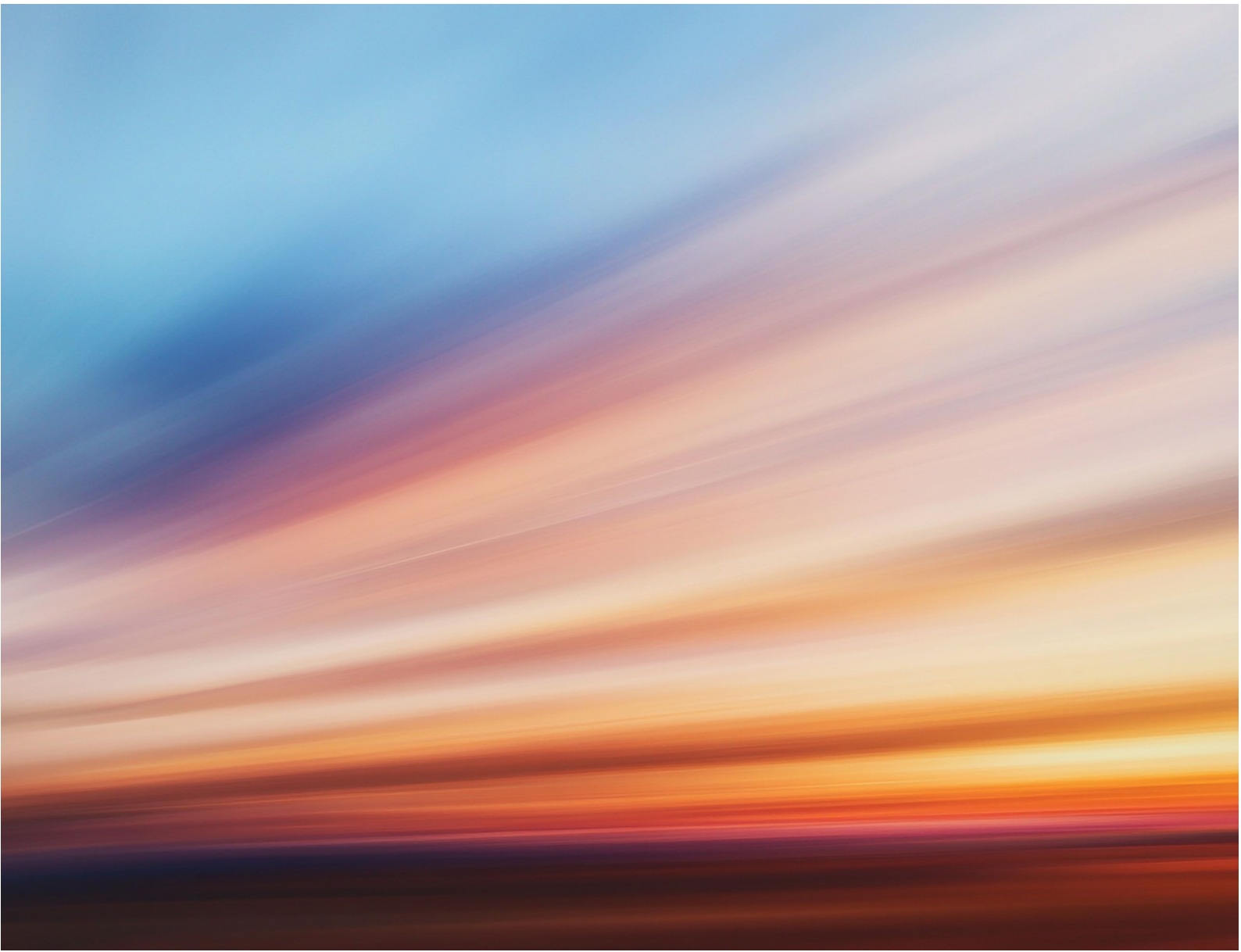
Mylen Leah Solar Farm

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

Volume 1

Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual

April 2026



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11. Landscape and Visual

11.1 Introduction

11.1.1 This chapter presents the preliminary environmental information relating to Mylen Leah Solar Farm in terms of the landscape resource and visual amenity. It also reports the likely significant effects arising from the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of Mylen Leah Solar Farm on the identified landscape and visual receptors. The chapter assesses the design parameters defined in **Table 3.3** in **Chapter 3: What will Mylen Leah Solar Farm Comprise?** in **Volume 1**.

11.1.2 This chapter should be read in conjunction with the following figures in **Volume 2**, appendices in **Volume 3** and visualisations in **Volume 4**:

- **Figure 3.1: Indicative Construction Layout and Access Plan**;
- **Figure 3.2: Indicative Operational Layout Plan**;
- **Figure 3.3: Height Parameters Plan**;
- **Figure 3.4: Indicative Environmental Masterplan**;
- **Figure 11.1: Landscape Study Area, Context, Designations and Access**;
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- **Appendix 11.2: Extracts from Published Landscape Character Assessments**;
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- **Appendix 11.4: Preliminary Viewpoint Analysis**;

- **Appendix 11.5: Summary of Residential Amenity Assessment Work Undertaken to Date**; and
- **Visualisations for Viewpoints 1 - 33**.

11.1.3 This preliminary assessment considers the baseline and potential effects during construction, operation and decommissioning upon:

- Landscape fabric within Mylen Leah Solar Farm;
- Landscape character of the host Landscape Character Area (LCA) and adjacent character areas with the potential to interact with Mylen Leah Solar Farm; and
- Visual receptors including residential, transport and recreational receptors within the study area with the potential for views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

11.1.4 Following the EIA scoping process, the following receptors/matters have not been considered within this preliminary assessment, in agreement with East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) (refer to **Table 11.1** below):

- Howardian Hills National Landscape;
- Londesborough Park, Houghton Hall and Moreby Registered Parks and Gardens;
- East Riding LCA 1B: Everington Estate Farmland and Parkland;
- East Riding LCA 3B: River Derwent Corridor, Stamford Bridge to Pocklington Canal Reach;
- East Riding LCA 5A: Howden to Bubwith Farmland;
- East Riding LCA 6B: South Cliffe and Hotham Common;
- East Riding LCA 7A: South Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland;
- East Riding LCA 7B: Eastringham Farmland; and
- The North Yorkshire Landscape Characterisation Project (Landscape Character Type 28: Vale Farmland and Landscape Character Type 23: Levels Farmland).

11.2 How have we engaged with others about landscape and visual so far?

11.2.1 **Table 11.1** provides a summary of the engagement undertaken to date to inform this preliminary assessment, outside of the EIA Scoping process.

Table 11.1: Summary of engagement

Consultee	Date of engagement	Summary of engagement
Non-statutory consultation design workshop (technical	13 and 14 November 2024 at Melbourne Village Hall and Bubwith Leisure Centre	Technical event attended by planning and technical officers from ERYC. Community event attended by 14 community representatives including parish councillors and local interest and community groups. Participants expressed concerns regarding

Consultee	Date of engagement	Summary of engagement
and community)		the potential impact on the Yorkshire Wolds National Landscape, along with providing suggestions on how to enhance and mitigate the local landscape. They also asked on the type of solar PV modules that would be specified.
ERYC	2 April 2025 MS Teams call	Attended by Planning Case Officer and ERYC Landscape Advisors (2B Landscape Consultancy). The possibility of permissive path routes was discussed. While outside of the proposed 3km study area, the views from and towards Church Hill at Holme on Spalding Moor need to be considered in relation to Policy A6 in East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039[1] which states that '*plans strategies and development decisions in the Vale of York sub area should: .... conserve and enhance those elements that contribute to the significance of the sub area's heritage assets and their setting including landmarks such as Church Hill at Holme on Spalding Moor'.* Lack of battery storage within the scheme was queried with confirmation that there would be no BESS provided as part of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. The upcoming Hull and East Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy[2], which is likely to be completed within the timescale of the DCO submission, was discussed along with a desire that this should be considered in any design. Requested that smaller stature planting should be used to increase likelihood of successful establishment. Arranged date for site visit.
ERYC	29 April 2025 Site visit	Attended by Planning Case Officer and ERYC Landscape Advisors (2B Landscape Consultancy). Walked a large part of the public right of way (PRoW) that runs through the Site and toured round to review extent of likely visibility from surrounding villages and road network. The need to consider permissive paths within Mylen Leah Solar Farm was reiterated, along with the general comment on providing community benefit. Overarching comment was that the design

Consultee	Date of engagement	Summary of engagement
		appeared well considered thus far and that the viewpoint locations were appropriate. It was agreed that subject to review of the detailed information in the PEIR that the following receptors could be scoped out of this preliminary assessment and the ES: • Howardian Hills National Landscape; • Londesborough Park, Houghton Hall and Moreby Registered Parks and Gardens; • East Riding LCA 1B: Everington Estate Farmland and Parkland; • East Riding LCA 3B: River Derwent Corridor, Stamford Bridge to Pocklington Canal Reach; • East Riding LCA 5A: Howden to Bubwith Farmland; • East Riding LCA 6B: South Cliffe and Hotham Common; • East Riding LCA 7A: South Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland; • East Riding LCA 7B: Eastringham Farmland; and • The North Yorkshire Landscape Characterisation Project (Landscape Character Type 28: Vale Farmland and Landscape Character Type 23: Levels Farmland).
ERYC	27 January 2026 MS Teams call	The Applicant presented the draft indicative masterplan to ERYC. Attended by Planning Case Officer, ERYC Landscape Advisors (2B Landscape Consultancy), PRoW Officer and ERYC Ecologist. Key points raised were around the local legacy and highlighting positive benefits of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. Further information was requested regarding the colouring of substation infrastructure, including security fencing. Suggested further engagement with Joint Local Access Forum in relation to the PRoW and permissive path routes. Requested additional ZTVs to demonstrate the effectiveness of hedgerow mitigation will be included as part of the ES.

11.3 What legislation, planning policy and guidance is relevant to landscape and visual?

11.3.1 The general legislation and planning policy context for Mylen Leah Solar Farm is provided in **Section 1.4** of **Chapter 1: Introducing Mylen Leah Solar Farm** in **Volume 1**. Legislation, planning policy and guidance relevant to this preliminary landscape and visual assessment is detailed below:

Legislation

- European Landscape Convention[3] – the European Landscape Convention is an international treaty dedicated to the protection, management, and planning of all landscapes in Europe signed by the United Kingdom (UK) Government in 2006 and introduced in March 2007. The European Landscape Convention contains 18 articles which, collectively, promote landscape protection, management and planning and organising European cooperation on landscape issues. Article 1 defines the terms used in the European Landscape Convention and this section adopts the terminology used to define 'landscape'. Articles 5 and 6 commit signatory states to a number of actions that are designed to help ensure compliance with the overarching aims of the European Landscape Convention. These include the need to recognise landscapes in law, to establish policies aimed at landscape planning, protection and management and the integration of landscape into other policy areas. The European Landscape Convention is a convention of the Council of Europe, not the European Union. Therefore, Brexit does not affect the status of this convention, and at the time of writing, the UK remains a signatory.
- The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012[4] provide powers to local planning authorities to make and administer Tree Preservation Orders, the purpose of which is to protect selected trees and woodlands by prohibiting their cutting down, uprooting, topping, lopping, wilful destruction or wilful damage without prior consent; and
- The Hedgerows Regulations 1997[5] provide protection for 'Important Hedgerows', these being hedgerows that meet certain criteria in respect of their length, location and importance.

National planning policy

- Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (NPS EN-1) (December 2025, published January 2026)[6] provides the basis for decisions regarding nationally significant energy infrastructure. Section 4 - Assessment Principles and Section 5 – Generic Impacts are of particular note.
- National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (NPS EN-3) (December 2025, published January 2026)[7] – Sections 2.3, 2.5 and 2.10 are of particular note.
- National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (NPS EN-5) (December 2025, published January 2026)[8] provides planning guidance for developers of nationally significant electricity network

infrastructure. Whilst NPS EN-5 discusses landscape and visual, primarily in the context of overhead lines, some of these principles will apply to underground electricity cables which will be used as part of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. Examples of this are paragraphs 2.9.19, 2.9.26 and 2.10.8.

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2024)[9] – Sections 12 and 15 are of particular note.

Local planning policy

- East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039 (adopted April 2025) is the name of a suite of documents with relevant policies comprising:
  - Policy S2 'Addressing climate change';
  - Policy S9 'Strengthening blue/green infrastructure';
  - Policy EC5 'Supporting the renewable and low carbon energy sector';
  - Policy ENV2 'Promoting a high-quality landscape';
  - Policy ENV5 'Strengthening green infrastructure'.
- Relevant sections of the East Riding Design Code[10] adopted in April 2025 comprise the following:
  - Section 2.8 'Countryside';
  - Section 3.1 'Green Infrastructure';
  - Section 3.2 'Biodiversity';
  - Section 3.3 'Trees and Hedgerows'.
- Hull and East Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Guidance

- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA3) (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), 2013)[11];
- Landscape Institute Notes and Clarifications on Aspects of Guidance for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (Third Edition) (2024) ('GLVIA3')[12];
- Technical Guidance Note 06/19: Visual Representation of Development Proposals (Landscape Institute, 2019)[13];
- Technical Guidance Note 02/21: Assessing landscape value outside national designations (Landscape Institute, 2021)[14];
- Technical Guidance Note 02/19: Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (Landscape Institute, 2019)[15];
- Technical Guidance Note 04/20: Infrastructure (Landscape Institute, 2020)[16];
- An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment (Natural England, 2014)[17];

- An Approach to Landscape Sensitivity Assessment (Natural England, 2019)[18];
- Advice Note Seventeen: Cumulative Effects Assessment (Planning Inspectorate, 2024, updated 25 March 2025)[19];
- Planning Practice Guidance for Natural Environment (updated June 2025)[20];
- Planning Practice Guidance for Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Energy (updated August 2023)[21];
- Planning Practice Guidance for Design: process and tools (updated October 2019)[22]; and
- Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Good Design (2024, updated 16 April 2025)[23].

11.4 What study area has been used for landscape and visual?

11.4.1 GLVIA3 recommends that the study area for consideration of landscape effects should "*include the site itself and the full extent of the wider landscape around it which the proposed development may influence in a significant manner" (*paragraph 5.2). It also recommends that landscape and visual impact assessment should consider the area from which the proposed development will potentially be visible but that the emphasis *"must be on a reasonable approach which is proportional to the scale and nature of the proposed development"* (paragraph 6.2).

11.4.2 The EIA Scoping Report proposed that based on analysis of the various Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTVs), field work undertaken to date and past experience of similar projects that the study area should be set 3km from any solar PV development within the draft Order Limits and a 100m study area around the underground grid connection corridor where effects would be primarily related to the construction and decommissioning stage, localised and temporary in nature. This offset is generally considered adequate due to the flat nature of the surrounding landscape and quantum of existing vegetation within the landscape which limits visibility beyond this to a degree where the scale of change in landscape or visual terms would be no greater than negligible.

11.4.3 The residential visual amenity assessment seeks to identify where effects on residential visual amenity are of such a nature or magnitude that they may need to be considered in the overall planning balance of 'residential amenity' or 'living conditions'. The point at which this happens is referred to as the 'residential visual amenity threshold'. In the case of solar PV development, it is generally accepted that this is properties within 200m of solar PV modules or within 500m of larger infrastructure will be considered, as well as properties with potential views towards solar PV development in more than one direction. While properties outside of these parameters may have views towards solar PV development, they would not be to an extent where residential visual amenity would be a consideration.

11.4.4 The extent of the study area can be seen on **Figure 11.1: Landscape Study Area, Context, Designations and Access** in **Volume 2**.

11.4.5 The Scoping Opinion adopted by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) on 18 February 2025 states *"the applicant's intention to use a ZTV to determine the visibility of the site. The final ZTV should be based on the maximum extent of the proposed development.*

The Inspectorate considers that the study area should be informed by the extent of likely effects, including from elevated viewpoints, rather than an arbitrary boundary. The ES should evidence how the study area has been derived to ensure it is representative and it should be agreed with relevant consultation bodies where possible. Effort should be made to agree the study areas with relevant consultation bodies.

The applicant should demonstrate how their approach to using a ZTV complies with the Landscape Institute's guidance for the LVIA in 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment' (The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), 3rd Edition, 2013) (GLVIA). The Landscape Institute's ZTV approach treats the world as 'bare earth' and does not take account of potential screening by vegetation or buildings".

11.4.6 Taking on board these comments and following discussions with ERYC, views from Church Hill at Holme on Spalding Moor, which lies approximately 5.5km to the south-east of the Site and outside of the study area will also be considered. This is due to Church Hill being a prominent local landmark due to being elevated above the surrounding flat landscape with wide panoramic views back in the direction of the Site.

11.4.7 The GLVIA3 approach treats the world as *'bare earth'*. While strictly speaking this is true, the approach taken to this preliminary assessment deviates from GLVIA3, primarily because technology has moved on since the guidance was published. The reason bare earth was the default was that LiDAR data was not readily available when the guidance was written and as such, plotting buildings and vegetation could not be done accurately. Plotting a bare earth ZTV within a landscape such as East Riding would not offer much benefit as the flat nature would result in there being suggested visibility from most locations. In reality, existing vegetation in the landscape is a permanent feature, primarily made of field edge vegetation and woodland blocks with the use of LiDAR data allowing the assessment to focus in on the key areas of likely visibility. It should also be noted that LiDAR data does not pick up hedgerows and as such, the ZTVs will still exaggerate the extent of potential visibility.

11.4.8 Extensive site work has been undertaken since the Scoping Opinion was published which confirms that, with the exception of the view from Church Hill, there would be no notable visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm beyond the 3km study area. In addition, the inclusion of representative viewpoints (VPs) and initial wireline overlays from some of the villages proposed to be scoped out of the assessment provides reassurance that there would not be any notable visibility outside of the ZTVs produced for Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

11.5 How have existing landscape and visual conditions been understood?

Data sources to inform the EIA baseline characterisation

11.5.1 The following sources of information have been reviewed:

- Ordnance Survey maps at various scales;
- Online Aerial and street view photography;
- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) MAGIC Maps[24], managed by Natural England;
- National Character Area (NCA) Profile 39 – Humberhead Levels (Natural England) [25];
- NCA Profile 28 – Vale of York (Natural England)[26];
- East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment (AECOM 2018)[27];
- North Yorkshire and York Landscape Characterisation Project (CBA 2011) [28];
- East Riding of Yorkshire Local Plan Update 2020-2039 (adopted April 2025); and
- East Riding of Yorkshire Public Rights of Way Map.

11.5.2 The information from the above has been used to map and present the baseline conditions and potential visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm (see **Figures 11.1 to 11.7** in **Volume 2)**.

Site visits/surveys

11.5.3 The desk-based study formed the basis for a series of site visits undertaken between February 2025 and December 2025, during which the following were undertaken:

- Capturing of wintertime photography on 3 and 4 March 2025 from the representative views (refer to **Figure 11.6: Visual Receptors** in **Volume 2** for VP locations);
- Walking the identified PRoW receptors within and adjacent to the Site;
- Walking the proposed permissive path routes to check their feasibility;
- Visiting the various settlements identified within the EIA Scoping Report (and subsequent Scoping Opinion) as requiring assessment; and
- Observing residential properties (within 200m of proposed solar PV modules and 500m of any of the potential On-Site Substation locations) from publicly accessible locations (i.e. footpaths and the local road network). A more detailed residential visual amenity assessment will be undertaken as part of the ES (refer to **Section 11.14** below). Preliminary information relating to residential visual amenity is presented in **Appendix 11.5: Summary of Residential Amenity Assessment Work Undertaken to Date** in **Volume 3**. This

appendix also identifies which of the selected properties the Applicant will seek access to in order to undertake further detailed assessment.

11.6 What are the landscape and visual conditions within the study area?

Existing baseline

11.6.1 **Figure 11.1: Landscape Study Area, Context, Designations and Access** in **Volume 2** illustrates the landscape context of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. It provides information on the extent of the study area, landscape designations within the study area, local centres, PRoW and the local road network.

11.6.2 **Figure 11.5: Topography and Landcover** in **Volume 2** provides information on the local topography. The landscape is predominantly flat in nature, ranging between 2m and 16m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) within the Site and 3km study area. The land at Church Hill reaches a maximum AOD of 46m. The flat nature of the Site and surrounding study area results in existing vegetation being the primary form of screening to views across the landscape. In areas with limited field edge vegetation and woodland, this often leads to long views across the flat landscape.

11.6.3 There is a noticeable difference in the extent of openness across the Site with some areas, in particular to the north of the Site being very open with minimal field edge vegetation. Where field and road edge vegetation is more defined, it often prevents these longer views across the landscape.

Landscape designations

11.6.4 No part of the Site or surrounding study area falls within a statutory designated landscape. The proposed Yorkshire Wolds National Landscape is located approximately 11km from Mylen Leah Solar Farm and would not interact with the Site in landscape and visual terms.

11.6.5 The River Derwent Corridor and Lower Derwent Valley Important Landscape Area is a non-statutory designation within the East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039, to the north and west of the Site (see **Figure 11.1: Landscape Study Area, Context, Designations and Access** in **Volume 2**). While there would be little or no visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from within the Important Landscape Area, the underground grid connection corridor passes through this designation within character area 3C: Pocklington Canal and Beck Corridor. Policy ENV2: 'Promoting a high quality landscape' in the Local Plan Strategy states that '*proposals should protect and enhance the existing landscape character as described in the East Riding Landscape Character Assessment'.* The policy goes on to state that this should particularly be the case within Important Landscape Areas. Potential effects on the Important Landscape Area will be considered within the landscape character assessment of the character areas within which it falls.

Landscape character

11.6.6 The landscape character of England was assessed and classified as part of the Character of England project published by the then Countryside Agency in 1999 and subsequently updated periodically. The studies identified a number of NCAs. The Site and proposed study area are located largely within the northern portion of NCA 39: Humberhead Levels. The exception to

this is the northern section of the underground grid connection corridor, which is located at the southern edge of NCA 28: Vale of York.

11.6.7 While the NCAs will be considered within this preliminary assessment, the effects on landscape character will be reported with reference to the district LCAs. At this district level, the East Riding of Yorkshire Character Assessment identifies Landscape Character Types (LCT) and LCA. These are illustrated on **Figure 11.4: Landscape Character** in **Volume 2**.

11.6.8 The majority of the Site, excluding the southern edge of Land Parcel B, the southern section of Land Parcel E and parts of the underground grid connection corridor, is located within LCT 6: Wooded Open Farmland and in LCA 6A: South of Pocklington Canal Wooded Farmland. The southern edge of Land Parcel B and Land Parcel E sit within LCT 5: Open Farmland and within LCA 5B: West of Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland.

11.6.9 In addition to these two LCAs, the underground grid connection corridor runs through LCT 3: River/Canal Corridors and within LCA 3C: Pocklington Canal and Beck Corridor, and also through LCT1: Flat Open Farmland and within LCA 1C: Newton Upon Derwent, Wilberfloss, Allerthorpe and Hayton Farmland.

11.6.10 Relevant extracts relating to NCA 28 and NCA 39 along with East Riding of Yorkshire LCA 6A, 5B, 3C and 1C are provided in **Appendix 11.2: Extracts from Published Landscape Character Assessments** in **Volume 3**. A preliminary assessment of the landscape sensitivity is provided in **Appendix 11.3: Landscape Sensitivity Appraisal** in **Volume 3**.

11.6.11 The other LCA from the East Riding of Yorkshire Character Assessment within the study area are:

- LCA 1B: Everington Estate and Parkland;
- LCA 3B: River Derwent Corridor, Stamford Bridge to Pocklington Canal Reach;
- LCA 5A: Howden to Bubwith Farmland;
- LCA 6B: South Cliffe and Hotham Common;
- LCA 7A: South Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland; and
- LCA 7B Eastrington Farmland.

11.6.12 The westernmost part of the study area falls within the study area of the North Yorkshire Characterisation Project. Two LCTs within this study fall within the 3km study area.

- LCT 28: Vale Farmland: and
- LCT 23: Levels Farmland.

11.6.13 The ZTVs presented on **Figures 11.2 to 11.3** in **Volume 2** along with the visualisations presented in **Volume 4** and preliminary VP analysis in **Appendix 11.4: Preliminary Viewpoint Analysis** in **Volume 3** demonstrate that outside of the four host LCAs (LCA 1C, 3C, 5B and 6A), any distant glimpses of Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be barely perceptible with a scale of change no greater than negligible.

Visual receptors

11.6.14 Visual receptors are "*the different groups of people who may experience views of the development*" (GLVIA, 3rd edition, para 6.3). In order to identify those groups that may be significantly affected by Mylen Leah Solar Farm, an initial review of the ZTVs, baseline studies and preliminary site visits have been undertaken. When preparing the landscape and visual impact assessment, this work will be expanded on and considered in more detail.

11.6.15 The different types of groups assessed encompass local residents; people using key routes such as roads, cycle ways, people within accessible or recreational landscapes, people using PRoW or people visiting key VPs. For Mylen Leah Solar Farm, the primary receptors likely to be affected comprise:

- Residents (within settlements and at isolated farmsteads/dwellings).
- Users of PRoW (including long distance paths); and
- Users of the local and trunk road network.

11.6.16 The locations of the primary visual receptors are presented on **Figure 11.6: Visual Receptors** in **Volume 2**.

Settlements

11.6.17 Settlements within the study area are detailed in **Table 11.2** below, with brief comments on location and potential visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. All the settlements are considered in this preliminary assessment unless stated otherwise in the table.

Table 11.2: Settlements in study area

Settlement	Location and nearest developed field	Comments
Aughton	1.4km south west of Field 8.c	Long views back in direction of the Site towards Land Parcel B.
Bielby	2.1km east of Field 13.v	ZTVs indicate very limited visibility from back of housing. Further on-site investigation work determined that there would be no intervisibility with the Site. The underground grid connection corridor has been further refined, reducing the extent shown at the EIA Scoping stage and pulling away from the village edge to a point whereby views from the village do not need to be considered further.
East Cottingwith	1.4km north-west of Field 10.b	ZTV indicates limited visibility from edge of village.
Ellerton	350m west of Field 8.a	Village sits to west of Land Parcel B. Linear nature of village suggests visibility would be limited to easterly edge.
Everingham	3km east of Field 13.w	Area around the village is well wooded with ZTV indicating no visibility. Views

Settlement	Location and nearest developed field	Comments
		from the village are not considered further within this preliminary assessment.
Foggathorpe	2.7km south of Field 18.q	ZTV indicates limited visibility along northern edge of village.
Harlthorpe	2.3km south of Field 18.c	ZTV indicates limited visibility along northern edge of village.
Laytham	400m south-east of Field 18.q	Potential for longer views towards Land Parcels B and C.
Melbourne	1.1km north of Field 12.i	ZTV indicates visibility from eastern end of village.
Seaton Ross	250m east of Field 13.w	Western edge of village backs onto Melbourne airfield which contains solar PV development.
Storwood	2.25km north-west of Field 13.a	ZTV and site-based analysis indicate that there would be no visibility from the village. Views from the village are not considered further within this preliminary assessment.
Thorganby	2.43km west of Field 10.a	ZTV indicates very limited visibility from eastern edge of village. Sense checking on site confirmed that the existing vegetation would prevent any views from within the village. Views from the village are not considered further within this preliminary assessment.
Thornton	2.54km north of Field 12.i	ZTV indicates no visibility from village which is also offset from the edge of the underground grid connection corridor. Views from the village are not considered further within this preliminary assessment.
Water End	2.93km south-east of Field 13.zj	ZTV indicates no visibility from the village. Views from the village are not considered further within this preliminary assessment.

11.6.18 For all of the above settlements, the existing vegetation, combined with the flat nature of the landscape, filters views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm. Despite this, there is potential for views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm from the villages listed for assessment. The low-level nature of the solar PV modules provides opportunity to minimise visibility of proposed infrastructure through design and mitigation.

11.6.19 In addition to the settlements listed above, there are numerous properties throughout the 3km study area. These include some in close proximity to the Site. Residential properties identified as being within the study area for residential visual amenity (200m of solar PV modules, 500m of potential On-Site Substations or with potential views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm in

more than one direction) are listed below in **Table 11.3**. The location of these properties is identified on **Figure 11.7: Residential Property Location Plan** in **Volume 2**. **Appendix 11.5: Summary of Residential Amenity Assessment Work Undertaken to Date** in **Volume 3** sets out preliminary information relating to these properties and explains how potential effects on residential visual amenity will be assessed within the ES.

Table 11.3: Properties shown on Figure 11.7: Residential Property Location Plan in Volume 2

Property	Closest host field
1. Ruddings Wood Farm, Laytham, York	Field 18.q
2. Boland House, Ellerton, York	Field 10.e
3. Acorn Cottage, Ellerton, York	Field 10.e
4. Blue Slates Farm, Ellerton, York	Field 18.j
5. Blackberry Farm, Ellerton, York	Field 10.b
6. Spring House Farm, Bridges Lane, Ellerton, York	Field 1.b
7. Fox Covert Farm, Bridges Lane, Ellertson, York	Field 1.b
8. Bethell House, Bridges Lane, Ellerton, York	Field 14.h
9. South Ross Farm, Bridges Lane, Ellerton, York	Field 14.h
10. South Acre Farm, Main Road, Melbourne, York	Field 13.b
11. Ryburn House, South Acre Farm, Main Road, Melbourne, York	Field 13.b
12. Acre Farm, Melbourne, York	Field 13.c
13. Laytham Park and Caravan Site, Laytham Park	Field 14.k to west, Field 15.e to east.
14. Laytham Park, Laytham, York	Field 14.k to west, Field 15.e to east.
15. Oakfield Farm, Main Road, Laytham, York, York	Field 4.e to west, Field 15.e to north, Field 7.c to south
16. Laytham Green Farm, Main Road, Laytham, York	Field 4.e to west, Field 5.a to east, Field 15.e to north, Field 7.c to south-west
17. Dovecote, Main Road, Laytham, York	Field 4.e to west, Field 5.a to east, Field 15.e to north, Field 7.c to south-west
18. Blue Turtle, Main Road, Laytham, York	Field 4.e to west, Field 5.a to east, Field 15.e to north, Field 7.c to south-west
19. Harthill Farm, Laytham, York	Field 5.c
20. Barn End, Melbourne, York	Field 13.h to west, Field 13.zk to south, Field 13.l to east

Property	Closest host field
21. White Farm, Melbourne, York	Field 13.h to west, Field 13.zk to south, Field 13.l to east
22. Alders, Melbourne, York	Field 13.h to west, Field 13.zk to south
23. Hawkwood, Melbourne, York	Field 13.h to west, Field 13.zk to south
24. Bibbill Farm, Melbourne, York	Field 13.m to south, Field 13.s to east
25. Breakstreet Farm, Seaton Ross, York	Field 13.zg to south-west, Field 13.t to north
26. Coach House, Breckstreet Farm, Seaton Ross, York	Field 13.zg to south-west, Field 13.t to north

Key routes

11.6.20 Main roads within the 3km study area are identified on **Figure 11.6: Visual Receptors** in **Volume 2**. The key routes are the:

- A163, running broadly east to west through the southern part of the study area from Holme-on-Spalding-Moor to Barlby; and
- B1228, running broadly north to south through the western part of the study area from Elvington down to Howden.

11.6.21 Other roads within the study area are primarily local routes and are considered as part of the receptor groups within which they are located.

Recreational routes

11.6.22 Recreational users of PRoW would likely be the most sensitive visual receptors of any change in the landscape. The recreational routes are shown on **Figure 11.6: Visual Receptors** in **Volume 2**.

11.6.23 The Wilberforce Way long distance path passes through the study area in an east/west direction following the Pocklington Canal to the north of Melbourne. At its closest point, solar PV development is approximately 1.5km to the south. The underground grid connection corridor does, however, cross the Wilberforce Way long distance path leading to the potential for views of installation/removal works during the construction and decommissioning stages.

11.6.24 There are no National Cycle Network (NCN) Routes within the 3km study area.

11.6.25 A review of the ERYC Definitive Map shows that there are numerous PRoW within the 3km study area, including within the draft Order Limits. PRoW within the study area are identified by name on **Figure 11.6: Visual Receptors** in **Volume 2**. Those within the draft Order Limits, and therefore most likely to be impacted along with the nearest field number hosting solar PV modules, are:

- Melbourne bridleway no.5 (commences on Ash Lane and leads along the eastern edge of Great West Wood and north-eastwards to join path no. 4 north of Bracepits Wood. Known as Intakes Lane). Runs around the periphery of Fields 13.e and 13.f.

- Melbourne footpath no.4 (commences at the southern end of Melbourne Park between Nos. 6 and 7 and leads south-south-westerly for some 30m turns west-north-westerly for some 30m then southwards to and along the western edge of Bracepits Wood and The Park to Ash Lane). Runs around the periphery of Fields 13.e and 13.f.
- Melbourne footpath no.2 (commences on Ash Lane and leads southwards around the east side of Park Farm to Throughleys Lane). Runs through Field 12.f.
- Melbourne footpath no.3 (commences in Throughleys Lane and leads southwards west of White Farm to the Foggathorpe parish boundary at Lords Drain). Runs through Field 13.h.
- Foggathorpe footpath no.11 (commences on the Laytham - Melbourne Road at a point about 400m north of the junction of New Road, then leads eastwards and northwards to Owlet Hall Lane, then along Owlet Hall Lane for a distance of about 210m and then up the eastern edge of Fox Covert for about 270m). Runs along western edge of Field 5.b and then through Field 5.c.
- Foggathorpe bridleway no.12 (commences at Laytham about 65m north of the west end of New Road and leads westwards along Belt Lane to the Ellerton parish boundary). Runs along the southern edge of Fields 11.e and 11.f.
- Ellerton and Aughton bridleway no.7 (commences at the eastern end of Ruddings Lane and leads in an easterly direction to the Foggathorpe parish boundary to join path No. 12). Runs along the southern edge of Fields 11.c, 18.c and 18.b.
- Seaton Ross footpath no.3 (commences on Breckstreet Lane and leads north westwards then south westwards to Breckstreet Farm). Runs between Fields 13.y and 13.z.

11.6.26 In addition, there are two PRoW that run within the underground grid connection corridor.

- Melbourne footpath no.9 (commences at Scamland Bridge on the road leading from Melbourne to Seaton Ross and leads in a south-easterly direction across East Common and by the west side of East Farm to the Seaton Ross-Cotting with Road north-west of Melbourne). Runs through the south-western portion of the underground grid connection corridor.
- Thornton footpath no.2 (commences south of Byholme Field and leads north-east then north to the west of Hall Flat to the Allerthorpe parish boundary). Runs through north-western corner of the underground grid connection corridor.

11.6.27 Other PRoW within the 3km study area where the initial ZTV indicates the potential of visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm comprise:

- Thornton footpath no.3 (commences at the Swingbridge on Pocklington Canal and leads in a north-westerly direction along the south-western edge of Thornton Wood passing to the north of

Woodhouse Farm and thence to the Melbourne-Pocklington Road). Runs to eastern edge of the underground grid connection corridor. The ZTVs indicate no intervisibility with solar PV modules and the proposed On-Site Substation locations are at a distance where any scale of change would be no greater than negligible. As such, views from the PRoW are not considered further within this preliminary assessment.

- Bielby footpath no.6 (commences at Mill Bridge and leads in a northerly direction along the east bank of the Pocklington Canal to Coats Bridge (Broken by Thornton Path No: 4). Runs to the east boundary of the underground grid connection corridor. The ZTVs indicate no intervisibility with solar PV modules and the proposed On-Site Substation locations are at a distance where any scale of change would be no greater than negligible. As such, views from the PRoW are not considered further within this preliminary assessment.
- Foggathorpe footpath No.10 (commences at Laytham at a point about 70 yards south of the east end of New Road and leads eastwards to the first bend on the Laytham - Seaton Ross Road). The closest field is Field 16.a.
- Ellerton and Aughton footpath no.6 (commences at the eastern end of Ruddings Lane and leads in a mainly south westerly direction past Aughton Ruddings Farm to Long Lane, opposite the north eastern corner of Common End Plantation). The closest field is Field 10.e.
- Melbourne footpath no.1 (commences in Melbourne Village in St Monica's Close and leads east for some 42m then southwards through the Park to Ash Lane at a point opposite Park Farm. Known as Parkfield Path). The closest field is Field 12.f.
- Melbourne bridleway no.6 (commences on Intakes Lane and leads westwards to Kidd Lane south of Melbourne Grange). The closest fields are Fields 13.a and 13.f.
- Melbourne footpath no.7 (commences on Kidd Lane 130m south of Melbourne Grange and leads westwards through Clays Plantation to the south-west corner of Eastroad Plantation and continuing along the south side of a hedge and ditch for approximately 246m to cross a footbridge then southwards along the west bank of the drain for approximately 84m to join a driveway then in a generally south-westerly direction to the Cotting with parish boundary at General Lane. Known as Blanchard's Wood Path). The closest field is Field 13.a.
- Seaton Ross footpath no.4 (commences on Breckstreet Lane and leads south eastwards to West End then continues southwards past Ladysmith then eastwards to the south of Manor House Farm to Church Lane).
- Seaton Ross footpath no.5 (commences on West End to the west of West House Farm and leads southwards to Seaton Ross footpath no.7 and then southwards again to South End).

- Seaton Ross footpath no. 7 (commences on Seaton Ross footpath no.4 south west of Manor House Farm and leads south then southwest across West Field to Fosses Farm).
- Seaton Ross footpath no. 8, 9 and 10 are located to the east of Southfield Lane to the south-east of the village.
- Seaton Ross bridleway no.14 and 15 and Foggathorpe bridleway no.15 (commences on Station Road and leads east-north-easterly to join the A163 at Lincoln Flats), forms part of the Bubwith Rail Trail. Sits well to the south of the Site, with the ZTV of the solar PV modules indicating very limited visibility with a scale of change no greater than negligible. As such, views from this PRoW route are not considered further within this preliminary assessment.

Other recreational and or tourist receptors

11.6.28 Other recreational receptors within the study area are indicated on **Figure 11.6: Visual Receptors** in **Volume 2**. The recreational receptors to be considered in this preliminary assessment comprise:

- Melbourne Raceway;
- York Model Boat Club/Laytham Park Caravan Site; and
- Church Hill at Holme on Spalding Moor.

11.6.29 The following recreational receptors fall within the study area but the ZTVs and site-based analysis indicate Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be fully screened from within them; therefore, they are not considered further in this preliminary assessment.

- The Oaks Lake Golf Club (located approximately 1.25km south of Land Parcel B) – Planting around the periphery of the course prevents views back in the direction of the Site; and
- Yellowtop Country Park (located off A163, approximately 2.5km south of Land Parcel D) - Planting around the periphery of the park prevents views back in the direction of the Site.

Future baseline

11.6.30 For the purposes of this preliminary assessment, the future baseline has been assumed to reflect the current baseline. Over the lifetime of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, agricultural practices and crops may change, resulting in alterations to the baseline arable landscape. However, it is not anticipated that that these changes would notably alter the existing baseline. Climate change may expediate this change in the landscape; however, such change is difficult to predict with any certainty, and it is therefore assumed that the baseline would remain unaltered.

11.7 How have the likely effects been assessed for landscape and visual?

Approach to design flexibility

11.7.1 In order to retain a degree of flexibility within the design, a parameters-based approach has been used to inform this preliminary assessment. **Figure 3.2: Indicative Operational Layout Plan** and **Figures 3.5: Indicative**

Environmental Masterplan in **Volume 2** set out the key elements of the design that are fixed and as such can be assumed to be embedded. **Figure 3.2: Indicative Operational Layout Plan** in **Volume 2** defines the following:

- Which fields would contain solar PV development with a maximum height of 3.5m and potentially including both fixed and tracker panels along with associated infrastructure;
- Four potential On-Site Substation locations (up to two of the locations would be used in the final design). A maximum height parameter of 8m height has been assumed for any buildings and electrical equipment and 15m for the communications tower;
- Key constraints in terms of offsets from vegetation and watercourses along with other ecological offsets;
- Proposed woodland planting and field boundary enhancements;
- Proposed areas for ecological mitigation and enhancement; and
- Proposed permissive path routes and proposed PRoW diversions.

11.7.2 In addition, **Figure 3.1: Indicative Construction Layout and Access Plan** in **Volume 2** sets out the proposed construction compounds locations and site access routes and **Figure 3.3: Height Parameters Plan** in **Volume 2** sets out the maximum height parameters of Mylen Leah Solar Farm within each field.

Assessment assumptions

11.7.3 For the ES, up to two On-Site Substation locations will be proposed. However, currently as the design develops and to allow preliminary assessment of a number of different options, there are four potential On-Site Substation locations included within the preliminary design. A ZTV for each of the four potential locations has been produced showing the likely visibility of electrical equipment and buildings (8m maximum height) and the communications tower (15m maximum height) to allow each of the locations to be considered individually rather than collectively. While the exact design is yet to be determined, for the purposes of this preliminary assessment, it has been assumed that the design will be considerate of the surrounding landscape and use neutral colours. The ZTV does not consider any of the works related to the installation of the underground grid connection corridor as the potential visual effects associated with this element of Mylen Leah Solar Farm would only occur during the construction phase and with no fixed elements to model.

11.7.4 For the purposes of this preliminary assessment, it has been assumed that the construction compound locations and access points are as illustrated on **Figure 3.1: Indicative Construction Layout and Access Plan** in **Volume 2**.

11.7.5 For the purposes of this preliminary assessment (and ultimately the ES), the following assumptions have been made about the growth rate of newly planted hedgerows and trees:

- Newly planted hedgerows and woodland/shrub would be planted as young transplants or ‘whips.’ In Year 1 after construction, the planting

stock would typically be approximately 0.6m to 0.8m high and contained within tree protection tubes.

- Hedgerows in Year 10 of operation would be maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This makes an assumption that the plants do not put on much growth in the first planting season and then put on an average of 0.4m growth each subsequent year. This means that all new hedgerows are considered to be at full maturity in Year 10 of operation and are maintained at an effective screening height by ongoing management.
- New woodland/scrub planting established as transplants will be 4m in height as it is not maintained at a lower height as is the case for hedgerows.
- If hedgerow trees are required as taller specimens or if mature stock is required for mitigation purposes, it is assumed that the trees would be planted as either feathered trees or as heavy standards. At Year 1, feathered trees would have a height of 1.5m to 2.1m, whereas heavy standard trees would have a height of 3m to 3.5m. By Year 10 of operation, it is assumed that these trees would have a height of approximately 5m for the feathered trees and 6m for the heavy standards.
- Except where vegetation is managed at a specific height (e.g. hedgerows), it is assumed that trees and scrub would continue to grow naturally over the remaining lifetime of Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

Assessment methodology and criteria

11.7.6 This section provides a summary of the methodology adopted for the preliminary assessment of the potential likely significant landscape and visual effects of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. Full details of the preliminary assessment methodology, including assessment criteria, are provided in **Appendix 11.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology** in **Volume 3**.

11.7.7 In accordance with GLVIA3, the significance of landscape and visual effects is determined by considering the sensitivity of landscape and visual receptors (landscape elements, LCAs, landscape designations and groups of people who may be affected by changes in visual amenity) and the magnitude of effect arising from Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

11.7.8 The preliminary assessment has been informed by initial desk studies and site visits to identify receptors.

11.7.9 The desk study included the preparation of several ZTV plans (presented in **Figures 11.2 to 11.3** in **Volume 2**) to identify potential areas of visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. This information has been used to aid the identification of the study area and receptors likely to be affected. VPs are used as ‘sample’ locations to inform the preliminary assessment of effects on receptors.

11.7.10 This preliminary assessment provides a full baseline study, including judgements of sensitivity for each receptor, and an initial indication of potential likely significant effects. It should be noted, however, that in the interests of proportionality, a detailed justification for the judgements made

regarding magnitude of effects and significance of effects is not provided in this preliminary assessment. The assessment presented in the ES will provide a full justification for all judgements.

11.7.11 For this preliminary assessment, the potential likely effects on all identified receptors are reported, together with an initial consideration of whether the effect is significant or not.

Landscape and visual sensitivity

11.7.12 Sensitivity (described as 'high', 'medium' or 'low') is judged by combining component judgments about the value and susceptibility of the receptor, as illustrated below in **Table 11.4** and **Table 11.5**. An explanation of how value and susceptibility has been determined is provided in **Appendix 11.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology** in **Volume 3**. Detailed value and susceptibility criteria for landscape receptors are established in **Appendix 11.3: Landscape Sensitivity Appraisal** in **Volume 3**, whilst detailed visual value and susceptibility criteria are set out in **Appendix 11.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology** in **Volume 3**.

11.7.13 Intermediate assessments of value or susceptibility may be applied (e.g. high/medium, medium/low or national/regional, regional/community). Likewise, when combining value and susceptibility to determine sensitivity, an intermediate assessment is adopted where overall sensitivity is judged to lie between levels. In all instances, professional judgement is employed. **Table 11.4** and **Table 11.5** below should not be interpreted rigidly to give a specific answer. Note that equal weighting is attributed to susceptibility and value when determining overall landscape sensitivity, but that a greater weight is intentionally attributed to the susceptibility of the visual receptor than to value. This is in recognition of the fact that relatively few views are specifically recognised through designation or cultural reference but acknowledges that value associations may still influence visual sensitivity.

Table 11.4: Landscape sensitivity criteria

		Susceptibility		
		High	**Medium**	**Low**
Value	**National**	High	High/Medium	Medium
	Regional	High/Medium	Medium	Medium/Low
	Community	Medium	Medium/Low	Low

Table 11.5: Visual sensitivity criteria

		Susceptibility		
		High	**Medium**	**Low**
Value	**National**	High	High/Medium	Medium
	Regional	High/Medium	High/Medium	Medium/Low
	Community	High/Medium	Medium	Low

Landscape and visual magnitude of effect

11.7.14 The magnitude of effect arising from Mylen Leah Solar Farm (described as 'substantial', 'moderate', 'slight' or 'negligible') is assessed in terms of its scale, geographic extent of the area or receptor that is influenced and its duration.

11.7.15 Scale of change (expressed as 'large', 'medium', 'small' or 'negligible') is the first and primary factor in determining magnitude. Geographical extent and duration of the effect are modifying factors to the overall magnitude judgement which may be higher if the effect is particularly widespread and/or long lasting, or lower if it is constrained in geographic extent and/or timescale.

11.7.16 The diagrams presented below in **Plate 11.1** illustrate in outline how these two modifying factors are considered in a two-stage process. A judgement is first formed about the scale of the change to the landscape or visual receptor. The geographic extent of the effect is then considered as a modifying influence in the first part of **Plate 11.1** (Stage 1).

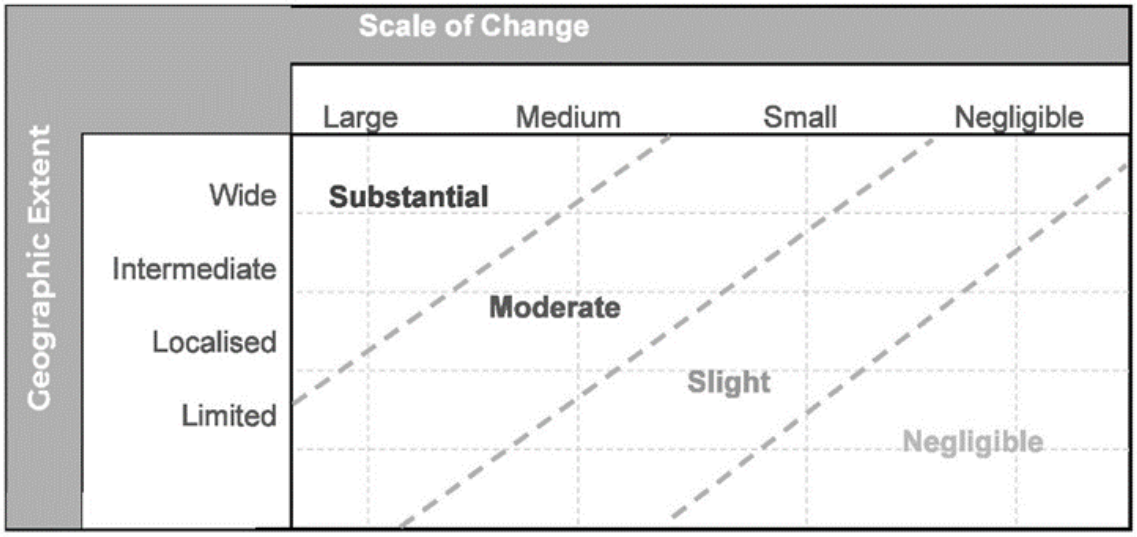
11.7.17 The result or outcome of Stage 1 is then considered again in relation to the duration of the effect, as illustrated in the second part of **Plate 11.1**. The outcome of Stage 2 is the overall magnitude of effect judgement reported in the preliminary assessment. **Plate 11.1** is not intended to be interpreted rigidly as a chart to provide definitive answers; professional judgement is employed as appropriate to arrive at an overall judgement on the magnitude of effect. A definition of the terms used in the diagrams in **Plate 11.1** is provided in **Appendix 11.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology** in **Volume 3**.

11.7.18 Where magnitude of effect (or other judgements) is judged to lie between levels, an intermediate assessment is adopted and is expressed e.g. 'moderate/slight'.

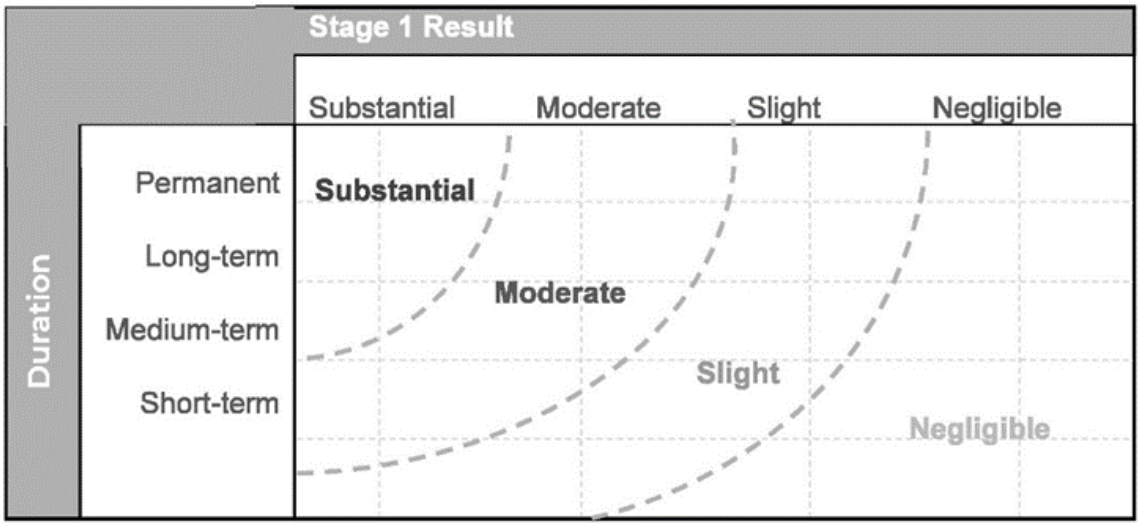
Plate 11.1 Combining scale of change, extent and duration to determine the magnitude of landscape and visual effects

Landscape and visual significance of effect

Stage 1 - Modifying Influence of Geographic Extent on Magnitude of Effect



Stage 2 - Modifying Influence of Duration on Magnitude of Effect



11.7.19 The significance of a landscape or visual effect is assessed through professional judgement, combining the sensitivity of the receptor with the predicted magnitude of effect, as summarised in **Table 11.6**. **Table 11.6** is not used as a prescriptive tool and illustrates the typical outcomes, allowing for the exercise of professional judgement.

Table 11.6: Significance of effect criteria

		Magnitude of effect			
		Substantial	**Moderate**	**Slight**	**Negligible**
Receptor sensitivity	**High**	Major	Major/ Moderate	Moderate	Minor
	Medium	Major/ Moderate	Moderate	Moderate/ Minor	Minor/ Negligible
	Low	Moderate	Moderate/ Minor	Minor	Negligible

11.7.20 Effects classified as 'major' or 'major/moderate' are considered to be **significant**. Effects classified as 'moderate/minor', 'minor', 'minor/negligible' or 'negligible' significance are considered to be **not significant**.

11.7.21 Moderate effects lie somewhere in the middle of the range of effects identified. Within the meaning of this term in this preliminary assessment, there is a spectrum of effects ranging from those tending towards a major/moderate effect (significant) to those tending towards a moderate/minor effect (not significant). 'Moderate' effects may therefore be either significant or not significant depending on where they fall on this spectrum. Where 'moderate' effects are predicted, professional judgement is applied to determine whether the effect is significant or not ensuring that the potential for significant effects to arise has been thoroughly considered and justification is provided for the judgement reached as appropriate. Clarification 3 (5) of Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note LITGN-2024-01: Notes and Clarifications on Aspects of Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third edition recognises this as an appropriate approach to identifying significant effects.

Nature of effect

11.7.22 Landscape and visual effects can be beneficial or adverse and, in some instances, may be considered neutral. Neutral effects are those which overall are neither adverse nor positive but may incorporate a combination of both. Whether an effect is beneficial, neutral or adverse is identified based on professional judgement.

11.7.23 Changes to rural landscapes involving construction of utilitarian objects of a large scale are generally considered to be adverse. In this preliminary assessment, it has been assumed that where new infrastructure is introduced into the landscape or views, as well as the associated construction/decommissioning activity, this would generally constitute an adverse effect.

Residential visual amenity assessment

11.7.24 With respect to visual impact, the focus of landscape and visual impact assessment is on public views and public visual amenity. Residential visual amenity assessment is a stage beyond landscape and visual impact assessment and focuses exclusively on private views and private visual

amenity and may be used by the decision maker when weighing potential effects on residential amenity against other material considerations.

11.7.25 Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 2/19 (TGN 2/19) notes that: "*Changes in views and visual amenity are considered in the planning process. In respect of private views and visual amenity, it is widely known that, no one has 'a right to a view*" and "*It is not uncommon for significant adverse effects on views and visual amenity to be experienced by people at their place of residence as a result of introducing a new development into the landscape. In itself this does not necessarily cause particular planning concern. However, there are situations where the effect on the outlook/visual amenity of a residential property is so great that it is not generally considered to be in the public interest to permit such conditions to occur where they did not exist before.*"

11.7.26 A detailed residential visual amenity assessment will be presented in the ES and will identify where the visual effects on residential visual amenity are of such a nature or magnitude that they may need to be considered in the overall balance of 'residential amenity' or 'living conditions.'

11.7.27 Information relating to residential visual amenity gathered to date and a methodology for the full assessment to be included in the ES, is presented in **Appendix 11.5: Summary of Residential Amenity Assessment Work Undertaken to Date** in **Volume 3**.

Distances

11.7.28 Where distances are given in this chapter, these are approximate distances between the assumed nearest above ground feature of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, (i.e. the boundary fence), rather than the draft Order Limits; and the nearest part of the receptor in question unless explicitly stated otherwise.

Visual aids

11.7.29 ZTV maps have been generated using GIS to assist in identifying areas where visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm may be possible and to indicate its potential influence in the wider landscape. The ZTVs are also used to identify potential VPs and to illustrate areas from which Mylen Leah Solar Farm would not be visible.

11.7.30 The ZTVs are based on a Standard Screening ZTV, which takes account of buildings and significant blocks of woodland in the landscape. The Standard Screening ZTV shows the maximum theoretical extent of visibility for the structures modelled (as indicated on the individual ZTV), taking into account the screening effect of topography, principal woodlands and buildings. ZTVs have been prepared to test the visibility of the solar PV modules and also the potential On-Site Substation locations (see **Figures 11.2 to 11.3** in **Volume 2**).

11.7.31 Annotated photographs of the existing views at all VPs are provided in **Volume 4**. The method of visualisation selected has been informed by Landscape Institute Technical Note 06/19 - Visual Representation of

Development Proposals, with annotated photographs and photowires[1] being the most appropriate approach at this preliminary assessment stage before the design is finalised.

11.7.32 The methodology for production of the ZTVs and the visualisations is described in **Appendix 11.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology** in **Volume 3**. Photowires and/or photomontage visualisations will be provided in the ES for key VP locations yet to be agreed with consultees.

11.8 How have potential landscape and visual effects informed the design so far?

11.8.1 From the start of the project, landscape architects have been involved in the development of the indicative masterplan of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. Initially this involved input into feasibility and optioneering studies to determine which of the fields within the draft Order Limits were suitable for solar PV modules and other associated development. This led to a number of fields being excluded and the development of **Figure 3.2: Indicative Operational Layout Plan** in **Volume 2**.

11.8.2 In addition, the project landscape architects have also been heavily involved in the development of the design principles document. Under the themes of 'climate', 'people', 'place' and 'environment', a set of strategic principles have been defined along with how they relate to Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

11.8.3 Development of the operational layout has been an iterative process. Alongside the development of a set of development parameters, proposed landscape mitigation measures have also been incorporated into the design. This has focussed on the improvement and reinstatement of hedgerows around the periphery of the Site, along with key field edges within the Site to increase filtering of longer views across Mylen Leah Solar Farm. This also includes new planting within Land Parcels B, C and D, both around the periphery of the Site and internally to aid with breaking up the scale of Mylen Leah Solar Farm in longer views across the landscape. The location of these proposed embedded landscape mitigation measures is presented on **Figure 3.4: Indicative Environmental Masterplan** in **Volume 2**.

11.8.4 It should be noted that for the purposes of this preliminary assessment, the proposed landscape planting does not include for the On-Site Substation locations. The reason for this is at present, four On-Site Substation locations are proposed, which will be reduced up to two locations as the design develops. Therefore, any landscape planting required to mitigate the effects of the On-Site Substations will be confirmed within the ES and incorporated into the proposed embedded (primary) mitigation.

[1] The photowires are simple line-drawing overlays placed on the representative VPs to show the likely visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from key landscape and visual receptors. At this stage, they are unmasked, meaning foreground vegetation has not been applied to hide parts of the layout. Notes have been added to help interpret how the solar farm sits within the landscape. Land Parcels B, C and D are colour-coded to make them easier to distinguish.

11.8.5 High quality design will be secured, in part, through the ongoing and careful site selection for the various components of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, taking account of the potential landscape and visual effects of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. Removal or disruption to any existing landscape fabric (i.e. trees, hedgerows) will be minimised to that which is absolutely necessary for the construction of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, with this preliminary assessment considering a 'worst-case' maximum extent of vegetation removal.

11.8.6 A comprehensive landscape scheme will be developed in accordance with the high-level principles of climate, people, place and value set out in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Good Design. This will aid in integrating Mylen Leah Solar Farm into the landscape and to mitigate visual effects as far as practicable. The landscape scheme will be complementary to any biodiversity and other environmental objectives.

11.8.7 This preliminary assessment has been based on the principle that certain mitigation measures have been 'embedded' into the design of Mylen Leah Solar Farm to minimise likely significant effects as far as reasonably practical at this stage of the design process, for example by the considered placement of infrastructure. Embedded (primary) environmental mitigation measures relevant to this preliminary landscape and visual assessment (as included in **Table 11.7**) comprise the following:

Table 11.7: Embedded mitigation measures relevant to landscape and visual

Embedded mitigation measures relevant to landscape and visual	Function
Where reasonably practicable, Mylen Leah Solar Farm (excluding cables and access routes) will incorporate a minimum offset distance of: • 10m from any woodland, tree lines and individual trees (from the edge of the canopy or root protection zone whichever is bigger). • 5m from the outer edge of hedgerows.	To ensure protection of existing retained vegetation in accordance with recommendations in BS5837: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction[29].
Other than access tracks, Mylen Leah Solar Farm will incorporate a minimum offset distance of 15m from any ancient and veteran trees (from the edge of the canopy).	To ensure protection of veteran trees
All PRoW routes would not be enclosed by solar PV development on both sides as far as practical	To prevent PRoW routes becoming enclosed by development
Maintain a minimum 10m offset between any PRoW or proposed permissive path and solar PV development	To ensure a suitable landscape buffer to solar PV development is provided

Embedded mitigation measures relevant to landscape and visual	Function
10m development offset from the banks of Internal Drainage Board Watercourses, 5m development offset from banks of Ordinary Watercourses	To protect watercourses and maintain access
Minimum 10m offset between solar PV development and any existing pond	To protect ponds
Internal access tracks would use existing tracks and pass through existing gaps in vegetation as far as practical and use no dig construction methods if within the root protection zone of a retained tree or hedgerow.	To minimise removal of existing vegetation
Grid connection cables and interconnecting cables between Land Parcels would comprise below ground cables as far as practical	To minimise visual impact
Structural planting would consist of native species, seeking to reflect existing species and mixes present in the area and wherever possible from local provenance while also ensuring climate resilience.	For ecological benefit and to ensure mitigation planting is in keeping with existing character and can adapt to climate change
Minimum 100m offset from solar PV development to residential properties	To minimise effects on residential visual amenity
Minimum 200m offset between residential properties to any larger infrastructure e.g. On-Site Substations	To minimise effects on residential visual amenity
'Gapping up' of key existing hedgerows around the periphery of and within the draft Order Limits, together with hedgerow reinstatement along key field boundaries.	To provide additional visual screening to Mylen Leah Solar Farm

11.9 What are the likely effects of Mylen Leah Solar Farm on landscape and visual?

11.9.1 The emerging layout to Mylen Leah Solar Farm has sought to utilise existing field gates and gaps in vegetation wherever practical to ensure that both internal access tracks and site entrances avoid vegetation removal. While there would inevitably be a small amount of vegetation removal to facilitate the construction of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, the implementation and ongoing management of the proposed landscape and ecological mitigation would

ensure that overall, there would be a net gain in terms of quality and quantity of the landscape fabric once proposed vegetation has established.

Construction and decommissioning

11.9.2 In terms of landscape and visual effects, it has been assumed that construction and decommissioning effects would be broadly similar and therefore this preliminary assessment covers both phases together.

11.9.3 The most significant effects on landscape character and visual amenity as a whole are likely to arise from the incremental increase in the completed infrastructure elements of Mylen Leah Solar Farm and the presence of this infrastructure is likely to be more significant than the activities associated with the act of construction itself.

11.9.4 Likewise, during decommissioning, there would be an incremental decrease in the in-situ infrastructure comprising Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

11.9.5 In this preliminary assessment, once construction activity in the vicinity of a receptor has been completed and activity has moved on to somewhere else in the Site, the effects are treated as operational effects (i.e. the infrastructure in-situ in that particular location of the Site). Construction/decommissioning effects are treated as the additional effects associated with the act of constructing/decommissioning Mylen Leah Solar Farm and do not include the effects of Mylen Leah Solar Farm itself as it is incrementally built out/removed.

11.9.6 Effects during construction/decommissioning on landscape character would typically arise from:

- short-term change of farmland to a construction/decommissioning site including the formation of temporary works compounds (at the locations indicated on **Figure 3.1: Indicative Construction Layout and Access Plan** in **Volume 2**); and
- increased vehicular movement and personnel in the landscape erecting/removing the component parts of Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

11.9.7 Effects during construction/decommissioning on visual receptors would typically arise from:

- short-term movement of vehicles and plant within and travelling to and from Mylen Leah Solar Farm, to deliver and install or remove the solar farm components, and other site infrastructure; and
- increasing/decreasing coverage of the panel areas with solar PV modules and other components of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, with similar effects to the operational stage.

Operation

11.9.8 For the purposes of this preliminary assessment, it is assumed that the new planting proposals illustrated on **Figure 3.4: Indicative Environment Masterplan** in **Volume 2** are essential mitigation and embedded into the design of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. They are therefore treated as embedded (primary) mitigation rather than additional mitigation. For the purposes of this

preliminary assessment, it is assumed that the planting will be installed as whips (600-800mm height), unless otherwise stated.

11.9.9 Operational effects are assessed at two distinct periods in time; at the completion of construction and during initial establishment (Year 1) and also at a point in time when it is assumed that most of the new mitigation planting including hedgerows would have become established (Year 10). For the avoidance of doubt, with reference to the landscape and visual impact assessment methodology presented in **Appendix 11.1: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Methodology** in **Volume 3**, the initial post completion effects are considered to be medium term effects whilst the Year 10 effects are considered to be long term.

11.9.10 Effects during operation on landscape character would typically arise from:

- the long-term change of farmland to a solar farm with associated grid infrastructure; and
- related changes to the physical and perceptual characteristics of the landscape.

11.9.11 Effects during operation on visual receptors would arise from changes to views towards solar PV development to include the fencing, tracks, solar PV modules and other infrastructure elements within fenced areas, both from static locations and when moving along routes (both existing and proposed) through the landscape.

11.10 What additional mitigation is proposed to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset likely effects on landscape and visual?

11.10.1 An Outline Landscape and Environmental Management Plan (Outline LEMP) will be submitted in support of the DCO application and provide detail on the management and maintenance of the existing and proposed landscape throughout construction, operation and decommissioning. The Outline LEMP will ensure that Mylen Leah Solar Farm can contribute to the vision of the Hull and East Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy through the effective management and enhancement of watercourses, field edges, grassland and woodland that fall within the draft Order Limits, while also providing effective ecological mitigation.

11.10.2 It is considered unlikely that any further additional landscape or visual mitigation would be effective during the construction/decommissioning phases. However, this will be reviewed as the design develops to identify if any further additional mitigation (in addition to the Outline LEMP) is appropriate.

11.11 What likely effects would remain for landscape and visual following additional mitigation?

11.11.1 **Table 11.8** summarises the residual landscape and visual effects during the construction/decommissioning, and Year 1 and Year 10 of operation on the receptors identified in **Section 11.6** above.

11.11.2 Thirty-three VPs have been used to represent the main landscape and visual receptors found within the study area.

11.11.3 In order to inform the preliminary assessment of potentially significant landscape and visual effects arising as a result of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, a preliminary VP analysis is presented in **Appendix 11.4: Preliminary Viewpoint Analysis** in **Volume 3**. The location of the VPs is shown on **Figure 11.5: Topography and Landcover** in **Volume 2** and **Figure 11.6: Visual Receptors** in **Volume 2**.

11.11.4 Annotated panoramic photographs and photowires are presented to illustrate the potential extent of development visible at each VP location in **Volume 4**.

11.11.5 The preliminary VP analysis presented in **Appendix 11.4: Preliminary Viewpoint Analysis** in **Volume 3** identifies which part or parts of Mylen Leah Solar Farm are likely to be visible from each VP, based on interpretation of the parameters plans in this preliminary assessment.

Table 11.8: Assessment of residual effects on identified receptors

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
Landscape receptors		
LCA 6A South of Pocklington Canal Woodland	Medium/low	The majority of Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be located within LCA 6A and it would result in a notable portion of the LCA being developed as part of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. Mylen Leah Solar Farm would retain and enhance existing field edge boundaries wherever feasible, including reinstatement of hedgerows where appropriate, seeking to improve field boundaries across the Site. The layout seeks to avoid the enclosure of existing PRoW routes through leaving one side open where practical and seeking to avoid the enclosure of routes through the character area by ensuring that appropriate offsets are allowed for when solar PV modules are proposed in more than one direction. Solar PV development does not have an urbanising influence over character primarily as most solar installations are located within countryside. However, this does not mean that a large-scale solar PV development such as Mylen Leah Solar Farm would not have a detrimental impact on the landscape character within the host LCA. Overall, the scale of change is considered to be medium, and it would be experienced over a wide extent of the LCA with the degree of change reducing with the distance from the Site. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect on the landscape character within this LCA. Due to the fact that these effects would not be experienced over the whole Site at the same time, this would constitute a **not significant** residual effect. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect to the landscape character within 1km of developed parts of the Site. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the LCA. By Year 10 of operation, proposed mitigation planting in the form of reinstatement and reinforcement of field and roadside hedgerows would have established, with the management of hedgerows maintained at a minimum height of 2.5mto form an effective screen to much of Mylen Leah Solar Farm when viewed from the surrounding landscape. The restoration of these hedgerows throughout the Site would have a restorative effect on many of the features within the landscape fabric of the Site. However, despite this, the presence of Mylen Leah Solar Farm would still have a detrimental effect on the openness and rural character within host areas, although these effects would be minimised outside of

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		the draft Order Limits. By Year 10 of operation, there would be a **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect to the landscape character within 250m of developed parts of the Site. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the LCA.
LCA 5B West of Holme on Spalding Moor Farmland	Medium/low	A small part of Land Parcel B sits within this LCA. As well as this direct impact on landscape within the draft Order Limits, there are also likely to be views towards Land Parcel B from the area to the south as a result of the open nature of the landscape. Opportunities to reinforce and reinstate hedgerows within the Site have been incorporated into the design as embedded (primary) mitigation, with field boundaries retained throughout the Site. Overall, the scale of change is considered to be medium but over a localised extent of the LCA, with the degree of change reducing with the distance from the Site. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on the landscape character within this LCA. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the LCA. Post completion at Year 1, there would be a **moderate/slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the landscape character within 1km of developed parts of the Site. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the LCA. By Year 10 of operation, mitigation planting would have established with hedgerows within the Site maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would limit the effect on the landscape character to within the draft Order Limits or within the immediate context (out to 250m). There would be a **moderate/slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the landscape character within 250m of developed parts of the Site. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the LCA.
LCA 3C Pocklington Canal and Beck Corridor	Medium	This LCA falls largely within the boundary of the River Derwent Corridor and Lower Derwent Valley Important Landscape Area and as such is considered to be of regional value. The ZTVs produced for Mylen Leah Solar Farm suggest very limited visibility of the main Site from within this LCA. The underground grid connection corridor does pass through the LCA, and as such some limited effects would occur during the installation of the underground grid connection corridor. This is likely to result in some temporary excavations and potentially a small amount of field edge vegetation removal to facilitate the works along with directional drilling beneath the Pocklington Canal. While the exact route of the underground grid connection corridor is yet to be determined, it can be assumed for the purposes of this preliminary assessment that there would be a small scale of change experienced over

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		the short term in nature and over a limited extent of the LCA. These effects would only occur during the construction period and would result in a **negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor/negligible adverse** significance of effect on the landscape character within the LCA. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the LCA. Post completion at Year 1 and at Year 10 of operation, the cabling would be complete with any vegetation removal reinstated. The cabling would not be removed as part of the decommissioning phase, so no further disturbance to the route would occur. From completion onwards, this would result in a **negligible** magnitude of effect and a **negligible adverse** significance of effect on the landscape character within the LCA. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the LCA.
LCA 1C – Newton Upon Derwent, Wilberfloss, Allerthorpe and Hayton Farmland	Medium/low	The ZTVs produced as part of this preliminary assessment suggests no visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from within the LCA. The underground grid connection corridor does pass through the LCA, connecting into the National Grid Thornton Substation. While the exact route of the underground grid connection corridor is yet to be determined, it can be assumed that for the purposes of this preliminary assessment that the effects on the landscape character within the LCA would be limited and result in a small scale of change. These effects would only occur during the construction period and would result in a **negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor/negligible adverse** significance of effect on the landscape character within the LCA. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the LCA. Post completion at Year 1 and at Year 10 of operation, the cabling would be complete with any vegetation removal reinstated. The cable would not be removed as part of the decommissioning phase, so no further disturbance to the route would occur. From completion onwards, this would result in a **negligible** magnitude of effect and a **negligible adverse** significance of effect on the landscape character within the LCA. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the LCA.
Visual receptors – settlements		
Aughton	High/medium	VP27 is taken from the northern edge of the village and is typical of the long open view from the edge of the village back in the direction of Land Parcel B. The wireline presented in **Volume 4** demonstrates that the solar PV modules and potential On-Site Substation locations would be largely screened from this location. From first floor windows of residences with views out to the north, the more elevated nature of the view would result in a slightly greater chance of partial visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. The edge of the village is located approximately 1.4km from the nearest portion of the Site with

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		any visibility of the edge of the Site likely to be limited in nature with a no greater than negligible scale of change during construction, operation and decommissioning and therefore the magnitude of effect is considered to be **negligible**. In accordance with **Table 11.6** above, this would constitute a minor adverse significance of effect. However, in the professional judgement of the assessor, the significance of effect is considered to be **negligible adverse** due to the very limited potential for views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from this receptor during either construction, operation or decommissioning. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor and as such, it will not be considered within the ES.
East Cottingwith	High/medium	VP31 is taken from the southern edge of the village at approximately 1.4km from the nearest developed part of the Site. While the ZTV indicates the possibility of some partial views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from the edge of the village, VP31 wireline presented in **Volume 4** indicates that all parts of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, including any On-Site Substation structure, would be screened from ground level. There is a chance of glimpsed views towards parts of the Site from first storey windows where the view is slightly more elevated, but due to the distance and intervening vegetation, these are likely to be limited in nature with a no greater than negligible scale of change during construction, operation and decommissioning and therefore the magnitude of effect is considered to be **negligible**. In accordance with **Table 11.6** above, this would constitute a minor adverse significance of effect. However, in the professional judgement of the assessor, the significance of effect is considered to be **negligible adverse** due to the very limited potential for views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from this receptor during either construction, operation or decommissioning. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor and as such, it will not be considered within the ES.
Ellerton	High/medium	VP28 is taken from the eastern end of the village looking towards Land Parcel B and is located approximately 350m from the Site. With the exception of the existing highways hedgerow that borders the Site, there are direct views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm with solar PV modules likely to be visible in the view behind the hedgerow. This would be typical for a cluster of properties to the east of the village with views from the village core better screened by vegetation in and around the properties. From the first storey windows of these easterly properties, it is likely that there would be longer views across solar PV modules into the Site due to limited vegetation along some of the internal field boundaries within the Site. There would be a small scale of change from this location over an intermediate extent of the view.

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect on views from the easterly part of the village. From within the village, core views would be screened. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the view from the easterly part of the village. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, the hedgerows around the boundary of the Site would have been reinforced and would be maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would further limit any potential views into the Site, reducing the scale of change to small/negligible. This would result in a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the view from the easterly part of the village. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Foggathorpe	High/medium	VP18 is taken from the junction between the A163 and Station Road at the northern end of the village. The ZTVs indicate little or no visibility from the edge of the village. Site work and VP18 wireline presented in **Volume 4** demonstrate that there would be no visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from the edge of the village. There could potentially be heavily filtered wintertime views from first storey windows along the northern edge of the village, but the closest developed field within the Site is located at approximately 2.75km from the edge of the village. Views are likely to be limited in nature with a no greater than negligible scale of change during construction, operation and decommissioning and therefore the magnitude of effect is considered to be **negligible**. In accordance with **Table 11.6** above, this would constitute a minor adverse significance of effect. However, in the professional judgement of the assessor, the significance of effect is considered to be **negligible adverse** due to the very limited potential for views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from this receptor during either construction, operation or decommissioning. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor and as such, it will not be considered within the ES.
Harlthorpe	High/medium	VP19 is taken from a PRoW to the north of the hamlet. Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be fully screened from this location. Views are likely to have a no greater than negligible scale of change during construction, operation and decommissioning and therefore the magnitude of effect is considered to be **negligible**. In accordance with **Table 11.6** above, this would constitute a minor adverse significance of

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		effect. However, in the professional judgement of the assessor, the significance of effect is considered to be **negligible adverse** due to the very limited potential for views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from this receptor during either construction, operation or decommissioning. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor and as such, it will not be considered within the ES.
Laytham	High/medium	VP21 is taken from a PRoW to the north of the village and VP24 from Long Lane to the south. The village is compact and well screened internally, but with opportunities for views out to the north from properties along New Road which also provides access to the FOGGB12 bridleway. From this northern edge of the village, views towards solar PV modules would be largely screened by existing vegetation, with possible small glimpses of development through vegetation. Option D On-Site Substation location is visible from the edge of the village, with the ZTV and VP24 wireline presented in **Volume 4** indicating visibility of the top part of the On-Site Substation. This is also true of longer views towards them from Long Lane to the south of the village. While screened from much of the village, the glimpsed views of solar PV modules, along with potential views of the On-Site Substation, would result in a small scale of change from a localised extent of the village. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views from the northern part of the village and approaches to the south. From within the village core views would be screened. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the view from the northern edge of the village and approaches to the south. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be largely screened with the scale of change in views from the village reducing to small/negligible. This would result in a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect to the view. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Melbourne	High/medium	VP1 is taken from the sports fields to the east of the village and offers one of the clearest views back towards Land Parcel D. From much of the village, the existing woodland around Melbourne Hall prevents views towards the Site. The VP1 wireline presented in **Volume 4** indicates that there would be no visibility of solar PV modules from the village, but a possibility of glimpsed views towards the

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		Option B On-Site Substation location. Given the distance from the Site and the large amount of screening provided by existing vegetation in the landscape, the scale of change on views from within the village would be no greater than negligible during construction, operation and decommissioning and therefore the magnitude of effect is considered to be **negligible**. In accordance with **Table 11.6** above, this would constitute a minor adverse significance of effect. However, in the professional judgement of the assessor, the significance of effect is considered to be **negligible adverse** due to the very limited potential for views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from this receptor during either construction, operation or decommissioning. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor and as such, it will not be considered within the ES.
Seaton Ross	High/medium	VP10, VP11 and VP12 are all taken from locations within or adjacent to the village. The village is linear in nature running along Southfield Lane into Church Lane and then onto Mill Lane, running for around 2km in total. VP12 is taken from a PRoW to west of Southfield Lane at the back of properties. While there is some potential visibility of the Option B On-Site Substation from this location; from the village itself, views are likely to be largely screened by vegetation at the rear of properties and along the watercourse to the rear of them. VP11 is taken more centrally from a PRoW leading of Breckstreet Lane. From here, views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm are likely to be almost entirely screened, but with possible glimpses from some locations. VP10 is taken from the northern end of the village where there are open views into Melbourne Airfield. While closer to Mylen Leah Solar Farm, the solar PV modules would sit behind existing warehousing. From the road and properties adjacent to it at this location, there is scope for partial views towards solar PV modules, but these are limited in scope. Overall, the is the potential for glimpsed views of parts of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from localised locations within the village, primarily to the rear of properties where the scale of change would be small. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views from the parts of the village with the potential for views towards the Site. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		By Year 10 of operation, new mitigation planting would have established and hedgerows within the draft Order Limits would be maintained at an increased minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would form a more effective screen to Mylen Leah Solar Farm, reducing the scale of change to small/negligible. This would result in a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Visual receptors – key routes		
A163	Low	VP17 and VP18 are both taken on or adjacent to the A163, with the VP wirelines presented in **Volume 4** indicating no visibility of the Site. The ZTVs produced for Mylen Leah Solar Farm also indicate little or no visibility of the Site along the route. Views are likely to have a no greater than negligible scale of change during construction, operation and decommissioning and therefore the magnitude of effect is considered to be **negligible** and a **negligible adverse** significance of effect on views. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor and as the residual effect does not exceed negligible it will not be considered within the ES.
B1228	Medium	The B1228 runs around the western side of the Site; VP29 and 30 are both taken along the route. The ZTVs indicate the potential for visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm along the route from just north of the junction of General Lane and Ash Lane down to junction of Hankins Lane and Townend Road, a distance of approximately 6km. For most of this distance, Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be set back from the road by a minimum of one or two field depths with field edge and roadside vegetation offering a good degree of screening and filtering of any views towards any solar PV development. However, for around 1.35km length of the route on Fog Lane and Long Rampart, solar PV modules are located adjacent to the route, with just the roadside hedge providing any screening to views into the Site. For the part of the route that there is an offset to the Site, the scale of change would be small but over a wide extent. For the section where the Site abuts the highway, the scale of change would be medium over a localised extent. During construction and decommissioning for the areas with an offset, there would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect on views. For the area where the Site abuts the highway, there would be **moderate/slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect. Due to the transient nature of the view and the transitional

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		nature of the construction period, these effects would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, where the Site is offset from the road, there would be **moderate/slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. For the shorter distance where the road abuts the Site, there would be a **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, roadside vegetation would provide a more effective screen to Mylen Leah Solar Farm, with existing and reinstated field edge boundaries also further filtering views and reducing the scale of change to medium/small where the Site abuts the highway and small/negligible elsewhere. This would reduce the magnitude of effect to **moderate/slight** with a **moderate/minor** significance of effect where the Site abuts the highway. For the remaining section, the magnitude of effect would reduce to **slight** with a **minor adverse** significance of effect. Both sections would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Visual receptors – recreational routes		
Wilberforce Way long distance path	High/medium	The Wilberforce Way long distance path crosses the landscape to the north of the Site, following the Pocklington Canal and passing through the underground grid connection corridor. The ZTV and subsequent site visits indicate that there would be no views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm along the route. However, the cable laying works would pass under the route with the works to lay them visible along a small section of it. While the exact location of the underground grid connection corridor route is yet to be determined, the cable would have to pass under the canal corridor using directional drilling. The machinery for this would be visible from the route while these works were undertaken. In addition, the excavation either side of the canal to lay the cable would also be visible over a localised extent of the route, resulting in a medium scale of change over a limited extent of the route. During construction, there would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect on views for the short section where the works were visible. These effects would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor due to the temporary nature of the works and the limited extent of visibility. Post completion at Year 1, at Year 10 of operation and during decommissioning, cable works would be complete and any removed landscape reinstated. The scale of change would be no greater than

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		negligible and therefore the magnitude of effect is considered to be **negligible**. In accordance with **Table 11.6** above, this would constitute a minor adverse significance of effect. However, in the professional judgement of the assessor, the significance of effect is considered to be **negligible adverse** due to the very limited potential for views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from this receptor during either operation or decommissioning. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Melbourne bridleway no.5 and Melbourne footpath no.4	High/medium	These two routes run around the boundary of one of the fields to the north of Ash Lane which is proposed for use as ecological mitigation. The exact nature of the ecological mitigation within the field has yet to be determined, so for the purposes of this preliminary assessment, only the effect on views as a result of visibility of the solar PV modules and other elements of Mylen Leah Solar Farm have been considered. VP 3 and VP4 are taken from the routes, with the wirelines suggesting some visibility of the top parts of the solar PV modules from most locations along the routes within the field. The extent of visibility would be slightly more pronounced for more elevated users of the bridleway such as horse riders. The VP3 and VP4 wirelines presented in **Volume 4** also indicate that the parameters of Option A On-Site Substation would be visible from both PRoW. The scale of change from both routes would be medium/small experienced over a wide extent of the PRoW. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **moderate/slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect on views from both PRoW. This effect is likely to reduce during summer months when vegetation is in leaf. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be well screened by reinforcement of the existing roadside hedgerows and the management of the height of these hedgerows at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen, which would reduce the scale of change to small and the extent of visibility to intermediate. There would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
Melbourne footpaths no.2 and 3	High/medium	These two PRoW run southwards from Ash Lane down to a track adjacent to Fox Covert. VP5 is taken adjacent to Park Farm at the northern end of Melbourne footpath no.2 and VP7 is taken from the track adjacent to White Farm at the northern end of Melbourne footpath no.3. The proposed layout of the solar PV modules would ensure that one side of the PRoW would remain open along both routes, although for the southern part of Melbourne footpath no.2 and all of Melbourne footpath no.33, the solar PV modules would be placed (with the required offsets) immediately to the west. The preliminary design incorporates a new native hedgerow planted within the buffer to provide a degree of screening to the solar PV modules once established. From both footpaths, Option B On-Site Substation location is the most prominent On-Site Substation location, although it would sit secondary to proposed solar PV modules in the wider view. Within 250m of proposed solar PV modules during construction and decommissioning, there would be a large scale of change occurring over a wide extent of the PRoW resulting in a **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **major/moderate adverse** significance of effect on views from both PRoW. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **substantial** magnitude of effect and a **major adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, the proposed mitigation planting adjacent to the PRoW would have provided a hedgerow to aid in screening views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm, with a resulting medium scale of change and **substantial/moderate** magnitude of effect. This would result in a **major/moderate adverse** significance of effect. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Foggathorpe footpath no.11	High/medium	VP9 and VP20 are both taken along the PRoW, with the existing route proposed to be diverted around the edge of a field rather than through the centre to avoid the enclosure of footpath on both sides by Mylen Leah Solar Farm. For approximately half the length of the route, the PRoW would run along the edge of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, with views towards solar PV modules in close proximity. While there is potential visibility of Option B On-Site Substation location in particular, any potential visibility would be secondary to views of solar PV modules along most of the route. There would be a large scale of change along an intermediate portion of the PRoW.

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/major adverse** significance of effect on views from both PRoW. This effect is likely to reduce during summer months when vegetation is in leaf. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **substantial** magnitude of effect and a **major adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, mitigation planting to separate the PRoW route from the solar PV modules would have established with existing hedgerows reinforced and maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would result in a large/medium scale of change when compared with the existing baseline view. There would be a **substantial/moderate** magnitude of effect and a **major/moderate adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Foggathorpe bridleway no.12 and Ellerton and Aughton bridleway no.7	High/medium	VP21 and VP26 are taken at either end of the route. This PRoW runs from the northern end of Laytham towards Aughton House in a westerly direction. For most of the route, solar PV modules are set back by a field or more with existing hedgerows providing some level of screening. There are, however, two fields where the solar PV modules would border the PRoW route. Where this occurs, additional hedgerow planting would be installed to aid with mitigating views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm. These two fields are well contained by existing vegetation on the eastern and western edges. The scale of change on PRoW is large/medium experienced over a localised extent. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **moderate/slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect on views from the PRoW. This effect is likely to reduce during summer months when vegetation is in leaf. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, mitigation planting to separate the PRoW route from the solar PV modules would have established with existing hedgerows reinforced and maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would result in a medium/small scale of change over a limited

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		extent when compared with the existing baseline view. There would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Seaton Ross footpath no.3	High/medium	This PRoW leads from the edge of Seaton Ross on Breckstreet Lane to Coach House. It appears to only be for off road access to the property, as it does not lead anywhere or connect into any further PRoW. The route appears to run along the back of a boundary hedgerow within the same field as proposed solar PV modules and would run through a proposed ecological mitigation area. For the section that runs through the same field, there would be direct views towards the solar PV modules around 100m to the north-west. For the remainder of the route, any potential views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be largely screened by existing vegetation. There would be a medium/large scale of change over a localised extent of the route. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **moderate/slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect on views the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, mitigation planting to separate the PRoW route from the solar PV modules would have established with existing hedgerows reinforced and maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would result in a medium/small scale of change over a limited extent of the view when compared with existing baseline. There would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Melbourne footpath no.9	High/medium	This PRoW sits within the underground grid connection corridor with the ZTV for the solar PV modules suggesting no visibility along the route. The ZTV for the Option B On-Site Substation location does suggest some very limited visibility along the route. The PRoW is coincident with the majority of the underground grid connection corridor. While the exact location of the underground grid connection corridor has not yet been determined for the purposes of this preliminary assessment, it has been assumed that during construction, there would only be some

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		localised excavation to accommodate the cable and potentially a small amount of vegetation would be impacted and then reinstated once work is completed. There is anticipated to be a small scale of change over a localised extent of the route. During construction, there would be a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1 and at Year 10 of operation, the cabling would be complete with any vegetation removal reinstated with a negligible scale of change to the visual receptor. This would remain as such during decommissioning as the cable would not be removed, with the magnitude of effect considered to be **negligible**. In accordance with **Table 11.6** above, this would constitute a minor adverse significance of effect. However, in the professional judgement of the assessor, the significance of effect is considered to be **negligible adverse** due to the very limited potential for views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from this receptor during operation or decommissioning. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Thornton footpath no.2	High/medium	This PRoW is located in the underground grid connection corridor. For the purposes of this preliminary assessment, a 'worst case' scenario' where the cable route does cross the PRoW has been assumed, although in reality this is unlikely. This would result in some limited small-scale effects on the route. The ZTVs produced indicate there would be no visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from the PRoW. During construction, there would be a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, and at Year 10 of operation, the cabling would be complete with any vegetation removal reinstated with a negligible scale of change to the visual receptor. This would remain as such during decommissioning as the cable would not be removed, with the magnitude of effect considered to be **negligible**. In accordance with **Table 11.6** above, this would constitute a minor adverse significance of effect. However, in the professional judgement of the assessor, the significance of effect is considered to be **negligible adverse** due to the very limited potential for views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from this receptor during operation or decommissioning. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
Foggathorpe footpath no.10	High/medium	This PRoW runs for approximately 500m between the eastern edge of Laytham and Breckstreet Lane. VP22 is taken from the eastern end of the route. The ZTVs indicate very limited scope to see Mylen Leah Solar Farm, with the potential for glimpsed distant views through field edge vegetation. The ZTVs also indicates the possibility of views towards equipment within Option B On-Site Substation location. Due to the intervening distance and vegetation, the scale of change to the view would be no greater than small, but likely to be experienced over an intermediate extent of the route. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect on views along the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, mitigation planting to separate the PRoW route from the solar PV modules would have established with existing hedgerows reinforced and maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would result in a small/negligible scale of change when compared with existing baseline view. There would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Ellerton and Aughton footpath no.6	High/medium	VP25 and VP26 are taken at either end of the route, with both views indicating very limited potential for views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm, including any of the On-Site Substation locations. Both the wirelines and ZTVs do indicate the possibility of glimpsed views through existing vegetation, in particular during winter months, but to an extent and at a distance that the scale of change would be no greater than small and over a localised extent of the route. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, mitigation planting to separate the PRoW route from the solar PV modules

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		would have established with existing hedgerows reinforced and maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would result in a negligible scale of change when compared with existing baseline view. There would be a **negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor/negligible adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Melbourne footpath no.1	High/medium	This PRoW runs from the edge of Melbourne past Melbourne Hall to Ash Lane. For the majority of the route, the ZTVs along with site-based assessment suggests that there would be no visibility of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. For the southern section of the route, to the south of Melbourne Hall, there may be glimpsed views towards solar PV modules, but these would be largely screened by roadside vegetation on Ash Road with a scale of change no greater than small over a localised extent of the route. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, additional mitigation planting along Ash Road and around the periphery of Mylen Leah Solar Farm would have established, with existing hedgerows reinforced and maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would result in a negligible scale of change when compared with existing baseline view. There would be a **negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor/negligible adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Melbourne bridleway no.6 and Melbourne footpath 7	High/medium	These two PRoW connect into each other on Kidd Lane and are located to the north of Land Parcel D; VP2 is taken midway along Melbourne footpath no.7 looking southwards. There would be filtered views through existing vegetation towards solar PV modules. These views are likely to be obscured during summer months when trees are in leaf and would result in a small scale of change over a localised extent of the PRoW. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views along the PRoW. This would constitute a **not**

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		significant residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, additional mitigation around the periphery of Mylen Leah Solar Farm would have established with existing hedgerows reinforced and maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen. This would result in a negligible scale of change when compared with existing baseline view. There would be a **negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor/negligible adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Seaton Ross footpaths no.4, 5 and 7	High/medium	VP11 is taken from Seaton Ross footpath no.4 and VP12 from Seaton Ross footpath no.7. The VP11 and VP12 wirelines presented in **Volume 4** indicate very limited potential for visibility of the solar PV modules, but the potential for views towards the top part of On-Site Substation locations, in particular the Option B location. This would result in a small/negligible scale of change over an intermediate extent of the PRoW. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, additional mitigation planting around the periphery of Mylen Leah Solar Farm would have established with existing hedgerows reinforced and maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen; however, the views of the On-Site Substations would remain, with the scale of change remaining small/negligible when compared with existing baseline view. There would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Seaton Ross footpaths no.8, 9 and 10	High/medium	VP13 is taken from Seaton Ross footpath no.10 and indicates very limited opportunity for views towards solar PV modules, but the possibility for views towards the top parts of the proposed On-Site Substation locations, in particular Option B. This reflects what the ZTVs demonstrate in terms of likely

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		visibility. During construction and decommissioning, there would be a **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views along the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1, there would be **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. By Year 10 of operation, additional mitigation planting around the periphery of Mylen Leah Solar Farm would have established with existing hedgerows reinforced and maintained at a minimum height of 2.5m to form an effective screen; however, the views of the On-Site Substations would remain, with the scale of change remaining small/negligible when compared with existing baseline view. There would be a **slight** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Visual receptors – other recreational receptors		
Melbourne Raceway	Low	Melbourne Raceway uses the surfaced airstrip for motorsports with the surrounding fields proposed for use as part of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. While there is some mitigation planting proposed to screen the solar PV modules from the proposed permissive path route that runs around the southern edge of the airfield, for much of the airstrip, there is no landscape mitigation proposed with solar PV modules on both sides. There would be a large scale of change over a wide extent of the area used as part of the Raceway. During construction and decommissioning, the effects would be short term and as such there would be a **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate/minor adverse** significance of effect on views the PRoW. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1 and at Year 10 of operation, there would be **substantial** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect to the views from the Raceway. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
York Model Boat Club	Medium	The Boat Club has Land Parcel B to the west and Land Parcel C to the east. Option D On-Site Substation is located approximately 300m to the south. Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be located on multiple sides of the Boat Club; however, the club benefits from existing robust vegetation around the boundary, which would aid with screening even during winter months. There would be a medium scale

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		of change experienced over a wide extent of the view within the Boat Club. During construction and decommissioning, the effects would be short term and as such there would be a **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect on views the Boat Club. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1 and at Year 10 of operation, there would be **substantial/moderate** magnitude of effect and a **moderate adverse** significance of effect to the views from the Boat Club. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Laytham Park Caravan Site	High/Medium	Located adjacent to York Model Boat Club with a similar outlook and distance from On-Site Substations and Land Parcels. As with York Model Boat Club, the site benefits from robust vegetation around the periphery of the site; however, there would be the potential for views towards Mylen Leah Solar Farm in multiple directions. There would be a medium scale of change experienced over a wide extent of the view from within the caravan site. During construction and decommissioning, the effects would be short term and as such there would be a **moderate** magnitude of effect and a **major/moderate adverse** significance of effect on views the caravan site. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1 and at Year 10 of operation, there would be **substantial/moderate** magnitude of effect and a **major/moderate adverse** significance of effect to the views from the caravan site. This would constitute a **significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.
Church Hill at Holme on Spalding Moor	High	VP16 is taken from the car park area on Church Hill and allows long panoramic views back in the direction of the Site. Holme on Spalding Moor Footpath no.10 also passes through the car park area. The wireline from the VP suggests that there would be the potential for glimpsed views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm from this location, in particular the taller elements within the On-Site Substations. However, the existing vegetation within the view would heavily filter this potential visibility, and any structures within the proposed On-Site Substations would appear secondary in the view to other large energy-based infrastructure, in particular wind turbines and large electricity pylons and the Drax power station in the far distance. Within this context, any change resulting from Mylen Leah Solar Farm would be no greater than small/negligible and over a localised extent of the wider view. During construction and decommissioning, the effects would be short term and as such there would be a **negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect on views. This would

Receptor	Sensitivity	Summary of residual effects
		constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor. Post completion at Year 1 and at Year 10 of operation, there would be **slight/negligible** magnitude of effect and a **minor adverse** significance of effect to the views from Church Hill. This would constitute a **not significant** residual effect on the visual receptor.

11.11.6 **Table 11.9** lists residential properties identified within the preliminary assessment in **Appendix 11.5: Summary of Residential Amenity Assessment Work Undertaken to Date** in **Volume 3** and being taken forward for inclusion in a residential visual amenity assessment at the ES stage. All the properties listed in **Table 11.9** are considered to be **high** sensitivity receptors which warrant more detailed assessment within the ES.

Table 11.9: Properties to be included in the residential visual amenity assessment

Visual receptors – residential properties taken forward for inclusion in a residential visual amenity assessment at the ES stage, where effects will be fully assessed
1. Ruddings Wood Farm, Laytham, York (Field 18.q)
2. Boland House, Ellerton, York (Field 10.e)
3. Acorn Cottage, Ellerton, York (Field 10.e)
4. Blue Slates Farm, Ellerton, York (Field 18.j)
5. Blackberry Farm, Ellerton, York (Field 10.b)
6. Spring House Farm, Bridges Lane, Ellerton, York (Field 1.b)
7. Fox Covert Farm, Bridges Lane, Ellertson, York (Field 1.b)
8. Bethell House, Bridges Lane, Ellerton, York (Field 14.h)
9. South Ross Farm, Bridges Lane, Ellerton, York (Field 14.h)
10. South Acre Farm, Main Road, Melbourne, York (Field 13.b)
11. Ryburn House, South Acre Farm, Main Road, Melbourne, York (Field 13.b)
12. Acre Farm, Melbourne, York (Field 13.c)
13. Laytham Park and Caravan Site, Laytham Park (Field 14.k to west and 15.e to east).
14. Laytham Park, Laytham, York (Field 14.k to west and 15.e to east).
15. Oakfield Farm, Main Road, Laytham, York, York (Field 4.e to west and 15.e to north, 7.c to south)
16. Laytham Green Farm, Main Road, Laytham, York (Field 4.e to west, 5.a to east and 15.e to north, 7.c to south-west)
17. Dovecote, Main Road, Laytham, York (Field 4.e to west, 5.a to east and 15.e to north, 7.c to south-west)
18. Blue Turtle, Main Road, Laytham, York (Field 4.e to west, 5.a to east and 15.e to north, 7.c to south-west)
20. Barn End, Melbourne, York (Field 13.h to west, 13.zk to south and 13.l to east
21. White Farm, Melbourne, York (Field 13.h to west, 13.zk to south and 13.l to east)
22. Alders, Melbourne, York (Field 13.h to west, 13.zk to south)
23. Harkwood, Melbourne, York (Field 13.h to west, 13.zk to south)
24. Bibbill Farm, Melbourne, York (Field 13.m to south and 13.s to east)
25. Breckstreet Farm, Seaton Ross, York (Field 13.zg to south-west and 13.t to north)
26. Coach House, Breckstreet Farm, Seaton Ross, York (Field 13.zg to south-west and 13.t to north)

11.12 What opportunities are there for environmental enhancement?

11.12.1 As the design for Mylen Leah Solar Farm evolves, opportunities for landscape enhancement will be identified and embedded into the final

design. Possible opportunities for environmental enhancement comprise the following:

- In addition to providing landscape and visual mitigation, the proposed hedgerow reinstatement and improvements provide an opportunity to contribute and align to the principles set out within the emerging Hull and East Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- Reinstatement of numerous historic field boundary hedgerows, contributing to the restoration of the traditional landscape character and the Hull and East Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- The proposed hedgerow and tree planting has the potential to contribute to the Humber Forest initiative.
- The provision of a new permissive path route provides connectivity between the existing PRoW networks around Seaton Ross and Melbourne/Laytham. A second permissive path provides opportunities for off road circular walking routes from Melbourne.
- Interpretation boards may be provided at points of interest along the PRoW network and proposed permissive paths within the draft Order Limits. These may identify information on local landscape, ecological and heritage interest and potential information on Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

11.13 What difficulties and uncertainties have been encountered in this preliminary landscape and visual assessment?

11.13.1 The information provided in this PEIR is preliminary and is based on the information available at the time of writing. A full assessment of likely significant effects of Mylen Leah Solar Farm will be reported in the ES.

11.13.2 There are currently four possible On-Site Substation locations within the draft Order Limits, with up to two of these locations being used in the final design. Once this has been determined, it may result in reductions to the effects assessed for some of the receptors if only one location is used.

11.13.3 A detailed residential visual amenity assessment will be undertaken for the properties identified in **Table 11.9** above once a final design, with appropriate mitigation measures, is available and potentially impacted residences visited with knowledge of that final design.

11.14 What further work is required to inform the full landscape and visual assessment in the DCO application?

11.14.1 This chapter provides preliminary landscape and visual information based on design development of Mylen Leah Solar Farm to date and the data gathered at this point in time. Some of the information gathered will be supplemented and provided in full and final form within the ES.

11.14.2 The Applicant will seek further consultation with ERYC through which it is hoped to agree all aspects of the landscape and visual impact assessment to be included in the ES.

11.14.3 The final landscape and visual impact assessment presented within the ES will include a detailed VP assessment conducted from an agreed selection of VPs. These are likely to include the 33 VPs from this preliminary assessment, but are subject to refinement following further discussions with ERYC.

11.14.4 A night-time assessment has not been included in this preliminary assessment. This will be reviewed at ES stage when further details are available on elements such as specification, locations and the use of timers/sensors. This will be reviewed against the identified landscape and visual receptors to identify whether a night-time assessment is required.

11.14.5 The principles and recommendations set out in the Hull and East Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy will be considered and integrated into the final design of Mylen Leah Solar Farm and the Outline LEMP, where practicable.

11.14.6 A detailed residential visual amenity assessment will be undertaken, seeking to visit properties (if agreed with the respective owners), for inclusion in the ES.

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