

reside.

Land South of Funtley Road, Funtley

LVA Addendum

r.



Meon Valley

Deviation Line - bridleway & open space

Funtley North

main railway line

proposed Welborne garden village

Funtley South

Funtley

M27

North Fareham

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Funtley triangle is enclosed by substantial treebelts and topography so is visually discrete. The landscape character has been eroded by suburban development and urban fringe uses including horse paddocks and associated structures, lighting and motorway noise....

## Introduction

Funtley South lies within the Funtley triangle north of Fareham and the M27 motorway and is contained by the well-wooded Deviation Line to the west, which separates it physically and visually from the Meon Valley. The main railway contains the eastern edge and separates Funtley North and South from the historic heart of Funtley village and the consented Welborne Garden Village (c.6000 homes) to the north-east of Funtley Village.

In September 2020, Fareham Borough Council granted outline consent for demolition of the existing buildings and construction of 55 dwellings (including 3 custom-build homes) community building incorporating a local shop, access and associated landscaping, infrastructure and development works at the site. The principle of housing on this site has therefore been established.

The application was supported by a Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) prepared by Fabrik Chartered Landscape Architects dated January 2018. The LVA prepared by Fabrik in 2018 and referred to in this Addendum document is found at Appendix i. The comprehensive LVA assessed the potential landscape and visual impacts of the previously approved scheme.

This addendum report analyses where the proposed scheme for up to 125 houses and a Community Park has changed, the landscape-led rationale for the revised scheme, (which is more fully described in the DAS), and then assesses how this has affected the conclusions of the Landscape and Visual Appraisal. This report draws conclusions as to the likely landscape and visual implications associated with the revised development proposals and any mitigation measures that might be required to minimise impacts or optimise the benefits with respect to landscape character and visual amenity.

The existing LVA prepared by Fabrik Ltd (Jan 2018), which was submitted with the consented planning application P/18/0067/OA, sets out the landscape policies relevant to the site and describes the baseline conditions of the site and its surrounding context. The LVA also provides a comprehensive visual study identifying potential visual receptors both within the Funtley triangle and areas beyond this, including public footpaths and roads.

The baseline conditions have not changed from that described in this report except that detailed permission has been granted for housing at Funtley North (23 dwellings) opposite the site and Funtley South has outline consent for up to 55 houses. In addition Welborne Garden Village has also received Resolution to grant by Members for c.6000 dwellings, currently negotiating S106 Agreement.

Representations were made in February 2020, as part of the consultation process on the emerging Local Plan to 2035, concerning the potential inclusion of a small area of the Funtley triangle within the Meon valley Area of Special Landscape Quality (ASLQ). These representations are contained within Rummey Design's Technical Note re proposed Meon Valley ASLQ (Rummey Design Feb 2020) and clearly sets out the reasons why the ASLQ should be defined by the Deviation Line, which lies to the west of Funtley triangle, and exclude any areas within Funtley triangle.

## Landscape character

The landscape character baseline, as outlined within the LVA, recognises the existing urban influences within the Funtley triangle that affect landscape character. The LVA also recognises that the equestrian uses on site have changed and degraded the character of the farmland landscape, concluding that the landscape character sensitivity and value is Low to Medium.

## Visual receptors

The LVA identified and assessed visual amenity and views from a wide range of visual receptors both within the Funtley triangle and across the wider area from publicly accessible locations. The viewpoints clearly illustrate the range of potential views towards the site and show that it is well-contained within the immediate vegetation cover and topography that encloses the triangle. Notably the rising topography to the south encloses the site and prevents any views southwards. The Deviation Line to the west is embanked separating the site from any views from the Meon valley, whilst vegetation along the main railway encloses views to the north and east.

The visual impact assessment informed the development proposals confirming that development should be confined to the lower, less visible slopes, that landscape features should be retained and that the higher, southern parts of the site should be retained to provide public open space.

## Assessment of landscape and visual effects

The assessment concludes that the proposed development would not noticeably alter the landscape character at National, County or Borough level.

At worst it assesses a Moderate-major negative effect on the landscape character at site level, where development is proposed due to the change of use from equestrian fields to residential development. It predicts that there are potential benefits to landscape character in the long term.

With respect to visual effects the assessment predicts that the only negative effects on views are likely to be experienced by residents along Funtley Road/Stage Way/Roebuck Avenue and Honey Lane but that these can be mitigated through planting. It is worth noting that there is only one property that has views into the site on Honey Lane due to a gap in vegetation and that many properties within the residential development areas to the north have vegetation or built form screening views from ground floor windows. These are considered, in best practice guidance, to be to be more important than those from upstairs bedrooms.

No notable effects are predicted on views and visual amenity from public footpaths except for a short section of bridleway on the Deviation Line where there could be glimpsed views into the site in winter. However the appraisal acknowledges that planting on the western edge of the site would mitigate this change.

Overall no widespread landscape and visual effects are predicted and those negative effects that are predicted on the immediate context and at site level are assessed as being able to be effectively mitigated.

The LVA recognises that the development would be well contained within the existing landscape framework and that all important landscape features are retained.

The LVA also concludes that there is an opportunity to secure the long term management of the site, Ancient Woodland and Green Infrastructure as well as providing publicly accessible open space where none exists at present.

The existing LVA does not specifically analyse historic pattern through mapping, which helps to understand the evolution of the landscape and how, by taking this into account, development can more effectively be integrated into the landscape and bring about greater landscape benefits.

Mapping shows the former brickworks and clay pits in the area which, together with the railway, have shaped its character. The 1963 map shows that the Deviation Line has added to the enclosure and isolation of the triangle with the claypits north of Funtley Road becoming the site of an abattoir. Residential areas now occupy this site together with much of the other land north of Funtley Road. The M27 has also had a significant impact cutting an east-west swathe across the landscape, severing the triangle from Fareham North and further isolating it.

Extensive areas of coppice woodland are evident in late Victorian times with a notable field pattern of hedgerows linking the wooded horizons on the upper slopes to the valley bottom. These compartmentalised the landscape and connected landscape features.

The hedgerows have been lost in the latter part of the 20th century and are now only marked by a few isolated trees. The coppice woodland has been lost and fragmented since Victorian times, although the remaining woodland areas and tree groups still give the impression of wooded horizons.

Small paddocks are now defined by a proliferation of post and rail fencing, which, together with hard surfaced areas, stables, large barns and other clutter have eroded the rural character.

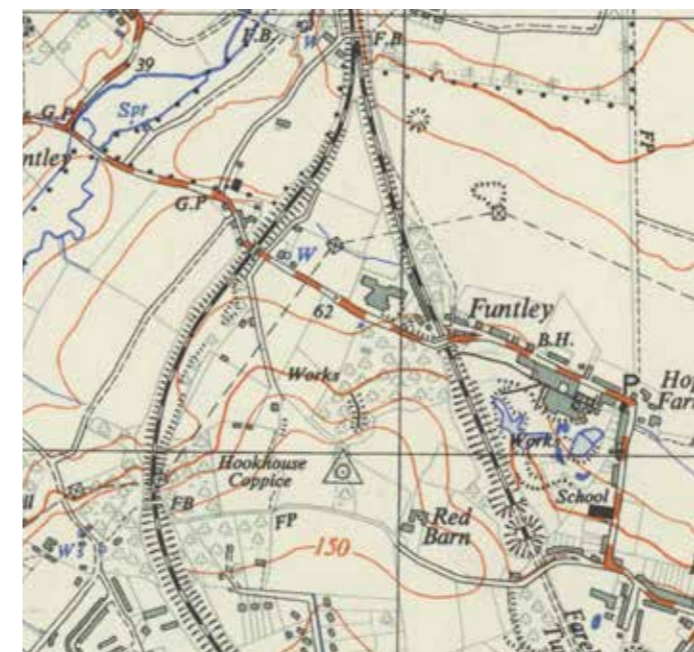
Restoring the historic pattern in green fingers to integrate development and reconnect the valley landscape with the wooded horizons has been one of the key landscape drivers for the revised layout reflected, on the illustrative masterplan by green links and rural edge treatments, which structure the neighbourhoods and provide significant amenity value.



1859 The hamlet of Funtley is next to the railway line with adjacent rectangular field patterns and extensive coppice woodland in the surrounding areas.



1898 coppice woodland is a dominant feature with smaller fields on Funtley South. Brickworks and claypits occupy part of Funtley north



1963 coppice woodland is now fragmented, an abattoir lies north of Funtley Road & the Deviation Line severs the triangle from the Meon valley



2020 the M27 cuts an east-west swathe across the ridge so that Funtley triangle is now isolated on all sides.

# development proposal



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RD173 Funtley Road, Fareham			
PLANNING ISSUE			
RD173 Funtley Road, Fareham			
Illustrative masterplan			
02/09/20	02/09/20	1:1000	RD1731-F31100
			P1

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Masterplanning Urban Design Landscape Architecture



# development proposal

The development is to provide for up to 125 dwellings, community building incorporating a local shop with associated infrastructure, new Community Park, landscaping and access as shown on the Illustrative Masterplan opposite.

The site is set within an undulating landscape where the dominant feature is the topography and its wooded horizons which are characteristic. This mature landscape effectively unifies the landscape and helps contain development, where it has occurred. The site itself contributes to the wooded horizons with remnant coppice woodland on the higher ground in the south.

Other significant landscape features on the site include areas of ancient replanted woodland in Great Beamond Coppice, treebelts and mature trees. The proposed development ensures that these key landscape features are retained and enhanced. The smaller scale field pattern that once compartmentalised the site (now only indicated by a few remnant trees) once linked the wooded horizons to the valley floor.

This pattern will be reinstated through the proposed north-south green links which will incorporate the remaining trees and provide access routes, SuDS, biodiversity corridors and new native tree and shrub planting, as well as species-diverse grasslands.

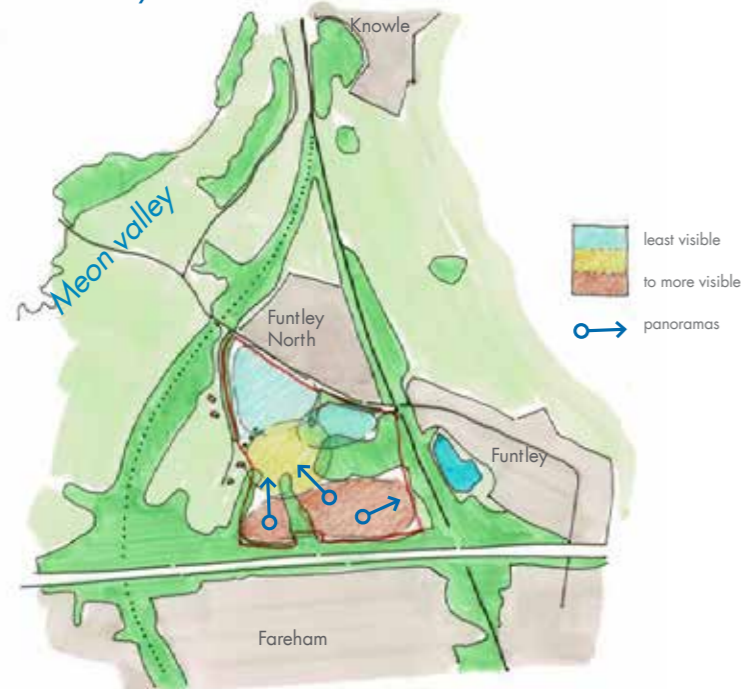
An interconnected network of footpath and cycle routes will link the site to Fareham North to the south and the Meon valley trail and wider countryside to the north, also allowing existing and new communities to access the Community Park located on the higher slopes south of the residential development. This area benefits from panoramic views northwards towards the South Downs and Meon Valley, which will now become accessible to the community.

The Community Park will provide significant areas of open space for informal recreation, with habitats enhanced through management and planting.

The landscape will be managed as part of the development adding to its amenity, biodiversity, recreational, educational and landscape value. Management regimes that might be considered could include traditional methods such as coppicing of woodland and diversification of meadows through green haying or grazing.

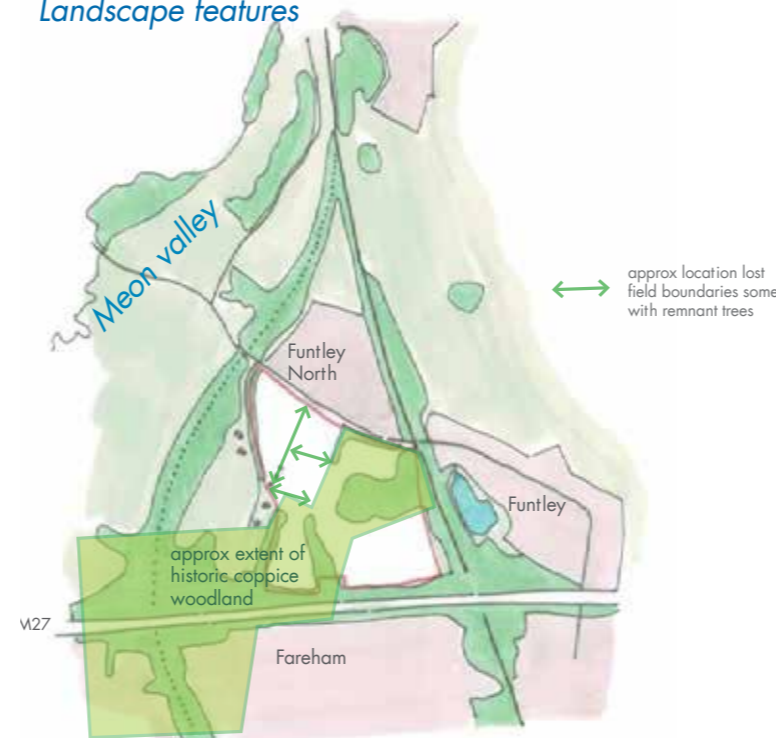
The character of Funtley Road frontage will be designed to reflect the essence of other Meon valley village frontages helping to connect the existing and new communities but also providing a locally distinctive setting within which to integrate development.

## Visibility & Views



concentrate development in less visible areas on lower slopes, in valley and areas contained by vegetation. Community open space in areas with wider views maintaining and celebrating key panoramas to wooded horizons ...

## Landscape features



historic features such as the north-south hedgerows and interconnected coppice woodland were present into the 20th century but have now been significantly reduced in area or lost. These connected the upper slopes to the valley floor. The repaired landscape structure can bring back some of these features and provide context and sense of place for development, integrating it into its setting ...

## Landscape character



reconnect the site with the wider landscape and Meon valley reinforcing the wooded horizons; soften character transition of built development through density gradients within a repaired landscape pattern ...

# landscape & visual implications of development proposal



preliminary aerial view from the north looking towards Fareham

— — — — —> wooded horizon reinforced

• • • • •> multifunctional green links reinstate smaller scale historic field pattern

# landscape & visual implications of development proposal

The landscape character of Funtley South, which has been affected by adjacent residential development and uses such as a cattery, equestrian activities, stables, vehicle parking, noise from the M27, etc is best described as urban fringe. The urban influences will increase when Welborne Garden village is constructed, to the north-east.

The landscape led approach to the scheme is based on the retention of key landscape features including the replanted Ancient Woodland, the habitats of value within the site and the need to effect landscape restoration to restore the landscape pattern and character which has been eroded. The enhanced landscape will also provide the setting for the proposed development so that it integrates into the site. The enhanced setting will also help mitigate any impacts on visual amenity for local residents that face the site at present from the residential area to the north. Additional benefits are likely to include enhanced recreational opportunities including those provided by the proposed Community Park as well as better connectivity both with Fareham North and the footpath network, including the Meon Trail within the wider countryside.

## Landscape impacts

The potential landscape effects have been assessed at site level, at Borough level LCA and also at County and National character area level. Landscape effects are also assessed on landscape features.

The arboricultural impact assessment confirms that all significant trees are to be retained and protected. The proposal allows for replanting within the greenlinks, reinstating smaller scale landscape compartments for development, based on historic pattern. These also physically and visually connect the wooded slopes and horizons with the valley floor. Additional planting around the rural edge of the site will enhance the existing landscape structure. New and existing vegetation will be managed as part of the development. The effect on landscape features is assessed as beneficial.

The landscape character of the site has been eroded through past uses. The proposed development, although over a slightly increased area compared to the previous proposal, is still located on the lower, less visible slopes and its edges have been carefully defined to relate to the topography and slopes for reasons of visibility and landscape character. The form of development also responds more closely to the landscape pattern, based on studies of its historic evolution.

The effect on landscape character of the proposed development at site level was previously assessed as a Moderate-Major negative effect on the landscape character at site level, where development is proposed due to the change of use from equestrian fields to residential development.

Whilst we would agree that this is a significant change we reiterate that the character of the site and indeed the entire Funtley triangle has been affected by changing uses over a long period with the effect that coppice woodland and field boundaries have been lost and replaced with fencing, sheds, and other buildings. Non-native planting has also been introduced, especially around the existing buildings near the entrance and the general visual amenity that the site provides has declined. In addition there has been little management of the key landscape features such as the woodlands and remaining field trees, which can be expected to decline further without intervention.

The site has been deemed suitable for limited residential development in both published landscape characterisation studies and by the Council, in granting planning permission for 55 houses. A well-designed, landscape-led residential development which respects the character and restores lost features is not necessarily negative, and in this case is positive, particularly in the longer term. Whilst the short term effects on landscape character may be Moderate adverse, the long term effect on landscape character is likely to be Minor adverse at worst with the potential to be beneficial. This could stop the century long decline in landscape structure and produce an appropriate and enhanced setting leading to a stronger landscape framework maturing into the 21st and 22nd centuries.

## Visual impacts

We agree with the previous LVA assessment that the site is well enclosed so that the visual effects are likely to be restricted to receptors within the residential areas in Funtley North and road users along Funtley Road.

The proposed development, whilst over a slightly increased area, is still located on the lower, less visible parts of the site and the landscape structure throughout the site is to be enhanced. In addition, rather than cutting the site off from Funtley Road the proposals seek to create a positive, locally distinctive Meon valley village ambience where built form, water and vegetation provide the frontage along Funtley Road. This will enhance the character on both sides of Funtley Road.

Whilst there will be a discernible change in views for residents to the north of Funtley Road, it is assessed that the impacts are likely to be minor to moderate adverse in the short term (mainly related to construction impacts) with the potential for long term benefits as the landscape matures and development is integrated.

Landscape improvements in the Community Park, including the removal of buildings on the upper slopes, new tree planting and enhanced management of both the existing and new vegetation and grasslands are assessed as beneficial to views and visual amenity. This change of use will also give public access so that the panoramic views from the upper parts of the site, which are currently not available to the general public, will be available to all users.

The effects of this renewed landscape structure, combined with the enhanced public footpath access, will produce an enhanced landscape for the public and wildlife alike well into the 21st and even 22nd centuries. This will arrest the continuing decline and fragmentation of the landscape and produce the opportunity for improved landscape management; this new landscape structure will be 're-purposed' as part of the shift from agricultural to residential and leisure landscapes with changing social, economic and environmental circumstances.

Appendix i

Landscape and Visual Appraisal  
prepared by Fabrik, January 2018

reside.

Land south of Funtley Road, Funtley

Landscape and Visual Appraisal

r.

Project Title: Land South of Funtley Road, Funtley, Hampshire

Client: Reside Developments Ltd

Revision	Date	Revision Details	Prepared By	Checked By	Approved By
DRAFT	19/06/17	Internal review	CLB	SG/AS	SG/AS
00	12/07/17	Internal review	CLB	AS	AS
00	18/07/17	Issued to the client	CLB	AS	AS
01	27/07/17	Revised to suit client's comments and re-issue.	CLB	AS	AS
02	28/07/17	Minor amendments to suit client's comments and re-issue.	CLB	SG	SG
03	16/01/2018	Winter views included and amendments to reflect current scheme proposals - Internal review	LS/DL	AS	AS
04	17/01/2018	Client Review	DL	AS	AS
05	19/01/2018	Client / planner comments integrated	DL	AS	AS

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Introduction

fabrik Chartered Landscape Architects have been appointed by Reside Developments Ltd to carry out a Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) of the land to the south of Funtley Road, Funtley, Hampshire (the Application Site, refer to **Figure 1.1**) and its environs, in order to consider the likely physical and visual impacts arising as a result of the proposed development.

This LVA forms one of the suite of documents provided with the outline application. It sets out landscape policy and then goes on to describe the existing topography, land cover, vegetation, landscape features, landscape character and visual receptors of the local area in order to assess the landscape and visual effects of the proposed development which together inform the landscape character. The LVA also describes the baseline character and amenity of the identified visual receptors (considering the visual envelope, the different groups of people, places affected, the nature of the view and the visual amenity). This document describes the development proposals and then sets out a statement of landscape and visual effects.

This LVA should be read in conjunction with the suite of documents submitted with the outline application (all matters reserved except for access).

The methodology for the LVA is based on the 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment' (third edition) by the Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (Routledge, 2013) and is set out at Appendix 1.

Where the terms 'Site' and 'Application Site' are used in this LVIA, these both refer to the land defined by the red line boundary shown in Figure 1.1; which is the subject of two separate planning applications:

#### 1) Outline Application

Following demolition of existing buildings residential development of up to 55 dwellings (including 3 self-build homes) (Use Class C3), community building incorporating a local shop 250 sqm (Use Classes A1, A3, D1 & D2), accesses and associated landscaping, infrastructure and development works.

#### 2) Change of Use

Change of use of land from equestrian/grazing to community park following demolition of existing buildings

### 1.2 Overview of Proposed Development

The proposed development comprises of 55 dwellings, a community building incorporating a local shop, with associated infrastructure, new community park, landscape planting and access. The Site area is 16.18 hectares (ha) and the Site is a proposed development allocation (ref. HA10) in the emerging Fareham Local Plan 2036.

### 1.3 Desktop Research and Study Area

The desktop survey carried out as part of the LVA included the review of previous proposals, Ordnance Survey maps, interactive maps, aerial photography, published landscape character assessment documents and planning policy. This was further verified through field work, to determine the potential zone of landscape and visual influence of the site and proposed development, including views requested by the Principal Planner of Fareham Borough Council on 25/05/2017.

The study area was found to generally extend to around 2.0km from the centre of the Site. Beyond this the landscape is visually divorced from the area by the intervening topography, vegetation and in places, built form. The LVA nevertheless considers the wider landscape, planning and designations context to the land within the Site.

### 1.4 Field Work

The field work was initially carried out on 07/06/17 and recorded the existing landscape elements within the Site; the contextual landscape elements; and identified a series of key visual receptors. The visual assessment element includes a photographic survey of the land within the Site taken from a series of representative key views, chosen to represent a range of public views, distances and directions within the study area. The photographic survey was updated to reflect winter views on 05/01/2018.

Viewpoints 15-19 were omitted from the winter photographic survey, since the summer views demonstrated such an extent of screening of the views (by vegetation and/or landform in the intervening areas), that it was considered that no significant visual change would occur in winter.

However, additional winter views were taken from the bridleway following the disused railway line west of the Site, since the lack of leaf cover in winter revealed glimpsed views to parts of the Site and nearby existing dwellings. Summer viewpoint 4 is represented by a viewpoint taken from within the Site, but standing very close to the low hedge at the boundary with the adjacent property (containing a dwelling at the southern end of Honey Lane).

While the summer and winter views show slight differences in the position of the viewpoint and focal lengths of camera lens used, there are otherwise, no material differences in the view.



1. Introduction

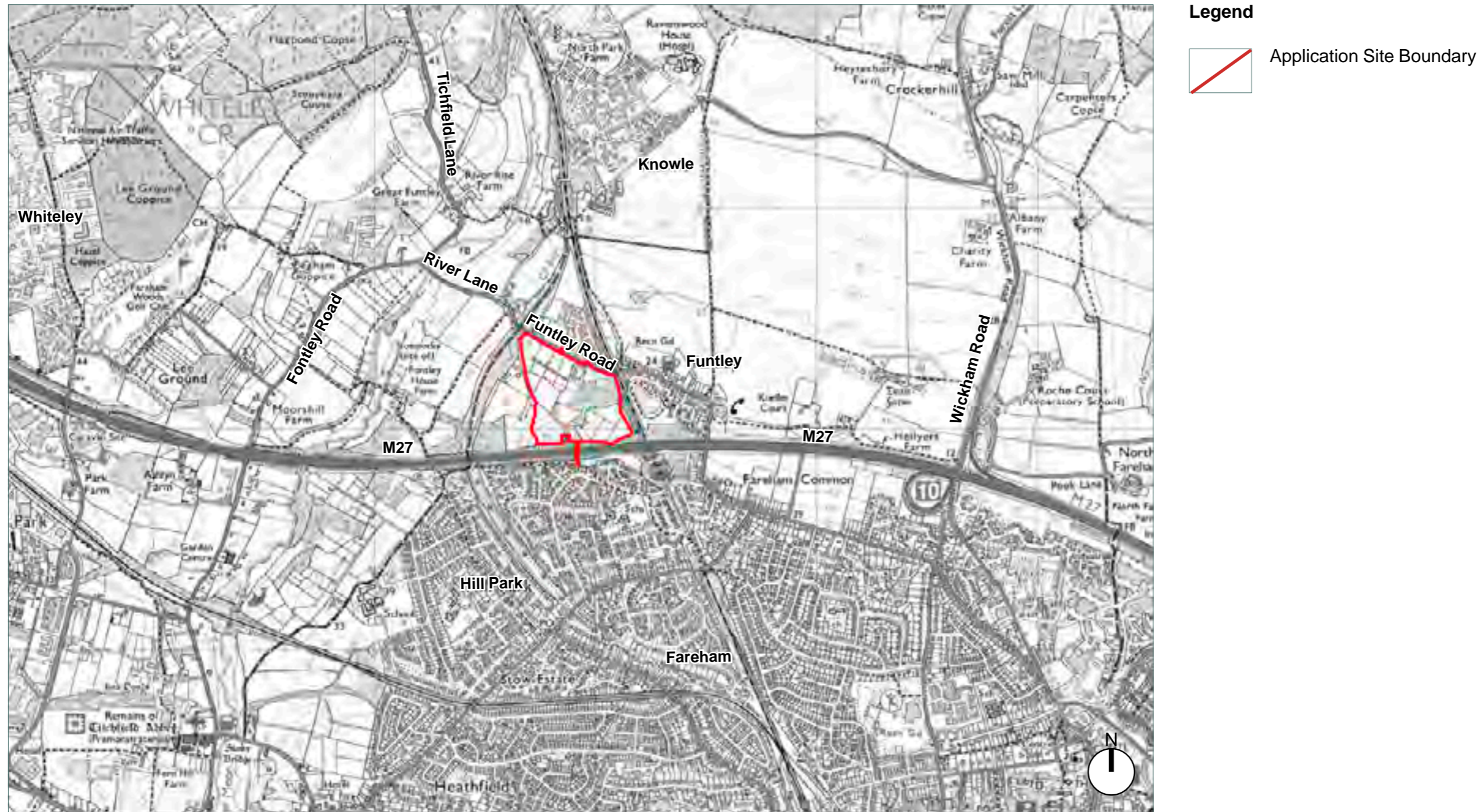


Figure 1.1 – Extract from Ordnance Survey Plan showing the Application Site location and boundary (fabrik, 2018)

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.1 Landscape and Heritage Designation

The land within the Site lies wholly within the jurisdiction of Fareham Borough Council and is located within the landscape designation of Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary. The area within the north-western part of the Site is designated as Existing Open Space in the Fareham Core Strategy (Adopted August 2011).

Within the Study Area, there are a number of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Ancient Woodlands and Historic Parks and Gardens. The Scheduled Ancient Monument of Tichfield Abbey and Fishponds with a group of Grade II Listed Building of Abbey Cottage, Fisherman's Arms, Place House Cottage and Garden are situated along Mill Lane to the south west of the Application Site. There are no Listed Buildings which abut the Application Site or which have intervisibility with the Application Site.

The South Downs National Park (SDNP) is located approximately 3.7km to north east of the Application Site (and therefore outside of the 3km radius of the study area). This was further verified through field survey work to determine that views of the Application Site are truncated from the SDNP due to intervening topography, built form and vegetation (refer to the visual baseline on Pages 45 and 47).

The Grade II Listed buildings of Church of St Francis is located approximately 510m along Funtley Road to the east of the Application Site. A Scheduled Ancient Monument (the Site of Funtley Iron Works) together with a group of Grade II Listed buildings (including Ironmaster's House and Funtley House) are situated approximately 500m to the south west of Application Site along Ironmill Lane.

The Application Site contains Great Beamond Coppice, an Ancient Re-planted Woodland. This woodland, together with the tree blocks within central northern and south-western sections of the Application Site, are designated as a Site of Importance of Nature Conservation (SINC) and are also covered by a Tree preservation Order (TPO). Another Ancient Woodland of Hookhouse Coppice is also located approximately 200m to the south west of Application Site.

There are no other landscape or heritage designations within nor adjacent to the Application Site.

The above designations are shown on **Figures 2.1 and 2.2** on the following pages.

Land to the east of Funtley is designated for a new settlement known as Welborne. Settlement buffers are proposed in key locations, including along the eastern edge of Funtley.

### 2.2 National Landscape Policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (March 2012) seeks the presumption in favour of sustainable development. The following issues and policies are pertinent to this LVA.

Section 7 sets out the requirements of good design. Paragraph 56 states that: *"The Government attaches great importance to the design of the built environment. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, is indivisible from good planning and should contribute positively to making places better for people."*

Paragraph 57 goes on to state that: *"It is important to plan positively for the achievement of high quality and inclusive design for all development, including individual buildings, public and private spaces..."*

Paragraph 58 looks to ensure that developments:

- *"will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term, but over the lifetime of the development;*
- *establish a strong sense of place, using streetscapes and buildings to create attractive and comfortable places to live, work and visit;*
- *optimise the potential of the site to accommodate development, create and sustain an appropriate mix of uses (including incorporation of green and other public space as part of developments) and support local facilities and transport networks;*
- *respond to local character and history, and reflect the identity of local surroundings and materials, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation;*

- *create safe and accessible environments...; and*
- *are visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping."*

Furthermore, Paragraph 65 states that: *"Local planning authorities should not refuse planning permission for buildings or infrastructure which promote high levels of sustainability because of concerns about incompatibility with an existing townscape, if those concerns have been mitigated by good design (unless the concern relates to a designated heritage asset and the impact would cause material harm to the asset or its setting which is not outweighed by the proposal's economic, social and environmental benefits)."*

Section 8 of the NPPF deals with 'Promoting healthy communities' and seeks to achieve:

- *"Opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, including through mix-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages which bring together those who work, live and play in the vicinity;*
- *Safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and*
- *Safe and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas."*

Section 10 deals with climate change. Paragraph 96 sets out that development should take into account the landform, layout, building orientation, massing and landscaping to minimise energy consumption. Furthermore, Paragraph 99 states that: *"... When new development is brought forward in areas which are vulnerable, care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through the planning of green infrastructure."*

2. Baseline Conditions

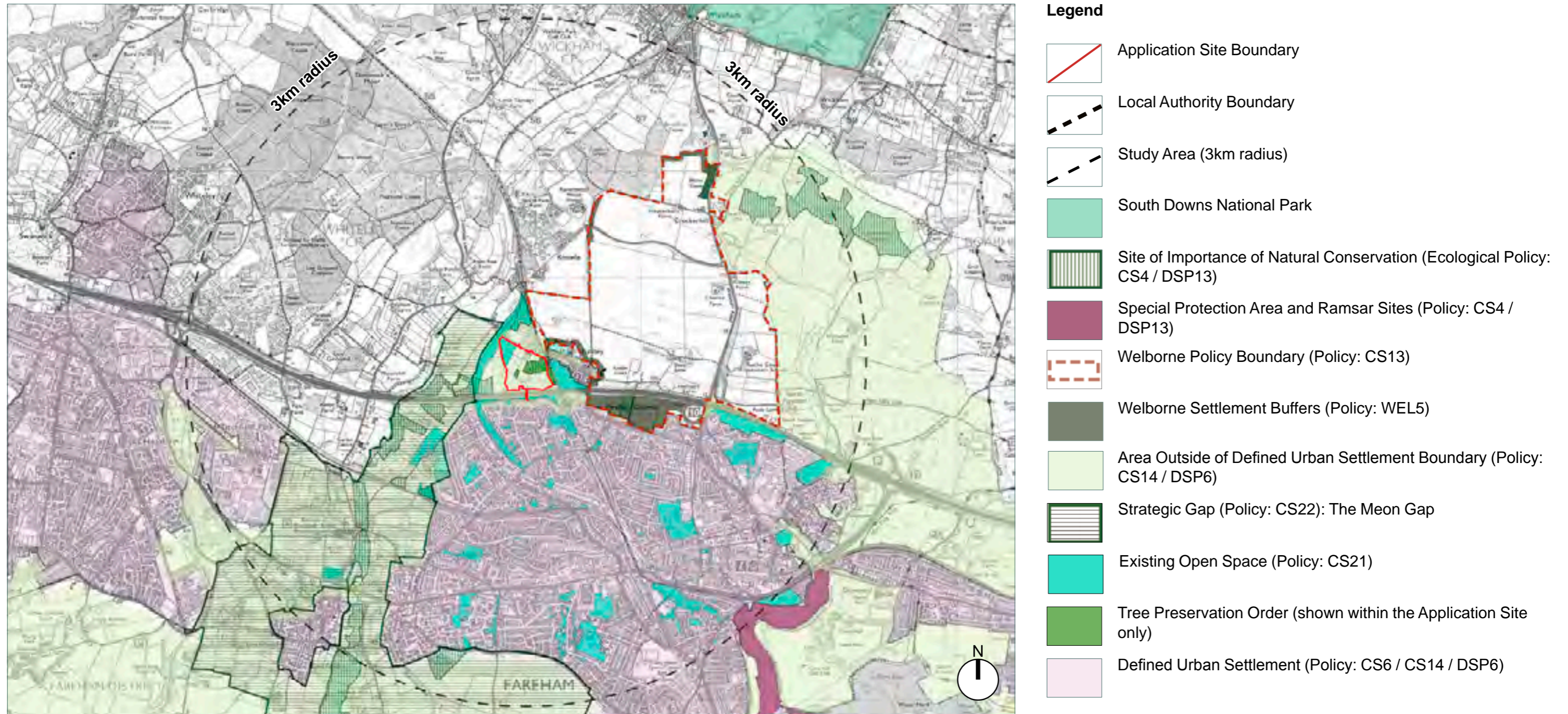


Figure 2.1 – Plan illustrating landscape and ecological designations as shown on the Fareham Borough Council 2015 Adopted Local Plan Proposals Map (fabrik, 2018)

2. Baseline Conditions

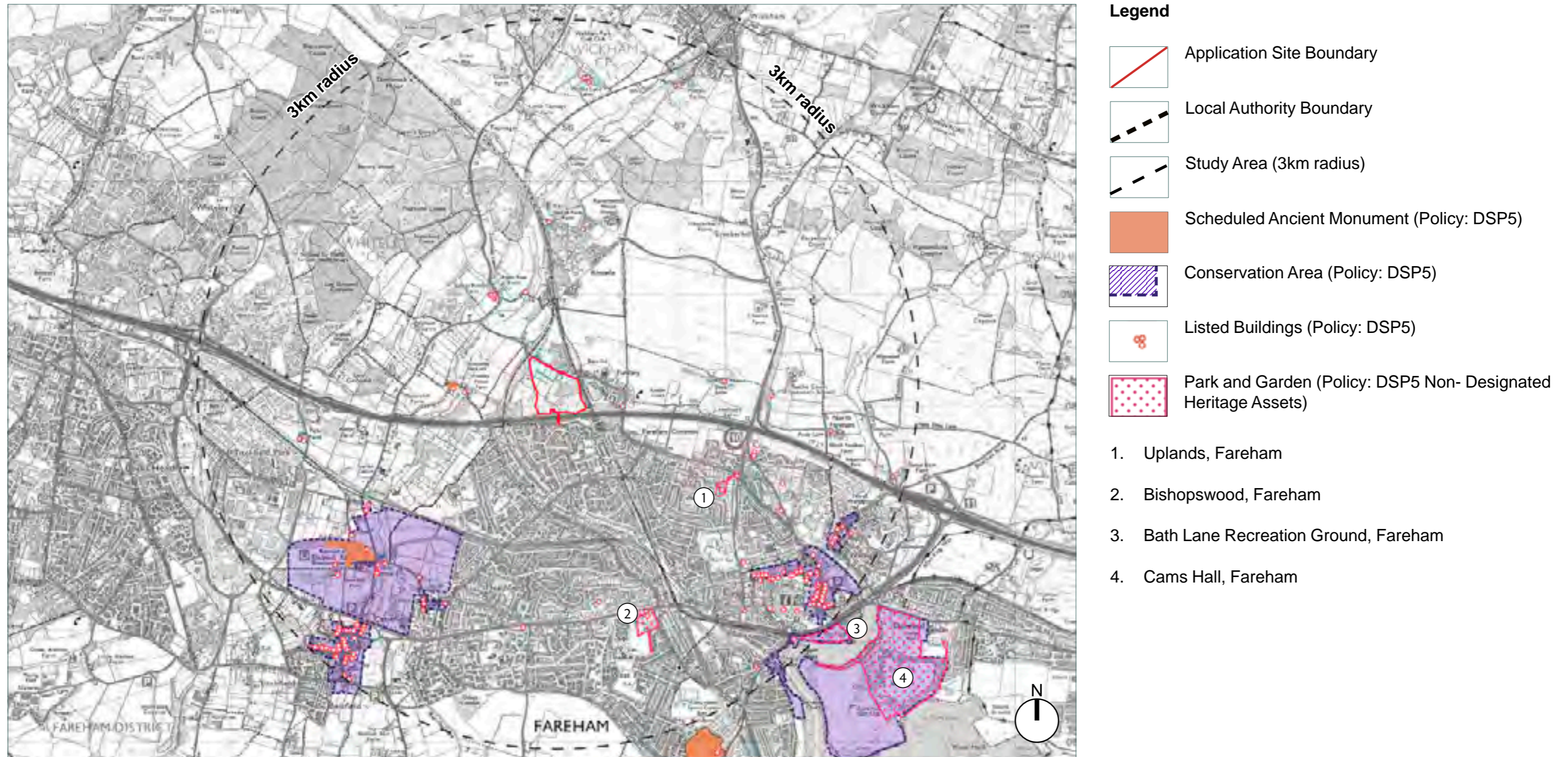


Figure 2.2 – Plan illustrating heritage assets within the 3km study area (fabrik, 2018)

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.2 National Landscape Policy (continued)

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment is the topic of Section 11. Paragraph 109 states that: *“The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:*

- *protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils;*
- *recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;*
- *minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity.”*

Paragraph 115 goes on to state that: *“Great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty.”*

The Application Site does not lie within or form part of the setting to a valued landscape.

### National Planning Practice Guidance - NPPG (March 14)

The NPPG is now supported by the on-line resource Planning Policy Guidance (PPG). There are a number of sections that relate to this LVA as set out below.

The PPG sets out guidance on Design at section ID 26 (updated on 6 March 2014) and the elements to be considered to achieve good design. Paragraph 001 under this section states that: *“The National Planning Policy Framework recognises that design quality matters and that planning should drive up standards across all forms of development. As a core planning principle, plan-makers and decision takers should always seek to secure high quality design.*

*Achieving good design is about creating places, buildings, or spaces that work well for everyone, look good, last well, and will adapt to the needs of future generations.*

*Good design responds in a practical and creative way to both the function and identity of a place. It puts land, water, drainage, energy, community, economic, infrastructure and other such resources to the best possible use - over the long as well as the short term.”*

Paragraph 002 states that: *“Good design should:*

- *ensure that development can deliver a wide range of planning objectives*
- *enhance the quality buildings and spaces, by considering amongst other things form and function; efficiency and effectiveness and their impact on well being address the need for different uses sympathetically.”*

Paragraph 004 goes on to state that: *“Development proposals should reflect the requirement for good design set out in national and local policy. Local planning authorities will assess the design quality of planning proposals against their Local Plan policies, national policies and other material considerations.”*

Paragraph 007 states that planning should promote local character (including landscape setting) - states:

*“Development should seek to promote character in townscape and landscape by responding to and reinforcing locally distinctive patterns of development, local man-made and natural heritage and culture, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation.*

*The successful integration of all forms of new development with their surrounding context is an important design objective, irrespective of whether a site lies on the urban fringe or at the heart of a town centre.*

*When thinking about new development the site’s land form should be taken into account. Natural features and local heritage resources can help give shape to a development and integrate it into the wider area, reinforce and sustain local distinctiveness, reduce its impact on nature and contribute to a sense of place. Views into and out of larger sites should also be carefully considered from the start of the design process.*

Paragraph 009 relative to greenspaces and public places - includes the following:

*“Development should promote public spaces and routes that are attractive, accessible, safe, uncluttered and work effectively for all users – including families, disabled people and elderly people. A system of open and green spaces that respect natural features and are easily accessible can be a valuable local resource and helps create successful places. A high quality landscape, including trees and semi-natural habitats where appropriate, makes an important contribution to the quality of an area.”*

Landscape is a sub section under Section ID 8 on the Natural Environment (updated on 6 March 2014). Paragraph 001 on landscape character states that: *“One of the core principles in the National Planning Policy Framework is that planning should recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside. Local plans should include strategic policies for the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment, including landscape. This includes designated landscapes, but also the wider countryside.*

*Where appropriate, landscape character assessments should be prepared to complement Natural England’s National Character Area profiles. Landscape Character Assessment is a tool to help understand the character and local distinctiveness of the landscape and identify the features that give it a sense of place. It can help to inform, plan and manage change and may be undertaken at a scale appropriate to local and neighbourhood plan-making.”*

Under the biodiversity, ecosystems and green infrastructure section, paragraph 015 on green infrastructure defined this as: *“... a network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities. Green infrastructure includes parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, street trees, allotments and private gardens.”*

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.3 Local Landscape Policy

#### Introduction

The Fareham Borough Council is undergoing the process of producing a new Local Plan to reflect new housing and employment needs within the borough up to 2036. Before the emerging local plan is adopted by the Council, the policies within the Fareham Local Development Framework, Core Strategy (Adopted August 2011) form the principal documents within the Local Plan.

#### Current Policy: Fareham Local Development Framework, Core Strategy (Adopted August 2011)

Within the Adopted Core Strategy, the Council has set out strategic objectives to reflect the national policies, as well as to monitor and deliver a sustainable community within the borough.

The following objectives are pertinent to this LVA.

Strategic Objective SO1 aims to: *“To deliver the South Hampshire Strategy in a sustainable way, focussing development in Fareham, the Strategic Development Area north of Fareham and the Western Wards.”*

Strategic Objective SO8 aims to: *“To deliver a new sustainable settlement to the north of Fareham, creating 6,500-7,500 homes, up to 90,750 sq.m employment floorspace, a new district centre and other supporting retail and community provision.”* This relates to the Welborne settlement proposed to the east of Funtley.

SO10 states that the Local Authority wishes to: *“...manage, maintain and improve the built and natural environment to deliver quality places, through high quality design sustainability and maintenance standards, taking into account the character and setting of existing settlements and neighbourhoods and seeking safe environments which help to reduce crime and the fear of crime.”*

Whilst SO11 is concerned with green infrastructure, aiming to: *“... protect and enhance access to green infrastructure, the countryside,*

*coast and historic environment whilst protecting sensitive habitats or historic features from recreational pressure, and protect the separate identity of settlements, including through the designation of strategic gaps.”*

In terms of development proposals and designations, the following policies are pertinent to this LVA.

Policy CS4 relates to the green infrastructure within the borough and states: *“Habitats important to the biodiversity of the Borough, including Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, areas of woodland, the coast and trees will be protected ...”* The policy goes on and states: *“Development Proposals will be permitted where Green Infrastructure provision in accordance with the Green Infrastructure Strategy has been integrated within the development where this is appropriate. Development proposals will provide for appropriate access to green space for informal recreation to avoid adverse impacts from recreation and other impacts on European 31 and Ramsar sites and on nationally and locally important sites.”*

Within the Core Strategy and the proposal map, the Welborne Policy Boundary is within the close distance to the Application Site to the north-east (refer to Figure 2.1). This future development allocates up to 6,000 dwellings with associated transportation links, green infrastructure and open spaces. The relevant Policy is CS13 North of Fareham Strategic Development Area and states that: *“Permission will be granted for the development of a Strategic Development Area to the north of Fareham following the adoption of an Area Action Plan and the preparation of a comprehensive masterplan for the development. The development will include provision for between 6,500- 7,500 dwellings, unless it is found that this level of housing cannot be delivered without adversely affecting the integrity of protected European conservation sites. If any potential adverse effects cannot be avoided or adequately mitigated, the level and scale of development would need to be reduced accordingly to ensure that there are no adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites. The development will also provide supporting environmental, social and physical infrastructure, retail and employment floorspace to both support the development and to contribute towards meeting*

*the development objectives of the South Hampshire Sub-Region. The new community will aim to be as self-contained as possible, whilst complementing and supporting the established town centre of Fareham and adjoining settlements.”*

Policy CS14 refers to Development outside the defined settlement boundary, stating: *“Built development on land outside the defined settlements will be strictly controlled to protect the countryside and coastline from development which would adversely affect its landscape character, appearance and function.”*

Policy CS17 is concerned with High Quality Design, with focus on landscape and stating: *“All development, buildings and spaces will be of a high quality of design and be safe and easily accessed by all members of the community. Proposals will need to demonstrate adherence to the principles of urban design and sustainability to help create quality places. In particular development will be designed to:*

- *respond positively to and be respectful of the key characteristics of the area, including heritage assets, landscape, scale, form, spaciousness and use of external materials;*
- *provide continuity of built form, a sense of enclosure with active frontages to the street and safety of the public realm;*
- *provide green infrastructure, including landscaping, open spaces, greenways and trees within the public realm...”*

The policy relating to the Protection and Provision of Open Spaces, CS21 states: *“The Borough Council will safeguard and enhance existing open spaces and establish networks of Green Infrastructure to add value to their wildlife and recreational functions. Development which would result in the loss of or reduce the recreational value of open space, including public and private playing fields, allotments and informal open space will not be permitted, unless it is of poor quality, under-used, or has low potential for open space and a better quality replacement site is provided which is equivalent in terms of accessibility and size.”*

Policy CS22 deals with developments within Strategic Gaps and states: *“Land within a Strategic Gap will be treated as countryside. Development proposals will not be permitted either individually or*

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.3 Local Landscape Policy (continued)

*cumulatively where it significantly affects the integrity of the gap and the physical and visual separation of settlements.*

*Strategic Gaps have been identified between Fareham/Stubbington and Western Wards/Whiteley (the Meon gap)...*

#### **Fareham Borough Local Plan Part 2: Development Sites and Policies (Adopted June 2015)**

The Local Plan Part 2 reinforces the Core Strategy's policies relating to the natural environment. Paragraph 4.1 summarises: *"The Natural Environment is a key asset of the Borough, which provides a significant contribution to the quality of life of residents and visitors. It not only provides a natural, green setting for the Borough's settlement, but is also important for recreation and leisure uses as well as supporting the Borough's biodiversity including internationally important habitats for wildlife. The Plan is important in establishing the right balance between planning for growth and protecting the natural environment."*

Policy DSP40 Housing Allocations includes the following, which is of relevance to the proposed development site:

*"Where it can be demonstrated that the Council does not have a five year supply of land for housing against the requirements of the Core Strategy (excluding Welborne) additional housing sites, outside the urban area boundary, may be permitted where they meet all of the following criteria:*

- i. The proposal is relative in scale to the demonstrated 5 year housing and supply shortfall;*
- ii. The proposal is sustainably located adjacent to, and well related to, the existing urban settlement boundaries, and can be well integrated with the neighbouring settlement;*
- iii. The proposal is sensitively designed to reflect the character of the neighbouring settlement and to minimise any adverse impact on the Countryside and, if relevant, the Strategic Gaps;*

*iv. It can be demonstrated that the proposal is deliverable in the short term; and*

*v. The proposal would not have any unacceptable environmental, amenity or traffic implications."*

Policy DSP2 concerns with any environmental impact of new developments to the existing development and wider landscape, and go on stating: *"Development proposals should not, individually, or cumulatively, have a significant adverse impact, either on neighbouring development, adjoining land, or the wider environment, by reason of noise, heat, liquids, vibration, light or air pollution (including dust, smoke, fumes or odour)...."*

Policy DSP5 relates to any developments affecting the setting of historical assets and states: *"Designated and non-designated heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource that will be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, to be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations. The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of their conservation will also be taken into account in decision making...."* The policy goes on and state: *"...The Council will conserve Scheduled Monuments, and archaeological sites that are demonstrably of national significance, by supporting proposals that sustain and where appropriate enhance their heritage significance. Proposals that unacceptably harm their heritage significance, including their setting, will not be permitted."*

*Non-designated heritage assets including locally listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and sites of archaeological importance will be protected from development that would unacceptably harm their Architectural and historic interest, and/or setting taking account of their significance.*

Policy DSP6 relates to the Core Strategy CS14 on Development Outside of the Defined Urban Settlement Boundaries and states: *"There will be a presumption against new residential development outside of the defined urban settlement boundaries (as identified on the Policies Map)....A change of use of land outside of the defined urban settlement boundary to residential garden will only be permitted where:*

*i. It is in keeping with the character, scale and appearance of the surrounding area; and*

*ii. It will not detract from the existing landscape; and*

*iii. It respects views into and out of the site."*

Policy DSP13 relates to the impact of new development on the nature conservation areas within the borough and states: *"Development may be permitted where it can be demonstrated that;*

*i. designated sites and sites of nature conservation value are protected and where appropriate enhanced;*

*ii. protected and priority species populations and their associated habitats, breeding areas, foraging areas are protected and, where appropriate, enhanced;*

*iii. where appropriate, opportunities to provide a net gain in biodiversity have been explored and biodiversity enhancements incorporated; and*

*iv. The proposal would not prejudice or result in the fragmentation of the biodiversity network.*

*Proposals resulting in detrimental impacts to the above shall only be granted where the planning authority is satisfied that (this section of the policy should not be applied to impacts on SPA designated sites which are subject to stricter protection tests as set out in The Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations (as amended) 2010);*

*i. Impacts are outweighed by the need for, and benefits of, the development; and*

*ii. Adverse impacts can be minimised and provision is made for mitigation and, where necessary, compensation for those impacts is provided.*

*Enhancements that contribute to local habitat restoration and creation initiatives as set out in the Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan (or other similar relevant document ) will be supported."*

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### Supplementary Planning Documents

#### Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document for the Borough of Fareham (Excluding Welborne) Adopted April 2016

In terms of public open space, outdoor sport and children's play equipment, Appendix B sets out that for developments of between 50-299 dwellings, 1.5ha per 1000 population is to be provided for parks and amenity open space. No sport provision is required for this scale of development. In terms of play provision, for developments between 50-199 dwellings, a LEAP is required.

#### Emerging Policy: Fareham Local Plan 2036 (Draft, Consultation Version)

**Figure 2.3** on the following page illustrates the proposed amendments to the policies map. **Figure 2.4** shows the development allocation plan from Appendix G of the emerging local plan. The Application Site is proposed for residential development and new open space. Land to the north is also proposed as a residential allocation. Extracts of the policies relative to landscape matters are set out below:

Policy HA10 sets out the requirements of the proposed allocation, with a capacity for 55 dwellings and states that: "Planning permission will be granted provided that detailed proposals accord with the policies in the Local Plan and meet the following site specific requirements:

- a) The quantum of housing proposed shall be broadly consistent with the indicative site capacity; and
- b) Primary highway access shall be from Funtley Road; and
- c) Building heights are limited to a maximum of 2 storeys; and
- d) Safe pedestrian and cycle crossing points across Funtley Road and connectivity with the existing footpath/bridleway network in the vicinity of the site and eastwards towards the centre of Funtley village in order to maximise connectivity to nearby facilities and services; and

- e) The creation of a vehicular loop road on the site, allowing for pedestrians and cycle permeability across the site; and
- f) Proposals shall take account of the site's landscape context by incorporating view corridors from Funtley Road through to the public open space allocation to the south of the residential allocation (as illustratively shown in Appendix G). The view corridors should form part of the on-site open space and should incorporate pedestrian and cycle links, whilst vehicular crossing links should be limited; and
- g) A 15m buffer shall be incorporated between development and the Great Beamond Coppice SINC to the east of the site; and
- i) The provision of a building / buildings for community uses, located in an accessible location to enable a range of uses for both existing and new residents; and
- j) Proposals shall either provide directly, or provide financial contribution towards the delivery (and maintenance where deemed necessary) of the following infrastructure, in line with the Council's Planning Obligations SPD:
  - Public open space on and off-site (as illustratively shown in Appendix G) (in line with the Council's Planning Obligations SPD); and
  - a Local Area of Play (LEAP) on-site (in line with the Council's Planning Obligations SPD).

*In light of the landscape setting, this development allocation is required to take a looser, less dense approach, applying a density of around 20 dwellings per hectare (dph). In light of the rural setting, significant natural landscaping should be incorporated, so that proposals are assimilated into the landscape. Part of this assimilation includes the incorporation of view corridors, between Funtley Road and the open space south of the site, which are required to maintain visual and physical connections through the site.*

*Additionally, the delivery of the community uses building and public open space are critical elements in making the development*

*acceptable, by providing additional assets for both the existing and new community. The community building envisaged is one that is multi-functional and flexible to allow for a range of small-scale community uses, whilst the proposed public open space should be more informal in nature, to take account of and strengthen the landscape setting.*

*Appendix F is a visual demonstration of the suggested approach to development in this location, taking account of the approach detailed above."*

The other pertinent policies of the Local Plan, relative to landscape and visual matters are:

Policy CF6: Provision and Protection of Open Space, which states that: "Proposals for new residential development will be required to provide open space to meet the needs of new residents in accordance with the thresholds and requirements set out in the Council's Planning Obligations SPD.

*Proposals seeking to develop on open space will not be permitted unless it can be clearly demonstrated that:*

- a) The open space is surplus to local requirements and will not be needed in the long-term following a robust assessment; and
- b) Replacement provision will be at least equivalent or better in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility and there will be no overall negative impact on the provision of open space; or
- c) The development is for alternative recreational provision, which meets locally identified needs and clearly outweighs the loss of the original open space; or
- d) The loss of open space is replaced by a scheme which delivers high quality community, educational or health benefits and clearly outweighs the scale of the net loss of open space."



2. Baseline Conditions

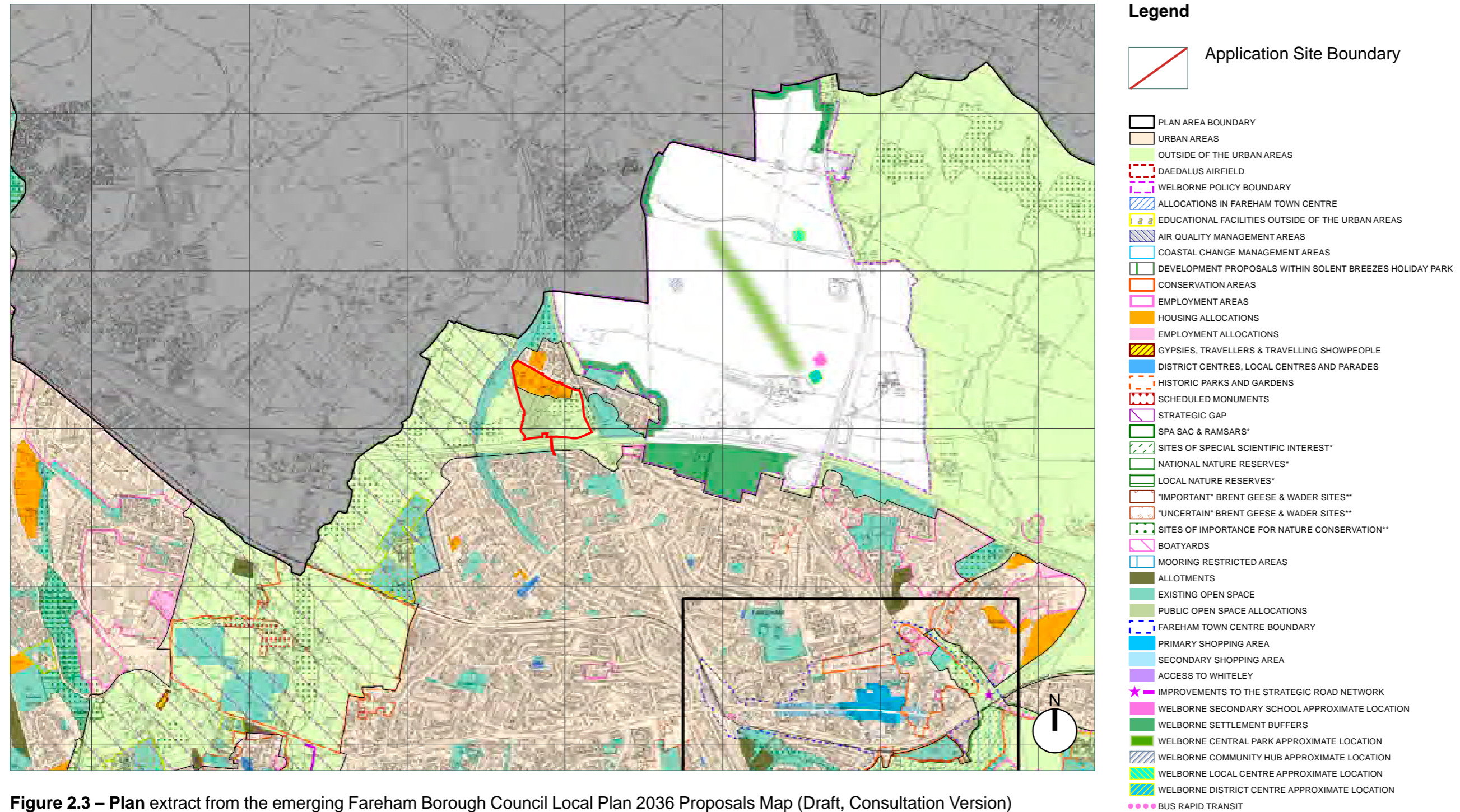


Figure 2.3 – Plan extract from the emerging Fareham Borough Council Local Plan 2036 Proposals Map (Draft, Consultation Version)

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### Emerging Policy: Fareham Local Plan 2036 (Draft, Consultation Version) Continued

Policy NE1 deals with Landscape and states that: *“Development for all major applications will be permitted only where it can be demonstrated, through a robust landscape assessment that the proposals satisfy the specific development criteria contained within the Council’s Landscape Sensitivity Assessment for the character area in which the development is located.*

*Development proposals must respect, enhance and not have severe adverse impacts on the character or function of the landscape that may be affected, with particular regard to:*

- a) Intrinsic landscape character, quality and important features;*
- b) Visual setting, including to/from key views;*
- c) The landscape as a setting for settlements, including important views to, across, within and out of settlements;*
- d) The landscape’s role as part of the existing Green Infrastructure network;*
- e) The local character and setting of buildings and settlements;*
- f) Natural landscape features, such as trees, ancient woodland, hedgerows, water features and their function as ecological networks; and*
- g) The character of the Borough’s rivers and coastline, which should be safeguarded.*

*Major development proposals shall include a comprehensive landscaping mitigation and enhancement scheme to ensure that the development is able to successfully integrate with the landscape and surroundings. The landscaping scheme shall be proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed and shall be in accordance with the enhancement opportunities specified in the*

*Council’s Landscape Sensitivity Assessment.”*

Policy D1 is the topic for High Quality Design, setting out that all development proposals and spaces are to be of high quality, based on principles of urban design and sustainability to help create quality places. It includes the following:

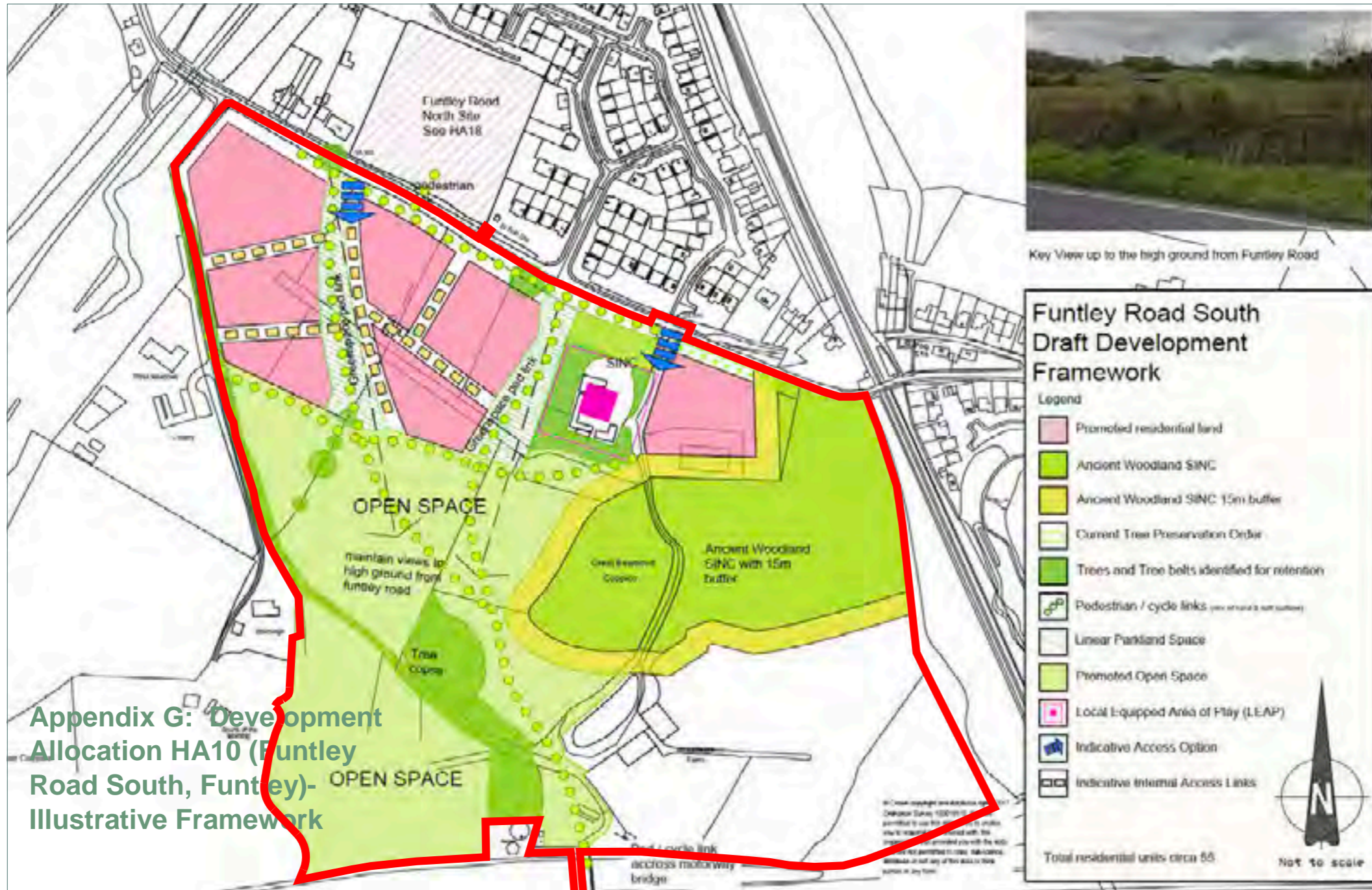
*“Development proposals will be permitted where they:*

- a) Respond positively to and be respectful of key characteristics of the area, including heritage assets, landscape, trees and landscape features, scale, spaciousness, form and the use of external materials;...*


*In all instances proposals shall have regard to the adopted Borough Design Guidance SPD.”*

In addition to the allocation pertaining to the Site, land to the north of Funtley Road (Funtley Road North Site HA18) is subject to an allocation for around 23 dwellings on land around 0.96ha in size (see Figure 2.4).

2. Baseline Conditions



Legend

 Application Site Boundary

Appendix G: Development Allocation HA10 (Funtley Road South, Funtley)- Illustrative Framework

Figure 2.4 – Plan illustrating Development Allocation HA10 from the emerging Fareham Borough Council Local Plan 2036 (Draft Consultation Version)

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.4 Introduction

The following paragraphs describe the landscape receptors firstly at contextual level and secondly at Application Site level.

### 2.5 Topographic Context

The topography of the study area is illustrated on the plan opposite in **Figure 2.5**.

Within the northern part of the study area, two major ridgelines predominately run in a broadly east to west orientation and stretch across the northern and north-eastern section of the study area. The heights are varied and reach approximately 50m AOD to Sager's Down located to the north west of the village of Knowle.

The River Meon runs in a north-east to south-west direction across the central part of the study area. It creates a large area of valley floor between the major settlement of Fareham and smaller suburb communities and villages to the west of the study area. To the east of the study area, the eastern section of the M27 motorway with the easternmost part of Fareham sits on the valley floor, which is formed by the Wallington River to the east of the study area.

The Application Site sits on the south-western fringe of Funtley village. The southern part of the Application Site lies on a ridgeline reaching approximately 55m AOD. The topography then falls towards Honey Lane to the west and Funtley Road to the north.

The value of this landscape receptor is assessed as ranging from **Low - Medium**.

2. Baseline Conditions

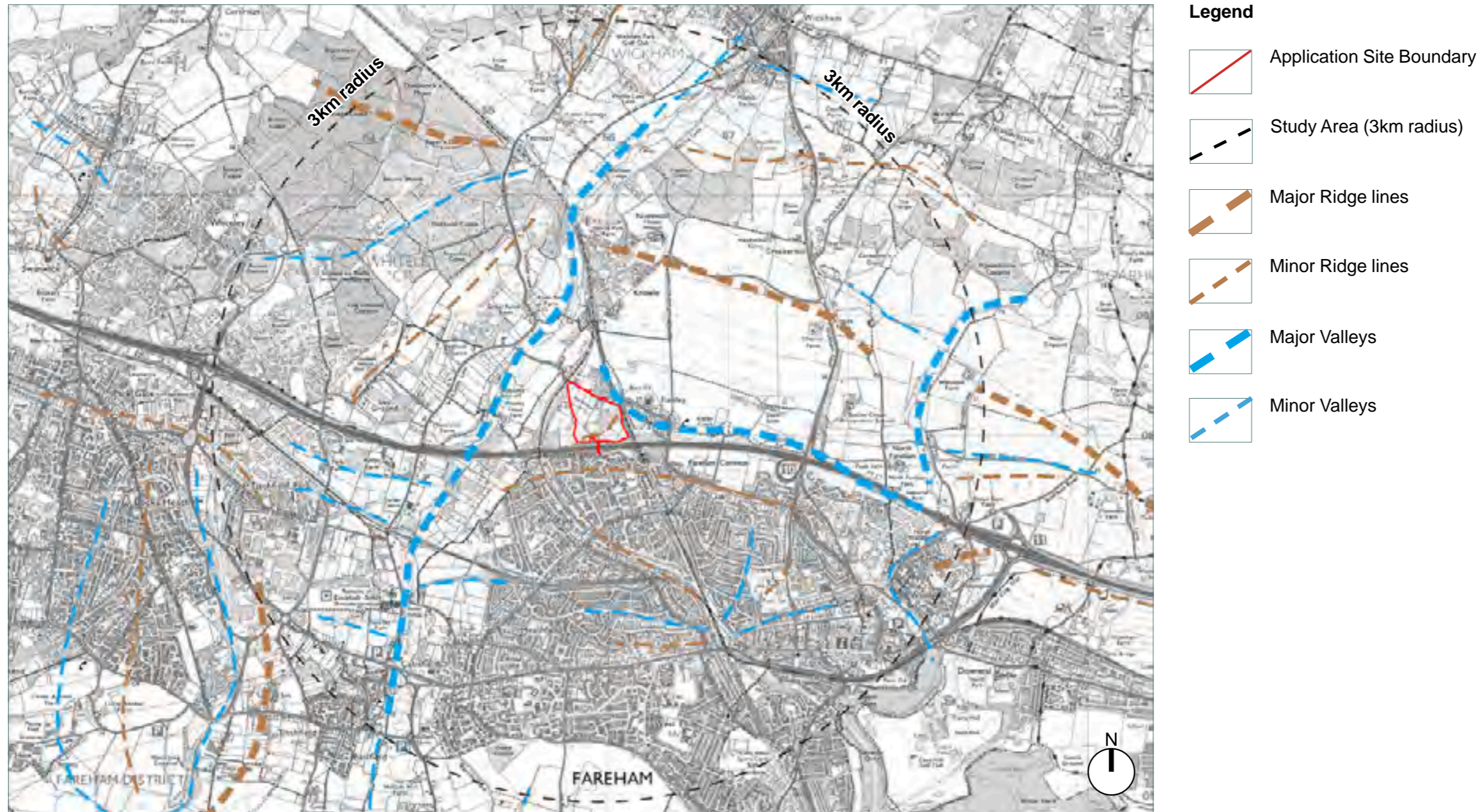


Figure 2.5 – Plan illustrating Topography and Drainage (fabrik, 2018)

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.6 Contextual Landscape Elements

#### Broad Land Use and Land Cover:

Land cover across the northern part of study area is predominantly agricultural. A number of woodlands within the study area are either Ancient or Re-planted Woodlands. The Ancient Re-planted Woodland of Great Beamond Coppice is located within the north-eastern section of the Application Site.

The Great Beamond Coppice and the tree blocks within central northern and south-western section of the Application Site are also designated as Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and are covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

Field patterns within the study area are predominantly of small to medium scale and bounded by dense hedgerows, trees and enclosed rural lanes. The settlement of Fareham and its associated suburban areas dominates the southern part of the study area, whilst the village of Knowle is located to the north east of the Application Site. A number of smaller settlements and farmsteads are also scattered across the study area.

There are a series of locally designated Historic Park and Gardens present within the study area. Uplands is located approximately 1.5km to the south east of the Application Site, whilst the Bishopswood is located approximately 1.9km to the south east.

Additionally, the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Funtley Iron Works, with a group of Grade II Listed buildings including Ironmaster's House and Funtley House, are situated approximately 500m to the south west of the Application Site along the Ironmill Lane.

The value of this landscape receptor are assessed as ranging from **Low - Medium**.

2. Baseline Conditions



Figure 2.6 – Plan illustrating land use within the study area (fabrik, 2018).

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.7 Contextual Public Rights of Way

A series of public footpaths, bridleways with long distance trails are present across the study area.

Public footpaths 85, 513a, 513b, 513c and 513d traverse the landscape to the north east of the Application Site and provide connectivity between Lakeside, Funtley Road and Totsome Cottage to the north. Bridleway 515 to the north west of the Application Site connects Funtley Road and Mayles Lane to the north-west, over the M27 to the south west. To the south of the Application Site footpath 91 runs in a north west - south east direction along the M27 and creates the connection between bridleway 82 to the west, Red Barn Lane and Highlands Road to the south east.

The long distance walk of Allan King Way is located at the south-eastern edge of the study area, approximately 3.63km to the south east of the Application Site. This route provides the connection between the eastern fringe of Fareham to the wider landscape via Paradise Lane to the north east and Downend Road to the south east.

The value of these landscape receptors are assessed as ranging from **Medium - High**.



2. Baseline Conditions

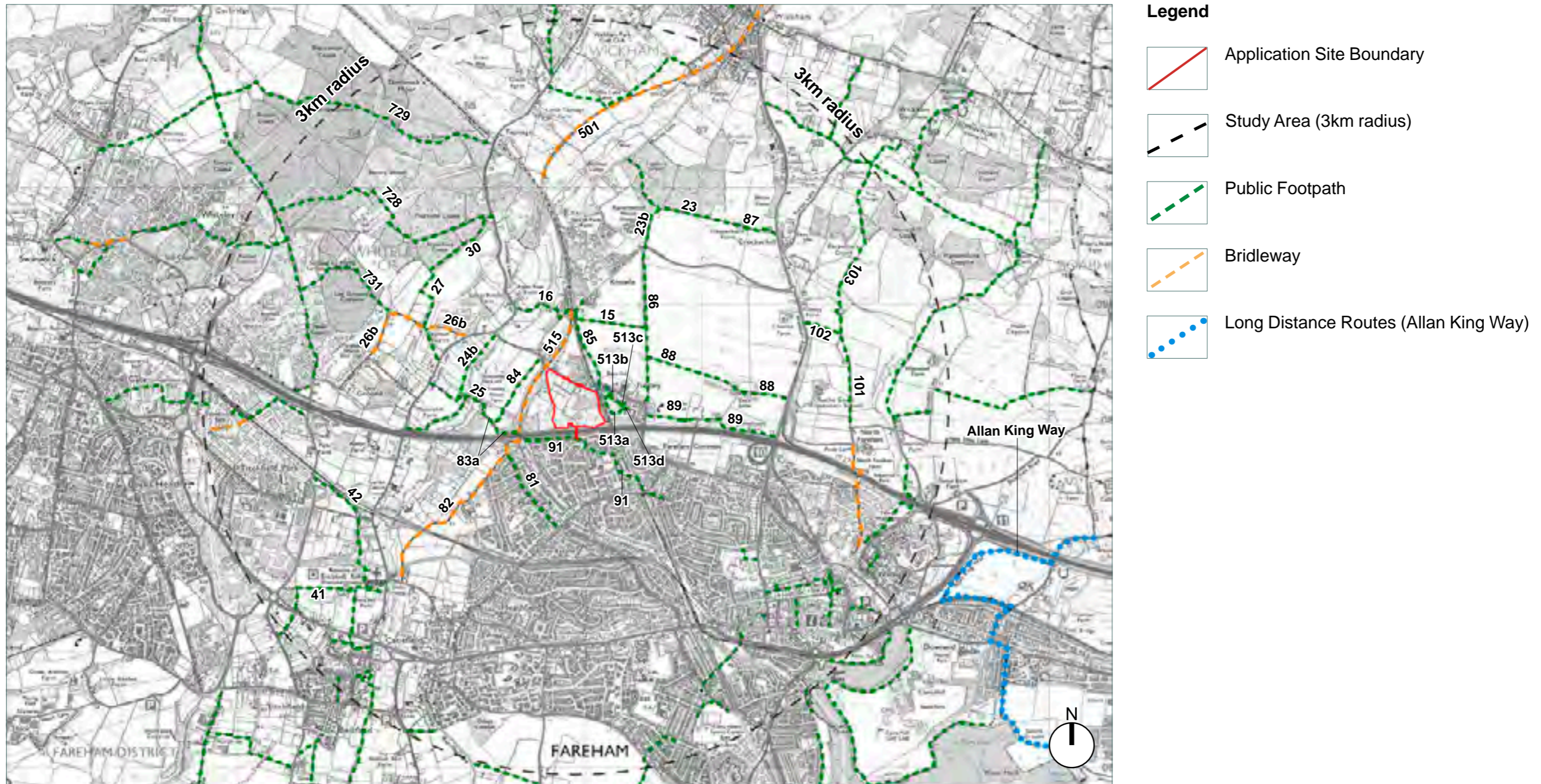


Figure 2.7 – Plan illustrating public rights of way and long distant routes within the study area (fabrik, 2018).

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.8 Contextual Movement Corridors

The M27 motorway is the major transport link crossing the study area in an east - west orientation immediately south of the Application Site. The A32 (Wickham Road) and A27 are the primary links from the M27 into Wickham to the north and Portchester to the east.

The secondary and tertiary roads provide connections between Fareham and smaller villages such as Funtley and Knowle. Within the immediate setting of the Application Site, Funtley Road runs along the northern boundary and connects to Tichfield Lane to the north and Kiln Road to the south.

The nearest mainline railway station to the Site is approximately 2km away in Fareham to the south-east. It provides train connections to London Waterloo, Portsmouth and Southampton.

The value of the movement corridors as a receptor are assessed as ranging from **Low - Medium**.

2. Baseline Conditions

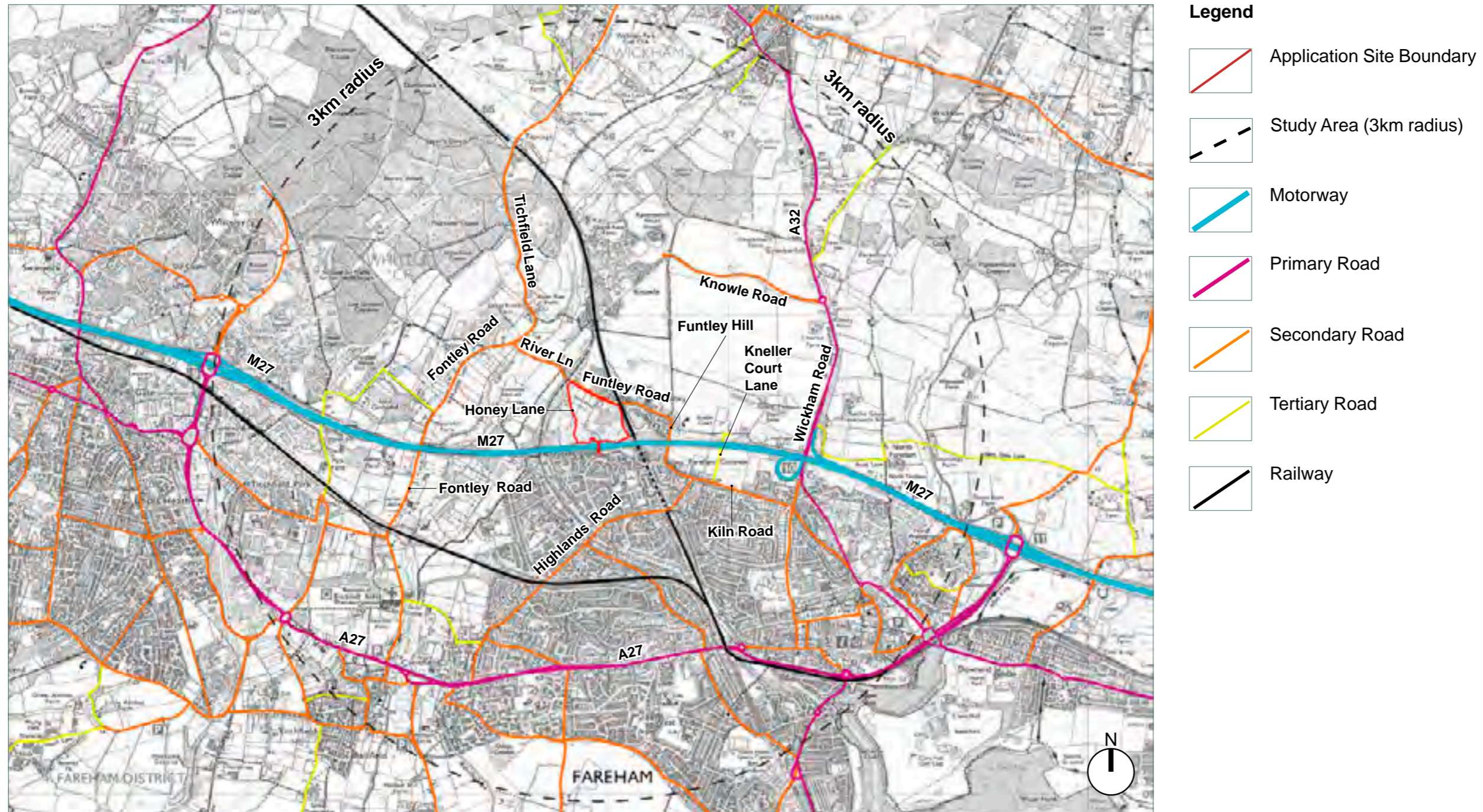


Figure 2.8 – Plan showing transportation links and road network within the study area (fabrik, 2018).

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.9 Landscape Character Context

#### Introduction

The term 'landscape' commonly refers to the view or appearance of the land as perceived by people. Landscape applies to any natural, rural, urban, peri-urban areas, in land, water and seascape areas.

Landscape character is the combination of both natural / physical, cultural / social and perceptual / aesthetic influences, which give rise to a distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse and which define the 'sense of place'. The landscape is not therefore simply a visual phenomenon.

The following sections set out the landscape character framework of the study area from the national and regional level through to county and district scale based upon existing character assessments undertaken by Natural England, Hampshire County Council and Fareham Borough Council.

#### National Landscape Character Assessment

The general character of the English countryside has been described at a national level in the Natural England publications 'National Character Area Profiles'. The Application Site is located in National Character Area 128: South Hampshire Lowlands (2014). Refer to **Figure 2.9**.

The summary of the landscape character related to the study area is described below:

*"The South Hampshire Lowlands National Character Area (NCA) is a low lying plain between the chalk hills of the Hampshire and South Downs and Southampton Water. Its highest point is an outlying chalk ridge – Portsdown Hill – but the bedrock geology is mostly open marine, estuarine and freshwater Tertiary deposits. The NCA*

*is dominated by the city and port of Southampton and its adjoining towns and suburbs – 29 per cent of the area is urban. In the more rural areas, it is a mixture of farmland, particularly pasture, and woodland.*

*Some 18 per cent of the land cover of the NCA is woodland, of which almost half is designated ancient woodland, a legacy of the Forest of Bere, a Royal Hunting Forest that once covered the area. Today the most significant blocks of woodland are West Walk near Wickham, Botley Wood at Swanwick and Ampfield Wood near Romsey.*

*The NCA is drained by several rivers: the lower reaches of the Test and Itchen, the source and headwaters of the Hamble and the middle section of the Meon....."*

The key characteristics pertinent to the study area are described as:

- *"Low-lying, undulating plain abutting the chalk downs to the north... Soils over much of the area are heavy and clayey with localised pockets of more freely draining soils on higher land.*
- *Fast-flowing chalk rivers in wide, open valleys with watermeadows and riparian vegetation that provide valuable wildlife habitats...*
- *Well-wooded farmed landscape (particularly to the east of Southampton), characterised by ancient woodland such as Botley Wood and West Walk.....*
- *Mixed agricultural landscape dominated by pasture with small pockets of horticulture and arable.*
- *An intimate and enclosed field pattern with many small and irregular fields generally bounded by mixed-species hedgerows or woodland.*
- *In parts, a very urban NCA dominated by the city and port of Southampton and other large towns such as Waterlooville and*

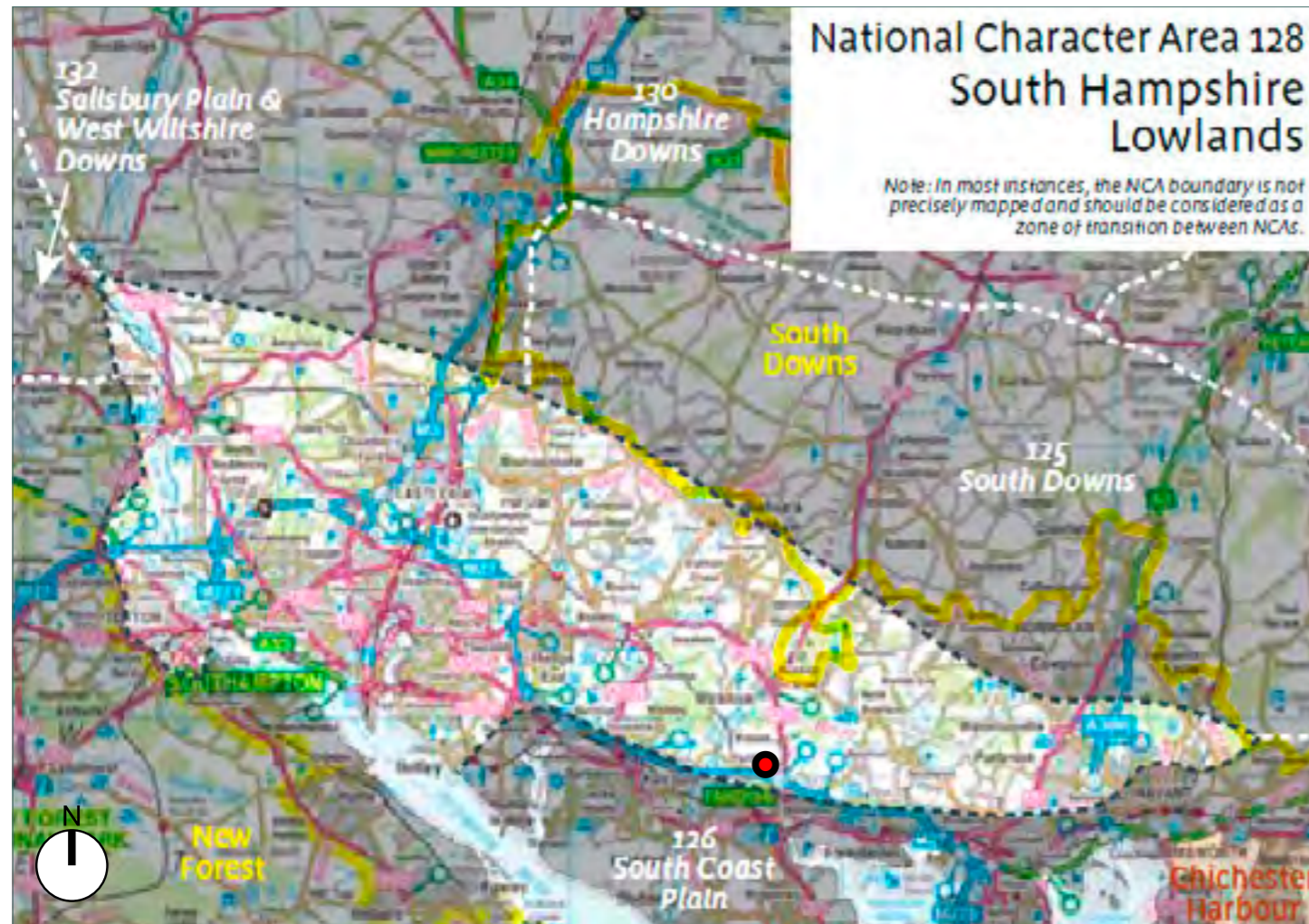
*Havant. The more rural hinterland is characterised by small, loosely clustered or dispersed settlements, intermixed with isolated farmsteads.*

- *Fragmented by major transport links, including the M3 to London and the M27 to Portsmouth which cross the NCA.*

The Site is partly typical of the description for the NCA, forming part of farmland at the fringe of a major urban area. The context to the Site also includes major transport links, as well as dispersed settlements and a wider more rural agricultural landscape.

The value of this landscape receptor is assessed as ranging from **Low - High**.

2. Baseline Conditions



**Legend**



Approximate Location of the Application Site

Figure 2.9 – Extract from National Landscape Character Area Map (Natural England, 2014)

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.9 Landscape Character Context (continued)

#### County Landscape Character Assessment - 3E: Meon Valley

Within the Hampshire County Council Integrated Landscape Character Assessment (May 2012), the Application Site falls within LCA 3E: Meon Valley character area. Refer to **Figures 2.10 and 2.11**. The key characteristics pertinent to the study area as described as:

- “A fairly narrow major river valley with a relatively narrow valley floor, which passes through downland, lowland mosaic and coastal plain landscapes.
- Southern valley sides are indented by dry valleys and scarp faces in the downland section.
- Increasing proportion of grazing and improved grassland land on the valley sides from the downland to the lowland landscapes.
- Woodland is common on the steeper slopes and is a particular feature where the Meon passes through the lowland mosaic and coastal plain landscapes.
- Major communication links follow close above the valley floor, eg A32, B3334 and the disused Meon Valley railway (now a recreational route).
- Extensive informal enclosure field patterns and significant water meadow (fairly simple layout) survive in the downs section while assarts and formal parliamentary enclosures dominate the lowland mosaic section.
- Strong pattern of nucleated settlements within the valley at strategic river crossing points with relatively little 20th century expansion.

The physical character and land use related to the study area sets out that:

*“... The Meon Valley can be divided into upper, middle and lower reaches associated with changing geology and landform of the downs, lowland clay and coastal plain respectively...”*

*The middle section (Soberton Heath to just north of Titchfield Abbey) is characterised by the presence of waterlogged soils associated with London clay. Sandier lighter soils do occur in association with the Wittering formation either side of the Meon around Wickham. The valley sides are generally a shallower gradient than in the downland setting and the valley width is narrower. Improved grassland and dairying predominate and there is a greater presence of semi and unimproved grassland on the valley bottom and woodland cover on the sides...”*

The experience and perceptual character related to the study area is summarised as one where: *“The Meon Valley is full of contrasts and diversity. The downland section and lower reaches of the coastal section tend to be open landscapes whilst the opposite is true of the section in the lowland mosaic landscape. The course of the Meon valley is very distinct when viewed from the surrounding downland, appearing deceptively wooded in comparison to the surrounding chalk landscape. The river valley channel is rarely glimpsed amongst the heavily wooded landscapes in the lowland mosaic landscape.*

*There are numerous opportunities for public access along and through the Meon Valley, including sections of several long distance routes such as the Wayfarer’s Walk, Monarch’s Way, South Downs Way and Solent Way. There is also a disused single rail track which linked Fareham, Wickham and Alton which today provides a popular, relatively flat multi user route.*

*The valley landscape has largely resisted expansion from adjoining urban areas and has remained relatively unchanged in recent times. As a result there is a strong sense of ruralness, seclusion, and*

*intimate landscape character and lack of development where the valley cuts through the south Hampshire clay lowlands. In the section where the A32 runs through the valley it is generally less tranquil than the surrounding downland landscape....”*

The ‘Biodiversity Character’ is summarised as: *“... Beyond specific designations this landscape character area comprises improved grassland and arable land with patches of unimproved and semi-improved grassland (neutral or calcareous) and are often associated with the river, suggestive of water meadows. Woodlands form discrete patches within this landscape, ranging in size and type there are broadleaved woodlands, mixed plantations and parkland, some limited coniferous plantation and active coppice with standards. Ancient woodland is very limited in this landscape...”*

The Site is partly typical of the description for the county LCA, forming part of a valley that contains grazing land and woodland, with a nearby disused railway and public rights of way. The immediate Site context includes areas of relatively recent development and this and the Site is subject to some noise intrusion from the M27.

The value of this landscape receptor is assessed as ranging from **Low - High**.

2. Baseline Conditions

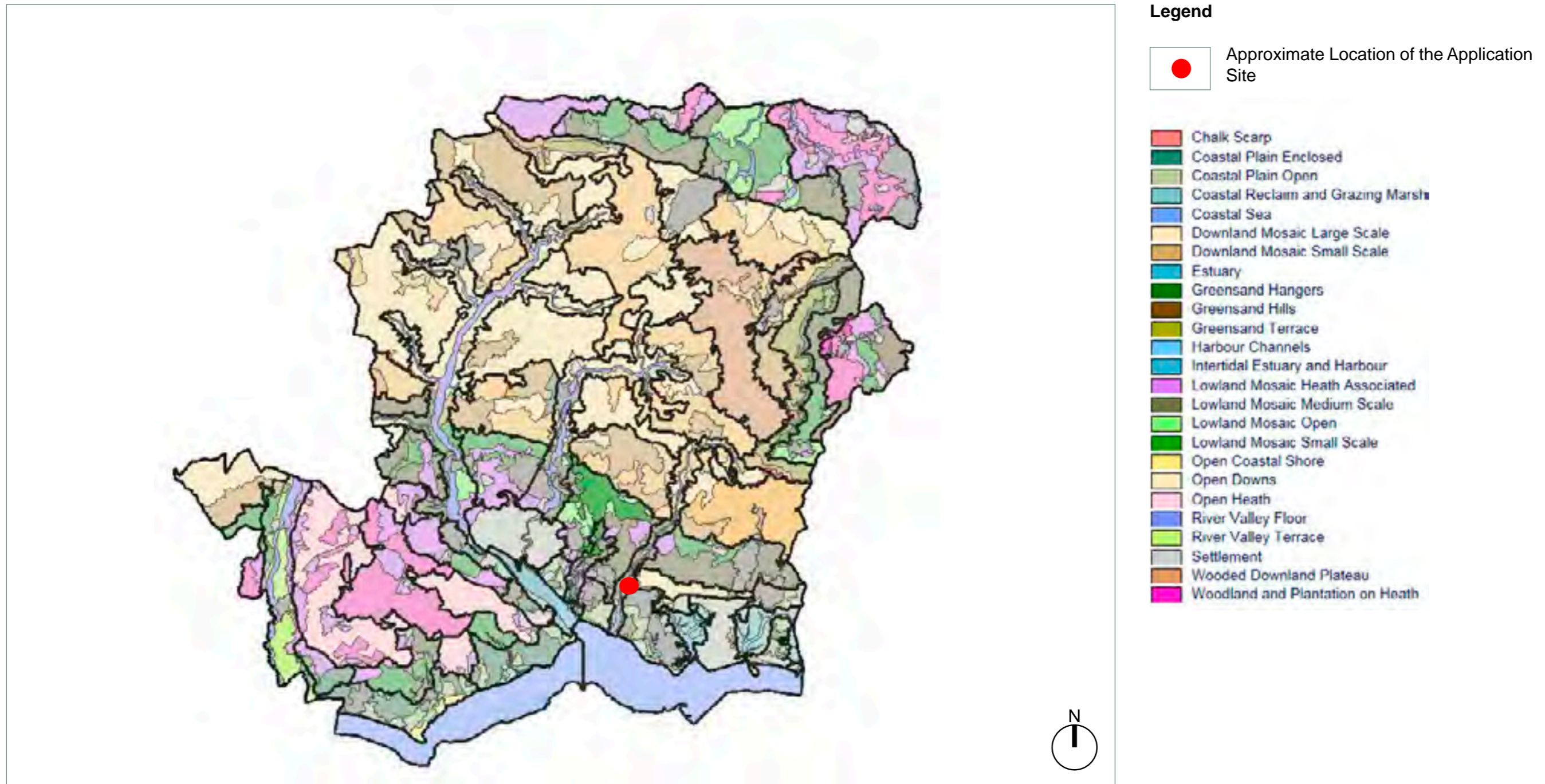


Figure 2.10 – Extract from Hampshire County Council Integrated Character Assessment Map (May 2012) showing the landscape types

2. Baseline Conditions

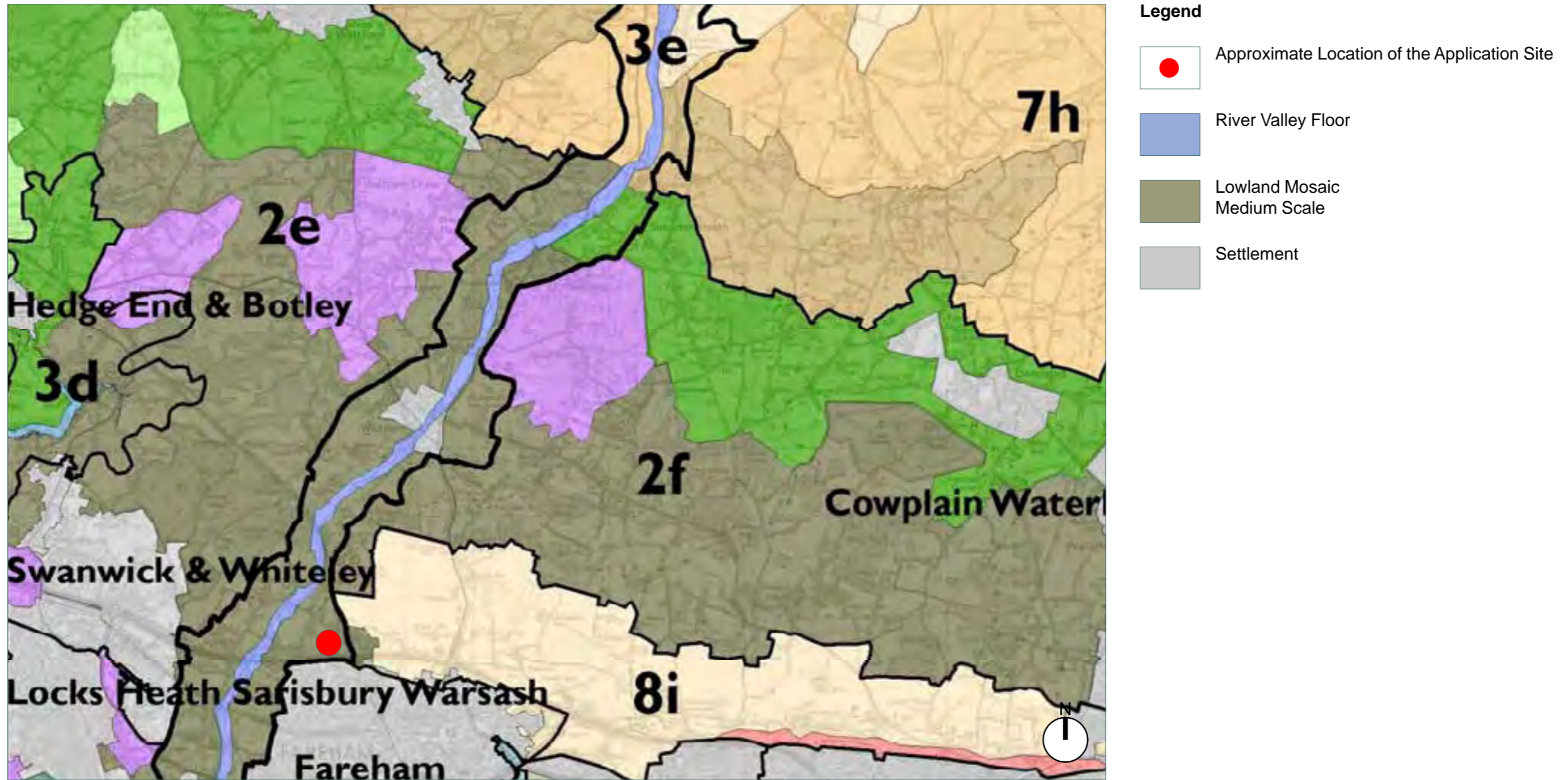


Figure 2.11 – Extract from Hampshire County Council Integrated Character Assessment Map (May 2012) showing the landscape character areas.



## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.9 Landscape Character Context (continued)

#### Local Level

#### Current Fareham Borough Landscape Assessment (May 1997)

This borough wide landscape character Assessment was carried out by Scott Wilson Resource Consultants for Fareham Borough Council in 1996 and covers both rural and urban areas.

#### Landscape Characters

Within Fareham Borough the assessment subdivides the landscape into 35 character areas (refer to **Figure 2.12**).

The Application Site is located entirely within the Landscape Character Area 6: Meon Valley. The character area is summarised as an area where:

*“The Meon Valley character area embraces the whole length of the valley within the Borough, from Funtley in the north to the coast at Titchfield Haven. Although the immediate floor and valley sides are quite narrow in places, the character area embraces a wider swathe of landscape on either side of the valley that broadly defines the extent of open countryside within the corridor between the urban edges of Stubbington, Hill Head and Fareham to the east and Titchfield Village and Titchfield Park to the west.”*

The following key characteristics are pertinent to the Application Site and its environs:

- *“a relatively gentle but distinctive valley landform, running through the Borough from Funtley in the north to the coast at Hill Head; Frequent woodland blocks;*
- *distinct valley floor characterised by small-scale pasture and variable cover of trees (typically willow and alder) in the narrower, upper reaches and broadening into open floodplain pasture and*

*complex of wetland communities to the south at Titchfield Haven, where the natural qualities of the valley and maritime influences are most strongly evident; Small copses add to wooded character;*

- *restricted vehicular access to the valley floor resulting in a generally quiet and intimate character in the northern and southern sections of the valley, making it attractive for quiet recreation and for wildlife;*
- *a mosaic of open farmland (part of the wider coastal plain farmland), minor wooded valleys and smaller, enclosed pastures bordering the valley to the south of Titchfield, the latter helping to buffer the intrusion of adjacent urban development and fringe farmland to the east on the setting of Titchfield Haven;*
- *a more fragmented character and stronger influences of urban development and roads within the central section of the valley, resulting in some damage to the integrity of the valley form and a more suburban character;*
- *garden centre and horticultural activity around Titchfield Abbey which detract from the setting of the historic Abbey and associated buildings (a Conservation Area);*
- *dense mosaic of wooded farmland mainly to the north of the railway which provides an intimate, rural context for the river valley, but with localised intrusion of the M27 motorway bridge.”*

*In terms of enhancement opportunities, the assessment at para 4.27 states that: “... the Meon Valley is comparatively unspoilt and of a high quality but it is affected by roads, commercial horticultural activities and urban intrusions, particularly the central section. The emphasis should be to protect the important landscape and ecological resources of the river corridor, mitigate the effects of intrusive activities and undertake measures to reinforce the river valley character and strengthen its overall integrity.”*

The priorities for enhancement, relative to the Application Site include:

- *“to protect the important landscape, ecological and historical resources... the pastoral character and features of the valley floor, the complex of wooded farmland...”*
- *to protect the overall integrity of the valley system from further fragmentation;*
- *to resist changes that would have an adverse impact on the rural character of the valley;*
- *to reduce the impact of roads, urban edges and horticultural development, possibly through new planting.”*

## 2. Baseline Conditions

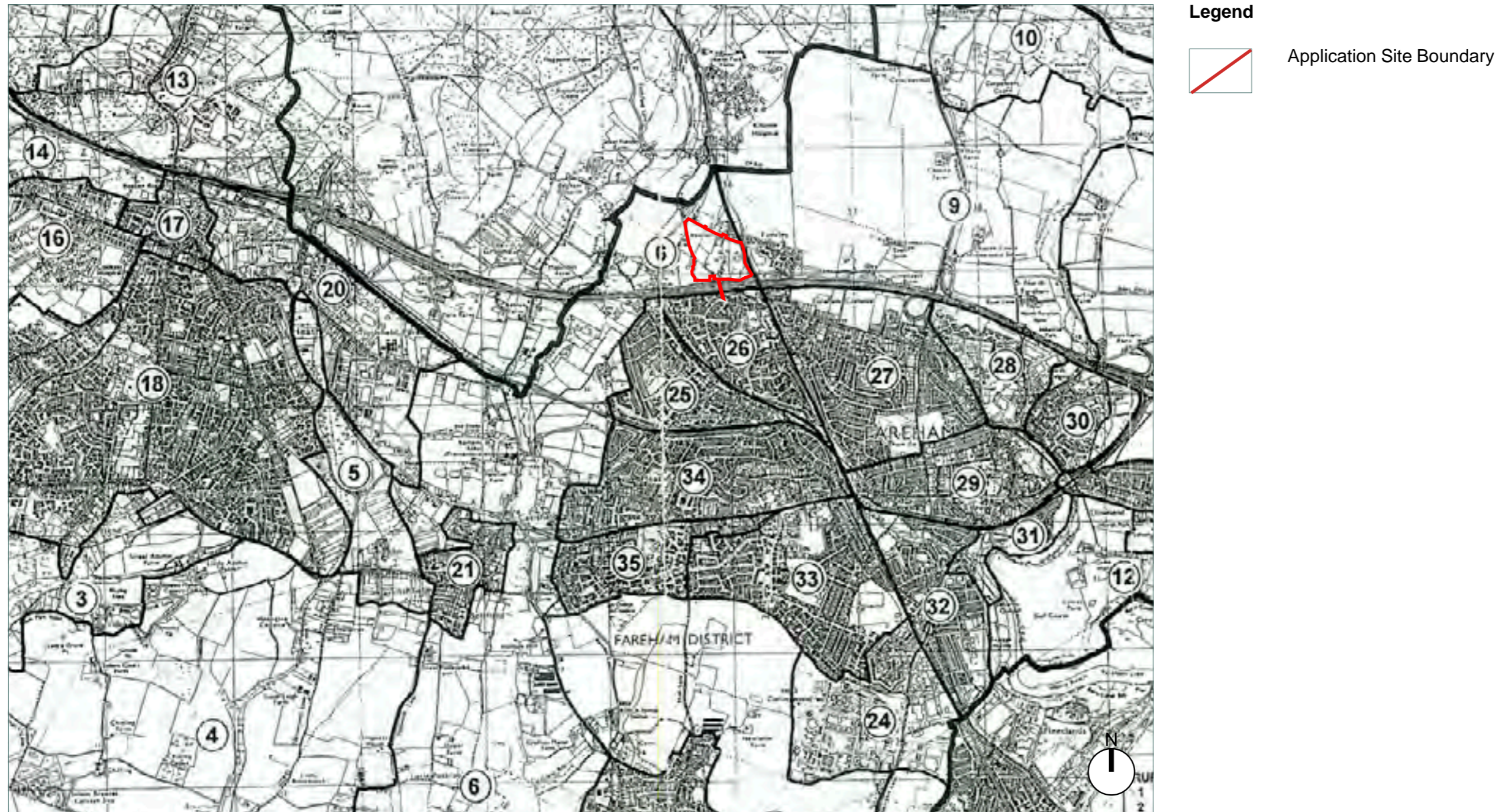


Figure 2.12 – Extract from Fareham Borough Landscape Character Assessment (May 1996) illustrating character areas.

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.9 Landscape Character Context (continued)

#### Landscape Assessment (August 2017) Evidence Base to the Fareham Borough Council Local Plan 2036

As part of the evidence base to the emerging Local Plan, the Landscape Character Assessment has been updated. Part 1 includes the character assessment, with a landscape Sensitivity Assessment at Part 2.

In the updated assessment, the Application Site continues to be located in LCA 6: Meon Valley and within the Mixed Farmland and Woodland: Small Scale landscape type. The following extract is pertinent to the Application Site:

*“The Meon Valley character area embraces the whole length of the valley within the Borough, from Funtley in the north to the coast at Titchfield Haven. Although the immediate floor and valley sides are quite narrow in places, the character area embraces a wider swathe of landscape on either side of the valley that broadly defines the extent of open countryside within the corridor between the urban edges of Stubbington, Hill Head and Fareham to the east and Titchfield Village and Titchfield Park to the west.*

The Meon Valley is characterised by:

- A relatively gentle but distinctive valley landform, running through the Borough from Funtley in the north to the coast at Hill Head;
- Distinct valley floor characterised by small-scale pasture and variable cover of trees (typically willow and alder) in the narrower, upper reaches and broadening into open floodplain pasture and complex of wetland communities to the south at Titchfield Haven...;
- A mosaic of open farmland (part of the wider coastal plain farmland), minor wooded valleys and smaller, enclosed pastures...;

- A more fragmented character and stronger influences of urban development and roads within the central section of the valley, resulting in some damage to the integrity of the valley form and a more suburban character;
- Dense mosaic of wooded farmland mainly to the north of the railway which provides an intimate, rural context for the river valley, but with localised intrusion of the M27 motorway bridge.”

In Part 2 of the LCA, in the Sensitivity Assessment, the Application Site lies within Area 6.2 and sub section b, which is described as where: *“...built development also screens public views in from the edge of the Fareham urban boundary to the east.... The motorway cutting and railway corridors prevent views into the northern part of this area from the edge of Fareham and from the main village of Funtley. Wider views from the countryside areas to the north-west of this area are also screened by extensive vegetation cover and intervening landform, road and rail corridors etc...*

*Within the area, there are no views from the motorway or rail corridors that cross the valley, and views from much of the road network within the area (including Southampton Road, Segensworth Road and Titchfield Road), are also substantially screened by roadside vegetation or buildings, with only very occasional glimpses. There are, however, some more open views through or over the roadside hedgerows into the river floodplain from Mill Lane, the lower part of Fishers Hill and from Bridge Street, which forms the southern boundary, and from Funtley Road and River Lane in the north.*

*The main views of the area are obtained from the extensive public rights of way network that runs through the valley landscape... Further routes run parallel to the railway embankment that divides areas 6.2a and 6.2b, and along the valley sides and disused railway line in the vicinity of Funtley to the north. These routes are generally well connected, and offer an appreciation of the various landscape, ecological and historic features within the valley and an opportunity to experience its unspoilt qualities and underlying sense of seclusion. Overall the quality and value of the available views and visual amenity is high, although affected in places by the influence of built*

*development or unsightly land uses....*

*The main people who could potentially be affected by changes in views would therefore be local residents, users of the PRow network within the valley... and users of the local road network within the area itself.”*

In terms of Visual Sensitivity and Development Potential, the assessment identifies that: *“There are a few small pockets of land which are enclosed by strong hedgerows or vegetation an less visible, and/or lie within areas where views are already affected by built development or intrusive/ unsightly land uses (e.g. small pockets of undeveloped land within existing residential areas off the Funtley Road...) In all cases, any development would need to be small scale and sensitively integrated within the existing or new vegetation structure to avoid adverse visual impacts. Measures to improve the quality of views through the removal of intrusive or unsightly features... should be encouraged.”*

The assessment identifies the following relative to the Contribution to Green Infrastructure Network: *“This area makes a significant contribution to green infrastructure, particularly in respect of the riparian habitats and extensive areas of semi-natural woodland and tree cover within the river corridor (designated as SINC)s which are valuable ecological and landscape features. It also makes a significant contribution through the network of public rights of way that provide access for quiet recreation and appreciation of landscape, ecological and heritage assets... Crucially, this network provides both cross-valley links with the surrounding urban areas and links along the valley to the north and south. In addition to the PRow network, the area includes a few areas of publicly accessible open space, including a recreation ground to the north of the Southampton Road near Titchfield and playing fields, woodlands and the corridor of a disused railway line in the northern part of the area. The Meon Valley*

**2.9 Landscape Character Context (continued)**

#### Landscape Assessment (August 2017) Evidence Base to the

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### Fareham Borough Council Local Plan 2036

is identified in the PUSH GI strategy as a 'sub-regional scale blue corridor' and project C6 of the strategy applies to the Upper Meon Valley and seeks "to conserve and enhance this area to ensure continued contribution to sense of place, climate change adaptation, providing open space close to urban areas for recreation and tourism".

The Fareham GI Strategy 2014 proposes a number of GI enhancement projects across the area, the majority of which form part of larger "borough wide" projects that will enhance the area's contribution to the wider GI network. These include:" (relevant to the local area and the Application Site)

"BW6 – General programme for the improvement/ repair of bridges within the rights of way network to ensure the continuation of high quality access to the countryside.

BW10 – Project to create a circular walking route encompassing the Meon Valley Trail, Shipwright's Way and South Down's Way, linking these existing routes together while enhancing their connectivity with the settlements of Fareham and Titchfield and the wider PRow network.

BW13 – Same as the PUSH Project C6 which applies to the whole of the Meon Valley LCA.

In terms of Sensitivity and Development Potential relative to GI the assessment states that: "Existing GI assets (e.g. the mosaic of riparian, grassland and woodland habitats as well as existing PRow and areas with public access) should be protected and, where possible, enhanced to maximise their ecological, landscape and amenity value, and development that would adversely affect them should be avoided. The emphasis in this area is more on making further improvements to the existing access and habitat links along the valley to the north and south, and the GI infrastructure within the urban areas to the east and west."

The conclusions of the study for the 6.2 area are set out under a sub-section, Development Criteria and Enhancement Opportunities. Those aspects pertinent to the Application Site state that: "This is an

area of high overall sensitivity, particularly in respect of the character and quality of the landscape resource, the abundance of valued landscape, ecological and heritage features across a large proportion of the area, its role in preventing the coalescence of settlements and maintaining their distinctive separate identities and landscape settings, and its significant contribution to green infrastructure, particularly in respect of ecological and landscape assets and the extensive network of public rights of way and access routes within the area.

This wide range of sensitivities mean that development potential is highly constrained across the entire valley landscape and any significant development is likely to have unacceptable impacts upon one or more of the area's important attributes. The only opportunity may be to accommodate development within small pockets of undeveloped land within existing residential areas, e.g. off the Funtley Road..., as long as it is of a similar character and scale to other dwellings within the locality and can be sensitively integrated within the landscape to avoid adverse impacts.

In order to protect and enhance the character and quality of landscape resources, views and visual amenity, urban character and green infrastructure, development proposals would need to:

- Protect and enhance features of recognised landscape, ecological, heritage or amenity value within the area as a whole, and the extensive network of public rights of way and other access routes within the valley...
- Protect and enhance the existing cover of woodland, trees, hedgerows and other mature vegetation along field boundaries, watercourses and roadsides, to maximise its screening, landscape and wildlife potential;
- Maintain the essentially secluded, rural and unspoilt countryside character of the valley landscape, and the local lanes and access routes within the area, avoiding intrusive or inappropriate urban styles of lighting, signage, paving etc. and other intrusive features;
- Be of a small-scale and located only in places where it can be carefully integrated within well-treed, strongly enclosed plots

of land in association with existing development, fits within the existing field pattern and is of a similar character and scale to similar built development within the locality;

- Maintain and enhance the function and quality of the existing GI network (in accordance with the PUSH and Fareham GI strategies) and take advantage of opportunities to strengthen and extend access and habitat links within the area, in particular with other parts of the Meon Valley and the urban areas on either side of the valley;
- Provide enhancement of the valley landscape... through removal or mitigation of intrusive or unsightly features, and restoration of field boundaries and other landscape features within 'denuded' or degraded landscapes (e.g. areas used for horse grazing or horticulture with a weak hedgerow structure and 'fringe' characteristics)."

The Site is largely typical of the description for the borough LCA, forming part of a valley with pasture, open farmland, urban development and areas of woodland. The M27 motorway results in some intrusion, and this, and the woodland and landform limit views. As described by the LCA, the Site forms a pocket of land that is enclosed by vegetation and is already somewhat affected by existing residential areas off Funtley Road. Vegetation within the Site is also important to the green infrastructure network of the character area. Significant development is inappropriate but small pockets of development such as off Funtley Road may be accommodated if of a similar scale or character to other dwellings.

The value of the landscape character area are assessed as being Low - **Medium**.

2. Baseline Conditions

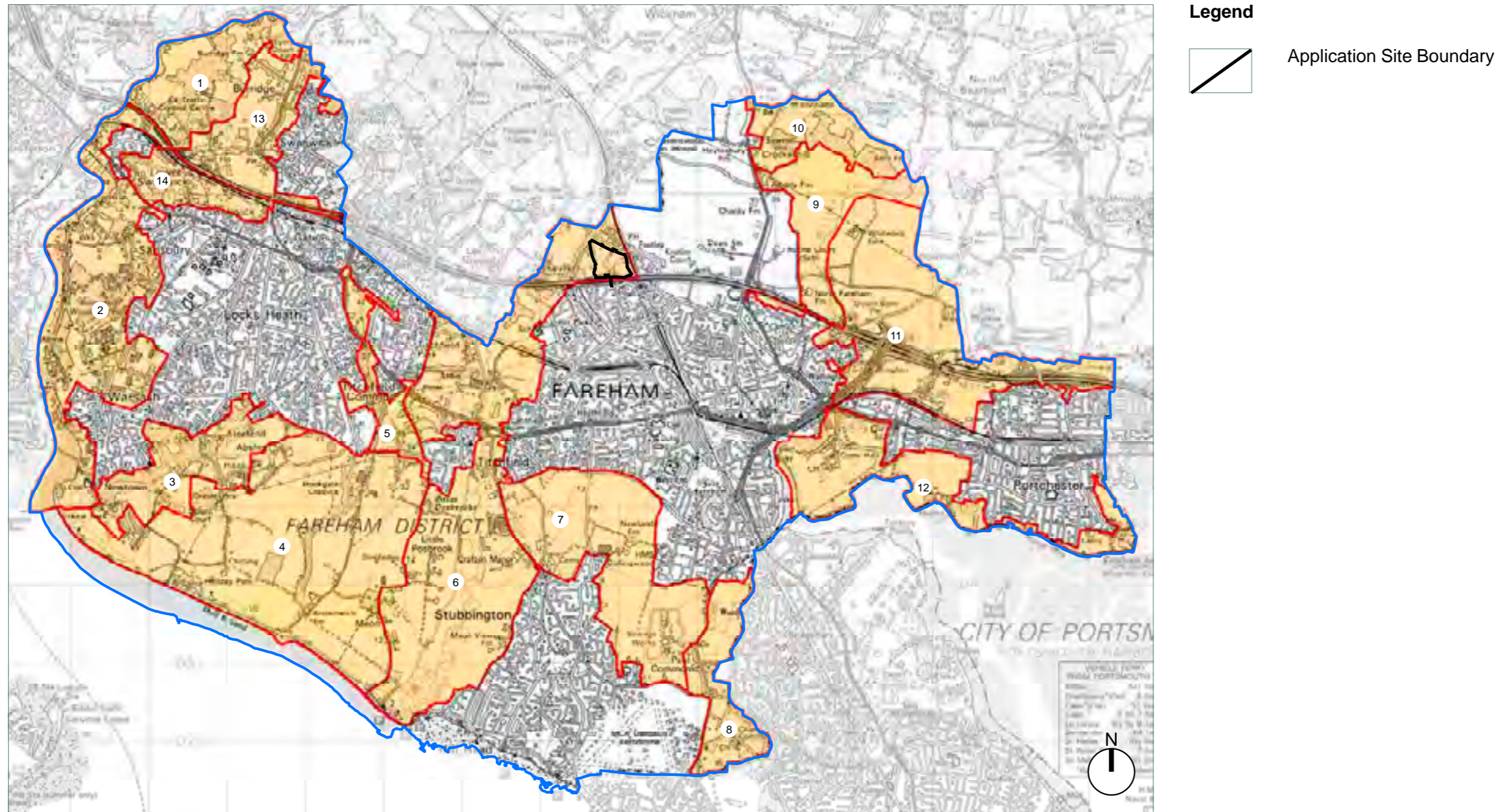


Figure 2.13 – Extract from Fareham Borough Landscape Character Assessment (2017) illustrating character areas.

## 2. Baseline Conditions

Table 2.1 Summary of Contextual Landscape Receptors and Value	
Landscape Receptors	Value
Heritage Assets	Medium
Topography	Low - Medium
Land Use	Low - Medium
Transport Links	Low - Medium
Public Rights of Way	Medium - High
Landscape Character	
National	Low - High
County	Low - High
Local	Low - Medium

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.10 Existing Landscape Conditions at Site Level

Figure 2.14 illustrates the existing landscape elements within the Application Site.

#### Landscape Designations

The Application Site lies wholly in an Area Outside of the Defined Urban Settlement. The north-western section of the Application Site is designated as Existing Open Space. However, the emerging local plan proposes deletion of this existing open space and the incorporation of the site within the Funtley settlement boundary.

Great Beamond Coppice in the eastern part of the Application Site is an Ancient Re-planted Woodland, which together with the tree blocks within central northern and south-western sections of the Application Site are also designated as a SINC and are covered by a TPO.

#### Heritage Assets

There are no heritage designations on or adjacent to the Application Site, nor does it sit within or adjoin a Conversation Area.

Within the context to the Site is the Grade II Listed buildings of the Church of St Francis (to the east on Funtley Road). A Scheduled Ancient Monument, the site of Funtley Iron Works together with a group of Grade II Listed buildings including Ironmaster's House and Funtley House are situated approximately 500m to the south west of Application Site, along the Ironmill Lane.

As such, at the site level, the value of this receptor is **Low**.

#### Topography

The Application Site lies on a north east facing slope with the localised steep ridgeline forming the southern boundary. The landform reaches approximately 52.98m AOD in the south west corner and falls towards a low point of approximately 18.77m AOD to the north-western corner of the Site.

The landform around the existing stables and built form within the north-eastern and southern part of the Application Site have been modified and where there is a level change of approximately 2m.

The value of this landscape receptor is assessed as **Medium** overall.

#### Land Use and Vegetation

The Application Site lies on the south-western fringe of the village of Funtley and is bound by Funtley Road to the north, Honey Lane to the west (and the elevated disused railway beyond) and the M27 to the south. There is currently no public access into the Site from the M27 and the footbridge. The Application Site is currently accessed from Funtley Road (opposite Stag Way).

The land use within the Application Site is predominantly pasture land (at the time of the assessment used as horse paddocks) bound by in the main by fencing comprising of timber post and rail, with additional wire in places. Woodland or hedgerows form some external and all external boundaries. There are also fences at the outer boundaries, within the vegetation. Access to the paddock is provided via a series of informal, mainly grassed private routes with the Site. Some hard surfacing occurs along the main access drive and parts of two tracks running west of this.

Small areas within the Application Site have been historically used as brick pit and brick yard. These have been restored back to agricultural use with imported clean soil and proposed planting following by the approval of the reinstatement scheme in April 2003 (Application Reference: P/03/0253/MW).

Great Beamond Coppice, alongside the other informal tree groups and treebelts form significant landscape features of the Application Site.

The value of this landscape receptor is assessed as **Medium** overall.

#### Landscape Character

The landscape character of the Application Site is described as consisting predominantly of a series of pasture fields with agricultural built form and associated hardstanding. The mature boundary vegetation and Great Beamond Coppice frames the fields and together with the landform, provides significant visual enclosure to the Application Site from the wider landscape.

The immediate setting to the Application Site comprises the predominantly two storey dwellings of Funtley to the north; the M27 motorway and the urban fringe of Fareham to the south; a combination of fields and dwellings to the west which is contained from the wider landscape by the mature tree belt associated with the elevated disused railway line; and to the east by the railway line in cutting and associated vegetation.

The northern section of the Application Site is therefore already influenced by the existing residential edges and is of a typical semi-enclosed character, consistent with the western edge of Funtley.

As set out under the published landscape character assessment section above, the Site is largely typical of the defined borough character area within which it lies.

The value of this landscape receptor is assessed as **Medium**.

#### Public Rights of Way

There are no public rights of ways located within or along the Site. However, the bridleway 515 (former railway line) is located in close proximity (approximately 38m) to the north-western part of the Site.

The value of this landscape receptor is therefore assessed as **Low**.

2. Baseline Conditions



Figure 2.14 – Plan showing the existing landscape conditions within the Site (fabrik, 2018)



## 2. Baseline Conditions

**Table 2.2 Summary of Landscape Receptors and Value within Site**

<b>Landscape Receptors</b>	<b>Value</b>
Landscape Character	Medium
Heritage Assets	Low
Topography	Medium
Land Use and Vegetation	Medium
Landscape Character	Medium
Public Rights of Way	Low

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.11 Internal Visual Survey

A visual inspection of the Application Site was conducted on 7th June 2017. A winter visual appraisal was carried out on 5th January 2018.

Figure 2.15 on the following page illustrates the location of the internal photographic viewpoints to the Site. Photos 1- 15 which follow, illustrate the existing Application Site conditions. Photos 14A and 15A are taken from slightly different positions to the summer photos. Photo 13A is taken from inside the Site, adjacent to the boundary, representing a winter view that is similar to summer external viewpoint 4.

While the summer and winter views show slight differences in the position of the viewpoint and focal lengths of camera lens used, there are otherwise, no material differences in the view.

2. Baseline Conditions



Figure 2.15 – Plan illustrating locations of internal photographs within the Site (fabrik, 2018)

## 2. Baseline Conditions

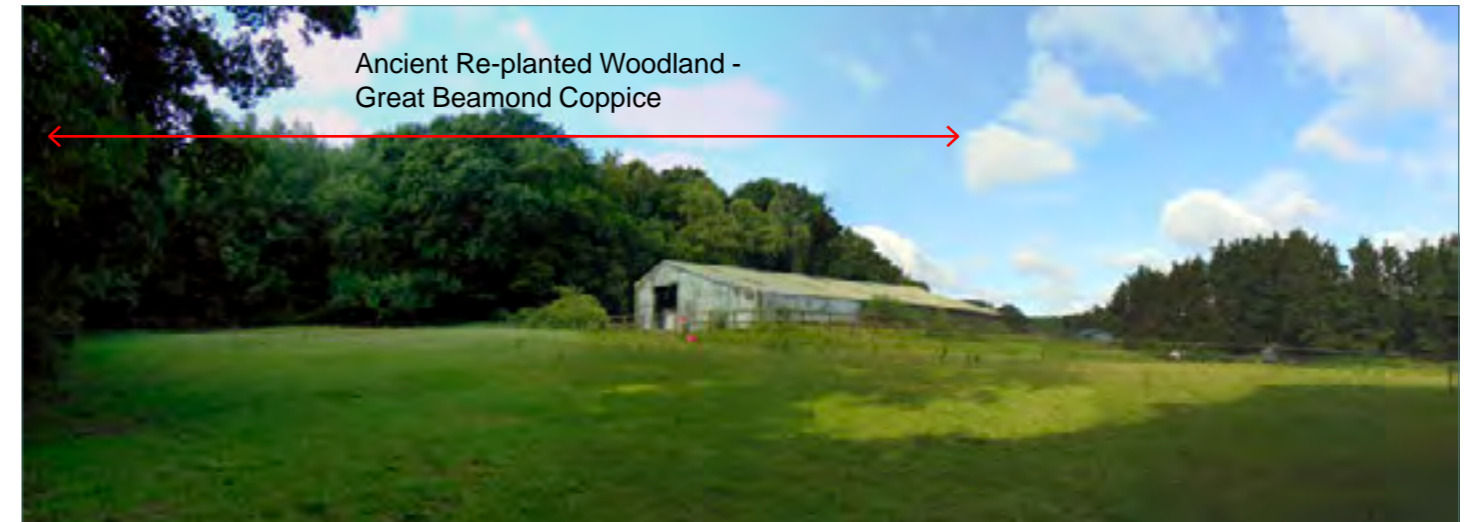
### 2.11 Photographic Study - views within the Application Site

#### Summer Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint S1**

View looking south from Funtley Road towards the northern portion of the Application Site. The existing tarmac access road is visible centrally within this view. The access road is lined by mature trees and established vegetation, which largely obscures views into the internal ground plane of the Site.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S2**

View looking south west across the eastern portion of the Application Site from north-eastern corner. The existing pasture land dominates the foreground with topography rising towards the south. The existing built form is apparent in the middle distance with the Ancient Re-planted Woodland of Great Beamond Coppice evident in the distance. Views out to the east, west and south are obscured by the intervening mature boundary vegetation and landform.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S3**

View looking north towards the northern Site boundary from the north-eastern part of the Application Site. The existing pasture grassland dominates this view with topography sloping towards the northern boundary. The mature tree belt lines along the north-eastern boundary obscure views out of the Application Site from this location.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S4**

View looking west towards the western boundary of the Application Site. The existing hardstanding forms the foreground of this view, interspersed with existing stable units in the middle distance. The existing mature trees and vegetation are apparent behind the existing stable blocks and obscure views out to the west from this location.

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.11 Photographic Study - views within the Application Site

#### Winter Views



**Photograph** – Viewpoint S1 Winter View  
There is little change to the visibility across the Site in winter.



**Photograph** – Viewpoint S2 Winter View  
There is little change to the visibility across the Site in winter.



**Photograph** – Viewpoint S3 Winter View  
There is slightly increased visibility towards vehicles on Funtley Road and of dwellings to the north of the Site, in winter.



**Photograph** – Viewpoint S4 Winter View  
There is little change to the visibility across the Site in winter.

2. Baseline Conditions

2.11 Photographic Study - views within the Application Site (Continued)

Summer Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint S5**  
View looking south west across paddocks within northern central section of the Application Site. The existing pasture grassland dominates the foreground, set on rising ground. Due to a section of lower hedging along the south-western Application Site boundary, the existing built form along southern section of Honey Lane is apparent in the distance.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S6**  
View looking south west across paddocks within northern central section of the Application Site. The existing pasture grassland dominates the foreground with topography rising to meet the southern and south-western Site boundaries in the distance. Due to a section of lower hedging along the south-western Application Site boundary, the existing built form along southern section of Honey Lane is apparent in the distance.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S7**  
View looking south west across paddocks within the south-eastern section of the Application Site. The existing pasture grassland dominates the foreground with topography rising towards the ridgeline in the middle distance. The existing vegetation is apparent in the distance, however, glimpsed views of the roofline of the existing residential built form along Lechlade Gardens (south of the M27) are apparent from this location.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S8**  
View looking west across paddocks within the south-eastern part of the Application Site. The existing grass path and pasture grassland dominates this view with topography gently rising to meet the existing barns in the distance. The existing mature vegetation along the southern part of the Application Site and Great Beamond Coppice is evident in the distance and along with topography, obscures views out to the west and south from this location.

2. Baseline Conditions

2.11 Photographic Study - views within the Application Site (Continued)

Winter Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint S5 - Winter View**  
 Visibility across the Site remains largely the same in winter.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S6 - Winter View**  
 Visibility across the Site remains largely the same in winter, albeit there is slightly increased visibility of the property along Honey Lane. The landform prevents significant views beyond the Site boundary despite reduced leaf cover.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S7 - Winter View**  
 Visibility across the Site remains largely the same in winter. There is however, slightly increased visibility of existing dwellings south of the M27, without leaf cover to vegetation.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S8 - Winter View**  
 Visibility across the Site remains largely the same in winter. The landform prevents significant views beyond the Site boundary despite reduced leaf cover.

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.11 Photographic Study - views within the Application Site (Continued)

#### Summer Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint S9**

View looking east across paddocks within the south-western section of the Application Site. The existing pasture grassland dominates the foreground with the landform falling towards the mature tree line in the middle distance. The existing mature vegetation along the south east section of the Application Site is apparent in the distance and obscures the majority of views out to the east and south. However, glimpsed views of rooflines of the existing residential built form within Funtley beyond the site, are apparent in the distance.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S10**

View looking north east within the central part of the Application Site. The existing understorey vegetation dominates the foreground with mature trees along the internal field boundaries. The existing topography slopes towards the north with views of Great Beamond Coppice apparent in the middle distance. Due to the existing landform, the roofline of existing residential built form along Funtley Road and Roebuck Avenue are apparent in the distance. Glimpsed views of an existing 3 storey built form within neighbouring village of Knowle are also evident in the far distance, through gaps within the existing boundary vegetation and landform.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S11**

View looking north across paddocks within the south-western section of the Application Site. The existing pasture grassland dominates this view with topography rising to meet the field boundary. Existing vegetation along the western boundary and trees to the east are apparent and with landform, limits views out to the west and east. However, glimpsed views of a wider elevated landscape are evident in the distance to the north.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S12**

View looking north across paddocks within the south-western section of the Application Site. The existing pasture grassland dominates this view with the existing topography falling steeply towards the north. An existing tree line to the east is evident in the distance and obscures views out to the east from this location. However, views of wider landscape to the north are evident with existing built form along Funtley Road visible due to existing landform.



2. Baseline Conditions

2.11 Photographic Study - views within the Application Site (Continued)

Winter Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint S9 - Winter View**  
There is slightly increased visibility beyond the Site, including of dwellings within Funtley, in winter.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S10 - Winter View**  
The photo is taken standing slightly closer to the fenceline than in summer. The lack of leaf cover allows increased visibility across the Site and to existing dwellings within Funtley and within Knowle village.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S11 - Winter View**  
The viewing position is from a slightly higher point, allowing views across the Application Site as it slopes down to the north, and of existing properties just north of the Site, the disused railway line to the west, and wider elevated landscape beyond the built form at Funtley. Parts of built form at Knowle village and pylons form part of the scene to the north.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S12 - Winter View**  
There is slightly increased visibility within the Site in winter, with glimpses of the barns in the south-eastern part area. The glimpses of Funtley and Knowle village (to left, beyond edge of photo) remain in winter.

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.11 Photographic Study - views within the Application Site (Continued)

#### Summer Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint S13**

View looking north east across paddocks within the western part of the Application Site. The existing pasture grassland dominates this view with topography falling steeply towards the northern boundary. Partial views of hardstanding within the northern part of the Application Site are evident in the distance to the north east. Due to the existing topography, views of wider landscape beyond the Application Site are evident with existing built form along Funtley Road and Roebuck Avenue apparent from this location.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S14**

View looking east across paddocks within the north-western part of the Application Site. The existing pasture dominates this view with existing undulating topography rising towards to east and south west. The existing vegetation along northern boundary of the Application Site is visible with views of Great Beamond Coppice evident in the distance. Views out to east and south are obscured by the dense vegetation within Application Site. However, views of roof and upper storey of existing two storey built form along western part of Funtley Road are apparent through gaps within vegetation and landform.

2. Baseline Conditions

2.11 Photographic Study - views within the Application Site (Continued)

Winter Views



**Photograph** – Viewpoint S13 Winter View

In winter, the reduced leaf cover reveals more of the existing built form to the north of the Site.



**Photograph** – Viewpoint S14A Winter View

The viewpoint is taken from the access path south of the paddock from which summer view 14 was taken. In winter, there is slightly increased visibility of existing built form at Funtley to the north of the Site.



**Photograph** – Viewpoint S13A additional Winter View

View looking north to north-east from the south-western edge of the Site, by the boundary hedge which separates the Site from the existing property at the southern end of Honey Lane. This photo also provides a winter equivalent of external viewpoint 4. Existing built form at Funtley and further north of the village is visible beyond the Site. Existing outbuildings and part of Great Beamond Coppice are visible to the right in the photo.

## 2. Baseline Conditions

### 2.11 Photographic Study - views within the Application Site (Continued)

#### Summer and Winter Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint S15**

View looking south east across paddocks from the north-western part of the Application Site. The existing pasture dominates this view with existing undulating topography rising towards the south. The existing vegetation along the western Application Site boundary is visible with views of Great Beamond Coppice evident in the distance. The dense vegetation within the Application Site obscures views out to the west and south.



**Photograph – Viewpoint S15A Winter View**

The viewpoint is taken from the access path north of the paddock from which summer view 15 was taken. The landform and dense vegetation within the Site and at its boundaries mean that visibility beyond the Site remains similar in winter. There is a very limited glimpse of the roof of the building at the south end of Honey Lane (adjacent to the Site) and of the roof of a vehicle parked within its curtilage.

### 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

#### 3.1 Introduction

The extent to which the internal ground plane and vegetation associated with the Application Site are visible from the surrounding landscape is based on grading degrees of visibility. It is determined from a visual inspection of the land within the Site and its context from roads, public rights of way and properties.

Seasonal change in existing evergreen and deciduous plant material will affect the available views. Typically views will be different through the seasons with a greater sense of enclosure in the summer months when deciduous trees are in leaf.

The plans that follow show the actual visual summary of the Application Site from the immediate environs. The photographs 1-19 then describe each of these views.

No winter views were taken for photo viewpoints 15-19 due to the significant level of visual screening by vegetation and in places, by landform.

#### 3.2 Visual Appraisal

The plans on the following pages (Figures 3.1 and 3.2) illustrate the visual summary of the land within the Application Site from the surrounding landscape.

Views of the internal ground plane and vegetation of the Application Site are limited to the immediate local landscape due to the undulating topography and intervening layers of vegetation and build form.

#### Residential Receptors

Views from residential receptors are limited to those located in close proximity to the Site along the Funtley Road, Roebuck Avenue, Stag Way and Honey Lane. Refer to photographs 4 - 8.

There is slightly increased visibility of the Site in winter, in particular for properties along the south sides of Funtley Road which have windows facing in the direction of the Site.

The value of the residential receptors is judged to be **medium**.

#### Historic Receptors

There are no views from the Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monument located in the study area - along the Ironmill Lane and Skylark Meadows within Skylark Golf and Country Club. Refer to photographs 11 and 19. There is no significant change in the visibility in winter, and these receptors are not considered as part of the visual impact appraisal.

#### Transport Corridors

There are open and partial views of the internal ground plane and landscape features of the Application Site from Funtley Road, Roebuck Avenue and southern section of Honey Lane. Views are only from those parts of these roads in close proximity to the Site. Views from the wider road network are truncated. Refer to photographs 4 - 8.

There are slightly increased views into the Site in winter from Funtley Road and Roebuck Avenue, without leaf cover. Views from Honey Lane remain largely obscured except for two sections to the north and south where there is a gap in the vegetation (north) and a low hedge (south) at the boundary with the Site.

The value of the transport corridors is judged to be **low**.

#### Public Rights of Way

The majority of receptors from the public rights of ways within the local, middle distance and wider landscape are truncated due to intervening topography, vegetation and built form. Refer to photographs 1, 2, 11 - 19.

In winter, from viewpoint 2 (path around the lake by Lakeside) within Funtley, there are increased glimpses through the vegetation along the railway embankments. As the ground plane of the Site is not discernible, it is not possible to distinguish any vegetation within the Site from the general dense vegetation visible around the railway line from this location.

Reduced leaf cover to vegetation along the disused railway line to the west of the Site (Bridleway 515) allows glimpses through to the ground plane of the Site, but only from positions in close proximity to the crossing over Funtley Road (photographs 12A and 14A). In these views, existing built form at Funtley is also visible.

The highest part of the Site to the south, around the existing telecommunications mast is visible as a part of panoramic views looking back to Funtley village from two Public Rights of Way to the east - see photographs 9 and 10 (from Footpaths 88 and 89 respectively).

From viewpoint 9 in winter, the ground plane of a small part of the south-eastern part of the Site, the telecomms mast and nearby existing barns are visible, together with Great Beamond Coppice and other boundary vegetation within the south eastern area of the Site.

From viewpoint 10 in winter, the upper part of the mast, barns and small part of the Copse are visible above existing dwellings and vegetation at the edge of Funtley. The ground plane of the Site is obscured, even in winter.

No extensive views across the ground plane of the Site are available from these locations.

The existing southern boundary vegetation is visible from the M27 footbridge to the immediate south (photograph 3) however, this vegetation in turn obscures internal views of the land within the Application Site.

The value of the users of the public rights of way is judged to be **medium**.

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3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

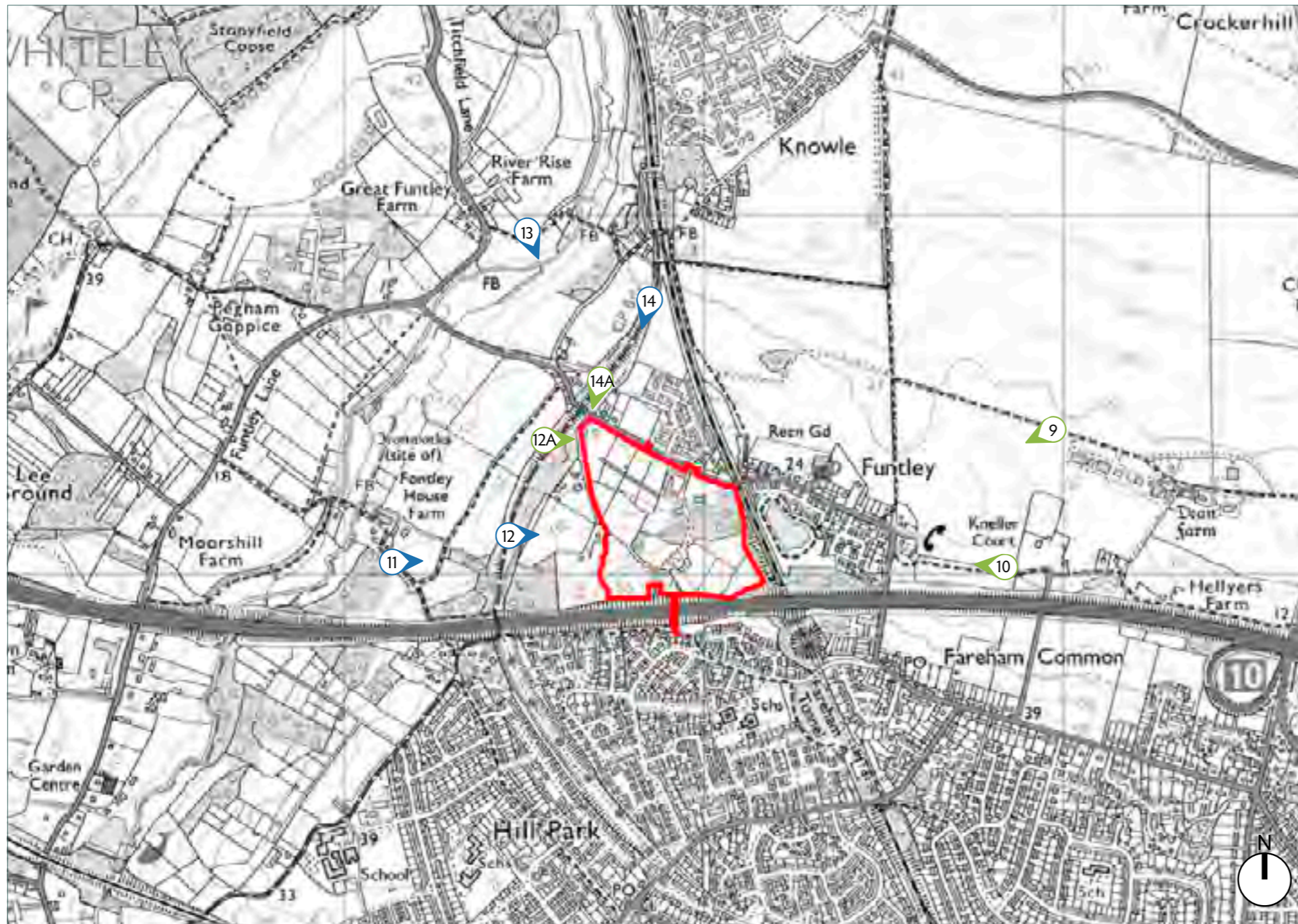






Figure 3.1 – Location Plan showing Visual Summary from the local area (fabrik, 2018)

Legend

-  Application Site Boundary
-  Location of Photographic viewpoint – Open View (An open view of the whole of the Site or open view of part of the Site).
-  Location of Photographic viewpoint – Partial View (A view of the Site which forms a small part of the wider panorama, or where views are filtered between intervening built form or vegetation).
-  Location of Photographic viewpoint – Truncated View (Views of the Site are obscured by the intervening built form and / or vegetation, or is difficult to perceive).

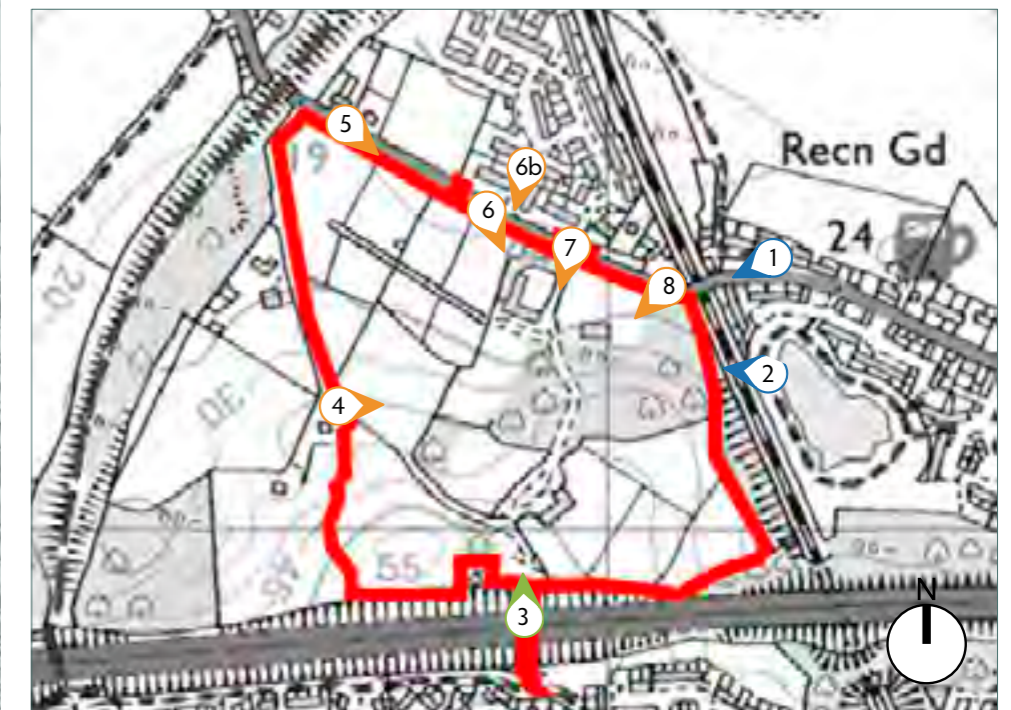


Figure 3.2 – Location Plan showing Visual Summary in close proximity to the Site (fabrik, 2017)

### 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

#### 3.3 Visual Appraisal from the Local Area

##### Summer Views



##### Photograph – Viewpoint 1

View looking south west towards the Application Site from the eastern section of Funtley Lane (Footpath 85). The existing residential built form along Funtley Lane dominates this view with mature hedgerow forming a vegetated edge along this part of the lane. Glimpsed views of the top section of Great Beamond Coppice along the north-eastern edge of the Application Site is apparent. Views of the internal ground plane within the Application Site are truncated.



##### Photograph – Viewpoint 2

View looking west towards the Application Site from an informal footpath at the edge of the lake to the south west of Lakeside (south of Funtley Road). Mature trees and vegetation dominate this view and forms a green corridor along the path. The intervening vegetation, which includes that alongside the live railway (right, truncates any views of the internal ground plane within the Application Site from this location).



##### Photograph – Viewpoint 3

View looking north towards the Application Site from the footbridge to the south of the Application Site over the M27. The footbridge and the mature tree belt planted along the motorway edge dominates this view. Partial views of the existing mature trees and vegetation along the southern Application Site are evident behind the existing vegetation that lines the motorway. Views into other areas across the Application Site are truncated by the intervening vegetation and topography from this location.



3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

3.3 Visual Appraisal from the Local Area

Winter Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint 1 Winter View**  
The photo is taken from a position standing slightly further west along Funtley Lane (due to the presence of a large vehicle on the road). However, in winter, there is no significant change in the visibility of the Site in winter from any section of this lane.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 2 Winter View**  
There is no significant change in the visibility of the Site in winter.

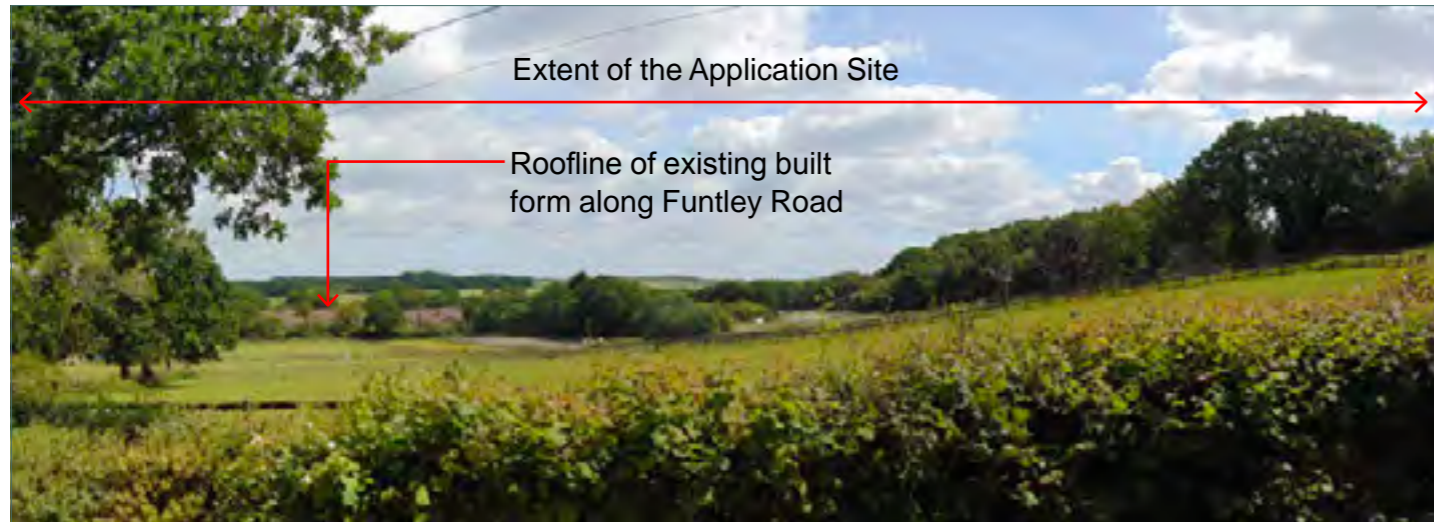


**Photograph – Viewpoint 3 Winter View**  
There is no significant change in the visibility of the Site in winter.

### 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

#### 3.3 Visual Appraisal from the Local Area

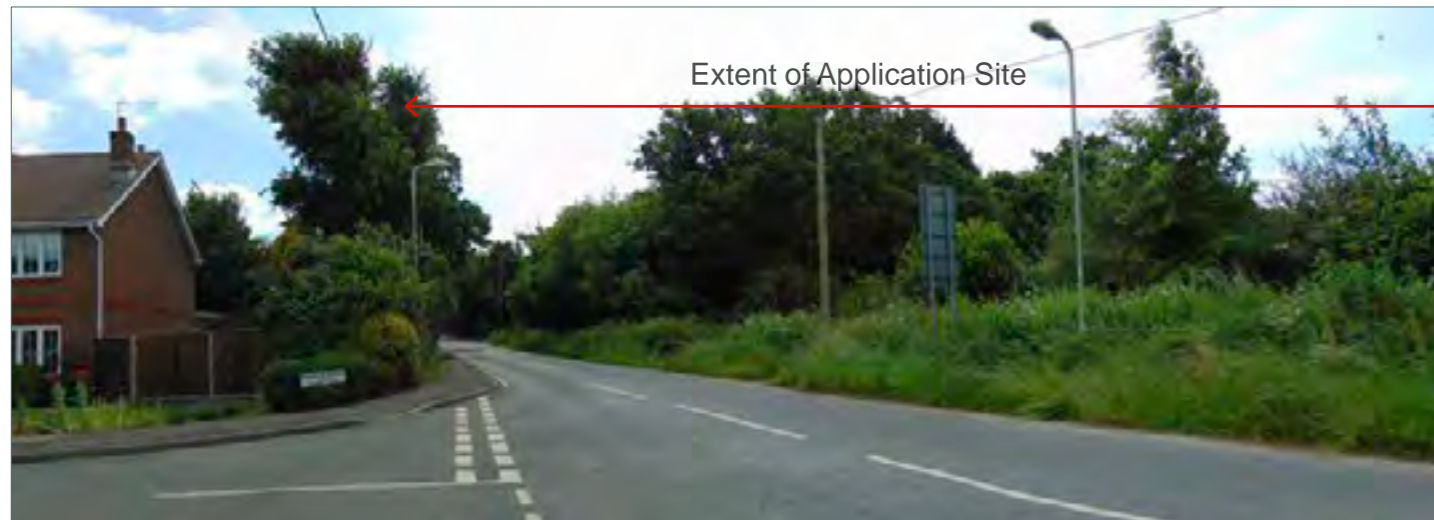
##### Summer Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint 4**  
View looking east towards the Application Site from the existing hardstanding area associated with the private dwelling ‘Bramleigh’ located on Honey Lane. The existing boundary vegetation and pasture grassland within the Application Site dominates the view. Open view of the internal plane, boundary vegetation and the Great Beamond Coppice are apparent from this location.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 5**  
View looking south east towards the Application Site from Funtley Road (by properties just east of the disused railway bridge). Views of existing residential built form along Funtley Road dominate the foreground with mature trees and vegetation along the northern Application Site boundary apparent. Views of the internal ground plane within the Site are truncated due to intervening boundary vegetation.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 6**  
View looking south east towards the Application Site from the junction of Roebuck Avenue and Funtley Road. Views of existing residential built form around the entrance of Roebuck Avenue and mature trees and vegetation along the northern Site are apparent. Views of the internal ground plane within the Application Site are truncated due to intervening boundary vegetation.

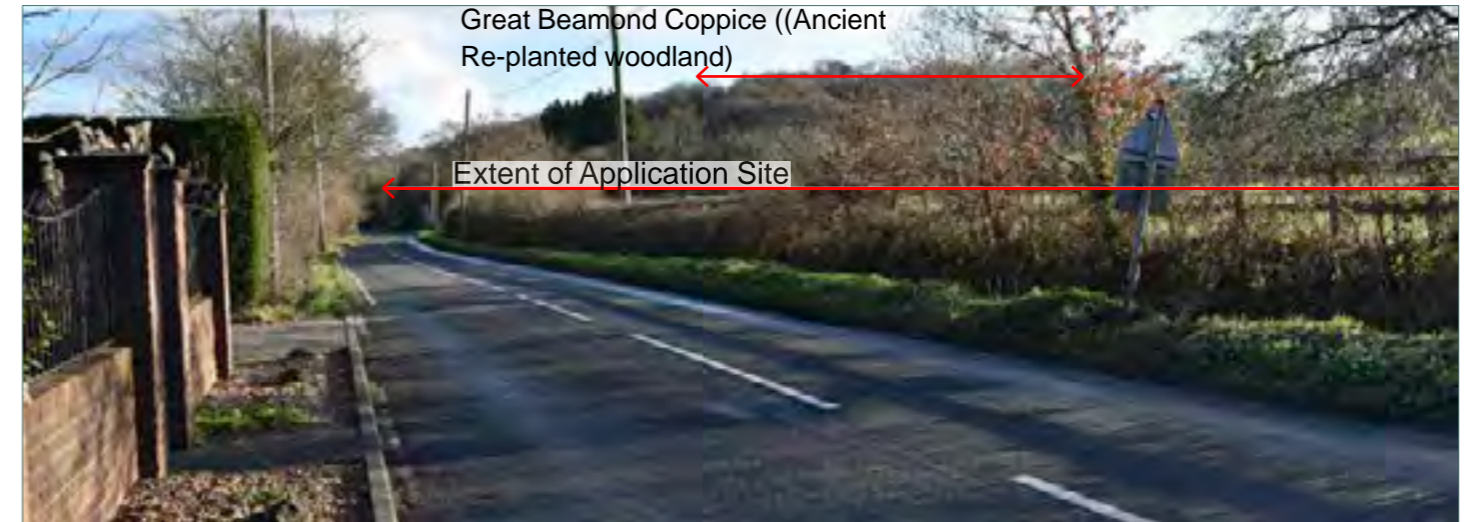


**Photograph – Viewpoint 6b**  
View looking south east towards the Application Site from Roebuck Avenue. The residential built form with its associated private garden along Roebuck Avenue dominates this view with the topography within the Application Site rising towards the local ridgeline. Open views of the central part within the Application Site occur, funnelled along the road with mature vegetation evident in the distance. Views into other areas within the Application Site are truncated by intervening vegetation, topography and built form from this location.

3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

3.3 Visual Appraisal from the Local Area  
Winter Views

Note: For the winter photo relating to Viewpoint 4 (taken from curtilage to Bramleigh), refer to internal winter viewpoint 13A (above) which is taken from the Site-side of the hedge at the boundary with the property Bramleigh.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 5 Winter View**  
In winter, the ground plane of the Site becomes apparent without leaf cover to the northern boundary vegetation.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 6 Winter View**  
There is little change in the visibility of the Site in winter.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 6b Winter View**  
There is slightly increased visibility of the Site in winter.

### 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

#### 3.3 Visual Appraisal from the Local Area

##### Summer Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint 7**  
View looking south west towards the Application Site from the junction of Stag Way and Funtley Road. Views of mature trees and boundary vegetation along the northern Site boundary dominate this view and form a green corridor along Funtley Road. Views of the existing access road and entrance gate within the Application Site are apparent. Views of the ground plane within the Application Site are, however, truncated by the intervening vegetation.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 8**  
View looking south west towards the Application Site from Funtley Road. Views of mature boundary vegetation and tree planting along the northern boundary of the Application Site dominate this view and form a green corridor along Funtley Road. Views of the internal ground plane of the Application Site are in turn truncated due to intervening boundary vegetation.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 9**  
View looking south west towards the Application Site from Footpath 88. Open views of arable land dominate the foreground. The existing settlement of Funtley is evident in the distance with the topography rising sharply towards the ridgeline to the south west. Partial views of the mature vegetation along the southern boundary of the Application Site are evident. Glimpsed views of small sections of existing pasture grassland and the roof section of the existing built form within the southern section of the Application Site are also apparent in the far distance. Views of other parts within the Application Site are truncated due to intervening vegetation and landform.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 10**  
View looking west towards the Application Site from Footpath 89. Open views of grassland dominates this view with mature trees and vegetation that define localised field boundaries in the middle distance. Glimpsed views of the top section of an existing mobile communication mast helps to identify the location of the Application Site in the wider landscape. Due to intervening vegetation and landform, views of the Application Site are truncated from this location.

3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

3.3 Visual Appraisal from the Local Area

Winter Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint 7 Winter View**  
There is slightly increased visibility into the Site in winter.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 8 Winter View**  
There are glimpses of the ground plane of the Site in winter without leaf cover.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 9 Winter View**  
There is slightly increased visibility of the south-eastern part of the Site in winter - existing vegetation (including Great Beamond Coppice), small part of the ground plane, southern barns and telecommunications mast. Existing built form at Funtley is also more apparent.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 10 Winter View**  
There is very slightly increased visibility of the south-eastern part of the Site in winter, the existing vegetation, southern barns and telecommunications mast. Existing built form at Funtley is also more apparent.

### 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

#### 3.3 Visual Appraisal from the Local Area

##### Summer Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint 11**  
View looking east towards the Application Site from Footpath 83a near a group of Listed Buildings (Ironmaster’s House and Funtley House) and the Scheduled Monument (Site of Funtley Iron Works). Views of pasture land with existing mature boundary vegetation dominate the foreground of this view. Views of the Application Site are truncated due to intervening vegetation and land form.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 12**  
View looking east towards the Application Site from the southern section of Bridleway 515. Views of existing mature trees and vegetation dominate this view and form a green corridor along the footpath. Due to intervening vegetation, views of the Application Site are truncated from this location.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 13**  
View looking south east towards the Application Site from footpath 16. Views of pasture land dominate the foreground with topography gently falling to meet the River Meon in the distance. Views of the existing tree belt along Mayles Lane and River Lane are apparent in the distance and obscure any views of the Application Site from this location.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 14**  
View looking south towards the Application Site from the northern section of Bridleway 515. Views of existing mature trees and vegetation dominate this view and form a green corridor along the footpath. Due to intervening vegetation, views of the Application Site are truncated.

3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

3.3 Visual Appraisal from the Local Area

Winter Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint 11 Winter View**  
There are no views towards the Site in winter.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 12 Winter View**  
There are no views towards the Site in winter.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 13 Winter View**  
There are no views towards the Site in winter. From a short section of Titchfield Lane just south-east of this viewpoint, there is a brief glimpse of the upper part of the telecommunications mast on the southern part of the Site, however, the Site and vegetation within it remains fully truncated from view due to the disused railway line and mature vegetation along it.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 14 Winter View**  
There are no views towards the Site in winter.

### 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

#### 3.3 Visual Appraisal from the Local Area

##### Additional Winter Views



**Photograph** – Viewpoint 12A Additional Winter View

Winter view located near to the bridge crossing over Funtley Road. There are glimpses into the north-western part of the Site and of part of Great Beamond Coppice. Funtley Road and existing dwellings within the village are also glimpsed beyond vegetation along the disused railway line / Bridleway 515.

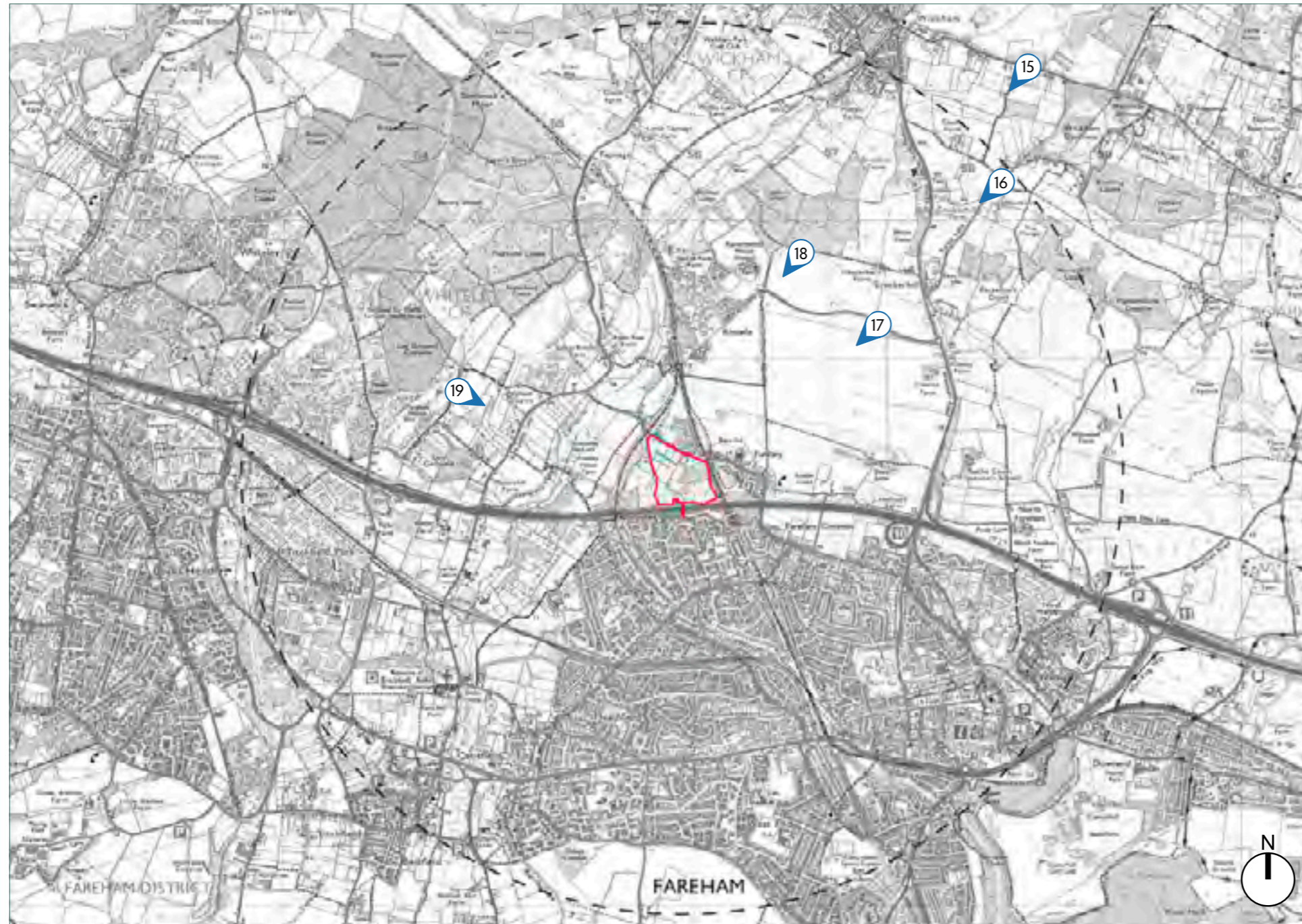


**Photograph** – Viewpoint 14A Additional Winter View

Winter view located near to the bridge crossing over Funtley Road. There are glimpses into the western part of the Site. Existing dwellings within the village are also glimpsed beyond vegetation along the disused railway line / Bridleway 515.



3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities



Legend





-  Application Site Boundary
-  Location of Photographic viewpoint – Open View (An open view of the whole of the Site or open view of part of the Site).
-  Location of Photographic viewpoint – Partial View (A view of the Site which forms a small part of the wider panorama, or where views are filtered between intervening built form or vegetation).
-  Location of Photographic viewpoint – Truncated View (Views of the Site are obscured by the intervening built form and / or vegetation, or is difficult to perceive).

Figure 3.3 – Location Plan showing Visual Summary from the wider area (fabrik, 2018)

3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

3.4 Visual Appraisal from the Wider Study Area

Summer Views



**Photograph – Viewpoint 15**  
View looking south west towards the Application Site from Footpath 11 adjacent to Wickham Road (southern boundary of South Downs National Park). Views of existing mature vegetation along either side of the footpath dominates this view and obscures any views towards the Application Site from this location.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 16**  
View looking south west towards the Application Site from the junction of Footpath 10 (Castle Farm Lane) and Forest Lane. Mature trees and vegetation along the lane dominate this view and create a green corridor along the lane. Views of the Application Site are wholly truncated by the intervening vegetation and topography.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 17**  
View looking south west towards the Application Site from the cycle and footpath along the eastern section of Knowle Road. The cycle / footpath is apparent centrally within this view with mature hedgerows and vegetation evident on either side of the path. Due to intervening vegetation, views of the Application Site are wholly truncated from this location.



**Photograph – Viewpoint 18**  
View looking south west towards the Application Site from Footpath 23b located along the southern part of Aylesbury Copse. Views of arable fields dominate this view with topography gently sloping towards the west. The existing tree belt to the south of Knowle Road is apparent in the distance from this location. Any views of the Application Site are truncated due to intervening topography and vegetation.

### 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

#### 3.4 Visual Appraisal from the Wider Study Area

##### Summer Views



Approximate location of the Application Site

##### **Photograph – Viewpoint 19**

View looking south east towards the Application Site from Bridleway 26b located in close proximity to a barn 20 metres south of Lee Ground (Grade II Listed Building) and Skylark Golf and Country Club. Mature trees and vegetation define the localised field boundaries and create a green corridor along the bridleway. Views of the Application Site are wholly truncated by the intervening vegetation and land form.

## 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

Table 3.1 – Summary of Visual Receptors

Representative Visual Receptor Viewpoint No.	Landscape Designation	Receptors	Extent of the land visible within the Application Site	Character and Amenity of the View	Elevation	Distance to Site	Value
1	Public footpath 85	Residential; Transient receptors on foot and bike and vehicle.	The internal ground plane within the Application Site is truncated from this location. However, the glimpsed view of top section of Great Beamond Coppice along the north-eastern is evident from this location.	View looking south west towards the Application Site from the eastern section of Funtley Lane (Footpath 85). The existing residential built form along Funtley Lane dominates this view with mature hedgerow forming a vegetated edge along this part of the lane. Glimpsed views of the top section of Great Beamond Coppice along the north-eastern edge of the Application Site is apparent. Views of the internal ground plane within the Application Site are truncated.  There is no significant change in the visibility of the Site in winter.	Approximately 20m AOD	Approximately 174m	Medium - Low
2	Existing Open Space	Transient receptors on foot	The internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site are truncated from this location.	View looking west towards the Application Site from an informal footpath at the edge of the lake to the south west of Lakeside (south of Funtley Road). Mature trees and vegetation dominate this view and forms a green corridor along the path. The intervening vegetation, which includes that alongside the live railway (right, truncates any views of the internal ground plane within the Application Site from this location).  There is no significant change in the visibility of the Site in winter.	Approximately 20m AOD	Approximately 122m	Medium
3	Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary	Transient receptors on foot	The internal ground plane within the Application Site is truncated from this location. However, partial views of the existing tree and vegetation across the southern section of the Application Site are evident from this location.	View looking north towards the Application Site from the footbridge to the south of the Application Site over the M27. The footbridge and the mature tree belt planted along the motorway edge dominates this view. Partial views of the existing mature trees and vegetation along the southern Application Site are evident behind the existing vegetation that lines the motorway. Views into other areas across the Application Site are truncated by the intervening vegetation and topography from this location.  There is no significant change in the visibility of the Site in winter.	Approximately 50m AOD	Approximately 285m	Medium - Low

## 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

Table 3.1 – Summary of Visual Receptors

Representative Visual Receptor Viewpoint No.	Landscape Designation	Receptors	Extent of the land visible within the Application Site	Character and Amenity of the View	Elevation	Distance to Site	Value
4	Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary	Residential; Transient receptors on foot and vehicle.	Open views of existing vegetation and built form within the Application Site occur from this location.  Open views of existing boundary vegetation, built form and ground plane of the Application Site are visible from this location	View looking east towards the Application Site from the existing hardstanding area associated with the private dwelling 'Bramleigh' located on Honey Lane. The existing boundary vegetation and pasture grassland within the Application Site dominates the view. Open view of the internal plane, boundary vegetation and the Great Beamond Coppice are apparent from this location.  For the winter view see Site Internal Viewpoint 13A, which is taken from the Site-side of the hedge at the boundary with the property. Existing built form at Funtley and further north of the village is visible beyond the Site. Existing outbuildings and part of Great Beamond Coppice are visible to the right in the photo.	Approximately 35m AOD	Approximately 176m	Medium
5	Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary	Residential; Transient receptors on foot and bike and vehicle.	Open views of existing boundary vegetation associated the Application Site occur from this location.	View looking south east towards the Application Site from Funtley Road (by properties just east of the disused railway bridge). Views of existing residential built form along Funtley Road dominate the foreground with mature trees and vegetation along the northern Application Site boundary apparent. Views of the internal ground plane within the Site are truncated due to intervening boundary vegetation.  In winter, the ground plane of the Site becomes apparent without leaf cover to the northern boundary vegetation.	Approximately 18m AOD	Approximately 230m	Medium
6	Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary	Residential; Transient receptors on foot and bike and vehicle.	Open views of existing mature tree and vegetation along the northern boundary of the Application Site occur from this location.	View looking south east towards the Application Site from the junction of Roebuck Avenue and Funtley Road. Views of existing residential built form around the entrance of Roebuck Avenue and mature trees and vegetation along the northern Site are apparent. Views of the internal ground plane within the Application Site are truncated due to intervening boundary vegetation.  There is little change in the visibility of the Site in winter.	Approximately 19m AOD	Approximately 22m	Medium

## 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

Table 3.1 – Summary of Visual Receptors

Representative Visual Receptor Viewpoint No.	Landscape Designation	Receptors	Extent of the land visible within the Application Site	Character and Amenity of the View	Elevation	Distance to Site	Value
6b	Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary	Residential; Transient receptors on foot and bike and vehicle.	Open views of central part of internal ground plane within the Application Site occur with mature vegetation evident in the distance.	View looking south east towards the Application Site from Roebuck Avenue. The residential built form with its associated private garden along Roebuck Avenue dominates this view with the topography within the Application Site rising towards the local ridgeline. Open views of the central part within the Application Site occur, funnelled along the road with mature vegetation evident in the distance. Views into other areas within the Application Site are truncated by intervening vegetation, topography and built form from this location.  There is slightly increased visibility of the Site in winter.	Approximately 20m AOD	Approximately 59m	Medium
7	Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary	Residential; Transient receptors on foot, bike and vehicle.	Open views of existing mature tree and vegetation and the entrance access road along northern boundary of the Application Site occur.  A small section of the existing northern boundary vegetation within the Application Site occur, evident in the middle distance.	View looking south west towards the Application Site from the junction of Stag Way and Funtley Road. Views of mature trees and boundary vegetation along the northern Site boundary dominate this view and form a green corridor along Funtley Road. Views of the existing access road and entrance gate within the Application Site are apparent. Views of the ground plane within the Application Site are, however, truncated by the intervening vegetation.  There is slightly increased visibility into the Site in winter.	Approximately 20m AOD	Approximately 8m	Medium
8	Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary	Residential; Transient receptors on foot, bike and vehicle.	Open views of existing mature tree and vegetation along north-eastern boundary of the Application Site occur from this location.	View looking south west towards the Application Site from Funtley Road. Views of mature boundary vegetation and tree planting along the northern boundary of the Application Site dominate this view and form a green corridor along Funtley Road. Views of the internal ground plane of the Application Site are in turn truncated due to intervening boundary vegetation.  There are glimpses of the ground plane of the Site in winter without leaf cover.	Approximately 23m AOD	Approximately 60m	Medium

## 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

Table 3.1 – Summary of Visual Receptors

Representative Visual Receptor Viewpoint No.	Landscape Designation	Receptors	Extent of the land visible within Application Site	Character and Amenity of the View	Elevation	Distance to Site	Value
9	Welborne Policy Boundary	Transient receptors on foot.	Glimpsed views of small section of existing pasture grassland and the roof section of the existing built form within southern section of the Application Site occur set within the wider panorama.	<p>View looking south west towards the Application Site from Footpath 88. Open views of arable land dominate the foreground. The existing settlement of Funtley is evident in the distance with the topography rising sharply towards the ridgeline to the south west. Partial views of the mature vegetation along the southern boundary of the Application Site are evident. Glimpsed views of small sections of existing pasture grassland and the roof section of the existing built form within the southern section of the Application Site are also apparent in the far distance. Views of other parts within the Application Site are truncated due to intervening vegetation and landform</p> <p>There is slightly increased visibility of the south-eastern part of the Site in winter - existing vegetation (including Great Beamond Coppice), small part of the ground plane, southern barns and telecommunications mast. Existing built form at Funtley is also more apparent.</p>	Approximately 23m AOD	Approximately 940m	Medium
10	Welborne Policy Boundary	Transient receptors on foot.	Glimpsed views of the top section of existing mobile mast adjacent to southern boundary of the Application Site occur with existing mature boundary vegetation evident, set within the wider panorama.	<p>View looking west towards the Application Site from Footpath 89. Open views of grassland dominates this view with mature trees and vegetation that define localised field boundaries in the middle distance. Glimpsed views of the top section of an existing mobile communication mast helps to identify the location of the Application Site in the wider landscape. Due to intervening vegetation and landform, views of the Application Site are truncated from this location.</p> <p>In winter, there is very slightly increased visibility of the south-eastern part of the Site in winter, the existing vegetation, southern barns and telecommunications mast. Existing built form at Funtley is also more apparent.</p>	Approximately 840m AOD	Approximately 15m	High

## 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

Table 3.1 – Summary of Visual Receptors

Representative Visual Receptor Viewpoint No.	Landscape Designation	Receptors	Extent of the land visible within Application Site	Character and Amenity of the View	Elevation	Distance to Site	Value
11	Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary; Strategic Gap	Transient receptors on foot, bike and vehicle.	Views of the internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site are truncated from this location.	View looking east towards the Application Site from Footpath 83a near a group of Listed Buildings (Ironmaster's House and Funtley House) and the Scheduled Monument (Site of Funtley Iron Works). Views of pasture land with existing mature boundary vegetation dominate the foreground of this view. Views of the Application Site are truncated due to intervening vegetation and land form. .  There are no views towards the Site in winter.	Approximately 15m AOD	Approximately 540m	High
12 and 12A	Existing Open Space	Transient receptors on foot.	Views of the internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site are truncated from this location.	View looking east towards the Application Site from the southern section of Bridleway 515. Views of existing mature trees and vegetation dominate this view and form a green corridor along the footpath. Due to intervening vegetation, views of the Application Site are truncated from this location, including in winter.  From 12A (winter view) located near to the bridge crossing over Funtley Road, there are glimpses into the north-western part of the Site and of part of Great Beamond Coppice. Funtley Road and existing dwellings within the village are also glimpsed beyond vegetation along the disused railway line / Bridleway 515.	Approximately 30m AOD	Approximately 240m	High



## 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

Table 3.1 – Summary of Visual Receptors

Representative Visual Receptor Viewpoint No.	Landscape Designation	Receptors	Extent of the land visible within Application Site	Character and Amenity of the View	Elevation	Distance to Site	Value
13	Outside of Fareham Borough Council's local policy boundary	Transient receptors on foot.	Views of the internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site are truncated from this location.	<p>View looking south east towards the Application Site from footpath 16. Views of pasture land dominate the foreground with topography gently falling to meet the River Meon in the distance. Views of the existing tree belt along Mayles Lane and River Lane are apparent in the distance and obscure any views of the Application Site from this location..</p> <p>There are no views towards the Site in winter. From a short section of Titchfield Lane just south-east of this viewpoint, there is a brief glimpse of the upper part of the telecommunications mast on the southern part of the Site, however, the Site and vegetation within it remains fully truncated from view due to the disused railway line and mature vegetation along it.</p>	Approximately 15m AOD	Approximately 745m	High
14 and 14A	Existing Open Space; Public bridleway 515	Transient receptors on foot.	Views of the internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site are truncated from this location.	<p>View looking south towards the Application Site from the northern section of Bridleway 515. Views of existing mature trees and vegetation dominate this view and form a green corridor along the footpath. Due to intervening vegetation, views of the Application Site are truncated, including in winter.</p> <p>From 14A (winter view) located near to the bridge crossing over Funtley Road, there are glimpses into the westerns part of the Site. Existing dwellings within the village are also glimpsed beyond vegetation along the disused railway line / Bridleway 515.</p>	Approximately 25m AOD	Approximately 488m	High
15	Outside of Fareham Borough Council's local boundary, but is adjacent southern boundary of South Downs National (along Wickham Road )	Transient receptors on foot and bike and vehicle.	Views of the internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site are truncated from this location.	View looking south west towards the Application Site from Footpath 11 adjacent to Wickham Road (southern boundary of South Downs National Park). Views of existing mature vegetation along either side of the footpath dominates this view and obscures any views towards the Application Site from this location.	Approximately 45m AOD	Approximately 3.74km m	Medium - High

## 3. Visual Baseline Conditions and Sensitivities

Table 3.1 – Summary of Visual Receptors

Representative Visual Receptor Viewpoint No.	Landscape Designation	Receptors	Extent of the land visible within Application Site	Character and Amenity of the View	Elevation	Distance to Site	Value
16	Area Outside of Defined Urban Settlement Boundary; Public footpath 10	Transient receptors on foot and bike and vehicle.	Views of the internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site are truncated from this location.	View looking south west towards the Application Site from the junction of Footpath 10 (Castle Farm Lane) and Forest Lane. Mature trees and vegetation along the lane dominate this view and create a green corridor along the lane. Views of the Application Site are wholly truncated by the intervening vegetation and topography.	Approximately 55m AOD	Approximately 3km	Medium - High
17	Welborne Policy Boundary	Transient receptors on foot and bike.	Views of the internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site are truncated from this location.	View looking south west towards the Application Site from the cycle and footpath along the eastern section of Knowle Road. The cycle / footpath is apparent centrally within this view with mature hedgerows and vegetation evident on either side of the path. Due to intervening vegetation, views of the Application Site are wholly truncated from this location.	Approximately 45m AOD	Approximately 1.62km	Medium
18	Welborne Policy Boundary	Transient receptors on foot.	Views of the internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site truncated from this location.	View looking south west towards the Application Site from Footpath 23b located along the southern part of Aylesbury Copse. Views of arable fields dominate this view with topography gently sloping towards the west. The existing tree belt to the south of Knowle Road is apparent in the distance from this location. Any views of the Application Site are truncated due to intervening topography and vegetation.	Approximately 42m AOD	Approximately 1.74km	Medium - High
19	Public bridleway 26b; in close proximity of Barn 20m south of Lee Ground (Grade II Listed Building) and Skylark Golf & Country Club	Transient receptors on foot and horseback.	Views of the internal ground plane and the existing vegetation within the Application Site are truncated from this location.	View looking south east towards the Application Site from Bridleway 26b located in close proximity to a barn 20 metres south of Lee Ground (Grade II Listed Building) and Skylark Golf and Country Club. Mature trees and vegetation define the localised field boundaries and create a green corridor along the bridleway. Views of the Application Site are wholly truncated by the intervening vegetation and land form.	Approximately 35m AOD	Approximately 1.72km	Medium - High

## 4. Landscape Constraints and Opportunities

### 4.1 Introduction

The following landscape elements form a series of constraints and opportunities that will inform future development proposals:

### 4.2 Constraints

- The Ancient Woodland is to be retained and protected by a 15m buffer, with no development within this zone.
- Existing tree groups designed as SINC and TPO within the Site are to be retained and protected.
- Retention of the majority of the existing hedgerows along the ownership boundaries, with limited removal required to facilitate safe access into and out of the Site.
- The rooting zones and canopies of existing trees and hedges to be retained would be protected during construction works in accordance with the recommendations of the project arboriculturist and ecologist.
- While land within north-eastern part of the Site is designated as open space within the Core Strategy (adopted August 2011) in fact this is privately owned pasture land used for horse keeping and is not currently accessible to the public. The area is also proposed for deletion in the emerging local plan. The proposed development explores options to relocate this elsewhere within the Site, so that development within this less sensitive location near to the road and existing settlement may be developed.
- The existing topography within the northern section of the ownership is gently sloping towards Funtley Road. However, the undulating topography then rises sharply from the central part of the Site to meet the southern western boundary, and then falls again towards the south-eastern boundary. This restricts development to the area of land in the vicinity of Funtley Road.
- Timber pylons carrying overhead wires within the north-western part of the Site may be undergrounded where practicable.

- Due to the existing land form and close proximity to the neighbouring residential built form, there are a number of open views of the boundary vegetation, or views of the internal ground plane within the Site evident from neighbouring houses and the transient receptors in vehicles / on foot using Funtley Road and Honey Lane.

### 4.3 Opportunities

- Existing access into the Site (opposite Stag Way) to be retained and enhanced for vehicular and pedestrian access into the future development parcels.
- Bus route along Funtley Road passing by the Site.
- Large mature trees surrounding and within the Site present an opportunity to create a mature, well-established green structure.
- The potential to create green buffers with the opportunity for additional tree planting around future development parcels to provide an improved green settlement edge.
- To create a positive interface with the landscape where development parcels front the green infrastructure.
- Potential to create areas of public open space with pedestrian links within the development and to the wider landscape beyond. This may include opening up access to the bridge crossing over the M27.
- Potential to create a well-designed, discrete and accessible urban extension to Funtley and Fareham, rounding off the settlement, which is well contained by the existing boundary vegetation and topography of the Site.
- Land within the Site historically subject to excavation has been since reinstated back to agricultural use (as discussed in section 2.10). Therefore this land does not pose a constraint to development in terms of further excavation.

4. Landscape Constraints and Opportunities

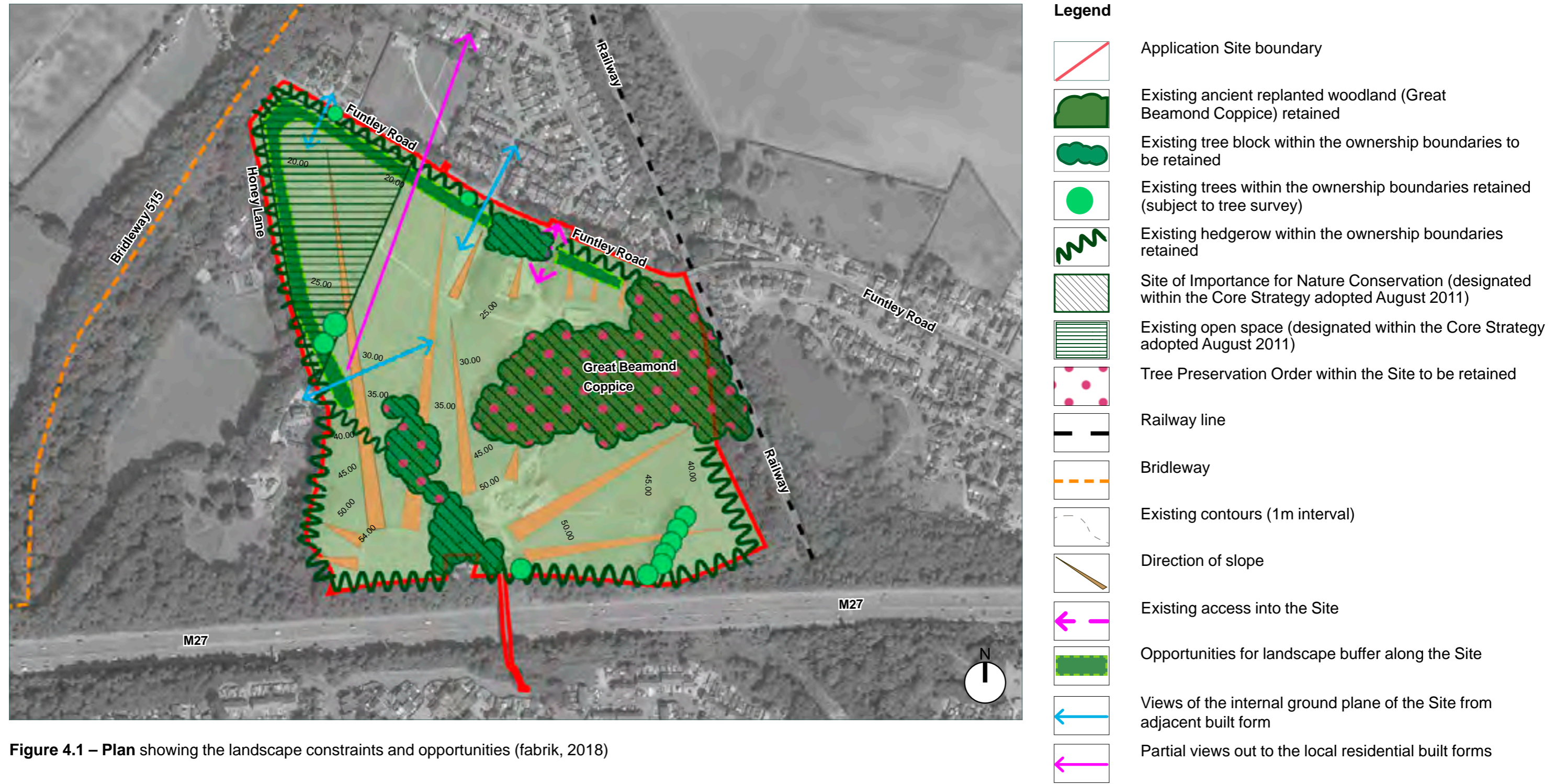


Figure 4.1 – Plan showing the landscape constraints and opportunities (fabrik, 2018)

## 5. Illustrative Proposed Development Parameters

### 5.1 Landscape Development Parameters

The landscape development parameters illustrated on **Figure 5.1** have been prepared by considering the landscape features of the Site and other areas within the Site along with landscape policy, landscape character and the visual constraints associated with the local landscape.

The parameters therefore seek to:

- Locate the development parcels on the lower slopes of the Site to the north to minimise cut and fill as well as in-keeping within the local residential character of Funtley and the northern fringe of Fareham.
- Minimise the visual impact of the future development by providing landscape buffer planting along the development boundaries.
- Maintain and enhance the existing landscape features of the Site by retaining, where possible, existing trees and supplementing with additional trees, woodland and hedgerow planting.
- Make use of the existing access to the Site for access to the proposed development, and provide replacement and enhancement planting within this area. A secondary emergency access from Funtley Road may also be required to the north-west of this.
- Where appropriate, contribute to an improved ecological value of the Site through the incorporation of native species within the landscape planting and grassland proposals.
- Make use of any sustainable drainage features to integrate a more diverse range of plant species, suited to temporary flooding.
- Provide public open space within the development and to the south. Incorporate pedestrian links to serve the new residents and the wider community within Funtley and Fareham. This would provide an alternative option to the existing designated open space within the north-western part of the Site (Core Strategy 2011). Pedestrian links may extend to the south through the opening up of the M27 footbridge.

5. Illustrative Proposed Development Parameters



Figure 5.1 – Plan showing the illustrative landscape development parameters (fabrik, 2018)

## 6. Appraisal of Landscape and Visual Effects

### 6.1 Effects on Heritage Assets

The Site does not contain nor is adjacent to any heritage assets (such as Listed Building, Scheduled Ancient Monument and Conservation Areas). Therefore, there will be no change to the character of the landscape around these assets, and no views towards the proposed development are predicted from them (**neutral** effect).

### 6.2 Effects on Topography

#### Study area topography:

There will be no physical change to the existing topography across the wider study area since the changes will occur at Site and immediate Site level only.

The value is low - medium; susceptibility is low; and sensitivity is low. The magnitude of change would be neutral. Therefore the effect on the topography at the study area level is **neutral**.

#### Site topography:

The proposed development parcels have been carefully located on the lower slopes within northern part of the Site. Some limited regrading where the Site meets the public highway may be required to facilitate ease of access for all. There may be some localised modifications to the existing landform within the proposed development parcels, to facilitate access and to form effective development platforms. In addition, localised excavations would be made to create sustainable drainage features. It is expected that suitable excavated material would be retained on Site and reused in the open spaces where grassed areas and planting are proposed. Care would be taken to avoid impacts on the rooting zones of existing vegetation. Any inert spoil excavated may be suitable for reuse within areas of proposed hardstanding, subject to confirmation by the project engineer.

The value is medium; susceptibility is low - medium; and sensitivity is low - medium. The magnitude of change would be low - medium. Therefore, the effects on this receptor is likely to result in **minor - moderate** adverse effects at the construction phase. Since no

further earthworks would occur beyond the construction stage, the operational phase effects on the Site topography would be **neutral**.

### 6.3 Effects on Land Use

#### Study area land use:

##### *Farmland*

At wider landscape level, there will be no direct change to the wider arable and pasture lands across the study area as the proposed changed to the existing land use will occur at Site level only. Furthermore, existing areas of farmland are largely separated from the Site by existing settlement, the existing and disused railway lines and mature vegetation.

During construction, there may be some views of construction plant / structures from elevated areas of private farmland north of Funtley, up to Knowle village (indirect effect). During operation, there may be some partial views of the upper elements of the built form (namely rooflines) from this private farmland, seen in context with existing built form within the valley through which Funtley Road passes. Any views of open and planted land south of the proposed development would remain. This is also an indirect effect and no direct changes to these farmed areas would occur.

##### *Settlement and transport corridors*

The Site forms a context and setting to a small part of the existing Funtley village and a short section of Funtley Road. This would change through the introduction of built development within the northern part of the Site. This would result in a limited change to the settlement pattern and character of the road corridor by extending built form to the south of Funtley Road. A broad context of open, unbuilt land would remain to the south of the proposed built area. In addition, longer views towards the elevated land within the southern parts of the Site from existing built areas and of the canopy of mature trees and woodland in these parts of the Site, are likely to be maintained. The road corridor would become more enclosed by built form, albeit this is proposed to be set well back from the existing Site boundary hedge, incorporating open space, sustainable drainage

features and additional planting.

The settlement pattern of Fareham would remain unchanged, and there would be no change to the pattern of roads around the Site or wider study area.

##### *Open spaces*

There would also be no physical change to existing open spaces across the study area, including that at Lakeside to the east of the Site.

##### *Appraisal of study area land use effects*

The value of the land use at study area level is low - medium; susceptibility is low; and sensitivity is low - medium. The magnitude of change would be low - medium, with the greatest level of change experienced by those land uses within very close proximity to the Site (Funtley Road and a part of Funtley village). A number of areas would experience no change (Fareham and rural landscapes east and west of the Site). Limited indirect visual change may be experienced from farmland further north of Funtley up to Knowle village. Therefore, the effect on land use at the study area level would be at worst, **minor** negative, with the effects being very localised to the Site.

The many areas of mitigation planting associated with the proposed development would reduce the effects to at worst **minor** negative to **neutral** in the long term (year 15). Other positive benefits are predicted through the creation of new public open spaces that would be accessible to both existing and new residents.

There would therefore be a **neutral** effect to the settlement pattern of Fareham, existing open spaces and the existing transportation network.

## 6. Appraisal of Landscape and Visual Effects

### 6.3 Effects on Land Use (continued)

#### Site land use:

The areas within the Site would be permanently changed from privately owned pasture land to a residential development. The new uses would include associated green infrastructure incorporating, retained vegetation and woodland; new trees and boundary buffer planting; planting throughout the built areas; sustainable drainage features and a series green, open spaces within the built area and to the south of it.

The Site lies entirely within the landscape designation of Area Outside Of Defined Urban Settlement within the Core Strategy (adopted August 2011) and a part of the Site to the north-west is designated as existing open space within the Core Strategy. The latter is not currently accessible to the public and the land is within private ownership for equestrian uses.

The changes to incorporate a built development and new publicly accessible open spaces within these areas is consistent with Local Plan Part 2 Policy DSP40 Housing Allocations, and with emerging the emerging Local Plan 2036, which allocates the Site for residential development. In addition, the supporting Landscape Assessment update (part of the evidence base to the Plan) indicates that small scale and sensitively integrated development may be appropriate in this location, given the existing residential areas of Funtley Road.

At enabling construction stage, the existing uses of the Site would change, particularly in the areas proposed for built development and new access. However, change would be limited within the proposed open spaces of the community park to the south, except for the creation of new paths, and implementation of green infrastructure such as sustainable drainage, new grasslands and planting.

The construction site would gradually change to a built development, with associated landscape planting. The built element, while wholly changing land use, would only occur in a part of the Site to the north. The proposed community park would retain a largely open character to land to the south, and would incorporate new paths for walkers. This park, together with further linear greenspaces and an open

space incorporating play features, would be provide facilities for use by new and existing residents.

The value of the land use at Site level is medium; the susceptibility is medium - high; and sensitivity is medium - high. The magnitude of change would be medium - high at the enabling, construction and early years operational stages. Therefore, as with any greenfield site, the level of effects would be **moderate - major** negative, arising principally from the introduction of built form to the paddocks. In addition, the provision of publicly accessible open spaces would result in a **minor - moderate** positive effect from completion of development (Year 1).

By Year 15, mitigation planting would further temper the effects on the Site land use, so that at worst, **minor** negative effects are predicted. The positive effects of the open spaces would remain, while the many new areas of planting within the Site, and management of existing vegetation are also expected to give rise to positive effects (see para. 6.4).

### 6.4 Effects on Existing Vegetation

#### Study area vegetation:

There are expected to be no physical changes to the existing vegetation across the wider study area since the changes are proposed at Site level only. Existing vegetation along the north side of Funtley Road is not expected to be affected by the provision of new access into the Site.

The value is low - medium; susceptibility is low; and sensitivity is low. The magnitude of change would be neutral. Therefore the effect on the vegetation at the study area level is **neutral**.

#### Site vegetation:

The Great Beamond Coppice, the existing tree groups near the existing access entrance and the tree blocks within the south-western part of the Site are designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in the Core Strategy. The mature vegetation and trees within these areas are to be retained and protected during

the construction works, with careful consideration given to the recommendations of the project ecologist and arboriculturist.

The proposed development would protect and retain the Ancient Replanted Woodland of Great Beamond Coppice and majority of mature trees and boundary vegetation within the Site. A 15m buffer would be retained to the Coppice.

There is expected to be some loss of existing trees and boundary vegetation within the Site to accommodate the proposed development parcels and access roads. A part of this includes dense, ornamental conifers of limited value to landscape character. Further arboricultural works may be undertaken to other vegetation within the wider Site area, if deemed necessary by the relevant professional for health and safety reasons, to remove any dead, dying, diseased or dangerous parts of the retained vegetation.

The value of the vegetation at Site level is medium; susceptibility is medium; and sensitivity is medium. The magnitude of change arising from the limited necessary vegetation loss at enabling / construction stage is predicted to be medium, giving rise to at worst, **moderate** negative effects. However these effects would be localised to the northern part of the Site where built form is proposed.

Effects on the majority of the vegetation within the Site are expected to be **neutral** or potentially positive, where management of vegetation would ensure its retention and longevity.

There is ample opportunity within and around the proposed built area and proposed community park, for replacement and additional tree, hedge, shrub and other planting, including landscape buffer planting, making use of species appropriate to the space, position and function. This would mitigate for and improve, the visual and landscape effects of the vegetation removal required to facilitate effective development.

Further details are set out in the Design and Access Statement (DAS) accompanying the planning application.



## 6. Appraisal of Landscape and Visual Effects

### 6.4 Effects on Existing Vegetation (continued)

The planting would be implemented during the construction stage with the effects in place by Year 1 of the operational stage. The low magnitude of change would give rise to **minor** positive effects. The positive effects of this planting on the landscape assets of the Site, and views within and towards the built area, would further increase over time, as this matures. The effect on the Site vegetation by Year 15 would therefore be **moderate** positive.

### 6.5 Effects on Public Rights of Way

#### Study area public rights of way:

There would be no physical change to the existing public rights of way network during construction or operation. Visual effects are considered separately.

The value is medium - high; susceptibility is low; and sensitivity is medium. The magnitude of change would be neutral. Therefore the effect on the topography at the study area level during construction and operation is **neutral**.

There are opportunities to provide pedestrian connections between the proposed development and existing Bridleway 515 (along the disused railway line) to the immediate west. It may also be possible to open up a connection to Fareham via the footbridge over the M27 to the immediate south of the Site. This in turn could facilitate access by existing residents in this location to the open space and rights of way network north of the motorway.

As such, at the operational stage, the magnitude of change is predicted to be low, with effects the effects being **minor - moderate** positive in Years 1 and 15.

### 6.6 Effects on Landscape Character

#### National and county landscape character:

There would be **negligible** effects to the landscape character at national character level (NCA128 South Hampshire Lowlands) and county character level (LCA 3E Meon Valley). This is because the limited scale of the proposed development, and relatively high level of physical and visual enclosure of the Site, would result in changes that occur principally at the Site, and immediate local level.

There would be no change to the Portsdown Hill chalk ridge or Meon River described at NCA level, and the proposed development would form a very small part of NCA128 that is described as being dominated by large towns and with fragmentation by major transport links including the M27.

At county level, the proposed development would not affect the recreational route along the disused railway line to the west, and would retain a significant area of unbuilt land to the south, separating it from the motorway and Fareham settlement. Vegetation within the Site would be retained and protected as far as is practicable and potential adverse effects on the SINC and Ancient Replanted woodland within the Site have been designed out of the development proposals.

The value of the national and district character varies from low - high; susceptibility is low; and sensitivity is low - medium. The magnitude of change would be negligible, and therefore the effects would be **negligible**.

#### Borough and Site landscape character:

At Fareham Borough level, the Site lies within LCA 6: Meon Valley. While the Site comprises of pasture land, it is nonetheless subject to the nearby influences of relatively recent built form at Funtley, the live railway to the east and M27 and Fareham urban fringe to the south. The proposed development would form a limited addition to this existing built context.

The proposed development is set out to closely follow the parameters for the Site allocation set out in the emerging Local Plan. Thus, there would be built form in the northerly, lower lying and more level parts of the Site, forming a limited extension to the existing Funtley village. Like the existing residential development north of Funtley Road, development would be set back to allow a leafy green and spacious character to be retained along the road. Development is not proposed on the steep slopes or high ground of the Site.

In accordance with the LCA, the proposal protects the important landscape features of the Site - the steeply sloping landforms, unbuilt skyline, mature vegetation and openness to the south; while proposing to integrate many new areas of planting, including in association with new sustainable drainage features.

Development would, like the existing village, be kept to the relatively low lying part of the valley within which it lies, limiting the potential for widespread visual effects.

The proposed built form would respond to the positive aspects of existing built form both north of Funtley village and within the wider settled areas. A generous network of green infrastructure and open spaces are proposed. Further details are set out in the DAS accompanying the planning application.

The value of the borough character varies from low - medium; susceptibility is medium; and sensitivity is low - medium. The magnitude of change would be medium - high at the Site level only, reducing to negligible - low with distance across LCA6 from the Site. Therefore, the effects would be at worst, **moderate - major** negative for the parts of the Site proposed for built development at the construction and operational stage (Year 1). This is due to the change in character from semi-enclosed pasture fields to a residential development.

The changes beyond the proposed built area, would be at worst, **minor - moderate** negative (Year 1) for those areas immediately around the proposed built area - the existing village to the north and open land retained to the south - due to changes to the context and setting of these areas.

## 6. Appraisal of Landscape and Visual Effects

### 6.6 Effects on Landscape Character (continued)

However, further afield, the effects would be at worst, **minor** or **negligible**, due to the physical and visual separation of the Site from most of the area of Fareham borough LCA 6: Meon Valley.

As the planting associated with the green infrastructure areas matures through time, the landscape and visual effects would improve, so that at Site level, these are expected to be no greater than **minor** negative (on a clear day in winter) and at best, **minor - moderate** positive (Year 15) due to the additional physical enclosure, landscape integration and visual softening and screening provided by the proposed planting. In turn, the effects on the parts of the character area surrounding the Site would also be further tempered in the medium to long terms.

### 6.7 Effects on Visual Receptors

#### Residential Receptors

The residential receptors that will experience the most direct and proximate views of the construction site and emerging built development would be occupants of the few dwellings to the north side of Funtley Road, just east of the railway Bridge (Viewpoint 5).

Some additional residents along the north side of Funtley Road would also experience direct views, albeit with filtering of views through tall vegetation along both sides of Funtley Road - see Viewpoints 6, S13A, and winter views S3 and 7. This vegetation becomes more of a screen in summer views (with leaf cover). However, parts of this may require removal to facilitate access into the Site from Funtley Road and the built development, which in turn, may further increase visibility into the Site in the short term.

Further visual receptors along Roebuck Avenue and Stag Way may experience some partial and oblique views of the construction site and emerging built form where the roads themselves allow visibility toward parts of the Site - see Viewpoints 6b and 7 (winter view). The

Site boundary vegetation provides a greater level of visual screening to some views in summer. As above, some loss of vegetation may be required to facilitate access into the Site and the development itself, which may further increase visibility into the Site in the short term.

In all of these views, construction hoardings may partially obscure views.

There would also be oblique and more distant views of the construction site and emerging built development from the property (Bramleigh) at the south end of Honey Lane, due to its position on elevated ground and the relatively low level hedge at the boundary with the Site (Viewpoints S5, S6 and S13A, and summer Viewpoint 4). The views would be in context with existing views towards built form north of Funtley Road. While built form would be brought forward in the view, existing longer distance views towards the lower Downs, part of Knowle village and other built areas to the north of Funtley would be largely retained.

The completed development and newly implemented planting would create a new element in these views, replacing part of existing views of pasture fields. The areas of the Site remaining unbuilt would appear as a park with new areas of planting.

The value of the residential receptors is medium; susceptibility is medium - high; and sensitivity is medium - high. The magnitude of change at the construction and Year 1 operational stage would be medium - high, and therefore the effects would be at worst, **moderate - major** negative (Year 1), for the relatively limited number of residents with potential views towards the proposed development. The many areas of mitigation planting would contribute to some visual softening of the built areas in the early years. However in the mid to long terms this is predicted to create a significant amount of visual softening and screening, and therefore a bettering of the visual effects. Thus by Year 15, the effects are predicted to reduce to at worst, **minor** negative (the greater effects being on a clear day in winter).

Views from the dwelling at the south end of Honey Lane would retain long views out to the distant countryside to the north, albeit beyond additional areas of built form and planting within the valley. Views from dwellings to the north side of Funtley Road are likely to retain some partial views of the higher, southern parts of the Site, as a backdrop to the built form in the foreground.

#### Receptors using Roads

The views would be very similar to those described for the residential receptors above, and therefore includes parts of Funtley Road, Honey Lane, Roebuck Avenue and Stag Way (see Viewpoints 4-7, 8 and S13A). In all cases, the views would be transitory and Site hoardings may partly screen views.

Views from the western part of Funtley Road are likely to be more open due to the more limited nature of existing vegetation here, albeit the necessary vegetation removal to facilitate access and development to the east may also increase visibility into the Site in the short term.

Views from Honey Lane are rather more limited by existing vegetation at the boundary with the Site, even in winter. Visibility is mainly from two gaps in this vegetation at the north and south ends of the lane.

The value of the receptors using the roads is low; susceptibility is low; and sensitivity is low. The magnitude of change at the construction and Year 1 operational stage would be medium - high, and therefore the effects would be at worst, **minor - moderate** negative (Year 1). The setback of development from the roads edging the Site and landscape buffer planting would contribute to mitigating effects in the short to medium terms. By year 15, the landscape buffers would provide more robust visual softening and screening, reducing the effects to at worst, **minor** negative.

## 6. Appraisal of Landscape and Visual Effects

### 6.7 Effects on Visual Receptors (continued)

#### Receptors using Public Rights of Way and M27 footbridge

There is a slight possibility that users of Public Footpaths 88 and 89 to the east of Funtley (Viewpoints 9 and ) may be aware of tall construction plant within the Site, should this be required to facilitate development. There may also be some awareness of works to provide the proposed community park in the south-eastern part of the Site. Any potential views to the construction site would be distant and form part of a wide panorama that includes parts of Funtley, the telecommunications mast on the Site and pylons carrying overhead wires, as well as farmland and vegetation in the intervening areas. The construction effects are therefore predicted to be **negligible**.

Due to the landform of the Site and vegetation and built form in the intervening areas, no notable views of the proposed development or associated proposed community park are predicted from these two footpaths. The operational effects are therefore predicted to be **neutral**.

From Public Bridleway 515 to the immediate west of the Site, walkers and equestrians in the vicinity of the bridge crossing over Funtley Road are likely to gain glimpsed views of the construction site and emerging built form. Views would be filtered by existing vegetation along the disused railway embankment and less apparent from the section north of Funtley Road than from that to the south - see winter Viewpoints 12A and 14A. By the operational stage, these glimpses would be replaced by a completed development, seen in context with existing partial views through the vegetation of existing dwellings north of Funtley Road.

The value of the receptors using Bridleway 515 is medium; susceptibility is medium; and sensitivity is medium. The magnitude of change at the construction and Year 1 operational stage would be medium, and therefore the effects would be at worst, **moderate** negative (Year 1). The setback of development from the western and

northern edges of the Site and landscape buffer planting here and to the south would contribute to mitigating effects in the short to medium terms. By year 15, the landscape buffers would provide more robust visual softening and screening, reducing the effects to at worst, **minor** negative. In summer, views to the proposed development are likely to be less evident as existing vegetation would reduce visibility towards the Site.

From the bridge crossing over the M27, there is little opportunity for views into the Site and no notable views of the construction phase for the southern community park are proposed. The land proposed for the built development would not be visible either during or following construction. Therefore effects are judged to be **minor** for this receptor.

#### Discounted Visual Receptors

No views during construction or operation are predicted from the following middle distance and wider area locations as the views are truncated by landform, vegetation and / or built form: Viewpoints 1 and 2 - Funtley Lane and Lakeside; summer Viewpoints 12 and 14 from Bridleway 515, to the west; and more distant Viewpoints 11, 13 and 19 (from the west / north-west) and 15 - 18 (from the north-east). No views towards the Site were identified from the South Downs National Park.

## 7. Policy Compliance

### 7.1 Emerging Fareham Local Plan 2036 (Draft Consultation Version)

The proposed development is consistent with the Development Allocation for the Site (Policy HA10), set out in the emerging Fareham Local Plan 2036 (see Figure 2.4). It confines the proposed development to the northern parts of the Site; and creates new public open space in the form of parkland with paths to the south. It respects a 15m buffer to Great Beamond Coppice and protects the majority of the existing vegetation within and bounding the Site. The proposal creates new public open space with play elements in the north, incorporating existing vegetation designated as a SINC. The proposed open spaces more than compensate for the loss of the existing designated open space land within the Site (which is not currently accessible to the public).

Access is proposed to be taken from Funtley Road, making use of the existing access track into the Site. Green corridors, buffers and spaces are integral to the proposed built and green infrastructure areas. Sustainable drainage features are proposed, potentially contributing to the biodiversity and landscape value of the Site. View corridors would be retained between development blocks, allowing views towards the undeveloped southern slopes from Funtley Road to be retained. In accordance with emerging Policy CF6, the open space provision would more than compensate for the change of use of the existing open space designation with the Site (which is not currently accessible to the public).

A total of 55No dwellings are proposed in accordance with the Site allocation. The built form would respect the positive aspects of existing settlement character, and further details on this, and the proposed landscape mitigation are set out in the DAS. Community facilities and pedestrian and cycle links to surrounding areas to the north, south, west and east are also proposed (Policy D1).

The setbacks of the proposed development from the Site boundaries to the north and west, and proposals for landscape buffers with many new areas of planting here and to the south, would create a significant landscape framework that together with the retained

vegetation would contribute to effective landscape integration of the built areas.

In turn, this planting, as well as planting within the built areas would contribute to meaningful visual softening and partial screening of the development from surrounding built areas, while partial views of the higher, undeveloped slopes of the Site would be retained. This is consistent with the aims of the policy.

The confinement of the proposed built area to the existing, developed valley floor (through which Funtley Road runs) would limit the extent to which the proposals would impact on the character of the Site and wider surrounding landscape (Policies NE1 and D1). This is because this part of the Site already benefits from a high degree of landscape and visual containment, by surrounding landform (including railway embankments), built form and existing mature and dense vegetation. The higher slopes of the Site, which are intervisible with elevated farmland north of Funtley and up to Knowle village, would remain undeveloped and additional planting is proposed in these locations.

### 7.2 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)

In terms of section 7 of the NPPF and NPPG section ID 26 relating to design, the proposed development seeks to provide attractive, high quality and inclusive design; with a strong sense of place, that is integrated with and respectful to the character and pattern of the local area. The proposed provision of a community building, community park and public open space with play areas provide opportunities for social interaction and active lifestyles. The built areas would be developed on the basis of perimeter blocks with good natural surveillance to all public areas. Adaptability and efficiency of the built environment would be important considerations. The proposed development carefully considers the topography of the Site and potential impact on views in the layout and form of the built areas.

In accordance with sections 8 (healthy communities) and 10 (climate change) of the NPPF, the areas of green and blue infrastructure would support action to combat effects of climate change through

provision of shading, water attenuation, and carbon absorption. Consistent with section 10 of the NPPF. Regarding NPPF section 11 (natural environment) the proposals protect the undulating landform of the Site and the majority of the existing vegetation, and seek to improve the biodiversity of the Site by creating further diversity to the range of planting and grassland types within it.

In accordance with NPPG Paragraphs 009 and 015 the proposed development promotes green infrastructure including a number of open and green public spaces; it respects natural features, and promotes a high quality landscape with many areas of planting that contributes to the quality of the local area. By placing development in the lower parts of the Site, and in association with existing built form, the wider landscapes of the Site would be maintained as open, while there would be negligible impact on surrounding areas (NPPG section ID 8).

### 7.3 Fareham Local Development Framework, Core Strategy (Adopted August 2011)

In turn, these proposals for the Site are consistent with the Fareham Core Strategy (2011) Strategic Objectives SO10 (to manage, maintain and improve the built and natural environment to deliver quality places, taking into account the character and setting of existing settlements); SO11 (to protect sensitive habitats and maintain separate settlement identity); as well as Policy CS4 (protection of habitats important to biodiversity and provision of accessible green space for informal recreation); Policy CS14 (to protect countryside from adverse effects on landscape, character and function arising from development); Policy C17 (to create high quality development that adheres to good urban design and sustainability principles, that is respectful of landscape, scale, form and spaciousness, and that includes greenways and trees within the public realm); Policy CS21 (to seek to provide alternative, and better public open space provision to replace the designated area of open space within the Site); and, Policy CS22 (the proposal does not affect the Strategic Gap located west of the disused railway line).

## 7. Policy Compliance

### 7.4 Fareham Borough Local Plan Part 2: Development Sites and Policies (Adopted June 2015)

Referring to the Fareham Borough Local Plan Part 2 (2015), the proposed development:

- Seeks to mitigate and improve any potential impacts on neighbouring development and adjoining land, through respectful layout and provision of a robust landscape framework (In accordance with Policies DSP2 and DSP40);
- Does not adversely affect heritage assets (In accordance with Policies DSP5 and DSP40);
- Lies outside of the Defined Urban Settlement Boundary, but is located close to and would be in keeping with the character, scale and appearance of surrounding areas; is sited and designed to integrate with the existing settlement and prevent detracting from existing landscape; and is laid out to respect views into and out of the Site and to the elevated land to the south (In accordance with Policies DSP6 and DSP40);
- Protects designated nature conservation sites and provides additional planting within or around these; provides a wide range of new grassland, herbaceous, aquatic, shrub, hedge and tree planting, including native species and species supporting potential habitat creation, nectar and pollen provision; and retains the majority of the existing vegetation on the Site, providing a number of new landscape buffers and other areas of planting, as well as sustainable drainage ponds that would contribute to maintaining and reinforcing the biodiversity network (In accordance with Policies DSP13 and DSP40); and
- Does not adversely affect a Strategic Gap (In accordance with Policy DSP40).

In terms of the Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document for the Borough of Fareham (Excluding Welborne) Adopted April 2016, the proposed development provides a village green integrating play features to the north; and a community park to the south. In total, over 53% of the Site area (8.62ha out of 16.18ha) would remain undeveloped, for use as open spaces and for green and blue infrastructure.

### 7.5 Landscape Character

In accordance with Statement of Opportunity 1 (SEO1) set out in the profile for **National Character Area 128: South Hampshire Lowlands**, the proposed development promotes creative and effective sustainable development, including a well-connected network of high-quality greenspace, which would benefit local communities, protect local distinctiveness, encourage public understanding and enjoyment of the natural environment, and help to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

In addition, in accordance with SEO2, the proposed development would protect, manage and enhance the area's historic well-wooded character – including its ancient semi-natural woodlands and hedgerows – to link and strengthen habitats for wildlife, and improve recreational opportunities.

There is also opportunity, in accordance with SEO3 to diversify the grassland habitats with the Site, providing recreational opportunities and potential improved biodiversity.

In accordance with the opportunities for **Hampshire County Landscape Character Area 3E: Meon Valley**, the proposed development:

- Keeps development within the valley bottom and avoids building on the slopes and elevated parts of the Site;
- Retains the majority of the existing vegetated boundary structure to the Site;
- Provides many areas of green infrastructure with retained and new planting; and
- Creates potential pedestrian / cycle links to existing settlements and public rights of way.

In accordance with the priorities for enhancement for **Fareham Borough Landscape Character Area 6: Meon Valley**, the proposed development:

- Protects important landscape and ecological resources, woodland and the slopes and ridge of the Site, which form part of the valley within which it lies;
- Creates a development that is limited in extent and which relates well to the existing Funtley village, maintaining an informal, rural character to the southern parts of the Site (community park);
- Provides opportunity to remove unsightly features from the Site;
- Sets development away from the Site boundaries, providing space to reinforce existing boundary vegetation with additional landscape buffers, that protect the character of the nearby roads and settlement. Where vegetation removal is required to facilitate safe access and egress from the Site, this would be minimised as far as possible, with new planting provided within the Site, outside of visibility splays; and
- Reinforces the retained green infrastructure network with many new areas of planting, including as part of the sustainable drainage strategy.

## 8. Summary and Conclusions

### 8.1 Summary of the baseline conditions

The Site is located at south-western edge of Funtley village in Hampshire and is bound by Funtley Road to the north and Honey Lane to the west.

The Site lies wholly within the landscape designation of 'Areas outside of Defined Urban Settlement' as defined in the proposal map of the Fareham Borough Core Strategy (adopted August 2011), whilst the area within north-western part of the Site is also designated as 'Existing Open Space' albeit this is not currently accessible to the public. The Ancient Woodland of Great Beamond Coppice is also located within the north east of the Site.

The Great Beamond Coppice is designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation together with the existing tree groups located near the existing access entrance along the northern boundary and south-western boundary as shown on Figures 2.1 and 4.1. There are no other landscape designations within the Site. The Site is also subject to the influences of the nearby M27 motorway, settlement at Funtley village and the live railway to the east; with the addition of a telecommunications mast and timber poles carrying overhead lines within the Site. Therefore, the existing Site is considered to have a medium landscape value overall.

The Site is allocated for residential units in the emerging Fareham Local Plan 2036, subject to Policy HA10. In addition, the updated Borough Landscape Assessment (part of the Local Plan evidence base) indicates that small scale and sensitively integrated development could be accommodated in this location. The development allocation would remove the open space designation within the Site, albeit other existing policy provision seeks the provision of alternative or better uses. Several new, publicly accessible open spaces are therefore included as part of the scheme proposals.

Across the study area, there are a number of heritage assets comprising of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and local non-designated heritage asset Historic Parks and Gardens. There are no heritage assets located within or adjacent to the Site and none would be affected by the proposed development.

Views of the Site from the wider landscape (including the South Downs National Park) are truncated due to the undulating landform and intervening vegetation, whilst open and partial views of the internal ground plane and vegetation within and along the Site are apparent from the receptors located within close proximity of the Site - along parts of Funtley Road, Stag Way, Roebuck Avenue, Honey Lane; along part of Bridleway 515 to the west, near the bridge crossing over Funtley Road; and from parts of Public Footpaths 88 and 89 to the east of Funtley.

### 8.2 Summary of the landscape effects

The proposed development within the Site would not noticeably alter the landscape character at the national or county levels as discussed in this LVIA (**negligible** effects).

It is predicted that there would be, at worst, a **moderate - major** negative effect on land use landscape character at Site level - that is, the parts of the Site proposed for built development, due to the change in character from semi-enclosed pasture fields. Beyond this built area, the effects on the character of the wider Site and immediate context is predicted to be at worst, **minor - moderate** negative, but on the wider Borough character area, effects would be no greater than **negligible** or **minor**. Nevertheless, the proposed development is sited in close proximity to existing settlement and would not affect separate settlement identity or gaps.

Some modifications to landform would be required within the Site to provide safe access into, out of and within the proposed development, and to provide effective development platforms. The more steeply sloping and elevated parts of the Site would not be built on, with localised ground modelling only required to construct new pedestrian and cycle paths.

The effect on the Site landform is predicted to be at worst, **minor - moderate** negative at the construction stage only. Vegetation removal within the Site would be limited to that essential to facilitate effective development, to provide a safe area for new residents, or for other arboricultural or ecological reasons as identified by the relevant project specialists. The effects are predicted to be at worst, **moderate** negative at the construction stage, albeit these effects would be largely localised to the area proposed for built form.

The proposed development would, from the outset, be contained within an existing landscape framework of retained and protected mature hedges, trees, tree belts and woodland. There would also be retained open land (for community park uses) to the south. The proposed village green open space to the north would include play facilities and incorporate the retained SINC.

As the many areas of proposed landscape mitigation planting mature, the short term negative effects on land use and landscape character identified above would improve considerably with time, further reinforcing landscape integration, visual softening and partial screening.

Thus the effects on Site character and the immediate context would reduce by Year 15 to at worst **minor** negative (a clear day in winter) to at best **minor - moderate** positive, due to the ongoing positive management of the existing vegetation within the Site, and reinforcement of this with an additional robust network of varied landscape planting, diverse grasslands and planting associated with the proposed sustainable drainage features.

The many new areas of planting proposed would replace vegetation lost, while providing a considerable additional resource to the Site. Therefore, the effect on the Site vegetation is predicted to be **minor** positive in Year 1 and **moderate** positive by Year 15 when this is maturing.

## 8. Summary and Conclusions

### 8.2 Summary of the landscape effects (continued)

In terms of land use and the designated open space area of the Site, the provision of a total of 8.62ha of new publicly accessible open space with the proposed development is predicted to give rise to **minor - moderate** positive effects from Year 1 of operation. This would mean that over 53% of the total Site area of 16.18ha) would remain undeveloped and semi-rural in character.

Furthermore, the potential to provide pedestrian and cycle links to existing settlement north of Funtley Road, to Bridleway 515 to the west, and to Fareham to the south (by opening up the bridge link over the M27), the proposed development is predicted to give rise to **minor - moderate** positive effects on the public rights of way network from Year 1.

### 8.3 Summary of the visual effects

Regarding visual effects, the most noticeable visual change arising from the proposed development would be for the road users of Funtley Road and residents along the north side of the road, including a few residents of Stag Way and Roebuck Avenue. The views would be direct and in close range of the Site, albeit some views would be partly filtered by existing boundary vegetation.

Residents of Bramleigh at the south end of Honey Lane would have more distant and elevated views to the proposed development, seen in context with existing development at Funtley, and the farmland, and built areas including part of Knowle village to the north of Funtley. While development would be brought forward in these views, overall, the character and amenity of the panoramic views would be retained.

The construction and Year 1 operational effects are predicted to be at worst, **moderate - major** negative for residents along Funtley Road / Stage Way / Roebuck Avenue / Honey Lane; and **minor - moderate** negative for the transient receptors using Funtley Road. The mitigation planting associated with the built development would reduce these visual effects to at worst, **minor** negative for Funtley

Road residents and road users by Year 15. The scheme proposes to retain views beyond the built area to the elevated and more open higher ground within the community park to the south.

No notable visual effects are predicted from Public Footpaths 88 and 89 to the east of Funtley, due to the limited areas of the Site visible, and screening by landform, built form at Funtley and vegetation in the intervening areas.

From Bridleway 515 to the west, some partial views and glimpses of the proposed development would be seen beyond existing vegetation along the embankments of the disused railway line. These views would be in context with partial views and glimpses of existing built form to the north of the Site, and would be in context with retained semi-open parkland with additional planting south of the built area. The Year 1 effects are predicted to be at worst, **moderate** negative, and only from a short section of the Bridleway in the vicinity of the bridge crossing over Funtley Road. By Year 15, the softening and enclosing effect of mitigation planting is predicted to reduce the visual effects to at worst, **minor** negative. There would be no views of the development from most sections of the Bridleway due to physical and visual separation by dense vegetation in the intervening areas.

### 8.3 Conclusions

It is considered that the proposed development, which is subject to an allocation in the emerging Fareham Local Plan 2036, would represent a relatively limited and logical extension to an existing settlement. No widespread landscape or visual effects are predicted, and those effects predicted to occur at a Site and immediate site context level can be effectively mitigated and compensated for. The proposed development also offers opportunity for long term management of the Site and its mature vegetation (including Ancient Replanted Woodland); and provision of an additional robust structure of green infrastructure incorporating a diverse range of planting and grasslands, including within the areas of sustainable drainage. There would be the provision of a considerable area of new publicly accessible open space. The development is proposed to

be well connected to existing settlement and public rights of way. In conclusion, therefore, with careful consideration of the constraints and opportunities of the Site, an appropriate development can be provided without substantial harm to landscape or views, but which provides a number of community and landscape benefits.

Appendix 1 – fabrik LVA Methodology



### A1.1 Introduction

The methodology employed in carrying out an LVA or LVA with an impact statement of the Site, is drawn from the Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment's "Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment" (GLVIA) Third Edition (Routledge 2013).

The term landscape is defined as an area perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of nature and / or human factors. It results from the way that different components of our environment – both natural and cultural / historical interact together and are perceived by us. The term does not mean just special, valued or designated landscapes and it does not only apply to the countryside. The definition of landscape can be classified as:

- All types of rural landscape, from high mountains and wild countryside to urban fringe farmland (rural landscapes);
- Marine and coastal landscapes (seascapes); and
- The landscape of villages, towns and cities (townscapes).

An LVA with an impact statement provides a description of the baseline conditions and sets out how the study area and site appears, or would appear, prior to the proposed development. The baseline assessment is then used to predict the landscape and visual impacts arising from the proposed development. The assessment of impact is carried out as part of the iterative design process in order to build in mitigation measures to reduce the impacts as much as possible. The impact assessment will identify and assess effects during the construction and operational stages of the proposed development.

### A1.2 Summary Overview of LVA Methodology

The LVA baseline assessment describes:

- Each of the landscape elements which then collectively inform landscape character for the contextual area to the site and the site itself;
- The character, amenity and degree of openness of the view from a range of visual receptors (either transient, serial or static views);
- The current baseline scenarios;
- The value of each of the landscape and visual receptors.

Landscape effects derive from changes in either direct or in-direct changes to the physical landscape, which may give rise to changes to the individual landscape components which in turn effects the landscape character and potentially changes how the landscape is experienced and valued.

Visual effects relate to the changes that arise in the composition, character and amenity of the view as a result of changes to the landscape elements.

The assessment of effects therefore systematically:

- Combines the value of the receptor with the susceptibility to the proposed change to determine the sensitivity of the receptor;
- Combines the size, scale, geographic extent, duration of the proposals and its reversibility in order to understand the magnitude of the proposal.
- Combines the sensitivity of the each of the receptors and the magnitude of effect to determine the significance of the effect.
- Presents the landscape and visual effects in a factual logical, well-reasoned and objective fashion.
- Indicates the measures proposed over and above those designed into the scheme to prevent/avoid, reduce, offset, remedy, compensate for the effects (mitigation measures) or which provide an overall landscape and visual enhancement;

- Sets out any assumptions considered throughout the assessment of effects.

Effects may be positive (beneficial) or negative (adverse) direct or indirect, residual, permanent or temporary short, medium or long term. They can also arise at different scales (national, regional, local or site level) and have different levels of significance (major, moderate, low, negligible or neutral / no change). The combination of the above factors influences the professional judgement and opinion on the significance of the landscape and visual effect.

The following sections sets out in more detail the assessment process employed.

**A1.3 Establishing the Landscape Baseline**

**Desk and Field Studies:** The initial step is to identify the existing landscape and visual resource in the vicinity of the proposed development – the baseline landscape and visual conditions. The purpose of baseline study is to record and analyse the existing landscape, in terms of its constituent elements, features, characteristics, geographic extent, historical and cultural associations, condition, the way the landscape is experienced and the value / importance of that particular landscape. The baseline assessment will also identify any potential changes likely to occur in the local landscape or townscape which will change the characteristics of either the site or its setting.

An desk study is carried out to establish the physical components of the local landscape and to broadly identify the boundaries of the study area. Ordnance survey (OS) maps and digital data is used to identify local features relating to topography/ drainage pattern, land cover, vegetation, built developments/settlement pattern, transport corridors/definitive public rights of way and any historic or prominent landscape features, which together combine to create a series of key characteristics and character areas. Vertical aerial photography will be used, to supplement the OS information. At this stage, any special designated landscapes (such as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Parks, Green Belt, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Areas of Special Character); heritage or ecological assets are identified. A review of information available in terms of any published historic landscape characterisation together with any other landscape / capacity / urban fringe and visual related studies is carried out at this stage.

Landscape character assessment, is the tool for classifying the landscape into distinct character areas or types, which share common features and characteristics. There is a well established methodology developed in the UK by the Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage in 2002, with further guidance published by Natural England in 2014. The national and regional level character assessments are often available in published documents, however the local / district or site levels may need to be set out

based on a combination of desk studies and field survey work. The character assessment will also identify environmental and landscape opportunities, recent changes, future trends and forces for change where they may be important in relation to the proposal, especially considering how the landscape appears, or would appear prior to the commencement of development. The condition of the landscape, i.e. the physical state of an individual area of landscape, is described as factually as possible. The assessment of landscape importance includes reference to policy or designations as an indicator of recognised value, including specific features or characteristics that justify the designation of the area. The value of that landscape by different stakeholders or user groups may also influence the baseline assessment.

If published local / site level landscape character assessments are not available, the landscape is to be classified into distinctive character areas and / or types, based on variations in landform, land cover, vegetation / settlement pattern, field pattern, enclosure, condition, value and etc. The classification will take into account any National, County/District and Parish level landscape character assessments.

These desk based studies are then used as a basis for verification in the field.

Judgements on the value of both the landscape and visual receptor are made at the baseline stage.

**Landscape Value**

Value is concerned with the relative value or importance that is attached to different landscapes. The baseline assessment considers any environmental, historical and cultural aspects, physical and visual components together with any statutory and non-statutory designations and takes into account other values to society, which may be expressed by the local community or consultees. These tables are considered a starting point for consideration in the field. The landscape designations are to be considered in terms of their ‘meaning’ to today’s context. The following table sets out the criteria

and definitions used in the baseline assessment to determine landscape value at the local or site level (in addition to condition / quality as set out on the previous page). Wherever possible information and opinions on landscape value is to be sought through discussions with consultees, stakeholders and user groups.

Table A1.1 sets out the criteria used to determine landscape condition / quality and value at the local or site level in the field.

**Table A1.1 – Landscape Value Criteria**

Criteria
<p><b>High (Very Good / Good Condition) International - National - Regional Scale</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exceptional landscape with outstanding perceptual qualities. Very attractive, intact, natural, scenic, rare, wild and tranquil. The landscape may include World Heritage Sites, National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast or key elements/features within them; together with any non-statutory designations. Alternatively, the landscape may be un-designated but is valued as set out in published landscape character assessments and which, for example, identify and artistic and literary connections which assist in informing the identify of a local area (such as ‘Constable Country’);</li> <li>• Recognisable landscape or townscape structure, characteristic patterns and combinations of landform and landcover are evident, resulting in a strong sense of place;</li> <li>• No or limited potential for substitution and which is susceptible to small changes;</li> <li>• A landscape that contains particular characteristics or elements important to the character of the area;</li> <li>• A valued landscape for recreational activity where the experience of the landscape is important;</li> <li>• Good condition with -appropriate management for land use and land cover, or with some scope to improve certain elements;</li> <li>• Distinct features worthy of conservation;</li> <li>• Unique sense of place;</li> <li>• No or limited detracting features.</li> </ul>

Criteria
<p><b>Medium (Good - Ordinary Condition) Regional - Local Scale</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ordinary landscape and perceptual qualities. The landscape may include local designations such as Special Landscape Areas, Areas of Great Landscape Value, Strategic or Local Gaps; or un-designated but value expressed through literature, historical and / or cultural associations; or through demonstrable use by the local community; together with any non-statutory designations. Alternatively, the landscape may be valued through the landscape character assessment approach.</li> <li>• Distinguishable landscape or townscape structure, with some characteristic patterns of landform and landcover;</li> <li>• Potential for substitution and tolerant of some change;</li> <li>• Typical, commonplace farmed landscape or a townscape with limited variety or distinctiveness;</li> <li>• A landscape which provides recreational activity where there are focused areas to experience the landscape qualities;</li> <li>• Scope to improve management;</li> <li>• Some dominant features worthy of conservation;</li> <li>• Some detracting features.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Low (Ordinary - Poor Condition) Local /Site Scale</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor landscape and perceptual qualities. Generally un-designated. Certain individual landscape elements or features may be worthy of conservation and landscape either identified or would benefit from restoration or enhancement (such as local parks and open spaces). Alternatively, the landscape may be valued through the landscape character assessment approach.</li> <li>• Monotonous, weak, uniform or degraded landscape or townscape which has lost most of it's natural or built heritage features and where the landcover are often masked by land use;</li> <li>• Tolerant of substantial change;</li> <li>• A landscape which provides some recreational activities with limited focus on the landscape attributes;</li> <li>• Lack of management and intervention has resulted in degradation;</li> <li>• Frequent dominant detracting features;</li> <li>• Disturbed or derelict land requires treatment.</li> </ul>

#### A1.4 Establishing in the Visual Baseline

**Desk and Field Studies:** The visual baseline will establish the area in which the site and the proposed development may be visible, the different groups of people who may experience the views, the places where they will be affected and the nature, character and amenity of those views.

The area of study for the Visual Assessment is determined through identifying the area from which the existing site and proposal may be visible (the Zone of Theoretical Visibility or ZTV). The baseline ZTV of the site is determined through either manual topographical analysis (a combination of desk and field based analysis which are considered appropriate for Landscape and Visual Appraisals and projects below the EIA threshold) or digital mapping based on bare earth modelling, (which do not take account of features such as vegetation or built form) constructing a map showing the area where the proposal may theoretically be visible. The extent of the mapping will depend on the type of proposal. The actual extent of visibility is checked in the field (both in the summer and winter months if the project timescales allow) to record the screening effect of buildings, walls, fences, trees, hedgerows and banks not identified in the initial bare ground mapping stage and to provide an accurate baseline assessment of visibility. Viewpoints within the ZTV should also be identified during the desk assessment, and the viewpoints used for photographs selected to demonstrate the relative visibility of the site (and any existing development on it and its relationship with the surrounding landscape and built forms). The selection of a range of key viewpoints will be based on the following criteria for determination in the field:

- The requirement to provide an even spread of representative, specific, illustrative or static / kinetic / sequential / transient viewpoints within the ZTV and around all sides of the Site.
- From locations which represent a range of near, middle and long distance views (although the most distant views may be discounted in the impact assessment if it is judged that visibility from this distance will be extremely limited).
- Views from sensitive receptors within designated, historic or cultural landscapes or heritage assets (such as from within World Heritage Sites; adjacent to Listed Buildings - and co-ordinated

with the heritage consultant - Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Registered Parks and Gardens) key tourist locations and public vantage points (such as viewpoints identified on OS maps).

- The inclusion of strategic / important / designed views and vistas identified in published documents.

Views from the following are to be included in the visual assessment:

1. Individual private dwellings. These are to be collated as representative viewpoints as it may not be practical to visit all properties that might be affected.
2. Key public buildings, where relevant (e.g. libraries; hospitals, churches, community halls etc)
3. Transient views from public viewpoints, i.e. from roads, railway lines and public rights of way (including tourist or scenic routes and associated viewpoints);
4. Areas of open space, recreation grounds and visitor attractions; and
5. Places of employment, are to be included in the assessment where relevant.

**A1.4 Establishing in the Visual Baseline (continued)**

The final selection of the key viewpoints for inclusion in the LVA will be based proportionately in relation to the scale and nature of the development proposals and likely significant effects and in agreement with the LPA.

The visual assessment should record:

- The character and amenity of the view, including topographic, geological and drainage features, woodland, tree and hedgerow cover, land use, field boundaries, artefacts, access and rights of way, direction of view and potential seasonal screening effects will be noted, and any skyline elements or features.
- The type of view, whether panoramas, vistas or glimpses.

The baseline photographs are to be taken in accordance with the Landscape Institutes technical guidance on Photography and Photomontage in LVIA (Landscape Institute 2011). The extent of visibility of the range of receptors is based on a grading of degrees of visibility, from a visual inspection of the site and surrounding area. There will be a continuity of degree of visibility ranging from no view of the site to full open views. Views are recorded, even if views are truncated of the existing site, as the proposed development may be visible in these views. To indicate the degree of visibility of the site from any location three categories are used:

**a) Open View:**

An open, unobstructed and clear view of a significant proportion of the ground plane of the site; or its boundary elements; or a clear view of part of the site and its component elements in close proximity.

**b) Partial View:**

A view of part of the site, a filtered or glimpsed view of the site, or a distant view where the site is perceived as a small part of the wider view;

**c) Truncated View:**

No view of the site or the site is difficult to perceive.

Following the field survey (which should cover ideally both winter and summer views) the extent to which the site is visible from the surrounding area will be mapped. A Photographic Viewpoint Plan will be prepared to illustrate the representative, specific and illustrative views into / towards and within the Site (if publicly accessible) and the degree of visibility of the site noted. This Plan will be included in a Key Views document for agreement with the Local Planning Authority and any other statutory consultees as part of the consultation process. The visual assessment will include a series of annotated photographs, the location and extent of the site within the view together with identifying the character and amenity of the view, together with any specific elements or important component features such as landform, buildings or vegetation or detracting features which interrupt, filter or otherwise influence views. The photograph will also be annotated with the Value attributed to the receptor or group of receptors.

By the end of this stage of the combined landscape and visual site study, it will be possible to advise, in landscape and visual terms, on any specific mitigation measures required in terms of the developments preferred siting, layout and design.

**Value of Visual Receptors**

Judgements on the value attached the views experienced are based on the following criteria.

**Table A1.2 – Value Attached to Views**

Value	Criteria
<b>High</b>	Views from landscapes / viewpoints of national importance, or highly popular visitor attractions where the view forms an important part of the experience, or with important cultural associations. This may include residential receptors in Listed Buildings where the primary elevation of the dwelling is orientated to take advantage of a particular view (for example across a Registered Park and Garden or National Park).
<b>Medium</b>	Views from landscapes / viewpoints of regional / district importance or moderately popular visitor attractions where the view forms part of the experience, or with local cultural associations. This may include residential receptors where the primary elevation of the dwelling is orientated to take advantage of a particular view.
<b>Low</b>	Views from landscapes / viewpoints with no designation, not particularly important and with minimal or no cultural associations. This may include views from the rear elevation of residential properties.

**Susceptibility of the Visual Receptor to the Proposed Change**

The susceptibility to the proposed changes in views and visual amenity occur as a result of the occupation or activity of people experiencing the view and the extent to which their attention or interest may be focused on the views and the visual amenity they experience. The grouping of susceptibility of the visual receptors is set out later in this document.

**A1.5 Predicting and Describing the Landscape and Visual Effects**

An assessment of visual effect deals with the change on the character and amenity arising from the proposal on the range of visual receptors.

The assessment of effects aims to:

- Identify systematically and separately the likely landscape and visual effects of the development;
- Identify the components and elements of the landscape that are likely to be affected by the scheme;
- Identify interactions between the landscape receptors and the different components of the development at all its different stages (e.g. enabling, construction, operation, restoration etc);
- Indicate the secondary mitigation measures over and above those already designed into the scheme proposed to avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate for these effects;
- Estimate the magnitude of the effects as accurately as possible and considering this in relation to the sensitivity of the receptor; and
- Provide an assessment of the significance of these effects in a logical and well-reasoned fashion.

Having established the value of the landscape and visual receptor, the effects are then considered in relation to the magnitude of change, which includes the size / scale, geographical extent of the areas influenced and the duration and reversibility.

Wherever possible tables or matrixes will be used, linked with the illustrative plans, so that the landscape and visual effects are recorded and quantified in a systematic and logical manner. Consideration is given to the impacts on completion of development at Year 1 and at maturity (Year 15) (to represent short, medium and long term effects) so that the effects of the development after mitigation has matured are identified. Assumptions or limitations to the assessment will also be set out.

Effects will include the direct and/or indirect impacts of the development on individual landscape elements / features as well as the effect upon the general landscape character and visual receptors.

**Landscape Susceptibility**

Landscape susceptibility is evaluated by its ability to accommodate the proposed change (i.e. the degree to which the landscape is able to accommodate the **proposed** change without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline situation and / or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies) as set out in Table A1.2.

As part of the assessment of the landscape character and its component parts, conclusions will be drawn as to the overall susceptibility of the landscape / landscape elements and visual environment to the type of development proposed. Existing landscape capacity assessments may form a starting point for the refinement of the assessment of landscape susceptibility at the local and site level.

**Table A1.3 – Landscape Susceptibility Criteria**

Susceptibility	Criteria
<b>High</b>	A landscape or townscape particularly susceptible to the proposed change, which would result in significant negative effects on landscape character, value, features or individual elements.
<b>Medium</b>	A landscape or townscape capable of accepting some of the proposed change with some negative effects on landscape character, value, features or elements.
<b>Low</b>	A landscape or townscape capable of accommodating the proposed change without significant negative effects on landscape character, value, features or elements.

**Landscape Sensitivity**

The assessment of landscape sensitivity is then combined through a judgement on the value attributed to that landscape receptor / component and the susceptibility of the landscape receptor to the proposed change using the following matrix.

**Table A1.4 - Landscape Sensitivity**

		Landscape Receptor Susceptibility		
		High	Medium	Low
Landscape Value	High	High	High - Medium	Medium
	Medium	High - Medium	Medium	Medium - Low
	Low	Medium	Medium - Low	Low - Negligible

**Visual Susceptibility**

The susceptibility of the different types of people to the changes proposed is based on the occupation of the activity of the viewer at a given location; and the extent to which the persons attention or interest may be focussed on a view, considering the visual character and amenity experienced at a given view. The criteria used to assess the susceptibility of a visual receptor are summarised below.

**Table A1.5 – Visual Susceptibility Criteria**

Susceptibility	Criteria
<b>High</b>	People with particular interest in the view, with prolonged viewing opportunity, including: Residents where views contribute to the landscape setting enjoyed by the community; those engaged in outdoor recreation, such as those using public rights of way; views from within the designated landscapes and heritage assets where the views of the surroundings are an important contributor to the experience; travellers along scenic routes.
<b>Medium</b>	People with moderate interest in the view and their surroundings, including: Communities where the development results in changes in the landscape setting or value of views enjoyed by the community; people travelling through the landscape, where the appreciation of the view contributes to the enjoyment and quality of that journey; people engaged in outdoor recreation, where their appreciation of their surrounding and particular view is incidental to their enjoyment of that activity.
<b>Low</b>	People with momentary, or little interest in the view and their surroundings, including: People engaged in outdoor sport; People at their work place; Travellers where the view is fleeting or incidental to the journey.

**Visual Sensitivity**

The sensitivity of visual receptors in views is based on the professional judgement combining the value and susceptibility to change on that visual receptor.

**Table A1.6 - Visual Sensitivity**

		Visual Receptor Susceptibility		
		High	Medium	Low
Value of Visual Receptor	High	High	High - Medium	Medium
	Medium	High - Medium	Medium	Low
	Low	Medium	Low	Low - Negligible

**A1.6 Magnitude of Effects**

In determining the magnitude of landscape effects, this will consider:

1. Scale and size of the change in the landscape (considering the changes to individual components and the effect this has on contribution to landscape character; the degree to which aesthetic or perceptual aspects of the landscape are altered; whether the effect changes the key characteristics of the landscape);
2. Geographic extent over which the landscape effects will be experienced (effects limited to the site level; effects on the immediate setting; effects relating to the scale of the landscape type or character area; effects on a larger scale such as influencing several landscape character areas); and
3. The duration, permanence and reversibility of the proposal.

Similar to landscape effects, the magnitude of visual effects will consider:

1. Scale and size of the change to the view (considering loss or addition of features to the view and proportion of the view occupied by the proposed development; the degree of contrast or integration of any new landscape features or changes in the landscape and characteristics in terms of form, scale, mass, line, height, colour and texture; and the nature of the view of the proposed development relative to the time over which it will be experienced and whether views will be full, partial or glimpses).
2. Geographical extent (including the angle of the view; the distance of the viewpoint to the proposed development; and the extent of the area over which the changes would be visible).
3. The duration, permanence and reversibility of the proposal.

**A1.7 Significance of Effects**

The two principal criteria determining the significance of effects are the sensitivity of the receptor in relation to the magnitude of effect. A higher level of significance is generally attached to the magnitude of change on a sensitive receptor; for example, a low magnitude of change on highly sensitive receptor can be of greater significance than very high magnitude of change on low sensitivity receptor. Therefore, whilst the table opposite sets out a starting point for the assessment, it is important that a balanced and well reasoned professional judgement of these two criteria is provided and an explanation provided.

In order to develop thresholds of significance, both the sensitivity of receptors and the magnitude of change must be classified for both landscape receptors and visual receptors as set out in the tables below. Where landscape effects are judged to be adverse, additional mitigation or compensatory measures are to be considered. The significant landscape effects remaining after mitigation are then to be summarised as the residual effects.

Magnitude Elements					Overall Magnitude of Change
Size / Scale	Geographic Extent	Duration	Permanence	Reversibility	
Major	Wide or Local; Direct and open view	Long - Short Term	Permanent or Temporary	Irreversible or Reversible	<b>High</b>
Major	Site Level; Direct and open view	Long - Short Term	Permanent or Temporary	Irreversible or Reversible	<b>High - Medium</b>
Moderate	Local / Site Level; Direct or oblique, partial view	Long - Short Term	Permanent or Temporary	Irreversible or Reversible	<b>Medium - Low</b>
Minor	Local / Site level; Oblique partial or glimpsed view	Long - Short Term	Permanent or Temporary	Irreversible or Reversible	<b>Low</b>
Negligible	All of the above and a truncated view	Long - Short Term	Permanent or Temporary	Irreversible or Reversible	<b>Negligible</b>

The criteria for each of the above is to be determined relative to the size and scale of the individual project applying professional judgement and opinion.

However, the following are typically used:

**Size and Scale:** relates to the combination of the following (and are linked to the descriptions set out under table A1.9):

- extent of existing landscape elements that will be lost (to proportion of the total extent that is lost) and the contribution that the element has to landscape character;
- the degree to which aesthetic or perceptual aspects of the landscape are altered (addition or removal of features and elements)
- whether the effect changes the key distinctive characteristics of the landscape;
- size and scale of change in the view with respect to the loss or addition of features in the view and changes to the composition, including the proportion of the view occupied by the proposed development;
- the degree of contrast or integration of any new features or changes in the townscape with the existing or remaining townscape or landscape elements and characteristic terms of form, scale, mass, line, height, colour and texture;
- the nature of the view of the proposed development, in terms of relative amount of time over which it will be experienced and whether views will be open, partial, glimpsed.

**Geographic Extent:** The geographic area over which the landscape effects will be felt relative to the proposal; and relative to visual receptors is to reflect the angle of the view; the distance of the viewpoint; the extent of the area over which the changes would be visible.

**Duration, Permanence and Reversibility:** These are separate but linked considerations and are project specific. For example, changes to a brownfield urban site could be reversible. Construction impacts are likely to be short term, temporary, but see the start of a permanent change. Operational effects are likely to be long term, permanent and either irreversible or reversible, depending on the nature of the project.

**No change:** If there is no change to the landscape or visual receptor then the overall magnitude of change will be **Neutral**.

**A1.7 Significance of Effects (continued)**

Effects will be described clearly and objectively, and the extent and duration of any negative / positive effects quantified, using four categories of effects, indicating a gradation from high to low.

**Table A1.7 - Sensitivity and Magnitude of Effects**

		Landscape and Visual Receptor Sensitivity		
		High	Medium	Low
Magnitude of Change	High	Major	Moderate to Major	Moderate
	Medium	Moderate to Major	Moderate	Minor - Moderate
	Low	Moderate to Major	Minor - Moderate	Minor
	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

The degree of effect is graded on the following scale in relation to the significance criteria above:

**Table A1.9 - Significance of Landscape and Visual Effects**

Effect Significance	Criteria
<b>Substantial negative / adverse effect</b>	Where the proposals would cause the substantial or significant loss of key mature landscape elements and characteristic features / a significant deterioration in the character and amenity of the view in terms of perceptual qualities / or introduce element(s) considered to be wholly and substantially uncharacteristic of the area; and where the proposals would result in a significant change, or more notable change in more distant views, on the character and amenity of the view from the range of visual receptors.
<b>Major negative / adverse effect</b>	Where the proposals would cause the total loss of key mature landscape elements and characteristic features / a major deterioration in the character and amenity of the view in terms of perceptual qualities / or introduce element(s) considered to be wholly and substantially uncharacteristic of the area; and where the proposals would result in a significant change, or more notable change in more distant views, on the character and amenity of the view from the range of visual receptors.
<b>Moderate negative / adverse effect</b>	Where the proposals would cause the loss of some of the key landscape elements and / or particularly representative characteristic features / or introduce elements considered significantly uncharacteristic of the area; and a noticeable deterioration in the character and amenity of the view from the range of visual receptors.
<b>Minor negative / adverse effect</b>	Where the proposals would cause the loss of some landscape elements or characteristic features / introduce elements characteristic of the area; and a barely perceptible deterioration in the character and amenity of the view from the range of visual receptors.

<b>Negligible</b>	Where the proposals would have no discernible deterioration or improvement in the existing baseline situation in terms of landscape elements or view.
<b>Neutral</b>	Where the proposals would result in no change overall (resulting in no net improvement or adverse effect).
<b>Minor positive / beneficial effect</b>	Where the proposals would result in minor loss or alteration or improvement of the key elements and features / provide a small enhancement to the existing landscape elements or characteristic features; and cause a barely perceptible improvement in the existing view for the range of receptors.
<b>Moderate positive / beneficial effect</b>	Where the proposals would cause some enhancement to the existing landscape elements or characteristic features / noticeable improvement in the character and amenity of the existing view from a range of visual receptors.
<b>Major positive / beneficial effect</b>	Where the proposals would cause a major enhancement to the existing landscape elements or characteristic features / noticeable improvement in the character and amenity of the existing view from a range of visual receptors.
<b>Substantial positive / beneficial effect</b>	Where the proposals would cause a significant enhancement to the existing landscape elements or characteristic features / wholesale improvement in the character and amenity of the existing view from a range of visual receptors.

Effects assessed as being greater than moderate are considered to be a significant effect.



### A1.8 Effects During Site Enabling and Construction

It is recognised that project characteristics and hence sources of effects, will vary through time. The initial effects arise from the site enabling and construction works. Sources of landscape and visual effects may include:

- The location of the site access and haulage routes;
- The origin and nature of materials stockpiles, stripping of material and cut and fill operations / disposal and construction compounds;
- The construction equipment and plant (and colour);
- The provision of utilities, including lighting and any temporary facilities;
- The scale, location and nature of any temporary parking areas and on-site accommodation;
- The measures for the temporary protection of existing features (such as vegetation, trees, ponds, etc) and any temporary screening (such as hoarding lines); and
- The programme of work and phasing of development.

### A1.9 Effects During Operation (at Year 1)

At the operational stage, the sources of landscape and visual effects may include:

- The location, scale, height, mass and design of buildings in terms of elevational treatment; structures and processes, including any other features;
- Details of service arrangements such as storage areas or infrastructure elements and utilities and haulage routes;
- Access arrangements and traffic movements;
- Lighting;
- Car parking;
- The noise and movement of vehicles in terms of perceived effects on tranquillity;
- Visible plumes from chimneys;
- Signage and boundary treatments;
- Outdoor activities that may be visible;

- The operational landscape, including landform, structure planting, green infrastructure and hard landscape features;
- Land management operations and objectives; and
- The enhancement or restoration of any landscape resource of particular view.

### A1.10 Mitigation and Compensatory Measures

The purpose of mitigation is to avoid, reduce and where possible, remedy or offset, any significant (major to minor) negative (adverse) effects on the landscape and visual receptors arising from the proposed development. Mitigation is thus not solely concerned with “damage limitation”, but may also consider measures that could compensate for unavoidable residual effects. Mitigation measures may be considered under three categories:

- Primary measures that intrinsically comprise part of the development design through an iterative process;
- Standard construction and operational management practices for avoiding and reducing environmental effects; and
- Secondary (or residual) measures designed to specifically address the remaining effects after the primary and standard construction practices have been incorporated.

If planting is required as part of the mitigation measures, it is proposed that areas of planting are introduced as part of the proposed development and the height of this planting will be considered as follows (dependent on plant specification and details of the scheme):

- Planting at completion / short term: 3-5 metres (dependent on plant specification).

Strategies to address likely negative (adverse) effects include:

- Prevention and avoidance of an impact by changing the form of development;
- Reduce impact by changing siting, location and form of development;

- Remediation of impact, e.g. by screen planting;
- Compensation of impact e.g. by replacing felled trees with new trees; and
- Enhancement e.g. creation of new landscape or habitat.

### A1.11 Guidelines for Mitigation:

- Consultation with local community and special interest groups, if possible, on the proposed mitigation measures is important;
- Landscape mitigation measures should be designed to suit the existing landscape character and needs of the locality, respecting and building on local landscape distinctiveness and helping to address any relevant existing issues in the landscape;

Many mitigation measures, especially planting, are not immediately effective. Where planting is intended to provide a visual screen for the development, it may also be appropriate to assess residual effects for different periods of time, such as day of opening at Year 1.

- The proposed mitigation measures should identify and address specific landscape issues, objectives and performance standards for the establishment, management maintenance and monitoring of new landscape features.
- A programme of appropriate monitoring may be agreed with the regulatory authority, so that compliance and effectiveness can be readily monitored and evaluated.

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