



South East Strategic Reservoir Option
Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Appendix 9.3 - Visual baseline

Date: October 2025

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 The visual baseline is recorded in terms of the different groups of people (visual receptors) who may experience views of the Project and the nature of their existing views and visual amenity. The nature of existing views experienced by specific defined receptors / receptor groups is described within this appendix and summarised within Chapter 9: Landscape and visual.
- 1.1.2 These descriptions should be read in conjunction with Appendix 9.4: Viewpoint photography and visualisations. Viewpoint photography includes winter views, captured during February – March 2025, and summer views, captured from the same viewpoints during May- June 2025. Winter views represent a ‘worst case’ scenario where deciduous vegetation is not in leaf resulting in less potential screening effect. For this Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report, both winter and summer views are provided side by side for most viewpoints, however there are a few gaps where some seasonal photography was not possible. Night-time photography is also provided for four of the views. For the Environmental Statement (ES) stage, the aim will be to fill any such gaps in seasonal photography, subject to land access.
- 1.1.3 The figures provided for Chapter 9: Landscape and visual (i.e. Figures 9.1 to 9.16) are all relevant to the understanding of the visual baseline to some extent, albeit some are more directly relevant to landscape baseline and landscape effects rather than visual.
- 1.1.4 The extent of the study area for the landscape and visual aspect is defined on Figure 9.1: Landscape and visual study area, which also shows viewpoint locations.
- 1.1.5 Figure 9.2: Landscape designations and key constraints provides important context to the visual baseline, mapping the various designations and features which influence the sensitivity of visual receptors. These designations and constraints include: the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, local landscape designations, Green Belt, Open Access Land, Registered Common Land, heritage assets and conservation areas, the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network, National Trails Long Distance Footpaths and National Cycleways.
- 1.1.6 Figure 9.3: Landscape character areas, along with Figure 9.12: Dark skies and light pollution, and Figure 9.13: CPRE tranquillity mapping, are of more direct relevance to the landscape baseline than the visual baseline, but provide further additional context.
- 1.1.7 Figures 9.4 to 9.11 provide several forms of Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV), i.e. digital modelling of the extents of visibility of the Project, including separate ZTVs for key components of the Project. Section 3 provides detailed explanation and interpretation of the ZTV modelling, whilst Appendix 9.6: Technical methodology: photography, visualisations, and Zones of Theoretical Visibility, provides the methodology for defining these.
- 1.1.8 Figure 9.11: Viewpoint and photomontage locations (with ZTV), shows the locations and orientations of each of the viewpoints from which the photography in Appendix 9.4: Viewpoint photography and visualisations is taken. These are overlaid onto a ZTV representing the theoretical visibility of the Project as a whole (a combination of the respective DSM-based ZTVs for the reservoir, intake/outfall structure, and proposed solar farm).

- 1.1.9 Figures 9.14 and 9.15 (Visual receptors – users of linear routes, and Visual receptors – communities and other sensitive receptors), show the locations and spatial extents of the visual receptors used for the assessment of visual effects. The landscape receptors are shown on Figure 9.16: Landscape receptors.

2 Visual Receptors

2.1 Proportionate approach

- 2.1.1 As stated in Chapter 9: Landscape and visual, to ensure a proportionate approach within a large study area, the level of granularity and detail at which visual receptors are considered varies, with the most sensitive receptors and valued views targeted for the most in-depth consideration. Distance from the Site (i.e. the location of the Project) within the study area is part of the strategy for selecting the level of detail. Also serving a proportionate approach, receptors have been grouped where appropriate, and where they are expected to experience broadly similar effects.

2.2 Visual receptor definition, grouping, and level of detail

- 2.2.1 The key elements of the approach to the definition (including spatial definition), grouping, and level of detail / granularity of consideration of visual receptors, is set out below.

People using linear routes

- 2.2.2 People travelling on public linear routes are among the key visual receptors considered. People's visual experience whilst travelling through the landscape is transitory, therefore assessment is generally not based on fixed points, but on that transitory experience, over defined parts of each route. Whilst representative viewpoints are provided to support this assessment, by definition, these represent a view at a specific point, rather than the wider transitory experience, therefore professional judgement, including site-based appraisal, is critical in assessing that wider experience. The types and definitions of visual receptors on linear routes are summarised below.
- People using National Trails, i.e. the Ridgeway, and the Thames Path
 - Considered throughout the study area. As nationally promoted routes for long-distance walking, typically longer sections have been defined for assessment, up to approximately 8km.
 - People using other long-distance paths, i.e. the Vale Way and the Oxford Green Belt Way
 - Considered throughout the study area. Compared to National Trails, users tend to be more local walkers and section hikers, covering slightly shorter distances, therefore maximum length of sections defined for assessment is approximately 5km.
 - People using Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) of all types (i.e. footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways, and byways open to all traffic (BOATs))
 - Considered throughout the study area, but rather than attempt to address every individual PRoW, key areas with clusters of PRoWs and the potential for visibility and for significant effects have been identified, defined spatially, and assessed as groups.
 - People using National Cycle Network (NCN) routes, i.e. NCN Route 5, and NCN Route 544

- Considered throughout the study area. As nationally promoted routes for cycling, and acknowledging the speed of travel, the visual experience along a lengthy (up to 18km) section of each of the above two routes has been considered.
- People moving through the area by roads and rail
 - These are less sensitive receptors, travelling at higher speeds, and are therefore considered in less detail. People travelling by rail to/ from Didcot are considered as a single receptor. People travelling by local roads are considered only within 2km of the reservoir embankment, plus people travelling by local roads within 1km of the proposed solar farm. This limitation of coverage of local rural roads is made to enable a more proportionate and less repetitive assessment, noting there is a very extensive study area; because more sensitive receptors (such as users of PRowS), have been assessed throughout the full study area, their experience can also be referred to as a representative indicator of wider visibility and potential visual effects in areas not specifically covered for users of local rural roads.
- People using local permissive footpaths between Jubilee Junction and Abingdon Marina
 - As they are considered less sensitive than people using PRowS and higher designated routes that are addressed throughout the study area, people using permissive footpaths are generally not considered as receptors in their own right. One exception is made to this, reflecting comments from the Vale of White Horse District Council in response to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report. The comment highlights the importance of local permissive footpaths close to the River Thames, between Jubilee Junction and Abingdon Marina, with views of the proposed intake / outfall structure; this is included as a receptor.

Local Communities

- 2.2.3 Effects on private views are not expected to be so significant that a Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) is required or justified. Instead, a proportionate approach is taken, in line with the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment third edition (GLVIA3), (Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2013) where the overall emphasis of the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) is on public rather than private views. Effects on residents at home are considered within community-level assessment of the visual amenity of people living and working within defined areas. These community areas are defined spatially in a way that allows for a proportionate approach whilst grouping together people expected to experience broadly similar effects. Representative viewpoints located on nearby publicly accessible land, rather than from private dwellings, are used to support the assessment. This approach considers the overall visual experience of people living and working within these areas. The approach was discussed and agreed, clarifying stakeholder comments made regarding residential amenity in response to the EIA Scoping report, with the Project's Landscape and Visual Technical Liaison Group (TLG) on 12th June 2025.
- 2.2.4 People living and working within defined towns and villages are considered at distances of up to 5km from the toe of the proposed reservoir embankment. It is considered disproportionate to assess similar receptors up to the full 10km of the very extensive

(approximately 45,000 Ha) study area, noting that the distance to the Project, combined with the lower sensitivity of these receptors, makes it unlikely that significant effects would be experienced at these greater distances.

- 2.2.5 An exception to community grouping has been made for isolated / outlying properties which are located particularly close (within 1km) to the Site. It is recognised that, given their proximity to the development, these receptors may experience significant visual effects, and that due to their isolated spatial location they cannot easily be grouped together. There are only four examples of these receptors, which have therefore been assessed individually.

Other important groups

- 2.2.6 In addition to people using linear routes and local communities, other specific receptors have been identified for assessment of visual effects. These are:

- People visiting the Devil's Punchbowl Open Access Land within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape
- People using the South Oxfordshire Crematorium and Memorial Park
- People using the River Thames for recreational activity.

- 2.2.7 All visual receptors have been defined spatially and are shown on Figures 9.14 and 9.15. Table 5.1 identifies each visual receptor, along with any associated viewpoints where applicable, and describes the baseline views for each.

3 Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTVs)

3.1 Purpose of ZTVs

- 3.1.1 Digital ZTV modelling using GIS software has been undertaken to inform the study area, the identification of receptors, the selection of viewpoints, and also to inform the assessment of effects.
- 3.1.2 ZTVs identify the theoretical extent of visibility of the Project, i.e. the areas from which it would theoretically be visible in existing views, and also the areas from which it would not likely be visible.
- 3.1.3 The use of ZTVs is outlined in Chapter 9: Landscape and visual, and the technical process for their production is provided in Appendix 9.6: Technical methodology: photography, visualisations and Zones of Theoretical Visibility.

3.2 Types of ZTV produced

- 3.2.1 Several distinct types of ZTV have been provided. In each case a digital model of the Project is inserted into a baseline topographical model, and intervisibility is calculated using 'viewshed' tools in GIS. The differences between the various types of ZTV, and their relative benefits and draw backs, are described below:
 - **'Bare earth / DTM'** ZTVs use LiDAR Digital Terrain Modelling (DTM) as the baseline topographical model.
 - **'Screening / DSM'** ZTVs use LiDAR Digital Surface Modelling (DSM) as the baseline topographical model; this includes surface features such as buildings and vegetation, and the effect they have in limiting views. This approach provides a more accurate indication of likely visibility, typically indicating much less visibility than the bare earth version (digital analysis of the bare earth / DTM ZTV for the reservoir, solar farm and intake/outfall structure in combination, compared to the equivalent ZTV based on screening / DSM data, indicate 80.5% of the study area with theoretical visibility for the former, compared to 37.9% for the screening/DSM ZTV version), but should be treated with a degree of caution because (for example):
 - The data representing surface features may not be 100% accurate
 - Whilst vegetation such as hedges and tree lines may block visibility, they have less permanence in the landscape than landform, and may be subject to change
 - A line of trees might block theoretical visibility in the digital modelling, where in reality there may be views under and through the trees' canopies and between the tree trunks, particularly for people standing relatively close to the trees.
 - **'Heat-mapped' ZTVs:** the traditional approach to ZTV modelling takes a simple binary approach of distinguishing between the areas with and the areas without potential views of the Project; they do not give any indication of how much of the Project might be visible in any one location. By contrast, heat-mapped ZTVs use differential rendering to indicate the proportion of the Project that may be visible, highlighting 'hot spots' of likely visibility. Particularly for large, extensive developments like SESRO, there are clear benefits in being able to differentiate between hot spots of visibility and areas

where only a small fraction of the development might be seen. The digital techniques used to calculate this, whilst useful, can only be considered to give an approximation of the true picture.

3.3 Project components used to produce ZTVs

3.3.1 The ZTV modelling has been based on the largest physical components of the Project with the highest vertical elevation, as these will generate the most extensive visibility. The ZTV outputs have been presented under the three headings below, each of which has a separate and discreet geographical location, unique scale and appearance, and likelihood to affect different receptors in different ways.

- **The proposed reservoir:** the proposed reservoir embankment is the largest, most extensive feature within the Project, with a crest elevation of 81.7m AOD; this, combined with the primary and secondary water towers (with heights of 105.4mAOD and 99.4mAOD respectively), the reservoir pumping station, the T2ST infrastructure, and the proposed watersports centre buildings and café which are situated on the crest of the embankment, form the key large components of reservoir infrastructure which are most likely to generate the greatest visibility from the greatest distances and are therefore used as the basis for the ZTV modelling of the reservoir. Other smaller / lower elements such as water course diversions, roads and car parks were not included in the modelling as their comparatively limited vertical elevation makes them very unlikely to materially affect the ZTV output, whilst making the process much more technically complex.
- **The proposed intake / outfall structure:** as a discreet piece of infrastructure located on the bank of the River Thames, this structure generates more localised visibility and discreet visual effects, and it is therefore helpful to see its ZTVs separately from the reservoir's ZTVs.
- **The proposed solar farm:** another a discreet and spatially separate area of infrastructure to the northwest of the reservoir, the proposed solar farm has relatively low elevation (assumed up to 4.5m high above ground level) but is an expansive development in its own right (approximately 100Ha), generating localised visibility that is helpful to see separately from the reservoir's ZTVs.

3.4 ZTV Figures

3.4.1 The simple 'binary' ZTV approach has been provided and combined with both the 'bare earth / DTM' and the 'screening / DSM' topographical baselines. Visibility heat-mapping has also been applied to the screening / DSM ZTV, for the proposed reservoir only, as this is by far the most extensive project component, for which an indication of the likely hot spots of visibility adds value for the assessment.

3.4.2 The full list of ZTV figures provided is:

- Figure 9.4: Reservoir ZTV (bare earth / DTM)
- Figure 9.5: Reservoir ZTV (screening / DSM)
- Figure 9.6: Reservoir ZTV heatmap (screening / DSM)
- Figure 9.7: Intake / outfall ZTV (bare earth / DTM)
- Figure 9.8: Intake / outfall ZTV (screening / DSM)

- Figure 9.9: Solar site ZTV (bare earth / DTM)
- Figure 9.10: Solar site ZTV (screening / DSM)
- Figure 9.11: Viewpoint and photomontage locations (with ZTV)

3.4.3 All ZTVs have been checked on site through verification site walkovers. Whilst they are considered to reflect a reasonable level of accuracy, they remain an indicative and theoretical model of true visibility, and should be read with a degree of caution. A number of instances have been observed where even the screening / DSM ZTVs indicate theoretical visibility which is not considered likely in reality due to intervening vegetation or landform.

3.5 Theoretical visibility of the proposed reservoir

3.5.1 Figure 9.4: Reservoir ZTV (bare earth / DTM) shows the 'worse case', most potentially extensive, visibility of the proposed reservoir, based on the bare earth / DTM baseline topographical model. The main areas within the study where no potential visibility is indicated are:

- The valley of the River Thames corridor in the northwest of the study area
- An area at the northwest margin of the study including Kennington and Chilswell
- An area at the southern margin of the study area within the North Wessex Downs National landscape.

3.5.2 Figure 9.4: Reservoir ZTV (bare earth / DTM) also provides separate overlaid layers, one (a solid render) showing the ZTV generated by the reservoir embankment alone, and the other (a cross hatch) showing the ZTV generated by the associated major reservoir infrastructure, i.e. the reservoir towers and pumping station, the T2ST infrastructure, and the proposed buildings on the reservoir crest. It is evident from this figure that the two ZTV outputs indicate a very similar pattern and extent of visibility, with only very marginal differences.

3.5.3 Figure 9.5: Reservoir ZTV (screening / DSM) adds screening effect of intervening vegetation and landform to the above picture of visibility. This indicates a significantly reduced overall amount (approximately half) of visibility compared to the bare earth model. Areas of visibility are reduced throughout the study area, and generally much more fragmented, with most concentrated areas of visibility being to the west and southwest of the Site. The effect of topography is more pronounced in the resulting visibility, with the prominent ridgeline within the North Wessex Downs along which The Ridgeway National Trail runs showing a clear pattern of visibility.

3.5.4 Figure 9.6: Reservoir ZTV heatmap (screening / DSM) adds visibility heatmapping to the DSM-based ZTV. The rendering does not factor in distance, only the proportion of the crest of the reservoir that is theoretically visible. This indicates that toward the outer edges of the study area the proportion that is likely to be visible is, generally, relatively low. Clear hot spots of visibility are also highlighted, corresponding to areas of higher elevation, such as the ridgeline within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, and between East Hendred and East Lockinge. There are also areas of high visibility in the foot slopes, and just outside the boundary of, the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, between Steventon and East Hendred and to the north and west of East Hendred.

- 3.5.5 Analysis of the reservoir ZTVs has been used to inform the selection of visual receptors, as listed and described in Table 5.1.

3.6 Theoretical visibility of the proposed intake / outfall structure

- 3.6.1 Figure 9.7: Intake / outfall ZTV (bare earth / DTM) shows the 'worse case', most potentially extensive, visibility of the proposed intake / outfall structure, based on the bare earth / DTM baseline topographical model. Whilst clearly less than the reservoir, this indicates theoretical visibility of the structure to and beyond the 10km limits of the study area, including within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape.
- 3.6.2 Figure 9.8: Intake / outfall ZTV (screening / DSM) adds screening effect of intervening vegetation and landform to the above indication of potential visibility and indicates much less extensive theoretical visibility than the bare earth model. The output suggests there will be a localised area of visibility around the structure; given its limited vertical elevation and extents, an area of approximately 1km from the structure is likely to be a realistic focus for consideration of potential significant effects. The ZTV also indicates some limited areas of theoretical visibility at much greater distances, including from the Ridgeway National Trail in the North Wessex Downs, however it is considered that at these distances, given the limited scale of the structure, it would not be perceptible in views.
- 3.6.3 From analysis of Figure 9.7: Intake / outfall ZTV (bare earth / DTM), combined with site-based analysis, it is considered that key visual receptors with most potential to experience significant visual effects in relation to the proposed intake/outfall include people:
- Using the Thames Path, between Abingdon (Nags Head bridge) and Culham (Tollgate Road bridge)
 - Using the River Thames for recreational activity, between Abingdon (Nags Head bridge) and Culham (Tollgate Road bridge)
 - Using the Vale Way Long Distance Path / National Cycle Network route 5, between Abingdon and Drayton Road
 - Using local footpaths between Abingdon Marina and Jubilee Junction
 - Within the local communities of Culham and Abingdon.

3.7 Theoretical visibility of the proposed solar farm

- 3.7.1 Figure 9.9: Solar site ZTV (bare earth / DTM) shows the 'worse case', most potentially extensive, visibility of the proposed solar farm, based on the bare earth / DTM baseline topographical model. This indicates theoretical visibility to and beyond the 10km limits of the study area, including within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape and along the Ridgeway.
- 3.7.2 Figure 9.10: Solar site ZTV (screening / DSM) adds the screening effect of intervening vegetation and landform to the above indication of potential visibility. This indicates much less extensive theoretical visibility than the bare earth model. It does still indicate theoretical visibility within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, including from the Ridgeway National Trail, however from site-based analysis it is not considered likely that any theoretical views would be perceptible at these distances, particularly noting the limited vertical elevation of the solar farm, and the surrounding vegetation. As with the intake/outfall structure, it is considered that the potential for significant landscape and

visual effects associated with the proposed solar farm would be relatively localised, to an area of approximately 1km from the proposed location for the solar farm.

3.7.3 From analysis of the solar site ZTV Figures 9.9 and 9.10 combined with site-based analysis, and with reference to Figure 9.14: Visual receptors, it is considered that key visual receptors with the most potential to experience significant visual effects in relation to the proposed solar farm include people:

- Using PRowS in and around Garford, and within 1km of proposed solar farm
- Using local roads within 1km of the proposed solar farm
- Travelling by road through Garford
- Living and working within Garford
- Living / working at Chadwick's Farm (near the proposed solar farm).

4 Viewpoints

4.1 Explanation of viewpoint selection

- 4.1.1 A range of viewpoints has been selected to support the assessment of visual effects. There are 59 viewpoints in total, the locations and orientations of which are shown on Figure 9.11: Viewpoint and photomontage locations (with ZTV). The viewpoints are listed in Table 4.1 viewpoints that are representative of each of the defined visual receptors are identified in Table 5.1.
- 4.1.2 The viewpoints have been discussed and agreed with the Landscape and Visual TLG through several rounds of engagement. Comments received from consultees in response to the EIA Scoping Report have been considered, resulting in further viewpoints being agreed in addition to those set out in the EIA Scoping Report.
- 4.1.3 The viewpoints have been selected to provide proportionate coverage of the various visual receptors and likely significant effects, with a range of viewing distances, elevations and orientations to cover the key likely visual experiences of the Project.
- 4.1.4 The majority of viewpoints are considered 'representative', i.e. they represent typical baseline views, and typical visual effects, as commonly experienced by defined visual receptors. Some viewpoints may be considered representative of the experience of more than one type of visual receptor.
- 4.1.5 Two of the viewpoints are classified as 'specific' as well as representative, as they demonstrate specific and particularly noteworthy views at defined locations. These are viewpoint number 9 (from a memorial bench along PRow 403/23/10 within the North Wessex Downs NL), and viewpoint number 3 (from the Ridgeway National Trail and PRow 285/14/40 at Lord Wantage Monument within the North Wessex Downs NL).
- 4.1.6 Five of the viewpoints may be considered 'illustrative', as they highlight particular issues. These are viewpoints 54, 55 and 56 (which are included to demonstrate intervening landform, vegetation or buildings block views and prevent likely significant effects in these areas); viewpoint 57 (included as an example of views towards the North Wessex Downs NL from within the footprint of the proposed reservoir which will therefore be lost, to help inform the consideration of effects on the North Wessex Downs NL and its setting); and viewpoint 59 (captured using drone-mounted camera equipment, and included to illustrate the likely nature of views from the proposed elevated embankment crest, looking south towards the North Wessex Downs NL).
- 4.1.7 The greatest concentration of viewpoints is found within 5km of the outer toe of the proposed reservoir, because this is the distance within which significant visual effects are considered to be most likely and most frequently experienced - however, some viewpoints have been provided right up to the outer limits of the 10km study area. These more distant viewpoints have been carefully selected to target the most sensitive receptors likely to experience long-range views.
- 4.1.8 The four night-time viewpoints have been selected to provide an indication of the baseline night skies within the study area. Three of the four locations selected provide broad long-range views toward the Site across the vale, providing a good understanding of night skies within the setting of the North Wessex Downs National Landscape. Viewpoint 1 looks north

across the vale from The Ridgeway National trail (south of the Site); viewpoint 22 looks west across the vale from Wittenham Clumps (east of the Site); viewpoint 35 looks south across the vale from the southern edge of Shippon (north of the Site). Viewpoint 50 provides a closer range view, looking west from the eastern edge of East Hanney.

Table 4.1 Viewpoints List

Note: grey shaded rows indicate where viewpoint photography is yet to be completed.

Viewpoint No.	Summary	Description
1	Ridgeway National Trail (east) - West Ilsley car park	Representative view from the Ridgeway National Trail between West Ilsley car park, off Bury Lane, and Scutchamer Knob within the NWDNL
2	Ridgeway National Trail (south) - East Ginge Down	Representative view from the Ridgeway National Trail and PRoW 403/13/10 at East Ginge Down within the North Wessex Downs NL
3	Ridgeway National Trail (south) - Lord Wantage Monument	Specific and representative view from the Ridgeway National Trail and PRoW 285/14/40 at Lord Wantage Monument within the North Wessex Downs NL
4	Furzewick Down	Representative view from PRoW 391/6/10 at Furzewick Down within the North Wessex Downs NL
5	Segsbury Camp	Representative view from PRoW 275/11/10 at Segsbury Camp within the North Wessex Downs NL
6	Ridgeway National Trail (west) - Gramp's Hill	Representative view from the Ridgeway National Trail and PRoW 274/7/10 west of Gramps Hill within the North Wessex Downs NL
7	Devil's Punchbowl	Representative view from the Devil's Punchbowl Open Access Land within the North Wessex Downs NL
8	PRoW south of Ardington	Representative view from PRoW 285/8/10 south of Ardington within the North Wessex Downs NL
9	PRoW south of East and West Hendred	Specific and representative view from a memorial bench along PRoW 403/23/10 within the North Wessex Downs NL
10	Vale Way at West Hendred	Representative view from the Vale Way Long Distance Path at West Hendred and PRoW 403/8/20
11	PRoW on Ardington Lane	Representative view from a PRoW on Ardington Lane
12	PRoW at Crab Hill	Representative view from PRoW 235/10/20 at Crab Hill north of Charlton
13	Grove Park Drive	Representative view from Grove Park Drive, to the northeast of Grove
14	Vale Way near Steventon	Representative view from the Vale Way near Steventon northwest of Quab Hill
15	PRoW south, near the Great Western Main Line railway	Representative view from PRoW 403/19/20, as well as the nearby Great Western Main Line railway [winter and summer photography to be provided for ES, subject to land access]
16	Steventon Hill	Representative view from Steventon Hill
17	Western edge of Didcot	Representative view from Western edge of Didcot
18	Western edge of Steventon	Representative view from properties on the western edge of Steventon

Viewpoint No.	Summary	Description
19	North-western edge of Steventon	Representative view from properties on the north-western edge of Steventon
20	Abingdon Road, north of Steventon	Representative view from properties on the B4017, north of Steventon
21	Vale Way west of Sutton Courtenay	Representative view from the Vale Way west of Sutton Courtenay
22	Wittenham Clumps	Representative view from PRoW 283/4/20 at Wittenham Clumps, within NWDNL
23	PRoW south of Culham	Representative view west from PRoW south of Culham
24	Thames Path, opposite proposed intake / outfall	Representative view from the Thames Path National Trail, PRoW 183/11/50 and properties on the western fringe of Culham [winter photography to be added for ES]
25	The Burycroft, Culham	Representative view from the Burycroft, Culham
26	Thames Path, opposite Abingdon Marina	Representative view southwest from the Thames Path National Trail
27	Vale Way (Peep-O-Day Lane) and NCN 5 by the gravel pits south of Abingdon Marina	Representative view from the Vale Way Long Distance Path and National Cycle Network Route 5 south of Abingdon Marina
28	Vale Way (Peep-O-Day Lane) and NCN 5 - south	Representative view north along Peep-O-Day Lane National Trail
29	PRoWs west of Drayton	Representative view from PRoW Bridleways (inc 192/2/20) near the western fringe of Drayton
30	PRoWs north-west of Drayton	Representative view from local footway/cycleway and properties on the north-western fringe of Drayton
31	PRoW at Oday Hill	Representative view east and west from the Bridleway junction with the PROW northeast of Drayton
32	Western edge of Caldecott	Representative view from the western fringe of Caldecott [winter photography to be added for ES]
33	PRoW near Marcham Mill	Representative view from PRoW 192/3/10 near Marcham Mill Photomontage location [summer photography to be added for ES]
34	Marcham Road, on the eastern edge of Marcham	Representative view from properties on the eastern edge of Marcham
35	Southern edge of Shippon	Representative view from Southern edge of Shippon / Abingdon airfield / Dalton Barracks development site
36	Oxford Green Belt Way at Boars Hill	Representative view from the Oxford Green Belt Way Long Distance Path, PRoW 372/3/80 and properties on the southern edge of Boars Hill
37	PRoWs south-west of Marcham	Representative view looking south towards site from the junction of two intersecting PRoWs (BOATs).
38	Kingston Road, west of Frilford	Representative view from Kingston Road, west of Frilford between Garford & Kingston Bagpuize
39	PRoW south-east of Garford	Representative view from PROW 222/6/10 south-east of Garford
40	PRoW south of Garford	Representative view west from the PRoW (BOAT) south of Garford [winter and summer photography has been included, however the 'winter' views were taken in April

Viewpoint No.	Summary	Description
		2025 and will be replaced for ES with versions taken in full winter before any budding of deciduous vegetation]
41	South Oxfordshire Crematorium	Representative view from South Oxfordshire Crematorium and Memorial Park [winter and summer photography to be provided for ES, subject to land access]
42	PRoW south-west of Garford	Representative view northwest from PRoW at its junction with the road south of Garford [winter and summer photography has been included, however the 'winter' views were taken in April 2025 and will be replaced for ES with versions taken in full winter before any budding of deciduous vegetation]
43	PRoW at south-east edge of Garford	Representative view southeast and southwest from the public highway at the southern edge of Garford [winter and summer photography has been included, however the 'winter' views were taken in April 2025 and will be replaced for ES with versions taken in full winter before any budding of deciduous vegetation]
44	PRoW along River Ock, west of Garford	Representative view southwest from the PRoW west of Garford [winter and summer photography has been included, however the 'winter' views were taken in April 2025 and will be replaced for ES with versions taken in full winter before any budding of deciduous vegetation]
45	Winter Lane, east of Lyford (north)	Representative view southeast from Hanney Road east of Lyford [winter and summer photography has been included, however the 'winter' views were taken in April 2025 and will be replaced for ES with versions taken in full winter before any budding of deciduous vegetation]
46	Winter Lane east of Lyford (south)	Representative view northeast from Hanney Road north of West Hanney [winter and summer photography has been included, however the 'winter' views were taken in April 2025 and will be replaced for ES with versions taken in full winter before any budding of deciduous vegetation]
47	South-eastern edge of Charney Bassett	Representative view from South-eastern edge of Charney Bassett
48	South-eastern edge of Denchworth	Representative view southwest from the PRoW (BOAT) between Denchworth and West Hanney
49	A338, north of East Hanney	Representative view from a lay-by on the A338
50	Eastern edge of East Hanney	Representative view from properties on the eastern edge of East Hanney
51	Edge of East Hanney Conservation Area	Representative view from properties on the eastern edge of East Hanney Conservation Area
52	South-eastern edge of East Hanney	Representative view from properties on the south-eastern edge of East Hanney
53	Old Man's Lane, east of the A338	Representative view from PRoW 198/16/10 and a property on Old Man's Lane
54	NCN 544 east of Wantage	Illustrative view from NCN route 544 east of Wantage within the North Wessex Downs NL. Included to demonstrate that significant effects on views from NCN

Viewpoint No.	Summary	Description
		route 544 within the North Wessex Downs NL would be unlikely due to intervening landform, vegetation or buildings
55	PRoW south of Fyfield	Illustrative view from PRoW 221/10/10 on the limestone ridge, to the south of Fyfield. Included to demonstrate that significant effects on views from the limestone ridge towards the North Wessex Downs NL would be unlikely because these views within the study area are generally screened by intervening vegetation or buildings
56	PRoW at Gozzard's Ford	Illustrative view from PRoW on the limestone ridge, at Gozzards Ford. Included to demonstrate that significant effects on views from the limestone ridge towards the North Wessex Downs NL would be unlikely because the area within the EIA Scoping Boundary is generally screened by intervening vegetation or buildings
57	PRoW within the reservoir site	Illustrative view from a PRoW within the EIA Scoping Boundary, looking towards the North Wessex Downs NL. Included as an example of views towards the North Wessex Downs NL that would potentially be lost due to SESRO and to help inform the consideration of effects on the North Wessex Downs NL and its setting
58	Jubilee Path near the River Thames	Representative view from Jubilee path (permissive footpath) near the River Thames, Jubilee Junction, and proposed intake / outfall structure [winter photography to be added for ES]
59	Proposed crest walk	Illustrative view from proposed new footpath on crest of proposed reservoir embankment

4.2 Viewpoint Photography

- 4.2.1 Viewpoint photography, in accordance with Technical Guidance Note 06/19: Visual Representation of Development Proposals (Landscape Institute, 2019), is provided in Appendix 9.4: Viewpoint photography and visualisations, showing the baseline views.
- 4.2.2 Appendix 9.6: Technical methodology: photography, visualisations and Zones of Theoretical Visibility, sets out the technical detail, standards and methodology relating to the production of the photography and visualisations.
- 4.2.3 Winter and summer photography has been provided, presented side by side for ease of comparison. It has not yet been possible to include both winter and summer baseline views for every single viewpoint, due to various logistical, land ownership/ access issues, and nesting birds. These gaps will be filled at the ES stage, subject to land access. Of the defined viewpoints, seasonal photography is missing or incomplete at twelve locations (as noted in Table 4.1).
- 4.2.4 As noted above, night-time photography has also been provided for four of the viewpoints (numbers 1, 22, 35 and 50), and is presented alongside the day time views for these viewpoints.

- 4.2.5 Views are presented initially as 180-degree panoramas. Whilst this exceeds the horizontal field of view typically perceived in detail through human binocular vision, it is considered important to provide this wide landscape context, given the particularly expansive nature and scale of the Project proposals, combined with the typically flat open landscape. Many of the views, where the extent of the Project occupies a smaller expanse of the view, are also presented as 90-degree panoramas, to better reflect the more limited horizontal field of view likely to be perceived, and also to reduce the distortion that results from projecting 180-degree panoramas onto a flat surface. At the ES stage, more presentation of views aligning with the narrower horizontal field of view will also be provided.
- 4.2.6 'Type 1' (see Appendix 9.6: Technical methodology: photography, visualisations, and zones of theoretical visibility for full explanation of visualisation 'types') annotation is provided on all the winter views, to highlight key landmarks and indicate the approximate location and extent of the Project within the view. To allow this indication of the Project to be reasonably accurate, a process was followed to camera-match the digital model of the Project with the photograph, allowing the Project's maximum elevation and horizontal extents to be traced across to the photograph in the form of 'wireline' visualisations. This was done in relation to each of the discreet major components this assessment is primarily concerned with, i.e. the reservoir itself, the intake/outfall structure, and the solar farm. For the reservoir, the components modelled are the same as those modelled in the ZTV analysis, i.e. the reservoir embankment, the reservoir towers and pumping station, the T2ST infrastructure, and the buildings located on the crest of the embankment. Winter views are presented with Type 1 annotation of key landmarks and place names, plus the accurate 'wireline' representation of the vertical and horizontal extents of the development. It is important to note that these wirelines provide fully verifiable accuracy of the location and extents of the project, in accordance with 'Type 4' visualisations, as defined in Technical Guidance Note 06/19: Visual Representation of Development Proposals (Landscape Institute, 2019). Corresponding summer views are presented without annotation.
- 4.2.7 In addition to the Type 1 annotation and 'wireline' visualisation noted above, for 13 of the views 'colour massing' visualisations are provided. As with the wirelines, these are accurate and verifiable representations of the scale and form of the main elements of the development. Foreground masking is also undertaken, so the actual likely visibility of the structure(s) in relation to intervening vegetation, buildings and landform is revealed (this process is not applied to the wirelines). The colour rendering applied to the Project components is not intended as a realistic representation of surfaces / material colours or textures and, with the exception of the intake/outfall structure, there is no representation of architectural form / detail. A flat green tone is applied to elements of the Project which would have 'soft' landscape finishes, regardless of whether that comprises grass, scrub, trees, woodland etc; elements of the Project which would have 'hard' material finishes (regardless of whether these are buildings, fences, concrete, masonry, steel etc) are rendered white; a flat blue tone is applied to any water introduced by the Project, if visible.
- 4.2.8 For three of the views (viewpoint 50 from the edge of East Hanney, viewpoint 19 from the edge of Steventon, and viewpoint 59 representing views from the new embankment crest path), photorealistic rendered photomontages are provided. These include an indication of all likely associated landscape works, planting, colours and textures, to give a more realistic impression of the likely look and feel of the proposed reservoir in relation to these local community receptors. An exception to the application of realistic rendering of colours and textures applies to the buildings, which have been left white, due to a lack of

architectural design detail at this stage, however their position, scale and basic form is shown clearly. In terms of the maturity of proposed planting / vegetation, these visualisations represent a stage approximately 5 years into the operation of the project, and it is assumed that the planting located in more 'peripheral' areas beyond the footprints of major engineering works would have been planted earlier in the construction process, therefore there is up to 10 years' of establishment and growth for some of the planting. Whilst at the ES stage there will be much greater use of photorealistic visualisations, which will be aligned with the specific Project stages assumed for assessment (i.e. construction, operation winter year 1 and operation summer year 15) these three images have been provided at this stage simply to compare against the colour massing and wireline images, to provide a more realistic illustration of the likely degree of contrast and/or integration of the Project based on a small sample of viewpoints.

- 4.2.9 All visualisations are prepared in accordance with Technical Guidance Note 06/19: Visual Representation of Development Proposals (Landscape Institute, 2019).
- 4.2.10 To best understand the limitations and value of each type of visualisation described above, it is recommended that readers compare each of the three types (wireline, colour massing, and photorealistic) provided for viewpoints 19 (north western edge of Steventon) and 50 (eastern edge of East Hanney) side by side, and consider how the overall impression of the magnitude of landscape and visual effects might differ for the same view depending on the type of visualisation referred to. The wirelines are useful in accurately conveying the overall location and scale of the Project in these views, but do not show how much of it would actually be visible. The colour massing visualisations add an accurate understanding of the extent of the Project's visibility relative to existing intervening elements in the landscape, but do not convey how noticeable it would be; they are likely to create the impression that the Project would be much more noticeable and more incongruous than it actually would be, due to the additional colour contrast they create, not least the structures and buildings which, being coloured white, visually 'pop' out much more than they would in reality. The photorealistic visualisations provide the most complete picture, illustrating how noticeable, or well-integrated, the Project would be with all the associated embedded landscape and environmental mitigation in place; however it is again noted that the buildings have been left white (due to lack of architectural design detail at this stage), meaning they still contrast and appear more noticeable than they would in reality. These differences should be kept in mind before drawing any conclusions from any visualisations.
- 4.2.11 At the ES stage the number, and detail, of photomontages will be increased from that provided at this preliminary stage, reflecting the greater level of detail and certainty that the design is expected to reach during the intervening period. At the ES stage, the provision of visualisations is expected to include the following:
- More extensive use of fully detailed visualisations with photorealistic rendering, applying these techniques to a greater number of viewpoints, and representing all the elements of the Project including landscape and environmental mitigation and planting.
 - Application of the above level of detail to views specifically at winter year 1 and summer year 15 stages, so aligning with the stages of the Project being assessed (accurately showing the expected amount of establishment and growth of mitigation planting relative to a more detailed programme information on when during the construction period each respective area is expected to be planted, and indicating of the likely visual effect of reservoir drawdown in summer months compared to winter months).

- Application of the above level of detail to construction stage views for a limited number of viewpoints.

5 Visual baseline conditions

5.1 Summary of baseline

- 5.1.1 A high-level summary of the overall visual baseline is provided within Chapter 9: Landscape and visual. A more detailed description is provided here.
- 5.1.2 As noted in Chapter 9: Landscape and visual, the baseline visual amenity within the study area is strongly influenced by the landscape character as described in Appendix 9.1: Project-level landscape character assessment. The topography and openness of the lowland vale, combined with higher elevation to the north and south, allow for some very long-range and sensitive views across the study area.
- 5.1.3 Much of the study area comprises gently undulating lowland farmland, i.e. relatively sparsely populated agricultural land, with networks of Public Rights of way and local roads serving as public visual receptors. Also, within the study area there are key population centres with many rural villages, several of which are conservation areas, along with the larger towns of Abingdon, Didcot, Wantage and Grove.
- 5.1.4 Particularly sensitive views include long-range views looking south across the vale with the scarp of the North Wessex Downs in the background and also views looking north across the vale from within the North Wessex Downs. The importance of such views is elevated due to the North Wessex Downs' protected status as a National Landscape. Where such views are also from designated routes or open spaces within the National Landscape (notably the Ridgeway National Trail, the Vale Way Long Distance Path, and other PROWs), their sensitivity is again particularly high.
- 5.1.5 The Ridgeway National Trail is an 87-mile-long route, following a ridge of chalk hills in a north-easterly direction from the World Heritage Site of Avebury to the Ivinghoe Beacon northwest of London. Popularly known as 'Britain's oldest road', it follows the same route over the high ground used since prehistoric times by travellers, herdsman and soldiers. Within the study area, the Ridgeway runs east – west through the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, providing a range of very expansive views northward across the lowland vale and the site of the proposed reservoir and beyond, toward the Corallian Limestone Ridge in the north.
- 5.1.6 Besides views to and from the North Wessex Downs, other particularly notable views within the study area to highlight include:
- Views from the Thames Path National Trail. The Thames Path is a 185-mile-long walking trail; following the east bank of the Thames through the study area, it passes the village of Culham within a tranquil river corridor setting, from where walkers are likely to experience close-range views of the proposed intake outfall structure.
 - Views from the Vale Way Long Distance Path. The Vale Way is a 27-mile long-distance path connecting Abingdon, Wantage and Farringdon, generally running east - west and passing around the east and south sides of the Project. A range of views toward the Project can be expected from the Vale Way, including views of both the intake / outfall structure, and the reservoir.
- 5.1.7 There are also a number of key views specifically identified within five neighbourhood plans within the study area. In each case, the neighbourhood plan emphasises the need to

conserve the heritage and character of the area, with the qualities of the key views being an integral part of that character. These are outlined below.

- Steventon Parish Neighbourhood Plan 2022 to 2031 (Steventon Parish, 2022), Appendix 5 (Key Views and Vistas), highlights the importance of several key views and vistas to the character and heritage of the village. The views identified include two which could be potentially affected by the Project:
 - The view looking west from the village along Hanney Road (represented by **viewpoint 19**)
 - The view looking north from the village along Steventon Road (represented by **viewpoint 20**)
- East Hanney Neighbourhood Plan 2021 to 2031 (East Hanney Parish Council, 2024) highlights the village's historic character, rural and natural setting, openness and strong sense of place. It also highlights the village status as a dark sky village. Appendix I (Views) of the Neighbourhood Plan highlights key views and vistas. These include four which could potentially be affected by the Project:
 - The view north from Old Man's Lane across open farmland (represented by **viewpoint 53**)
 - The view south from north of the village on the A338 (represented by **viewpoint 49**)
 - The view southeast from the crossroads (represented by **viewpoint 51**),
 - The view northeast from the village along the A338.
- Sutton Courtenay Neighbourhood Plan 2031 (Sutton Courtenay Parish Council, 2024) identifies 26 key views around the village, of which four appear potentially affected by the Project.
 - Two key views looking north / northwest from the north of the village might potentially glimpse the intake / outfall structure
 - Two key views looking northwest from the west of the village might include views of the proposed reservoir. **Viewpoint 21** represents these views.
- Wootton and St Helen Without Neighbourhood Plan 2019 – 2031 (Wootton and St Helen Without Parish Councils, 2019) identifies a number of views and vistas from the collection of villages, of which several could potentially be affected by the Project, which are collectively represented by **viewpoint 35**. The views are:
 - Southwest from Foxcombe Hill
 - Southwest from Drysandford
 - South from Gozzards Ford
- East Challow Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2031 (East Challow Parish Council, 2023) highlights ten key views and vistas around the village, however none of these are oriented towards the Project. ZTV analysis and fieldwork also demonstrates that there is likely to be very limited visibility of the Project from East Challow, given its location to the west of Wantage and Grove.

5.1.8 It is noted that neighbourhood development plans have been produced for other villages within the study area, all of which highlight the need to protect their distinctive character but without identifying specific key views. Such plans have been produced, and reviewed to inform this assessment, for West Hanney, Drayton, Appleton with Eaton, and Chilton.

5.1.9 There is a range of urban development and infrastructure within the study area which, where present within views, can sometimes detract from the otherwise largely rural visual amenity. Key detractors include:

- Major industrial developments, such as Didcot Power Station and Abingdon Sewage Treatment Works.
- Existing solar farms, including two within the proposed reservoir site, and two between the proposed Site and the North Wessex Downs National Landscape.
- Visually prominent agricultural infrastructure such as the silo towers at Willowbrook Farm.
- Overhead power lines and pylons.
- Road infrastructure - the A34 in particular, plus the A338, detract from the surrounding largely rural scene and tranquillity with movement, noise, and light pollution.
- Rail infrastructure including overhead infrastructure (cables and supporting structures), from the railway running toward Didcot to the south of the reservoir site.
- The urbanising influence of the four towns within the study area, i.e. Abingdon, Wantage, Grove, and Didcot, including their associated industry, light pollution and movement when they appear within long-range views across the vale.

5.2 Descriptions of visual baseline and sensitivity for each receptor

5.2.1 Table 5.1 below provides a brief description of the typical baseline views associated with each of the visual receptors selected for the preliminary assessment within the PEI Report. It also identifies the 'Area IDs' for each receptor, which correspond to the identifiers on Figures 9.14 and 9.15 (visual receptors), and any associated viewpoints for each receptor – i.e. those viewpoints which are either within the defined area of the receptor or considered sufficiently close to it to still help inform the assessment of effects upon that receptor. The table also states the sensitivity values for each receptor, including their overall sensitivity, but also their value and susceptibility; this is in accordance with the methodology set out in Chapter 9: Landscape and visual, (paragraphs 9.4.54 to 9.4.57), which sets out the criteria associated with each of the ratings. The final column in Table 5.1 provides a brief commentary explaining the sensitivity judgements. Sensitivity judgements are summarised in the penultimate column using the following abbreviations:

- VH (Very High)
- H (High)
- M (Medium or Moderate)
- L (Low)

Table 5.1 Visual receptors considered in the preliminary assessment, their baseline descriptions and sensitivity

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
People using National Trails, grouped / spatially defined as below:					
People using The Ridgeway, between the A34 and A338	EIA-199	VP1, VP2, VP3	Viewpoints are representative of the mix of filtered and open views north for users of the Ridgeway, towards a rural setting of open fields, woodlands and hedgerows in the near to middle distance, within which additional PRoWs and bridleways intersect the Ridgeway in multiple locations. Didcot Power Station is visible in the distance, and other less discernible features include the tall silos at Robertson Envirosystems, the small, scattered settlements, solar farms and the Great Western Railway line; visibility of all these is further reduced in summer when trees are in leaf. In the far distance the elevated Corallion Limestone Ridge can be seen enclosing the vale at its northern edges. Views south from the trail include Scutchamore Knob Monument and the changing rural scene of rolling fields and pockets of woodland.	Value: VH Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: VH	Very High value as views are associated both with a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National Landscape) and nationally promoted route (The Ridgeway National Trail); Very High susceptibility as views of the surroundings are an essential part of the experience in this context. Overall, Very High sensitivity as a result.
People visiting the Lord Wantage Monument on The Ridgeway	EIA-200	VP3	The viewpoint is representative of the long-range views from this rural setting, which though often filtered by trees, offers views towards Goldbury Hill Scheduled Monument and the Corallion Limestone Ridge of Marcham and Abingdon. Shorter range views comprise open fields, often partly contained by their backdrop of deciduous woodland, with mid-range views typically being farmland pasture and wooded areas. Within the panoramic views north there are scattered, distant features visible within the vale including Didcot Power station and Landmead Solar Farm, with the silos at Robertson Envirosystems barely discernible in the context of the layers of trees,	Value: VH Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: VH	Very High value as views are associated both with a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National Landscape) and nationally promoted route (The Ridgeway National Trail), at a notable rest stop and point of interest hosting the Lord Wantage Monument; it is also located at the site of a Bronze Age round

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			vegetation and built development making up the vale landscape. Their visibility is reduced during summer months when the foreground woodland trees are in leaf. The Ridgeway footpath is informal and unsurfaced and gives the localised feeling of a natural landscape.		barrow. Very High susceptibility as views of the surroundings are an essential part of the experience in this context. Overall, Very High sensitivity as a result.
People using The Ridgeway between the A338 and the western edge of the study area	EIA-201	VP6	The landscape to the north of this stretch of the trail is open, wide and undulating, with a broadly rural character. Whilst trees filter visibility and enclose views to the settlements of Wantage and East Hanney, the Corallian Limestone Ridge can be seen in the far north enclosing and emphasising the Vale landscape. Short and mid-range views contain open farmland, bounded by hedgerows and interspersed with blocks and belts of woodland. The village of Letcombe Regis and a few scattered detached properties can be seen though any detail is generally filtered by tree cover. The sinuous route of Letcombe Brook is clearly defined by the adjacent dense vegetation though the brook itself is hidden from view. The distinctive features of the Devil's Punchbowl and the intervening field dominate views north from the western end of the trail section, the dynamic landforms creating an almost surreal visual contrast to the flat Vale features beyond. Within the longer views detractors include road infrastructure, however the solar farms and other built detractors are barely discernible within the haze of trees and vegetation. Views south from this section of the trail are less expansive, and often shortened by hedgerows and woodland belts, with the rolling raised landform	Value: VH Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: VH	Very High value as views are associated both with a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National Landscape) and nationally promoted route (The Ridgeway National Trail). Very High susceptibility as views of the surroundings are an essential part of the experience in this context. Overall, Very High sensitivity as a result.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			enclosing the landscape, in contrast to those north across the Vale.		
People using The Ridgeway, east of the A34.	EIA-202	N/a	There are wide expansive views for people using the Ridgeway east of the A34 over the surrounding rural landscape, that is formed of large fields with few boundaries and broken only by intermittent blocks of woodland. The steeply rising landform at the western end of the section restricts long range views to the north and northwest, the mid-range horizon obscuring the features of the vale below. There are occasional views of the distant Corallian Limestone Ridge in the north, and views extend out to the continuing ridge of the North Wessex Downs to the east and south, the wide rural landscape broken only occasionally by areas of woodland and pathside vegetation.	Value: VH Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: VH	Very High value as views are associated both with a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National Landscape) and nationally promoted route (The Ridgeway National Trail). Very High susceptibility as views of the surroundings are an essential part of the experience in this context. Overall, Very High sensitivity as a result.
People using The Thames Path, between Abingdon (Nags Head bridge) and Culham (Tollgate Road bridge)	EIA-203	VP24	This section of The Thames Path National Trail follows the river through the maintained, urban setting of Abingdon with clear views of Abingdon Bridge, boat moorings and riverside properties creating a distinctive and active riverside setting. In contrast, a little further south the trail passes through the scrub and lightly wooded riparian edge of the fields to the west of Culham. Through these sections the settled landscape generally feels quiet and open, with fields, water meadows and open views across the Thames. The occasional boat or craft glides by. Where the route passes along Culham Cut, an artificial channel constructed in the 19th century and located to the south of Culham Village, views from the trail towards both the water and the surrounding countryside are often constrained by woodland and scrub, however	Value: H Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: VH	High value views as associated with nationally promoted route (the Thames Path National Trail), within an area of Green Belt but not within a nationally designated landscape; Very High susceptibility as visual amenity forms a very important part of users' experience. Very High sensitivity overall.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			there are occasional rewarding pastoral glimpses to the built features of Culham and along the Cut from its small pedestrian bridge, with a few boats moored along its side.		
People using Long Distance Paths, grouped / spatially defined as below:					
People using the Vale Way long distance footpath, between Abingdon and Drayton Road	EIA-204	VP27, VP28	There are contrasting views for users of this well used right of way, popular with runners, cyclists and walkers. For much of the route hedgerows and trees limit views out to the wider landscape and increase a feeling of enclosure and isolation. At the route's junction with other rights of way and permissive paths there are more open views across water meadows towards the River Thames, and across the adjacent waterbodies with their heavily vegetated edges. Whilst the route runs past detracting infrastructure such as a Water Treatment Works, the pathside vegetation restricts longer views to the associated infrastructure with only sideways glimpses for the short adjacent section. There are few other detracting features and generally the path feels rural, but well maintained, with a managed surface and reflective edge lights.	Value: H Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: H	High value as views from long distance route, with association to popular and valued assets such as the River Thames; Very High susceptibility as nationally promoted recreational route, and users' attention is likely to have a strong focus on views whilst travelling along the Vale Way. High sensitivity overall.
People using the Vale Way, between Drayton Road and Milton	EIA-205	VP21	The landscape setting, whilst relatively flat and open, is variable for users of this section of the long-distance path as it passes through more rural feeling arable farmland and the contrasting styles of the local villages of Milton and Sutton Courtenay. For much of this stretch there are multiple detractors with pylons, infrastructure and industrial buildings evident as a backdrop to the more rural sections. The route passes through Milton conservation area with its historic village core centred around the Mill House, church and manor House and there are open views towards a	Value: H Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: H	High value as views from long distance route, with association to popular and valued assets such as local Conservation Areas; Very High susceptibility as nationally promoted recreational route, and users' attention is likely to have a strong focus on views whilst travelling along

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			Scheduled Monument Settlement from the footpath, though there is little visible above ground. Representative viewpoints represent key views identified in the Sutton Courtney Neighbourhood Plan 2031.		the Vale Way. High sensitivity overall.
People using the Vale Way, at Steventon	EIA-206	N/a	Much of this section of the long-distance path is urban, passing through the conservation area in the village of Steventon. Whilst village infrastructure is evident for much of the stretch, a section east of Steventon passes through fields, joining the tree edged route of Mill Brook before passing over the A34 road by way of a bridge. Through Steventon the path is afforded a tree lined position along the edge of The Green, a distinctive village open space with cricket pitch and it continues in a similar tree lined style to the west of the High Street passing allotments and orchards and older style mixed houses before heading out of the village along Church Lane and St Michael and All Angels Church.	Value: H Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: H	High value as views from long distance route, with association to popular and valued assets such as local Conservation Areas; Very High susceptibility as nationally promoted recreational route, and users' attention is likely to have a strong focus on views whilst travelling along the Vale Way. High sensitivity overall.
People using the Vale Way, between Steventon and West Hendred	EIA-207	VP10, VP14	The landscape is semi-rural, between the two villages, passing through open arable farmland across relatively flat, open terrain. In places views are filtered by existing vegetation located along the footpath, and boundary hedgerows within mid-range views. There are multiple detractors; infrastructure is evident throughout, along with nearby developments and associated infrastructure. The route passes through Steventon conservation area, and there are open views of two nearby settlement site Scheduled Monuments from the footpath.	Value: H Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: H	High value as views from long distance route, sections within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, and valued assets such as local Conservation Areas; Very High susceptibility as nationally promoted recreational route, and users' attention is likely to have a strong focus on views whilst travelling along

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
					the Vale Way. High sensitivity overall.
People using the Vale Way, between West Hendred and Wantage	EIA-208	VP54	The landscape setting varies for users of this section of the Vale Way, passing through open arable farmland, pockets of woodland and village settings. Passing briefly along the northern section of The Greenway in the village of West Hendred the path continues through relatively flat and open terrain, with wide views north and south. Though only some 500m from the busy A417 in places, users feel separated by the gently rising landform to the north which filters views to the road. The views south are dominated by the pastoral green setting of the Downs, with occasional glimpses of dispersed settlements. At Ardington the route joins the village at a defined edge of the settlement, passing along the village High Street and its conservation area and historic core with glimpses of the spire at Holy Trinity Church. West of Lockinge the path shares a defined surfaced route with cyclists and has varied views, some enclosed by pathside vegetation and others more open towards the urban extension of Wantage emerging to the west and open farmland, with the rising landform of Lark Hill visible to the north.	Value: H Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: H	High value as views from long distance route, sections within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, and valued assets such as local Conservation Areas; Very High susceptibility as nationally promoted recreational route, and users' attention is likely to have a strong focus on views whilst travelling along the Vale Way. High sensitivity overall.
People using the Oxford Green Belt Way between Cumnor and Radley	EIA-296	VP36	Users of the Oxford Green Belt way experience contrasting visual experiences. Heading north to south the route passes through the village of Cumnor, in part utilising the local road network, emerging into a more rural landscape where the route passes along farm tracks, hugging the edge of the rising land at Hen Wood. There are wide views across the fields and in places, far reaching views south towards the vale and	Value: H Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: H	High value as views from long distance route, with association to popular and valued assets such as local Conservation Areas; Very High susceptibility as nationally promoted recreational route, and

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			the Downs though in some sections, views are contained by the rising landform and wooded land cover. At Boars Hill the path passes briefly through the village, enclosed in part within a narrow corridor between woodland and adjacent properties. It emerges at the top of the hill north of Sunningwell, with rewarding wide, panoramic views south across the vale and to the North Wessex Downs. Within the layers of vegetation can be seen clusters of residential properties with the Wittenham Clumps, Didcot Power Station, pylons and agricultural silo towers perceivable within the landscape, and combining to create a broad, distinctive view. The nearby features of St Leonard's Church and other built features at Sunningwell are visible at the bottom of the hill and the presence of Weeping Willows within the settled landscape give hint of the nearby Thames corridor. The path continues towards this, joining the road through the village before continuing along field edge tracks, crossing the A34 road, before utilising further small roads and sections of field track and woodland before passing through the village of Radley.		users' attention is likely to have a strong focus on views whilst travelling along the Oxford Green Belt Way. High sensitivity overall.
People using Public Rights of Way, grouped / spatially defined as below:					
People using PRoWs - close to The Ridgeway within the North Wessex Downs	EIA-210	VP3, VP4, VP5	For users of the public rights of way close to and along The Ridgeway, open views to the north are interspersed with those filtered by tree belts and blocks of woodland. Where open, they extend, often as a wide panorama, towards the undulating landscape of the vale edge slopes to the vale, and beyond to the rising Corallian Limestone Ridge, visible in the far northern extents of the view. The immediate setting to these elevated rights of way is of rural character and	Value: VH Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Very High value as views are from within a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National Landscape) from local PRoW network. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
National Landscape			typically a pattern of open fields, hedgerow boundaries and scattered woodlands. Larger settlements are visible in some mid and long-range views including Grove, Wantage, East Hanney and Letcombe Regis and visible raised natural feature of Goldbury Hill Scheduled Monument is distinctive within the vale. In the adjacent landscape are the distinctive features of Segsbury Camp Hill Fort, itself offering wide views across the vale and these rights of way are a constant blend of wide views, sections of enclosed woodland and the distinctive and ever-changing natural features of the National Landscape. Within longer views detractors include Didcot Power Station and the Silos at Robertson Envirosystems, though these features are often filtered by the layers of vegetation around them, and by their distance from the rights of way.		part of the experience for users of PRowS. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People using PRowS within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape and up to its boundary	EIA-211	VP8, VP9, VP54	Views for users of the public rights of way close to and on the edge of the NWDNL are towards an open, undulating landscape. The setting is rural, typically comprising open, pastoral fields with scattered woodland and hedgerows and with longer views restricted by the rising topography to the north, and the landscape contained by woodland blocks. Open views are interspersed with enclosed sections through or adjacent to woodland blocks and here, the undulating landform of the Downs slopes dominates the character, interspersed by the distinctive historical features of the villages, and other settlement features such as Ardington House. Where longer views open, in particular from rights of way near to the A417 road, broader views are gained towards the vale and the Corallian Limestone Ridge beyond, with the blend of	Value: VH Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views are from within a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National Landscape) from local PRow network. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for users of PRowS. Overall High sensitivity as a result.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			built infrastructure visible within the Vale - Silos and Solar Farms - and on the ridge beyond, buildings at Abingdon Airfield. From the rural, character context of these rights of way these distant features, though visible, feel remote and somewhat detached.		
Specific viewpoint from a memorial bench along PRoW 403/23/10 within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape	EIA-212	VP9	There are wide views north from the memorial bench, located at its elevated position on Park Hill within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, across the adjacent rolling fields and nearby woodland copse towards the built features of West Hendred village nestled within the mid distance landscape. The flat vale, with the green haze of the rising Corallian Limestone Ridge at its northern end, can be seen extending into the distance though the vale features are hard to discern.	Value: VH Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: VH	High value as views are from within a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National Landscape) from local PRoW network and at a notable rest stop and point of interest. High susceptibility as users' attention is likely to be focused on this particular view. Overall Very High sensitivity, as value and susceptibility are toward the upper end of the high spectrum, due to this being a notable stopping / viewing point on a PRoW within the National Landscape.
People using PRoWs between the railway line and the North Wessex	EIA-213	VP10, VP11, VP12, VP13, VP14, VP15, VP16	Views from these PRoWs are variable in their degree of openness, dependent upon their position within this area of the landscape between the railway line and the edge of the National Landscape. As the land rises to the south, the views north are more panoramic, with the flat vale visible at the edge of the gently rising plateau of agricultural fields in the foreground. As the	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views are within the setting of a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National Landscape) from the local PRoW network. High

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
Downs National Landscape			landscape lowers further north, views are more contained by landform and tree belts with the views north shortened by the heavily wooded embankment of the railway line, however there are pastoral views east and west of the gently rolling rural landscape, that provides the setting for the rising landscape and ridgeway of the National Landscape to the south.		susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for users of PRow. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People using PRow Bridleways in / around Drayton	EIA-214	VP29, VP30, VP31	Views are variable from the PRow around Drayton. Those to the west are generally toward the strip of agricultural land located between Drayton and the A34 road, and of the built edge of the settlement, however where the rights of way pass over the A34, views widen across the vale with its features of fields, areas of woodland and built features including farms and pylons. To the east there are views of the surrounding flat, pastoral agricultural landscape, interspersed by occasional agricultural buildings, residential properties and pylons. There are occasional long-distance glimpses of the North Wessex Downs.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are locally valued from the local PRow network, but do include several detractors. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for users of PRow. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People using PRow, south west corner of Site, between railway and A338	EIA-215	VP53	There are open and intermittent wide views north and east across the open, flat, arable landscape for users of these public rights of way that are interspersed with intermittent tree belts and hedgerows. Other visible features include telegraph posts and lines, the traffic movement on the nearby A338 road and residential properties on the edge of East Hanney. In the distance, across the expansive fields distant features can be seen that include the silos at Willowbrook Farm though visibility is intermittently filtered by the layers of vegetation both within the mid-range views and adjacent to the rights of way. Both the elevated Ridgeway of the North Wessex Downs at the southern	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are locally valued from the local PRow network, but do include several detractors. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for users of PRow. Overall High sensitivity as a result.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			end of the vale, and the Corallian Limestone Ridge at the northern extent are visible within long range views, emphasising the extents of the flat landscape. Representative viewpoint represents a key view and vista identified in the East Hanney Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2031.		
People using network of PRowS in Wooton / Boars Hill area, on the Corallian Limestone Ridge	EIA-216	VP36	There would be a blend of long-range panoramic views and contained short and mid-range views for users of the public rights of way in this area, formed by a combination of fields and rural features, and the more urban character of the settlements of Wootton and Boars Hill. Views are shortened through some sections by trees and hedgerows enclosing the rights of way or growing within the middle distance thus preventing longer views, and whilst the landform is generally sloping towards the vale, its undulations can also contain views. Where long range views occur the ridge of the North Wessex Downs National Landscape provides a backdrop and recognisable features include the Wittenham Clumps the silos at Willowbrook Farm, clusters of residential development and road infrastructure.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are locally valued from the local PRow network, including long range views toward the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, but also several detractors. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for users of PRowS. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People using PRowS around Little Wittenham within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape	EIA-217	VP22	There are distinctive panoramic long-range views in all directions for users of the Scenic View Point and of the public rights of way at Wittenham Clumps, two distinctive wooded chalk hills located within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, on the summit of which grow two contained, isolated circular beech plantations. Towards the north and east the landscape is more settled and rural in character, with clear views of the cluster of historic houses and church, located at the base of the steep rising slope of the northern	Value: VH Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: VH	Very High value as views are within a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National Landscape) from the local PRow network, with highly scenic views and a viewpoint marked on OS Maps. Very High susceptibility as views of

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			Round Hill. These widen out to long views that include the meandering route of the River Thames and its surrounding waterbodies and the features of the historic town of Dorchester to the north. Views to the west, whilst long range across the vale and including layers of fields, hedgerows and tree belts are generally characterised by more urban features that include road movement and the built infrastructure of Didcot, including its Power Station, all set within the distinctive topographic pattern of the wide expansive vale, enclosed at its northern and southern edges by the Corallian Limestone Ridge and the continuing North Wessex Downs.		the surrounding area are likely to be a very important part of the experience for users of these PRoWs. Overall Very High sensitivity as a result.
People using PRoWs in the Hinton Waldrist / Kingston Hill area, on the Corallian Limestone Ridge	EIA-285	n/a	Views south vary for the users of the PRoWs in the Hinton Waldrist / Kingston Hill area on the Corallian Limestone Ridge. Along much of their extents the rolling landform, combined with intervening layers of vegetation restrict and contain views to mid-range, with the vale landscape out of sight beyond. In other areas, particularly further south there are wider views across the vale toward the multiple layers of tree lines extending back to the North Wessex Downs rising above the southern end of the vale.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are locally valued from the local PRoW network, including long range views toward the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, but also several detractors. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for users of PRoWs. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People using PRoWs in the Kingston Bagpuize area, on the Corallian	EIA-218	VP38, VP55	Views south towards the vale are varied for users of the public rights of way within the Corallian Limestone Ridge. The undulating and plateaued landform and scattered woodland blocks shorten longer views in many areas and add a sense of separation from the vale further south. Short and mid-range features	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are locally valued from the local PRoW network, including long range views toward the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, but

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
Limestone Ridge			include fields, road infrastructure, scattered and varied settlement types and other varied light industrial and agricultural features within the area. In other locations there are wide panoramic views south towards the flat form of the vale with its backdrop of the North Wessex Downs, and with detractors clearly visible which include silo towers, Didcot Power Station and the myriad of road and industry infrastructure present within and around the vale. Whilst there is some sense of remoteness in places, rights of way in this area have only short rural lengths before a man-made influence is seen.		also several detractors. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for users of PRoWs. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People using PRoWs within the area of the proposed reservoir	EIA-219	VP57	Views are varied for users of the public rights of way within the area of the proposed reservoir. In some locations there are open, wide views over the strikingly flat landscape across large scale fields edged with hedgerows and the occasional piece of disused farming equipment. Views are punctuated by varying and contrasting built features that include the distinctive buildings at the centrally located farm on Kiln Lane, solar farms, pylons, the Landmead Farm Airstrip, the silo towers at Willowbrook Farm and the military style features of the Steventon Storage Depot. Whilst some rights of way are open and well used, others feel remote with overgrown vegetation enclosing their route and this contributes to a sense of isolation for users despite the busy roads through and along the edge of the area. This, combined with views of the more unusual features described can create a sense of unease and remoteness for users emphasised by the vastness of the vale in this location. Where views are open there are clear views to the	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are locally valued from the local PRoW network, including some long-range views toward the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, but also several detractors. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for users of PRoWs. Overall High sensitivity as a result.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			rising land and ridgeline of the North Wessex Downs National Landscape and an appreciation can be gained of the vale forming the setting to the rising landform. In northern locations the weaving brooks and River Ock, with their distinctive corridors of riparian vegetation, create a more tranquil setting for users of the rights of way, though pylons cross the area and the movement and hum of road noise is often still present.		
People using PRoWs in and around Garford, and within 1km of proposed solar farm	EIA-221	VP40, VP42, VP43, VP44, VP45, VP46, VP39	There are wide, pastoral views over the agricultural landscape towards the fields, wooded shaws and of the settlement features at Garford and Chadwicks Farm for people using PRoWs in and around Garford, and within 1km of proposed solar farm. Views are generally contained by wooded and hedged tree boundaries in the middle distance, though in places there are occasional wider views towards the North Wessex Downs and in places, the glimpsed towers of Didcot Power Station can be seen. Most PROW are set within the edges of fields that are broadly enclosed by hedges limiting the geographic extent of wider views across the landscape. In areas to the east the movement of vehicles on the A338 can be seen though this is contained by vegetation to the east of the road.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are locally valued from the local PRoW network. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for users of PRoWs. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People using PRoWs to the south of Marcham	EIA-634	VP33, VP37	Views for people using PRoWs to the south of Marcham are varied. To the west, where breaks in intervening woodland belts and hedgerows allow there are wide views south across the vale towards the backdrop of the North Wessex Downs National Landscape. South of Marcham, views across the flat agricultural landscape are generally contained by the wooded field edge vegetation, with the detracting	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are locally valued from the local PRoW network. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important part of the experience for

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			influence of the nearby pylons dominating views south. There are other intermittent features including rivers and streams, with their contrasting riverine vegetation and the North Wessex Downs are visible as a backdrop within views south.		users of PRoWs. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People using National Cycleways, grouped / spatially defined as below:					
People using NCN Route 5 - Radley to Didcot	EIA-223	VP27, VP28	There is a variable setting for users of NCR 5 as they move through the landscape between Radley and Didcot, with the route passing through a changing mosaic of pastoral open countryside, smaller settlements often with historic buildings, interspersed farmland and larger towns with their urban features. Much of the route is shared with the road network and passes through several conservation areas, Scheduled Monuments and listed buildings. There are occasional glimpses south towards the North Wessex Downs National Landscape however the surrounding generally flat landscape and urban fabric generally restricts longer and wider views from the route, in particular where it passes along bridleways often enclosed by dense edge vegetation. Urban features including the large road networks and raised A34 road and combine with multiple built detractors visible along the route, and which include the Didcot ASDA distribution Centre, Heidelberg Asphalt and Concrete Plant, Odey Hill Quarry and Drayton Sewage Treatment Works.	Value: M Susceptibility: M Sensitivity: M	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities, from the National Cycle Network. Medium susceptibility as views - whilst appreciated as part of the experience, tend to be more transitory and less a primary focus for cyclists than PRoW pedestrians, given the nature and speed of cycling. Overall Moderate sensitivity as a result.
People using NCN Route 544 - Wantage to Didcot	EIA-224	VP54	The setting varies for users of NCR544 as they pass through the landscape between Wantage and Didcot. The urban features of each of these large settlements contrast with the lengthier sections which pass along the smaller road networks, raised embankments and	Value: M Susceptibility: M Sensitivity: M	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities, from the National Cycle Network. Medium

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			bridleways. Much of the route is more rural and within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, its attractive, pastoral rural landscape forming its setting. This is characterised by the scattering of historic settlements, many with conservation areas, woodland blocks, streams and rolling landscape. There are wide views looking south to the Downs but views north are generally contained by the rolling landform and woodland blocks and copses. Near Didcot, Harwell Science and Innovation Campus is visible though views are intermittent and restricted by the strips of woodland adjacent to the route. There are occasional glimpsed long-range views north towards the elevated limestone ridge and the vale within, though these are frequently enclosed and filtered by trees and hedgerows limiting the impacts of visual detractors.		susceptibility as views - whilst appreciated as part of the experience, tend to be more transitory and less a primary focus for cyclists than PRoW pedestrians, given the nature and speed of cycling. Overall Moderate sensitivity as a result.
People using permissive footpaths, grouped / spatially defined as below:					
People using permissive footpaths between Jubilee Junction and Abingdon Marina	EIA-286	VP58	Users of these informal permissive paths pass through the open, settled riparian landscape south of Abingdon Marina and the more tunnelled and enclosed sections of the path that lead west from Jubilee Junction to meet the Vale Way. Whilst the riverside sections of the path are partially edged by vegetation views are generally open towards the River Thames and beyond to the riparian edge and pastoral rural setting of the fields west of Culham, with occasional glimpses of its built form or of craft passing on the river. The Thames side section of the path passes along the eastern edge of attractive water meadows, contained by mid-range belts of wooded vegetation growing alongside the Vale Way that enclose mid-range views to the west and screen the features of the industrial features and water	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are locally valued from local permissive footpaths and offer views of scenic quality along the River Thames corridor, whilst also influenced by industrial development including Abingdon sewage treatment works and former quarry pits, now lakes/ponds. High susceptibility as views of the surrounding area are likely to be an important

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			treatment works located along the Vale Way. Whilst the section of the path between the Vale Way and Jubilee Junction is enclosed by the fenced private lakes either side, its managed nature with gated entrance and maintained surfaced path reduces the sense of isolation.		part of the experience for walkers. Overall High sensitivity as a result, lower than for users of higher status routes in the same area - including the Vale Way long distance path and Thames Path national trail.
People travelling on local public roads within 2km of proposed reservoir embankment, grouped / spatially defined as below					
People travelling by road on the A338, north of East Hanney	EIA-251	VP49	There are open views across the landscape for users of this busy single carriageway road. Whilst much of its length is lined with low hedgerows and occasional trees the wide expanse of the vale is clearly visible all around. When travelling north, intervening belts of trees prevent clear views towards the Corallian Limestone Ridge though there are occasional glimpses of its elevated wooded southern edge. Travelling south the soft features of the Ridgeway within the North Wessex National Landscape are often visible in the distance, behind the flat, expansive agricultural landscape broken only by tree and hedge lined boundaries. There are few built features, other than occasional farm buildings and telegraph poles and wires, the entrance gates to and features of farms and the Crematorium, and the glimpsed features of villages and other small settlements. Further north, Pylons cross the landscape and road. Representative viewpoint represents key views and vistas identified in the East Hanney Neighbourhood Development Plan.	Value: M Susceptibility: M Sensitivity: L	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the location. Low susceptibility as views for road users are transitory and incidental to the journey. Overall Low sensitivity as a result.
People travelling by road on	EIA-252	VP13	There are varied views for people travelling along Grove Park Drive. Views to the eastern side of the road change from the built features of Grove to those of the	Value: M Susceptibility: M Sensitivity: M	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
Grove Park Drive			surrounding rural landscape. There are distinctive views from the open edge of the tree lined road, towards the fields and tree belts, cut short in the middle distance by the wooded embankment of the Wantage - Didcot railway line. As the road continues south its edges become more wooded, largely screening views to the east with views contained to areas south of the railway line. There are views to the west of the rural landscape east of Wantage, with occasional glimpses of the solar farm and Kingsgrove, the new housing development on the towns eastern edge. Further south, as the road rises to meet the A417 views are enclosed by its wooded environment.		qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the location. Medium susceptibility as views for users of slower local roads (as opposed to main roads) are not quite so transitory / incidental. Overall Moderate sensitivity as a result.
People travelling by road on the A34	EIA-253	VP29	There are intermittent wide views west over the flat vale landscape in the section between Milton Park and Abingdon from the A34 road, part of which are elevated and parts that are enclosed by embankment. Views are often contained by roadside vegetation, but when open extend towards the repeating layered features of agricultural fields, tree belts and areas of woodland, interspersed with pylons and the occasional built features of farms. The ridgeway of the North Wessex Downs National Landscape to the south is a constant backdrop within all open views south and there is a less distinct sense of the rising land to the north. Views east are generally constrained by roadside vegetation or embankment, but where they open are towards the adjacent fields, hedges, woodland shaws, pylons and the built features of the urban edges of Abingdon and Drayton.	Value: M Susceptibility: L Sensitivity: L	Medium value as views include glimpses of valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the location. Low susceptibility as views for road users are transitory and incidental to the journey. Overall Low sensitivity as a result.
People travelling by	EIA-254	VP50	The road connecting East Hanney and Steventon is generally busy with a steady flow of fast-moving cars.	Value: M Susceptibility: L	Medium value as views are of locally valued

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
road on Steventon Road			The low hedges running along much of its length do not prevent wide views being gained by users across the wide, agricultural landscape. Telegraph poles run parallel to the road, changing sides at the road's transfer from Steventon Road to Hanney Road however visual detractors are not uncommon, with the road passing the visible solar farm and silos at Willowbrook Farm to the north, and the military like features of chain link fence and Nissen Huts at Steventon Depot south of the road. These, along with the slightly soulless flat landscape and other less attractive features that include pylons and large agricultural warehouses interspersed along the road, combine in creating a less attractive landscape and a slight sense of unease. At each end of the road, where it converges with settlement features the character become more pleasing with views towards the ribboned edge of the settlements, pockets of woodland and the visible features of their historic village cores.	Sensitivity: L	landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the location. Low susceptibility as views for road users are transitory and incidental to the journey. Overall Low sensitivity as a result.
People travelling by road through Garford Road	EIA-255	VP42, VP43	There are varying views for users of the road travelling through Garford, a quiet B-road serving the village and connecting users to more remote settlements to the west of the A338. Whilst the edges of the road are generally lined by dense hedgerows to the east there are broad panoramic views towards the wider countryside, pockets of woodland and in the distance looking south, the scarp of the North Wessex Downs. There are few detractors, and the road offers pleasing views as it passes through the small settlement of Garford, rich with traditionally built houses. As the road enters the countryside southwest of Garford the fields are more contained, with visibly higher and denser	Value: M Susceptibility: M Sensitivity: M	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the location. Medium susceptibility as views for users of slower local roads (as opposed to main roads) are not quite so transitory / incidental. Overall Moderate sensitivity as a result.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			boundary hedges and these combine with the thick roadside vegetation to restrict wider views. For an approximate 1.5km section there are intermittent views towards the adjacent contained fields, a few of which are proposed as a location for the relocated SESRO solar farm and for intermittent short sections these glimpsed views could be combined with those of other solar farms proposed and consented in other nearby fields, however sideways views from the adjacent road are constantly filtered or contained by the dense roadside vegetation between Garford and Winter Lane. Mid-range views include pockets of broadleaf woodland and the attractive avenue of trees along the drive to Chadwicks Farm and there are glimpsed long range views towards the distant North Wessex Downs.		
People travelling by road along the A415 (Frilford Road / Marcham)	EIA-259	VP34	There are intermittent views out from the generally enclosed carriageway for users of the busy A415 road. For much of its route between Frilford and Abingdon it is bounded by dense scrub and hedgerows, with regularly interspersed mature trees. Intermittently there are breaks in the vegetation and wide views are gained to the south, though the flat landscape of the vale combined with pockets of woodland and hedgelines contain views to mid-range. The scarp of the North Wessex Downs Ridge is just visible as a distant background where breaks in mid-range vegetation allow. For much of the route any views north are more consistently blocked by roadside vegetation but occasionally open out across the landscape and the rising Corallian Limestone Ridge in the north. Whilst Didcot Power Station and pylons and overhead wires can occasionally be glimpsed, the	Value: M Susceptibility: L Sensitivity: L	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the location. Low susceptibility as views for road users are transitory and incidental to the journey. Overall Low sensitivity as a result.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			short-range views of the intermittent properties ribboned along the road and the attractive built features at Marcham through which the road routes, along with nearby fields and vegetation are the dominant characteristics in the views for users of this route.		
People travelling by road on Hanney Road	EIA-260	n/a	The road connecting East Hanney and Steventon is generally busy with a steady flow of fast-moving cars. The low hedges running along much of its length do not prevent wide views being gained by users across the wide, agricultural landscape. Telegraph poles run parallel to the road, changing sides at the road's transfer from Steventon Road to Hanney Road however visual detractors are not uncommon, with the road passing the visible solar farm and silos at Willowbrook Farm to the north, and the military like features of chain link fence and Nissen Huts at Steventon Depot south of the road. These, along with the slightly soulless flat landscape and other less attractive features that include pylons and large agricultural warehouses interspersed along the road, combine in creating a less attractive landscape and a slight sense of unease. At each end of the road, where it converges with settlement features the character become more pleasing with views towards the ribboned edge of the settlements, pockets of woodland and the visible features of their historic village cores.	Value: M Susceptibility: L Sensitivity: L	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the location. Low susceptibility as views for road users are transitory and incidental to the journey. Overall Low sensitivity as a result.
People travelling by road on B4017	EIA-261	VP20	There are varying views for users of the road travelling from Steventon, a generally quite busy B-road taking between its junction with the A4130 south of Steventon, Drayton and Abingdon. Heading north, views are generally closed by intervening vegetation	Value: M Susceptibility: M Sensitivity: M	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			and built form and then the built features of Steventon but on its stretch to the west of the A34 before passing underneath, there are intermittent stretches of open views across the wide expanse of the agricultural landscape. Barns, clusters of houses and other built features are visible including the significant number of pylons and telegraph poles and wires. After passing under the A34 views west are either across fields and contained as mid-range by the road's densely vegetated edges or intervening built features of Drayton and Abingdon. There are occasional glimpses along more open sections towards the Corallian Limestone Ridge to the North and the Ridgeway of the North Wessex Downs to the south.		place of the location. Medium susceptibility as views for users of slower local roads (as opposed to main roads) are not quite so transitory / incidental. Overall Moderate sensitivity as a result.
People using local roads within 1km of proposed solar farm	EIA-221	VP43	Short range views are generally contained by dense roadside hedges for users of the local roads within 1km of the proposed solar farm, restricting visibility to the fields on the other side. Where intermittent breaks occur in the hedgelines, or where the generally flat road topography allows there are longer and wider views that are generally rural in character, and which occasionally stretch towards the North Wessex Downs National Landscape.	Value: M Susceptibility: M Sensitivity: M	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the location. Medium susceptibility as views for users of slower local roads (as opposed to main roads) are not quite so transitory / incidental. Overall Moderate sensitivity as a result.
People travelling by Rail					
People travelling by rail toward/from	EIA-263	n/a	There would be intermittent wide views for users of the Railway line of the surrounding agricultural fields and pockets of woodland spread out across the wide vale with the North Wessex Downs ridgeline visible to the	Value: M Susceptibility: L Sensitivity: L	Medium value as views include glimpses of valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
Didcot within the study area			south, and Corallian Limestone Ridge to the north. For broadly half of the c. 5km route between the A338 bridge and the level crossing at the Causeway, south of Steventon, views are restricted by trees and woodland vegetation growing beside the track. Within the wider views, built features can be glimpsed including the Hanney Road Storage Facility and the silos at Willowbrook Farm.		the distinctive sense of place of the location. Low susceptibility as views for rail passengers are transitory and incidental to the journey. Overall Low sensitivity as a result.
Local communities: villages within 5 km of proposed reservoir embankment, grouped / spatially defined as below:					
People living and working within East Hanney	EIA-225	VP52, VP51, VP50	Most of the views out from this settlement, that includes a conservation area, are towards the surrounding rural agricultural landscape. The flat landform combined with the network of hedgerows and tree lines shortens and contains mid-range views across the vale and the North Wessex Downs and Corallian Limestone Ridge provide a backdrop in long views to the north and south. The features of the pastoral landscape, with its quiet fields, occasional streams and footpath networks combine to provide an attractive landscape setting to the village and prevents cohesion with nearby West Hanney. There are some detracting influences, both within the village with the A338 road dividing the village, and other visible influences within the vale including pylons and silo towers. Representative viewpoints represent key views and vistas identified in the East Hanney Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2031.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which includes a Conservation Area and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within West Hanney	EIA-287	n/a	Views out from this settlement, that includes a conservation area, are towards the surrounding rural agricultural landscape where the flat landform combines with the network of hedgerows, copse and tree lines to create mid-range views across the	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement,

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			western area of the vale. The North Wessex Downs and Corallian Limestone Ridge provide a backdrop to longer views to the north and south. The features of the pastoral landscape, with its quiet fields, occasional streams and footpath networks combine to provide an attractive landscape setting to the village and prevents cohesion with nearby East Hanney. There are few detracting features visible in views either within or from the edges of the village.		which includes a Conservation Area and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Denchworth	EIA-226	VP48	Views from this settlement, part of which is a conservation area are of the flat rural surrounding landscape, which is rural in character and comprised of fields with hedged boundaries, wooded belts and copse, all adding to the setting of the village. Views are generally contained by the flat topography however intermittently where views open, the Corallian Limestone Ridge can be glimpsed in the north, as can the top of the ridge of the North Wessex Downs within the National Landscape to the south. There are few detractors other than telegraph wires and the roads and signage through the village.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which includes a Conservation Area and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Charney Bassett	EIA-288	VP47	Views from this settlement, much of which forms a conservation area are of the flat rural surrounding landscape of fields, the meandering tree lined River Ock corridor, hedged boundaries, wooded belts and copse all of which add to the settled nature of the village. It is rural in character, and generally contained by the flat topography and the hedge edged road network leading around and from the village. Intermittently views open across the fields and the	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which includes a Conservation Area and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			Corallian Limestone Ridge can occasionally be glimpsed in the north, as can the top of the ridge of the North Wessex Downs within the National Landscape. There are few detractors other than telegraph wires and the roads and signage through the village.		of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Kingston Bagpuize, Fyfield & nearby villages on the Corallian Limestone Ridge	EIA-227	VP55	Views from the southern edges of these settlements which include conservation areas within Fyfield, Netherton and Kingston Bagpuize, are generally enclosed by roadside and settlement edge vegetation and undulations in the landform, despite being within the raised limestone ridge and a higher level than the Vale. Whilst there are occasional long views south with the backdrop of the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, views are generally contained by trees and landform. Multiple landscape detractors including road signage, services and utilities.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlements, which include Conservation Areas and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Garford	EIA-228	VP43	Views out from this small linear settlement are generally contained by rear garden vegetation and are generally focussed within and through the settlement however there are open views from each end of the village towards the surrounding rural landscape. The slightly undulating landform and mature roadside planting enclose areas at the southwest of the village but wide views south from the eastern end of the village across the fields and layers of tree lined boundaries include the backdrop of the North Wessex Downs National landscape.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which include has a strongly cohesive character and high townscape qualities. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
					experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Frilford	EIA-229	n/a	There are limited long views from this contained and enclosed settlement with most views contained by tree belts, property boundaries, roads and the relatively flat landform. Despite being filtered by roadside vegetation, there are wider, longer, more expansive mid-range views south from southern edge of the settlement located along the A415, though these views are also contained by the plateau of agricultural fields edged on their southern boundary by trees belts. There are glimpsed views of the ridge of the North Wessex Downs in the distance.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Marcham	EIA-230	VP34	Views from this settlement and its conservation area are generally enclosed by roadside and rear garden vegetation but where views occur, they are towards an open rural landscape interspersed with wooded belts and copse. Views widen in places along Mill Road, to the south of the A415 road that divides the village with views of the rural features of the surrounding countryside though these are generally contained by belts of woodland and the flat landform.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which includes a Conservation Area and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Culham	EIA-231	VP25	Views from the settlement are generally enclosed by rear garden vegetation and the linear form of the village, part of which forms a conservation area though the roads at the edge of the village and some edge	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			properties afford views over the surrounding pastoral landscape of fields and the River Thames corridor to the southwest.		place of the settlement, which includes a Conservation Area and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Sutton Courteney	EIA-232	VP21	Views from this settlement and its conservation area are varied, often enclosed by roadside and rear garden vegetation and many of its small lanes are densely vegetated. At and its edges views open towards the varied landscape, much of it characterised by pastoral open fields interspersed with wooded belts and copse. At the north of the village the features of the River Thames corridor including boats on their moorings can be seen from the public right of way leaving the village and crossing the river, though from the core of the village views of the river and its features are hidden from view, set behind the rear gardens of the large properties at the northern end of the village. Representative viewpoint represents two key views in the Sutton Courtenay Neighbourhood Plan 2031.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which includes a Registered Park & Garden, Conservation Area and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Drayton	EIA-233	VP30, VP29	Views from this settlement and its conservation area are generally towards the surrounding open countryside, and the wide-open fields interspersed with hedgerows, occasional tree belts. Built features including the A34 road and pylons crossing the landscape. Views west are contained by the dense roadside vegetation adjacent to the A34, and the slight	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which includes a Conservation Area and

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			deviations in landform that limit and restrict wider views from this urban edge, however there are longer views looking north and east from where the expansion of the village meets the countryside. There are clear views south to the ridge of the North Wessex Downs and glimpses north of the Corallian Limestone Ridge.		numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Steventon	EIA-234	VP20, VP19, VP18	Views within this settlement and its conservation area are generally contained by its built form and vegetation. At its western and northern edges there are long wide views across the flat vale landscape, which is formed of large fields with occasional tree lines and groups of trees. Built detractors include pylons and other visible infrastructure located at Drayton Substation. The Corallian Limestone Ridge can be glimpsed in places, with the ridge of the North Wessex Downs visible to the south. Views from the eastern edge of the settlement are more enclosed by deviations in the landform and woodland copse and belts. Representative viewpoints represent key views identified in Steventon Neighbourhood Plan 2022 - 2031.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which includes a Conservation Area and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Milton Heights / Milton Hill	EIA-235	VP16	Views from these moderately wooded settlement areas are contained by landform and the belts and areas of established woodland located to the west of and adjacent to the A4130 and Milton Hill Road. Views west from Milton are restricted by the dense vegetation growing alongside the Featherbed Lane and the intervening layers of boundary trees beyond. There are wider views when looking east from Milton Hill Road and the A4130, with the built features of Didcot including the towers of the power station	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			providing a backdrop to the more pastoral foreground setting of grazed fields and occasional orchards. Whilst there are views south towards the North Wessex Downs National Landscape these are intermittent, with intervening belts of trees and windbreak lines often shortening views. The public rights of way northwest of Milton offer wider views north and west of the vale landscape from their location at the top of Steventon Hill.		Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Ardington, East and West Lockinge	EIA-236	VP8, V11, VP54	These three ribboned settlements are located within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape. Ardington and East Lockinge include conservation areas. Views within and from them are of the traditional village built features and toward the surrounding pastoral setting of the National Landscape, characterised by rolling landform, tree belts and woodland interspersed with dispersed settlements and farms. Views south from Ardington and West Lockinge are contained by the wide and dense woodland of Lockinge Clump and wider views south and east from East Lockinge are contained by the gently rolling landform and interspersed wooded copse and tree belts. There are some wider views to the west towards the more open landscape and rising form of the Ridgeway.	Value: VH Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Very High value as views are associated with the North Wessex Down National Landscape, include strong scenic qualities, and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within East and West Hendred	EIA-237	VP10	The majority of East and West Hendred sit within conservation areas, and both are located within the North Wessex Downs National Landscape. Much of these settlements are located south of the busy A417 road, and views north are contained by the road and its dense vegetation edge. A small area of housing north of the road at East Hendred offers some wider	Value: VH Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Very High value as views are associated with the North Wessex Down National Landscape, include strong scenic qualities, and contribute to the distinctive sense of

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			views north though these are contained in part by the flat landform at the top of Quab Hill. Generally views out from these settlements are towards the rolling rural landscape south of the A417, with its pattern of woodland copse and field edges and scattered settlements.		place of the settlement. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Milton	EIA-238	VP21	Views within the settlement are generally contained by built features and the surrounding tree belts in and around the village core. Views out are generally contained by Milton Park, the business, science and technology park immediately south of the village as well as the imposing features of the elevated A34 road and its adjacent dense vegetation. Views are more open from the north of the village towards open fields that are interjected with built features which include multiple telegraph posts and lines and the built edge of Sutton Courteney to the east. Views west are contained by vegetation including that growing adjacent to the elevated A34 road.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Harwell	EIA-239	n/a	Views within Harwell, which contains a conservation area, are contained by the features and built form of the village, but from its edges there are open views towards the surrounding countryside. To the north and west these are more contained by mid-range intervening layers of woodland and tree belts, but to the east there are wide, expansive views over large fields set within gently rolling landform, with glimpses of the ridge of the North Wessex Downs in the far distance, the A34 obscured by its roadside vegetation. From the southern edge of the village, there are wider views south into the North Wessex Downs National	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which includes a Conservation Area and numerous Listed Buildings. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			Landscape and the sweep of upwards landform, though its features are less rolling and contained than areas further west.		Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Shippon and Dalton Barracks (Military base / likely future Garden Village)	EIA-240	VP35	Views from Shippon and Dalton Barracks Military Base are generally contained by settlement edge consisting of tree belts, built features and roads, with the relatively flat landscape enclosing and containing views. From the western edge of Shippon and Dalton Barracks, where intervening vegetation layers allow there are more expansive, panoramic views south towards the vale, with the distinctive trees of the North Wessex Downs National Landscape ridgeway visible in the far distance. Other built features are discernible including the power station at Didcot. Mid-range views east are generally contained by the corridor of trees and scrub growing around the A34. At the northern end of Dalton Barracks there are views across a layered landscape to the wooded ridge of the Corallian Limestone Ridge. Representative viewpoint collectively represents the key views and vistas identified in the Wootton and St Helen Without Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2031.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Lyford	EIA-241	n/a	There are open views east to the surrounding flat, rural landscape from this small linear settlement though these are generally only glimpsed over the dense hedges adjacent to the single quiet road along which the settlement pattern is located on its western edge. The ribboned, scattered village settlement pattern affords the rear gardens of the properties to directly face the features of the rural countryside to the north and west. There are occasional glimpsed views northeast from The Green however the landform and	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which include has a strongly cohesive character and high townscape qualities. High susceptibility as views of surrounding

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			intervening tree belts contain these as mid-range views.		landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
Local communities: towns within 5 km of proposed reservoir embankment, grouped / spatially defined as below (effects only considered in relation to the Site-facing edges of these towns):					
People living and working within Abingdon-on-Thames	EIA-244	VP32	Views are varied for people living and working within the west facing edges of Abingdon-on-Thames. On the northwestern edge of the town tree belts, built form within Abingdon Business Park and the elevated form of the A34 road combine to contain views to short range. In other locations on the western edge of the town, views are further contained by the rising landform to the west of the B4017, mid-range belts of trees and dense roadside vegetation. There are some wider views west from some edge facing residential properties west of Drayton Road across the adjacent gently rolling fields with glimpses of the wider vale and the North Wessex Downs in the distance, however views from much of this edge are contained by the dense vegetation growing along the River Ock corridor and the A34.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which include has a strongly cohesive character and high townscape qualities. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Didcot	EIA-245	VP17	Views from the northwest edge of Didcot are varied, with some contained by the vegetation and built form. In other locations from the more elevated positions at the edge of the town, there are wide views towards the vale from the footpaths and designed edges of the urban extensions. Views are filtered by the layers of intervening vegetation, but some built form can be seen including the Distribution Centre and other built features within the Milton Park Business Area, and Didcot Power Station. From locations more southwest	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
			of Didcot there are glimpsed views to the Corallian Limestone Ridge in the north.		Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Wantage	EIA-246	VP12	Views northeast from Wantage are broadly contained to those from the perimeter of the new Kingsgrove urban extension. Whilst some views are shortened and contained by intervening vegetation, there are wider views across the vale landscape towards the Corallian Limestone Ridge in the north. Solar Farms can be glimpsed in mid-range views however intervening tree belts screen many of the built features within the wider landscape.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value as views include those with high scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement, which include has a strongly cohesive character and high townscape qualities. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living and working within Grove	EIA-295	n/a	There are mixed views east from the edge of Grove, defined by the A338 road running north south along its eastern edge. There are sections of woodland and newer plantation south of Tulwick Lane that contain views along the road and towards the houses of the town. Further north views widen looking east, across the fields though are generally contained as mid-range views by tree belts and hedgerows. The Corallian Limestone Ridge can be seen as a green/grey haze in the background.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the settlement. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
Local communities: isolated individual properties within 1km of proposed reservoir embankment, grouped / spatially defined as below					
Residents at Bradfield Barn, Old	EIA-247	VP53	There are intermittent views from Bradfield Barn towards the surrounding vale landscape, with its layers of trees and vegetation and intermittent built features.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
Man's Lane (SW area of Site)			The Corallian Limestone Ridge is visible as a backdrop in the north. Views north are often obscured by the dense hedgerows and trees growing along Old Man's Lane and broadly enclosing the property along its north and eastern edge. There are more open views southwest though these are contained as mid-range by the visible features of the railway line including overhead power cables, the dense trackside vegetation and hedgerows growing alongside the A338 road.		qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the residence. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
Residents at Venn Mill (NW area of Site)	EIA-248	n/a	Views east from Venn Mill are generally contained by the dense vegetation around the house and garden, and the layers of vegetation growing along the nearby Childrey Brook. There are wider views west, across the A338 road running along the western boundary of the property towards the adjacent fields and tree belts.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the residence. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
Residents at Marcham Mill (NE area of Site)	EIA-249	VP33	There are filtered views from Marcham Mill looking south across the vale landscape, in part contained by the trees and vegetation growing alongside the Childrey Brook and along adjacent field boundaries, with glimpses of the North Wessex Downs in the far distance to the south.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the residence. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience.

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
					Overall High sensitivity as a result.
Residents at The Views (nr Steventon)	EIA-250	n/a	There are wide views south across the adjacent open agricultural landscape towards the visible ridgeway of the North Wessex Downs from The Views, a house with outbuildings that contain and block wider views to the north. The property is situated within the flat agricultural setting with boundaries of maintained low hedgerows interspersed with trees filtering direct views out across the landscape and the adjacent Hanney Road, the neighbouring isolated properties and other farming infrastructure. Large pylons and other services/utilities and cables are clearly visible in short and mid-range views and combine with the visible urban edge of Steventon to the west and the managed landscape in reducing a sense of remoteness.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the residence. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People living / working at Chadwick's Farm (nr proposed solar farm)	EIA-272	n/a	Views from Chadwick's Farm, a cluster of differing business units and polytunnels set within the agricultural landscape are generally contained by adjacent trees and vegetation, and the layers of dense hedges and tree belts within the surrounding rural landscape.	Value: M Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	Medium value as views are of locally valued landscapes with scenic qualities and contribute to the distinctive sense of place of the residence. High susceptibility as views of surrounding landscape are an important part of the community experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
Other important receptors within the study area					
Users of, and people working at,	EIA-265	VP41	Views are generally contained within much of the Crematorium and park grounds by the internal tree planting and dense perimeter vegetation that affords	Value: M Susceptibility: M Sensitivity: M	Medium value as views include views out across wider locally valued

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
the South Oxfordshire Crematorium and Memorial Park			privacy for its users. There are occasional filtered views from towards the surrounding fields, though these are generally shortened by the nearby wooded edge to Nor Brook, running along the southern boundary of the Site. There are open, wide views north from the Memorial Park of the surrounding fields, interspersed with wooded copse and tree lines though these are generally contained mid-range by the gently sloping landform.		landscape with scenic qualities and contribute to the sense of place of the location. Medium susceptibility as views of wider surrounding landscape contribute to the experience of attending the Memorial Park but are not the primary focus. Overall Moderate sensitivity as a result.
People using the River Thames for recreational activity between Abingdon (Nags Head bridge) and Culham (Tollgate Road bridge)	EIA-266	VP23, VP24, VP26	Views for people using the River Thames for recreation, would be contrasting as they continued downstream, with the urban features of Abingdon including its waterfront buildings, moorings and riverside parks, fields and greenspace on the left bank and the entrance and features of Abingdon Marina on the right. As the built features of Abingdon recede the landscape opens into water meadows and the vegetated edge to the river, with glimpsed views of the residential properties at Culham. Where the river bends and splits into Culham Cut the route becomes more enclosed by vegetation, but with occasional views from the river towards the surrounding pastoral landscape and the historic settlement edge of Culham to the north.	Value: H Susceptibility: H Sensitivity: H	High value, as the views along this stretch of the River Thames corridor have strong scenic qualities and few detracting features. High susceptibility as, for people engaged in recreational use of the river, its visual and scenic qualities form a key part of the overall experience. Overall High sensitivity as a result.
People visiting the Devil's Punchbowl Open	EIA-264	VP7	There are wide, expansive, panoramic views from north to west from the open access land at the Devil's punchbowl. In areas located more closely to the Ridgeway the curve of the inner landform is the main visual focus, but as the footpath and land moves south	Value: VH Susceptibility: VH Sensitivity: VH	Very High value as views are associated both with a nationally designated landscape (the North Wessex Downs National

Receptor Name	Area ID	Associated Viewpoints	Baseline Visual Description	Sensitivity (inc Value and Susceptibility)	Sensitivity Commentary
Access Land within the North Wessex Downs NL			around the rim of the bowl, the expansive views become the defining feature, with clear views across the vale towards the Corallian Limestone Ridge. The view is filled with the many, clearly visible built features within the vale landscape, all set within the green haze of tree belts and fields.		Landscape) and designated Open Access Land. Very High susceptibility as views of the surroundings are an essential part of the recreational experience in this context. Overall, Very High sensitivity as a result.

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