are those receptors within the 1km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor.

Table 8.19: PRoW Receptors: Initial Selection

Reference	Type	Sites
Blyth/24/1 and 24/2	Public Footpath	Cottam 3a and 3b
Blyth/25/1, 25/2, 25,3	Public Footpath	Cottam 3a and 3b
Blyth/26/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 3a and 3b
Blyth/28/1 and 28/2	Public Footpath	Cottam 3a and 3b
Blyth/29/1 and 29/2	Public Footpath	Cottam 3a and 3b

Blyth/30/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 3a and 3b
Blyth/32/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 3a
Bram/66/1	Public Footpath	Shared Cable Route Corridor and Access
Camm/31/1	Public Bridleway	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Corr/22/1, 22/2 and 22/3	Public Footpath	Cottam 2 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Corr/23/1 and 23/2	Public Footpath	Cottam 2
Corr/771/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 2
Fill/767/1	Public Bridleway	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Fill/85/1 and 85/2	Public Bridleway	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Fill/86/1	Public Bridleway	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Gltw/85/1	Public Bridleway	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Heap/1170/1	Public Bridleway	Cable Route Corridor and Access
Ingh/17/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1
Ingh/235/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Ingh/24/1 and 24/2	Public Bridleway	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Ingh/25/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1
Ingh/26/2 and 26/3	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Ingh/27/3, 27/4 and 27/5	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Laug/32/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 3a
Mton/66/1, 66/2, 66/3 and 66/4	Public Footpath	Abnormal Loads Access and Shared Cable Route Corridor and Access
Mton/67/1	Public Footpath	Abnormal Loads Access
Mton/68/1	Public Footpath	Cable Route Corridor and Access and Shared Cable Route Corridor and Access

Mton/69/1	Public Footpath	Cable Route Corridor and Access and Shared Cable Route Corridor and Access
Mton/823/1	BOAT and Public Footpath	Cable Route Corridor and Access and Shared Cable Route Corridor and Access
Mton/824/1, 824/2 and 824/3	BOAT and Public Footpath	Cable Route Corridor and Access and Shared Cable Route Corridor and Access
Nthp/504/1 and 504/2	BOAT	Cottam 3a
Pilh/20/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 3a and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Scmp/196/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1
Scmp/31/1	Public Bridleway	Cottam 1
Scmp/32/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1
Stow/70/1	Public Bridleway	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access and Permissive Path and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Stow/71/1, 71/2 and 71/3	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access and Permissive Path and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Stow/72/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access and Permissive Path and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Stow/83/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access and Permissive Path
Stow/845/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access and Permissive Path and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Stur/71/4	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access and Permissive Path and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Stur/72/1, 72/2 and 72/3	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access and Permissive Path and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Stur 73/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Permissive Path and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Stur/76/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1
Stur/77/1 and 77/2	Public Footpath	Cottam 1

Stur/79/1, 79/2 and 79/3	Public Footpath	Cottam 1
Stur 80/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
TLFe/31/1	Public Bridleway	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
TLFe/32/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Cable Route Corridor and Access
Wlgm/515/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access
Wlgm/538/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access
Wlgm/59/1, 59/2, 59/3, 59/4, 59/5 and 59/6	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access
Wlgm/61/1	Public Footpath	Abnormal Loads Access
Wlgm/62/1	Public Footpath	Abnormal Loads Access
Wlgm/63/1	Public Footpath	Abnormal Loads Access
Wlgm/64/1 and 64/2	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access
Wlgm/881/1	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access
Wlgm/976/1 and 976/2	Public Footpath	Cottam 1 and Abnormal Loads Access

PRoW Receptors: Final Selection

- 8.5.215 These initial PRoW receptors have been identified through desk studies which have then been verified through fieldwork in February and March 2022 when there were no leaves on hedges and trees to establish the worst-case scenario. Subsequent visits were then undertaken in June, July, and August 2022 when there was greater vegetation to identify the seasonal differences between winter and summer.
- 8.5.216 **Table 8.20** below lists out the initial PRoW receptors which are not to be considered further within this LVIA chapter. Supporting **Appendix 8.3.5.1** PRoW Overview Table [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.5.1] provides a summary of the reasons for their de-selection or scoping out.

Table 8.20: PRoW Receptors: Scoping Out

Reference	Type	Reason for Scoping Out
Blyth/24/1 and 24/2	Public Footpath	The distance, the flat, low-lying landform, and the intervening woodland at the western edge of

Blyth/25/1, 25/2, 25,3	Public Footpath	the settlement of Pilham. Vegetation bordering mainline railway also provides intervening screening.
Blyth/26/1	Public Footpath	
Blyth/28/1 and 28/2	Public Footpath	
Blyth/29/1 and 29/2	Public Footpath	
Blyth/30/1	Public Footpath	The distance and the surrounding built settlement of Blyton.
Blyth/32/1	Public Footpath	The distance, the very slightly undulating and low-lying landform, and the intervening riparian vegetation along Laughton Highland Drain. Bluebell Farm, Blyton Grange and the residential edge of Blyton also provide intervening screening.
Bram/66/1	Public Footpath	Potential visibility towards Shared Cable Route Corridor Access, but due to the temporary nature of construction works the effects would be limited.
Corr/23/1 and 23/2	Public Footpath	The distance and the surrounding built development of Corringham.
Corr/771/1	Public Footpath	
Heap/1170/1	Public Bridleway	No visibility towards Cable Route Corridor and Access due to dense hedgerows and tree cover to each side of the bridleway.
Ingh/17/1	Public Footpath	The distance and the surrounding built development of Ingham.
Ingh/235/1	Public Footpath	
Ingh/25/1	Public Footpath	The distance and intervening hedgerows and tree cover.
Laug/32/1	Public Footpath	The distance, the intervening settlement of Blyton and the strong hedgerow network with good tree cover.
Mton/66/1, 66/2, 66/3 and 66/4	Public Footpath	Some potential visibility towards Abnormal Loads Access and Shared Cable Route Corridor and Access, but due to the temporary nature of construction works the effects would be limited.
Mton/67/1	Public Footpath	
Mton/68/1	Public Footpath	Some potential visibility towards Cable Route Corridor Access and Shared Cable Route
Mton/69/1	Public Footpath	

Mton/823/1	BOAT and Public Footpath	Corridor and Access, but due to the temporary nature of construction works the effects would be limited.
Mton/824/1, 824/2 and 824/3	BOAT and Public Footpath	
Nthp/504/1 and 504/2	BOAT	The distance, slightly undulating landform, and intervening hedgerows.
Scmp/196/1	Public Footpath	The distance, flat, low-lying landform, intervening hedgerows, and settlement.
Scmp/31/1	Public Bridleway	The distance, flat, low-lying landform, intervening hedgerows, and settlement of Sturton by Stow.
Scmp/32/1	Public Footpath	
Stow/70/1	Public Bridleway	Some potential visibility towards the Abnormal Loads Access and Cable Route Corridor and Access, but due to the temporary nature of the construction works the effects would be limited. No visibility towards the Cottam 1 Site due to the distance, flat, low-lying landform, intervening settlement of Stow and the strong hedgerow network.
Stow/71/1, 71/2 and 71/3	Public Footpath	No visibility towards the Abnormal Loads Access and Cable Route Corridor and Access due to the intervening built settlement of Stow and the mature tree cover bordering the bridleway to the north.
Stow/72/1	Public Footpath	
Stow/845/1	Public Footpath	The distance, the intervening built settlement of Stow and the mature tree cover bordering the bridleway to the north.
Stur/71/4	Public Footpath	The distance and the intervening settlement of Sturton by Stow.
Stur/76/1	Public Footpath	The distance and the intervening settlement of Sturton by Stow.
Stur/77/1 and 77/2	Public Footpath	The distance and the intervening settlement of Sturton by Stow.
Stur/79/1, 79/2 and 79/3	Public Footpath	The distance and the intervening settlement at Thorpe Lane. Tree cover bordering recreation ground and other hedgerow trees to the southeast also provide intervening screening.
Wlgm/515/1	Public Footpath	The distance and the intervening settlement of Sturton by Stow.
Wlgm/59/1, 59/2, 59/3, 59/4,	Public Footpath	

59/5 and 59/6		
Wlgm/61/1	Public Footpath	
Wlgm/62/1	Public Footpath	
Wlgm/63/1	Public Footpath	
Wlgm/64/1 and 64/2	Public Footpath	
Wlgm/881/1	Public Footpath	
Wlgm/976/1 and 976/2	Public Footpath	

Individual Contributors to the Visual Baseline

8.5.217 This section sets out, in more detail, the individual contributors to the visual baseline, for example the different groups of people who may experience views of the Scheme.

Individual Contributors: Establishing the Visual Baseline including Visual Value

Cottam 1 South

Viewpoint Receptors

8.5.218 This includes Initial Viewpoints VP1, VP4, VP5, VP6, VP7, VP8, VP10, VP11, VP12, VP13, VP14, VP15, VP16, VP18, VP19, VP20, VP21, VP22 and VP23 and Consultation Viewpoints LCC-C-A, LCC-C-C, LCC-C-D and LCC-C-E. The viewpoint locations are shown on **Figure 8.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.11]**.

8.5.219 With VP1-Tillbridge Lane, this is looking northwest towards the eastern extent of the Cottam 1 Site in the foreground with the Cottam 1 North Site beyond. This is a dedicated public viewpoint which allows panoramic views across the Till Vale towards the west as far as the Trent Floodplain. From this location, there is an overriding impression of this being a landscape of vast scale, with far-reaching views that are very pleasant and invigorating. In terms of visual value, this is **high** being a key destination for recreation from which to appreciate the extensive west-facing views. This is a recognised point of interest to capture invigorating views across the vast, open landscape from higher landform fringing the limestone capped plateau.

8.5.220 With VP4-Thorpe Lane, Local Bridge, this is looking north with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site in the immediate foreground. This is where a small tributary of the River Till passes beneath Thorpe Lane to the east of the small settlement of Thorpe le Fallows. From this location, there is an opportunity to capture views over the low-lying Till Vale with extended eastwards views as far as the higher landform of the limestone capped scarp slope in the east or 'Lincoln Cliff'. These small bridge crossings over the River Till and its tributaries are local points of interest that often

include foreground features such as riparian vegetation, hedgerow trees, rusty pastures, and bridge architecture. In terms of visual value, this is **medium to high** being an interruption or 'node' at a local bridge crossing on Thorpe Lane, that provides an opportunity to capture views across the landscape towards the higher landform fringing the limestone capped plateau.

- 8.5.221 With VP5-TLFe/31/2, this is looking north with the southern extent of Cottam 1 Site in the immediate foreground. This is a public bridleway where this section leads from Thorpe Lane in the south to meet with Ingham Road in the North. From this location, there are views over the large-scale, flat, open landscape to the west of the settlement of Brattleby. This landscape is host to a number of small woodland blocks including Thorpe Wood, Brattleby Gorse, Poplar Wood and woodland associated with the Grade II listed Brattleby Hall (List Entry:1063335) and parkland and pleasure grounds. In terms of visual value, this is valued as **medium**, being a bridleway that offers a sequence of views at both close range towards the setting of a settlement and the outlying woodland blocks which have been traditionally associated with them, such as Thorpe Wood and Thorpe le Fallows. This is an interesting landscape, but with no outstanding qualities.
- 8.5.222 With VP6-Thorpe Lane, this is at the site of the Thorpe Medieval Settlement (List Entry:101698), looking north with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site in the immediate foreground. This is a location just off Thorpe Lane looking from the war memorial that marks the site of the former medieval church with extended views as far Ingham Road. The landscape is host to slightly undulating landform with deciduous woodland, hedgerows, and occasional hedgerow trees as a setting to the scattered farmsteads include The Grange in the foreground and Furze Hill and Lower Furze Hill just off Ingham Lane. In terms of visual value, this is **medium to high** being located on Thorpe Lane that is part of the typical east west road network. The associated historic settlements on these roads such as Thorpe le Fallows are also key elements in the landscape, along with ancient enclosures where they form a notable contrast with the modern fields and planned enclosures.
- 8.5.223 With VP7-Thorpe Bridge TLFe/32/1, this is looking northeast with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site in the immediate foreground. This is where the River Till passes beneath Thorpe Lane to the west of the small settlement of Thorpe le Fallows. From this location, there is an opportunity to capture views over the low-lying Till Vale from the public footpath network where it intersects with a small bridge crossing over the River Till. This is a local point of interest with a stopping point off the lane that depicts an exposed, large-scale landscape, and that is extensive due to the absence of hedgerows. In terms of visual value, this is **medium to high** being located at the junction between a typical east west aligned road and a public bridleway. The footpath and bridleway network then also meet with a crossing of the River Till which combined are key features to local landscape character and important in framing views across the area.

- 8.5.224 With VP8-Stur/80/1, this is looking northeast with the southwestern extent of Cottam 1 Site in the foreground with Cottam 2 North beyond. This is where the public footpath crosses the corner of a small arable field to the east of the settlement of Sturton by Stow. From this location, there is an opportunity to capture extended views over the Till Vale as far as the 'Lincoln Cliff'. The landscape is host to large-scale arable fields, many under single crop, low-cut hedgerows and some hedgerow trees including ash which are strong vertical features in the view. Overall, there is a monochrome appearance due to the intensive agriculture, but distant woodlands add some interest. In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being on the public footpath network. At this location, there are low levels of woodland cover and low-cut hedgerows with very few trees allowing uninterrupted views across a low-lying landscape. This is an interesting view, but with very qualities or discerning features.
- 8.5.225 With VP10-Stur/31/1, this is looking northeast with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site in the immediate foreground. This is where the public footpath meets with Fleets Lane to the east of the settlement of Sturton by Stow. From this location, there are far-reaching views as far as the 'Lincoln Cliff' at Cammerighnam and Brattleby. From this location, the view is exposed over an intensive arable landscape, and although there is a strong hedgerow network at this location there are few trees. This is a quiet spot-on Fleets Lane and in terms of man-made elements, there is sparse settlement, only with the notable Fleets Cottages that are prominent due to the absence of tree cover within their curtilage. In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being on the public footpath network at the junction with the minor road network. Overall, this road network is defined by narrow lanes that are often tranquil with grass verges and Fleet's Lanes has these features, plus extended views over the wider low-lying landscape.
- 8.5.226 With VP11-TLFe/31/2, this is looking in all directions towards the Cottam 1 Site and North towards the Cottam 1 North Site with the Cottam 2 Site beyond. This is where the bridleway heads from Thorpe Lane in the south in a 'dog-leg', passing Lower Furze Hill Farm to meet with Ingham Road in the north. From this location, there is a combination of both enclosed and far-reaching views as far as Tillbridge Road in the south. This is a detached location away from the 'east west' local road network and in terms of man-made elements, there is sparse settlement, only featuring The Grange to the southwest that is not prominent due to the surrounding tree and scrub cover (although there is fly tipping and stock-piled materials in the fold yard to the farmstead). In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being shaped by the interruption of the bridleway with Thorpe Wood, that provides a local point of interest and the opportunity to frame and truncate views across the landscape to higher landform fringing the Vales. These lower lying areas also support intact hedgerows and belts of riverside trees that truncate views and give a feeling of intimacy, enclosure and 'sense of place'.
- 8.5.227 With VP12-Camm/31/1, this is looking south directly over the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and north towards the Cottam 1 North Site, with the Cottam 2 Site beyond. This is where the bridleway heads from Thorpe Lane in the south in a 'dog-

leg', passing Lower Furze Hill Farm to meet with Ingham Road in the north. From this location, there are far-reaching views as far as the settlement of Coates in the north and also towards the higher landform fringing the vales to the east. This is an inspiring location away from the 'east west' local road network. In terms of man-made elements, there is sparse settlement, only featuring Lower Furze Hill Farm to the west and Furze Hill Farm to the north which are not that prominent due to the surrounding tree and scrub cover. In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being shaped by the interruption of the bridleway with the network of farm tracks and local drainage feature, that provides a local point of interest. These lower lying areas also support intact hedgerows and belts of riverside trees that truncate views and give a feeling of intimacy, enclosure and 'sense of place'. This location also gives the opportunity to frame and truncate views across the landscape to higher landform fringing the Vales.

- 8.5.228 With VP13-Fleets Lane, Stow Pasture, this is looking south directly over the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and north towards the Cottam 1 North Site, with the Cottam 2 Site beyond. This is where Fleets Lane heads from the south at Fleets Road, Sturton by Stow, passing Fleets Cottages to meet with Ingham Road in the north at Stow Pasture. From this location, there are far-reaching views over a large-scale arable landscape divided by arable fields and tall hedgerows with some tree clumps. In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being shaped by the interruption of the viewpoint with the system of 'east west' and 'north south local lanes. This interface provides local points of interest near to their intersections, especially where they are marked by farmsteads or small settlements such as Stow Pasture. These lower lying areas also support intact hedgerows and belts of riverside trees that truncate views and give a feeling of intimacy, enclosure and 'sense of place'.
- 8.5.229 With VP14-Ingham Road, this is on a local green lane, looking south towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and north towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 North Site. This is where the green lane extends from Ingham Road in the south to connect with a further green lane to the north at a local bridge crossing over the River Till, all to the east of the settlement of Stow. From this location, the views are enclosed due to the tall dense hedgerows to each side of the green lane and the residential properties to the south curtail visibility to close range views. The landscape is host to medium to large-scale arable fields with some pasture closer to the settlement edge and a good network of hedgerows with mature tree cover. In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being on the route of a green lane that passes through a landscape that has been extensively farmed over a long period where this intensification has diminished the 'sense of place'. Although the lane provides extended access from Ingham Road to the River Till, the views are ordinary, enclosed, and uninspiring from this viewpoint.
- 8.5.230 With VP15-Squire's Bridge, this is looking south towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and north towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 North Site. This is where the River Till passes beneath Ingham Road to the south of the small settlement of Coates. From this location, there is an opportunity to capture views

over the low-lying Till Vale from the public footpath network where it intersects with a small bridge crossing over the River Till. This is a local point of interest, that depicts an exposed, large-scale landscape, that is open in nature due to the absence of hedgerow trees and woodland cover in the foreground. Although the landscape is uniform and mostly consistent, it has some interest in terms of the bridge crossing that lends a distinctive 'sense of place' and 'all round' views at close range. In terms of visual value, this is **medium to high** being at Squires Bridge which creates a sense of identity where the meandering watercourse of the River Till gives texture and interest to the landscape. This is also a location to appreciate the large-scale arable land use where the distant views towards the limestone capped scarp slope act as a strong backdrop.

- 8.5.231 With VP16-Bridleway Cam/31/1 and Ingham Road, Furze Hill, this is looking south towards the southern part of the Cottam 1 Site and north towards the northern part of the Cottam 1 Site. This is where the public bridleway meets with Ingham Road at the farmstead and residential property known as Fruze Hill. The bridleway heads south from Ingham Road in a 'dog-leg' alignment to meet with Thorpe Lane in the south. The landscape is host to large scale and intensive arable fields, but at this location the viewpoint is influenced by the long straight alignment of Ingham Road. The River Till is just to the west of this viewpoint, where it passes beneath Squire's Bridge as a local bridge crossing and notable feature breaks the monotony of Ingham Road. In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being on a public bridleway where 'all round' views capture local woodlands such those surrounding the historic settlement of Coates. The landscape is harmonious, and the views are pleasant and interesting.
- 8.5.232 With VP17-Stow/83/1, this is looking south towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and north towards the Cottam 1 North Site. This is where the public footpath heads from Ingham Road in a northerly direction, crossing the arable field to join with the small settlement of Coates. The landscape is host to open, arable fields that are mostly under a single crop giving a monochrome appearance to the land use, but the River Till breaks the monotony. The tall poplar shelterbelt to the southwest of Coates is a prominent feature that curtails visibility towards the west and vegetation associated with Hall Farm and the residential properties known as The Bungalows curtails views towards the north. The River Till is just to the southwest of the viewpoint where it passes beneath Squire's Bridge on Ingham Road. The stretch of the watercourse has a good coverage of riparian vegetation, which is a prominent feature in the foreground of the view. In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being part of the public footpath network that crosses over a large-scale arable land use. The location is open and exposed and there are 'all round' views that capture woodlands and hedgerows. The view is interesting, but fairly commonplace and ordinary.
- 8.5.233 With VP18-St Edith's Church and Coates Hall, this is looking south towards the southern extent of Cottam 1 Site and north towards the Cottam 1 North Site. This is within the grounds to St Edith's Church on the open lawn to the south of the church

building where there is a significant gap in the boundary vegetation. The surrounding landscape is host to an exposed, large-scale arable land use that is open in nature due to the absence of foreground hedgerows. The viewpoint is strongly influenced by the presence of the Grade I listed Church of St Edith (List Entry:1146742) and woodland associated with the Coates medieval settlement and moated site (List Entry:101696) which curtails visibility towards the north, east and west, leaving open narrow, framed views towards the south. The church building and adjoining Hall Farm and agricultural buildings and associated tree cover is the main feature of this location. In terms of visual value, this is **medium to high** being a framed and direct view over a large-scale arable landscape towards distant horizons. The immediate presence of St Edith's Church and Coates Hall (and the associated woodland and tree cover) adds a strong sense of intimacy and enclosure to this location.

- 8.5.234 With VP19-Bridge over River Till, this is looking southeast towards the southern extent of Cottam 1 Site and northeast towards the Cottam 1 North Site. This viewpoint is located on the green lane at the 'T' junction where it extends west to meet with the B1241 (Normanby Road) and south to meet with Ingham Road. The bridge crossing provides a 'sense of place', and there is a calm character and feeling of isolation at this viewpoint. The River Till passes beneath the green lane at the bridge crossing and winds through the landscape towards the settlement of Willingham by Stow in the north. The watercourse benefits from a strong tracing of alder and willow trees, and the mature ash trees along the green lane to the south are also a distinctive feature at this location. In terms of visual value, this is **medium to high** being at a location where the River Till crosses a local farm track and a green lane. This location shows a sharp contrast between open and enclosed parts of the landscape and how woodland and tree cover influences these contrasts. This is one of the 'nodes' or local crossing points of the River Till.
- 8.5.235 With VP20-Normanby Road, this is looking directly east onto the western extent of the Cottam 1 North Site. This viewpoint is located on the footway of Normanby Road, to the south of West Farm and southwest of East Farm. The surrounding landscape is host to a low-lying almost flat agricultural land use, with many large fields under single crop. The view encompasses the River Till and its associated riparian vegetation, and the tree-lined green lane which includes mature ash and oak trees that are also distinctive on the skyline. In terms of man-made elements, there is the busy Normanby Road with regular and high traffic speeds and its narrow footways. There is also the collection of 'flat-topped' houses to the east side of Normanby Road that are typical to this locality, with a further collection of the same houses located on Ingham Road at the junction with the green lane. In terms of visual value, this is **medium to low** being on the busy 'B' road network with fast-moving traffic. The meandering course of the River Till appears in the view and a distant back drop of the limestone capped scarp slope. There is no dedicated location to appreciate these views and the opportunity to capture them is only a short section of road with a bend in close proximity.

- 8.5.236 With VP21-Stow/83/1, this is looking all round, directly north over the northern extent of Cottam 1 Site and directly south over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. This viewpoint is located on the public footpath (Stow/83/1) that heads west towards the settlement of Coates and east towards the Low Farm where it takes a 'dog-leg' turn to meet with further footpaths (Ingh/26/2, Ingh/27/4, Ingh/27/5 and Ingh/238/1). This is an isolated location where the woodlands to the west northwest at Fox Covert, New Plantation and Larch Plantation combine to form a strong feeling of enclosure. The tall, but intermittent hedgerow to the south side of the footpath also gives a sense of enclosure and visual containment to this location. In terms of man-made elements, there are occasional farmsteads including Greystones Farm and Glebe Farm that are both located on Willingham Road to the southwest of the settlement of Fillingham. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being on the local footpath network in a quiet location away from the busy road network. The view is shaped by the distinctive character of the deciduous woodland blocks including views towards Coates Gorse, otherwise there is only a limited number of distinguishing features and evidence of degradation with the intensive agriculture.
- 8.5.237 With VP22-Ingh 27/5, this is looking northwest towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and southwest towards southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. This viewpoint is located on a public footpath (Ingh/27/5) that heads north from Ingham Road in the south, where it then takes two 'dog-leg' turns passing Low Farm to meet with Long Lane in the north. This is a detached location set away from Ingham Road just to the east of the small woodland block known as Coates Gorse. The view encompasses a group of deciduous woodlands to the northwest on the horizon that include Fox Covert, New Plantation and Larch Plantation. To the south there is a further group of deciduous woodlands including Cammeringham Low Covert, Long Covert, Brattleby Gorse and Polar Wood. In terms of features, there is little built influence at this location other than Low Farm to the northeast and the settlement of Coates to the northwest, which includes Grange Farm, Coates Hall and Presswood Cottages. Shelterbelt vegetation is also evident to the west with the meandering tributary of the River Till in the foreground that is picked out by its tracing of riparian vegetation. In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being a public footpath with panoramic views framed by woodland blocks such as Coates Gorse. This is in close proximity to the small settlement of Coates where these woodlands have derived their name from the settlement associated with them. The views are ordinary with few other features of interest.
- 8.5.238 With VP23-Ingh/27/5 and Ingham Road, this is looking directly south over the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and north towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. This viewpoint is located on Ingham Road that connects the settlements of Stow in the west with Ingham in the east and is a long, almost straight route. This view depicts a medium-scale, gently undulating, partially enclosed landscape, being more intimate at close range, but open and more exposed in the mid-distance due to an absence of hedgerows. In terms of features, there is a

combination of isolated farm buildings, plantation woodland, tall hedgerows, occasional hedgerow trees and arable fields that present a simple, but well-balanced landscape overall. The increased field sizes add some discordancy and Ingham Road has occasional fast-moving traffic. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being on a public footpath and the junction with the east west local road network. The view is influenced by the open arable fields on the horizon, but there are few other landscape features, and the landscape appears fairly ordinary.

- 8.5.239 With LCC-C-A, this is looking southeast over southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and northeast over the northern extent of Cottam 1 Site. This viewpoint is located on Ingham Road that connects the settlements of Stow in the west with Ingham in the east and is a long, almost straight route. This view depicts a location close to the residential edge of Stow looking over a medium scale, gently undulating, partially enclosed landscape and the view is open and exposed due to the absence of roadside hedgerows to the south road verge and low-cut hedgerows to the north verge. In terms of features, this is an expansive arable landscape with some low-cut hedgerows and isolated hedgerow trees that stand out on the horizon. There is also a group of deciduous woodlands on the horizon to the south including Thorpe Wood, Brattleby Thorns and Cammeringham Low Covert. The group of woodlands to the north include Normanby Gorse, Fox Covert, New Plantation and Larch Plantation. In terms of visual value, this is **medium** being at a location on Ingham Road where travel between settlements is a detractor to the appreciation of the view. There are views from this location, and this is an attractive entrance to the settlement which evokes a 'sense of place' on arrival due to the bordering fields, hedgerows, and tree cover.
- 8.5.240 With LCC-C-C, this is looking east towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and northeast towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located on the public footpath (Stur/73/1) that heads from the settlement of Sturton by Stow in the west towards Fleets Lane, which is a local lane, in the east. The wider land use is a large-scale landscape, that is mostly exposed with far-reaching views towards the limestone scarp in the east. In terms of features, there is little built influence other than the close proximity of Sturton by Stow and Fleets Cottage which stand out in the foreground due to their sparse tree cover. There is also a group of deciduous woodlands on the horizon to the east including Thorpe Wood, Brattleby Thorns and Cammeringham Low Covert. The meandering alignment of the River Till is also picked out in the foreground of these deciduous woodlands giving an overall interesting landscape with woodland cover being the dominant component in this view. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium to high**, being on a public footpath that links with a local lane. The view is influenced by the arable landscape, and this is a quiet location with far-reaching views towards the limestone scarp slope at Cammeringham and Brattleby.
- 8.5.241 With LCC-C-D, this is looking directly southwest over the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and northwest over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located on Blackthorn Lane and depicts a local lane within the outlying

landscape to the west of the settlement of Cammeringham. The wider land use is a medium to large-scale agricultural landscape that is partially enclosed with arable fields forming a geometric pattern in the landscape. In terms of features, there is an isolated agricultural building at Blackthorn Hill and farmsteads at Cold Harbour to the southwest and Furze Hill and Lower Furze Hill to the west. The presence of Blackthorn Lane is also a man-made influence. There is a group of deciduous woodlands to the south including Cammeringham Low Covert, Long Covert, Brattleby Gorse and Poplar Wood. Although there is a distinct lack of tree cover in the hedgerows at this location, the deciduous woodlands on the horizon add a wooded context to the view. In terms of the visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being part of the local lane network where the distinctive character is shaped by the local woodlands. The viewpoint also retains a sense of rural tranquility and intactness due to its discrete location away from the main road network.

- 8.5.242 With LVCC-C-E-PRoW Ingh/27/2, this is looking west towards both the northern extent of the Cottam 1 and south towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located at the junction of the public footpath (Ingh/27/2) on the local lane network to the southwest of the settlement of Ingham, within its immediate landscape setting. The location depicts views over a large-scale landscape where the absence of hedgerows and tree cover allows extensive and panoramic views west towards the Trent floodplain. The presence of woodland blocks including Long Covert and Cammeringham Low Covert and woodland around Brattleby Hall provide structure and close down views in the landscape to the south. There are some strong hedgerows to the northwest, but they are low-cut and very intermittent between the expansive fields. In terms of man-made influences, this includes the presence of Stow Lane, which has a long straight alignment and forms a discordant feature. The view also extends north to capture the windmill at the edge of Ingham as it stands out on the skyline, otherwise there are limited features of interest at this location. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being a public footpath at the edge of a settlement, where there is a strong relationship with its landscape setting. The views are attractive, but with the absence of hedgerows and tree and large-scale arable intensification, this location has a denuded quality.

Residential Receptors-Cottam 1 South

- 8.5.243 This includes the settlement of Stow (R78). Groups of buildings include Stow Pasture (R76), Clandon House (R84) and Lancaster Farm (R87). Singular buildings include Furze Hill (R75), The Grange (R80), Thorpe Lane Farm (R82) and Tillbridge Farm (R88). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.5]**.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 1 South

- 8.5.244 This includes an unnamed road at Stow (T104, T109, T120 and T122), Stow Lane, Ingham (T105), Normanby Road, Stow (T106), Ingham Road, Stow (T107), Church Road, Stow (T108 and T114), Blackthorn Lane, Cammeringham (T110), School Lane,

Stow (T112), Furze Hill, Stow (T113), Sturton Road, Stow (T116), Stow Park Road, Stow (T118), Fleets Lane, Sturton by Stow (T119), Unnamed Road, Brattleby (T121), Thorpe Lane, Brattleby (T125), Thorpe Lane, Thorpe le Fallows (T127), Fleets Road, Sturton by Stow (T129), Thorpe Lane, Sturton by Stow (T131), Lowfields, Aisthorpe (T132), Tillbridge Road, Sturton by Stow (A1500) (T133), Lincoln Lane, Thorpe le Fallows (T134), Tillbridge Lane, Sturton by Stow (A1500) (T135), Main Street, Bransby (T138) and Tillbridge Lane, Scampton (T139). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.9 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.9]**.

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 1 South

- 8.5.245 This includes Camm/31/1, Fill/767/1, Fill/85/1 and 85/2, Fill/86/1, Gltw/85/1, Ingh/17/1, Ingh/235/1, Ingh/24/1 and 24/2, Ingh/25/1, Ingh/26/2 and 26/3, Ingh/27/3, 27/4 and 27/5, Scmp/196/1, Scmp/31/1, Scmp/32/1, Stow70/1, Stow/71/1 and 71/2 and Stow/72/1. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.13]**.

Cottam 1 North

Viewpoint Receptors

- 8.5.246 This includes Initial Viewpoints VP29, VP30, VP32, VP33, VP34, VP35, VP36, VP37, VP38, VP39 and VP41 and Consultation Viewpoints LCC-C-F, LCC-C-G, LCC-C-H, LCC-C-I, LCC-C-J, LCC-C-K, LCC-C-L, LCC-C-M and LCC-C-N. The viewpoint locations are shown on **Figure 8.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.11]**.
- 8.5.247 With VP29-Ingh/17/2 just off B1398, this is looking west towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and southwest towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. This viewpoint is located just off the B1398 (Middle Street) at the junction with the public footpath (Ingh/17/2) that heads west, passing Ingham Cliff Farm, to meet with the public bridleway (Ingh/24/2) on Short Lane just to the northwest of Ingham. This location is on the crest of the scarp slope just to the northeast of the Lincolnshire Rescue Kennels. In terms of features, there is a deciduous woodland that stands out on the horizon to the north, otherwise the land use is predominantly arable farmland with many large fields under a single crop. The viewpoint depicts a large-scale landscape with expansive and panoramic views as far as the Trent floodplain in the west, where the power industry of the River Trent is visible on the distant horizon. Fast moving traffic is a significant detractor and the proximity to the B1398 is unsettling. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being on the 'B' road network with fast-moving traffic as a significant detractor. This is an elevated location where the road is straight with long sections to appreciate the view, but with no dedicated place other than the public footpath to appreciate the views, which is unsettling and exposed.
- 8.5.248 With VP30-Junction of High Street and the B1398, this is looking west towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and southwest towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. This viewpoint is located just off the B1398 (Middle Street) at the junction with High Street, Fillingham, where, heading west into Fillingham, High

Street then takes a sharp left turn into Willingham Road away from the settlement. This location is on the crest of the scarp slope at the entrance to Fillingham Castle Grade II registered park and garden (List Entry: 1000977) from where there are expansive and far-reaching views towards the Trent floodplain with the power industry just visible on the distant horizon. The view encompasses deciduous woodland blocks including woodland around Fillingham Lake and the settlement of Fillingham and woodland at Manor Farm, including Oak Walk, which is a very distinctive feature in the context of the open, arable fields. Deciduous woodland is visible in the foreground, middle and far distance of this view giving the impression of a very heavily wooded landscape. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being on the 'B' road network with fast-moving traffic as a significant detractor. This is an elevated location where the road is straight with long sections to appreciate the view, but with no dedicated place other than the local bus stop, which oblique to the view.

- 8.5.249 With VP32-Fill/86/1, this is looking directly west onto northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and southwest towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located on the public bridleway (Fill/86/1) which heads north along Short Lane from the settlement of Ingham to meet with the public footpath (Ingh/17/1) then taking a diagonal turn, and then heading north to meet with Willingham Road at Glebe Farm. This location depicts the section of footpath heading north to meet with Willingham Road with views over a large-scale gently undulating landscape. These views are exposed at close range and mid distance due to the absence of hedgerows and tree cover, but distant visibility is curtailed by woodland blocks. Views are curtailed to the west by the group of woodlands to the north of Coates including New Plantation and Larch Plantation. To the north and northwest, the slight change in landform and the farmsteads on Willingham Road curtail views in this direction and to the south the views are shortened by the riparian vegetation lining a tributary of the River Till. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being on the public bridleway in a detached location away from the busy road network. The views are towards a balanced landscape and there is some 'time depth' associated with the existing farmsteads. There is a remote and tranquil character, but otherwise the location is ordinary with few distinguishing features.
- 8.5.250 With VP33-Fill/86/1 off Willingham Road, this is looking southwest almost directly over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and southwest towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located on the public bridleway (Fill/86/1) which heads north along Short Lane from the settlement of Ingham to meet with the public footpath (Ingh/17/1) then taking a diagonal turn, and then heading north to meet with Willingham Road at Glebe Farm. This location depicts the section of footpath at the junction with Willingham Road with views over a large-scale gently undulating landscape. In terms of variety, the combination of landscape features includes very little built influence other than Willingham Road and Greystones Farm, otherwise there are woodland blocks including Larch Plantation

and New Plantation to the west which curtail views in this direction and the woodland associated with the settlement of Coates also closes down these views. There are also occasional hedgerow trees, tree clumps and arable fields that present a simple, well-balanced composition, but the increased field sizes add some discordancy. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being located on the typical east west local road network where the grass verges are a feature, and there are views towards the limestone capped scarp slope in the east. The local and close-range views are ordinary with no distinguishing features.

- 8.5.251 With VP34-Fill/85/2, this is looking in all directions towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and south towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The view is also looking northwest towards the Cottam 2 Site. The viewpoint is located on the public bridleway (Fill/85/2) which heads north from Willingham Road (with bridleways at two locations) passing to the east of North Farm as a 'dog-leg', then heading north to meet with Kexby Road at Glentworth Grange. This location depicts a medium-scale landscape where the undulations in topography display a strong landscape pattern with the layering of hedgerows being a prominent feature. The landscape features are balanced with simple additions of farm buildings interspersed with tree cover. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being shaped by the bridleway network and local roads (that gain access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal recreation. The PRow provide attractive destinations as further refuge from the narrow country lanes often with good levels of tranquillity and isolation. The cultural value of these bridleways and roads in connecting historic settlements is also an important and relevant consideration in terms of value of the landscape.
- 8.5.252 With VP35-Junction of Fill/85/1, Fill/85/2, and Fill/767/1, this is looking in all directions over the Cottam 1 North Site and southwest towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The viewpoint is located at the junction three public bridleways, with the first (Fill/85/1) heading south from Kexby Road. The second of these three bridleways (Fill/85/2) heads east, then south passing Glebe Farm to meet Willingham Road and the third heads west, then south to meet with Willingham Road. This location depicts views over a medium-scale, partially enclosed landscape where the soft undulations in topography help display the landscape pattern of hedgerows and collection of geometric woodland blocks which includes Larch Plantation, New Plantation and Fox Covert to the west. To the east, these woodland blocks include Nursery Plantation, Larch Plantation and woodland associated with The Lake at Fillingham. There are few hedgerow trees and so these woodland blocks form an important part of the skyline in contrast with the open arable fields. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being on the public bridleway network away from the main roads. This is a refuge of tranquillity, but the views are not extraordinary and there are few distinguishing features.
- 8.5.253 With VP36-Fill/767/1, this is looking in all directions towards and directly over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and south towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The view is also looking northwest towards the Cottam 2 Site. The

viewpoint is located just to the west of the junction of three public bridleways. This location depicts views over a medium-scale, partially enclosed landscape where the soft undulations in topography help display the landscape pattern of hedgerows and collection of geometric woodland blocks which includes Larch Plantation, New Plantation and Fox Covert to the west. To the east, these woodland blocks include Nursery Plantation, Larch Plantation and woodland associated with The Lake at Fillingham. There are few hedgerow trees and so these woodland blocks form an important part of the skyline in contrast with the open arable fields. The context of the viewpoint is shaped by the bridleway network that links to the local roads (that gain access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal recreation. The PRoW provide attractive destinations as further refuge from the narrow country lanes often with good levels of tranquillity and isolation. The cultural value of these bridleways and roads in connecting historic settlements is also an important and relevant consideration in terms of value. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being shaped by the bridleway network that links to the local roads (that gain access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal recreation.

8.5.254 With VP37-Junction of Gypsy Lane and Willingham Road, this is looking east and south directly over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond to the south. The viewpoint is located at the junction where Fillingham Lane meets with Willingham Road, and also the intersection with a minor farm track known as Gypsy Lane. This location depicts views over a medium to large-scale, partially open landscape. The presence of the (unnamed) shelter belt, that extends south from this location as far as the tributary of the River Till just to the east of Moor Farm, helps to close down views and provide some enclosure. There is also further scrub and tree cover to each side of Gypsy Lane that extends north also helps to close down views in this direction. In terms of other features, there are farmsteads to the west along Fillingham Lane including Poplar Farm and Magin Moor Farm and Willingham Road to the east including Turpin's Bungalow and Turpin Farm. These farmsteads and residential properties all help in providing some enclosure and intimacy to this location. The combination of plantation woodland, shelterbelts, hedgerows, occasional hedgerow trees and the 'S' bend in the road also add some interest and overall intimacy at this location. In terms of visual value, this has been valued as **medium**, being at the junction of the local network of lanes and minor tracks. The views are interesting, and the highway and track is framed to each side by mature oak and ash trees. This is not an exceptional location with a strong sense of place.

8.5.255 With VP38-South Lane, this is looking south and west directly over, and east towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. This is also looking south towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located on South Lane just to the north of Lowfield Farm and Moor Farm. The location depicts views over a large-scale landscape that is vast, where the hedgerows to each side of South Lane are low-cut allowing open views in all directions. The presence of the (unnamed) shelter belt, that runs parallel with South Lane just to the west of Turpin Farm (which

extends south from Moor Bridge, as far as the tributary of the River Till) also helps to provide some enclosure towards the east. Further woodland blocks to the south, including Normanby Gorse and Fox Covert also help to curtail views in this direction. The tributaries of the River Till to the south of these two woodland blocks also add structure to the landscape and contribute in curtailing views as far as the river corridor. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being part of the network of local lanes where views capture a low-lying, slightly undulating landscape. The land use is predominantly productive arable and there are few defining features other than the woodland blocks and well-managed hedgerows.

8.5.256 With VP39-Junction of Cot Garth Lane and Stone Pit Lane, this is looking south directly over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond to the south. This is also looking east over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located on the local lane network to the east of the settlement of Willingham by Stow within its immediate landscape setting. The location depicts views over a medium-scale, partially open landscape, where the hedgerows to each side of Stone Pit Lane are dense, but lower to the east side of the lane allowing some open views towards the distant horizon. The presence of the (unnamed) shelter belt, that runs parallel with South Lane just to the west of Turpin Farm (which extends south from Moor Bridge, as far as the tributary of the River Till) helps to provide some enclosure towards to the east. Further woodland blocks to the south, including Normanby Gorse also help to curtail views in this direction. The tributaries of the River Till to the south of these two woodland blocks also add structure to the landscape and contribute in curtailing views as far as the river corridor. These woodlands and riparian vegetation form strong vertical features in what is otherwise an open and expansive landscape. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being part of the network of local lanes with a good hedgerow network and mature tree cover. The appreciation of the landscape is mainly focused on these two lanes with few other features of interest. There is also fly tipping and stock-piled materials that detract from the quality of the views.

8.5.257 With VP41-Gltw/85/1 just off Kexby Road, this is looking south towards northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site with southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on Kexby Road at the junction with the bridleway (Gltw/85/1) that heads south to meet with Willingham Road. The location depicts views over a large-scale, open landscape, being exposed and with far reaching views towards the distant horizon as far as Thorpe le Fallows. This is a very gently rolling landscape within the wider context of a broad vale that is fully conspicuous at this location. The land use is predominantly arable with mixed woodland comprising Larch Plantation and Fillingham Low Wood, and to the east woodland cover on the horizon at Glentworth and Fillingham is a strong dark feature. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the bridleway network and the local roads (that gain access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal recreation. These local roads provide attractive destinations as narrow country lanes often with

good levels of tranquillity and isolation. Many of these roads, such as Kexby Road, also have open sections with no hedgerows that allow views across the landscape.

- 8.5.258 With LCC-C-F-PRoW Ingh/24/1, this is looking west over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and southwest over the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located on the public bridleway (Ingh/24/1) which heads north along Short Lane from the settlement of Ingham to meet with the public footpath (Ingh/17/1) then taking a diagonal turn, and then heading north to meet with Willingham Road at Glebe Farm. This location depicts the section of footpath on the diagonal run with views over a large-scale gently undulating landscape. These views are exposed at close range and mid distance due to the absence of hedgerows and tree cover, but distant visibility is curtailed by woodland blocks. Views are curtailed to the west by the group of woodlands to the north of Coates including New Plantation and Larch Plantation. To the north and northwest, the slight change in landform and the farmsteads on Willingham Road curtail views in this direction. To the south, the views are shortened by the riparian vegetation lining a tributary of the River Till that runs almost parallel with (and north of) Long Lane. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being a public bridleway in a detached location away from the busy road network. The land drain adds a 'sense of place' otherwise there are no other features of high quality. The view captures a large-scale landscape that is open with limited woodland cover to add intimacy or enclosure.
- 8.5.259 With LCC-C-G-PRoW Fill/82/2, this is looking in all directions over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and southwest towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The viewpoint is located just to the south of where three public bridleways merge and this meets with Willingham Road. This is the section of bridleway (Fill/85/2) that heads east, then south passing Glebe Farm to meet Willingham Road. This location depicts views over a medium-scale, open landscape where the soft undulations in topography help display the landscape pattern of hedgerows and collection of geometric woodland blocks which include Larch Plantation, New Plantation and Fox Covert to the west. There are few hedgerow trees and so these woodland blocks form an important part of the skyline in contrast with the open arable fields. To the east, the intervening settlement at Glebe Farm and Greystones Farm curtail views and to the southwest, Side Farm and Turpin Farm provide some structure and enclosure in the landscape. Otherwise, there is little else in the way of built influence or significant interest apart from the distant views towards the Trent power industry in the west. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being a public bridleway at the junction with the network of local lanes. There are views towards woodlands including larch Plantation and New Plantation and distant views towards the Trent power industry on the floodplain. Locally, and at close range the views are ordinary with very few elements that add visual interest.
- 8.5.260 With LCC-C-H-PRoW Fill/67/1, this is looking in all directions towards and directly over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and south towards the southern extent

of the Cottam 1 Site. The view is also looking northwest towards the Cottam 2 Site. The viewpoint is located just to the west of the junction of three public bridleways. This location depicts views over a medium-scale, partially enclosed landscape where the soft undulations in topography help display the landscape pattern of hedgerows and collection of geometric woodland blocks which includes Larch Plantation, New Plantation and Fox Covert to the west. To the east, these woodland blocks include Nursery Plantation, Larch Plantation and woodland associated with The Lake at Fillingham. There are few hedgerow trees and so these woodland blocks form an important part of the skyline in contrast with the open arable fields. The context of the viewpoint is shaped by the bridleway network that links to the local roads (that gain access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal recreation. The PRoW provide attractive destinations as further refuge from the narrow country lanes often with good levels of tranquillity and isolation. The cultural value of these bridleways and roads in connecting historic settlements is also an important and relevant consideration in terms of value. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the bridleway network that links to the local roads (that gain access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal recreation. These PRoW provide attractive destinations as further refuge from the narrow country lanes often with good levels of tranquillity and isolation.

- 8.5.261 With LCC-C-I-Willingham Road, this is looking in all directions directly over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and south towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located on Willingham Road, just to the north of Turpin Farm and to the south of Turpin's Bungalows. This location depicts views over a large-scale, partially open landscape. In terms of enclosure, there are numerous woodland blocks that form strong geometric shapes and collectively provide a dominant wooded horizon, particularly towards the north and south of the view. These woodlands include Turpin Wood and Fillingham Low Wood to the north and Larch Plantation, New Plantation and Fox Covert to the south. To the west and the north, the view is enclosed by gently rising landform (and Turpin Farm and Turpin's Bungalows), whereas to the south the views are more open extending as far south as the tributary of the River Till (that runs between Larch Plantation in the east and the (unnamed) shelterbelt in the west). Grass verges are also a feature of this location that add a 'sense of place' and distinctiveness to these local lanes. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being located on Willingham Road where there is a combination of features including farm buildings, plantation woodland, poplar shelterbelts, occasional hedgerow trees and hedgerows. These are ordinary features, and the land use is intensively managed with hedgerows that are cut back allowing only a few hedgerow trees to flourish.
- 8.5.262 With LCC-C-J-Fillingham Lane, this is looking east over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site and south towards the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located in Fillingham Lane between Poplar Farm to the west and Moor Bridge to the east. This location depicts views over a medium to large-scale, partially open landscape. The presence of the (unnamed) shelter belt, that extends south

from this location as far as the tributary of the River Till just to the east of Moor Farm, helps to close down views and provide some enclosure towards the southeast. There is also further scrub and tree cover to each side of Gypsy Lane that extends north also helps to close down views to the northwest. In terms of other features, there are farmsteads to the west along Fillingham Lane including Poplar Farm and Magin Moor Farm and Willingham Road to the east including Turpin's Bungalow and Turpin Farm. These farmsteads and residential properties all help in providing some enclosure and intimacy to this location. The combination of plantation woodland, shelterbelts, hedgerows, occasional hedgerow trees and the 'S' bend in the road add some interest and help to close down views from this location. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being a rural and sparsely settled area with dispersed farmsteads. The 's' bends in the road network help with the appreciation of the views, but they are ordinary vistas across a wide arable landscape that is intensively farmed.

- 8.5.263 With LCC-C-K-Fillingham Lane, this is looking south over the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 South Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on the local lane network to the east of the settlement of Willingham by Stow within its immediate landscape setting. The location depicts views over a medium-scale, partially open landscape, where the hedgerows to each side of Fillingham Lane are very low cut allowing open views towards the distant horizon in all directions. The presence of the smaller scale field systems that run parallel with Fillingham Lane just to the south of the residential property known as Carisbrooke helps to provide some enclosure towards to the south due to the mature trees including oak and ash. Further woodland blocks to the south include Normanby Gorse, that also help to curtail views in this direction. The tributaries of the River Till to the south of these two woodland blocks also add structure to the landscape and contribute in curtailing views. These woodlands and riparian vegetation form strong vertical features in what is otherwise an open and expansive landscape. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being a location on the local network of lanes at the edge of the settlement. At close range there are some small-scale field systems, but the views are not exceptional. The proximity to the road network and the settlement at Willingham by Stow adds a sense of familiarity to the view.
- 8.5.264 With LCC-C-L-B1398, this is looking southwest towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on the B1398 (Middle Street) as it heads along the scarp slope between the settlements of Glentworth in the north and Ingham in the south. The intensive arable land use opens visibility, but the landform and strong hedgerows with tree clumps help to dissipate the scale. The main feature is the extended views towards the west, which capture the Trent floodplain. In the foreground, the intervening woodland and settlement at Fillingham helps to curtail views, along with the tree clumps that are also a feature along the hedgerow boundaries. In terms of man-made elements, the B1398 has the main influence where it passes along the

ridgeline in a long, straight alignment with fast moving traffic. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being in an elevated location on the crest of the limestone capped scarp slope. The intensive arable land use opens up the visibility, but the views are ordinary at close range with only the far-reaching views adding more interest.

8.5.265 With LCC-C-M-Kexby Road, this is looking south towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site with the southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on Kexby Road that heads west towards Kexby and Upton. The location depicts views over a large-scale, open landscape, being exposed and with far reaching views. This is a very gently rolling landscape within the wider context of a broad vale that is conspicuous at this location. The land use is predominantly arable with mixed woodland comprising Larch Plantation and Fillingham Low Wood, and to the east woodland cover on the horizon at Glentworth and Fillingham is a strong dark feature. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the local roads (that gain access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal recreation. These local roads provide attractive destinations as narrow country lanes often with good levels of tranquillity and isolation. Many of these roads, such as Kexby Road, also have open sections with no hedgerows that allow views across the landscape.

8.5.266 With LCC-C-N-Glentworth Road, this is looking southwest towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site with southern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on Kexby Road that heads west to meet the settlements of Kexby and Upton. The location depicts views over a large-scale, open landscape, being exposed and with far reaching views towards the distant horizon as far as Thorpe le Fallows. This is a very gently rolling landscape within the wider context of a broad vale that is fully conspicuous at this location. The land use is predominantly arable with mixed woodland comprising Larch Plantation and Fillingham Low Wood, and further to the east woodland cover on the horizon at Glentworth and Fillingham is a strong dark feature. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the local road network (that gains access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal recreation. These local roads provide attractive destinations as narrow country lanes often with good levels of tranquillity and isolation. Many of these roads, such as Kexby Road, also have open sections with no hedgerows that allow views across the landscape.

Residential Receptors-Cottam 1 North

8.5.267 This includes the settlement of Willingham by Stow (R66). Groups of buildings include Side Farm (R63b) and singular buildings include Westlands Farm (R51), Low Farm (R52), Glentworth Grange (R53), Spitals Farm (R54), Glebe Farm (R60), Greystones Farm (R61), Turpin Farm (R62), Slate House Farm (R64), Lowfield Farm (R65), Moor Farm (R67), Grange Farm (R70), Low Farm (R71), Hall Farm (R72), East Farm (R73) and West Farm (R74). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.5]**.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 1 North

- 8.5.268 This includes Northlands Road, Glentworth (T059), Kexby Road, Glentworth (T064), Glentworth Road, Kexby (T066), Access to Fillingham Grange, Fillingham (T072), Willingham Road, Fillingham (T074), Fillingham Lane, Willingham (T075), Unnamed Road, Ingahm (T077), South Lane, Willingham (T078), High Street, Willingham (T079), Grange Lane, Willingham by Stow (T082), Cot Garth Lane (T083), Unnamed Road, Coates by Stow (T084), Stone Pit Lane, Willingham by Stow (T085), Short Lane, Ingham (T086), Stow Road, Willingham (T087), Long Lane, Ingham (T091), Marton Road, Willingham (T092), Track between South Lane and Coates Lane, Willingham (T094), Coates Lane, Coates by Stow (T096), Normanby Road, Normanby by Stow (T097), Unnamed Road, Stow (T098) and Coates Lane, Stow (T099). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.9 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.9]**.

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 1 North

- 8.5.269 This includes Stow/83/1, Stow/845/1, Stur/72/1, 72/2 and 72/3, Stur/73/1, Stur/76/1, Stur/771/1 and 77/2, Stur/79/1, 79/2 and 79/3, Stur/80/1, TLFe/31/1 and 31/2, TLFe/32/1, Wlgm/515/1, Wlgm/538/1, Wlgm/59/5 and 59/6, Wlgm/63/1, Wlgm/64/1, Wlgm/881/1 and Wlgm/976/1. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.13]**.

Cottam 2

Viewpoint Receptors

- 8.5.270 This includes Initial Viewpoints VP44, VP45, VP46, VP47, VP48, VP49, V50 and VP54 and Consultation Viewpoint LCC-C-P. The viewpoint locations are shown on **Figure 8.12 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.12]**.
- 8.5.271 With VP44-Junction off School Lane and Chapel Lane, this is looking north towards the southern extent of the Cottam 2 Site and south towards the Cottam 1 North Site. The viewpoint is located at the junction of School Lane and Chapel Lane to the northeast of the small settlement of Springthorpe. The location depicts views over a flat, low-lying landscape within the context of a broad valley that is quite conspicuous at this location due to the open nature of the view. The land use is predominantly arable with only a few blocks of woodland comprising small conifer plantations and shelterbelts. In terms of man-made features, there are residential buildings fronting Chapel Lane to the south and School Lane to the north. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the agricultural activity that has modified landscape. However, the woodlands and hedgerows provide some structure to the otherwise flat, low-lying landform. The natural character of the local road network is also a key feature. Springthorpe supports a minor road network that is lined by grass verges and strong hedgerows with very few detractors other than the intensive arable land use.
- 8.5.272 With VP45-A631, this is looking northwest towards the southern extent of the Cottam 2 Site and south towards the Cottam 1 North Site. The viewpoint is located just off the A631 (Harpswell Lane) as it passes between the settlements of

Corringham in the west and Hemswell in the east. This location depicts views over a gently undulating landscape within the context of a broader rolling vale that is conspicuous at this location. The land use is predominantly arable with deciduous woodland visible on the horizon to the north. These are a variety of woodland blocks that comprise small woodlands around the settlement of Yawthorpe and the broadly triangular plantation at Yawthorpe Fox Covert. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the limited network of footpaths and bridleways giving rise to the importance of these local lanes for recreation. The sequence of views across the area towards woodlands and tree cover within the hedgerows that form the approaches to settlements are locally important features.

- 8.5.273 With VP46-Corryingham Windmill, this is looking north towards the Cottam 2 Site and south towards the Cottam 1 North Site. The viewpoint is located on the A631 (Corringham Road) as it passes between the settlements of Corringham in the west and Hemswell in the east. This location depicts views over a large-scale, exposed landscape with extended visibility towards the east where the land rises around the settlement of Yawthorpe and its associated small woodland blocks and tree cover are visible on the horizon. The landform also slightly rises towards the west where there are views towards the settlement of Corringham, shrouded in tree cover and which is visible on the horizon. In terms of other features, at close proximity there are no woodland blocks and low-cut hedgerows are commonplace with few hedgerow trees, as a result there are open views in all directions. The A631 is prominent at this viewpoint given its long, straight alignment and fast-moving traffic, otherwise there is little built influence apart from the Grade II listed Corringham Windmill (List Entry: 1359417). In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being at a busy location on the 'B' road network that detracts from enjoyment of this location. This location offers some interesting features locally, but with more invigorating views out towards the surrounding landscape, which is large scale and exposed.
- 8.5.274 With VP47-Junction of Mill Mere Road and Pilham Lane, this is looking east towards the Cottam 2 Site and north towards the Cottam 3b Site. The viewpoint is located on Mill Mere Road, where it forms an intersection with tree other roads at Mill Farm (which also features a windmill). This location depicts the immediate edge of settlement in the wider context of a large-scale, exposed landscape. To the north, east and south, there are mainly open views and to the east, the settlement of Corringham (and associated vegetation) closes down the visibility. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the limited network of footpaths and bridleways giving rise to the importance of these local lanes and farm tracks for recreation. Roads and minor farm tracks are features of this landscape where hedgerows are strong features and views are expansive. This attribute contributes to local distinctiveness and 'sense of place', especially at the junction between these roads where buildings provide local features of interest.
- 8.5.275 With VP48-East Lane, this looks east over the Cottam 2 Site, north towards the Cottam 3b Site and south towards the Cottam 1 North Site. The viewpoint is located

on East Lane where it takes a 'right-angled' turn north onto Bonsdale Lane, which then heads north towards the small settlement of Aisby. This location depicts views over a large-scale landscape at the eastern residential edge of Corringham where the landform is generally flat and low-lying. There are strong (well cut-back) hedgerows bordering East Lane to the north and east with views above and with few trees allowing open visibility. In contrast, to the west and south the settlement of Corringham contains views at close range within East Lane. In terms of man-made elements, the junction with East Lane and the unnamed road is the main feature of the view. There are also new residential properties at North Close just off East Lane (and further properties to the south side of East Lane) that impose a strong built influence at this location. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being at a location within a smaller settlement where the minor road network provides an important spatial function. This is where Corringham Beck forms a junction with East Lane and provides a 'sense of place' and where the land drains and minor roads show a marked change in the landscape.

8.5.276 With VP49-East Lane, this is looking north directly over the Cottam 2 Site with the Cottam 3b Site beyond. The view is also looking south towards the Cottam 1 North Site. The viewpoint is located on East Lane where it takes a sharp 'right-angled' turn south to meet with the A631 (Corringham Road) just to the east of the Grade II listed Corringham Windmill (List Entry: 1359417). This location depicts views over large-scale exposed agricultural fields within the wider landscape setting of Corringham where the landform is generally flat and low-lying. There are strong (well cut-back) hedgerows bordering East Lane allowing open visibility in all directions. In terms of other enclosure, there are very few woodland blocks or shelterbelts in the wider landscape other than Yawthorpe Fox Covert to the east and Wharton Wood to the west. Man-made elements are present, including East Lane which is a prominent feature. The road access to Corringham Grange Farm and The Cottage and the track to the south of Brown's Holt are also prominent features at this location. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being at a location where the hedgerow quality tends to be low due to the predominance of practices associated with arable cropping. This location is strongly influenced by straight roads, the close-cut hedgerows with few trees and the geometric field patterns.

8.5.277 With VP50-Yawthorpe, this is looking west towards the Cottam 2 Site and south towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The view is also looking northwest towards the Cottam 3b Site. The viewpoint is located on the minor road access that serves the small settlement of Yawthorpe in the west and meets with Templefield Road in the east. This location depicts views over a large-scale, arable landscape with very limited hedgerows and tree cover other than the deciduous woodlands at Yawthorpe Fox Covert to the northeast. The views are partially enclosed to the north due to the presence of farmsteads (and their associated tree cover and agricultural buildings) including Ancliff Farm, Home Farm, Park Farm and Taskers Farm. There is extended visibility to the south and west which captures the woodlands at Hemswell Cliff and other woodland around Willhoughton and Hemswell (which form part of

the limestone capped scarp slope). To the west, the visibility is impaired by the presence of scattered geometric woodland blocks and the meandering alignment of Yawthorpe Beck which supports riparian tree cover. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium to high**, being part of the minor tracks and local roads that offer long westward views to the power stations on the River Trent, and eastward views to the scarp face of Lincoln 'Cliff'.

8.5.278 With VP54-Bonsdale Lane just north of Corringham Beck, this is looking southeast directly over the Cottam 2 Site with the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The view is also looking north towards the Cottam 3b Site. The viewpoint is located on the minor road network at a 'right-angled' turn where Bonsdale Lane heads north to meet with Green Lane, then passing Bonsdale Farm as far as the Blyton Level Crossing. This location depicts views over a large-scale, exposed arable landscape with low-cut hedgerows and wide grass verges to each side of the road. In terms of other enclosure there is very little tree cover other than a few woodland blocks, shelterbelts and woodland associated with the small settlement of Aisby to the west of this location. There are hedgerows present on both sides of the road with wide grass verges. The riparian vegetation lining Corringham Beck to the east is also a key feature of the view. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being part of a low-lying flat agricultural landscape characterised by the intensive practices that have led to the loss of key landscape features. Surviving features include stretches of riparian vegetation along Corringham Beck and some strong hedgerows with tall trees that evoke feelings of intimacy at this location.

8.5.279 With LCC-C-P-Corryingham Beck, this is looking directly east over the Cottam 2 Site and south towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The view is also looking north towards the Cottam 3b Site. The viewpoint is on the minor road network where this local road extends from the settlements of Corringham in the south towards Aisby in the north. This location depicts a medium to small-scale, partially open landscape, being exposed due to the large field sizes and the limited hedgerow network. There are open views to the north, but they are curtailed by the small settlement of Aisby and its associated vegetation. Further riparian tree cover associated with Aisby Beck also closes down views in this direction. To the south, the tree cover and agricultural buildings associated with Hall Farm and Old Hall close down views in this direction. There are also low-cut hedgerows to each side of the road with occasional hedgerow trees that offer some enclosure and curtailment of views towards the east and west. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being within a geometric modern landscape of planned enclosure and modern field systems. There is some time depth associated with the presence of the isolated farmsteads, and the remote tranquil character is a feature of the view, otherwise the landscape presents a simple palette of land uses and features.

Residential Receptors-Cottam 2

8.5.280 This includes the settlement of Corringham (R38). Groups of buildings include Aisby (R32), Yawthorpe (R34) and R35 (Hall Farm & Old Farm). Singular buildings include

The Cottage (R33), Corringham Grange Farm (R36), Corringham Windmill (R39) and Magin Moor Cottages (R40). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.6 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.6]**.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 2

- 8.5.281 This includes Road to Dunstall, Aisby near Gainsborough (T032), Pilham Lane, Aisby near Gainsborough (T034), Yawthorpe Lane, Willoughton (T037), Field Farm Lane, Corringham (T038), Access to Corringham Grange, Corringham (T040), East Lane, Corringham (T042), Mill Mere Road, Corringham (T043), From East Lane to A631, Corringham (T045), Middle Street, Corringham (T046), Springthorpe Road, Corringham (T048) and Grange Lane, Springthorpe (T049). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.10 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.10]**.

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 2

- 8.5.282 This includes Corr/22/1, 22/2 and 22/3, Corr/23/1 and 23/2 and Corr/771. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.14 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.14]**.

Cottam 3a

Viewpoint Receptors

- 8.5.283 This includes Initial Viewpoints VP60, VP61, VP62, VP63, VP66 and VP67 and Consultation Viewpoints LCC-C-T, LCC-C-V and LCC-C-W. The viewpoint locations are shown on **Figure 8.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.13]**.
- 8.5.284 With VP60-B1025 (Kirton Road), this is looking northwest directly over the Cottam 3a Site and southwest towards the Cottam 3b Site, with the Cottam 2 Site located beyond. The viewpoint is located on the B1025 (Kirton Road) at the entrance to the Blyton Park Driving Centre, where there are immediate views across the former airfield. This location depicts wider views over a large-scale and expansive landscape with some extended views and some views that are curtailed by intervening foreground features such as woodlands and hedgerows. To the north, the views extend as far as Laughton Wood, where the woodland is evident in the distance as a distinctive feature on the horizon. To the south, Kirton Road is bordered by a low-cut hedgerow, where visibility then extends as far as the mainline railway where the bordering tree and scrub cover provides enclosure in this direction. There are extended views towards the west as far as Blyton where the conifer shelterbelt to the north of The Fields Farm stands out on the horizon as a strong, dark feature and to the east, the visibility extends as far as the 'right-angled' bend in the road just to the west of Southorpe Farm. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **low**, being shaped by the airbase that is prominent along Kirton Road. The airbase uses contribute little to surrounding landscape character and the landscape setting of Blyton is also influenced by their presence. There is a noticeable difference where the baseline views change dramatically between the south and the north-eastern extents of the Site. Clear views are a key feature of the area.

- 8.5.285 With VP61-B1025 (Kirton Road), this is looking west directly over the Cottam 3a Site and southwest towards the Cottam 3b Site with the Cottam 2b Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on the B1025 (Kirton Road) just to the south of Blenheim Farm, where there are immediate views across the former airfield. This location depicts wider views over a large-scale, and expansive landscape with some extended views and some that are curtailed by intervening foreground features such as woodlands and hedgerows. To the north, views extend as far as Blenheim Farm, where Kirton Road makes a 'right-angled' turn and the roadside tree clumps are visible on the horizon. Distant woodland at Northorpe Hall and woodland blocks in the outlying landscape are also visible in this direction. To the south, views are curtailed by the small copse in the immediate foreground of the view. Vegetation associated with Southorpe Farm and tree and scrub cover along the mainline railway also close down views in this direction. There are extensive views towards the east as far as the tall shelterbelts at Cold Harbour Farm to the west of Southorpe Lane and south of Northorpe Hall. Views towards the west across the former airfield capture the wooded horizon at Laughton Wood where the wind turbine and telegraph poles stand out on the foreground. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the airbase, but clear views are a key feature of this location that extend both east and west. There are also extended views towards the north that capture an open and attractive arable landscape with strong hedgerows and tree cover and little in the way of built influence.
- 8.5.286 With VP62-B1025 (Kirton Road), this is looking northeast towards the Cottam 3a Site and southeast towards the Cottam 3b Site. The view is also looking south towards the Cottam 2 Site with the Cottam 1 North Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on the B1205 (Kirton Road) right at the residential edge of Blyton. This location depicts views over a medium-scale, partially open landscape where the low-cut hedgerows allow open views towards the south as far as the mainline railway (where the bordering vegetation is just visible on the horizon). To the north, there are also views over the low-cut hedgerow that borders Kirton Road, but the gently rising landform and intervening scrub/woodland and conifer shelterbelt closes the visibility as far as the first field boundary. Views towards the east extend to where Kirton Road rises to a local high point (at the first field boundary) and to the west there are views into the settlement of Blyton itself. In terms of features, there are a number of woodland blocks or shelterbelts in the outlying landscape including woodland at Northorpe and Northorpe Hall to the east and the expansive area of Laughton Woods to the west and north of this location. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the strong hedgerow and mature tree cover that is prominent to the north side of Kirton Road. The former airbase uses are not evident from this location and the landscape setting of Blyton is not adversely influenced by its presence. There is a noticeable difference where the baseline views change dramatically between the edge of settlement and the outlying landscape where the vegetation along the mainline railway has an influence.

- 8.5.287 With VP63-A159 (Laughton Road), this is looking east directly over the Cottam 3a Site and southeast towards the Cottam 3b Site, with the Cottam 2 Site beyond. This location depicts views over a medium-scale, partially open landscape at the junction with the busy Blyton Road. To the north, visibility is closed down by the bend in the A159 (and the tree cover and hedgerows to each side) where the road gently rises to a high point on the horizon. To the south, views extend as far as Blyton, where the A159 (and its bordering tree cover) almost meets the horizon and is a prominent feature in the view. Low cut hedgerows border the A159 to the east which allows open views towards the conifer shelterbelt on Kirton Road that stands out on the horizon. To the west, there are attractive views over the landscape to the north of Blyton, which encompasses Owlet Planation and Laughton Common and forms part of the Area of Greater Landscape Value (AGLV). Mast, poles, and electricity pylons are also common features on the skyline. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium to low**, being shaped by the presence of the busy A159 and the proximity to a large road junction with associated signage and road markings. Clear views are a key feature of this location that extend both east towards the AGLV at Laughton Woods. The contribution of the AGLV to the landscape setting of Blyton is the overriding feature, which enhances the enjoyment of the location.
- 8.5.288 With VP66-Nthp/504/1, this is looking southeast towards the Cottam 3a Site with the Cottam 3b Site and Cottam 2 Site beyond. The location depicts a large-scale, open landscape, comprising predominantly arable farmland interspersed with woodland areas, where the views extend to distant horizons comprising long eastward and westward facing views. In terms of man-made elements there are very few detractors with plantation woodland being a consistent feature, however, the electricity pylons in the far distance add discordancy to an otherwise harmonious landscape. The agricultural buildings and farmstead at Mount Pleasant Farm are also just visible in the view and mast poles are visible above the horizon, creating a regular pattern in the landscape. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium to low**, being shaped by the blandness of the open arable landscape. There is uplift to the location by virtue of extended views to distance horizons. The landscape accommodates a variety of land uses to boost health and well-being and features such as a BOAT. There is no strong relationship between this location and the nearby settlement or local landmarks and features.
- 8.5.289 With VP67-Monson Road, this is looking southwest towards the Cottam 3a Site and Cottam 3b Site, with the Cottam 2 Site beyond. The viewpoint depicts a large-scale, landscape that is open and exposed due to the lack of hedgerows and intensive arable fields. The main area of woodland is located to the west of the settlement of Northorpe and mainly associated with Northorpe Hall and parkland known as The Park. Further tree cover is associated with Northorpe Beck, otherwise the landscape is largely devoid of tree cover. There are occasional hedgerows, small woodland blocks, riparian vegetation along the watercourse and tree cover within Northorpe itself. The woodlands add some interest in terms of their regular, geometric plantation, otherwise the open arable fields are the prevailing features of the view.

In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the presence of the open and expansive arable landscape in close proximity to the edge of Northorpe. This landscape can be appreciated from Monson Road in the context of the Northorpe Hall which is an historic parkland estate. The juxtaposition of the open arable landscape, Northorpe and Northopre Hall is an interesting combination of features to appear in views across the area.

- 8.5.290 With LCC-C-T-Kirton Road, this is looking northeast directly over the Cottam 3a Site and southeast towards the Cottam 3b Site. The view is also looking south towards the Cottam 2 Site with the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on the B1205 (Kirton Road) at the residential edge of Blyton close to the access tracks that serve Grange Farm and The Fields Farm. This location depicts views over a medium-scale, partially open landscape where the low-cut hedgerows allow open views towards the south as far as the mainline railway (where the bordering vegetation is just visible on the horizon). To the north, there are also views over the low-cut hedgerow that borders Kirton Road, but the gently rising landform and intervening hedgerows closes down the visibility in this direction as far as the Blyton Grange and Bluebell Farm. In terms of features, there are a number of woodland blocks or shelterbelts in the outlying landscape including woodland at Northorpe and Northorpe Hall to the east and the expansive area of Laughton Woods to the west and north of this location. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the strong hedgerow and mature tree cover that is prominent to the north side of Kirton Road. The former airbase uses are not evident from this location and the landscape setting of Blyton is not adversely influenced by its presence. This is a noticeable difference where the baseline views change dramatically between the edge of settlement and the outlying landscape where the vegetation along the mainline railway has an influence
- 8.5.291 With LCC-C-V-Dring Lane, this is looking southeast towards the Cottam 3a Site with the Cottam 3b Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on the A159 (Laughton Road) at the junction with Dring Lane that leads east towards the Respect Green Burial Park. This location depicts a large-scale, landscape that is open and exposed due to the lack of hedgerows and intensive arable fields. The main area of woodland is located around the burial park, which serves to close down views towards the south. Further trees and tall hedgerow cover are also located to the north of Blyton Grange, which provide further closure to views southwards from Dring Lane. There is also a strong line of vegetation (including tall tree cover) to the east side of the A159 (Laughton Road) which provides further separation and screening in the landscape. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the limited network of footpaths and bridleways giving rise to the importance of these local lanes and farm tracks for recreation. The presence of Laughton Forest is the key feature of this landscape where views are expansive. This attribute contributes to local distinctiveness and 'sense of place'.
- 8.5.292 With LCC-C-W-Northorpe Road, this is looking southwest towards the Cottam 3a Site with the Cottam 3b Site beyond. The viewpoint is located on Northorpe Road where

it then leads into Monson Road to the north of the settlement of Northorpe. This location depicts views over a plateau landscape within the context of a wider wooded valley. The land use is predominantly arable interspersed with very few woodland blocks and some hedgerows. The main area of woodland and tree cover is located around the settlement of Northorpe and mainly associated with Northorpe Hall and parkland known as The Park. Further tree cover is associated with Northorpe Beck, otherwise the landscape is largely devoid of tree cover. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being shaped by the presence of the open and expansive arable landscape in close proximity to the edge of Northorpe. This landscape can be appreciated from Monson Road in the context of the Northorpe Hall which is an historic parkland estate. The juxtaposition of the open arable landscape, Northorpe and Northorpe Hall is an interesting combination of features to appear in views across the area.

Residential Receptors-Cottam 3a

- 8.5.293 This includes the settlement of Blyton (R23). Groups of buildings include Blue Bell Farm (R13), Unnamed (R19) and The Fields Farm (R20). Singular buildings include Mount Pleasant Farm (R03), Grange Farm (R07), Dring Lane (R08), Cold Harbour (R09 and R10), Blenheim Farm (R11), Sewage Works (R15), Southorpe Farm (R18), Grange Farm (R21), Top Farm (R22) and Glebe Farm (R25). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.7 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.7]**.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 3a

- 8.5.294 This includes Lane to Mount Pleasant Farm off C229, Scotton T004), Park Lane, Laughton near Gainsborough (T006), Unnamed Road, Laughton near Gainsborough (T010 and T011), Dring Lane, Laughton near Gainsborough (T012), Gainsborough Road, Laughton near Gainsborough (A159) (T013), Blyton Road, Laughton near Gainsborough (T014), Lane to Grange Farm off B1205, Northorpe near Scotter (T015), B1205 Kirton Road to C228 Monson Road, Northorpe near Scotter (T016), Laughton Road, Blyton (A159) (T018), Kirton Road, Blyton (T019), Bonsdale Lane, Blyton (T021), High Street, Blyton (A159) (T022), Station Road, Blyton (T023) and Pilham Lane, Bonsdale (T025). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.11]**.

PRoW Receptors:Cottam 3a

- 8.5.295 This includes Blyt/24/1 and 24/2, Blyt/25/1, 25/2 and 25/3, Blyt/26/1, Blyt/28/1 and 28/2, Blyt/29/1 and 29/2, Blyt/30/1, Blyt/32/1, Laug/32/1, Nthp/504/1 and 504/2 and Pilh/20/1. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.15 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.15]**.

Cottam 3b

Viewpoint Receptors

- 8.5.296 This includes Initial Viewpoints VP55, VP56, VP57, VP58 and VP59. The viewpoint locations are shown on **Figure 8.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.13]**.

- 8.5.297 With VP55-Pilham Lane, this is looking southeast towards the Cottam 2 Site and northeast towards the Cottam 3b Site. The view is also looking south towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located at the northeastern edge of the small settlement of Pilham, where Pilham Lane extends east as a single-track lane to meet with Bonsdale Lane at Bonsdale Farm. This location depicts views over a medium to small-scale, enclosed, and intimate landscape with strong hedgerows and tree cover associated with Pilham Lane. In terms of other means of enclosure, there are very few woodland blocks or shelterbelts in the wider landscape, other than woodlands to the south associated with the deserted medieval village of Gilby and woodlands and tree cover associated with the small settlement of Aisby. There are also strong hedgerows to the north of this location associated with the public footpath (Pilh/20/1) that passes from Station Road in the west to meet with Bonsdale Lane in the east. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium to high**, being a settlement edge location where there are pastoral fields that have strong hedgerows with mature tree cover. The historic settlement of Pilham provides a sense of history to the view and Pilham Lane extends into the wider landscape where there is a sequence of attractive views back towards the settlement over the low-cut hedgerows.
- 8.5.298 With VP56-Pilh/20/1, this is looking this is looking southeast towards the Cottam 2 Site and northeast towards the Cottam 3b Site. The view is also looking south towards the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site. The viewpoint is located at the northeastern edge of the small settlement of Pilham, where Pilham Lane extends east as a single-track lane to meet with Bonsdale Lane at Bonsdale Farm. This location depicts views over a medium to small-scale, enclosed, and intimate landscape with strong hedgerows and tree cover associated with Pilham Lane. In terms of other means of enclosure, there are very few woodland blocks or shelterbelts in the wider landscape, other than woodlands to the south associated with the deserted medieval village of Gilby and woodlands and tree cover associated with the small settlement of Aisby. There are also strong hedgerows to the north of this location associated with the public footpath (Pilh/20/1) that passes from Station Road in the west to meet with Bonsdale Lane in the east. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being a landscape that has a strong rural character. Recreation is provided by this footpath which takes a route along a local lane. This is a tranquil location where features such as strong hedgerows, mature trees and smaller scale fields contribute strongly to the 'sense of place'.
- 8.5.299 With VP57-Bonsdale Farm, this is looking northwest almost directly over the Cottam 3b Site and southeast towards the Cottam 2 Site, with the Cottam 1 North Site beyond. The viewpoint is located to the west of the Deserted village of Dunstall (List Entry:1004996) and to the east within the outlying landscape of the small settlement of Pilham. This location depicts views over a large-scale and open landscape where the low-cut hedgerows are a strong feature bordering the local road network. These hedgerows include a number of individual trees and tree groups. In terms of other enclosure, there are a number of woodland blocks and shelterbelts within the wider

landscape which include Huckerby Gorse and Blyborough Covert to the east and Wharton Wood to the southwest. There is also a dense shelterbelt associated with Bonsdale Farm that extends north towards the mainline railway. The views are open at this location with the visibility extending in all directions. In terms of man-made features, there is the junction of the converging roads and Bonsdale Farm that have some influence. The distant horizon reveals views towards the limestone capped scarp slope as far as Blyborough, Willoughton and Grayingham. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being a location with framed views towards the north which capture the distinctive belt of vegetation associated with Bonsdale Farm. To the south the view is influenced by the large-scale invigorating landscape and to the east Bonsdale Farm and associated outbuildings is the key feature of the view. Towards the west, there are attractive views of Pilham shrouded in tree cover.

- 8.5.300 With VP58-Junction of Pilh/20/1 and Bonsdale Lane, this is looking west directly over the Cottam 3b Site and northwest towards the Cottam 3a Site. The view is also looking south towards the Cottam 2 Site with the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The viewpoint is located almost immediately north of Bonsdale Farm and south of the Blyton Level Crossing. This location depicts views over a medium to large-scale, open landscape where the low-cut hedgerows are a strong feature bordering the local road network. These hedgerows feature only occasional trees allowing open views towards the west and the south. Views towards the east are curtailed by the dense shelterbelt associated with Bonsdale Farm and visibility towards the north is closed down by the vegetation bordering the mainline railway. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium**, being part of the north south local road networks that departs from the typical east west alignment within the Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a. There is a rich network of history to this location and ancient enclosure associated with the medieval village of Dunstall. These features hold a 'sense of place'.
- 8.5.301 With VP59-Blyton Level Crossing, this is looking southwest directly over the Cottam 3b Site and northwest over the Cottam 3a Site. The view is also looking south towards the Cottam 2 Site with the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site beyond. The viewpoint is located at the Blyton Level Crossing on the line of the mainline railway that travels from Gainsborough to Grimsby. This location depicts views over a medium to large-scale, landscape where the low-cut hedgerows are a strong feature bordering the local lane network. The vegetation bordering the railway closes down visibility towards the north and there are longer views towards the south as far as Bonsdale Farm with its associated shelterbelt and tree cover. The shelterbelt to the north of Bonsdale Farm also closes down views towards the southeast and there are extended views towards the east that capture the distant limestone capped scarp slope and wooded horizon at Blyborough. Views towards the east also capture a distant wooded horizon. In terms of visual value, this has been assessed as **medium** being shaped by the presence of the mainline railway and Blyton Level Crossing that contributes to the enjoyment of the landscape. The area also supports

north south aligned local roads (that gain access to a number of former medieval settlements), and which are popular for informal recreation.

Residential Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.5.302 There are no settlements. Groups of buildings include Unnamed (R19), The Fields Farm (R20), Bonsdale Farm (R26) and Pilham (R28). Singular buildings include Southorpe Farm (R18), Grange Farm (R21), Top Farm (R22), Glebe Farm (R25) and Gilby (R31). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.7 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.7]**.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.5.303 This includes B1205 Kirton Road to C228 Monson Road, Northorpe near Scotter (T016), Kirton Road, Blyton (T019), Bonsdale Lane, Blyton (T021), Station Road, Blyton (T023), Pilham Lane, Bonsdale (T025), Green Lane, Pilham (T028), Pilham Lane, Blyton (T029), Road to Dunstall, Aisby near Gainsborough (T032), Pilham Lane, Aisby near Gainsborough (T034) and Pilham Lane, Pilham (T036). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.11]**.

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.5.304 This includes Blyt/24/1 and 24/2, Blyt/25/1, 25/2 and 25/3, Blyt/26/1, Blyt/28/1 and 28/2, Blyt/29/1 and 29/2, Blyt/30/1 and Pilh/20/1. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.15 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.15]**.

Cable Route Corridor: Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1

Viewpoint Receptors

- 8.5.305 The viewpoint receptors for Cable Route Corridor: Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1 are covered under the Cottam 1 Site 2km and 5km Study Areas.

Residential Receptors-Cable Route Corridor: Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1

- 8.5.306 This includes the settlements of Marton (R98) and Cottam (R102). Groups of buildings include Manor Farm (R91), Unnamed (R94), Ardsley Cottage (R95), Marton Grange (R96), Unnamed (R100), Coates Farm (R101), Westbrecks Farm (R104) and East End Farm (R105). Singular buildings include West View Farm (R92), Home Farm (R93), Poplar Farm (R97), Brampton Grange (R99) and Cow Pastures (R103). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.8 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.8]**.

Transport Receptors-Cable Route Corridor: Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1

- 8.5.307 This includes the access track to Manor Farm (T141), Tillbridge Lane, Stow (T142) Stow Park Road, Stow (T143), Stow Park Road, Marton (T144), Littleborough Lane, Marton (T145), High Street, Marton (T146), Trent Port Road, Marton (T147), Lea Road, Brampton (T148), Coates Road, Coates (T149), Headstead Bank, Cottam (T150), Town Street (T151), Marsh Lane, Cottam (T152), Broad Lane, Cottam (T153), Overcoat Lane, Cottam (T154), Wells Lane, Cottam (T155), Outgang Road, Cottam (T156 and T157), Cow Pasture Lane, South Leverton (T158), Westbrecks Lane, South Leverton (T159), Torksey Ferry Road, Rampton (T160), Nightley's Road, Rampton (T161) and Shortley's

Road, Rampton (T162). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.12 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.12]**.

PRoW Receptors-Cable Route Corridor: Cottam Power Station to Cottam 1

- 8.5.308 This includes Bram/66/1, Mton/66/4, Mton/68/1, Mton/69/1, NT/Cottam/BOATS, NT/Cottam/FP1, NT/Cottam/BW2, NT/Cottam/BW7, NT/Cottam/FP1, NT/Cottam/FP3, NT/Cottam/RB4, NT/Cottam/RB6, NT/Rampton/FP4, NT/Rampton/FP5, NT/Rampton/FP9, NT/Rampton/FP6, NT/Rampton/FP10, NT/Rampton/FP20, NT/Rampton/BOAT12, NT/Rampton/BOAT13, NT/North Leverton With Habbleshthorpe/FP9, NT/North Leverton with Habbleshthorpe/RB25, NT/South Leverton/BOAT 16, NT/Treswell/BW18, NT/Treswell/BW20, NT/Treswell/FP3, NT/Treswell/FP4 and NT/Treswell/FP5. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.16 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.16]**.

Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 1 to Cottam 2

Viewpoint Receptors-Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 1 to Cottam 2

- 8.5.309 The viewpoint receptors for Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 1 to Cottam 2 are covered under the Cottam 1 Site and Cottam 2 Site 2km and 5km Study Areas.

Residential Receptors Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 1 to Cottam 2

- 8.5.310 Groups of buildings include Springthorpe Grange (R45) and singular buildings include Grange Cottage (R44), Unnamed (R46) and Low Field Farm (R50). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.5]** and **Figure 8.7.6 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.6]**.

Transport Receptors-Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 1 to Cottam 2

- 8.5.311 This includes Cow Lane, Upton (T063). The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.9 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.9]** and **Figure 8.7.10 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.10]**.

PRoW Receptors- Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 1 to Cottam 2

- 8.5.312 There are no PRoW. The PRoW receptors for Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 1 to Cottam 2 are covered under the Cottam 1 Site and Cottam 2 Site 2km and 5km Study Areas. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.13]** and **Figure 8.7.14 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.14]**.

Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b

Viewpoint Receptors- Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b

- 8.5.313 The viewpoint receptors for Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b are covered under the Cottam 2 Site and Cottam 3a and 3b Site 2km and 5km Study Areas.

Residential Receptors-Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b

- 8.5.314 The residential receptors for Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b are covered under the Cottam 2 Site and Cottam 3a and 3b Site 2km and 5km Study

Areas. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.6 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.6]** and **Figure 8.7.7 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.7]**.

Transport Receptors- Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b

- 8.5.315 The transport receptors for Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b are covered under the Cottam 2 Site and Cottam 3a and 3b Site 2km and 5km Study Areas. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.10 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.10]** and **Figure 8.7.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.11]**.

PRoW Receptors- Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b

- 8.5.316 The PRoW receptors for Cable Route Corridor: Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b are covered under the Cottam 1 Site and Cottam 2 Site 2km and 5km Study Areas. The receptor locations are shown on **Figure 8.7.14 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.14]** and **Figure 8.7.15 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.15]**.

Future Baseline

- 8.5.317 Agricultural policy and land ownership and management will dictate how the land within the Study Areas for the Sites and Cable Route Corridor for the Scheme is farmed. With such inherent uncertainties, an assessment of the effects of the Scheme under future climate change scenarios would yield results that are not meaningful. The assessment is therefore undertaken under the assumption that there will not be any substantive changes in the baseline during the Scheme, and/or that the effects of the Scheme will not change during the operation phase.

8.6 Embedded and Additional Mitigation

Mitigation Approach

- 8.6.1 This section describes the approach to mitigation in the assessment of both the landscape and visual effects. There are two ways in which this mitigation has been approached at this stage of the LVIA assessment:

Embedded Mitigation: This is also referred to as 'primary mitigation' and has been incorporated into the early evolution of the project as part of the iterative approach to the design of the Scheme. Further information on the design process is provided within the ES at **Chapter 5 (Alternatives and Design Evolution) [EN010133/APP/C6.2.5]**; and the Design and Access Statement **[EN010133/APP/C7.6]** accompanying the DCO application. These 'embedded mitigation' measures are secured via the DCO (for example, by specifying that each Work number can only be located on the area shown on the **Works Plans [EN010133/APP/C2.4]** or as part of the **Concept Design Parameters and Principles [EN010133/APP/C7.15]**.

Additional Mitigation: This is applied as part of the assessments at the operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme (also referred to as 'secondary mitigation') in addition to the 'embedded mitigation' measures. These measures are

set out in the Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) which will be secured through a requirement in the DCO. An Outline LEMP is included as part of this DCO application and is designed so as to include flexibility for details to be refined prior to approval by the relevant planning authorities before construction of the Scheme commences.

- Tertiary Mitigation: This mitigation is considered to address residual landscape and visual effects that could not be mitigated or 'designed out' as part of the Scheme. These are undertaken/implemented by management prescriptions through the project and post year 15 of operation. The mechanism to review management prescriptions as part of tertiary mitigation measures are set out in the Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) which will be secured through a requirement in the DCO as set out in the above paragraph and the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).

Mitigation Stages

8.6.2 These embedded and additional mitigation measures are taken into consideration as part of the assessment of effects at the construction, operation and decommissioning stages and are to be bought forward as part of the of the Scheme. In terms of the consideration of the mitigation measures at the different stages of the Scheme, for the purpose of this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices, these are broadly defined as:

Construction – Assessment is based on the construction of the solar panel areas and associated infrastructure including energy storage. There are also works in connection with the onsite substations, Cable Route Corridor and in connection with electrical cabling and works to the existing National Grid Cottam Power Station 400kv substation site to facilitate connection of the Scheme to the National Grid. Other works would be undertaken in connection with fencing, gates, boundary treatment and other means of enclosure; works for the provision of security and monitoring measures such as CCTV. There would also be landscape and biodiversity mitigation works, including planting and the improvement, associated with the maintenance and use of existing private tracks. There would also be the laying down of internal tracks, temporary footpath diversions and earthworks, SuDs Ponds and general drainage and irrigation infrastructure. The assessment has been undertaken in winter to assess a worst-case scenario at this construction stage. Embedded or primary mitigation measures would look to reduce the construction effects, in particular the siting, design, and layout of the construction activities. Additional or secondary mitigation measures such as planting have not been taken into account during the construction stage. Tertiary mitigation has also been considered at this stage if required to reduce the effects of construction such as temporary changes to hedgerow management within the wider land ownership to reduce views of the Scheme.

- Operation (Year 1) – Assessment is based on the presence of the solar panel areas and associated infrastructure including the energy storage, substations and Cable

Route Corridor being operational and has been undertaken in winter to assess a worst-case scenario. Primary mitigation would look at measures to reduce the operational effects, in particular the siting, design and layout of the solar panel areas and associated infrastructure including energy storage, substation, and Cable Route Corridor. Secondary mitigation measures such as planting have also been taken into account at this stage although the fact that any planting would be immature at Year 1 has been factored into the assessment. Further (Tertiary) mitigation has also been considered at this stage if required to reduce the effects of operation such as temporary changes to hedgerow management within the wider land ownership to reduce views of the Scheme.

- Operation (Year 15) – Assessment is based on the solar panel areas and associated infrastructure including the energy storage, substations being operational at the time and assessed in summer with vegetation in leaf offering maximum screening potential. Secondary mitigation would assume a uniform growth of woodland, shelter belt planting & scattered trees of 2.5m (Max) since operation at Year 1 and 7.5m (Max) at Year 15. New and existing hedgerows would assume a height of 0.6m & 0.9m at Year 1 (new and existing) and 3.5m & 5m (new and existing) at Year 15. Shrub planting would assume a height of 0.9m at Year 1 and 5m at Year 15. Secondary mitigation would also include management and maintenance of the planting. Tertiary mitigation would form part of the management and maintenance objectives, where applicable and would be secured as part of the LEMP where appropriate.
- Decommissioning – Assessment is based on a similar process to that of construction, but with the Scheme being no longer operational. It would assess the Sites in winter but would assume retention of existing vegetation and build upon the proposed secondary mitigation that had been established as the future baseline.

8.1.1 This approach is aligned with GLVIA3 which at paragraph 4.21 states that:

“In accordance with the EIA Regulations, measures to prevent/avoid, reduce and where possible offset or remedy (or compensate for) any significant adverse landscape and visual effects should be described.”

Within the guidance, these mitigation measures can be considered to fall into three categories, these being *primary*, *secondary* and *tertiary* mitigation. This LVIA chapter and supporting appendices will therefore consider the following three categories in this assessment as being taken into account in reaching conclusions on the significance of LVIA effects:

- *Primary Mitigation*: Also referred to as ‘embedded mitigation’ in this assessment. This mitigation is taken into account during the construction, operation (Year 1 and Year 15) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme. Measures that are embedded within the design of the Scheme at the outset and which depend on the preliminary findings of the LVIA process. The measures are iterative and essentially look to modify the scale and layout of the Scheme and also strive to achieve to raise the bar

of acceptability in terms of planning policy compliance. These measures aim to ensure a reasonable balance of viability and to meet with policy expectations. They are set out within this **Section 8.6** of this LVIA chapter.

- *Secondary Mitigation:* Also referred to as ‘additional mitigation’ in this assessment. This mitigation is taken into account during the operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme. Measures are considered in relation to the landscape and visual effects of the Scheme as a means of addressing the significant adverse affects identified in the assessment. They have been integrated as part of the evolution of the design. The measures are iterative and essentially will include changed management of existing vegetation (primarily hedgerows) and new planting enhancement at the source of the Scheme and within the Order limits. These measures look to add inherent value to the landscape character and reduce the visual impacts of the Scheme and its environs and to exceed planning policy expectations. These mitigation measures are considered to be established for Year 15 of the Scheme. Assessing the impacts of the Scheme at Year 15 is considered to be appropriate in the context of the landscape character and visual amenity, since it is judged to be the most effective in terms of the effectiveness of maturation of planting and the ‘time depth’ of the receiving landscape.
- *Tertiary Mitigation:* Also referred to as ‘residual mitigation’ in this assessment. This mitigation is taken into account at the construction stage of the Scheme, if required, such as temporary changes to hedgerow management or off-site planting as enabling works within the wider land ownership to reduce views of the Scheme or build upon the local landscape character. Tertiary mitigation is also taken into account at the operation stage (Year 1 and Year 15) such as changes in hedgerow, woodland and shelterbelt management or to build upon community initiatives within the wider land ownership to reduce views of the Scheme or to continue to build upon the local landscape character. Tertiary mitigation is also considered as part of the wider management and maintenance objectives, where applicable and particularly at Year 15 of the Scheme, where there is a re-evaluation to identify any residual landscape and visual effects that could otherwise be mitigated or ‘designed out’ and considers tertiary measures. These measures are iterative, but also aim to fulfil wider planning policy objectives such as green infrastructure interventions and planning for social and community initiatives. Tertiary measures are also designed to draw out the significant **benefits** of the Scheme, these being the **positive** effects that help in the wider acknowledgement and holistic perspective that landscape professionals take in their valuable contribution to Environmental Impact Assessment. The work in the tertiary area of mitigation, or residual mitigation offers exemplar of good practice at the heart of the LVIA in preserving the landscape for future generations. The tertiary measures are set out within **Section 8.8** and **8.10** of this chapter.

Mitigation Measures: Strategic Approach

8.6.3 The above three categories of mitigation measures take into account potential landscape and visual impacts identified at an early stage in the LVIA process. The following considerations (as shown on **Figures 8.16.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.1]** to **8.16.10 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.16.10]** Landscape and ecology mitigation and enhancement measures are in place to reduce potential impacts of the Scheme. Also refer to the Design and Access Statement (DAS) **[EN010133/APP/C7.6]** and the Concept Design Parameters and Principles **[EN010133/APP/C7.15]**. The strategic approach to these measures that are taken into account in the assessment process are set out in **Table 8.21** below:

Table 8.21: Primary and Secondary Mitigation: Landscape Design Parameters

Consideration	Primary Mitigation or 'embedded mitigation'.	Secondary Mitigation or 'additional mitigation'.
Scheme context	Location of Scheme within a relatively flat lower-lying landscape. To the east, the existing landform that forms the ridgeline at Hemswell Cliff provides natural containment of the Scheme.	The new planting will provide a more varied landscape in terms of management and vegetation. Overall enhancement and strengthening of the Local Character Area with new planting grassland reversion, where appropriate.
Existing Vegetation	Retention of existing woodland/scrub and hedgerow cover. This vegetation provides a strong visual framework and potentially screens or substantially filters at ground level towards the solar panels. Existing hedgerows are to be allowed to grow out and will be managed to a height of 5m. Hedgerow trees will be encouraged to grow out to add further thickening and growth to field boundaries.	Reinforcement of existing woodland/scrub and hedgerow cover with new planting. The addition of new hedgerow trees as appropriate, randomly spaced along the length of existing hedges. This new planting provides long term screening, structural benefits to the landscape and wider green infrastructure and habitat connectivity benefits.
Features	The colour palette of the solar panels to reduce their prominence when seen within the landscape backdrop or seen against the sky.	These backdrops would benefit from increased woodland and vegetation cover provided by the new planting.
Flood Attenuation	Avoidance of flood storage areas. Soil improvements through modification to intensive agriculture.	The careful use of scattered tree and hedge planting adjacent to watercourses to reinforce the riparian character in the landscape.

Lighting	Will be limited to downlights within substations and energy storage areas only and used when maintenance or security is required. All visible lighting would be 50W, installed at a maximum height of 4m with cowls fitted to prevent light spillage. There will be no lighting on perimeter fencing.	New planting along the boundary of substations and energy storage areas to filter the presence in the landscape and provide softening and screening to any light spill.
Location	The location of the solar panels set back from the Site boundary.	The careful use of scattered tree and hedge planting to avoid undue impacts on the open character of the area.
New Planting and green infrastructure	Use of green infrastructure publications, policy and recognised guidance at the baseline stage to establish a full understanding of the vegetation characteristics of the receiving landscape. Proximity to local ecological designations and sensitive ecological receptors has been considered with a 20m set off distance to designated area incorporated into the Scheme.	Measures to enhance the landscape framework in keeping with landscape character are explored to soften and to continue to provide the 'filtering' effect of vegetation that is characteristic of the local landscape. This would include 5m wide shelterbelts within the Site and along the boundary of the panel areas, where appropriate.
New Planting and Inherent Visual Amenity	Allow 5m to boundary of fence line for potential new woodland and shelterbelts and to allow for thickening and growth of existing vegetation.	New planting within the Sites supporting the solar panels to provide screening and habitat connectivity, particularly where transport routes and footpaths and bridleways cross the Site.
New Planting and Landscape Character	Use of landscape character publications, policy and recognised guidance at the baseline stage to establish a full understanding of the important landscape characteristics of the receiving landscape.	Proposed woodland planting would not be effective in all locations, but some areas would be selected to ensure the long-term presence of woodland where it is in accordance with landscape character.
New Planting and Recreational Users	Retention of existing woodland/scrub and hedgerow cover along recreational routes. Public Rights of Way (PRoW) would be buffered with 15m to outer edge of solar panel to allow for establishment of existing	New planting would screen certain views such as users of the PRoWs, the bridleway network, and local roads. New native hedgerow planting to field boundaries with hedgerow

	hedgerows and woodland cover to each side. Proximity to major watercourses would allow 20m set off distance to the outer edge of the solar panels. Proximity to minor watercourses and ditches has allowed an 8m set off from watercourses.	trees added to further screen views.
New Planting and Time Depth	The retention of existing woodland/scrub and hedgerow cover that helps provide local distinctiveness and cement the intrinsic landscape character. Proximity to existing hedgerows will allow 5m to outer edge boundary fence line. Proximity to existing woodland has been considered with a 20m set off distance to the outer edge of the solar panels incorporated into the design of the Scheme.	New planting to reflect landscape character and policy expectations using a palette of native tree and shrub species that are appropriate to the location. Faster growing species would be used to provide quicker screening/filtering effects. Grassland reversion around settlements to respect historic integrity of former environs and introduce a less intensively managed context. Potential for grazing around settlement edges.
New Planting and Wider Visual Amenity	Identification of key visual receptors and key views at the baseline stage. Proximity of residential properties with 50m (min) from boundary curtilage to outer edge of solar panel to allow marginal areas of vegetation to establish fully as screening.	The establishment of new planting along the margins of the solar panel parcels to increase the robustness, elevation and efficacy of the planting as screening becomes more effective in the integration with the surrounding landscape.

Alternative Design/Layouts

8.6.4 Prior to arriving at the Order limits, there were several stages of design evolution during which the original area of the Scheme was refined. The process of design evolution has been informed by on-going landscape and visual assessment, design considerations and engagement with stakeholders.

Non-Statutory Consultation November-December 2021

8.6.5 The initial phases of the Scheme design were developed by the Applicant in consultation with landowners, set against desk-based assessment work to determine outline design objectives, and identify areas of required preliminary investigation. This preliminary investigation comprised an initial assessment that

included the mapping of planning, environmental and spatial constraints which have been identified through a review of relevant national planning policies. The constrained areas were excluded from the area of search and therefore not considered suitable for the Scheme. The environmental constraints considerations that were mapped and considered included:

- Agricultural Land Classification and Land Type
- Designated international and national ecological and geological sites
- Nationally designated landscapes
- Proximity to sensitive human receptors

8.6.6 Following the preliminary investigation, the design process commenced. Further information on the design process is provided within the ES at **Chapter 5** (Alternatives and Design Evolution). Further information on how the design has been revised to respond to Section 42 Consultation with Local Authorities and other stakeholders provided within **Appendix 8.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]**.

EIA Scoping January 2022

8.6.7 At the EIA Scoping Stage in January 2022, the outline design of the Scheme was presented alongside desk-based and initial field assessments of the proposed Scheme. Internally, a maximum capacity layout was produced to help the project team identify predicted areas of key concern, or of anticipated minimal impacts for the Scheme.

PEIR/Statutory Consultation June- July 2022

8.6.8 Following feedback from the Planning Inspectorate and statutory consultees through the EIA Scoping Stage, the first detailed designs were produced in tandem with consultation with other chapters within the ES including **Chapter 9 [EN010133/APP/C9]** (Ecology and Biodiversity) and **Chapter 13 [EN010133/APP/C13]** (Cultural Heritage), to determine any direct impacts and suitable embedded and additional mitigation measures.

8.6.9 Further information on how the embedded and additional mitigation measures relating to the design (to respond to Section 42 Consultation with Local Authorities) is provided within **Appendix 8.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]**.

8.6.10 Further information on the how the mitigation measures relate to the design (to respond to the policy Context of this LVIA chapter and appendices) is provided within **Appendix 8.5 (Policy Commentary) [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.5]**.

8.6.11 The designs produced during February to April 2022, along with the Preliminary Environmental Information Report, were presented to the public and statutory consultees as part of the statutory consultation to determine any direct impacts and suitable embedded and additional mitigation measures. As a result of feedback from the public and statutory consultation, these embedded and additional

mitigation measures were developed to take into account the landscape and visual receptors within this LVIA chapter and appendices.

- 8.6.12 The updated embedded and additional measures arising from the identification of key visual receptors and key views are set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**. The full extent of visual receptors that were taken into consideration during the stages of the first detailed designs and later feedback from public and statutory consultation on embedded and additional mitigation measures is shown on **Figure 8.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.11]** to **Figure 8.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.13]**. Other key visual receptors such as waterways (boats), leisure cyclists and train users are all considered within the baseline and the assessment to ensure suitable mitigation measures are applied.
- 8.6.13 The first detailed designs were produced in tandem with consultation on neighbouring residential receptors to determine any direct impacts and suitable embedded and additional mitigation measures. Specific embedded and additional mitigation measures applicable to each of the residential properties and the supporting the desk-based work and field assessments are set out within the Individual Residential Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]** and **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]**. The full extent of residential properties that were taken into consideration during the stages of the first detailed designs and later feedback from public and statutory consultation on embedded and additional mitigation measures is shown on **Figure 8.7.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.5]** to **8.7.8 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.8]**,
- 8.6.14 The updated embedded and additional mitigation measures arising from the identification of transport receptors are set out within the Individual Transport Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]** and **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.3]**. The full extent of transport receptors that were taken into consideration during the stages of the first detailed designs and later feedback from public and statutory consultation on embedded and additional mitigation measures is shown on **Figure 8.7.9 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.9]** to **Figure 8.7.12 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.12]**.
- 8.6.15 The updated embedded and additional measures arising from the identification of PRoW receptors are set out within the Individual PRoW Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]** and **Appendix 8.3.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3]**. The full extent of PRoW receptors that were taken into consideration during the stages of the first detailed designs and later feedback from public and statutory consultation on embedded and additional mitigation measures is shown on **Figure 8.7.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.13]** to **Figure 8.7.16 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.16]**.

Functionality and Need

- 8.6.16 The design parameters of the Scheme have maintained some degree of design flexibility using Rochdale Envelope principles to allow the latest technology to be

utilised when the Scheme is constructed, whilst ensuring that the preferred options taken forward are balanced with the environmental effects and the functionality and needs of the Scheme. The parameters assessed in the EIA are set out in the Concept Design Parameters [EN010133/APP/C7.15] document included at **Appendix 4.2** of the ES. The key design elements relevant to the LVIA process within this environmental balance have included the following considerations:

PV Panels (fixed and tracker)

- 8.6.17 Flexibility for either tracker or fixed panels have been built into the EIA. The tracking solar PV modules would be aligned in north-south rows and the fixed solar panels would be aligned in east-west rows. The maximum height of the highest part of the tracking solar PV modules and its greatest inclination would be 4.5m. The maximum height of the highest part of the solar PV modules when horizontal will be 2.5m. The maximum height of the highest part of the fixed solar PV modules will be 3.5m. Foundations are most likely to be galvanised steel poles driven into the ground. These will either be piles rammed into a pre-drilled hole, or a pillar attaching to a steel ground screw.

Conversion Units

- 8.6.18 Consideration of Conversion Units consisting of standalone transformers, inverters, and switchgear, or integrated containerised conversion units have been considered. The DCO is retaining the flexibility to consider both options prior to construction of the Scheme due to anticipated technical advances.

Energy Storage System

- 8.6.19 The installation of the energy storage has been selected based on its single location allowing for planting mitigation to reduce any visual impacts.
- 8.6.20 In anticipation of advances in technology, flexibility for different areas devoted to battery storage has been considered in the EIA. These areas are shown on the **Works Plans** and described within the **draft DCO** and **Concept Design Parameters [EN010133/APP/C7.15]** and also the **Design and Access Statement [EN010133/APP/C7.6]**.

Topic Overlaps

- 8.6.21 The layout of the solar panel areas within the Sites has been informed by a series of design parameters that have been discussed and agreed within the Technical Consultant Team to ensure consistency of approach is implemented across the Scheme and in this ES, in particular **Chapter 9 [EN010133/APP/C9]** (Ecology and Biodiversity) and **Chapter 13 [EN010133/APP/C13]** (Cultural Heritage). Parameters such as offset distances were informed by discussions over functionality and need and the balance with the key environmental constraints. The design parameters that are relevant to the landscape and visual mitigation matters are set out in **Table 8.21** above. Once applied, the remaining site area was designated the “developable area” for the solar array, inverters, substation, and access roads. The design includes

security fencing placed along the parameter boundary of the Sites. Areas between the fencing and the developable area were then made available for ecology and landscape mitigation or enhancement, or secondary landscape mitigation. The primary, secondary and tertiary landscape mitigation has been co-ordinated with other relevant disciplines, such as Cultural Heritage and Ecology. With Ecology, the aim was to determine the key embedded and additional mitigation parameters and agree offsets to improve the value of the landscape and reflect appropriate local and regional aims and objectives for ecology and biodiversity. The Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) [EN010133/APP/C7.3] sets out a framework for the establishment of the planting on site for the duration of the Scheme; together with the management and monitoring of the landscape and ecological mitigation and enhancement of habitats on which this framework is based. The **Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) [EN010133/APP/C7.3]** is secured by a requirement in the draft DCO and is fundamental in securing the secondary mitigation set out in **Table 8.21** above. Refer to **Appendix 7.3 [C7.3]** which sets out how these mitigation measures are secured.

8.6.22 The co-ordination with the Cultural Heritage assessment related to the viewpoints which were agreed and discussed with the Applicant's heritage consultant at Heritage Workshops on 5th July 2022 and 3rd October 2022. The discussions involved how the landscape design could be developed to take account of the embedded and additional mitigation. The embedded and additional mitigation also took into account the Section 42 Consultation with Local Authorities and feedback is provided within **Appendix 8.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]** to ensure they would be considered in both the visual assessment, and the evolving proposals so that any relevant and appropriate mitigation would be applied. The consultation process and matters relevant to the Heritage Topic is set out within **Appendix 8.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.8.4.3]**.

8.7 Identification and Evaluation of Likely Significant Effects

8.7.1 This section describes the likely landscape effects at the construction, operation, and decommissioning stages of the Scheme. The construction, operational, and decommissioning effects, are considered separately and the likely significant effects set out where positive (beneficial) and negative (adverse) effects are likely to arise from the Scheme. Effects deemed as moderate or greater are considered to be "significant effects", both beneficial and adverse.

8.7.2 A step-by-step approach has been undertaken to make judgements of significance, combining judgements about the nature of the receptor, summarised as its sensitivity, and the nature of the effect, summarised as its magnitude. The approach then clearly distinguishes what are considered to be the significant and non-significant effects. This approach also distinguishes between the assessment of landscape effects and the assessment of visual effects by taking each receptor in turn.

8.7.3 Each receptor (landscape and visual) is assigned an individual assessment sheet. Technical **Appendix 8.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2]** includes the individual assessment sheets that set out how the identification and evaluation of likely significant effects has been made for the landscape effects. **Appendix 8.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3]** includes the individual assessment sheets that set out how the identification and evaluation of likely significant effects has been made for the visual effects.

8.7.4 This section sets out the conclusions of the assessment both with the embedded and the additional mitigation measures taken into account. The individual assessment sheets set out the conclusions of the assessment both **with** and **without** embedded Mitigation measures being taken into account.

Assessment of Landscape Effects

8.7.5 Lanpro consulted with the LPAs through a series of workshops and meetings over the assessment methodology, Study Area, landscape receptors, visual receptors and cumulative sites/developments. Feedback from Workshops 1 and 2 is set out within **Appendix 8.4.2** Section 42 Consultation with Local Authorities **[C6.3.8.4.2]** where questionnaire responses from the workshops made the following comments with regard to the assessment of landscape effects. These comments referred to a preferred approach for the assessment at a range of scales:

“Published landscape character areas have been identified, however, to align with GLVIA3 the LVIA should include an assessment of landscape effects at a range of scales, and we would expect the assessment to include a finer grain landscape assessment that includes the Site and immediate area and that also considers individual landscape elements such as trees and hedgerows, woodlands, ponds/water features, or historic landscape features: The LVIA should include an assessment of the potential impacts of the Scheme on local landscape features and local landscape character”.

8.7.6 The assessment of landscape effects therefore considers how the proposal will affect the elements that make up the local landscape features and local landscape character. This part of the assessment is referred to as the ‘broad-grained scale’ with a focus on landscape character at a local level, its aesthetic and perceptual aspects, its distinctive features and the key characteristics that contribute to landscape as a resource. This part of the assessment relies on the published sources of landscape character assessment at the national local and regional level to identify the relevant receptors, where applicable.

8.7.7 Further comments from Workshops 1 and 2 set out within **Appendix 8.4.2** Section 42 Consultation with Local Authorities **[C6.3.8.4.2]** refer to the National Landscape Character Areas and how they form part of the assessment process.

“The correct National, Regional and Local Landscape Character Areas (LCA) have been referred to within the PEIR and cover a range of scales, and there is potential to scope out character areas that would not be affected by the development. Typically, National Character Areas, and often LCA at a regional level, are at a large scale,

large geographic area of land and typically provide context only, as opposed to being a receptor to be assessed”.

8.7.8 With regard to the National Landscape Character Areas (NCAs), the Scheme would therefore complement and where possible enhance local distinctiveness of these NCAs (as well as character areas at a local scale), but the NCAs are not assessed any further within this LVIA chapter and appendices since the regional character assessment, the East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment⁶³ is relied upon to provide the landscape character baseline at the broad scale. The Scheme is not located within, or within the setting of, any nationally designated landscapes. Natural England also had no specific comments to make upon the landscape implications other than the reference made to Natural England’s National Character Areas (NCAs).

8.7.9 Comments made by Natural England at the Scoping Stage, are set out within **Appendix 8.4.1** EIA Scoping Consultation [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.1], which state with regard to the appropriateness of NCAs that:

“The Environmental Statement should include an assessment of local landscape character through consideration of the relevant National Character Areas (NCAs) and any local landscape character assessments. This should also include any likely in-combination/cumulative effects from other known Solar projects in the area”.

8.7.10 Comments made by Natural England at the PEIR Stage Submission, are set out within **Appendix 8.4.2** Section 42 Consultation with Local Authorities [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2], which state with regard to local distinctiveness that:

“The proposed development is not located within, or within the setting of, any nationally designated landscapes. As a result, Natural England have no specific comments to make upon the landscape implications. We welcome the reference made to Natural England’s National Character Areas and advise that the development should complement and where possible enhance local distinctiveness”.

8.7.11 The findings are presented on a site-by-site basis taking each of these individual contributors at the broad scale in turn, which are regional landscape character types (RLCTs) set out within the East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment, which are shown on **Figure 8.5** [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.5] Landscape Character, and are:

- RLCT 3a Floodplain Valleys
- RLCT 4a Unwooded Vales
- RLCT 4b Wooded Vales

⁶³ East Midlands Landscape Partnership, *East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment*, Page 178, April 2010 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

8.7.12 This section also provides a summary of the landscape effects of the individual contributors to the landscape baseline at a fine-grained scale and draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to identify the individual contributors to landscape character. The findings are presented on a site-by-site basis taking each of these individual contributors at the fine-grained scale in turn, which are shown on **Figures 8.6.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.6.1]** to **8.6.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.6.4]** Detailed Landscape Receptors and described under the following headings:

- Land Use
- Topography and Watercourses
- Communications and Infrastructure
- Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure
- Public Rights of Way and Access
- Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape
- Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens
- Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

Cottam 1

4a Unwooded Vales

8.7.13 Appendix **8.2.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.1]** sets out the context of this character area, how it relates to the wider Cottam 1 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.

8.7.14 For the 5km Study Area at construction, operation stage (Year 1) and decommissioning: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects. In summary, there would be very limited, temporary and short term minor adverse effects to the character area, but the integrity of all the features will be retained. Primary mitigation has been taken onto account at this stage to include enhancement at ground level through initial grassland creation. Existing hedges will also be allowed to grow out and will be managed to a height of 5m. Site boundary fencing will also be set back from these hedgerows to allow for their proposed thickening and growth.

8.7.15 For the 5km Study Area at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.22** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate** but would be **Beneficial** to the overall character within RLCT 4a Unwooded Vales. In summary, the secondary landscape mitigation will bring forward an increased level of tree and hedgerow cover locally, and this will help with the linking and enhancement of natural features. New and augmented hedgerows will provide a series of good quality field boundaries to create a multi-layered landscape and scattered tree belts will follow

the routes of existing watercourses, strengthening this feature in the context of the wider landscape.

Table 8.22: Summary Unwooded Vales: Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
5km Study Area:			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Min Not Sig	Low Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Sig	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Mod Significant

Land Use

- 8.7.16 **Appendix 8.2.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.1]** sets out the context of the land use, how it occurs across the wider Cottam 1 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.17 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the construction activities would be short-lived and would not widely affect the land use. Although there would be a change from the arable land use to grassland, this would be beneficial to soils and watercourses with added benefits to biodiversity, The field boundaries and the associated tree cover would remain intact, help with visual layering across the landscape and with the integration of the new panels.
- 8.7.18 For the Cottam 1 Site and Cable Route Corridor at operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects. In summary this is due to the level of mitigation and positive changes in land use such as the creation of extensive mixed grassland habitats and enhanced boundaries to the field network.
- 8.7.19 For the Cottam 1 Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.23** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. There is potential for **Moderate** effects, but these effects would be **Beneficial**. This secondary mitigation would ensure that all existing features would be retained, and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture. There would also be new grass margins in fields and the restoration of new hedgerows, which due to the predominance of medium and large-scale agriculture, this would promote the enhancement of the landscape through the introduction of stronger field divisions.

Table 8.23: Summary Land Use: Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Min Not Sig	Low Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Sig	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Mod Significant

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.7.20 **Appendix 8.2.4.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.1]** sets out the context of the topography and watercourses, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.21 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, although the construction activities would be evident above the hedgerows, they would not affect the integrity of the waterways and local topography. There would be changes to the arable land use and this would benefit the water courses due to scope for more grassland. The shift away from mixed farming has had an impact on local character and in regulating water quality. The panels would also be set back to a minimum of 20m from the major watercourses and a minimum 8m from the minor water courses.
- 8.7.22 For the Cottam 1 Site and Cable Route Corridor at operation stage (Year 1) stage: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.
- 8.7.23 For the Cottam 1 Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.24** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. There is potential for **Moderate** effects due to the introduction of new hedgerow and shelterbelt planting. Scattered tree belts will follow the route of the existing watercourses, strengthening their visibility in the wider landscape. These effects would be **Beneficial**, since the quality of the river systems in England is a key force for change with the aim being to improve water quality, availability, and flow. The aim for Cottam 1 is therefore to protect belts of waterside trees and riparian habitats to distinguish these watercourses in the landscape. The planting of trees and replacing lost hedgerows in flood plains to improve landscape character and attenuate flood flows is also an important element of the secondary landscape mitigation.

Table 8.24: Summary Topography and Watercourses: Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Very Low Neutral & Short Term Neg Not Sig	Low Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Sig	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Mod Significant

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.7.24 **Appendix 8.2.5.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.1]** sets out the context of the communications and infrastructure, how this relates to the wider Cottam 1 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.25 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the short-lived construction activities would affect routes to and from the Cottam 1 Site, but the integrity of these routes would not be lost. There would not be a fundamental change to the surroundings of the landscape setting of these landscape receptors, but an increase in traffic locally would put some pressure on these communication links in the short term.
- 8.7.26 For the Cottam 1 Site and Cable Route Corridor at the construction stage (Year 1): As shown in **Table 8.25** below, there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate**, and **Adverse**. In summary, this is due to the sensitivity of the rural lanes and appeal of the attractive east-west local routes that cut across the landscape. On balance however, the hedgerows would have been managed appropriately during operation. Heavy vehicles can erode the character of rural roads, but this would be managed effectively, and all hedgerows and tree cover would be retained. Refer to the Transport Statement at **Appendix 14.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.14.1]** and The Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) at **Appendix 14.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.14.2]** which sets out how this would be managed effectively and secured as part of the DCO application. The approach roads to the smaller settlements are a key feature that add to the identity of the local landscape and lines of trees are often characteristic in these locations and these would be protected and retained. Any new tree planting would be confined to hedgerows (i.e., not on verges) particularly on historic enclosure roads, where applicable. On balance, however, mitigation for increased traffic will include the protection and enhancement of existing roadside vegetation where this sits within the Order limits and the increase in general tree cover across the Site will break up views, creating biodiversity gains and capturing carbon.
- 8.7.27 For the Cottam 1 Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects. In summary this is due to the mitigation having matured to screen many views with routes not

being adversely affected by increased traffic during the operational phase of the development.

Table 8.25: Summary Communications and Infrastructure: Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Medium Adverse & Short Term Mod Significant	Low Adverse & Long Term Min Not Sig	Low Adverse & Long Term Minor Not Sig

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.7.28 **Appendix 8.2.6.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.1]** sets out the context of the settlements, industry, commerce and leisure, how this relates to the wider Cottam 1 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.29 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, there would not be any change to the settlements or other commercial/industrial areas. There would be a change to the arable land use, but the field boundaries and associated tree cover would remain intact and the landscape setting to the settlements would not be affected. Additional vegetated cover will have established and begun to mature, enhancing the local landscape character and likewise the setting of the local settlements, smallholdings, and isolated dwellings across the area.
- 8.7.30 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, for the operation stage (Year 1) and operation stage (Year 15) there are no likely significant effects.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.7.31 Refer to **Appendix 8.2.7.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.7.1]**, which sets out the context of the public rights of way (PROW) and access, how this relates to the wider Cottam 1 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.32 For the 5km Study Area:, With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the value of the PROW and Access for Cottam 1 is shaped by the network of footpaths and bridleways that offer a sequence of views across the landscape, particularly to landmark churches. Some views from the footpaths offer westward views to the power stations on the Trent, and eastward views to the scarp face of Lincoln Cliff and this would not be affected. The capacity of the landscape is shaped by the public right of way network and the local roads (that gain access to smaller villages) which are popular for informal

recreation, and some are narrow country lanes often with high levels of tranquillity and isolation, which have some vulnerability. However, driving north to south across the area is relatively straightforward as the A156 runs fairly true to the River Trent and the B1241 follows the almost meandering course of the River Till. Most of the developed settlements are near these roads. The narrow country lanes link east west, and this direction of travel is slightly more challenging, helping them to retain a special quality. The relevant characteristics of the landscape therefore have some ability to accommodate change without undue adverse effects given there is scope to protect the character and diversity of these road networks through conservation and enhancement and recognition of the value that the strategic routes provide in connections across the region

- 8.7.33 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning. In summary, all existing features would be retained, and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture. Due to the limited network of public rights of way (PRoW) across the Site, the aim is to enhance the existing network especially where there is potential connectivity to the river corridors and their flood plains for their recreational importance. The River Trent and its floodplain provide a strong feature running through the wider landscape and the River Till is also a key watercourse. The other notable river is the upper parts of the Witham of which the River Till is a tributary. The aims are therefore to enhance the PRoW network, especially where it can link people to both woodlands and these river corridors.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.7.34 **Appendix 8.2.8.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.8.1]** sets out the context of the nationally and locally designated landscapes, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.35 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary the existing and proposed landscape features will benefit from an improved landscape setting, since the field boundaries will have become more defined in the context of the roadsides, with watercourses also better presented by the new riparian species along their winding routes. Hedgerows will have established and outgrown, being managed to a height of 5m creating a layered vegetated scene across the landscape in views from the higher land and a more intimate environment in the context of the lower levels.
- 8.7.36 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.
- 8.7.37 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.26** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate** but

would be **Beneficial**. In summary, there will be a much greater level of tree cover over the Cottam 1 Site, which will have matured to integrate into the existing field boundary and woodland vegetation both locally and across the wider landscape setting of the two AGLVs. The cultural heritage of the farmed landscape immediately surrounding the settlements of Willingham by Stow, Stow and Kexby will also be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern in this farmed landscape. To the east, along the ridge and within the Limestone Scarps and Dipslopes Character Area 6a, the villages of Fillingham, Ingham, Cammeringham, Brattleby and Glentworth will also benefit from the improvements to the farmed landscape in the Till Vale with this being part of their wider setting in the context of the AGLVs.

Table 8.26: Summary Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape: Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Min Not Sig	Low Adverse & Long Term Min Not Sig	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.7.38 **Appendix 8.2.9.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.9.1]** sets out the context of these receptors, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.39 For the 5km Study Area:, With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, secondary mitigation such as planting, and grass seeding would be taken into account at this stage to include a new hedge to the south of field D14 and a 50m buffer of tussock mix grassland with a 5m width of shelterbelt planting.
- 8.7.40 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning. In summary, the secondary mitigation would bring forward enhancements to the overall level of tree cover will have a beneficial effect on the setting of the local villages and the Registered Park and Garden at Fillingham Castle. These landscape receptors are able to accommodate the development without undue adverse effects and there will be beneficial effects in terms of local tree/hedge cover and biodiversity net gains enhancing the local character.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.7.41 **Appendix 8.2.10.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.10.1]** sets out the context of the ancient woodlands and natural designations, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.42 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, designations lie predominantly to the west/southwest of both Cottam 1 with Ancient Woodland, Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites within the study area but having no physical or visual impact/influence on the Site/Sites other than distant views where these may exist.
- 8.7.43 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.
- 8.7.44 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.27** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate but would be Beneficial**. In summary, with the predominant use of the land for agriculture, this means that very little semi-natural habitat remains across the Site. The new and augmented hedgerows would provide a series of good quality field boundaries both formally strengthening the framework of field boundaries but also adding biodiversity connections across the landscape.

Table 8.27: Summary Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations: Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Low	Low Adverse & Short Term Neg Not Sig	Low Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Sig	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Cottam 1 West Option A Substation Site

4a Unwooded Vales

- 8.7.45 **Appendix 8.2.2.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2.1]** sets out the context of the Unwooded Vales, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West A Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on the land use and topography within the Unwooded Vales Character Area.
- 8.7.46 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Land Use

- 8.7.47 Refer to **Appendix 8.2.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.3.1]** which sets out the context of the land use, how this relates to the wider Cottam 1 West A Site. Refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.1]** which sets out the context of the Cottam 1 West A Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on land use.
- 8.7.48 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.49 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.28** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they would be **Adverse** resulting from the introduction of the substation, associated energy storage and infrastructure.
- 8.7.50 For the substation site at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.28** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects, and they would be **Adverse** resulting from the introduction of the Substation, energy Storage areas and associated infrastructure. This would comprise the introduction of the built form into the arable fields, however existing boundary features would be retained, and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.

Table 8.28: Summary Land Use: Cottam 1 West

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Option A			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Adverse & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Adverse & Long Term Moderate Significant

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.7.51 **Appendix 8.2.4.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.4.1]** sets out the context of the Topography and Watercourses, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option A. **Appendix 8.2.12.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.1]** sets out the context of the Cottam 1 West A Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on topography and watercourses.
- 8.7.52 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

- 8.7.53 For the substation Site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.29** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they would be **Adverse** resulting from the introduction of the substation, associated Energy Storage Facility and infrastructure.
- 8.7.54 For the substation site at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation as shown in **Table 8.29** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects, and they would be **Adverse** resulting from the introduction of the Substation, Energy Storage and associated infrastructure. The topography would be altered to accommodate the finished floor levels of the built structures and access roads and this would replace the existing arable field/s. All alterations to the topography, including bunding and other earthworks would be confined within the boundary fencing to the substation and Energy Storage areas will be contained within the compound. , All existing boundary features would be retained, and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture. Existing watercourses would not be altered.

Table 8.29: Summary of Topography and Watercourses: Cottam 1 West

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Option A			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Adverse & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Adverse & Long Term Moderate Significant

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.7.55 **Appendix 8.2.5.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.5.1]** sets out the context of the Communications and Infrastructure, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option A Site.
- 8.7.56 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary this is due to the mitigation having matured, with routes not being adversely affected by increased traffic during the operational phase of the development.
- 8.7.57 For the substation site: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary , the hedgerows would be protected to ensure sight lines are not impinged. The approach roads to the smaller settlements are a key feature that add to the identity of the local landscape and lines of trees are often characteristic in these locations and these would be protected and retained.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.7.58 **Appendix 8.2.6.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.6.1]** sets out the context of the Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option A Site.
- 8.7.59 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the proposed Scheme will have no adverse effects in the physical integrity of the settlements adjacent to the Site and there will be beneficial effects in terms of local tree/hedgerow cover to enhance the local character and the setting of these settlements
- 8.7.60 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the proposed Scheme will have no adverse effects in the physical integrity of the settlements adjacent to the Site and there will be beneficial effects in terms of local tree/hedge cover to enhance the local character and the setting of these settlements.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.7.61 **Appendix 8.2.7.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.7.1]** sets out the context of the Public Rights of Way, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option A Site.
- 8.7.62 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the proposed Scheme will have no adverse effects in the physical integrity of the PRoW within the Cottam 1 Site/Sites and there will be beneficial effects in terms of local tree/hedge cover screening views of the panelled areas for both pedestrians and horse riders and enhancement of the routes which in places will be 10m wide.
- 8.7.63 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary no PRoW are physically affected by the substation and therefore their integrity remains intact.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.7.64 **Appendix 8.2.8.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.8.1]** sets out the context of the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option A Site.
- 8.7.65 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the existing hedgerows will have established and outgrown, being managed to a height of 5m creating a layered vegetated appearance across the landscape, particularly in views from the higher land and

helping to create a more intimate environment within the contrasting lower lying areas.

- 8.7.66 For the substation site: With the primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the two AGLV's may experience some views across the wider landscape towards the substation in places but these views will be long distance and partially softened by existing and proposed tree cover.

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.7.67 **Appendix 8.2.9.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.9.1]** sets out the context of the receptors, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option A Site.
- 8.7.68 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.69 For substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the substation is not within the curtilage or setting of any heritage asset within the study area and any potential views from these assets will be both distant and filtered by existing and proposed vegetation.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.7.70 **Appendix 8.2.10.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.10.1]** sets out the context of the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option A Site.
- 8.7.71 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, designations lie predominantly to the west/southwest of Cottam 1 with Ancient Woodland, Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites within the study area but having no physical or visual impact/influence on the Site/Sites other than distant views where these may exist.
- 8.7.72 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the substation is not within the setting or immediate vicinity of any Ancient Woodland or Natural Designation and therefore their integrity will not be adversely affected.

Cottam 1 West Option B Substation Site

4a Unwooded Vales

8.7.73 **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]** sets out the context of the Cottam 1 West B Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely **significant** effects on the land use and topography within the Unwooded Vales Character Area.

8.7.74 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation, (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Land Use

8.7.75 **Appendix 8.2.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.1]** sets out the context of the land use, how this relates to the wider Cottam 1 West B Site. Refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]** which sets out the context of the Cottam 1 West B Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on land use.

8.7.76 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

8.7.77 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.30** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they would be **Adverse**. In summary, the introduction of the substation, Energy Storage areas and associated infrastructure would replace the existing arable fields. However, existing boundary features would be retained and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.

8.7.78 For the substation site at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.30** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects, and they would be **Adverse**.

Table 8.30: Summary Land Use: Cottam 1 West

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Option B			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Adverse & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Adverse & Long Term Moderate Significant

Topography and Watercourses

8.7.79 **Appendix 8.2.4.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.1]** sets out the context of the Topography and Watercourses, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option B. **Appendix 8.2.12.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.1]** sets out the context of the

Cottam 1 West B Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on topography and watercourses.

- 8.7.80 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely **Significant** effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. Topography will not be altered former arable land will be replaced with hard standing and substation structures and infrastructure.
- 8.7.81 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.31** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they would be **Adverse** resulting from the introduction of the substation and associated energy storage and infrastructure.
- 8.7.82 For the substation site at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.31** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects and they would be **Adverse**. In summary, the introduction of the substation, Energy Storage and associated infrastructure would result in changes to the topography to accommodate the finished floor levels of the built structures and access roads. All alterations to the topography, including bunding and other earthworks would be confined within the boundary fencing to the substation and energy storage areas. All existing boundary features would be retained, and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.

Table 8.31: Summary of Topography and Watercourses: Cottam 1 West

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Option B			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Adverse & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Adverse & Long Term Moderate Significant

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.7.83 **Appendix 8.2.5.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.1]** sets out the context of the Communications and Infrastructure and how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option B Site.
- 8.7.84 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary this is due to the wider routes not being adversely affected by increased traffic during the operational phase of the development.

8.7.85 For the substation site: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

8.7.86 **Appendix 8.2.6.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.1]** sets out the context of the Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option B Site.

8.7.87 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary the proposed Scheme will have no adverse effects in the physical integrity of the surrounding settlements and there will be beneficial effects in terms of local tree/hedge cover enhancing the local character and the setting of these settlements.

8.7.88 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Public Rights of Way and Access

8.7.89 **Appendix 8.2.7.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.1]** sets out the context of the Public Rights of Way, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option B Site.

8.7.90 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the proposed Scheme will have no adverse effects on the physical integrity of the PRoW within the Cottam 1 Site/Sites and there will be beneficial effects in terms of local tree/hedge cover screening views of the panelled areas for both pedestrians and horse riders and enhancement of the routes which in places will be 10m wide with biodiversity net gains enhancing the local character.

8.7.91 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, no PRoW are physically affected by the substation and therefore their integrity remains intact.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

8.7.92 **Appendix 8.2.8.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.1]** sets out the context of the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option B Site.

8.7.93 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

8.7.94 For the substation site: With the primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

8.7.95 **Appendix 8.2.9.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.1]** sets out the context of the receptors, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option B Site.

8.7.96 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

8.7.97 For substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

8.7.98 **Appendix 8.2.10.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.1]** sets out the context of the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations, how they relate to the wider Cottam 1 West Option B Site.

8.7.99 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, designations lie predominantly to the west/southwest of both Cottam 1 with Ancient Woodland, Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites within the study area but having no physical or visual impact/influence on the Site other than distant views where these may exist.

8.7.100 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the substation is not within the setting or immediate vicinity of any Ancient Woodland or Natural Designation and therefore their integrity will not be adversely affected.

Cottam 2

4a Unwooded Vales

8.7.101 **Appendix 8.2.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2]** sets out the context of the Unwooded Vales, how this relates to the wider Cottam 2 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.

8.7.102 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages.

8.7.103 For the 5km Study Area at the operation Stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.32** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects but would be **Beneficial**

to the overall character within the RLCT 4a Unwooded Vales. In summary, the landscape mitigation will bring forward an increased level of tree and hedgerow cover **locally**, and this will help with the linking and enhancement of natural features and deliver significant biodiversity benefits.

Table 8.32: Summary of Unwooded Vales: Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Option A			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Min Not Sig	Low Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Sig	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Land Use

- 8.7.104 **Appendix 8.2.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.2]** sets out the context of the land use, how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.105 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, this is due to the positive changes in land use such as the creation of extensive mixed grassland habitats and enhanced field boundaries with scattered trees, that add more diversity to the landscape.
- 8.7.106 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects..
- 8.7.107 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.33** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. There is potential for **Moderate** effects, but these would be **Beneficial**. In summary, all existing features would be retained and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.

Table 8.33: Summary Land Use: Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Min Not Sig	Low Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Sig	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Mod Significant

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.7.108 **Appendix 8.2.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.2]** sets out the context of the Topography and Watercourses, how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.109 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, although the construction activities would be evident above the hedgerows, this would not affect the integrity of the waterways and local topography. The shift away from mixed farming has had an impact on landscape character and although there would be changes to arable land use, there is scope for more grassland that would benefit the watercourses with a move away from intensive agriculture and run off.
- 8.7.110 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.111 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as set out in **Table 8.34** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate** and would be **Beneficial**. In summary, the introduction of new scattered tree belts in association with the linear ditches and dykes will benefit the landscape setting of these watercourses. The watercourses are currently abutted by vegetation and they will be enhanced to further delineate their presence in the landscape. The field boundaries and minor watercourses add to the green corridors and biodiversity value across the Site and they are an important consideration of the landscape mitigation...

Table 8.34: Summary Topography and Watercourses: Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Very Low Neutral & Short Term Neu Not Sig	Low Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Sig	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Mod Significant

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.7.112 **Appendix 8.2.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.2]** sets out the context of the Communications and Infrastructure, how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.113 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

8.7.114 For Site and Cable Route Corridor at the construction stage (Year 1): As shown in **Table 8.35** below, there is an identification of likely significant effects. These effects would be **Moderate** and **Adverse**. In summary, this is due to the sensitivity of the rural lanes and appeal of the attractive east-west local lanes that cut across the landscape. However, the land will benefit from the presence of the new and augmented hedgerows that will provide a series of good quality field boundaries both formally strengthening the existing and historical field pattern and creating a multi-layered landscape in the context of the routes that pass east west across the area. In views from these routes, scattered tree belts will be present to follow the routes of existing watercourses, strengthening their visibility in the wider landscape. Views of the longer distance, where hedgerows do not block these, will be of a layered, well treed landscape with a backdrop of some wooded vegetation in places on the horizon...

Table 8.35: Summary Communications and Infrastructure – Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Medium Adverse & Short Term Mod Significant	Low Adverse & Long Term Min Not Sig	Low Neutral & Short Term Min Not Sig

8.7.115 For the Cottam 2 Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

8.7.116 **Appendix 8.2.6.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.2]** sets out the context of the Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure, how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.

8.7.117 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the proposed Scheme will have no adverse effects in the physical integrity of the surrounding settlements and there will be beneficial effects in terms of new tree and hedgerow cover enhancing the local character and the setting of these settlements.

8.7.118 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary mitigation, for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. there are no likely significant effects.

Public Rights of Way and Access

8.7.119 **Appendix 8.2.7.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.2]** sets out the context of the Public Rights of Way, how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.

- 8.7.120 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, there are no Public Rights of Way within the Cottam 2 Site, with the closest being PRoW (Corr/22/1) lies to the west of Hall Farm, Old Hall and Corringham village running north/south, and this is not affected by Scheme.
- 8.7.121 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the cultural heritage of the farmed landscape surrounding the settlement of Corringham will be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals for the PRoW network within the Order limits will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern and bring unity to those areas which have suffered from the impacts of intensive agriculture. Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape
- 8.7.122 **Appendix 8.2.8.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.2]** sets out the context of the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape, how this relates to the wider Cottam 2 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.123 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, existing and proposed vegetation will have established and hedgerows will have outgrown, being managed to a height of 5m. This vegetation creating a layered vegetated scene across the landscape, particularly in views from the higher land along the ridgeline. Strong patterns of tree lined hedges will run through the landscape forming a rich pattern of colour, adding a strong framework in views across the area.
- 8.7.124 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.
- 8.7.125 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.36** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate**, but would be **Beneficial**. In summary, since this is a landscape of long views, particularly to the east comprising the scarp face of the Lincoln Cliff which features in many combinations/directions. To the west, the views towards the power stations are curtailed by the settlement of Gainsborough, its relative area of rising land and associated woodland. The landscape benefits from its low elevation, and the views from these lowlands towards the elevated areas of AGLV1, which acts as a strong backdrop, and this provides scope for enhancement of views across the area.

Table 8.36: Summary Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape: Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Min Not Sig	Low Adverse & Long Term Min Not Sig	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.7.126 **Appendix 8.2.9.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.2]** sets out the context of the receptors, how they relates to the wider Cottam 2 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects. .
- 8.7.127 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, there are few Listed Buildings close to the Site. Old Hall is set back in extensive grounds behind strong boundary vegetation and if forms no direct physical or visual relationship with the Site. Listed Buildings within Corringham have no visual or physical relationship with the Site. Corringham Mill to the southwest of the Site will have a strengthened backdrop of planting following mitigation. No other designated site is affected unduly by the development.
- 8.7.128 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning. In summary, the cultural heritage of the farmed landscape surrounding the settlement of Corringham will be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern in this farmed landscape, where applicable. To the west is the wooded landscape to the east of Gainsborough, which is located within the Wooded Vales Character Area 4b and a fundamental part of the Gainsborough Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV).

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.7.129 **Appendix 8.2.10.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.2]** sets out the context of the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations, how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.130 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, designations lie predominantly to the

west/southwest of both Cottam 1 with Ancient Woodland, Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites within the study area but having no physical or visual impact/influence other than distant views where these may exist. The reversion of arable farmland to varied pasture within the Site provides opportunities for some natural regeneration and improved wildlife links.

- 8.7.131 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.132 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.37** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate** effects, but **Beneficial**.

Table 8.37: Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations: Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Low	Low Adverse & Short Term Neg Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Cottam 2 Substation Site

4a Unwooded Vales

- 8.7.133 **Appendix 8.2.12.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.3]** sets out the context of the Cottam 2 Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely **significant** effects on the topography and land use within the Unwooded Vales Character Area.
- 8.7.134 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation, (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary and there will be some beneficial effects in the increased level of vegetation cover locally, the linking and enhancement of existing natural features and the benefits that this will bring to the landscape character of the 4a Unwooded Vales

Land Use

- 8.7.135 **Appendix 8.2.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.2]** sets out the context of the land use, how this relates to the wider Cottam 2 Site. **Appendix 8.2.12.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.3]** sets out the context of the Cottam 2 Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on land use.

- 8.7.136 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary a relatively small area of agricultural land will be lost to development with hard standing and structures replacing arable land. Landscape enhancements around the substation will provide beneficial effects to the landscape character of the area.
- 8.7.137 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.38** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they would be **Adverse**. In summary, the introduction of the substation, Energy Storage areas and associated infrastructure would replace the existing arable fields. However, existing boundary features would be retained and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.
- 8.7.138 For the substation site at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.38** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects, and they would be **Adverse**.

Table 8.38: Summary Land Use: Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Cottam 2			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Adverse & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Adverse & Long Term Moderate Significant

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.7.139 **Appendix 8.2.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.2]** sets out the context of the Topography and Watercourses, how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site. **Appendix 8.2.12.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.3]** sets out the context of the Cottam 2 Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on topography and watercourses.
- 8.7.140 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely **Significant** effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary a relatively small area of agricultural land will be replaced with hard standing.
- 8.7.141 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.39** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they

would be **Adverse** resulting from the introduction of the substation and associated energy storage and infrastructure.

- 8.7.142 For the substation site at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.39** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects and they would be **Adverse**. In summary, the introduction of the substation, Energy Storage and associated infrastructure would result in changes to the topography to accommodate the finished floor levels of the built structures and access roads. All alterations to the topography, including bunding and other earthworks would be confined within the boundary fencing to the substation and energy storage areas. All existing boundary features would be retained, and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.

Table 8.39: Summary Topography and Watercourses: Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Cottam 2			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Adverse & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Adverse & Long Term Moderate Significant

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.7.143 **Appendix 8.2.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.2]** sets out the context of the Communications and Infrastructure and how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site.
- 8.7.144 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.145 For the substation site: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, proposed and enhanced vegetation will help to screen views and will strengthen the character of the landscape features across the local area.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.7.146 **Appendix 8.2.6.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.2]** sets out the context of the Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure and how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site.
- 8.7.147 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the proposed Scheme will have no adverse effects in the physical integrity of the surrounding settlements and there

will be beneficial effects in terms of proposed tree and hedgerow cover enhancing the local character and the setting of these settlements.

- 8.7.148 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, limited views from Yawthorpe will be closed down following mitigation and any potential views from Corringham will be obscured by existing and proposed vegetation to the east of the substation. Tree planting will help to filter views locally.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.7.149 **Appendix 8.2.7.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.2]** sets out the context of the Public Rights of Way and how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site.
- 8.7.150 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, there are no Public Rights of Way within the Cottam 2 Site.
- 8.7.151 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.7.152 **Appendix 8.2.8.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.2]** sets out the context of the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape and how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site.
- 8.7.153 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.154 For the substation site: With the primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, limited views across the landscape towards the substation from the AGLV's will be obscured or filtered by both existing and proposed planting around the substation Site as a whole.

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.7.155 **Appendix 8.2.9.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.2]** sets out the context of the receptors and how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site.
- 8.7.156 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.157 For substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and

decommissioning stages. In summary, the substation does not lie within the curtilage or the setting of any heritage asset. Views from the southwest adjacent to Corringham Mill will be obscured by existing intervening hedgerows and proposed vegetation bordering the south boundary of the Site.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.7.158 **Appendix 8.2.10.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.2]** sets out the context of the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations and how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site.
- 8.7.159 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, designations lie predominantly to the west/southwest of Cottam 2 with Ancient Woodland, Local Nature Reserves and Local Wildlife Sites within the study area but having no physical or visual impact/influence other than distant views. Enhanced planting around the Site including tree belts and shelterbelts will strengthen the character of the area and provide potential green links with adjacent woodland.
- 8.7.160 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary the substation does not lie within the setting of any natural designations and the integrity of these features will therefore be retained.

Cottam 3a

4a Unwooded Vales

- 8.7.161 **Appendix 8.2.2.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2.3]** sets out the context of the Unwooded Vales, how this relates to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.162 For the 5km Study Area at construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning: With primary and secondary mitigation, here are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages. In summary, there will be beneficial effects in the increased level of vegetation cover locally, the linking and enhancement of existing natural features and the benefits that this will bring, creating a stronger, vegetated framework across the local character area of the 4a Unwooded Vales.
- 8.7.163 For the 5km Study Area at the operation Stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.40** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects but would be **Beneficial**. In summary, the landscape mitigation will bring forward an increased level of tree and hedgerow cover locally, and this will help with the linking and enhancement of natural features and deliver significant biodiversity benefits.

Table 8.40: Summary Unwooded Vales: Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
5km Study Area			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Min Not Significant	High Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

4b Wooded Vales

- 8.7.164 **Appendix 8.2.2.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2.4]** sets out the context of the Wooded Vales, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.165 For the 5km Study Area at construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning, there are no likely significant effects.

Land Use

- 8.7.166 **Appendix 8.2.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.3.3]** sets out the context of the Land Use, how this relates to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.167 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, this is due to the overall scene being relatively well vegetated, with scattered and irregularly spaced trees, following the existing lines of both historic field boundaries and the road network. There will be beneficial effects in the increased level of vegetation cover locally, the linking and enhancement of existing natural features.
- 8.7.168 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.169 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.41** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects but would be **Beneficial**. In summary, although there would be the introduction of the panel areas into the arable fields, all existing features would be retained and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.

Table 8.41: Summary Land Use: Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Min Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Min Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.7.170 **Appendix 8.2.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.3]** sets out the context of the topography and watercourses, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.171 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.172 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.
- 8.7.173 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.42** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects, but they would be **Beneficial**. In summary, the proposals for the Site meet the aims of published character assessment to manage land adjacent to wet woodland and other wetland habitats. This is to buffer them and maintain their hydrology, thus retaining them as landscape features and enhancing their biodiversity interest. The aim of the published character assessment is also to identify, maintain and enhance the springs and flushes on the edges of the Limestone Scarps and Dipslopes Character Area 6a. There is also the opportunity to establish permanent uncultivated strips alongside watercourses and expansion of wetland to improve carbon capture.

Table 8.42: Summary Topography and Watercourses: Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor			
Medium	Very Low Neutral & Short Term Negligible Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Minor Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.7.174 **Appendix 8.2.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.5.3]** sets out the context of the Communications and Infrastructure, how this relates to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.175 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.176 For the Site/Sites and Cable Route Corridor at construction stage (Year 1), as shown in **Table 8.43** below, there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate and Adverse**. In summary, due to the sensitivity of the rural lanes and appeal of the attractive east-west local lanes that cut across the landscape. However, these roads and watercourses combine to give a subtle grain to the landscape. The interruptions at the bridge crossings, such as Blyton Beck, also provide local points of interest and the opportunity to capture views across the landscape. The relevant characteristics of the landscape therefore have some ability to accommodate change without undue adverse effects given there is scope to protect the character and diversity of these road networks through conservation and enhancement.
- 8.7.177 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects. In summary, the land will benefit from the presence of the new and augmented hedgerows that will provide a series of good quality field boundaries both formally strengthening the existing and historical field pattern and creating a multi-layered landscape. Scattered tree belts will be present to follow the routes of existing watercourses, strengthening their visibility in the wider landscape. Views of the longer distance, where hedgerows do not block these, will be of a layered, well treed landscape with a backdrop of some wooded vegetation in places on the horizon.

Table 8.43: Summary Communications and Infrastructure – Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site/Sites and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Medium Adverse & Short Term Mod Significant	Low Adverse & Long Term Min Not Sig	Low Adverse & Long Term Minor Not Sig

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.7.178 **Appendix 8.2.6.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.6.3]** sets out the context of the Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.179 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the proposed Scheme will have no adverse effects in the physical integrity of the surrounding settlements and there will be beneficial effects in terms of local tree/hedge cover enhancing the local character and the setting of these settlements.
- 8.7.180 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.7.181 **Appendix 8.2.7.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.7.3]** sets out the context of the Public Rights of Way and Access, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.182 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, there are no PRoW that have any physical or visual association with this Site.
- 8.7.183 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the cultural heritage of the farmed landscape surrounding the settlement of Corringham will be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals for the PRoW network within the Order limits will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern and bring unity to those areas which have suffered from the impacts of intensive agriculture

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.7.184 **Appendix 8.2.8.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.8.3]** sets out the context of the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.185 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

- 8.7.186 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.187 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15), as shown in **Table 8.44** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate** but would be **Beneficial**. In summary, there will be a much greater level of tree cover across Cottam 3a. This tree cover will mature to integrate into the existing field boundary and woodland vegetation both locally and across the wider landscape setting and this will help enhance the setting of the AGLV.

Table 8.44: Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape: Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Minor Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Minor Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.7.188 **Appendix 8.2.9.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.3]** sets out the context of the receptors, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.189 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.190 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (year 1), operation stage (Year 15) and decommissioning. In summary, the enhancements to the overall level of tree cover will have a minor but beneficial effect on the setting of the local villages. New planting to enhance the setting of Blyton will be beneficial in particular. This is because vegetation cover is sparse around the edges of the settlement and the close proximity to the former airfield use and strategic and busy road networks raises the level of sensitivity at this location.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.7.191 **Appendix 8.2.10.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.10.3]** sets out the context of the ancient woodlands and natural designations, how they relate to the wider Cottam

3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.

- 8.7.192 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.193 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.
- 8.7.194 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.45** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate** but would be **Beneficial**.

Table 8.45: Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations: Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site/Sites and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Negligible Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Minor Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Cottam 3a Substation Site

4a Unwooded Vales

- 8.7.195 **Appendix 8.2.12.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.3]** sets out the context of the Cottam 3a Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely **significant** effects on the topography and land use.
- 8.7.196 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation, (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the structures of the substation will be predominantly screened to a height of 5m by adjacent and intervening hedgerows with hedgerow trees having reached a height of 7.5m helping to soften views from across the wider landscape.

Land Use

- 8.7.197 **Appendix 8.2.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.3]** sets out the context of the land use, how this relates to the wider Cottam 3a Site. Refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.4]** which sets out the context of the Cottam 3a Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on land use.

8.7.198 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary a relatively small area of agricultural land will be lost to the Scheme with hard standing and structures replacing arable land. Landscape enhancements around the substation will provide beneficial effects.

8.7.199 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.46** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they would be **Adverse**. In summary, the introduction of the substation, Energy Storage areas and associated infrastructure would replace the existing arable fields. However, existing boundary features would be retained and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.

Table 8.46: Summary Land Use: Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Cottam 3a			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Beneficial & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Topography and Watercourses

8.7.200 **Appendix 8.2.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.3]** sets out the context of the Topography and Watercourses, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site. Refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.4]** which sets out the context of the Cottam 3a Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on topography and watercourses.

8.7.201 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely **Significant** effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

8.7.202 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.47** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they would be **Adverse** resulting from the introduction of the substation and associated energy storage and infrastructure.

8.7.203 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.47** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate**, but beneficial.

Table 8.47: Summary Topography and Watercourses: Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Cottam 3a			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Beneficial & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.7.204 **Appendix 8.2.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.3]** sets out the context of the Communications and Infrastructure and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site.
- 8.7.205 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.206 For the substation site: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.7.207 **Appendix 8.2.6.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.3]** sets out the context of the Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site.
- 8.7.208 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.209 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the substation has very limited association with the adjacent settlements and other industry and commerce, and their integrity will be retained.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.7.210 **Appendix 8.2.7.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.3]** sets out the context of the Public Rights of Way and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site.
- 8.7.211 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, there are no PRow that have any physical or visual association with this Site.
- 8.7.212 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.7.213 **Appendix 8.2.8.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.3]** sets out the context of the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site.
- 8.7.214 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the cultural heritage of the farmed landscape and its importance in providing a wider setting to the three AGLV's associated with the landscape surrounding the substation site will be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern in this farmed landscape, where applicable.
- 8.7.215 For the substation site: With the primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, there will be a much greater level of tree cover over the landscape around the substation site. The reversion of arable land to grassland will have established to achieve a rich tapestry of habitats where grassland mixes have integrated into their natural environment and established their natural composition with the help of appropriate management defined within the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) **[EN010133/APP/C7.3]** and these effects would be **Beneficial**.

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.7.216 **Appendix 8.2.9.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.3]** sets out the context of the receptors and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site.
- 8.7.217 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.218 For substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. Enhancement to the local landscape will help to strengthen the character around these heritage assets.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.7.219 **Appendix 8.2.10.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.3]** sets out the context of the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site.
- 8.7.220 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

8.7.221 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the substation does not lie within the setting of any Ancient Woodland or other Natural Designation and the integrity of these assets will therefore be retained.

Cottam 3b

4a Unwooded Vales

8.7.222 **Appendix 8.2.2.2.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.5]** sets out the context of the Unwooded Vales, how this relates to the wider Cottam 3b Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.

8.7.223 For the 5km Study Area at the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.

8.7.224 For the 5km Study Area at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, as shown in Table **8.48** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects but would be **Beneficial**.

Table 8.48: Summary Unwooded Vales: Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
5km Study Area			
Medium	Very Low Neutral & Short Term Negligible Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Minor Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

4b Wooded Vales

8.7.225 Appendix 8.2.2.1.7 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.1.7] sets out the context of the Wooded Vales, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.

8.7.226 For the 5km Study Area at construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning, there are no likely significant effects.

Land Use

8.7.227 **Appendix 8.2.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.3.3]** sets out the context of the land use, how this relates to the wider Cottam 3b Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.

- 8.7.228 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.229 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.230 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, as shown on **Table 8.49** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects but would be **Beneficial** since all existing features would be retained and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.

Table 8.49: Summary of Land Use: Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Minor Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Minor Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.7.231 **Appendix 8.2.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.3]** sets out the context of the Topography and Watercourses, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3b Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.232 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.233 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 1), With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.
- 8.7.234 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at the operation stage (Year 15), With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown on Table **8.50** below, there is an identification of likely Significant effects. These would be **Moderate** effects, but they would be Beneficial. In summary, the landscape benefits from high levels of visual containment due to the local landform, hedgerows, and shelter belts and this helps tolerance for landscape change. In contrast, the watercourses tend to have a more open setting making them more susceptible to change. Restoration schemes to promote new open water and existing wetland habitats such as the River Till and its

tributaries are therefore important in adding to the overall spatial function of the landscape.

Table 8.50: Summary of Topography and Watercourses: Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor			
Medium	Very Low Neutral & Short Term Neg Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Minor Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.7.235 **Appendix 8.2.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.3]** sets out the context of the Communications and Infrastructure, how this relates to the wider Cottam 3b Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.236 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.237 For the Site and Cable Route at construction stage (Year 1), as shown in **Table 8.51** below, there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate** and **Adverse**. In summary, this is due to the sensitivity of the rural lanes and appeal of the attractive east-west local lanes that cut across the landscape. However, there is a sense of enjoyment that stems from these local lanes, the small villages and arable fields, and the peacefulness of the landscape that helps promote health and wellbeing, and these characteristics offer significant scope for enhancement. The local lanes therefore have the ability to absorb change without undue adverse effects.
- 8.7.238 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at operation (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects. In summary, the value of the Communications and Infrastructure for Cottam 3a is likely to be the road network will benefit from the presence of the new and augmented hedgerows that will provide a series of good quality field boundaries both formally strengthening the existing and historical field pattern and creating a multi-layered landscape.

Table 8.51: Summary Communications and Infrastructure – Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site/Sites and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Medium Adverse & Short Term Moderate Significant	Low Adverse & Long Term Minor Not Significant	Low Adverse & Long Term Minor Not Significant

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.7.239 **Appendix 8.2.6.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.6.3]** sets out the context of the Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure, how this relates to the wider Cottam 3b Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.240 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.241 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.7.242 **Appendix 8.2.7.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.7.3]** sets out the context of the Public Rights of Way, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3b Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.243 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.244 For the Site/Sites and Cable Route Corridor, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. **In summary, there is limited connectivity of footpath and bridleway networks as a result, there is scope for improving links between these routes and the settlements and the countryside. Providing better access to the landscapes, and the habitats and species they support will improve understanding of their importance. Ensuring that green infrastructure is incorporated into the Scheme will enhance access and recreational opportunities all round, especially developing more links and circular walks. Further use for disused airfields are also a key consideration in terms of recreation and access issues.**

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.7.245 **Appendix 8.2.8.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.8.3]** sets out the context of the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3b Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.246 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, there will be a much greater level of tree cover. This tree cover will have matured to integrate into the existing field boundary and woodland vegetation both locally and across the wider landscape setting for the two AGLV's associated with the Site.
- 8.7.247 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the cultural heritage of the farmed landscape surrounding the settlements will be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern, where applicable. To the west is the wooded landscape to the east of Gainsborough, which is located within the Wooded Vales Character Area 4b and a fundamental part of the Gainsborough Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV). The landscape setting of the Gainsborough AGLV2 will therefore also benefit from the improvements to the farmed landscape in the Till Vale with this being part of its wider setting.
- 8.7.248 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor at operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.52** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate**, but would be **Beneficial**. In summary, the Wooded Vales and the associated AGLV2 are valued for recreation which often stems from the woodland trail network that is focused on Laughton Woods. The presence of this mature woodland brings a sense of place and a strong framework to parts of the area and this helps to mitigate against landscape change on the whole. The wider landscape setting of the settlements also promotes the importance of the landscape especially where it forms a visual relationship between the adjoining AGLV, and so this adds vulnerability to the landscape. There is scope therefore to enhance woodland and tree cover across the Cottam 3b Site to contribute to this established pattern of woodland for which the area is renowned. The landscape setting of Laughton Wood AGLV3 will therefore also benefit from the improvements to the farmed landscape in the Till Vale with this being part of its wider setting.

Table 8.52: Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes: Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Minor Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Minor Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.7.249 **Appendix 8.2.9.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.9.3]** sets out the context of the receptors, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3b Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.250 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.251 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stage. In summary, the cultural heritage of the farmed landscape surrounding the settlement of Blyton will be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern in this farmed landscape, where applicable.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.7.252 **Appendix 8.2.10.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.10.3]** sets out the context of the Ancient Woodlands and natural Designations, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3b Site and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects.
- 8.7.253 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.254 For the Site and Cable Route Corridor for the operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects.
- 8.7.255 For the Site and Cable Route at the operation stage (Year 15): With secondary mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.53** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects, but these would be **Beneficial**.

Table 8.53: Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations: Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Site and Cable Route Corridor:			
Medium	Low Adverse & Short Term Minor Not Significant	Low Beneficial & Long Term Minor Not Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Cottam 3b Substation Site

4a Unwooded Vales

- 8.7.256 **Appendix 8.2.12.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.3]** sets out the context of the Cottam 3b Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely **significant** effects on the topography and land use.
- 8.7.257 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation, (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary the structures of the substation will be predominantly screened to a height of 5m by adjacent and intervening hedgerows with hedgerow trees having reached a height of 7.5m helping to soften views from across the wider landscape.

Land Use

- 8.7.258 **Appendix 8.2.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.3]** sets out the context of the land use, how this relates to the wider Cottam 3a Site. Refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.4]** which sets out the context of the Cottam 3a Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on land use.
- 8.7.259 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.260 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.54** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they would be **Adverse**. In summary, the introduction of the substation, Energy Storage areas and associated infrastructure would replace the existing arable fields. However, existing boundary features would be retained and new hedgerows would replace those lost to intensive agriculture.
- 8.7.261 For the substation site at the operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.54** below, there is an identification of

likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Moderate** effects, and they would be **Adverse**.

Table 8.54: Summary Land Use: Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Cottam 3b			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Adverse & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Adverse & Long Term Moderate Significant

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.7.262 **Appendix 8.2.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.3]** sets out the context of the Topography and Watercourses, how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site. Refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.4]** which sets out the context of the Cottam 3a Site within the wider Unwooded Vales Character Area 4a, and how this LVIA has reached conclusions on the potential for likely significant effects on topography and watercourses.
- 8.7.263 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely **Significant** effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, enhancing the visibility of streams, dykes and other watercourses in the landscape would bring forward some positive benefits. A watercourse to the northeast of the Site is to be planted with a belt of riparian species trees in order to increase the presence of the watercourse across the local landscape where this currently does not feature prominently. An additional belt of trees is to be provided further west along a linear ditch/dyke.
- 8.7.264 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 1): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.55** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These would be **Major** effects, and they would be **Adverse** resulting from the introduction of the substation and associated energy storage and infrastructure.
- 8.7.265 For the substation site at the construction and operation stage (Year 15): With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, as shown in **Table 8.55** below, there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects. These effects would be **Moderate**, but beneficial.

Table 8.55: Summary Topography and Watercourses: Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Substation Site: Cottam 3b			
Medium	High Adverse & Short Term Major Significant	High Beneficial & Long Term Major Significant	Medium Beneficial & Long Term Moderate Significant

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.7.266 **Appendix 8.2.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.3]** sets out the context of the Communications and Infrastructure and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3a Site.
- 8.7.267 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.268 For the substation site: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the close-range context of these routes will be of a layered, well treed landscape with a backdrop of some wooded vegetation in places on the horizon. Both new and existing vegetation will have established and begun to mature, creating a strong structure to the landscape. This mitigation will retain the overall character of the area and create a distinctive multi-layered landscape.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.7.269 **Appendix 8.2.6.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.3]** sets out the context of the Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure and how they relate to the wider Cottam 2 Site.
- 8.7.270 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects at the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the aim is to conserve settlement pattern by ensuring that development is complimentary to intrinsic local character. The string of small, nucleated settlements on the limestone capped scarp slope add to the sequence of views and help define the settled character of the landscape and this would not be affected.
- 8.7.271 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the wider setting of enhanced hedgerows will provide a well-vegetated context to the substation site. The main area of the substation and infrastructure would be mitigated by a mixture of enhanced hedgerows, where appropriate, and new hedgerows where they are currently gappy

or absent. There will also be long blocks of shelterbelt planting across the northern extent of the Cottam 1 Site, particularly adjacent to the River Till and its associated small tributaries. There will be enhanced hedgerows elsewhere on this boundary with the River Till to improve biodiversity connections to the river corridor and a block of shelterbelt planting adjacent to the PRoW.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.7.272 **Appendix 8.2.7.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.3]** sets out the context of the Public Rights of Way and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3b Site.
- 8.7.273 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary landscape mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.274 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 15), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the substation lies to the south of the PRoW but the existing hedgerow is to be enhanced, helping to screen this structure with the PRoW being enhanced to provide a less exposed route.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.7.275 **Appendix 8.2.8.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.3]** sets out the context of the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3b Site.
- 8.7.276 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, in terms of mitigation for the two AGLV's associated, due to their distance and varied relationship with the immediate landscape to their boundaries, it is anticipated that the overall scheme of mitigation will reinforce the landscape character where this has been lost or eroded in the last century to intensive arable farming.
- 8.7.277 For the substation site: With the primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the cultural heritage of the farmed landscape and its importance in providing a wider setting to the two AGLV's associated with the extent of the substation site will be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern in this farmed landscape, where applicable.

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.7.278 **Appendix 8.2.9.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.3]** sets out the context of the receptors and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3b Site.

- 8.7.279 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.
- 8.7.280 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.7.281 **Appendix 8.2.10.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.3]** sets out the context of the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations and how they relate to the wider Cottam 3b Site.
- 8.7.282 For the 5km Study Area: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary, the strengthening of the field boundaries in the surrounding landscape with both the addition of new hedgerow planting and enhancement of existing hedges, will create additional ecological links and strengthen the character of the historical field pattern locally where this has been lost or eroded. Existing field boundaries will be allowed to grow out where these are currently managed as low hedges, being managed to a height of 5m. This, together with wide and varied grassland buffers to the base of existing and proposed vegetation where currently these are narrow, will create strong and resilient networks with much improved biodiversity value
- 8.7.283 For the substation site: With primary and secondary mitigation, there are no likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages. In summary the substation does not lie within the curtilage or setting of any natural designation or Ancient Woodland and therefore the landscape integrity of these local assets will be retained.

Cable Route Corridor

- 8.7.284 The landscape effects are set out within the Cable Route Corridor Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.2.11.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.11.1]** to **Appendix 8.2.11.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.11.3]**.

Construction Effects

- 8.7.285 For the construction stage, there would be the intervention of digging the trenches along the length of the Cable Route Corridor as the cable is installed. However, the effects of this would not be above that typically associated with utility installation of this nature and would be limited to a short-term duration.
- 8.7.286 There is a need for HDD construction techniques at a number of locations across the Cable Route Corridor, however, this will depend on the results of the ground investigations and the final detailed design. At certain crossing locations such as railways; and watercourses such as the Rivers Trent and Till, HDD will be required. This is addressed in the Crossing Schedule **[EN010133/APP/C7.17]**.

- 8.7.287 The extent of the designated work area is dependent on the voltage of the cables where the number of circuits will affect the width of cable trenches required. The range of typical cable trench widths relating to the 132kV and 400kV cables is 0.6 to 1.1 metres. However, the width and spacing of the cable trenches may differ depending on environmental constraints, engineering requirements or if crossing third party apparatus (e.g., railway lines). In addition to the trenches, land will be required in the corridor for access and soil and cable 'lay down'. Construction compounds along this route will also be required. Any existing overhead power lines will be retained, and no new overhead lines will be required.
- 8.7.288 In relation to the Cable Route Corridor crossing the Trent, this is a necessary part of the scheme. Consultation has already been undertaken with LCC as well as other relevant stakeholders in regard to the crossing of the River Trent. The cable will be directionally drilled under the river and so no permanent above ground structures are proposed. During the construction period there are likely to be temporary construction compounds which will be removed on completion of construction.
- 8.1.2 Mitigation measures will follow the initial principles as set out below:
- **Primary Mitigation** – Cable Route Corridor designed to avoid natural landscape features such as trees, hedgerows, ditches, woodland.
 - **Secondary mitigation** – where crossing such features becomes unavoidable, utilise HDD to ensure these features are protected. Where HDD is not possible, any loss of natural features such as trees, hedgerows and woodland would be mitigated in full and in line with the species and composition of vegetation loss. Where possible and appropriate such replacements should improve the baseline scenario and include gapping up of adjacent hedgerows for instance as defined in the LEMP.
- 8.7.289 In terms of construction activities, each work area will then be excavated to expose all utilities present and to co-ordinate and prepare the area for installation of the proposed ducts / pipes. Some locations may require shuttering along the trench. The works would be temporary and activities will be planned and co-ordinated before commencement in each work area. Welfare facilities will be provided at each designated work area including canteen, toilets and a drying room, but these would be temporary buildings to be removed at the end of the construction stage.
- 8.7.290 The exact location of the ducts / pipes and working areas would be confined to designated locations to ensure operations are controlled and precisely associated with each working area. Given the above, the construction stage of the Cable Route Corridor is considered to result in **Minor** landscape effects, and these effects would be **Adverse**, but giving rise to **Not Significant** effects.
- Operation Effects
- 8.7.291 For the operation stage, all the cables will be underground, and no new overhead lines will be required. Following installation of the ducts / pipes each designated location will be backfilled and the ground re-instated to match the existing

conditions. Given the above, the operation stage of the Cable Route Corridor is considered to result in **Negligible** landscape effects, and these effects would be **Neutral**, but giving rise to **Not Significant** effects.

Decommissioning Effects

- 8.7.292 For the decommissioning stage, following backfilling and ground reinstatement, the ducts / pipes at each location would remain in situ and not be removed. Following installation, the land is returned to its original use and this would remain throughout and beyond the decommissioning stage. Given the above, the decommissioning stage of the Cable Route Corridor is considered to result in **Negligible** landscape effects, and these effects would be Neutral, but giving rise to **Not Significant** effects.

Assessment of Visual Effects

- 8.7.293 The assessment of visual effects deals with the effects of change arising from the Scheme on the views available to people and their visual amenity. This section provides a summary of the visual effects of the individual contributors to the visual baseline, for example the different groups of people who may experience views of the Scheme. The findings are presented on a site-by-site basis taking each of these individual contributors in turn, which are:

- Viewpoint Receptors;
- Residential Receptors;
- Transport Receptors; and
- Public Right of Way (PRoW) Receptors.

Cottam 1

Viewpoint Receptors

- 8.7.294 For Cottam 1, this includes Initial Viewpoints VP1, VP4, VP5, VP6, VP7, VP8, VP10, VP11, VP12, VP13, VP14, VP15, VP16, VP18, VP19, VP20, VP21, VP22, VP23, VP24, VP26, VP29, VP30, VP31, VP32, VP33, VP34, VP35, VP36, VP37, VP38, VP39 and VP41 and Consultation Viewpoints LCC-C-A, LCC-C-C, LCC-C-D, LCC-C-E, LCC-C-F, LCC-G, LCC-C-H, LCC-C-I, LCC-C-J, LCC-C-K, LCC-C-L, LCC-C-L, LCC-C-M and LCC-C-N. The assessment of effects upon the Initial Viewpoints and the Consultation Views is set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.
- 8.7.295 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]**. A summary of the findings of the viewpoint assessment for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.56** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme for the Cottam 1 Site.

Table 8.56: Summary of Viewpoint Assessment – Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
VP4: Thorpe Lane, Local Bridge [Figure 8.14.1] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.1]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant
VP5: TLFe/31/2 [Figure 8.14.5] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.5]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Medium Beneficial Min-Mod Significant
VP6: Thorpe Lane [Figure 8.14.6] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.6]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Medium Beneficial Min-Mod Significant
VP7: Thorpe Bridge TFL/32/1 [Figure 8.14.7] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.7]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant
VP10: Stur/73/1 [Figure 8.14.10] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.10]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Major Significant	Medium Beneficial Moderate Significant
VP11: TLFe/31/2 [Figure 8.14.11] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.11]			
Medium to High	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant
VP12: Camm/31/1 [Figure 8.14.12] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.12]			
Medium to High	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Beneficial Moderate Significant
VP13: Fleets Lane, Stow Pasture [Figure 8.14.13] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.13]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
VP15: Squire's Bridge [Figure 8.14.15] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.15]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
VP19: Bridge over River Till [Figure 8.14.19] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.19]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant

VP20: Normanby Road [Figure 8.14.20] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.20]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	Low-Medium Neutral Minor Not Significant
VP21: Stow/83/1 [Figure 8.14.21] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.21]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Low Beneficial Minor Not Significant
VP32: Fill/86/1 [Figure 8.14.32] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.32]			
Medium to High	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Beneficial Moderate Significant
VP36: Fill/767/1 [Figure 8.14.36] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.36]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High-Med Adverse Moderate Significant	Low Beneficial Minor Not Significant
VP37: Junction of Gypsy Lane and Willingham Road [Figure 8.14.37] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.37]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Beneficial Minor Not Significant
VP39: Junction of Cot Garth Lane and Stone Pit Lane [Figure 8.14.39] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.39]			
Medium	Med-High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Med-High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant
LCC-C-D: Blackthorn Lane [Figure 8.14.71] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.71]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Moderate Significant	Medium Beneficial Moderate Significant
LCC-C-G: PRoW Fill/85/2 [Figure 8.14.74] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.74]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant
LCC-C-H: PRoW Fill/767/1 [Figure 8.14.75] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.75]			

Medium to High	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
LCC-C-I: Willingham Road [Figure 8.14.76] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.76]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	Low Adverse Minor Not Significant
LCC-C-J: Fillingham Lane [Figure 8.14.77] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.77]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High-Med Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
LCC-C-T: Kirton Road [Figure 8.14.87] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.87]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant

Residential Receptors-Cottam 1

- 8.7.296 For Cottam 1, refer to **Figure 8.7.5 [C6.4.8.7.5]**. This includes the settlement of Willingham by Stow (R66) and Stow (R78). Groups of buildings include Stow Pasture (R76), Clandon House (R84) and Lancaster Farm (R87). Singular buildings include Westlands Farm (R51), Low Farm (R52), Glentworth Grange (R53), Spitals Farm (R54), Glebe Farm (R60), Greystones Farm (R61), Turpin Farm (R62), North Farm (R63a), Side Farm (R63b), Slate House Farm (R64), Lowfield Farm (R65), Moor Farm (67), Grange Farm (R70), Low Farm (R71), Hall Farm (R72), East Farm (R3), West Farm (R74), Furze Hill (R75), The Grange (R80), Thorpe Lane Farm (R82) and Tillbridge Farm (R88).
- 8.7.297 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]**. A summary of the findings for the viewpoint assessment is provided in **Table 8.57** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme for the Cottam 1 Site.

Table 8.57: Summary of Residential Assessment – Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
R61: Greystones Farm			
High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Neutral Min-Mod Not Significant
R62: Turpin Farm			

High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Neutral Min-Mod Not Significant
R63a: North Farm			
High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Neutral Min-Mod Not Significant
R63b: Side Farm			
High	Med-High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Med-High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Low Neutral Min-Mod Not Significant
R67: Moor Farm			
High	Med-High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Med-High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Low Neutral Minor Not Significant
R73: East Farm			
High	Medium Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Medium Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Low Neutral Min-Mod Not Significant

Transport Receptors-Cottam 1

8.7.298 For Cottam 1, refer to Refer to **Figure 8.7.9 [C6.4.8.9]**. This includes Northlands Road, Glentworth (T059), Kexby Road, Glentowrith (T064), Glentworth Road, Kexby (T066), Access to Fillingham Grange, Fillingham (T072), Willingham Road, Fillingham (T074), Fillingham Lane, Willingham (T075), Unnamed Road, Ingham (T077), South Lane Willingham (T078), High Street, Willingham (T079), Grange Lane, Willingham by Stow (T082), Cot Garth Lane (T083), Unnamed Road, Coates by Stow (T084), Stone Pit Lane, Willingham by Stow (T085), Short Lane, Ingham (T086), Stow Road, Willingham (T087), Long Lane, Ingham (T091), Marton Road, Willingham (T092), Track between South Lane and Coates Lane, Willingham (T094), Coates Lane, Coates by Stow (T096), Normanby Road, Normanby by Stow (T097), Unnamed Road, Stow (T098), Coates Lane Stow, Unnamed road at Stow (T104, T109, T120 and T122), Stow Lane, Ingham (T105), Normanby Road, Stow (T106), Ingham Road, Stow (T107), Church Road, Stow (T108 and T114), Blackthorn Lane, Cammeringham (T110), School Lane, Stow (T112), Furze Hill, Stow (T113), Sturton Road, Stow (T116), Stow Park Road, Stow (T118), Fleets Lane, Sturton by Stow (T119), Unnamed Road, Brattleby (T121), Unnamed Road, Stow (T122), Thorpe Lane, Brattleby (T125), Thorpe Lane, Thorpe le Fallows (T127), Fleets Road, Sturton by Stow (T129), Thorpe Lane, Sturton by Stow (T131), Lowfields, Aisthorpe (T132), Tillbridge Road, Sturton by Stow (A1500) (T133), Lincoln Lane, Thorpe le Fallows (T134), Tillbridge Lane, Sturton by Stow (A1500) (T135), Main Street, Bransby (T138) and Tillbridge Lane, Scampton (T139).

8.7.299 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]**. A summary of the findings of the transport assessment for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.58** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.58: Summary of Transport Assessment –Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
T072: Access to Fillingham Grange, Fillingham			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
T074: Willingham Road, Fillingham			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
T099: Coates Lane, Stow			
Medium	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant
T110: Blackthorn Lane, Cammeringham			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Neutral Minor Not Significant
T119: Fleets Lane, Sturton by Stow			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Neutral Minor Not Significant
T120: Unnamed Road, Stow			
High to Medium	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Low Neutral Minor Not Significant
T122: Unnamed Road, Stow			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Neutral Minor Not Significant
T127: Thorpe Lane, Thorpe le Fallows			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Neutral Minor Not Significant

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 1

- 8.7.300 For Cottam 1, refer to **Figure 8.7.13 [C6.4.8.7.13]**. This includes Camm/31/1, Fill/767/1, Fill/85/1 and 85/2, Fill/86/1, Gltw/85/1, Ingh/17/1, Ingh/235/1, Ingh/24/1 and 24/2, Ingh/25/1, Ingh/26/2 and 26/3, Ingh/27/3, 27/4 and 27/5, Scmp/196/1, Scmp/31/1, Scmp/32/1, Stow70/1, Stow/71/1 and 71/2, Stow/72/1, Stow/83/1, Stow/845/1, Stur/72/1, 72/2 and 72/3, Stur 73/1, Stur 76/1, Stur/77/1, 77/2, Stur 79/1, 79/2, and 79/3, Stur 80/1, TLFe/31/1 and 31/2, TLFe/32/1, Wlgm/515/1, Wlgm/538/1, Wlgm/59/5 and 59/6, Wlgm/63/1, Wlgm/64/1, Wlgm/881/1 and Wlgm/976/1.
- 8.7.301 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]**. A summary of the findings of the PRoW assessment for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.59** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.59: Summary of PRoW Assessment – Cottam 1

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Fill/86/1			
High to Medium	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant
Fill/767/1			
High to Medium	Med-Low Adverse Moderate Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant
Stow/83/1			
High to Medium	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant
TLFe/31/2			
High to Medium	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Low Neutral Minor Not Significant

Cottam 1 West Option A Substation Site

- 8.7.302 The assessment of visual effects on the viewpoint receptors is set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.

- 8.7.303 The assessment of visual effects on the residential receptors is set out within the Individual Residential Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4]**.
- 8.7.304 The assessment of visual effects on the transport receptors is set out within the Individual Transport Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.3]**.
- 8.7.305 The assessment of visual effects on the PRoW receptors is set out within the Individual PRoW Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3]**.

Cottam 1 West Option B Substation Site

- 8.7.306 The assessment of visual effects on the viewpoint receptors is set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.
- 8.7.307 The assessment of visual effects on the residential receptors is set out within the Individual Residential Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4]**.
- 8.7.308 The assessment of visual effects on the transport receptors is set out within the Individual Transport Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.3]**.
- 8.7.309 The assessment of visual effects on the PRoW receptors is set out within the Individual PRoW Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3]**.

Cottam 2

Viewpoint Receptors

- 8.7.310 For Cottam 2, this includes Initial Viewpoints VP44, VP45, VP46, VP47, VP48, VP49, V50 and VP54 and Consultation Viewpoint LCC-C-P. The assessment of effects upon the Initial Viewpoints and the Consultation Viewpoints is set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.
- 8.7.311 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.6.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.6.1]**. A summary of the findings of the viewpoint assessment for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.60** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.60: Summary of Viewpoint Assessment – Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
VP49: East Lane [Figure 8.14.49] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.49]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Maj-Mod Significant	Medium Beneficial Moderate Significant

Residential Receptors-Cottam 2

- 8.7.312 For Cottam 2, refer to **Figure 8.7.6 [C6.4.8.7.6]**. This includes the settlement of Corringham (R38). Groups of buildings include Aisby (R32), Yawthorpe (R34) and R35 (Hall Farm & Old Farm). Singular buildings include The Cottage (R33), Corringham Grange Farm (R36), Corringham Windmill (R39) and Magin Moor Cottages (R40)
- 8.7.313 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]**. A summary of the findings of the residential assessment for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.61** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.61: Summary of Residential Receptors – Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
R33: The Cottage			
High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Neutral Min-Mod Not Significant
R36: Corringham Grange Farm			
High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Neutral Min-Mod Not Significant

Transport Receptors-Cottam 2

- 8.7.314 For Cottam 2, refer to **Figure 8.7.10 [C6.4.8.7.10]**. This includes Road to Dunstall, Aisby near Gainsborough (T032), Pilham Lane, Aisby near Gainsborough (T034), Yawthorpe Lane, Willoughton (T037), Field Farm Lane, Corringham (T038), Access to Corringham Grange, Corringham (T040), East Lane , Corringham (T042), Mill Mere Road, Corringham (T043), From East Lane to A631, Corringham (T045), Middle Street, Corringham (T046), Springthorpe Road, Corringham (T048) and Grange Lane, Springthorpe (T049).
- 8.7.315 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]**. A summary of the findings of the transport assessment for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.62** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.62: Summary of Transport Assessment – Cottam 2

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
T040: Access to Corringham Grange, Corringham			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
T045: From East Lane to A631, Corringham			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 2

- 8.7.316 For Cottam 2, refer to **Figure 8.7.14 [C6.4.8.7.14]**. This includes Corr/22/1, 22/2 and 22/3, Corr/23/1 and 23/2 and Corr/771.
- 8.7.317 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.5.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.1.1]**. There are no likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme for Cottam 2. In summary there is no visibility towards the Cottam 2 Site/Sites from PRoW to the west of Corringham due to the built development within the settlement of Corringham.

Cottam 2 Substation Site

- 8.7.318 The assessment of visual effects on the viewpoint receptors is set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.
- 8.7.319 The assessment of visual effects on the residential receptors is set out within the Individual Residential Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4]**.
- 8.7.320 The assessment of visual effects on the transport receptors is set out within the Individual Transport Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.3]**.
- 8.7.321 The assessment of visual effects on the PRoW receptors is set out within the Individual PRoW Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3]**.

Cottam 3a

Viewpoint Receptors-Cottam 3a

- 8.7.322 For Cottam 3a, this includes Initial Viewpoints VP60, VP61, VP62, VP63, VP66 and VP67 and Consultation Viewpoints LCC-C-T, LCC-C-V and LCC-C-W. The assessment of effects upon the Initial Viewpoints and the Consultation Views is set out within

the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.

- 8.7.323 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]**. A summary of the findings of the viewpoint assessment for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.63** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.63: Summary of Viewpoint Assessment – Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
VP60: B1025 (Kirton Road) [Figure 8.14.60] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.60]			
Medium	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
VP61: B1025 (Kirton Road) [Figure 8.14.61] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.61]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Low Beneficial Minor Not Significant
VP62: B1025 (Kirton Road) [Figure 8.14.62] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.62]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	Low Adverse Min-Neg Not Sig	Low Adverse Min-Neg Not Sig
VP63: A159 (Laughton Road) [Figure 8.14.63] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.63]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Beneficial Moderate Significant
LCC-C-T: Kirton Road [Figure 8.14.87] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.87]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant

Residential Receptors-Cottam 3a

- 8.7.324 For Cottam 3a, refer to **Figure 8.7.7 [C6.4.8.7.7]**. This includes the settlement of Blyton (R23). Groups of buildings include Blue Bell Farm (R13), Unnamed (R19) and The Fields Farm (R20). Singular buildings include Mount Pleasant Farm (R03), Grange Farm (R07), Dring Lane (R08), Cold Harbour (R09 and R10), Blenheim Farm (R11), Sewage Works (R15), Southorpe Farm (R18), Grange Farm (R21), Top Farm (R22) and Glebe Farm (R25).
- 8.7.325 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.3.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.1.1]**. There are no likely significant effects for Cottam 3a for any of the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme. In summary Residential receptors include R30 (an agricultural building), R32, R33, R34, R35, R36,

R38, R39 (Corringham Mill), and R40. The derelict Mill and agricultural buildings have been scoped out and other receptors are screened by strong woodlands, garden boundaries and hedgerows.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 3a

- 8.7.326 For Cottam 3a, refer to **Figure 8.7.11 [C6.4.8.11]**. This includes Lane to Mount Pleasant Farm off C229, Scotton T004), Park Lane, Laughton near Gainsborough (T006), Unnamed Road, Laughton near Gainsborough (T010 and T011), Dring Lane, Laughton near Gainsborough (T012), Gainsborough Road, Laughton near Gainsborough (A159) (T013), Blyton Road, Laughton near Gainsborough (T014), Lane to Grange Farm off B1205, Northorpe near Scotter (T015), B1205 Kirton Road to C228 Monson Road, Northorpe near Scotter (T016), Laughton Road, Blyton (A159) (T018), Kirton Road, Blyton (T019), Bonsdale Lane, Blyton (T021), High Street, Blyton (A159) (T022), Station Road, Blyton (T023) and Pilham Lane, Bonsdale (T025).
- 8.7.327 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.3]**. A summary of the findings of the transport assessment for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.64** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.64: Summary of Transport Assessment – Cottam 3a

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
T019: Kirton Road, Blyton			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
T016: B1205 Kirton Road to C228 Monson Road, Northorpe near Scotter			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 3a

- 8.7.328 For Cottam 3a, refer to **Figure 8.7.15 [C6.4.8.7.15]**. This includes Blyt/24/1 and 24/2, Blyt/25/1, 25/2 and 25/3, Blyt/26/1, Blyt/28/1 and 28/2, Blyt/29/1 and 29/2, Blyt/30/1, Blyt/32/1, Laug/32/1, Nthp/504/1 and 504/2 and Pilh/20/1.
- 8.7.329 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.5.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.1.1]**. For Cottam 3a there are no likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme. In summary PRoW Blyt/24, 25 and 26, 28 and 29 relate to Cottam 3a but there is no visibility towards Cottam 3a Site/Sites due to the flat, low-lying landform and the intervening woodland at the western edge of the settlement of Pilham. The vegetation bordering the mainline railway and tree planting along Station Road also close down visibility towards the Site/Sites. PRoW Blyt/30 has no visibility due the built settlement whilst

Blyt/32 has no visibility due to landform, intervening vegetation and existing built form.

Cottam 3a Substation Site

- 8.7.330 The assessment of visual effects on the viewpoint receptors is set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.
- 8.7.331 The assessment of visual effects on the residential receptors is set out within the Individual Residential Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4]**.
- 8.7.332 The assessment of visual effects on the transport receptors is set out within the Individual Transport Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.3]**.
- 8.7.333 The assessment of visual effects on the PRoW receptors is set out within the Individual PRoW Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3]**

Cottam 3b

Viewpoint Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.7.334 For Cottam 3b, this includes Initial Viewpoints VP55, VP56, VP57, VP58 and VP59. The assessment of effects upon the Initial Viewpoints and the Consultation Views is set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.
- 8.7.335 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]**. A summary of the findings of the viewpoint assessment for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.65** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.65: Summary of Viewpoint Assessment – Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
VP56: Pilh/20/1 [Figure 8.14.56] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.56]			
High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Beneficial Moderate Not Significant
VP58: Junction of Pilh/20/1 and Bonsdale Lane [Figure 8.14.58] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.58]			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Mod-Maj Significant

VP59: Blyton Level Crossing [Figure 8.14.59] [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.14.59]			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant

Residential Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.7.336 For Cottam 3b, refer to **Figure 8.7.7 [C6.4.8.7.7]**. There are no settlements. Groups of buildings include Unnamed (R19), The Fields Farm (R20), Bonsdale Farm (R26) and Pilham (R28). Singular buildings include Southorpe Farm (R18), Grange Farm (R21), Top Farm (R22), Glebe Farm (R25) and Gilby (R31).
- 8.7.337 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.3.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.1.1]**. There are no likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1), operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme for Cottam 3b. In summary Residential receptors R18, R19, R20, R21, R22, R26 and R31 are potentially affected. R19 is an agricultural building whilst R18 is views obscured by garden curtilage boundary vegetation as well as vegetation adjacent to the railway. This vegetation also obscures views, together with other intervening vegetation from R20 and R21. Views from R26 are screened by agricultural buildings and local woodland cover whilst R31 sits beyond the settlement of Aisby.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.7.338 For Cottam 3b, refer to **Figure 8.7.11 [C6.4.8.7.11]**. This includes B1205 Kirton Road to C228 Monson Road, Northorpe near Scotter (T016), Kirton Road, Blyton (T019), Bonsdale Lane, Blyton (T021), Station Road, Blyton (T023), Pilham Lane, Bonsdale (T025), Green Lane, Pilham (T028), Pilham Lane, Blyton (T029), Road to Dunstall, Aisby near Gainsborough (T032), Pilham Lane, Aisby near Gainsborough (T034) and Pilham Lane, Pilham (T036).
- 8.7.339 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]**. A summary of the findings of the transport assessment for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.66** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.66: Summary of Transport Assessment – Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
T021: Bonsdale Lane, Blyton			
Medium	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant	High Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium Adverse Moderate Significant
T163: Mainline Railway			
Medium to High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	Medium-High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.7.340 For Cottam 3b, refer to **Figure 8.7.15 [C6.4.8.7.15]**. This includes Blyt/24/1 and 24/2, Blyt/25/1, 25/2 and 25/3, Blyt/26/1, Blyt/28/1 and 28/2, Blyt/29/1 and 29/2, Blyt/30/1 and Pilh/20/1
- 8.7.341 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]**. A summary of the findings of the PRoW assessment for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.67** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for any of the construction, operation (Year 1) and operation (Year 15) stages of the Scheme.

Table 8.67: Summary of PRoW Assessment – Cottam 3b

Sensitivity	Construction	Operation (Year 1)	Operation (Year 15)
Pilh/20/1			
High	Medium Adverse Mod-Maj Significant	High Adverse Major Significant	Medium Beneficial Mod-Maj Significant

Cottam 3b Substation Site

- 8.7.342 The assessment of visual effects on the viewpoint receptors is set out within the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**.
- 8.7.343 The assessment of visual effects on the residential receptors is set out within the Individual Residential Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.4]**.
- 8.7.344 The assessment of visual effects on the transport receptors is set out within the Individual Transport Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.3]**.
- 8.7.345 The assessment of visual effects on the PRoW receptors is set out within the Individual PRoW Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3]**

Cable Route Corridor

- 8.7.346 The visual effects for the Cable Route Corridor Receptors are set out within the Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.]** and **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**, the Residential Receptor and Overview Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.3]**, the Transport Receptor and Overview Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.3]** and the PRoW Receptor and Overview Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.1]** to **Appendix 8.3.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3]**.

Construction Effects

- 8.7.347 For the construction stage, there would be an appreciation of the digging and the presence of small-scale machinery along the length of the Cable Route Corridor as the cable is installed. However, this would not be above that typically associated with utility installation of this nature and would be limited to a short-term duration. During this time the installation would appear as a minor curiosity alongside an existing busy highway route.
- 8.7.348 All the cables will be underground, and no new overhead lines will be required giving rise to limited visual intrusion above ground. Below ground however, there is a need for HDD construction techniques at a number of locations across the Cable Route Corridor, however, this will depend on the results of the ground investigations and the final detailed design. At certain crossing locations such as railways; and watercourses such as the Rivers Trent and Till, HDD will be required. This is addressed in the Crossing Schedule [EN010133/APP/C7.17] and identified on the Individual Receptor Sheets, where appropriate.
- 8.7.349 The extent of the designated work area is dependent on the voltage of the cables where the number of circuits will affect the width of cable trenches required. The range of typical cable trench widths relating to the 132kV and 400kV cables is 0.6 to 1.1 metres. However, the width and spacing of the cable trenches may differ depending on environmental constraints, engineering requirements or if crossing third party apparatus (e.g., railway lines). In addition to the trenches, land will be required in the corridor for access and soil and cable 'lay down'. Construction compounds along the Cable Route Corridor will also be required. Any existing overhead power lines will be retained.
- 8.7.350 In relation to the Cable Route Corridor crossing the Trent, this is a necessary part of the scheme. The cable will be directionally drilled under the river and so no permanent above ground structures are proposed or would be visible. During the construction period there are likely to be temporary construction compounds then these will be removed.
- 8.7.351 In terms of visible construction features, a full barrier / Heras fencing and signage will be installed around each designated work area. Each work area will then be excavated to expose all utilities present and to co-ordinate and prepare the area for installation of the proposed ducts / pipes. Any lighting required for safety purposes would be directed to avoid light spill into surrounding areas. Welfare facilities will be provided at each designated work area including canteen, toilets and a drying room and then these will be removed.. Please refer to the Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) at **Appendix 7.1 [C7.1]** which sets out how these mitigation measures are intended to be secured.
- 8.7.352 The exact location of the ducts / pipes and working areas would be confined to designated locations to ensure operations are controlled and the visual intrusion of each working area is kept to a minimum. Given the above, the construction stage of

the Cable Route Corridor is considered to result in **Minor** visual effects, and these effects would be **Adverse**, but giving rise to **Not Significant** effects.

Operation Effects

- 8.7.353 For the operation stage, following installation of the ducts / pipes each designated location will be backfilled and the ground re-instated to match the existing conditions leaving limited visible trace of the construction works. Given the above, the operation stage of the Cable Route Corridor is considered to result in **Negligible** visual effects, and these effects would be **Neutral**, but giving rise to **Not Significant** effects.

Decommissioning Effects

- 8.7.354 For the decommissioning stage, following backfilling and ground reinstatement, the ducts / pipes at each location would remain in situ and not be removed. Following installation, the land is returned to its original use and this would remain through the decommissioning stage with limited visible trace. Given the above, the decommissioning stage of the Cable Route Corridor is considered to result in **Negligible** visual effects, and these effects would be Neutral, but giving rise to **Not Significant** effects.

8.8 Residual Mitigation Measures

- 8.8.1 This section considers the identified significant adverse effects that remain following the inclusion of embedded and additional mitigation within the design of the Scheme, as set out in section 8.7 above. Where practicable, it identifies specific mitigation measures that will be brought forward as part of the Scheme that comprise residual (or tertiary) mitigation.
- 8.8.2 The assessment process also includes iterative design and re-assessment of any remaining, residual effects that could not otherwise be mitigated or 'designed out' and considers tertiary measures. At Year 15, there will be a review of the management prescriptions within the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) **[EN010133/APP/C7.3]** to assess whether further management is necessary and whether such management would reduce any residual landscape and visual effects. The type of effect is also considered and may be direct or indirect; temporary or permanent (reversible); cumulative. The LVIA involves a combination of both quantitative and qualitative assessment and process, and wherever possible a consensus of professional opinion has been sought through consultation with the Technical Consultant Team.
- 8.8.3 The assessment process also takes into consideration the potential for tertiary mitigation (also referred to as 'residual mitigation' in this assessment). This mitigation has not been taken into account in reaching the conclusions of the significance of effects set out in section 8.7. The measures are iterative but also aim to fulfil wider planning policy objectives such as green infrastructure interventions

and planning for social and community initiatives. These measures have the scope to contribute to residual stages of the assessment in delivering future benefits of the Scheme that could be secured and delivered outside of the DCO process.

Mitigation Measures: Landscape Effects

8.8.4 In terms of mitigation and the landscape baseline and landscape character measures associated with the Scheme, the LVIA process has addressed the landscape sensitivities and forces for change for each character area and landscape receptor. A full description of each of the measures to mitigate and enhance landscape and biodiversity are set out within the:

- Individual Landscape Character Analysis and Evaluation Tables (Broad Grained Landscape Sheets) at **Appendix 8.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2]**
- Individual Landscape Receptor Analysis and Evaluation Tables (Fine Grained Landscape Sheets) at **Appendix 8.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3]** to **8.2.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.11]**.

Mitigation Measures: Visual Effects

8.8.5 In terms of mitigation and the visual baseline and views associated with the Scheme, the LVIA process has addressed the visual sensitivities and forces for change associated with each visual receptor. A full description of each of the measures to mitigate and enhance each of the views are set out within the:

- Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]**
- Individual Residential Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]** to **Appendix 8.3.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.3]**
- Individual Transport Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]** and **Appendix 8.3.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.3]**; and
- Individual PRow Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]** and **Appendix 8.3.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3]**.

8.8.6 These measures included as part of the mitigation are proposed to respond to the adverse landscape and visual effects and will be technically achievable, practically deliverable, and likely to be sustainable in the future. The mitigation proposals are well-founded and based on a series of desk-based and site assessment work and based on successful precedents set out with the published landscape character

assessments and other spatial policy documents set out within **Section 8.3** of this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices set out above.

8.8.7 Even when the implementation of these (primary and secondary) mitigation measures have been taken into account in this assessment, residual impacts have been identified, which are set out in **Section 8.11** below. With respect to other topics of the assessment, for example Ecology, there has been extensive collaboration with this discipline to ensure these measures bring forward 'successful' replacement or compensation and ways in which this will be delivered in practice is dealt with through the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) **Appendix 7.3 [EN010133/APP/C7.3]** sets out how these mitigation measures are secured (preparation and approval of which is secured through a requirement in the DCO).

8.8.8 There has also been extensive collaboration with the Cultural Hydrology, Heritage and Glint and Glare topics.

[Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan \(LEMP\).](#)

8.8.9 An Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) at **Appendix 7.3 [EN010133/APP/C7.3]** sets out how these mitigation measures are secured and where it is noted that the Scheme is expected to deliver a significant amount of biodiversity net gain, due to the reversion of arable farmland to permanent grassland and ecological buffer zones. The biodiversity net gain will be delivered through the enhancement of existing habitats, the establishment of which is prescribed in the Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP).

8.9 In-Combination Effects

8.9.1 This section assesses the in-combination landscape and visual effects resulting from the combination of individual effects at Sites and the Cable Route Corridor and the combined effects of the Cumulative Sites, for example:

- the combined effects of the four Site areas
- the combined effects of the four generating substations
- the combined effects of noise, dust, and visual effects on a particular receptor
- The combination of individual topics, for example, the combined effects of ecology and cultural heritage and the implications of their effects on landscape mitigation; and
- The combination of different works of the Scheme on a particular receptor for example, the in-combination effects of the construction of the Cable Route Corridor and the energy storage at the same time.

8.9.2 As the extent of the Study Area/s for the Scheme is made up of four areas of land: Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b, we have assessed the in-combination effects of each individual land area as a combined set of effects as 'Cumulative Sites' and reached an overall conclusion on where likely significant effects might occur. Please refer to

Figure 8.15.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.1] Cumulative Sites Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV, **Figure 8.15.1.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.1.1]** Cumulative Sites Cottam 1 Augmented ZTV, **Figure 8.15.1.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.1.2]** Cottam 2 Augmented ZTV and **Figure 8.15.1.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.1.3]** Cumulative Sites Cottam 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV.

In-Combination Landscape Effects

National Landscape Character Areas

- 8.9.3 These are not considered further within this LVIA Chapter as the assessment relies on the regional and local landscape character assessment as the baseline and to form judgements.

Regional Landscape Character Areas

- 8.9.4 There are no likely significant in-combination landscape effects for the construction, operation (Year 1 and Year 15) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme. Refer to the Individual Regional Overview Assessment Sheets at **Appendices 8.2.2.2 [EN010133/APP/6.3.8.2.2.]** to **Appendix 8.2.2.2 [EN010133/APP/6.3.8.2.2.]**.

Individual Contributors to Landscape Character

- 8.9.5 There are no likely significant in-combination landscape effects for the individual contributors to landscape character set out below.
- 8.9.6 **Topography and Watercourses:** There would not be the removal of, or changes in individual topography or watercourse elements or features of the landscape as a result of the combined effects of the four Site areas. However, the topography and watercourse features within these areas are influenced by the intensive farming that has diminished the 'sense of place' in parts including the drainage of flood plains and impact on the riparian vegetation and other habitats. Where watercourses survive, their associated vegetation helps to curtail visibility in this area. Public access is also limited to these features. This aesthetic would not be changed. The difference in effect shows there are very minor patches of in-combination change but that would yield no discernible improvement or deterioration to the existing landscape character of the topography and watercourses. During the Operation Stage (Year 15) the difference in effect for the combined effects of the four Sites would be Minor (**Not Significant**), since there would be some change to a landscape of medium sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics and the overall impression of its character, but with a **Beneficial** type of effect as a result of the proposed landscape mitigation measures.
- 8.9.7 **Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes:** There would not be the removal of, or changes in individual Nationally and Locally Designated features of the landscape as a result of the combined effects of the four Site areas. The landscape is shaped by the striking differences where there is a marked contrast between the locally designated Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) being AGLV1- The Ridge,

AGLV2 – Gainsborough and AGLV3 – Laughton Wood. With AGLV 1, the steep minor lanes that descend from the ridge-top route of the B1398 offer valuable views over the Till Vale from The Ridge. With AGLV2, the landscape settings of historic parklands and built features at the western edge of the Till Vale are often shrouded in woodland, shelterbelts, or hedgerows. With AGL3, the strong wooded skylines, framed views, vegetated watercourses, and river corridors are key features. The difference in effect as a result of the combined effects of the four Site areas would be Minor during the construction and operation stages, (Year 1) because a small extent of landscape features and elements of importance to the baseline of the AGLV would be adjusted. During the Operation Stage (Year 15) the difference in effect for the combined effects of the four Sites would be Negligible (**Not Significant**), since there would be a noticeable change to a landscape of medium sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics and the overall impression of its character with a **Beneficial** type of effect as a result of the proposed landscape mitigation measures.

8.9.8 **Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations:** There would not be the removal of, or changes in, individual Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations features of the landscape as a result of the combined effects of the four Site areas. The landscape is shaped by the rich geodiversity, however, the predominant use of the land for agriculture means that very little semi-natural habitat remains across the area. Changes to morphological and hydraulic characteristics have affected species abundance and decreased the range of population of some species. The agricultural activity that has modified habitats. However, the woodlands that are least modified in the area are formed on the historic heath at Morton and Laughton Commons. The natural character of the local road network is also a key feature that offers scope to improve habitat connectivity between the Till Vale and the Trent flood plain. The landscape is shaped by the strong presence of agriculture and there is very little Ancient Woodland, but where oak/birch woodland has formed this should be given priority as a feature for enhancement and restoration. The difference in effect as a result of the combined effects of the four Sites is very low because a barely perceptible extent of the landscape features and elements of importance to the baseline Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations would be affected. The significance of effect would be Minor (**Not Significant**) during the construction and operation (Year 1) stages. During the Operation Stage (Year 15) the difference in effect for the combined effects of the four Sites would be Negligible (**Not Significant**), since there would be a noticeable change to a landscape of medium sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics and the overall impression of its character with a **Beneficial** type of effect as a result of the proposed landscape mitigation measures.

Combined Effects of Four Site Areas [Landscape]

- 8.9.9 There are no likely significant in-combination landscape effects at the construction, operation (year 1 and year 15) stages of the Scheme. For further details on the in-combination landscape effects of the Cumulative Sites, please refer to the Individual Landscape Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2]**.

Combined Effects of the Generating Substations [Landscape]

- 8.9.10 There are likely **significant** in-combination landscape effects at the construction and operation (Year 1) stages for the substation generating stations at Cottam 1, West A, Cottam 1 West B, Cottam 2, Cottam 3a and 3b substation Sites. These effects would be **Adverse** with a **Moderate** significance of effect. Refer to the Individual Substation Assessment Sheets at **Appendices 8.2.12.1 [EN010133/APP/6.3.8.12.1]** to **Appendix 8.2.12.5 [EN010133/APP/6.3.8.12.5]**.

Combined Effects of Different Combinations of Works [Landscape]

- 8.9.11 There are no likely significant in-combination landscape effects at the construction, operation (Year 1 and Year 15) and decommissioning stages for the different combinations of the works.

Combined Effects of Four Site Areas [Visual]

- 8.9.12 There are no likely significant in-combination visual effects at the construction stages for the four Site areas at Cottam 1, Cottam 2, Cottam 3a and 3b for the four Site areas. Refer to the Individual Visual Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3]**.

Combined Effects of the Generating Substations [Visual]

- 8.9.13 There are no likely significant in-combination visual effects at the construction, operation (Year 1 and Year 15) and decommissioning stages of the substation generating stations at Cottam 1, West A, Cottam 1 West B, Cottam 2, Cottam 3a and 3b Sites. There would however be in-combination effects of dust and noise at the Viewpoint Receptors, Residential Receptors, Transport Receptors and PRoW Receptors set out below.

Combined effects of noise, dust and visual effects [Visual]

- 8.9.14 With the Viewpoint Receptors, **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]** shows that there is potential for likely **Significant** visual effects at the construction stage, in combination with noise and dust effects. These effects apply to Viewpoints VP04, VP05, VP06, VP07, VP10, VP11, VP12, VP13, VP15, VP19, VP20, VP21, VP32,

VP36, VP37, VP39, VP49, VP56, VP58, VP59, VP60, VP61, VP62, VP63, LCC-C-D, LCC-C-G, LCC-C-H, LCC-C-I, LCC-C-J, LCC-C-T. There would be views of the construction works from these viewpoints at the construction stage of the Scheme from activities during Site preparation/enabling works with effects such as construction traffic, noise and vibration from construction activities, dust generation, site run off, mud on roads, and the visual intrusion of plant and machinery on Site. The construction activities would be short-lived but would be a dominant feature in the context of these viewpoints. Effects would be **Moderate**, **Moderate-Major** and **Major** and would be **Adverse**, but of a short-term duration.

8.9.15 With the Residential Receptors, **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]** shows that there is potential for likely **Significant** visual effects at the construction stage, in combination with noise and dust effects. These effects apply to Receptors R33, R36, R61, R62, R63A, R63B, R67 and R73. Effects would be **Moderate-Major** and would be **Adverse**, but of a short-term duration.

8.9.16 With the Transport Receptors, **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]** shows there is potential for likely **Significant** visual effects at the construction stage, in combination with noise and dust effects. These effects apply to Receptors T016, T019, T021, T040, T045, T072, T074, T099, T110, T119, T120, T122, T127 and T163. Effects would be **Moderate** and **Moderate-Major** and would be **Adverse**, but of a short-term duration.

8.9.17 With the PRoW Receptors, **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]** shows there is potential for likely **Significant** visual effects at the construction stage, in combination with noise and dust effects. These effects apply to Receptors Fill/86/1, Fill/767/1, Pilh/20/1, Stow/83/1 and TFL/31/2. Effects would be **Moderate-Major** and would be **Adverse**, but of a short-term duration.

Combined Effects of Individual Assessment Topics – Cultural Heritage [Visual]

8.9.18 With the Viewpoint Receptors, **Appendix 8.4.3 [C6.8.3.4.3]** shows there is overlap with the Cultural Heritage Topic Area and there is potential likely **Significant** visual effects in combination with effects to cultural heritage receptors at the construction stage from Viewpoints VP06 and LCC-C-J. Effects would be **Moderate-Major** and **Major** and would be **Adverse** at both the construction and operation (year 1) stages and so the implications on landscape mitigation are taken into specific consideration at these viewpoints. Refer to **Appendix 8.3.2 [C6.8.3.2.3]** for Viewpoint Receptors. With Viewpoint Receptors VP03, VP16, VP17, VP18, VP24, VP26, VP29, VP30, VP38, VP44, VP46, VP47, VP51, VP55, VP57, VP67, LCC-C-A, LCC-C-B, LCC-C-C, LCC-C-E, there is an overlap with the Heritage Topic Area, however there are no likely significant effects at these receptors when the implications on landscape mitigation are taken into specific consideration at these viewpoints.

Combined Effects of Individual Assessment Topics – Glint and Glare [Visual]

8.9.19 With the Residential Receptors, **Appendix 8.3.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.3]** shows that there is potential for likely Significant visual effects at the construction

stage from Receptors R33, R36, R61, R62, R63A, R63B, R67 and R73. Effects would be Moderate-Major and would be Adverse, and, although of a short-term duration, the implications on landscape mitigation have been taken into specific consideration along with Glint and Glare, and at these properties an appropriate level of new planting is proposed to be implemented as screening, where applicable.

- 8.9.20 With the Transport Receptors, Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2] shows there is potential for likely Significant visual effects at the construction stage from Receptors T016, T019, T021, T040, T045, T072, T074, T099, T110, T119, T120, T122, T127 and T163. Effects would be Moderate and Moderate-Major and would be Adverse, and, although of a short-term duration, the implications on landscape mitigation have been taken into specific consideration along with Glint and Glare along these routes to ensure that an appropriate level of new planting is proposed to be implemented as screening, where applicable.

Combined Effects of Individual Assessment Topics – Ecology [Visual]

- 8.9.21 With the Transport Receptors, Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2] shows there is potential for likely Significant visual effects at the construction stage. The effects would apply to Receptors T016, T019, T021, T040, T045, T072, T074, T099, T110, T119, T120, T122, T127 and T163. Effects would be Moderate and Moderate-Major and would be Adverse, and, although of a short-term duration, the implications on landscape mitigation have been taken into specific consideration along with Ecology along these routes to ensure the appropriate level of new planting is proposed to be implemented in line with biodiversity objectives for roadside verges and adjoining ditches and hedgerows.

- 8.9.22 With the PRow Receptors, Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2] shows there is potential for likely Significant visual effects at the construction stage. The effects would apply to Receptors Fill/86/1, Fill/767/1, Pilh/20/1, Stow/83/1 and TFL/31/2. Effects would be Moderate-Major and would be Adverse, and, although of a short-term duration, the implications on landscape mitigation have been taken into specific consideration along with Ecology along these footpaths and bridleways to ensure any enhancements are not in conflict with biodiversity objectives or current designations.

Combination of Different Works of the Scheme [Visual]

- 8.9.23 With Viewpoint Receptors, **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]** shows that there is potential for likely **Significant** visual effects at the construction stage and this is taken into account with other works comprising the Scheme.
- 8.9.24 There are Viewpoints VP4, VP5, VP6, VP7, VP10, VP20, VP21, VP32, VP36, VP37, VP39, VP49, VP56, VP58, VP59, VP60, VP61, VP62, VP63, LCC-C-D, LCC-C-H and LCC-C-J within the 2km Study Area of the substation Sites that are likely to experience some minor changes in the wider landscape at the construction stage as a result of construction traffic, minor noise and disturbance. The following viewpoints would be potentially affected at the construction and operation (Year 1) stages and

experience views of the substation, VP17, VP19, VP20, VP29, VP30, VP37, VP38, VP39, VP40 and viewpoints LCC-C-J, LCC-K and LCC-C-O resulting in **Moderate-Major** and **Major** effects that would be **Adverse**.

- 8.9.25 There are Viewpoints VP07, VP10, VP11, VP13, VP15, VP19, VP20, VP49, VP56, VP60, VP61, VP62, LCC-C-G, LCC-C-I and LCC-C-T, in close proximity to, or directly alongside construction access routes that are likely to experience minor changes at the construction stage for the users of these routes
- 8.9.26 There are Viewpoints VP37, VP58 and LCC-C-T within the 0.5km Study Area for Cable Route Corridor that are likely to experience minor changes at the construction stage at these locations. The implications on landscape mitigation have been taken into specific consideration at these viewpoints.
- 8.9.27 With Residential Receptors, **Appendix 8.3.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.3]** shows that there is potential for likely Significant visual effects at the construction stage and this is taken into account with other works comprising the Scheme. There are Receptors R36, R67 and R73 within the 2km Study Area for the one substation site. There are Receptors R33 R36, R61, R62, R63A, R63B, R67 and R73 in close proximity to, or directly alongside, construction access routes. There are Receptors R33, R67 and R73 within the 0.5km Study Area for the Cable Route Corridor, The implications on landscape mitigation have been taken into specific consideration at these properties.
- 8.9.28 With Transport Receptors, Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2] shows there is potential for likely Significant visual effects at the construction stage and this is taken into account with other works comprising the Scheme. There are Receptors T016, T019, T021, T040, T045, T074, T099, T119 and T163 within the 2km Study Area for the substation site. There are Receptors T016, T019, T040, T045, T072, T074, T110, T119, T120, T122 and T127 in close proximity to, or directly alongside, construction access routes. There are Receptors T019, T040, T045, T074, T099 and T163 within the 0.5km Study Area for the Cable Route Corridor. The implications on landscape mitigation have been taken into specific consideration along these routes.
- 8.9.29 With PRow Receptors, Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2] shows there is potential for likely Significant visual effects at the construction stage and this is taken into account with other works comprising the Scheme. There are Receptors Pilh/20/1 and Stow 83/1 within the 2km Study Area for two substation Sites. There are Receptors Fill/86/1, Fill/767/1, Pilh/20/1 and TLFe/31/2 in close proximity to, or directly alongside, construction access routes. There are Receptors Pilh/20/1 within the 0.5km Study Area for the Cable Route Corridor. The implications on landscape mitigation are taken into specific consideration at these public footpaths and bridleways.

8.10 Cumulative Effects

8.10.1 This section assesses the potential cumulative landscape and visual effects resulting from incremental changes caused by other past, present or reasonable foreseeable changes resulting from other local developments, together with the Scheme. The LVIA Cumulative Assessment Methodology is based on recognized national guidelines and is outlined in this LVIA chapter **Section 8.4**. A full methodology is included in **Appendix 8.1.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.1.3]**.

8.10.2 GLIA3 takes Cumulative' effects into account in identifying visual effects and their significance and notes that:

"At one viewpoint someone looking at the view in one direction may see all the projects at the same time, or someone turning through the whole 360 degrees may see different developments in different directions and sectors of the view in succession. Users of linear routes, especially footpaths or other rights of way, or transport routes, may potentially see the different developments revealed in succession as a series of sequential views. Both types of experience need to be considered where they are relevant".⁶⁴

8.10.3 GLVIA states that the key for all cumulative impact assessments is to focus on the likely significant effects and in particular those likely to influence decision making.

"It is always important to remember that the emphasis in EIA is on likely significant effects rather than on comprehensive cataloguing of every conceivable effect that might occur."⁶⁵

8.10.4 The assessment considers both the:

- Landscape Effects. This is the effect on the physical fabric or character of the landscape, or any special values attached to it, caused by the cumulative effects of one or more developments considered together; and
- Visual Effects. This is the effects caused by combined visibility, which occurs when the observer is able to see two or more developments from one viewpoint and/or sequential effects when the observer moves their field of vision and/or moves along a route.

⁶⁴ The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA) 3rd Edition*, Page 130, 2013

⁶⁵ The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA) 3rd Edition*, Page 121, 2013

Cumulative Effects: Baseline {Cumulative Developments}

- 8.10.5 The baseline includes the Scheme assessed within this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices, and in addition, potential schemes that are not yet present in the landscape but are at various stages in the development and consenting process. Please refer to **Figure 8.15.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2]** Cumulative Developments Cottam 1, 2, 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV, **Figure 8.15.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.1]** Cumulative Developments Cottam 1 Augmented ZTV, **Figure 8.15.2.2** Cumulative Developments Cottam 2 Augmented ZTV and **Figure 8.15.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.3]** Cumulative Developments Cottam 3a and 3b Augmented ZTV.
- 8.10.6 This includes schemes with planning consent and schemes that are subject of a validated planning application that has not yet been determined. The Cumulative Developments considered in this assessment are as follows:
- Bumble Bee Farm
 - Field Farm
 - Gate Burton
 - High Marnham
 - Tillbridge; and
 - West Burton.
- 8.10.7 Please refer to **Figure 8.15.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.15.2.4]** Bumble Bee Farm Cumulative Developments, **Figure 8.15.2.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.8.15.2.5]** Field Farm Cumulative Developments, **Figure 8.15.2.6 [EN010133/APP/C6.8.15.2.6]** Gate Burton Cumulative Developments, **Figure 8.15.2.7 [EN010133/APP/C6.8.15.2.7]**, High Marnham Cumulative Developments, **Figure 8.15.2.8 [EN010133/APP/C6.8.15.2.8]** Tillbridge Cumulative Developments, **Figure 8.15.2.9 [C6.8.15.2.9]** West Burton.
- 8.10.8 The potential schemes that have been taken forward in the evolution of this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices have been discussed and agreed during the Section 42 Consultation process with Local Authorities at a series of LVIA Workshops and the correspondence and matters agreed and discussed are set out within the Section 42 Consultation Tables at **Appendix 8.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.4.2]**.
- 8.10.9 During the Section 42 Consultation process, it was agreed that the Scheme assessed in this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices would take account of those areas within the 5km Study Area and referred to as the:
- Cumulative Sites (see section 8.9 above for this assessment); and
 - Cumulative Developments.

Cumulative Landscape Effects [Cumulative Developments]

8.10.10 For further details on the cumulative landscape effects of the Cumulative Developments, please refer to the Individual Landscape Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3]** to **Appendix 8.2.12 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12]** and the summary of the effects in the sections below.

National Landscape Character Areas

8.10.11 This is a national scale assessment and though it provides a useful broad scale overview of landscape character, the detail of the regional and local scale character assessment studies are more relevant to the assessment, and therefore only these are considered further within this LVIA chapter and supporting appendices.

Regional Landscape Character Areas

8.10.12 This is the Regional Landscape Character Types (RLCT) that are identified by The East Midlands Landscape Partnership (EMLP) within the East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment (EMRLCA).⁶⁶ They show that there are a number of character areas within the Study Areas for the Scheme and the Cable Route Corridor, these being:

- RLCT 2b Planned and Drained Fen and Carrlands
- RLCT 3a Floodplain Valleys (East Midlands)
- RLCT 4a Unwooded Vales (East Midlands)
- RLCT 4b Wooded Vales (East Midlands)
- RLCT 6a Limestone Scarps and Dipslopes (East Midlands)

8.10.13 There would be no change to the overall landscape character or loss of individual elements or features of the landscape within the RLCT 2b Planned and Drained Fen and Carrlands and RLCT 6a Limestone Scarps and Dipslopes (East Midlands) since the Scheme is outside these RLCTs.

8.10.14 There is potential for cumulative landscape effects on the landscape character within RLCT 3a Floodplain Valleys. The Floodplain Valleys extend into the area/areas identified for the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam Power Station) and 0.5km from the outer boundary. The Floodplain Valleys mainly occur to the west of a group of settlements that extend from Gainsborough and include Lea, Knaith, Gate Burton, Marton, Brampton and Torksey. The difference in effect between the addition of the Scheme to the cumulative baseline is very low for the Cumulative Developments because there are very minor patches of cumulative change that would yield no discernible improvement or deterioration to the existing landscape

⁶⁶ East Midlands Landscape Partnership, *East Midlands Regional Landscape Character Assessment*, April 2010 [Online] [Accessed 06 December 2022]

character. The significance of effect would be Negligible (**Not Significant**) during the construction, operation (Year 1 and Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

8.10.15 There is potential for cumulative landscape effects on the landscape character within RLCT 4a Unwooded Vales (East Midlands). The Unwooded Vales extend into the area/areas identified for the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam Power Station), the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 1 to Cottam 2), the Cable Route Corridor (Cottam 2 to Cottam 3a and 3b) and the Cottam 1, Cottam 2 and Cottam 3a and 3b Sites. The difference in effect between the addition of the Scheme to the cumulative baseline is low for the Cumulative Developments during the construction and operation (Year 1) stages, because there are very minor patches of small cumulative change to a widespread area of medium sensitivity, affecting few characteristics without altering the overall impression of its character. The significance of effect would be Minor (**Not Significant**) during the construction and operation (Year 1) stages and Negligible during the operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

8.10.16 There is potential for cumulative landscape effects on the landscape character within RLCT 4b Wooded Vales (East Midlands). The Wooded Valles extend into the western section of the 2km Study Area and shares a boundary with the 'Built Up Area' that extends eastwards from Gainsborough towards Blyton following the main transport route of the A159 (Thonock Road). The difference in effect between the addition of the Scheme to the cumulative baseline is Very Low for the Cumulative Developments because there are very minor patches of cumulative change that would yield no discernible improvement or deterioration to the existing landscape character. The significance of effect would be Negligible (**Not Significant**) during the construction, operation (Year 1 and Year 15) and decommissioning stages.

Individual Contributors to Landscape Character

8.10.17 This is the fine-grained evaluation of the landscape character that draws upon published information, desktop studies and fieldwork to identify the individual contributors to landscape character within the 5km Study Area for the Scheme and the 0.5km Study Area from the outer boundary of the Cable Route Corridor. These Landscape Receptors are:

- Land Use
- Topography and Watercourses
- Communications and Infrastructure
- Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure
- Public Rights of Way and Access
- Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape
- Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens; and

- Ancient Woodland and Natural Designations

8.10.18 **Land Use:** There would not be the removal of, or major changes in individual land use elements or features of the landscape as a result of the addition of the Scheme with the Cumulative Developments. However wide panoramic views are possible across the Cottam 1, Cottam 2 and Cottam 3a and 3b Sites, and the simple palette of land use and low-lying terrain gives visual unity and a strong sense of identity to this important spatial function, and this aesthetic characteristic would be changed. The larger field systems are the key feature, especially where they form a geometric and regular pattern with thickly hedged fields giving a strong scenic indication that agriculture is the dominant land use. The difference in effect between the addition of the Cumulative Developments to the cumulative baseline of the Scheme is low during the construction and operation (Year 1) stages, because there are very minor patches of small cumulative change to a widespread area of medium sensitivity, affecting few characteristics without altering the overall impression of its character. The significance of effect would be Minor (**Not Significant**) during the construction and operation (Year 1) and Negligible during the operation (Year 15) and decommissioning stages, but **Neutral**.

8.10.19 **Topography and Watercourses:** There would not be the removal of, or changes in individual topography or watercourse elements or features of the landscape as a result of the addition of the Scheme with the Cumulative Developments. However, the topography and watercourse features within these areas are influenced by the intensive farming that has diminished the 'sense of place' in parts including the drainage of flood plains and impact on the riparian vegetation and other habitats. Where watercourses survive, their associated vegetation helps to curtail visibility in this area. Public access is also limited to these features. This aesthetic would not be changed, but there is scope to bring forward significant change to the fabric of the landscape and improve the watercourse and topographical features. The difference in effect between the addition of the Cumulative Developments to the cumulative baseline of the Scheme is Very Low during the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages, because there are very minor patches of cumulative change that would yield no discernible improvement or deterioration to the existing landscape character of the topography and watercourses and the significance of effect would be Negligible (**Not Significant**). During the Operation Stage (Year 15) the difference in effect for the Cumulative Developments would be Minor (**Not Significant**), since there would be a small and limited change to a landscape of medium sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics and the overall impression of its character. This is assessed to be a **Beneficial** type of effect resulting from the implementation and maturation of landscape mitigation planting.

8.10.20 **Communications and Infrastructure:** There would not be the removal of, or major and permanent changes in individual communications and infrastructure elements or features of the landscape as a result of the addition of the Scheme with the Cumulative Developments. However, the landscape is shaped by the wide range of local and strategic road networks, which make one landscape type or area different

from another. The strategic major road network is defined by important historic routes and in contrast, the east west minor road network links several historic and distinctive smaller string of settlements across the area. Overall, the prevailing road network is formed by narrow lanes that are often tranquil and hedged to both sides with wide grassed verges, and this aesthetic would be changed, but the change to the fabric of the landscape and improvements to the landscape character of the local road network through the introduction of planting as landscape mitigation within the Sites will bring about improvements to overall landscape quality of the area. The difference in effect between the addition of the Cumulative Developments to the cumulative baseline of the Scheme is Very Low because there are very minor patches of cumulative change that would yield no discernible improvement or deterioration to the existing landscape character. The significance of effect would be Negligible (**Not Significant**) during the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages. During the Operation Stage (Year 15) the difference in effect for the Cumulative Developments would be Minor (**Not Significant**), since there would be a small and limited change to a landscape of medium sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics and the overall impression of its character with a **Neutral** type of effect.

8.10.21 **Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure:** There would not be the removal of, or changes in, individual settlements, industry, commerce, and leisure elements or features of the landscape as a result of the addition of the Scheme with the Cumulative Developments. The nature of the predominantly rural and sparsely settled wider area with small villages and dispersed farms linked by quiet rural lanes, contrasting with the busy city of Lincoln and town of Gainsborough, is the main spatial function of the landscape. This spatial function is tempered by the villages that have a broad landscape setting and the sequence of views towards churches, which is an important feature along with the other long views across the landscape. The difference in effect between the addition of the Cumulative Developments to the cumulative baseline of the Scheme is very low because there are minor patches of small cumulative change to a limited area of medium sensitivity, affecting some characteristics without altering the overall impression of its character. The significance of effect would be Negligible (**Not Significant**) during the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme. During the Operation Stage (Year 15), the difference in effect for the Cumulative Sites would be Minor (**Not Significant**), since there would be a small change to a landscape of medium sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics without altering the overall impression of its character with a **Neutral** type of effect.

8.10.22 **Public Rights of Way and Access:** There would not be the removal of, or changes in, individual Public Rights of Way features of the landscape as a result of the addition of the Scheme with the Cumulative Developments. The landscape is shaped by the network of footpaths and bridleways that offer a sequence of views to landmark churches, particularly along the B1241. Some views from the footpaths also offer westward views to the power stations on the Trent, and eastward views

to the scarp face of Lincoln 'Cliff'. This sequence of views relies on the wider landscape setting of the minor roads that lead across this area as access for recreation. The PRoW network is often confined to the settlement edges where the woodland and tree cover closes down views of this broad landscape setting where the sequence of views is often lost due to tree cover. The views of the wider landscape are therefore mainly experienced from the road network, whereas appreciation of the landscape from the PRoW network is confined to select locations that are often around the edges of settlements. These relevant characteristics of the landscape have some ability to accommodate change with key beneficial effects and tertiary mitigation shows there is scope to bring forward improvements as part of the PRoW network.. The difference in effect between the addition of the Cumulative Developments to the cumulative baseline of the Scheme is Low and Very Low because there are very minor patches of cumulative change that would yield no discernible improvement or deterioration to the existing landscape character. The significance of effect would be Low (**Not Significant**) during the construction and operation (Year 1) stages of the Scheme. During the Operation Stage (Year 15), the difference in effect for the Cumulative Developments would be Negligible (**Not Significant**), since there would be a noticeable change to a landscape of high and medium to high sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics, and the overall impression of its character with a **Neutral** type of effect.

- 8.10.23 **Nationally and Locally Designated Landscapes:** There would not be the removal of, or changes in individual Nationally and Locally Designated features of the landscape as a result of the addition of the Scheme with the Cumulative Developments. The landscape is shaped by the striking differences where there is a marked contrast between the locally designated Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) being AGLV1- The Ridge, AGLV2 – Gainsborough and AGLV3 – Laughton Wood. With AGLV 1, the steep minor lanes that descend from the ridge-top route of the B1398 offer valuable views over the Till Vale from The Ridge. With AGLV2, the landscape settings of historic parklands and built features at the western edge of the Till Vale are often shrouded in woodland, shelterbelts, or hedgerows. With AGL3, the strong wooded skylines, framed views, vegetated watercourses, and river corridors are key features. The difference in effect between the addition of the Cumulative Developments to the cumulative baseline of the Scheme is very low for the during the construction and operation (Year 1) stages, because a barely perceptible extent of landscape features and elements of importance to the baseline of the AGLV would be adjusted and the significance of effect would be Negligible (**Not Significant**). During the Operation Stage (Year 15) the difference in effect for the Cumulative Developments would be Minor (**Not Significant**), since there would be a noticeable change to a landscape of high and medium to high sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics and the overall impression of its character with a **Beneficial** type of effect.
- 8.10.24 **Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens:** There would not be the removal of, or changes in, individual

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens features of the landscape as a result of the addition of the Scheme with the Cumulative Developments. Overall, the landscape is shaped by the ancient enclosures and their contrast with the modern fields and planned enclosures that have a strong east to west orientation. The road network also reflects this pattern where Till Bridge Lane follows the course of a Roman road from Ermine Street on the top of the cliff to the former river crossing on the Trent. The wider landscape is typified by the central settlement line that broadly follows the 20m contour of the scarp and ridge. Gainsborough also includes a large deer park and its wooded setting to the north-east is a key feature. The ancient enclosures and deserted villages and their contrast with the modern fields and planned enclosures are also a key feature. The wider landscape is typified by the historic evidence of the Roman period, with the network of long straight roads, in particular Ermine Street which links Lincoln to the crossing point of the Humber. The spatial fabric of the landscape is also provided by the large-scale limestone plateau and its west facing scarp known as the 'Cliff', which features as a backdrop in many views across the area. The difference in effect between the addition of the Cumulative Developments to the cumulative baseline of the Scheme is Low and Very Low because a barely perceptible extent of landscape features and elements of importance to the baseline Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens would be affected. The significance of effect would be Negligible (**Not Significant**) during the construction and operation (Year 1) stages. During the Operation Stage (Year 15) the difference in effect for the Cumulative Developments would be Minor (**Not Significant**), since there would be a noticeable, but minor, change to a landscape of high and medium to high sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics and the overall impression of its character with a **Neutral** type of effect.

- 8.10.25 **Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations:** There would not be the removal of, or changes in individual Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations features of the landscape as a result of the addition of the Scheme with the Cumulative Developments. The landscape is shaped by the rich geodiversity, however the predominant use of the land for agriculture means that very little semi-natural habitat remains across the area. Changes to morphological and hydraulic characteristics have affected species abundance and decreased the range of population of some species. The agricultural activity that has modified habitats. However, the woodlands that are least modified in the area are formed on the historic heath at Morton and Laughton Commons. The natural character of the local road network is also a key feature and the landscape mitigation improves habitat connectivity between the Till Vale and the Trent flood plain. The landscape is shaped by the strong presence of agriculture and there is very little Ancient Woodland, but where oak/birch woodland has formed this should be given priority as a feature for enhancement and restoration. The difference in effect between the addition of the Cumulative Developments to the cumulative baseline of the Scheme is very low as a barely perceptible extent of landscape features and elements of importance to the

baseline Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations would be affected. The significance of effect would be Negligible (**Not Significant**) during the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages. During the Operation Stage (Year 15) the difference in effect for the Cumulative Developments would be Minor (**Not Significant**), since there would be a noticeable, but minor, change to a landscape of medium sensitivity, affecting some key characteristics and the overall impression of its character would be a **Beneficial** type of effect.

Cable Route Corridors

Cumulative Visual Effects

8.10.26 For further details on the cumulative visual effects of the Cumulative Developments please refer to the:

- Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.2.2**
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.2] to **Appendix 8.3.2.4**
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.4]
- Individual Residential Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.3.2**
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2] to **Appendix 8.3.3.3**
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.3]
- Individual Transport Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.4.2**
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2] and **Appendix 8.3.4.3**
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.3]; and
- Individual PRoW Receptor Sheets at **Appendix 8.3.5.2**
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2] and **Appendix 8.3.5.3**
[EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.3].

8.11 Residual Effects

8.11.1 The assessment process includes iterative design and re-assessment of any remaining, residual effects that could not otherwise be mitigated or 'designed out'. This includes an evaluation of the Scheme at Year 15 to identify any residual landscape and visual effects, but also includes years 1 to 14 in the process of assessment. The summary of residual effects is set out below.

Residual Landscape Effects

8.11.2 This section sets out the final judgements made about which landscape effects are significant and adverse or beneficial and the proposals for preventing/avoiding, reducing, or offsetting or compensating for them through the implementation of landscape mitigation. The significant effects remaining after mitigation are therefore the final step in the assessment process which has been summarised below. Where the landscape receptor tables below show that there is a significant adverse residual effect, this has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed.

Cottam 1

4a Unwooded Vales

8.11.3 Refer to **Appendix 8.2.2.2.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2.1]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Unwooded Vales 4a at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.68** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the 5km Study Area.

Table 8.68: Unwooded Vales 4a Mitigation –Cottam 1 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
4a: Unwooded Vales –Cottam 1	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The new and augmented hedgerows and new shelterbelt and scattered tree planting will provide a series of good quality field boundaries both formerly strengthening the existing and historical field pattern and creating a multi-layered landscape. Scattered tree belts will follow the routes of the existing watercourses, strengthening this feature in the context of the wider landscape. The Site will present a ‘well-treed’ landscape in line with the character area aims, where the overall landscape context will be relatively well-vegetated, with scattered and irregularly spaced trees, following the lines of both the existing field boundaries and the road network as well as the local watercourses.

Land Use

8.11.4 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.3.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.1]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Land Use at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.69** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site/Sites.

Table 8.69: Land Use Mitigation - Cottam 1 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Land Use –Cottam 1	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The larger field systems are a key feature, especially where they form a geometric and regular pattern with thickly hedged fields. Linear belts of scattered trees to the south and east of the Cottam 1 Site will help to increase the level of tree cover locally and visually and physically link to existing woodlands such as Thorpe Wood, Cammerinham Low Covert and Brattleby Gorse, through enhanced hedgerows. The strong rectilinear field pattern is a key feature to be enhanced with new hedge

	planting where appropriate. Where hedgerows have been previously managed to create low, neat field boundaries, these are to be allowed to grow out and managed to a height of 5m with the addition of irregularly spaced hedgerow trees. This will have the effect of varying the land use locally whilst open views across the landscape, particularly from the east to the west still available where arable cultivation is retained.
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Topography and Watercourses

- 8.11.5 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.4.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.1]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.70** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.70: Topography and Watercourses Mitigation – Cottam 1 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Topography and Watercourses –Cottam 1	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The most widespread change has been in agricultural intensification, where the change from pastoral to arable cropping has resulted in loss of hedges, and consequently increase in field sizes. The topography and watercourse therefore have a key role to play in helping to define the quality of the landscape and this Site contains linear water features which will benefit from significant enhancement through additional planting of scattered tree belts, and tall herb mix grassland buffers. Existing hedgerows will also be improved through management and the introduction of native hedgerow trees.

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.11.6 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.5.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.1]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Communications and Infrastructure (Construction Stage) is provided in **Table 8.71** below where there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects for the Site/Sites.

Table 8.71: Communications and Infrastructure – Cottam 1 Residual

Construction	Mitigation Measures
Communications and Infrastructure –Cottam 1	
Adverse Moderate Significant	Overall, these routes are able to accommodate an increased minor level of traffic with undue adverse effects, but for users of these routes for recreation and enjoyment, the integrity and tranquillity will be affected by the increased traffic and noise and disturbance for those using the routes to appreciate the countryside.

8.11.7 For the operation (Year 15), for the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 1. In summary, these routes will benefit from the significantly enhanced tree and hedgerow planting that has been carried out and has begun to mature to create a much stronger and robust landscape, retaining and enhancing the overall character and providing considerable biodiversity benefits over the years. Bird mitigation fields are likely to be retained and the potential may exist to enhance grass margins to retain some varied land use and maintain a high level of biodiversity in the local area. There is potential for **Minor** effects, and these effects would be **Adverse**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

8.11.8 For the operation (Year 15) for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects. In summary, the landscape context will be well-integrated in the close-mid range proximity due to the new hedgerows and shelterbelt planting. The enhancement of existing hedgerows will also be managed to a height of 5m. These routes are often used for informal recreation but will not be unduly affected. There is potential for **Minor** effects, and these effects would be **Adverse**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

8.11.9 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.6.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.1]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 1. In summary, the aim is to conserve settlement pattern by ensuring that development is complimentary to intrinsic local character. Trees and hedgerows make an important contribution to the landscape setting of villages and their management has been identified as a priority, particularly when associated with farmsteads and large-scale agricultural buildings. Lines of trees in characteristic locations would also be retained and enhanced. The settlements, industry, commerce, and leisure will not be unduly affected during the operational phase (Year 15) of the Scheme. There is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, but giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

8.11.10 For the operation (Year 15), for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 1. In summary the long westward views to the power stations on the River Trent are key to the spatial qualities of the area and the pattern of settlement

and this would not be affected. The integrity of these routes, which provide key connections across the area, will not be unduly affected during the operational (Year 15) phase of the Scheme. There is potential for **Minor** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Public Rights of Way and Access

8.11.11 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.7.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.1]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects. In summary, some of the villages have a broad landscape setting where the minor roads lead across this area as access for recreation, particularly as a landscape with long views and this is a substitute for the sparse network of PRoW. The footpaths and bridleways are however key features especially where they offer a sequence of views to landmark churches and settlements. Some views from the footpaths also offer westward views to the power stations on the Trent, and eastward views to the scarp face of Lincoln ‘Cliff’ and the landscape mitigation would look to enhance these views where applicable. There is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

8.11.12 For the operation (Year 15) for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects. In summary, the value of the Public Rights of Way and Access for Cottam 1 is conditioned by the limited network of footpaths and bridleways and the availability of the rural roads and minor tracks for extended access. The relevant characteristics of the PRoW therefore are likely to be able to accommodate change without undue adverse effects. There is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

8.11.13 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.8.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.1]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape Operation Stage (Year 15) is provided in **Table 8.72** below where there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.72: Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape – Cottam 1 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape – Cottam 1	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	It is anticipated that the overall scheme of mitigation that will reinforce the landscape character where this has been lost or eroded in the last century to intensive arable farming. The new and enhanced hedgerows around the boundary of the Cottam 1 Site will help to define the historic field pattern and screen views towards the new panel areas from the adjoining Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLV). Enhancements to the overall level of tree cover, being near to mature at this stage will have a

	medium but neutral effect on the setting of the local villages and will enhance the character generally in the context of the two AGLVs.
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Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.11.14 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.9.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.1]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 1. In summary, in terms of mitigation for Cottam 1, due to the landscape that is largely flat, this allows wide views of large-scale features, especially the power stations on the west bank of the Trent. In contrast, views of small-scale features, such as the corridor Till and its tributaries are an important asset to be enhanced for their overarching history of the area during the medieval period in particular. There is potential for **Negligible** effects, and these effects would be **Neutral**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.
- 8.11.15 For the operation (Year 15) for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects. In summary, the cultural heritage of the farmed landscape immediately surrounding the settlements of Willingham by Stow, Stow and Kexby will be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern in this farmed landscape, where applicable. Enhancements to the overall level of tree cover will also have a beneficial effect on the setting of the local villages. There is potential for **Negligible** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.11.16 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.10.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.1]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.73** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.73: Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations –Cottam 1 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations –Cottam 1	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The addition of irregularly spaced hedgerow trees across the Cottam 1 Site will help increase the tree cover locally and create additional biodiversity benefits by providing strong links of native trees between existing woodlands and proposed shelterbelts. These new trees will also further enhance the east/west cover to enhance these green corridors. Within

	<p>Cottam 1, there are several small woodlands including Cameringham Low Covert, Thorpe Wood and Brattleby Gorse which provide a good level of cover locally and will be linked to each other and further afield with enhanced and new hedgerows. Successional scrub will be provided as necessary at the base of some of these woodlands to increase the biodiversity and transitional value to the grassland beyond. Two small areas of scattered native tree belts will augment this woodland cover and help to create valuable links between existing woodlands and hedgerows across the area.</p>
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Cottam 1 West Option A Substation Site

Land Use

- 8.11.17 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.1]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Land Use at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 West Option A is provided in **Table 8.74** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.74: Land Use – Cottam 1 West Option A Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Land Use – Cottam 1 West Option A Substation Site	
Adverse Moderate Significant	This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the proposed hedgerows and tree cover will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern.

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.11.18 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.1 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.1]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 West Option A is provided in **Table 8.75** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.75: Topography and Watercourses - Cottam 1 West Option A Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Topography and Watercourses –Cottam 1 West Option A	
Adverse Moderate Significant	This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the waterside scattered trees and other proposed hedgerows and tree cover in the immediate setting of these watercourses will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern.

Cottam 1 West Option B Substation Site

Land Use

8.11.19 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Land Use at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 West Option B is provided in **Table 8.76** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.76: Land Use – Cottam 1 West Option B Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Land Use – Cottam 1 West Option B Substation Site	
Adverse Moderate Significant	This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the proposed hedgerows and tree cover will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern.

Topography and Watercourses

8.11.20 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 West Option B is provided in **Table 8.77** below

where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.77: Topography and Watercourses - Cottam 1 West Option B Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Topography and Watercourses –Cottam 1 West Option B	
Adverse Moderate Significant	This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the waterside scattered trees and other proposed hedgerows and tree cover in the immediate setting of these watercourses will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern.

Cottam 2

4a Unwooded Vales

- 8.11.21 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.2.2. [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Unwooded Vales 4a at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.78** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the 5km Study Area.

Table 8.78: Unwooded Vales 4a – Cottam 2 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
4a: Unwooded Vales –Cottam 2	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	Wide panoramic views are possible from the low hills and ridges that form watersheds between watercourses. This contrasts with the lower lying areas where intact hedgerows and belts of riverside trees truncate views. The landscape to the north, south, east, and west of the Site will be bolstered in the close-mid range context through the new hedgerow and shelterbelt planting and the enhancement of existing hedges which will be managed to a height of 5m that will help redress the imbalance between the low hills and ridges and the lower lying areas, which are more intact.

Land Use

8.11.22 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Land Use at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.79** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.79: Land Use – Cottam 2 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Land Use – Cottam 2	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The small to medium sized fields are separated by hedgerows with some trees, and drainage ditches. The landscape has a positive character which is re-enforced by small woodlands that are located to the northeast of the Site. By Year 15, the proposed mitigation will have established and begun to mature. Existing vegetation will have grown out and will be enhanced with much needed additional tree species. The overall scene will be somewhat more intimate, with tall hedges in places and trees dotted along roads and field boundaries.

Topography and Watercourses

8.11.23 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.80** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.80: Topography and Watercourse – Cottam 2 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Topography and Watercourses – Cottam 2	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The value of Topography and Watercourses for Cottam 2 is shaped by a low-lying flat agricultural landscape characterised by large areas of former River Meadow lands that have now been converted to arable land. This arable land encroaches down to the river channels in some areas, disrupting the unity of the watercourses. Across the Site, linear ditches and dykes which are currently abutted by vegetation will be enhanced to further delineate the field boundaries and minor watercourses as well as adding to the green corridors and biodiversity value. Scattered tree belts running adjacent to the watercourse to the east of the Site will sit back beyond a grassland buffer of a tall

	herb mixture, enhancing and protecting the existing native species for nature conservation and reduce fertilizer and spray run-off improving water quality. These belts will create strong green corridors across the landscape which will link to adjacent copses and field boundary hedgerows.
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Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.11.24 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.2]**. A summary of findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the construction stage for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.81** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.81: Communications and Infrastructure – Cottam 2 Residual

Construction	Mitigation Measures
Communications and Infrastructure –Cottam 1	
Adverse Moderate Significant	Overall, these routes are able to accommodate an increased minor level of traffic with undue adverse effects, but for users of these routes for recreation and enjoyment, the integrity and tranquillity will be affected by the increased traffic and noise and disturbance for those using the routes to appreciate the countryside.

- 8.11.25 For the 5km Study Area, for the construction and operation stages, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 2. In summary, these roads are popular for recreation as they provide attractive destinations as narrow country lanes that run east west. There are also north south roads within this minor network which adds an extra level of complexity to the landscape. These routes are often used for informal recreation but will not be unduly affected. There is potential for **Minor** effects, these effects would be **Adverse**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.
- 8.11.26 For the operation (Year 15): For the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 2. In summary, these communications links are able to accommodate the increased level of traffic between the Cottam 2 Site and to the wider transport links without undue adverse effects. The integrity and tranquillity of these routes, often used for informal recreation, but they will not be unduly affected during the operational (Year 15) phase of the development. There is potential for **Minor** effects, but these effects would be **Adverse**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.11.27 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.6.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.2]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 2 Site. In summary

despite the importance of nucleated settlements in this area, they are frequently hidden from view by tall hedgerows that border the local lanes, meaning they give a reduced contribution to landscape character. The settlements, industry, commerce, and leisure will not be unduly affected during the operational phase (Year 15) of the Scheme. There is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, but giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

- 8.11.28 For the operation (Year 15) stage for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 2 Site. In summary although the landscape shows evidence of historic settlement with farms and nucleated villages and small hamlets such as Aisby, Corringham and Pilham, they would not be adversely affected by the Scheme. The landscape surrounding these settlements retain a rural and tranquil character, and the new planting would pay respect to this character and look to enhance local distinctiveness. The integrity of these routes, which provide key connections across the area, will not be unduly affected during the operational (Year 15) phase of the Scheme. There is potential for **Minor** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.11.29 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.7.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.2]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 2 Site. In summary, the small villages have distinctive landscape elements which contribute to the special identity of the surrounding landscape and its value to the PRoW and network. This includes their approaches and well-integrated edges. New native hedgerow planting will be introduced to the field boundaries as appropriate and existing hedgerows will be allowed to grow out in the context of these small villages. Proposed and existing hedgerows will be managed at 5m. Hedgerow trees will be added to existing hedges to further provide a well-vegetated context to the PRoW network. There is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

- 8.11.30 For the operation (Year 15) stage for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 2 Site. There is potential for **Minor** effects, and these would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.11.31 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.8.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.82**.

Table 8.82: Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape – Cottam 2 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape – Cottam 2	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The cultural heritage of the farmed landscape and its importance in providing a wider setting to the two AGLV's associated with the Cottam 2 Site will be retained and enhanced. The mitigation proposals will bring forward a more varied mix of land use and significantly enhanced grassland areas that will aim to reinforce the historic field pattern in this farmed landscape, where applicable.

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.11.32 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.9.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.2]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 2 Site. In summary, the only Listed Building close to the Site is Old Hall which sits beyond strong boundary vegetation and its setting is not affected by development. Listed Buildings within Corringham have no visual or physical relationship with the Site. Corringham Mill will have a strengthened backdrop of planting following mitigation. No other designated site is affected unduly by the development. There is potential for **Negligible** effects, and these would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.
- 8.11.33 For the operation (Year 15) stage, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 2 Site. In summary, the only Listed Building close to the Site is Old Hall which sits beyond strong boundary vegetation and its setting is not affected by development. Listed Buildings within Corringham have no visual or physical relationship with the Site. Corringham Mill will have a strengthened backdrop of planting following mitigation. No other designated site is affected unduly by the development. There is potential for **Negligible** effects, and these would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

- 8.11.34 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.10.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.2.10.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.83** where there is an identification and evaluation of likely residual significant effects for the Site.

Table 8.83: Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations – Cottam 2 Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations –Cottam 2	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	<p>Within Cottam 2, reinforcement of the character includes linear bands of scattered trees to the east of the Site along the Yawthorpe Beck. This belt will enhance the character of the river corridor with a strong vertical feature together with a 10m wide tall herb mix to enhance its setting in both visual and ecological terms. The reduction in agricultural sprays will both enhance water quality and suppress vigorous grasses to all areas but particularly around existing watercourses.</p> <p>Existing ponds within the Site are retained and enhanced with proposed native shrub planting creating a strong buffer to these landscape elements.</p> <p>A small woodland to the southeast of Cottam 2 is proposed where several trees exist, helping to bolster the level of woodland cover locally and linking to existing landscape features through enhanced hedgerows around existing field boundaries.</p>

Cottam 2 Substation Site

Land Use

- 8.11.35 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Land Use at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.84** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.84: Land Use – Cottam 2 Substation Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Land Use – Cottam 2 Substation Site	
Adverse Moderate Significant	<p>This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the proposed</p>

	hedgerows and tree cover will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern.
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Topography and Watercourses

- 8.11.36 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.85** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.85: Topography and Watercourses - Cottam 2 Substation Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Topography and Watercourses –Cottam 2 Substation Site	
Adverse Moderate Significant	This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the waterside scattered trees and other proposed hedgerows and tree cover in the immediate setting of these watercourses will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern.

Cottam 3a

4a Unwooded Vales

- 8.11.37 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.2.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2.3]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Unwooded Vales 4a at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.86** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the 5km Study Area.

Table 8.86: Unwooded Vales 4a – Cottam 3a Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
4a: Unwooded Vales – Cottam 3a	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	Areas have a positive character but include some patches of degradation where agricultural intensification has eroded landscape character, particularly around the edges of settlements. A new hedgerow with hedgerow trees, enhanced existing hedgerows and a belt of scattered trees are proposed

	around field K1. This field is close to the settlement edge and the additional tree planting will help to increase the overall tree cover around this area creating a more 'well-treed' perception. The varied grass mixes and potential for short term, rotational sheep grazing within this small field will partially restore the historic pattern close to settlements.
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4b Wooded Vales

- 8.11.38 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.2.2.4 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2.4]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Wooded Vales 4b at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.87** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the 5km Study Area.

Table 8.87: Wooded Vales –Cottam 3a Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
4b Wooded Vales – Cottam 3a	
Beneficial Mod-Maj Significant	Areas have a positive character, but loss of grazing around the edges of villages is leading to a more homogenous landscape. A very small section of Cottam 3a lies within the Wooded Vales, being field K1. It relates more closely to the Unwooded Vales although the Wooded Vales to the west of the Site generally have some influence on this area as a whole. A new hedgerow with hedgerow trees, enhanced existing hedgerows and a belt of scattered trees are proposed around field K1. This field is close to the settlement edge and the additional tree planting will help to increase the overall tree cover around this area creating a more 'well-treed' perception. The varied grass mixes and potential for short term, rotational sheep grazing within this small field will partially restore the historic pattern close to settlements.

Land Use

- 8.11.39 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.3]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Land Use at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.88** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.88: Land Use – Cottam 3a Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Land Use – Cottam 3a	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The landscape mainly comprises predominantly of open fields with hedged boundaries and also land and structures associated with the former airfield that is currently is used for motor racing and carting. The landscape benefits from high levels of visual containment due to the local landform, hedgerows, and shelter belts and this helps tolerance for landscape change. Where hedgerows have been previously managed to create low, neat field boundaries, these are to be allowed to grow out and managed to a height of 5m with the addition of irregularly spaced hedgerow trees. This will have the effect of varying the land use locally whilst open views across the landscape, particularly from the east to the west still available where arable cultivation is retained.

Topography and Watercourses

8.11.40 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.3]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.89** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.89: Topography and Watercourses – Cottam 3a Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Topography and Watercourses –Cottam 3a	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	There are few watercourses in the wider landscape, but there are springs and flushes at the edges of the limestone plateau where the water meets the underlying impermeable layers. A small number of linear man-made ditches and dykes exist across the Site that would benefit from some enhancement including a less formal watercourse to the east of the Site which is to be planted with successive scrub to provided biodiversity and improve the presence of the watercourse locally within the landscape.

Communications and Infrastructure

8.11.41 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.3]**. A summary of findings of the landscape mitigation for the communications and infrastructure at the construction stage for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.90** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.90: Communications and Infrastructure – Cottam 3a Residual

Construction	Mitigation Measures
Communications and Infrastructure – Cottam 3a	
Adverse Moderate Significant	Overall, these routes are able to accommodate an increased minor level of traffic with undue adverse effects, but for users of these routes for recreation and enjoyment, the integrity and tranquillity will be affected by the increased traffic and noise and disturbance for those using the routes to appreciate the countryside.

8.11.42 For operation (Year 15): For the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 3a. In summary, these minor roads around the Cottam 3a Site (running predominantly north/south and east/west) may also need to accommodate a minor amount of additional traffic during the operation phase of the Scheme. Where these roads are within, or abut the Cottam 3a Site, boundary vegetation will mitigate the Scheme and will also be enhanced, and the wide road margins improved. The integrity of these routes, which provide key connections across the area, will not be unduly affected. There is potential for **Minor** effects, and these effects would be **Adverse**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

8.11.43 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.6.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.3]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 3a. In summary, the landscape shows evidence of historic settlement with farms and nucleated villages and small hamlets such as the Medieval village of Southorpe, but the landscape surrounding these settlements would retain the rural and tranquil character with farms. The minor lanes and roads leading to these settlements are interrupted by the presence the former airfield in parts and these routes are used for informal recreation but will not be unduly affected during the operational phase (Year 15) of the Scheme. There is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.11.44 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.6.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.3]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 3a. In summary, the landscape shows evidence of historic settlement with farms and nucleated villages and small hamlets such as the Medieval village of Southorpe, but the landscape surrounding these settlements would retain the rural and tranquil character with farms. The minor lanes and roads leading to these settlements are interrupted by the presence of the former airfield in parts and these routes are used for informal recreation but will not be unduly affected during the operational phase (Year 15) of the Scheme. There is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.
- 8.11.45 For the operation (Year 15) for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 3a. In summary to the north of the railway line the landscape is heavily influenced by the airfield, the landscape is more open and less vegetated with open field boundaries and irregular field patterns. Some of the settlements in more open locations such as adjacent to former airfields would benefit from hedgerow and tree planting and this could contribute a stronger sense of identity. Planting groups of deciduous trees adjacent to prominent farm buildings will also help integrate these features within the wider landscape. The integrity of these settlements, industry, commerce and leisure, will not be unduly affected during the operational (Year 15) phase of the development. There is potential for **Minor** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.11.46 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.7.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.3]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 3a Site. In summary, due to there being no PRow within the local vicinity of the Site. There is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.
- 8.11.47 For the operation (Year 15) stage for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 3a Site. In summary, the landscape surrounding the settlements retain some rural and tranquil character with farms, and when in combination with PRow this adds to their quality, and this would be significantly enhanced to retain a strong 'sense of place'. The landscape also benefits from high levels of visual containment due to the local landform, hedgerows, and shelter belts and this helps tolerance for landscape change for the PRow network. For PRow Pilh/20/01, mitigation is in the form of creating a 10m wide enclosed route with a tussock grass mix along its length. A new hedge to the north of the PRow will be provided together with irregularly spaced hedgerow trees to create a much more pleasant walkway. This hedgerow will extend west to join existing vegetation along the route. The existing hedgerow to the south of the route will be enhanced as necessary with the hedge being allowed to grow out and managed to a height of 5m with hedgerow trees added. Further use for disused airfields are also an important

and relevant consideration in terms of recreation and access issues. In summary, there is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.11.48 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.8.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.3]**. A summary of findings of the landscape mitigation for the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape at the Operation (Year 15) stage for Cottam 3a is provided in Table 8.91 below where there is an identification of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.91: Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape – Cottam 2	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	Due to their distance and varied relationship with the immediate landscape to their boundaries, it is anticipated that the overall scheme of mitigation that will reinforce the landscape character where this has been lost or eroded in the last century to intensive arable farming.

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.11.49 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.9.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.3]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 3a Site. There is potential for **Negligible** effects, and these would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to Not Significant residual effects
- 8.11.50 For the operation (Year 15) stage, for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 3a Site. In summary, enhancements to the overall level of tree cover will have a minor but beneficial effect on the setting of the local villages. New planting to enhance the setting of Blyton will be beneficial in particular since vegetation cover is sparse around the edges of the settlement and the close proximity to the former airfield use and strategic and busy road networks raises the level of sensitivity at this location. The western boundary of Cottam 3a Site is to have an enhanced hedgerow adjacent to the Laughton Road to the north of the Site. Further south along part of the southwestern boundary closest to Blyton village, a strong belt of scattered trees will mitigate views of the Site from the southwest. On the western boundary of the Site adjacent to the northern part of Blyton village, a strong belt of successional scrub is proposed in order to mitigate views from the village and provide good quality biodiversity gains.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

8.11.51 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.10.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.3]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.92** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Site.

Table 8.92: Summary of Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations – Cottam 3a

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations – Cottam 3a	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	Within Cottam 3a reinforcement of the character includes linear bands of scattered trees to the west together with successional scrub around existing vegetation in the west, south and east. The Site will however benefit from the significantly enhanced tree and hedgerow planting that has been carried out and has matured to create a much stronger and robust landscape, retaining, and enhancing the overall character and providing considerable biodiversity benefits over the years. Bird mitigation fields are likely to be retained and the potential may exist to retain grass margins to maintain some varied land use and a high level of biodiversity in the local area.

Cottam 3a Substation Site

Land Use

8.11.52 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Land Use at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.93** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.93: Land Use – Cottam 3a Substation Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Land Use – Cottam 3a Substation Site	
Adverse Moderate	This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the

Significant	landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the proposed hedgerows and tree cover will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern.
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Topography and Watercourses

8.11.53 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.94** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.94: Topography and Watercourses - Cottam 3a Substation Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Topography and Watercourses –Cottam 3a Substation Site	
Adverse Moderate Significant	This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the waterside scattered trees and other proposed hedgerows and tree cover in the immediate setting of these watercourses will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern.

Cottam 3b

4a Unwooded Vales

8.11.54 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.2.2.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.2.2.5]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Unwooded Vales 4a at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.95** where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.95: Unwooded Vales 4a – Cottam 3b Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
4a: Unwooded Vales – Cottam 3b	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The roads and watercourses combine to give a subtle grain to the landscape. The interruptions at the bridge crossings, such as Blyton Beck, provide local points of interest and the opportunity to capture views across the landscape. Considerable strengthening of the existing north/south field boundaries will bolster the historic field pattern in this area, especially where they form intersections with within the local road network and bridge crossings over the watercourse.

Land Use

- 8.11.55 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.3.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.3.3]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Land Use at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.96** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.96: Land Use – Cottam 3b Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Land Use – Cottam 3b	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The landscape benefits from high levels of visual containment due to the local landform, hedgerows, and shelter belts and this helps tolerance for landscape change. Instead of the somewhat bland and monotypic arable landscape, the Scheme will create a series of interlinked habitats with strong field boundaries dividing the Sites with an overall much greater level of tree cover. This will enhance the local character generally and integrate the panel areas into the landscape. The Scheme and its associated landscape mitigation will break up the over intensified local arable landscape and significantly diversify the land-use in the local area.

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.11.56 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.4.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.4.3]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.97** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.97: Topography and Watercourse Mitigation – Cottam 3b Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Topography and Watercourses – Cottam 3b	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	The Site does not contain any watercourses, but overall, in terms of mitigation for Cottam 3b, the aim is to manage land adjacent to wet woodland and other wetland habitats to buffer them and maintain their hydrology, thus retaining them as landscape features and enhancing their biodiversity interest. There is also the opportunity to establish permanent uncultivated strips alongside watercourses and expansion of wetland to improve carbon capture.

Communications and Infrastructure

- 8.11.57 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.5.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.5.3]**. A summary of findings of the landscape mitigation for the communications and infrastructure at the construction stage for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.98** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Site.

Table 8.98: Communications and Infrastructure – Cottam 3b Residual

Construction	Mitigation Measures
Communications and Infrastructure –Cottam 3b	
Adverse Moderate Significant	Overall, these routes are able to accommodate an increased minor level of traffic with undue adverse effects, but for users of these routes for recreation and enjoyment, the integrity and tranquillity will be affected by the increased traffic and noise and disturbance for those using the routes to appreciate the countryside.

- 8.11.58 For the 5km Study Area, for the construction and operation stages, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 3b. In summary, these routes and watercourses combine to give a subtle grain to the landscape. The interruptions at the bridge crossings, provide local points of interest and the opportunity to capture views across the landscape. These routes are often used for informal recreation but will not be unduly affected. There is potential for **Minor** effects, but these effects would be **Adverse**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.
- 8.11.59 For operation (Year 15): For the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 3b. In summary, the landscape benefits from good levels of visual containment due to the local landform, hedgerows, and shelter belts and this helps tolerance for landscape change. An increase in traffic using the east west routes

across the area adds some vulnerability of the landscape to change and these routes are often used for informal recreation but will not be unduly affected. Enhanced existing vegetation adjacent to these routes and further north where the eastern boundary of the 3b Site abuts Bonsdale Lane, new planting will mitigate the presence of the new panels and help to buffer any additional traffic along these routes. The integrity of these routes, which provide key connections across the area, will not be unduly affected. There is potential for **Minor** effects, but these effects would be **Adverse**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Settlements, Industry, Commerce and Leisure

- 8.11.60 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.6.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.6.3]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant effects for Cottam 3b. In summary, although the landscape is sensitive due to the area being relatively sparsely populated, these isolated individual residential properties and farmsteads distributed along lanes throughout the surrounding the Cottam 3b Site would not be affected. The landscape to the south of the railway line is part of the grid pattern of minor roads that is closely related to the sites of Medieval settlements across the area. but will not be unduly affected during the operational phase (Year 15) of the Scheme. There is potential for **Minor** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.
- 8.11.61 For the operation (Year 15) for the Site, there are no likely significant effects for Cottam 3b. In summary, the area has a positive landscape character but includes some patches of degradation where agricultural intensification has eroded landscape character, particularly around the edges of settlements the landscape mitigation brings forward measures as part of the Scheme to enhance the landscape in these areas. The integrity of these settlements, industry, commerce, and leisure, will therefore not be unduly affected during the operational (Year 15) phase of the development. There is potential for **Minor** effects, and these effects would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Public Rights of Way and Access

- 8.11.62 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.7.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.7.3]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 3b Site. In summary, enhancements to PRow Corr/21/1 across the Site will bring enhanced benefits to this route through the closing in of the route whilst providing a 10m wide path which will be less exposed and a more pleasant walk. There is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects
- 8.11.63 For the operation (Year 15) stage for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for the Cottam 3b Site. In summary, due to limited connectivity of footpath and bridleway networks, the aim is to provide more interpretation and access through good green infrastructure links. As part of tertiary mitigation, there is also scope for improving links between the settlements and the countryside. Providing better access to the landscapes, and the habitats and species they support will

improve understanding of their importance. Ensuring that green infrastructure is incorporated into new development will enhance access and recreational opportunities all round, especially developing more links and circular walks. In summary, there is potential for **Minor-Moderate** effects, and these would be **Beneficial**, giving rise to **Not Significant** residual effects.

Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape

- 8.11.64 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.8.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.8.3]**. A summary of findings of the landscape mitigation for the Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape at the operation (Year 15) stage for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.99** below where there is an identification of **Significant** residual effects for the Site.

Table 8.99 Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape – Cottam 3b Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Nationally and Locally Designated Landscape – Cottam 3b	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	There will be a much greater level of tree cover over the Cottam 3b Site. Areas of successional scrub are also proposed to the northern boundary adjacent to the railway line, with new and enhanced hedgerows to the southern and eastern boundaries and across this Site adding to the overall field boundary vegetation. Enhancements to the overall level of tree cover, although relatively immature at this stage it will have a very minor but beneficial effect on the setting of the local villages and will enhance the character generally in the context of the AGLVs.

Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Parks and Gardens

- 8.11.65 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.9.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.9.3]**. For the 5km Study Area, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 3b. In summary There are no Listed buildings within the Site of Cottam 3a or 3b but a small number within the village of Blyton, to the west, Pilham to the Southwest and Northorpe to the northeast, as well as The Railway Station adjacent to Cottam 3b but these receptors are not affected by the development. There are no Conservation Areas or Scheduled Monuments affected by the development.
- 8.11.66 For the operation (Year 15) for the Site, there are no likely significant residual effects for Cottam 3b. In summary, around and within the Cottam 3b Site, new and enhanced hedgerow planting to the south-eastern boundaries will further mitigate any views towards the new panel areas from the village of Pilham. There are no

Listed buildings within the Site of Cottam 3b but a small number within the village of Blyton, to the west, Pilham to the southwest and Northorpe to the northeast, as well as the Railway Station adjacent to Cottam 3b. Although their setting is not directly affected by Scheme, general mitigation around the boundary of the Cottam 3b Site will help to ensure that these receptors are not impacted.

Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations

8.11.67 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.10.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.10.3]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.100** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Site.

Table 8.100: Summary of Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations – Cottam 3b

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Ancient Woodlands and Natural Designations –Cottam 3a	
Beneficial Moderate Significant	<p>Within Cottam 3b these include considerable strengthening of the north/south field patterns across the Site with both new and enhanced hedgerow planting and management. An additional new hedgerow across the Site adjacent to the PRoW will create a strong east/west link, reinforcing both the visual and physical elements along this open area.</p> <p>The addition of irregularly spaced hedgerow trees across the Site will help increase the tree cover locally and create additional biodiversity benefits by creating strong links of native trees between existing woodlands and proposed shelterbelts.</p> <p>Successional scrub around the existing railway line vegetation will reinforce this linear feature, create strong green infrastructure links</p>

Cottam 3b Substation Site

Land Use

8.11.68 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Land Use at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.101** where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.101: Land Use – Cottam 3b Substation Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Land Use – Cottam 3b Substation Site	
Adverse Moderate Significant	This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the proposed hedgerows and tree cover will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern.

Topography and Watercourses

- 8.11.69 Please refer to **Appendix 8.2.12.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.2.12.2]**. A summary of the findings of the landscape mitigation for the Topography and Watercourses at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.102** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely **Significant** effects for the Substation Site.

Table 8.102: Topography and Watercourses - Cottam 3a Substation Residual

Operation (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
Topography and Watercourses –Cottam 3b Substation Site	
Adverse Moderate Significant	This significant residual effect has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed, but the presence of the substation will remain evident in the landscape as a prominent feature due to its size, scale and discordant nature with the surrounding rural land use. With the additional and embedded mitigation measures, however there will be improvements to the landscape where the waterside scattered trees and other proposed hedgerows and tree cover in the immediate setting of these watercourses will bring forward more variety to the prevailing landscape pattern

Residual Visual Effects

- 8.11.70 This section sets out the final judgements made about which visual effects are significant and adverse or beneficial and the proposals for preventing/avoiding, reducing, or offsetting of compensating for them in terms of landscape mitigation.

The significant effects remaining after mitigation are therefore the final step in the process and summarised below:

Cottam 1

Viewpoint Receptors

8.11.71 The visual receptor tables below set out the assessment of likely significant effects when the proposed embedded and additional landscape mitigation is taken into account. For the assessments both with and without taking mitigation proposals into account, please refer to the Individual Viewpoint Receptor Sheets. Where the visual receptor tables below show that there is a significant adverse residual effect, this has been concluded taking into account the embedded and additional mitigation proposed. For a summary of the findings of the viewpoint mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15), please refer to **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]**. A summary of the findings of the viewpoint mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.103** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects. Please also refer to **Figure 8.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.11]**.

Table 8.103: Summary of Viewpoint Mitigation – Cottam 1

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
VP04: Thorpe Lane, Local Bridge	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.4]	Views towards the north and west looking over the panel areas. The enhancement of existing hedges in the foreground bordering Thorpe Lane will provide a good level of screening of the panels at close-range and be managed up to a height of 5m. In the middle distance, the new shelterbelt planting will add additional tree cover to the landscape and provide a more enclosed context to this location. This tree cover will also augment the existing woodland cover to the east around Brattleby.
VP05: TLFe/31/2	
Mod-Maj Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.5]	Views towards the north and northwest and northeast looking over the panel areas. The new blocks of scattered trees as well as new hedgerows in the foreground will provide a good level of screening of the panels at close-range. The enhanced hedgerows in the wider northeast extent of the Site will provide additional softening and screened at mid-range and help augment the presence of Thorpe Wood and Brattleby Gorse in the landscape.
VP06: Thorpe Lane	
Mod-Maj Beneficial Significant	Views looking north looking directly over the panel areas. The new hedgerow in the foreground will be managed to a height of up to 5m with additional hedgerow trees to add height and structure to the new planting at this location in order to provide a good level of screening

[C6.4.8.14.6]	of the panels at close range. In the wider part of the Site to the north, views of the panels will be softened and screened through the planting of new hedgerows and enhancements to existing sections where additional height would provide beneficial screening.
VP07: Thorpe Bridge TFL/32/1	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.7]	Views towards the northeast looking directly over the panel areas. This view will become significantly more enclosed but creating a more varied and interesting route along this section of Thorpe Lane (which is currently mostly open). The close-range views will be curtailed by a strong shelterbelt in the foreground in order to provide a good level of screening of the panels at close-range. This shelterbelt will be supplemented with scattered tree planting along the River Till, which will add considerable structure to the landscape and help curtail views at close range.
VP10: Stur/73/1	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.10]	Views towards the northeast looking directly over the panel areas. These are close-range views that will become more enclosed by a strong shelterbelt in order to provide screening and softening to the panels at this location. The scattered tree planting along the River Till will also appear in the view and help trace its presence in the distant landscape as a new feature.
VP11: TLFe/31/2	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.11]	Views towards the south looking directly over the panel areas. This will be a framed view with the experience of a wide, hedged bridleway with tussock grassland margins as a new feature at close-range. The mid-distant views will be broken up by tall hedges with hedgerow trees adding to the structure of the landscape and creating a more interesting and layered landscape in views towards the south of this location.
VP12: Camm/31/1	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.12]	Views towards the southeast looking directly over the panel areas. This will be an enclosed view with the experienced of a wide, hedged bridleway and tussock grassland margins. The mid distance views towards the south will be broken up by tall hedges with hedgerow trees and small blocks of scattered trees. The new tree planting will augment the existing wooded scene in this location that includes Thorpe Wood and Brattleby Wood.
VP13: Fleets Lane, Stow Pasture	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.13]	Views towards the south looking directly over the panel areas. This will have become a more enclosed view at close-range, since the existing hedgerows will have been managed to grow out to 5m in order to provide a good level of screening of the panels at close range. Mid-range and longer distant views would give rise to a layered

	well-treed landscape set within a backdrop of strong woodland comprising the small collection of woodlands to the west of Brattleby.
VP15: Squire's Bridge	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.15]	Views looking south towards the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed at close-range in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels, where existing hedgerows will have been managed to grow out to 5m. Mid-range and longer distant views will give the impression of a layered well-treed landscape set within a backdrop of strong woodland comprising the small collection of woodlands to the west of Brattleby. The open character of the River Till will be maintained to respect the openness of this location.
VP19: Bridge over River Till	
Mod-Maj Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.19]	Views looking south towards the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed where the proposed shelterbelt and scattered trees will have established a strong field boundary structure in order to provide a good level of screening of the panels. At mid-range, the new and augmented hedgerows will provide some screening of the solar panels with the context of a strong backdrop of Normanby Gorse.
VP20: Normanby Road	
Moderate Neutral Significant [C6.4.8.14.20]	Views looking east directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed where the proposed scattered trees and shelterbelt bordering Normanby Road will have established in order to create a good level of screening of the panels at close range. Existing hedges will have been managed to grow out to 5m and the riparian tree cover bordering the River Till will remain as a distinctive feature in the landscape.
VP21: Stow/83/1	
Maj-Mod Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.21]	Views looking north directly over the panel areas. This location will retain close-range views of the field to the south with low vegetation cover to encourage turtle dove populations. To the north, both the new and improved hedgerow planting (having become well-established in the mid-distance) will create a layered landscape in the context of a strong backdrop of woodland (New Plantation and Larch Plantation) on the horizon.
VP32: Fill/86/1	
Mod-Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.32]	Views looking directly west over the panel areas. This location will become more enclosed, and views will be curtailed to close-range where proposed native hedges will be managed to a height of 5m in order to provide a good level of screening of the panels. In the middle-distance, new, and augmented hedgerows will provide a series of strong field boundaries and enclosure will also occur to the landscape in this direction. Views of the longer distance (where the foreground

	hedgerow does not block these) will comprise a layered well-treed landscape with a wooded horizon as a backdrop.
VP36: Fill/767/1	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.36]	Views looking northwest directly over the panel areas. This location will reveal a flower meadow in the foreground supplemented with a shelterbelt and a further open field of turtle dove mitigation planting to the west of North Farm. Shelterbelt planting to the north and the scattered tree belt to the northeast will have established and will begin to provide strong vegetated layers adding enclosure to the landscape in this direction in order to provide a good level of screening of the panels at close range.
VP37: Junction of Gypsy Lane and Willingham Road	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.37]	Views looking east and southeast directly over the panel areas. This location will become more enclosed since the existing hedges will have been managed to grow out to 5m in order to provide a good level of screening of the panels. The mid and longer distance views will appear as a well-treed landscape with a strong backdrop of woodland. Roadside verges along Willingham Road will have established to create softer and more natural edges to this east west route.
VP39: Junction of Cot Garth Lane and Stone Pit Lane	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.39]	Views looking southeast towards the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed since the existing hedges will have been managed to grow out to 5m in order to provide a good level of screening of the panels. The proposed hedgerow trees will also add to the vertical structure of the landscape. The mid and longer distance views will appear as a well-treed landscape with a strong backdrop of woodland in the context of Normanby Gorse and woodland around Grange Farm.
LCC-C-D: Blackthorn Lane	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.71]	Views looking west over the panel areas. This location will become more enclosed since the new hedgerows and shelterbelts will have been managed to grow out in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels. This new planting will join with existing woodland to create a strong east west concentration of woodland and shelterbelts locally. The new planting and hedgerow improvements will also add intervening vegetation to the landscape to the northwest to create a layered effect adding more enclosure to views in this direction.
LCC-C-G: PRoW Fill/85/2	
Moderate Adverse Significant	Views looking south directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed at close range since the proposed hedgerows will have established to create strong field divisions in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels. Existing

[C6.4.8.15.74]	hedges will have been managed to grow out to 5m and the proposed trees will reinforce the vertical structure within the hedgerows to supplement the screening.
LCC-C-H: PRow Fill/767/1	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.75]	Views looking south and southeast directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels. The view will change with the addition of a new shelterbelt forming part of the existing field boundaries along the ditch line and with enhanced hedgerows in the foreground. At mid-distance, the shelterbelt and hedgerows will have become established and will have begun to provide strong vegetated layers across the landscape merging into the existing woodland blocks comprising Larch Plantation and New Plantation.
LCC-C-I: Willingham Road	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.76]	Views looking south and southeast directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels. The view will change with the addition of new hedgerow planting and a shelterbelt. At mid-range, the new planting will have established to provide vegetated layers across the landscape merging into the existing woodland blocks on the horizon comprising Larch Plantation and New Plantation.
LCC-C-J: Fillingham Lane	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.77]	Views looking southeast directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels. The views will change since the proposed scattered trees and shelterbelt will have established to create a strong field structure and provide a landscape that is more populated with tree cover in the mid distance.
LCC-C_T: Kirton Road	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.87]	This representative view from Kirton Road and there would be oblique views.

Residential Receptors-Cottam 1

- 8.11.72 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]**. A summary of the findings of the residential mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.104** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme at the operation stage (Year 15) . Please also refer to **Figure 8.7.5 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.5]**.

Table 8.104: Summary of Residential Mitigation – Cottam 1

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
R61: Greystones Farm	
Minor-Moderate Neutral Not Significant	Overall, the views from the first-floor principle south facing elevation are likely to capture the main visual interest over the surrounding landscape towards Ingham across an open, arable fields. The south facing first floor outlook would not be significantly affected, since the presence of intervening hedgerows and vegetation within the surrounding garden would help provide some filtering of the panel areas. To the south of the property, the mitigation would include for an area of grassland and a proposed native hedge with irregularly spaced hedgerow trees. This hedgerow planting is likely to reach a maximum height of 3.5m at Year 15 and will ultimately be allowed to grow out to 5m.
R62: Turpin Farm	
Minor-Moderate Neutral Not Significant	Overall, the views from the first-floor windows of the two-storey dwelling to the east are likely to capture the main visual interest over the surrounding landscape since the remainder of the outlook is enclosed by the mature tree cover. The east facing first floor outlook from the two-storey dwelling could be significantly affected, but the presence of intervening tree cover within the surrounding garden would help provide some filtering of the panel areas. To the east of the two-storey property, the mitigation would include for an area of grassland and a proposed native hedge with irregularly spaced hedgerow trees. This hedgerow planting is likely to reach a maximum height of 3.5m at Year 15 and will ultimately be allowed to grow out to 5m.
R63a: North Farm	
Minor- Moderate Neutral Not Significant	Overall, the views from the first-floor windows of the two-storey dwelling to the south are likely to capture the main visual interest over the surrounding landscape since the outlook to the north is influenced by the presence of the deciduous woodland. The south facing first floor outlook from the two-storey dwelling could be significantly affected, but the presence of tree and hedgerow cover within the intervening field systems would help provide some filtering of the works. To the south aspect of the main house, there would be mitigation to the south side of Willingham Road to comprise the reinforcement of existing hedgerows with regularly spaced trees. The mitigation would also include for the addition of native shelter belt/woodland planting along the watercourse to the north of Larch Plantation. This woodland planting is likely to reach a maximum height of 7.5m at Year 15.

R63b:	
Minor-Moderate Neutral Not Significant	<p>Overall, the views from the first-floor windows of the two-storey dwelling to the south are likely to capture the main visual interest over the surrounding landscape since the outlook to the north is influenced by the presence of the large-scale agricultural building. The south facing first floor outlook from the two-storey dwelling could be significantly affected, but the presence of tree and hedgerow cover within the boundary of the garden area would help provide some filtering of the panel areas. To the south aspect of the main house, the existing tree belt would provide sufficient screening at close range. Within intervening fields there would be new native hedgerows with irregularly spaced hedgerow trees. This hedgerow planting is likely to reach a maximum height of 3.5m at Year 15 and will ultimately be allowed to grow out to 5m.</p>
R67: Moor Farm	
Minor-Moderate Neutral Not Significant	<p>Overall, the views from the first-floor windows of the two-storey dwelling to the north and west are likely to capture the main visual interest over the surrounding landscape since the outlook to the south and east is influenced by the presence of the large-scale agricultural buildings. The west facing first floor outlook from the two-storey dwelling could be significantly affected, due to the absence of tree and hedgerow cover within the boundary of the garden area to provide screening of the panel areas. To the west of the main house, the existing hedgerow along the watercourse would be enhanced with irregularly spaced hedgerow trees. This hedgerow planting is likely to reach a maximum height of 3.5m at Year 15 and will ultimately be allowed to grow out to 5m.</p>
R73: East Farm	
Minor-Moderate Neutral Not Significant	<p>Overall, the views from the first-floor windows of the two-storey dwelling to the north, west and east are likely to capture the main visual interest over the surrounding landscape since the outlook to the south is influenced by the presence of the large-scale agricultural buildings. The east facing first floor outlook from the two-storey dwelling could be significantly affected, due to the absence of tree and hedgerow cover within the boundary of the garden area to provide screening of the panel areas. To the east aspect of the main house, there would be a wide belt of native shrub planting. This planting is likely to reach a maximum height of 3.5m at Year 15 and will ultimately be allowed to grow out to 5m. Beyond this planting the field would be an area of proposed bird mitigation and would be kept free of panels.</p>

Transport Receptors-Cottam 1

8.11.73 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]**. A summary of the findings of the transport mitigation measures for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.105** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the operation (Year 15) stage of the Scheme. Please also refer to **Figure 8.7.9 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.9]**.

Table 8.105: Summary of Transport Mitigation – Cottam 1

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
T072: Access to Fillingham Grange, Fillingham	
Moderate Neutral Significant	The users of the final section of the route would experience a significant level of change particularly at the location where the route passes directly adjacent to the boundary of the Site/Sites. This section of the route would include the improvement of existing hedgerows to each side of the route and the planting of new hedgerows where there are gaps. These hedgerows are expected to reach a height of up to 5m.
T074: Willingham Road, Fillingham	
Moderate Neutral Significant	There is a marked contrast between the central section of the route, which passes through a more enclosed context due to the presence of the residential properties and their associated tree cover and agricultural buildings. The ‘dog-leg’ alignment also helps to create enclosure. In contrast, the first and the final sections of the route follow a straight alignment within a more open context of limited tree cover and woodlands to each side. The planting of new hedgerows and improvement to existing hedgerows would help restore a positive balance to the landscape along this route.
T099: Coates Lane, Stow	
Mod-Maj Neutral Significant	The route is influenced by the arable fields and a landscape that is tranquil with very few man-made interventions, apart from the first section where it meets with Normanby Road. The new planting would look to respect this character and retain the distinctive qualities of the green lane.
T110: Blackthorn Lane, Cammeringham	
Moderate Neutral Significant	The existing hedgerows to each side of Blackthorn Lane will be retained, being allowed to grow out and managed to 5m with the addition of hedge line trees to reinforce the field boundaries and provide further screening. New sections of hedgerow are also proposed to supplement the existing gaps along Blackthorn Lane and then joining with the existing woodlands to the south (at Cammeringham Low Covert and Long Covert).

T119: Fleets Lane, Sturton by Stow	
Moderate Neutral Significant	The existing hedgerows to the east side of Fleets Lane will be retained, being allowed to grow out and managed to 5m and then reinforced with regularly spaced native tree planting to provide further screening. New sections of hedgerow are also proposed between the arable fields where existing hedgerows are absent.
T120: Unnamed Road, Stow	
Mod-Maj Neutral Significant	The existing hedgerow to the west side of the road will be retained, being allowed to grow out and managed to 5m. There will be improvements to this hedgerow to form strong field boundaries and varied layers of vegetation. To the east side of the road there will be a new hedgerow that is expected to reach 3.5m at Year 15.
T122: Unnamed Road, Stow	
Moderate Neutral Significant	The existing hedgerows to both side of the route will be retained, but the first section of the route is more open with large expanses where there is no hedgerow. These gappy hedgerows would be reinstated and improved to provide a consistent hedgerow managed up to a height of 5m.
T127: Thorpe Lane, Thorpe le Fallows	
Moderate Neutral Significant	The existing hedgerows to the north side of Thorpe Lane would be retained and enhanced to bolster the existing hedgerow network. These augmented hedgerows will provide a series of good quality field boundaries both formally strengthening the existing and historical field pattern and creating a multi-layered landscape.

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 1

- 8.11.74 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]**. A summary of the findings of the PRoW mitigation measures for Cottam 1 is provided in **Table 8.106** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme. Please also refer to **Figure 8.7.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.13]**.

Table 8.106: Summary of PRoW Mitigation – Cottam 1

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation
Fill/86/1	
Mod-Maj Neutral Significant	Views looking west directly over the panel areas. The route is influenced by the open arable fields and the exposed nature of the location where only the woodlands on the horizon form a significant component and add balance to the landscape. The location offers little intimacy and the planting of new hedgerows with intermittent

	tree cover is therefore proposed to each side of the route to curtail visibility and enhance landscape character by adding more features to this location.
Fill/767/1	
Mod-Maj Neutral Significant	The route offers an interesting transition through the landscape with clear open views all round, including views towards the local collection of small woodlands comprising Larch Plantation and New Plantation. The enhancement of the existing hedgerows with intermittent tree cover to the side of the route will curtail visibility and enhance landscape character by improving the level of enclosure at this location.
Stow/83/1	
Mod-Maj Neutral Significant	The route is also influenced by the open arable fields within the first section where the panel area will be visible. The foreground of the views from the route would change from the agricultural fields to an area of panels, but they would be set back from the route behind the enhanced hedgerow that would also be augmented by a shelterbelt between the PRow and the panelled area to the north. The hedgerow would ultimately be allowed to grow out to 5m screening views of the panels in the long term.
TLFe/31/2	
Mod-Maj Neutral Significant	The first section of the route would be significantly affected since it is directly adjacent to the boundary of the Site/Sites. Secondary mitigation such as planting, and grass seeding would be taken into account at this stage and include the planting of a new hedgerow with intermittent trees to the east side of the bridleway. There is already an existing hedgerow to the west side of the bridleway and the new hedgerow would look to mirror the same native species in the new mix. This existing hedgerow to the west side of the bridleway will also be enhanced with new planting. To the east of Filed D16, a block of scattered trees is to be provided and this will also enhance the PRow, making this part of the route more varied and interesting.

Cottam 1 West Option A

- 8.11.75 There are no residual mitigation measures for Cottam 1 West Option A since there are no identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme.

Cottam 1 West Option B

- 8.11.76 There are no residual mitigation measures for Cottam 1 West Option B since there are no identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the construction, operation (Year 1) and decommissioning stages of the Scheme.

Cottam 2

Visual Receptors

- 8.11.77 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]**. A summary of the findings of the viewpoint mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.107** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. Please refer to **Figure 8.12 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.12]**.

Table 8.107: Summary of Viewpoint Mitigation – Cottam 2

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation
VP49: East Lane	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.49]	Views looking north and northeast directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels. The view will change where the new and existing hedgerows will have established to an eventual height of 5m with new hedgerow trees adding to the height. Shelterbelt planting to the west will have matured to provide further enclosure to this boundary and curtail views towards the west.

Residential Receptors-Cottam 2

- 8.11.78 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]**. A summary of the findings of the residential mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.108** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. please also refer to **Figure 8.7.6 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.6]**.

Table 8.108: Summary of Residential Receptors – Cottam 2

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation
R33: The Cottage	
Minor Neutral Not Significant	Overall, the views from the first-floor principle south facing elevation are likely to capture the main visual interest over the surrounding landscape towards Springthorpe and Heapham, but Corringham Grange Farm would occupy the foreground of the view. The south facing first floor outlook could be significantly affected, but the presence of Corringham Grange Farm would foreshorten these views and provide some filtering of the panel areas. To the south aspect of the property, there would be an area of proposed flower rich pollinator mix grassland. There would also be a proposed native hedge with irregularly spaced hedgerow trees. This hedgerow planting is likely to reach a maximum height of 3.5m at Year 15 and will ultimately be allowed to grow out to 5m.

R36: Corringham Grange Farm	
Minor Adverse Not Significant	Overall, the views from the first-floor principle south facing elevation are likely to capture the main visual interest over the surrounding landscape towards Springthorpe and Heapham, and Corringham Windmill could form a feature of the view. The south facing first floor outlook could be significantly affected, but the presence of intervening hedgerows and vegetation within the front garden would help provide some filtering of the works. To the south of the property, there would be a short area of panels with East Lane beyond. The mitigation would include for an area of grassland and a proposed native hedge with irregularly spaced hedgerow trees. This hedgerow planting is likely to reach a maximum height of 3.5m at Year 15 and will ultimately be allowed to grow out to 5m.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 2

8.11.79 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]**. A summary of the findings of the transport mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 is provided in **Table 8.109** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. Refer to **Figure 8.7.10 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.10]**.

Table 8.109: Summary of Transport Mitigation – Cottam 2

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
T040: Access to Corringham Grange, Corringham	
Moderate Adverse Significant	Overall, this route is subject to very low levels of traffic and provides local access to residential dwellings. The track offers very few interesting features, and the new planting mitigation therefore enhances the landscape character of the route by introducing a range of planting features that are locally distinctive and appropriate. There are clear open views across the landscape from east to west including views towards the distant landscape of Laughton Woods and Laughton Common and then towards the ridgeline at Blyborough and any new planting would draw out this feature for the benefit of the users of the route.
T045: From East Lane to A631, Corringham	
Moderate Adverse Significant	The first section of the route passes east west from Corringham through an open arable landscape with large scale fields to each side and few hedgerow trees. The second section is similar in character to the first section, being open with extended views and set within the context of large-scale arable fields. The new planting therefore improves the character of the lane with a more varied landscape structure and the introduction of native species.

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 2

- 8.11.80 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]**. There are no PRoW mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 2 since there are no likely significant effects for the Scheme. In summary, there is no visibility towards Cottam 2 Site/Sites due to the distance from the Site being a minimum of 625m with intervening built development within the settlement of Corringham. please also refer to **Figure 8.7.14 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.14]**.

Cottam 3a

Viewpoint Receptors

- 8.11.81 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]**. A summary of the findings of the viewpoint mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.110** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. Please also refer to **Figure 8.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.13]**.

Table 8.110: Summary of Viewpoint Mitigation – Cottam 3a

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation
VP60: B1025 (Kirton Road)	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.60]	Views looking north directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed, where existing hedges will have been managed to grow out up to 5m and proposed hedgerow trees will have established to add to the screening potential to the panels along this boundary. The hedgerows will screen the panels at close range whereas the mid and longer-distance views will experience a layered and relatively well-treed landscape set within a strong backdrop of Laughton Woods.
VP61: B1025 (Kirton Road)	
Minor Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.61]	Views looking west directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening for the panels. The close-range views would change and be curtailed by the foreground hedgerow which will be managed to a height of up to 5m. In the middle distance, the new and augmented hedgerows will provide a multi-layered landscape within a strong backdrop of Laughton Woods.
VP62: B1025 (Kirton Road)	

Minor Adverse Not Significant [C6.4.8.14.62]	Views looking east and northeast towards the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed at close range in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels. The view will change where the existing hedgerows will have been managed to a height of 5m. In the middle-distance, the new planting will have become established with scattered trees and strong boundary hedgerows that will add significant structure and layering to the landscape.
VP63: A159 (Laughton Road)	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.63]	Views looking east directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening to the new panels. The view will change where the existing hedgerows will have been managed to grow out to 5m. The mid and longer distance views will experience a landscape with more tree cover where the new intermediary hedgerows and associated trees will create a multi-layered landscape.
LCC-C-T: Kirton Road	
Moderate Adverse Not Significant [C6.4.8.14.87]	Views looking northeast towards the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening to the new panels. This view will change since the existing hedgerows will have been managed to grow out to a height of up to 5m. In the mid and longer distance, new planting will have established with scattered trees beginning to provide a good level of cover and sufficient to add to the existing woodland cover across the area.

Residential Receptors-Cottam 3a

- 8.11.82 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.3.2]**. There are no residential mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a since there is no identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. In summary there is unlikely visibility from R3 due to boundary vegetation with no visibility from R7 and 8 towards Cottam 3a or Cottam 3b Site/Sites, due to closed aspect to property curtilage. The flat, low-lying landform and intervening hedgerows provide additional layering in the landscape and further curtail visibility. There are no views from R11 due to the existing woodland and mature trees together with the intervening agricultural buildings. Views from R15 and 18 are obscured by existing vegetation whilst R19 has been scoped out due to being an agricultural building. please also refer to **Figure 8.7.7 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.7]**.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 3a

- 8.11.83 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]**. A summary of the findings of the transport mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a is provided in **Table 8.111** below where there is an identification and

evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. Please also refer to **Figure 8.7.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.11]**.

Table 8.111: Summary of Transport Mitigation – Cottam 3a

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
T019: Kirton Road, Blyton	
Moderate Neutral Significant	Overall, this route is subject to medium levels of traffic, but offers some interesting features locally along its length, including open views across the landscape both north and south and also views to the heart of the settlement of Blyton. The new planting mitigation will include improvements to hedgerows and new hedgerow trees that will enhance the character of the road and help frame views on approach and leaving the settlement.
T016: B1205 Kirton Road to C228 Monson Road, Northorpe near Scotter	
Moderate Adverse Significant	The route is influenced by the open nature of the location and the presence of the Blyton Park Driving Centre (large-scale, shed like building) is a detractor in the final section of the route along with the wind turbine on the 3a Site/Sites. The new planting mitigation will include new hedgerows and hedgerow trees along the Kirton Road frontage that will help improve the landscape setting of the driving centre and provide softening to some of the large-scale buildings.

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 3a

8.11.84 There are no PRoW measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3a since there is no identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. In summary routes potentially affected are Bly/24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30 and 32. There are no views due to the intervening woodland and hedge cover locally including vegetation along the railway as well as the existing built form . Refer to **Figure 8.7.15 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.15]**.

Cottam 3b

8.11.85 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.2.3 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2.3]**. A summary of the findings of the viewpoint mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.112** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. Please also refer to **Figure 8.13 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.13]**.

Table 8.112: Summary of Viewpoint Mitigation – Cottam 3b

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation
VP56: Pilh/20/1	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.56]	Views looking east directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels. The view will change where the existing hedgerows to each side of the PRow will have been allowed to grow out to a height of 5m, which will curtail visibility in general. There are no mid-range or long-distance views since the foreground hedgerows would significantly close down visibility at this location.
VP58: Junction of Pilh/20/1 and Bonsdale Lane	
Moderate Beneficial Significant [C6.4.8.14.58]	Views looking northwest directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels at close-range. The view will change where the existing foreground hedgerows will have grown out to reach up to 5m and the proposed hedgerow trees will add significantly to this structure. Mid-range views towards the vegetation bordering the mainline railway and the backdrop of Laughton Wood will continue to be an experience of the view.
VP59: Blyton Level Crossing	
Moderate Adverse Significant [C6.4.8.14.59]	Views looking southwest directly over the panel areas. This location will have become more enclosed in order to provide a good level of screening to the panels at close-range. The view will change where the existing foreground hedgerows will have been allowed to grow out to 5m. The location will become more enclosed, but open visibility will still be retained towards the south, north and east of this location.

Residential Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.11.86 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.3.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.2]**. There are no residential mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b since there is no identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. In summary Residential receptors R 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26 and 31 are potentially affected. R19 is an agricultural building whilst R18 is views obscured by garden curtilage boundary vegetation as well as vegetation adjacent to the railway. This vegetation also obscures views, together with other intervening vegetation from R20 and 21. Views from R26 are screened by agricultural buildings and local woodland cover whilst R31 sits beyond the settlement of Aisby. Please also refer to **Figure 8.7.7 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.7]**.

Transport Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.11.87 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.4.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.4.2]**. A summary of the findings of the transport mitigation measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.113** below where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. Please also refer to **Figure 8.7.11 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.11]**.

Table 8.113: Summary of Transport Mitigation – Cottam 3b

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation Measures
T021: Bonsdale Lane, Blyton	
Moderate Adverse Significant	The first section of the route (as far as public footpath Pilh/20/1) passes through open countryside and to the immediate east is Bonsdale Farm and an associated shelterbelt. There is also a low-cut hedgerow to the west side of the lane with extended views towards Blyton on the far horizon shrouded in tree cover and set in the context of Laughton Woods. The second section of the route (as far as the Blyton Level Crossing) comprises large-scale arable fields to each side that are divided by hedgerows but lacking in individual trees or groups of trees. The planting mitigation therefore improves the character of the lane through the introduction of new hedgerow trees and enhancements to existing hedgerows.
T163: Mainline Railway	
Mod-Maj Neutral Significant	Overall, this route offers a pleasant journey from Gainsborough to the coastal towns of Cleethorpes and Grimsby, which are major tourist destinations for visitors from the East Midlands and South Yorkshire. The landscape mitigation along this boundary of the Site/Sites would need to be maintained to meet the operational needs of the rail company, but the landscape mitigation improves the habitat connectivity within the ground layers of the vegetation bordering the railway line.

PRoW Receptors-Cottam 3b

- 8.11.88 Please refer to **Appendix 8.3.5.2 [EN010133/APP/C6.3.8.3.5.2]**. A summary of the findings of the PRoW measures at the operation stage (Year 15) for Cottam 3b is provided in **Table 8.114** where there is an identification and evaluation of likely significant effects for the Scheme. Please also refer to **Figure 8.7.15 [EN010133/APP/C6.4.8.7.15]**.

Table 8.114: Summary of PRoW Mitigation – Cottam 3b

Construction (Year 15)	Mitigation
Pilh/20/1	
Mod-Maj Beneficial Significant	There is a notable contrast between all sections of the route with the first section being enclosed by the mature tree cover and tall hedgerows to the south, woodlands to the west and vegetation along the railway line to the north. The final section of the route (as far as Bonsdale Lane) passes across a series of open arable fields that are larger in scale and divided by wide, low-cut hedgerows with very limited tree cover and this is where the panel areas would be directly visible at close range. Mitigation measures would include the planting of a new hedgerow that would be managed to grow out to 5m in the long term and this would assist with the screening of the panel areas. Intermittent tree planting is also proposed along this final section of the route.

8.12 Non-Technical Summary

SEPARATE DOCUMENT

8.13 References

1. Bassetlaw District Council, *Emerging Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan, 2020-2037*, August 2021 [Online] Available at: <https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/planning-and-building/the-draft-bassetlaw-local-plan/bassetlaw-local-plan-2020-2037-publication-version-august-2021/bassetlaw-local-plan-2020-2037-publication-version-august-2021/> [Accessed 06 December 2022]
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