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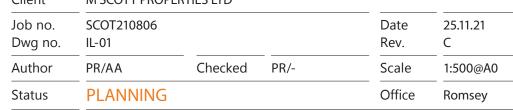
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24.01.22 PR/AA PR/--11.02.22 PR AA 11.05.22 PR/ER PR

Project Land West of Watling Street, Park Street

Drawing Illustrative Layout - 01 M SCOTT PROPERTIES LTD Job no.

Client ref. -







Appendix 2: Lockhart Garratt Assessment Methodology

Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment Methodology

NICHOLSONS LOCKHART GARRATT

Leading solutions for the natural environment

Date: 2021



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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This methodology is derived from the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third Edition (2013) (GLVIA 3), jointly published by the Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment. This publication gives guidance on carrying out a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), either as a standalone appraisal or part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).
- 1.2. In the context of this methodology, the term "landscape" should be taken to include townscape and seascape considerations where relevant.

2. DEFINING THE STUDY AREA

- 2.1. Prior to any assessment being undertaken, it is important to consider the scope and extent of the study area. Typically the study area will be defined through the preparation and assessment of a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) and/ or desk based study and site assessment. This process will allow the identification of a delimited visual envelope, one which is defined by the prevailing topography, vegetation and built form.
- 2.2. A landscape study may extend beyond a relatively confined visual envelope, where there is clear evidence that the site is part of, or intrinsically linked to a wider character area. The detail of such studies will be appropriate to the scale of the development, for instance where tall structures such as wind turbines may have an influence over a larger distance, the assessment will take this into account.

3. DESCRIPTION OF EFFECTS

- 3.1. The level of effect on both landscape and visual receptors should be identified in respect of the different components of the proposed development. In order to assess the significance of the effect upon a receiving environment, it is necessary to consider the effect magnitude, i.e. the degree of change, together with the sensitivity of the receptor.
- 3.2. This assessment will identify whether the effects are:
 - Adverse, Beneficial or Neutral Adverse effects would typically occur where there is loss of landscape elements, or the proposal detracts from the recognised landscape quality and character of an area or view. Neutral effects would include changes that neither add to nor detract from the quality and character of an area or view, but which nonetheless result in an identifiable change. Beneficial effects would typically occur where a development could positively contribute to the landscape character or view, for example through the replacement of incongruous elements with more appropriate uses.
 - Direct or Indirect A direct effect will be one where a development will affect a view or the character of an area, either beneficially or adversely. An indirect effect will occur as a result of associated development i.e. a development may result in an increase of traffic on a particular route.
 - Short, Medium or Long Term this relates to the expected duration and magnitude of a
 development. Within this assessment the potential effects are assessed during the
 Construction Phase, then at Years 1 and 15, of the Operational Phase.
 - Reversible or Irreversible this is the assessment of whether the resulting effect of a
 development can be mitigated or not, and the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation at
 reducing the effect.

Significance of Effects (EIA only)

3.3. A final judgment is then made as to whether the identified effect is likely to be significant, as required by the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2011. In summarising the effects consideration should be given to the key issues, and an identification of the scope for reducing any negative/adverse effects will be undertaken. Mitigation measures should be identified in order to reduce, where possible, the final judgement on the significance of any residual adverse effects in the long term.

4. METHODOLOGY FOR ASSESSING LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

Identifying and Assessing the Landscape Baseline

- 4.1. In order to accurately define the quality and character of the receiving landscaping it is important to identify and assess those landscape receptors and/or features that form part of the landscape and help to characterise it.
- 4.2. The identification of these features will be informed through:
 - Review of Ordnance Survey mapping, historical map data and aerial and other remote sensing imagery where appropriate;
 - Review of relevant published landscape character assessment at national, regional and local levels as appropriate;
 - Identification of landscape-based designations;
 - Identification and description of individual elements, features, aesthetic and perceptual aspects of the landscape which contribute to its character;
 - Assessment of the general condition of the receiving landscape;
 - Assessment of the relative value of the receiving landscape (see below);
 - Judgement of the susceptibility of the receiving landscape to a change of the type proposed (see below).
- 4.3. Where appropriate, and where the published character assessments do not reflect the specific characteristics of the receiving environment at a relevant scale, the LVIA will identify local landscape character areas for assessment. These character areas are determined through the site assessment, and will make reference to published landscape character assessments and the application of sound professional judgement based upon the evidence at hand.
- 4.4. Criteria for the selection of local landscape character areas within the likely study area include:
 - Proximity and influence on the site;
 - Physical connections with the site (for example public rights of way, roads, vegetation and vegetation belts); and
 - Visual connection with the site (particularly where the view is a key characteristic of the local area).

Assessing Landscape Sensitivity

- 4.5. The sensitivity of the landscape is determined by combining the value of the landscape with its susceptibility to the type of change proposed.
- 4.6. **Susceptibility** is defined as the inherent sensitivity of the landscape and its ability to accommodate a particular change, and can apply to specific landscape features, the character of the site as a whole, or the character of the surrounding landscape, and other Landscape Character Areas defined within the published assessments or similar.

Table 1: Landscape Susceptibility to Change

Susceptibility	Assessment Criteria			
Very High	 No or very few detracting features; Townscapes are likely to include a high proportion of historic assets; Typical examples may be nationally designated e.g. World Heritage Sites, National Parks, Heritage Coasts, AONB's etc. 			
High	 Landscapes would be considered to have a high degree of intimacy, generally strong landscape structure, a high level of intactness and contain features worthy of protection; Few detracting features; Has some potential to accommodate change which is in keeping 			
riigii	 with the positive aspects of local character. Townscapes may include a high proportion of historic assets; Typical examples may be of Regional or County importance e.g. within the setting of National Parks, AONB's, Conservation Areas etc. 			
Medium	 Landscapes would be considered of good landscape structure, with some detracting features or evidence of recent change. Townscapes may include a proportion of historic assets or of cultural value locally. Demonstrates some potential to accommodate change through appropriate mitigation. 			
Low	 Landscapes that contain strong evidence of previous landscape change and little representation of their former character; Degraded landscape structure, characteristic patterns and combinations of landform and land cover are compromised by land use. 			
Negligible	Typical landscapes are likely to be heavily degraded, of weak landscape structure, support intensive land uses, and require landscape restoration.			

Landscape Value

- 4.7. The value of a landscape is derived from the value or importance given to the area by society, statutory bodies, local and national government, local communities and society at large. National designations include National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- 4.8. At a local level, Local Planning Authorities may have local landscape designations in their Local Plans. However, GLVIA 3 notes that the fact that an area is not covered by such a designation does not mean that it is not valued and in this case reference should be made to published character assessments, local planning policies and guidance. GLVIA 3 also notes that there should not be an over-reliance on designations, favouring a process of assessment and the application of sound, evidence-based professional judgement.
- 4.9. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) however, places greater weight on the importance of National level designations such as AONB's and National Parks. At a local level, any assessment of local value should be supported by a prescriptive, criteria based, NPPF compliant assessment (NPPF para 170). In the absence of such an assessment it is the role of the professional as part of the LVIA process to objectively assess the value of the receiving landscape in relation to a set of appropriate criteria, such as those suggested in Box 5.1 of GLVIA3.

Table 2: Landscape Value

Value	Typical Criteria	Typical Scale	Examples
Very High	Landscape is recognised as an area of great importance, quality and rarity. Almost always recognised by national or international designation.	International National	World Heritage Sites National Parks Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
High	Landscape is recognised as being of high quality, importance and rarity, representing a number of recognised value criteria. Often identified through local landscape designations.	Regional Local	Wild or picturesque landscapes. Settings of designated landscapes. Areas whose value is expressed through published assessments or cultural celebration, e.g. art, history or literature.
Medium	Landscape is recognised as being of medium quality, importance and rarity. Typically undesignated but value may be expressed through published assessment. Represents some recognised value criteria.	Regional Local	Generally intact rural landscapes. Landscapes that are representative of published character.
Low	Landscape is of low quality, importance and rarity. Typically degraded with detracting features and in poor condition, but with some potential for restoration or improvement.	Local	Intensive arable landscapes. Landscapes with strong human influence or intensive management, e.g. golf courses.
Negligible	Landscape is of very low quality, importance and rarity. Typically degraded with many detracting features, and poorly managed. Change is likely to improve these landscapes.	Site	Unrestored mineral workings. Industrial landscapes.

Table 3: Overall Landscape Sensitivity

Vs.		Identified Landscape Value					
		Very High Value	High Value	Medium Value	Low Value	Very Low Value	Sensitivity
>	Very High Susceptibility	Very High	High	High / Medium	Х	Х	
Susceptibility	High Susceptibility	High	High	Medium / High	Medium / Low	Х	
	Medium Susceptibility	High / Medium	Medium / High	Medium	Low / Medium	Low	ity
ldentified	Low Susceptibility	Х	Medium / Low	Low / Medium	Low	Low / Negligible	
	Negligible Susceptibility	Х	Х	Low	Low / Negligible	Negligible	
			Sen	sitivity			

Landscape Magnitude of Change

4.10. The magnitude of change relates to the degree in which proposed development alters the fabric of the receiving landscape. This change is characterised as high, medium, low, negligible or none.

Table 4: Magnitude to Change to Landscape Receptors

Magnitude	Definition			
High	Change resulting in a high degree of deterioration or improvement, or introduction of prominent new elements that are considered to fundamentally change the character of a landscape.			
Medium	Change resulting in a moderate degree of deterioration or improvement, or constitutes a perceptible change within a landscape.			
Low	Change resulting in a low degree of deterioration or improvement to a landscape or view, or constitutes only a minor component within a landscape.			
Negligible	Change resulting in a barely perceptible degree of deterioration or improvement to a landscape.			

- 4.11. When assessing the magnitude of change consideration will be given to:
 - The size or scale of the development: the extent of the change to existing landscape receptors is considered, with weight given to the proportion of the total extent of the site that this represents and the contribution that the receptor makes to the overall character of the landscape;
 - The extent of the development consideration is given to the geographical area within which the landscape effects may be perceived. This is assessed at:
 - Site level:
 - Immediate setting;
 - At the scale of the local landscape character area; and
 - On a larger scale affecting a number of local landscape areas or National Character Areas (if required).
 - The permanency of the development: consideration is given to whether the proposals will result in a long term or short term effect; whether the development is reversible or changes the status of the site (for example to previously developed land); and whether for example restoration to baseline conditions is envisaged at the end of this term;
 - The change to the key characteristics of the receiving landscape: taking into account:
 - Changes to the appearance of the site;
 - Changes to identified landscape features;
 - Changes to key or special qualities or characteristics of the landscape; and
 - Changes in the landscape setting of heritage assets and landscape-related designations.
 - The proposed mitigation: consideration should be given to the extent to which the development effects can be mitigated, through positive design, the provision of replacement or enhanced landscape features, or limiting effects on the wider landscape.

Significance of Landscape Effect

- 4.12. The level of effect upon the receptor should be identified in respect of the different components of the proposed development. In order to assess the significance of the effect on the receiving environment, it is necessary to consider the magnitude, i.e. the degree of change, together with the sensitivity of each identified receptor.
- 4.13. This will identify whether the effects are:
 - Adverse or Beneficial beneficial effects would typically occur where a development could
 positively contribute to the landscape character. Neutral effects would include changes
 that neither add nor detract from the quality and character of an area or view. Adverse
 effects would typically occur where there is loss of characteristic landscape elements, or
 the proposal detracts from the landscape quality and character of an area or view;
 - **Direct or Indirect** A direct effect is where a development will affect the character of an area either beneficially or adversely. An indirect effect would be associated with a development, i.e. an increase of traffic on a particular route.
 - Short, Medium or Long Term this relates to the expected duration and magnitude of a development. Within this assessment the potential effects are assessed during the construction phase, then at years 1 and 10 following completion of the development.

- Reversible or Irreversible This is the judgement of whether the resulting effect of a development can be mitigated or not, and whether the result of the mitigation is beneficial.
- 4.14. The significance of landscape effect is determined by cross-referencing the sensitivity of the receptor with the magnitude of change expected as a result of the development. Table 5 below outlines how the assessment of significance is undertaken.

Table 5: Landscape Significance of Effect*

Vs.		Sensitivity of Landscape Receptor				
		Very High	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Change	High	Substantial	Major	Major / Moderate	Moderate	Moderate / Minor
of	Medium	Major	Major / Moderate	Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor
Magnitude	Low	Major / Moderate	Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor	Negligible
	Negligible	Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor	Negligible	Negligible / None
	Significance of Landscape Effect					

^{*} To be read in conjunction with Table 9 below.

5. METHODOLOGY FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF VISUAL EFFECTS

- 5.1. As set out within section 2 above, the visual baseline is identified through a process of desk study, Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV), the extent of the visual envelope is then defined and tested through field assessment.
- 5.2. On the basis of the baseline assessment and field survey analysis, visual receptors are identified and classified as to their sensitivity to change. This will involve the identification of the visual receptors through:
 - Identification of the area in which the development may be visible (the visual envelope;
 - Identification of publicly accessible, representative, viewpoints where views will be affected and the nature of those views;
 - Identification of any recognised viewpoints (i.e. known viewpoints from a key landmark or local feature);
 - Identification of those views which can be considered characteristic of the landscape character area;
 - Identification of the different groups of people who may experience views of the development.

Sensitivity of Visual Receptors

5.3. The sensitivity of a visual receptor should be established. This sensitivity will be dependent on the value attached to the view and the susceptibility of the visual receptor(s) to a change of the type proposed. This may be linked to the type of activity that the person is engaged in – for example someone walking in the countryside would be more sensitive to a change to the view than a person working in an office.

Table 6: Visual Sensitivity Thresholds

Visual Sensitivity	Threshold Definition			
Very High	Viewers on public rights of way or accessible land whose prime focus is on the high quality of the surrounding landscape, and who are often very aware of its value. Examples include viewers within nationally designated landscapes such as National Parks or AONB's and users of National Trails.			
High	Viewers on public rights of way whose prime focus is on the landscape around, or occupiers of residential properties with primary views affected by the development. Examples include viewers within regional/local landscape designations, users of Long Distance Routes or Sustrans cycle routes, or the setting of a listed building.			
Medium	Viewers engaged in outdoor recreation with some appreciation of the landscape, occupiers of residential properties with oblique views affected by the development, and users of rural lanes and roads. Examples include viewers within moderate quality landscapes, local recreation grounds, and outdoor pursuits.			
Low	Viewers engaged in outdoor sport or recreation whose prime focus is on their activity, or people passing through the area on main transport routes whose attention is focused away from an appreciation of the landscape.			
Negligible	Viewers whose attention is focused on their work or activity and not susceptible to changes in the surrounding landscape.			

Magnitude of Change of Visual Receptors

- 5.4. The following definitions are used to assess the magnitude of change to visual receptors. As with the assessment of the magnitude of change for landscape receptors, consideration is given to:
 - The size or scale of the development: taking into account:
 - The mass and scale of the development visible and the change experienced from an identified location; and
 - The loss or addition of features within the view and the changes to the view's composition (including the proportion of the view occupied by the proposed development and the degree of contrast or integration of the proposed development within the context of the existing landscape elements) and the nature of the view in terms of duration and degree of visibility.
 - The extent of the development the extent of the development will vary between each identified viewpoint and will likely reflect the extent of the development visible in the view alongside the distance of the viewpoint from the proposed development.
 - The permanency of the development: considering whether:

- The proposals will result in a long term or short term effect;
- The development is reversible or changes the status of the site (for example to previously developed land); and
- Restoration to baseline conditions is envisaged at the end of this term.
- The proposed mitigation: Judging the extent to which the landscape proposals will be able to mitigate the visual effects of the development by screening, or through design of the development (e.g. siting, use of visually recessive colours and materials and location of open space).

Table 7: Magnitude of Change to Visual Receptors

Magnitude	Definition		
High	Change resulting in a high degree of deterioration or improvement, or introduction of prominent new elements that are considered to make a major alteration to a view.		
Medium	Change resulting in a moderate degree of deterioration or improvement, or constitutes a perceptible change within a view.		
Low	Change resulting in a low degree of deterioration or improvement to a landscape or view, or constitutes only a minor component within a landscape.		
Negligible	Change resulting in a barely perceptible degree of deterioration or improvement to a view.		
No Change	It is also possible for a view to experience no change due to it being totally compatible with the character of the visual environment or not visible due to intervening structures or vegetation.		

Significance of Visual Effect

5.5. The significance of visual effect is determined by cross referencing the sensitivity of the receptor with the magnitude of change expected as a result of the development. Table 8 below outlines how the assessment of significance is undertaken.

Table 8: Visual Significance of Effect*

Vs.	Vs. Sensitivity of Visual Receptor					
		Very High	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Change	High	Substantial	Major	Major / Moderate	Moderate	Moderate / Minor
Magnitude of Change	Medium	Major	Major / Moderate	Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor
Magnit	Low	Major / Moderate	Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor	Negligible
	Negligible	Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor	Negligible	Negligible / None
	No Change	None	None	None	None	None
			Signif	icance of Lands	cape Effect	

^{*} To be read in conjunction with Table 9 below.

6. UNDERSTANDING SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS

- 6.1. For the purposes of the impact assessment beneficial or adverse effects of substantial, major and major/moderate effects are considered to be significant and to be of key importance in decision making. Moderate adverse effects should also be taken into account when considering the overall effects of the development in decision making.
- 6.2. It is important to consider that change does not necessarily result in an adverse effect or harm to a particular landscape or visual environment.
- 6.3. The landscape assessor, in determining the significance of effect, will apply a defined assessment methodology, in combination with sound professional judgement upon which the identification of significant effects should be based.

Definition of Significance Thresholds

Table 9: Significance Thresholds

Significance	Threshold Definition
Substantial	A very high magnitude of change that materially affects a landscape or view of national / international importance that has little or no ability to accommodate change.
Major	A high magnitude of change that materially affects a landscape or view that has limited ability to accommodate change.
Moderate	A medium magnitude of change that materially affects a landscape or view that may have the ability to accommodate change. Positive effects will typically occur in a lower quality landscape.
Minor	A low magnitude of change that materially affects a landscape that has the ability to accommodate change. Positive effects will typically occur in a lower quality landscape or view.
Negligible	A negligible magnitude of change that has little effect on a landscape that has the ability to accommodate change.
None	It is also possible for a magnitude of change to occur that results in an effect of neutral significance due to the change being compatible with local character or not visible.



Appendix 3: Summer Views Visual Assessment – Photographic Record

Reference: Viewpoint Location Map: 20-3935

Visual Assessment: 20-3902