

# A47 Wansford to Sutton Dualling

**Scheme Number: TR010039**

**Volume 6**

## **6.3 Environmental Statement Appendices**

### **Appendix 7.5 – Representative Viewpoints**

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed  
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

July 2021

Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

**The Infrastructure Planning  
(Applications: Prescribed Forms and  
Procedure) Regulations 2009**

A47 Wansford to Sutton  
Development Consent Order 202[x]

---

**ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT APPENDICES**  
**Appendix 7.5 - Representative Viewpoints**

---

|                                               |                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Regulation Number:</b>                     | Regulation 5(2)(a)                                       |
| <b>Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference</b> | TR010039                                                 |
| <b>Application Document Reference</b>         | TR010039/APP/6.3                                         |
| <b>BIM Document Reference</b>                 | HE551494-GTY-ELS-000-RP-LE-30007                         |
| <b>Author:</b>                                | A47 Wansford to Sutton<br>Project Team, Highways England |

| <b>Version</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Status of Version</b> |
|----------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Rev 0          | July 2021   | Application Issue        |

## **Table of contents**

|      |                           |   |
|------|---------------------------|---|
| 1.   | Representative Viewpoints | 2 |
| 1.1. | Introduction              | 2 |
| 1.2. | Viewpoint assessment      | 2 |

## **Tables**

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Table 1-1 : Viewpoint 1  | 3  |
| Table 1-2 : Viewpoint 2  | 5  |
| Table 1-3 : Viewpoint 3  | 7  |
| Table 1-4 : Viewpoint 4  | 9  |
| Table 1-5 : Viewpoint A  | 11 |
| Table 1-6 : Viewpoint B  | 13 |
| Table 1-7 : Viewpoint C  | 15 |
| Table 1-8 : Viewpoint D  | 16 |
| Table 1-9 : Viewpoint E  | 18 |
| Table 1-10 : Viewpoint F | 20 |
| Table 1-11 : Viewpoint G | 22 |
| Table 1-12 : Viewpoint H | 24 |
| Table 1-13 : Viewpoint I | 25 |
| Table 1-14 : Viewpoint J | 26 |

## Appendix 7.5 Representative Viewpoints

# 1. Representative Viewpoints

## 1.1. Introduction

- 1.1.1. The following tables (Tables 1-1 to 1-14) provide a description of the existing baseline and assess the significance of the construction and operation phase visual effects of the Proposed Scheme at each of fourteen selected representative viewpoints. The assessments consider seasonal variations between winter and summer and any key issues associated with night-time views.
- 1.1.2. The locations of representative viewpoints are shown in Figure 7.4 (Visual Context) (**TR010039/APP/6.2**). Baseline photographs and (for viewpoints 1 to 4) photomontage visualisations of the view from each of the representative viewpoints are presented in Figures 7.6.1 to 7.6.18 (Viewpoints 1 to 4 and A to J) (**TR010039/APP/6.2**).
- 1.1.3. Views are described below in relative terms of short, medium or long-range distance from the nearest physical operational stage component of the Proposed Scheme, which for the purpose of this assessment considers:
- Short range – 0 to 100m
  - Medium range – 101 to 500m
  - Long range – greater than 501m

## 1.2. Viewpoint assessment

Table 1-1 : Viewpoint 1

| Viewpoint 1: Sutton<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.1 and 7.6.2 (two directions of view) (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                |                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                |                                                                                                       |
| Ordnance Survey (OS) Grid Ref:<br>509833, 298932                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Elevation:<br>16.5m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) | Distance to Proposed Scheme & Direction(s) of view:<br>400m<br>North-west and north-east (contiguous) |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area (LCA) context: Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                |                                                                                                       |
| Visual receptors: Residential properties (several properties on the north eastern edge of the village share a similar view, particularly from upper storey windows)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                |                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>Open view north across arable field from the north eastern edge of the village of Sutton. Traffic movements along the existing A47 can be intermittently seen between gaps in the hedgerow on the opposite side of the field at medium range. View terminated by a continuous tree belt which lies immediately to the north of the existing A47 and forms the skyline. To the north-west trees along apter can be seen. To the north-east lighting associated with the existing roundabout is visible, partially obscured by surrounding vegetation. The same direction of view also features some prominent overhead line transmission towers which pass over the existing A47 close to the roundabout.</p> <p>Seasonal differences include greater visibility of traffic movements on the existing A47 during winter months.</p> <p>At night-time traffic movements along the existing A47 and the lighting at the existing roundabout to the north-east would be prominent.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                |                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High</b> – representative of several residential properties on the north eastern edge of the village</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                |                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>During construction sections of the existing tree belt which terminates the view north would be removed, opening up gaps through to the landscape further to the north. Most of the construction activity would take place on the far side of the tree belt limiting the degree of visibility. Activity associated with changes along the route of the existing A47 would be more visible.</p> <p>Seasonal differences would be limited.</p> <p>Night-time views would be largely unaffected as construction would generally not take place during hours of darkness and there is no construction compound proposed within the view.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Moderate adverse magnitude</b> of change and a <b>Large adverse significance</b> of visual effect. An assessment of large rather than moderate significance reflects that much of the construction activity would be towards the centre of north-facing views at medium range where sections of the existing tree belt and hedgerows would be cleared and views to the construction activity opened up over a relatively short distance and open intervening arable field.</p> |                                                |                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p> <p>Most traffic movements would have been relocated to the north of the tree belt which terminates much of the view north from Sutton. Traffic movement on the existing A47 would be far fewer. New tree planting to the north-east would not yet provide a screen such that glimpsed views would be possible through to traffic movements along the new route of the A47. In the same direction, the existing lighting columns associated with the former roundabout would have been removed. To the north-west there would be glimpses through to the location of the proposed new roundabout. Its visibility would primarily be marked by glimpses of new lighting columns in this direction, partially screened by retained tree cover along Sutton Drift.</p> <p>Seasonal differences would be limited. Where the existing tree belt is retained views of the new A47 would be screened, even in winter. Where tree removal opens up gaps in the continuity of the tree belt and new planting would</p>                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                |                                                                                                       |

yet to have established, to both the north-west and the north-east, filtered visibility would occur in both winter and summer.

Night-time views would be altered. Traffic (and therefore associated headlight) visibility along the existing A47 would be much reduced. Existing lighting columns to the north-east would have been removed. New lighting columns at the roundabout to the north-west would be visible amongst retained tree cover.

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Minor adverse magnitude** of change and a **Moderate adverse significance** of visual effect. An assessment of moderate rather than slight significance reflects that new traffic movements would be visible where sections of the tree belt had been removed and new planting had not yet matured. This is despite the improvements to the view that would arise because of the removal of lighting columns from the view to the north-east.

#### **Operation effects in year 15:**

After 15 years new planting would have begun to mature and achieve a level of screening. Planting around the new roundabout to the north-west would substantially screen the new highway and its traffic movements but with some residual filtered visibility of lighting columns in this direction. Hedgerow and tree planting to the north-east would have begun to re-enclose the arable field and plug the gap in the continuity of the woodland belt.

There would be some degree of seasonal variation between winter and summer views. In winter there would be a greater likelihood of visibility of elements of the Proposed Scheme through gaps within the continuity of the tree belt. Glimpses to high sided vehicle movements may persist during winter months to both the north-west and north-east whilst being fully screened in summer. This reflects the narrowness of some new sections of the tree belt between the existing and new A47 carriageways.

During summer levels of visibility of the new A47 would be very limited but would be more noticeable to the north-west at night-time due to the introduction of new lighting columns at the new roundabout.

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in **Minor beneficial magnitude** of change and a **Slight beneficial significance** of visual effect. This reflects the benefits associated with the removal of traffic movements from the existing A47 (to the south of the existing tree belt) and that night-time views of lighting columns at the new roundabout to the north-west would be less prominent than the existing lighting to the north-east that would be removed.

Table 1-2 : Viewpoint 2

| Viewpoint 2: Footpath West of Stibbington<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.3 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                         |                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                         |                                                                      |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>508333, 298832                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Elevation:<br>18.3m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme<br>& Direction of view:<br>800m<br>North |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                         |                                                                      |
| Visual receptors: Footpath users and nearby residents on the edge of Stibbington.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                         |                                                                      |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>View from Public Right of Way (203/2) on the edge of the village through an open arable field within the valley floor. View shared by some properties with rear views in the same direction.</p> <p>View north over low lying valley floor towards rising ground on the opposite side of the River Nene. The existing A47 is particularly noticeable, albeit at long range, to the north-west where traffic movements and lighting associated with the roundabout just east of the A1 can be clearly seen in an elevated and visually open position close to the horizon. Traffic movements on the existing A47 can, however, also be glimpsed through intervening vegetation to the north-east, even in summer months (these traffic movements are on the route of the existing A47 just to the west of the dismantled railway and Wittering Brook). The communications tower close to Sacrewell can be clearly seen on the skyline at the centre of the view. The opposite side of the valley floor to the north-east generally comprises a wooded backdrop and wooded skyline but there are occasional glimpses through to open farmland towards Sutton Heath Road. Tree species within the valley floor are quite mixed with poplars and willows visible associated with the course of the out-of-sight river. Overhead power transmission towers can also be seen to the north-east helping to orientate the direction of the eastern end of the Proposed Scheme.</p> <p>There are seasonal differences in the degree to which the existing A47 and its traffic movement are visible in this view. Away from the roundabout to the north-west, traffic movements can be glimpsed only occasionally further east during summer but would be more frequently noticed during winter months when vegetation in the valley floor is sparser. The glimpsed summer visibility of these traffic movements and visibility of riverside vegetation emphasises that screening of the existing highway relies on tree cover of quite limited depth and any tree removal is likely to open up additional views towards the highway.</p> <p>The roundabout east of the A1 is particularly noticeable at night-time due to an array of lighting columns in a slightly elevated position close to the skyline. There is relatively little tree cover in the vicinity of the roundabout.</p> |                         |                                                                      |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High-</b> representative of footpath users as well as nearby residents in Stibbington with rear views across the valley including from upper storey windows</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                         |                                                                      |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>Tree and hedgerow removal during construction would be relatively limited in this view. Some tree cover to the south of the existing A47 to the north-east (trees within the County wildlife Site to the west of Wittering Brook) would be cleared resulting in slightly higher levels of visibility of the site, and therefore construction activities, and greater visibility of existing traffic movements, especially during winter months. Tall equipment and plant would be visible as some sections of the new A47 would be built on the slightly elevated ground on the opposite side of the valley. The proposed construction compound to the south of Sacrewell Farm would be located within this direction of view but would be screened by intervening tree cover within the valley floor.</p> <p>The nature of the relatively sparse tree cover within the valley floor means that construction activity would be more visible during winter months. This is likely to be a more noticeable change in views to the north-east where the new carriageway would be slightly more elevated with some nearby vegetation removed.</p> <p>Given the prominence of the lighting at the existing roundabout, night-time views are likely to be broadly similar to baseline conditions, albeit with some additional lighting associated with construction activities visible during the darker, winter months.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                         |                                                                      |

During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Moderate adverse magnitude** of change and a **Moderate adverse significance** of visual effect. The assessment of a moderate rather than large significance of effect reflects the long range distance of the view and that a reasonable level of screening is afforded within some parts of the valley floor.

#### Operation effects in year 1:

The new access road to Sacrewell Farm would be visible across slightly elevated and open ground south of the existing roundabout. Although visible, its curving alignment, dropping elevation and the baseline visibility of the existing roundabout mean that the visual change to the north-west in this view would be relatively limited. A greater level of visual change would occur to the north-east where the existing A47 is largely screened by intervening trees. The slight raising of the carriageway and removal of some trees to the north-east would mean that high sided vehicle movements would be more noticeable, and in a direction in which the current road is largely hidden. Current views are largely rural in nature with only very occasional visibility of traffic movements.

The visibility of high-sided vehicle movements to the north-east would be greater during winter months.

Given the presence of the existing roundabout and associated lighting columns, night-time views would be broadly similar to baseline conditions, though some increased lighting affect (associated with traffic headlights) would arise to the north-east, especially during winter months. There would be no additional street lighting visible.

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Minor adverse magnitude** of change and a **Moderate adverse significance** of visual effect. The assessment of a moderate rather than slight significance of effect acknowledges the distance of the viewpoint from the road and the visibility of the larger scale valley floor landscape, which would reduce the prominence of the Proposed Scheme, however the additional visibility of traffic movements would be noticeable in winter in the view to the north-east, albeit along a relatively short stretch of the new A47 to the north-east.

#### Operation effects in year 15:

By year 15 new planting on the embankments to the south of the highway would have begun to mature. Additional hedgerow and tree planting around the existing roundabout and access road to Sacrewell Farm would soften the appearance of these components of the Proposed Scheme. Furthermore, new woodland planting on the steep, southern embankment of the new A47 to the north-east would screen traffic movements on this elevated section of road (the Proposed Scheme would be at a slightly higher elevation than the existing road in this direction towards Wittering Brook).

As new planting matures there would be a reduced variation in visibility between winter and summer as the depth of planting proposed would provide a screen function even when not in leaf during winter months.

New planting would also begin to soften the night-time visibility of traffic movements and the existing lighting at the existing roundabout.

Overall, at year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Negligible magnitude** of change and a **Neutral significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. This reflects that, although there would be very small changes within the view, there would be a balance between adverse and beneficial effects. Occasional high sided vehicle movements in particular, would be more visible to the north-east at night, but new planting at the existing roundabout to the north-west would soften its currently rather stark and visually exposed appearance close to the skyline. The visual amenity of the viewpoint would be restored to something equal to, or better than, baseline conditions, but to an insufficient degree to record a beneficial significance of effect.

Table 1-3 : Viewpoint 3

| Viewpoint 3: Riverside open space (former picnic site on Nene Way)<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.4 and 7.6.5 (two directions of view) (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                         |                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                         |                                                                                        |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>507778, 299537                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Elevation:<br>17.7m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme<br>& Direction of view:<br>0m<br>North-west and north-east |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                         |                                                                                        |
| Visual receptors: Footpath users. Open space users. Those visiting Sacrewell Farm.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                         |                                                                                        |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>The view is taken from the route of the Nene Way at a former picnic site (now closed off). To the north-west the existing A47, roundabout, lighting and traffic movements are prominent in an elevated position close to the skyline and at close range. The view is terminated over a relatively short distance by tree planting at the junction with the nearby A1 (out of sight). Existing traffic movements can be seen on the skyline. An open, sloping arable field lies between the viewpoint and the existing A47. To the north-west there are slightly longer views towards Sacrewell Farm and along the valley of the Nene. Scrubby vegetation is varied in its density with occasional glimpses down towards the river. A disused car park for the former picnic site lies in the foreground.</p> <p>Seasonal variations in this view would be limited due to the proximity of the existing A47 and the limited intervening tree cover between the viewpoint and the Proposed Scheme.</p> <p>Night-time views are affected by the lighting at the existing roundabout as well as the headlights of traffic movements passing along the skyline (in future, this location within an open space on the Nene Way is unlikely to be visited at night).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                         |                                                                                        |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High</b> – this is a position on the Nene Way (which has been subject to recent footpath improvements below the A1 to the west), a locally valued designated trail, and following completion of the Proposed Scheme would be located close to the approach to Sacrewell Farm for all visitors.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                         |                                                                                        |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>Tree removal would occur during construction in the view to the north-east at close range. Prominent trees on the skyline (including evergreen species at the centre of the north-east view) would be removed to enable construction of the new access route into Sacrewell Farm passing below the new A47. This would occur on the skyline and not open longer distance views in this direction. A construction compound would be sited within the open arable field immediately to the north of this viewpoint at proximity. Furthermore, general construction activity would surround this viewpoint at various stages during the construction period, largely focused on the formation of the new access into Sacrewell Farm including the new spur curving south through the open arable field in the foreground from the existing roundabout. The car park surfacing in the foreground of the north-east view would be removed. Construction of the main new A47 alignment would also be visible on the skyline to the north, although the new alignment would be positioned slightly further north than the existing with some screening at lower levels afforded by the intervening convex slopes.</p> <p>Seasonal variation in visibility from this viewpoint would be very limited due to its proximity to the proposed works.</p> <p>Any lighting at the proposed compound would represent a limited change in the context of the existing lighting at the existing roundabout.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Major adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Large adverse significance</b> of visual effect due to the close range nature of the view and the extent of the view that would be altered by construction of the Proposed Scheme. The assessment of large rather than very large significance reflects that baseline conditions in this location are affected by the slightly derelict character resulting from disuse of this section of road and car park.</p> |                         |                                                                                        |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                         |                                                                                        |

Despite the proximity of major elements of the Proposed Scheme the changes at this viewpoint would be more limited than might be expected. A small amount of tree cover would have been removed from the skyline to the north-east (including some evergreen). The alignment of the nearby section of the new A47 would be slightly further north than the existing reducing visibility of the trunk road traffic movements due to intervening convex topography. The new spur road to the south of the existing roundabout would circle to the west causing limited change in the view. The new access into Sacrewell Farm would be out of view in cutting to the north-east. Overall, the impact of highway infrastructure within the view would be similar to baseline conditions. Other changes, however, would be more prominent. The adjacent car park would have been removed, new hedgerow and tree planting introduced along the northern edge of the former picnic site/open space, and attenuation basins and associated planting introduced into the eastern side of the open arable field in the north-east direction of view. Traffic movements associated with the new southern spur and access road into Sacrewell Farm would be reasonably infrequent.

Seasonal variation in the view would be very limited due to proximity.

At night-time lighting at the existing roundabout would remain prominent (the lighting columns would be replaced but their height and extent would be broadly similar to baseline situation). No new areas of lighting would be introduced (lighting columns would not be placed along the access to Sacrewell Farm). Lighting associated with traffic movements (headlights) along the A47 would be reduced as the new carriageway would be slightly further north over the brow of the hill.

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Minor adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight adverse significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. The assessment of slight not moderate significance reflects that, although new planting would be immature and would not yet function as a visual screen, some of the changes at this viewpoint would be beneficial and partially offset the adverse effect of new road infrastructure.

#### Operation effects in year 15:

New planting would take place very close to this viewpoint with new areas of hedgerow and tree planting along the southern spur from the existing roundabout and along the northern edge of the former picnic site (creating a buffer between the open space and Nene Way and the adjacent access road to Sacrewell Farm). Visibility of the existing roundabout and of the new A47 would reduce over time and greater separation and visual enclosure would be achieved.

Seasonal variation in the view would be very limited due to proximity. The existing roundabout and its associated lighting columns would be more prominent in winter months through dispersed intervening tree planting.

Lighting at the existing roundabout associated with traffic movements would become less visible, especially during summer. This location is not likely to be frequently used during hours of darkness. Traffic movements associated with the new southern spur and access road into Sacrewell Farm would be reasonably infrequent at night and limited weight has been attributed to the presence of car headlights along the southern spur from the existing roundabout (this would be a new section of road which would cross an open arable field in a location that is quite widely visible from surrounding areas).

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in **Minor beneficial magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight beneficial significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint which reflects the benefits associated with the removal of screening provided by proposed planting and would comprise an improvement to the baseline situation which includes views of the existing A47. However, the assessment of this beneficial visual effect as slight not moderate reflects the permanent visibility of the new access into Sacrewell Farm.

Table 1-4 : Viewpoint 4

| Viewpoint 4: Sacrewell Farm<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.6 and 7.6.7 (two directions of view) (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                       |                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                       |                                                                                          |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>508161, 300202                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Elevation:<br>21m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme<br>& Direction of view:<br>500m<br>South-west and south-east |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau / edge of Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                       |                                                                                          |
| Visual receptors: Recreational (visitors to Sacrewell Farm and footpath users).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                       |                                                                                          |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>The viewpoint is located on a footpath (a section of the Hereward Way and Thornaugh Permissive 1) through the Sacrewell Farm visitor attraction looking south and south-east towards the route of the existing A47. Intervening woodland cover and topography generally prevents medium range views of traffic movements on the existing A47. The arable field immediately to the south (next to the existing access road into Sacrewell) has a slightly domed landform meaning that the closest section of the existing A47 directly to the south is not visible. Views to the south-west are terminated by local tree cover including the woodland belt adjacent the existing Sacrewell access. Views to the south-west do occasionally feature visibility of high sided vehicle movements where the domed landform falls way towards the dismantled railway to the east. Existing hedgerows along the northern side of the existing A47 reduce the level of visibility here.</p> <p>Some seasonal variation exists to the south-west where the local tree cover becomes visually permeable during winter months. This allows filtered views through to the vicinity of the existing roundabout and junction with the A1 (the tree cover associated with this junction can be seen in the winter baseline view).</p> <p>During the day traffic movements to the south-east and, in winter, to the south-west would largely go unnoticed. At night, however, they would be slightly more prominent. It is noted, however, that this viewpoint is on a footpath that is unlikely to be used at night. The visitor facilities at Sacrewell are also likely to experience lower levels of use (and visual sensitivity) at night.</p>                                                                                               |                       |                                                                                          |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High</b> – visitors to Sacrewell Farm and users of the footpath (Hereward Way) through the Sacrewell site.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                       |                                                                                          |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>Areas of trees and other vegetation would be removed within this medium range view during construction. The southern end of the tree belt next to the existing access into Sacrewell would be felled and hedgerows would be removed from the northern side of the existing A47 in longer distance views to the south-east (opening up views to traffic movements and the construction works). Although some construction would be at medium range, most activity would be long range, and the domed landform of the intervening arable field would shield the viewpoint from the closest area of works. A construction compound would be located nearby to the south-west but would generally be screened by the tree belt along the existing access into Sacrewell.</p> <p>Some seasonal variation would exist to the south-west due to the visual permeability of the tree belt during winter months. These views would be sufficiently filtered by trees to ensure that the construction compound and general construction works in the vicinity of the existing junction with the A1 would remain largely unnoticed.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Minor adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Moderate adverse significance</b> of visual effect. The assessment of a moderate rather than slight effect (and therefore significant) reflects the nature of the viewpoint within a popular visitor attraction. Although a degree of shielding from the construction works would be afforded by distance, the domed intervening landform and partial tree cover, the visual change would be noticeable and significant for visitors during construction. Awareness of the construction works would also be heightened by needing to access the farm through them.</p> |                       |                                                                                          |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                       |                                                                                          |

Although the new alignment of the A47 would generally be slightly north of the existing, and therefore slightly closer to Sacrewell, the influence of the A47 in this viewpoint would not be substantially altered. The closest section of the new road would remain out of view due to the domed intervening landform. To the south-east traffic movements along the new road would be more visible due to very slightly greater proximity, a wider highway, removal of hedgerows and that new hedgerow planting in this direction would be immature and limited in its visual screening effect at Year 1.

There would be some seasonal variation to the south-west where, in winter, the new A47 alignment located close to the existing roundabout would be glimpsed through filtering tree cover along the access road into Sacrewell (a small amount of which would have been cleared to form the new access). The existing hedgerow adjacent to the footpath to the east would also have a more enclosing effect during summer, limiting visual change.

During night-time and in winter traffic (and therefore associated headlight) visibility along the new A47 would be more noticeable to the south-east and to the south-west. There would be no new areas of street lighting within the view. The existing lighting at the existing roundabout would be replaced with lighting of similar height and extent. This would be glimpsed through filtering tree cover in winter.

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Minor adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight adverse significance** of visual effect. This principally associated with the greater level of visibility of high sided vehicle movements that would be opened up by hedgerow removal to the south-east (new hedgerow and tree planting here would not yet be sufficiently established to provide a visual screen).

#### Operation effects in year 15:

The proposed new tree and hedgerow planting to the north of the new A47 to the west of the dismantled railway would have matured after 15 years and become more effective in screening traffic movement. Once the new hedgerows to the north of the new road have thickened baseline conditions would have largely been restored.

Seasonal variations would be limited to the heavily filtered views to the south-west through intervening tree cover. The hedgerow adjacent the footpath to the east would also have a more enclosing effect during summer.

Lighting conditions at night-time would be very similar to baseline conditions.

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **no change magnitude** of visual change and a **Neutral significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. Baseline conditions would have been restored with no lasting residual adverse effect on the visual amenity of visitors and footpath users in this location.

Table 1-5 : Viewpoint A

| Viewpoint A: Sutton Crossways Track<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.8 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                       |                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |                                                                           |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>510640, 298849                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Elevation:<br>13m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme<br>& Direction of view:<br>500m<br>North-west |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |                                                                           |
| Visual receptors: Footpath users                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>Medium range view across open arable field from the footpath (Sutton 3) towards the existing roundabout at the eastern end of the Proposed Scheme. The east to west orientated tree belt is a prominent landscape features which terminates views further to the north and prevents visibility of the plateau landscape beyond. Within the centre of this view the tree belt switched from being located on the northern side of the existing A47 to the southern side (with the Castor Road then running to the south). Lighting columns on the Castor Road close to the existing roundabout are visible against the backdrop of the tree belt. Overhead power line transmission towers are a prominent feature of the view where they pass over the A47 in the vicinity of the existing roundabout.</p> <p>Seasonal variation in this view is very limited.</p> <p>At night-time the lighting around the existing roundabout is prominent. Headlights of traffic using the existing A47 are screened by the intervening woodland belt, even during winter months. It is noted that this footpath is in open countryside and is unlikely to be used during hours of darkness.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                       |                                                                           |
| <b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High</b> - representative of footpath users                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>A section of woodland within the existing woodland belt just to the west of the existing roundabout would be removed during construction to link to the new alignment of the A47 to the north of the woodland belt. This would create a slight gap in the continuity of the woodland belt just to the west of where existing lighting columns are visible in the medium range view. These lighting columns would be removed during construction. Sections of hedgerow would also be removed on the opposite side of the field in the foreground and a little further to the west (currently out of view). Changes associated with this hedgerow removal would largely go unnoticed due to the distance from the viewpoint and low-level sight line interrupted by retained sections of hedgerow. Most construction activity would occur to the north of the tree belt. The formation of the new alignment of the Castor Road to link with a section of the existing A47 would involve large equipment and plant that would be visible beyond retained sections of hedgerow. There are no proposed construction compounds within this area.</p> <p>The seasonal variation in this view would be very limited due to the open foreground and due to the effectiveness of the existing woodland belt in forming a visual barrier in both winter and summer due to its considerable width.</p> <p>The lighting in the vicinity of the existing roundabout would be removed during construction changing the night-time view. Headlights associated with traffic movements are not and would not be a feature of this view.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Moderate adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Moderate adverse significance</b> of visual effect. An assessment of moderate not slight (and therefore significant) reflects the opening up of a gap in the woodland belt, which although limited in extent, would contribute to visual change during construction in conjunction with the introduction of construction equipment into a view which is currently largely unaffected by visibility of the existing A47.</p> |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p> <p>New planting would not have matured and a perceived gap would remain in the continuity of the woodland belt running from east to west, now all to the south of the new A47. This gap would be limited in its extent and the nature of the low-level sight line and intervening retained hedgerows means that traffic movements on the new A47 are</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                       |                                                                           |

unlikely to be visible from this position. They would in any case be seen in the same direction as the overhead line transmission tower. Existing lighting columns would have been removed from the view.

The seasonal variation in this view would be very limited due to the open foreground and due to the effectiveness of the existing woodland belt in forming a visual barrier in both winter and summer due to its considerable width.

The night-time view would no longer be affected by visibility of street lighting columns.

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Negligible adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight adverse significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. Although there would be a gap in the continuity of the woodland belt the overall visual change at Year 1 would not be significant.

#### **Operation effects in year 15:**

New tree and hedgerow planting around the new highway alignments would re-form the boundaries around the arable fields and reconnect the continuity of the east to west woodland belt. The new A47 and its associated traffic movements would not be visible in this view. The removal of the existing lighting columns on Castor Road would represent a beneficial change during both day and night.

There would be no notable seasonal variation in the view.

There would be a reduction in night-time lighting visibility.

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in **Minor beneficial magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight beneficial significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. An assessment of slight not moderate significance (and therefore not significant) reflects that baseline conditions would largely be restored with the beneficial effect limited to the removal of lighting columns only.

Table 1-6 : Viewpoint B

| Viewpoint B: Lower Lodge Farm<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.9 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                       |                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                       |                                                                           |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>510288, 299495                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Elevation:<br>19m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme<br>& Direction of view:<br>250m<br>South-west |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Edge of Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau overlooking Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                       |                                                                           |
| Visual receptors: Road users. Residential                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>Medium range view south over a field towards the existing A47 at the far eastern end of the Proposed Scheme boundary. The east to west tree belt between the existing A47 and the Castor Road terminates the view to the south, but with some visual permeability during winter months. Hedgerows are located along the northern side of the existing A47 and along to Upton Road to the far right of the view. Lighting columns at the existing roundabout are visible. The view is dominated by the overhead line transmission towers which pass over the existing A47 in the vicinity of the eastern roundabout.</p> <p>Seasonal variation in this view is limited in so far as it applies to the potential visual effects of the Proposed Scheme (nothing is proposed to the south of the visually permeable tree belt at the centre of the view).</p> <p>The night-time view features the existing lighting columns at the existing roundabout as well as traffic movements along the existing A47 (a hedgerow partially screens at lower level but traffic movements along the A47 are visible despite actual headlights being screened by the hedgerow).</p> |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High</b> – the viewpoint represents the views of residents at Lower Lodge Farm.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>Tree and vegetation removal would largely occur out of sight to the right of this view which is screened by hedgerows and trees along the Upton Road. Construction activity would be focused around the removal of the existing roundabout and its associated lighting to the south, south-west. There would be limited activity towards the left hand side of the view (in a southerly direction) as the Proposed Scheme ends. The existing hedgerow on the opposite side of the field would be retained.</p> <p>Seasonal variation would be limited due to proximity and the openness of the view.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Moderate adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Moderate adverse significance</b> of visual effect. Construction activities would be clear in the medium range view to the south, south-west, however an assessment of moderate not large significance reflects that the construction activities associated with the removal of the existing roundabout would contained within a relatively narrow extent with much of the view unaffected.</p>                            |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p> <p>There would be very little change in this view. The hedgerow on the opposite side of the field would be retained and the visible extent of the tree belt would remain (the section to be removed lies out of view to the west). The principal change in year 1 would be the removal of lighting columns from the existing roundabout.</p> <p>Seasonal variation would be limited due to proximity and the openness of the view.</p> <p>There would be a reduction in the presence of lighting columns at night-time. The night-time appearance of traffic movements along the A47 would be very similar to baseline conditions (though traffic would no longer slow, and occasionally queue, at the roundabout to the right hand side of the view).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |                                                                           |

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Negligible beneficial magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight beneficial significance** of visual effect. This assessment reflects the removal of lighting columns in both the day-time and night-time views.

**Operation effects in year 15:**

The view would be largely unchanged between year 1 and year 15. There is no new planting proposed in the view. Existing trees and hedgerows would be retained at this far eastern end of the Proposed Scheme.

Seasonal variation would be limited due to proximity and the openness of the view.

There would be a reduction in the presence of lighting columns at night-time.

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Negligible beneficial magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight beneficial significance** of visual effect (the same as in year 1). This assessment reflects the removal of lighting columns in both the day-time and night-time views.

Table 1-7 : Viewpoint C

| Viewpoint C: Footpath south of Upton<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.10 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                       |                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                       |                                                                     |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>510592, 300251                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Elevation:<br>34m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme &<br>Direction of view:<br>1km<br>South |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                       |                                                                     |
| Visual receptors: Footpath users and residents at nearby Model Farm.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                       |                                                                     |
| <p>Existing view:</p> <p>An elevated view over arable countryside to the south of the village of Upton. A footpath (Upton 5 to Upton 6) runs from the Upton Road through the fields to the west. The viewpoint provides a typical view from the slightly more elevated landscape of the Nassaburgh Plateau to the north of the Proposed Scheme. The view is generally quite open but with substantial tree cover on the lower slopes to the south. Some of this tree cover is associated with Ermine Street which passes across the view and creates a visual barrier to lower-lying areas. A line of overhead transmission towers is prominent. A large new house on the northern edge of Sutton is just visible providing some orientation within the landscape. The existing roundabout at the eastern end of the Proposed Scheme lies in roughly the same direction as the house, however its associated lighting columns are screened by intervening topography and vegetation cover. The existing A47 and its associated traffic movement are located at long range and are also screened from view.</p> <p>Visual permeability through surrounding vegetation cover is greater during winter months, however the existing A47 and its associated traffic movement cannot be seen.</p> <p>There is no visibility of lighting associated with lighting columns or vehicle headlights.</p> |                       |                                                                     |
| Visual receptor sensitivity: High                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                       |                                                                     |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>No areas of tree removal would be visible from this viewpoint in either winter or summer. No construction works would be visible from this viewpoint in either winter or summer. There is no construction compound proposed at this end of the Proposed Scheme. There would be no changes to night-time views.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>No change magnitude</b> of change and a <b>Neutral significance</b> of visual effect. It is accepted that there is a small risk that very high plant might be partially visible on rare occasions in the direction of the eastern roundabout during its removal but this would be unlikely and very infrequent and an assessment of neutral significance is therefore reached.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                       |                                                                     |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p> <p>There would be no visual change during winter or summer or during either day or night.</p> <p>At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>No change magnitude</b> of change and a <b>Neutral significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint. Baseline conditions would be unchanged by the Proposed Scheme.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                       |                                                                     |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 15:</b></p> <p>No areas of new planting would be visible from this viewpoint. There would be no visual change during winter or summer or during either day or night.</p> <p>At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>No change magnitude</b> of change and a <b>Neutral significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint. Baseline conditions would be unchanged by the Proposed Scheme.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                       |                                                                     |

Table 1-8 : Viewpoint D

| Viewpoint D: Footpath west of Sutton (Nene Way)<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.11 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                       |                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                       |                                                                           |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>509338, 299010                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Elevation:<br>11m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme &<br>Direction of view:<br>400m<br>North-east |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                       |                                                                           |
| Visual receptors: Footpath users (Nene Way)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>The Nene Way principally follows the riverside but is set back from the river as it approaches and passes through the village of Sutton. At this viewpoint there is a gap in the tree cover otherwise found along the dismantled railway which provides medium range views north-east across an arable field towards the location of the proposed new roundabout. Existing trees (some of considerable stature) and hedgerows along Sutton Drift to the north of Sutton cross the view on the opposite side of the arable field. Beyond, particularly in winter, traffic movements can be seen along the course of the existing A47 which is aligned to the south of an east to west tree belt which crosses the view. This tree belt creates a visual barrier which generally prevent longer distance views to the north. Slight gaps do appear in one or two places allowing glimpses through to the more elevated Nassaburgh Plateau landscape.</p> <p>There are seasonal variations in the view due to traffic movements along the existing A47 being more visible during winter than in summer and due to some increased visual permeability of the east to west tree belt across the view during winter.</p> <p>There is no street lighting within the view. Night-time views do feature traffic movements along the existing A47. It is noted however that this viewpoint is unlikely to be visited during hours of darkness.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High</b> – users of the Nene Way riverside footpath.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>A section of the existing east to west tree belt would be removed creating a gap in its continuity. This would occur just to the left hand side of the view, where Sutton Drift meets the existing A47, and would provide additional glimpses through this visual barrier to the landscape further to the north. Hedgerows on the opposite side of the field in the foreground would be retained. The gap created in the tree belt would lie slightly too far to the east to coincide exactly with the position of the proposed new roundabout. The new roundabout would remain partially screened by the eastern end of the retained section of woodland belt at this angle of view. Visibility of construction activity would occur, however, associated with the main new A47 carriageway to the east of the roundabout and associated with the curving southern connection between the new roundabout and Castor Road. New lighting columns would be erected at the new roundabout (largely screened by the retained woodland belt) but also along the curving section of the newly aligned Castor Road as it ties into the south of the roundabout.</p> <p>Visibility of construction activity at and to the east of the new roundabout would be greater during winter months with less screening and visual softening provided by the retained sections of the east to west tree belt.</p> <p>The erection of new lighting columns would occur within the view. Night-time visual effects of lighting associated with traffic movements would be complex as changes would occur incrementally. The A47 would be re-positioned in phases from the existing position to the south of the tree belt to the north of the tree belt by the end of the construction period. The night-time view would be affected by opposing changes, i.e. traffic movement on the A47 would become less visible as it moves further away from the viewpoint, an effect which would be offset by the introduction of new lighting columns along a section of the Castor Road as it approaches the new junction.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Moderate adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Moderate adverse significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint. This assessment considers the net effect of visual changes to: the continuity of the east to west tree belt; the visibility of construction activities and traffic movements either side of this tree belt during the phased formation of the new junction; and to the introduction of new lighting columns along a section of Castor Road in the night time view.</p> |                       |                                                                           |

#### Operation effects in year 1:

A gap in the east to west tree belt would have been opened up giving filtered views through to traffic movements on the new A47 just east of the new roundabout. New planting to plug this gap would be immature and largely ineffective as a visual screen at year 1. Most traffic movements including most high sided vehicles would be less visible in the view due to the new alignment of the A47 to the north of the tree belt. But new lighting columns at the new roundabout and at Castor Road would become a new feature of the view during both day and night.

Seasonal variations in the view would include greater visibility of the new A47 traffic movements and new roundabout during winter months due to gaps in, and the visual permeability of, some sections of retained east to west tree belt.

New lighting columns would be a new feature of the night-time view, offset by reduced visibility of headlights associated with traffic along the A47.

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Minor adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight adverse significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. The assessment of a slight not moderate significance of effect (and therefore not significant) reflects that greater weight has been attached to the repositioning of traffic movements along the A47 from the south to the north and the tree belt (where they would be largely screened from view) than to the introduction on new lighting columns at Castor Road within both the day-time and night-time view.

#### Operation effects in year 15:

By year 15 new tree planting would have begun to mature and to plug the gap opened up within the existing east to west tree belt. The new roundabout and traffic movements along the new A47 would be largely screened to the north of this tree belt with only occasional filtered glimpses during winter. Traffic movements on the Castor Road (following the alignment of the former A47) would be much reduced.

There would be some seasonal variation due to some visual permeability along the tree belt in winter.

New lighting columns, and associated lighting, would have been introduced into the night-time view but offset by reduced visibility of traffic movements along the Castor Road/former A47.

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Negligible magnitude** of visual change and a **Neutral significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. The assessment of a neutral effect reflects that the adverse effect of the introduction of new lighting columns within the view at Castor Road would be offset by the benefits of reduced visibility of traffic movements along the A47. It is also informed by the observation that existing traffic movements on the existing A47 tend to be less visible during summer but that new lighting at Castor Road would be visible in summer (when the Nene Way is more likely to be used). Overall, and taking all of these factors into account, the quality of visual amenity would be barely perceptible.

Table 1-9 : Viewpoint E

| Viewpoint E: Riverside footpath (Nene Way)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                      |                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Refer to Figure 7.6.12 and 7.6.13 (two directions of view) (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                      |                                                                                      |
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                      |                                                                                      |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>508376, 299600                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Elevation:<br>8m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme & Direction of view:<br>50m<br>North-west and north-east |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                      |                                                                                      |
| Visual receptors: Footpath users (Nene Way)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                      |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>The viewpoint is located on the riverside footpath on the northern bank of the River Nene. The river is nearby but is largely not visible within the photographed view (to the east) due to scrubby riverside vegetation (the river is glimpsed in the view when walking along the path). The foreground of the view comprises a small pastoral parcel of land between the river and the existing A47 at close range (this land is located within a County wildlife site). A short distance to the east there are dispersed trees within the pastoral land parcel. An existing embankment rises to the north to the southern edge of the existing A47 separated from the field by a fence line and gappy hedgerow. This boundary forms the skyline with very limited visibility to any areas or tree cover further to the north. High sided vehicle movements are visible from the riverside footpath, but none is present within the photographed view. Views in all directions are reasonably enclosed by tree cover and landform. The rear of the Petrol filling station on the existing A47 and vegetation associated with the adjacent Anglian Water pumping station are visible to the north-west.</p> <p>There is some seasonal variation within the viewpoint. Views to the river are slightly more frequent during winter months and the gappy hedgerow along the southern edge of the A47 provides slightly greater separation from the existing road during summer.</p>                                                                                                                        |                      |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High-</b> users of Nene Way riverside footpath</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                      |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>The viewpoint is located close to the position just east of the Petrol filling station where the alignment of the new A47 changes from being slightly further north (to the west) to being slightly further south and closer to the river (to the east). The view to the north-west would therefore be affected less than the view to the north-east and east.</p> <p>Several individual trees would be removed from the pastoral parcel of land further along the riverside to the east (refer to Appendix 7.6 (TR010039/APP/6.3) for further detail on specific tree removal) (TR010039/APP/6.3). Large scale construction works would then take place to the east of this viewpoint to form the new alignment of the A47 and its associated embankments. The formation of these new embankments would extend close to the riverbank with the footpath running within a relatively narrow area between the works and the river approximately 300m to the east of this viewpoint position. No construction compounds would be visible from this viewpoint. These changes would give rise to notable close-range changes to the visual amenity experienced by users of the footpath.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Major adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Large adverse significance</b> of visual effect. The assessment of Large rather than Moderate significance of effect (both, in any case, significant) reflects the proximity of the viewpoint to the proposed works at a more elevated level within an enclosed visual setting.</p> |                      |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p> <p>The newly constructed A47 would be located within a prominent position at close range immediately to the north-east of this viewpoint position. The new, wider highway alignment and its associated earthworks would dominate the view to the north-east and new planting on the upper slopes of the new embankments would initially do little to screen visibility of traffic movements.</p> <p>The proximity of the new road would mean that there would be little variation between winter and summer.</p> <p>Although no street lighting is proposed along this section of the new A47, there would be greater night-time visibility of traffic headlights due to the more southerly alignment, the removal of the gappy hedgerow and a curving alignment to</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                      |                                                                                      |

the road that would direct lights towards this viewpoint position. It is noted, however, that this footpath is unlikely to be used during hours of darkness. These changes would give rise to notable close-range changes to the visual amenity experienced by users of the footpath.

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Moderate adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Moderate adverse significance** of visual effect. The assessment of large rather than very large significance of effect (both, in any case, significant) reflects the proximity of the viewpoint to the existing A47 and its associated traffic movements.

#### Operation effects in year 15:

By year 15 new tree planting on the new southern embankments would have begun to mature and to screen the new highway alignment. The relative levels of the riverside footpath (low) and the new highway (raised on embankment only a short distance away) means that the upward angle of view would ensure some degree of screening is achieved by planting at relatively low height. It is likely, however, that high sided vehicle movements would remain visible in places above this establishing woodland cover. This would occur at proximity.

Visibility of high sided vehicle movements in year 15 is likely to be greater during winter months.

Within 15 years, planting on the embankments would have substantially prevented visibility of headlights from the riverside footpath.

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Minor adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight adverse significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. At year 15, visibility of the Proposed Scheme would have reduced over time and greater separation and visual enclosure would be achieved. New planting would mature to screen views of the embankments and traffic movements. Longer term effects would be limited to glimpsed views of vehicles and views here would also become more enclosed with new woodland extending close to the riverside route of the footpath.

Table 1-10 : Viewpoint F

| Viewpoint F: Footpath west of Sutton Heath Road<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.14 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                       |                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                       |                                                                           |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>508966, 300274                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Elevation:<br>22m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme &<br>Direction of view:<br>700m<br>South-west |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau / edge of Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                       |                                                                           |
| Visual receptors: Footpath users                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>This footpath (Sutton 5) crosses reasonably elevated ground between Sutton Heath Road and Sacrewell Farm to the west. It passes through a series of pastoral and arable fields enclosed by a mixture of open fence lines and more enclosing hedgerows. The view to the south-west shows the domed landform that shields Sacrewell Farm from the closest section of both the existing and proposed alignment of the A47 which is at long range from this viewpoint. The Petrol filling station and tall evergreen vegetation associated with the Anglian Water pumping station, both just to the south of the existing A47, are prominent at the centre of the view, along with the communications tower close to the entrance to Sacrewell. The alignment of the existing A47 is generally marked by a hedgerow which generally screens the carriageway and most associated traffic movements. Occasionally high sided vehicle can be seen above the hedgerow, particularly further to the east where the highway emerges from behind the domed landform at Sacrewell. Existing trees along the access road into Sacrewell are visible on the skyline to the south-west.</p> <p>Seasonal variation in this viewpoint is limited, and the extent to which high sided vehicles are visible on the existing A47 is similar in both winter and summer.</p> <p>The existing lighting at the existing roundabout at the western end of the Proposed Scheme is not visible. There are some low level effects associated with night-time traffic movements.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                       |                                                                           |
| Visual receptor sensitivity: High                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>Visible areas of tree removal during construction would include some of the tree belt close to the existing access to Sacrewell which is visible at long range on the skyline in the baseline view. It would also include some of the evergreen tree cover at long range to the south of the existing A47 which coincides with the new access into Sacrewell and its associated cutting to take visitors below the new A47. Some, but not all sections, of the hedgerow to the north of the A47 would also be removed further to the west.</p> <p>The alignment of the new road meanders slightly from north to south of the existing A47 in this view. Some existing hedgerow planting would be retained but much would need to be removed to accommodate the increased width of the new dual carriageway. Current screening relies on these hedgerows and the construction activity associated with the new road would be visible, principally in areas to the west of the domed landform and Petrol filling station. The proposed construction compound south of Sacrewell would be screened by the tree belt along its current access.</p> <p>Seasonal variations would be limited.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Moderate adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Moderate adverse significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint. An assessment of moderate rather than large significance reflects the distance of the viewpoint from the proposed works and the partial shielding that would be afforded by the domed landform to the south of Sacrewell. The works would be visible, but their extent reasonably contained such that the effect on the quality of visual amenity of the footpath would not be more greatly affected.</p> |                       |                                                                           |
| Operation effects in year 1:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                       |                                                                           |
| <p>From the perspective of this viewpoint the alignment of the new A47 would be broadly similar to that of the existing road. The changes to the alignment, carriageway width and carriageway elevation would be relatively subtle. The new road would continue to be partially shielded by the domed landform to the south of Sacrewell. Further east, however,</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                       |                                                                           |

sections of hedgerow would have been removed and there is a slight increase in the elevation of the new carriageways. Traffic movements on the new highway would therefore be more frequently visible in views directly to the south until new tree and hedgerow planting matures.

Seasonal variation would be limited.

There would be no additional visibility of street lighting at night-time, but vehicle headlights would be more noticeable directly to the south until new hedgerows establish.

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Minor adverse magnitude** of change and a **Slight adverse significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. An assessment of slight rather than moderate significance reflects the limited extent of the new highway over which traffic movements would be additionally visible.

#### **Operation effects in year 15:**

By year 15 new tree and hedgerow planting on the northern side of the new A47 would have begun to mature and become more effective in screening views. Baseline conditions would be largely restored but some additional visibility of high sided vehicle movements is likely to persist in views directly to the south-where the new highway would be at a slightly higher elevation than the existing.

Seasonal variation would be limited.

There would be no additional visibility of street lighting at night-time, but vehicle headlights would be more noticeable directly to the south.

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in **Negligible adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight adverse significance** of visual effect.

Table 1-11 : Viewpoint G

| Viewpoint G: Footpath at Windgate Way<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.15 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                       |                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                       |                                                                      |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>507526, 300538                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Elevation:<br>33m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme &<br>Direction of view:<br>500m<br>South |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                       |                                                                      |
| Visual receptors: Footpath users and visitors to Sacrewell Farm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                       |                                                                      |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>This viewpoint from a footpath (Thornough 7) provides an elevated view to the south from a location within the wider Sacrewell Farm estate which is popular with walkers and visitors. Long range views can be gained to high ground further to the south in the vicinity of Stibbington. The view shows the undulating topography with the silk mill at Sacrewell sitting within a fold in the landscape on the left hand side of the view, largely enclosed by woodland cover. Vehicle movements on the existing A47 can be seen crossing the view directly to the south. Elements of the junction of the A47 and A1 are visible to the south-west including the circular block of trees on the junction island and the bridge over the A1 close to Wansford village (though the A1 itself and associated traffic movements is largely hidden from view in the cutting below). A short section of A1 carriageway is visible at medium range to the west where it emerges from cutting to cross a watercourse.</p> <p>There is some seasonal variation in the view, with general tree cover reducing visual permeability in winter months. Nevertheless, it is the case that the traffic movements on the existing A47 to the south, the bridge over the A1 at Wansford and a short section of the A1 carriage way to the west all remain visible in summer months.</p> <p>Existing lighting at the existing roundabout is visible.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                       |                                                                      |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High</b> – the viewpoint is located on a footpath close to the Hereward Way and the wider footpath network is used by visitors to Sacrewell Farm and Sacrewell Lodge</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                       |                                                                      |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>Some areas of tree removal during construction would be visible from this viewpoint. These would primarily be associated with vegetation along the eastern side of the A1 where the new slip road would begin to curve eastwards just beyond Wittering Brook which is a noticeable low point within the view. This would open up views to the A1 carriageway which are currently screened from view. There would be some limited tree removal visible from areas directly to the south associated with the formation of the new access into Sacrewell Farm (principally some evergreen trees located just south of the existing A47). The construction works associated with the new slip road link between the A1 and the A47 eastbound would be visible on the far side of the field to the south. These would occur where there are currently views of existing traffic movements and of the bridge over the A1 at Wansford. The main construction compound located just south of Sacrewell Farm would largely be out of view tucked behind intervening woodland cover in the vicinity of the silk mill at Sacrewell.</p> <p>Seasonal variations in the view would be limited though a line of large poplars along Wittering Brook screens the direction of the existing western roundabout in summer.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Major adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Large adverse significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint as vegetation removal and the elevated position of the viewpoint would expose views of construction. The assessment of a large rather than very large significance of effect reflects the long range distance over which the changes would be seen.</p> |                       |                                                                      |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p> <p>The new slip road linking the A1 to the eastbound A47 would come slightly closer to the viewpoint than current traffic movements but would be seen in the same direction and context as existing traffic movements around the existing junction. The perception of change would be relatively limited. New tree and hedgerow planting would be introduced on the northern side of this new slip road but would not yet be mature or effective in screening the new infrastructure.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                       |                                                                      |

Seasonal variations in the view would be limited.

Lighting associated with the headlights of traffic on the slip road would coincide with the direction of view of the existing lighting at the existing roundabout. The perception of change to night time views would be relatively limited.

At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a **Moderate adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Moderate adverse significance** of visual effect. An assessment of moderate rather than large significance of effect reflects the long range distance over which the changes would be seen and in the same direction of view as existing infrastructure.

#### Operation effects in year 15:

Within 15 years new tree and hedgerow planting would have begun to mature and soften the appearance of the new slip road. Substantial areas of additional woodland planting would also be establishing on land between the slip road and the existing roundabout. This new woodland would screen the existing roundabout, its associated lighting (which would be replaced at a similar height and extent) and traffic movements along the main A47 carriageway. It would extend the existing circular woodland block across the view further to the east. Views of traffic flows along the new slip road between the A1 and A47 eastbound would be partially screened by hedgerows, filtered by dispersed tree cover and set against a more extensive wooded backdrop whilst also retaining a degree of openness that is characteristic of the baseline view. This is considered preferable to a 'wall' of new woodland across the entire view leading to a loss of openness.

Seasonal variations in the view would be limited.

Lighting associated with the headlights of traffic on the slip road would coincide with the direction of view of the existing lighting at the existing roundabout. Street lighting at the roundabout would be screened by new woodland planting.

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in **Minor adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Slight adverse significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint. An assessment of slight rather than moderate significance of effect reflects the long range distance over which the changes would be seen and in the same direction of view as existing infrastructure.

Table 1-12 : Viewpoint H

| Viewpoint H: Thornhaugh (opposite Church)<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.16 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                       |                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                       |                                                                           |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>507004, 300561                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Elevation:<br>22m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme &<br>Direction of view:<br>600m<br>South-east |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                       |                                                                           |
| Visual receptors: Residents                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>View east and south-east over undulating fields towards the alignment of the A1 which is located at medium range. Houses at Old North Road and Thackers Close can be seen but tree cover along the A1 prevents views further east. Tree cover associated with the junction between the A1 and A47 can be seen on the skyline but there is no visibility of the existing roundabout or its associated lighting.</p> <p>The absence of visibility to the A47 east of the A1 is the case in both winter and summer.</p> <p>Note: This viewpoint was selected at a stage within the Proposed Development when works were thought possible to the west of the A1. These were subsequently removed from the Proposed Scheme.</p> |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High</b> – representative of residents on the fringes of the village with views out into the surrounding countryside</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>There would be no visibility of any tree removal or of any construction works in either winter or summer or during either day-time or night-time.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>No change magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Neutral significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p> <p>There would be no visibility of the Proposed Scheme in either winter or summer or during either day-time or night-time in year 1.</p> <p>At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>No change magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Neutral significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 15:</b></p> <p>There would be no visibility of the Proposed Scheme in either winter or summer or during either day-time or night-time in year 15.</p> <p>At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>No change magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Neutral significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |                                                                           |

Table 1-13 : Viewpoint I

| Viewpoint I: Black Swan Hill<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.17 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                       |                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                       |                                                                   |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>507385, 299842                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Elevation:<br>32m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme &<br>Direction of view:<br>0m<br>East |
| Assessment Landscape Character Area context: Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                       |                                                                   |
| Visual receptors: Residents next to A1 at Black Swan Hill / Old North Road / Thackers Close                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                       |                                                                   |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>View over existing junction between blocks of woodland cover towards Sacrewell Farm. Despite being located at close range, vegetation cover screens the majority of the existing A1 and creates a narrow view, at close-range, of the existing road. The entire view is very enclosed as a residential property and associated tree cover screen to the west.</p> <p>View more enclosed in summer than in winter, however the depth of planting which surrounds the viewpoint would still screen to a large extent when trees are not in leaf.</p>                                                                                                                                                   |                       |                                                                   |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: Medium</b> – reflecting proximity to the existing junction and the dominance of existing traffic movements within the existing view. This framed vista is only gained by properties at the far southern end of this section of the Old North Road.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                       |                                                                   |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>Some vegetation removal would occur at the junction opening up close range views to the east of the construction of the new slip road. Regrading and the formation of an attenuation basin would take place. The more open views may give visibility of the construction compound south of Sacrewell Farm.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Moderate adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Moderate adverse significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint. This reflects the close range visibility of the construction of the new slip road at close proximity and more distant visibility of the construction compound at Sacrewell.</p> |                       |                                                                   |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p> <p>The new slip road would be visible at close range creating a further layer of traffic movements across the view.</p> <p>At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Minor adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Slight adverse significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                       |                                                                   |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 15:</b></p> <p>New tree and hedgerow planting associated with the new junction and slip road would begin to mature. The additional layer of the slip road would however continue to introduce additional traffic movements across the close range view.</p> <p>At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in <b>Negligible adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Slight adverse significance</b> of visual effect.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                       |                                                                   |

Table 1-14 : Viewpoint J

| Viewpoint J: Footpath at Bunkers Hill (south of Wansford)<br>Refer to Figure 7.6.18 (TR010039/APP/6.2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                       |                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Location and orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                       |                                                                           |
| OS Grid Ref:<br>507793, 298676                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Elevation:<br>20m AOD | Distance to Proposed Scheme &<br>Direction of view:<br>700m<br>North-east |
| Landscape Character Area context: Northern Wolds but overlooking Nene Valley                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                       |                                                                           |
| Visual receptors: Footpath users and residents                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Existing view:</b></p> <p>Rarely used footpath (203/9) located close to the A1. Long range view over the A1 towards Sacrewell Farm and the former picnic site on the slopes to the north of the River Nene. The existing roundabout and its associated lighting are visible at long range on the skyline as well as existing traffic movements heading east along the existing A47 (again, on the skyline). Tree cover to the south of the A47 opposite the existing entrance to Sacrewell is also visible on the skyline. The open, sloping arable field between the former picnic site and the existing A47 is visually prominent.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Visual receptor sensitivity: High</b> – despite low levels of likely use of the footpath the viewpoint is deemed to be high sensitivity due to proximity to residential properties which this viewpoint also represents.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Construction effects:</b></p> <p>Visible tree removal would take place on the skyline to form the new access into Sacrewell Farm (evergreen trees located to the south of the existing A47). Some construction activity would be visible, but it would be partially screened by the low angle of view preventing direct visibility of the works to construct the new main alignment. The proposed main construction compound at Sacrewell would not be visible as it would lie over the brow of the hill on land further to the north which is out of sight. The new southern spur from the roundabout would drop down quickly and largely be screened by intervening tree cover. Formation of the new access into Sacrewell in cutting and of the nearby attenuation basins would be visible within the sloping arable field just below the skyline.</p> <p>There would be some seasonal variation due to intervening vegetation which would screen construction activity more in summer than winter.</p> <p>During construction the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Minor adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Slight adverse significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint. The assessment of a slight rather than moderate significance of effect reflects that the works would take place at distance in the same direction of view as the existing A1 and A47 and would be partially screened by topography and vegetation.</p> |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 1:</b></p> <p>There would be long range, filtered views of the new access to Sacrewell Farm but no visibility of the main A47 carriageway heading east. Traffic movements on the new A47 would appear similar to baseline conditions. Lighting would be replaced at the junction to a similar height and extent. Visual change would principally associate with the Sacrewell access and adjacent attenuation basins within the visible sloping arable field.</p> <p>There would be some seasonal variation due to intervening vegetation which would screen changes more in summer than winter.</p> <p>The night-time visibility of lighting would be very similar to baseline conditions. Traffic headlights using the new access to Sacrewell would be very infrequent, especially during hours of darkness.</p> <p>At year 1 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in a <b>Negligible adverse magnitude</b> of visual change and a <b>Slight adverse significance</b> of visual effect at this viewpoint.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                       |                                                                           |
| <p><b>Operation effects in year 15:</b></p> <p>New tree and hedgerow planting would have matured to an extent that it would partially screen the Proposed Scheme and therefore limit visible change. Dispersed tree planting would introduce a degree of enclosure along the long range</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                       |                                                                           |

skyline east of the existing roundabout and new woodland planting to the east of the existing circular woodland block would form a backdrop to the existing roundabout and its lighting columns giving a less stark appearance (i.e. than if set against a backdrop of clear sky).

There would be some seasonal variation due to intervening vegetation which would screen changes more in summer than winter. There would no noticeable change within night-time views.

Baseline conditions would be largely restored.

At year 15 of operation the Proposed Scheme would result in **Negligible adverse magnitude** of visual change and a **Neutral significance** of visual effect at this viewpoint.