

South Brooks Solar Farm

Preliminary Environmental Information

Volume 2: Environmental Summary

Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual

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9 Landscape and Visual

9.1 What is ‘Landscape and Visual’

- 9.1.1 Landscape and visual amenity are related but very different considerations and as such are dealt with as separate components of a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA).
- 9.1.2 The assessment of landscape effects relates to the changes to the landscape resource, including physical changes to the fabric or individual elements of the landscape, its aesthetic or perceptual qualities, and landscape character.
- 9.1.3 The assessment of visual effects relates to changes to people’s visual amenity from the loss or addition of features within their view.
- 9.1.4 This assessment considers potentially significant landscape and visual sources associated with the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the proposed solar farm and its associated infrastructure.
- 9.1.5 This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Guidelines of Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA3)⁷¹ and the associated Technical Guidance Note⁷². These are the key guidance documents for undertaking LVIA and seek to encourage good practice as well as achieve greater consistency in the use of terminology and in overall approach. These guidance documents set out the broad principles and core approach that apply to LVIA carried out either formally, as part of an EIA, or informally as a contribution to the appraisal of development proposals.

9.2 Key Terms

The key terms used in this section are as defined in the Glossary of GLVIA3. Those specifically mentioned in this section are noted in **Table 9-1** below.

Table 9-1: Key Terms

Term	Definition
Characteristics	Elements, or combinations of elements, which make a contribution to distinctive landscape character.
Consultation bodies	Any body specified in the relevant EIA Regulations which the

⁷¹ Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment* (Third Edition, Routledge, 2013)

⁷² Landscape Institute, *Notes and Clarifications on Aspects of Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment* Third edition (Landscape Institute, 2024)

Term	Definition
	competent authority must consult in respect of an EIA, and which also has a duty to provide a scoping opinion and information.
Designated landscape	Areas of landscape identified as being of importance at international, national or local levels, either defined by statute or identified in development plans or other documents.
Direct effect	An effect that is directly attributable to the Project.
Elements	Individual parts which make up the landscape, such as, for example, trees, hedges and buildings.
Enhancement	Proposals that seek to improve the landscape resource and the visual amenity of the Project site and its wider setting, over and above its baseline condition.
Feature	Particularly prominent or eye-catching elements in the landscape, such as tree clumps, church towers or wooded skylines OR a particular aspect of the Project proposal.
Geographical Information System (GIS)	A system that captures, stores, analyses, manages and presents data linked to location. It links spatial information to a digital database.
Indirect effects	Effects that result indirectly from the Project as a consequence of the direct effects, often occurring away from the site, or as a result of a sequence of interrelationships or a complex pathway. They may be separated by distance or in time from the source of the effects.
Iterative design process	The process by which project design is amended and improved by successive stages of refinement which respond to growing understanding of environmental issues.
Key characteristics	Those combinations of elements which are particularly important to the current character of the landscape and help to give an area its particularly distinctive sense of place.
Land cover	The surface cover of the land, usually expressed in terms of vegetation cover or lack of it. Related to but not the same as land use.

Term	Definition
Land use	What land is used for, based on broad categories of functional land cover, such as urban and industrial use and the different types of agriculture and forestry.
Landform	The shape and form of the land surface which has resulted from combinations of geology, geomorphology, slope, elevation and physical processes.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, the character of which is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)	A tool used to identify and assess the likely significance of the effects of change resulting from development both on the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right and on people's views and visual amenity.
Landscape character	A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.
Landscape Character Areas (LCAs)	These are single unique areas which are the discrete geographical areas of a particular landscape type.
Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)	The process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape and using this information to assist in managing change in the landscape. It seeks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features that make landscapes distinctive. The process results in the production of a Landscape Character Assessment.
Landscape Character Types (LCTs)	These are distinct types of landscape that are relatively homogeneous in character. They are generic in nature in that they may occur in different areas in different parts of the country, but wherever they occur they share broadly similar combinations of geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation and historical land use and settlement pattern, and perceptual and aesthetic attributes.
Landscape classification	A process of sorting the landscape into different types using selected criteria but without attaching relative values to different sorts of landscape.

Term	Definition
Landscape effects	Effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right.
Landscape quality (condition)	A measure of the physical state of the landscape. It may include the extent to which typical character is represented in individual areas, the intactness of the landscape and the condition of individual elements.
Landscape receptors	Defined aspects of the landscape resource that have the potential to be affected by a proposal.
Landscape value	The relative value that is attached to different landscapes by society. A landscape may be valued by different stakeholders for a whole variety of reasons.
Magnitude (of effect)	A term that combines judgements about the size and scale of the effect, the extent of the area over which it occurs, whether it is reversible or irreversible and whether it is short or long term in duration.
Perception	Combines the sensory (that we receive through our senses) with the cognitive (our knowledge and understanding gained from many sources and experiences).
Seascape	Landscapes with views of the coast or seas, and coasts and adjacent marine environments with cultural, historical and archaeological links with each other.
Sensitivity	A term applied to specific receptors, combining judgements of the susceptibility of the receptor to the specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor.
Significance	A measure of the importance or gravity of the environmental effect, defined by significance criteria specific to the environmental topic.
Susceptibility	The ability of a defined landscape or visual receptor to accommodate the specific Project without undue negative consequences.
Townscape	The character and composition of the built environment including the buildings and the relationships between them, the different types of urban open space, including green spaces, and the relationship between buildings and open spaces.

Term	Definition
Tranquillity	A state of calm and quietude associated with peace, considered to be a significant asset of landscape.
Visual amenity	The overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating, visiting or travelling through an area
Visual effects	Effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.
Visual receptors	Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by a proposal.
Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)	A map, usually digitally produced, showing areas of land within which a development is theoretically visible.

9.3 Summary of Points Raised in the EIA Scoping Opinion and Project Response

9.3.1 Comments provided by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) relating to areas to be considered (scoped in) to the landscape and visual assessment are summarised in Table 9-2 below.

Table 9-2: Consultation Comments and Feedback

Summary of Consultation Comments	Discipline Feedback	When will this be resolved
The ES should include an assessment of changes to the Kent Downs National Landscape during all phases, or information demonstrating agreement with the relevant consultation bodies that this is not required and the absence of likely significant effects.	The ES will provide information demonstrating agreement with the Kent Downs National Landscape Unit of the absence of likely significant effects on the National Landscape.	Consultation feedback will be summarised and evidenced within the Landscape and Visual chapter of the ES.

Summary of Consultation Comments	Discipline Feedback	When will this be resolved
<p>The ES should include an assessment of changes to the High Weald National Landscape during all phases, or information demonstrating agreement with the relevant consultation bodies that this is not required and the absence of likely significant effects.</p>	<p>The ES will provide information demonstrating agreement with the High Weald National Landscape Unit of the absence of likely significant effects on the National Landscape.</p>	<p>Consultation feedback will be summarised and evidenced within the Landscape and Visual chapter of the ES.</p>
<p>The Inspectorate agrees that changes to National Character Areas during all phases can be scoped out of the assessment.</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Scoped out</p>
<p>The ES should include information on the location, directionality, spill, type, height, duration and timing, and brightness of the lighting and how this would reduce/avoid effects, but the Inspectorate agrees that a standalone lighting assessment during all phases can be scoped out.</p>	<p>The Project does not propose the inclusion of permanently operated lighting. Temporary lighting would be fitted with mitigation features, such as directional cowls. The ES will include detailed information on lighting and how this would mitigate landscape and visual effects.</p>	<p>Lighting details will be set out within the Project chapter of the ES.</p>
<p>The Inspectorate agrees that changes to views and visual amenity of people at their place of work during all phases can be scoped out of the assessment.</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Scoped out</p>

Summary of Consultation Comments	Discipline Feedback	When will this be resolved
<p>The Inspectorate agrees that changes to views and visual amenity of people engaged in outdoor sport or recreation which does not depend on the appreciation of views of the landscape during all phases can be scoped out of the assessment.</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Scoped out</p>
<p>The ES should ensure that all figures supporting the assessment are provided and correctly referenced.</p>	<p>The ES will include the full suite of supporting figures with appropriate cross references in the ES Chapter.</p>	<p>Figures supporting the assessment will be provided for the ES with appropriate cross references provided in the Landscape and Visual chapter of the ES.</p>
<p>The ES should justify an appropriate study area and identify sensitive receptors based on the ZTV with a supporting figure to determine if there is potential for likely significant effects. The ES should provide information demonstrating agreement on an appropriate study area with the relevant consultation bodies.</p>	<p>The LVIA study area is proposed to extend to 2km from the Site boundary. The rationale for this distance is provided within this chapter. The ES will provide further evidence to justify the proposed LVIA study area and information demonstrating agreement with the host authorities.</p>	<p>The rationale for the LVIA study area will be summarised and evidenced within the Landscape and Visual chapter of the ES.</p>
<p>The ES should take account of any potential long-distance views and assess any significant effects on sensitive receptors</p>	<p>The ES will take account of likely significant effects on visual receptors at various distances from the Project. This will include the consideration of long-</p>	<p>The consideration of likely significant effects on visual receptors will be provided within the Landscape and Visual chapter of the ES.</p>

Summary of Consultation Comments	Discipline Feedback	When will this be resolved
<p>through long distance views where they are likely to occur.</p>	<p>distance views from within the study area.</p>	
<p>The ES should explain where the extents of buffer zones as a mitigation measure for existing features derive from, and the Applicant should seek agreement on these with the relevant consultation bodies.</p>	<p>Offsets from vegetation are defined to locate proposed elements outside of root protection areas. Offsets from watercourses and waterbodies are defined in line with guidance from the Environment Agency. The ES will provide further justification for the proposed extent of buffer zones and mitigation measures, and information demonstrating agreement with the host authorities.</p>	<p>The rationale for the LVIA mitigation will be summarised and evidenced within the Landscape and Visual chapter of the ES.</p>
<p>The ES should include an assessment of changes to the marine users during all phases, or information demonstrating agreement with the relevant consultation bodies and the absence of likely significant effects.</p>	<p>The ES will provide information demonstrating agreement with the host authorities of the absence of likely significant effects on marine users.</p>	<p>Consultation feedback will be summarised and evidenced within the Landscape and Visual chapter of the ES.</p>
<p>The ES should appropriately cross reference between the cultural heritage, archaeology, and landscape and visual assessments where effects and mitigation may overlap.</p>	<p>The ES will include appropriate cross references between chapters where effects and mitigation may overlap.</p>	<p>Cross references to the Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapters of the ES will be provided in the Landscape and Visual chapter of the ES.</p>

9.3.2 Following the PINS Scoping Opinion, engagement has been attempted with Folkstone and Hythe District Council on landscape and visual matters but has not yet resulted in any feedback. Engagement however continues to be undertaken

with the Kent Downs National Landscape and High Weald National Landscape (via the Kent Downs National Landscape team). A summary of ongoing consultation with consultees in relation to landscape and visual is provided in Table 9-3.

Table 9-3: Summary of Ongoing Comments and Feedback with Consultees

Summary of Relevant Stakeholder Consultation Comments	Consultee	Discipline Feedback	Next Steps
The Saxon Shore Way between Aldington Knoll and Lympe Castle is a route where elevated and open views towards the Site are likely to be possible from the Kent Downs National Landscape.	Kent Downs National Landscape	Long distance routes have since been captured from within the Kent Downs, and a short briefing is currently being prepared to share with the Kent Downs National Landscape team.	Provide the requested evidence with the Kent Downs National Landscape team and seek to agree to scope out from further assessment.

9.3.3 **Appendix 1-2: Key Policy and Legislation** provides details on the legislation, policy and guidance that has informed the approach to the landscape and visual assessment.

9.4 Ongoing Landscape and Visual Work

Study Area

9.4.1 The LVIA study area identifies the geographic area across which significant landscape or visual effects may occur as a result of the Project and has been developed with reference to Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Third Edition (GLVIA3).

9.4.2 GLVIA3 paragraph 5.2 states “the study area should include the site itself and the full extent of the wider landscape around it which the Project may influence in a significant manner.”

9.4.3 To understand the extent of the landscape over which the Project may be significantly influenced, an initial area of search of 5km from the Site boundary was first investigated within the EIA Scoping Report via a desk-based review including a series of Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) maps. The ZTVs submitted within

the EIA Scoping Report are included at **Figures 9-1-9-4** for ease of reference. The 5km area of search was based on professional judgement and experience with schemes of a similar scale and context and their resulting extent of significant effects, indicating that 5km is an appropriate initial spatial boundary.

9.4.4 Computer-generated ZTVs were prepared using the Viewshed tool in QGIS GIS software to indicate where in the local landscape the different components of the Project would be theoretically visible from. Each ZTV has assumed a viewing height of 1.6m but are otherwise based on different height and terrain parameters, as indicated in the respective drawing notes on each ZTV figure.

Figure 9-1 – Zone of Theoretical Visibility - Solar PV Bare Earth (extract from EIA Scoping Report)

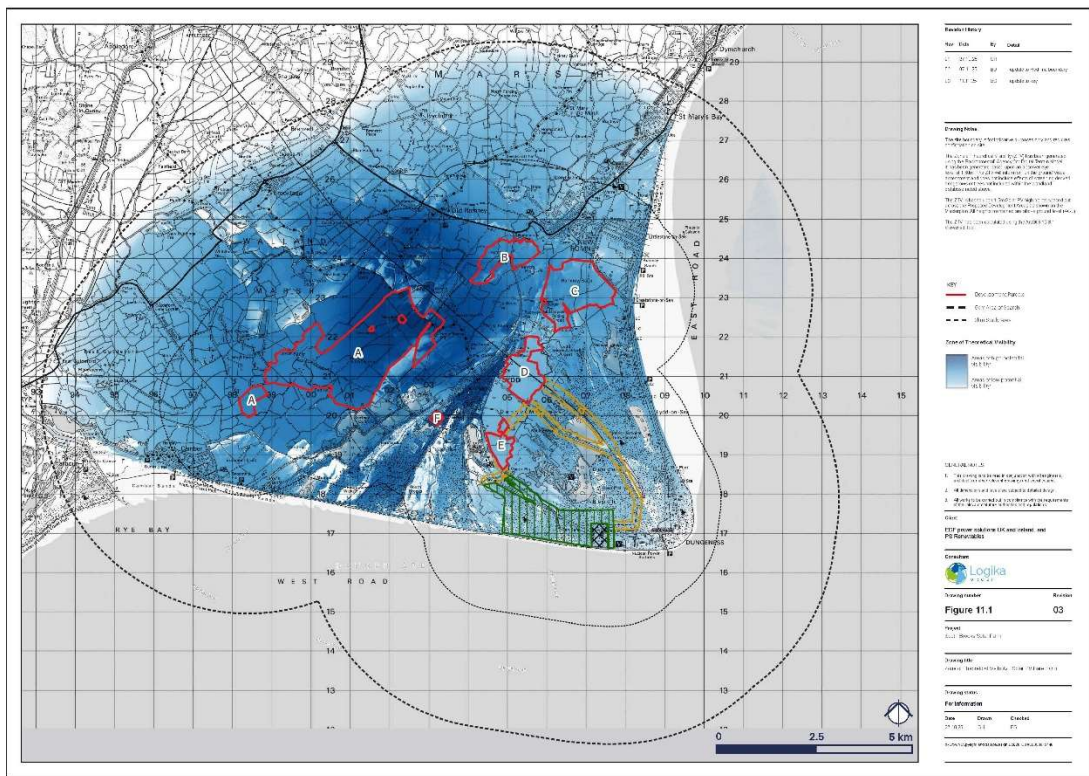


Figure 9-3 – Zone of Theoretical Visibility - Substation Bare Earth (extract from EIA Scoping Report)

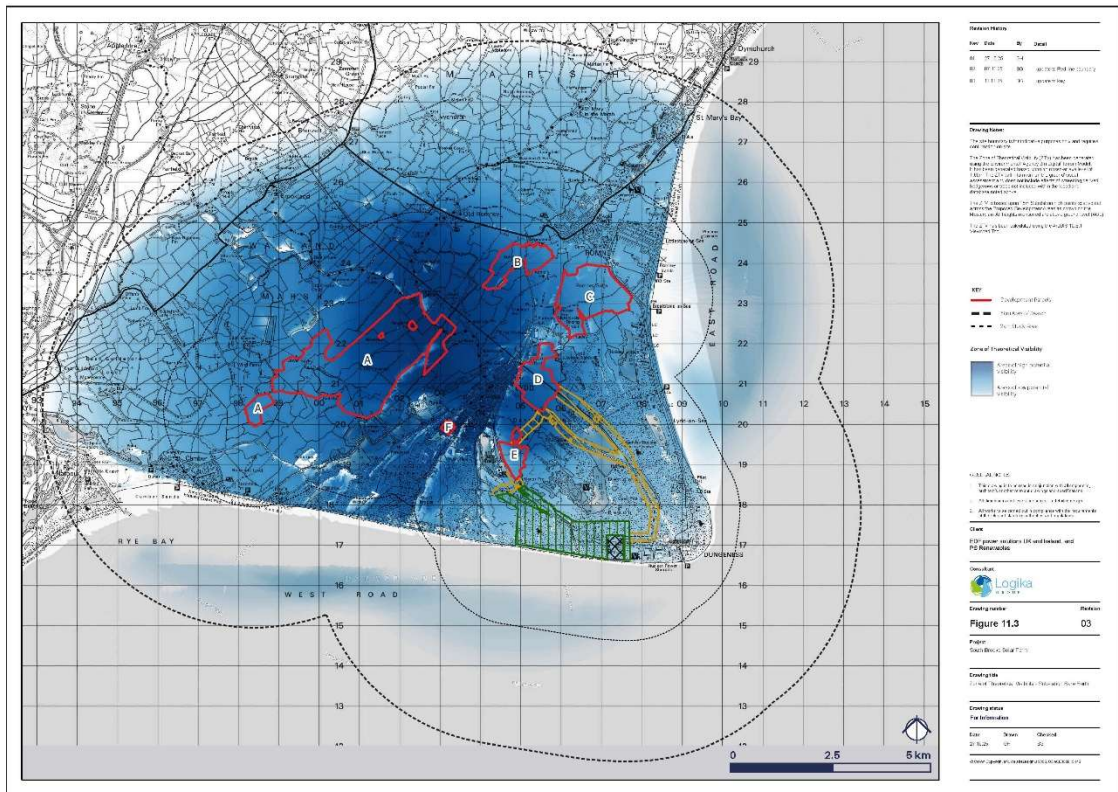
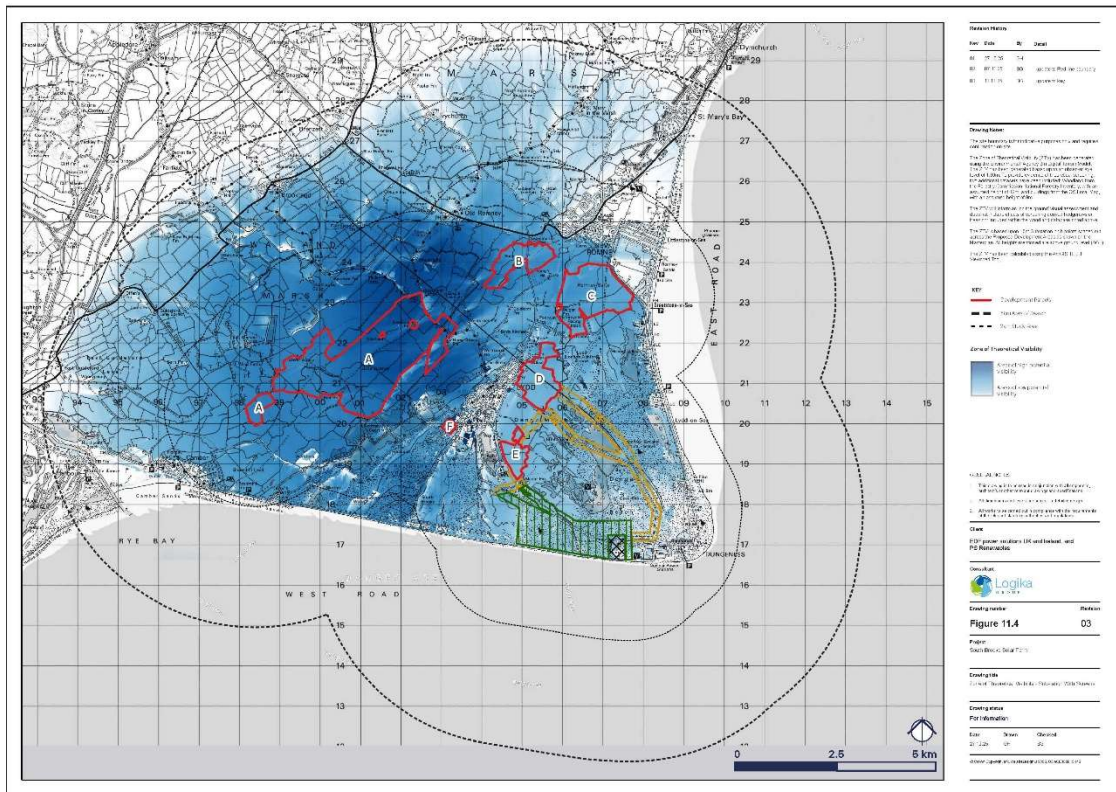


Figure 9-4 – Zone of Theoretical Visibility - Substation With Screens (extract from EIA Scoping Report)



9.4.7 With reference to **Figures 9-3**, which model the zone of theoretical visibility of the substation within the Site boundary:

- There would be greater theoretical visibility of the substation within the Site compared to the solar PV.
- There are no notable landform elements that would screen views towards the substation within the Site boundary and the subtle changes in landform would have minimal influence over its extent of visibility due to its increased height.
- Existing vegetation would obscure views of the substation within the Site boundary beyond 2km albeit to a lesser extent than the solar PV.
- The nearby towns and villages would serve to screen the substation within the Site boundary in views from the coast and further north.

9.4.8 Note that the only the substation height was modelled in the ZTVs, not the BESS, as the purpose was to provide a worst-case extent of visibility at the initial Scoping stage. It is anticipated that through the iterative design process that the actual visibility of the Project will reduce, and this will be reported in the assessment of visual impacts within the ES.

- 9.4.9 Overall, the ZTVs demonstrate that areas where the Project would be more visible are from open farmland in the immediate vicinity of the Site boundary and up to 2km. Areas where the Project would be less visible are found beyond 2km where intervening built form and vegetation obscure clear views, as well as within the towns and villages.
- 9.4.10 GLVIA3 sets out that at the scoping stage the study area may change as more detailed analysis is undertaken, discussion with the host authorities is progressed, and the design of the Project is developed. At this stage, taking account of the landscape characteristics and likely viewing opportunities of the Project, the LVIA Study Area is proposed to be a 2km radius from the Site boundary as shown on **Figure 9-5: Study Area**. This Study Area has been selected on the basis that there are not considered to be any likely significant effects on landscape and visual receptors beyond this distance.
- 9.4.11 The extent of the LVIA study area will be reviewed throughout the iterative design process, informed by ongoing desk-based research and field-based analysis during winter and summer conditions. The extent of the LVIA study area will be consulted upon with the host authorities and the justification for its final extent provided in the ES.

Baseline and Surveys

- 9.4.12 Further desktop survey and fieldwork have since been undertaken to better understand the landscape character across the study area, which has involved the review of published landscape character assessments and the classification of local townscape character areas. Fieldwork has involved travelling around the LVIA Study Area, walking along PRoW and stopping at various publicly accessible locations that were shown to have theoretical visibility. Viewpoints have also been identified to represent the likely effects on visual receptors and photography has been captured from each location in winter conditions i.e. when deciduous vegetation is not in leaf to demonstrate the worst-case extent of visibility.
- 9.4.13 The existing baseline in terms of landscape character and visual amenity across the Study Area can be summarised under the following headings.

Landform and Hydrology

- 9.4.14 The Study Area lies within the extensive low-lying plain of Romney Marsh, shaped by shingle deposition, coastal flooding, and subsequent drainage. The landform is characteristically flat and open, defined by long horizons and expansive skies, with only subtle undulations created by historic sea walls and drainage features. Hydrology patterns are defined by a network of drainage ditches, watercourses, and sluices that regulate water levels. The Study Area is also influenced by its

proximity to the Dungeness shingle foreland and the coastal edge, with groundwater levels sensitive to both tidal processes and artificial drainage.

Land Use, Infrastructure and Settlement

- 9.4.15 Land use is dominated by intensive arable agriculture. Some grazing marsh survives in wetter pockets, particularly closer to Walland Marsh. Settlement is dispersed and rural in character, with the historic market town of Lydd and the linear coastal settlements of Greatstone and Lydd-on-Sea forming the more substantial built-up areas.
- 9.4.16 Transport routes such as the A259, Romney Road, Dungeness Road and Jurys Gap Road traverse the marsh on historic embanked causeways, often raised above surrounding fields. The Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway provides a distinctive cultural and recreational use.
- 9.4.17 Industrial development is present within the Study Area, predominantly at Dungeness. This includes Lydd Airport as well as Dungeness A and B nuclear power stations which form prominent features in the landscape. Pylons, overhead power lines, substations, and existing renewable energy schemes, such as the Little Cheyne Court wind farm and Sycamore solar farm, also contribute to the evolving energy landscape.
- 9.4.18 The Lydd military firing ranges also exert an influence on the landscape and are discernible by the security fencing and the associated activity beyond.

Vegetation Patterns

- 9.4.19 Vegetation within the Study Area is typical of the marshland setting. Agricultural fields are bounded predominantly by drainage ditches, fringed by reeds and occasional clipped hedgerows. Tree cover is sparse, usually limited to pollarded willows, occasional shelterbelts, or groups around settlements and farmsteads. Scrub and rough grassland occur in less intensively farmed areas, while the Dungeness shingle habitats to the south support highly distinctive vegetation of international importance including rare lichens and flowering plants. This mosaic of sparse and linear vegetation contributes to the open character of the landscape.

Public Rights of Way

- 9.4.20 Public Rights of Way (PRoW) are distributed throughout the Study Area including the King Charles III England Coast Path, which provide recreational access and connectivity between settlements and the coast. The following PRoW routes intersect or cross the Site boundary (as presented in **Figure 9-5: Study Area**):

- South Brooks A:

- Route 2 of the National Cycle Network lies along the eastern boundary and crosses through the east section of this part of the Site boundary;
- Bridleway HM 117 crosses east to west;
- Bridleway HM 27 crosses north to south;
- Bridleway HM 21 lies along the southern boundary;
- Footpath HM 115 crosses to the north;
- Footpath HM 4 crosses to the west; and
- Footpath HM 5 crosses to the west.
- South Brooks B:
 - Footpath HL 1 crosses east to west.
- South Brooks C:
 - Bridleway HR 11 lies along the eastern boundary.
- South Brooks D:
 - Footpath HL 5 crosses east to west.
- South Brooks E:
 - Footpath HL 17 crosses east to west.

Perceptual Qualities

- 9.4.21 The tranquillity of the Study Area is influenced by the expanse of marshes along the coast of the Dover Strait, together with tall energy infrastructure, and the distant hills of the Kent Downs and High Weald.
- 9.4.22 The presence of open landscapes, coastal marshes, and vegetated shingle contribute to the scenic quality of the Study Area. Away from infrastructure such as Dungeness Power Station and main roads, the landscape of the Study Area is also perceived as peaceful, sparsely populated, with low levels of recreational and commercial activity. With reference to the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) Light Pollution and Dark Skies mapping, the Study Area exhibits minimal light pollution away from the settlements and power station, supporting the perception of remoteness and naturalness.
- 9.4.23 The presence of wind turbines, pylons, substations, and the power station introduce visual and auditory disturbance. Localised traffic along Dungeness Road and Jurys

Gap Road contributes to intermittent noise intrusion, whilst operational noise and visual prominence of energy infrastructure detract from the perception of peace in certain areas.

Landscape Designations

- 9.4.24 Neither the Site boundary nor the Study Area are covered by any statutory landscape designations (i.e. National Parks and National Landscapes).
- 9.4.25 The Site boundary is however located within the Romney Marsh Local Landscape Area (LLA). LLAs are identified within the Places and Policies Local Plan and are defined as 'areas which are of particular local landscape value and/or act as green buffers within or adjoining urban areas, contributing to local environmental quality and identity'.
- 9.4.26 The eastern and southern parts of the Study Area are also designated as part of the Old Romney Shoreline and Dungeness Special Landscape Areas in the Places and Policies Local Plan, which highlights these two distinct areas as being of county-wide landscape significance for their natural beauty.

Other designations relevant to landscape

- 9.4.27 Other relevant designations within the Study Area that may indicate landscape value include:
- Ramsar – Dungeness, Romney Marsh and Rye Bay;
 - Special Protection Area – Dungeness, Romney Marsh and Rye Bay;
 - Site of Special Scientific Interest – Dungeness, Romney Marsh and Rye Bay;
 - Special Area of Conservation – Dungeness;
 - National Nature Reserve – Dungeness;
 - Scheduled Monument – Hope All Saints', remains of church;
 - Scheduled Monument – Part of a Cistercian grange, north of New Romney High Street, also known as Romney Priory;
 - Scheduled Monument – Phoenix Caisson off Littlestone-on-Sea;
 - Scheduled Monument – Three acoustic early warning devices 2,360m east of Jack's Court;
 - Scheduled Monument – Lade Fort;
 - Scheduled Monument – Abandoned Medieval Church and Graveyard, Midley;

- Scheduled Monument – Wooden Wreck on Camber Sands;
- Conservation Area – Dungeness;
- Conservation Area – Littlestone-on-Sea;
- Conservation Area – Lydd;
- Conservation Area – New Romney; and
- Conservation Area – Old Romney.

Future Landscape and Visual

Collection of future landscape and visual data

9.4.28 Work remains on-going to further understand the landscape and visual baseline and inform the assessment of likely significant effects. This includes additional fieldwork to characterise the local townscape character areas and understand seasonal influences on visual amenity i.e. the screening provided by existing vegetation in the landscape.

9.5 Important Receptors Identified

9.5.1 Table 9-4 presents the landscape matters that are likely to give rise to significant adverse effects of the Project and, therefore, are proposed to be scoped into the detailed assessment. This should be in conjunction with **Figure 9-6 to 9-9** which shows spatially the different scale of landscape and seascape character areas to be scoped in.

Table 9-4: Likely Significant Landscape Effects to be Scoped In

Potential Effect	Receptor
Changes to Regional Landscape Character	Brookland Farms Dungeness Shingle Romney Marsh Mixed Farmlands Romney Marsh Settlements The Romney Coast Walland Marsh Farmlands
Changes to Regional Seascape Character	C4A – Romney Coast, Hythe Flats & Roar Bank C8A – Dungeness, Denge Marsh & Eastern Rye Bay
Changes to District	1. Romney Marsh Proper Farmlands 2. Brookland Farmlands 3. Walland Marsh Farmlands

Potential Effect	Receptor
Landscape Character	6. Dungeness Shingle 7. Romney Marsh Coast 8. Camber Coast
Changes to Local Townscape Character	New Romney Littlestone Greatstone Lydd-on-Sea Dungeness Lydd Camber
Changes to Site Landscape Character	Landscape character of Site boundary
Changes to Landscape Features	Trees, hedgerows, and watercourses within the Site boundary

9.5.2 **Table 9-5** presents the visual matters that are likely to give rise to significant adverse effects of the Project and, therefore, are proposed to be scoped into the detailed assessment. This should be read in conjunction with **Figure 9-10: Visual Receptors** which shows spatially the groups of people and representative viewpoints to be scoped in.

Table 9-5: Likely Significant Visual Effects to be Scoped In

Potential Effect	Receptor
Changes to views and visual amenity of residents	Residents of Old Romney Residents of New Romney Residents of Greatstone Residents of Lydd Residents of Camber Residents of isolated properties between Old Romney and New Romney Residents of isolated properties between Old Romney and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Residents of isolated properties between Camber and Lydd Residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Residents of isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd Residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Dungeness

Potential Effect	Receptor
Changes to views and visual amenity of people engaged in recreation which depends upon the appreciation of views of the landscape	People using King Charles III England Coast Path People using Route 2 of the National Cycle Network People using PRow between Old Romney and New Romney People using PRow between Old Romney and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm People using PRow between Camber and Lydd People using PRow between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm People using PRow between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm People using PRow between New Romney and Lydd People using PRow between Lydd and Dungeness
Changes to views and visual amenity of motorists	People travelling along the A259 People travelling along the B2075 Romney Road People travelling along Dungeness Road People travelling along Dengemarsh Road People travelling along Tournay Road People travelling along Jury's Gap Road / Lydd Road People travelling along Midley Wall People travelling along Swamp Road / Dennes Lane People travelling along Caldecot Lane
Changes to views and visual amenity of rail passengers	People travelling along Romney, Hythe, Dymchurch Railway
Visitors to heritage assets where views are an important contributor to experience	Visitors to the Sound Mirrors, west of Greatstone

9.6 Considering Landscape Character and Visual Amenity in Design

9.6.1 The Project has been designed in accordance with the project specific design principles as well as environmental constraints and opportunities (which are presented in Volume 1 of the PEI), and in response to feedback received to date from stakeholders through consultation. The overarching aim of the iterative design process has been to embed good design from the outset.

9.6.2 This section provides an overview of the measures embedded in the Project to mitigate potential adverse effects on landscape character and people's visual amenity.

Offsets from existing sensitive receptors

9.6.3 The initial design stage sought to locate proposed infrastructure away from sensitive visual receptors and as such included a minimum 100m offset from residential properties to the PV arrays and associated inverters, plus a minimum 300m offset from residential properties to the substation and BESS.

9.6.4 Minimum offsets from existing vegetation and PRow were also embedded in the first iteration of the masterplan published at Phase One Consultation including:

- 5m from hedgerows;
- 15m from individual trees;
- 15m from PRow to the closest solar panel; and
- 10m from water courses and waterbodies.

9.6.5 The proposed masterplan presented at Phase Two Consultation has maintained all offsets and, in many cases, increased the distance. For example, the distance between residential properties and proposed above ground features has been increased since Phase One Consultation for specific properties in response to feedback received and further fieldwork, for example Hawthorn Cottages. Further consideration has also been given to the experience of proposed infrastructure in the middle distance of residential views which has resulted in the reduced extent of solar PV panels to the east of Lydd.

9.6.6 The proposed extent of solar PV panels has also been further reduced through design development to maintain the sense of openness which is characteristic of the local landscape and to contribute to people's visual amenity. This includes the reduction of solar PV panels around the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway, PRow and roads that pass through or close to the Site boundary.

New planting

9.6.7 New planting is proposed across the Site boundary to provide visual screening and therefore provide mitigation for adverse visual impacts. The new planting has been designed to respond to the microclimate of the Site boundary and provide environmental enhancement associated with other environmental topics. Examples include new hedgerows to complement existing species established across the Site, new individual trees, and areas of new grassland and meadow. Indicative

species are set out in the Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan, and have been selected based on the characteristics of the local landscape.

Design appearance

9.6.8 The following approach has been embedded in the design of individual elements:

Lighting:

- No visible lighting will be utilised at the site perimeter and baseline levels of lighting will remain.
- Lighting at inverters will be manually operated used only in fault or emergency situations.
- Lighting at the Project substation and BESS locations will be calibrated to trigger by the movement of passing vehicles and personnel, or via manual operation.
- Lighting would be installed at a maximum height and fitted with cowls to prevent light spillage.

Form, colour and materials:

- Overhead cable options proposed to connect to the Dungeness substation have been removed, limiting the associated visual impact.
- Fencing associated with the solar array would be wooden post and wire, limiting its visual prominence. Fencing around inverter, substation and BESS compounds would be palisade fencing to provide greater security. In this instance the fence would be a muted colour, sensitive to its surroundings.

9.7 Preliminary Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

Approach

9.7.1 The significance of landscape and visual effects is determined through a structured assessment process comprising the following key stages:

- 1) An assessment of the sensitivity of landscape and visual receptors, based on an assessment of their respective value and susceptibility to change.
- 2) An assessment of the magnitude of impact resulting from the Project during construction, Year 1, Year 15 (to determine the likely significance effectiveness of landscape mitigation, taking account of vegetation maturity), and decommissioning. The assessment of magnitude of impact considers the scale, duration, and reversibility of the impact. Short term durations are considered to be two years or less; medium term durations are considered to be between two

and five years; and long-term durations are considered to be more than five years.

- 3) The receptor's sensitivity and the magnitude of impact are then combined to determine the resultant level of effect.
- 4) An assessment of the significance of the effect to the landscape and visual receptors identified. Effects judged to be moderate and major are considered to be significant.

9.7.2 Each of the steps outlined above will be detailed in full in the ES.

Preliminary Assessment

9.7.3 Table 9-6 presents the landscape and visual matters that are likely to give rise to significant effects as a result of the Project. These initial judgements are based on a high-level appraisal of the receptors' sensitivity and anticipated magnitude, and are subject to change on completion of detailed assessment and additional mitigation proposals. **Table 1-1 of Appendix 9-1: Landscape and Visual Effects** includes the full scope of receptors and their anticipated levels of impact.

9.7.4 The Project has the potential to result in temporary significant adverse landscape and visual effects during the construction phase. There are likely to be significant changes to the landscape character as well as views and visual amenity due to alterations to surface landform and vegetation, the presence and movement of construction machinery, introduction of construction compounds and access routes, and associated reduction in tranquillity.

9.7.5 Throughout operation, significant adverse landscape and visual effects are also likely. This is due to the changes to the landscape character as well as views and visual amenity resulting from the change in land use through the introduction of solar panels and associated structures. Although most of the impacts would be reversible, they would be long term. The Project would include areas of new planting, likely to include diverse grassland and meadows, trees and hedgerows. Once established, this new planting has the potential to result in a reduction of the level of landscape and visual effects.

9.7.6 The decommissioning phase has the potential to result in significant adverse landscape and visual effects, similar to but of no greater magnitude than the construction phase.

Table 9-6: Potential Likely Significant Landscape and Visual Effects

Phase	Activity	Receptor	Mitigation	Likely significant effect(s)	Next steps
Construction	Presence and perception of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium part of the landscape character area	Regional Landscape Character Area: Brookland Farms	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Moderate adverse (significant)	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Presence and perception of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities,	Regional Landscape Character Area:	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field	Major adverse (significant)	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and

and partially completed structures affecting a large part of the landscape character area

Dungeness Shingle

patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)

Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

Construction	Presence and perception of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a large part of the landscape character area	Regional Landscape Character Area: Walland Marsh Farmlands	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Major adverse (significant)	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Presence and perception of construction works, associated activity,

Regional Seascape Character Area: C8A –

Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as

Moderate adverse (significant)

Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in

workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium part of the seascape character area

Dungeness, Denge Marsh & Eastern Rye Bay

hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)

outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

Construction	Presence and perception of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium part of the landscape character area	District Landscape Character Area: 2. Brookland Farmlands	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Moderate adverse (significant)	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Construction	Presence and perception of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a large part of the landscape character area	District Landscape Character Area: 3. Walland Marsh Farmlands	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Major adverse (significant)	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Construction	Presence and perception of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a large part of the landscape character area	District Landscape Character Area: 6. Dungeness Shingle	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft	Major adverse (significant)	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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			vegetation removal plans)		
Construction	Presence and perception of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a large part of the Site boundary	Landscape character of the Site boundary	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Major adverse (significant)	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a	Residents of Greatstone	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation	Moderate adverse (significant) on residents of Greatstone within properties at northwestern end of Dunes Road	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology

	medium extent of views		removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of Greatstone	Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium extent of views	Residents of Lydd	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Moderate adverse (significant) on residents of Lydd within properties along Robin Hood Lane, Meadow View, The Beeches, and Ash Grove Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of Lydd	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers	Residents of isolated properties	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features	Moderate adverse (significant) on residents within	Extent of vegetation removal to be

	compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium extent of views	between Old Romney and New Romney	such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	isolated properties between Old Romney and New Romney, namely The Retreat, The Venture, Martinfield Cottage, Plumtree Farm, Kemps Hill Farm, and Cobb House Farm Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of isolated properties between Old Romney and New Romney	finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed	Residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except	Major adverse (significant) on residents within isolated properties between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm, namely	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology

structures affecting a large extent of views

where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)

Hawthorn Cottage, Newland Bungalow, Newland Farm Cottage, Horses Bones Farm, Old Tomms, Westbrook Farmhouse, and Scotney Court

Management Plan (oLEMP)

Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm

Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed	Residents of isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except	Major adverse (significant) on residents within isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd, namely Caldecott	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology
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	structures affecting a large extent of views		where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Farm, Bendle Bell Farm, Prospect House, Caldicott Farm, Marsh Farm, The Lawns, Westbrook Farm, Swamp Crossing Farm, Swan Farm, and Belgar Farm Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd	Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a	Residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Dungeness	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except	Moderate adverse (significant) on residents within isolated properties between Lydd and Dungeness, namely Greenfields, Green	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology

medium extent of views

where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)

Hop Farm, The Gate House, Harts Farm, Dengemarsh Farm, Dengemarsh Farm Cottage, The Old Shearing Barn, The Old Granary, Brickwall Farm Bungalow, Brickwall Farmhouse, and Shinglebank Farmhouse.

Management Plan (oLEMP)

Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Dungeness

Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and	People using Route 2 of the National Cycle Network	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as	Moderate adverse (significant) where the route passes	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in
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	welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium extent of views		hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining route	outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium extent of views	People using PRow between Old Romney and New Romney	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Moderate adverse (significant) where routes pass close to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated	People using PRow	Retention of and offsets from key	Major adverse (significant) where	Extent of vegetation

	activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a large extent of views	between Old Romney and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm	landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	routes pass through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes	removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a large extent of views	People using PRow between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Major adverse (significant) where routes pass through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

<p>Construction</p>	<p>Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a large extent of views</p>	<p>People using PRow between New Romney and Lydd</p>	<p>Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)</p>	<p>Major adverse (significant) where routes pass through or adjacent to the Order Limits</p> <p>Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes</p>	<p>Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (lamp)</p>
<p>Construction</p>	<p>Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium extent of views</p>	<p>People using PRow between Lydd and Dungeness</p>	<p>Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft</p>	<p>Moderate adverse (significant) where routes pass through or adjacent to the Order Limits</p> <p>Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes</p>	<p>Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)</p>

vegetation removal plans)

Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium extent of views	People travelling along Dungeness Road	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Moderate adverse (significant) where the road passes through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining road	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a	People travelling along Dengemarsh Road	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation	Moderate adverse (significant) where the road passes through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology

medium extent of views

removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)

significant) on remaining road

Management Plan (oLEMP)

Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed structures affecting a medium extent of views	People travelling along Midley Wall	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)	Moderate adverse (significant) where the road passes through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining road	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Construction	Views of construction works, associated activity, workers compounds and welfare facilities, and partially completed	People travelling along Swamp Road / Dennes Lane	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field	Moderate adverse (significant) where the road passes through or adjacent to the Order Limits	Extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and

structures affecting a medium extent of views

patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)

Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining road

Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

<p>Operation</p>	<p>Presence and perception of solar modules, ancillary structures plus new mitigation planting affecting a small to medium part of the landscape character area</p>	<p>Regional Landscape Character Area: Dungeness Shingle</p>	<p>Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)</p> <p>Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and</p>	<p>Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) Minor adverse (not significant, year 15)</p>	<p>Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)</p>
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			mature in order to achieve desired effect		
Operation	Presence and perception of solar modules, ancillary structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting affecting a medium part of the landscape character area	Regional Landscape Character Area: Walland Marsh Farmlands	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans) Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect	Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) Minor adverse (not significant, year 15)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

<p>Operation</p>	<p>Presence and perception of solar modules, ancillary structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting within the landscape character area</p>	<p>Regional Seascape Character Area: C8A – Dungeness, Denge Marsh & Eastern Rye Bay</p>	<p>Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)</p> <p>Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect</p>	<p>Moderate adverse (significant, year 1)</p> <p>Minor adverse (not significant, year 15)</p>	<p>Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)</p>
<p>Operation</p>	<p>Presence and perception of solar modules, ancillary</p>	<p>District Landscape Character</p>	<p>Retention of and offsets from key landscape features</p>	<p>Moderate adverse (significant, year 1)</p>	<p>Proposed landscape planting and</p>

structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting affecting a medium part of the landscape character area

Area: 2.
Brookland
Farmlands

such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)

Minor adverse (not significant, year 15)

extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect

Operation	Presence and perception of solar modules, ancillary structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting	District Landscape Character Area: 3. Walland Marsh Farmlands	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field	Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) Minor adverse (not significant, year 15)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be
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	affecting a medium part of the landscape character area		<p>patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)</p> <p>Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect</p>		finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Operation	Presence and perception of solar modules, ancillary structures, plus new mitigation planting affecting a small to medium part of the landscape character area	District Landscape Character Area: 6. Dungeness Shingle	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is	Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) Minor adverse (not significant, year 15)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and
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indicated on draft
vegetation removal
plans)

Planting of new
mitigation planting
albeit this will take
some years to
establish and
mature in order to
achieve desired
effect

Ecology
Management
Plan (oLEMP)

<p>Operation</p>	<p>Presence and perception of solar modules, ancillary structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting affecting a large part of the Site boundary</p>	<p>Landscape character of the Site boundary</p>	<p>Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)</p>	<p>Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) Moderate adverse (significant, year 15)</p>	<p>Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)</p>
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			Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect		
Operation	Views of solar modules, ancillary structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting affecting a medium extent of views	Residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans) Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take	Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) namely Hawthorn Cottage, Newland Bungalow, Newland Farm Cottage, Horses Bones Farm, Old Tomms, Westbrook Farmhouse, and Scotney Court Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant, year 1) on remaining residents of isolated properties	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect

between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm

Minor adverse (not significant, year 15) on residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm

<p>Operation</p>	<p>Views of solar modules, ancillary structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting affecting a medium extent of views</p>	<p>Residents of isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd</p>	<p>Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)</p>	<p>Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) on residents within isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd, namely Caldecott Farm, Bendle Bell Farm, Prospect House, Caldicott Farm, Marsh Farm, The Lawns, Westbrook Farm,</p>	<p>Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)</p>
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			Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect	Swamp Crossing Farm, Swan Farm, and Belgar Farm Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant, year 1) on remaining residents of isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd Minor adverse (not significant, year 15) on residents of isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd	
Operation	Views of solar modules, ancillary structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting	People using PRow between Old Romney and Little Cheyne	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows,	Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) where routes pass	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation

affecting a medium extent of views

Court Wind Farm

watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans)

Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect

through or adjacent to the Order Limits

Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant, year 1) on remaining routes

Minor adverse (not significant, year 15) on people using PRow between Old Romney and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm

removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

Operation	Views of solar modules, ancillary structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting affecting a medium extent of views	People using PRow between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation	Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) where routes pass through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline
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			removal is indicated on draft vegetation removal plans) Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect	significant, year 1) on remaining routes Minor adverse (not significant, year 15) on people using PRow between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm	Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Operation

Views of solar modules, ancillary structures, BESS and onsite substation plus new mitigation planting affecting a medium extent of views

People using PRow between New Romney and Lydd

Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns (except where vegetation removal is indicated on draft

Moderate adverse (significant, year 1) where routes pass through or adjacent to the Order Limits

Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant, year 1) on remaining routes

Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology

vegetation removal plans)

Planting of new mitigation planting albeit this will take some years to establish and mature in order to achieve desired effect

Minor adverse (not significant, year 15) on people using PRow between New Romney and Lydd

Management Plan (oLEMP)

Decommissioning	Presence and perception of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium part of the landscape character area	Regional Landscape Character Area: Brookland Farms	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Moderate adverse (significant)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning	Presence and perception of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a large part of the landscape character area	Regional Landscape Character Area: Dungeness Shingle	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Major adverse (significant)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning	Presence and perception of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a large part of the landscape character area	Regional Landscape Character Area: Walland Marsh Farmlands	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Major adverse (significant)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology
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					Management Plan (oLEMP)
Decommissioning	Presence and perception of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium part of the seascape character area	Regional Seascape Character Area: C8A – Dungeness, Denge Marsh & Eastern Rye Bay	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Moderate adverse (significant)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Decommissioning	Presence and perception of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium part of the	District Landscape Character Area: 2. Brookland Farmlands	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns	Moderate adverse (significant)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline

	landscape character area		Planting of new mitigation planting		Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Decommissioning	Presence and perception of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a large part of the landscape character area	District Landscape Character Area: 3. Walland Marsh Farmlands	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Major adverse (significant)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Decommissioning	Presence and perception of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a large part of the	District Landscape Character Area: 6.	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows,	Major adverse (significant)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be

	landscape character area	Dungeness Shingle	watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting		finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Decommissioning	Presence and perception of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a large part of the Site boundary	Landscape character of the Site boundary	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Major adverse (significant)	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a	Residents of Greatstone	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as	Moderate adverse (significant) on residents of Greatstone within	Proposed landscape planting and extent of

	medium extent of views		hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	properties at northwestern end of Dunes Road Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of Greatstone	vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium extent of views	Residents of Lydd	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Moderate adverse (significant) on residents of Lydd within properties along Meadow View, The Beeches, and Ash Grove Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of Lydd	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium extent of views	Residents of isolated properties between Old Romney and New Romney	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Moderate adverse (significant) on residents within isolated properties between Old Romney and New Romney, namely Plumtree Farm, and Kemps Hill Farm. Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of isolated properties between Old Romney and New Romney	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a large extent of views	Residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Little	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows,	Major adverse (significant) on residents within isolated properties between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm, namely	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in

Cheyne Court Wind Farm	watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Hawthorn Cottage, Newland Bungalow, Newland Farm Cottage, Horses Bones Farm, Old Tomms, Westbrook Farmhouse, and Scotney Court Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of isolated properties between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm	outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a large extent of views	Residents of isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns	Major adverse (significant) on residents within isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd, namely Caldecott	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in
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			Planting of new mitigation planting	<p>Farm, Bendle Bell Farm, Prospect House, Caldicott Farm, The Lawns, Westbrook Farm, Swamp Crossing Farm, Swan Farm, and Belgar Farm</p> <p>Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining residents of isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd</p>	outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium extent of views	People using Route 2 of the National Cycle Network	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns	<p>Moderate adverse (significant) where the route passes adjacent to the Order Limits</p> <p>Negligible adverse or no effect (not</p>	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline

Planting of new mitigation planting

significant) on remaining route

Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium extent of views	People using PRow between Old Romney and New Romney	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Moderate adverse (significant) where routes pass close to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a large extent of views	People using PRow between Old Romney and Little Cheyne	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows,	Major adverse (significant) where routes pass through or adjacent to the Order Limits	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be

Court Wind Farm

watercourses, field patterns

Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes

finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

Planting of new mitigation planting

Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a large extent of views	People using PRow between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Major adverse (significant) where routes pass through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning

Views of decommissioning works and associated

People using PRow between New

Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as

Major adverse (significant) where routes pass through

Proposed landscape planting and extent of

activity affecting a large extent of views

Romney and Lydd

hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns

Planting of new mitigation planting

or adjacent to the Order Limits

Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes

vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)

Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium extent of views	People using PRow between Lydd and Dungeness	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Moderate adverse (significant) where routes pass through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining routes	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning

Views of decommissioning

People travelling along

Retention of and offsets from key

Moderate adverse (significant) where

Proposed landscape

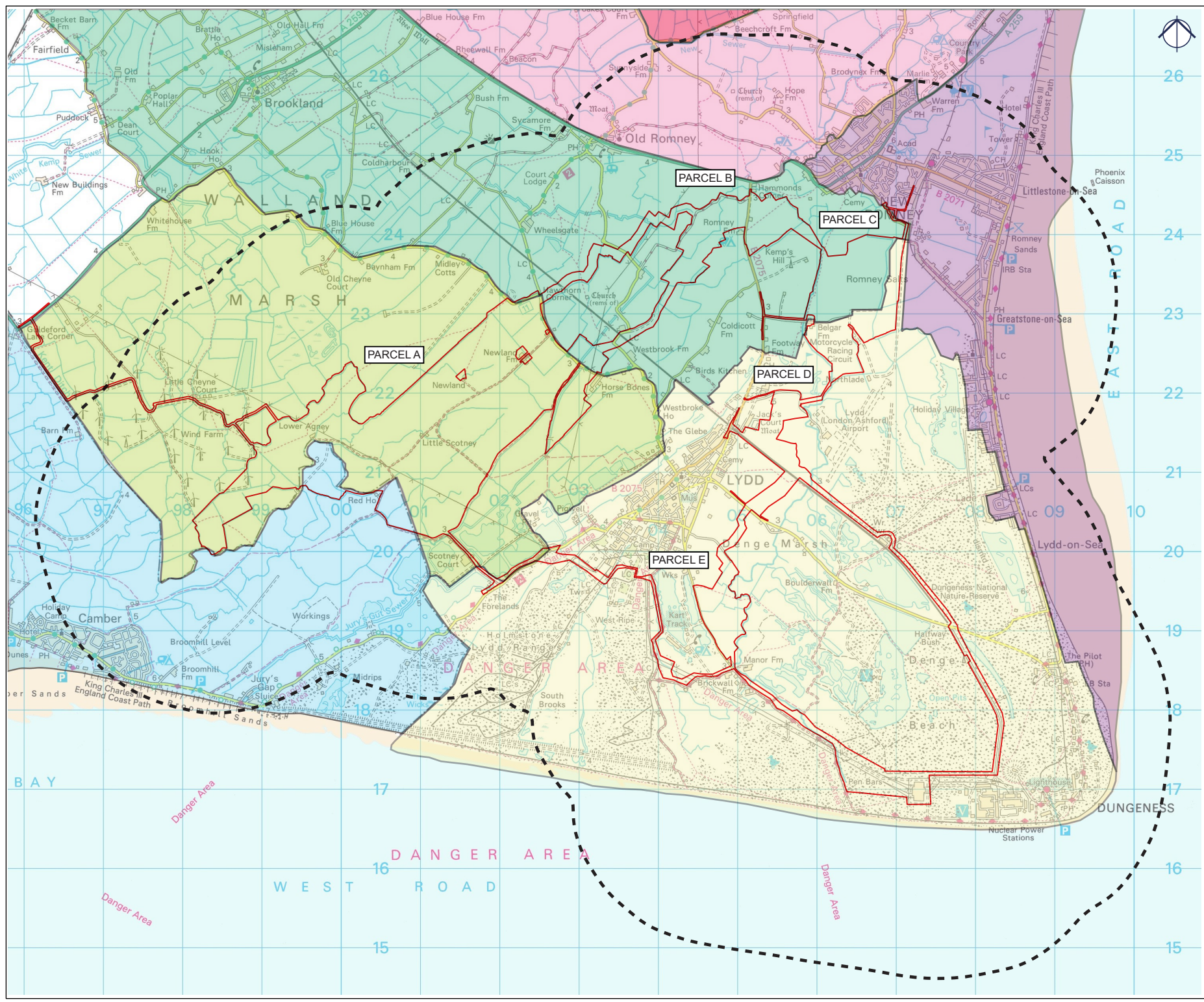
works and associated activity affecting a medium extent of views	Dungeness Road	landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	the road passes through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining road	planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium extent of views	People travelling along Dengemarsh Road	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Moderate adverse (significant) where the road passes through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining road	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium extent of views	People travelling along Midley Wall	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Moderate adverse (significant) where the road passes through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining road	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Decommissioning	Views of decommissioning works and associated activity affecting a medium extent of views	People travelling along Swamp Road / Dennes Lane	Retention of and offsets from key landscape features such as hedgerows, watercourses, field patterns Planting of new mitigation planting	Moderate adverse (significant) where the road passes through or adjacent to the Order Limits Negligible adverse or no effect (not significant) on remaining road	Proposed landscape planting and extent of vegetation removal to be finalised in outline Landscape and Ecology
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					Management Plan (oLEMP)
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Revision History

Rev	Date	By	Detail
01	12.05.26	GH	

Drawing Notes:
 The site boundary is for indicative purposes only and requires confirmation on site.
 Regional Landscape Character Areas datasets have been digitised manually and are therefore indicative.

KEY

- Order Limits
- 2km Study Area

The Landscape Assessment of Kent
 Kent County Council 2004

- Dungeness Shingle
- Walland Marsh Farmlands
- Brookland Farms
- The Romney Coast
- Romney Marsh Settlements
- Romney Marsh Mixed Farmlands

East Sussex Landscape Character Assessment
 East Sussex County Council 2016

- Rye-Winchelsea Area

Scale: 0 0.5 1 km

GENERAL NOTES:

- This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all engineer's, architect's or other relevant drawings and specifications.
- All dimensions and levels are subject to detailed design.
- All works to be carried out in compliance with the requirements of the relevant statutory authorities and regulations.

Client:
 EDF Power Solutions UK and Ireland, and PS Renewables

Consultant:

Drawing number: Figure 9-6 **Revision:** 01

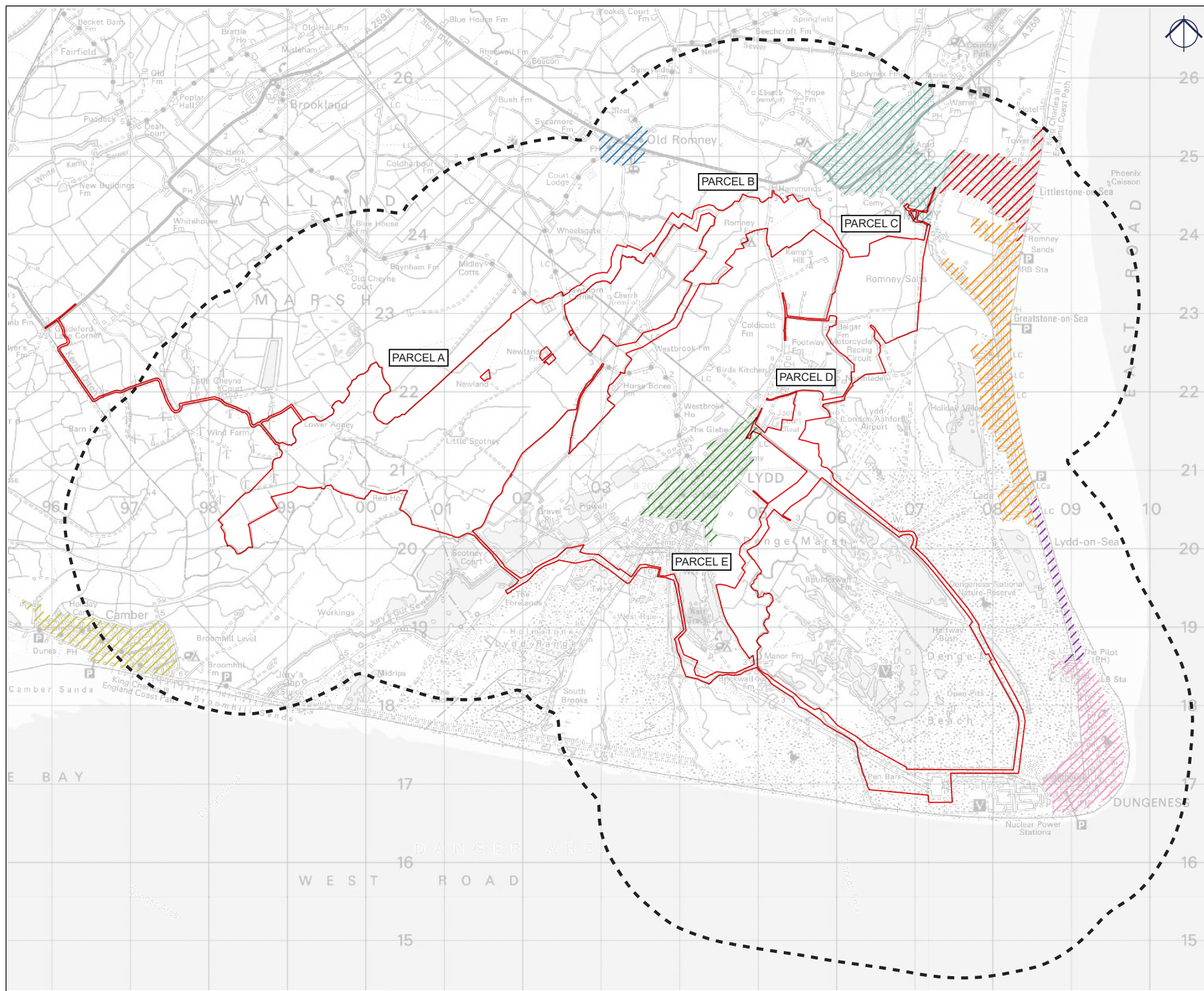
Project:
 South Brooks Solar Farm

Drawing title:
 Regional Landscape Character Areas

Drawing status:
 For Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Date	Drawn	Checked
12.05.26	GH	BG

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Revision History

Rev	Date	By	Detail
01	07.05.26	GH	

Drawing Notes:
 The site boundary is for indicative purposes only and requires confirmation on site.
 Townscape Character Area datasets have been digitised manually and are therefore indicative.

KEY
 — Order Limits
 - - - 2km Study Area

Local Townscape Character Areas

- Littlestone-on-Sea
- Greatstone-on-Sea
- Camber
- Lydd
- New Romney
- Old Romney
- Lydd-on-Sea
- Dungeness



- GENERAL NOTES:**
- This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all engineer's, architect's or other relevant drawings and specifications.
 - All dimensions and levels are subject to detailed design.
 - All works to be carried out in compliance with the requirements of the relevant statutory authorities and regulations.

Client
 EDF Power Solutions UK and Ireland, and PS Renewables

Consultant

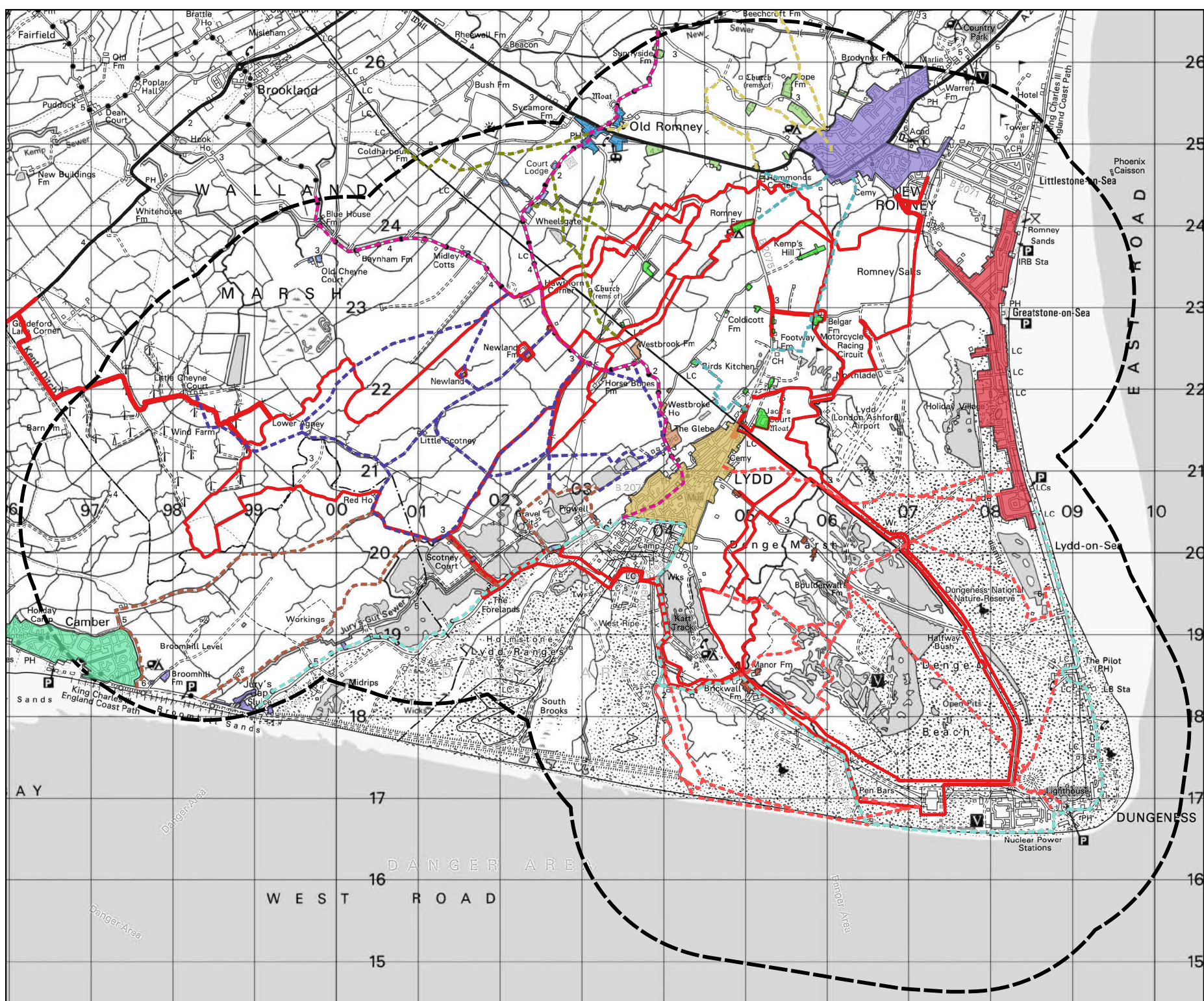
Drawing number **Revision**
Figure 9-9 **01**

Project
 South Brooks Solar Farm

Drawing title
 Local Townscape Character Areas

Drawing status
 For Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Date	Drawn	Checked
07.05.26	GH	BG



Revision History

Rev	Date	By	Detail
01	20.05.26	BG	

Drawing Notes

The site boundary is for indicative purposes only and requires confirmation on site.

KEY

LVIA Study Area
 LVIA Study Area

Order Limits
 Order Limits

Residential

- Old Romney
- New Romney
- Greatstone
- Lydd
- Camber
- Isolated properties between Old Romney and New Romney
- Isolated properties between Old Romney and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm
- Isolated properties between Camber and Lydd
- Isolated properties between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm
- Isolated properties between New Romney and Lydd
- Isolated properties between Lydd and Dungeness

Recreational

- King Charles III England Coast Path
- Route 2 of National Cycle Network
- ProW between Old Romney and New Romney
- ProW between Old Romney and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm
- ProW between Camber and Lydd
- ProW between Lydd and Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm
- ProW between New Romney and Lydd
- ProW between Lydd and Dungeness

Scale
 0 0.5 1 km

General Notes

- This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all other drawings and specifications.
- All dimensions and levels are subject to detailed design.
- All works to be carried out in compliance with the requirements of the relevant statutory authorities and regulations.

Client
 EDF Power Solutions UK and Ireland, and PS Renewables

Consultant

Drawing number **Figure 9-10** **Revision** **01**

Project
 South Brooks Solar Farm

Drawing Title
 Visual Receptors

Drawing status
 For Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Date	Drawn	Checked
20.05.26	BG	BG

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