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STRATFORD-ON-AVON DISTRICT RENEWABLE ENERGY LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY STUDY



Final Report

for

Stratford-on-Avon District Council

July 2014

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- 2 Arden Parklands
- 3 Ancient Arden
- 4 Arden River Meadows
- 5 Arden Wooded Estatelands
- 6 Avon Orchard Belt
- 7 Avon Terrace Farmlands
- 8 Avon Vale Farmlands
- 9 Avon River Meadowlands
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

White Consultants were appointed in February 2014 by Stratford-on-Avon District Council to undertake a landscape sensitivity study for wind and solar energy development. This assessment is intended to provide robust evidence to support the policies in the Core Strategy, especially Policy CS.3, and assist development management.

The primary purpose of this report is to set out the findings of the sensitivity and capacity of the landscape character types to various scales of wind and solar development for consideration by the client.

Sensitivity is taken to mean the sensitivity of the landscape to a particular type and scale of change ie wind or solar energy development. Sensitivity is derived from an appraisal of its susceptibility to development and its value.

Capacity is taken to mean the amount of change (ie wind or solar energy development) that a landscape character type can accommodate without adverse changes to character or key characteristics. It deals with the issue of potential cumulative effects at a strategic level.

In Part 1 of the report, the local and national planning context is reviewed to ensure the assessment worked within its context. The current development pattern of wind and solar energy developments in planning is noted to understand the pressures on the district. The method with associated criteria is based on previous experience, current knowledge of national practice, and reflecting the particular characteristics of the study area in order to produce a focussed and useable output. The landscape character types are reviewed and updated in terms of their qualities, intrinsic and boundaries to ensure they reflect underlying more recent and detailed datasets.

Part 2 of the report contains the assessment of sensitivity and capacity for renewable energy for each of the 20 landscape character types identified in the District.

The assessment has found that there are areas of opportunity and constraint for **wind energy**. The main areas of constraint are Ancient Arden, The Cotswolds High Wold, Wolds and Fringes, the Ironstone Wolds and Plateau Redlands. Outside these areas there is some capacity for occasional wind turbines spaced to avoid cumulative impact. The size of turbines is recommended generally to be small and either single or in small clusters to avoid adverse effects on the topography, landscape pattern and settlements. Medium-sized turbines may be able to be accommodated in the Feldon Vale farmlands. No large or very large size turbines or developments are recommended in the study area.

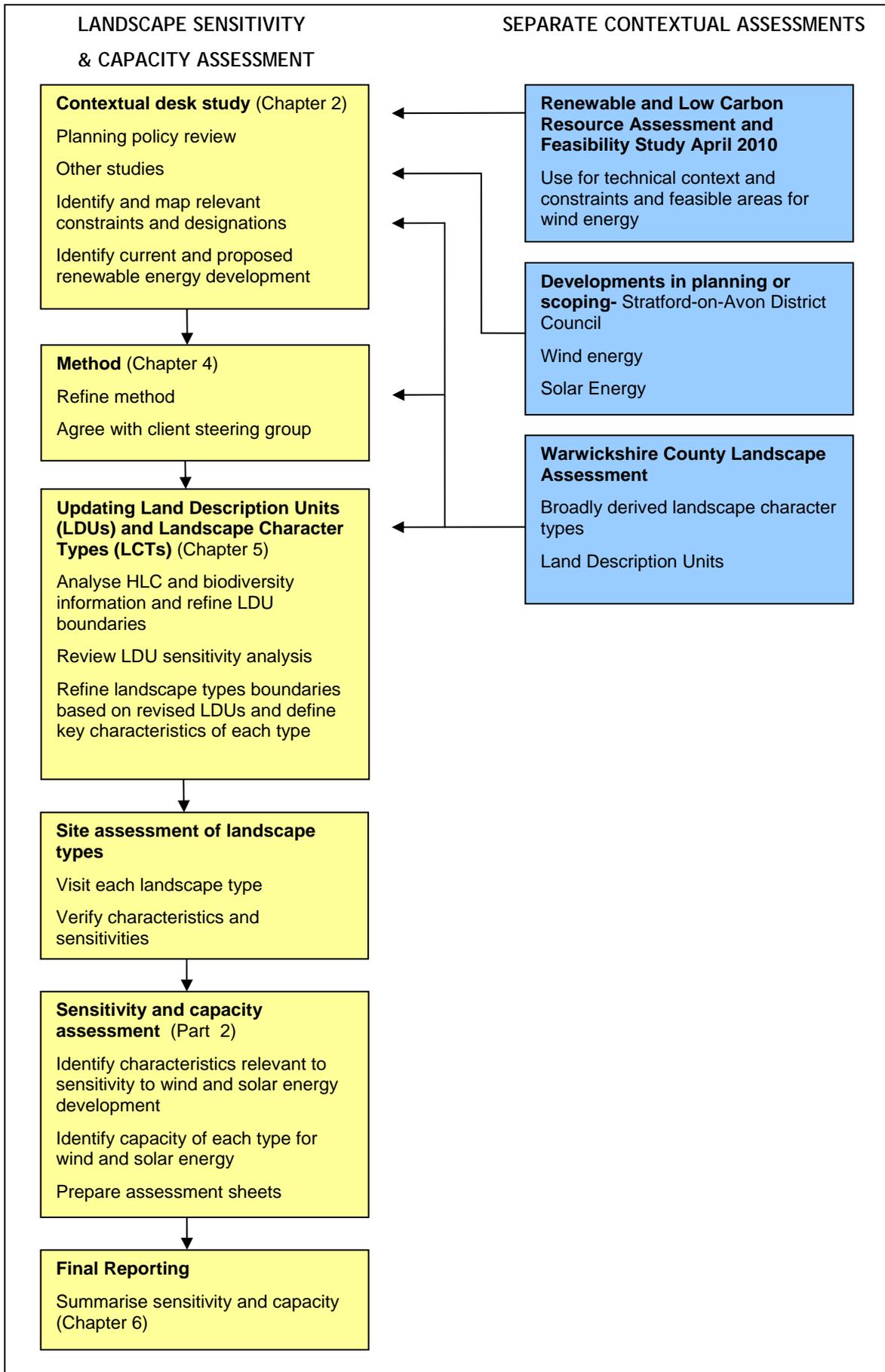
The assessment has found that there are areas of opportunity and constraint for **solar energy**. The main areas of constraint are Ancient Arden, The Cotswolds High Wold and Wolds, and the Ironstone Wolds. Outside these areas there is some capacity for occasional solar energy developments spaced to avoid cumulative impact. There may be potential for solar energy development to be spaced so as to become a key characteristic in the Feldon Vale Farmlands provided that suitable mitigation is possible such as location of developments on fairly flat land with screening hedges and trees. The scale of developments is recommended generally to be small to medium to avoid adverse effects on the topography, landscape pattern and settlements. Slightly larger scale developments may be able to be accommodated on brownfield sites and/or where the field pattern is large and geometric but both with potential for mitigation.

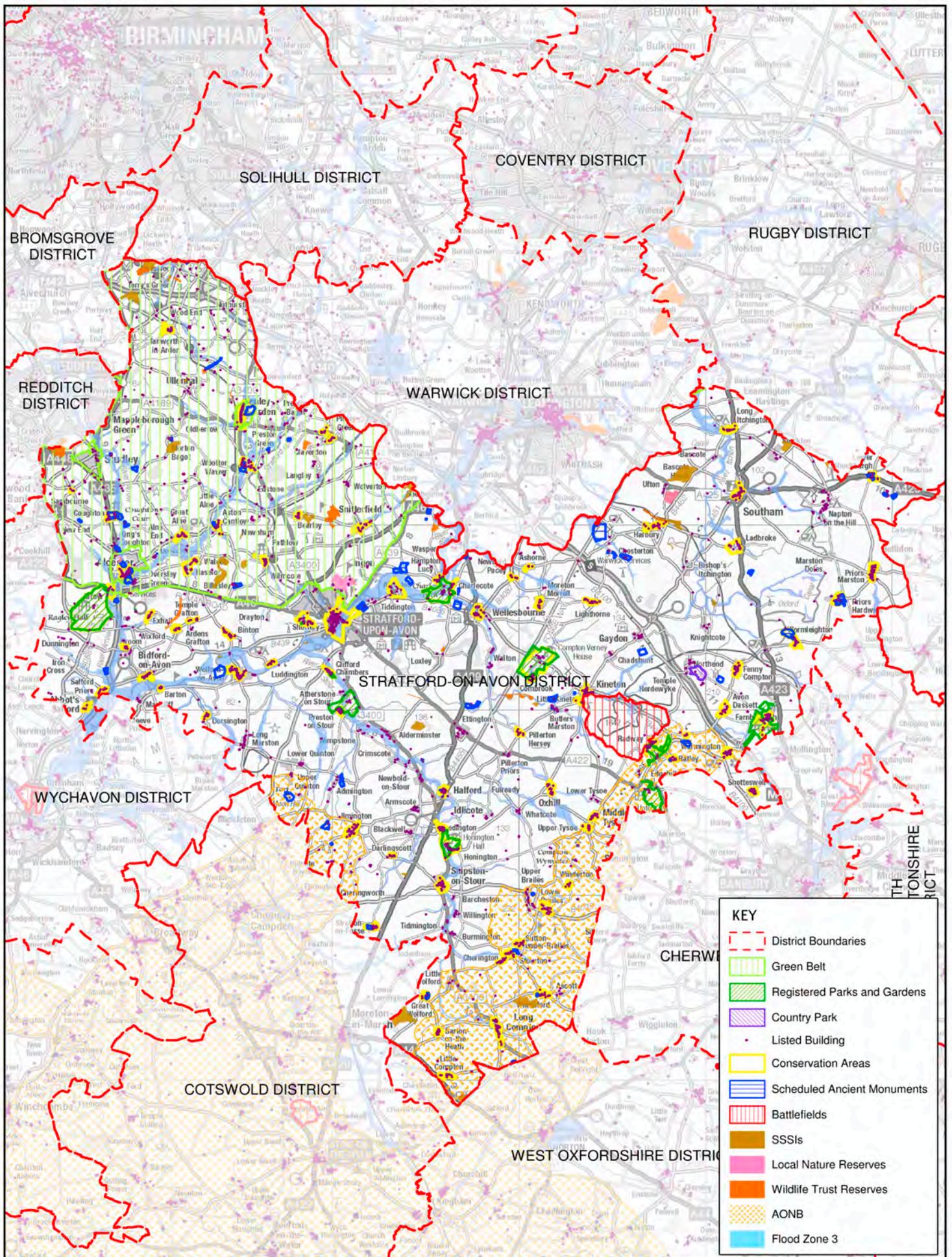
PART 1

1. Introduction

- 1.1. White Consultants were appointed in February 2014 by Stratford-on-Avon District Council to undertake a landscape sensitivity study for wind and solar energy development. This assessment is intended to provide robust evidence to support the policies in the Core Strategy and assist development management.
- 1.2. The primary purpose of this report is to set out the findings of the sensitivity and capacity of the landscape character types to various scales of wind and solar development for consideration by the client.
- 1.3. Before embarking on the sensitivity assessment, the planning context was reviewed to ensure the assessment worked within its context (Chapter 2). The location of the district and key designations and constraints are indicated in **Figure 1**. The current development pattern and wind and solar energy developments in planning were noted to understand the pressures on the district (Chapter 3). The method with associated criteria was devised based on previous experience, current knowledge of national practice, and reflecting the particular characteristics of the study area in order to produce a focussed and useable output (Chapter 4). The process followed in the study is set out in **Box 1** overleaf. The landscape character types were reviewed and updated in terms of their qualities, intrinsic and boundaries to ensure they reflected underlying more recent and detailed datasets (Chapter 5).
- 1.4. A summary of the findings is set out in Chapter 5. All these chapters are contained in Part 1 of the report.
- 1.5. Part 2 of the report contains the assessment of sensitivity and capacity for renewable energy for each of the 20 landscape character types.
- 1.6. A glossary of terms is included in Appendix A and the Candidate Special Landscape Areas set out in Appendix B.

Box 1: Summary of study process





KEY

- District Boundaries
- Green Belt
- Registered Parks and Gardens
- Country Park
- Listed Building
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Battlefields
- SSSIs
- Local Nature Reserves
- Wildlife Trust Reserves
- AONB
- Flood Zone 3

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Figure 1
 Designations and Constraints
 Stratford-on-Avon Renewable Energy Landscape Sensitivity Study

2. Planning Context

- 2.1. Policy CS.3 of the Submission Version of the Core Strategy June 2014 is the key policy reference for the study. This supports wind and solar energy provided adverse impacts can be made acceptable. For solar energy, this includes the openness and character of the landscape and on visual amenity, and the character of the historic landscape. For wind energy, this includes the individual and cumulative impact on landscape character and visual amenity, historic features and their settings. This study is referenced as being used to assess the capacity and sensitivity of the landscape to proposals.
- 2.2. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that each LPA should have a positive strategy to promote renewable energy with policies maximising development, while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed, including cumulative landscape and visual impacts (97). Suitable areas should be identified and community led initiatives should be supported.
- 2.3. The NPPG dated 6 March 2014 addresses how LPAs can identify suitable areas for renewable energy. It states as follows:

'There are no hard and fast rules about how suitable areas for renewable energy should be identified, but in considering locations, local planning authorities will need to ensure they take into account the requirements of the technology and, critically, the potential impacts on the local environment, including from cumulative impacts.'.....'

- 2.4. It further states:

'.....In considering impacts, assessments can use tools to identify where impacts are likely to be acceptable. For example, landscape character areas could form the basis for considering which technologies at which scale may be appropriate in different types of location.Landscape Character Assessment carried out at a county or district level may provide a more appropriate scale for assessing the likely landscape and visual impacts of individual proposals.'

'When identifying suitable areas it is also important to be clear on the factors that will be taken into account when considering individual proposals in these areas. These factors may be dependent on the investigatory work underpinning the identified area. The expectation should always be that an application should only be approved if the impact is (or can be made) acceptable.'

[Paragraph: 005 Reference ID: 5-005-20140306]

- 2.5. It strikes a warning note in that:

'Local planning authorities should not rule out otherwise acceptable renewable energy developments through inflexible rules on buffer zones or separation distances.' [Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 5-008-20140306]

- 2.6. In relationship for detailed siting of solar developments its states:

'The deployment of large-scale solar farms can have a negative impact on the rural environment, particularly in undulating landscapes. However, the visual impact of a well-planned and well-screened solar farm can be properly addressed within the landscape if planned sensitively.'

Particular factors a local planning authority will need to consider include:

encouraging the effective use of land by focussing large scale solar farms on previously developed and non agricultural land, provided that it is not of high environmental value;

where a proposal involves greenfield land, whether (i) the proposed use of any agricultural land has been shown to be necessary and poorer quality land has been used in preference to higher quality land; and (ii) the proposal allows for continued agricultural use where applicable and/or encourages biodiversity improvements around arrays.....

the proposal's visual impact, the effect on landscape of glint and glare (see guidance on landscape assessment) and on neighbouring uses and aircraft safety;

.....

the need for, and impact of, security measures such as lights and fencing;

great care should be taken to ensure heritage assets are conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, including the impact of proposals on views important to their setting. As the significance of a heritage asset derives not only from its physical presence, but also from its setting, careful consideration should be given to the impact of large scale solar farms on such assets. Depending on their scale, design and prominence, a large scale solar farm within the setting of a heritage asset may cause substantial harm to the significance of the asset;

the potential to mitigate landscape and visual impacts through, for example, screening with native hedges;

.....'

[Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 5-013-20140306]

- 2.7. In relationship for detailed siting of wind energy developments its states:

'As the significance of a heritage asset derives not only from its physical presence, but also from its setting, careful consideration should be given to the impact of wind turbines on such assets. Depending on their scale, design and prominence a wind turbine within the setting of a heritage asset may cause substantial harm to the significance of the asset. [Paragraph: 019 Reference ID: 5-019-20140306]

Cumulative landscape impacts and cumulative visual impacts are best considered separately. The cumulative landscape impacts are the effects of a proposed development on the fabric, character and quality of the landscape; it is concerned with the degree to which a proposed renewable energy development will become a significant or defining characteristic of the landscape.

....'

[Paragraph: 022 Reference ID: 5-022-20140306]

- 2.8. It further states:

'In identifying impacts on landscape, considerations include: direct and indirect effects, cumulative impacts and temporary and permanent impacts. When assessing the significance of impacts a number of criteria should be considered including the sensitivity of the landscape and visual resource and the magnitude or size of the predicted change. Some landscapes may be more sensitive to certain types of change than others and it should not be assumed that a landscape character area deemed sensitive to one type of change cannot accommodate another type of change.

In assessing the impact on visual amenity, factors to consider include: establishing the area in which a proposed development may be visible, identifying key viewpoints, the people who experience the views and the nature of the views.

The English Heritage website provides information on undertaking historic landscape characterisation and how this relates to landscape character assessment.

.....'

[Paragraph: 023 Reference ID: 5-023-20140306]

- 2.9. Our intention is that the assessment is consistent with this guidance and that the criteria used for defining sensitivity can also be applied in development management.
- 2.10. The 2010 CAMCO study predates the NPPF and related guidance but is a consideration. It covers Warwickshire and addresses the potential viability and deliverability of low carbon and renewable energy technologies including wind energy but not field solar. The scale of wind energy projects are expected to be from one turbine yielding 1 MW of power and above. It identifies constrained and less constrained areas for large scale wind energy across the district based on a number of technical criteria such as slope and wind speed, some designations (though not all) and buffering of settlements and other factors such as roads and communications infrastructure. The AONB and Green Belt are not considered absolute constraints and are therefore identified as 'less constrained' areas. **Figure 2** showing the extent of the less constrained areas for Stratford district shows a greater concentration to the south and east.
- 2.11. Landscape capacity is excluded from the CAMCO criteria and so it is estimated that only 25% of the land identified as unconstrained and less constrained may be able to be developed. This results in an estimate 115 turbines. However, the study states that wind energy is likely to be significantly constrained because of cumulative impact on the landscape (11.1). It recommends that further work should be conducted around landscape constraints across the authority, paying particular attention to the sizeable area of AONB designated land. The latter contradicts the study's own criteria but is a useful pointer for this study.

3. Current renewable energy development pattern

- 3.1. Information on the development pattern and developer interest for wind and field scale solar energy development in the district and in adjacent authorities has been collected by the client to provide a snapshot of issues.
- 3.2. In summary, it is understood that there are no current consented or existing wind or field scale solar energy developments in the district. There are a small number of developments in planning and in scoping and some very large proposals have come forward for screening but this information cannot be published at this stage.
- 3.3. The locations of developments in planning and scoping are found in **Figure 2** for wind energy and **Figure 3** for solar energy. Of particular interest is the Starbold Farm and Stoneton proposals. The sites are set out in detail in the following table.

Table 1 Location of renewable energy developments in planning and scoping

Location	Application number or status	Consented?	Turbine height (m)	Turbine number
Wind turbines				
Starbold Farm - Land between Gaydon, Bishops Itchington and Knightcote	Public Inquiry 12/00330/FUL		125	4
Land at Stoneton, Wormleighton	12/01500/FUL		125	9
British Film Institute Kineton CV35 OBO	SCOPE/00010	N	130	1
Holmes House Farm, Hambridge Rd, Bishops Itchington, CV47 2SB	13/03098/FUL		24.6 m	2
Field scale Solar PV				
			size for solar (no. or ha)	Output (MW)
Deppers Bridge Harbury	13/02689/FUL	N	45,000 pv panels	
Comfort Farm Campden Road, Clifford Chambers CV37 8LW	PREAPP/00015/13 case closed	N	20 hectares	
High Close Farm, Blackhill, Snitterfield	Scoping	N	10 hectares	
Burton Farm, Stratford CV37 0RW	13/02689/FUL	N	10 hectares	
Land of White Hill House, Henley 95 6DU	SCOPE/00011	N	solar pv project	
Windmill Farm Oxhill	SCOPE/00009	N	16 hectares solar pv project	

N= Not consented.

In adjacent local planning authorities, responses to requests for information have been patchy. The information received on developments within 5km of the district boundary indicate that there some mid to large scale solar farm developments coming forward and a few small/medium wind turbines. It is noted that larger scale windfarms are located

around the M1 corridor near Rugby some distance from Stratford District. These range from 6-12 turbines around 125m high eg Yelvertoft, Lilbourne and Swinford.

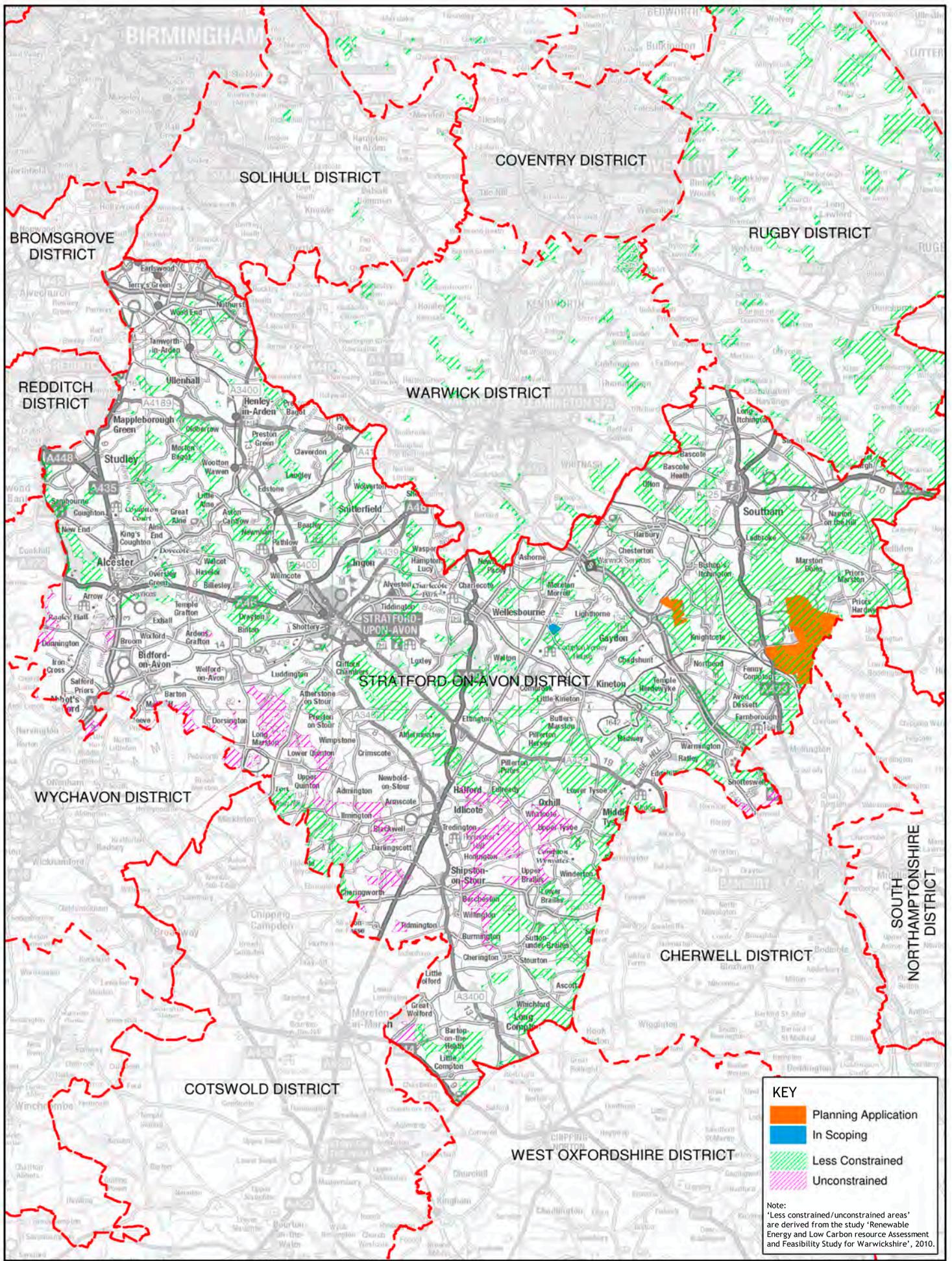
Table 2 Location of renewable energy developments in adjacent authorities-existing , or in planning and scoping

Adjacent LPAs	Applications locations	Application number or status	Consented?	Height of turbines (m) or size of solar (ha)	Turbine number or Solar farm output (MW)
Cherwell DC	Epwell Grounds Farm, Shutford Rd, Epwell Banbury OX15 6HF (AONB)	Y 13/01600/F	Y	15.07 Ha	7MW
Cherwell DC	East of M40 adjoining and south of March Road, Mollington	Y 14/00011/F	Y	77m	1 turbine
Cherwell DC	Parcel of land east of OS3500 and north of Field Barn, Sibford Ferris	Y 12/01737/F	Y	6Ha	69 panels
Daventry DC	Boddington Reservoir	DA/2011/0150	Y	105m	1 turbine
Warwick DC	Land at Brickyard Barn, Mallory Road, Bishops Tachbrook, Leamington Spa CV33 9QD	W/13/1608	Y	5.9Ha	4.1MW
Wychavon DC	Froglands Farm Cleeve Priors	W/13/02508	withdrawn	66m - to tip	1 turbine
Wychavon DC	Inkberrow		N	10Ha	
Wychavon DC	Rotherdale Farm, Long Lane, Tilesford WR10 2LA	Y	Y	12Ha - additional 12Ha applied for	
Solihull	None				
Rugby BC	None				
Bromsgrove DC	No information provided				
Cotswold DC	No information provided				
Redditch BC	No information provided				
South Northants DC	No information provided				
W. Oxfordshire DC	No information provided				

N= Not consented. Y- consented or existing

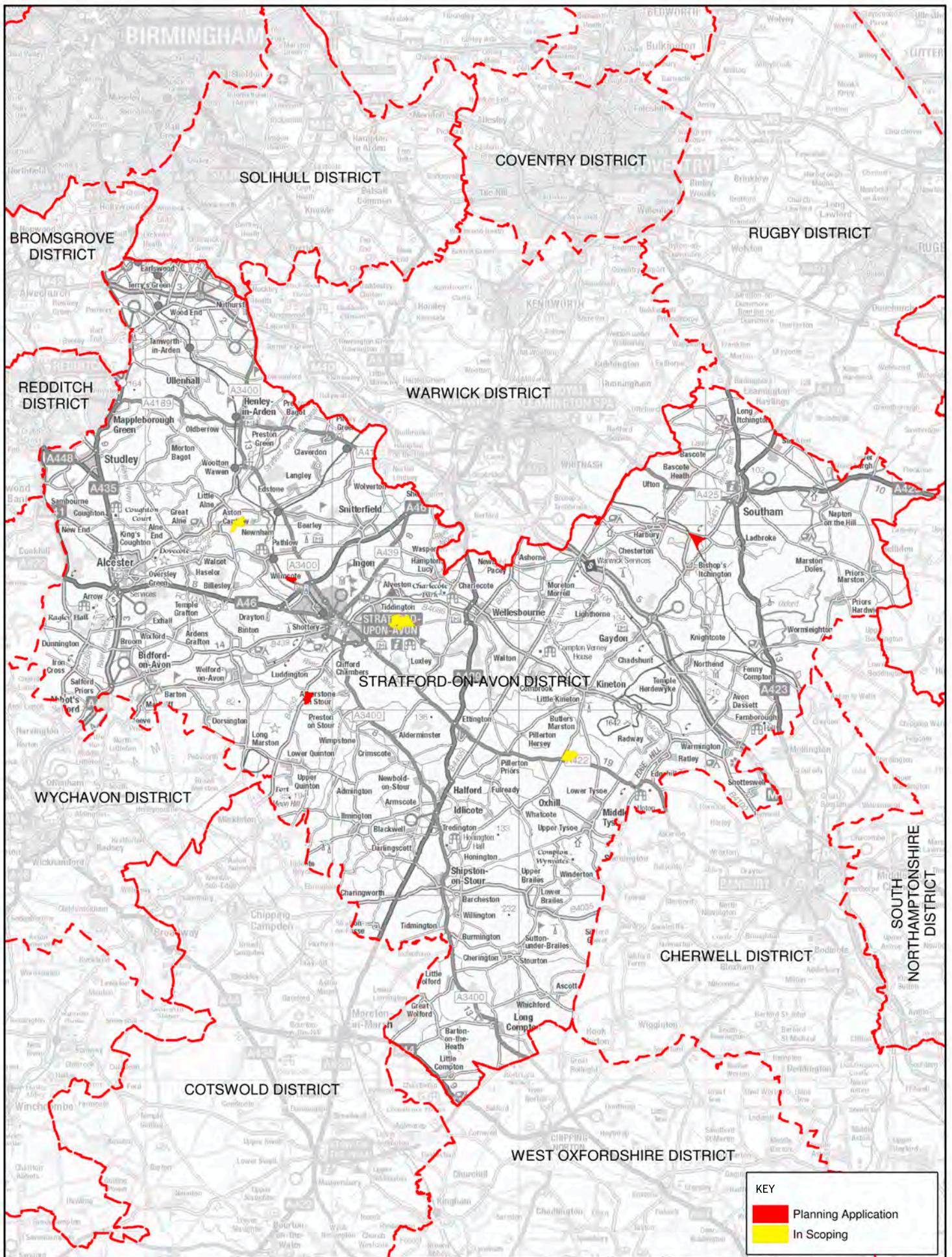
3.4. Overall, this information is useful in understanding the issues facing the district and setting the parameters for the assessment. It is understood that the situation may change with time. However, looking at the pattern of landscape

and settlement, and the wind energy development currently proposed or implemented in this lowland landscape, it is considered unlikely that developments of 25 turbines and above will come forward in the area in the plan period. Therefore this size has not been considered specifically. The sensitivity for this size will be *at least* the same as for the 13-24 turbine category, and probably greater. In the case of solar farms, large scale developments of 20ha and above are coming forward and so this range of sizes will be considered.



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Figure 2
 Wind energy developments in planning and less constrained/ unconstrained areas
 Stratford-on-Avon Renewable Energy Landscape Sensitivity Study



KEY

- Planning Application
- In Scoping

N 0 5 10 km
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Figure 4
 Solar energy developments in planning or scoping
 Stratford-on-Avon Renewable Energy Landscape Sensitivity Study

4. Method for deriving sensitivity and capacity

- 4.1. The evaluation methodology is based on best practice and policy guidance combined with an understanding of the specific issues regarding the landscapes within Stratford-on-Avon District. It also relates to the relevant proposed policy in the Core Strategy.
- 4.2. There is agreement amongst landscape professionals that landscapes have different sensitivities or capacities depending on the form of change or development e.g. an assessment of a wind energy development would be different to one for solar energy, or housing or employment. We have already undertaken an assessment of the latter around settlements in the district.
- 4.3. We have taken into consideration the following good practice guidance:
 - Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Edition 3, 2013 (GLVIA3). (This effectively supercedes the dated 2002 Topic Paper 6 on sensitivity issued by the Countryside Agency.)
 - Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland, Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage, 2002
 - Review of Guidance on the Assessment of Cumulative Impacts of Onshore Windfarms, Entec, DBERR, 2008
 - Guidance on siting and design windfarms in the landscape, 2009, Scottish Natural Heritage
 - Landscape Capacity Studies in Scotland - a review and guide to good practice, Scottish Natural Heritage, 2009
 - Assessing the impact of small-scale wind energy proposals on the natural heritage, Scottish Natural Heritage, February 2011
 - Assessing the cumulative impact of onshore wind energy developments, Scottish Natural Heritage, March 2012
 - Siting and design for small scale wind turbines between 15 and 50 metres in height, Scottish Natural Heritage, 2012
- 4.4. The method devised is based on a review of previous landscape sensitivity and capacity studies for wind and solar energy, including work in Scotland and England such as the Arup/White Consultants study for Rugby in 2010, and in Wales in developing and implementing TAN8 (the Welsh Assembly Government's national planning policy statement on renewable energy) plus the experience of the study team of in the assessment and review of solar energy developments.
- 4.5. While we have defined a glossary of terms in **Appendix A**, two key definitions are set out below.
- 4.6. **Sensitivity** is taken to mean the sensitivity of the landscape to a particular type and scale of change ie wind or solar energy development. Sensitivity is derived from an appraisal of its susceptibility to development and its value. These will be discussed in more detail below.
- 4.7. **Capacity** is taken to mean the amount of change (ie wind or solar energy development) that a landscape character type can accommodate without adverse changes to character or key characteristics. It deals with the issue of potential cumulative effects at a strategic level.
- 4.8. The technical or economic viability of turbines or solar energy development in any given area is not considered in this study as much of the district has been assessed as being potentially feasible and the size of larger turbines mean that

- widely available windspeeds datasets [NOABL] are often not accurate for higher altitudes and therefore not a limiting factor. The orientation of slopes has also not been considered in terms of solar energy viability. Therefore, all the district is considered for both types of energy development.
- 4.9. There are a number of constraints in the district which are likely to influence wind and solar farm development. Most have been mapped as part of the County renewable energy study alongside technical constraints eg parks and gardens, scheduled ancient monuments, ancient woodlands, nature conservation sites etc. However, the Cotswold AONB was not considered as a constraint in this study so this is reviewed in terms of its qualities and value. We have prepared a constraints map overlying the individual landscape character types to inform our assessment. A summary constraints map is shown in this report (Figure 1).
- 4.10. Overall, it is assumed that any proposed development including ancillary features and grid connections would be well designed and follow good practice in terms of design, layout and mitigation in order to minimise landscape and visual effects. It would be assumed, for instance, that wind turbines would be arranged to form coherent clusters with appropriate spacing and avoiding visual overlapping of blades and solar farms would be adequately screened by existing hedges with carefully designed ancillary infrastructure.

SENSITIVITY TO WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

- 4.11. A range of sizes and scales of wind energy development have been assessed. For the purposes of this assessment the height of turbines have been divided into categories as follows:

<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>	<i>Description of size</i>
15m to hub-35m	Micro- small
>35-50m	Small
>50-80m	Medium
>80-110m	Large
110m +	Very large

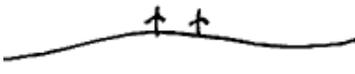
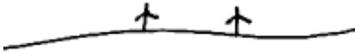
- 4.12. The scale of windfarm is described thus:

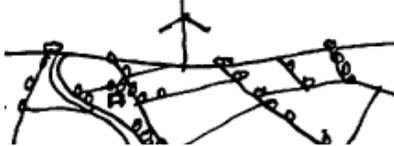
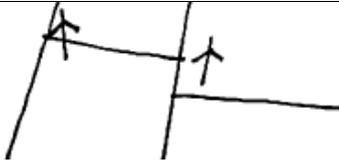
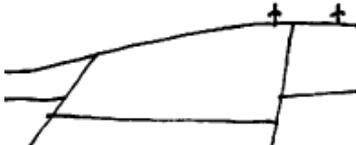
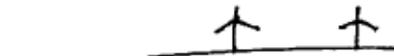
<i>Number of turbines</i>	<i>Description of cluster size</i>
1	Single turbine
2-3	Small scale clusters
4-7	Medium scale clusters
7-12	Medium/large scale clusters
13-24	Large scale clusters

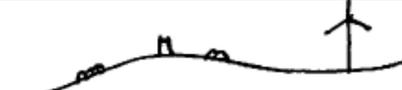
- 4.13. As discussed above, sensitivity combines an assessment of value and susceptibility to change. The factors underpinning the landscape value of a landscape character area or type include:
- Landscape designations in and around the area for landscape eg national or local.

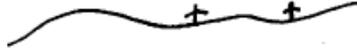
- Other designations eg cultural heritage ie historic or archaeological, such as historic parks and gardens, Conservation Areas, listed buildings etc or for biodiversity eg SSSIs, nature reserves, local wildlife sites.
 - Culture- art and literature associations, tourism or promotional literature including key views
 - Local conservation and/or landscape objectives
 - Assessment of integrity/condition, scenic quality, sense of place/ character, special qualities, perceptual qualities, rarity and representativeness .
 - Recreation value where experience of the landscape is important eg National Trails, promoted trails, country parks, viewpoints
 - Indications of local or community interest or use in parts of the area eg well used public footpaths
- 4.14. Higher value areas may have national or local landscape or related designations, scenic value, rarity of character or features, strong sense of place, good condition, cultural importance, use for tourism or of community or recreation interest. In Stratford, it is noted that there are no Special Landscape Area (SLA) designations in the current Local Plan. However, there has been a study (White Consultants, June 2012) informing the emerging Core Strategy which recommends four SLAs- Arden, Cotswold Fringe, Feldon Parkland and Ironstone Hills Fringe (see map of areas in **Appendix B**). The factors and qualities identified in the study will also inform this study even though it is appreciated that the Candidate SLAs have no formal status at present.
- 4.15. **Table 3** indicates what characteristics make a landscape more or less **susceptible** to wind energy development. The criteria are to be considered of equal weight in principle. However, for wind energy, experience suggests that scale, topographic form and relationship with settlements are often significant factors. There may be situations where criteria for either high or low susceptibility conflict with each other. For example, a wooded landscape may be considered sensitive to wind turbines due to its character and the effect of the scale of wind turbines. On the other hand, it may potentially screen development from wider view. These are balanced in the overall assessment of sensitivity.
- 4.16. Other important factors, such as a high agricultural land grade and the practical limitations of floodplains, are mentioned in the report but are assumed to be taken into consideration separately in the planning balance.

Table 3 Landscape susceptibility criteria for wind energy development

Main criteria	Specific criteria/factors	Characteristics that are less susceptible to wind turbines	Characteristics that are more susceptible to wind turbines
PHYSICAL			
Landform slope, scale and enclosure	Scale of landform	Larger scale landforms which may be more able to accommodate large scale wind turbines	Smaller scale well defined landforms which may be dominated by wind turbines
			
	Topographic form	Upland plateaux, gently rolling or flat landscapes as the turbines may be less easily scaled against the landform	Landforms with well defined changes in level including undulating landscapes, narrow ridges, steep sloping valley sides and hillsides and narrow valley floors as turbines may reduce apparent scale and drama
			
	Shape	Simpler landforms which may complement the form of turbines	More complex landforms where large scale turbines may compete with detail and interest in the landscape
			
	Enclosure	Open and exposed landscapes where turbines, though highly visible, may be logically located	Enclosed landform where this indicates more complex landform, though in places development may be partially screened by landform
			
	Skyline	No distinctive landform skylines for turbines to be located on	Skylines which are an important and noticeable component in the landscape eg as a backcloth to lower land, and turbines may dominate or compete with the prevailing character
			

Main criteria	Specific criteria/factors	Characteristics that are less susceptible to wind turbines	Characteristics that are more susceptible to wind turbines
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Scale of landcover	Larger scale landcover which is more able to accommodate wind turbines which are large scale objects.	Smaller scale landcover which is less able to accommodate wind turbines due to the contrast in scale.
			
	Type	Plantations or large scale simple agriculture eg arable where the simplicity of the landcover may complement turbines	Irregular or complex pattern, often pastoral farmland with hedgerows and trees or associated with watercourses, where the scale and character of the turbines may seem out of place or dominate.
			
	Pattern	Unenclosed land or rectilinear field patterns which may complement the modern aesthetic of the turbine	Irregular field patterns where turbines may detract from the pattern
			
	Enclosure	Where enclosure limits views of turbines eg woodlands	Open, unenclosed landscapes where turbines are highly visible
			
Historic landscape character	Historic landscape character/time depth	Landscapes dominated by more recent patterns of enclosure, hedgerow removal or reclaimed land, with very limited if any historic features or time depth where wind energy projects may cause less disruption.	Landscapes with older enclosure patterns (prehistoric/medieval), rough ground, ancient and other broadleaf woodland, assarts, historic parkland, watermeadows and orchards or other features with significant time depth where wind energy developments may be seen as large additional intrusive elements out of character.
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern	Large scale industrial, infrastructure, warehousing and office uses where turbines may be seen in scale and character	Rural villages and other clustered settlements especially with historic cores where the modern aesthetic of turbines may compete with traditional character

Main criteria	Specific criteria/ factors	Characteristics that are less susceptible to wind turbines	Characteristics that are more susceptible to wind turbines
	Vertical elements	Landscapes with many masts and pylons where turbines may be seen as in character (notwithstanding potential cumulative impact issues)	No man made vertical elements where turbines would be out of character and create noticeable new elements
	Movement	Busy major roads and other areas of significant mechanised movement where the movement of turbine blades may be in character	No roads or only quiet country lanes where turbine blade movement could be eye catching
	Access/road pattern	Landscapes with wide, open roads with straight alignments or gentle bends and wide junctions could accommodate vehicles transporting turbines to site with limited or no alterations.	Landscapes with narrow winding or sunken lanes with hedges, or lanes with overhanging trees, and narrow junctions would need to be altered or cut to accommodate vehicles transporting turbines to site, affecting character.
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/ foci	Landscapes with no sensitive features where turbines might detract from settings	Landscapes with landmarks and features such as church spires and towers, follies, parks and gardens, prominent listed buildings and ancient monuments where turbines might compete as landscape foci and detract from settings
	Sensitive features on skyline	Landscapes with no sensitive features on skylines where turbines might detract from settings	Skylines with prominent features, often acting as focal points where turbines might compete as landscape foci and detract from settings
			
PERCEPTUAL			
How the landscape is experienced	Views	Limited or no views or where turbines may become positive new focal points and create interest in the landscape	Presence of views where wind turbines may detract from, or interrupt views
	Tranquillity	Area of low tranquillity where the modern, moving elements of turbines may be in character.	Area of high tranquillity where the modern, moving elements of turbines may be out of character.

Main criteria	Specific criteria/factors	Characteristics that are less susceptible to wind turbines	Characteristics that are more susceptible to wind turbines
Context	Relationship with and inter-visibility with adjacent landscapes	Self-contained landscape with limited relationship with adjacent areas where the effects of turbines may be limited to the character area eg large consistent character areas with subtle boundaries with adjacent landscape character types	Strong backdrop provided by this or adjacent area where the effects of turbines are noticeable from or are emphasised by adjacent landform eg scarp slopes, steep valley sides, hills adjacent to lowland vales/plains
			

4.17. Each LCT is assessed concisely against the criteria above in a matrix.

4.18. The proposed calibration for the sensitivity of landscape character types to wind energy development proposed for this study is set out in Table 4.

Table 4 Sensitivity Calibration

Level	Definition
Low	Landscape and/or visual characteristics of the landscape character type are robust or degraded and/or its intrinsic values are low and the landscape character type can accommodate the relevant type of development without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are very high.
Medium/ low	Landscape and/or visual characteristics of the landscape character type are resilient to change and/or its intrinsic values are medium/low or low and the landscape character type can accommodate the relevant type of development in many situations without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are high.
Medium	Landscape and/or visual characteristics of the landscape character type are susceptible to change and/or its intrinsic values are medium/low through to high/medium and/or the landscape character type <i>may</i> have some potential to accommodate the relevant type of development in some defined situations without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are intermediate.
High/ medium	Landscape and/or visual characteristics of the landscape character type are vulnerable to change and/or its intrinsic values are medium through to high and the landscape character type can accommodate the relevant type of development only in defined limited situations without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are low.
High	Landscape and/or visual characteristics of the landscape character type are very vulnerable to change and/or its intrinsic values are high or high/medium and the landscape character type is unable to accommodate the relevant type of development without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are very low.

Capacity for wind energy development

4.19. Individually developments may cause limited landscape effects, but combined, they could potentially cause adverse cumulative landscape effects. Based on the findings of the sensitivity assessment a maximum acceptable wind energy landscape status is defined for each LCT. These are defined as:

- Landscape with no wind turbines
- Landscape with occasional wind turbines
- Landscape with wind turbines ie a key characteristic of the area
- Wind turbine landscape ie the dominant characteristic of the area

4.20. These are defined in more detail in Table 5.

Table 5 Landscape character type objectives with regard to wind turbine development

	Maximum landscape character type status	Description/Comments
1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines	No turbines within an area and not visible except at a distance where they are very small or inconspicuous.
2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s	Turbines are visible but are not at a scale, number, spacing or extent that makes them a defining/key characteristic. Turbines might be seen occasionally at close quarters but more often within background views.
3	Landscape character type with wind turbines	Turbines are located and visible and are at a scale and/or a spacing that makes them <i>one</i> of the defining/key characteristics. Turbines might be seen in the foreground, mid-ground or background. However, there would be other key characteristics which would be strong and there would be sufficient separation between turbines for views without turbines and other characteristics remaining dominant in these parts of the area.
4	Wind turbine landscape	Turbines are frequent and may include extensive wind farms and are the dominant, defining characteristic but there is separation between groups of turbines. However within these areas wind turbines are likely to be visible.

4.21. In terms of development management, developers would need to demonstrate their proposal would not exceed the objective of a given area/type.

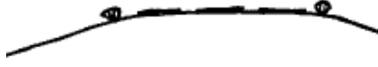
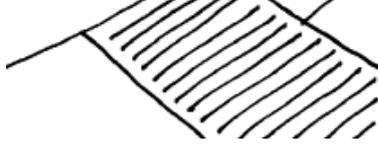
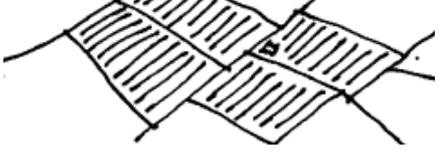
SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

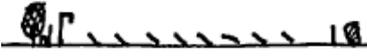
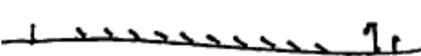
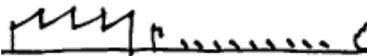
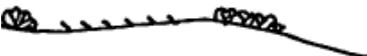
- 4.22. A range of sizes of solar energy development have been assessed. For the purposes of this assessment, the areas of solar farms have been divided into categories as follows:

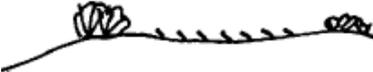
<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>	<i>Description of size</i>
< 1 ha	Very small
1 - 5 ha	Small
>5 - 15 ha	Medium
>15 - 25 ha	Large
>25 ha	Very large

- 4.23. As with wind energy, sensitivity to solar energy development combines an assessment of value and susceptibility to change. The factors underpinning the landscape **value** of a landscape character area or type are as for wind energy.
- 4.24. **Table 6** indicates what characteristics make a landscape more or less **susceptible** to solar energy development. The criteria are to be considered of equal weight in principle. However, for solar energy, the degree of slope, the presence of hedgerows and the field pattern are usually significant.

Table 6 Landscape susceptibility criteria for solar energy development

<i>Main criteria</i>	<i>Specific criteria/factors</i>	<i>Characteristics that are less susceptible to solar energy developments</i>	<i>Characteristics that are more susceptible to solar energy developments</i>
PHYSICAL			
Landform slope, scale and enclosure	Scale of landform	Larger scale landforms which may be more able to accommodate large scale solar energy developments	Smaller scale well defined landforms which may be disrupted by the rigid lines of panels
			
	Topographic form/slope	Plateaux or flat landscapes as the solar energy developments may be less visible	Landforms with well defined changes in level including undulating landscapes, rounded landform, narrow ridges, steep sloping valley sides and hillsides and narrow valley floors as solar development would be highly visible
			
	Skyline	No distinctive landform skylines for solar energy developments to be located on	Skylines which are an important and noticeable component in the landscape eg as a backcloth to lower land
			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Scale of landcover	Larger scale landcover which is more able to accommodate solar energy developments	Smaller scale landcover which is less able to accommodate solar energy developments due to the contrast and spread over several fields
			
	Type/Pattern	Plantations, large scale simple agriculture with rectilinear field patterns or horticulture such as poly tunnels eg where the simplicity or nature of the landcover may complement solar energy developments	Irregular or complex pattern, often pastoral farmland with hedgerows and trees where the scale and rectilinear character of solar energy developments may dominate or conflict with the pattern
			

Main criteria	Specific criteria/factors	Characteristics that are less susceptible to solar energy developments	Characteristics that are more susceptible to solar energy developments
	Enclosure	Where tree or hedge enclosure limits views of solar energy developments but without conflicting with need for limited shade	Open, unenclosed landscapes where solar energy developments may be highly visible
			
Historic landscape character	Historic landscape character/time depth	Landscapes dominated by more recent patterns of enclosure, hedgerow removal or reclaimed land, with very limited if any historic features or time depth where solar energy development may cause less disruption.	Landscapes with older enclosure patterns (prehistoric/medieval), rough ground, ancient and other broadleaf woodland, assarts, historic parkland, watermeadows and orchards or other features with significant time depth where solar energy development may be seen as large additional intrusive elements out of character.
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	Landscapes with little ecological diversity where solar energy development would have similar mono-cultural character.	Landscapes with ecological diversity where solar energy development could conflict with the varied character and could damage habitats and their perception such as permanent pasture, old hedgerows, water meadows, river corridors and woodland.
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern	Large scale industrial, infrastructure, warehousing and office uses where solar energy developments may be seen in scale and character	Rural villages and other clustered settlements especially with historic cores where the solar energy developments may compete with traditional character.
			
	Movement	Busy major roads and other areas of significant mechanised movement where solar energy developments may be more in character	No roads or only quiet country lanes where solar energy developments could be eye catching
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Landscapes with no sensitive features where solar energy developments might detract from settings	Landscapes with landmarks and features such as church spires and towers, follies, parks and gardens, prominent listed buildings and ancient monuments where solar energy developments might detract from settings.
			

<i>Main criteria</i>	<i>Specific criteria/factors</i>	<i>Characteristics that are less susceptible to solar energy developments</i>	<i>Characteristics that are more susceptible to solar energy developments</i>
PERCEPTUAL			
How the landscape is experienced	Views	Limited or no views where solar energy developments may either be discreet or create interest in the landscape	Presence of views where solar energy developments may detract from, or interrupt views
	Tranquillity	Area of low tranquillity where the modern solar energy developments may be in character	Area of high tranquillity where the modern solar energy developments may be out of character
Context	Relationship with and inter-visibility with adjacent landscapes	Self-contained landscape with limited relationship with adjacent areas where the effects of solar energy developments may be limited to the character area eg large consistent character areas with subtle boundaries with adjacent landscape character types	Strong backdrop provided by this or adjacent area where the effects of solar energy developments are noticeable from or are emphasised by adjacent landform eg scarp slopes, steep valley sides, hills adjacent to lowlands
			

- 4.25. Each LCT is assessed concisely against the criteria above in a matrix.
- 4.26. The proposed calibration for the sensitivity of landscape character types to solar energy development proposed for this study is as for wind energy and is set out in Table 4.

Capacity for solar energy development

- 4.27. Individually developments may cause limited landscape effects, but combined, they could potentially cause adverse cumulative landscape effects. Based on the findings of the sensitivity assessment a maximum acceptable solar energy landscape status is defined for each LCT. These are defined as:
- Landscape with no field solar energy developments
 - Landscape with occasional field solar energy developments
 - Landscape with field solar energy developments ie a key characteristic of the area
 - Field solar energy development landscape ie the dominant characteristic of the area
- 4.28. These are defined in more detail in Table 7.

Table 7 Landscape character type status with regard to field solar energy developments

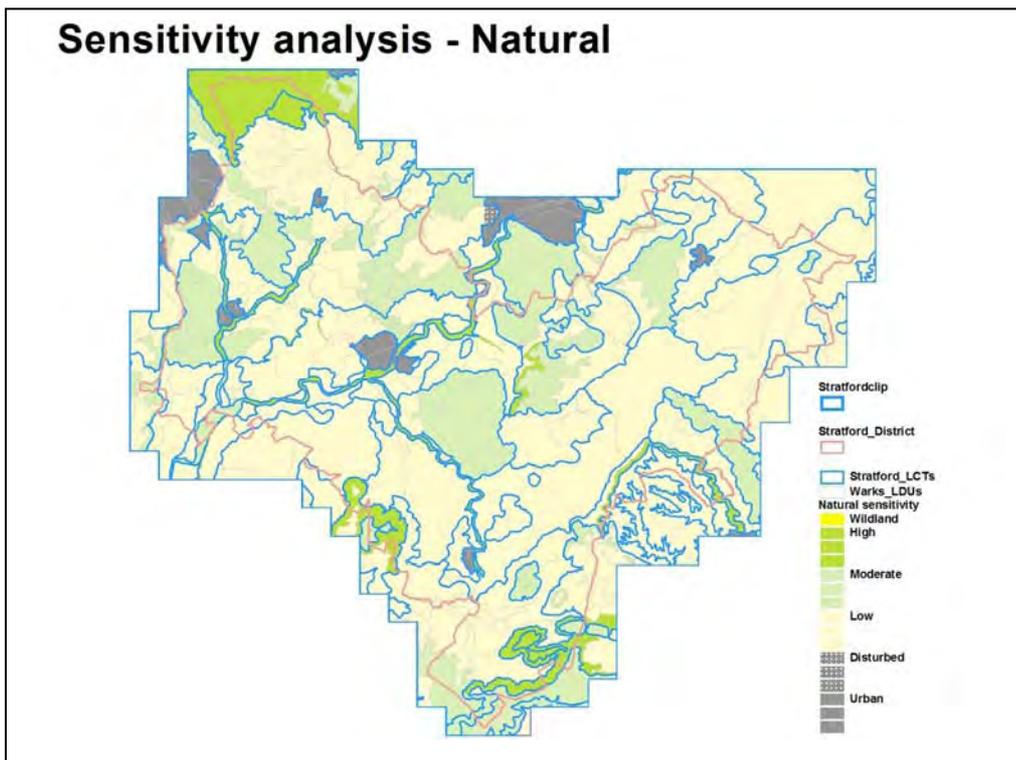
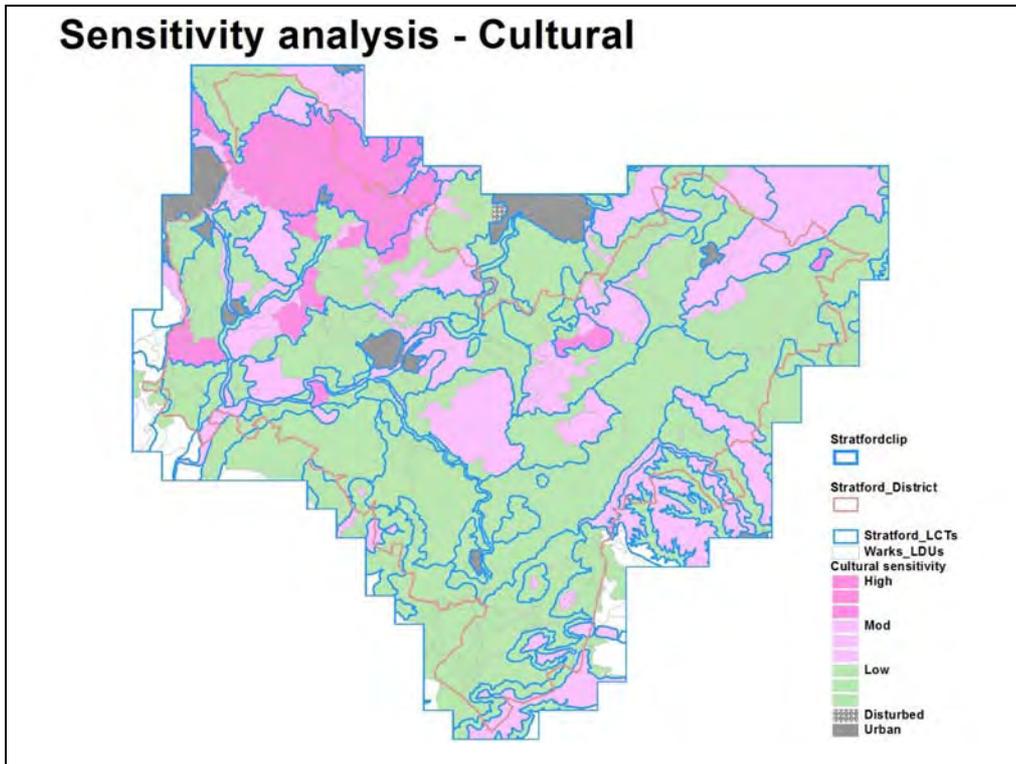
	Maximum landscape character type status	Description/Comments
1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments	No field solar energy developments within an area and not visible except at a distance where they are very small or inconspicuous.
2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s	Field solar energy developments are visible but are not at a scale, number, spacing or extent that makes them a defining/key characteristic. Field solar energy developments might be seen occasionally at close quarters but more often within background views.
3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments	Field solar energy developments are located and visible and are at a scale and/or a spacing that makes them <i>one</i> of the defining/key characteristics. They might be seen in the foreground, mid-ground or background. However, there would be other key characteristics which would be strong and there would be sufficient separation between developments for views without them and other characteristics remaining dominant in these parts of the area.
4	Field solar energy developments landscape	Field solar energy developments are frequent and are the dominant, defining characteristic but there is separation between developments. However within these areas field solar energy developments are likely to be visible.

- 4.29. In terms of development management, developers would need to demonstrate their proposal would not exceed the objective of a given area/type.

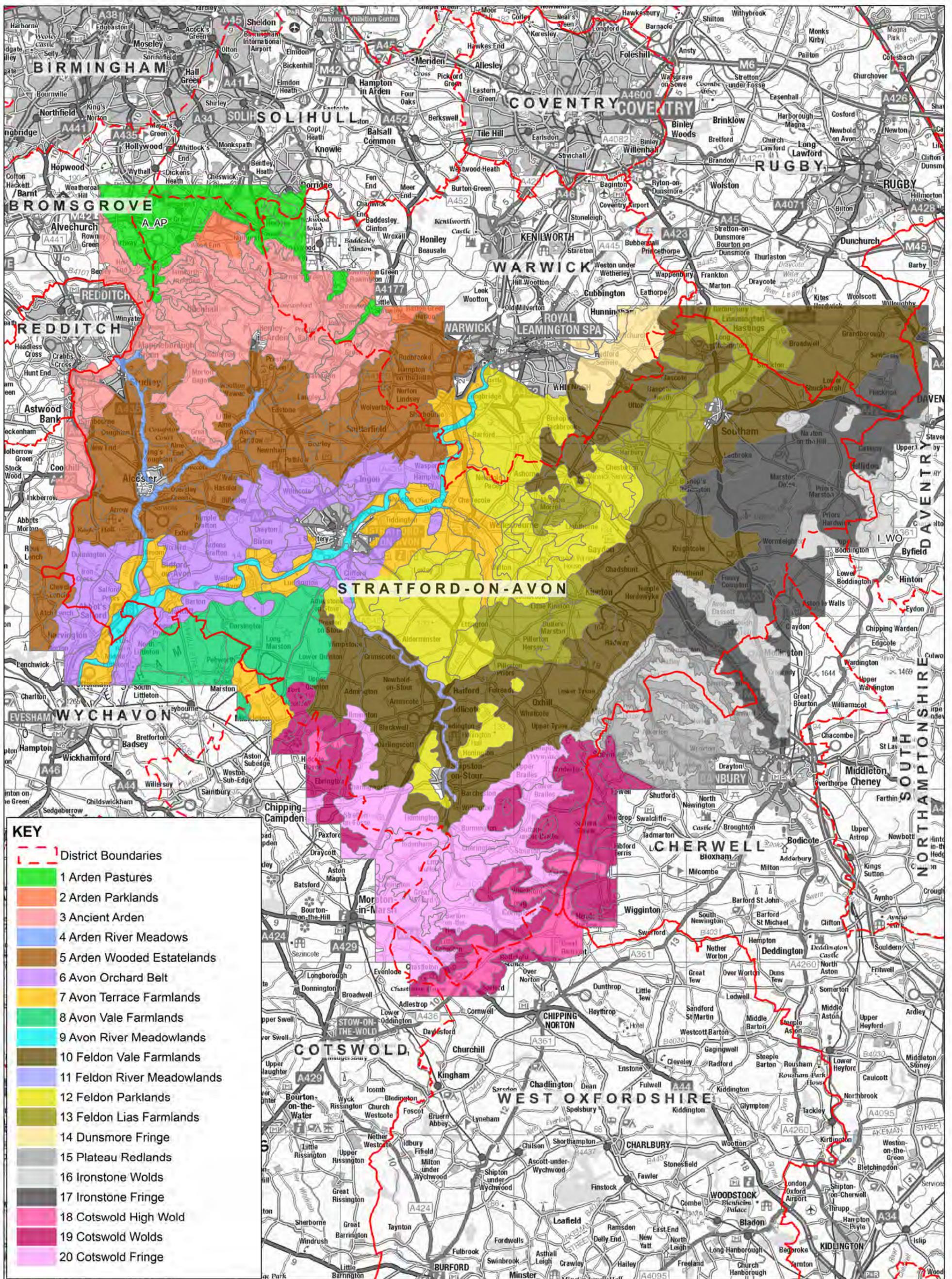
5. Review of landscape baseline

- 5.1. At the national level the district is divided into five National Character Areas- Arden in the north, Dunsmore and Feldon, Severn and Avon Vales, Northamptonshire Uplands and the Cotswolds to the south. These set the broad context but for this type of study a county/district level of assessment is the most appropriate scale.
- 5.2. At a county level, the existing landscape data including Land Description Units (LDUs) and landscape character types (LCTs) have been reviewed and updated taking on board up to date information such as the County Historic Landscape Character Assessment (HLC).
- 5.3. The process of landscape characterisation involves a combination of desk study and field survey to systematically divide the countryside into discrete and relatively homogenous units of land, within which the constituent physical, biological and historical elements occur in repeating patterns and share certain aesthetic characteristics. These units of land, termed LDUs, are the building blocks of the landscape at the district level and they form the framework on which all subsequent evaluation and decision making is based. An LDU framework was created for Warwickshire in 1999/2000, approximately 10 years after completion of the original landscape typology for the county. However, the LDUs have not hitherto been used to check the consistency of the existing landscape character types, or to update their boundaries. We have, therefore, used the LDU framework to review, reassess and update as necessary the physical, ecological and historical character of the landscape character types as currently defined in Warwickshire.
- 5.4. The quality of the LDU mapping can be considerably enhanced by using HLC maps to confirm cultural boundaries. Cultural patterns do not always have clearly defined boundaries, but because there is usually a strong correlation with the underlying natural dimension of the landscape, these patterns can often be effectively mapped using the physiographic/ground type units that emerge from the first phase of the LDU analysis. Where there is no obvious correlation, new divisions can be added to reflect variations in farm type, tree cover, or settlement pattern. Now that an HLC map has been produced for Warwickshire and the Cotswolds we have used this information to confirm that all the key cultural boundaries across the district are incorporated within the LDU framework. This has allowed the historic dimension of the landscape to be more fully integrated within the existing landscape typology. As part of this process we have liaised with Ben Wallace, the designated historic landscape officer at Warwickshire County Council.
- 5.5. In order to review the LDU boundaries it was firstly necessary to process the HLC data in a way that helped it to relate to the broader scale landscape units. This was done by developing a GIS layer to produce a composite map displaying the current extent of 'higher level' HLC Types against 'deep time depth' (in practice defining a 'late medieval' map). This was achieved by grouping together selected HLC Types in order to review how different parts of the landscape have evolved over several centuries, thus illustrating key differences which should be reflected within the LDU framework (e.g. between areas of piecemeal enclosure as opposed to planned enclosure). A check of the relationship between the LDU boundaries and the underlying HLC map was then undertaken. It was found that there was a significant degree of correlation between the LDU boundaries and the historic character and time depth displayed by the composite map. In some instances, however, anomalies were apparent where, for example, LDU boundaries did not adequately differentiate between areas with significantly

- different histories. In these circumstances the LDU boundaries were adjusted or a new boundary was inserted to sub-divide an existing LDU.
- 5.6. The Warwickshire Habitat Biodiversity Audit (HBA) mapping has been taken into account as an ancillary data source to inform the ecological aspect of the LDUs.
 - 5.7. Though most of the LDUs in the district have been assessed in terms of intrinsic cultural and ecological landscape sensitivity there are, however, gaps in coverage around the southern fringes of the district. The HLC assessments have assisted in refining and completing the landscape sensitivity analysis of the LDUs. These are indicated below.



- 5.8. We have used the updated LDU framework to review and refine the existing Landscape Character Type (LCT) boundaries. This was done by looking at the LCT boundaries laid on top of Natural and Cultural character overlays generated from the LDU framework. The boundaries of the proposed revised LCTs were then verified on site and further refinements made. The final revised LCTs are indicated on **Figure 5**.



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Figure 5
 Landscape Character Types and Landscape Description Units
 Stratford-on-Avon Renewable Energy Landscape Sensitivity Study

6. Summary of findings

Wind energy development

- 6.1. The assessment has found that there are areas of opportunity and constraint for wind energy. The main areas of constraint are Ancient Arden, The Cotswolds High Wold, Wolds and Fringes, the Ironstone Wolds and Plateau Redlands. Outside these areas there is some capacity for occasional wind turbines spaced to avoid cumulative impact. The capacity of the landscape character types are shown in **Figure 6**. The size of turbines is recommended generally to be small and either single or in small clusters to avoid adverse effects on the topography, landscape pattern and settlements. Medium-sized turbines may be able to be accommodated in the Feldon Vale farmlands. No large or very large size turbines or developments are recommended in the study area.
- 6.2. The detailed assessment of sensitivity and capacity of each LCT is set out in Part 2.

Solar energy development

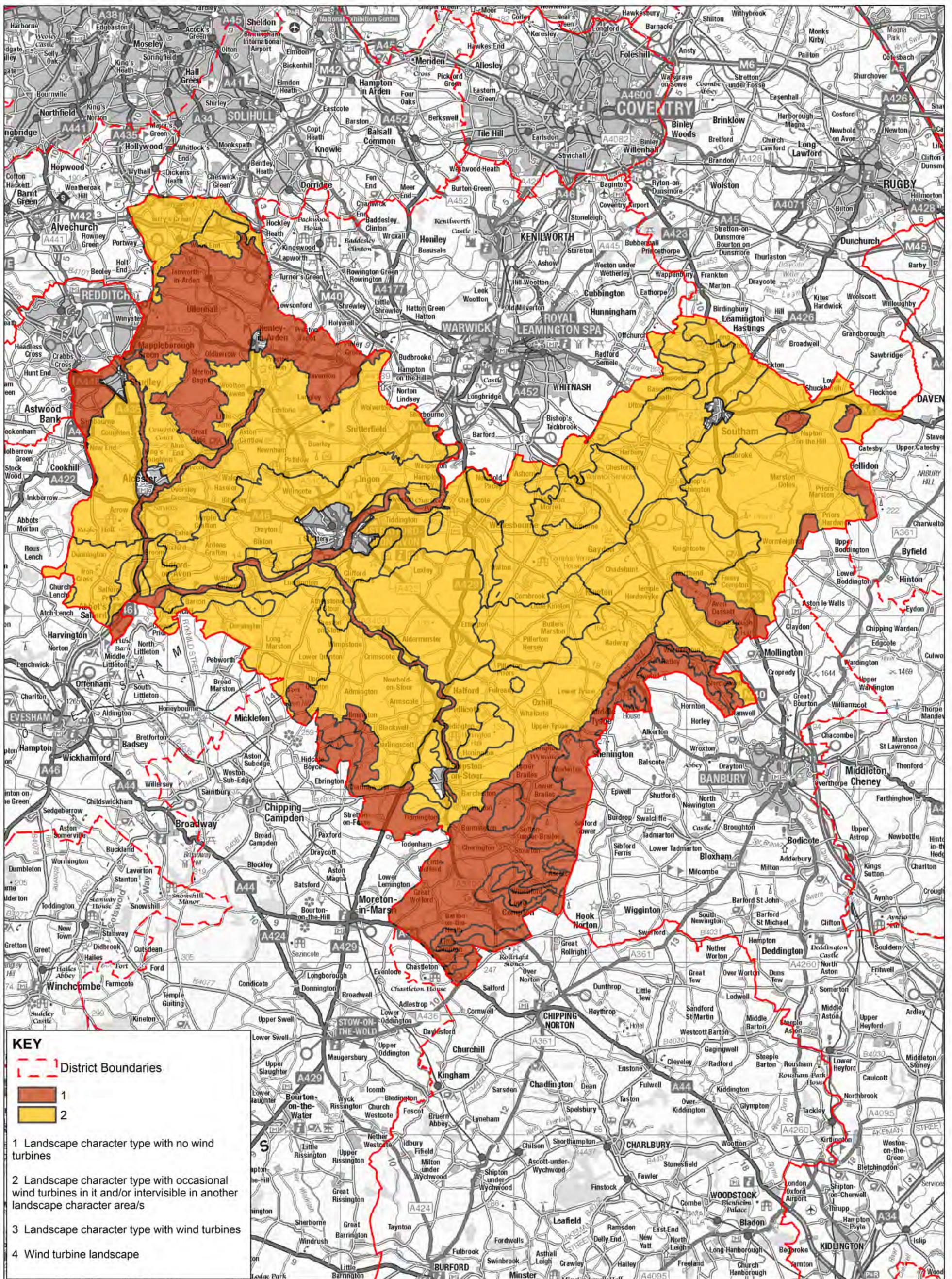
- 6.3. The assessment has found that there are areas of opportunity and constraint for solar energy. The main areas of constraint are Ancient Arden, The Cotswolds High Wold and Wolds, and the Ironstone Wolds. Outside these areas there is some capacity for occasional solar energy developments spaced to avoid cumulative impact. There may be potential for solar energy development to be spaced so as to become a key characteristic in the Feldon Vale Farmlands provided that suitable mitigation is possible such as location of developments on fairly flat land with screening hedges and trees. The capacity of the landscape character types are shown in **Figure 7**. The scale of developments is recommended generally to be small to medium to avoid adverse effects on the topography, landscape pattern and settlements. Slightly larger scale developments may be able to be accommodated on brownfield sites and/or where the field pattern is large and geometric but both with potential for mitigation.
- 6.4. The detailed assessment of sensitivity and capacity of each LCT is set out in Part 2.
- 6.5. The assessment has arrived at the following summary findings on the capacity for each type for wind and solar energy development.

Table 8 Wind energy development landscape capacity definitions

Category	Maximum landscape character type status
1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
4	Wind turbine landscape

Table 9 Landscape types capacity for wind energy development

Type reference	Type name	Assessed Capacity
1	Arden Pastures	2
2	Arden Parklands	2
3	Ancient Arden	1
4	Arden River Meadows	1
5	Arden Wooded Estatelands	2
6	Avon Orchard Belt	2
7	Avon Terrace Farmlands	2
8	Avon Vale Farmlands	2
9	Avon River Meadowlands	1
10	Feldon Vale Farmlands	2
11	Feldon River Meadowlands	1
12	Feldon Parklands	2
13	Feldon Lias Farmlands	2
14	Dunsmore Fringe	2
15	Ironstone Plateau Redlands	1
16	Ironstone Wolds	1
17	Ironstone Fringe	2
18	Cotswold High Wold	1
19	Cotswold Wolds	1
20	Cotswold Fringe	1



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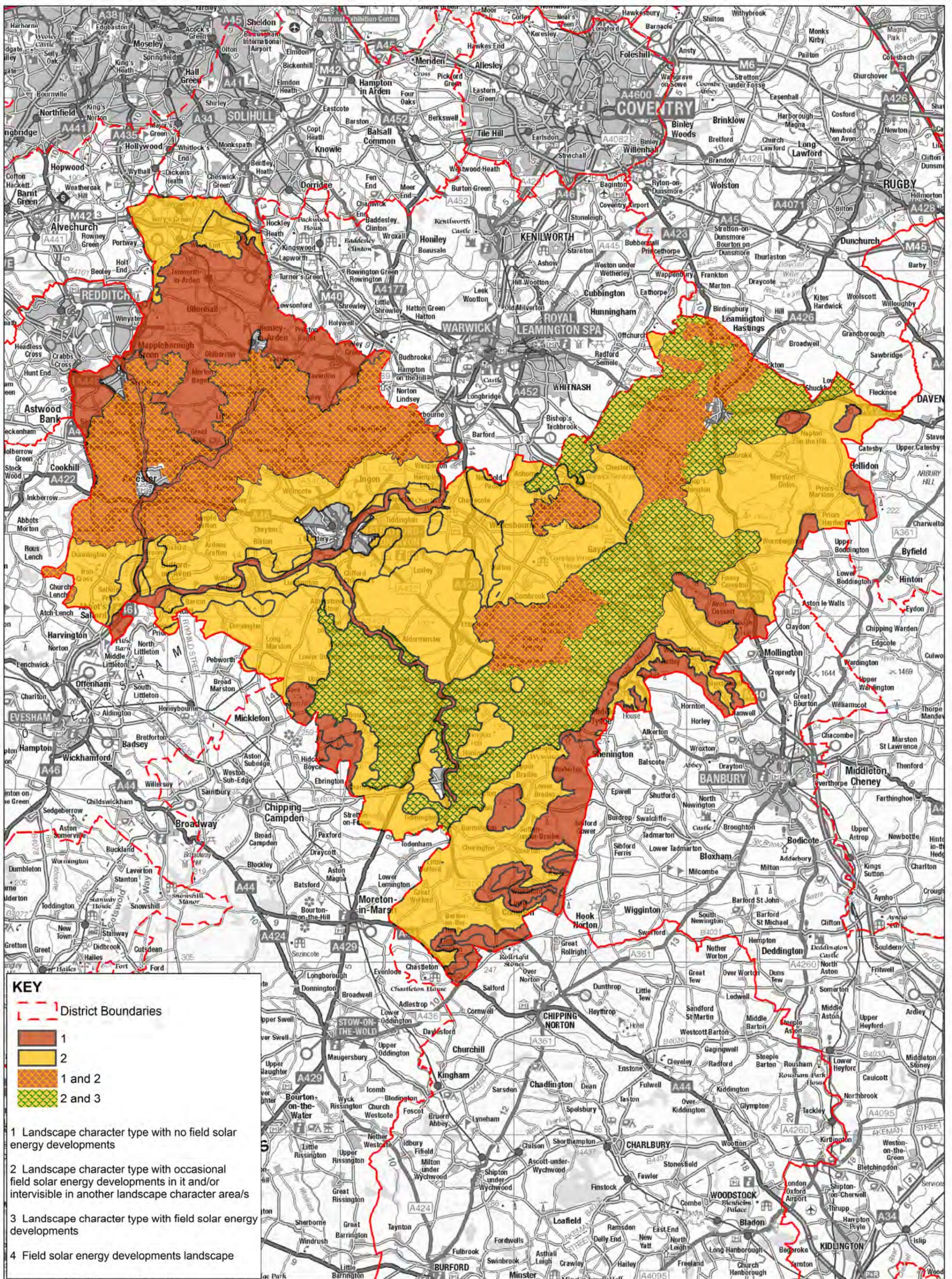
Figure 6
 Capacity for wind energy developments
 Stratford-on-Avon Renewable Energy Landscape Sensitivity Study

Table 10 Solar energy development landscape capacity definitions

Category	Maximum landscape character type status
1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
4	Field solar energy developments landscape

Table 11 Landscape types capacity for solar energy development

Number	Type name	Assessed Capacity
1	Arden Pastures	2
2	Arden Parklands	2
3	Ancient Arden	1
4	Arden River Meadows	1
5	Arden Wooded Estatelands	1 and 2
6	Avon Orchard Belt	2
7	Avon Terrace Farmlands	2
8	Avon Vale Farmlands	2
9	Avon River Meadowlands	1
10	Feldon Vale Farmlands	2/3
11	Feldon River Meadowlands	1
12	Feldon Parklands	2
13	Feldon Lias Farmlands	1 and 2
14	Dunsmore Fringe	2
15	Ironstone Plateau Redlands	2
16	Ironstone Wolds	1
17	Ironstone Fringe	2
18	Cotswold High Wold	1
19	Cotswold Wolds	1
20	Cotswold Fringe	2

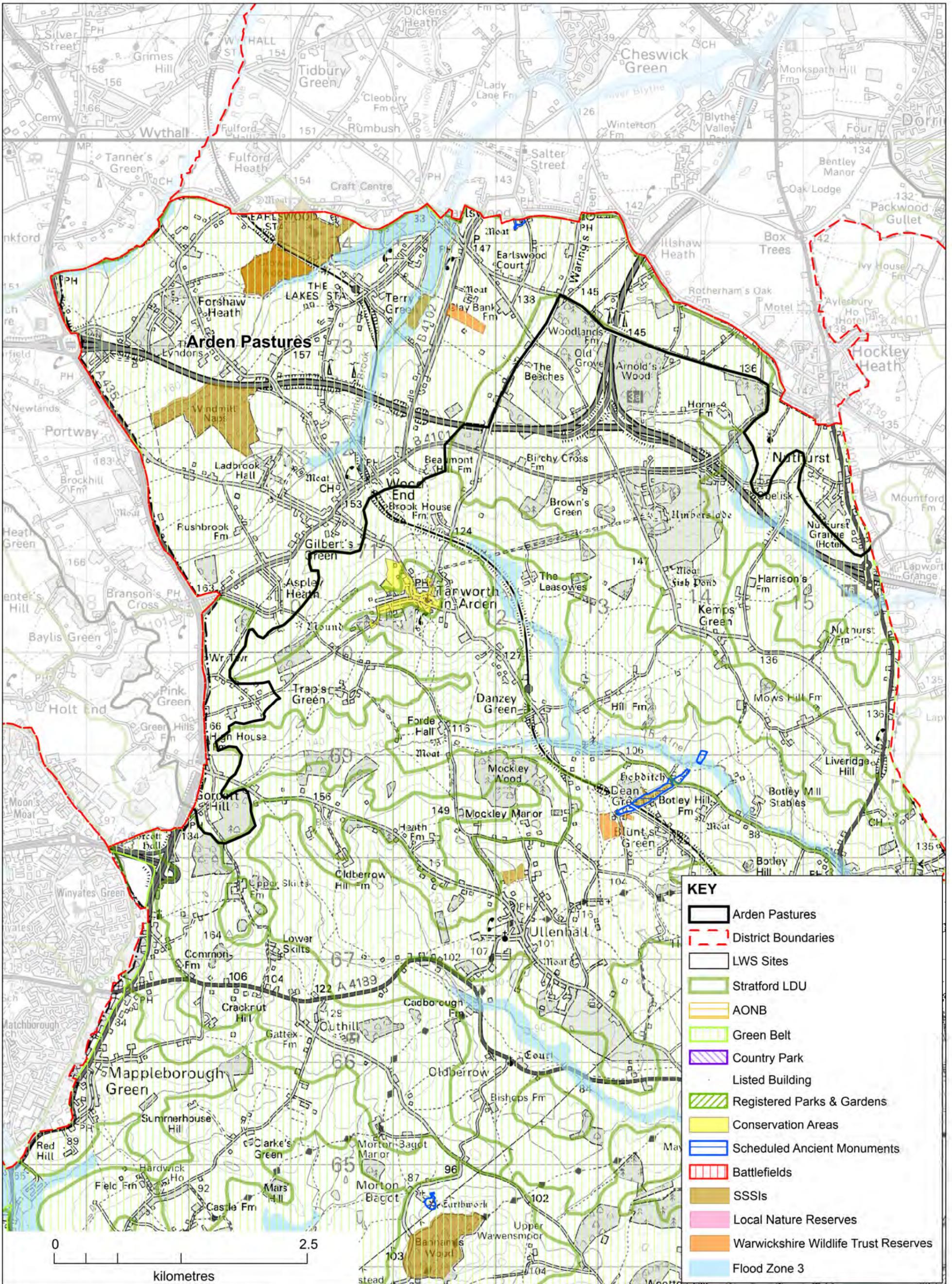


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Figure 7
 Capacity for solar energy developments
 Stratford-on-Avon Renewable Energy Landscape Sensitivity Study

PART 2

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY AND CAPACITY ASSESSMENT OF LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES FOR WIND AND SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT



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Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: **1** Landscape Character Type: **Arden Pastures**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform is gently rolling plateau at around 145m AOD generally but as low as 136m AOD in the east and as high as 163m AOD to the west. This is dissected by small streams at around 137m AOD. Slopes are generally gentle although more pronounced in some places such as in the valley of Spring Brook. There are distinctive canal reservoirs to the north- Earlswood Lakes. Wind energy development may be suitable on the gentler slopes and flatter land of the plateau but not on the steeper slopes or valley floors.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The landcover is mainly pastoral some mixed farming. The fields are mainly small and medium sized with a few larger fields. There are widespread hedgerow trees, particularly oaks, and hedges are often outgrown and strong although are removed in places. There are large woodlands at Windmill Naps and Clowes Wood. Overall, the area feels enclosed except where hedgerows have been removed. The wooded, enclosed character of the area would help screen wind energy development although trees could reduce wind speeds or necessitate higher development to avoid turbulence. Higher development may not be in scale with the landscape.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The field pattern is mainly later planned enclosure of common or assarting of ancient woodland which still exists in places. The pattern is widespread and fairly consistent. The time depth of the area is significant and would be sensitive to wind turbine development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	There is significant 20C ribbon development along many of the roads that cross the area. Many houses are detached in large gardens. The M42 crosses the area. There is therefore significant movement and reduction in tranquillity through development. There are a number of mobile phone masts associated with the motorway. Whilst the presence of major roads and masts may be compatible with wind energy development to an extent the effects on the visual amenity of residents close by is potentially a problem.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The key features in the area are Earlswood Lakes and the Umberslade obelisk monument which, with their environs, would be sensitive to wind energy development. Elsewhere, landmarks and features are limited.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are limited views within the area except along and across valley floors and the lakes. The area is a 'lived in', fairly busy landscape with roads which has a limited number of pockets of tranquillity. Wind turbines could add to the clutter in this landscape.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The area is fairly well enclosed as is Ancient Arden to the south so there is limited intervisibility between the two. However, larger turbines in this area could be visible within the less spoilt Ancient Arden area.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies in the Arden Candidate SLA whose special qualities include strong woodland and hedgerow tree cover including oaks, ancient woodlands and assarted fields. The latter characteristics are sensitive to wind energy development as they have an unspoilt intimate character. There is a scheduled monument moat at Earlswood. Earlswood Lakes are County Wildlife Sites and are a well used attraction. Wind energy could adversely affect these features/areas.			

SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has some characteristics which would support wind energy development including strong enclosure, the proximity of large roads and mobile phone masts and limited tranquillity. However, there is sensitivity to wind energy development in terms of the need to retain the strong tree enclosure, the assorted field patterns and semi-natural grassland, and the proximity of settlement and the popular recreational resource at Earlswood Lakes. This means that potential in the area may be limited.
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SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
There may be some potential for smaller scale developments away from housing and away from sensitive parts of Ancient Arden top the south eg Tanworth-in-Arden and the Umberslade parkland.						
	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
There is some potential for smaller scale developments away from housing.						
	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
The presence of residents may reduce the potential for large scale wind energy developments.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

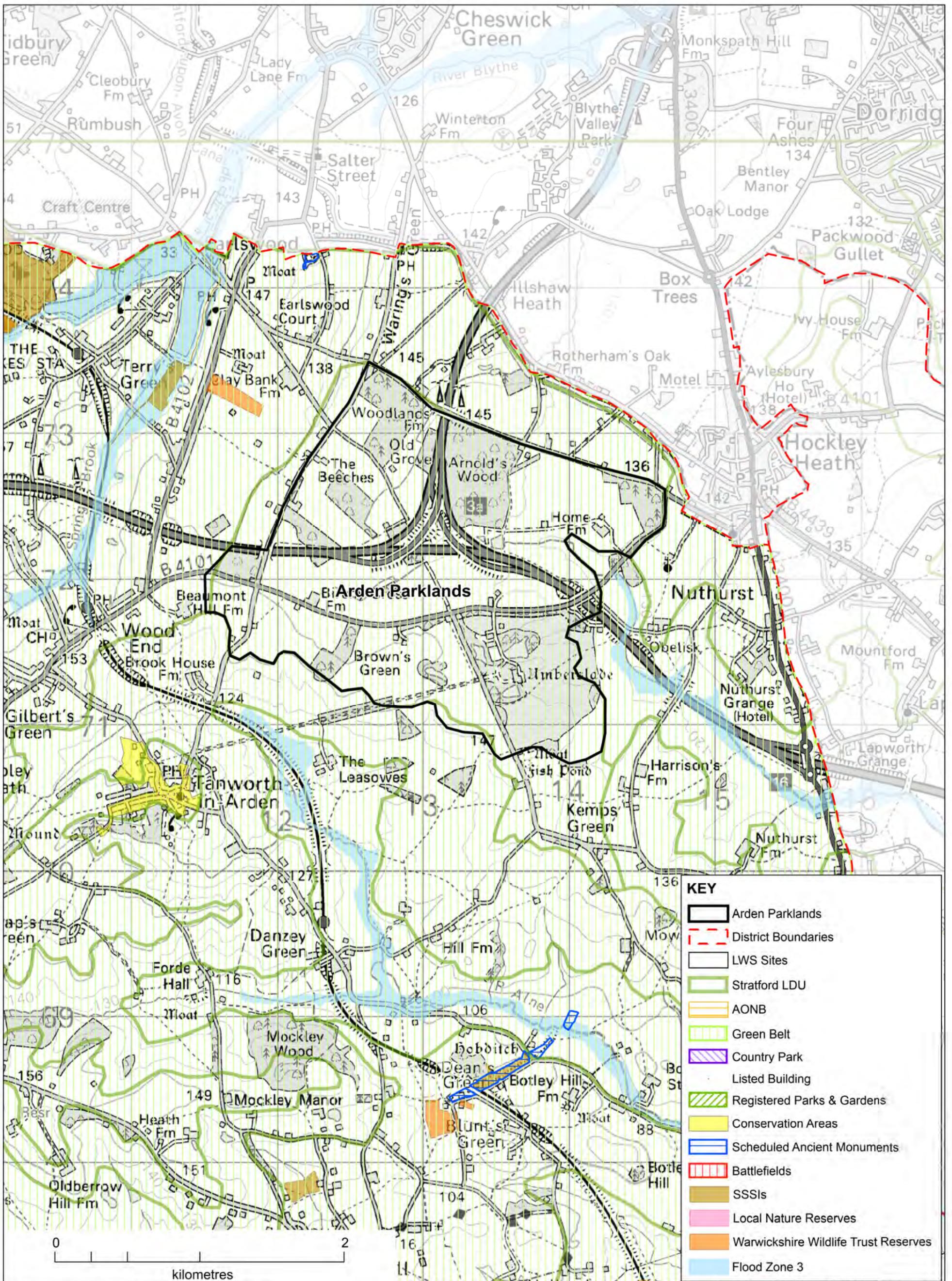
Landscape Type No: 1 Landscape Character Type: Arden Pastures

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform is gently rolling plateau dissected by small streams. Slopes are generally gentle although more pronounced in some places such as in the valley of Spring Brook. There are distinctive canal reservoirs to the north-Earlswood Lakes. Solar energy development may be suitable on the gentler slopes and flatter land but not on the steeper slopes.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The landcover is mainly pastoral some mixed farming. The fields are mainly small and medium sized with a few larger fields. The size of field is not conducive to larger scale solar energy development. There are widespread hedgerow trees, particularly oaks, and hedges are often outgrown and strong although some are removed in places. There are large woodlands at Windmill Naps and Clowes Wood. Overall, the area feels enclosed except where hedgerows have been removed. The enclosed character of the area would help screen solar energy development although trees would cause shading which could cause conflict with this type of development.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The field pattern is mainly later planned enclosure of common or assarting of ancient woodland which still exists in places. The pattern is widespread and fairly consistent. The time depth of the area is significant.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The mixed/pastoral farmland with a pattern of strong hedges, significant clusters of ancient woodlands and semi-natural grassland mean the area is fairly rich ecologically. Species-rich grassland would be adversely affected by solar energy development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	There is significant 20C ribbon development along many of the roads that cross the area. Many houses are detached in large gardens. The M42 crosses the area. There is therefore significant movement and reduction in tranquillity through development. Whilst the presence of major roads is compatible with solar energy development the effects on the visual amenity of residents is potentially a problem.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The key features in the area are Earlswood Lakes and the Umberslade obelisk monument which, with their environs, would be sensitive to solar energy development. Elsewhere, landmarks and features are limited.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are limited views within the area except along and across valley floors and the lakes. The area is a 'lived in', fairly busy landscape with roads which has a limited number of pockets of tranquillity.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The area is fairly well enclosed as is Ancient Arden to the south so there is limited intervisibility between the two.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies in the Arden Candidate SLA whose special qualities include strong woodland and hedgerow tree cover including oaks, ancient woodlands and assarted fields. The later characteristics are sensitive to solar energy development. There is a scheduled monument moat at Earlswood. Earlswood Lakes are County Wildlife Sites and are a well used attraction.			

SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has some characteristics which would support solar energy development including strong enclosure and the proximity of large roads and limited tranquillity. However, there is sensitivity to solar energy development in terms of the need to retain the strong tree enclosure, the assorted field patterns and semi-natural grassland, and the proximity of settlement and the popular recreational resource at Earlswood Lakes. This means that potential in the area may be limited.
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SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		Sensitivity				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
There is some potential for smaller scale developments away from housing.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The presence of residents may reduce the potential for large scale solar energy developments.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: **2** Landscape Character Type: **Arden Parklands**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform is gently rolling plateau between 136mAOD to the north east to 150mAOD to the south west with areas of fairly flat land. This theoretically may be suitable for wind energy development except in proximity to where the land falls away outside the area such as to the south west to the valley floor at 124mAOD towards Tanworth-in-Arden and to the east as these edges are more exposed to view and would be more sensitive in relation to the scale of turbine.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The landcover is mixed farming with ancient woodlands and parkland. The fields are semi-regular and small to medium in size in most places with some larger rationalised fields. The hedgerows are thick on roadsides but have been removed in places and are generally low cut. There are scattered hedgerow trees dominated by oak. The enclosure provided by the woodland and trees would help screen wind energy development although trees could reduce wind speeds or necessitate higher development to avoid turbulence. Higher development would not be in scale with the landscape. Umberslade parkland with its fine parkland trees would be highly sensitive to wind energy within and close to it.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area is mainly later planned enclosure or assarting of ancient woodland. Umberslade is a historic parkland. The latter two characteristics give the area some time depth which is sensitive to wind energy development. Areas less sensitive in historical terms are those without field boundaries.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	There is a dispersed pattern of estate farms and occasional roadside dwellings. The main focus is Umberslade Hall set in parkland. The M40 and M42 meet in and cross the area. There is therefore significant movement and reduction in tranquillity through development. Mobile phone masts lie just to the north. Whilst the presence of major roads and masts is compatible with wind energy development to an extent, the effects on the visual amenity of residents is potentially a problem in places.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The main focus is Umberslade Hall within its Park with mature trees on the skyline. Wind turbines would conflict with these features/elements. Elsewhere, landmarks and features are limited.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There is a visual link between Umberslade Hall and the obelisk. Any wind turbines in this view would be detrimental. Views tend to be middle distance views enclosed by woodland edges and scattered mature hedgerow trees. However, there are longer views to the south west and east across valleys and these locations are more sensitive as wind energy development may be on the skyline or more widely visible.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The south western edge and eastern edges are on the edge of the plateau adjacent to valleys and these locations are more sensitive as wind energy development may be on the skyline or more widely visible. Elsewhere visual connections are limited by woodlands and trees.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities,	The area lies in the Arden Candidate SLA whose special qualities include strong woodland and hedgerow tree cover including oaks, ancient woodlands and assarted fields. Umberslade Hall is listed as is its walled garden. There are a few isolated listed buildings such as farmhouses. Umberslade Park does not appear to be registered but it has			

	interest and use	the qualities of parkland including mature parkland trees set in grassland acting as a setting to the hall. This area has value.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has some characteristics which would support small wind energy development including gentle slopes/flat areas, strong enclosure in parts and the proximity of large roads, masts and limited tranquillity. However, sensitivity to wind energy development in terms of Umberslade Park and Hall, the proximity to valley slopes and wider views to the south west and east, the need to retain tree enclosure as part of the character of the area, and the proximity to some settlement may limit development.					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to smaller scale developments which can be located away from the parkland and highly visible areas next to valley sides and be mitigated by woodland.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to smaller scale developments which can be located away from highly visible areas next to valley sides and be mitigated by woodland.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
The area may be able to accommodate some very carefully sited and designed small wind energy developments but they should be located so as not to be visible from Ancient Arden or the parkland.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

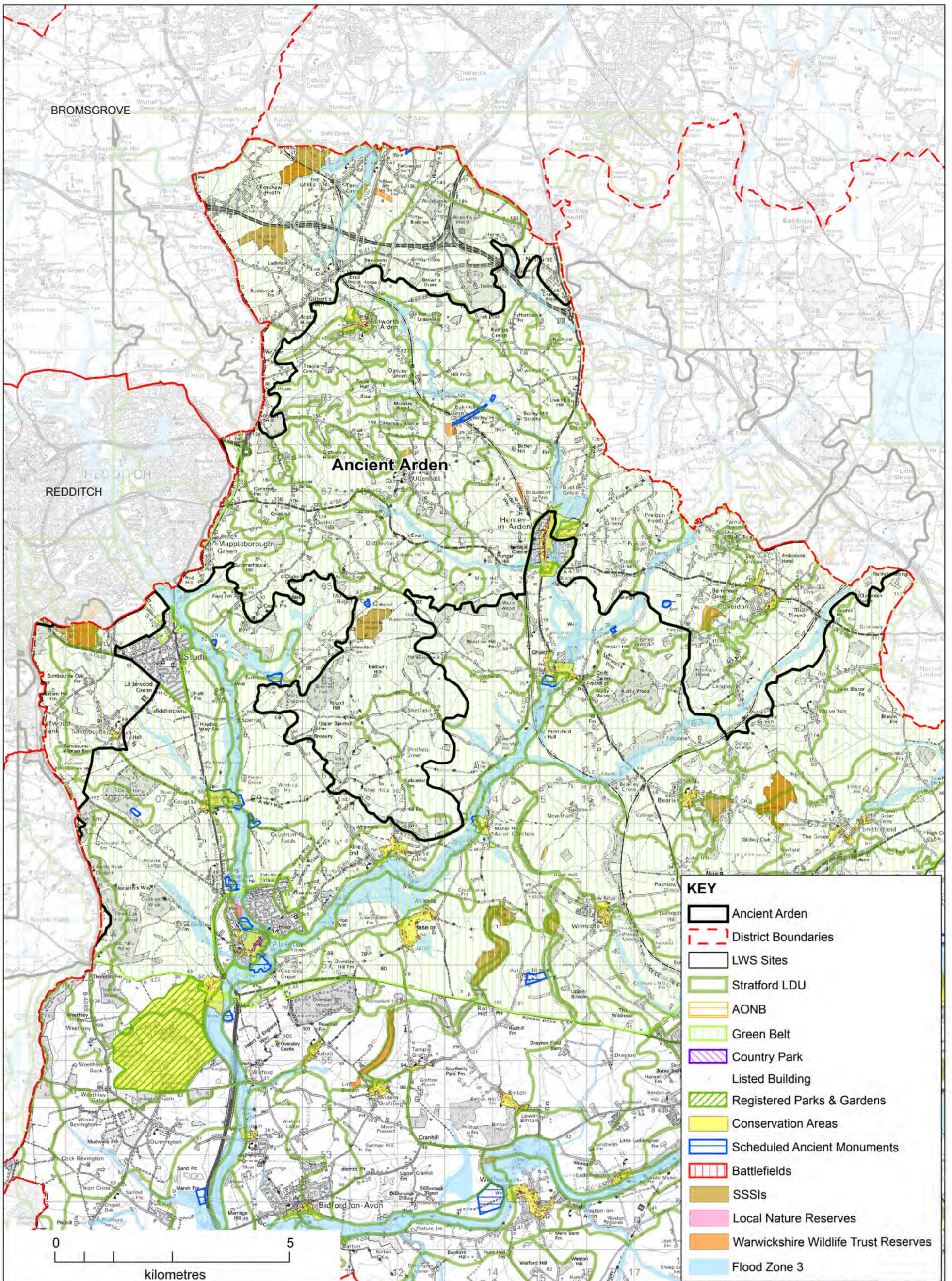
Landscape Type No: **2** Landscape Character Type: **Arden Parklands**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform is gently rolling plateau with areas of fairly flat land. This may be suitable for solar energy development. The area abuts valley sides to the south west and east and so these edges are more exposed to view and would be more sensitive.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The landcover is mixed farming with ancient woodlands and parkland. The fields are semi-regular and small to medium in size in most places with some larger rationalised fields. The hedgerows are thick on roadsides but have been removed in places and are generally low cut. There are scattered hedgerow trees dominated by oak. The enclosure provided by the woodland and trees would help screen solar energy development although could be in conflict in places due to shading. However, the openness of some areas through the removal of hedges means that development may be highly visible in middle distance views albeit enclosed by a woodland edge.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area is mainly later planned enclosure or assarting of ancient woodland. Umberslade is a historic parkland. The latter two characteristics give the area some time depth which is sensitive to solar energy development. Areas less sensitive in historical terms are those without field boundaries.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The mixed/pastoral farmland with significant clusters of ancient woodlands and parkland. There are mature trees, woodland, unimproved pasture and ponds in the parkland which are sensitive. Arable fields with fenced/degraded boundaries are less sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	There is a dispersed pattern of estate farms and occasional roadside dwellings. The main focus is Umberslade Hall set in parkland. The M40 and M42 meet in and cross the area. There is therefore significant movement and reduction in tranquillity through development. Whilst the presence of major roads is compatible with solar energy development, the effects on the visual amenity of residents is potentially a problem in places.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The main focus is Umberslade Hall within its Park with mature trees on the skyline. Elsewhere, landmarks and features are limited.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There is a visual link between Umberslade Hall and the obelisk. Any solar panels in this view would be detrimental. Views tend to be middle distance views enclosed by woodland edges and scattered mature hedgerow trees. However, there are longer views to the south west and east across valleys and these locations are more sensitive as solar energy development may be on the skyline or more widely visible.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The south western edge and eastern edges are on the edge of the plateau adjacent to valleys and these locations are more sensitive as solar energy development may be on the skyline or more widely visible. Elsewhere visual connections are limited by woodlands and trees.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic	The area lies in the Arden Candidate SLA whose special qualities include strong woodland and hedgerow tree cover including oaks, ancient woodlands and assarted fields. Umberslade Hall is listed as is its walled garden. There are a few isolated listed buildings such as farmhouses.			

	qualities, interest and use	Umberslade Park does not appear to be registered but it has the qualities of parkland including mature parkland trees set in grassland acting as a setting to the hall. This area has value.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has some characteristics which would support solar energy development including gentle slopes/flat areas, strong enclosure in parts and the proximity of large roads and limited tranquillity. However, sensitivity to solar energy development in terms of Umberslade Park and Hall, openness without potentially mitigating hedgerows in places, the proximity to wider views to the south west and east, the need to retain tree enclosure as part of the character of the area, and the proximity to some settlement may limit development.					

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		Sensitivity				
<i>Comments</i>			Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the solar energy development is limited to smaller scale developments which can be located away from highly visible areas next to roads and be mitigated by woodland and hedgerows.		Low				
	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		Maximum landscape character type status
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The area could accommodate some carefully sited and designed solar energy developments but they should be located so as not to be visible from Ancient Arden.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 3 Landscape Character Type: Ancient Arden

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform is varied with an undulating, and in places steeply sloping, topography, with prominent rounded hills which form the skyline in views eg Spernal Hill, Windmill Hill, Alne Hills. The River Alne and its tributaries cut through the area and the River Arrow divides the main part of the area from a smaller segment to the west. The land falls from north to south with the hills to the north around 155-164mAOD above smaller river valley bottoms of around 125mAOD. The hills to the south vary from around 122mAOD to (Spernal Hill) to 147mAOD at Bannam's Wood. The valley floor on the Alne at Aston Cantlow just outside the area is around 55mAOD. The Stratford-on-Avon Canal follows a minor valley from the east. The hills with associated rounded varied skylines and sloping valley sides are sensitive to wind energy development as turbines would tend to become prominent alternative focii which could be out of proportion with the pronounced topography.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The land use is mainly medium-sized mixed farms and smaller scale pastoral landscapes, especially to the east around Claverdon. This tends to be sensitive to, and incompatible with, larger wind energy development. To the west there are more arable fields with a more open character. The predominant landcover is small-medium sized semi-regular fields with a mix of low cut and outgrown hedgerows. There are significant clusters of ancient woodlands and semi-natural grassland. The hedges are strong with distinctive field tree cover dominated by oaks. The field pattern with trees to the east tends to be sensitive to, and incompatible with, wind energy development. The greater openness in the arable landscape to the west may be more compatible with small scale wind energy development.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area has significant time depth with mainly older piecemeal enclosure and assarting of ancient woodland, with small patches of later planned enclosure. The older patterns tend to be more sensitive to wind energy development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	The settlement pattern is mainly a dispersed pattern of hamlets, farmsteads and roadside dwellings. There are a few villages such as Tanworth-in-Arden, Ullenhall and Claverdon. The winding lanes linking settlements tend to be sunken with high hedgebanks. There are very few main roads through the area so movement is limited. There are very few vertical elements such as mobile phone masts in the area so the skylines are relatively unspoilt. The relatively sparse settlement pattern would be compatible with wind energy development although the settings of some villages such as Tanworth, and the visual amenity of the scattered settlement are limiting factors.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and focal points include Tanworth-in-Arden and its church spire, Beaudesert Castle earthworks, and various tree topped hills which characterise the area. All these are sensitive to wind energy development as alternative focii.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	The area is moderately open with attractive unspoilt middle distance views across valleys to surrounding hills. This is modified by tree cover which encloses some areas. The Arden Way and Heart of England Way run through the southern part of the area and Monarch's Way also brushes the area to the south east. The area is generally tranquil with few busy roads and settlements.			
Context	Relationship	The hills provide the distinctive backcloth and skyline to			

	with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	surrounding lower landscapes such as the Wooded Estatelands and river valleys so there is a high degree of intervisibility in places. These hills would therefore be sensitive to wind energy development which would be prominent on or potentially dominate hills. The valleys are self contained and would be less sensitive in this respect but wind energy would tend to look out of place here.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies in the Arden candidate SLA whose special qualities which would be sensitive to wind energy development include well wooded rounded hilltops and slopes enclosing valleys, fine oak dominated hedgerows, intimate pastoral scenes, views from hilltops, and the relationship between landscape and settlements including church spires. There are Conservation Areas at Tanworth-in-Arden, Claverdon and Henley-in-Arden on the edge of the area, with associated listed buildings. There are scheduled monuments at Beaudesert Castle, Hobditch and various camps and moated sites. Bannam and Rough Wood are SSSIs.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area is sensitive to wind energy development due to its unspoilt rounded hills which are prominent and its undulating sloping topography which would mean that development would be likely to be visible. The historic, generally tranquil character of the area and small to medium field semi-regular pattern would also not be complementary to solar energy development. The enclosure of woodland blocks and trees may assist in screening smaller scale development but the opportunities appear to be very limited. The area has landscape value and wind energy would adversely affect this.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
There is only very limited potential for smaller scale developments in discreet locations between low hills, but not on them and screened by woodland from lower level view. The scale and pattern of the landscape makes the area incompatible with larger development.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
There is only very limited potential for single turbine developments in enclosed areas away hilltops and from housing.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
The attractive historic and undulating hill character of the landscape mean that wind energy developments would be out of character.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

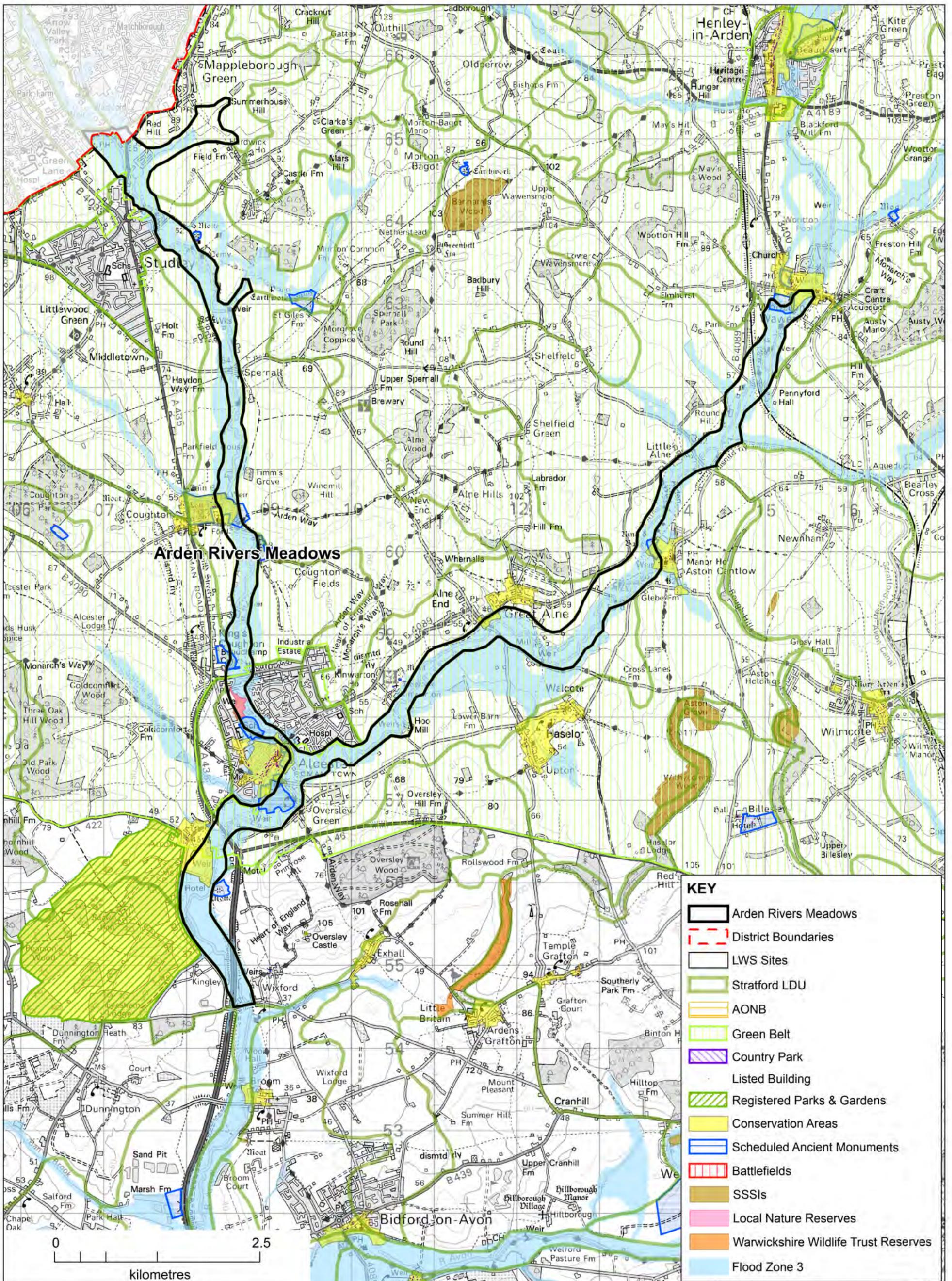
Landscape Type No: **3** Landscape Character Type: **Ancient Arden**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform is varied with an undulating, and in places steeply sloping, topography, with prominent rounded hills which form the skyline in views eg Spernal Hill, Windmill Hill, Alne Hills. The River Alne and its tributaries cut through the area and the River Arrow divides the main part of the area from a smaller segment to the west. The Stratford-on-Avon Canal follows a minor valley from the east. The hills with associated skylines and sloping valley sides are sensitive to solar energy development. Gently sloping areas are limited.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The land use is mainly medium-sized mixed farms and smaller scale pastoral landscapes, especially to the east around Claverdon. To the west there are more arable fields with a more open character. The predominant landcover is small-medium sized semi-regular fields with a mix of low cut and outgrown hedgerows. There are significant clusters of ancient woodlands and semi-natural grassland. The hedges are strong with distinctive field tree cover dominated by oaks. The field pattern to the east and the openness to the west tend to be sensitive to, and incompatible with, larger scale solar energy development. Outgrown hedgerows may help screen solar energy development in places.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area has significant time depth with mainly older piecemeal enclosure and assarting of ancient woodland, with small patches of later planned enclosure. The older patterns tend to be more sensitive to solar energy development.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The area comprises mixed/pastoral farmland with significant clusters of ancient woodlands and semi-natural grassland which are sensitive to solar energy development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	The settlement pattern is mainly a dispersed pattern of hamlets, farmsteads and roadside dwellings. There are a few villages such as Tanworth-in-Arden, Ullenhall and Claverdon. The winding lanes linking settlements tend to be sunken with high hedgebanks. There are very few main roads through the area so movement is limited. The relatively sparse settlement pattern would be compatible with solar energy development although the settings of some villages such as Tanworth, and the visual amenity of the scattered settlement are limiting factors.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and focal points include Tanworth-in-Arden and its church spire, Beaudesert Castle earthworks, and various tree topped hills which characterise the area. All these are sensitive to solar energy development.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	The area is moderately open with attractive middle distance views across valleys to surrounding hills. This is modified by tree cover which encloses some areas. The Arden Way and Heart of England Way run through the southern part of the area and Monarch's Way also brushes the area to the south east. The area is generally tranquil with few busy roads and settlements.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The hills provide the backcloth and skyline to surrounding lower landscapes such as the Wooded Estatelands and river valleys so there is a high degree of intervisibility in places. These hills would therefore be sensitive to solar energy development. The valleys are self contained and would be less sensitive in this respect.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation	The area lies in the Arden candidate SLA whose special qualities which would be sensitive to solar energy development include well wooded rounded hilltops and			

	factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	slopes enclosing valleys, fine oak dominated hedgerows, intimate pastoral scenes, views from hilltops, and the relationship between landscape and settlements including church spires. There are Conservation Areas at Tanworth-in-Arden, Claverdon and Henley-in-Arden on the edge of the area, with associated listed buildings. There are scheduled monuments at Beaudesert Castle, Hobditch and various camps and moated sites. Bannam and Rough Wood are SSSIs.				
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area is sensitive to solar energy development due to its rounded hills which are prominent and its undulating sloping topography which would mean that development would be likely to be visible. The historic, generally tranquil character of the area and small to medium field semi-regular pattern would also not be complementary to solar energy development. The enclosure of outgrown hedges and trees may assist in screening smaller scale development but the opportunities appear to be limited.				

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>						
There is only very limited potential for smaller scale developments in enclosed areas away from housing.		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
>25 ha						

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The attractive historic and sloping character of the landscape mean that solar energy developments would be out of character.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 4 Landscape Character Type: Arden River Meadows

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The River Alne and River Arrow fall gently from around 62 and 65m AOD at Wootton Wawen and Studley respectively to around 37m AOD at Wixford. The landform comprises of narrow and relatively flat alluvial valley floors most of which lie within the floodplain. The watercourses are natural for the most part with sinuous courses. There are small changes in level across the valley but generally the slopes are gentle. The areas within floodplains are unsuitable for wind energy development and even on the drier gentle slopes outside wind energy would appear incongruous as the area is sheltered.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The fields tend to be medium sized semi-regular pasture within the floodplain and arable on some of the rising slopes. The riparian trees, including pollarded willows, along with occasional woodland and field trees provide some enclosure in places. The fields are generally bounded by low hedges or fences which are open to view from the valley sides. Wind energy development would tend not to fit well with the valley bottom landscape of irregular boundaries although it could be screened to an extent in places by trees if at a very small scale.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The Arrow valley has an older field pattern with greater time depth but both valley floors have semi-regular fields. The watercourses remain unmodified by man in most places. Wind energy development would not fit well with the older field pattern but would be more appropriate in the later enclosed fields.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	There is limited built form in the valley floors due to the potential for flooding with the exception of Alcester and a caravan park. There is limited access apart from a few minor roads crossing and very occasional major roads such as the A46 near Alcester. Overall, the area is very tranquil with limited movement. Wind energy development would be out of character with the tranquil undeveloped character of the valley floors.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	There are few foci within the area apart from occasional modest bridges. However, there are landmarks adjacent for which the valley floors act as setting or open views eg Studley Church. Wind turbines would detract from these.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Views are possible across and along the valleys with the Arden Way and Monarch's Way crossing and running along the Arrow and Alne's valley floors respectively for some distance. Overall, the area is very tranquil away from main roads. Wind turbines could disrupt these views.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The valley floors are overlooked by valley sides of the Wooded Estate lands and Ancient Arden and are open in places. Wind turbines would therefore be visible from these areas.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	A number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings abut and run into the valley floors including Coughton, Alcester, Great Alne, Aston Cantlow and Wootton Wawen. Scheduled monuments lie within the area such as at the Medieval settlement at Coughton Court and Alcester Abbey and Roman Town, and Ringwork Castle at Aston Cantlow. A number of isolated listed buildings including Studley Church also lie close to the area. The watercourses and tributaries are almost all County Wildlife sites. All these features and their settings are very sensitive to solar energy			

		development. The area is covered by Green Belt except to the south of Arrow. The whole area is proposed as a Candidate SLA whose special qualities include small scale intimate river valleys with narrow floodplains defined by curvilinear hedgerows, natural watercourses and riparian vegetation which are sensitive to wind energy development.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to wind energy development as it is predominantly within the floodplain. The natural watercourses and riparian vegetation are scenically attractive and in places are open to view from the surrounding valley sides. The Arrow valley also has time depth and nature conservation interest in its field pattern. The area has historic conservation features adjacent and within it and is generally tranquil with few modern features. The valleys lie within the Arden candidate SLA.					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at all scales.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to solar energy developments at all scales.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		Maximum landscape character type status
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

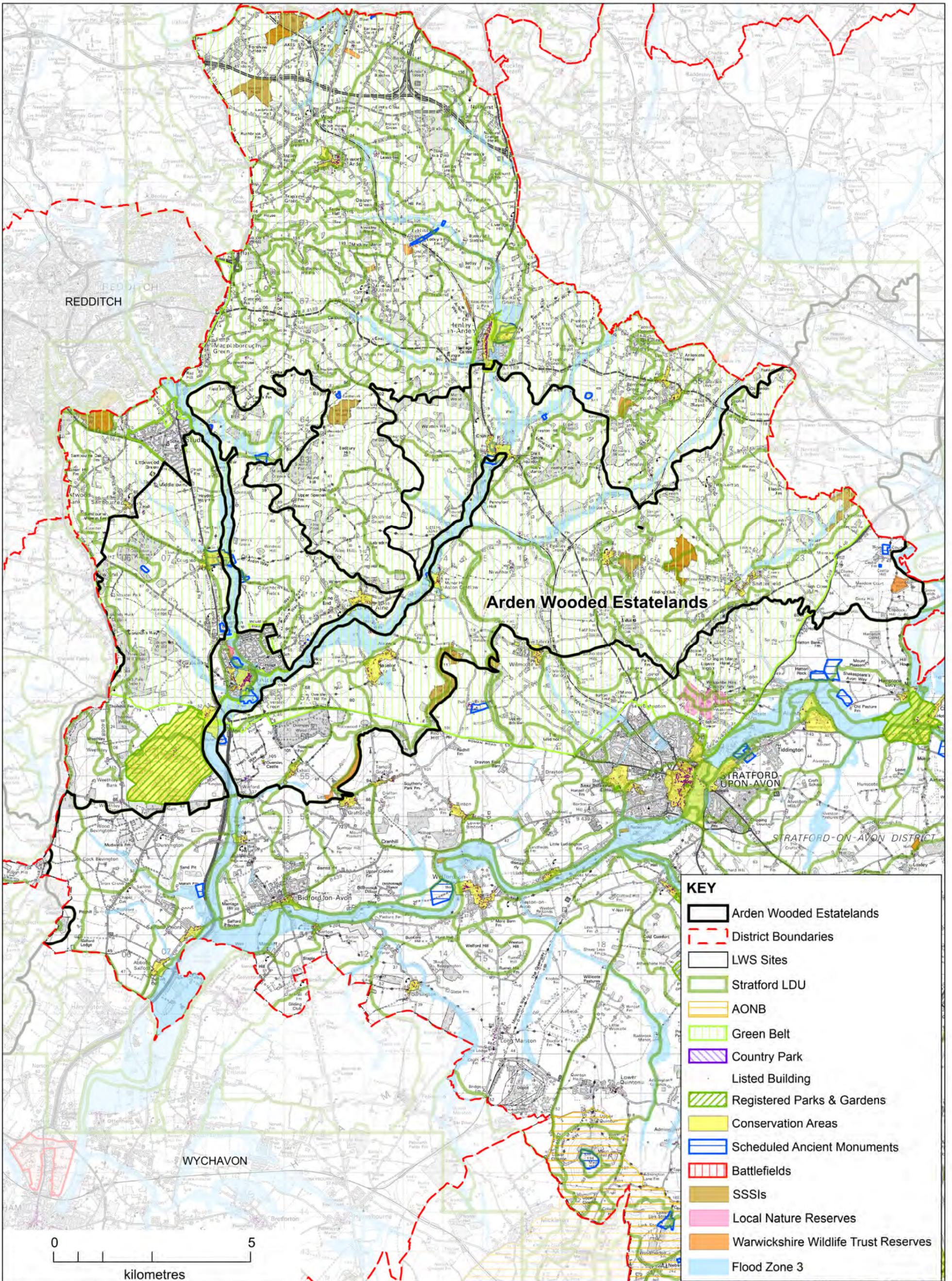
Landscape Type No: **4** Landscape Character Type: **Arden River Meadows**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform comprises of narrow and relatively flat alluvial valley floors most of which lie within the floodplain. The watercourses of the River Arrow and River Alne are natural for the most part with sinuous courses. There are small changes in level but generally the slopes are gentle. The areas within floodplains are unsuitable for solar energy development although the drier gentle slopes outside may be more appropriate.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The fields tend to be medium sized semi-regular pasture within the floodplain and arable on some of the rising slopes. The riparian trees, including pollarded willows, along with occasional woodland and field trees provide some enclosure in places. The fields are generally bounded by low hedges or fences which are open to view from the valley sides. Solar energy development would not fit well with the irregular boundaries and open areas although it could be screened in places by trees.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The Arrow valley has an older field pattern with greater time depth but both valley floors have semi-regular fields. The watercourses remain unmodified by man in most places. Solar energy development would not fit well with the older field pattern but would more appropriate in the later enclosed fields.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The Arrow valley has an older field/vegetation pattern with greater biodiversity, possibly including unimproved pasture and grazing meadows with patches of wet grassland, but both valley floors have of semi-regular pastoral fields. The watercourses remain unmodified by man in most places and have biodiversity interest. Solar energy development would not be appropriate in unimproved pasture or close to the watercourses but would more compatible with the later enclosed improved pastures.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	There is limited built form in the valley floors due to the potential for flooding with the exception of Alcester and a caravan park. There is limited access apart from a few minor roads crossing and very occasional major roads such as the A46 near Alcester. Overall, the area is very tranquil with limited movement. Solar energy development would be out of character with the tranquil undeveloped character of the valley floors.			
Landscape features/foci/ landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	There are few foci within the area apart from occasional modest bridges. However, there are landmarks adjacent for which the valley floors act as setting or open views eg Studley Church.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Views are possible across and along the valleys with the Arden Way and Monarch's Way crossing and running along the Arrow and Alne's valley floors respectively for some distance. Overall, the area is very tranquil away from main roads.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The valley floors are overlooked by valley sides of the Wooded Estatelands and Ancient Arden and are open in places.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic	A number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings abut and run into the valley floors including Coughton, Alcester, Great Alne, Aston Cantlow and Wootton Wawen. Scheduled monuments lie within the area such as at the Medieval settlement at Coughton Court and Alcester			

	qualities, interest and use	Abbey and Roman Town, and Ringwork Castle at Aston Cantlow. A number of isolated listed buildings including Studley Church also lie close to the area. The watercourses and tributaries are almost all County Wildlife sites. All these features and their settings are very sensitive to solar energy development. The area is covered by Green Belt except to the south of Arrow. The whole area is proposed as a Candidate SLA whose special qualities include small scale intimate river valleys with narrow floodplains defined by curvilinear hedgerows, natural watercourses and riparian vegetation which are sensitive to solar energy development.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to solar energy development as it is predominantly within the floodplain. The natural watercourses and riparian vegetation are scenically attractive and in places are open to view from the surrounding valley sides. The Arrow valley also has time depth and nature conservation interest in its field pattern. The area has historic conservation features adjacent and within it and is generally tranquil with few modern features. The valleys lie within the Arden candidate SLA.					

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to solar energy developments at all scales.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
No scale of field solar energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Arden Wooded Estatelands

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 5 Landscape Character Type: Arden Wooded Estatelands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The Arrow valley sides have a gently sloping rolling topography falling to the valley floor at around 60m AOD to the north and 40mAOD to the south. The slopes reach 108m-118mAOD to the west and 75-90mAOD to the east. The land rises further to the east into Ancient Arden. The Alne valley sides also have a gently sloping rolling topography falling to the valley floor at around 60m AOD to the north east and 45mAOD to the south west. The slopes reach 100mAOD to the west and 121mAOD to the east. The land rises further to the north, east and west into Ancient Arden which adds to the enclosure. Around Oversley and Ragley the topography consists of prominent hills 60-70m high (reaching 105mAOD and 119mAOD respectively) within an undulating landscape. Hills also form the southern fringe south and east of Haselor rising around 50m from 65mAOD to 117mAOD. To the east, there is a varied undulating topography with localised plateau summits at around 108-115mAOD and stream valleys at around 60-70mAOD. The hill tops and valley slopes would be sensitive to wind energy development due to visibility and skylining. Wind turbines would also tend to diminish the apparent scale of the hills. Flat or gently sloping valley sides or plateau would be less sensitive to wind energy but only at a small scale.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	Mixed farming is carried out on the Arrow and Alne valley sides. There are medium-large sized semi-regular fields with scattered hedgerow trees and mainly low cut hedges. Around Ragley and Oversley there is a well wooded and well managed estate landscape of larger semi-regular fields, mainly arable, with low or discontinuous hedges. Distinctive woodlands fringe the hills south of Haselor. To the east, there is mixed farming in medium-large semi-regular fields with localised clusters of ancient woodland and scattered hedgerow trees. The wooded landscape on the hill tops would be very sensitive to wind energy as it is a distinctive characteristic of the area. Arable or improved pasture may be less sensitive to wind energy development where the field sizes and shapes are larger and regular/geometric. However, irregular fields, those without hedges or unimproved pasture would be sensitive to development.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The Arrow and Alne valley sides are mainly late planned enclosure and post war fields, with patches of earlier piecemeal enclosure around settlements. The latter are sensitive to wind energy development. Around Ragley and Oversley there are fields formed from assarting of ancient woodland which, with parkland landscape, are sensitive. There is also, as to the east, old piecemeal enclosure, which is sensitive. Patches of later planned enclosure and large post war fields are less sensitive in terms of time depth.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	The area is a generally well settled rural landscape, especially to the west. In the Arrow and Alne valley sides there is a clustered settlement pattern with small nucleated villages eg Wootton Wawen, Aston Cantlow, Alne and Haselor and expanded hamlets with a scattering of roadside dwellings. Around Ragley and Oversley there is a dispersed pattern of estate farms, occasional roadside dwellings and Ragley Hall. To the east, there is a clustered settlement pattern with discrete nucleated villages of Snitterfield and Bearley to the south and east, becoming more dispersed with scattered roadside dwellings along the northern edge. The former airfield and now gliding club near Bearley is a use inconsistent with the surrounding agriculture. This is compounded by the wireless mast nearby. Wind energy development would not be compatible with villages or			

		<p>dwellings although the presence of some development such as the airfield in the landscape means small scale wind energy development may not be entirely out of place.</p> <p>Major roads include the A46 to the south and east, and the A435 and A3400 running north/south. Two are Roman roads which have historical sensitivity although their straight alignments are not entirely incompatible with wind energy development. These roads reduce tranquillity nearby but the area is moderately tranquil elsewhere.</p>			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and focal points include Ragley Hall within its parkland, Coughton Court and associated parkland, Oversley Castle, churches at Haselor, Snitterfield and Studley, and the many tree clad hilltops in and adjacent to the area which act as a backcloth. All these are sensitive to wind energy development.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	The area includes relatively open, arable and mixed farming landscapes with long and middle distance views enclosed by landform and woodland edges. Wind energy development would be visible in these open views if located on the skyline and on slopes, and against the backcloth of hills in places. There is a degree of tranquillity away from the main roads and urban settlement. The Arden Way, Heart of England Way and Monarch's Way traverse the area. Also the Stratford-upon-Avon canal runs through the eastern part of the area.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The Wooded Estatelands are overlooked by the Ancient Arden hills to the north and form the slopes and backcloth to the Arrow and Alne valley floors as well as for the Avon Vale Orchard Belt to the south. An example is Oversley Castle and wood which are prominent from adjacent lower lying areas.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies in the Arden candidate SLA whose special qualities include well wooded rounded hilltops and slopes enclosing valleys, intimate pastoral scenes, views from hilltops, and the relationship between landscape and settlements including church spires. These are sensitive to wind energy development. There are Conservation Areas at Coughton, Alne, Haselor, Aston Cantlow, Wootton Wawen, Bearley and Snitterfield with associated listed buildings. There is a registered historic park at Ragley Hall again with associated listed buildings. There are scheduled monuments at Oversley Castle, Coughton Court, St Peter's Church at Wootton Wawen and moated sites at Preston Hill Farm and Fulbrook. Aston Grove and Withycombe Wood south of Haselor, Bearley and Snitterfield Bushes and Sherborne meadows to the east are SSSIs. All these features are sensitive to wind energy development.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The hill tops and valley slopes would be sensitive to wind energy development due to openness, visibility and skylining. The sensitivity is increased by distinctive landmarks such as woodlands and features such as Oversley Castle, as well as the heritage of the area including Ragley Hall and Park and Conservation Areas. Proximity to settlements is also an issue. The area is overlooked by higher hills to the north and from the lower land of the river valleys and the Avon Orchard Belt to the south. The least sensitive areas are where there is flat or very gently sloping plateau with screening woodland and existing non-characteristic uses such as the gliding club east of Bearley. However, only small scale turbines would be appropriate and solar energy is more suitable in these areas.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
Only small scale wind energy development is considered appropriate and in only limited parts of this area as defined above.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
Only small size wind energy development is considered appropriate and in only limited parts of this area as defined above.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines	
The estate landscape around Ragley Hall and west of the Arrow plus the area around Oversley, Haselor and Aston Cantlow are regarded as areas of particular constraint. Elsewhere there may be very limited opportunities for small scale wind energy development where it does not conflict with the qualities of the candidate SLA.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s	
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines	
	4	Wind turbine landscape	

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

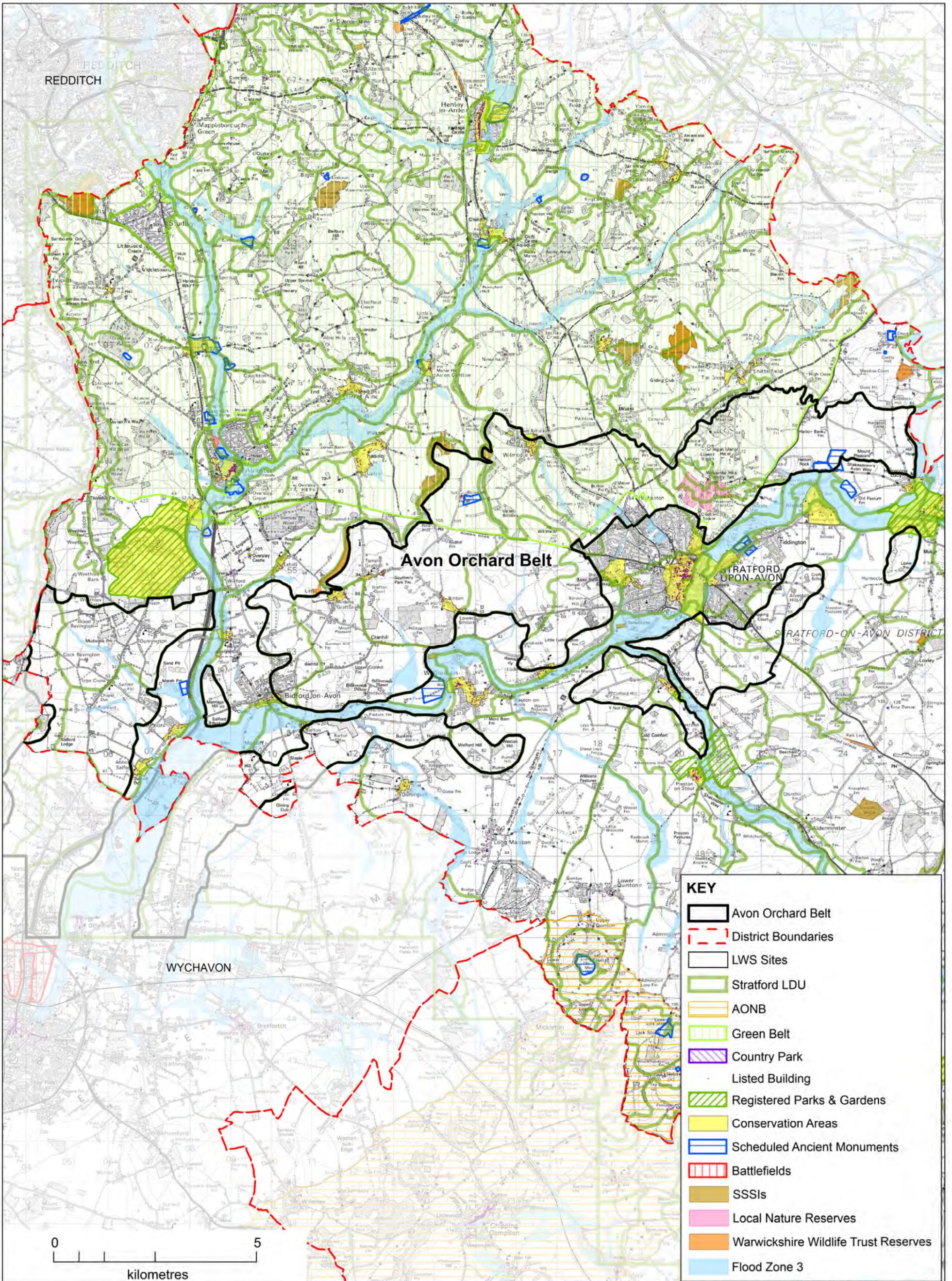
Landscape Type No: **5** Landscape Character Type: **Arden Wooded Estate lands**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The Arrow and Alne valley sides have a gently sloping rolling topography with rounded slopes. Around Ragley and Oversley the topography consists of prominent hills within an undulating landscape. Hills also form the southern fringe south of Haselor. To the east, there is a varied undulating topography with localised plateau summits and stream valleys. The hill tops and valley slopes would be sensitive to solar energy development due to visibility and skylining. Flat or gently sloping valley sides or plateau would be more suitable for this type of development.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	Mixed farming is carried out on the Arrow and Alne valley sides. There are medium-large sized semi-regular fields with scattered hedgerow trees and mainly low cut hedges. Around Ragley and Oversley there is a well wooded and well managed estate landscape of larger semi-regular fields, mainly arable, with low or discontinuous hedges. Distinctive woodlands fringe the hills south of Haselor. To the east, there is mixed farming in medium-large semi-regular fields with localised clusters of ancient woodland and scattered hedgerow trees. The woodlands and hedgerows could potentially screen solar energy development in places and arable or improved pasture may be suitable where the field sizes and shapes are larger and regular/geometric. However, irregular fields, those without hedges or unimproved pasture would be sensitive to solar energy development.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The Arrow and Alne valley sides are mainly late planned enclosure and post war fields, with patches of earlier piecemeal enclosure around settlements. The latter are sensitive to solar energy development. Around Ragley and Oversley there are fields formed from assarting of ancient woodland which, with parkland landscape, are sensitive. There is also, as to the east, old piecemeal enclosure, which is sensitive. Patches of later planned enclosure and large post war fields are less sensitive in terms of time depth.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The Arrow and Alne valley sides are mainly productive mixed farmland in fields which may potentially be able to accommodate solar energy development. The scatter of semi-improved grasslands and small remnants of ancient woodland are sensitive to solar energy development. Around Ragley and Oversley and to the east, moderately productive arable farmland may be less sensitive to solar energy development, but significant clusters of ancient woodlands, historic parklands and patches of semi-natural grassland are sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	The area is a generally well settled rural landscape, especially to the west. In the Arrow and Alne valley sides there is a clustered settlement pattern with small nucleated villages eg Wootton Wawen, Aston Cantlow, Alne and Haselor and expanded hamlets with a scattering of roadside dwellings. Around Ragley and Oversley there is a dispersed pattern of estate farms, occasional roadside dwellings and Ragley Hall. To the east, there is a clustered settlement pattern with discrete nucleated villages of Snitterfield and Bearley to the south and east, becoming more dispersed with scattered roadside dwellings along the northern edge. The former airfield and now gliding club near Bearley is a use inconsistent with the surrounding agriculture. This is compounded by the wireless mast nearby. Solar energy development would not be compatible with villages or dwellings although the presence of some development such as the airfield in the landscape means solar energy development at an appropriate scale would not be entirely			

		out of place. Major roads include the A46 to the south and east, and the A435 and A3400 running north/south. Two are Roman roads which have historical sensitivity although their straight alignments are not entirely incompatible with solar energy development. These roads reduce tranquillity nearby but the area is moderately tranquil elsewhere.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and focal points include Ragley Hall within its parkland, Coughton Court and associated parkland, Oversley Castle, churches at Haselor, Snitterfield and Studley, and the many tree clad hilltops in and adjacent to the area which act as a backcloth. All these are sensitive to solar energy development.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	The area includes relatively open, arable and mixed farming landscapes with long and middle distance views enclosed by landform and woodland edges. Solar energy development would be visible in these open views where on slopes. There is a degree of tranquillity away from the main roads and urban settlement. The Arden Way, Heart of England Way and Monarch's Way traverse the area. Also the Stratford-upon-Avon canal runs through the eastern part of the area.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The Wooded Estate lands are overlooked by the Ancient Arden hills to the north and form the slopes and backcloth to the Arrow and Alne valley floors as well as for the Avon Vale Orchard Belt to the south. An example is Oversley Castle and wood which are prominent from adjacent lower lying areas.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies in the Arden candidate SLA whose special qualities include well wooded rounded hilltops and slopes enclosing valleys, fine oak dominated hedgerows, intimate pastoral scenes, views from hilltops, and the relationship between landscape and settlements including church spires. These are sensitive to solar energy development. There are Conservation Areas at Coughton, Alne, Haselor, Aston Cantlow, Wootton Wawen, Bearley and Snitterfield with associated listed buildings. There is a registered historic park at Ragley Hall again with associated listed buildings. There are scheduled monuments at Oversley Castle, Coughton Court, St Peter's Church at Wootton Wawen and moated sites at Preston Hill Farm and Fulbrook. Aston Grove and Withycombe Wood south of Haselor, Bearley and Snitterfield Bushes and Sherborne meadows to the east are SSSIs. All these features are sensitive to solar energy development.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The hill tops and valley slopes would be sensitive to solar energy development due to openness, visibility and skylining. The sensitivity is increased by distinctive landmarks such as woodlands and features such as Oversley Castle, as well as the heritage of the area including Ragley Hall and Park and Conservation Areas. Proximity to settlements is also an issue. The area is overlooked by higher hills to the north and from the lower land of the river valleys and the Avon Orchard Belt to the south. The least sensitive areas are where there is flat or very gently sloping plateau with screening woodland and existing non-characteristic uses such as the gliding club east of Bearley.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE	Sensitivity				
	Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
<i>Comments</i>					
Field solar energy development is considered appropriate in only limited parts of this area as defined above.					
<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
< 1 ha					
1 - 5 ha					
>5 - 15 ha					
>15 - 25 ha					
>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		Maximum landscape character type status
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The part of the area broadly to the west of Aston Cantlow is considered to be a Category 1 area and the area broadly to the east a Category 2 area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Avon Orchard Belt

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 6 Landscape Character Type: Avon Vale Orchard Belt

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform comprises land rising from the Avon and tributary valley floors. It is a large scale rolling topography of low hills, slopes and some hollows. Some of the hills are locally prominent. North of the River Avon there are the Welcombe Hills (102mAOD falling to 40mAOD at the Avon valley floor) and Bordon Hill (91mAOD falling to 38mAOD at the valley floor), acting as backdrops to Stratford-upon-Avon. Binton Hill (93mAOD falling to 34mAOD at the valley floor) and associated high ground lies north of Welford-on-Avon. All these are distinctive and important hills and wind energy development would be prominent on them with potential for dominating them. To the south of the Avon there is Welford Hill (82mAOD falling to 34mAOD at the valley floor) which links into smaller hills to the west upto 20m high above the valley floor to the north and Vale to the south. To the east there is Clifford Hill and Alveston Hill upto 30m high above the valley floor to the north. Copdock Hill to the east above Hampton Lucy rises to 40m above the valley floor. There are also smaller pronounced outliers such as 15m high Marriage Hill which rise above the valley floor including Bidford-on-Avon. These hills form the backcloth to the valley and could be easily be dominated by turbines. The gentle contours in other places could theoretically be more accommodating to wind energy development but should avoid susceptible skylines.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The landcover is generally intensively farmed land of medium to large scale regular and semi-regular fields with low hedges, gappy in places. The landscape therefore lacks enclosure and is open making wind energy possibly appear in character but more difficult to screen. The shape and scale of the larger fields could be intrinsically suitable for wind energy development. Woodlands emphasise the topography on Binton Hill and the Welbourne Hills, giving these areas a well defined character. These areas are included in the candidate SLA which is an indication of strength of character and the area's value. Orchards have been a characteristic of the landscape but they are decreasing although still apparent particularly to the west around Dunnington. The field trials area around Drayton is currently short rotation willow coppice. These uses are semi-formal in pattern and potentially complementary to small turbines.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly late planned enclosure with patches of post-war fields and small areas of older piecemeal enclosure on Alveston Hill and Welford Hill. North of Stratford-on-Avon there is much older piecemeal enclosure, but with a significant pocket of later planned enclosure in the central part of the area to the west of Stratford, plus many patches of post war fields, especially in the Hatton Rock area. Wind energy is more compatible with the later planned and post war enclosure.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	Within the area there is a nucleated pattern with discrete villages and occasional scattered roadside dwellings. Larger settlements tend to lie adjacent on the river terraces. There is movement introduced through the A46 and A3400 and B roads parallel to the valley floor but there some areas where movement is limited. There is a mast north of Temple Grafton and a small wind pump on Welford Hill. The density of settlement may limit the suitability for wind energy development.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The key landmark in the area is the Obelisk at Welcombe Hills Country Park which is prominent on the skyline east of Stratford-on-Avon. The woodlands on Binton Hill and environs are also distinctive features. Just outside the area			

		the church spire of Holy Trinity Church in Stratford-on-Avon and the RSC Theatre tower are notable landmarks in the Avon valley intervisible with the area. The church tower at Hampton Lucy lies just to the south east of the area's eastern extent and Bidford church lies to the valley floor. Oversley Castle lies to the north. Wind energy development that detracts from these features would be highly undesirable.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Generally this is an open, arable landscape with long and middle distance views over the Avon valley and Vale Farmlands to the south, enclosed in places by landform and occasional woodland. There are busy horticultural activities to the west around Dunnington. Shakespeare's Avon Way runs along the edge of the area where it abuts the Avon valley floor and the Heart of England Way crosses the area to the west around Bidford-on-Avon. Leisure boats use the River Avon. Tranquillity is reduced close to larger settlements such as Stratford-on-Avon and along road corridors, especially the A46. The area is fairly well settled as a rural area with moderate tranquillity.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The hill and valley sides are the backcloth to, and visible from, the Avon valley floor and Vale farmlands to the south as well as overlooked by the higher hills of the Wooded Estate lands to the north. Development on the tops and slopes would therefore be highly visible in places.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	A number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings lie within the area including Wilmcote and Temple Grafton. Others abut and run into the valley sides including Bidford-upon-Avon. Scheduled monuments lie within the area such as at Billesley Manor (moat), and at Hatton Rock building and enclosure. A number of isolated listed buildings including Billesley Manor and the Welcombe Hills Obelisk also lie in the area. Welcombe Hills Country Park is a local nature reserve and the watercourses and tributaries of the Avon to the west are almost all County Wildlife sites. All these features and their settings are very sensitive to wind energy development. The area north east to north west of Stratford-on-Avon is covered by Green Belt. The areas around Binton Hill and Billesley Manor, and Welcombe Hills Country Park lie in the Arden Candidate SLA. The special qualities that would be sensitive to wind energy development include varied undulating topography and woodlands on hillsides/tops forming the skyline in places. The wooded hills provide attractive features as backcloths to the river valley.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to wind energy development as it is predominantly open hill and valley slopes where wind energy development could be prominent and dominate because of scale of landform and proximity to receptors. There are a limited number of hollows/flatter areas which may be less sensitive to smaller scale development. The wooded hills are scenically attractive and open to view and the Avon valley corridor has value for recreation with sensitive receptors so these areas are sensitive to wind turbines. The field pattern is generally regular at a medium-large scale which is compatible with wind energy. The area has historic conservation features and landmarks adjacent and within it which are sensitive and is moderately tranquil although the A road corridors reduce this. The settlement pattern reduces the potential for development. Parts of the area lie within the Arden Candidate SLA.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to flatter, very gently sloping areas away from the River Avon where the scale of turbine does not dominate the landform and where it may be less prominent. Smaller scale developments may be able to be located more easily away from highly visible areas and settlement. Isolated and distinctive wooded hills and the candidate SLA environs are inappropriate locations.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to flatter, very gently sloping areas away from the River Avon where the size of turbine development does not dominate the landform and where it may be less prominent. Smaller scale developments may be able to be located more easily away from highly visible areas and settlement. Isolated and distinctive wooded hills and the candidate SLA environs are inappropriate locations.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
Comments	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
The presence of hills, intervisibility with the Avon valley and residents and settlements may significantly reduce the potential for wind energy developments.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

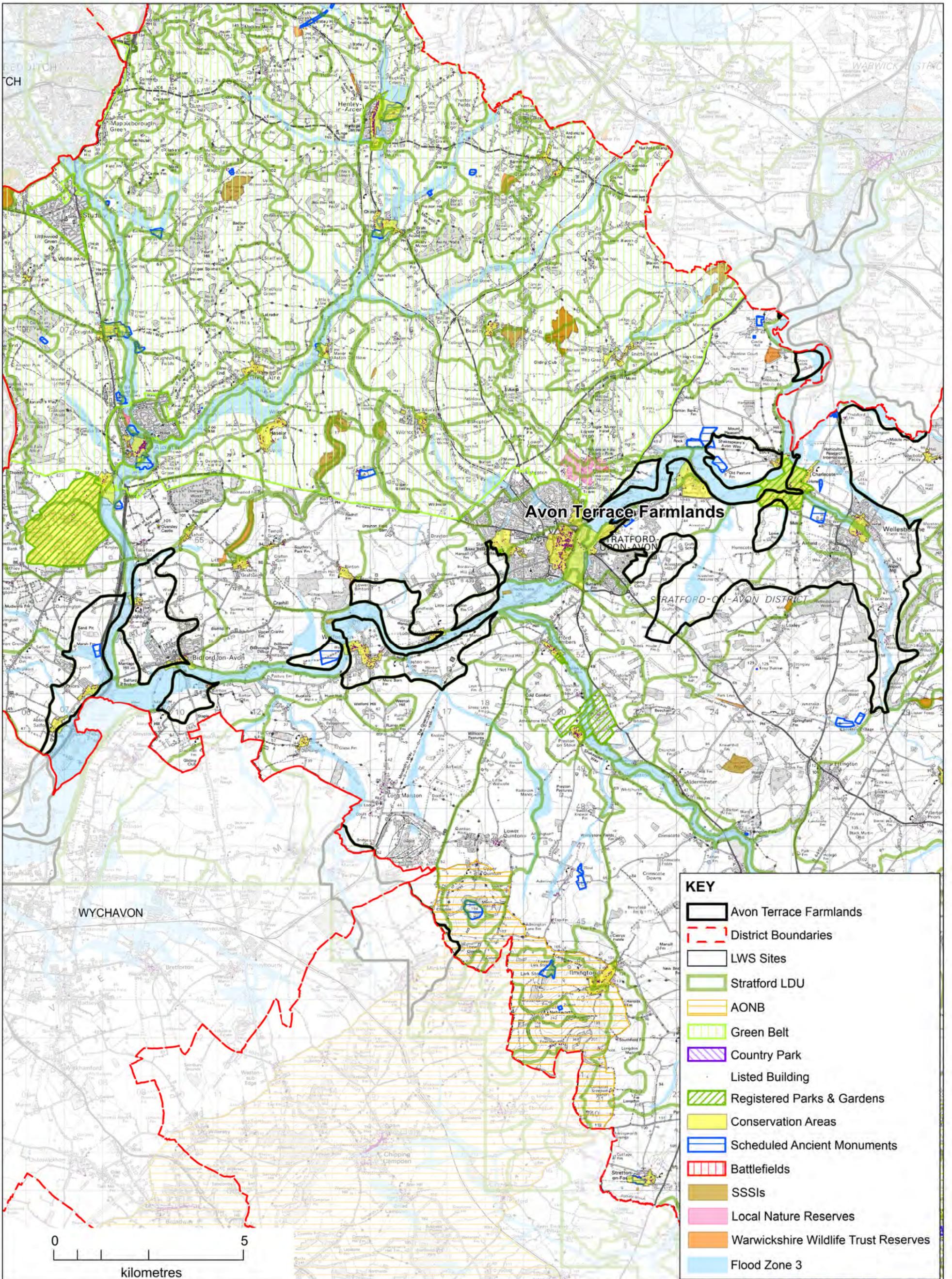
Landscape Type No: 6 Landscape Character Type: Avon Orchard Belt

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform comprises land rising from the Avon and tributary valley floors. It is a large scale rolling topography of low hills, slopes and some hollows. Some of the hills are locally prominent, such as the Welcombe Hills and Bordon Hill, acting as backdrops to Stratford-upon-Avon and Binton Hill and Welford Hill around Welford-on-Avon. There are also smaller outliers which rise above the valley floor such as Marriage Hill, Clifford Hill and Alveston Hill. The gentle contours in places could theoretically accommodate arrays. However, solar energy development would be prominent on some hills and noticeable on gentler slopes from either the valley floors or from higher slopes. There are susceptible skylines when viewed from the valley floor which could be vulnerable to development. There may be limited opportunities in hollows but these may be overlooked.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The landcover is generally intensively farmed land of medium to large scale regular and semi-regular fields with low hedges, gappy in places. The landscape therefore lacks enclosure and is open making solar energy more difficult to screen. The shape and scale of the fields could be intrinsically suitable for solar energy development. Woodlands emphasise the topography on Binton Hill and the Welbourne Hills, giving these areas a well defined character. Though potentially screening development these areas are included in the candidate SLA which is an indication of strength of character and the area's value. Orchards have been a characteristic of the landscape but they are decreasing although still apparent particularly to the west around Dunnington. The field trials area around Drayton is currently short rotation willow coppice. These uses are semi-formal in pattern and potentially complementary to arrays, helping to screen to an extent. However, the horticultural uses in the area is an indication of a highly productive landscape which though more compatible with solar energy in terms of semi-formal character is not desirable to take out of production to accommodate energy production.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly late planned enclosure with patches of post-war fields and small areas of older piecemeal enclosure on Alveston Hill and Welford Hill. North of Stratford-on-Avon there is much older piecemeal enclosure, but with a significant pocket of later planned enclosure in the central part of the area to the west of Stratford, plus many patches of post war fields, especially in the Hatton Rock area.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	Productive arable and horticultural farmland has limited ecological value in most places. There is a scatter of semi-improved grassland and ancient woods north and west of Stratford-on-Avon.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	Within the area there is a nucleated pattern with discrete villages and occasional scattered roadside dwellings. Larger settlements tend to lie adjacent on the river terraces. There is movement introduced through the A46 and A3400 and B roads parallel to the valley floor but there some areas where movement is limited.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The key landmark in the area is the Obelisk at Welcombe Hills Country Park which is prominent on the skyline east of Stratford-on-Avon. The woodlands on Binton Hill and environs are also distinctive features. Just outside the area the church spire of Holy Trinity Church in Stratford-on-Avon and the RSC Theatre tower are notable landmarks in the Avon valley intervisible with the area. The church tower at Hampton Lucy lies just to the south east of the area's eastern extent and Bidford church lies to the valley floor.			

		Oversley Castle lies to the north. Solar energy development that detracts from these features would be highly undesirable.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Generally this is an open, arable landscape with long and middle distance views over the Avon valley and Vale Farmlands to the south, enclosed in places by landform and occasional woodland. There are busy horticultural activities to the west around Dunnington. Shakespeare's Avon Way runs along the edge of the area where it abuts the Avon valley floor and the Heart of England Way crosses the area to the west around Bidford-on-Avon. The River Avon and Oxford Canal are used by leisure boats who are sensitive receptors. Tranquillity is reduced close to larger settlements such as Stratford-on-Avon and along road corridors, especially the A46. The area is fairly well settled as a rural area with moderate tranquillity.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The hill and valley sides are the backcloth to, and visible from, the Avon valley floor and Vale farmlands to the south as well as overlooked by the higher hills of the Wooded Estate lands to the north. Development on the slopes would therefore be highly visible in places.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	A number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings lie within the area including Wilmcote and Temple Grafton. Others abut and run into the valley sides including Bidford-upon-Avon. Scheduled monuments lie within the area such as at Billesley Manor (moat), and at Hatton Rock building and enclosure. A number of isolated listed buildings including Billesley Manor and the Welcombe Hills Obelisk also lie in the area. Welcombe Hills Country Park is a local nature reserve and the watercourses and tributaries of the Avon to the west are almost all County Wildlife sites. All these features and their settings are very sensitive to solar energy development. The area north east to north west of Stratford-on-Avon is covered by Green Belt. The areas around Binton Hill and Billesley Manor, and Welcombe Hills Country Park lie in the Arden Candidate SLA. The special qualities that would be sensitive to solar energy development include varied undulating topography and woodlands on hillsides/tops forming the skyline in places. The wooded hills provide attractive features as backcloths to the river valley.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to solar energy development as it is predominantly open hill and valley slopes where it would be difficult to mitigate the effects of solar energy development although there are a limited number of hollows/flatter areas. The wooded hills are scenically attractive and open to view. The area is highly agriculturally productive which may be a disincentive to solar energy although the semi-formal patterns of these landscapes are more visually compatible. The field pattern is generally regular at a medium-large scale which is also compatible with solar energy. The area has historic conservation features and landmarks adjacent and within it which are sensitive and is moderately tranquil although the A road corridors reduce this. The settlement pattern reduces the potential for development. Parts of the area lie within the Arden Candidate SLA.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		Sensitivity				
<i>Comments</i>						
The potential for the solar energy development is limited to flatter, very gently sloping areas where there is potential for hedge and tree screening. Smaller scale developments which can be located more easily away from highly visible areas and settlements. Isolated hills are inappropriate locations.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>	Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		Maximum landscape character type status
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The presence of open slopes, intervisibility and residents may significantly reduce the potential for solar energy developments.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Avon Terrace Farmlands

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: **7** Landscape Character Type: **Avon Terrace Farmlands**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform in this discontinuous, essentially linear, area comprises the valley floor river gravel terraces of the River Avon, the River Dene to the east and the lower River Arrow to the west. The area is generally flat with gentle slopes of around 10m from the highest points across the valley to the floodplain. The area is flanked and overlooked by rising valley and hill slopes to the north and south. The gentle contours in places could theoretically accommodate turbines but they could appear incongruous on the valley terraces floor. Development would be visible from some adjacent hills due to the linear nature of the area.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The landcover is generally intensively farmed land of generally large scale geometric, regular and semi-regular fields with low or no hedges, gappy in places. The landscape therefore lacks enclosure and is open making wind energy more difficult to screen. The shape and scale of the fields could be intrinsically suitable for wind energy development. There are small scale wooded streamlines in places which add to enclosure although provide an irregular boundary to fields. The former sand and gravel uses to the west are degraded land which may provide opportunities although more suited to solar energy because of the potential for screening.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly late planned enclosure with patches of post-war fields. The time-depth therefore is generally limited.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	Within the area there is a nucleated pattern with discrete villages and Stratford-upon-Avon adjacent. There is the sprawling development including airfield and commercial units at Wellesbourne. There is movement introduced through the small aircraft using the airfield and traffic on the A46 to the west and A429 to the east, and B roads parallel to the valley floor but there some areas where movement is more limited. The area is fairly well settled so opportunities may be limited. The airfield and commercial areas at Wellesbourne are generally compatible with wind energy development provided safety issues with aircraft could be resolved.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The key landmarks in the area are the church towers and spires in the various settlements including Bidford-on-Avon, Salford Priors, Hampton Lucy and Wellesbourne. Wind energy development that detracts from these features and associated Conservation Areas would be highly undesirable.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Generally this is an open, arable landscape in parts with middle distance views to adjacent hill and valley slopes. While openness may be more compatible with wind energy development the views are sensitive in places. Shakespeare's Avon Way runs through the area, Monarch's Way runs to the south of Stratford and the Heart of England Way crosses the area to the west around Bidford-on-Avon. The River Avon is used by leisure boats who are sensitive receptors. Tranquillity is reduced close to larger settlements such as Stratford-on-Avon and Wellesbourne, and along road corridors, especially the A46. The area is fairly well settled as a rural area with moderate tranquillity.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The valley floor is intervisible with, and overlooked by the hill and valley sides of the Vale Orchard Belt and Feldon Parklands particularly where the area is narrow and linear. Development close to steeper slopes would therefore be overlooked in places, such as the River Dene valley floor. Elsewhere, there is more limited intervisibility.			

VALUE			Value				
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→			Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	A significant number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings lie within the area including Bidford-on-Avon, Abbots Salford, Salford Priors, Broom, Welford-on-Avon, Alveston, Hampton Lucy, Charlecote and Wellesbourne. Stratford-on-Avon's lies adjacent. Scheduled monuments include Tiddington Roman settlement, enclosures west of Wellesbourne, a building and enclosure at Hatton Rock Farm and settlement west of Welford-on-Avon. Charlecote is a registered historic park. All these features and their settings are very sensitive to wind energy development. Some tributaries of the Avon are County Wildlife sites.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to wind energy development as it may appear incongruous on a valley floor and also where it is close to valley sides allowing intervisibility. Where it broadens out and there is enclosure of hedgerows and also where there is movement and disturbance, such as around Wellesbourne there may be potential for small scale wind energy development depending on aircraft safety issues. The field pattern is generally regular or geometric at a medium-large scale which is compatible with small scale wind energy. Potential locations are tempered by the presence of settlements, Conservation Areas and associated buildings and their settings and landmarks.					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas away from valley sides and settlement. Former sand and gravel workings may provide the only appropriate area for development although these are probably more appropriate for solar energy. Smaller scale developments can be located more easily away from highly visible areas and settlement.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas away from valley sides and settlement. Former sand and gravel workings may provide the only appropriate area for development although these are probably more appropriate for solar energy. Smaller size developments can be located more easily away from highly visible areas and settlement.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
Comments	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
The presence of adjacent slopes and intervisibility in open areas and linear areas, plus residents and heritage features reduce the potential for wind energy developments.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

Landscape Type No: 7

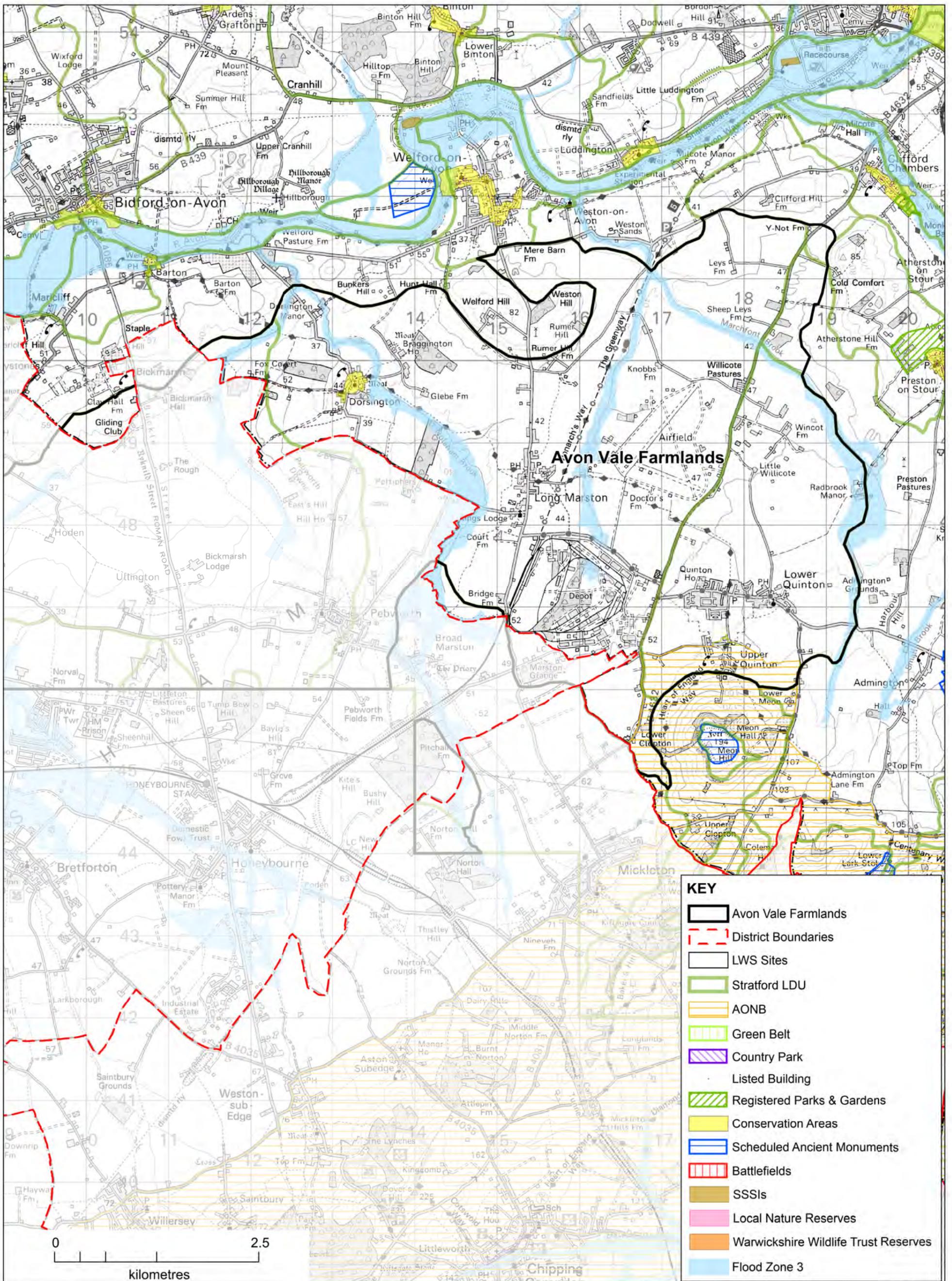
Landscape Character Type: Avon Terrace Farmlands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform in this discontinuous, essentially linear, area comprises the valley floor river gravel terraces of the River Avon, the River Dene to the east and the lower River Arrow to the west. The area is generally flat with gentle slopes to the floodplain in places such as south of Binton. The area is flanked and overlooked by rising valley and hill slopes to the north and south. The gentle contours in places could theoretically accommodate arrays. However, solar energy development could be visible from some adjacent hills due to the linear nature of the area. There may be limited opportunities where not significantly overlooked. There are no skyline issues.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The landcover is generally intensively farmed land of generally large scale geometric, regular and semi-regular fields with low or no hedges, gappy in places. The landscape therefore lacks enclosure and is open making solar energy more difficult to screen. The shape and scale of the fields could be intrinsically suitable for solar energy development. There are small scale wooded streamlines in places which add to enclosure although provide an irregular boundary to fields. The former sand and gravel uses to the west are degraded land which may provide good opportunities where bunds and vegetation could provide local screening. The horticultural uses in the area is an indication of a highly productive landscape which though more compatible with solar energy in terms of semi-formal character eg Tiddington environs is not desirable to take out of production to accommodate energy production.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly late planned enclosure with patches of post-war fields. The time-depth therefore is generally limited.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	Productive arable and horticultural farmland has limited ecological value in most places. There are patches of semi-improved grassland which are more sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	Within the area there is a nucleated pattern with discrete villages and Stratford-upon-Avon adjacent. There is the sprawling development including airfield and commercial units at Wellesbourne. There is movement introduced through the small aircraft using the airfield and traffic on the A46 to the west and A429 to the east, and B roads parallel to the valley floor but there some areas where movement is more limited. The airfield and commercial areas at Wellesbourne are generally compatible with solar energy development provided glare issues with aircraft could be resolved.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The key landmarks in the area are the church towers and spires in the various settlements including Bidford-on-Avon, Salford Priors, Hampton Lucy and Wellesbourne. The house and features at Charlecote Estate are also highly sensitive. Solar energy development that detracts from these features and associated Conservation Areas would be highly undesirable.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Generally this is an open, arable landscape in parts with middle distance views to adjacent hill and valley slopes. These areas have some sensitivity due to limitation on enclosure. In other areas there are trees and hedgerows which limit views which may be more compatible with solar energy development. Shakespeare's Avon Way runs through the area, Monarch's Way runs to the south of Stratford and the Heart of England Way crosses the area to the west around Bidford-on-Avon. The River Avon is used by leisure boats who are sensitive receptors. Tranquillity is			

		reduced close to larger settlements such as Stratford-on-Avon and Wellesbourne, and along road corridors, especially the A46. The area is fairly well settled as a rural area with moderate tranquillity.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The valley floor is intervisible with, and overlooked by the hill and valley sides of the Vale Orchard Belt and Feldon Parklands particularly where the area is narrow and linear. Development close to steeper slopes would therefore be overlooked in places, such as the River Dene valley floor. Elsewhere, there is more limited intervisibility.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	A significant number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings lie within the area including Bidford-on-Avon, Abbots Salford, Salford Priors, Broom, Welford-on-Avon, Alveston, Hampton Lucy, Charlecote and Wellesbourne. Stratford-on-Avon's lies adjacent. Scheduled monuments lie within the area such as at Tiddington Roman settlement, enclosures west of Wellesbourne, a building and enclosure at Hatton Rock Farm and settlement west of Welford-on-Avon. Charlecote is a registered historic park. All these features and their settings are very sensitive to solar energy development. Some tributaries of the Avon are County Wildlife sites.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to solar energy development where it is open and close to valley sides allowing intervisibility. Where it broadens out and there is enclosure of hedgerows and also where there is movement and disturbance, such as around Wellesbourne there may be potential for solar energy development. However, potential locations are tempered by the presence of settlements, Conservation Areas and associated buildings and their settings and landmarks. The area is highly agriculturally productive which may be a disincentive to solar energy although the semi-formal patterns of these landscapes are more visually compatible. The field pattern is generally regular or geometric at a medium-large scale which is also compatible with solar energy.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE	<i>Sensitivity</i>				
	Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
<i>Comments</i>					
The potential for the solar energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas where there is potential for hedge and tree screening. Former sand and gravel workings are likely to provide the only appropriate areas for large scale development. Smaller scale developments can be located more easily away from highly visible areas and settlement.					
<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
< 1 ha					
1 - 5 ha					
>5 - 15 ha					
>15 - 25 ha					
>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The presence of adjacent slopes and intervisibility in open areas and linear areas, plus residents and heritage features may reduce the potential for a wide distribution of solar energy developments.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 8 Landscape Character Type: Avon Vale Farmlands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform in this discreet small area comprises part of a broad clay vale between the River Avon and the distinctive Cotswolds outlier at Meon Hill. It is generally flat or very gently sloping falling from the south at around 52mAOD to the around 37mAOD to the north west and 47mAOD to the north east. There is a slight rise to the west of Dorsington. The area is flanked and overlooked by rounded hill slopes to the north and north east between 20m and 50m above the vale as well as Meon Hill which rises around 140m to 194mAOD. The character type continues west into the neighbouring district. The gentle contours could theoretically accommodate small turbines away from the hills. It could have an impact on the perceived scale and character of the rising ground, especially Meon Hill.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The landcover is mixed farmed land of generally medium-large scale geometric, regular and semi-regular fields with mainly low hedges, gappy in places. There are occasional field boundary trees and riparian vegetation including willows on watercourses. There are also trees along the dismantled railway (The Greenway) and occasional plantations. All these assist in giving some enclosure to this flat landscape. This would assist in reducing views to wind turbines in places. The shape and scale of the fields in places could also be compatible with wind energy development. The former Long Marston airfield is degraded land which may provide an opportunity but would be more suitable for solar energy because of the potential for screening. There is ridge and furrow such as north of Quinton which would be highly sensitive to and unsuitable for wind energy development.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly late planned enclosure and some larger post war fields, interspersed with pockets of older piecemeal enclosure. The time-depth therefore is generally limited except in the latter areas and where there is ridge and furrow in places.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	Within the area there is a nucleated pattern with discrete villages which are sensitive to wind energy development. There is the extensive redevelopment of Long Marston MOD area and the airfield which departs from the rural character of the area. There is movement introduced through use of the airfield and traffic on the B4632 but there some areas where movement is more limited. The airfield is generally compatible with small scale wind energy development.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The key landmarks are the church spire at Lower Quinton and the distinctive Meon Hill adjacent. Wind energy development would detract from these features and Conservation Areas including Dorsington.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Generally this is a moderately open, mixed farming landscape with middle distance views to adjacent hill slopes. Where there is less enclosure and close to hills such as Meon Hill there is some sensitivity due to overlooking. In other areas there are trees and hedgerows which limit views which may be more compatible with wind energy development although there may be functional implications outside the remit of this report. The airfield may have some potential as a degraded site. The Heart of England Way runs through the area and Monarch's Way runs to the south of Stratford although appears screened in many places by adjacent vegetation. Tranquillity is reduced close to Long Marston which is being redeveloped and Long Marston Airfield with its various activities. The B4632 is moderately busy which reduces tranquillity but elsewhere the area is moderately tranquil.			

Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The vale is intervisible with, and overlooked by, the Cotswolds at Meon Hill, the hill and valley sides of the Vale Orchard Belt and Feldon Parklands. Development close to slopes would therefore be overlooked. Elsewhere, there is more limited intervisibility.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→ Higher	
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The Cotswolds AONB creeps into the area at the foot of Meon Hill to the south. There is a Conservation Areas at Dorsington with associated listed buildings and further listed buildings in Quinton and Long Marston. All these features and their settings are sensitive to wind energy development, especially the AONB.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to wind energy development where it is close to hillsides allowing overlooking and reducing the apparent scale of landform, especially to the south near Meon Hill. Fields of ridge and furrow are sensitive and unsuitable as are areas close to Conservation Areas and listed buildings and their settings. Where there is enclosure of hedgerows and also where there is movement and disturbance, such as around Long Marston airfield there may be potential for wind energy development although probably more appropriate for solar energy. The field pattern is generally regular or geometric at a medium-large scale which is also potentially compatible with wind energy.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT	<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>	Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas where there is potential for hedge and tree screening. The airfield is the most appropriate area for development but at a small scale.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>				
	15m to hub-35m				
	>35-50m				
	>50-80m				
	>80-110m				
110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE	<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>	Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas where there is potential for hedge and tree screening. The airfield is the most appropriate area for development but at a small scale.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>				
	Single turbine				
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)				
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)				
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)				
Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES	<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
The presence of adjacent slopes, the AONB and intervisibility in open areas, plus residents and heritage features may reduce the potential for a wide distribution of solar energy developments.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

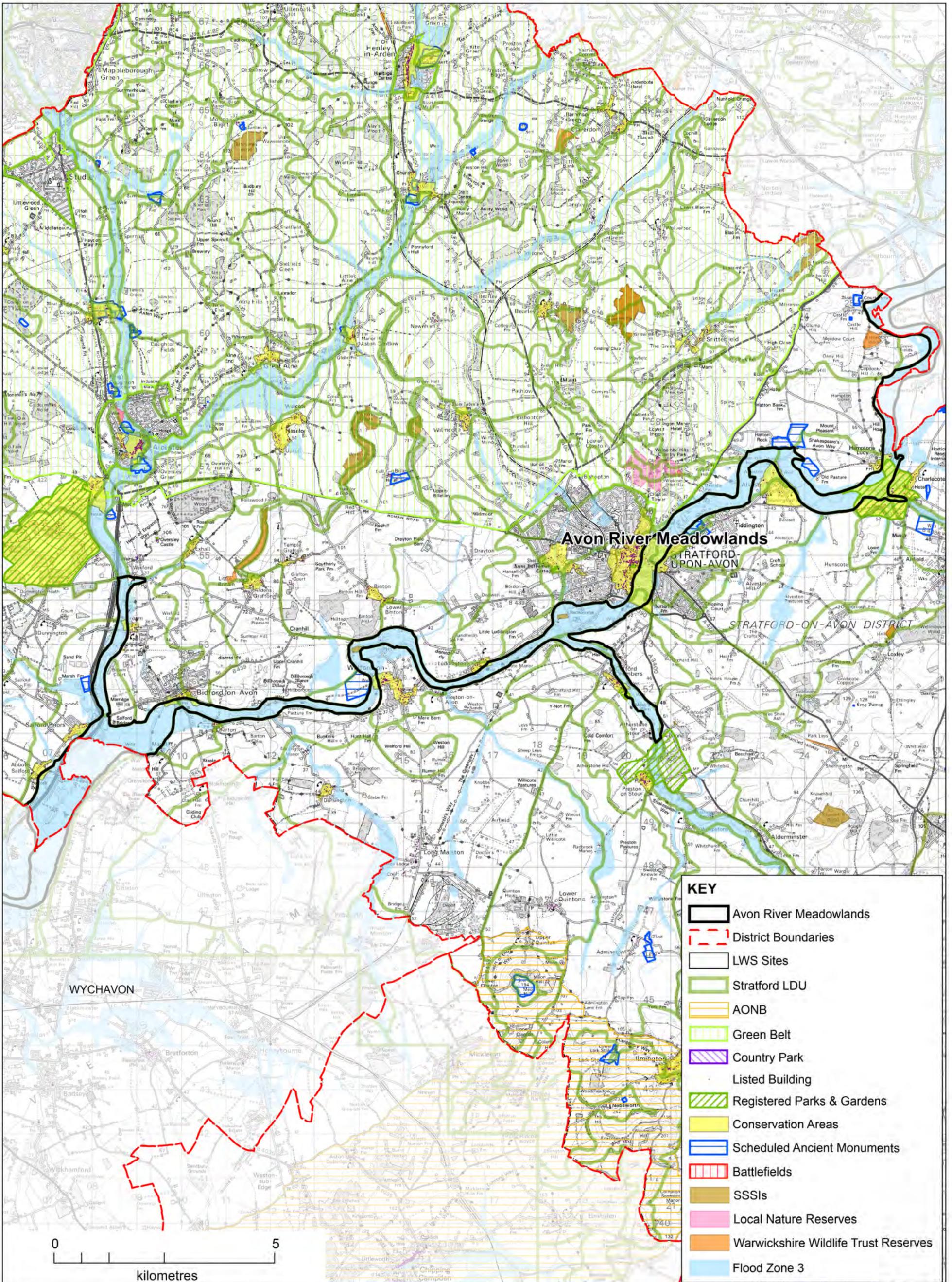
Landscape Type No: **8** Landscape Character Type: **Avon Vale Farmlands**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform in this discreet small area comprises part of a broad clay vale between the River Avon and the distinctive Cotswolds outlier at Meon Hill. It is generally flat or very gently sloping with a slight rise to the west of Dorsington. The area is flanked and overlooked by rounded hill slopes to the north and north east as well as Meon Hill. The character type continues west into the neighbouring district. The gentle contours could theoretically accommodate arrays. However, solar energy development could be visible from some adjacent hills. There are no skyline issues.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The landcover is mixed farmed land of generally medium-large scale geometric, regular and semi-regular fields with mainly low hedges, gappy in places. There are occasional field boundary trees and riparian vegetation including willows on watercourses. There are also trees along the dismantled railway (The Greenway) and occasional plantations. All these assist in giving some enclosure to this flat landscape. This would assist in screening solar energy in places. The shape and scale of the fields in places could also be intrinsically suitable for solar energy development. The former Long Marston airfield is degraded land which may provide an opportunity where bunds and vegetation could provide local screening. There is ridge and furrow such as north of Quinton which would be highly sensitive to and unsuitable for solar energy development.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly late planned enclosure and some larger post war fields, interspersed with pockets of older piecemeal enclosure. The time-depth therefore is generally limited except in the latter areas and where there is ridge and furrow in places.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The area is a mixture of permanent pasture, improved pasture and arable cropping. The former has some ecological value and sensitivity while the latter has limited ecological value in most places.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	Within the area there is a nucleated pattern with discrete villages. There is the extensive redevelopment of Long Marston MOD area and the airfield which departs from the rural character of the area. There is movement introduced through use of the airfield and traffic on the B4632 but there some areas where movement is more limited. The airfield is generally compatible with solar energy development.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The key landmarks in the area are the church spire at Lower Quinton and the distinctive Meon Hill adjacent. Solar energy development that detracts from these features and Conservation Areas including Dorsington would be highly undesirable.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Generally this is a moderately open, mixed farming landscape with middle distance views to adjacent hill slopes. Where there is less enclosure and close to hills such as Meon Hill there is some sensitivity due to overlooking. In other areas there are trees and hedgerows which limit views which may be more compatible with solar energy development. Similarly the airfield may have some potential as a degraded site with some screening. The Heart of England Way runs through the area and Monarch's Way runs to the south of Stratford although appears screened in many places by adjacent vegetation. Tranquillity is reduced close to Long Marston which is being redeveloped and Long Marston Airfield with its various activities. The B4632 is moderately busy which reduces tranquillity but elsewhere the area is moderately tranquil.			
Context	Relationship	The vale is intervisible with, and overlooked by, the			

	with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	Cotswolds at Meon Hill, the hill and valley sides of the Vale Orchard Belt and Feldon Parklands. Development close to slopes would therefore be overlooked. Elsewhere, there is more limited intervisibility.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The Cotswolds AONB creeps into the area at the foot of Meon Hill to the south. There is a Conservation Area at Dorsington with associated listed buildings and further listed buildings in Quinton and Long Marston. All these features and their settings are sensitive to solar energy development, especially the AONB.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to solar energy development where it is open and close to hillsides allowing intervisibility, especially to the south near Meon Hill. Fields of ridge and furrow are sensitive and unsuitable as are areas close to Conservation Areas and listed buildings and their settings. Where there is enclosure of hedgerows and also where there is movement and disturbance, such as around Long Marston airfield there may be potential for solar energy development. The field pattern is generally regular or geometric at a medium-large scale which is also potentially compatible with solar energy.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>	The potential for the solar energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas where there is potential for hedge and tree screening. The airfield is the only appropriate area for large scale development. Smaller scale developments can be located more easily away from highly visible areas and settlement.					
		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
		<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>				
		< 1 ha				
		1 - 5 ha				
		>5 - 15 ha				
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The presence of adjacent slopes, AONB and intervisibility in open areas, plus residents and heritage features may reduce the potential for a wide distribution of solar energy developments.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Avon River Meadowlands

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: **9** Landscape Character Type: **Avon River Meadowlands**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform comprises of the relatively flat valley floors of the Avon and lower Arrow and Stour, the vast majority of which lie within the floodplain. The watercourses are natural for the most part with sinuous courses. There are small changes in level but generally the slopes are gentle. The areas within floodplains are unsuitable for wind energy development and the relatively sheltered valley floor location would be incongruous for wind energy.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The fields tend to be semi-regular pasture, ranging from small to medium sized, and limited arable with geometric boundaries in parts such as east of Abbots Salford. Stratford-upon-Avon racecourse also lies within the area. The riparian trees along with occasional small scale woodland and field trees provide some enclosure in places. The fields are generally bounded by low hedges or fences which are open to view from the valley sides. Wind energy development would not fit well with the riparian landscape landcover.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The Arrow valley and western parts of the Avon valley have an older field pattern with greater time depth but both valley floors have mainly semi-regular fields. The watercourses remain unmodified by man in most places. Wind energy development would not fit well with the older field pattern but the later enclosed fields would be less sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	There is limited built form in the valley floors due to the potential for flooding except around Stratford and caravan parks in places. There is limited access although there are settlements at crossing places such as Stratford, Bidford and Welford. The A46 to west introduces movement and noise. Overall, the area is fairly tranquil with limited movement. Wind energy development would be out of character with the tranquil undeveloped character of the valley floors as new development.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The main foci within the area are the Royal Shakespeare theatre and tower and occasional fine bridges. There are landmarks adjacent for which the valley floors act as setting or open views eg churches at Stratford-upon-Avon, Hampton Lucy and Bidford-on-Avon.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Views are possible across and along the valleys with the Shakespeare's Avon Way running alongside the river for substantial distances and Monarch's Way intersecting with this around Stratford-upon-Avon. The River Avon is used for leisure boating. Overall, the area is tranquil away from main roads and settlements.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The valley floors are overlooked by valley sides and are open in places.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	A number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings abut and run into the valley floors including Stratford-upon-Avon, Alveston, Charlecote, Hampton Lucy, Welford-on-Avon, Bidford-on-Avon, Salford Priors and Abbots Priors. Registered Parks lie at Charlecote and Preston-on-Stour. Scheduled monuments lie within the area eg Bidford Bridge and adjacent to the area such as at the Roman settlement at Tiddington. A number of listed buildings/structures including Welford bridge, the Shakespeare Theatre, and others within Conservation Areas also lie close by. All these features and their settings are			

		very sensitive to wind energy development. The rivers and their corridors provide attractive features running through the landscape.					
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SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to wind energy development as it is predominantly within the floodplain. The watercourses and riparian vegetation are scenically attractive and in places are open to view from the surrounding valley sides. The Avon valley also has nature conservation interest in its pastures. The area has historic conservation features adjacent and within it and is generally tranquil with few modern features outside the settlements.
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SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at all scales.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at all scales.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		Maximum landscape character type status
Comments	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

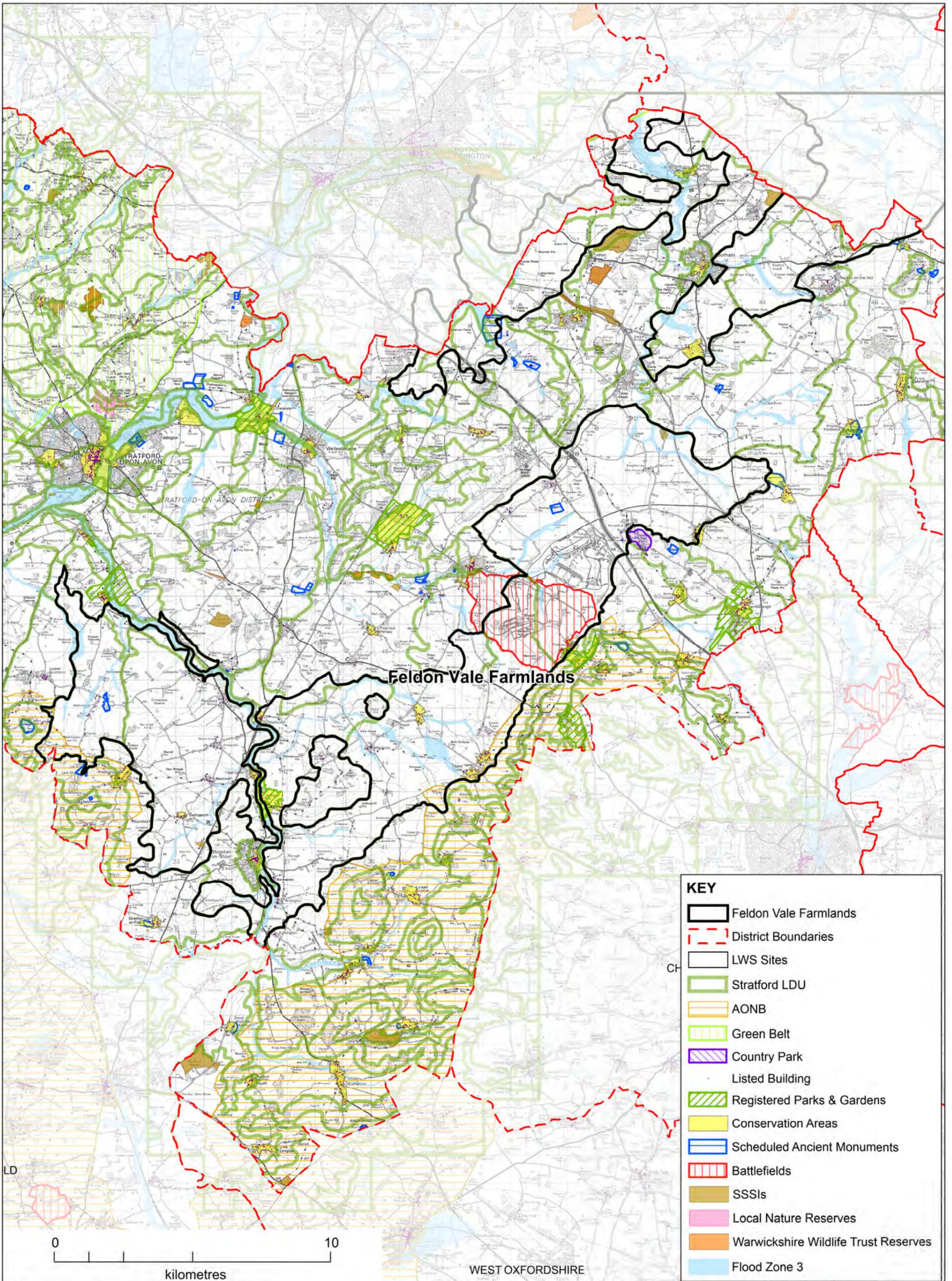
Landscape Type No: **9** Landscape Character Type: **Avon River Meadowlands**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform comprises of the relatively flat valley floors of the Avon and lower Arrow and Stour, the vast majority of which lie within the floodplain. The watercourses are natural for the most part with sinuous courses. There are small changes in level but generally the slopes are gentle. The areas within floodplains are unsuitable for solar energy development.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The fields tend to be semi-regular pasture, ranging from small to medium sized, and limited arable with geometric boundaries in parts such as east of Abbots Salford. Stratford-upon-Avon racecourse also lies within the area. The riparian trees along with occasional small scale woodland and field trees provide some enclosure in places. The fields are generally bounded by low hedges or fences which are open to view from the valley sides. Solar energy development would not fit well with the irregular boundaries and open areas although it could be screened in places by trees.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The Arrow valley and western parts of the Avon valley have an older field pattern with greater time depth but both valley floors have mainly semi-regular fields. The watercourses remain unmodified by man in most places. Solar energy development would not fit well with the older field pattern but would more appropriate in the later enclosed fields.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The Avon valley tends to have greater biodiversity, possibly including unimproved pasture and watermeadows, but both valley floors have of semi-regular pastoral fields. The watercourses remain unmodified by man in most places and have biodiversity interest. Solar energy development would not be appropriate in unimproved pasture or close to the watercourses but would more appropriate in the later enclosed improved pastures or arable.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	There is limited built form in the valley floors due to the potential for flooding except around Stratford and caravan parks in places. There is limited access although there are settlements at crossing places such as Stratford, Bidford and Welford. The A46 to west introduces movement and noise. Overall, the area is fairly tranquil with limited movement. Solar energy development would be out of character with the tranquil undeveloped character of the valley floors as new development.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The main foci within the area are the Royal Shakespeare theatre and tower and occasional fine bridges. There are landmarks adjacent for which the valley floors act as setting or open views eg churches at Stratford-upon-Avon, Hampton Lucy and Bidford-on-Avon.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Views are possible across and along the valleys with the Shakespeare's Avon Way running alongside the river for substantial distances and Monarch's Way intersecting with this around Stratford-upon-Avon. The River Avon is used for leisure boating. Overall, the area is tranquil away from main roads and settlements.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The valley floors are overlooked by valley sides and are open in places.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and	A number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings abut and run into the valley floors including			

	conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	Stratford-upon-Avon, Alveston, Charlecote, Hampton Lucy, Welford-on-Avon, Bidford-on-Avon, Salford Priors and Abbots Priors. Registered Parks lie at Charlecote and Preston-on-Stour. Scheduled monuments lie within the area eg Bidford Bridge and adjacent to the area such as at the Roman settlement at Tiddington. A number of listed buildings/structures including Welford bridge, the Shakespeare Theatre, and others within Conservation Areas also lie close by. All these features and their settings are very sensitive to solar energy development. The rivers and their corridors provide attractive features running through the landscape.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to solar energy development as it is predominantly within the floodplain. The watercourses and riparian vegetation are scenically attractive and in places are open to view from the surrounding valley sides. The Avon valley also has nature conservation interest in its pastures. The area has historic conservation features adjacent and within it and is generally tranquil with few modern features outside the settlements.					

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to solar energy developments at all scales.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
No scale of field solar energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Feldon Vale Farmlands

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 10 Landscape Character Type: Feldon Vale Farmlands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The area comprises five separate areas with similar characteristics of low-lying very gently rolling large scale topography enclosed by rising ground on one or more sides. The western area gradually falls from around 90-100m AOD at the Cotswold fringe to 48m AOD along the Stour valley floor. Crimscote Downs forms a distinct rise above the valley. The central area gradually falls from around 125m AOD along the Cotswolds fringe and Ironstone Wolds at Edgehill and fringe to 55m AOD around the Stour and 82m AOD in stream valley floors. The eastern area rolls between 90m AOD and 105m AOD. The north eastern area gently slopes between 62m AOD and 70m AOD with a highpoint at the foot of the Dunsmore Fringe at 85m AOD. The Cotswolds and their fringes and Edgehill provide a very strong backcloth, while to the north there are the hills of the Feldon Parklands and the Dunsmore plateau fringe. To the south east there is Napton Hill and the Ironstone fringe. The area is broken up by small hills which are outliers of the Feldon Parklands. Intrinsicly the topography is not incompatible with wind energy development, apart from apparent limited logic of placing turbines on lowlands. However, the proximity to higher ground in places increases sensitivity as the apparent scale of these adjacent landforms could be affected. Overlooking from these areas would also be an issue.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The landcover is mixed farmland, generally in medium to large-sized geometric through to semi-regular fields with mainly low hedges, gappy in places. There are occasional field boundary trees and riparian vegetation including willows on watercourses. There are also occasional plantations. All these assist in giving some enclosure to this flat landscape. The larger geometric fields in places could be compatible wind energy development. The organised rectilinear and semi-industrial patterns in the MOD sites may provide an opportunity where plantations could provide local screening. However, there are locations where the enclosure is limited and open and exposure to views especially from the rising ground would make these areas sensitive to wind energy development. There is ridge and furrow in limited places which would be highly sensitive to and unsuitable for wind energy development.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	Recent planned enclosure and some larger post war fields are less sensitive to development. However, pockets of older piecemeal enclosure are sensitive due to their older and less regular pattern. The latter are particularly apparent east of Southam.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	Settlement mainly comprises small rural villages with a scatter of outlying farmsteads to the north and west. East of Southam, settlements are mostly situated on rising ground adjoining the vale. Only scattered farmsteads lie within the vale itself. The sparse settlement means that wind energy development could be located away from residents although areas around settlements such as villages are more sensitive. Secure MOD storage facilities lie south and east of Kinton which exhibit a strong pattern visible from Edgehill but not apparent within the vale itself. These areas have a pattern compatible with wind energy development. The sparse settlement pattern means that roads are generally limited and quiet. The main exception is the busy M40 which crosses the area near Burton Dassett and Warwick Services. The A429 Fosse Way crosses the area to the west and the A422, A423 and A425 also strike across the area. These roads introduce movement into the landscape.			
Landscape	Sensitive	Landmarks within this landscape are limited. The main foci			

features/foci/ landmarks	features/foci	are churches in villages such as Oxhill and Long Itchington and listed buildings such as Honington Hall. There are also landmarks just outside the area such as the windmill on Napton-on-the-Hill. The areas near these features and their settings are sensitive to wind energy development.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are open views to and from Edgehill, the Cotswolds and Burton Dassett Country Park as well as from the lower hills of the Feldon Parklands, Dunsmore Fringe and Napton on the Hill. Overall the area feels relatively open because of the low hedges and few trees. The openness and proximity to the adjacent hills makes the area more sensitive to wind energy development, especially near sensitive viewpoints, but away from the hills, where there effects may diminish, sensitivity decreases. The sparse settlement pattern means that much of the area feels tranquil away from the main roads which makes it sensitive to development. However, the latter significantly reduces tranquillity in its environs. The Oxford Canal Walk, Grand Union Canal and Centenary Way pass through and around the edge of the area.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	To the south there is the Cotswolds and their fringes and Edgehill (in the Ironstone fringe) which provides a very strong backcloth, while to the north there are the hills of the Feldon Parklands and the Dunsmore plateau fringe. To the south east there is Napton Hill and the Ironstone fringe outlying hills. The area is broken up by small hills which are outliers of the Feldon Parklands. The close juxtaposition with higher ground in places increases overlooking and sensitivity.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The main designation is the Cotswolds AONB which creeps into the southern fringes of the area. The candidate Ironstone Fringe SLA also overlaps the area slightly. The Battle of Edgehill occupies a large site although some of this is developed as an MOD storage facility. Conservation Areas are located at Long Itchington to the north east, Ladbroke, Radway at Edgehill, Oxhill, Tysoe, Honington, Halford, Darlingscott and Ilmington adjacent to the west. Scheduled monuments include a Roman villa north of Ireland Farm, a Roman rural settlement at Windmill Hill Farm west of Harbury, and a Medieval settlement at Bruton north of Ilmington. There is a registered park at Honington Hall. There are numerous listed buildings in settlements such as Armscote and Blackwell as well as in isolated locations. Generally these historic features are sparsely scattered but the areas near these features and their settings are sensitive.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to wind energy development where it is close to adjacent hillsides allowing intervisibility, especially to the west near Meon Hill, south east near Edgehill and Burton Dassett Country Park and close to Napton-on-the-Hill. Fields of ridge and furrow are sensitive and unsuitable as are areas close to Conservation Areas, scheduled monuments, Edgehill battlefield and listed buildings and their settings. Where there is enclosure of hedgerows and/or plantations some distance from the hill fringes and also where there is movement and disturbance, there may be potential for wind energy development. The field pattern is generally regular or geometric at a medium-large scale which is also potentially compatible with wind energy.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas with regular fields away from the many views from surrounding higher ground, especially the adjoining Cotswold AONB, along Edgehill and near Burton Dassett Country Park. Smaller turbines would have more flexibility in siting than larger developments.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas with regular fields away from the many views from surrounding higher ground, especially the adjoining Cotswold AONB, along Edgehill and near Burton Dassett Country Park. Smaller scale developments would have more flexibility in siting than larger developments.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
Comments	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
The presence of adjacent slopes and intervisibility in open areas, plus residents and heritage features may reduce the potential for a wide distribution of wind energy developments in fringe areas.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

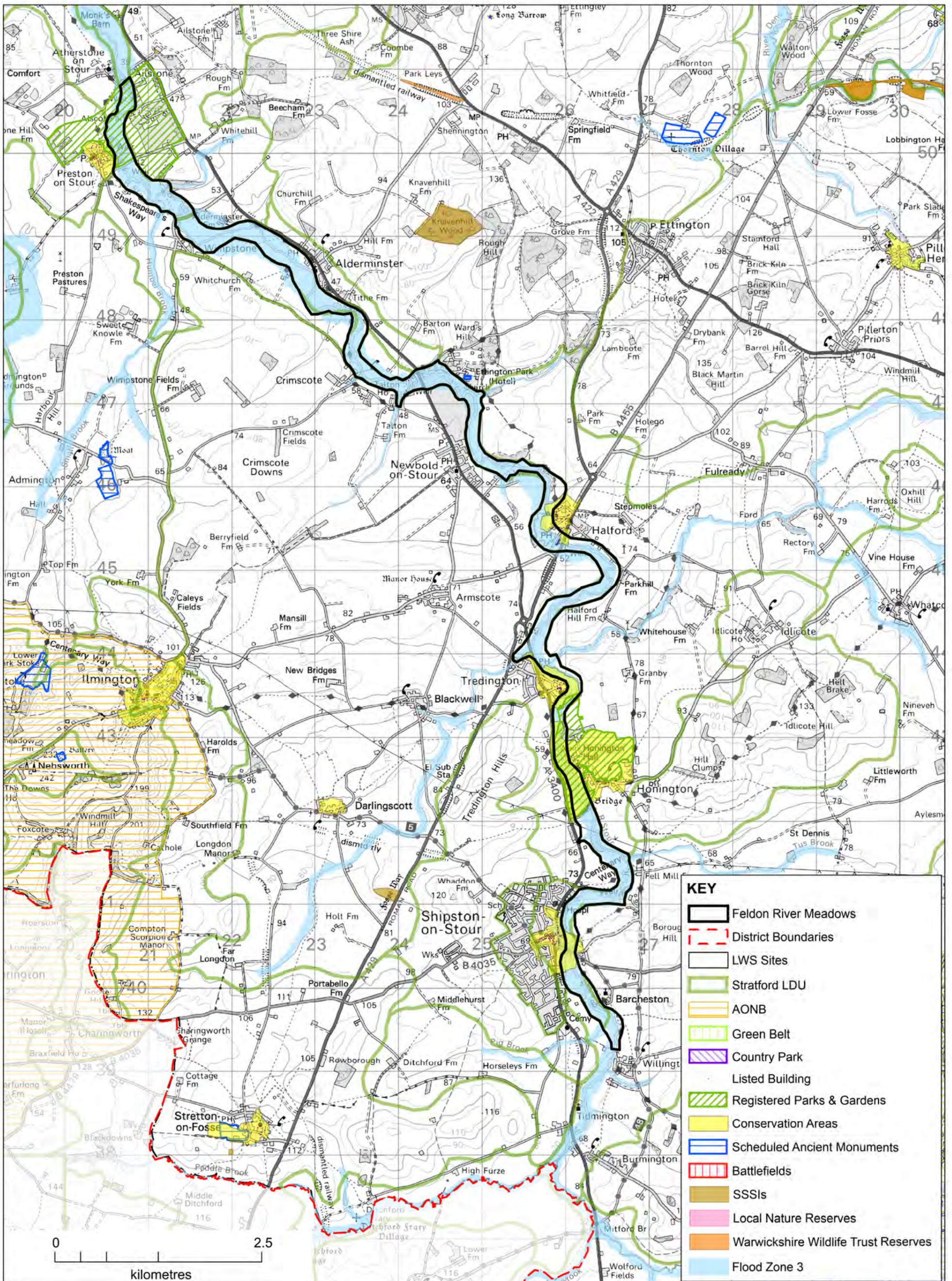
Landscape Type No: **10** Landscape Character Type: **Feldon Vale Farmlands**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The area comprises five separate areas with similar characteristics of low-lying very gently rolling large scale topography enclosed by rising ground on one or more sides. To the south there is the Cotswolds and their fringes and Edgehill which provides a very strong backcloth, while to the north there are the hills of the Feldon Parklands and the Dunsmore plateau fringe. To the south east there is Napton Hill and the Ironstone fringe. The area is broken up by small hills which are outliers of the Feldon Parklands. Whilst intrinsically the topography is suitable for solar energy development the close juxtaposition with higher ground in places increases overlooking and sensitivity. There are no skyline issues.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The landcover is mixed farmland, generally in medium to large sized geometric through to semi-regular fields with mainly low hedges, gappy in places. There are occasional field boundary trees and riparian vegetation including willows on watercourses. There are also occasional plantations. All these assist in giving some enclosure to this flat landscape and hedges could be allowed to grow. This would assist in screening solar energy in places. The shape and scale of the fields in places could also be intrinsically suitable for solar energy development. The organised rectilinear and semi-industrial patterns in the MOD sites may provide an opportunity where plantations could provide local screening. However, there are locations where the enclosure is limited and open and exposure to views especially from the rising ground would make these areas sensitive to solar energy development. There is ridge and furrow in limited places which would be highly sensitive to and unsuitable for solar energy development.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	Recent planned enclosure and some larger post war fields are less sensitive to development. However, pockets of older piecemeal enclosure are sensitive due to their older and less regular pattern. The latter are particularly apparent east of Southam.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The areas mainly comprise of productive mixed farmland which has limited ecological sensitivity. The scatter of surviving semi-natural habitats are sensitive to solar energy development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	Settlement mainly comprises small rural villages with a scatter of outlying farmsteads to the north and west. East of Southam, settlements are mostly situated on rising ground adjoining the vale. Only scattered farmsteads lie within the vale itself. The sparse settlement means that solar energy development could be located away from residents although areas around settlements such as villages are more sensitive. Secure MOD storage facilities lie south and east of Kineton which exhibit a strong pattern visible from Edgehill but not apparent within the vale itself. These areas have a pattern compatible with solar energy development. The sparse settlement pattern means that roads are generally limited and quiet. The main exception is the busy M40 which crosses the area near Burton Dassett and Warwick Services. The A429 Fosse Way crosses the area to the west and the A422, A423 and A425 also strike across the area. These roads introduce movement into the landscape.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Landmarks within this landscape are limited. The main foci are churches in villages such as Oxhill and Long Itchington and listed buildings such as Honington Hall. There are also landmarks just outside the area such as the windmill on Napton-on-the-Hill. The areas near these features and their settings are sensitive.			

PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are open views to and from Edgehill, the Cotswolds and Burton Dassett Country Park as well as from the lower hills of the Feldon Parklands, Dunsmore fringe and Napton on the Hill. Overall the area feels relatively open because of the low hedges and few trees. The openness and proximity to the adjacent hills makes the area more sensitive to solar energy development, especially near sensitive viewpoints, but away from the hills, where there is potential for screening sensitivity decreases. The sparse settlement pattern means that much of the area feels tranquil away from the main roads which makes it sensitive to development. However, the latter significantly reduces tranquillity in its environs. The Oxford Canal Walk and Centenary Way pass through and around the edge of the area.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	To the south there is the Cotswolds and their fringes and Edgehill (in the Ironstone fringe) which provides a very strong backcloth, while to the north there are the hills of the Feldon Parklands and the Dunsmore plateau fringe. To the south east there is Napton Hill and the Ironstone fringe outlying hills. The area is broken up by small hills which are outliers of the Feldon Parklands. The close juxtaposition with higher ground in places increases overlooking and sensitivity.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The main designation is the Cotswolds AONB which creeps into the southern fringes of the area. The candidate Ironstone Fringe SLA also overlaps the area slightly. The Battle of Edgehill occupies a large site although some of this is developed as an MOD storage facility. Conservation Areas are located at Long Itchington to the north east, Ladbroke, Radway at Edgehill, Oxhill, Tysoe, Honington, Halford, Darlingscott and Ilmington adjacent to the west. Scheduled monuments include a Roman villa north of Ireland Farm, a Roman rural settlement at Windmill Hill Farm west of Harbury, and a Medieval settlement at Bruton north of Ilmington. There is a registered park at Honington Hall. There are numerous listed buildings in settlements such as Armscote and Blackwell as well as in isolated locations. Generally these historic features are sparsely scattered but the areas near these features and their settings are sensitive.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to solar energy development where it is open and close to adjacent hillsides allowing intervisibility, especially to the west near Meon Hill, south east near Edgehill and Burton Dassett Country Park and close to Napton-on-the-Hill. Fields of ridge and furrow are sensitive and unsuitable as are areas close to Conservation Areas, scheduled monuments, Edgehill battlefield and listed buildings and their settings. Where there is enclosure of hedgerows and/or plantations some distance from the hill fringes and also where there is movement and disturbance, there may be potential for solar energy development. The field pattern is generally regular or geometric at a medium-large scale which is also potentially compatible with solar energy.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		Sensitivity				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the solar energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas where there is potential for hedge and tree screening and away from the many views from surrounding higher ground, especially the adjoining Cotswold AONB and along Edgehill and near Burton Dassett Country Park. Smaller scale developments can be located more easily away from highly visible areas and settlement.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		Maximum landscape character type status
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The presence of adjacent slopes and intervisibility in open areas, plus residents and heritage features may reduce the potential for solar energy developments in fringe areas. The capacity of the area is judged to be of 2/3.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Feldon River Meadows

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 11 Landscape Character Type: Feldon River Meadows

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform comprises of the relatively flat valley floor of the Stour, the vast majority of which lies within the floodplain. The watercourse is natural for the most part with a sinuous course. There are small changes in level but generally the slopes are gentle. The areas within floodplain are unsuitable for wind energy development and the relatively sheltered valley floor location would be incongruous for wind energy.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The fields tend to be small to medium sized pasture with some arable. They have semi-regular field boundaries, but the shapes of the fields are very irregular as they are significantly defined by the sinuous river. The riparian trees along with occasional small scale woodland and field trees provide some enclosure in places. The fields are generally bounded by low hedges or fences which are open to view from the valley sides. There is some ridge and furrow in places. Wind energy development would not fit well with the riparian landscape landcover.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The valley floor has mainly semi-regular fields. The watercourse remains unmodified by man in most places apart from Tredington and a designed sweeping curved course at Honington Park. Wind energy development would not fit well with the older field patterns but the later enclosed fields would theoretically be less sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	There is limited built form in the valley floor due to the potential for flooding except around Tredington where there is a mill. There is limited access although there are settlements at crossing places such as Shipston-on-Stour and Halford. The A3400 which roughly follows the valley and the A429 introduce movement and noise. Overall, the valley floor is tranquil with limited movement. Wind energy development would be out of character with the tranquil undeveloped character of the valley floors as new development.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The main landmarks tend to be adjacent to the area such as the churches at Shipston-on-Stour, Tredington and Alderminster and houses such as Honington Hall. There are occasional fine bridges such as at Honington. Wind turbines would adversely affect these feature's settings.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Views are possible across and along the valleys with the Shakespeare's Way running alongside the river for substantial distances and Centenary Way intersecting with this around Shipston-on-Stour. Overall, the area is tranquil away from main roads and settlements.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The valley floor is overlooked by valley sides and is open in places.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	A number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings abut and run into the valley floors including Preston-on-Stour, Halford, Tredington, Honington and Shipston-on-Stour. Registered Parks lie at Honington Hall and Alscot Park. A number of listed buildings/structures lie in or adjacent to the area including Alderminster Church and lodge, Ettington Park Hotel, Talton House bridge, and Barcheston Church and others within Conservation Areas. All these features and their settings are very sensitive to wind energy development. The river and its corridor provides an attractive feature running through the landscape.			

SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to wind energy development as it is predominantly within the floodplain. The watercourse and riparian vegetation are scenically attractive and in places are open to view from the surrounding valley sides. The area has historic conservation features adjacent and within it and is generally tranquil with few modern features outside the settlements.
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SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at all scales.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at all scales.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

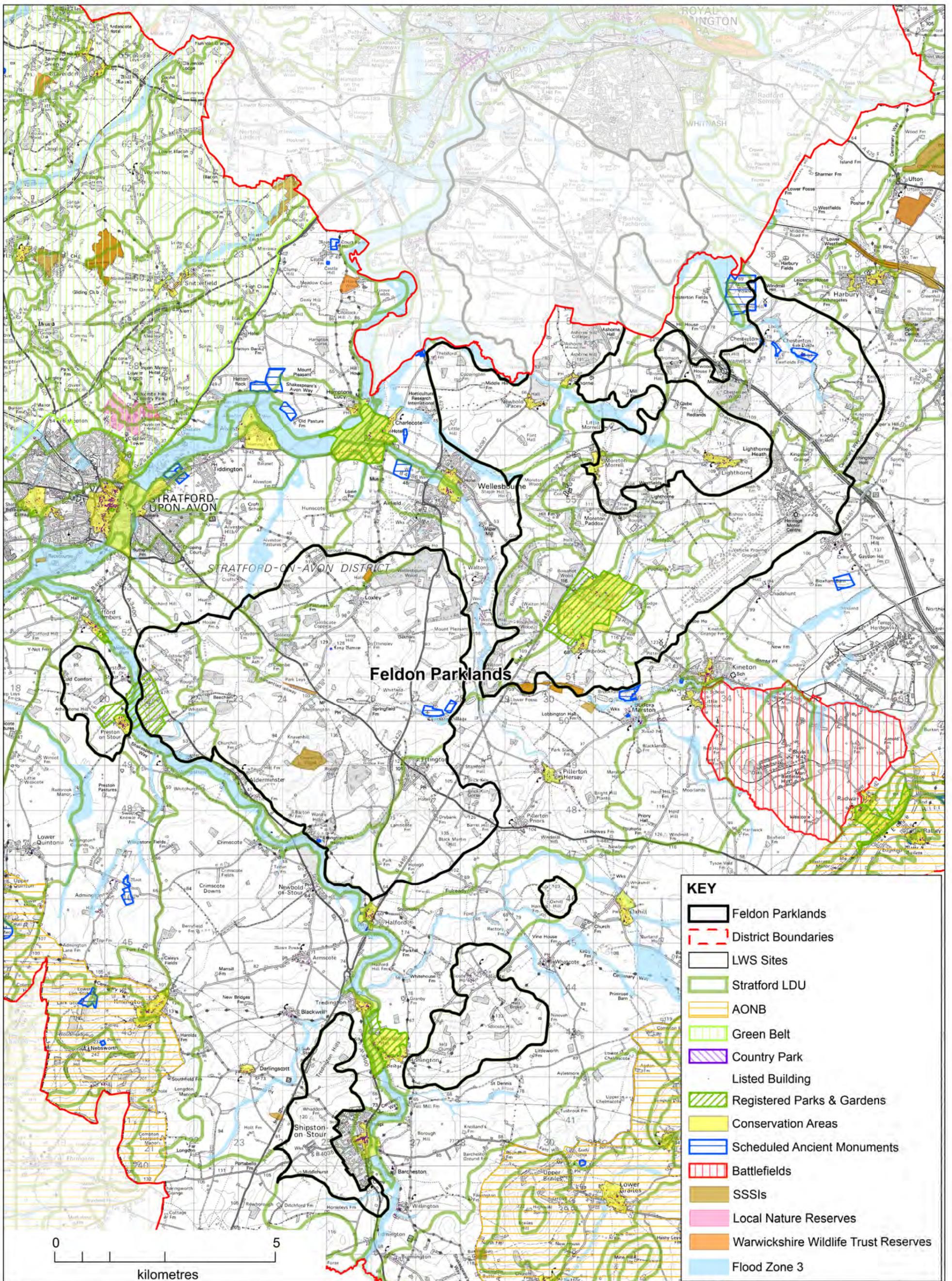
Landscape Type No: 11 Landscape Character Type: Feldon River Meadowlands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform comprises of the relatively flat valley floor of the Stour, the vast majority of which lies within the floodplain. The watercourse is natural for the most part with a sinuous course. There are small changes in level but generally the slopes are gentle. The areas within floodplain are unsuitable for solar energy development.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The fields tend to be small to medium sized pasture with some arable. They have semi-regular field boundaries, but the shapes of the fields are very irregular as they are significantly defined by the sinuous river. The riparian trees along with occasional small scale woodland and field trees provide some enclosure in places. The fields are generally bounded by low hedges or fences which are open to view from the valley sides. There is some ridge and furrow in places. Solar energy development would not fit well with irregular pattern.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The valley floor has mainly semi-regular fields. The watercourse remains unmodified by man in most places apart from Tredington and a designed sweeping curved course at Honington Park. Solar energy development would not fit well with the older field patterns but the later enclosed fields would theoretically be less sensitive.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	There is some biodiversity, including unimproved pasture and watermeadows. The watercourse remains unmodified by man in most places and has biodiversity interest. Solar energy development would not be appropriate in unimproved pasture or close to the watercourses but would more appropriate in the later enclosed improved pastures or arable.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	There is limited built form in the valley floor due to the potential for flooding except around Tredington where there is a mill. There is limited access although there are settlements at crossing places such as Shipston-on-Stour and Halford. The A3400 which roughly follows the valley and the A429 introduce movement and noise. Overall, the valley floor is tranquil with limited movement. Solar energy development would be out of character with the tranquil undeveloped character of the valley floor as new development.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The main landmarks tend to be adjacent to the area such as the churches at Shipston-on-Stour, Tredington and Alderminster and houses such as Honington Hall. There are occasional fine bridges such as at Honington. Solar energy development would adversely affect these feature's settings.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	Views are possible across and along the valleys with the Shakespeare's Way running alongside the river for substantial distances and Centenary Way intersecting with this around Shipston-on-Stour. Overall, the area is tranquil away from main roads and settlements.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The valley floor is overlooked by valley sides and is open in places.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special	A number of Conservation Areas with associated listed buildings abut and run into the valley floors including Preston-on-Stour, Halford, Tredington, Honington and Shipston-on-Stour. Registered Parks lie at Honington Hall			

	and scenic qualities, interest and use	and Alscot Park. A number of listed buildings/structures lie in or adjacent to the area including Alderminster Church and lodge, Ettington Park Hotel, Talton House bridge, and Barcheston Church and others within Conservation Areas. All these features and their settings are sensitive to solar energy development. The river and its corridor provides an attractive feature running through the landscape.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to solar energy development as it is predominantly within the floodplain. The watercourse and riparian vegetation are scenically attractive and in places are open to view from the surrounding valley sides. The area has historic conservation features adjacent and within it and is generally tranquil with few modern features outside the settlements.					

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to solar energy developments at all scales.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		Maximum landscape character type status
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
No scale of field solar energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 12 Landscape Character Type: Feldon Parklands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The area comprises hills rising above the adjacent Avon and Feldon Vales. Generally it comprises a varied undulating topography with localised plateau summits of 129mAOD to the west at Long Hill and the long ridge at around 115mAOD to the east and stream valleys at around 70mAOD. To the south there are three rounded outlying hills at Idlicote and west of Shipston-on-Stour, all around 110-125mAOD, 50m above the vale, and at Oxhill at 103mAOD, around 25m above the surrounding lower land. There are steep scarp slopes in places such as south of Wellesbourne rising to 105mAOD (40m high) which add drama to the landscape. Around Ashorne to the north the land is slightly lower consisting of rolling lowland topography between 100m AOD and 53mAOD. The slopes of the hills and valley sides would make wind energy development prominent or and dominant in places, diminishing the apparent size of landform. Flatter plateau top areas back from edges may be less sensitive. However, the hills form the local skyline so these are sensitive locations for development.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	To the west, the area comprises mixed farming with clusters of ancient woodland, parkland and scattered hedgerow trees. Around the Compton Verney area and the north, the plateau top and gently sloping lowland is an intensively farmed arable landscape with clusters of ancient woodlands and plantations on the tops and on slopes which help enclosure. Parklands with trees and water features mainly lie in the valleys and would be very sensitive. The field pattern is generally large and regular and poorly defined. The field pattern supports wind energy development but openness makes parts of the area sensitive. The tree blocks may help integrate development though those associated with parklands would be sensitive.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly large estates with later planned enclosure. This has more limited time depth. However, there are also significant patches of older piecemeal enclosure which would be sensitive to wind energy development. The parklands such as Compton Verney, Preston-on-Stour and Ettington, and the environs of Chesterton church (and remnant deer park) would be highly sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	There is a nucleated pattern with small, discrete villages and scattered estate farms/ dwellings to the north and west. Areas around settlements and the historic park at Preston-on-Stour would be sensitive. The plateau area around Compton Verney is sparsely settled with a scatter of isolated manor farmsteads and large country houses set in parkland in the valleys. Sensitivity is high around settlement and parkland but decreases away from these features. The Jaguar Land Rover engineering centre and vehicle proving grounds at Gaydon lies on the plateau, screened by tree belts. Small scale wind energy development within these tree belts and away from the edge of the plateau may be appropriate.			
Landscape features/foci/ landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The main foci are the parklands and associated houses and features. These include Compton Verney, Preston-on-Stour and Ettington. There are other more isolated features such as the church and windmill folly around Chesterton which are local landmarks, and the windmill at Pittern Hill near Kineton. All these would be very sensitive to wind energy development.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher

How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	The area is generally an open, cultivated landscape with long distance views to and from surrounding vales, but many middle distance views within the area are enclosed by landform and woodland edges. Shakespeare's Way runs along the Stour on the western fringes of the area with clear views of the slopes. Centenary Way grazes the area to the east of the M40. The area is fairly tranquil with its sparse settlement pattern although the M40 significantly reduces tranquillity to the east and the B4455 Fosse Way, A429 and A422 roads also reduce tranquillity to an extent. The vehicle proving grounds and traffic generated by the Jaguar Land Rover centre also reduces tranquillity to the east.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The area comprises hills rising above the adjacent Avon and Feldon Vales. As such its outward facing slopes form the backcloths to these areas and skylines are open to views from the vales. The skyline and slopes are often covered with woodland and in this case wind energy development on land some way behind may be mitigated to an extent but this effect may be limited.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→ Higher	
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The western part of the area is covered by the Feldon Parklands candidate SLA whose special qualities which would be sensitive include steep scarp slopes, large woodlands and plantations, large country houses set in mature parkland, and unspoilt rural skyline when viewed from the surrounding Vale. There are Conservation Areas at Preston-on-Stour, Combrook, Newbold Pacey, Ashorne and the adjacent Moreton Morrell. There are listed buildings in these and other settlements as well as in the registered historic parklands at Compton Verney and Preston-on-Stour. There are scheduled monuments at Chesterton with its church and fishponds and Thornton medieval village. Knavehill Wood north east of Alderminster and Oxhill Farm west of Butlers Marston are SSSIs.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area is sensitive to wind energy development due to its hills which are locally prominent and its undulating sloping topography which would mean that development would be likely to be visible. The area within the candidate SLA is generally more sensitive. The visibility of open skylines in parts, especially from the surrounding vale and the generally tranquil character of the area would also not be complementary to wind energy development. However, the wooded block character in parts, the flat unoverlooked plateau and the regular large scale field pattern would be compatible with smaller wind energy development in some locations. The vehicle proving grounds back from the edge of plateau would also be a possible location for this type of development.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas back from the plateau edge where there is potential for woodland mitigation. Turbine size should avoid reducing the apparent scale of landform and therefore should be relatively small in size. The vehicle proving ground back from the plateau edge may be an appropriate areas for development. Turbine development should avoid the candidate SLA areas and the isolated hills to the south.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
<p>The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas back from the plateau edge where there is potential for woodland mitigation. Turbine size should avoid reducing the apparent scale of landform and therefore should be relatively small in size. The vehicle proving ground back from the plateau edge may be an appropriate areas for development. Turbine development should avoid the candidate SLA areas and the isolated hills to the south.</p>	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES			<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
Comments	1		Landscape character type with no wind turbines
<p>The presence of skylines, slopes and intervisibility with lower areas, plus residents and heritage features may reduce the potential for a wide distribution of wind energy developments.</p>	2		Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3		Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4		Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

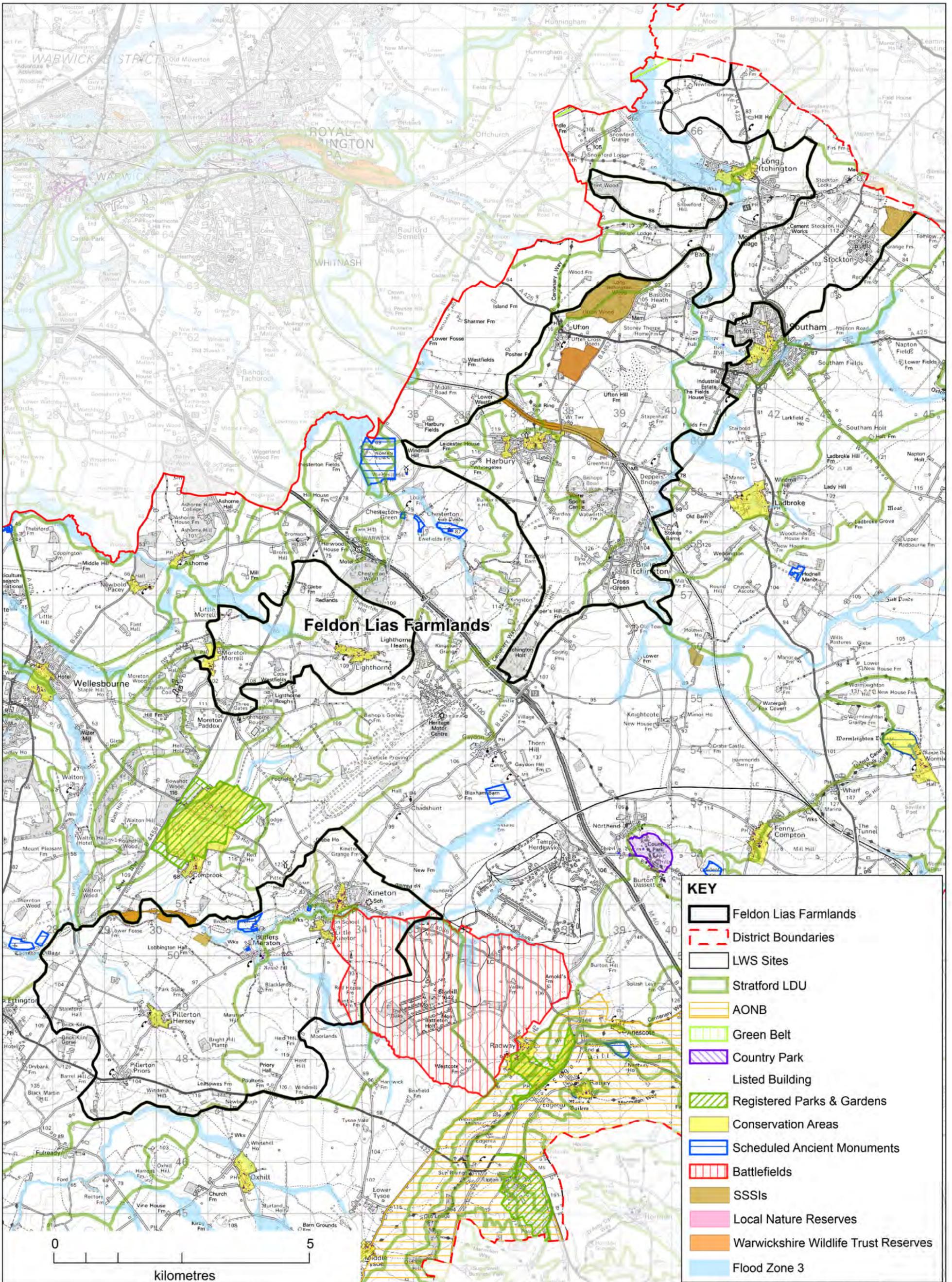
Landscape Type No: 12 Landscape Character Type: Feldon Parklands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The area comprises hills rising above the adjacent Avon and Feldon Vales. Generally it comprises a varied undulating topography with localised plateau summits and stream valleys. To the south there are three rounded outlying hills at Idlicote, Oxhill and west of Shipston-on-Stour. There are steep scarp slopes in places such as south of Wellesbourne which add drama to the landscape. Around Ashorne to the north the land is slightly lower consisting of rolling lowland topography. The slopes of the hills and valley sides would make solar energy development prominent or at least noticeable. Flatter plateau top areas may be less sensitive, particularly where they are not overlooked. The hills form the local skyline so these are also sensitive locations for development.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	To the west, the area comprises mixed farming with clusters of ancient woodland, parkland and scattered hedgerow trees. Around the Compton Verney area and the north, the plateau top and gently sloping lowland is an intensively farmed arable landscape with clusters of ancient woodlands and plantations on the tops and on slopes which help enclosure. Parklands with trees and water features mainly lie in the valleys. The field pattern is generally large and regular and poorly defined. The field pattern supports solar energy development but openness makes parts of the area sensitive. The tree blocks may help screen development though those associated with parklands would be sensitive.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly large estates with later planned enclosure. This has more limited time depth. However, there are also significant patches of older piecemeal enclosure which would be sensitive to solar energy development. The parklands such as Compton Verney, Preston-on-Stour and Ettington, and the environs of Chesterton church (and remnant deer park) would be highly sensitive.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The productive arable farmland in large fields has limited ecological sensitivity, but the significant clusters of ancient woodlands and historic parklands have greater biodiversity and variety, thus greater sensitivity.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	There is a nucleated pattern with small, discrete villages and scattered estate farms/ dwellings to the north and west. Areas around settlements and the historic park at Preston-on-Stour would be sensitive. The plateau area around Compton Verney is sparsely settled with a scatter of isolated manor farmsteads and large country houses set in parkland in the valleys. Sensitivity is high around settlement and parkland but decreases away from these features. The Jaguar Land Rover engineering centre and vehicle proving grounds at Gaydon lies on the plateau, screened by tree belts. Solar energy development within these tree belts may be appropriate.			
Landscape features/foci/ landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The main foci are the parklands and associated houses and features. These include Compton Verney, Preston-on-Stour and Ettington. There are other more isolated features such as the church and windmill folly around Chesterton which are local landmarks, and the windmill at Pittern Hill near Kineton.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	The area is generally an open, cultivated landscape with long distance views to and from surrounding vales, but many middle distance views within the area are enclosed by landform and woodland edges. Shakespeare's Way runs along the Stour on the western fringes of the area with clear views of the slopes. Centenary Way grazes the area to the east of the M40. The area is fairly tranquil with its sparse			

		settlement pattern although the M40 significantly reduces tranquillity to the east and the B4455 Fosse Way, A429 and A422 roads also reduce tranquillity to an extent. The vehicle proving grounds and traffic generated by the Jaguar Land Rover centre also reduces tranquillity to the east.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The area comprises hills rising above the adjacent Avon and Feldon Vales. As such its outward facing slopes form the backcloths to these areas and skylines are open to views from the vales. The skyline and slopes are often covered with woodland and in this case solar energy development on land behind may be screened.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The western part of the area is covered by the Feldon Parklands candidate SLA whose special qualities which would be sensitive include steep scarp slopes, large woodlands and plantations, large country houses set in mature parkland, and unspoilt rural skyline when viewed from the surrounding Vale. There are Conservation Areas at Preston-on-Stour, Combrook, Newbold Pacey, Ashorne and the adjacent Moreton Morrell. There are listed buildings in these and other settlements as well as in the registered historic parklands at Compton Verney and Preston-on-Stour. There are scheduled monuments at Chesterton with its church and fishponds and Thornton medieval village. Knavehill Wood north east of Alderminster and Oxhill Farm west of Butlers Marston are SSSIs.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area is sensitive to solar energy development due to its hills which are locally prominent and its undulating sloping topography which would mean that development would be likely to be visible. The area within the candidate SLA is generally more sensitive. The visibility of open skylines in parts, especially from the surrounding vale and the generally tranquil character of the area would also not be complementary to solar energy development. However, the wooded character in parts, the flat unoverlooked plateau and the regular large scale field pattern would be compatible with solar energy development in some locations. The vehicle proving grounds would also be a possible location for this type of development.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE	<i>Sensitivity</i>				
	Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
<i>Comments</i>					
The potential for the solar energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas where there is potential for woodland and hedge screening. The vehicle proving ground and flat areas directly to the north may be the only appropriate areas for large scale development. Smaller scale developments may be located more easily away from highly visible areas and settlement.					
<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
< 1 ha					
1 - 5 ha					
>5 - 15 ha					
>15 - 25 ha					
>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The presence of slopes and intervisibility in open areas, plus residents and heritage features may reduce the potential for a wide distribution of solar energy developments.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



KEY

- Feldon Lias Farmlands
- District Boundaries
- LWS Sites
- Stratford LDU
- AONB
- Green Belt
- Country Park
- Listed Building
- Registered Parks & Gardens
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Battlefields
- SSSIs
- Local Nature Reserves
- Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Reserves
- Flood Zone 3

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Feldon Lias Farmlands

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 13 Landscape Character Type: Feldon Lias Farmlands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————→	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The area is in four parts which link into the Feldon Parklands to the east but lie above the Feldon Vale farmlands to the north and south. The areas have a varied undulating topography. The area west of Kineton is generally sloping reaching a maximum of 124mAOD to the south at Herd Hill falling to a deep minor river valley to the north at around 74-81mAOD. The area around Lighthorne has steep and varied slopes falling from the south and east at around 109mAOD to the north and west at around 66mAOD. Snowford Hill is a long low flat topped ridge above the vale reaching 88mAOD above the surrounding vale at 66-69mAOD. The ridge north east of Southam towards Stockton and then north west is relatively narrow rising to 112mAOD above the vales at 70-80mAOD either side. These four areas have the most apparent hill tops and slopes and are sensitive to wind energy development. The area west of Southam is broader and has slopes but also intervening flatter areas in bowls or on small plateau. The areas away from the edges abutting the lower land are less exposed and sensitive than the other areas although may be less feasible for wind energy.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The area comprises mainly of mixed farmland with well defined geometric, regular and semi-regular small to medium sized fields with thorn hedges, usually low cut, and hedgerow trees. There are slightly larger fields around Pillerton Priors and Pillerton Hersey to the west. There are more pastoral areas with smaller hedged fields elsewhere including on steeper slopes. There are woodlands and plantations, sometimes as tree belts which add to enclosure in places. The larger scale enclosed landscapes, generally to the north east, are less sensitive than those which are open.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mostly later planned enclosure around Pillerton Priors and Pillerton Hersey to the west and some around Southam. This tends to be in inherently less sensitive in terms of time depth. Older piecemeal enclosure lies around Kineton, Lighthorne and in some areas around Southam. This is more sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	To the west there is a nucleated pattern of small rural villages and the historic town of Kineton. These are sensitive to wind energy development. Centrally and to the east there is a mixed settlement pattern comprising older nucleated villages and development associated with the quarrying industry. This introduces semi-industrial patterns and structures such as the chimney at the Bishops Itchington Cement works which is highly visible. The latter type of land use may be more compatible with wind energy development although cumulative impact issues may arise.			
Landscape features/foci/ landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Apparent landmarks are limited in the area although there are locally apparent sensitive areas and features such as around Kineton Castle and Little Kineton, and Stoneythorpe Hall and Holy Well west of Southam.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————→	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	The south west area is generally open with low hedges and some trees allowing views to and from high points although some areas views are limited by topography and vegetation. Around Lighthorne the area is more enclosed by landform constricting longer views but middle distance views are possible from some slopes and hilltops. To the east, the moderately open landscape has middle distance views enclosed by landform and patches of secondary woodland around old quarry sites, tree belts and ancient woodland such as Ufton Wood. There is lower sensitivity where there is enclosure by trees. The area to the east is busier through			

		quarries and a landfill site as well as closer settlements, some of which are associated with the extractive industry. This area is generally less tranquil than the others.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The area is in four parts which link into the Feldon Parklands to the east but lie above the Feldon Vale farmlands to the north and south. The slopes of the areas are visible from the vales and the landform also forms the skyline. These outward facing slopes are therefore sensitive. The northern outlying ridge extends from the Dunsmore plateau fringes and has similar sensitivities.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The western parts of the two western areas are covered by the Feldon Parklands candidate SLA whose special qualities which would be sensitive and include rolling topography and unspoilt rural skyline when viewed from the surrounding Vale. There are Conservation Areas at Kineton, Pillerton Hersey, Lighthorne, Moreton Morrell and Harbury. There are listed buildings in these and other settlements. There are scheduled monuments in the western area at Kineton- King John's Castle and Brookhampton- a Medieval settlement, but not in other areas. There is part of the Edgehill battlefield south of Kineton. There are SSSIs at Lobbington Hall Farm and Oxhouse Farm north of Butlers Marston, Harbury cutting, Ufton fields, Ufton and Long Itchington Woods and Stockton railway cutting and quarry. All these features are sensitive to wind energy development.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area is sensitive to wind energy development in the areas associated with Kineton, Lighthorne, Snowford Hill and Stockton due to its undulating sloping topography and skylines which would mean that development would be likely to be visible, sometimes on the skyline, the heritage features such as Conservation Areas, battlefield and the SLAs on the western fringes as well as tranquillity. The area to the east associated with Bishops Itchington and Southam has sensitivities in its outward facing and more exposed slopes but the tree cover and flatter landform in places, especially associated with former or active quarries and a landfill site, mean that there are areas that are less sensitive to, and more compatible with, smaller scale wind energy development.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
There is little opportunity in the three areas to the west and north. The main opportunities lie in the area to the east associated with Bishops Itchington and west of Southam away from its outward facing and more exposed slopes. The sites are limited and would only be for smaller scale turbines to avoid adverse effects on the settlements within the area.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
There is little opportunity in the three areas to the west and north. The main opportunities lie in the area to the east associated with Bishops Itchington and west of Southam away from its outward facing and more exposed slopes. The sites are limited and would only be for smaller scale turbines to avoid adverse effects on the settlements within the area.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES			<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
Comments	1		Landscape character type with no wind turbines
There is little opportunity in the three areas to the west and north. The main opportunities lie in the area to the east associated with Bishops Itchington and west of Southam away from its outward facing and more exposed slopes. The sites are limited and would only be for smaller scale turbines to avoid adverse effects on the settlements within the area.	2		Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3		Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4		Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

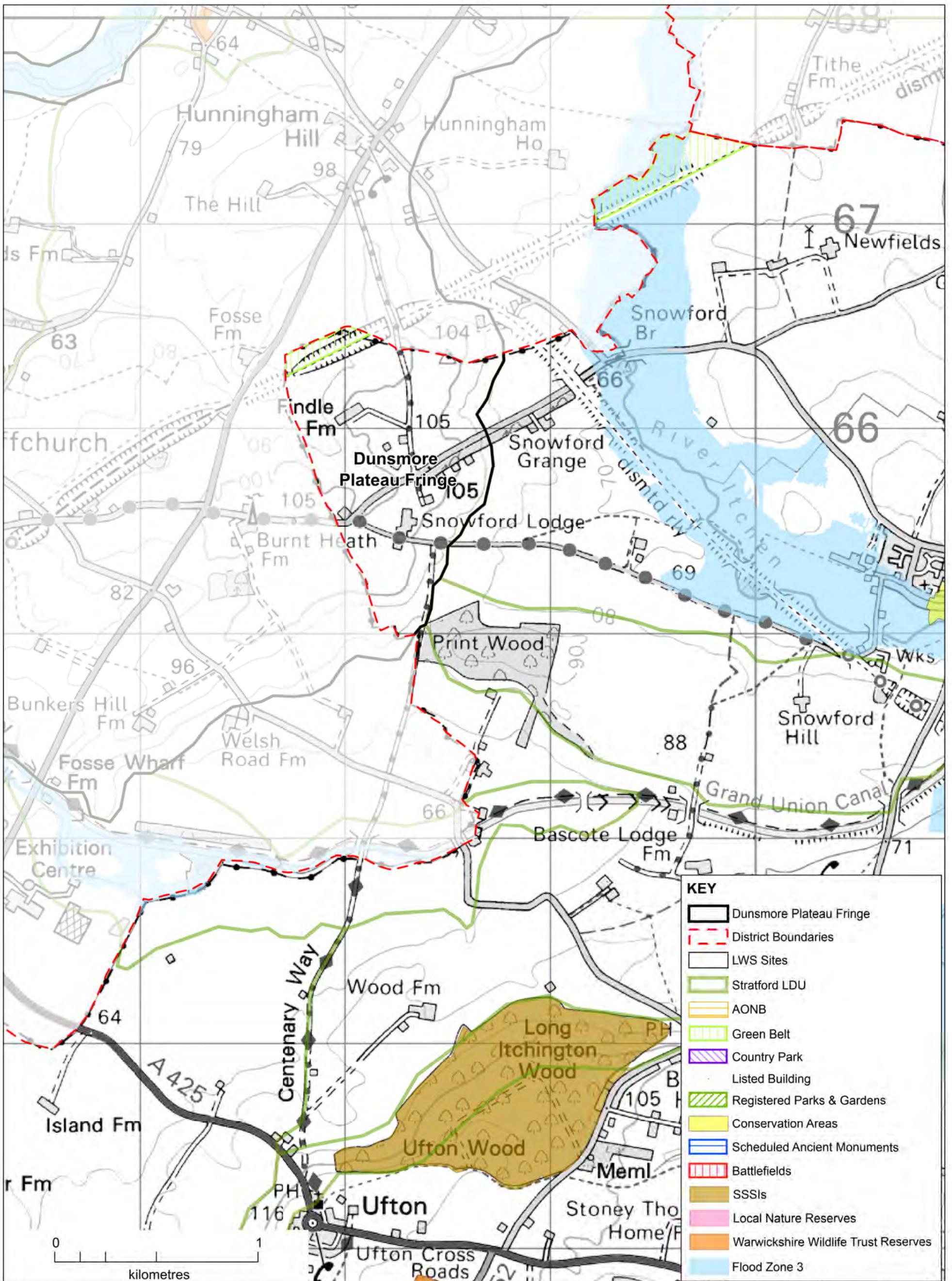
Landscape Type No: 13 Landscape Character Type: Feldon Lias Farmlands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The area is in four parts which link into the Feldon Parklands to the east but lie above the Feldon Vale farmlands to the north and south. The areas have a varied undulating topography. The area west of Kineton is generally sloping with a deep minor river valley. The area around Lighthorne has steep and varied slopes. Snowford Hill is a long low flat topped ridge above the vale. The ridge north east of Southam towards Stockton and then north west is relatively narrow rising above the vales either side. These four areas have mostly exposed slopes which are sensitive to solar energy development although the top of Snowford Hill is less sensitive. The area north and west of Southam has slopes but also intervening flatter areas in bowls or on small plateau. These areas are less sensitive than the sloping areas and those on the edge facing the adjoining low land.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The area comprises mainly of mixed farmland with well defined geometric, regular and semi-regular small to medium sized fields with thorn hedges, usually low cut, and hedgerow trees. There are slightly larger fields around Pillerton Priors and Pillerton Hersey to the west. There are more pastoral areas with smaller hedged fields elsewhere including on steeper slopes. There are woodlands and plantations, sometimes as tree belts which add to enclosure in places. The larger scale enclosed landscapes, generally to the north east, are less sensitive than those which are open.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mostly later planned enclosure around Pillerton Priors and Pillerton Hersey to the west and some around Southam. This tends to be in inherently less sensitive in terms of time depth. Older piecemeal enclosure lies around Kineton, Lighthorne and in some areas around Southam. This is more sensitive.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The mixed farmland is less sensitive ecologically but there are many clusters of semi-natural pasture to the east and west, which with parkland and ancient woodland are sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	To the west there is a nucleated pattern of small rural villages and the historic town of Kineton. These can be sensitive. Centrally and to the east there is a mixed settlement pattern comprising older nucleated villages and development associated with the quarrying industry. This introduces semi-industrial patterns and structures such as the chimney at the Bishop Itchington Cement works which is highly visible. The latter type of land use may be compatible with solar energy development.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Apparent landmarks are limited in the area although there are locally apparent sensitive areas and features such as around Kineton Castle and Little Kineton, and Stoneythorpe Hall and Holy Well west of Southam.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	The south west area is generally open with low hedges and some trees allowing views to and from high points although some areas views are limited by topography and vegetation. Around Lighthorne the area is more enclosed by landform constricting longer views but middle distance views are possible from some slopes. To the east the moderately open landscape has middle distance views enclosed by landform and patches of secondary woodland around old quarry sites, tree belts and ancient woodland such as Ufton Wood. There is lower sensitivity where there is enclosure by trees. The area to the east is busier through quarries and a landfill site as well as closer settlements, some of which are associated with the extractive industry. This area is generally less tranquil than the others.			

Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The area is in four parts which link into the Feldon Parklands to the east but lie above the Feldon Vale farmlands to the north and south. The slopes of the areas are visible from the vales and the landform also forms the skyline. These outward facing slopes are therefore sensitive. The northern outlying ridge extends from the Dunsmore plateau fringes and has similar sensitivities.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The western parts of the two western areas are covered by the Feldon Parklands candidate SLA whose special qualities which would be sensitive and include rolling topography and unspoilt rural skyline when viewed from the surrounding Vale. There are Conservation Areas at Kineton, Pillerton Hersey, Lighthorne, Moreton Morrell and Harbury. There are listed buildings in these and other settlements. There are scheduled monuments in the western area at Kineton- King John's Castle and Brookhampton- a Medieval settlement, but not in other areas. There is part of the Edgehill battlefield south of Kineton. There are SSSIs at Lobbington Hall Farm and Oxhouse Farm north of Butlers Marston, Harbury cutting, Ufton fields, Ufton and Long Itchington Woods and Stockton railway cutting and quarry. All these features are sensitive to solar energy development.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area is sensitive to solar energy development in the areas associated with Kineton, Lighthorne and Snowford Hill's slopes due to its undulating sloping topography which would mean that development would be likely to be visible, sometimes on the skyline, the heritage features such as Conservation Areas, battlefield and the SLAs on the western fringes as well as tranquillity. The area to the east associated with Bishop's Itchington and Southam has sensitivities in its outward facing and more exposed slopes but the tree cover and flatter landform in places, especially associated with former or active quarries and a landfill site, mean that there are areas that are less sensitive to, and more compatible with, solar energy development. The more regular fields on the flat top of Snowford Hill are also lower sensitivity providing there is no visibility from the Grand Union Canal.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
There is little opportunity in the three areas to the west and north. The main opportunities lie in the area to the east associated with Bishop's Itchington and Southam away from its outward facing and more exposed slopes. These include sites screened by tree and hedge cover and exhibiting flatter landform, especially associated with former or active quarries and a landfill site. The size of fields and flat, enclosed areas limit the size of possible developments.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
There is little opportunity in the three areas to the west and north so these areas are Category 1. The main opportunities lie in the area to the east associated with Bishop's Itchington and Southam so this is Category 2.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Dunsmore Plateau Fringe

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 14 Landscape Character Type: Dunsmore Fringe

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform is rolling/undulating generally falling southwards from a high point around the Dunsmore Plateau. The area within Stratford District is small lying on the fringe and comprises a small ridge with a rounded crest with a well defined slope to the east of around 20m high and a more gentle slope to the west. Wind energy development would be highly visible on the ridge top or close to the ridge edges and moderately visible locally on the other slopes. The apparent scale of the landform would be reduced by any scale of assessed wind turbine.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The area is mixed farmland and the scale of semi-regular medium-sized fields. The field boundaries are a mix of outgrown and low cut hedges with trees and gaps in places. Whilst the trees assist in screening, the gaps in hedges allow views. Wind energy would tend to be out of character with this scale of landcover.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The historic pattern is older piecemeal enclosure, interspersed with patches of larger post war fields. The former is sensitive to wind energy development with its time depth, smaller size and irregular shape whilst the latter is less sensitive with its larger geometric pattern.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	In the broader character type, settlement comprises of a nucleated pattern with discrete villages and occasional scattered roadside dwellings and farmsteads. Only the latter occurs in the area, linked by minor roads. The even spread/disposition of houses means that there is limited capacity for wind energy development.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	There are few foci in the area apart from farm houses on the ridge top.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	To the east there are long and middle distance views across the more open slopes to and from the Feldon Vale (River Itchen). Views are intermittent to the west. The area is fairly tranquil with minor roads although the Fosse Way to the west.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The well-defined slopes to the east define edge of the Feldon Vale farmlands (River Itchen valley) to which they form a minor backcloth. Wind turbines would apparently diminish the scale of this landform and adversely affect the backcloth.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	There are no apparent designations locally. The combination of slopes and vegetation/tree cover with levels of tranquillity mean the area has some attractiveness.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has some sensitivity to wind energy development as it comprises undulating/rolling countryside with well-defined open slopes to the east which form the lower backcloth and skyline for the valley landscape to the east. The tree cover and hedges may limit views to the west but the landform, roads and pattern of settlement and fields may make it difficult to find discreet and suitable locations or screen development. The area has some historic interest in the pattern of fields which can be small in places but there are no historic or ecological designations.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at most scales due to a combination of sloping topography, field pattern and settlement pattern.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at most sizes due to a combination of sloping topography, field pattern and settlement pattern.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines	
The area is very small with very limited if any capacity and only at a small scale but development outside the area may be acceptable if intervisible.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s	
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines	
	4	Wind turbine landscape	

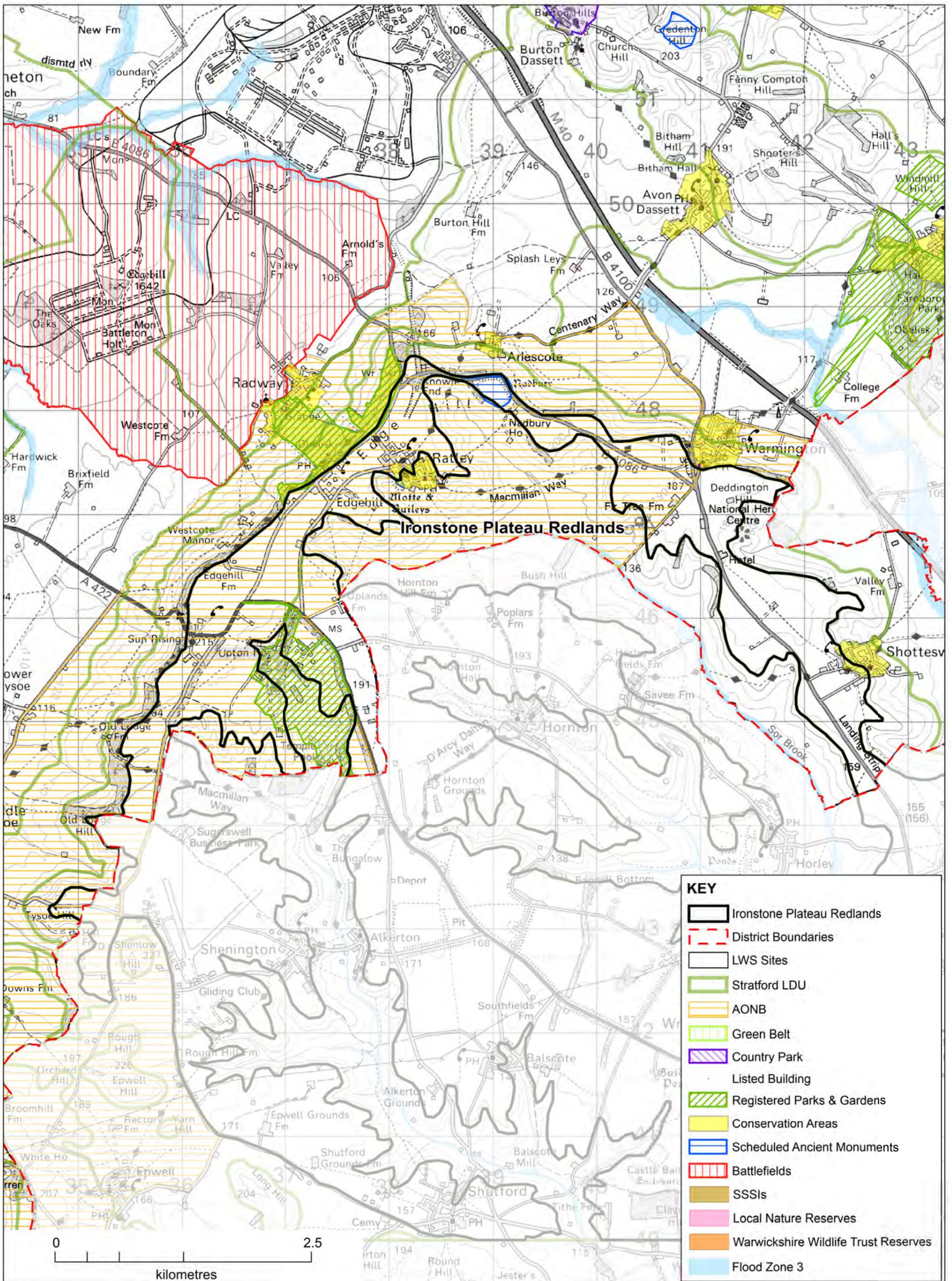
Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

Landscape Type No: **14** Landscape Character Type: **Dunsmore Fringe**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————→	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform is rolling/undulating generally falling southwards from a high point around the Dunsmore Plateau. The area within Stratford District is small lying on the fringe and comprises a small ridge with a rounded crest with a well defined slope to the east of around 20m and a more gentle slope to the west. Solar energy development would be highly visible on the slope to the east and moderately visible locally on the other slopes. Solar energy would be potentially visible if located on or close to the ridge edges.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The area is mixed farmland and the scale of semi-regular medium-sized fields. The field boundaries are a mix of outgrown and low cut hedges with trees and gaps in places. Whilst the trees assist in screening, the gaps in hedges allow views. Overall, the vegetation is not sufficient to screen development in most locations.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The historic pattern is older piecemeal enclosure, interspersed with patches of larger post war fields. The former is sensitive to solar energy development with its time depth, smaller size and irregular shape whilst the latter is less sensitive with its larger geometric pattern.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The area is mainly productive arable farmland with only a scatter of surviving semi-natural habitat. The former is not sensitive ecologically whilst the latter is.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	In the broader character type, settlement comprises of a nucleated pattern with discrete villages and occasional scattered roadside dwellings and farmsteads. Only the latter occurs in the area, linked by minor roads. The even spread/disposition of houses means that there is limited capacity for solar farms.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	There are few foci in the area apart from farm houses on the ridge top.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————→	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	To the east there are long and middle distance views across the more open slopes to and from the Feldon Vale (River Itchen). Views are intermittent to the west. The area is fairly tranquil with minor roads although the Fosse Way to the west.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The well-defined slopes to the east define edge of the Feldon Vale farmlands (River Itchen valley) to which they form a minor backcloth.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	There are no apparent designations locally. The combination of slopes and vegetation/tree cover with levels of tranquillity mean the area has some attractiveness.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has some sensitivity to solar energy development as it comprises of undulating/rolling countryside with well-defined open slopes to the east which form the lower backcloth and skyline for the valley landscape to the east. The tree cover and hedges may limit views to the west but the landform, roads and pattern of settlement and fields may make it difficult to find discreet and suitable locations or screen development. The area has some historic interest in the pattern of fields which can be small in places but there are no historic or ecological designations.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		Sensitivity				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to solar energy developments at most scales due to a combination of sloping topography, field pattern and settlement pattern. Very small developments may be able to be located on ridge tops away from edges/skylines.		<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>				
		< 1 ha				
		1 - 5 ha				
		>5 - 15 ha				
		>15 - 25 ha				
		>25 ha				

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		Maximum landscape character type status
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The area is very small with very limited capacity at small scale but development outside the area may be acceptable if intervisible.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Ironstone Plateau Redlands

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 15 Landscape Character Type: Plateau Redlands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform of the Plateau Redlands comprises the relatively flat plateau top deeply incised by valleys to the south and defined by the steep scarp slopes of Edgehill to the north. The area lies at 215mAOD to the west around Upton falling gradually to 159mAOD to the east, south of Shotteswell. The area forms a strong, distinctive skyline to surrounding areas and is highly sensitive.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The scale of enclosure tends to be large and its geometric field boundaries, tree lines and larger blocks of woodland on adjacent slopes could be complementary to wind energy development. The disused quarry is degraded. However, there is generally limited screening, so wind energy developments would be highly visible.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area is mainly late planned enclosure of former cultivated land and common which has limited sensitivity.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	Settlement comprises small nucleated stone villages with historic cores on the adjacent slopes and relatively sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. The quarry is disused. There is an A road crossing the area- the A422, and the B4086 and B4100 running along the plateau top. These reduce tranquillity in their environs but are rural roads. Lanes tend to be straight linking the settlements and moderately quiet. Wind energy development would theoretically not be incompatible with the quarry or straight, busier roads but would be less appropriate near the rural villages.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features adjacent to the area include the villages of Ratley, Warmington and Shotteswell and their churches. Wind energy developments would detract from their setting.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are numerous long distance views from and towards the edge of the Plateau Redlands with slopes and lower lying land to the north and east, as well as ridges to the east. This means wind energy development would be prominent and potentially dominant in these views. Promoted trails passing through the area and nearby include Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The area is sparsely settled and relatively tranquil with limited detractors although there are straight roads which reduce tranquillity. The only 'modern' features or elements are the quarry and modern housing on the edge of settlements. Wind energy development would be out of character with the area.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The edges of the plateau top are intervisible with lower lying land to the north, south and east and form a skyline in parts. This intervisibility means that wind energy development would be likely to affect adjacent landscapes.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	Most of the area lies within the Cotswold AONB whose special qualities include the High Wold's large open, elevated landscape with commons, 'big skies' and long distance views. There is a scheduled monument at Nadbury Camp. There are the three settlements of Ratley, Warmington and Shotteswell with Conservation Areas bordering and running into the area. The south eastern area between Warmington and Shotteswell is a candidate SLA as part of the Ironstone Fringe. Its qualities of prominent ironstone ridges and sparse settlement pattern with nucleated ironstone villages characterise this area. The role of the area as part of the north eastern edge of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, and its			

		contribution to its character mean the area has high value.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has a very high sensitivity to wind energy development as it is partly within the Cotswold AONB and candidate SLA and it is the top of Edgehill which forms a distinctive unspoilt skyline highly apparent landscapes to the north and continues east. The area borders some historic settlements which are sensitive.					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		Maximum landscape character type status
Comments	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

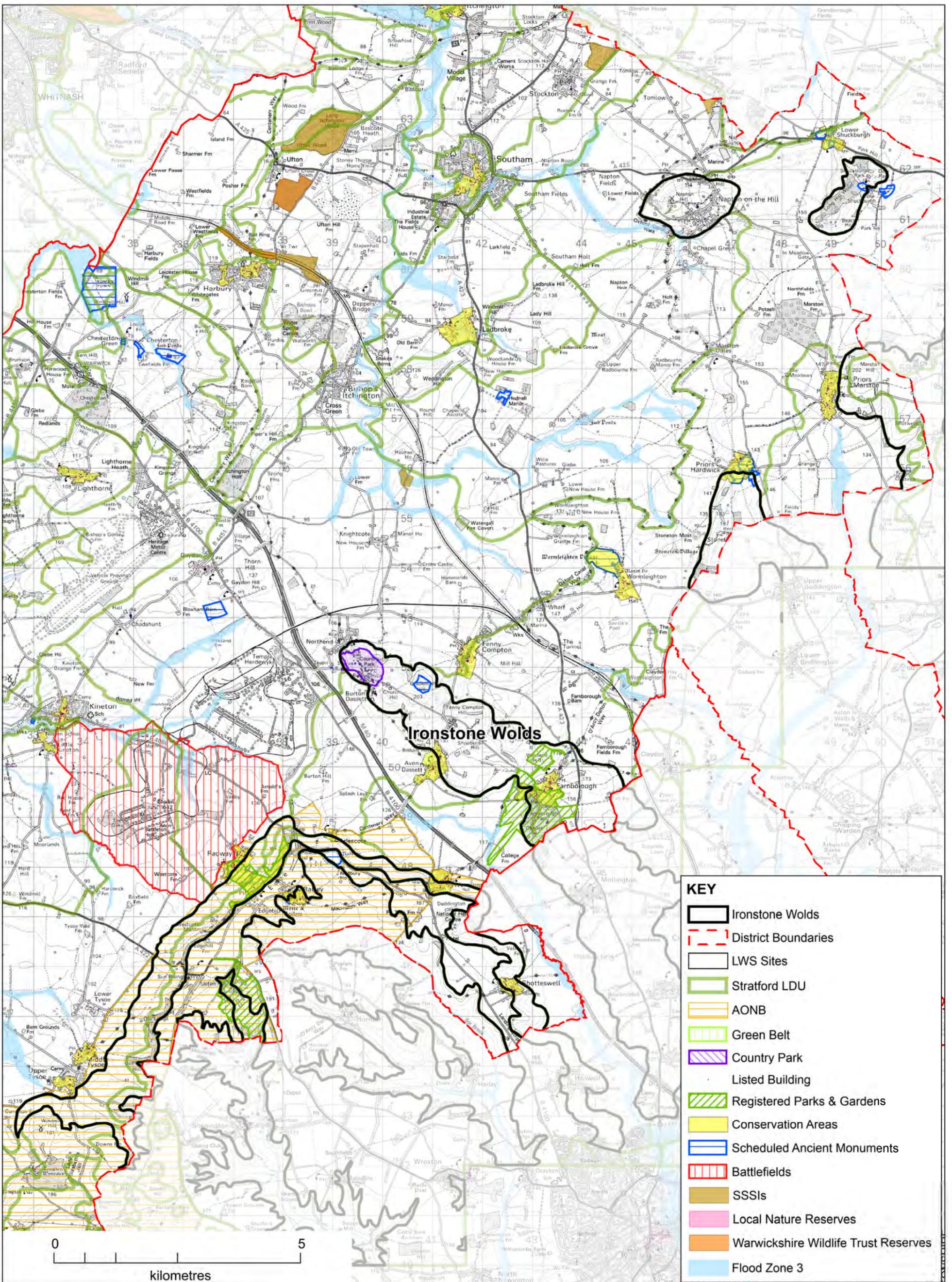
Landscape Type No: 15 Landscape Character Type: Plateau Redlands

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform of the Plateau Redlands comprises the relatively flat plateau top deeply incised by valleys to the south and defined by the steep scarp slopes of Edgehill to the north. The edges of the area form the skyline and would be sensitive but the areas set back on the plateau are less sensitive. The disused quarry south west of Edgehill lies lower than the general level and is well screened.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The scale of enclosure tends to be large and its geometric field boundaries, tree lines and larger blocks of woodland on adjacent slopes could be complementary to solar energy. The disused quarry is degraded and solar energy here would not be out of place. However, the low hedges with sparse tree cover in other places such as towards Shotteswell mean that there is generally limited screening, so solar energy developments could be highly visible here.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area is mainly late planned enclosure of former cultivated land and common which has limited sensitivity.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The area comprises productive arable farmland with little surviving semi-natural vegetation and so has limited ecological sensitivity.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	Settlement comprises small nucleated stone villages with historic cores on the adjacent slopes and relatively sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. The quarry is disused. There is an A road crossing the area- the A422, and the B4086 and B4100 running along the plateau top. These reduce tranquillity in their environs but are rural roads. Lanes tend to be straight linking the settlements and moderately quiet. Solar energy development would not be incompatible with the quarry or straight, busier roads but would be less appropriate near the rural villages.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features adjacent to the area include the villages of Ratley, Warmington and Shotteswell and their churches. Solar energy developments would detract from their setting.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are numerous long distance views from and towards the edge of the Plateau Redlands with slopes and lower lying land to the north and east, as well as ridges to the east. This means solar energy development could be prominent in these views. Promoted trails passing through the area and nearby include Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The area is sparsely settled and relatively tranquil with limited detractors although there are straight roads which reduce tranquillity. The only 'modern' features or elements are the quarry and modern housing on the edge of settlements. Solar energy development would be out of character with the parts of the area.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The edges of the plateau top are intervisible with lower lying land to the north, south and east and form a skyline in parts. This intervisibility means that solar energy development on the edges could affect adjacent landscapes. The main part of the plateau where there are trees or larger hedges would not be intervisible.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	Most of the area lies within the Cotswold AONB whose special qualities include the High Wold's large open, elevated landscape with commons, 'big skies' and long distance views. There is a scheduled monument at Nadbury Camp. There are the three settlements of Ratley, Warmington and Shotteswell with Conservation Areas bordering and running into the area. The south eastern area			

		between Warmington and Shotteswell is a candidate SLA as part of the Ironstone Fringe. Its qualities of prominent ironstone ridges and sparse settlement pattern with nucleated ironstone villages characterise this area. The role of the area as part of the north eastern edge of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, and its contribution to its character mean the area has high value.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has a fairly high sensitivity to solar energy development as it is partly within the Cotswold AONB and candidate SLA and parts are located on the open edge of plateaux forming the skyline for the landscapes to the north and east. The area borders some historic settlements which are sensitive. However, there is a degraded quarry which is relatively well screened and other areas which comprise flat land away from the skyline and screened by trees. These areas are less sensitive.					

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
Field solar energy development is considered inappropriate on the open edges of this area, on the relatively unscreened field to the south east and close to the village Conservation Areas. In the quarry and on plateau screened by trees to the south of Upton there may be potential for developments no larger than 10Ha due to the size of quarry and fields located away from roads and plateau edges.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		Maximum landscape character type status
Comments	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
Field solar energy development is considered appropriate in only limited parts of this area as defined above.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Ironstone Wolds

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 16 Landscape Character Type: Ironstone Wolds

SUSCEPTIBILITY				
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility	
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶ Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform of the Ironstone Wolds comprises several geographically separated areas. To the south west there are the steep slopes of the Edgehill escarpment rising around 90m from 125mAOD to 215mAOD around to Warmington rising 47m from 140mAOD to 187mAOD. To the south of this, around Ratley, there are incised valleys falling steeply to 140mAOD. The Burton Dassett and Shooters Hill ridge rises steeply above the surrounding lowland, at around 120mAOD, with an undulating profile of rounded tops between 175mAOD at the Country Park to 203mAOD. The steep slopes of the Wolds appear further north east around Priors Hardwick (181mAOD) and Priors Marston (Marston Hill-202mAOD). There are two distinctive outlying steep sided and rounded hills at Shuckburgh 35m high at 205mAOD and Napton-on-the-Hill, 60m high at 160mAOD. The well defined changes in level and locally prominent hilltops act as a distinctive backcloth to lower land and would mean that wind energy development would be highly prominent on the hilltops on the unspoilt skylines and would reduce the apparent scale and drama of the landform especially Edgehill. The undulating profile at Burton Dassett would also be very sensitive to wind energy. Wind energy would not be feasible on the steep slopes.		
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The scale of enclosure tends to be medium to large and its geometric field pattern in places could theoretically be complementary to wind energy. There are small areas of permanent pasture with ridge and furrow and unimproved grassland and scrub on slopes which would also be sensitive.		
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area around Edgehill and Warmington is mainly later planned enclosure of open field and common. The Burton Dassett Hills and areas to the north east is a mixture of late planned enclosure interspersed with pockets of older piecemeal enclosure. The latter is intrinsically more sensitive.		
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	Settlement comprises small nucleated villages with historic ironstone cores at the foot of the slopes but also on slopes, such as Warmington and valley sides. There is generally sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. Lanes tend to be quiet and narrow with limited movement apparent. The one exception is the A422 which runs up Edgehill. Wind energy development would not be compatible with this essentially rural landscape and old settlements.		
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and landmarks within the area include the Beacon Tower on the Burton Dassett Hills, the obelisk at Farnborough Park, the windmill on Napton Hill and the parkland at Shuckburgh Hall. The historic settlements have spires and towers. Minor features include traditional farmsteads and dwellings. Wind energy development would detract from these features' settings.		
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶ Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are numerous views from, over and towards the slopes and hills as they border lower lying land to the north and form a backcloth to it, which is very strong in the case of Edgehill. This means wind energy development would be highly prominent in these views. Promoted trails include the Oxford Canal Walk, the D'Arcy Dalton Way, Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The Oxford Canal is used for leisure boating. The area is relatively sparsely settled and tranquil with very few detractors and modern features or elements. The main exception is the M40 which lies around 1 km away from some of the slopes and is a major noise source where traffic is intervisible. Wind energy development would be out		

		of character in respect of views, and tranquillity in most areas.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The slopes and hills are highly intervisible with lower lying land and form a backcloth to it. This intervisibility means that wind energy development would be highly likely to affect adjacent landscapes.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The Edgehill slopes lie within the Cotswold AONB. There are nine village Conservation Areas in or adjacent to the area and there are scheduled monuments at Shuckburgh and Priors Hardwick (medieval settlements) and Gredenton (hill camp). There is an historic park and garden at Farnborough Hall and Radway Grange, There are numerous listed buildings such as the Beacon Tower at Burton Dassett. Napton Quarry is a County wildlife site. The role of Edgehill as the north eastern extension of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, and its contribution to its character mean this area has high value. The status of the rest of the area as a Candidate SLA indicates that this part of the area has moderately high value and sensitivity through its qualities of prominent ironstone hills, ridges and slopes, sparse settlement pattern of nucleated ironstone villages, parkland and other features.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has high sensitivity to wind energy development as it is either within the Cotswold AONB or candidate SLA and comprises of mainly open, hill tops, slopes and ridges which form a strong backcloth and skyline for the lower vale and fringe landscapes. The area has historic conservation features in places and is generally tranquil with few modern features.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at all scales.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at all scales.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

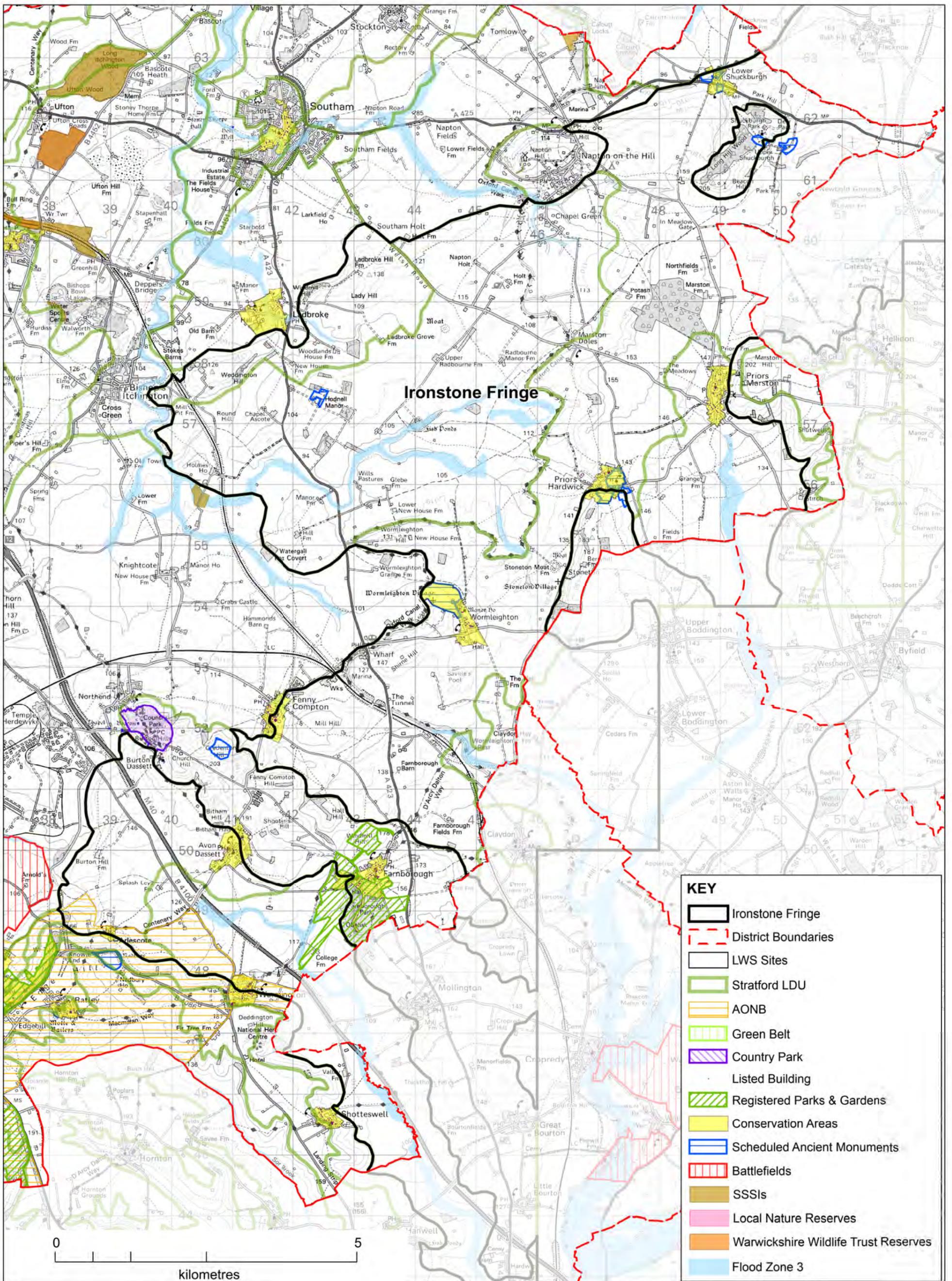
Landscape Type No: 16 Landscape Character Type: Ironstone Wolds

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform of the Ironstone Wolds comprises several geographically separated areas. To the south west there are the steep slopes of the Edgehill escarpment around to Warmington and the steep valley slopes to the south of Upton and Ratley. The Burton Dassett and Shooters Hill ridge rises steeply above the surrounding lowland with an undulating profile with rounded tops. The steep slopes of the Wolds appear further north east around Priors Hardwick and Priors Marston (Marston Hill). There are two distinctive outlying steep sided and rounded hills at Shuckburgh and Napton-on-the-Hill. The well defined changes in level and locally prominent hilltops act as a distinctive backcloth to lower land and would mean that solar energy development would be likely to be highly visible and not compatible with the rounded nature of the slopes in places. The upper edge of the slopes and hilltops also act as noticeable skylines and solar energy would be potentially visible if located close to these edges.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The scale of enclosure tends to be medium to large and its geometric field pattern in places could theoretically be complementary to solar energy. However, the low cut hedges or fences with sparse tree cover in most places mean that there is very limited screening, so solar energy developments would be highly visible. There are small areas of permanent pasture with ridge and furrow and unimproved grassland and scrub on slopes which would also be sensitive.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area around Edgehill and Warmington is mainly later planned enclosure of open field and common. The Burton Dassett Hills and areas to the north east is a mixture of late planned enclosure interspersed with pockets of older piecemeal enclosure. The latter is intrinsically more sensitive.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The area around Edgehill and Warmington is mixed/ pastoral farmland in small-medium sized fields, with significant clusters of semi-natural grassland and secondary/ancient woodland and scrub. The landcover is therefore ecologically sensitive. The Burton Dassett Hills and areas to the north east are mainly productive mixed farmland with a scatter of surviving semi-improved pastures. The latter is more sensitive than the former. Extensive semi-natural habitat cover on Shuckburgh Hill is sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	Settlement comprises small nucleated villages with historic ironstone cores at the foot of the slopes but also on slopes, such as Warmington and valley sides. There is generally sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. Lanes tend to be quiet and narrow with limited movement apparent. The one exception is the A422 which runs up Edgehill. Solar energy development would not be compatible with this essentially rural landscape.			
Landscape features/foci/ landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and landmarks within the area include the Beacon Tower on the Burton Dassett Hills, the obelisk at Farnborough Park, the windmill on Napton Hill and the parkland at Shuckburgh Hall. The historic settlements have spires and towers. Minor features include traditional farmsteads and dwellings. Solar energy developments would be likely to detract from settings.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are numerous views from, over and towards the slopes and hills as they border lower lying land to the north and form a backcloth to it, which is very strong in the case of Edgehill. This means solar energy development would be prominent in these views. Promoted trails include the Oxford			

		Canal Walk, the D'Arcy Dalton Way, Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The Oxford Canal is used for leisure boating. The area is relatively sparsely settled and tranquil with very few detractors and modern features or elements. The main exception is the M40 which lies around 1 km away from some of the slopes and is a major noise source where traffic is intervisible. Solar energy development would be out of character in respect of views, and tranquillity in most areas.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The slopes and hills are highly intervisible with lower lying land and form a backcloth to it. This intervisibility means that solar energy development would be likely to affect adjacent landscapes.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The Edgehill slopes lie within the Cotswold AONB. There are nine village Conservation Areas in or adjacent to the area and there are scheduled monuments at Shuckburgh and Priors Hardwick (medieval settlements) and Gredenton (hill camp). There is an historic park and garden at Farnborough Hall and Radway Grange, There are numerous listed buildings such as the Beacon Tower at Burton Dassett. Napton Quarry is a County wildlife site. The role of Edgehill as the north eastern extension of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, and its contribution to its character mean this area has high value. The status of the rest of the area as a Candidate SLA indicates that this part of the area has moderately high value and sensitivity through its qualities of prominent ironstone hills, ridges and slopes, sparse settlement pattern of nucleated ironstone villages, parkland and other features.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to solar energy development as it is either within the Cotswold AONB or candidate SLA and comprises of mainly open, hill tops, slopes and ridges which form a strong backcloth and skyline for the lower vale and fringe landscapes. The area has historic conservation features in places and is generally tranquil with few modern features.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>						
The area has sensitivity to solar energy developments at all scales.		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
No scale of field solar energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 17 Landscape Character Type: Ironstone Fringe

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform of the Ironstone Fringe comprises a large scale rolling tableland with low rounded hills punctuated by more prominent Ironstone hills and ridges such as Napton Hill, Shuckburgh Hill and Burton Dasset and Shooters Hill. The hills within the area have gentler slopes than the Wolds. They include Mill Hill (157mAOD), Shirne Hill (150mAOD) and Wormleighton Hill (131mAOD) fringing the Wolds to the south west and Lady Hill (138mAOD), Ascote Hill (120mAOD) and Weddington Hill 126mAOD) to the north west. Between these hills there is lower lying, relatively flat land at around 95-105mAOD with watercourses although the Oxford Canal and Grand Union Canal skirt around a distinct change in level of rising land to the east eg Nedge Hill (150mAOD). The Warmington valley with its gentle slopes between 120m and 150mAOD lies between the Wolds to the south. The changes in level of the hills and slopes act as the backcloth to lower land and would mean that wind energy development would be likely to be prominent on them on the skyline in places. The smaller hills to the north west may be less sensitive to small wind energy and the flatter basin for larger turbines but these should set away from the hill fringes and distinct slopes.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The scale of enclosure tends to be medium to large and its generally regular/ geometric fields could be complementary to wind energy development. There are small areas of permanent pasture with ridge and furrow which would be sensitive. Small blocks and belts of plantation woodland could be complementary to small scale turbines.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area is mainly late planned enclosure which has limited sensitivity. This is interspersed with pockets of older piecemeal enclosure which are more sensitive to wind energy development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	Settlement comprises small nucleated villages with historic ironstone cores at the foot of the slopes such as Priors Marston and Priors Hardwick but also on rising/higher land, such as Wormleighton. There is generally fairly sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. There is a mast in the lower land north of Wormleighton. Lanes tend to be quiet but fairly straight with limited movement apparent but the A423 and A425 reduce tranquillity. The major exception is the M40 running through the Warmington Valley which is very noisy and busy. Wind energy development would not be compatible with the historic settlements and would be highly apparent close to busy roads.			
Landscape features/foci/ landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The Oxford Canal with associated buildings and structures runs through the middle of the area with views possible from canal boats and tow path. The main landmarks are located on the directly adjacent hills/Ironstone Wolds. These include the windmill at Napton-on-the-Hill, Shuckburgh Hall and the Burton Dasset Hills tower. More subtle foci include villages such as Fenny Compton and Wormleighton and isolated rural settlements such as Stoneton Moat Farm. Turbines could adversely affect the settings of these features.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are broad views across the area from slopes and rises within the area on the fringes of the Ironstone Wolds and also the low hills to the north west. There are also wider views from the adjacent Wolds themselves across this lower lying area. The Wolds provide the backcloth and features on them described above tend to draw the eye. The Oxford Canal and associated Walk allow extensive views across the area and the area is also crossed by the Centenary Way and D'Arcy Dalton Way. Users of these routes are sensitive			

		receptors. The northern area is generally tranquil but the M40 is very busy and noisy and reduces tranquillity significantly in its environs.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	There is intervisibility with the adjacent Ironstone Wolds which have views across this lower lying area and act as a backcloth to the south east. The outlying Wolds such as Napton Hill stand within the area. The low hills to the north west divide the area from the Lias Village Farmlands acting as a minor backcloth to it.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The main designation is the Cotswolds AONB which creeps into the southern fringes of the area. The candidate Ironstone Fringe SLA covers the majority of the eastern and southern part of the area, lying east of the Oxford Canal. The key qualities that relate to the area which may be sensitive to wind energy development include prominent slopes, pockets of permanent pasture, ridge and furrow, small nucleated villages, the Oxford Canal as a sinuous landscape feature, unspoilt wide views to the north. Conservation Areas are located at Warmington, Avon Dasset, Fenny Compton, Wormleighton, Priors Hardwick and Priors Marston. Scheduled monuments include deserted Medieval settlements at Wormleighton, Priors Hardwick and Hodnell Manor. There are numerous listed buildings in settlements such as Priors Marston as well as in isolated locations. Generally these historic features are sparsely scattered but the areas near these features and their settings are sensitive.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The main sensitivities of the area are the open slopes running down from the Wolds and the hills to the north west and south eg Shirne Hill and Mill Hill. Wind energy development would be likely to be prominent here. The areas in proximity to, and visible from, the Oxford and Grand Union Canal are also sensitive. Areas within or close to the AONB and in the candidate SLA are more sensitive than those areas outside. There may be less sensitive areas on flatter land for larger turbines and low hills with plantation woodland for smaller turbines. These tend to be further to the north west of the area.			

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas away from the Wold fringes and main changes in level, the Wold outliers eg Napton Hill and Shuckburgh Hill and the villages and their Conservation Areas. The flat area to the north west may be the only appropriate area for larger scale development. The low hills to the north west may be able to accommodate smaller scale development.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the wind energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas away from the Wold fringes and main changes in level, the Wold outliers eg Napton Hill and Shuckburgh Hill and the villages and their Conservation Areas. The flat area to the north west may be the only appropriate area for larger turbines but in limited size groups upto 5. The low hills to the north west may be able to accommodate smaller size/clusters development.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		Maximum landscape character type status
Comments	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
The area to the south/east is an area of constraint while the area to the north west may have some opportunities but at a density that does not adversely affect receptors to the south east and the Wold outliers eg Napton Hill and Shuckburgh Hill.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

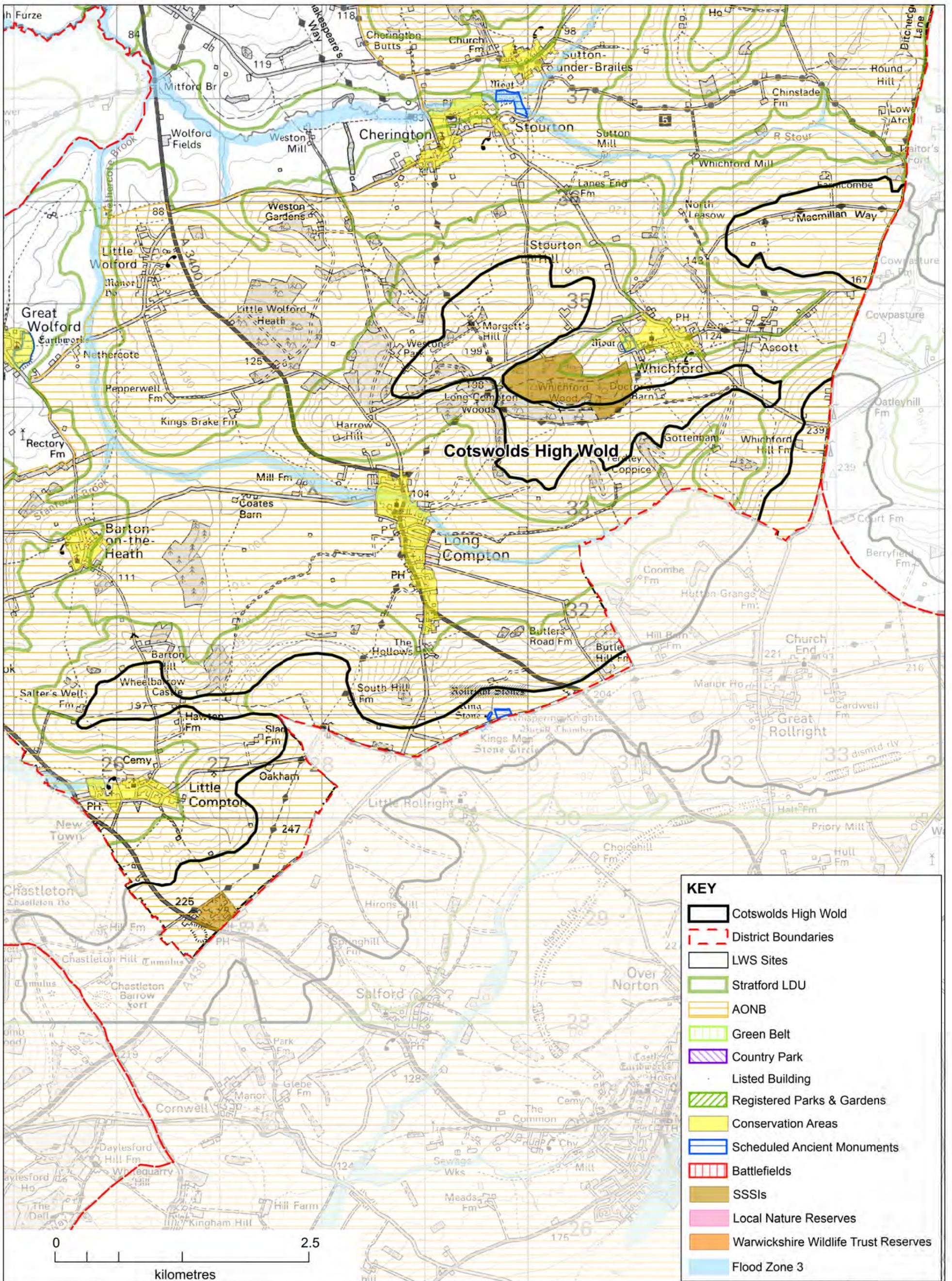
Landscape Type No: 17 Landscape Character Type: Ironstone Fringe

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform of the Ironstone Fringe comprises a large scale rolling tableland with low rounded hills punctuated by more prominent Ironstone hills and ridges such as Napton Hill, Shuckburgh Hill and Burton Dasset and Shooters Hill. The hills within the area have gentler slopes than the Wolds. They include Mill Hill, Shirne Hill and Wormleighton Hill fringing the Wolds to the south west and Lady Hill, Ascote Hill and Weddington Hill to the north west. Between these hills there is lower lying, relatively flat land with watercourses although the Oxford Canal and Grand Union Canal skirt around a distinct change in level of rising land to the east eg Nedge Hill. The Warmington valley with its gentle slopes lies between the Wolds to the south. The changes in level of the hills and slopes act as the backcloth to lower land and would mean that solar energy development would be likely to be highly visible on them. Development may also not be compatible with the rounded nature of the hilltops and may be visible on the skyline in places. Flatter areas or very gentle slopes would be more compatible with solar energy if sited with care.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The scale of enclosure tends to be medium to large and its generally regular/ geometric fields could be complementary to solar energy. Where there are strong hedges and solar energy development may be able to be screened but less so where there are gappy, low cut hedges or fences. There are small areas of permanent pasture with ridge and furrow which would be sensitive. Small blocks and belts of plantation woodland and hedgerow trees could assist in screening development in places.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area is mainly late planned enclosure which has limited sensitivity. This is interspersed with pockets of older piecemeal enclosure which are more sensitive to solar energy development.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The area comprises mainly productive arable farmland which has limited ecological sensitivity. There is a scatter of surviving semi-improved pastures which are more sensitive to solar energy development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	Settlement comprises small nucleated villages with historic ironstone cores at the foot of the slopes but also on rising/higher land, such as Wormleighton. There is generally fairly sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. Lanes tend to be quiet but fairly straight with limited movement apparent but the A423 and A425 reduce tranquillity. The major exception is the M40 running through the Warmington Valley which is very noisy and busy. Solar energy development would not be compatible with the historic settlements and would be visible close to busy roads.			
Landscape features/foci/ landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	The Oxford Canal with associated buildings and structures runs through the middle of the area with views possible from canal boats and tow path. The main landmarks are located on the directly adjacent hills/Ironstone Wolds. These include the windmill at Napton-on-the-Hill, Shuckburgh Hall and the Burton Dasset Hills tower. More subtle foci include villages such as Fenny Compton and Wormleighton and isolated rural settlements such as Stoneton Moat Farm.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are broad views across the area from slopes and rises within the area on the fringes of the Ironstone Wolds and also the low hills to the north west. There are also wider views from the adjacent Wolds themselves across this lower lying area. The Wolds provide the backcloth and features on them described above tend to draw the eye. The Oxford Canal and associated Walk allow extensive views across the			

		area and the area is also crossed by the Centenary Way and D'Arcy Dalton Way. Users of these routes are sensitive receptors. The northern area is generally tranquil but the M40 is very busy and noisy and reduces tranquillity significantly in its environs.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	There is intervisibility with the adjacent Ironstone Wolds which have views across this lower lying area and act as a backcloth to the south east. The outlying Wolds such as Napton Hill stand within the area. The low hills to the north west divide the area from the Lias Village Farmlands acting as a minor backcloth to it.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The main designation is the Cotswolds AONB which creeps into the southern fringes of the area. The candidate Ironstone Fringe SLA covers the majority of the eastern and southern part of the area, lying east of the Oxford Canal. The key qualities that relate to the area which may be sensitive to solar energy development include prominent slopes, pockets of permanent pasture, ridge and furrow, small nucleated villages, the Oxford Canal as a sinuous landscape feature, unspoilt wide views to the north. Conservation Areas are located at Warmington, Avon Dassett, Fenny Compton, Wormleighton, Priors Hardwick and Priors Marston. Scheduled monuments include deserted Medieval settlements at Wormleighton, Priors Hardwick and Hodnell Manor. There are numerous listed buildings in settlements such as Priors Marston as well as in isolated locations. Generally these historic features are sparsely scattered but the areas near these features and their settings are sensitive.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The main sensitivities of the area are the open slopes running down from the Wolds and the hills to the north west and south eg Shirne Hill and Mill Hill. Solar energy development would be likely to be prominent or highly noticeable here. The areas in proximity to, and visible from, the Oxford and Grand Union Canal are also sensitive. Areas within or close to the AONB and in the candidate SLA are more sensitive than those areas outside. There may be less sensitive areas on flatter land screened by plantation woodland, high hedges or landform. These tend to be further to the north west of the area.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The potential for the solar energy development is limited to broader, flatter or very gently sloping areas where there is potential for woodland and hedge screening. The area to the north west excluding the low hills may be the only appropriate area for development. Development size may be limited by constraints.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 - 5 ha					
	>5 - 15 ha					
	>15 - 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The area to the south east is an area of constraint while the area to the north west may have some opportunities but at a density that does not adversely affect receptors to the south east.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Cotswolds - High Wold

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: 18 Landscape Character Type: Cotswold High Wold

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform of the High Wold in the district comprises the slightly rounded hill tops at edge of the large scale rolling plateau of the Cotswolds. The landforms reach 259mAOD near Nebsworth to the north west, 247mAOD to the south and 203mAOD at Margetts Hill. The proximity to the well defined, dramatic changes in level of the Wolds falling sharply between 60m and 120m to lower land and the prominence of the hilltops would mean that wind energy development would be highly visible on the skyline and would affect the perceived scale of landform.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The scale of enclosure tends to be large and its geometric field boundaries and larger blocks of woodland and plantations in places could theoretically be complementary to wind energy. However, the openness means that wind energy developments would be highly visible.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly of late planned enclosure of former common and waste. There is limited time depth in its pattern.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	There is very little settlement with the exception of the pub and some dwellings around Cross Hands to the south. There are a few isolated wireless masts such as the pair at Nebsworth on Ilmington Hill, above Lark Stoke, and west of Little Rollright. Roads tend to be quiet with limited movement apparent although the road past Rollright Stones is used by fast traffic as it is relatively straight. Wind energy development would not be compatible with this essentially very rural landscape in most locations. Though the masts reduce the unspoilt rural qualities there is potential for cumulative effects with turbines which could look awkward in juxtaposition with them.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features within the area include the Kings Stone forming part of the Rollright Stones and a rectangular earthwork at Nebsworth although these are small features and not widely visible. Wind energy developments would detract from their setting.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are numerous long distance views from and towards the High Wolds as they lie on the edge of the plateau with slopes and lower lying land to the north. This means wind energy development would be likely to be prominent in these views. Promoted trails passing through the area or nearby include Shakespeare's Way, Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The area is sparsely settled and relatively tranquil with few detractors. The only modern features or elements are the wireless masts which do impinge on tranquillity to an extent but remain isolated, static features. Wind energy development would be out of character with the majority of the area.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The plateau tops are intervisible with lower lying land of the Cotswold Fringe and Feldon Vale to the north and south and forms the skyline. This intervisibility means that solar energy development could affect adjacent landscapes.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies within the Cotswold AONB whose special qualities include the High Wold's large open, elevated landscape with commons, 'big skies' and long distance views; and ancient broadleaf woodland, tranquillity, historic associations and accessible landscape for quiet recreation. There are scheduled monuments including the Kings Stone forming part of the Rollright Stones and a rectangular			

		earthwork at Nebsworth. Whichford Wood and Cross Hands Quarry are SSSIs. The role of the area as part of the northern edge of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, and its contribution to its character mean the area has high value.						
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has a high sensitivity to wind energy development as it is within the Cotswold AONB and comprises mainly open, hill tops and plateaux which form the skyline for the landscapes to the north and south. The area has historic conservation features in places and is tranquil with a limited number of modern features.						

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		Maximum landscape character type status
Comments	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
No wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

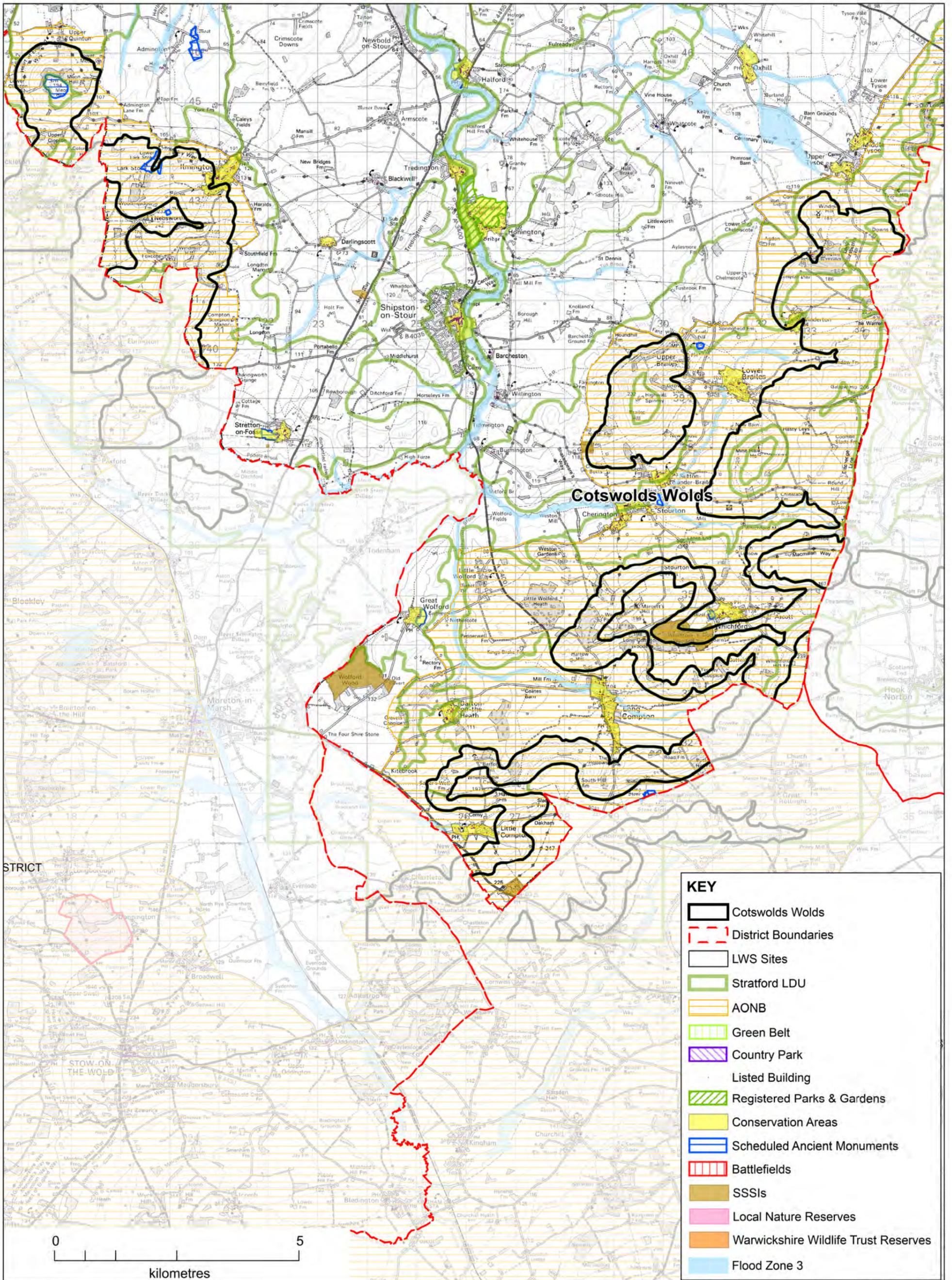
Landscape Type No: **18** Landscape Character Type: **Cotswolds High Wold**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform of the High Wold in the district comprises the edges of the large scale rolling plateau of the Cotswolds. The proximity to the well defined changes in level of the Wolds and locally prominent hilltops with slightly rounded landform would mean that solar energy development on the edges of the landform would be likely to be highly visible on the skyline. Rounded tops are also sensitive but flatter areas on the plateau are less sensitive.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The scale of enclosure tends to be large and its geometric field boundaries and larger blocks of woodland and plantations in places could be complementary to solar energy. However, the stone walls, low hedges or fences with sparse tree cover in most places mean that there is generally very limited screening, so solar energy developments could be highly visible.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly of late planned enclosure of former common and waste. There is limited time depth in its pattern.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The area is mainly productive arable farmland which has limited ecological sensitivity. The little surviving semi-natural habitat patches are sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	There is very little settlement with the exception of the pub and some dwellings around Cross Hands to the south. There are a few isolated wireless masts such as the pair at Nebsworth on Ilmington Hill, above Lark Stoke, and west of Little Rollright. Roads tend to be quiet with limited movement apparent although the road past Rollright Stones is used by fast traffic as it is relatively straight. Solar energy development would not be compatible with this essentially very rural landscape in most locations although proximity to the Ilmington masts reduces the unspoilt rural qualities.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features within the area include the Kings Stone forming part of the Rollright Stones and a rectangular earthwork at Nebsworth although these are small features and not widely visible. Solar energy developments would detract from their setting.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are numerous long distance views from and towards the High Wolds as they lie on the edge of the plateau with slopes and lower lying land to the north. This means solar energy development could be prominent in these views. Promoted trails passing through the area or nearby include Shakespeare's Way, Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The area is sparsely settled and relatively tranquil with few detractors. The only modern features or elements are the wireless masts which do impinge on tranquillity to an extent but remain isolated features. Solar energy development would be out of character with the majority of the area.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The plateau tops are intervisible with lower lying land of the Cotswold Fringe and Feldon Vale to the north and south and forms the skyline. This intervisibility means that solar energy development could affect adjacent landscapes.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies within the Cotswold AONB whose special qualities include the High Wold's large open, elevated landscape with commons, 'big skies' and long distance views; and ancient broadleaf woodland, tranquillity, historic associations and accessible landscape for quiet recreation. There are scheduled monuments including the Kings Stone forming part of the Rollright Stones and a rectangular			

		earthwork at Nebsworth. Whichford Wood and Cross Hands Quarry are SSSIs. The role of the area as part of the northern edge of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, and its contribution to its character mean the area has high value.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has a high sensitivity to solar energy development as it is within the Cotswold AONB and comprises mainly open, hill tops and plateaux which form the skyline for the landscapes to the north and south. The area has historic conservation features in places and is tranquil with a limited number of modern features.					

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
Virtually no field solar energy development is considered appropriate in this area. The smallest scale solar may be able to be accommodated where there are possibly masts and screening plantations with limited or no intervisibility but even here there is potential for disruption of the tranquillity and unspoilt character of the area, especially near publicly accessible areas such as footpaths. As such it is highly undesirable.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 – 5 ha					
	>5 – 15 ha					
	>15 – 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
Virtually no field solar energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



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Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: **19** Landscape Character Type: **Cotswold Wolds**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform of the Wolds comprises dramatic steep slopes and lower hilltops capped by oolitic limestone on the northern edges of the Cotswolds. The slopes tend to be 95-120m high such as at Meon Hill, around Ilmington and above Long Compton although some are 50-60m high in some locations such as the northern edge of Margett's Hill and at Windmill Hill. The steep slopes of Brailes Hill are around 100m high. The well defined changes in level and locally prominent hilltops with slightly rounded landform which act as a backcloth and skyline to lower land would mean that wind energy development would be likely to be highly visible and not compatible with the steep nature of the slopes. Turbines would also be likely to diminish the apparent scale and drama of the slopes. The hilltops and slopes are also overlooked from the High Wold. The incised valleys would be highly sensitive and sheltered and inappropriate for wind energy.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The scale of enclosure tends to be medium to large and its geometric field boundaries and larger blocks of woodland in places could be complementary to wind energy. However, the low cut hedges or fences with sparse tree cover in most places mean that there is very limited screening, so wind energy developments would be highly visible. The smaller scale fields/vegetation in combs and unimproved grassland and scrub would also be sensitive.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area is mainly late planned enclosure which has limited time depth interspersed with pockets of older piecemeal enclosure which are sensitive to solar energy development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	Settlement is limited to the upper edges of a couple of small nucleated villages with historic cores at the foot of the slopes and sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. Lanes tend to be quiet and narrow with limited movement apparent. There is one mast at Mine Hill. Wind energy development would not be compatible with this essentially very rural landscape.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and landmarks within the area include a windmill on Windmill Hill and a distinctive stand of trees on Brailes Hill. Meon Hill is a distinctive hill rising from the vale. Minor features include traditional farmsteads and dwellings. The historic settlements at the foot of the slopes have spires and towers. Wind energy developments would be likely to detract from the settings.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are numerous views from, over and towards the slopes and hills as they border lower lying land to the north and form a backcloth to it, and are lower than the High Wold which generally lies to the south. This means wind energy development could be prominent in these views. Promoted trails passing through the area or nearby include Shakespeare's Way, Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The area is sparsely settled and tranquil with very few detractors and modern features or elements. Wind energy development would therefore be out of character.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The slopes and hills are highly intervisible with lower lying land Cotswold fringe and Feldon and Avon Vales to the north and form a backcloth to it, and are overlooked by the High Wold which generally lies to the south. This intervisibility means that wind energy development would be likely to affect adjacent landscapes.			

VALUE			Value				
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→			Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies within the Cotswold AONB whose special qualities sensitive to wind energy development include the Cotswold escarpment and views to and from it, tranquillity, historic associations and accessible landscape for quiet recreation. The area is adjacent to several village Conservation Areas and there are scheduled monuments at Meon Hill (multivallate hillfort) and at Lark Stoke (medieval settlement). Whichford Wood is an SSSI. The area as part of the northern edge of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, mean it has high value.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has a high sensitivity to wind energy development as it is within the Cotswold AONB and comprises prominent, mainly open, hillslopes and tops which form the backcloth and skyline for the landscapes to the north and are overlooked by, and form the context to, the High Wold to the south. The area has historic conservation features in places and is tranquil with few modern features.					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
No scale of wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>					
	15m to hub-35m					
	>35-50m					
	>50-80m					
	>80-110m					
	110m +					

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
No scale of wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>					
	Single turbine					
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)					
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)					
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)					
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)					

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		Maximum landscape character type status
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
No scale of wind energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

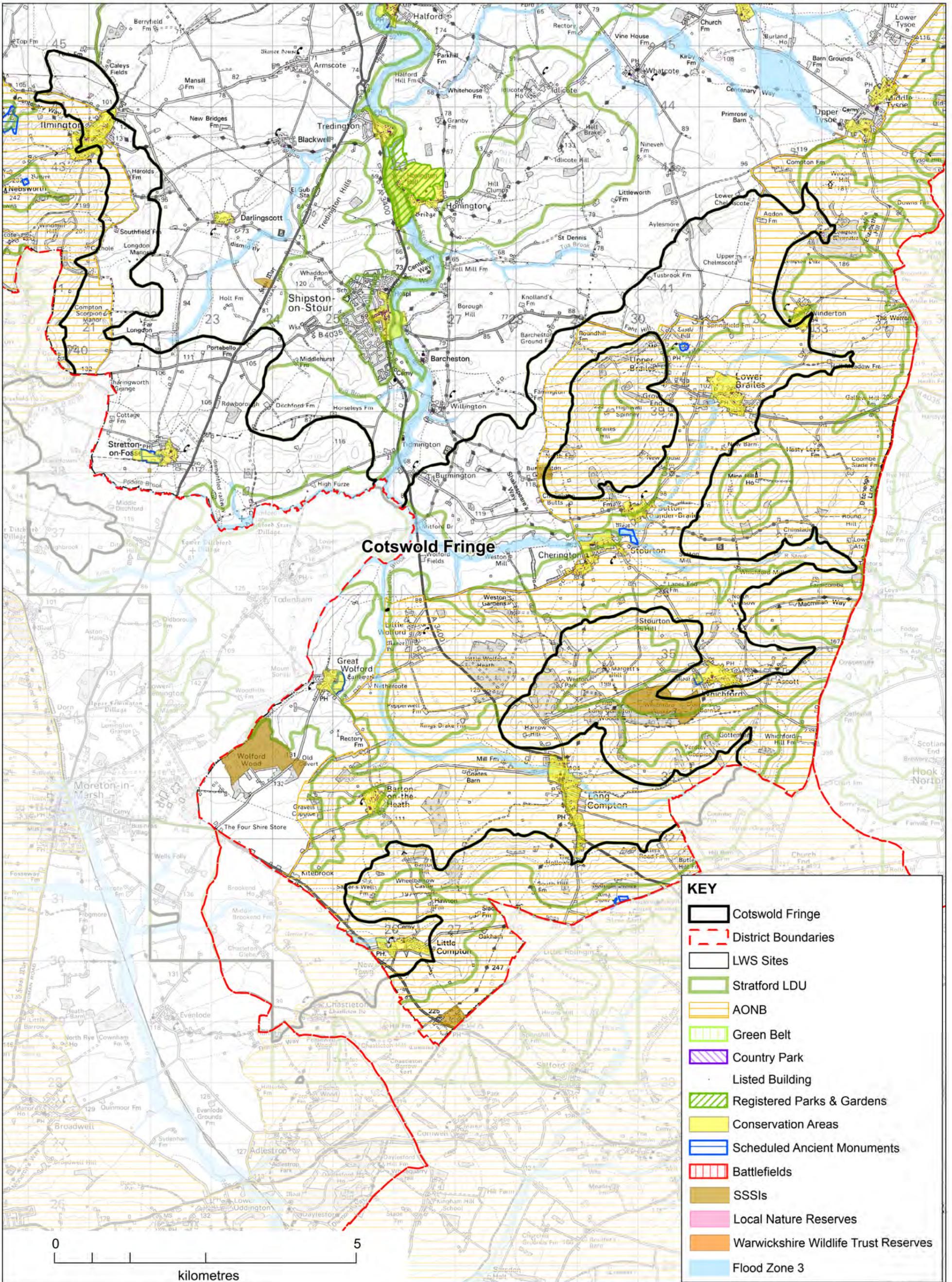
Landscape Type No: **19** Landscape Character Type: **Cotswold Wolds**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform of the Wolds comprises dramatic steep slopes and lower hilltops capped by oolitic limestone on the northern edges of the Cotswolds. The well defined changes in level and locally prominent hilltops with slightly rounded landform which act as a backcloth to lower land would mean that solar energy development would be likely to be highly visible and not compatible with the rounded nature of the slopes. The upper edge of the slopes and hilltops also act as noticeable skylines and solar energy would be potentially visible if located close to these edges. The hilltops and slopes are also overlooked from the High Wold. Some slopes are steep and there are cwms which would be sensitive.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The scale of enclosure tends to be medium to large and its geometric field boundaries and larger blocks of woodland in places could be complementary to solar energy. However, the low cut hedges or fences with sparse tree cover in most places mean that there is very limited screening, so solar energy developments would be highly visible. The smaller scale fields/vegetation in combs and unimproved grassland and scrub would also be sensitive.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area is mainly late planned enclosure which has limited time depth interspersed with pockets of older piecemeal enclosure which are sensitive to solar energy development.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	The productive mixed farmland has limited ecological sensitivity but there are significant clusters of surviving semi-natural habitats on the steeper slopes which would be sensitive to solar energy development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	Settlement is limited to the upper edges of a couple of small nucleated villages with historic cores at the foot of the slopes and sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. Lanes tend to be quiet and narrow with limited movement apparent. Solar energy development would not be compatible with this essentially very rural landscape.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and landmarks within the area include a windmill on Windmill Hill and a distinctive stand of trees on Brailes Hill. Meon Hill is a distinctive hill rising from the vale. Minor features include traditional farmsteads and dwellings. The historic settlements at the foot of the slopes have spires and towers. Solar energy developments might detract from settings.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are numerous views from, over and towards the slopes and hills as they border lower lying land to the north and form a backcloth to it, and are lower than the High Wold which generally lies to the south. This means solar energy development could be prominent in these views. Promoted trails passing through the area or nearby include Shakespeare's Way, Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The area is sparsely settled and tranquil with very few detractors and modern features or elements. Solar energy development would therefore be out of character.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The slopes and hills are highly intervisible with lower lying land to the north and form a backcloth to it, and are overlooked by the High Wold which generally lies to the south. This intervisibility means that solar energy development would be likely to affect adjacent landscapes.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	—————▶	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special	The area lies within the Cotswold AONB whose special qualities sensitive to solar energy development include the Cotswold escarpment and views to and from it, tranquillity, historic associations and accessible landscape for quiet			

	and scenic qualities, interest and use	recreation. The area is adjacent to several village Conservation Areas and there are scheduled monuments at Meon Hill (multivallate hillfort) and at Lark Stoke (medieval settlement). Whichford Wood is an SSSI. The area as part of the northern edge of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, mean it has high value.					
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has a high sensitivity to solar energy development as it is within the Cotswold AONB and comprises prominent, mainly open, hillslopes and tops which form the backcloth and skyline for the landscapes to the north and are overlooked by, and form the context to, the High Wold to the south. The area has historic conservation features in places and is tranquil with few modern features.					

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE		Sensitivity				
Comments		Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
No scale of field solar energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
	< 1 ha					
	1 – 5 ha					
	>5 – 15 ha					
	>15 – 25 ha					
	>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT		Maximum landscape character type status
Comments	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
No scale of field solar energy development is considered appropriate in this area.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape



KEY	
	Cotswold Fringe
	District Boundaries
	LWS Sites
	Stratford LDU
	AONB
	Green Belt
	Country Park
	Listed Building
	Registered Parks & Gardens
	Conservation Areas
	Scheduled Ancient Monuments
	Battlefields
	SSSIs
	Local Nature Reserves
	Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Reserves
	Flood Zone 3

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Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbines

Landscape Type No: **20** Landscape Character Type: **Cotswold Fringe**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to wind energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, shape, enclosure and skyline	The landform of the Cotswold Fringe comprises slopes, low hills and valleys on the fringe of the more steeply sloping ground of the Wolds on the northern edges of the Cotswolds. A series of minor hills south of Ilmington rise around 25m (to 125mAOD) above the adjoining vale whilst the scarp slopes rise to 200mAOD+ to the west. Elsewhere the land falls from the steeper slopes from around 140mAOD to around 95mAOD with a mix of gentle and some pronounced slopes. The changes in level and slightly rounded landforms act as the lower part of the backcloth to the Feldon Vale lowlands to the north. Where this occurs, wind energy development would be highly visible against higher ground. The upper edge of the slopes and hilltops also act as locally noticeable skylines and wind energy would be highly visible if located on or close to these edges. Location of turbines in the valleys would localise effects but development may look incongruous. Overall, the area is overlooked from the Wolds and High Wold so turbines would also be seen against the vale landscape.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure, condition	The scale of enclosure tends to be medium to large and its geometric field boundaries could be complementary to wind energy. However, the low cut hedges or fences with sparse tree cover in most places mean that there is very limited screening, so wind energy developments would be highly visible. There are pockets of permanent pasture with more irregular and smaller fields which are more sensitive. The limited number of large blocks of woodland could complement wind energy.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly productive cultivated farmland which has limited sensitivity. However, there are a scatter of surviving semi-improved pastures some with ridge and furrow which would be sensitive to wind energy development.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern, other man made vertical elements, movement	Settlement comprises small nucleated stone villages with historic cores at the foot of the slopes or at river crossings and relatively sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. There are a few A roads- the A429 Fosse Way, the A44 to the south and A3400 which reduce tranquillity in their environs but are rural roads. Lanes tend to be moderately quiet. There are no masts located in this area. Wind energy development would not be compatible with the majority of this largely unspoilt rural landscape.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and landmarks within the area include Castle Hill near Upper Brailes and churches in various settlements such as Ilmington, Long Compton and Lower Brailes. Minor features include traditional farmsteads and dwellings such as south of Stretton-on-Fosse. Wind energy developments might detract from settings.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	—————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are views from, over and towards the slopes and hills as they border lower lying land to the north and form the lower backcloth to it in front of the Cotswolds. This means wind energy development would be noticeable in these views. Promoted trails passing through the area or nearby include Shakespeare's Way, Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The area is relatively sparsely settled and tranquil with few detractors and modern features or elements. The valleys are less widely visible. The flat land to the south near Moreton-in-Marsh is more enclosed with limited views. The area is generally tranquil away from the A roads eg A44 which reduces tranquillity in its environs. Wind energy development would be out of character for most of the area.			

Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The slopes and hills are intervisible with lower lying land of the Feldon Vale to the north and form a lower backcloth to it. These areas and the valleys are overlooked by the Cotswolds Wolds and High Wold. This intervisibility means that wind energy development would be highly likely to affect adjacent landscapes.				
VALUE			Value			
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→		Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies partly within the Cotswold AONB, including around 11 village Conservation Areas and there are scheduled monuments at Castle Hill (motte) , Stretton-on-Fosse (Romano-British settlement and cemetery) , Great Wolford and Stourton (moated sites). Wolford Wood is an SSSI and there are several county wildlife sites. The role of the area as part of the northern edge of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, and its contribution to its character mean the area has high value. The status of most of the rest of the area as a Candidate SLA indicates that this part of the area has sensitivity and moderately high value through its qualities of small rounded hills and slopes, permanent pasture with ridge and furrow, sparse settlement pattern of nucleated villages, and its relationship with the AONB.				
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to wind energy development as it is either within the Cotswold AONB or candidate SLA and comprises of mainly open, hill slopes and valleys which form the lower backcloth and skyline for the landscapes to the north and are overlooked by, and form the context to, the Wolds and High Wold. The area has historic conservation features in places and is tranquil with few modern features. There are very limited, if any, opportunities.				

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE HEIGHT	<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>	Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at all scales due to its landform, skylines, historic settlements and features and presence and intervisibility with the Cotswolds AONB and the candidate SLA status with its associated qualities.	<i>Turbine height to blade tip</i>				
	15m to hub-35m				
	>35-50m				
	>50-80m				
	>80-110m				
	110m +				

SENSITIVITY TO TURBINE CLUSTER SIZE	<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>	Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to wind energy developments at all scales due to its landform, skylines, historic settlements and features and presence and intervisibility with the Cotswolds AONB and the candidate SLA status with its associated qualities.	<i>Turbine cluster size</i>				
	Single turbine				
	Small scale clusters (2-3 turbines)				
	Medium scale clusters (4-7 turbines)				
	Medium/large scale clusters (7-12 turbines)				
	Large scale clusters (13-24 turbines)				

CAPACITY FOR WIND TURBINES		<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no wind turbines
The area has very limited capacity for wind energy developments at all scales.	2	Landscape character type with occasional wind turbines in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with wind turbines
	4	Wind turbine landscape

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Energy Development

Landscape Type No: **20** Landscape Character Type: **Cotswold Fringe**

SUSCEPTIBILITY					
Main criteria	Factors	Susceptibility to solar energy: comments	Susceptibility		
PHYSICAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
Landform scale and enclosure	Topographic form, scale, slope and skyline	The landform of the Cotswold Fringe comprises slopes, low hills and valleys on the fringe of the more steeply sloping ground of the Wolds on the northern edges of the Cotswolds. The changes in level and slightly rounded landforms act as the lower part of the backcloth to the Feldon Vale lowlands to the north. Where this occurs, solar energy development would be likely to be visible. The upper edge of the slopes and hilltops also act as locally noticeable skylines and solar energy would be potentially visible if located on or close to these edges. The valley sides would expose development to view although this may be more localised. Overall, the area is overlooked from the Wolds and High Wold. Closer to Moreton-in-Marsh the land is relatively flat which is less sensitive.			
Landcover pattern, scale and enclosure	Landcover type, scale, pattern, enclosure	The scale of enclosure tends to be medium to large and its geometric field boundaries could be complementary to solar energy. However, the low cut hedges or fences with sparse tree cover in most places mean that there is very limited screening, so solar energy developments could be highly visible. There are pockets of permanent pasture with more irregular and smaller fields which are more sensitive. The limited number of large blocks of woodland could complement solar energy and the outgrown hedges and trees to the south east of Moreton-in-Marsh could screen development.			
Historic Landscape Character	Time depth, integrity and consistency	The area comprises mainly productive cultivated farmland which has limited sensitivity. However, there are a scatter of surviving semi-improved pastures some with ridge and furrow which would be sensitive to solar energy development.			
Ecological landscape character	Ecological landscape character	Mainly productive cultivated farmland which has limited sensitivity but with a scatter of surviving semi-improved pastures which would be sensitive. There is also a more significant cluster of habitats, including ancient woodland, in the vicinity of Barton-on-the-Heath/Great Wolford which would be sensitive.			
Settlement type and pattern	Settlement pattern and movement	Settlement comprises small nucleated stone villages with historic cores at the foot of the slopes or at river crossings and relatively sparse and scattered rural dwellings and farmsteads. There are a few A roads- the A429 Fosse Way, the A44 to the south and A3400 which reduce tranquillity in their environs but are rural roads. Lanes tend to be moderately quiet. Solar energy development would not be compatible with the majority of this rural landscape.			
Landscape features/foci/landmarks	Sensitive features/foci	Sensitive features and landmarks within the area include Castle Hill near Upper Brailes and churches in various settlements such as Ilmington, Long Compton and Lower Brailes. Minor features include traditional farmsteads and dwellings such as south of Stretton-on-Fosse. Solar energy developments might detract from settings.			
PERCEPTUAL			Lower	————▶	Higher
How the landscape is experienced	Views, tranquillity	There are views from, over and towards the slopes and hills as they border lower lying land to the north and form the lower backcloth to it in front of the Cotswolds. This means solar energy development could be noticeable in these views. Promoted trails passing through the area or nearby include Shakespeare's Way, Centenary Way and Macmillan Way. The area is relatively sparsely settled and tranquil with few detractors and modern features or elements. The valleys are less widely visible. The flat land to the south near Moreton is more enclosed with limited views. The area is generally tranquil away from the A roads eg A44 which reduces tranquillity in its environs. Solar energy development			

		would be out of character for most of the area.			
Context	Relationship with and intervisibility with adjacent landscapes	The slopes and hills are intervisible with lower lying land of the Feldon Vale to the north and form a lower backcloth to it. These areas and the valleys are overlooked by the Cotswolds Wolds and High Wold. This intervisibility means that solar energy development would be likely to affect adjacent landscapes.			
VALUE			Value		
Main criteria	Factors	Comments	Lower	→	Higher
Value	Designations, cultural and conservation factors, special and scenic qualities, interest and use	The area lies partly within the Cotswold AONB, including around 11 village Conservation Areas and there are scheduled monuments at Castle Hill (motte) , Stretton-on-Fosse (Romano-British settlement and cemetery) , Great Wolford and Stourton (moated sites). Wolford Wood is an SSSI and there are several county wildlife sites. The role of the area as part of the northern edge of the AONB, which is a national landscape designation, and its contribution to its character mean the area has high value. The status of most of the rest of the area as a Candidate SLA indicates that this part of the area has sensitivity and moderately high value through its qualities of small rounded hills and slopes, permanent pasture with ridge and furrow, sparse settlement pattern of nucleated villages, and its relationship with the AONB.			
SUMMARY OF SENSITIVITY	Derived from above	The area has sensitivity to solar energy development as it is either within the Cotswold AONB or candidate SLA and comprises of mainly open, hill slopes and valleys which form the lower backcloth and skyline for the landscapes to the north and are overlooked by, and form the context to, the Wolds and High Wold. The area has historic conservation features in places and is tranquil with few modern features. There may be some opportunity in the more enclosed flat land to the south east of Moreton-in-Marsh.			

SENSITIVITY TO SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SITE SIZE	<i>Sensitivity</i>				
<i>Comments</i>	Low	Medium/low	Medium	High/medium	High
The area has sensitivity to solar energy developments at all scales except in the relatively flat and enclosed southern area east of Moreton-in-Marsh which does not share these characteristics with the rest of the area.					
<i>Site sizes (hectare)</i>					
< 1 ha					
1 - 5 ha					
>5 - 15 ha					
>15 - 25 ha					
>25 ha					

CAPACITY FOR SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	<i>Maximum landscape character type status</i>	
<i>Comments</i>	1	Landscape character type with no field solar energy developments
The area has very limited capacity for solar energy developments at all scales except in the relatively flat and enclosed southern area east of Moreton-in-Marsh which does not share these characteristics with the rest of the area outside the AONB.	2	Landscape character type with occasional field solar energy developments in it and/or intervisible in another landscape character area/s
	3	Landscape character type with field solar energy developments
	4	Field solar energy developments landscape

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Note: This glossary is not a complete coverage of all words or terms used in the study. For instance it does not cover technical geological, ecological or historical landscape terms. Rather, it addresses those terms used as part of this method or in the descriptions, where meanings diverge from common parlance or are not explained in the method statement.

Amenity Planting-	planting to provide environmental benefit such as decorative or screen planting.
Analysis-	the process of dividing up the landscape into its component parts to gain a better understanding of it.
Ancient Woodland-	land continuously wooded since AD 1600. It is an extremely valuable ecological resource, usually with a high diversity of flora and fauna.
Apparent-	object visible in the landscape.
Approach-	the step-by-step process by which landscape assessment is undertaken.
Arable-	land used for growing crops other than grass or woody species.
Assessment-	term to describe all the various ways of looking at, analysing, evaluating and describing the landscape.
Biodiversity-	the variety of life including all the different habitats and species in the world.
Conservation-	the protection and careful management of natural and built resources and the environment.
Capacity	see Landscape Capacity.
Character-	see Landscape Character.
Characteristics-	elements, features and qualities which make a particular contribution to distinctive character.*
Character Area (CA)-	see landscape character area
Characterisation-	the process of identifying areas of similar character, classifying and mapping them and describing their character.
Complexity-	(in the context of describing a skyline)how varied or complicated the skyline is from dead flat with even vegetation at one end of the scale to mountainous with varied vegetation at the other.
Condition-	the degree to which a landscape is soundly managed, is fit for purpose or achieves optimum biodiversity.
Coppicing-	the traditional method of woodland management in which trees are

	cut down near to the ground to encourage the production of long, straight shoots that can be harvested.
Consistent-	relatively unchanging element or pattern across a given area of landscape.
Cultural pattern-	expression of the historic pattern of enclosure and rural settlement.
Cultural sensitivity-	reflects the relative time depth (or continuity) of a landscape through history, and the degree to which its characteristics (such as hedgerows and settlements) are exhibited in the landscape (consistency). This is an element of intrinsic/inherent sensitivity described at landscape description unit level.
Cumulative Impacts	the changes caused by a proposed development in <i>addition</i> to other similar developments or as the <i>combined</i> effect of a set of developments, taken together. This may be an on-going process as new applications are made. The assessment of these impacts (a CLVIA) is normally carried out as part of an environmental impact assessment.
Cumulative landscape effects	cumulative effects as defined above on landscape can impact on either the physical fabric, or character of the landscape.
Cumulative visual effects	cumulative effects as defined above on people who have differing sensitivity depending on what they are doing and where they are located.
Distinctiveness	see sense of place
Ecological sensitivity-	reflects the extent of survival and intactness of semi-natural habitats or patches (areas). This is an element of intrinsic/inherent sensitivity described at landscape description unit level.
Element-	individual component parts of the landscape such as field boundaries, woodlands, patches of similar vegetation, outbuildings, structures and rock outcrops.
Feature-	prominent eye catching elements e.g. wooded hill top or chapel.
Field Boundary-	the defined edge of a field whether fence, hedge, bank, ditch or wall.
Field Size -	Large 2 Ha Above, Medium Around 1.5 Ha, Small Less Than 1 Ha.
Geology-	the study of the origin, structure, composition and history of the Earth together with the processes that have led to its present state.
Ground Type-	expression of the soil forming environment and its influence in determining the surface pattern of vegetation and land use.
Hedge-	fence of shrubs or low trees, living or dead, or of turf or stone. Though strictly a row of bushes forming a hedge, hedgerow has been taken to mean the same as a hedge.

Hedge bank-	earth bank or mound relating to a hedge.
Horticulture-	intensive form of cropping, such as vegetables or fruit.
Improved (in relation to soils or pasture)-	addition of fertiliser and, in the case of pasture, reseeding with more productive grass species.
Inherent	dictionary definition- 'existing as an inseparable part'. In the context of sensitivity means the sensitivity of the landscape zone itself with all its component elements and features rather than its relationship with adjacent zones.
Intervisible	Receptors in separate areas or points that are mutually visible/can be seen by each other.
Landcover-	combinations of natural and man-made elements including vegetation that cover the land surface.
Land cover parcel- (LCP)	Land Cover Parcels are discrete areas of land nested within a larger LDU reflecting variations in the physical character of the land. Bounded by roads, railways, water courses and parish boundaries, these units define areas with similar patterns of land use, field pattern and tree cover.
Landscape-	primarily the visual appearance of the land including its shape, form and colours. However, landscape is not purely a visual phenomena. The landscape relies on a range of other aspects including geology, landform, soils, ecology, archaeology, landscape history, land use, settlement character and pattern and cultural associations.
Land Description Unit (LDU)-	distinct and relatively homogenous unit of land, each defined by four attributes- physiography and ground type, landcover and cultural pattern.
Landform-	combinations of slope and elevation which combine to give shape and form to the land.
Landscape Capacity	amount of change (ie wind or solar energy development) that a landscape character type can accommodate without adverse changes to character or key characteristics.
Landscape Character-	a distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements, features and qualities in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.
Landscape Character Area (CA)-	area with common characteristics made up of a number of adjacent land description units with similar and/or related physiography and ground type, landcover and cultural pattern characteristics.
Landscape character assessment (LCA)	LCA is the process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape, and using this information to assist in managing change in the landscape. It seeks to identify and

	explain the unique combination of elements and features that make landscape distinctive. *
Landscape Character Type (LCT)-	One or more areas with common characteristics- in this study these are made up of a number of land description units (LDUs) with similar and/or related physiography and ground type, landcover and cultural pattern characteristics.
Landscape Resource-	The overall stock of the landscape and its component parts. (The landscape considered as a measurable finite resource like any other eg minerals, land, water).
Landscape Sensitivity-	the sensitivity of the site to the particular type of change under consideration. It is derived from susceptibility and value.
Landscape value-	the relative value that is attached to different landscapes. A landscape may be valued by different communities of interest for many different reasons. Some areas will be designated to express their value. Factors can include perceptual qualities, scenic beauty, tranquillity, wildness, sense of place/character, integrity/condition, special cultural associations, the presence of conservation interests, rarity, representativeness, community interest or use, or the existence of a consensus about importance either nationally or locally.
Mixed Farmland-	a combination of arable and pastoral farmland.
Mosaic-	mix of different landcovers at a fine grain such as woodland, pasture and heath.
National Character Area-	area of land (one of 159) based on broad landscape character originally defined by a national landscape character assessment in 1990s for the Countryside Agency corresponding with nationally derived Natural Areas defined by English Nature eg Bodmin Moor.
Objective-	method of assessment in which personal feelings and opinions do not influence characterisation.
Outcrop-	the area where a particular rock appears at the surface.
Pastoral-	land down to grass either grazed by animals or for cutting.
Physiography-	expression of the shape and structure of the land surface as influenced both by the nature of the underlying geology and the effect of geomorphological processes.
Polygon-	discrete digitised area in a geographic information system(GIS).
Prominent-	noticeable feature or pattern in the landscape.
Protect-	to keep from harm.
Qualities-	aesthetic (objective visible patterns) or perceptual (subjective responses by the landscape assessor) attributes of the landscape

such as those relating to scale or tranquillity respectively.

Regional Character Areas-	see National Character Areas
Receptor-	receptors (in this report) are defined as people in a variety of different situations who can experience views within an area and who may be affected by change or development. Receptors can include urban or rural residents, users of public footpaths, roads, rail or cycleways.
Resource-	see landscape resource.
Restore-	repair or renew.
Riparian-	vegetation associated with the water body, usually a river or stream.
Semi-natural vegetation-	any type of vegetation that has been influenced by human activities, either directly or indirectly. The term is usually applied to areas which are reverting to nature due to lack of management.
Sense Of Place-	the character of a place that makes it locally distinctive ie different from other places.
Sensitivity-	see landscape sensitivity.
Sensory-	that which is received through the senses ie sight, hearing, smell, touch.
Settlement-	all dwellings/habitations, whether single or clustered in cities, towns and villages.
Settlement Pattern-	the predominant pattern of settlement in an area.
Subjective-	method of assessment in which personal views and reaction are used in the characterisation process.
Susceptibility (to change)	ability of a particular site or landscape to accommodate a particular type of development without undue consequences for the landscape character or baseline situation and/or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies.
Topography-	term used to describe the features of the Earth's surface.
Value-	see landscape value.
Vernacular-	built in the local style, from local materials.
Visual Impacts-	the likely visual effects that would result from a development proposal or change in land management.
Visual sensitivity-	visual sensitivity or 'visibility' is a measure of the degree to which

change is likely to cause a visual impact within a particular landscape. This is an element of intrinsic/inherent sensitivity often described at landscape description unit level.

*Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Countryside Council for Wales (2011), Landscape Character Assessment Guidance (consultation draft).

Abbreviations

AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
CA	Character area
20c	20 th century
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
GIS	Geographic information system
LBAP	Local Biodiversity Action Plan
LCA	Landscape character assessment
LCP	Land cover parcel
LDU	Landscape description unit
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
NCA	National character area
Ramsar site	Wetland site of international importance
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SAM	Scheduled Monument
SMR	Scheduled Monument Record
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest

APPENDIX B

CANDIDATE SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AREAS-MAPS

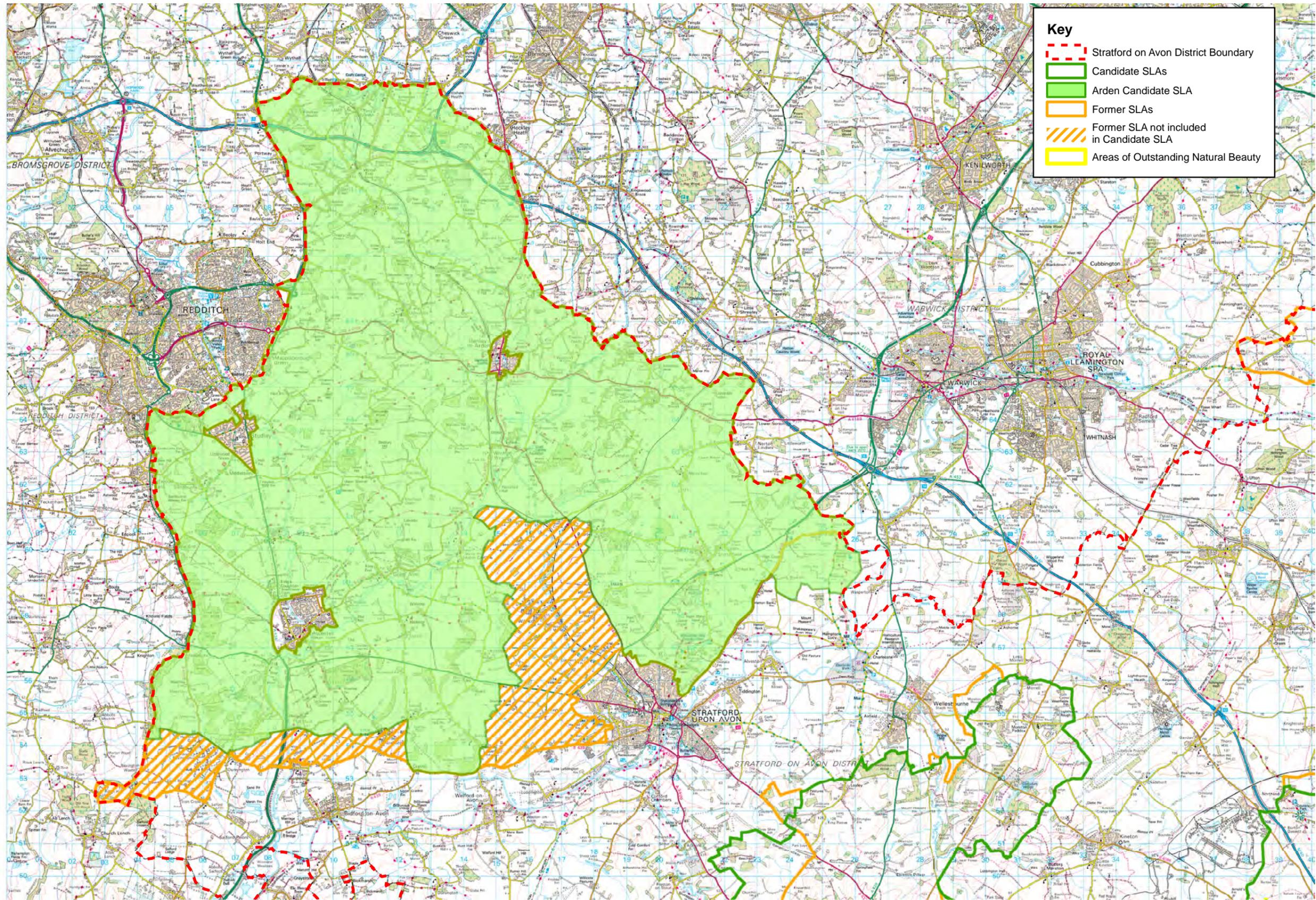
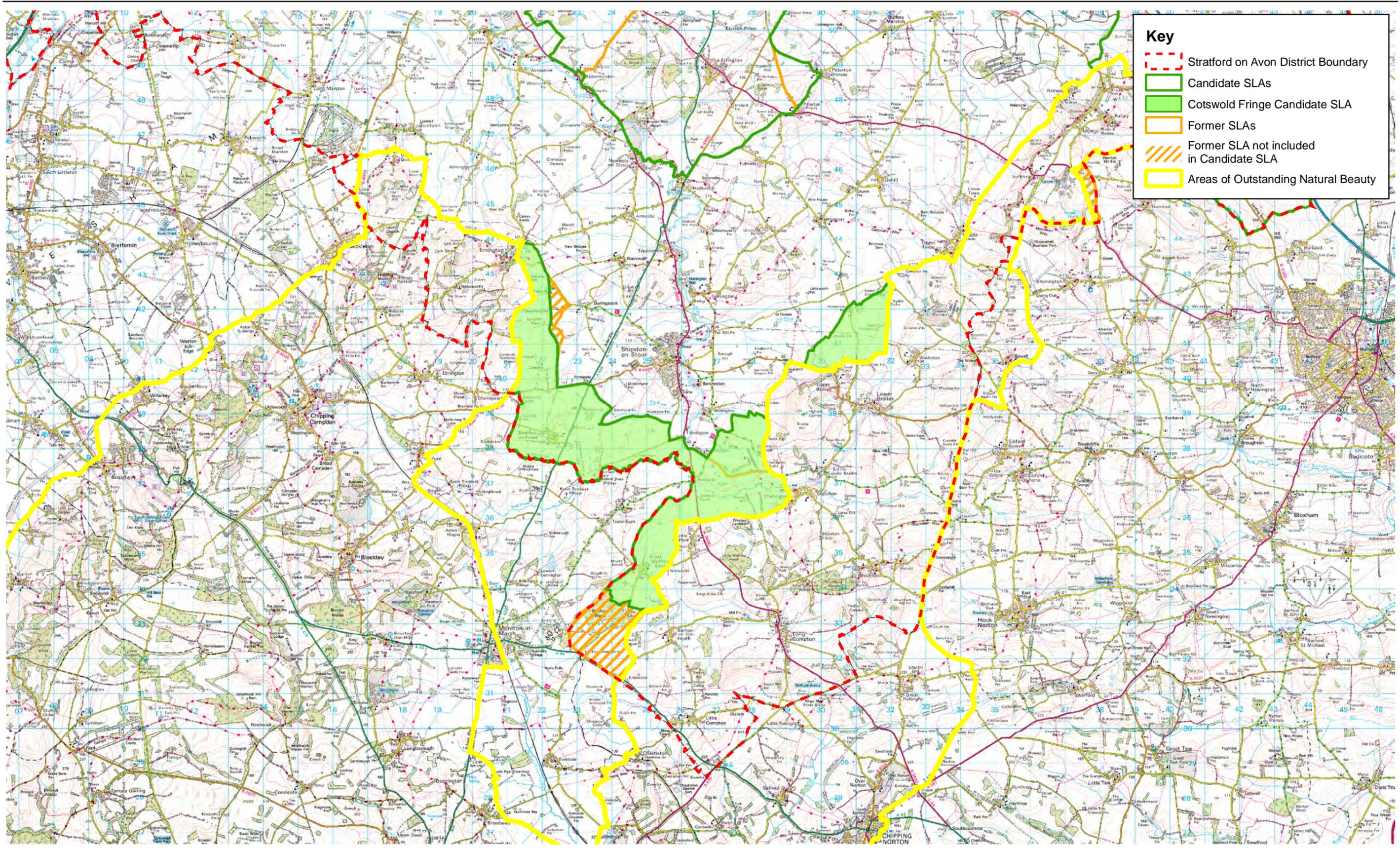


Figure 8
Arden Candidate SLA



Key

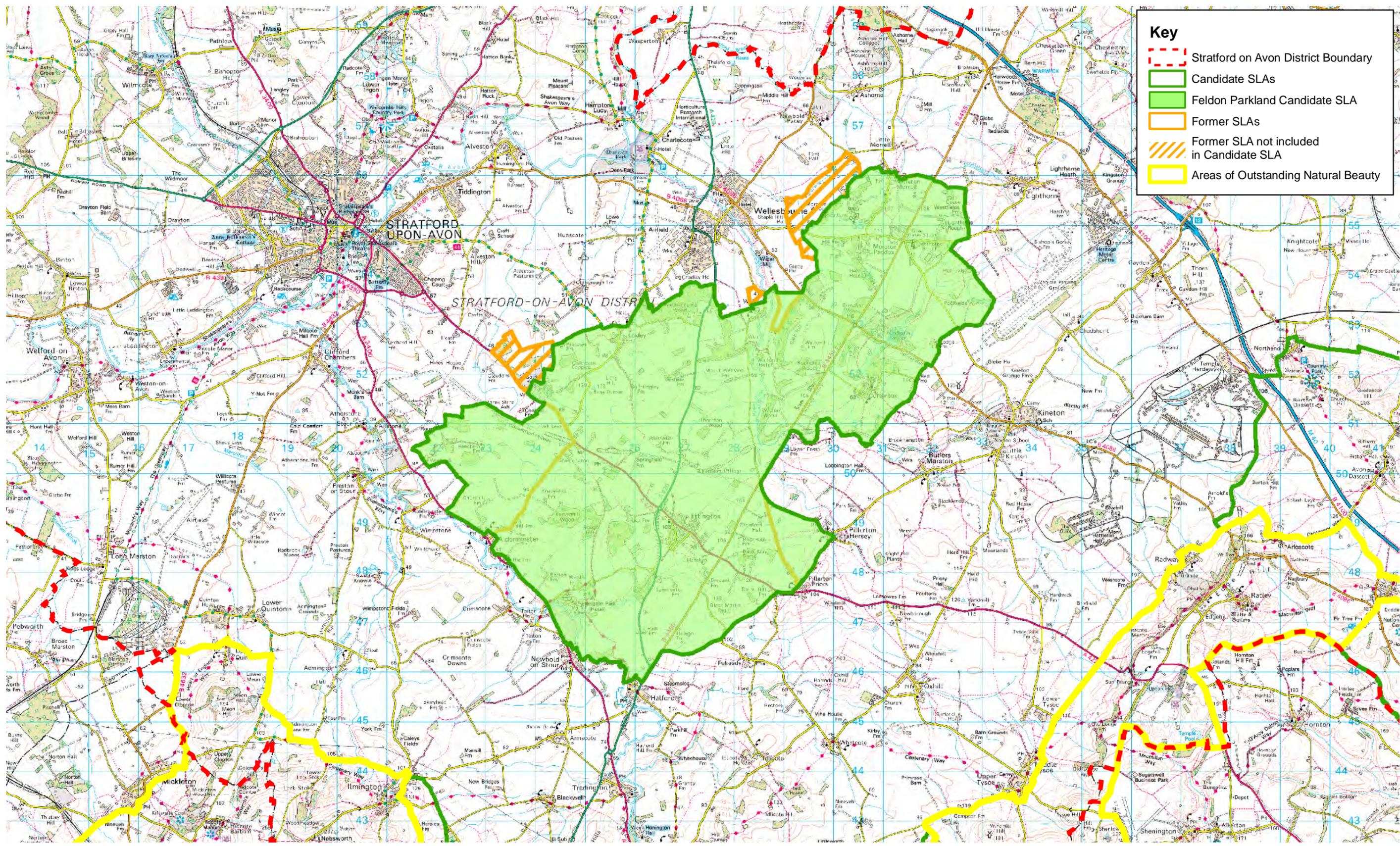
- Stratford on Avon District Boundary
- Candidate SLAs
- Cotswold Fringe Candidate SLA
- Former SLAs
- Former SLA not included in Candidate SLA
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty



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Figure 9
Cotswold Fringe Candidate SLA



Key

- Stratford on Avon District Boundary
- Candidate SLAs
- Feldon Parkland Candidate SLA
- Former SLAs
- Former SLA not included in Candidate SLA
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty



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Figure 10
Feldon Parkland Candidate SLA

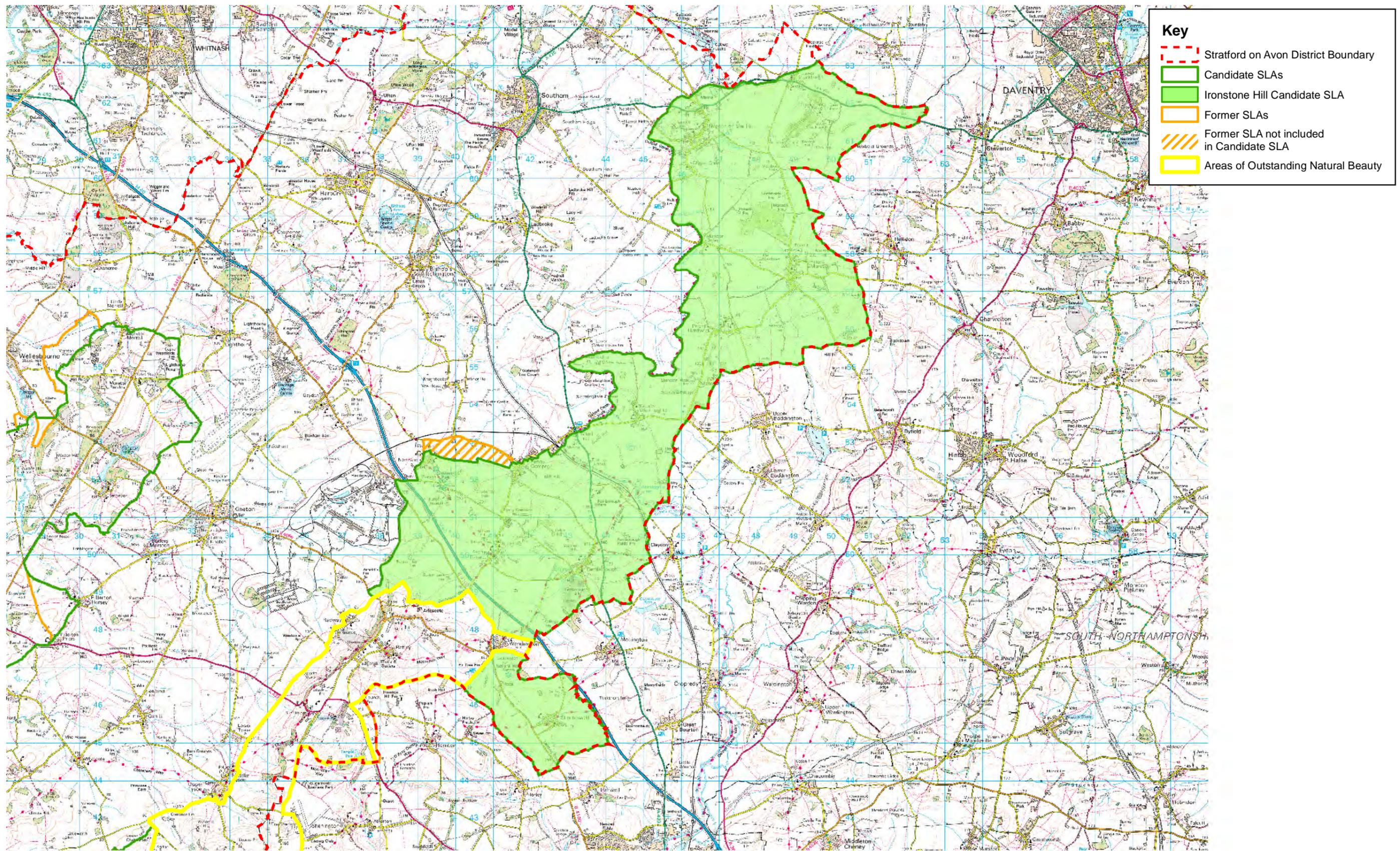


Figure 11
Ironstone Hill Candidate SLA

0 3 6 12 km

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