

# Landscape and Visual Technical Note



Land off Crick Road, Caldicot,  
Monmouthshire  
31st July 2024



Tyler  
Grange

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# Section 1: Introduction

- 1.1. This Landscape and Visual Technical Note has been prepared by Tyler Grange Group Limited (TG) on behalf of Richborough to provide a high-level landscape and visual analysis for the potential residential development of a site located upon Land off Crick Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire hereafter referred to as 'the Site'.
- 1.2. The purpose of the note is to:
  - Present the high-level findings of a desktop-based study and relevant landscape planning;
  - Provide the high-level findings of a field—based landscape and visual walkover to assist in the understanding of the Site and its local context; and
  - Establish the opportunities and constraints (considerations) relating to landscape/visual matters to inform emerging design proposals.
- 1.3. This note is guided by recommendations set out within Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA) Third Edition, LI & IEMA, 2013 to accord with industry standard best practice and has been reviewed by Chartered Members of the Landscape Institute (CMLI).

## Site Context

- 1.4. The Site is located to the east of Caldicot on land to the east of the Nedern Brook, west of Crick Road, and either side of the Caldicot to Caerwent former MOD railway line. Land to the east of the railway line comprises the David Broome Event Centre, a showground and areas of commercial development. Some pastoral fields remain on the periphery and in the land west of the railway line. This context is illustrated on **Plan 1**.
- 1.5. The Site is situated at between c. 10 and 20m above Ordnance Datum (AOD), rising from west to east. Caldicot settlement is generally low lying (c. 15-25m AOD), but land rises up beyond the Nedern Brook; to the east to over 50m AOD at Portskewett Hill and to the north to over 50m AOD at Caerwent Camp.
- 1.6. The Site is bordered to the north and west by existing tree planting belts and field boundaries, beyond which is the flood plain of the Nedern Brook and, beyond this the existing edge of Caldicot. The eastern boundary is formed by Crick Road, beyond which is pasture farmland which forms part of the wider emerging proposed allocation. The former MOD railway which separates the east and west of the Site has long been abandoned and has become established with mature vegetation - aligned on both sides by a strong line of native trees. Blocks of native woodland occur within the landscape, notably to the east of Crick Road and to the north of Crick and Caerwent. The settlement of Portskewett extends east along the coast from Caldicot to the south of the Site.
- 1.7. Existing Public Rights of Way (PRoW) cross the Site from the south and west, extending towards the north-east and joining Crick Road. There are ongoing discussions between





Monmouthshire County Council (MCC), Gwili Railway and Welsh Government relating to the conversion of the former MOD railway line between Caldicot and Caerwent to a pedestrian and cycle link, of which a first phase has already been implemented between Cornfields Project (c.830m south of the Site) to Caldicot Castle Country Park. The land to the south of the Site forms part of the Caldicot Castle Country Park and the southern field, west of the railway line, forms part of the Caldicot Castle Conservation Area.

- 1.8. To aid with the contextualisation of the report, the Site has been split into 'eastern' and 'western' areas, with the former MOD railway line forming the dividing line.

#### TG Insert 1 – Eastern and Western Site areas



## The Potential Development

- 1.9. The Site is seeking allocation through the Replacement Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033 process. The eastern area of the Site is proposed to accommodate residential development and associated infrastructure, including green and blue infrastructure. Given the constraints presented by the conservation area designation and the flooding potential associated with the Nedern Brook, the western area of the Site has been identified from an early stage to provide opportunity for public open space.
- 1.10. To the east of Crick Road is another candidate site (Candidate Site number: CS0251) which would form part of the same allocation as the Site discussed within this report and as such, consideration of how the Site would connect to this has been applied. The boundary for candidate site CS0251 is contained within **Appendix 1** and **Plans 1-7**.



1.11. The Emerging Illustrative Masterplan for both candidate sites is contained in **Appendix 1**.



# Section 2: Landscape Designations and Planning Policy

- 2.1. To establish the baseline and potential limit of effects, a data trawl focussed on the local planning policy context, identifying any national or local landscape (or landscape associated) designations (such as National Landscapes, National Parks, Areas of Great Landscape Value etc.) and providing a general geographical understanding of the Site and its broader context (such as its relationship to local landform, transport routes, distribution and nature of built form and settlement).
- 2.2. Further to this early analysis (which has been followed up by subsequent field work), and together with an appreciation of the Emerging Illustrative Masterplan for the potential Proposed Development upon the Site, a 2km study area from the Site boundary is considered appropriate and is illustrated on **Plan 2**.

## Landscape Designations

- 2.3. There are no national or local landscape designations covering the Site or within the surrounding 2km study area.

## Other Relevant Considerations

### Heritage

- 2.4. No Listed Buildings are located within the Site.
- 2.5. The nearest Listed Building is Grade II listed 'Mount Ballan', located c.80m east of the Site boundary alongside Crick Road, as illustrated on **Plan 1**. Elsewhere within the study area, Listed Buildings are primarily located within urban areas or settlement.
- 2.6. One exception is Grade I Listed 'Caldicot Castle' which is located c.180m southwest of the western Site boundary, and is also a Scheduled Monument. These heritage assets are located centrally within the Caldicot Conservation Area (CCA) as illustrated on **Plan 1** and **2**. The Conservation Area extends beyond the castle and Scheduled Monument, covering the areas around it including land east up to the former MOD railway line and north to Footpath 354/79/1. As such the Conservation Area covers the majority of the western area of the Site as illustrated in **Plan 2**. There is no Conservation Area Appraisal for Caldicot.
- 2.7. Located approximately 100m north of the Site is 'The Berries Mound & Bailey' Scheduled Monument of medieval origin, whilst there are a number of other Scheduled Monuments within the study area spanning from Iron Age to Roman and Medieval origins. No Scheduled Monuments are located on or adjacent to the Site.
- 2.8. The Gwent Levels Historic Landscape Area is located on the fringes of the study area adjacent to the River Severn.



## Access and Recreation

- 2.9. Caldicot Castle Country Park is located adjacent to the south-western edge of the Site and encompasses the grounds around Caldicot Castle. Country Parks are not a landscape designation nor necessarily created in recognition of, or to protect, landscape quality. They are a natural area designated for people to visit and enjoy recreation in a countryside environment.
- 2.10. As illustrated on **Plan 2**, there are a number of Public Rights of Way (PRoW) which are located within the study area. The vast majority of their concentration is located west of the former MOD railway line, with most falling within the urban confines of Caldicot town. Few PRoW exist to the east, north and south of the Site, and where present they primarily form links between lanes, hamlets and farmsteads. Footpaths 376/26/1, 376/25/1, 354/79/1, 354/79/2, 376/25/2 and 354/48/1 are located within or cross through the Site.
- 2.11. The Wales Coast Path is located c.1.2km south of the Site at its closest point and follows as closely as possible the coastline of Wales.
- 2.12. No other Promoted Routes are located within the study area.

## Local Planning Policy

- 2.13. At district level, the Site lies within the administrative area of Monmouthshire County Council (MCC).

### Monmouthshire County Council Local Development Plan (MCCLDP) 2011-2021 (Adopted February 2014)

- 2.14. This document contains local planning policies for Monmouthshire County Council. These policies are designed to take forward the Local Development Plan objectives, spatial strategy and vision for this County. Policies of relevance to this Site with regards to landscape and visual matters, design and context are set out below:
- Policy S1: The Spatial Distribution of New Housing Provision – The main focus for new housing development is within or adjoining the ‘Main towns’. The Site lies adjacent to Caldicot within the “Severnside sub-region” where a smaller amount of new housing development is provided within the plan. The Site is not allocated but the setting of Caldicot is deemed appropriate for some new housing development;
  - Policy S13: Landscape, Green Infrastructure and the Natural Environment – Policy sets out that development must maintain the character and quality of the landscape;
  - Policy S17: Place Making and Design – Policy sets out that new development should contribute to high-quality, attractive and sustainable places which are inclusive, respects local distinctiveness and the existing character of the Site and its surroundings (such as natural, historic and built environment);
  - Policy CRF2: Outdoor Recreation / Public Open Space / Allotment Standards and Provision – Policy sets out the open space and recreation requirements for new development;



- Policy RE6: Provision of Recreation, Tourism and Leisure Facilities in the Open Countryside - Development proposals for recreation, tourism and leisure uses in the countryside will be permitted provided that they are of a small-scale, informal nature and subject to detailed planning considerations, including adequate safeguards for the character and appearance of the countryside (particularly its landscape, biodiversity and local amenity value);
- Policy LC1: New Built Development in the Open Countryside – Policy sets out a presumption against new development in the open countryside (outside of settlement boundaries). Exceptions include where the set criteria are met: a) the proposal is satisfactorily assimilated into the landscape and complies with Policy LC5; b) new buildings wherever possible are located within or close to existing groups of buildings; c) the development design is of a form, bulk, size and layout and scale that respects the character of the surrounding countryside; and d) the development will have no unacceptable adverse impact on landscape, historic / cultural or geological heritage, biodiversity or amenity value;
- Policy LC5: Protection and Enhancement of Landscape Character – This policy states that *“Development proposals that would impact upon landscape character, as defined by LANDMAP Landscape Character Assessment, must demonstrate through a landscape assessment how landscape character has influenced their design, scale, nature and Site selection”*. It also states that *“Development will be permitted provided it would not have an unacceptable adverse effect on the special character or quality of Monmouthshire’s landscape in terms of its visual, historic geological, ecological or cultural aspects”*;
- Policy GI1: Green Infrastructure – This policy relates to the maintenance, protection and enhancement of Monmouthshire’s diverse green infrastructure network. Existing green infrastructure is expected to be retained and integrated into new development, whilst where loss is unavoidable, appropriate mitigation and/or compensation of the lost assets are required. New development should also incorporate new green infrastructure or enhance existing assets that should be of an appropriate type, standard and size;
- Policy EP1: Amenity and Environmental Protection – This policy relates to new buildings having regard for neighbouring properties, including privacy, amenity and health of the occupiers. Proposals also must not result in unacceptable harm to local amenity, health, character and quality of the countryside or interests of nature conservation, landscape or built heritage;
- Policy MV3: Public Rights of Way – This policy refers to development having regard to existing public rights of way and should not obstruct them unless satisfactory alternative provision is provided;
- Policy DES1: General Design Considerations – This is a general policy that requires that all development be of *“a high quality sustainable design and respect the local character and distinctiveness of Monmouthshire’s built, historic and natural environment”* and sets out a number of criteria;
- Policy DES2: Areas of Amenity Importance – This policy relates to a local policy designation, where development proposals within them will only permitted if there are no unacceptable adverse effects on a range of issues (of which landscape and visual amenity is included). The Site is not located on any Areas of Amenity Importance, however it is located adjacent to one, covering the area between the western edge of the Site and eastern edge of Caldicot, washing over the Caldicot Castle Country Park as illustrated on **Plan 2**;



- Policy HE1: Development in Conservation Areas – This policy relates to development within Conservation Areas and sets out a number of criteria. Part of the western area of the Site is washed over by the Caldicot Conservation Area as illustrated on **Plan 2** although this area is to be retained as open space; and
- Policy SAH2: Crick Road, Portskewett – A 10.95 hectare site at the Crick Road, Portskewett is allocated for a mixed use residential and employment development, located adjacent to the south-eastern boundary of the site. This is currently in construction adjacent to the south of the Site as illustrated in **Plan 1**.

## Other Relevant Supplementary Planning Documents and Guidance

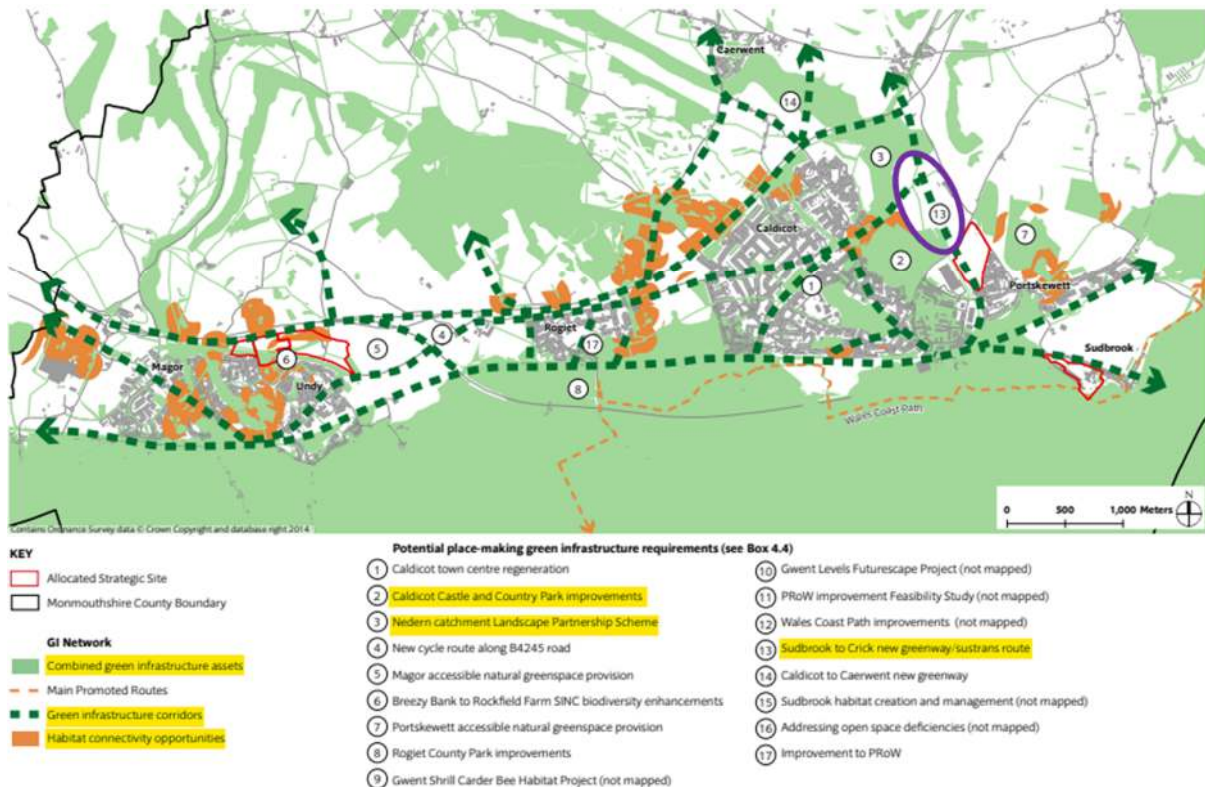
### Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Guidance (Adopted April 2015)

- 2.15. In accordance with the requirements of this document a series of outputs would be required to form part of any future planning application as a means of demonstrating that the Green Infrastructure requirements and objectives of the Council have been taken into account. The Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Guidance (GI SPG) requires development to demonstrate an analysis of the baseline Green Infrastructure assets on a potential development Site and within the locality, the identification of opportunities and constraints relating to Green Infrastructure provision in association with the Site and potential development, and the preparation of a Green Infrastructure Masterplan to demonstrate how a development will contribute to Green Infrastructure features that are existing as well as create new assets in line with the Council's aspirations and in response to Site circumstances.
- 2.16. Section 4.5 of the GI SPG considers the Severnside sub-region of which includes Caldicot. The extracted figure below (**TG Insert 2**) illustrates the 'Key GI Opportunities in the Severnside Settlements', of which, the former MOD railway line is identified as '13 – Sudbrook to Crick new greenway/sustrans route', whilst the areas adjacent are identified as '2 – Caldicot Castle and Country Park improvements' and '3 – Nedern catchment Landscape Partnership Scheme'. As such, the Site is well placed to retain and enhance the existing GI network, whilst also providing its own green infrastructure opportunities and connections to these nearby strategic assets.





TG Insert 2: Key GI Opportunities in the Severnside Settlements (approximate location of Site circled in purple)



2.17. Appendix F of the GI SPG sets out the following opportunities to strengthen existing GI connectivity and assets:

- Strengthen the railway and motorway corridors: ensure tree lines and hedgerows are well connected and sensitively managed. Ensure sensitive management of grassland verges;
- Strengthen the Nedern Brook corridor, the main semi-natural corridor through the urban zone of the settlement. Ensure a buffer of semi-natural habitat with adjacent fields and the built urban landscape, and connect with nearby areas of semi-natural habitat where possible. Identify the significance of the culverts as barriers to wildlife dispersal and explore potential options for reducing their fragmentary effect;
- Ensure hedgerows are sensitively managed and well-connected with the wider hedgerow network and other semi-natural habitat features (particularly woodlands);
- Ensure current blocks of semi-natural habitat and protected sites are sensitively managed and their extent increased where appropriate; and
- Ensure ditches are sensitively managed.

2.18. Appendix F of the GI SPG also identifies opportunities to enhance connectivity which are set out as

- Between the block of woodland and ponds, off Dewstow Road (north-west part of the settlement) and the M48 road verge corridor to its south;



- Across the northern half of the settlement, most significantly in relation to the clusters of ASNW SINC's centred on Portskewett Hill. These patches could be linked to each other and to the railway corridor (to the south), Bushy Close SSSI and Withy Bed woodland (to the east).
- Between a series of small groups of trees stretching north-south between the M48 and railway corridors to the east of Rogiet.
- Between patches of trees adjacent to the Nedern Brook corridor, north of Caldicot Castle.'

2.19. Further to the above, the existing Green Infrastructure assets within the area are identified and illustrated on the **Plan 5: Green Infrastructure Context and Connections**. The plan identifies the local wooded hillside areas, notably to the east and north of the Site, the SSSI of the Nedern Brook Wetlands which runs from Caerwent towards Caldicot Castle and the River Severn and the wooded areas which flank it, the Country Park itself and the PRow network. **Plan 6** undertakes a more detailed analysis of the on-Site green infrastructure assets and opportunities which are further discussed in Section 5.





# Section 3: Landscape Character

## National Landscape Character

- 3.1. At national scale, the Site is located within National Landscape Character Area (NLCA) 54 – Gwent Levels (as defined by Natural Resources Wales (NRW). National Landscape Character Areas are defined at a broad landscape scale throughout Wales. Noted characteristics and descriptions within the character assessment are more relevant at a strategic level and providing wider context. Therefore, no further information on NLCAs is presented within this report, with LANDMAP (as described below) providing more relevant description.

## LANDMAP

- 3.2. LANDMAP is a resource that was originally developed by the Countryside Commission for Wales (CCW; now Natural Resource Wales (NRW)). LANDMAP is a publicly available dataset regarding the landscape baseline which records describes and evaluates the Welsh landscape.,

- 3.3. PPW 12 paragraph 6.3.19 highlights LANDMAP stating:

*“LANDMAP is an important information resource, methodology, and monitoring baseline for the landscapes of Wales, which can help inform planning for the sustainable management of natural resources in an area. LANDMAP describes and evaluates the physical, ecological, visual, cultural and historic aspects of the landscapes of Wales, and provides the basis of a consistent, quality assured national approach to landscape assessment. LANDMAP assessments can help to inform green infrastructure assessments, SPG on landscape, development management decisions, landscape character assessment, special landscape areas (SLAs), local distinctiveness, design, and landscape sensitivity studies.”*

- 3.4. As such, there are five ‘Aspect Areas’ of the landscape which make up LANDMAP, including: Geological Landscape, Landscape Habitats, Visual and Sensory, Historic Landscape, and Cultural Landscape Services.

- 3.5. To gain greater clarity as to which qualities and features are of importance to the Site, the Site specific LANDMAP evaluation for each ‘Aspect Area’ is contained in full at **Appendix 3** and have been summarised in Table 1 below. The analysis also takes account of the justification of the LANDMAP ‘Overall Evaluation Scores’ which are graded as follows:

- Outstanding – of International or National importance;
- High – of Regional or County importance;
- Moderate – of Local importance; and
- Low – of little or no importance.

- 3.6. Each aspect area is described, assessed and assigned one of the four overall grades set out above. The Cultural Landscape Services aspect areas however are noted to not be ascribed an overall evaluation.



**Table 1: Summary of LANDMAP Aspect Areas covering the Site**

Aspect	Unique Area ID	Aspect Area Name	Classification	Evaluation
Geological Landscape	MNMTHGL084	Caerwent-Sudbrook	Lowland hills and valleys / Lowland river and drainage systems / Ancient lowland river-flood plain system	High
	MNMTHGL086	Caldicot Moor	Coastal / Estuary / Other	Moderate
	MNMTHGL089	Rogiet-Caldicot	Lowland hills and valleys / Lowland river and drainage systems / Ancient lowland river flood plain system	Low
Landscape Habitats	MNMTHLH105	S. rural Monmouthshire	Dry (Relatively) Terrestrial Habitats / Grassland & Marsh / Improved Grassland	Moderate
	MNMTHLH094	Nedern Brook Wetlands	Dry (Relatively) Terrestrial Habitats / Grassland & Marsh / Improved Grassland	High
Visual and Sensory	MNMTHVS043	Leechpool	Lowland / Rolling Lowland / Mosaic Rolling Lowland	Moderate
Historic Landscape	MNMTHHL006	St Pierre Pill	Rural environment / Agricultural / Regular Fieldscapes	High
Cultural Landscape Services	MNMTHCLS049	Leechpool	Lowland / Rolling Lowland / Mosaic Rolling Lowland	All Cultural Landscape Services areas are unassessed

3.25. With the above overall valuations in mind and in consideration of NRW's definitions associated with interpretation of LANDMAP evaluations, the aspect area evaluations (and therefore overall landscape character of this area) vary between regional/county importance (in the case of Geological Landscape, Historic Landscape and a very small area of Landscape



Habitats) to little to no importance (Geological Landscape near of the Site near Church Road). The LANDMAP Aspect Areas and their evaluations are illustrated on **Plan 3**.

## Geological Landscape Aspect Areas

- 3.26. As illustrated on **Plan 3**, the vast majority of the Site falls within the boundary of the 'Caerwent-Sudbrook' aspect area which is evaluated as 'High' indicating regional/county importance. The justification for this evaluation states *"Area includes several Geodiversity Audit sites including a stratigraphical type locality in addition to an exceptional range of river terrace features"*.
- 3.27. 'Caldicot Moor' aspect area covers part of the western area of the Site and broadly aligns with the Nedern Brook. This aspect area is evaluated at 'Moderate' and of local importance, with the overall justification stating *"Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value."*
- 3.28. The 'Rogiet-Caldicot' aspect area covers the very western end of the Site, between the Nedern Brook and Church Road, as illustrated on **Plan 3**. This aspect area is evaluated as 'low', being of little to no importance with the justification for this overall evaluation stated as being *'Terrace feature largely developed.'*

## Landscape Habitats Aspect Areas

- 3.29. The vast majority of the Site falls within the boundary of the 'S. rural Monmouthshire' aspect area of which is evaluated as 'Moderate' as illustrated on **Plan 3**, indicating local importance. The justification for this overall evaluation is *"The area is generally quite low ecological value improved grassland but there are small pockets of more valuable habitat. the deciding factor in increasing the evaluation to moderate is the large number of key species records, although it should be noted that as the Aspect Area is large a larger number of key species would be expected."*
- 3.30. A slither of the western areas of the Site (as illustrated in **Plan 3**) is located within the 'Nedern Brook Wetlands' aspect area, which has a 'High' overall evaluation and therefore is considered of regional/county importance. The justification for this evaluation states *"This Aspect Area could easily be evaluated as low as improved grassland is generally quite low ecological value habitat. The value is increased dramatically due to the seasonal flooding of the area which makes it a rare and valuable habitat type and this is reflected in the area supporting a number of key species and most significantly being entirely designated as a SSSI therefore justifying the high evaluation."*
- 3.31. During the Site visit conducted on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024, standing water was witnessed across the Nedern Brook Wetlands aspect area. The Site is of mostly grazed improved grassland, with areas of built form comprising the equestrian complex. Mature vegetation is primarily located along the former MOD railway line, Crick Road, the western river terrace with the Nedern Brook and adjacent residential boundary curtilages. The northern boundary is in-part well treed, whilst scattered trees are located primarily within the eastern area of the Site.



## Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas

- 3.32. In terms of 'Visual and Sensory' aspect area 'Leechpool' the overall evaluation for this area is 'Moderate' indicating local importance. The justification for the overall evaluation for this aspect area is stated as *"A semi-rural landscape with pleasing undulating hills acting as an important setting to Caldicot Castle and as a backcloth to the levels. The area is in moderate condition with fairly consistent character although there are instances of locally intrusive development. Its sense of place is defined by Caldicot Castle, the dispersed linear settlement of Leechpool, and views of the estuary. Gently undulating arable and mixed farmland is relatively common in Monmouthshire"*. The summary description for the area identifies it as:

*"A lowland landscape defined by the M48 and Caldicot to the north and west respectively, whilst merging to the south-east with the Levels. It is a low gently undulating open landscape with long views towards the Second Severn Crossing and the estuary. Irregular medium to large-scale fields of mixed pasture are bounded by a mosaic of low well maintained hedges, hedgerow trees and field trees; lack of management however has resulted in hedges either being removed or becoming neglected, overgrown and gappy in places. Intrusive lines of post and rail fencing are common, particularly where the fragmentation of farmland has led to a rise in smallholdings and horsiculture. To the south and west, small blocks of deciduous woodland interlink with existing hedges to create a more secluded character. Caldicot Castle to the west reinforces the strong historical connections of this landscape, buffered by the tranquil setting of the Country Park. Settlement is limited to often neglected traditional farmsteads, with scattered linear housing clinging to narrow winding roads, comprising a mixture of modern and traditional, styles and materials."*

- 3.33. The descriptions accurately describe the woodland blocks, mixture of low-cut managed hedges and those of which have become neglected and gappy in places, whilst the irregular fieldscape pattern mentioned does not appear to be consistent with the pattern within the vicinity of the Site (as illustrated on **Plan 1**). Caldicot Castle, the Country Park and gently undulating landform are indeed present within the Site's context.

## Historic Landscape Aspect Areas

- 3.34. The Site lies within the 'St Pierre Pill' aspect area and the overall evaluation for this area is 'High' indicating regional importance. The justification for this overall evaluation is stated as *"The Aspect Area contains monuments of Neolithic and Iron Age date and has revealed evidence Iron Age / Roman activity, especially in the vicinity of Portskewett / Sudbrook. The area is noted for a number of post-medieval landscape parks and gardens included within the Cadw Register of Parks and Gardens in Wales"*.

## Cultural Aspect Area

- 3.35. The Site lies within the 'Leechpool' aspect area and does not have an overall evaluation however 'Character', illustrated on **Plan 3**, as well as 'Sense of place/local distinctiveness' and 'Scenic quality' have an evaluation of 'Moderate' indicating local importance. There are no justifications for these evaluations.



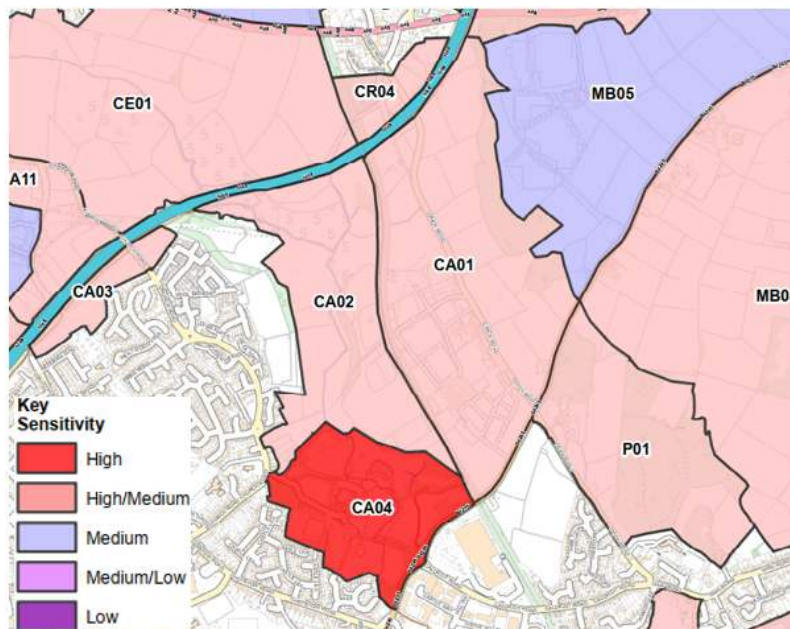
## Summary

- 3.36. The LANDMAP data relate to much broader study areas and so whilst some of the character descriptions and features listed do apply to the locality, it is not a wholly accurate reflection of the Site context itself. As such, more localised and county specific Landscape Character Assessments, which take into account the underpinning LANDMAP data and provide more specific assessment relating local circumstances, are more appropriate when considering effects of development upon the landscape.

## Monmouthshire Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study (October 2020)

- 3.37. The study was carried out as an update to the landscape sensitivity and capacity study carried out for the County in 2009 as part of the evidence base for the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) 2018-2033, intended to be submitted to the Welsh Government in October 2024.
- 3.38. Within the study, the Site is across two Local Landscape Character Areas (LLCA) CA01 and CA02. The full details of these areas are contained within **Appendix 4**.
- 3.39. CA01 covers the eastern area of the Site with the former MOD railway marking its western edge, the B4245 marking its southeastern boundary, the M48 its northern boundary and Ballan Wood its eastern boundary. CA02 covers the western area of the Site, with the former MOD railway forming its eastern boundary, the Nedern Brook corridor forming the western boundary, the M48 forming the northern boundary and Caldicot Castle Country Park forming the southern boundary. These areas are illustrated in **TG Insert 3** below:

### TG Insert 3 – Extract of Landscape Sensitivity of LLCAs (Caldicot)



## LLCA CA01

3.40. The 'Key Characteristics' of CA01 of relevance are:

- Valley side, with gentle slopes to the west and rising more steeply to the east;
- Primarily pastoral with some arable to the south with medium-sized slightly irregular fields with low-cut hedge boundaries, often with gaps;
- Prominent woodland on steep slopes form a positive backcloth and enclosure to the east while there are occasional mature oaks in hedges;
- Scattered rural dwellings but dominated by equestrian centre of semi-rural character;
- The residential settlement edge is some distance from the area, generally screened by trees, especially around Caldicot Castle;
- The upper slopes of the area are visible from Caldicot Castle's towers;
- The area is overlooked by the M48 and is moderately open with some views to the wider countryside to the north and to the residential and commercial areas to the south and south-west respectively;
- The M48 and views of the settlement edge reduces the area's tranquillity;
- There is a listed building at Mount Ballan, Caldicot Castle is a SM [Scheduled Monument] and a listed building [Grade I] in a Conservation Area directly to the west and there is an SM at the The Berries, just to the west; and
- There is a woodland SINC [Site of Importance for Nature Conservation] to the east and there are some small areas in floodplain especially to the north.

3.41. Landscape and visual sensitivity of CA01 to housing is noted within the study to be High/Medium. The supporting text for this judgment states *"The susceptibility of the area lies in the area east of Crick Road and around Little Ballan including pastures on rising ground with associated woodland which are locally prominent and of positive landscape character, the clear separation from the settlement across the Nedern Brook valley and the wider setting of Caldicot Castle. The area around Mount Ballan has a semi-rural character which is enhanced by standard oaks. The value of the area lies in the SINC woodland within the area, the PROWs through the area, and relationship with SMs such as the castle to the west. The LANDMAP value is outstanding for cultural landscape and high for historic landscape and geological landscape. If the area was considered for development, the least sensitive part would be the south west quadrant west of Crick Road coinciding with the developed part of the equestrian centre, excluding the sloping fields to the north."*

3.42. As the supporting text states, the least sensitive part of this area is considered to be the south-western area and previously developed area containing the equestrian centre, of which make up the eastern area of the Site.





## LLCA CA02

3.43. The 'Key Characteristics' of CA02 of relevance are:

- Valley floor, floodplain and lower valley sides;
- Wetland grassland alongside Nedern Brook and irregular small to medium scale fields with gappy low cut hedges with some used by the equestrian centre to the east;
- Tree cover lies on small-scale steeper slopes/river terraces and on field boundaries;
- The area is overlooked by the settlement and the M48 which reduce tranquillity, and the area contributes to the wider setting of Caldicot Castle; and
- Caldicot Castle Conservation Area covers the southern part of the area and there is a SM at the The Berries mott and bailey which lies on the edge of the valley floor.

3.44. Landscape and visual sensitivity of CA02 to housing is noted within the study to be High/Medium. The supporting text for this judgment states *"The susceptibility of the area lies in its open gently undulating valley with woodland belts and often flooded wet grassland/floodplain which together form a strong green corridor east of Caldicot, its contribution to recreation and as open countryside viewed from the settlement edge, the setting of Caldicot Castle and visibility as a feature from the M48, and containing the settlement on its eastern edge. Its value lies in its nature conservation resource in the SSSI of the Nedern Brook, the Conservation Area, the setting to Caldicot Castle SM and the Berries SM. LANDMAP value is high for historic landscape and partly high for landscape habitats and geological landscape."*

3.45. As the above suggests, the western area of the Site is located on the fringes of green corridor due to a number of features and characteristics within it, such as seasonal flooding, heritage assets and their settings, PRoW and the Nedern Brook SSSI.



## Section 4: Visual Context

- 4.1. A Site walkover was conducted on 07 February 2024 where a number of locations were visited (as illustrated on **Plan 3: Zone of Theoretical Visibility and Viewpoint Locations Plan**) and an initial visual analysis was conducted, with supporting winter photography (refer to **Appendix 2: Viewpoints**).
- 4.2. The ZTV illustrates the extent to which a Proposed Development at a 12m ridge height is potentially visible within a 2km radius accounting for a 1.6m high receptor (average human eye height). The ZTV has been modelled using GIS computer software (QGIS) and Welsh Government LIDAR DSM 1m data (2020-2022) and as such, takes into account built form and vegetation present within the landscape. However, field verification is still required to refine the accuracy as intervening features may have been removed (such as demolition of built form or felling of wooded vegetation) or added to the landscape (e.g the new mixed-use development located to the south).
- 4.3. As the ZTV illustrates, potential visibility of residential development on the Site (which would only occur east of the former MOD railway line) would be limited geographically and summary of the findings is included below.
- 4.4. From a visual perspective, the eastern area of the Site is visually contained by wooded hillsides (Crown Hill/Ballan Wood) located east of Crick Road and the mature vegetation aligning the former MOD railway to the west. Further mature wooded vegetation within the western area of the Site, on the fringes of Caldicot and within Caldicot Castle Country Park further limit the potential of intervisibility with the west.
- 4.5. From the north, the ZTV indicates fragmented visibility southwards towards the Proposed Development, limited to glimpses along the M48 and A48, the latter of which is illustrated by **Photoviewpoint 6**. Views from the A48 would be heavily filtered and screened due to a combination of mature vegetation and gently undulating topography, with limited availability of any views of existing development on the eastern portions of the Site. In terms of the northern approach to the Site along Crick Road, it would not be until road users are south of the M48 that filtered views southwards to the northern facing slopes of the Site would be available, as illustrated by **Photoviewpoint 7** within which existing development on the Site is visible. Views further into the Site (eastern area) towards its southern end is limited by landform within it, which peaks around the location of the dwelling of Mount Ballan. Views west towards Caldicot are limited by the heavily vegetated former MOD railway line.
- 4.6. Similarly scattered, fragmented visibility is indicated by the ZTV towards the north-eastern area of Caldicot. **Photoviewpoint 5** illustrates views from Footpath 354/39/1 and looks south-east across Ballan Moor and the Nedern Brook. Mature vegetation and the undulating topography flanking Nedern Brook curtail all views to the eastern area of the Site, whilst views southwards into the western area of the Site are also limited by mature vegetation and the wooded eastern banks of the Nedern Brook.
- 4.7. **Photoviewpoint 4** illustrates views from just north of the Site boundary on Crick Road and Public Footpath 376/25/1 (the latter of which passes through the north-eastern area of the Site). Views from this location comprise broadly rising landform with a mixture of mature





vegetation, equestrian features and some existing residential and equestrian development. Views west towards Caldicot and the western area of the Site are contained by the heavily vegetated former MOD railway line.

- 4.8. **Photoviewpoint 10** illustrates where the aforementioned footpath route continues into the Site and meets Footpath 354/80/1, which provides access to eastern and western parts of the Site via a bridge over the former MOD railway line. Open views of the eastern parcel of the Site are available from both of these routes and Footpath 376/26/1, which also links Crick Road with the bridge. These comprise existing views of equestrian facilities, buildings and structures with occasional mature vegetation within filtering views. View west towards Caldicot and the western area of the Site are limited by mature vegetation aligning the former MOD railway line, with a glimpse over the bridge possible from **Photoviewpoint 10**, although this is not far reaching and similarly limited by mature vegetation within the western area of the Site.
- 4.9. To the east, views are limited due to the wooded hillside of Ballan Wood and Crown Hill. Glimpsed, oblique, elevated filtered views are available from a short section of the B4245, as illustrated by **Photoviewpoint 9**. Scattered dwellings are visible across the view whilst the north-eastern areas of Caldicot are visible beyond the dwelling of Mount Ballan, with some glimpses of the eastern areas of Caldicot available along the B4245. Mature vegetation, even in winter months assists in breaking up views of the eastern area of the Site, whilst beyond the former MOD railway line, the western areas of the Site are screened.
- 4.10. From the south, visibility towards the eastern area of the Site is primarily limited by the rising ground towards Portskewett, of which new residential development (Elderwood Parc) is currently in construction between the residential street of Treetops, Crick Road, B4245 and former MOD railway line as illustrated on **Plan 1**. Views are available from where Crick Road meets the B4245 at the southern Site boundary, as illustrated by **Photoviewpoint 8**. Slightly elevated views are available over the southern boundary hedgerow into the southern portions of the eastern part of the Site, of which hedgerows, occasional mature trees, equestrian facilities and buildings are visible across the view. North-east Caldicot appears in the distance beyond the former MOD railway line. Northern areas of the eastern part of the Site are screened by mature vegetation, as are any areas of the western part of the Site.
- 4.11. In terms of views from the west, views towards the eastern area of the Site (which is where residential development would be located) are limited by the mature wooded vegetation between the eastern edge of Caldicot, flanking the Nedern Brook, within Caldicot Castle Country Park and aligning the former MOD railway line, such that views are predominantly screened as illustrated within **Photoviewpoint 1, 2 and 3**. These views do however contain the western area of the Site which would not be developed for residential purposes but would be retained and enhanced as public open space and a safeguard to the setting of Caldicot Castle, the Conservation Area whilst also providing an unofficial extension to the Country Park.



## Section 5: Landscape and Visual Considerations

5.1. Following on from the analysis of the Landscape and Visual baseline, including the analysis of the wider GI context (**Plan 5**), a number of on-Site Landscape and GI assets and opportunities have been identified (**Plan 6**) for consideration and incorporation within future development proposals for the site. Overall, it is considered that proposals taking account of the following measures would be appropriate for the site's landscape and visual context:

- Retain and enhance PRoW through the Site incorporating them into wide landscaped corridors, public open space and well designed places;
- Retain and enhance mature vegetation within the Site and along its boundaries;
- Provide opportunities to connect with the former MOD railway line should it be reopened as an active travel route in the future as anticipated;
- Retain and enhance mature vegetation along the former MOD railway line which provides a strong GI feature through the landscape whilst also providing a strong physical and visual screen to development;
- Retain and enhance the hedgerow vegetation along Crick Road with further supplementary planting (in keeping with the local species palette) to fill in gaps and add height variety with the addition of native tree species. The Crick Road interface will also be designed such that it will include strategic, designed gaps through vegetation that would allow vehicular and pedestrian permeability to the wider allocation area east of Crick Road. These east-west routes will also form part of the GI connectivity across both candidate sites and the allocation overall;
- Integrate SUDS into the street scenes of development (i.e. rain gardens) to bring water and people closer together. This will also add to a 'sense of place', particularly with the nearby Nedern Brook of which the character could be echoed through the development and along Crick Road itself;
- Create a naturalistic, native character area within the western areas of the Site to service as usable public open space, whilst also retaining, enhancing and celebrating the brook corridor setting to Caldicot Castle and the Country Park;
- Create a connected parkland within the western area of the Site that can be accessed and enjoyed by users of the Proposed Development, visitors of Caldicot Castle Country Park and existing residents from the wider town setting;
- Enhance Footpaths 354/79/1, 354/79/2 and 354/48/1 such that active travel connectivity across the Nedern Brook is possible in periods of flooding;
- Provide active travel link connections to the adjacent candidate Site east of Crick Road (Candidate Site number: CS0251), as part of the wider proposed allocation;
- Retain and enhance the northern boundary of the Site with woodland planting to build upon the GI framework of the scheme. Due to the gradual rising elevation to the central area of the Site, this will also assist in providing layered filtration and softening of the Proposed Development in distant views from the north; and



- Provide woodland planting along the southern edge of the eastern area of the Site to provide a green infrastructure link between the Former MOD railway line, Caldicot Castle Country Park and Farthing Hill Wood.

5.2. An Emerging Illustrative Masterplan for the site is provided within Appendix 1, to be read alongside **Plan 7** which illustrates how the aforementioned measures could be applied within proposals and link to the surrounding existing green infrastructure network.



## Section 6: Summary

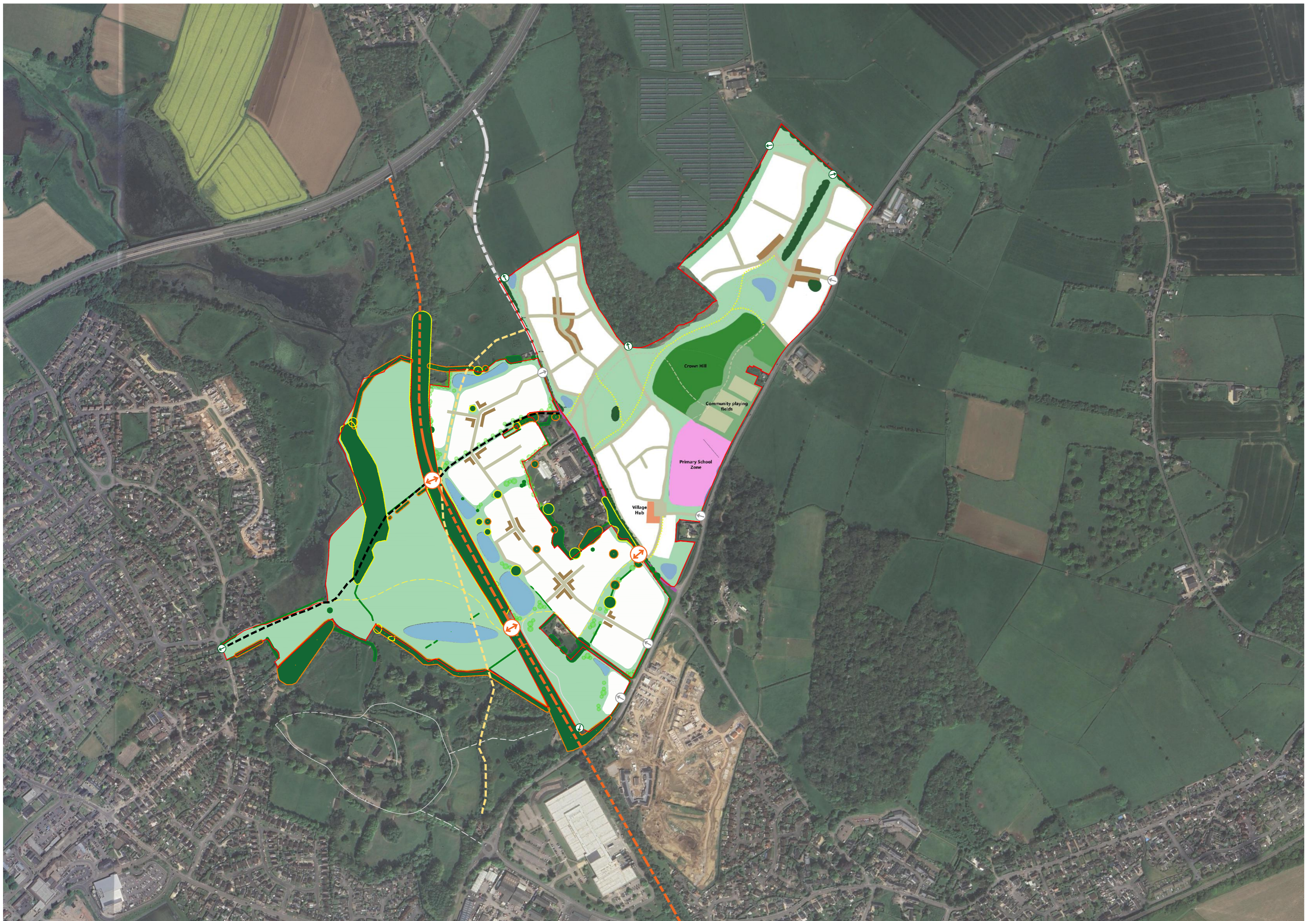
- 6.1. Tyler Grange Group Limited have been instructed to conduct a desktop study of relevant landscape planning documents, designations and published landscape character assessments and undertake a field-based landscape and visual walkover. These inputs have been carried out to assist in the understanding of the Site and its local context in order to establish the opportunities and constraints (considerations) relating to landscape/visual matters, and inform the emerging design proposals to ensure a landscape and GI lead approach. A summary of these findings is provided below and will be considered within the evolution of the scheme.
- 6.2. The site is not covered by any local or national landscape designations, but is influenced by a collection of heritage designations including CCA encompassing Grade I Listed and Scheduled Monument 'Caldicot Castle', Grade II listed 'Mount Ballan', 'The Berries Mound & Bailey' Scheduled Monument and The Gwent Levels Historic Landscape Area. These heritage features have the opportunity to influence the perceived character of the landscape and in turn be influenced by proposals upon the site, as such they will need to be considered carefully within design of potential development upon the site.
- 6.3. In relation to landscape character, some of the character descriptions and features listed within LANDMAP data apply to the locality, but are not a wholly accurate reflection of the Site context itself. The more localised Monmouthshire Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study (2020) provides a more specific assessment of character, relating to local circumstances. Within the study, the Site is across two Local Landscape Character Areas (LLCA); CA01 and CA02. Many of the 'Key Characteristics' within both LLCA's are of relevance. The landscape and visual sensitivity to housing within both LLCA's is noted to be High/Medium. The proposals for the portion of CA01 within the Site include housing, however this area is deemed to be the "least sensitive" of the LLCA. The proposals for the portion of CA02 within the Site are open space and green infrastructure.
- 6.4. From a visual perspective, there are no published views from which the Site is visible. The eastern area of Site is visually well contained given the presence of built form to the south, the strong vegetated linear feature of the former MOD railway line to the west and the rising ground to the east of which is also wooded - emphasised by the limited visibility of existing built form within this area of the site. To the north, layers of vegetation within the landscape and aligning the M48 and A48 also offer screening and filtration that the availability of public views is limited.
- 6.5. Having conducted both a desk and field based initial landscape and visual analysis, a series of landscape and visual considerations have been identified to inform the emerging scheme proposals. As a result of this analysis, it is concluded that, subject to sensitive design, the Site has the ability to accommodate new residential development without having undue negative effects on the local landscape character or views from the surrounding landscape, whilst also having the ability to retain and enhance existing green infrastructure assets, provide new green and blue infrastructure features and also connect to the wider Strategic GI network and assets identified adjacent to the site within the GI SPG.



# Appendix 1: Emerging Illustrative Masterplan









## Appendix 2: Viewpoints







**Photoviewpoint 1:** Taken from the intersection of Church Road and PRoW 354/79/2 looking east into the Site



**Photoviewpoint 2:** Taken from PRoW 354/48/1 at the boundary of Caldicot Castle Country Park looking north into the Site



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<b>Project No:</b>	13097	<b>Date:</b>	February 2024
<b>Client:</b>	Richborough Estates	<b>Project:</b>	Crick Road, Caldicot
<b>Status:</b>	Pre-Planning	<b>Figure:</b>	Photosheets





**Photoviewpoint 3:** Taken from Caldicot Castle Country Park within Caldicot Castle Conservation Area looking north-east towards the Site



**Photoviewpoint 4:** Taken from PRoW 376/25/1 looking south-west towards the Site



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**Photoviewpoint 5:** Taken from PRow 354/39/1 looking south-east towards the Site



**Photoviewpoint 6:** Taken from the A48 looking south-east towards the Site





**Photoviewpoint 7:** Taken from Crick Road looking south towards the Site



**Photoviewpoint 8:** Taken from Crick Road looking north-west towards the Site





**Photoviewpoint 9:** Taken from the B4245 looking south-west towards the Site



**Photoviewpoint 10a:** Taken from PRoW 354/80/1 connecting the two Site parcels looking north-east into the eastern Site parcel





**Photoviewpoint 10b:** Taken from PRoW 354/80/1 connecting the two Site parcels looking south-west towards the western Site parcel



# Appendix 3: LANDMAP Aspect Area profiles



# SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHGL089 - 2024-02-27

Area Unique ID: MNMTHGL089

Aspect: Geological Landscape

Area: Rogiet-Caldicot

Region: Monmouthshire

Survey Date: 2006-11-24

- Level 1: Lowland hills and valleys
- Level 2: Lowland river and drainage systems
- Level 3: Ancient lowland river flood plain system

## Monitoring

---

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- No Answer

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- No Answer

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- No Answer

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- Yes
  - Part of linked river terrace system, including MNMTHGL73, 81, 83, 84 and 89.

## Description

---

Q3 - If Classification is "Other", specify here

- N/A.

Q4 - What is the geographical and topographical character of this area?

- Terrace feature on the S side of the low massif/platform of Carboniferous limestone: largely developed and now beneath Caldicot and Rogiet, etc. Triassic sandstone dominated bedrock.

Q4a - Where bedrock dominated, what is the dominant bedrock type?

- No Answer

Q4b - Where bedrock dominated, what is the age that characterises the aspect area?

- No Answer

Q4c - Where bedrock dominated, what is the major rock lithogy (-ies)?

- No Answer

Q4d - Where drift dominated, what is the dominant drift deposit?

- Fluvial

Q4e - Where drift dominated, what is the major sediment that characterises the area?

- Other

Q5 - What is the characteristic Level 3 component of the area?

- Ancient lowland river flood plain system

Q6 - Which of the following is a significant contributor to the geological character of the area?

- Stratigraphic formation(s)
  - Bedrock geology dominantly Triassic Mercia Mudstone Group (Upper Triassic, probably including Norian Stage) including Sudbrook Sandstone (?Member).
- Superficial deposits
  - 2nd Terrace deposits dominant (Quaternary: Pleistocene- Holocene).
- Past processes
  - Fluvial.

Q7 - What additional subsidiary Level 3 components are notable?

- Engineered features and reclaimed / infilled land

Q8 - What Level 4 components are notable in this area?

- River terrace
- Urban / industrial development

Q9 - What active geological and geomorphological processes are significant in this area?

- None?
- Empty value

Q10 - Are there components of significant hydrological importance?

- Not known

Q11 - Are there any pedological processes that are significant in the area or have had a landscape forming effect?

- Not known

Q12 - Is there current mineral extraction?

- No

Q13 - Has there been mineral extraction in the past?

- Not known



Q14 - Are there SSSI/GCR sites here?

- No

Q15 - Are there geological SINC, 2nd tier, or RIGS sites in the area?

- No

## Evaluation

---

Q16 - Value

- Low
  - Terrace feature largely developed.

Q17 - Condition

- Poor
  - Terrace feature largely developed.

Q18 - Trend

- Constant
  - Terrace feature largely developed.

## Recommendations

---

Q19 - Existing management

- Generally Inappropriate

Q20 - Existing management remarks:

- Terrace feature largely developed.

Q21 - Principal management recommendations

- Ensure that any surviving significant geological or geomorphological features are not lost or damaged (e.g. due to development/forestry etc) and that RIGS/SINC are formally established to safeguard key geological/geomorphological features or sites.

Q22 - Guideline

- Medium Term
  - Ensure that RIGS/SINC are formally established to safeguard key geological/geomorphological features or sites as appropriate.
- Long Term
  - Ensure that any surviving significant geological or geomorphological features are not lost or damaged (e.g. due to development/forestry etc) .

## Tolerance To Change

---

Q23 - Are there any significant threats to the current integrity and condition of the Earth Heritage features of the area?

- Yes
  - Ensure that any surviving significant geological or geomorphological features are not lost or damaged (e.g. due to development/forestry etc) and that RIGS/SINC are formally established to safeguard key geological/geomorphological features or sites.

# Aspect Area Boundary

---

Q24 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q25 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- Most
  - Aspect Area boundaries surveyed at 1:10,000, mapped at 1:25,000.

Q26 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- Other
  - 1:50,000 British Geological Survey maps, aerial photographs, OS 1:25,000 Landranger topographical map.

Q27 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:25,000

Q28 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- Break of slope at base of terrace feature and base of slope above/M4 motorway.

## Evaluation Matrix

---

Q29 - Evaluation Criteria: Research Value

- Low
  - Terrace feature largely developed.

Q29a - Evaluation Criteria: Educational Value

- Low
  - Terrace feature largely developed.

Q30 - Evaluation Criteria: Historical Value

- Low
  - Terrace feature largely developed.

Q31 - Evaluation Criteria: Rarity / Uniqueness

- Low
  - Terrace feature largely developed.

Q32 - Evaluation Criteria: Classic Example

- Low
  - Terrace feature largely developed.

Q33 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation

- Low
  - Terrace feature largely developed.

Q34 - Justification of overall evaluation

- Terrace feature largely developed.

# Bibliography

---

Q35 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- DAVIES, J. 2006, Gwent Geodiversity Audit (Report to CCW); INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES 1972, Chepstow, Sheet 250 (1:50,000), NERC; ORDNANCE SURVEY 2005d, OS Explorer Map 154 (1:25, 000); WELCH, F.B.A. and TROTTER, F.M. 1961, Memoir of the Geological Survey, England and Wales, Sheets 233 and 250.

# Assessment

---

Q36 - Additional Assessments

- Gwent Geodiversity Audit (Davies 2006): Site R2/044 (ST 480876) (Permian-Triassic).

Q37 - Additional Comments

- Additional Level 4 features include: Road/railway cutting.

# SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHGL084 - 2024-02-27

Area Unique ID: MNMTHGL084

Aspect: Geological Landscape

Area: Caerwent-Sudbrook

Region: Monmouthshire

Survey Date: 2006-11-24

- Level 1: Lowland hills and valleys
- Level 2: Lowland river and drainage systems
- Level 3: Ancient lowland river flood plain system

## Monitoring

---

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- No Answer

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- No Answer

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- No Answer

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- Yes
  - Part of linked river terrace system, including MNMTHGL73, 81, 83, 84 and 89.

## Description

---

Q3 - If Classification is "Other", specify here

- N/A.

Q4 - What is the geographical and topographical character of this area?

- Complex of river terrace deposits and related platforms and other valley deposits. Forms a platform like surface marginal to the Carboniferous limestone-dominated massifs of the Caerwent-Portskewett-St Pierre area typical at 10-15 m above sea-level but up to 20 m locally. Includes surviving patches of 2nd Terrace deposits (Quaternary: Pleistocene) and overlies Triassic sandstones in the S and mudrocks elsewhere. Includes the Sudbrook promontary.

Q4a - Where bedrock dominated, what is the dominant bedrock type?

- No Answer

Q4b - Where bedrock dominated, what is the age that characterises the aspect area?

- No Answer

Q4c - Where bedrock dominated, what is the major rock lithogy (-ies)?

- No Answer

Q4d - Where drift dominated, what is the dominant drift deposit?

- Fluvial

Q4e - Where drift dominated, what is the major sediment that characterises the area?

- Other

Q5 - What is the characteristic Level 3 component of the area?

- Ancient lowland river flood plain system

Q6 - Which of the following is a significant contributor to the geological character of the area?

- Stratigraphic formation(s)
  - Bedrock geology dominantly Triassic Mercia Mudstone Group (Upper Triassic, probably including Norian Stage), including Sudbrook Sandstone (?Member) in S.
- Superficial deposits
  - 2nd Terrace deposits dominant with some 2-3rd Terrace locally(Quaternary: Pleistocene (Devensian)-Holocene).
- Active processes
  - Stream.
- Past processes
  - Fluvial.

Q7 - What additional subsidiary Level 3 components are notable?

- No Answer

Q8 - What Level 4 components are notable in this area?

- Cliff
- River terrace
- Urban / industrial development

Q9 - What active geological and geomorphological processes are significant in this area?

- Stream.
- Empty value

Q10 - Are there components of significant hydrological importance?

- Yes
  - Stream.

Q11 - Are there any pedological processes that are significant in the area or have had a landscape forming effect?

- Not known

Q12 - Is there current mineral extraction?

- No

Q13 - Has there been mineral extraction in the past?

- Not known

Q14 - Are there SSSI/GCR sites here?

- No

Q15 - Are there geological SINC, 2nd tier, or RIGS sites in the area?

- No

## Evaluation

---

Q16 - Value

- High
  - Area includes several Geodiversity Audit sites including a stratigraphical type locality in addition to an exceptional range of river terrace features.

Q17 - Condition

- Fair
  - Dominantly rural area but with significant local development.

Q18 - Trend

- Constant
  - Dominantly rural area but with significant local development.

## Recommendations

---

Q19 - Existing management

- Generally Appropriate

Q20 - Existing management remarks:

- Dominantly rural area but with significant local development.

Q21 - Principal management recommendations

- Ensure that no significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or damaged (e.g. due to development/forestry etc) and that RIGS/SINC are formally established to safeguard key geological/geomorphological features or sites.

Q22 - Guideline

- Medium Term
  - Ensure that RIGS/SINC are formally established to safeguard key geological/geomorphological features or sites (including river terrace features).
- Long Term
  - Ensure that no significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or damaged (e.g. due to development/forestry etc) .

# Tolerance To Change

---

Q23 - Are there any significant threats to the current integrity and condition of the Earth Heritage features of the area?

- Yes
  - Development. Ensure that no significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or damaged (e.g. due to development/forestry etc) and that RIGS/SINC are formally established to safeguard key geological/geomorphological features or sites.

## Aspect Area Boundary

---

Q24 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q25 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- Most
  - Aspect Area boundaries surveyed at 1:10,000, mapped at 1:25,000.

Q26 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- Other
  - 1:50,000 British Geological Survey maps, aerial photographs, OS 1:25,000 Landranger topographical map.

Q27 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:25,000

Q28 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- Break of slope at base of solid geology massif and junction with valley systems. Includes coastal cliffs at Sudbrook Point.

## Evaluation Matrix

---

Q29 - Evaluation Criteria: Research Value

- High
  - Area includes several Geodiversity Audit sites including a stratigraphical type locality in addition to an exceptional range of river terrace features.

Q29a - Evaluation Criteria: Educational Value

- Moderate
  - Area includes several Geodiversity Audit sites including a stratigraphical type locality in addition to an exceptional range of river terrace features.

Q30 - Evaluation Criteria: Historical Value

- Moderate
  - Area includes several Geodiversity Audit sites including a stratigraphical type locality in addition to an exceptional range of river terrace features.

Q31 - Evaluation Criteria: Rarity / Uniqueness

- High
  - Area includes several Geodiversity Audit sites including a stratigraphical type locality in addition to an exceptional range of river terrace features.



#### Q32 - Evaluation Criteria: Classic Example

- Moderate
  - Area includes several Geodiversity Audit sites including a stratigraphical type locality in addition to an exceptional range of river terrace features.

#### Q33 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation

- High
  - Area includes several Geodiversity Audit sites including a stratigraphical type locality in addition to an exceptional range of river terrace features.

#### Q34 - Justification of overall evaluation

- Area includes several Geodiversity Audit sites including a stratigraphical type locality in addition to an exceptional range of river terrace features.

## Bibliography

---

#### Q35 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- DAVIES, J. 2006, Gwent Geodiversity Audit (Report to CCW); INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES 1972, Chepstow, Sheet 250 (1:50,000), NERC; ORDNANCE SURVEY 2005b, OS Explorer Map OL14 (1:25, 000); ORDNANCE SURVEY 2005d, OS Explorer Map 154 (1:25, 000); WELCH, F.B.A. and TROTTER, F.M. 1961, Memoir of the Geological Survey, England and Wales, Sheets 233 and 250.

## Assessment

---

#### Q36 - Additional Assessments

- Gwent Geodiversity Audit (Davies 2006): Sites R45/047 (ST 472905) (Carboniferous: Dinantian of South England and South Wales). R3/025 (ST 506883-ST 509884); R4/026 9ST 505873) (Permian-Triassic).

#### Q37 - Additional Comments

- Additional Level 4 features include: Stream; Disused quarry; Road/railway cutting.

# SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHGL086 - 2024-02-27

Area Unique ID: MNMTHGL086

Aspect: Geological Landscape

Area: Caldicot Moor

Region: Monmouthshire

Survey Date: 2006-11-24

- Level 1: Coastal
- Level 2: Estuary
- Level 3: Other

## Monitoring

---

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- No Answer

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- No Answer

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- No Answer

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- Yes
  - Part of former saltmarsh system bordering the Severn estuary (including MNMTHGL 71, 74, 87, 92, 99).

## Description

---

Q3 - If Classification is "Other", specify here

- Reclaimed saltmarsh/mudflat

Q4 - What is the geographical and topographical character of this area?

- Broad coastal flat representing reclaimed former saltmarsh adjacent to Severn estuary from which it is separated by a flood defence bank. Includes lowest part of the Nedern Brook valley at Caldicot and the St Bride's Brook valley at Magor. Stream course canalised with banks and network of drainage ditches present. Typically less than 5 m above current sea level. (Quaternary: Holocene).

Q4a - Where bedrock dominated, what is the dominant bedrock type?

- No Answer

Q4b - Where bedrock dominated, what is the age that characterises the aspect area?

- No Answer

Q4c - Where bedrock dominated, what is the major rock lithogy (-ies)?

- No Answer

Q4d - Where drift dominated, what is the dominant drift deposit?

- Coastal

Q4e - Where drift dominated, what is the major sediment that characterises the area?

- Other

Q5 - What is the characteristic Level 3 component of the area?

- Other
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh/mudflat

Q6 - Which of the following is a significant contributor to the geological character of the area?

- Superficial deposits
  - Estuarine alluvium/saltmarsh deposits (Quaternary: Holocene).
- Active processes
  - Stream.
- Past processes
  - Estuarine/saltmarsh.

Q7 - What additional subsidiary Level 3 components are notable?

- Coastal flat

Q8 - What Level 4 components are notable in this area?

- River channel / canal (artificial)
- Urban / industrial development

Q9 - What active geological and geomorphological processes are significant in this area?

- Stream.
- Empty value

Q10 - Are there components of significant hydrological importance?

- Yes
  - Stream, drainage ditches.

Q11 - Are there any pedological processes that are significant in the area or have had a landscape forming effect?

- Yes
  - Saltmarsh.

Q12 - Is there current mineral extraction?

- No

Q13 - Has there been mineral extraction in the past?

- Not known

Q14 - Are there SSSI/GCR sites here?

- No

Q15 - Are there geological SINC, 2nd tier, or RIGS sites in the area?

- No

## Evaluation

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Q16 - Value

- Moderate
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

Q17 - Condition

- Fair
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

Q18 - Trend

- Constant
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

## Recommendations

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Q19 - Existing management

- Generally Inappropriate

Q20 - Existing management remarks:

- Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

Q21 - Principal management recommendations

- Ensure that no significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or sterilised (e.g. due to development).

Q22 - Guideline

- Long Term
  - Ensure that no significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or sterilised (e.g. due to development).

## Tolerance To Change

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Q23 - Are there any significant threats to the current integrity and condition of the Earth Heritage features of the area?

- Not known

# Aspect Area Boundary

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Q24 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q25 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- Most
  - Aspect Area boundaries surveyed at 1:10,000, mapped at 1:25,000.

Q26 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- Other
  - 1:50,000 British Geological Survey maps, aerial photographs, OS 1:25,000 Landranger topographical map.

Q27 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:25,000

Q28 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- Margins of coastal flat area including outer side of seawall.

## Evaluation Matrix

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Q29 - Evaluation Criteria: Research Value

- Moderate
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

Q29a - Evaluation Criteria: Educational Value

- Moderate
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

Q30 - Evaluation Criteria: Historical Value

- Low
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

Q31 - Evaluation Criteria: Rarity / Uniqueness

- Low
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

Q32 - Evaluation Criteria: Classic Example

- Low
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

Q33 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation

- Moderate
  - Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

Q34 - Justification of overall evaluation

- Reclaimed saltmarsh but not sterilised by industrial development so deposits may retain some scientific value.

# Bibliography

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Q35 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES 1972, Chepstow, Sheet 250 (1:50,000), NERC; ORDNANCE SURVEY 2005d, OS Explorer Map 154 (1:25, 000); WELCH, F.B.A. and TROTTER, F.M. 1961, Memoir of the Geological Survey, England and Wales, Sheets 233 and 250.

# Assessment

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Q36 - Additional Assessments

- Gwent Geodiversity Audit (Davies 2006): no sites recorded (to 12/06).

Q37 - Additional Comments

- Additional Level 4 features include: Stream; Flood defence bank/works.

## SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHHL006 - 2024-02-27

Area Unique ID: MNMTHHL006

Aspect: Historic Landscape

Area: St Pierre Pill

Region: Monmouthshire

Survey Date: 2007-09-28

- Level 1: Rural environment
- Level 2: Agricultural
- Level 3: Regular Fieldscapes

## Monitoring

---

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2017-03-15

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Historic Landscape change detection work completed by the relevant Welsh Archaeological Trust for this area, the planning authority have been included. Quality Assurance of change detection work was completed by Trysor.

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record remains unchanged following monitoring work

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- Yes
  - Associated with adjacent Aspect Area H7 (Mathern Level) which it exploited for farmland

## Description

---

Q3 - If Classification is "Other", specify here

- Empty value

- The boundaries of the Aspect Area are the line of the Roman road from Newnham to Caerleon, which divides it from Wentwood and the Tintern monastic landscape to the N; Modern Chepstow to the W; the intersection of the hard geology with the alluvium of the Caldicot and Mathern Levels to the S and Modern Caldicot to the W. The earliest evidence of occupation is represented by a small group of artefacts including three handaxes forming part of an earlier Palaeolithic distribution of stray finds along the South Wales littoral (Aldhouse-Green, 2000, 11) recovered from the gravels at Sudbrook. The Neolithic is represented by the chambered tomb of Heston Brake, one of a series of such monuments situated on the undulating hinterland overlooking the Severn Estuary / Bristol Channel and forming part of a SE Wales coastal group (Peterson & Pollard, 2004, 72). Although somewhat disturbed, the structure can be seen to consist of a linear chamber and passage set within a long cairn aligned E-W. Excavations carried out in 1888 revealed 'two chambers lying E and W and connected internally', together with fragments of human and cattle bone (Bagnall-Oakley, 1889, 18-20). Isolated Bronze Age artefacts have also been found in the area together with a round barrow at Killcrow Hill; however, the most visible prehistoric sites date from the Iron Age, a period which is believed to have witnessed a shift in population from the uplands to the coast, perhaps in response to deteriorating climate and soils (Howell & Pollard, 2004, 146). The multivallate promontory fort at Sudbrook occupies a strategic location with respect to the Severn Estuary and is thought to have been the tribal capital of the Silures. The ramparts enclose a roughly triangular area of 1.4 ha but this was probably larger at the time of construction, as the promontory has suffered considerable erosion by the sea. The Camp was excavated in the 1930s (Nash-Williams, 1939) but more recent work has highlighted the shortcomings of these early investigations in terms of recording and interpretation and has further detailed the extent of erosion along the seaward side (Sell, 2001). The fort seems to have been occupied from the 2nd century BC and the discovery of Roman artefacts, including pre-Flavian coins (48-69 AD) dating from the period of initial campaigning in the area, suggests the presence of a Roman detachment during the 1st century AD. As the tribal capital, Sudbrook would have been an important site and a military presence may thus have been necessary to establish control over the area. The detachment may have been stationed there to protect an important Roman supply route centred on the ferry crossing between Sudbrook Point, where substantial quantities of Roman material have been found, and a landing point on the southern side of the Severn close to modern Avonmouth. This route passes to the W of Portskewett Hill on the summit of which are the remains of a substantial Roman building associated with finds of mid 3rd to later 4th century coins. This building has generally been interpreted as a villa but its hilltop location with extensive views across the Severn Estuary suggests that it may have been a temple (Brewer, 2004, 225). There are numerous references to the area in the Llandaff Charters (Davies, 1979), implying the existence of an organised society in the early medieval period. It appears that nobles owned considerable lands in the area, large parts of which were donated to the church. These donations appear to have been associated with the cult of St. Tewdrig, the Romano-Celtic king and founder of the main Gwent dynasty (Howell, 2004, 262). Mathern, the burial place of St Tewdrig, subsequently became an important religious centre, with a secular centre possibly located at Portskewett, the site of a pre-Norman royal court, or llys, of the kings of Gwent (Knight, 2004, 282-3). This site was supposedly later occupied by Harold Godwinson's hunting lodge (established in 1065) traces of which reputedly survive as earthworks, known as Harold's House, located to the W of the parish church. The medieval landscape shows that this was a rich and important area. Knight's fees are recorded at Crick, Mathern, Portskewett and St. Pierre. Mathern was in addition an important manor and residence of the bishops of Llandaff until the 17th century (Knight, 2004, 275). The knight's fee at Crick was probably centred originally on the motte and bailey castle, known as the Berries, comprising a sub-rectangular enclosure defined by a bank and ditch. Mathern's two foci are Moynes Court and the palace of the bishops of Llandaff. The remains of the original moated house at Moynes Court comprise a sub-rectangular platform defined by a moat, with a causewayed entrance on the N, located S of the later medieval fortified manor house. The palace was one of three occupied by the bishops of Llandaff and the only one that remained in use as a residence following Glyndwr's revolt. The present palace, probably built by John de la Zouche (bishop 1408-23), occupies the site of an earlier building. Immediately NE of the palace is the church of St. Tewdrig, reputedly St. Tewdrig's burial place, containing fabric of 12th century date. St Pierre occupies part of the Severn Estuary floodplain and historically it comprised a medieval manor and deer park; the earliest documentary reference dates to the mid 14th century (Locock, 2002, 70). The medieval village was located beside the Norman church of St. Peter on the W side of the Pill, recorded as a post-Roman landing-place associated with St. Tewdrig; the parish is said to have taken its French name soon after the Conquest (Coxe, 1801, 4). Two other medieval settlements are known, at Sudbrook and Pwllmeyric. The former was situated at the eastern end of the Iron Age camp, around the church of Holy Trinity, and the latter around St. Tewdrig's well. A reference to *ecclesia Castell Conscuit* in the Llandaff Charters c. 895 refers to a church in the Caldicot area possibly identifiable with Sudbrook Camp (Knight, 2004, 283). Traces of the medieval village of Southbrook have been identified in fields to the N of Southbrook Farm. There are several early documentary references to Pwllmeyric. The earliest of these occurs in the Llandaff Charters c. 970 AD. Later references are found in a post-Conquest list of churches in Netherwent, which mentions the *ecclesia de Pulmeuric*. (Evans, 2003, 24). The area appears to have remained prosperous in the post-medieval period with the manor houses at Moynes Court and St Pierre being refurbished. The medieval deer park at St Pierre was converted into a large landscaped park with two major ponds in the 18th century. The Bishop's Palace at Mathern was acquired and restored in 1894 by the garden designer H. Avray Tipping, who later built a mansion in Arts and Crafts/vernacular style, Mounton House, to the NW of the medieval settlement of Pwllmeyric. The gardens that he laid out and the properties themselves have significantly influenced the character of the local landscape. The Aspect Area includes the promontory of Sudbrook, a strategically important crossing point of the Severn Estuary, and St Pierre Park, now an internationally known golf course, centred on the valley of St Pierre Pill, which encompasses a wide floodplain extending N to the churches of Mathern and St. Pierre. The landscape is one of dispersed farmsteads (Locock, 2002, 70), giving way to a gently undulating landscape rising to the N enclosed by a network of traditional field boundaries and small woods.



Q5 - If working at level 3, the classification describes the dominant historic pattern, but which other patterns are important to the historical pattern of this area? (Tick all that apply)

- Irregular Fieldscapes
- Regular Fieldscapes
- Nucleated Settlement
- Other Settlement
- Communications
- Designed Landscape

Q6 - If working at level 4, which other 'details' are also significant to the historic character of this area? (Please tick all that apply)

- No Answer

Q7 - If working at level 4 only, which building types prevail in the area? (tick all that apply)

- No Answer

Q8 - If working at level 4 only, which periods prevail in the area? (tick all that apply)

- No Answer

Q9 - If working at level 4 only, which architectural types prevail in the area? (tick all that apply)

- No Answer

Q10 - If working at level 4 only, which traditional walling materials prevail in the area? (tick all that apply)

- No Answer

Q11 - If working at level 4 only, which traditional roofing materials prevail in the area? (select up to three)

- No Answer

Q12 - Which traditional boundary types prevail in the area? (Tick all that apply)

- Hedgerow

Q13 - What is the nature of any significant archaeological interest in the area? (Tick all that apply)

- Buried-dry
- Buried-Waterlogged
- Relict-Earthworks
- Buildings & Structures
- Documentary
- Industrial Archaeology

Q14 - Which chronological period is dominant in the area?

- Prehistoric
- Roman
- Medieval (to 1536)
- Post Medieval (1536+)
- Recent

Q15 - Has a Historic Landscape Characterisation been undertaken here?

- No

Q16 - Are there SMR sites here?

- Yes

Q17 - Are there SAMs here?

- Yes

Q18 - Are there Listed Buildings here?

- Yes

Q19 - Are there Registered Historic Parks and Gardens here?

- Yes

Q20 - Are there Conservation Areas here?

- Yes

Q21 - Are there World Heritage Sites here?

- No

Q22 - Is the area within a Registered Landscape of Historic Interest?

- No

## Evaluation

---

Q23 - Value:

- High
  - The Aspect Area contains monuments of Neolithic and Iron Age date and has revealed evidence Iron Age / Roman activity, especially in the vicinity of Portskewett / Sudbrook. The area is noted for a number of post-medieval landscape parks and gardens included within the Cadw Register of Parks and Gardens in Wales.

Q24 - Condition:

- No Answer

Q25 - Trend:

- Constant

## Recommendations

---

Q26 - Existing management

- No Answer

Q27 - Existing management remarks:

- Empty value

Q28 - Principal management recommendations

- Empty value

Q29 - Guideline

- No Answer

# Aspect Area Boundary

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Q30 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q31 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- All

Q32 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- OS Raster

Q33 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:10,000

Q34 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- This Aspect Area centres upon the large coastal inlet of St. Pierre Pill, which until it was cut by the Gloucester to Swansea Railway in 1850, was much larger than at present. The area boundary defines an area which was historically dominated by wealthy medieval manors.

## Evaluation Matrix

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Q35 - Evaluation Criteria: Integrity

- High
  - The character of the Area reflects the extension and improvement of established manor houses during the post-medieval period and the creation of several substantial landscape parks and gardens.

Q36 - Evaluation Criteria: Survival

- No Answer

Q37 - Evaluation Criteria: Condition

- High

Q38 - Evaluation Criteria: Rarity

- Low
  - Landscapes of similar character are evident elsewhere in Monmouthshire (HL038, HL040).

Q39 - Evaluation Criteria: Potential

- High
  - There is considerable potential for further field investigation looking particularly at remains of Iron Age / Roman date in the Portskewett / Sudbrook area and Neolithic activity associated with the Heston Brake chambered tomb.

Q40 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation

- High

Q41 - Justification of overall evaluation

- The Aspect Area contains monuments of Neolithic and Iron Age date and has revealed evidence Iron Age / Roman activity, especially in the vicinity of Portskewett / Sudbrook. The area is noted for a number of post-medieval landscape parks and gardens included within the Cadw Register of Parks and Gardens in Wales.

# Bibliography

---

Q42 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- Bagnall-Oakley, M. E., 1889, *An Account of the Rude Stone Monuments and Ancient Burial Mounds in Monmouthshire*, Newport: Monmouthshire and Caerleon Antiquarian Association
- Brewer, R. J., 2004, "The Romans in Gwent" in M. Aldhouse-Green & R. Howell (Eds.) *The Gwent County History, Vol 1, Gwent in Prehistory and Early History*, Cardiff CADW 1994, Gwent: Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic interest in Wales, Part 1 Parks and Gardens
- Coxe, W. 1801, *An Historical Tour of Monmouthshire*, London
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- Davies, W., 1979, *The Llandaff Charters*, Aberystwyth, National Library of Wales
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- Sell, S. H., 2001, "Recent excavation and survey work at Sudbrook Camp, Portskewett, Monmouthshire (ST 507 873)" *Studio Celtica* 35

## Assessment

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Q43 - Additional Assessments

- Empty value

Q44 - Additional Comments

- Empty value



# SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHLH094 - 2024-02-27

Area Unique ID: MNMTHLH094

Aspect:Landscape Habitats

Area:Nedern Brook Wetlands

Region:Monmouthshire

Survey Date:2007-07-18

- Level 1: Dry (Relatively) Terrestrial Habitats
- Level 2: Grassland & Marsh
- Level 3: Mosaic

## Monitoring

---

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2016-01-15

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Stages 1, 2 and 3 change detection, field verification and amendment completed by Environment Systems in conjunction with the local planning authority. Quality Assurance completed by TACP.

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record has been updated following monitoring work as more up to date information is available

Q1c - Change indicated by

- OS Data, Aerial Photographs
- Policies, plans & information resources

Q1d - What has changed?

- Evaluation

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- No

Q3 - What is the total land area within the boundary (in hectares)?

- 43 hectares

# Description

---

Q4 - What are the dominant soil types? (specify up to 3 types)

- Brown soils
- Surface-water gley soils
- Peat soils

Q5 - What Phase 1 habitat types are present? Only select the five most dominant types and, for each of these, specify below what percentage of the Aspect Area is made up of these.

- Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland
  - ?%
- Semi-improved Neutral Grassland
  - ?%
- Improved Grassland
  - ?%
- Dense Scrub
  - ?%
- Tall Ruderal Herb
  - ?%

Q6 - Does the area contain habitats of international importance?

- Not known

Q7 - If yes, which habitats of international importance?

- No Answer

Q8 - Does the area contain BAP habitats?

- Not known

Q9 - If yes, which BAP habitats?

- Coastal & Floodplain Grazing Marsh

Q10 - Does the area contain protected sites?

- Yes
  - SSSI(42.84ha)

Q11 - If yes, which ones?

- SSSI

Q12 - Approximately what proportion of the Aspect Area is within the protected site?

- 91-100%
  - 98.83%

Q13 - Does the area support important species?

- Yes

Q14 - If yes, which species? (for each of the species, also note the source of information)

- Hornet Robberfly (Priority BAP). Record from SEWBReC. Bewicks"s Swans (one of only two regular wintering places in Wales), breeding waders, Lapwing (Section 74 of CROW Act), Reed Bunting (Priority BAP) (Records from SSSI citation).

Q15 - Are there any significant threat species present in abundance? (Field visit required)

- Not known

Q16 - What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?

- Streams

Q17 - Are any of these features in a very good condition? (Field visit required)

- Some
  - Nedern Brook floods during winter to provide a wetland habitat.

Q18 - Are any of these features in a poor condition? (Field visit required)

- None

Q19 - What are the main land management activities taking place in the area? (Field visit required)

- Stock grazing

Q20 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable positive impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
  - The continuation of stock grazing is important for the continued survival of the Hornet Robber-fly (a Priority BAP species) because the larvae live within dung and feed upon other larvae that live within the dung.

Q21 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable negative impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
  - Stock grazing can prevent the habitat from reaching its full ecological potential. It is however recognised that this is an essential part of the farming process.

Q22 - Is the biodiversity in the area in any way threatened?

- Not known

Q23 - Are there clear opportunities to improve the biodiversity aspect of this area?

- Yes
  - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes

Q24 - Summarise the key features that define this area's biodiversity character

- An area of predominately grassland that is mainly characterised by regularly being flooded during winter so that up to 1/2 may be underwater at times during this season.

## Evaluation

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Q25 - Value

- High
  - The entire area is designated as a SSSI.

Q26 - Condition

- Unassessed



Q27 - Trend

- Constant

## Recommendations

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Q28 - Existing management

- Unassessed

Q29 - Existing management remarks:

- N/A

Q30 - Principal management recommendations

- Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.

Q31 - Guideline

- Medium Term
  - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.
- Medium Term
  - Consider the needs of key species in management of the area.
- Long Term
  - Ensure that the Nedern Brook is not polluted.

## Aspect Area Boundary

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Q32 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q33 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- All

Q34 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- Other
  - Phase 1 habitat, Aerial Photographs and OS Raster.

Q35 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:10,000

Q36 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- The Aspect Area boundaries have been designated as the boundaries of the SSSI. This is not usually undertaken as they are usually digitised on the strength of differences in habitat. From looking at the Phase 1 habitat maps it shows this area to be coniferous woodland, arable land and improved grassland. From reference to the aerial photographs and SSSI citation this would not appear to be entirely correct so the best way to accurately delineate the distinctive area present in this area from the surrounding farmland is the SSSI boundary.

# Evaluation Matrix

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## Q37 - Evaluation Criteria: Priority Habitats

- High
  - Significant parts of the Aspect Area are floodplain grazing marsh Priority BAP habitat.

## Q38 - Evaluation Criteria: Significance

- High
  - The Phase 1 habitats present are generally quite common but the actual type of habitat which is described in the SSSI citation as "productive meadows which are regularly flooded" is "now very rare in Wales".

## Q39 - Evaluation Criteria: Opportunity

- Moderate
  - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.

## Q40 - Evaluation Criteria: Expansion rates

- Unassessed

## Q41 - Evaluation Criteria: Sensitivity

- High
  - The area is prone to impacts from changes in water levels due to climate change and as it is a "wet" area there is the threat of pollution.

## Q42 - Evaluation Criteria: Connectivity/Cohesion

- Low
  - Woodland is the only significant network in this aspect, but woodland cover is low and fragmented.

## Q43 - Evaluation Criteria: Habitat Evaluation

- High
  - This Aspect Area could easily be evaluated as low as improved grassland is generally quite low ecological value habitat. The value is increased dramatically due to the seasonal flooding of the area which makes it a rare and valuable habitat type.

## Q44 - Evaluation Criteria: Importance for key species

- Moderate
  - A reasonable numbers of records of key species were found.

## Q45 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species

- High
  - The seasonal flooding of the area which makes it a rare and valuable habitat type is the over-riding factor.

## Q45a - Justification of overall evaluation

- This Aspect Area could easily be evaluated as low as improved grassland is generally quite low ecological value habitat. The value is increased dramatically due to the seasonal flooding of the area which makes it a rare and valuable habitat type and this is reflected in the area supporting a number of key species and most significantly being entirely designated as a SSSI therefore justifying the high evaluation.

# Bibliography

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Q46 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- CCW Phase 1 data (digitised), Aerial photographs (digitised), OS Raster (1:10,000), Protected species information from SEWBRc, Protected sites information from CCW (digitised), SINC sites provided by SEWBRc (digitised), Invasive plant mapping provided by SEWBRc (digitised), Monmouthshire LBAP, Monmouthshire Unitary Development Plan, Protected Sites citations from CCW website ([www.ccw.gov.uk](http://www.ccw.gov.uk)), Protected Sites citations from the JNCC website ([www.jncc.gov.uk](http://www.jncc.gov.uk)), Soils of England and Wales 1:250,000 (Sheet 2 Wales).

## Assessment

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Q47 - Additional Assessments

- N/A

Q48 - Additional Comments

- Please note that Question 5 has been only answered in part due to conflicts between the habitats shown on the Phase 1 habitat mapping and the aerial photographs/SSSI citation. It was therefore difficult to estimate % of habitats present, the five most abundant habitats is based on the aerial photographs and habitats mentioned in the SSSI citation.



# SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHLH105 - 2024-02-27

Area Unique ID: MNMTHLH105

Aspect:Landscape Habitats

Area:S. rural Monmouthshire

Region:Monmouthshire

Survey Date:2007-03-12

- Level 1: Dry (Relatively) Terrestrial Habitats
- Level 2: Grassland & Marsh
- Level 3: Improved Grassland

## Monitoring

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Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2017-03-15

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Review of SINC/Wildlife Site data by TACP

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record has been updated following monitoring work as more up to date information is available
  - Q11 updated

Q1c - Change indicated by

- OS Data, Aerial Photographs

Q1d - What has changed?

- Description

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- No

Q3 - What is the total land area within the boundary (in hectares)?

- 2980 hectares

## Description

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Q4 - What are the dominant soil types? (specify up to 3 types)

- Lithomorph (a/c) soils
- Brown soils
- Ground-water gley soils

Q5 - What Phase 1 habitat types are present? Only select the five most dominant types and, for each of these, specify below what percentage of the Aspect Area is made up of these.

- Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland
  - 2%
- Semi-improved Neutral Grassland
  - 3%
- Improved Grassland
  - 70%
- Arable
  - 12%
- Buildings
  - 2%

Q6 - Does the area contain habitats of international importance?

- Not known

Q7 - If yes, which habitats of international importance?

- No Answer

Q8 - Does the area contain BAP habitats?

- Yes

Q9 - If yes, which BAP habitats?

- Lowland Meadows

Q10 - Does the area contain protected sites?

- Yes
  - SAC(0.28ha) SSSI(14.91ha) Local Wildlife Site(126.6ha)

Q11 - If yes, which ones?

- SAC
- SSSI
- Local wildlife site

Q12 - Approximately what proportion of the Aspect Area is within the protected site?

- 1-10%
  - 4.66%

Q13 - Does the area support important species?

- Yes

Q14 - If yes, which species? (for each of the species, also note the source of information)

- *Rosa obtusifolia* x *stylosa*, *Sorbus* x *vagensis*, *Sparganium erectum* subsp. *neglectum*, Alder Buckthorn, Common Shrew, Heath False-brome, Pyramidal Orchid, Eel, Fine-leaved Sheep's-fescue, Hedgehog, Small-flowered Sweet-briar, Dwarf Mallow, Weasel, Wild Liquorice, Almond Willow, Stoat, Midland Hawthorn, Large-leaved Lime, Distant Sedge, Lady's-Mantle, Small-flowered Sweet-briar, Bugloss, Wild Mignonette, Polecat, Greater Spearwort, Silver-washed Fritillary, Dark Green Fritillary, Upright Brome, Blomer's Rivulet, Dingy Skipper, Lead-coloured Pug, Grayling, Downy Oat-grass, Early Forget-me-not, Grizzled Skipper, Essex Skipper, Sea Pearlwort (LBAP). Lapwing (Section 74 of CROW Act). Spruce's Bristle-moss, Stag Beetle, Buttoned Snout, Southern Wood Ant, Hornet robberfly, Brown Hare (Priority BAP). Corn Crake, Eurasian Hobby (WCA 1). Bluebell (WCA8). *Andrena hattorfiana*, *Asplenium trichomanes* subsp. *pachyrachis*, *Ampedus cinnabarinus*, Flat-rock *Grimmia*, Field Garlic, Autumn Lady's-tresses, Sainfoin, Good-King-Henry, Corn Marigold, Dwarf Spurge, Corn Buttercup, Corn Spurrey, Field Woundwort, Purple Spurge, Green-winged Orchid, Bee Orchid (Red Data Book 1). Lesser Horseshoe Bat, Common Pipistrelle, Whiskered/Brandt's Bat, Noctule bat, Hazel Dormouse, Soprano Pipistrelle, Slow-Worm, Badger, Greater Horseshoe Bat, Otter, Brown Long-eared Bat, Great Crested Newt. (All records from SEWBReC).

Q15 - Are there any significant threat species present in abundance? (Field visit required)

- Yes
  - Himalayan Balsam has been recorded in the EA River Habitat Survey.

Q16 - What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?

- Hedgerows

Q17 - Are any of these features in a very good condition? (Field visit required)

- Unknown

Q18 - Are any of these features in a poor condition? (Field visit required)

- Unknown

Q19 - What are the main land management activities taking place in the area? (Field visit required)

- Cultivation
- Stock grazing

Q20 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable positive impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
  - The continuation of stock grazing is important for the continued survival of the Hornet Robber-fly (a Priority BAP species) because the larvae live within dung and feed upon other larvae that live within the dung.

Q21 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable negative impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
  - Stock grazing can prevent the habitat from reaching its full ecological potential. It is however recognised that this is an essential part of the farming process.

Q22 - Is the biodiversity in the area in any way threatened?

- Yes
  - The UDP reveals that some land relatively small areas of land have been allocated for industry. Additionally land near Caldicot has been allocated for 150 houses. Further survey would need to be undertaken to assess whether this would be a significant threat to biodiversity.

Q23 - Are there clear opportunities to improve the biodiversity aspect of this area?

- Yes
  - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.

Q24 - Summarise the key features that define this area's biodiversity character

- The area is an extensive area of predominately farmland with improved grassland dominating but also a significant arable element.



# Evaluation

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## Q25 - Value

- Moderate
  - The area is generally quite low ecological value improved grassland but there are small pockets of more valuable habitat. the deciding factor in increasing the evaluation to moderate is the large number of key species records, although it should be noted that as the Aspect Area is large a larger number of key species would be expected.

## Q26 - Condition

- Unassessed

## Q27 - Trend

- Constant

# Recommendations

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## Q28 - Existing management

- Unassessed

## Q29 - Existing management remarks:

- N/A

## Q30 - Principal management recommendations

- Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.

## Q31 - Guideline

- Medium Term
  - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.
- Long Term
  - Consider key species in management of area.
- Long Term
  - Preserve/enhance hedgerows. Leave uncultivated strips (beetle banks" around the edge of arable fields.

# Aspect Area Boundary

---

## Q32 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

## Q33 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- Most
  - Some of the northern boundary, particularly to the north-east is to some degree arbitrary because a considerable area of the interior of Monmouthshire is rural farmland it was felt necessary to divide it up into smaller Aspect Areas to give a more manageable/meaningful Aspect Area. The boundaries have been digitised following field boundaries and roads as per LANDMAP methodology however.

## Q34 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- Other
  - Phase 1 habitat, Aerial photographs, OS Raster.

Q35 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:10,000

Q36 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- The Aspect Area boundaries encompass an area of farmland that is distinct from large woodland and settlement areas that are on its perimeter. The southern boundary is formed by the transition to the distinct habitat of the "levels". The western boundary is formed by the Study Area boundary and a distinct area of arable dominated farmland. Some of the northern boundary is to some degree arbitrary because a considerable area of the interior of Monmouthshire is rural farmland it was felt necessary to divide it up into smaller Aspect Areas.

## Evaluation Matrix

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Q37 - Evaluation Criteria: Priority Habitats

- Low
  - There is some lowland meadows Priority BAP habitat present and some of the hedgerows may conform to this but the majority of the Aspect Area is not Priority BAP habitat.

Q38 - Evaluation Criteria: Significance

- Low
  - Improved grassland is ubiquitous in lowland Wales.

Q39 - Evaluation Criteria: Opportunity

- Moderate
  - Encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes.

Q40 - Evaluation Criteria: Expansion rates

- Unassessed

Q41 - Evaluation Criteria: Sensitivity

- Low
  - Not a particularly sensitive habitat type as improved grassland is already quite low ecological value.

Q42 - Evaluation Criteria: Connectivity/Cohesion

- High

Q43 - Evaluation Criteria: Habitat Evaluation

- Low
  - The area is generally quite low ecological value improved grassland.

Q44 - Evaluation Criteria: Importance for key species

- Moderate
  - There is a large number of key species records so the area could be evaluated as high but it should be noted that as the Aspect Area is large a larger number of key species would be expected so only evaluated as moderate.

Q45 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species

- Moderate
  - The area is generally quite low ecological value improved grassland but there are small pockets of more valuable habitat. the deciding factor in increasing the evaluation to moderate is the large number of key species records.

#### Q45a - Justification of overall evaluation

- The area is generally quite low ecological value improved grassland but there are small pockets of more valuable habitat. the deciding factor in increasing the evaluation to moderate is the large number of key species records, although it should be noted that as the Aspect Area is large a larger number of key species would be expected.

## Bibliography

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#### Q46 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- CCW Phase 1 data (digitised), Aerial photographs (digitised), OS Raster (1:10,000), Protected species information from SEWBReC, Protected sites information from CCW (digitised), SINC sites provided by SEWBReC (digitised), Invasive plant mapping provided by SEWBReC (digitised), Monmouthshire LBAP, Monmouthshire Unitary Development Plan, Protected Sites citations from CCW website ([www.ccw.gov.uk](http://www.ccw.gov.uk)), Protected Sites citations from the JNCC website ([www.jncc.gov.uk](http://www.jncc.gov.uk)), Soils of England and Wales 1:250,000 (Sheet 2 Wales). Wildlife Site/SINC data used within this project were collated by Local Environmental Records Centres Wales on behalf of the various Local Authorities and Wildlife Trusts involved in the site designation process.

## Assessment

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#### Q47 - Additional Assessments

- N/A

#### Q48 - Additional Comments

- N/A



# SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHVS043 - 2024-02-27

Area Unique ID: MNMTHVS043

Aspect: Visual and Sensory

Area: Leechpool

Region: Monmouthshire

Survey Date: 2007-01-30

- Level 1: Lowland
- Level 2: Rolling Lowland
- Level 3: Mosaic Rolling Lowland

## Monitoring

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Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2015-02-06

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Stages 1, 2 and 3 change detection, field verification and amendment completed by Bronwen Thomas, in conjunction with the planning authority. Quality Assurance completed by White Consultants.

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record has been updated following monitoring work, there was a real change in the aspect area
  - Adjacent Caldicot expanded

Q1c - Change indicated by

- OS Data, Aerial Photographs
- Fieldwork

Q1d - What has changed?

- Boundaries

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- Yes
  - 1:10,000

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- No

Q2a - During which season(s) was fieldwork carried out?

- Late summer

# Description

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## Q3 - Summary Description

- A lowland landscape defined by the M48 and Caldicot to the north and west respectively, whilst merging to the south-east with the Levels. It is a low gently undulating open landscape with long views towards the Second Severn Crossing and the estuary. Irregular medium to large-scale fields of mixed pasture are bounded by a mosaic of low well maintained hedges, hedgerow trees and field trees; lack of management however has resulted in hedges either being removed or becoming neglected, overgrown and gappy in places. Intrusive lines of post and rail fencing are common, particularly where the fragmentation of farmland has led to a rise in smallholdings and horsiculture. To the south and west, small blocks of deciduous woodland interlink with existing hedges to create a more secluded character. Caldicot Castle to the west reinforces the strong historical connections of this landscape, buffered by the tranquil setting of the Country Park. Settlement is limited to often neglected traditional farmsteads, with scattered linear housing clinging to narrow winding roads, comprising a mixture of modern and traditional, styles and materials.

## Q4 - Physical Form And Elements: Topographic Form?

- Rolling/Undulating

## Q5 - Physical Form And Elements: Landcover Pattern?

- Field Pattern/Mosaic

## Q6 - Physical form and elements: Settlement pattern

- Village

## Q7 - Physical form and elements: Boundary type

- Managed Hedge

## Q8 - Aesthetic Qualities: Scale?

- Small

## Q9 - Aesthetic Qualities: Sense of Enclosure?

- Open

## Q10 - Aesthetic Qualities: Diversity?

- Simple

## Q11 - Aesthetic Qualities: Texture?

- Medium

## Q12 - Aesthetic Qualities: Lines?

- Angular

## Q13 - Aesthetic Qualities: Colour?

- Moderate Contrasts

## Q14 - Aesthetic Qualities: Balance?

- Balanced

## Q15 - Aesthetic Qualities: Unity?

- Unity

## Q16 - Aesthetic Qualities: Pattern?

- Organised

Q17 - Aesthetic Qualities: Seasonal Interest?

- Autumn
  - n/a

Q18 - Other Factors: Level of Human Access?

- Frequent

Q19 - Other Factors: Night Time Light Pollution?

- Question 19 night time light pollution data has been moved to question 56. Additional dark skies data is available from questions 57 and 58.

Q20 - Other Factors: Use of Construction Materials?

- Generally Appropriate

Q21 - What materials? Give Details:

- Traditional stone and slate characteristic

Q22 - There are attractive views...

- ...both in and out
  - to Severn estuary and from levels to south east

Q23 - There are detractive views...

- ....out
  - Caldicot edges

Q24 - Perceptual and Other Sensory Qualities

- Settled
  - -

Q25 - What is the sense of place/local distinctiveness

- Moderate
  - The areas distinctiveness mainly derives from its views of the Severn estuary but also from its most important building to be southwest, Caldicot Castle.

## Evaluation

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Q26 - Value:

- Moderate
  - A semi-rural landscape with pleasing undulating hills acting as an important setting to Caldicot Castle and as a backcloth to the levels. The area is in moderate condition with fairly consistent character although there are instances of locally intrusive development. Its sense of place is defined by Caldicot Castle , the dispersed linear settlement of Leechpool, and views of the estuary. Gently undulating arable and mixed farmland is relatively common in Monmouthshire.

Q27 - Condition:

- Good
  - n/a

Q28 - Trend:

- Constant
- n/a

## Recommendations

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Q29 - Existing management

- Generally Appropriate

Q30 - Existing management remarks:

- as existing

Q31 - Principal management recommendation:

- to maintain a domesticated enclosed landscape

Q32 - Guideline

- Medium Term
  - maintain existing field boundaries, hedgerow trees and small woodlands
- Medium Term
  - Discourage ribbon development
- Medium Term
  - encourage species rich grasslands

Q33 - Define the key qualities that should be conserved:

- Enclosure

Q34 - Define the key qualities that should be enhanced:

- -

Q35 - Define the key qualities that should be changed:

- -

Q36 - Define the key elements that should be conserved:

- Woodlands and hedgerows

Q37 - Define the key elements that should be enhanced:

- Settlement edges

Q38 - Define the key elements that should be changed:

- -

## Tolerance To Change

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Q39 - Are there any significant threats to the current integrity and condition of the visual & sensory features of the area?

- Not known



# Aspect Area Boundary

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Q40 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q41 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- All

Q42 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- OS Raster

Q43 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:10,000 and 1:25,000

Q44 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- A48 to the north, break in slope to the levels and golf course to the east and settlement to the west.

## Evaluation Matrix

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Q46 - Evaluation Criteria: Scenic quality

- Moderate
  - A semi-rural landscape with pleasing undulating hills acting as an important setting to Caldicot Castle and as a backcloth to the levels.

Q47 - Evaluation Criteria: Integrity

- Moderate
  - The area is in moderate condition with fairly consistent character although there are instances of locally intrusive development.

Q48 - Evaluation Criteria: Character

- Moderate
  - Its sense of place is defined by Caldicot Castle , the dispersed linear settlement of Leechpool, and views of the estuary.

Q49 - Evaluation Criteria: Rarity

- Low
  - Gently undulating arable and mixed farmland is relatively common in Monmouthshire.

Q50 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation

- Moderate
  - A semi-rural landscape with pleasing undulating hills acting as an important setting to Caldicot Castle and as a backcloth to the levels. The area is in moderate condition with fairly consistent character although there are instances of locally intrusive development. Its sense of place is defined by Caldicot Castle , the dispersed linear settlement of Leechpool, and views of the estuary. Gently undulating arable and mixed farmland is relatively common in Monmouthshire.

Q51 - Justification of overall evaluation

- Three moderate and a low equal a moderate value.

# Bibliography

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Q45 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- o -

## Assessment

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Q52 - Additional Assessments

- o -

Q53 - Additional Comments

- o -

## LMP 14 & 09

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Q54 - LANDMAP derived landscape types (LMP14)

- o Valleys and rolling lowland (mosaic 20-50% wooded, hedgerow character)

Q55 - LANDMAP derived landscape types (LMP09)

- o Lowland mosaic >20% wooded

## Dark Skies

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### Light Pollution Percentage

< 0.5	0.5 - 1	1 - 2	2 - 4	4 - 8	8 - 16	16 - 32	> 32
0.0	1.9	82.3	14.3	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0

Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies. Questions 57a - 57h collectively provide colour band data by %.

Further information: [11365 Wales Dark Skies \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com). Green C, Manson D, Chamberlain K 2021. Tranquillity and Place - Dark Skies. NRW Report No: 514, 70pp. Data download from LLe/DataMapWales.

Data source: December 2019 composite image of monthly average night light produced by the Earth Observation Group at Colorado School of Mines. Derived from Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) Day/Night Band (DNB) sensor from Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (Suomi NPP) satellite, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

### Light Pollution km<sup>2</sup>

< 0.5	0.5 - 1	1 - 2	2 - 4	4 - 8	8 - 16	16 - 32	> 32
0.0	0.1	4.6	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies. Questions 58a to 58h collectively provide colour band data by km2.

Further information: [11365 Wales Dark Skies \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com). Green C, Manson D, Chamberlain K 2021. Tranquillity and Place – Dark Skies. NRW Report No: 514, 70pp. Data download from LLe/DataMapWales.

Data source: December 2019 composite image of monthly average night light produced by the Earth Observation Group at Colorado School of Mines. Derived from Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) Day/Night Band (DNB) sensor from Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (Suomi NPP) satellite, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

## Q56 - Night Time Light Pollution

- Moderate
  - Consultant led night time light pollution assessment conducted at time of survey record or survey update

## Q57a - % in brightness colour band <0.5

- 0.0
  - Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

## Q57b - % in brightness colour band 0.5-1

- 1.9
  - Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

## Q57c - % in brightness colour band 1-2

- 82.3
  - Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

## Q57d - % in brightness colour band 2-4

- 14.3
  - Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

## Q57e - % in brightness colour band 4-8

- 1.4
  - Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

## Q57f - % in brightness colour band 8-16

- 0.0
  - Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

## Q57g - % in brightness colour band 16-32

- 0.0
  - Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

## Q57h - % in brightness colour band >32

- 0.0
  - Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

## Q58a - km2 in brightness colour band <0.5

- 0.0
  - Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

Q58b - km2 in brightness colour band 0.5-1

- 0.1
- Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

Q58c - km2 in brightness colour band 1-2

- 4.6
- Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

Q58d - km2 in brightness colour band 2-4

- 0.8
- Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

Q58e - km2 in brightness colour band 4-8

- 0.1
- Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

Q58f - km2 in brightness colour band 8-16

- 0.0
- Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

Q58g - km2 in brightness colour band 16-32

- 0.0
- Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

Q58h - km2 in brightness colour band >32

- 0.0
- Data has been classified into eight colour bands of brightness values (nw/cm2/sr). <0.5 (darkest); 0.5 - 1; 1 - 2; 2 - 4; 4 - 8; 8 - 16; 16 - 32 and > 32 (brightest). Lower values equate to lower light pollution and darker skies.

## Tranquillity & Place

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Q59a - % in visually tranquil category 1

- 0.00
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t

Q59b - % in visually tranquil category 2

- 0.00
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t



#### Q59c - % in visually tranquil category 3

- 0.00
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t

#### Q59d - % in visually tranquil category 4

- 0.00
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t

#### Q59e - % in visually tranquil category 5

- 0.00
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t

#### Q59f - % in visually tranquil category 6

- 0.58
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t

#### Q59g - % in visually tranquil category 7

- 65.18
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t

#### Q59h - % in visually tranquil category 8

- 34.24
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t

#### Q59i - % in visually tranquil category 9

- 0.00
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t

#### Q59j - % in visually tranquil category 10

- 0.00
- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, t

#### Q59k - Data Source

- Sourced from the nationally consistent Tranquillity & Place Visually Tranquil Areas 2022 (rural themes 1, 2 and 3 combined). The visually tranquil categories range from 1 (least visually tranquil) to 10 (most visually tranquil). For further information, the report and webapp, visit the Storymap available from <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/865c1876d9f64280a3dfc6e2769a46a5>

## SLAs

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#### Q60 - Does the area overlap with Special Landscape Areas (SLA)?

- No Answer

Q61 - Approximately what percentage of the area overlaps with a SLA?

- No Answer

## Visible Settings

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Q62 - Visible settings of LANDMAP V&S areas

- [View a map image showing the visible setting of the area](#)

This is a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV), calculated using a 30 metre Digital Terrain Model (DTM), using multiple observer points scattered across the area, 1.5m above ground level, and taking into account the Earth's curvature. The data does not extend beyond 35km from an observer point, meaning that more distant views may also be possible.

- [Read user guidance](#) that explains the map image
- [Bulk download](#) the map images for Wales.
- [Read a detailed technical report](#) which explains the data calculations

Q63 - Visible Settings of Designated Landscapes

- [View map images showing the visible setting of each National Park and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.](#)
  - These are Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV), as per Q62, but applied to Designated Landscape areas. Also, for areas not visible, colour-steps show the Height of an object before it would become visible (HOBV), up to 350m high. See Q62 to access the user guidance and a technical report.

Q64 - Key views into or out from Designated Landscapes

- [View map images showing the ZTV and HOBV of a selection of key views for each National Park and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in or affecting Wales](#)
  - These are Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV), as per Q62, but applied to selected key views into or out from Designated Landscapes. Also, colour-steps show the Height of an object before it would become visible (HOBV), up to 350m high. It is not an exhaustive key view list. See Q62 to access the user guidance and a technical report.

# Appendix 4: LLCAs



**LLCA CA02 Settlement: Caldicot**

roads/rail/cycleways high  
long distance/public footpaths high  
urban residents high/medium

**Comments** the main receptors are visitors to Caldicot Castle, uses of public footpaths, adjacent residents and the users of the M48

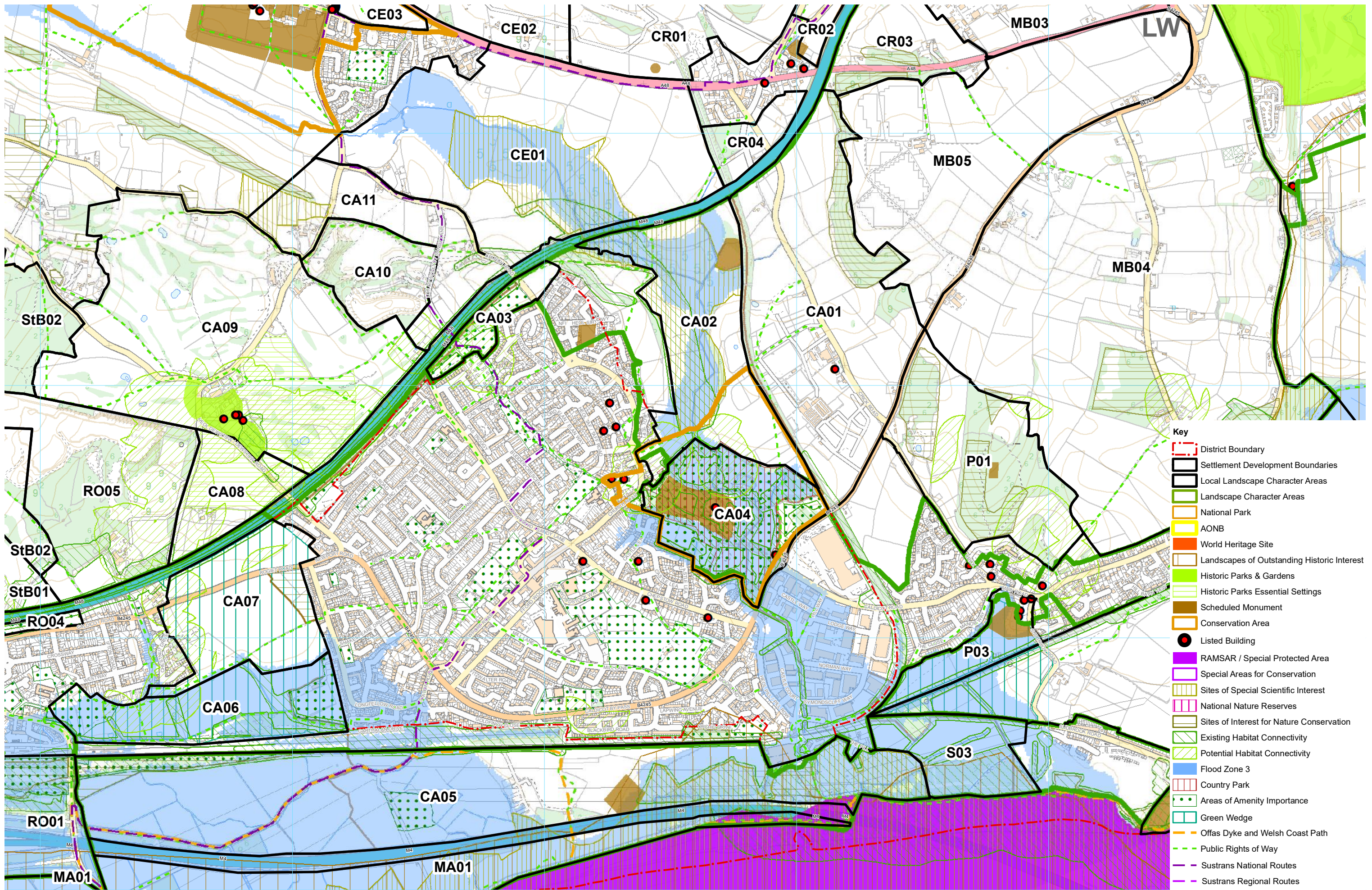
**OTHER**

Other factors -

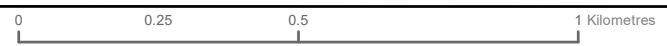
Potential Improvements (if no development) manage woodland for biodiversity, strengthen hedgerows

Mitigation (if development) -





- Key**
- District Boundary
  - Settlement Development Boundaries
  - Local Landscape Character Areas
  - Landscape Character Areas
  - National Park
  - AONB
  - World Heritage Site
  - Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest
  - Historic Parks & Gardens
  - Historic Parks Essential Settings
  - Scheduled Monument
  - Conservation Area
  - Listed Building
  - RAMSAR / Special Protected Area
  - Special Areas for Conservation
  - Sites of Special Scientific Interest
  - National Nature Reserves
  - Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation
  - Existing Habitat Connectivity
  - Potential Habitat Connectivity
  - Flood Zone 3
  - Country Park
  - Areas of Amenity Importance
  - Green Wedge
  - Offas Dyke and Welsh Coast Path
  - Public Rights of Way
  - Sustrans National Routes
  - Sustrans Regional Routes

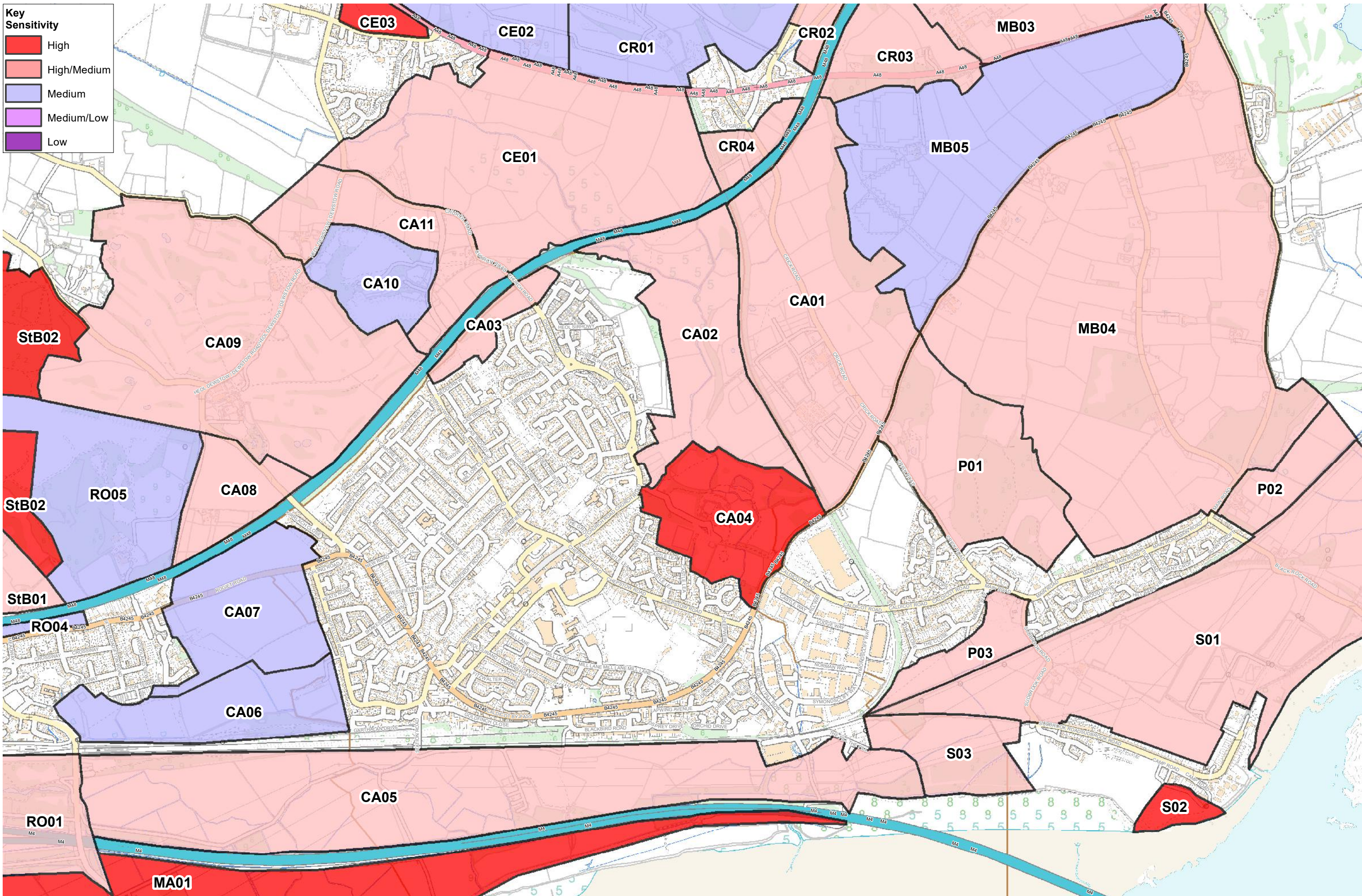


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 www.whiteconsultants.co.uk

Project: Monmouthshire Landscape Sensitivity Study  
 Client: Monmouthshire County Council  
 Date: February 2020  
 Status: Revision 1

## Settlement: Caldicot LLCA Constraints







## SUMMARY

## Key characteristics

Valley side, with gentle slopes to the west and rising more steeply to the east.

Primarily pastoral with some arable to the south with medium-sized slightly irregular fields with low-cut hedge boundaries, often with gaps.

Prominent woodland on steep slopes form a positive backcloth and enclosure to the east while there are occasional mature oaks in hedges.

Scattered rural dwellings but dominated by equestrian centre of semi-rural character.

The residential settlement edge is some distance from the area, generally screened by trees, especially around Caldicot Castle.

The upper slopes of the area are visible from Caldicot Castle's towers.

The area is overlooked by the M48 and is moderately open with some views to the wider countryside to the north and to the residential and commercial areas to the south and south west respectively.

The M48 and views of the settlement edge reduces the area's tranquillity.

There is a listed building at Mount Ballan, Caldicot Castle is an SM and a listed building in a Conservation Area directly to the west and there is an SM at the The Berries, just to the west.

There is a woodland SINC to the east and there are some small areas in floodplain especially to the north.

## Landscape and visual sensitivity to housing High/Medium

The susceptibility of the area lies in the area east of Crick Road and around Little Ballan including pastures on rising ground with associated woodland which are locally prominent and of positive landscape character, the clear separation from the settlement across the Nedern Brook valley and the wider setting of Caldicot Castle. The area around Mount Ballan has a semi-rural character which is enhanced by standard oaks. The value of the area lies in the SINC woodland within the area, the PROWs through the area, and relationship with SMs such as the castle to the west. The LANDMAP value is outstanding for cultural landscape and high for historic landscape and geological landscape. If the area was considered for development, the least sensitive part would be the south west quadrant west of Crick Road coinciding with the developed part of the equestrian centre, excluding the sloping fields to the north. However, this area still lies substantially divorced from Caldicot in open countryside.

Does the area or its attributes contribute to the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act Goals ?

- a prosperous Wales    a resilient Wales    a more equal Wales    a globally responsible Wales  
 a Wales of cohesive communities    a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language    a healthier Wales

## VALUE

Landmap Context	Aspect area value	Aspect area value
Geological Landscapes	75% high, 25% moderate	Landscape Habitats Moderate
Historical Landscapes	High	Cultural Landscapes Outstanding
Visual and Sensory	Moderate	
<b>Designations</b>		
Landscape designations comments	-	
National Park	AONB	
Historic/archaeology designations comments	Mount Ballan House is listed; adjacent is Caldicot Castle which is an SM and a listed building in a Conservation Area and there is an SM at the The Berries, just to the west	
Historic Parks and Gardens	Hist. Parks and Gardens Setting	Listed Building Yes
Landscape of Hist. Interest	Scheduled Monument Yes	Conservation Area Yes WHS
Biodiversity designations comments	adjacent is Nedern Brook SSSI to west and SINC in woodland forming the eastern edge of the area	
SAC	NNR	SINC
	SSSI	RAMSAR

## Recreation Factors

Country Park

National Trail

National/Regional Cycle Route

**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AND SUSCEPTIBILITY****Landscape Character Area**

LCA Name Chepstow Hills LCA Number 40 also part of 0 0

**Characteristics**

Landform valley side, with gentle slopes to the west and rising more steeply to the east

Landcover primarily pastoral with some arable with an equestrian centre

**Pattern**

Settlement pattern scattered rural dwellings but dominated by horse riding establishment at Mount Ballan of semi-rural character

Woodland cover prominent woodland on steep slopes form a positive backcloth and enclosure to the east while there are occasional mature oaks in hedges

Boundaries medium-sized slightly irregular fields with low-cut hedge boundaries, often with gaps

 Presence of water minor watercourse to the north

Diversity diverse Scale medium

Sense of enclosure moderately open

**Function of Area**Pastoral  Arable  Horticulture  Recreation  other 

Comments primarily pastoral with some arable and equestrian centre

**Functional relationship and connectivity**

...with wider landscape some ...with settlement some

...with adjacent assessed area? some Corridor? Existing Habitat Connectivity  Habitat Connectivity Opportunity 

the agricultural part of the area may be managed as part of a wider landholding, it has several public rights of way linking the settlement with the wider countryside and the woodland forms part of a series of wooded patches , especially linking the to the south

Are adjacent assessed areas mutually reliant... ... visually?  ...functionally 

Comments -

**PERCEPTUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY****Skyline**

Prominence/importance prominent Complexity simple

Comments eastern wooded slopes form the skyline when viewed from the west

**Key views**To settlement  -From settlement  -

Landmarks Caldicot Castle's towers to the west

Detractors M48, parts of Equestrian Centre events areas including lighting

**Intervisibility**Site observation medium ...to key features  ...from key places 

Comments the upper slopes of the area are intervisible from Caldicot Castle's towers. The area is overlooked by the M48 and is moderately open with some views to the wider countryside to the north and to the residential and commercial areas to the south and south

**Tranquillity**

Noise sources roads

Views of development some Presence of people frequent



Summary medium

Comments the M48, views of the edge of Caldicot and the equestrian centre reduce tranquillity

### Settlement edge

Pre C20th edge  C20-21st edge  Nature of edge neutral Form of edge moderately indented

Comments the residential settlement edge is some distance from the area, generally screened by trees, especially around Caldicot Castle

### Visual relationship and connectivity

...with settlement some ...with wider landscape some ...with adjacent assessed area some

Setting

Comments the eastern slopes act as a backcloth to the settlement and the area contributes to the wider setting of Caldicot Castle

### Receptors

### Sensitivity

rural residents

high

long distance/public footpaths

high

roads/rail/cycleways

medium

urban residents

high/medium

Comments the main receptors are local residents and users of the public footpaths, M48 and local roads

### OTHER

Other factors -

Potential Improvements (if no development)

Manage the woodland for landscape and biodiversity value and hedges to provide links to the woodland and the railway line and Nedern Brook valley corridor to the west

Mitigation (if development)

Whilst not recommended in landscape terms, if the equestrian centre was developed there should be a strong buffer to the north and east to integrate the area into the landscape and great care taken not to adversely affect the setting of, and approaches to, Caldicot Castle

**SUMMARY****Key characteristics**

Valley floor, floodplain and lower valley sides.

Wetland grassland alongside Nedern Brook and irregular small to medium scale fields with gappy low cut hedges with some used by the equestrian centre to the east.

Tree cover lies on small-scale steeper slopes/river terraces and on field boundaries.

The area is overlooked by the settlement and M48 which reduce tranquillity, and the area contributes to the wider setting of Caldicot Castle.

Caldicot Castle Conservation Area covers the southern part of the area and there is a SM at the The Berries mott and bailey which lies on the edge of the valley floor.

**Landscape and visual sensitivity to housing** High/Medium

The susceptibility of the area lies in its open gently undulating valley with woodland belts and often flooded wet grassland/floodplain which together form a strong green corridor east of Caldicot, its contribution to recreation and as open countryside viewed from the settlement edge, the setting of Caldicot Castle and visibility as a feature from the M48, and containing the settlement on its eastern edge. Its value lies in its nature conservation resource in the SSSI of the Nedern Brook, the Conservation Area, the setting to Caldicot Castle SM and the Berries SM. LANDMAP value is high for historic landscape and partly high for landscape habitats and geological landscape.

Does the area or its attributes contribute to the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act Goals ?

- a prosperous Wales    a resilient Wales    a more equal Wales    a globally responsible Wales  
 a Wales of cohesive communities    a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language    a healthier Wales

**VALUE**

Landmap Context	Aspect area value	Aspect area value
Geological Landscapes	40% high, 60% moderate	Landscape Habitats 50% high, 50% moderate
Historical Landscapes	High	Cultural Landscapes Moderate
Visual and Sensory	Moderate	

**Designations**

Landscape designations comments	-
National Park	AONB
Historic/archaeology designations comments	Caldicot Castle Conservation Area; SM at The Berries
Historic Parks and Gardens	Hist. Parks and Gardens Setting      Listed Building
Landscape of Hist. Interest	Scheduled Monument    Yes    Conservation Area    Yes    WHS
Biodiversity designations comments	Nedern Brook SSSI covers the valley floor
SAC      NNR      SINC	SSSI Yes      RAMSAR

**Recreation Factors**

Country Park    Yes    National Trail      National/Regional Cycle Route

**LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AND SUSCEPTIBILITY****Landscape Character Area**

LCA Name    Chepstow Hills      LCA Number    40      also part of    0      0

**Characteristics**

Landform    valley floor, floodplain and lower valley sides

Landcover    pasture and wetland grassland

**Pattern**

Settlement pattern    none

Woodland cover      tree cover lies on small-scale steeper slopes/river terraces and on field boundaries

Boundaries          irregular small to medium scale fields with gappy low cut hedges

Presence of water Nedern Brook; most in floodplain

Diversity simple Scale small to medium

Sense of enclosure moderately enclosed but open to the M48

#### Function of Area

Pastoral  Arable  Horticulture  Recreation  other

Comments pasture with some fields used by the equestrian centre to the east

#### Functional relationship and connectivity

...with wider landscape some ...with settlement some

...with adjacent assessed area? some Corridor?

Existing Habitat Connectivity  Habitat Connectivity Opportunity

the area appears to be managed as part of a wider land holding and has several public rights of way linking the settlement with the wider countryside. The valley floor is part of a wider SSSI; woodland belts and wetlands create habitat connectivity to the north and south, and potential connectivity with the areas around Caldicot Castle and along the M48

Are adjacent assessed areas mutually reliant... ...visually?  ...functionally

Comments -

### PERCEPTUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

#### Skyline

Prominence/importance not applicable Complexity

Comments -

#### Key views

To settlement  views to and from Caldicot Castle

From settlement  views to and from Caldicot Castle

Landmarks The Berries mott and bailey

Detractors M48

#### Intervisibility

Site observation medium ...to key features  ...from key places

Comments the area is intervisible to and from adjacent valley sides and with the M48 and the towers of Caldicot Castle

#### Tranquillity

Noise sources roads

Views of development one side 180 Presence of people frequent

Summary medium

Comments the M48, views of the edge of Caldicot and use by equestrian centre reduce tranquillity

#### Settlement edge

Pre C20th edge  C20-21st edge  Nature of edge negative Form of edge moderately indented

Comments the settlement edge does not touch the area but appears as uniform estate development

#### Visual relationship and connectivity

...with settlement some ...with wider landscape some ...with adjacent assessed area some

Setting

Comments the area is overlooked by the settlement and the area contributes to the wider setting of Caldicot Castle

#### Receptors

viewpoints

#### Sensitivity

high

## Plans:

Plan 1: Site Character and Local Context

Plan 2: Designations and Planning Policy

Plan 3: LANDMAP Aspect Areas and Evaluations

Plan 4: Zone of Theoretical Visibility and Photoviewpoint Locations

Plan 5: Green Infrastructure Context and Connections

Plan 6: On-Site Green Infrastructure Assets and Opportunities

Plan 7: Green Infrastructure Strategy







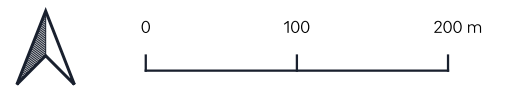
**LEGEND**

- Site Boundary
- Land at Bradbury Farm, Crick (Candidate Site no: CS0251)
- Public rights of Way
- Nedern Brook
- Crick Road
- Caldicot to Caerwent former MOD railway line
- Caldicot Castle Country Park
- Caldicot Castle Conservation Area
- 5m contours
- SAH2 'Elderwood Park'

Site features and context:

1. Mount Ballan Manor is a Grade II Listed Building adjacent to the Site and is surrounded by ancillary buildings.
2. The eastern area of the Site comprises a number of horse paddocks divided by post and electrified wire.
3. Equestrian event areas are located centrally within the eastern areas of the Site bounded by earthworks.
4. Stables are located south of the main eventing arenas.
5. Crick Road lies adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Site and connects the B4245 with Crick to the north.
6. The Nedern Brook passes adjacent to the western area of the Site and forms a seasonally wet valley bounded by river terraces.
7. Mature woodland lines the edges of the river terraces, framing the Nedern Brook.
8. The eastern and western areas of the Site are linked via a PRoW which passes over a bridge over the former MOD railway.
9. A former MOD railway line passes north to south through the area, physically and visually separating the eastern and western areas of the Site. The route is lined with dense, mature, wooded vegetation.
10. Elderwood Park mixed used development is currently in construction south of the Site.
11. Caldicot Castle is a Grade I Listed Building and Scheduled Monument to the south-west of the Site in the wooded grounds of a country park.
12. Regular, semi-enclosed fields make up the fieldscape east of the Site.
13. Wooded hillsides at Ballan Wood, Crown Hill and Farthing Hill limit visibility with the wider area.
14. Mature trees are located along internal routes and adjacent curtilages.
15. The B4245 passes adjacent to the southern boundary of the Site.
16. The M48 motorway is located a short distance to the north.
17. The western area of the Site mainly comprises grazing pasture.

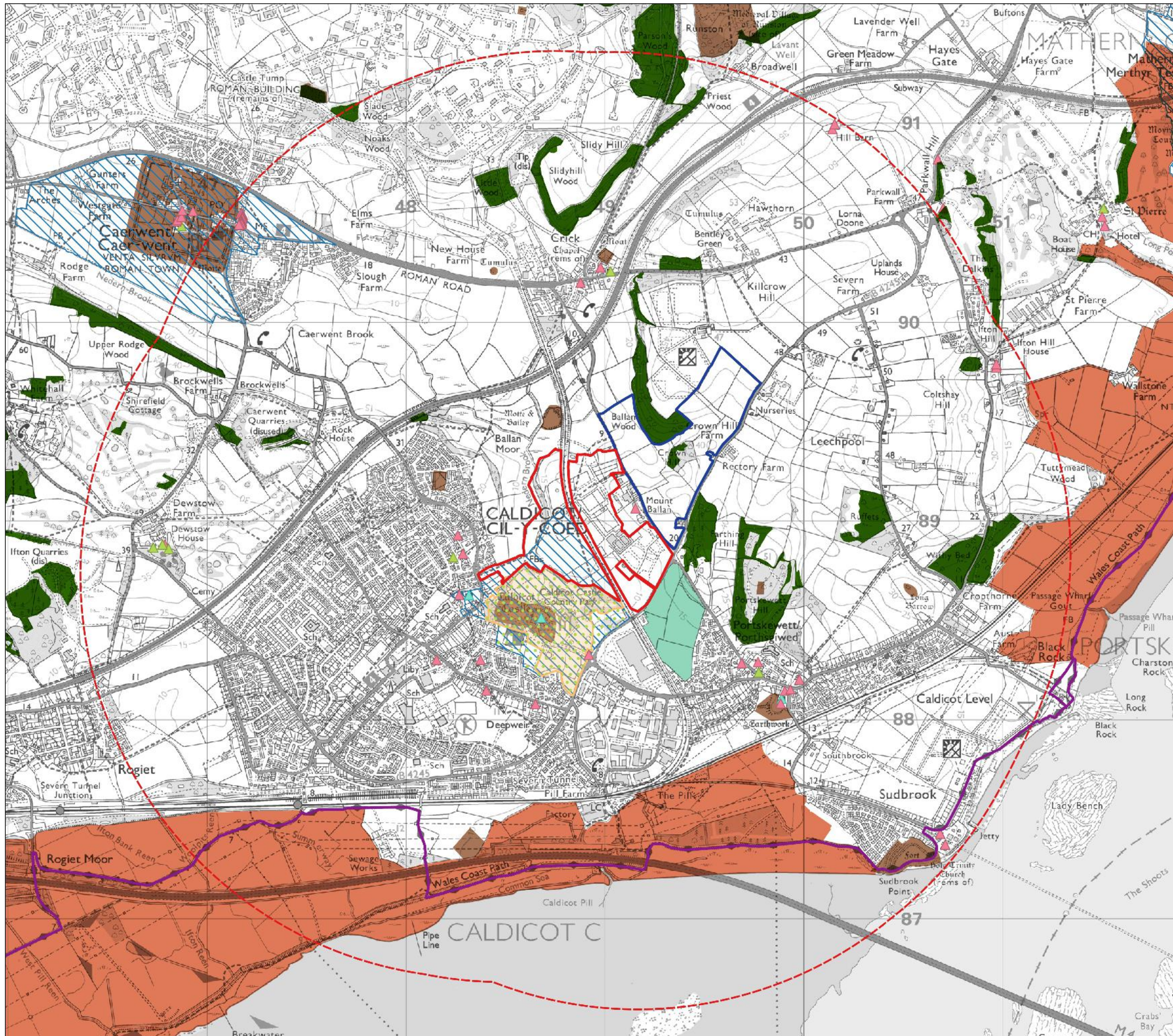
Revision	Description
-	First Issue



Project	Land off Crick Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire
Title	Plan 1: Site Context
Scale	1:5000 @ A3
Drawing No.	13097_P07a
Date	07 2024
Checked	AB/OK







**LEGEND**

- Site Boundary
- Land at Bradbury Farm, Crick (Candidate Site no: CS0251)
- 2km Study Area

**Planning Policy**

- SAH2 Strategic Mixed Use Site 'Elderwood Park'
- DES2 Areas of Amenity Importance

**Heritage Designations**

- Conservation Areas (Policy HE1)
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments

**Listed Buildings (Grade)**

- I
- II\*
- II

**Other Relevant Considerations**

- Gwent Levels Historic Landscape Area
- Ancient Woodland
- Caldicot Castle Country Park
- Wales Coastal Path

Revision	Description
-	First Issue



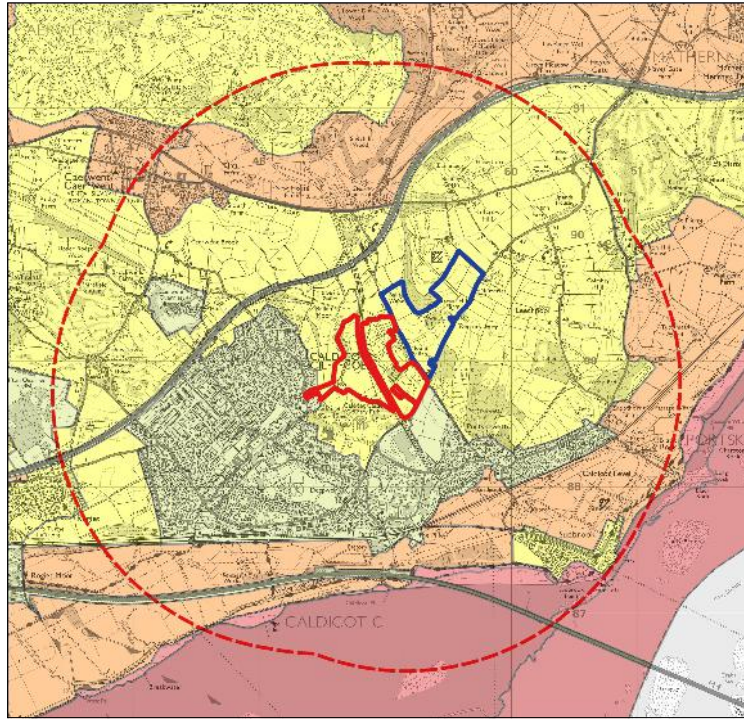
Project	Land off Crick Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire
Title	Plan 2: Designations and Planning Policy
Scale	1:20,000 @ A3
Drawing No.	13097_P08a
Date	07 2024
Checked	AB/OK



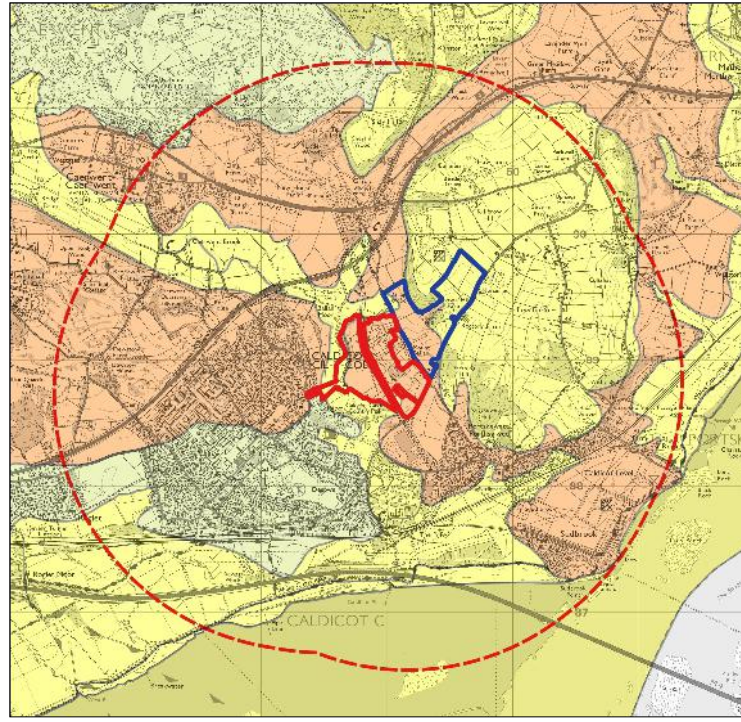
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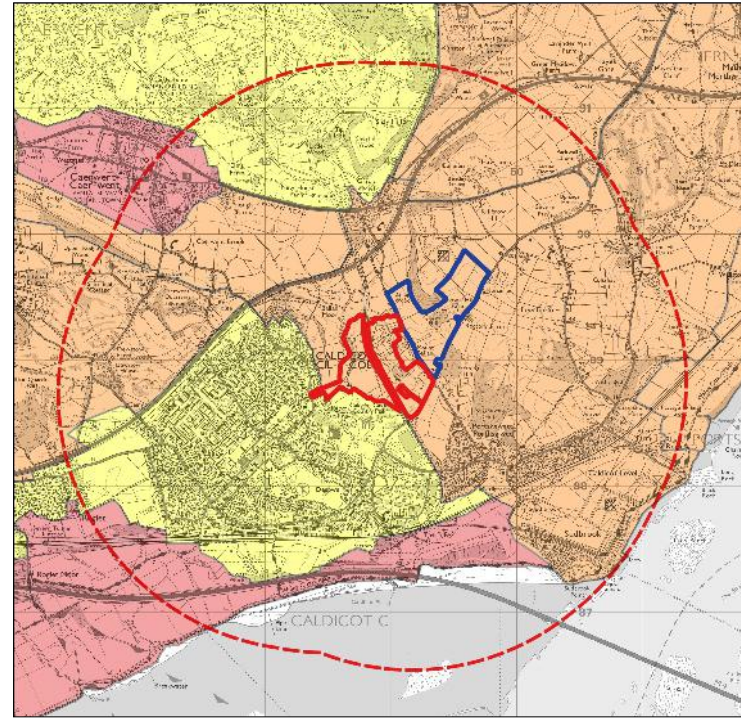




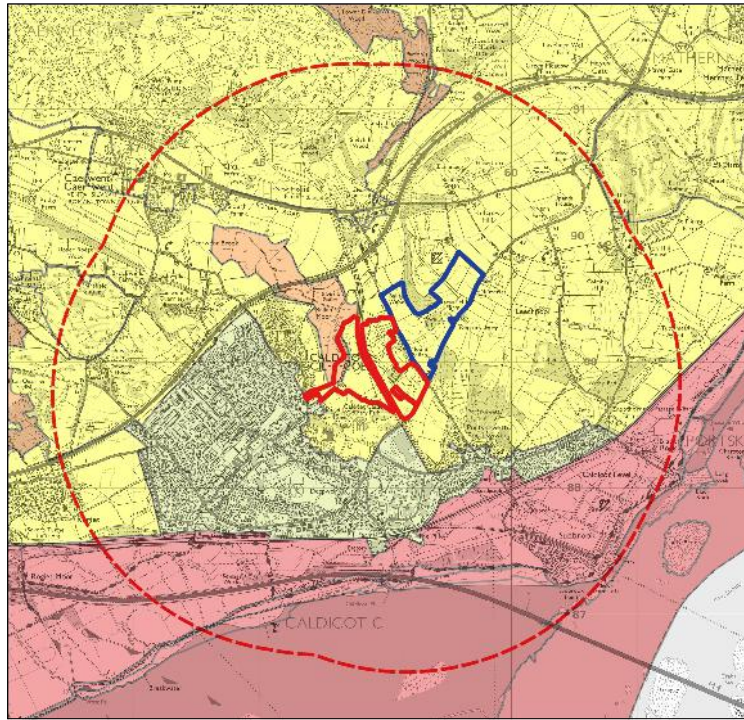
Cultural Landscape Services Aspect



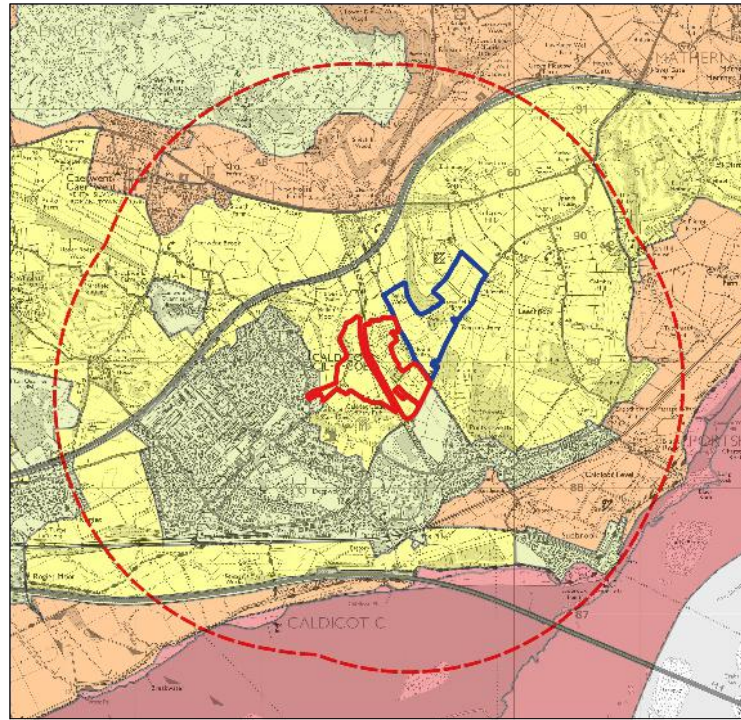
Geological Landscape Aspect



Historic Landscape Aspect



Landscape Habitats Aspect



Visual Sensory Aspect

**LEGEND**

- Site Boundary
- Land at Bradbury Farm, Crick (Candidate Site no: CS0251)
- 2km Study Area

**LANDMAP Evaluation**

- High
- Low
- Moderate
- Outstanding

Note: The overall evaluation is illustrated for each category excluding 'Cultural Landscape Services' for which an overall evaluation is not provided. In its place, 'Q13 - Character' is illustrated on its plan. 'Cultural Landscape Services' is considered in greater detail in 13097\_R04d\_Landscape and Visual Tech Note'.

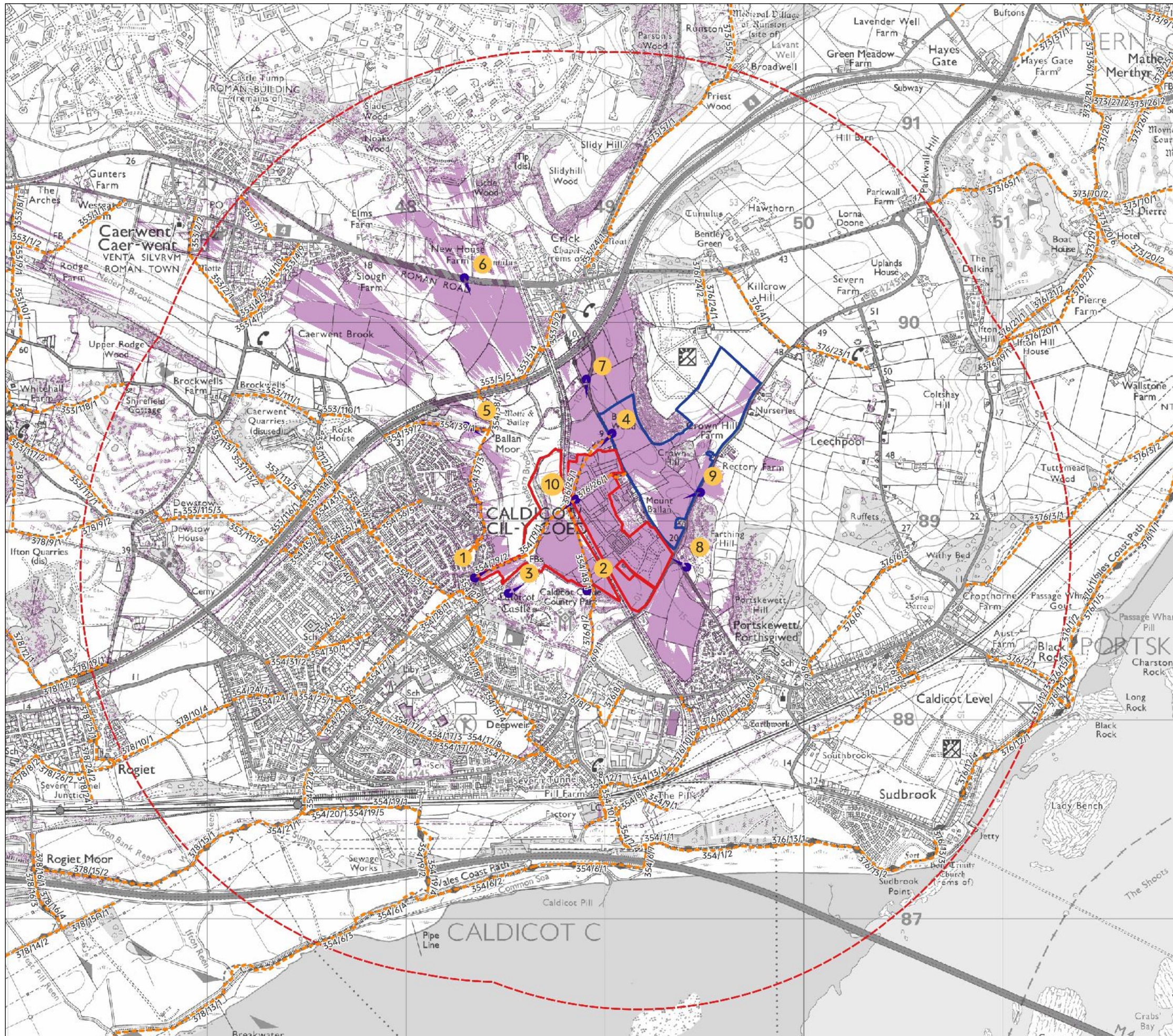
Revision	Description
-	First Issue



Project	Land off Crick Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire
Title	Plan 3: LANDMAP Aspect Areas and Evaluations
Scale	1:6000 @ A3
Drawing No.	13097_P11a
Date	07 2024
Checked	AB/EB





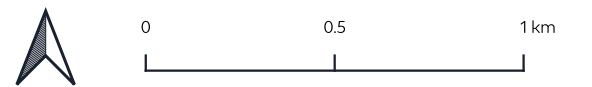


**LEGEND**

- Site Boundary
- Land at Bradbury Farm, Crick (Candidate Site no: CS0251)
- 2km Study Area
- Zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV)**
- Potential Visibility
- Public rights of Way
- Photoviewpoint Locations**
- 1 - 10

Source:  
 The Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) illustrates the extent to which the development at a 12m ridge height is potentially visible within a 2km radius (1.6m high receptor). The ZTV has been modelled using GIS computer software (QGIS) and Welsh Government LIDAR DSM data 2020-2022, and as such takes into account built form and vegetation present within the landscape. However, field verification is required to refine the accuracy of the ZTV.

Revision	Description
-	First Issue



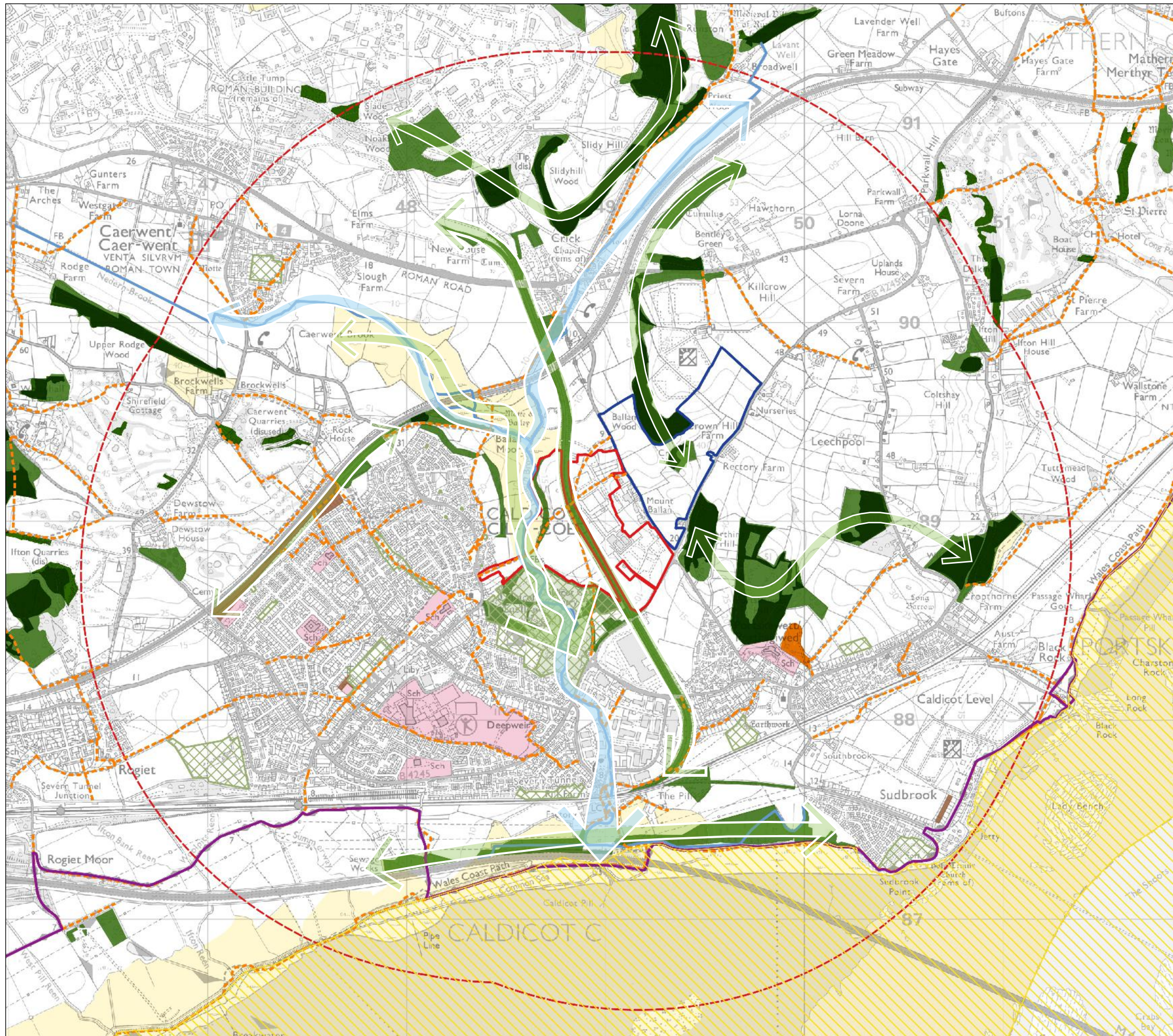
Project	Land off Crick Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire
Title	Plan 4: Zone of Theoretical Visibility and Photoviewpoint Locations
Scale	1:20,000 @ A3
Drawing No.	13097_P05a
Date	07 2024
Checked	AB/OK



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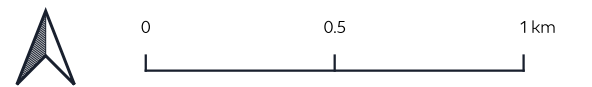




**LEGEND**

- ▭ Site Boundary
- ▭ Land at Bradbury Farm, Crick (Candidate Site no: CS0251)
- ▭ 2km Study Area
- Watercourses
- Wales Coastal Path
- ▭ Public Rights of Way
- ▭ CRoW Common Land
- ▭ Ancient Woodland
- ▭ Woodland and tree cover
- ▭ Caldicot Castle Country Park
- ▭ Recreation/Publically Accessible Open Space
- ▭ Schools, leisure facilities and associated grounds
- ▭ Allotments
- ▭ Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- ▭ Severn Estuary SAC/SPA/RAMSAR
- ➔ Green Corridor
- ➔ Green-Blue Corridor

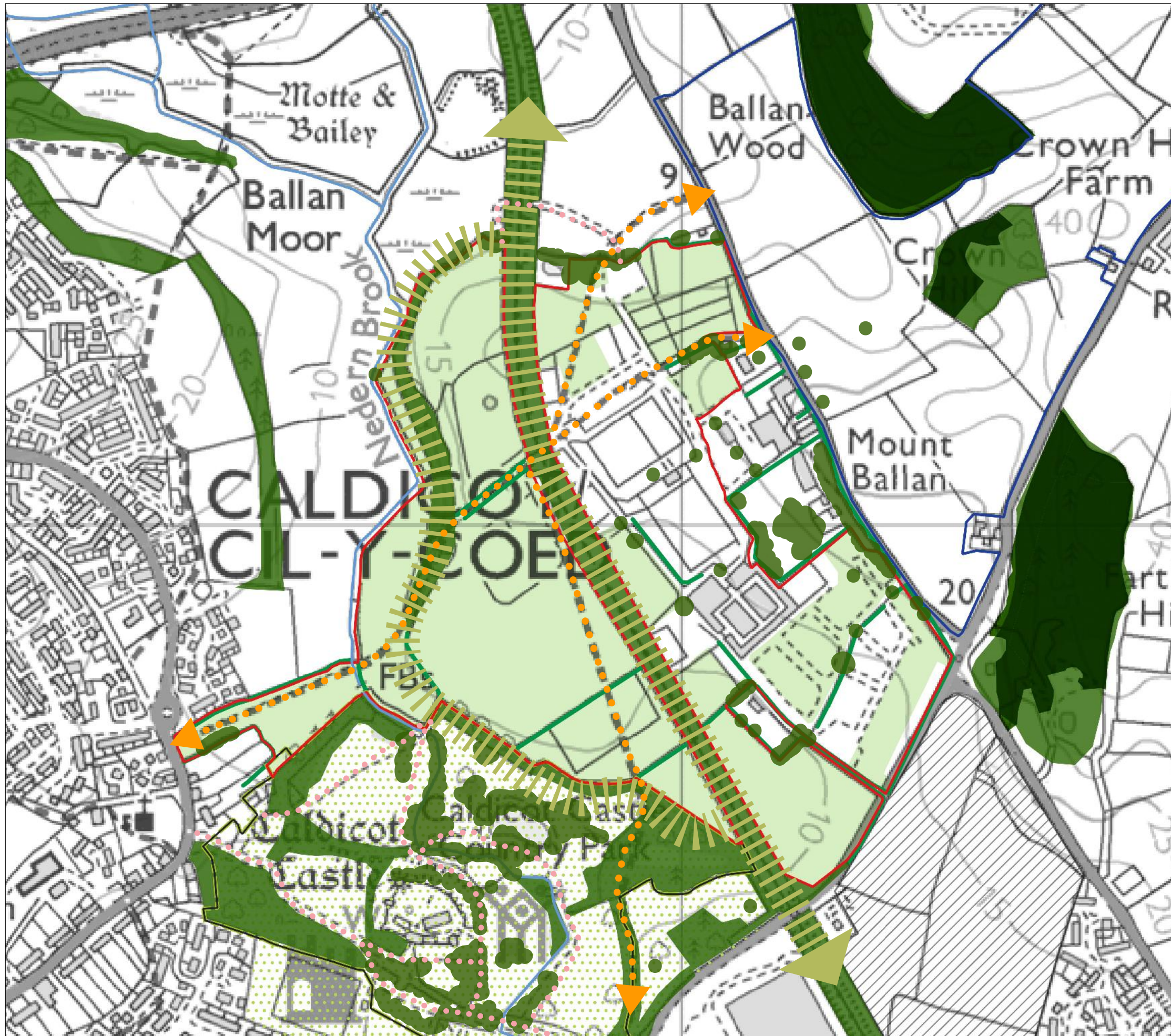
Revision	Description
-	First Issue



Project	Land off Crick Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire
Title	Plan 5: Existing Green Infrastructure Context and Connections
Scale	1:20,000 @ A3
Drawing No.	13097_P10a
Date	07 2024
Checked	AB/OK








**LEGEND**

-  Site Boundary
-  Land at Bradbury Farm, Crick (Candidate Site no: CS0251)
-  Ancient Woodland
-  Tree and shrub cover
-  Grassland
-  Hedgerow
-  Nedern Brook
-  Caldicot Castle Country Park
-  DES2 Areas of Amenity Importance
-  SAH2 Strategic Mixed Use Site
-  Public Rights of Way
-  Other pedestrian links
-  Green corridors

Description  
First Issue

0 100 200 m

Project	Crick Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire
Title	Plan 6: Green Infrastructure Features, Assets and Opportunities
Scale	1:5000 @ A3
Drawing No.	13097_P09a
Date	07 2024
Checked	AB/OK

 **Tyler Grange**





Opportunities should be sought to connect the Site to the Proposed Sustrans Route. Mature vegetation along this route to be maintained and enhanced due to the strong GI corridor it creates and the physical and visual screen it provides to the residential development, especially from Caldicot Castle and the Country Park.

Northern boundary of the Site to be retained and enhanced with woodland planting to build upon the GI framework of the scheme. Due to the gradual rising elevation to the central area of the Site, this will also assist in providing layered filtration and softening of the Proposed Development in distant views from the north.

Retained and enhanced hedgerow vegetation along Crick Road with further supplementary endemic planting to fill in gaps and add height variety with the addition of native trees. The Crick Road interface will also be designed such that it will include strategic, designed gaps through vegetation that would allow vehicular and pedestrian permeability to the wider allocation area east of Crick Road. These east-west routes will also form part of the GI connectivity across both candidate sites and the allocation overall.

SuDS to be integrated into the street scenes of development in the form of swales and rain gardens to bring people and water closer together. This will also add to a 'sense of place' due to influence of nearby Nedern Brook.

Southern boundary of the Site to be retained and enhanced with woodland planting to provide a green infrastructure corridor between the Proposed Sustrans Route, Caldicot Castle Country Park and Farthing Hill Wood to the east.

Nedern Brook corridor to be retained and enhanced as a riparian corridor for ecological benefit.

Retained and Enhanced Public Rights of Way through the Site incorporated into wide landscaped corridors and public open space.

Western public open space to be a naturalistic and native character area which retains, enhances and celebrates the brook corridor setting to Caldicot Castle and the Country Park. Users of the Proposed development, visitors of Caldicot Country Park and existing residents from the wider town setting should be able to easily access and enjoy this parkland area.

- Site Boundary
- Land at Bradbury Farm, Crick (Candidate Site no: CS0251)
- Proposed Neighbouring Development East of Crick Road
- Existing Vegetation
- Adjacent Development 'Elderwood Park' under construction
- Existing Public Rights of Way
- Proposed Sustrans Corridor
- Proposed Pedestrian Route
- Proposed Grassland / Public Open Space
- Potential Locations for Proposed Native Tree Planting
- Proposed Woodland Planting
- Potential Locations of Proposed Attenuation Basins
- Potential Locations of Proposed Swales and Rain Gardens
- Proposed Community Food Growing Project
- Proposed Pedestrian and Cycle Crossing Points
- Proposed / Enhanced Active Green Routes
- Enhanced Wetland and Ecology Corridor
- Proposed / Enhanced Green Corridors

Revision	Description
a	Update to layout
b	Update to latest layout

Project: Land off Crick Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire  
 Title: Plan 7: Green Infrastructure Strategy Plan  
 Scale: 1:2500 @ A1  
 Drawing No: 13097\_P12b  
 Date: 03 2024  
 Checked: EL/EB





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