

Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment

FINAL REPORT

A Report to:



CYNGOR SIR
YNYNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL



Acknowledgements

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

- 0.1 Gwynedd Council, the Isle of Anglesey County Council (the ‘Councils’) and the Snowdonia National Park Authority (the Park Authority) have a diverse mix of remarkable landscapes many of which are very highly valued for their outstanding natural beauty and tranquillity; ranging from remote and wild uplands and moorlands to narrow steep sided valleys, wide river floodplains and estuaries, gently undulating pastoral lowlands and dramatic coastlines. The busy coastal resort towns along some of the coastlines contrast markedly with the highly rural and remote areas inland.
- 0.2 These landscapes are experiencing an increasing number of planning applications and enquiries relating to a diverse mix of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and tourism developments; in particular relating to those listed below:

Renewable Energy Developments

- Wind Energy (focussing on smaller scale developments¹)
- Field-Scale Solar PV Energy

Other Developments (Transmission Infrastructure and Tourism)

- A 400 kV Overhead Line (Electricity Transmission Infrastructure)
 - Mobile Masts (Telecommunications Transmission Infrastructure)
 - Static Caravan/Chalet Parks and Extensions (Tourism)
- 0.3 This study was commissioned by the Councils and Park Authority, in response to the growing pressure on the landscape, to help protect the most sensitive and distinctive landscapes from inappropriate development and to encourage a positive approach to development in the right location and at an appropriate scale. The study provides an evidence based assessment of the relative sensitivity and capacity of the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park landscapes to accommodate each of these types of development at varying scales. It is important to note that not all of the developments are considered across the overall study area; each development type has its own relevant study area as agreed at the outset with the Steering Group (for instance field scale solar PV energy developments are not considered in Snowdonia National Park because there are no current or anticipated future development pressures in this area).

Aim of the Study

- 0.4 The overall aim of the study is to inform the development of strategic Supplementary Planning Guidance and to assist the Councils and Park Authority in assessing the landscape and visual effects of these developments for development control purposes; to minimise the impact of such developments on the landscape.

Study Objectives

- 0.5 The main objectives of the study are to:
- Provide a strategic assessment of the relative sensitivity of the landscapes of the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park to the different renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and tourism developments using a defined set of landscape and visual criteria that includes both physical and perceptual aspects as well as a consideration of landscape value.
 - Identify the key landscape, visual and perceptual sensitivities of different areas.
 - Provide broad guidance on those areas where development of different scales is potentially most acceptable and those areas where there are likely to be significant adverse landscape and visual effects; bearing in mind the capacity limits.

¹ Typically up to a group of 9 wind turbines, 80 m maximum height to blade tip. This study does not generally consider larger wind energy developments as these best fit within TAN 8 SSA's, none of which fall within the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd or Snowdonia National Park.

Methodology

- 0.6 There is currently no formally agreed approach for assessing the sensitivity or capacity of landscapes to renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments. The methodology set out in Section 2 of this report is developed from current guidance and the approach taken in other similar studies, and is tailored to this geographically unique study area. It is based on the premise that development should be more readily accepted in the least sensitive areas and should avoid areas that are highly valued for their scenic, recreational and undeveloped qualities such as tranquillity and remoteness; particularly those areas safeguarded by international or national designations and those where the cumulative effects of existing and consented schemes limit further development.
- 0.7 Professional judgement and understanding of landscape character is used to make broad judgements about what makes one landscape more or less sensitive than another. These evaluations have been informed and backed up by data gathered from the sources of baseline information listed in Appendix 5, including maps, relevant landscape and historic character assessments, LANDMAP, field work and consultations with the Steering Group.
- 0.8 **It is important to note that this report represents a strategic study and is not prescriptive at an individual site level. It does not replace the need for the Councils or Park Authority to assess individual planning applications or for specific local landscape and visual impact assessment as part of formal EIA on a case by case basis.**
- 0.9 It is also important to note that the study is not a cumulative appraisal of development and is limited to landscape character and visual amenity issues. It does not take account of other natural and cultural heritage considerations (except where they relate to landscape character and visual amenity, including setting), technical factors such as wind speed, grid capacity or aviation constraints or the perceived need for renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments.

Evaluation of Landscape Character Areas and their Sensitivity to Renewable Energy, Transmission Infrastructure and/or Tourism Developments

- 0.10 For the purpose of assessing the sensitivity of the landscape to renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments, the overall study area was broken down into smaller geographical areas (refer to Figure 3); each of which represent the differences in character of the landscape across the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park. A total of 59 landscape character areas (LCA) were identified.
- 0.11 Data for each these geographical areas was reviewed to start to build up a picture of the sensitivity of the landscape and site visits made to back up the findings and to inform overall evaluations of landscape sensitivity to renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development; as follows:
- 24 LANDMAP layers were reviewed and analysed
 - Desk top studies were reviewed such as Anglesey Landscape Strategy / Gwynedd Landscape Strategy / Snowdonia National Park Local Development Plan (2011) - Landscapes of Eryri / Seascape for Wales / CADW Historic Landscapes / World Heritage Site information etc.
 - Site visits were made to back up and moderate the findings
- 0.12 The overall findings of the sensitivity assessments are illustrated in Section 4 and summarised in Table 0.1 below.

Table 0.1: Summary of Sensitivity

Key to Sensitivity

Very High	High	Medium-High	Medium	Low-Medium	Low	Development Type Not Applicable
VH	H	M-H	M	L-M	L	

Landscape Character Area		Assessed Sensitivity					Page no.
Ref	Name	Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
ANGELSEY							
A01	Holyhead Mountain	VH	VH	VH		VH	60
A02	Holy Island	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	70
A03	Inland Sea	H	H	H		H	82
A04	North West Coast	VH	VH	VH		VH	92
A05	North West Anglesey	M	M	M		M	102
A06	Amlwch and Environs	M	M	M		M	116
A07	Parys Mountain	H	H	H		H	126
A08	Dulas Bay Hinterland	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	134
A09	Red Wharf Bay	M-H	M	M-H		M	146
A10	Penmon and Puffin Island	H	H	H		H	158
A11	Eastern Menai Strait	H	M-H	H		M-H	168
A12	East Central Anglesey	M-H	M	M-H		M	180
A13	Western Menai Strait	H	H	H		H	192
A14	Newborough	H	H	H		H	202
A15	Afon Cefni	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	212
A16	Aberffraw	M-H	M	M-H		M	224
A17	West Central Anglesey	M	L-M	M		L-M	236
A18	Valley Airfield Environs	M	M	M		M	248
GWYNEDD							
G01	Bangor Coastal Plain	M-H	M	M-H		M	260
G02	Penisarwaun Plateau	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	272
G03	Llanberis - Bethesda	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	282
G04	Caernarfon - Coast & Plateau	M-H	M	M-H		M	294
G05	Snowdon Massif	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	306
G06	Llŷn North Coast	VH	VH			VH	316
G07	Western Llŷn	H	H			H	324
G08	Pwllheli - Criccieth Coast	M-H	M			M	334
G09	Porthmadog	H	M-H			M-H	342
G10	Central Llŷn	M-H	M			M	352
G11	Blaenau Ffestiniog	M-H				M	362
G12	Llandderfel	M-H	M-H			M-H	370
G13	Barmouth	M-H				M-H	378
G14	Corris	M-H				M-H	386
G15	Tywyn	M-H				M	392
G16	Menai Coast	M-H	M	M-H		M	400

Landscape Character Area		Assessed Sensitivity					Page no.
Ref	Name	Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK							
S01	Ucheldir y Gogledd	VH			VH	VH	410
S02	Y Carneddau	VH			VH	VH	420
S03	Yr Wyddfa a'r Glyderau	VH			VH	VH	428
S04	Moel Hebog	VH			VH	VH	436
S05	Y Moelwynion	VH			VH	VH	444
S06	Coedwig Gwydyr	M-H			M-H	M-H	452
S07	Dyffryn Conwy	H			H	H	460
S08	Dyffryn Y Ddwryd	M-H			M-H	M-H	468
S09	Y Mignient	VH			VH	VH	476
S10	Morfa Harlech	H			H	H	484
S11	Morfa Dyffryn	M-H			M-H	M-H	494
S12	Cefnwlod Arfordir Ardudwy	M-H			M-H	M-H	502
S13	Y Rhinogau	VH			VH	VH	510
S14	Dyffrynnoedd Mawddach a'r Wnion	M-H			M-H	M-H	518
S15	Yr Arenig	VH			VH	VH	528
S16	Llyn Tegid A Dyffryn Dyfrdwy	M-H			M-H	M-H	536
S17	Aber Y Fawddach	H			H	H	544
S18	Mynyddoedd Yr Aran	VH			VH	VH	552
S19	Coedwig Penllyn	H			H	H	560
S20	Cadair Idris	VH			VH	VH	568
S21	Pen Dyffryn Dyfi	VH			VH	VH	576
S22	Coedwig Dyfi	H			H	H	584
S23	Dyffryn Dysynni	H			H	H	592
S24	Y Tarrenau	VH			VH	VH	602
S25	Aber y Ddyfi	H			H	M-H	610

Formulation of Strategies for Development Within Each Landscape Character Area

0.13 Landscape strategies have been formulated for each type of development relevant to the individual LCA. The written strategies follow on from the overall assessments of sensitivity and are based upon the outcome of these evaluations and also taking into consideration the record of operational and consented renewable energy, transmission infrastructure or tourism development (as of March 2014). Landscape objective(s) have been assigned for each type of development relevant to the LCA. These are based on the four objectives described in Section 2, as follows:

- **Landscape Protection** - Typically no development or very infrequent smaller scale renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.
- **Landscape Accommodation** - Typically a landscape with occasional renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.
- **Landscape Change** - Typically a landscape with relatively frequent renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.
- **New Landscape** - Typically a landscape with a notable amount of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.

0.14 An evaluation of the indicative overall capacity of the LCA to the relative amounts of developments (renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism) which might be accommodated forms the main part of the strategy.

Guidance for Wind Energy Development Within Strategy Areas

- 0.6 Area specific guidance notes regarding the scale, design and siting of developments to minimise adverse effects in relation to each LCA follows on from the overall landscape sensitivity and strategy tables for the LCA. Additional generic guidance notes for the siting and design of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development developments are also included in Section 5.

Conclusion

- 0.15 It is concluded that many of the landscapes of the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park typically have a high sensitivity to renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments due to the fact that they comprise a diverse mix of landscapes; most of which are highly valued for their outstanding natural beauty and qualities of tranquillity and/or remoteness and wilderness.
- 0.16 This report provides a starting point for identifying the key landscape and visual issues that should be taken into consideration when looking at each individual development application. It provides a strategic understanding of the landscapes of the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park in relation to sensitivity and capacity for renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments and answers the following questions:
- What types of landscapes do Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park have?
 - Why are these landscapes sensitive (or not) to renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments?
 - How sensitive are the landscape to renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments?
 - What types of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development could potentially be accommodated without compromising the integrity and value of the landscape?
 - How could renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development be designed/accommodated to minimise adverse landscape and visual effects?

Guide to using the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity & Capacity Assessment Report

Key Question Approach

Location

Q Is the proposed renewable energy, transmission infrastructure or tourism development supported within the Landscape Character Area (LCA)?

To identify which LCA the proposed development is located:

1. Check location of the proposed development against Figure 3, Landscape Character Areas
2. Review the assessed sensitivity of the LCA and adjoining LCAs
3. Review the objective(s) for the LCA

Y N

ACTION

Planner:

Consider whether this is a material consideration to refuse permission

Developer:

Consider relocation of development to reduce conflict with Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

Scale

Q Does the typology of the proposal fit with those supported in the 'Landscape Strategy'?

To identify the typology of the proposed development:

1. Check proposed development against one of the following tables where relevant:
 - Table 2.08: Wind Energy Development Typologies
 - Table 2.09: Field Scale Solar PV Energy Development Typologies
 - Table 2.10: Mobile Mast Development Typologies
 - Table 2.11: Static Caravan/Chalet Park Development Typologies
2. Review the strategy objective(s) and indicative overall capacity to determine which typologies may be appropriate in the LCA

Y N

ACTION

Planner:

Consider whether this is a material consideration to refuse permission

Developer:

Consider relocation of development to reduce conflict with Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

Capacity

Q Does the proposal fit within the overall indicative capacity identified?

To identify what other developments are in the LCA:

1. Check proposed development against Figures 2.1-2.5 operational and consented developments (March 2014)
2. Check whether any other applications have been made or consents given for relevant developments since March 2014?
3. Review section 6 of the report to decide if an assessment of cumulative landscape and visual effects may be required

maybe

Y N

ACTION

Planner:

Consider whether this is a material consideration to refuse permission

Developer:

Consider relocation of development to reduce conflict with Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

ACTION

Planner:

Assess potential landscape & visual effects of proposed development.
If necessary, seek to revise the scheme siting, layout and design in relation to guidance within this report

Developer:

Review and address detailed siting, layout and design issues in relation to guidance within this report

How to Use This Report

The text below and accompanying flow chart represents a brief guide on how to use this report.

Sensitivity of Development Location

1. Review **Figure 3** Landscape Character Areas
 - Which landscape character area is the proposed development located in?
2. Locate the evaluation of the landscape character area using the page number references included in **Table 4.01** in Section 4. Review the evaluations of the sensitivity of the landscape character area in association with **Figure 4.1** Landscape Designations and Constraints and **Figure 4.2** Landscape Related Cultural Heritage Designations and Constraints, taking into consideration the descriptions of intervisibility and also reviewing adjacent landscape character areas where strong associations are identified.
3. List the key landscape features that may be sensitive to wind energy development within the landscape character area in which the proposal is located.

Proposed Scale of Development (not applicable to 400 kV overhead line developments)

4. Review one of the relevant tables (where applicable)
 - **Table 2.08:** Wind Energy Development Typologies
 - **Table 2.09:** Field Scale Solar PV Energy Development Typologies
 - **Table 2.10:** Mobile Mast Development Typologies
 - **Table 2.11:** Static Caravan/Chalet Park Development Typologies

Which typology is deemed the 'best fit' for this proposed development?

Landscape Strategy and Capacity

5. Review the Landscape Strategy for this LCA
 - What is the landscape objective? What does this objective mean? (detailed descriptions are included in **Section 2: Methodology** Landscape Strategies)
6. Review the relevant figure and accompanying table from the list below:
 - **Figure 2.1** Wind Energy Development Study Area and accompanying **Appendix 9 Table A9.1:** Operational and Consented Wind Energy Developments (March 2014)
 - **Figure 2.2** Field-Scale Solar PV Energy Development Study Area and accompanying **Appendix 9 Table A9.2:** Operational and Consented Field-Scale Solar PV Energy Developments (March 2014)
 - **Figure 2.3** 400 kV Overhead Line Development Study Area and accompanying **Appendix 9 Table A9.3:** Operational and Consented 400 kV Overhead Line Developments (March 2014)
 - **Figure 2.4** Mobile Mast Development Study Area and accompanying **Appendix 9 Table A9.4:** Operational and Consented Mobile Mast Developments (March 2014)
 - **Figure 2.5** Static Caravan/Chalet Park Development Study Area and accompanying **Appendix 9 Table A9.5:** Operational and Consented Static Caravan/Chalet Park Developments (March 2014)

Answer the following questions:

- What developments already exist in this strategy area?
- Are you aware of any additional relevant developments that have been consented / constructed in the LCA since March 2014? Double check with the relevant authority to establish if there are any missing from the figure / table.
- Are there any relevant developments within neighbouring LCAs or within the study area buffer that may influence the viability of this development? In order to answer this question it would be useful to obtain details of zones of theoretical visibility (ZTV) relating to any such other developments to identify where potential cumulative impacts may arise. ZTVs may have been submitted as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA) – check with planning authority.

7. Review the Indicative Overall Capacity for the area

- Is there sufficient information to put a case forward which demonstrates that this proposed development falls within the indicative capacity for the area?
- Is there any evidence to suggest that this development may give rise to any cumulative landscape or visual effects?

8. Review the guidance on siting for this LCA

- Consider and note down any guidance which may have implications on this particular proposed development.

Offer Advice

9. Use the landscape sensitivity evaluation, indicative overall capacity and guidance on siting turbines (backed up by cross referencing the evaluation of any other relevant LCAs and their sensitivity to development) to advise applicants on what needs to be considered in their application.

Applicants are to address these issues in the application justification statement (eg. Design Access Statement/LVIA/EIA).

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

Background

- 1.1 This study was commissioned by Gwynedd Council, the Isle of Anglesey County Council (the ‘Councils’) and the Snowdonia National Park Authority (the Park Authority). It provides a robust evidence base for determining planning applications, informing the development of Supplementary Planning Guidance, helping to protect sensitive and distinctive landscapes from inappropriate development and encouraging a positive approach to development in the right location and at an appropriate scale. The study specifically considers the following five development types as well as also briefly touching on small scale hydro energy developments (Appendix 1)

Renewable Energy Developments

- Wind Energy (focussing on smaller scale developments)
- Field-Scale Solar PV Energy

Other Developments (Transmission Infrastructure and Tourism)

- A 400 kV Overhead Line (Electricity Transmission Infrastructure)
- Mobile Masts (Telecommunications Transmission Infrastructure)
- Static Caravan/Chalet Parks and Extensions (Tourism)

- 1.2 The acceptability of large scale development in the rural landscape is an emotive subject and one where compromise is often needed. Whilst it is generally acknowledged that the most valued landscapes should be protected, there are some areas where development can be accommodated, albeit in a controlled way to minimise adverse effects. This study aims to understand where and how best to accommodate the different types of development identified in the brief.
- 1.3 The assessment approach outlined in Section 2 was developed in conjunction with a Project Steering Group, which comprised representatives from the Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Planning Policy Unit (JPPU) and the Park Authority.
- 1.4 It is important to note that this is a strategic study and is not prescriptive at an individual site level. It does not replace the need for assessment of individual planning applications or for specific local landscape and visual impact assessment as part of formal Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The assessment does not take account of other natural and cultural heritage considerations (except where they relate to landscape character and visual considerations), technical factors or the perceived need for the development.
- 1.5 Key requirements of the brief for the study were that it should be user friendly, concise and consistent with approaches in neighbouring authorities.
- 1.6 A brief overview of renewable energy and other developments is included below.

Renewable Energy Developments

- 1.7 The Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park are faced with a wide range of challenges arising from a changing climate. Balancing the need to increase renewable energy production with the need to minimise harm to the distinctive and special qualities of the area’s landscape is one of these challenges. The landscapes within each of the authority boundaries have good conditions to produce wind, hydro and solar electricity as is demonstrated in the ‘*Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia Renewable Energy Capacity Assessment*’ (2012).
- 1.8 The Anglesey Energy Island Programme is a key driver promoting energy developments within Anglesey (particular pressures are felt to the north of the island for onshore wind energy).

Wind Energy Development

- 1.9 The Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park have large areas of rural uplands and coastal zones with an abundant wind resource. Although the Welsh Government's approach is to limit the development of large scale wind farms to TAN8 Strategic Search Areas², Welsh Government planning policy does not set out spatial limitations for wind energy development under 25 MW. In light of the increasing number of planning applications, EIA screening opinion requests and pre-application enquiries being submitted to the Councils (in particular the Isle of Anglesey and the Llŷn Peninsula) for individual and clusters of wind turbine developments of varying scales, this study has been commissioned in order to guide development to the most suitable locations and ensure that the key characteristics and quality of the area's landscapes are safeguarded.
- 1.10 Wind turbines are tall structures, which are typically sited in open or elevated areas. This raises the potential for extensive landscape and visual effects, which is exacerbated by the often complex visual interplay between different lighting conditions and the scale and form of groups of turbines.
- 1.11 The movement of the rotor blades attracts the eye and in certain lighting conditions moving turbines can be visible from a long distance.
- 1.12 The acceptability of wind turbines in the landscape is an emotive subject and one where compromise is often needed. Whilst it is generally acknowledged that the most valued aspects of the natural heritage should be protected, those landscapes of lesser value can normally accommodate some wind energy development, albeit in a controlled way to minimise adverse effects.

Field-Scale Solar PV Energy Development

- 1.13 There is an emerging demand for field-scale solar PV developments on the Isle of Anglesey and also within Gwynedd (outside Snowdonia National Park). The pressures on Anglesey are particularly felt in the mid to the southern parts of the island and there are growing concerns that this type of development may have adverse effects on landscape character by industrialising the agricultural landscape. There are no pressures within Snowdonia National Park itself for field-scale solar PV developments due to the complex topographical nature of the landscape; however there are concerns about smaller scale solar PV energy developments and the effect these may have on the landscape of the Park.
- 1.14 Field-scale solar PV developments comprise single solar panels usually arranged into arrays of 18-20, each supported by aluminium or steel stands. Arrays are typically tilted at an angle of 20-40 degrees although some can change angle throughout the day to 'track' the sun; this movement occurs gradually throughout the day and is generally imperceptible. Although not particularly high (typically mounted 1.5-2 m above ground level), solar PV developments can have a large footprint. Field-scale developments may be accompanied by buildings, access tracks and security fencing which together with the arrays of panels can all give rise to adverse visual impacts.
- 1.15 Field scale PV developments are typically sited on open plateau tops or gently sloping landforms with a southerly aspect to maximise solar access/gain. Steeply sloping sites are generally avoided due to technical restrictions.
- 1.16 Solar PV developments have an industrial/urban quality that may increase the perceived human influence on the landscape.³ Visual sensitivity can arise from the glint/glare that may be associated with solar farms. Panels tend to reflect the sky leading to a varying visual impact under different atmospheric conditions/ lighting conditions.
- 1.17 Views of PV developments differ depending on the angle and distance from the viewpoint. Long distance views looking at the front of PV arrays have been likened to poly tunnels when viewed from a distance and can in certain lighting conditions be mistaken for a large waterbody.

2 TAN8 Strategic Search Areas (SSAs) - have been independently and empirically assessed to be the most suitable areas for wind energy development in Wales.

3 Devon Landscape Policy Group Advice Note No. 2: Accommodating Wind and Solar PV Developments in Devon's Landscape, 2013

Other Developments (Transmission Infrastructure and Tourism)

A 400 kV Overhead Line (Electricity Transmission Infrastructure)

- 1.18 In addition to renewable energy schemes, there are some large scale infrastructure projects in development including a proposed additional nuclear power station at Wylfa on the north-east coast of Anglesey. National Grid PLC are currently looking at proposals for a new 400 kV overhead line on pylons to connect the proposed nuclear power station to the existing electricity substation at Pentir near Llanberis, Gwynedd.
- 1.19 Landscape sensitivity to 400 kV overhead line development depends on a range of characteristics or criteria and is defined as the extent to which the inherent character and visual amenity of the landscape is vulnerable to change arising from this specific development. The 'Holford Rules' are a series of notes used by developers to guide the sensitive routing of overhead line proposals. These rules can also be usefully applied when considering the relative sensitivity of landscapes to this type of development (refer Appendix 10).

Mobile Masts (Telecommunications Transmission Infrastructure)

- 1.20 Pressures relating to telecommunications infrastructure are experienced most within Snowdonia National Park, particularly in relation to proposals for new and replacement mobile telephone masts. This is due to a combination of a lack of mobile telephone coverage and the varied topography of the National Park which means that more masts are required to provide coverage.
- 1.21 *'In more remote areas, telecommunications infrastructure is one of the few developments which by necessity has to be prominently sited. Such developments inevitably affect the perceived wildness of the landscape, by introducing an overt man-made structure into an area perceived as relatively natural and remote from human influence. There can also be an impact on landscapes when there is an increase of structures along established infrastructure corridors. This results in increased visual clutter and development often in highly visible locations. In addition, the visual effects of masts can increase through cumulative visual impact, as prominent sites often contain several, disparately designed developments.'*⁴
- 1.22 There are currently no pressures on the Isle of Anglesey or within Gwynedd for additional/ replacement mobile masts.

Static Caravan/Chalet Parks and Extensions (Tourism)

- 1.23 The landscapes of the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park are vitally important to the local economy and are a major contributor to the area's tourism industry. The growth of tourism and leisure has resulted in the development of mobile home and chalet parks. There are a significant number of static caravan/chalet park developments located along the coastlines of the Isle of Anglesey and Gwynedd and also within Snowdonia National Park. Many of these sites (particularly along the coast) are conspicuous and unsightly in appearance with some sites extending over large areas and often dominating and degrading the landscape.
- 1.24 Whilst the Councils and the Park Authority recognise the environmental, economic, social and other benefits of these developments, careful management is needed to ensure that they do not result in unacceptable harm to the important characteristics of the landscapes in which they are sited, many of which are nationally designated as National Park or Areas of Outstanding Beauty (AONB).
- 1.25 There is currently a blanket ban on any new static caravan/chalet park developments across all three Authority areas. However, it is broadly accepted that within Anglesey and Gwynedd existing parks could be extended by a 10% increase in units per park (based on the original size of the development) if accompanied by substantial environmental improvements. Likewise, in Snowdonia National Park a 10% increase in the overall area of a park may be permitted (but not an increase in the number of units) if it delivers landscape/environmental improvements. Coastal squeeze⁵ threatens some of these parks. As sea levels rise in the future some coastal static caravan/chalet parks may be required to re-locate or expand their plots further inland to make up for the lost land; thus adding further to development pressure along the coastline.

⁴ <http://www.snh.org.uk/futures/Data/pdfdocs/LANDSCAPES.pdf>

⁵ In this context the term coastal squeeze is used to describe the direct loss of land through managed coastal retreat as sea levels rise in the future.

Planning and Policy Framework

National Policy Context

- 1.26 Planning policy in Wales, comprises both national (Welsh) and local policy documents. At a national level, the *Wales Spatial Plan* (2008) provides a Wales-wide spatial strategy which outlines a broad 20-year agenda to guide future development and policy interventions. *Planning Policy Wales* (Edition 6, February 2014) (PPW) provides the overarching national policy considerations, principles and objectives which underpin the Welsh planning system. PPW is supported by a number of *Technical Advice Notes* (TANs) which, together with circulars and policy clarification letters, comprise national planning policy in Wales.

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Edition Six (February 2014)

- 1.27 Land use planning policies for the Welsh Government set out in *Planning Policy Wales* (PPW) establish the Government's objectives for conservation and improvement of natural heritage, in particular the protection of native habitats, trees and woodlands and landscapes with statutory designations.
- 1.28 The LANDMAP information system is formally recognised in Planning Policy Wales as the starting point for landscape assessment in Wales. LANDMAP provides information for all of Wales' landscapes.
- 1.29 Relevant policies are provided in Appendix 2 and extracts from PPW regarding renewable energy and telecommunications developments are included below as follows:

Renewable Energy Developments

- 1.30 All forms of renewable energy are promoted where they are environmentally and socially acceptable.
- 1.31 *'The UK is subject to the requirements of the EU Renewable Energy Directive. These include a UK target of 15% of energy from renewables by 2020. The UK Renewable Energy Roadmap sets the path for the delivery of these targets, promoting renewable energy to reduce global warming and to secure future energy supplies. The Welsh Government is committed to playing its part by delivering an energy programme which contributes to reducing carbon emissions as part of our approach to tackling climate change (see 4.5) whilst enhancing the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the people and communities of Wales in order to achieve a better quality of life for our own and future generations. This is outlined in the Welsh Government's Energy Policy Statement Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition (2012). (PPW Edition 6, Paragraph 12.8.1)'*
- 1.32 *'Planning policy at all levels should facilitate delivery of both the ambition set out in Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition and UK and European targets on renewable energy. The Renewable Energy Directive contains specific obligations to provide guidance to facilitate effective consideration of renewable energy source, high-efficiency technologies and district heating and cooling in the context of development of industrial or residential areas, and (from 1 January 2012) to ensure that new public buildings, and existing public buildings that are subject to major renovation fulfil an exemplary role in the context of the Directive. The issues at the heart of these duties are an established focus of planning policy in Wales, and in this context both local planning authorities and developers should have regard in particular to the guidance contained in Technical Advice Note 8: Planning for Renewable Energy, TAN22 and Planning for Renewable Energy – A Toolkit for Planners. The Welsh Government will however consider the preparation of further targeted guidance where appropriate. (PPW Edition 6, Paragraph 12.8.2)'*⁶

Telecommunications Developments

- 1.33 *'The Welsh Government recognises that widespread access to affordable, secure telecommunications infrastructure is important to citizens and businesses across Wales. It is important that the telecommunications infrastructure in Wales is able to meet this challenge, helping to build a thriving and prosperous Welsh economy. To this end, the Welsh Government is working with the telecommunications industry and the communications regulator Ofcom to share information on communications infrastructure issues, to understand regulatory, planning and economic barriers to investment and to inform future policy making in this area. The Welsh Government has well-established policies for the protection of the countryside and urban areas - in particular the National Parks, AONBs, SSSIs, the Heritage Coast and areas and buildings of architectural or historic importance.'*⁷

⁶ Planning Policy Wales (Edition 6, February 2014), Chapter 12 – Infrastructure and Services, Section 12.8

⁷ Planning Policy Wales (Edition 6, February 2014), Chapter 12– Infrastructure and Services, Section 12.11

Technical Advice Notes

- 1.34 PPW is supported by a series of Technical Advice Notes (TANs) including the following:
- 1.35 TAN 8: Planning for Renewable Energy** – allocates seven Strategic Search Areas (SSAs) across Wales. These are areas within which most large wind farms (> 25MW) can potentially be located. TAN 8 identifies areas where proposals are likely to be supported, areas to be afforded significant protection from wind farm development, and the approach to be followed elsewhere. TAN 8 states that most areas outside SSAs should remain free of large wind energy schemes although there may be some potential for wind farms up to 25 MW capacity on urban brownfield sites and for smaller community based and domestic wind energy schemes less than 5 MW elsewhere. *LANDMAP Information Guidance Note 3: Using LANDMAP for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment of Onshore Wind Turbines (2013)* refers to TAN 8 and provides more detailed information about SSAs and wind energy development with a view to avoiding, minimising and compensating for adverse effects.
- 1.36 In terms of wind energy development it is generally recognised that there is a presumption for major landscape change within and immediately adjacent to SSAs but that there should be no significant change outside SSAs.
- 1.37 TAN 8 makes reference to solar PV energy developments; however this is in connection with domestic scale developments which are outside the scope of this study.
- 1.38 **TAN 12: Design** – requires Local Planning Authorities to appraise the character of the landscape, including its visual and sensory qualities and emphasises that landscape character needs to be considered when developing a robust and coherent planning framework. This is intended to ensure that development is sited in areas which are best able to accommodate them thereby helping to limit adverse effects and maintain landscape diversity. TAN 12 advocates the use of LANDMAP to help inform and identify where development is preferable in landscape terms.
- 1.39 **TAN 13: Tourism** – provides advice on tourism related issues to planning, including occupancy conditions, caravans and chalets development, and other related advice.
- 1.40 **TAN 14: Coastal Planning** – provides advice on key issues relating to planning for the coastal zone, including recreation and heritage and shoreline management plans.
- 1.41 **TAN 19: Telecommunications** – provides advice on telecommunications issues relating to planning including mobile masts and environmental considerations.

Guidance for Sustainable Design in the National Parks of Wales (Spring 2009)

- 1.42 The aim of this guidance is to promote high quality, sustainable design that enhances the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Parks of Wales.
- 1.43 The document considers renewable energy developments, landscape, biodiversity, place and local distinctiveness amongst other principles of sustainable design. It provides generic guidance which can be used by development control staff to assess planning applications, developers, landowners and designers.

Local Policy Context

- 1.44 Following the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004), each Unitary Authority in Wales is required to prepare a local development plan (LDP) for its area. These will replace the previous Unitary Development Plans (UDPs), and will become the sole development plans for each Council and the Park Authority. LDPs will be a single document, setting out strategy, site-specific and development control policies.
- 1.45 The Park Authority published its LDP in 2011.
- 1.46 Gwynedd Council and the Isle of Anglesey County Council have (May 2013) published their Joint Local Development Plan (JLDP). The Deposit Plan will be published in autumn 2014 (in accordance with the revised timetable). It is anticipated that the JLDP will be formally adopted in 2016.
- 1.47 In Anglesey, the Gwynedd Structure Plan and the Anglesey Local Plan form the 'Development Plan' and will remain the adopted plan for the Anglesey local planning authority area until the Joint Local Development Plan (JLDP) is formally adopted. The Stopped Unitary Development Plan is also used as a material planning consideration.

- 1.48 The existing Gwynedd Unitary Development Plan (UDP) will remain the adopted plan for the Gwynedd Local planning authority area until the JLDP is formally adopted.

Joint Local Development Plan (Anglesey and Gwynedd) – In Progress

- 1.49 A series of topic and background papers which have been prepared to provide supporting and background information for the JLDP form part of the evidence base linked to issues that need to be addressed within the JLDP. The following background papers are particularly relevant to this study:

- Background Paper: Gwynedd Landscape Strategy (Update 2012) *Note: This document is based on the Landscape Character SPG (Adopted November 2009) produced for the Gwynedd UDP which subdivides the Local Authority Area into LCAs.*
- Background Paper: Isle of Anglesey Landscape Strategy (Update 2011) *Note: This background paper subdivides the Local Authority Area into LCAs.*

- 1.50 Background Paper: Review of Anglesey and Gwynedd Special Landscape Areas (2012) This document presents a number of potential/proposed Special Landscape Areas⁸ (SLAs) across Anglesey and Gwynedd; based on LANDMAP and other desk based evidence and field survey.

Isle of Anglesey – ‘Development Plan’

Gwynedd Structure Plan (1993)

- 1.51 The Gwynedd Structure Plan provides the strategic guidance for development on Ynys Môn for the period 1991 to 2006.

Ynys Môn/Anglesey Local Plan (1996)

- 1.52 The Ynys Môn Local Plan interprets policies in the Gwynedd Structure Plan (1993) in more detail and is accompanied by a series of Proposals Map. The Plan contains policies outlining the Council’s priorities in terms of protecting such areas as AONBs and Heritage Coast.

Isle of Anglesey UDP (stopped 2005)

- 1.53 The Stopped Unitary Development Plan (2005) is applied as a material planning consideration due to the advanced stage reached in its preparation.

Supplementary Planning Guidance

- 1.54 Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) has been produced to support policies included within the current planning policy framework (which include the Gwynedd Structure Plan (1993), Ynys Môn Local Plan (1996) and the Stopped Unitary Development Plan (2005)). The following are relevant to this study:

- Holiday Accommodation (Adopted 2007)
- NW Regional Planning Guidance (Adopted 2002)
- Onshore Wind Energy (Adopted 2013)

Gwynedd Unitary Development Plan (July 2009)

- 1.55 The main objective of the UDP is to ensure sustainable development and to create favourable circumstances to protect, support and develop communities – culturally, environmentally and economically.

- 1.56 Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) has been produced to support policies in the Unitary Development Plan. The following are relevant to this study:

- Landscape Character (Adopted November 2009). This document was updated and published as Gwynedd Landscape Strategy in 2012 as a supporting document to provide background information for the JLDP.
- Holiday Accommodation (Adopted July 2011)
- Onshore Wind Energy (Draft December 2012)

⁸ Special Landscape Areas (SLAs) are defined by the Countryside Council for Wales as ‘areas of high landscape importance for their intrinsic physical, environmental, visual, cultural and historical value in the contemporary landscape’ (2008).

1.57 A large part of Gwynedd is designated as Snowdonia National Park and although the National Park Authority decides planning applications within its area, Gwynedd Council is the local planning authority for adjoining areas within the study area. Because any development in adjoining areas could affect the wider setting of the Park, the Environment Act 1995 requires the Council to consider the purpose for which the National Park was designated.

Snowdonia National Park Authority, Eryri Local Development Plan (ELDP) 2007-2022 (2011)

1.58 In carrying out its statutory planning responsibilities, Snowdonia National Park Authority (SNPA) must also have regard to the statutory responsibilities and management role of National Park Authorities as set out in the Environment Act 1995.

These purposes are to:

- Conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Park.
- Promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Park by the public.

1.59 The LDP notes that:

'Whilst large-scale energy power generation projects are incompatible with National Park status an assessment of renewable energy in Snowdonia considered that scope might exist to contribute to reducing demand for electricity derived from fossil fuels through efficiency savings and through small-scale renewable energy developments to meet domestic or community needs. These included small-scale hydro, domestic wind turbines, photovoltaics, biomass and landfill gas'. (Paragraph 3.19).

1.60 The LDP includes a specific policy relating to landscape protection in relation to development: Development Policy 2: Development and the Landscape (2), which reads as follows:

'The scale and design of new development, including its setting and landscaping should respect and conserve the character of the landscape. Unacceptable impacts on the landscape will be resisted and particular regard will be had to the protection of:

- *Section 3 areas of natural beauty⁹.*
- *Undeveloped coast.*
- *Panoramas visible from significant viewpoints.*
- *Landscape character areas based on LANDMAP and as defined in the Landscapes of Eryri Supplementary Planning Guidance.¹⁰*

1.61 The LDP also states that:

'Snowdonia's landscapes include rugged mountains, high moorland, wooded valleys, lakes, waterfalls, estuaries and coast which all contribute to 'Special Qualities' of the area. The impact of these landscapes is enhanced in many locations by a sense of tranquillity and remoteness. The Authority (SNPA) will encourage development that does not have an adverse effect on any of these special features in order to maintain the quality of life for the people living in the National Park and the experience of visitors to the National Park. Developments outside the National Park may also have an adverse impact on landscape character and affect views from and into the area. The Authority also recognises the need to discuss with neighbouring Authorities the effects of developments on the landscape. The Authority will consider the landscape and visual impact of proposals close to the National Park boundary and how these may impact on the National Park purposes.¹¹ Paragraph 3.18

1.62 A number of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) documents have been produced to provide further detailed information in support of the Eryri LDP. These documents are used by the Authority in decision making and are material considerations. The following SPGs are relevant to this study:

- Visitor Accommodation (October 2012).
- Landscapes of Eryri (Working Draft) - Snowdonia National Park has used LANDMAP to inform the identification of Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) and accompanying management guidelines.
- Renewable and Low Carbon Energy (Draft).

9 Section 3 of the Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Act 1985 placed a responsibility on each of the National Parks of England and Wales to prepare a map showing those areas of mountain, moor, heath, woodland, down, cliff or foreshore, the natural beauty of which the Authority considers it is particularly important to conserve.

10 Eryri Local Development Plan (ELDP) 2007-2022 (2011)

11 Eryri Local Development Plan (ELDP) 2007-2022 (2011)

Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd, World Heritage Site Management Plan (Cadw) (2004)

- 1.63 This World Heritage Site covers the Castles and Town Walls of **Caernarfon** and Conwy and the Castles of **Harlech** and **Beaumaris**. The three castles highlighted in bold fall within the study area and the Castle and Town Walls of Conwy are located within the study area buffer.
- 1.64 A Management Plan¹² has been prepared for the World Heritage Site to protect and enhance the Castles' settings and to encourage their presentation to the public for life long education and research. The setting of the monuments is protected through the local planning system; planning policies have been set out by the Councils and Park Authority to protect the World Heritage Site and its landscape setting (including important and historic views into and out of each monument in the World Heritage Site which generally extend beyond the area of essential setting).

The Isle of Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Management Plan (2009-2014)

- 1.65 The purposes, duties and management requirements for AONBs are set out in the Countryside & Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000. It is not the purpose of this designation to stop development but the local planning authority will consider any development proposal to ensure that it does not unduly harm the character and appearance of the AONB, that it is sensitively located and designed and that it compliments or enhances the special qualities and features of the area.
- 1.66 The Isle of Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan provides a framework to inform and guide activities that may affect the AONB.
- 1.67 The JLDP provides high level protection for the AONB through various policies and proposals while the Management Plan supports the JLDP through appropriate policies on protecting, sustaining and improving the area's special features.

Llŷn (Llŷn Peninsular) Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Management Plan (2010-2015)

- 1.68 As with the Isle of Anglesey AONB Management Plan discussed above, the Llŷn (Llŷn Peninsular) AONB Management Plan provides a framework to inform and guide activities that may affect the AONB.
- 1.69 The Management Plan identifies objectives, policies and management required to attain the vision for the AONB. Policies relevant to this study fall under the following AONB theme headings:
- Theme 1: Countryside and Coastal Character (code CCC).
 - Theme 6: Climate Change (code CLC).

Snowdonia National Park Management Plan (2010-2015)

- 1.70 The Snowdonia National Park Management Plan provides the strategic policy framework for the National Park. It is reviewed every five years and is informed by The State of the Park Report (Draft 2009) which is also reviewed on a five yearly basis. The State of the Park Report also contains a tranquillity map.

The Seascape Assessment of Wales (Welsh Seascapes and their sensitivity to offshore developments) 2009

- 1.71 CCW (now Natural Resources Wales (NRW)) has assessed the character and special qualities of Welsh seascapes, including their comparative sensitivity to offshore development.
- 1.72 The Seascape Assessment of Wales subdivides the Welsh coast into 50 regional seascape units detailing the character and qualities of each unit. It also assesses the sensitivity and capacity of each seascape unit to offshore renewable energy developments. Whilst the report focuses on offshore wind energy development it nevertheless provides a valuable information resource in determining the potential effects of onshore wind energy developments on seascape character and qualities.

The Anglesey and Snowdonia National Park Seascape Assessment (2013)

- 1.73 The Anglesey and Snowdonia Seascape Character Assessment, completed in August 2013¹³, assessed the broad Seascape Character Types (SCTs) and more detailed Seascape Character Areas (SCAs) that make up the two regions.

¹² <http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/historicenvironment/protection/worldheritage/cstlsedward1/?lang=en>

¹³ Anglesey and Snowdonia Seascape Character Assessment, Fiona Fyfe Associates (August 2013)

- 1.74 One of the main purposes of the Seascapes Study was to capture the perceptual and experiential qualities of the coast, and relate them to different physical environments and geographic areas. The outputs of this study have informed this Landscape Capacity and Sensitivity Study with SCTs and SCAs referenced throughout.

Countryside Council for Wales, Wales Tranquil Areas Map (March 2009)

- 1.75 The Wales Tranquil Areas Map, 2009 and the statistical analysis that accompanies it, provide an objective and robust evidence base to inform planning decisions. Together they provide an indicator of change in tranquillity that can be used in Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) and EIA. They identify how planning decisions over the last 12 years have affected the extent of tranquillity in Wales and provide the baseline against which the potential impact of plans and programmes on tranquillity and dark night skies can be assessed in the future.
- 1.76 GIS data layers and maps which make up the 2009 Map are available and are a useful source of data. A copy of the 2009 map overlain with postcode data is provided on Figure A-3 in Appendix 3.

Approach to the Study

- 1.77 The main objectives of the assessment are to:
- Provide a strategic assessment of the *relative sensitivity*¹⁴ of the landscapes of the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park to a range of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development using defined sets of landscape and visual criteria which include both physical and perceptual aspects as well as a consideration of landscape value.
 - Develop a series of landscape strategies which provide an indication as to where development might best be located and an indication of the appropriate scale of development, based on thresholds of *maximum capacity*¹⁵.
 - Provide siting and design guidance relevant to each of the different types of development and consider a methodology for the cumulative landscape and visual appraisal of the different types of development.
- 1.78 There is currently no formally agreed approach for assessing the sensitivity or capacity of landscapes to the different development types which are considered in this study. The methodology set out in Section 2 is developed from current published guidance and the approach taken in other similar studies. It is based on the premise that development should be more readily accepted in the least sensitive areas and should avoid areas that are highly valued for their scenic, recreational and undeveloped qualities such as tranquillity and remoteness; particularly those areas safeguarded by international or national designations and those where the cumulative effects of existing and consented schemes limit further development.

Structure of the Report

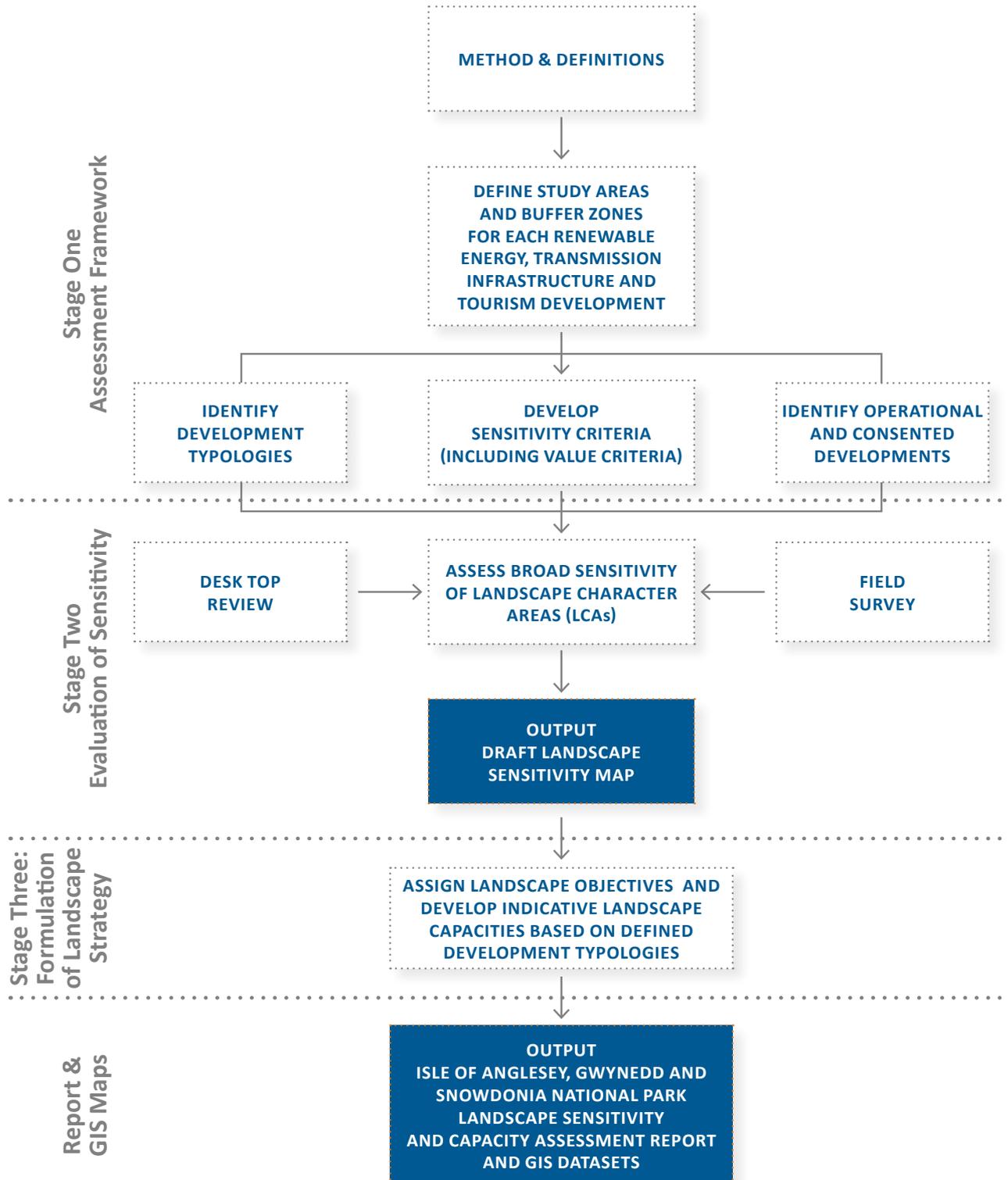
- 1.79 The remainder of the report is structured as follows:
- Section 2:** Methodology
 - Section 3:** Baseline landscapes of the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park
 - Section 4:** Evaluation of Landscape Sensitivity and Presentation of Strategies
 - Section 5:** Generic Guidance on Siting & Design
 - Section 6:** Guidance for Assessing Cumulative Landscape and Visual Effects
- 1.80 The report is also supported by figures and appendices as listed in the contents.

14 Relative Sensitivity – the sensitivity of each discrete geographical Landscape Character Area (LCA) is assessed in relation to the type of development and the baseline of the overall study area.

15 Maximum capacity refers to the extent to which a landscape can accommodate different types of development without significant adverse effects on landscape character, quality, fabric, value or amenity, including significant adverse visual effects.

SECTION 2: METHODOLOGY

2.1 Definitions of key terms/words and a glossary of abbreviations that are used within this report are included in Appendix 4. The methodology for the report is illustrated in the flowchart below and described in more detail in the text that follows.



Stage One: Assessment Framework

- 2.2 The methodology was informed by the documents listed in Appendix 5, together with guidance developed for use in Scotland which is widely accepted for use in England and Wales. The following good practice document was particularly informative:
- *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA3)*. The Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) (Third Edition 2013). This is the industry standard for landscape and visual assessment.
- 2.3 GLVIA3 advocates the use of professional judgement and an understanding of landscape character to help inform broad assumptions as to what makes one landscape relatively more or less sensitive than another to particular forms of development. Key to this is an understanding of which aspects of the landscape are particularly susceptible to the type of development proposed. These include physical, perceptual and experiential characteristics. The susceptibility of these is first assessed individually before being combined with a judgement on the relative value of the particular landscape and a judgement for overall sensitivity made through balanced assessment of all the characteristics.

Data Sources

- 2.4 The assessment was informed by data gathered from the sources of baseline information listed in Appendix 5, including maps, relevant landscape and historic character assessments, LANDMAP, field work and consultations with the Steering Group.

LANDMAP

- 2.5 LANDMAP is the formally adopted methodology for landscape assessment in Wales and has been extensively used to inform this study. LANDMAP is an all-Wales GIS based landscape resource where landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape are recorded and evaluated into a nationally consistent dataset. LANDMAP comprises five spatially related datasets (layers) - Geological Landscape, Landscape Habitats, Visual and Sensory, Historic Landscape and Cultural Landscape.
- 2.6 Which together show what gives a landscape its place, makes it distinctive, and what type of changes and pressures the landscape might be sensitive to. Information on each is detailed in the LANDMAP Methodology: Guidance for Wales (NRW, 2013).
- 2.7 Each of the five spatial layers are subdivided into discrete geographical units (GIS polygons) referred to as aspect areas. Each mapped aspect area is defined by its recognisable landscape characteristics and qualities. Accompanying each aspect area is a description (Collector Survey record) which describes and documents the landscape character, qualities and features. Management recommendations are also provided, together with an overall evaluation score, contextualised from a local to international scale of importance.
- 2.8 Each Collector Survey records information from the unique perspective of the LANDMAP layer concerned, with each LANDMAP layer being produced independently for each of the five layers. Therefore when key characteristics are referred to across several layers for the same geographic area, the value of their importance is typically emphasised. However, it is only by assessing each layer on its own, that it becomes clear which aspects of the landscape character and qualities are sensitive.
- 2.9 Although GLVIA3 recommends that data from all five LANDMAP layers should be used in any assessment, the Cultural Landscape information provided in the Cultural Landscape layer was not sufficiently detailed to be useful for this study¹⁶ hence, it was agreed with the Steering Group that this layer would not be used.

Definition of the Study Area and Scale of Mapping

Overall and Individual Study Areas

- 2.10 As shown in Figure 1, the overall study area covers all of the local planning authority areas for the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park. It includes areas with particular landscape interests notably Snowdonia National Park (including Areas of Natural Beauty and Undeveloped Coast as identified within the SNPA LDP), the Isle of Anglesey AONB, the Llŷn AONB, the Castles and Town Walls of King

¹⁶ LANDMAP Information Guidance Note 3 doesn't identify any specific evaluation criteria for Cultural Landscape

Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site(s), Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast (Anglesey), Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast (Anglesey), North Anglesey Heritage Coast (from Church Bay to Amlwch, Anglesey), Llŷn Heritage Coast (around the Llŷn Peninsular, including Bardsey Island, Gwynedd), Registered Historic Landscapes, and Registered Parks and Gardens.

- 2.11 The assessment takes account of coastal and seascape issues where they are relevant to the assessment of the landscape character and sensitivity of the coastlines of Anglesey and Gwynedd and Snowdonia between Great Ormes Head (to the north-east) down to the mouth of the River Dovey at Aberdovey (to the far south of the study area). Where landscapes have a close relationship with the coast and sea, information from CCW's Seascape Assessment of Wales and the Anglesey and Snowdonia Seascape Character Assessment has been used alongside the LCA descriptions to help inform the assessment.
- 2.12 Consideration of the sensitivity of offshore developments such as wind energy developments and tidal range and offshore hydro energy developments were not in the remit of the study.
- 2.13 With regard to wind energy developments this report is principally concerned with the landscape and visual sensitivity of smaller scale developments; however the influence of operational/consented developments on the landscape need to be taken into consideration as part of the baseline for considering sensitivity and capacity. Because landscape and visual effects of tall vertical developments such as wind turbines can extend across boundaries, an overall maximum 35 km study area buffer zone is identified. This takes into consideration the highly elevated nature of the landscape and the potential for far reaching views out of Snowdonia National Park and parts of Gwynedd in combination with presence of three Strategic Search Areas (SSA A, SSA B and SSA D) which all lie within 35 km of Snowdonia National Park.
- 2.14 Where relevant this study has considered information held in LANDMAP databases and landscape strategies prepared by the adjoining authorities of Conwy, Denbighshire, Powys and Ceredigion.
- 2.15 Because of the varied nature of the different types of development and associated geographical pressures it was agreed that separate study areas and study area buffers would be drawn up for each development type, as illustrated in Figures 2.1 – 2.5 included at Appendix 1.

Scale of Mapping

- 2.16 Landscape sensitivity and capacity studies are typically based on existing local landscape character assessments which subdivide the landscape into character units (types or areas). These are then reviewed and the key characteristics of each landscape unit which are potentially sensitive to any given development (key sensitivity criteria) are identified. Whilst these key sensitivity criteria may vary according to the nature of the development being considered, the general approach is broadly similar.
- 2.17 For this study the assessment is based on the 59 existing LCAs which are identified in the following documents:
 - JLDP Background Paper: Anglesey Landscape Strategy Update (2011) – defines 18 LCAs
 - JLDP Background Paper: Gwynedd Landscape Strategy (Update 2012) – defines 16 LCAs
 - Snowdonia National Park Local Development Plan (2011) - Landscapes of Eryri (Working Draft) – defines 25 LCAs
- 2.18 Figure 3 illustrates the 59 LCAs in the context of the study area.

Landscape and Visual Sensitivity Criteria

- 2.19 A key step in the study process was to identify and understand the aspects of the landscape which are more likely to be affected by the different types of development as it is these characteristics which ultimately define how much development could potentially be accommodated or not in a particular area.
- 2.20 The criteria defined in Tables 2.03 – 2.07 are based on current good practice and were agreed with the Steering Group. They include criteria relating to landscape character and visual amenity as well as other aesthetic, perceptual and experiential aspects, for example scenic quality, remoteness and tranquillity. They also include criteria relating to the value of the landscape¹⁷, as defined by the presence of any landscape designations and undesignated landscapes which have been evaluated by LANDMAP

¹⁷ Although not strictly a sensitivity criterion, designated landscapes are typically highly vulnerable to change associated with renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments, therefore they were included in the assessment of sensitivity.

as Outstanding or High¹⁸. It is important to emphasise that a landscape which is highly valued by society may still be able to accommodate some types of development in the right location - if it fits with the characteristics of the landscape and doesn't compromise the reason why value is attached to the landscape and in the case of designated landscapes, does not compromise the purpose for designation. Conversely a landscape that isn't designated may be highly sensitive to particular development types if it has particular characteristics which are very sensitive to those types of development.

- 2.21 The tables also identify the LANDMAP datasets (see Appendix 6) and other key data sources which were used to help assess the sensitivity of each criteria and how they have been used to indicate lower or higher sensitivity.
- 2.22 The sensitivity of each LCA to the different types of development was systematically assessed against each of the sensitivity criteria. The sensitivity against each criterion was graded using a transitional three point sensitivity scale, **higher**, **medium** or **lower** as described in Table 2.01 below.

Table 2.01: Definition of Sensitivity Assessed against each Criterion

Sensitivity	Definition
Higher	Areas where the key landscape characteristics are vulnerable and likely to be adversely affected by the particular type of development being considered. The landscape would not be able to accommodate development without significant effects on its character.
Medium	Areas where a particular type of development may cause some adverse effects on key landscape characteristics. Although the landscape may be able to absorb some development if sensitively sited and designed, it may introduce new inappropriate characteristics or result in a change in character.
Lower	Landscapes which taking into account their character and general visibility are not very vulnerable to change and could accommodate a particular type of development without significant adverse effects.

- 2.23 The overall sensitivity assessment of each LCA was then evaluated and an overall sensitivity grade assigned using a more detailed six-point sensitivity scale, **low**, **low-medium**, **medium**, **medium-high**, **high** and **very high** as described in Table 2.02.

Table 2.02: Definition of Overall Sensitivity Assessment

Sensitivity	Definition
Very High	The key characteristics and qualities of the landscape are very highly sensitive to change from the type and scale of development being assessed.
High	The key characteristics and qualities of the landscape are highly sensitive to change from the type and scale of development being assessed.
Medium-High	The key characteristics and qualities of the landscape are sensitive to change from the type and scale of development being assessed.
Medium	Some of the key characteristics and qualities of the landscape are sensitive to change from the type and scale of development being assessed.
Low-Medium	Few of the key characteristics and qualities of the landscape are sensitive to change from the type and scale of development being assessed.
Low	Key characteristics and qualities of the landscape are robust and less likely to be adversely affected by the type and scale of development being assessed.

¹⁸ TAN 8 states that to identify the landscape value of an area, existing information on landscape value derived from LANDMAP should be mapped. A concentration of Outstanding and High evaluation scores in a given area can be significant. However it does not mean a blanket ban on development; it is the underlying information from which the evaluations are derived that must be judged in order to arrive at an assessment of sensitivity based on value.

- 2.24 This process required a balanced approach, considering all the assessed criteria and focussing particularly on the susceptibility of the key landscape characteristics of each LCA to the particular type of development. All of the evaluations represent the judgement of two qualified and experienced chartered landscape architects, based on both desk top studies and field surveys. The overall evaluations of sensitivity are not based on any mathematical formula (for example – assigning scores and adding up the lower, moderate and higher scores and averaging them out). **It should also be emphasised** that sensitivity does vary locally within the LCAs and that the overall evaluation represents the general sensitivity across the LCA to reflect the strategic nature of this study.
- 2.25 **Finally, it is important to note that the landscape sensitivities identified in this study are purely relative to the landscape of North Wales. It may be that a landscape classed as having medium sensitive in this particular study may be classed as of higher or lower sensitivity in other parts of the UK.**

Table 2.03: Criteria for Assessing Landscape and Visual Sensitivity to *Wind Energy Development*

Landscape Criteria				
Scale	This is one of the most important characteristics affecting where wind turbines may be more readily accommodated and also in influencing the scale of development that may be appropriate. A large scale expansive landscape is typically less sensitive to large wind energy developments than a small scale intimate landscape. Care has to be taken to ensure that the apparent scale of the landform is not diminished by the size of the turbines.			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS8: Scale / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits			
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</td> <td>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</td> </tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vast or large scale landscapes </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intimate and small scale landscapes ▪ Small scale field systems ▪ Human scale elements </td> </tr> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vast or large scale landscapes
Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vast or large scale landscapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intimate and small scale landscapes ▪ Small scale field systems ▪ Human scale elements 			
Landform	Landforms that are smooth, regular and convex, or flat and uniform are likely to be less sensitive to wind energy development than complex varied landforms with distinctive landmarks where visible wind turbines may have a detrimental effect on the appearance of the landform. Complex landforms may provide some screening opportunities for turbines but care has to be taken to ensure that turbines do not dominate intricate landforms.			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 2: Landform & VS4: Topographic Form / LCA descriptions / OS data / Topographic Data / Site Visits			
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</td> <td>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</td> </tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simple featureless landform ▪ Convex landform ▪ Plateaux ▪ Flat and uniform landform </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rugged hills ▪ Irregular or complex landform ▪ Narrow valleys and ridges ▪ Distinctive landform features </td> </tr> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simple featureless landform ▪ Convex landform ▪ Plateaux ▪ Flat and uniform landform
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<p>Landcover</p>	<p>This criterion is not concerned with the particular material sensitivity of a type of landcover, but with the impression of landcover pattern. Simple uncluttered landscapes with sweeping lines and a consistent groundcover are likely to be less sensitive to wind energy development. Areas of commercial forestry and intensive farming may also indicate lower sensitivity. Complex landscapes comprising a variety or mosaic of characteristic or sensitive landscape features such as trees and woodlands, irregular field patterns and hedgerows are typically more vulnerable to change arising from wind energy development. Tree and woodland cover offers the potential to screen small scale turbines in certain situations (particularly in combination with undulating landform) although care must be taken not to allow turbines to detract from or dominate locally distinctive features such as tree knolls, veteran trees or avenue trees.</p>	
<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 3: Land Cover & VS5: Land Cover Pattern / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>		
<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simple, regular or uniform landscape ▪ Developed land, derelict or waste ground ▪ Open upland pasture ▪ Upland moorland ▪ Forestry ▪ Lowland farmland 		<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complex or irregular landscape ▪ Rocky uplands ▪ Open hillsides ▪ Field pattern/mosaic ▪ Valleys ▪ Water
<p>Man-made Influences</p>	<p>This criterion is concerned with the amount of built structures and human intervention present in the landscape. The presence of modern structures such as wind turbines, transport, utility or communications infrastructure or industrial development may reduce landscape sensitivity to wind energy development, as may the visible influences of quarrying or landfill. The frequency of built form and man-made influences in more contemporary densely settled areas may also indicate a reduced sensitivity to the introduction of wind turbines. However, in all of these cases care must be taken to avoid further visual conflict and cumulative change through the introduction of additional vertical structures. In settled areas there is a balance to be struck between visual effects and effects on landscape character. Areas which are more sparsely settled and/or characterised by a more established, traditional or historic built character, including historic structures are likely to be more sensitive to wind energy development. Commercial forestry may also introduce a temporary man-made influence to upland landscapes that would otherwise seem natural and wild.</p>	
<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS6: Settlement & VS27: Condition / LCA descriptions / OS data / Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) data /Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>		
<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Major infrastructure (transport/communications/utility infrastructure/wind turbines) ▪ Modern day industrial development ▪ Large/concentrated urban/modern settlements ▪ Commercial forestry 		<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infrequent/no residential built form ▪ Dispersed settlement/ sparsely settled/unpopulated areas ▪ Presence of historic buildings/ structures or settlement

Visual Criteria				
Skylines and Settings	Landscapes with distinctive ridges or skylines are likely to be more sensitive to wind energy development than skylines that are less prominent or have been affected by existing contemporary structures such as electricity or communications infrastructure. The presence of distinctive or historic landscape features such as hilltop monuments, church spires or vernacular villages' increases sensitivity.			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits			
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</th> <th>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Less prominent skylines ▪ Existing vertical features (modern development) ▪ Existing built development </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prominent skylines ▪ Distinctive skylines ▪ Uninterrupted/undeveloped skylines ▪ Presence of distinctive/sensitive landscape features such as historic landmarks </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Less prominent skylines ▪ Existing vertical features (modern development) ▪ Existing built development
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Movement	Turbines can draw the eye by introducing movement into the landscape. Landscapes that are already affected by movement are therefore likely to be less sensitive, whilst landscapes which are valued for their tranquillity will be more sensitive.			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS18: Level of Human Access / Site Visits			
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</th> <th>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Constant or frequent access ▪ Busy </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rare or infrequent access </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Constant or frequent access ▪ Busy
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Constant or frequent access ▪ Busy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rare or infrequent access 			
Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each LCA)	<p>This criterion is concerned with views and visual receptors which influence visual sensitivity. The likelihood of turbines being highly visible in the landscape depends on the scale of the development and landform in which it is sited and on the screening opportunities of landcover, especially buildings, trees and woodlands. Landscapes which are visually contained with limited inward and outward views are likely to be less sensitive than open landscapes with extensive inward and outward views. The availability of views of these landscapes from neighbouring areas will also influence sensitivity. Landscapes which are experienced from tourist routes, national or regional trails and other recognised visitor locations are likely to be more sensitive to wind energy development. Similarly, close proximity to settlement which increases the chance of adverse effects on visual amenity may increase an area's sensitivity.</p> <p>The numbers and types of people likely to experience a change in a view due to potential development influences visual sensitivity. The most sensitive receptors are likely to be residents, communities, people engaged in outdoor recreation where landscape is part of the experience, visitors to landscape focussed natural and built heritage assets, key amenity and recreational attractions and users of scenic routes. Each location brings with it certain expectations. Transport routes are generally considered less sensitive receptors, however single and sequential views from recognised scenic and tourist routes are important to the perception of the landscape.</p>			

	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS9: Enclosure / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>	
	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscapes which are confined, contained or enclosed with few inward or outward views ▪ Sparsely populated or inaccessible ▪ Neighbouring landscapes of lower sensitivity ▪ Contributes little to wider landscape ▪ Large scale simple backdrops ▪ Weak association with adjacent LCAs 	<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscapes which are open or exposed with far reaching views ▪ Densely populated ▪ Views from scenic routes, well-known landmarks, or views from visitor viewpoints ▪ Views into or out, especially from high ground ▪ Neighbouring landscapes of higher sensitivity, especially internationally and nationally designated landscapes ▪ Contributes to wider landscape ▪ Distinctive or complex backdrops ▪ Landscapes important to the settings/approaches/ gateways to designated landscapes ▪ Strong association with adjacent LCAs
<p>Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each LCA)</p>	<p>Landscapes which are important to the views in and out and setting of <u>key</u> designated landscape and cultural heritage areas / focal features (such as AONBs, National Parks, World Heritage Sites, Registered Historic Landscapes, Registered Parks and Gardens, Areas of Outstanding Beauty, National Trails and Cycle Networks and key/focal designated visitor attractions such as historic hillforts/castles/church spires) are likely to be more sensitive. The setting of designated landscapes may be more sensitive where the setting contributes to the overall scenic quality of the designated landscape. For the purpose of this study Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) are considered only of value as a key visitor attraction or focal point.</p>	
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figures 4.1 & 4.2) / LCA descriptions / Site Visits</p>	
	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weak association with landscape ▪ Little intervisibility between sites 	<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strong association with landscape ▪ Intervisibility between sites

Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential Criteria		
Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Areas of attractive scenery, character, quality, integrity, strong sense of place and local distinctiveness will typically be more sensitive to wind energy development than less scenic areas. This includes landscapes designated for their natural beauty (such as such as a Heritage Coast or designated AONB) but also areas of undesignated landscape, including areas which are locally distinctive or have strong character.</p>	
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS25 Sense of Place, VS46: Scenic Quality, VS47: Integrity & VS48: Character / Site Visits</p>	
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation ▪ Low scenic quality (ie. industrial areas) ▪ Weak sense of place </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluation ▪ High scenic quality (ie. and AONB / Heritage Coast) ▪ Strong sense of place </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation ▪ Low scenic quality (ie. industrial areas) ▪ Weak sense of place
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Remoteness/ Tranquillity	<p>Areas which are relatively remote and have a wild and/or tranquil character and lack built development increase the sensitivity of the landscape to wind energy development. Turbine development adjacent to such areas can undermine the special qualities and setting of such areas, although if this is associated with and in scale with other forms of development such as farms, the effects may be lessened.</p>	
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS24: Perceptual and Sensory Qualities / Wales Tranquil Areas Map / Site Visits</p>	
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Threatening; unattractive; noisy; settled ▪ Close to visible signs of human activity and development </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remote; tranquil; wild; spiritual; attractive; peaceful ▪ Physically or perceptually remote, peaceful or tranquil </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Threatening; unattractive; noisy; settled ▪ Close to visible signs of human activity and development
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Value Criteria				
Landscape Value	<p>Areas where there is a concentration of Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to wind energy development. In addition, landscapes that are formally designated for their scenic, designed or recreational value are likely to be more sensitive to wind energy development than undesignated areas. The degree of sensitivity depends on the nature of the proposal and the landscape qualities which are valued by the designation. The hierarchy of the designation has a bearing on sensitivity of a landscape. Internationally and nationally designated landscapes such as National Parks, World Heritage Sites and AONBs are considered to be very sensitive, followed by regional and local designations such as AOBs and SLAs. Landscape value is formally recognised by designation, but value can also be informed by published documentation such as tourist leaflets; art and literature. Heritage Coasts are not protected by designation but are considered to be of national value.</p>			
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP VS50: Overall Evaluation, VS49: Rarity, LH45: Overall Evaluation, LH42: Connectivity / Cohesion, GL31: Rarity / Uniqueness & GL33: Overall Evaluation / Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figure 4.1)</p>			
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Historic Value	<p>Areas which are predominantly recognised by Outstanding or High Historical or Cultural LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to wind energy development. Areas designated for their international, national or regional historic or cultural heritage value such as World Heritage Sites are likely to be more sensitive to wind energy development especially if the character or perception of the landscape in which they are located is likely to be significantly altered by the proposed development. Registered Historic Landscapes and Registered Parks and Gardens are not protected by designation but are considered by many to be of national value.</p>			
	<p>Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP HL38: Rarity, HL35: Integrity & HL40: Overall Evaluation / Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figure 4.2)</p>			
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Table 2.04: Criteria for Assessing Landscape and Visual Sensitivity to Field-Scale Solar PV Energy Development

Landscape Criteria					
Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	<p>This is one of the most important characteristics affecting where solar PV energy developments may be more readily accommodated and also in influencing the scale of development that may be appropriate. Landscapes with more regular large scale field patterns are likely to be less sensitive to this type of development whereas small scale intimate landscapes with more complex, smaller and irregular field patterns are considered more highly sensitive. For instance, if solar PV energy development take place within a number of adjacent irregular and smaller sized fields this could affect the perceived character, pattern and scale of the landscape. Care has to be taken to ensure that the apparent scale of the field pattern is not diminished by the size of the solar PV energy development.</p> <p>Landscapes which are characterised by high / overgrown hedgerows / field boundaries are considered less susceptible to field-scale solar PV energy developments; whereas landscapes with fields bounded by low managed hedgerows, walls and fences are considered more susceptible. This is because mitigation measures accompanying such developments often include allowing hedgerows to grow out and/or planting of high hedgerows to screen developments.</p> <p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS8: Scale & VS7 Boundary Type / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</th> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large scale fields ▪ Simple / regular / uniform field pattern ▪ A large proportion of unmanaged / high hedgerows / field boundaries </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small scale fields ▪ Mosaic of complex / rugged / irregular field patterns ▪ Intimate landscapes ▪ Ancient field patterns ▪ Field boundaries characterised by a large proportion of well managed low hedgerows, fences and/or walls. </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large scale fields ▪ Simple / regular / uniform field pattern ▪ A large proportion of unmanaged / high hedgerows / field boundaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small scale fields ▪ Mosaic of complex / rugged / irregular field patterns ▪ Intimate landscapes ▪ Ancient field patterns ▪ Field boundaries characterised by a large proportion of well managed low hedgerows, fences and/or walls.
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Landform	<p>Large scale, flat or gently undulating landscapes are likely to be less sensitive to solar PV energy development than landscapes with prominent and rolling landforms with visible slopes (including coastal headlands). This is due to the fact that solar PV panels will typically be less perceptible when located in flatter landscapes than when located on a more highly visible sloping or elevated ground . This is because ground mounted solar PV panels are not particularly prominent in height and medium/long distances views are more restricted/screened in flatter landscape than those located on visible slopes, prominent landforms or overlooked by higher vantage points.</p> <p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 2: Landform & VS4: Topographic Form / LCA descriptions / OS data / Topographic Data / Site Visits</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</th> <th style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Convex or flat landscapes ▪ Expansive lowland landscapes ▪ Uniform landform ▪ Featureless landscapes </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rugged hills ▪ Steep landform ▪ Irregular or complex landform ▪ Narrow valleys and ridges ▪ Distinctive landform features </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Convex or flat landscapes ▪ Expansive lowland landscapes ▪ Uniform landform ▪ Featureless landscapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rugged hills ▪ Steep landform ▪ Irregular or complex landform ▪ Narrow valleys and ridges ▪ Distinctive landform features
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<p>Landcover</p>	<p>Landscapes containing arable or large scale horticulture landcover are considered to be less sensitive to solar PV energy developments because it is acknowledged that solar PV panels can look similar to poly tunnels and also to some degree like plastic mulch (which some agricultural fields are temporarily covered in for circa 6 weeks of the year to aid and protect salad crops). ‘Brownfield’ or urban sites are also less sensitive due to the perceived urban/industrial quality of solar PV developments.</p> <p>In contrast landscapes which are dominated by pastoral land and/or semi-natural land cover such as moorland are considered to be more sensitive to solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Landscapes containing notable/large expanses of woodland (in particular semi-natural woodland) and parkland landscapes may also be more susceptible to field-scale solar PV developments because vegetation may need to be removed to facilitate the installation of such developments.</p>	
<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 3: Land Cover & VS5: Land Cover Pattern / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>		
<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large scale arable fields (low grade) ▪ Previously developed / greenfield sites 		<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Natural / semi natural landcover (ie moorland) ▪ Open pastures ▪ Pastoral fields ▪ Large areas of semi-natural woodland ▪ Parkland landscapes
<p>Man-made Influences</p>	<p>This criterion is concerned with the amount of human intervention present in the landscape. Man-made landscapes and/or landscapes that contain signs of human activity and development such as large and sprawling settlements, transport, utility or communications infrastructure or industrial development may reduce landscape sensitivity to solar PV energy development, as may the visible influences of quarrying or landfill and the frequency of built form and human intervention in more contemporary densely settled areas. On the contrary, areas which are more sparsely settled and free from human activity and disturbance are considered more sensitive to this type of development, due to their perceived naturalness. Areas which are characterised by a more established, traditional or historic built character, including historic structures are likely to be more sensitive to solar PV energy development.</p>	
<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS6: Settlement & VS27: Condition / LCA descriptions / OS data / Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>		
<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Major infrastructure (transport / communications/utility infrastructure / industrial elements) ▪ Modern day industrial development ▪ Large/concentrated urban/modern settlements ▪ ‘Developed’ character ▪ Presence of roads and tracks in the landscape 		<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Absence of modern development ▪ Infrequent / no residential built form ▪ Dispersed settlement/ sparsely settled /un-populated areas ▪ Presence of small scale historic / vernacular settlement / buildings / structures.

Visual Criteria	
<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each LCA)</p>	<p>The probability of solar PV energy developments being highly visible in a particular landscape is a function of the landform and the presence of potentially screening landcover, especially trees and woodlands. It is also a function of the number of people of different types who are likely to perceive the landscape and any change within it (e.g. residents, workers, visitors).</p> <p>Where landscapes have a strong sense of enclosure (due to topography and/or regular landcover such as woodland, high and overgrown hedgerows, hedgerow trees and shelter belts), visual sensitivity to solar PV energy developments is reduced because this type of development is less likely to be visible where the landscape is enclosed. However, landscapes which are more open and unenclosed in character are likely to be more highly sensitive to solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Landscapes with strong patterns of lower growing, intricate hedgerows or low stone wall/fence field boundaries may be more sensitive to development as the height of panels could exceed the height of existing boundaries. Localised screening of developments (through increasing the height of hedgerows) is therefore more suited to landscapes with boundaries of varying height.</p> <p>Landscapes which are highly visible from adjacent landscapes are likely to be more sensitive to field-scale solar PV energy development than more contained landscapes which have limited inward and outward views.</p> <p>Key views are those views from publicly accessible places (which are used regularly or promoted for their scenic quality) towards features of interest. Generally, these are sensitive to change and development. Extensive close or middle range views from scenic routes, well-known vistas or tourist viewpoints may also increase a landscape's sensitivity to development.</p>
<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP VS9: Enclosure & VS7 Boundary Type / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>	
<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscapes which are confined, contained or enclosed with few inward or outward views ▪ Little inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or viewpoints ▪ Fields bounded with intact hedgerows / overgrown hedgerows / hedgebanks / hedgerows with trees ▪ The presence of woodland blocks and belts ▪ Sparsely populated 	<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscapes which are open or exposed with far reaching views ▪ Sparse woodland / tree cover ▪ Field systems bounded by fences / managed hedgerows / stone walls / no field boundaries ▪ Strong inter-visibility with sensitive landscapes (such as neighbouring landscapes of higher sensitivity, especially internationally and nationally designated landscapes) ▪ Forms an important part of a view from sensitive viewpoints (such as views from scenic routes, well-known landmarks, or promoted viewpoints)

Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential Criteria		
Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Areas of attractive scenery, character, quality, integrity, strong sense of place and local distinctiveness will typically be more sensitive to solar PV energy development than less scenic areas. This includes landscapes designated for their natural beauty (such as a Heritage Coast or designated AONB) but also areas of undesignated landscape, including areas which are locally distinctive or have strong character whose special scenic qualities are likely to be affected by this type of development.</p>	
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS25 Sense of Place, VS46: Scenic Quality, VS47: Integrity & VS48: Character / Site Visits</p>	
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation ▪ Low scenic quality (ie. industrial areas) ▪ Weak sense of place </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluation ▪ High scenic quality (ie. and AONB / Heritage Coast) ▪ Strong sense of place </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation ▪ Low scenic quality (ie. industrial areas) ▪ Weak sense of place
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Remoteness/ Tranquillity	<p>Areas which are relatively remote and have a wild and/or tranquil character and lack built development increase the sensitivity of the landscape to solar PV energy development. Developments within such landscapes can undermine special qualities and character by introducing new and uncharacteristic features which affect the perceived remoteness and tranquillity of an area.</p>	
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS24: Perceptual and Sensory Qualities / Wales Tranquil Areas Map / Site Visits</p>	
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Threatening; unattractive; noisy; settled ▪ Close to visible signs of human activity and development </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remote; tranquil; wild; spiritual; attractive; peaceful ▪ Physically or perceptually remote, peaceful or tranquil </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Threatening; unattractive; noisy; settled ▪ Close to visible signs of human activity and development
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Value Criteria				
Landscape Value	<p>Areas where there is a concentration of Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to solar PV energy development. In addition, landscapes that are formally designated for their scenic, designed or recreational value are likely to be more sensitive than undesignated areas. The degree of sensitivity depends on the nature of the proposal and the landscape qualities which are valued by the designation. The hierarchy of the designation has a bearing on sensitivity of a landscape. Internationally and nationally designated landscapes such as National Parks, World Heritage Sites and AONBs are considered to be very sensitive followed by regional and local designations such as AOBs and SLAs. Landscape value is formally recognised by designation, but value can also be informed by published documentation such as tourist leaflets; art and literature. Heritage Coasts are not protected by designation but are considered to be of national value.</p>			
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS50: Overall Evaluation, VS49: Rarity, LH45: Overall Evaluation, LH42: Connectivity / Cohesion, GL31: Rarity / Uniqueness & GL33: Overall Evaluation / Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figure 4.1)</p>			
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</th> <th>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No designated sites ▪ Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Park, AONB, Heritage Coast, AOB, SLA ▪ Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluation </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No designated sites ▪ Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation
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Historic Value	<p>Areas which are predominantly recognised by Outstanding or High Historical or Cultural LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to solar PV energy development. Areas designated for their international, national or regional historic or cultural heritage value such as World Heritage Sites are likely to be more sensitive especially if the character or perception of the landscape in which they are located is likely to be significantly altered by the proposed development. Registered Historic Landscapes and Registered Parks and Gardens are not protected by designation but are considered by many to be of national value.</p>			
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP HL38: Rarity, HL35: Integrity & HL40: Overall Evaluation / Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figure 4.2)</p>			
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Table 2.05: Criteria for Assessing Landscape and Visual Sensitivity to 400 kV Overhead Line Development

2.26 Landscape sensitivity to 400 kV overhead lines depends on a range of characteristics or criteria. Where these are directly linked to guidance provided in the Holford Rules¹⁹ this has been highlighted. The criteria have been carefully worded for clarity, ease of interpretation and consistency with published guidance on landscape character assessment and landscape and visual impact assessment.

Landscape Criteria				
Scale	A large scale landscape, where the pylons appear more in proportion, is likely to be of lower sensitivity than a small scale landscape, where the pylons are likely to be more dominant. Comparison of pylons with landscape features such as field patterns, landform, individual trees and buildings may also emphasise the size of the pylons.			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS8: Scale / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits			
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</th> <th>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vast or large scale landscapes </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intimate and small scale landscapes ▪ Small scale field systems ▪ Human scale elements </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vast or large scale landscapes
Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vast or large scale landscapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intimate and small scale landscapes ▪ Small scale field systems ▪ Human scale elements 			
Landform	Landforms that are smooth, regular and convex, or flat and uniform, are likely to be less sensitive to a 400 kV overhead line than dramatic or rugged upland landforms. This is because the latter are more prominent and distinctive in character. Valleys and low rolling hills have greater potential to provide backclothing and limit the perceptibility of an overhead line and therefore are less sensitive. (Holford Rules 4 & 5)			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 2: Landform & VS4: Topographic Form / LCA descriptions / OS data / Topographic Data / Site Visits			
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</th> <th>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simple featureless landform ▪ Convex landform ▪ Flat and uniform landform ▪ Valleys and low rolling hills </td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dramatic / rugged upland ▪ Irregular or complex landform ▪ Distinctive landform features </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simple featureless landform ▪ Convex landform ▪ Flat and uniform landform ▪ Valleys and low rolling hills
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Landcover	<p>Simple, uncluttered landscapes with sweeping lines and extensive areas of consistent ground cover are likely to offer greater potential for a 400 kV overhead line than areas with more complex, irregular or intimate landscape patterns (for example, historic field systems), which tend to be more sensitive and where large pylons would be more prominent. (Holford Rules 5 & 6)</p> <p>Trees, woodlands and hedgerows can help screen views and reduce the apparent height of the pylons. In this respect, they help reduce the sensitivity of the landscape. Conversely high numbers of individual trees or small copses may result in significant tree losses, particularly since 400 kV overhead lines cannot easily deviate around such features. The least sensitive landscapes are those containing some woodlands or tree belts, which may provide screening opportunities without much tree loss. (Holford Rules 2 & 5)</p>			

¹⁹ Guidelines on overhead line routing were first formulated in 1959 by Sir William later Lord Holford. NPS EN-5 states that the Holford Rules form the basis for the approach to routing new overhead lines (para 2.8.7) – Holford rules are included in Appendix 10 of this report for reference.

	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 3: Land Cover & VS5: Land Cover Pattern / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="501 331 1501 611"> <tr> <td data-bbox="501 331 1018 611"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simple, regular or uniform landscape ▪ Developed land, derelict or waste ground ▪ Commercial forestry ▪ Lowland farmland </td> <td data-bbox="1018 331 1501 611"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rocky uplands ▪ Complex, irregular or intimate landscape ▪ Field pattern/Mosaic ▪ Many scattered field and hedgerow trees </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simple, regular or uniform landscape ▪ Developed land, derelict or waste ground ▪ Commercial forestry ▪ Lowland farmland 	<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rocky uplands ▪ Complex, irregular or intimate landscape ▪ Field pattern/Mosaic ▪ Many scattered field and hedgerow trees
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<p>Man-made Influences</p>	<p>This criterion is concerned with the amount of built structures and human intervention present in the landscape. A high degree of man-made influence on the landscape may mean that it is less sensitive to change due to 400 kV overhead line developments. Pylons are likely to be less conspicuous in brownfield or industrial landscapes which are already affected by built structures such as masts, pylons or chimneys, but only provided there are no visual conflicts where the structures are seen in close proximity. Commercial forestry may also introduce a temporary man-made influence to upland landscapes that would otherwise seem natural and wild.</p> <p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS6: Settlement & VS27: Condition / LCA descriptions / OS data / Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) data /Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="501 1055 1501 1339"> <tr> <td data-bbox="501 1055 1018 1339"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Major infrastructure (transport/communications/utility infrastructure) ▪ Modern day industrial development ▪ Large/concentrated urban/modern settlements ▪ Commercial forestry </td> <td data-bbox="1018 1055 1501 1339"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infrequent/no residential built form ▪ Dispersed settlement/ sparsely settled/un-populated areas ▪ Presence of historic buildings/structures or settlement </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Major infrastructure (transport/communications/utility infrastructure) ▪ Modern day industrial development ▪ Large/concentrated urban/modern settlements ▪ Commercial forestry 	<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infrequent/no residential built form ▪ Dispersed settlement/ sparsely settled/un-populated areas ▪ Presence of historic buildings/structures or settlement
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<p>Settlement Pattern</p>	<p>This relates to settlement pattern in relation to landscape character, rather than to visibility and views, which is discussed later. Because 400 kV overhead lines cannot easily deviate around individual or small groups of properties, landscapes with a dense dispersed settlement pattern are considered more sensitive than landscapes where settlement is clustered into villages. (Holford Rules 1 & 2)</p> <p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS6: Settlement / LCA descriptions / Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) data / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="501 1675 1501 1841"> <tr> <td data-bbox="501 1675 1018 1841"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Urban ▪ Villages ▪ Clustered settlement </td> <td data-bbox="1018 1675 1501 1841"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dense dispersed settlement pattern ▪ Historic settlements </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Urban ▪ Villages ▪ Clustered settlement 	<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dense dispersed settlement pattern ▪ Historic settlements
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Visual Criteria				
Skylines and Settings	Landscapes that do not form a distinctive skyline or backdrop are typically less sensitive to 400 kV overhead line developments than those with strong visual features and focal points such as hilltop monuments, church spires or landscape features, which may form important skylines, landmarks or settings for settlements or recreational features (Holford Rule 4 - such as open, flat ground or open, high or rising ground).			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits			
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Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each LCA)	<p>The probability of an overhead line being highly visible in a particular landscape is a function of the landform and the presence of potentially screening landcover, especially trees and woodlands. It is also a function of the number of people of different types who are likely to perceive the landscape and any change within it (e.g. residents, workers, visitors).</p> <p>Topography or vegetation can provide a sense of enclosure, which may help reduce the visibility of the pylons and hence indicate lower landscape sensitivity.²⁰ Open landscapes are potentially more visible, particularly when they are overlooked. They may also be visible from adjoining landscapes.</p> <p>Landscapes that have limited inward and outward views may be less sensitive to 400 kV overhead line developments than areas with less contained views. Extensive close or middle range views from scenic routes, well-known vistas or tourist viewpoints may also increase a landscape's sensitivity to overhead line development, as may close proximity to settlement. (Holford Rule 4)</p>			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS9: Enclosure / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits			
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Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each LCA)	Landscapes which are important to the views in and out and setting of <u>key</u> designated landscape and cultural heritage areas / focal features (such as AONBs, National Parks, World Heritage Sites, Registered Historic Landscapes, Registered Parks and Gardens, Areas of Outstanding Beauty, National Trails and Cycle Networks and key/focal designated visitor attractions such as historic hillforts/castles/church spires) are likely to be more sensitive. The setting of designated landscapes may be more sensitive where the setting contributes to the overall scenic quality of the designated landscape. For the purpose of this study Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) are considered only if valued as a key visitor attraction or focal point.	
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figures 4.1 & 4.2) / Landscape Character Area descriptions / Site Visits	
	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weak association with landscape ▪ Little intervisibility between sites 	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strong association with landscape ▪ Intervisibility between sites
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential Criteria		
Condition	Areas where the condition and integrity of landscape patterns, elements and features are relatively good will typically be more sensitive to overhead line development than areas where the landscape condition is poor. Areas where the landscape condition is good are likely to be more highly valued and also more vulnerable to change. Conversely however, landscapes with multiple features in good condition may help the integration of the pylons and thus reduce perceptibility.	
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS27: Condition & VS47: Integrity / LCA descriptions / Site Visits	
	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor condition 	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Good condition

20 Woodlands and forestry should be a long term feature if their screening effects are to be relied upon.

Scenic Quality and Character	Areas of attractive scenery, character, quality, integrity, strong sense of place and local distinctiveness will typically be more sensitive to overhead line development than less scenic areas. This includes landscapes designated for their natural beauty (such as a Heritage Coast or designated AONB) but also areas of undesignated landscape, including areas which are locally distinctive or have strong character whose special scenic qualities are likely to be affected by this type of development. (Holford Rules 1 & 2)	
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS25 Sense of Place, VS46: Scenic Quality & VS48: Character / Site Visits	
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Remoteness/ Tranquillity	Landscapes that are relatively remote and have a wild and / or tranquil character (due to freedom from disturbance and factors such as openness and perceived naturalness) tend to be more sensitive to 400 kV overhead line development. The introduction of pylons may alter perceptions of wildness and tranquillity by bringing a more industrial character to the affected landscapes. (Holford Rules 1 & 2)	
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS24: Perceptual and Sensory Qualities / Wales Tranquil Areas Map / Site Visits	
	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Threatening; unattractive; noisy; settled ▪ Close to visible signs of human activity and development 	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remote; tranquil; wild; spiritual; attractive; peaceful ▪ Physically or perceptually remote, peaceful or tranquil

21 When assessing landscape value, the focus should be on assessing the quality of the wider landscape, whether outstanding, everyday or degraded, rather than on those landscapes recognised (and designated) as being of particular value. This is in accordance with the European Landscape Convention and Natural England's policy, 'All Landscapes Matter'.

Value Criteria					
Landscape Value	<p>Areas which are predominantly recognised by Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to 400 kV overhead line development. In addition, landscapes that are formally designated for their scenic, designed or recreational value are likely to be more sensitive than undesignated areas. The degree of sensitivity depends on the nature of the proposal and the landscape qualities which are valued by the designation. The hierarchy of the designation has a bearing on sensitivity of a landscape. Internationally and nationally designated landscapes such as National Parks, World Heritage Sites and AONBs are considered to be very sensitive, followed by regional and local designations such as AOBs and SLAs. Landscape value is formally recognised by designation, but value can also be informed by published documentation such as tourist leaflets; art and literature. Heritage Coasts are not protected by designation but are considered to be of national value.</p>				
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP VS50: Overall Evaluation, VS49: Rarity, LH45: Overall Evaluation, LH42: Connectivity / Cohesion, GL31: Rarity / Uniqueness & GL33: Overall Evaluation / Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figure 4.1)</p>				
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Historic Value	<p>Areas which are predominantly recognised by Outstanding or High Historic or Cultural LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to 400 kV overhead line development. Areas designated for their international, national or regional historic or cultural heritage value such as World Heritage Sites are likely to be particularly sensitive especially if the character or perception of the landscape in which they are located is likely to be significantly altered by the proposed development. Registered Historic Landscapes and Registered Parks and Gardens are not protected by designation but are considered by many to be of national value.</p>				
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP HL38: Rarity, HL35: Integrity & HL40: Overall Evaluation / Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figure 4.2)</p>				
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Table 2.06: Criteria for Assessing Landscape and Visual Sensitivity to Mobile Mast Development

Landscape Criteria				
Landform	Landforms that are smooth, regular and convex, or flat and uniform are likely to be less sensitive to mobile mast development than dramatic or rugged upland landform. This is because the latter are more prominent and distinctive in character. Complex landforms may provide some screening opportunities but care has to be taken not to dominate intricate landforms. Valleys and low rolling hills have greater potential to provide backclothing and limit the perceptibility of mobile masts and therefore are considered less sensitive.			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 2: Landform & VS4: Topographic Form / LCA descriptions / OS data / Topographic Data / Site Visits			
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Landcover	<p>This criterion is not concerned with the particular material sensitivity of a type of landcover, but with the impression of landcover pattern.</p> <p>Rural lowland landscapes with medium to large scale field patterns and frequent tree cover are less likely to be sensitive to mobile mast developments. Areas of commercial forestry, intensive farming and brownfield or commercial/urban land may also indicate lower sensitivity.</p> <p>More complex and intimate landscapes comprising a variety or mosaic of characteristic or sensitive landscape features including historic or irregular field patterns are typically more vulnerable to change arising from this type of development.</p> <p>Tree and woodland cover may offer the potential to screen developments in certain situations (particularly in combination with undulating landform) although care must be taken not to allow development to detract from or dominate locally distinctive features such as tree knolls, veteran or avenue trees. The least sensitive landscapes are those containing some woodlands or tree belts, which may provide screening opportunities without much tree loss.</p> <p>Landcover such as open, barren rocky uplands and waterbodies such as lakes, streams or ponds can also be highly sensitive and valuable features particularly vulnerable to development. Similarly open coastal locations are often very sensitive.</p>			
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 3: Land Cover & VS5: Land Cover Pattern / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits			
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<p>Man-made Influences</p>	<p>This criterion is concerned with the amount of built structures and human intervention present in the landscape. The presence of modern structures such as wind turbines, transport, utility or communications infrastructure or industrial development may reduce landscape sensitivity to mobile mast development, as may the visible influences of quarrying or landfill. The frequency of built form and human intervention in more contemporary densely settled areas may also indicate a reduced sensitivity to the introduction of mobile masts. However, in all of these cases care must be taken to avoid further visual conflict and cumulative change through the introduction of additional vertical structures also in settled areas there is a balance to be struck between visual effects and effects on landscape character. Areas which are more sparsely settled and/or characterised by a more established, traditional or historic built character, including historic structures are likely to be more sensitive to this type of development. Commercial forestry may also introduce a temporary man-made influence to upland landscapes that would otherwise seem natural and wild.</p>	
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS6: Settlement & VS27: Condition / LCA descriptions / OS data / Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>	
	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Major infrastructure (transport / communications/utility infrastructure / wind turbines) ▪ Modern day industrial development ▪ Large / concentrated urban/modern settlements ▪ Commercial forestry 	<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infrequent / no residential built form ▪ Dispersed settlement / sparsely settled / un-populated areas ▪ Presence of historic buildings / structures or settlement
<p>Visual Criteria</p>		
<p>Skylines and Settings</p>	<p>Landscapes with distinctive ridges or skylines are likely to be more sensitive to mobile mast development than skylines that are less prominent or have been affected by existing contemporary structures such as electricity or communications infrastructure. The presence of distinctive or historic landscape features such as hilltop monuments, church spires or historic villages' increases sensitivity.</p>	
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>	
	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Less prominent skylines ▪ Existing vertical features (modern development) ▪ Existing built development 	<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prominent skylines ▪ Distinctive skylines / backdrops ▪ Uninterrupted/undeveloped skylines ▪ Presence of distinctive / sensitive landscape features such as historic landmarks

<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p>	<p>The probability of mobile masts being highly visible in a particular landscape is a function of the landform and the presence of potentially screening landcover, especially trees and woodlands. It is also a function of the number of people of different types who are likely to perceive the landscape and any change within it (e.g. residents, workers, visitors).</p> <p>The numbers and types of people likely to experience a change in a view due to potential development influences visual sensitivity. The most sensitive receptors are likely to be residents, communities, people engaged in outdoor recreation where landscape is part of the experience, visitors to landscape focussed natural and built heritage assets, key amenity and recreational attractions and users of scenic routes. Each location brings with it certain expectations. Transport routes are generally considered less sensitive receptors, however single and sequential views from recognised scenic tourist routes are important to the perception of the landscape.</p> <p>Topography or vegetation can provide a sense of enclosure, which may help reduce the visibility of mobile masts and hence indicate lower landscape sensitivity. Open landscapes are potentially more visible, particularly when they are overlooked. They may also be visible from adjoining landscapes.</p> <p>Landscapes that have limited inward and outward views may be less sensitive to mobile mast developments than areas with less contained views. Extensive close or middle range views from scenic routes, well-known vistas or tourist viewpoints may also increase a landscape’s sensitivity to this type of development, as may close proximity to settlement.</p>		
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS9: Enclosure / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="386 1153 901 1836"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscapes which are confined, contained or enclosed with few inward or outward views ▪ Sparsely populated or inaccessible ▪ Neighbouring landscapes of lower sensitivity ▪ Contributes little to wider landscape ▪ Large scale simple backdrops ▪ Weak association with adjacent LCAs </td> <td data-bbox="901 1153 1394 1836"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscapes which are open or exposed with far reaching views ▪ Densely populated ▪ Views from scenic routes, well-known landmarks, or views from visitor viewpoints ▪ Views into or out, especially from high ground ▪ Neighbouring landscapes of higher sensitivity, especially internationally and nationally designated landscapes ▪ Contributes to wider landscape ▪ Distinctive or complex backdrops ▪ Landscapes important to the settings/approaches/ gateways to designated landscapes ▪ Strong association with adjacent LCAs </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscapes which are confined, contained or enclosed with few inward or outward views ▪ Sparsely populated or inaccessible ▪ Neighbouring landscapes of lower sensitivity ▪ Contributes little to wider landscape ▪ Large scale simple backdrops ▪ Weak association with adjacent LCAs 	<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscapes which are open or exposed with far reaching views ▪ Densely populated ▪ Views from scenic routes, well-known landmarks, or views from visitor viewpoints ▪ Views into or out, especially from high ground ▪ Neighbouring landscapes of higher sensitivity, especially internationally and nationally designated landscapes ▪ Contributes to wider landscape ▪ Distinctive or complex backdrops ▪ Landscapes important to the settings/approaches/ gateways to designated landscapes ▪ Strong association with adjacent LCAs
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Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each LCA)	Landscapes which are important to the views in and out and setting of <u>key</u> designated landscape and cultural heritage areas / focal features (such as AONBs, National Parks, World Heritage Sites, Registered Historic Landscapes, Registered Parks and Gardens, Areas of Outstanding Beauty, National Trails and Cycle Networks and key/focal designated visitor attractions such as historic hillforts/castles/church spires) are likely to be more sensitive. The setting of designated landscapes may be more sensitive where it contributes to the overall scenic quality of the designated landscape. For the purpose of this study Listed Buildings and SAMs are considered only of value as a key visitor attraction or focal point.	
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figures 4.1 & 4.2) / LCA descriptions / Site Visits	
	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Weak association with landscape ▪ Little intervisibility between sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strong association with landscape ▪ Intervisibility between sites
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential Criteria		
Scenic Quality and Character	Areas of attractive scenery, character, quality, integrity, strong sense of place and local distinctiveness will typically be more sensitive to mobile mast development than less scenic areas. This includes landscapes designated for their natural beauty (such as such as a Heritage Coast or designated AONB) but also areas of undesignated landscape, including areas which are locally distinctive or have strong character.	
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS25 Sense of Place, VS46: Scenic Quality, VS47: Integrity & VS48: Character / Site Visits	
	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation ▪ Low scenic quality (ie. industrial areas) ▪ Weak sense of place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluation ▪ High scenic quality (ie. and AONB / Heritage Coast) ▪ Strong sense of place
Remoteness / Tranquillity	Landscapes which are relatively remote and have a wild and/or tranquil character and little or no built development increase the sensitivity of the landscape to mobile mast development. This type of development can undermine the special qualities and setting of such areas. The introduction of mobile masts may alter perceptions of wildness and tranquillity by bringing a more industrial character to the affected landscapes.	
	Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS24: Perceptual and Sensory Qualities / Wales Tranquil Areas Map / Site Visits	
	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Threatening; unattractive; noisy; settled ▪ Close to visible signs of human activity and development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remote; tranquil; wild; spiritual; attractive; peaceful ▪ Physically or perceptually remote, peaceful or tranquil

Value Criteria				
Landscape Value	<p>Areas which are predominantly recognised by Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to mobile mast developments. In addition, landscapes that are formally designated for their scenic, designed or recreational value are likely to be more sensitive than undesignated areas. The degree of sensitivity depends on the nature of the proposal and the landscape qualities which are valued by the designation. The hierarchy of the designation has a bearing on sensitivity of a landscape. Internationally and nationally designated landscapes such as National Parks, World Heritage Sites and AONBs are considered to be very sensitive, followed by regional and local designations such as AOBs and SLAs. Landscape value is formally recognised by designation, but value can also be informed by published documentation such as tourist leaflets; art and literature. Heritage Coasts are not protected by designation but are considered to be of national value.</p>			
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Historic Value	<p>Areas which are predominantly recognised by Outstanding or High Historic or Cultural LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to mobile mast developments. Areas designated for their international, national or regional historic or cultural heritage value such as World Heritage Sites are likely to be more sensitive especially if the character or perception of the landscape in which they are located is likely to be significantly altered by the proposed development. Registered Historic Landscapes and Registered Parks and Gardens are not protected by designation but are considered by many to be of national value.</p>			
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP HL38: Rarity, HL35: Integrity & HL40: Overall Evaluation / Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figure 4.2)</p>			
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Table 2.07: Criteria for Assessing Landscape and Visual Sensitivity to *Static Caravan / Chalet Parks and Extensions*

Landscape Criteria					
Landform	<p>Prominent and rolling landforms or landforms with steeper slopes are more sensitive to static caravan / chalet park and extension developments because they are strong landscape features which tend to be obscured by development and require more extensive modification in the course of the construction. Flatter, simpler landscapes or those with gently undulating slopes are considered to be less sensitive to static caravan / chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 2 Landform & VS4: Topographic Form / LCA descriptions / OS data / Topographic Data / Site Visits</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simple featureless landform ▪ Flatter and more uniform landform </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rugged hills ▪ Irregular or complex landform ▪ Narrow valleys and ridges ▪ Distinctive landform features </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simple featureless landform ▪ Flatter and more uniform landform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rugged hills ▪ Irregular or complex landform ▪ Narrow valleys and ridges ▪ Distinctive landform features
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Landcover	<p>This criterion is concerned with both the material sensitivity of the type of landcover and also the impression of landcover pattern and how development can impact on it.</p> <p>Rural lowland landscapes with medium to large scale field pattern are less likely to be sensitive to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions. Areas of commercial forestry, brownfield or commercial/urban land and areas of intensive farming may also indicate lower sensitivity.</p> <p>Complex, smaller scale and more intimate landscapes comprising a variety or mosaic of characteristic or sensitive landscape features such as veteran trees and ancient woodlands (which are not re-creatable in the short term), irregular field patterns and hedgerows are typically more vulnerable to change arising from this type of development.</p> <p>Tree and woodland cover offers the potential to screen developments in certain situations (particularly in combination with undulating landform) although care must be taken not to allow development to detract from or dominate locally distinctive features such as tree knolls, veteran or avenue trees.</p> <p>Landcover such as open upland moorland and unenclosed upland grazing and waterbodies such as lakes, streams or ponds can also be highly sensitive and valuable features particularly vulnerable to development. Similarly open coastal locations, although popular sites for such development, are often very sensitive.</p> <p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS Level 3: Land Cover & VS5: Land Cover Pattern / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medium scale field pattern of rural landcover ▪ Developed land, derelict or waste ground / brownfield land ▪ Commercial forestry ▪ Lowland farmland </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small / intimate scale field pattern / mosaic ▪ Complex / irregular / diverse landscapes ▪ Strong pattern / texture ▪ Intact landscape ▪ Ancient woodland ▪ Upland moorland ▪ Upland grazing ▪ Barren/rocky upland ▪ Water / intertidal / dunes/dune slack / coastal land </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity	Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medium scale field pattern of rural landcover ▪ Developed land, derelict or waste ground / brownfield land ▪ Commercial forestry ▪ Lowland farmland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small / intimate scale field pattern / mosaic ▪ Complex / irregular / diverse landscapes ▪ Strong pattern / texture ▪ Intact landscape ▪ Ancient woodland ▪ Upland moorland ▪ Upland grazing ▪ Barren/rocky upland ▪ Water / intertidal / dunes/dune slack / coastal land
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<p>Man-made Influences</p>	<p>This criterion is concerned with the amount of human intervention present in the landscape. Man-made landscapes and/or landscapes that contain signs of human activity and development such as large and sprawling settlements, transport, utility or communications infrastructure or industrial development may reduce landscape sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions, as may the visible influences of quarrying or landfill and the frequency of built form and human intervention in more contemporary densely settled areas. On the contrary, areas which are more sparsely settled and free from human activity and disturbance are considered more sensitive to this type of development, due to their perceived naturalness. Areas which are characterised by a more established, traditional or historic built character, including historic structures are likely to be more sensitive to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p>	
<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP VS6: Settlement & VS27: Condition / LCA descriptions / OS data / Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) data /Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>		
<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p>		<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p>
<p>Visual Criteria</p>		
<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each LCA)</p>	<p>The probability of static caravan/chalet park developments and/or extension being highly visible in a particular landscape is a function of the landform and the presence of potentially screening landcover, especially trees and woodlands. It is also a function of the number of people of different types who are likely to perceive the landscape and any change within it (e.g. residents, workers, visitors).</p> <p>Landscapes that have limited inward and outward views may be less sensitive to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions than areas with less contained views.</p> <p>Topography and/or vegetation can provide a sense of enclosure, which may help reduce the visibility of the development and hence indicate lower sensitivity.²² Open landscapes, particularly open coastlines are potentially more visible and therefore more susceptible to these types of development; particularly when they are overlooked.</p> <p>Key views are those views from publicly accessible places (which are used regularly or to enjoy scenic quality) towards features of interest. Generally, these are sensitive to change and development. Extensive close or middle range views from scenic routes, well-known vistas or tourist viewpoints may also increase a landscape's sensitivity to development.</p>	
<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP VS9: Enclosure / LCA descriptions / OS data / Aerial Imagery (Google Earth) / Site Visits</p>		
<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscape with a strong sense of enclosure ▪ Landscapes which are contained and strongly visually filtered. ▪ Very little or no intervisibility from designated viewpoints in protected landscapes ▪ No prominent landmarks or topographic features. 		<p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Very open, exposed landscapes ▪ Landscapes with extensive intervisibility and little screening or filtering of views ▪ Landscapes which are visible from designated viewpoints in protected landscapes ▪ Prominent visual landmarks and/or topographic features such as distinct elevated ridge lines

22 Woodlands and forestry should be a long term feature if their screening effects are to be relied upon.

Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential Criteria		
Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Areas of attractive scenery, character, quality, integrity, strong sense of place and local distinctiveness will typically be more sensitive to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions than less scenic areas. This includes landscapes designated for their natural beauty (such as a Heritage Coast or designated AONB) but also areas of undesignated landscape, including areas which are locally distinctive or have strong character whose special scenic qualities are likely to be affected by this type of development.</p>	
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS25 Sense of Place, VS46: Scenic Quality, VS47: Integrity & VS48: Character / Site Visits</p>	
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation ▪ Low scenic quality (ie. industrial areas) ▪ Weak sense of place </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluation ▪ High scenic quality (ie. and AONB / Heritage Coast) ▪ Strong sense of place </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation ▪ Low scenic quality (ie. industrial areas) ▪ Weak sense of place
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Remoteness/ Tranquillity	<p>Areas which are relatively remote and have a wild and/or tranquil character and lack built development increase the sensitivity of the landscape to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions. Development adjacent to such areas can undermine the special qualities and setting of such areas.</p>	
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion LANDMAP VS24: Perceptual and Sensory Qualities / Wales Tranquil Areas Map / Site Visits</p>	
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Threatening; unattractive; noisy; settled ▪ Extensive visual and auditory intrusions ▪ Notable presence of modern/large scale development and infrastructure (industrial areas, large modern urban settlements etc) </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Some Indicators of Higher Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remote; tranquil; wild; spiritual; attractive; peaceful ▪ Few obvious man-made features </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Some Indicators of Lower Sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Threatening; unattractive; noisy; settled ▪ Extensive visual and auditory intrusions ▪ Notable presence of modern/large scale development and infrastructure (industrial areas, large modern urban settlements etc)
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Value Criteria				
Landscape Value	<p>Areas where there is a concentration of Outstanding or High LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to static caravan / chalet park developments and extensions. In addition, landscapes that are formally designated for their scenic, designed or recreational value are likely to be more sensitive to this type of development than undesignated areas. The degree of sensitivity depends on the nature of the proposal and the landscape qualities which are valued by the designation. The hierarchy of the designation has a bearing on sensitivity of a landscape. Internationally and nationally designated landscapes such as National Parks, World Heritage Sites and AONBs are considered to be very sensitive, closely followed by regional and local designations such as AOBs and SLAs. Landscape value is formally recognised by designation, but value can also be informed by published documentation such as tourist leaflets; art and literature. Heritage Coasts are not protected by designation but are considered to be of national value.</p>			
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP VS50: Overall Evaluation, VS49: Rarity, LH45: Overall Evaluation, LH42: Connectivity / Cohesion, GL31: Rarity / Uniqueness & GL33: Overall Evaluation / Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figure 4.1)</p>			
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Historic Value	<p>Areas which are predominantly recognised by Outstanding or High Historic or Cultural LANDMAP evaluations are likely to be more highly sensitive to the development of static caravan/chalet parks and extensions. Areas designated for their international, national or regional historic or cultural heritage value such as World Heritage Sites are likely to be more sensitive to this type of development especially if the character or perception of the landscape in which they are located is likely to be significantly altered. Registered Historic Landscapes and Registered Parks and Gardens are not protected by designation but are considered by many to be of national value.</p>			
	<p>Key Sources of Data Relevant to the Sensitivity Criterion</p> <p>LANDMAP HL38: Rarity, HL35: Integrity & HL40: Overall Evaluation / Environmental Designations Mapping Data (Figure 4.2)</p>			
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Stage Two – Assessing Landscape and Visual Sensitivity

2.27 This part of the study involved desk based studies and field surveys, the latter being undertaken both in the early stages of the study (familiarisation) and later to help verify and refine the desk based sensitivity assessments.

Baseline Assessment

2.28 The first step in the process was to:

- Identify and evaluate the existing landscape of the study area, including its distinctive characteristics, existing landscape designations and effects of the following types of development: wind energy; field-scale solar PV energy; 400 kV overhead lines; mobile masts and static caravan/chalet parks.
- Identify and evaluate the existing views and visual amenity of the study area.

2.29 The following information was reviewed as a desk exercise:

- Ordnance Survey maps and aerial photography.
- Designated and nationally/regionally valued landscapes, including Snowdonia National Park, Areas of Natural Beauty and Undeveloped Coast (as identified within the ELDP), the Isle of Anglesey AONB, the Llŷn AONB, SLAs and Heritage Coasts.
- Information from LANDMAP datasets (all five Aspect Areas).
- Natural and built heritage GIS mapping data.
- Existing landscape character assessments.
- The Wales Tranquil Areas Map.
- Registered Historic Landscapes, the Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site(s), Registered Parks and Gardens and visually prominent SAMs.
- Existing developments within the study area (including wind energy, field-scale solar PV, 400 kV overhead lines, mobile masts, static caravan/chalet parks and also hydro energy).

2.30 The findings of the desk survey, which were subsequently refined following field survey work, are presented in Section 3. They include an overview of the key landscape characteristics of the study area, a description of existing and consented developments (relative to those being considered in this study) and their effect on the landscape together with brief comments on any issues of existing and potential cumulative effects.

Assessing the Sensitivity of LCAs

2.31 This part of the study required the preparation of sensitivity assessment sheets for each LCA, as presented in Section 4.

2.32 The key features of each LCA are described before being evaluated against the sensitivity criteria described in Tables 2.03 – 2.07, using a three point grading: **higher, medium** or **lower** (as described in Table 2.01). Finally a judgement on the overall sensitivity of each LCA to change associated with the various development types is made, based on a more detailed six point sensitivity scale: **low; low-medium; medium; medium-high, high** and **very high**.

2.33 Appendix 6 includes 24 plans which represent data taken from LANDMAP overlaid onto the study area (as listed in Tables 2.03 – 2.07). This information was used to make initial judgements on sensitivity which was then backed up and or moderated following further desk top studies and the site visits.

Field Survey

- 2.34 On completion of the draft assessment, field surveys were undertaken to help test and refine the findings and provide the following information:
- Better understanding of the general characteristics of the landscape including the effects of existing comparable developments and any forces for change which it may be experiencing.
 - Analysis of the landscape, in terms of the characteristics and qualities which affect its sensitivity to the different types of development, including the special qualities of any designations which apply.
 - Appreciation of the variations within individual LCAs and more detailed understanding of scenic quality and landscape condition.
 - Appreciation of the nature of any visual amenity issues.
 - Understanding of the degree of intervisibility, both between LCAs within the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park and with landscapes in neighbouring authority areas.
 - Important views to and from each LCA were recorded, identifying distinctive features such as iconic viewpoints, views to and from designated landscapes, skylines or uninterrupted horizons (both land and sea). It was important to understand how the landscape is experienced both from fixed viewpoints and sequentially as people travel through an area.
 - Understanding of how individual characteristics either alone or in combination make one landscape more sensitive than another. This helped identify any specific strategic sensitivity/capacity constraints which may reduce the potential of particular landscape areas to accommodate the different types of development.
- 2.35 The fieldwork also briefly considered the likely implications of the different development typologies/scales in relation to different aspects of the landscape. The acceptability of the different development typologies/scales varies across all LCAs. In small scale sheltered valleys for example, there are clear technical constraints to large and medium wind energy development typologies. Similarly, it is recognised that areas with significant landscape sensitivity to large scale wind energy development such as Snowdonia National Park and the AONBs, may only be suitable for single very small turbines.
- 2.36 Based on the results of the field surveys, the draft evaluations of LCA sensitivity were refined and the final sensitivity assessment and accompanying summary tables for each LCA prepared.

Stage Three – Assigning Landscape Strategies and Developing Siting and Design Guidance

- 2.37 The Councils and the Park Authority recognise the need to balance opportunities for energy generation and connection, telecommunications networks and tourism with the need to ensure that the important characteristics of the landscape are not unacceptably harmed. A landscape strategy for each LCA has therefore been developed based on the following considerations:
- Avoid significant harm to the key characteristics of the LCA whilst accepting that some change might be required in some locations.
 - Based on the preceding landscape sensitivity assessment, respond to locations where new renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and tourism developments is best accommodated and locations where the important characteristics including the special qualities of any designated landscape make these types of development less suitable.
 - Protect sensitive landscapes from inappropriate development.
 - Ensure that the location and design of development responds to the landscape character of each LCA.
 - Ensure that any development does not impinge on surrounding landscapes beyond the boundary of the study area.
 - Ensure that different types of development do not conflict either within or between LCAs.
- 2.38 This stage in the study applied professional judgement to determine the most appropriate landscape objective(s) and the relative capacity of each of the LCAs by combining the landscape and visual sensitivity evaluation with issues of intervisibility and potential cumulative effects that may arise should further development take place.

Development Typologies

2.39 The following typology tables have been produced in order to categorise the various scales of wind energy, field-scale solar PV energy, mobile masts and static caravan/chalet park development. These help understand the nature and varying scales of the different types of development being considered. The typology references are used throughout this report, particularly in the development of landscape strategies and consideration of indicative capacity. There is no typology table in relation to a 400 kV overhead line as the study assumes typical steel lattice towers of circa 46 m in height.

Wind Energy Development Typologies

- 2.40 Landscape capacity for wind energy development reflects not only the presence of different landscape characteristics and values, but also the grouping and height of the turbines in relation to the scale of the landscape. To help evaluate this, a series of generic wind energy development typologies was identified based on past wind energy development applications within the study area together with anticipated future trends. These typologies also link in with the typologies considered in the 2013 Conwy and Denbighshire Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment for Wind Energy Development which considers the sensitivity of landscapes to wind energy developments in adjacent Authority areas.
- 2.41 The six categories (**domestic, micro, small, medium, large, and very large**) are presented in Table 2.08 below and illustrated in Figure 5.1 in comparison to other well-known local landmarks to provide a sense of scale.
- 2.42 A proposal will normally be considered as falling within the category that represents the biggest type for which it qualifies.

Table 2.08: Wind Energy Development Typologies

Wind Energy Typology	Indicative Output (broad output category ²³)	Supplementary Criteria (meets one or more of the criteria) (determines whether this or a larger typology applies)
DOMESTIC	Under 10kW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single turbine applications ▪ Turbine up to 15m to blade tip ▪ Turbine may be roof-mounted or pole-mounted
MICRO	under 50kW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single or twin turbine applications ▪ Turbine up to 20m to blade tip
SMALL	under 5MW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Turbines up to 3 in number ▪ Turbines up to 50m to blade tip ▪ Viewed as a small group
MEDIUM	over 5MW and up to 25MW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Turbines up to 9 in number ▪ Turbines up to 80 metres to blade tip ▪ Viewed as a large group
LARGE	over 25MW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Turbines over and including 10 in number ▪ Turbines up to 110 metres to blade tip ▪ Viewed as a large scale wind farm
VERY LARGE	Over 25MW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Turbines over and including 10 in number ▪ Turbines over 110 metres to blade tip ▪ Viewed as a very large scale wind farm

²³ These values are for guidance only and should not be taken as a criterion for determining typology. Efficiency and energy outputs are continually subject to advances in technology and operational efficiency, therefore it is recognised that these values are likely to change.

- 2.43 Applications and enquiries for smaller to medium scale wind energy projects are applicable to the wider study area. Here, turbine height (rather than just the number of turbines) and how this relates to landscape scale and landform, is a key consideration as well as localised issues including settlement separation, views from settlement edges and routes.
- 2.44 Applications and enquiries for **large** and **very large** scale wind farm developments are most commonly associated with TAN 8 SSAs, all of which lie outside the study area. The **large** and **very large** typologies have been included within Table 2.08 above for reference as these typologies relate to some operational/consented developments within the study and buffer area; however, developments of this scale are not considered to be appropriate outside the TAN 8 SSAs and are therefore have not been considered within this study.
- 2.45 Whilst output is sometimes used to define different scales of wind energy development, there are a number of specific conditions (in relation to height, rotor diameter or number of turbines), which influence the landscape and visual effect of a proposal and which can therefore change the categorisation of a proposal regardless of output. Indicative outputs are presented in Table 2.08 for reference; however, this information should not be used to determine which typology applies to proposed wind energy developments.

Field Scale Solar PV Energy Development Typologies

- 2.46 Landscape capacity for field scale solar PV energy development reflects not only the presence of different landscape characteristics and values, but also the footprint/mass of the development in relation to the scale of the landscape. To help evaluate this, a series of generic field scale solar PV energy development typologies has been identified; based on recent development applications within the study area together with anticipated future trends.
- 2.47 The five categories (**micro**, **small**, **medium**, **large** and **very large**) are presented in Table 2.09 below and illustrated in Figure 5.2 in comparison to other well-known local features to provide a sense of scale.

Table 2.09: Field Scale Solar PV Energy Development Typologies

Solar PV Typology	Indicative Output (broad output category ²⁴)	Indicative Criteria
MICRO	under 500kW	▪ Less than 1 hectare (2.5 acres)
SMALL	up to 2.5MW	▪ 1 - 5 hectares (2.5 - 12.5 acres)
MEDIUM	up to 5MW	▪ 5 - 10 hectares (12.5 – 25 acres)
LARGE	over 5MW	▪ 10 - 20 hectares (25 – 50 acres)
VERY LARGE	over 10MW	▪ Over 20 hectares (approximately 50 acres)

Mobile Mast Development Typologies

- 2.48 Landscape capacity for mobile mast development reflects not only the presence of different landscape characteristics and values, but also the style and height of the masts in relation to the scale of the landscape. To help evaluate this, a series of generic mobile mast development typologies has been identified based on past development applications within the study area together with anticipated future trends.

²⁴ These values are for guidance only and should not be taken as a criterion for determining typology. Efficiency and energy outputs are continually subject to advances in technology and operational efficiency, therefore it is recognised that these values are likely to change.

- 2.49 The three categories (**lattice, monopole and camouflaged**) are presented in Table 2.10 below and the monopole is illustrated in Figure 5.1 in comparison to other well-known local features to provide a sense of scale.

Table 2.10: Mobile Mast Development Typologies

Mobile Mast Typology	Description
LATTICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More complicated steel frame structure of which a number of design types are available, typically up to 20 m in height
MONOPOLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A simple, relatively featureless, columnar design, typically up to 15–20 m in height
CAMOUFLAGED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masts disguised, for instance as telegraph poles, rocks and trees to minimise the visual impact, can include building mounted masts (various heights up to 15-20 m)

Static Caravan/Chalet Park Development Typologies

- 2.50 Landscape capacity for static caravan/chalet park development reflects not only the presence of different landscape characteristics and values, but also the footprint/mass of the development in relation to the scale of the landscape. To help evaluate this, a series of development typologies has been identified; based on the spread of scales of development within the study area.
- 2.51 The five categories (**very small, small, medium, large and very large**) are presented in Table 2.11 below and illustrated in Figure 5.3 to provide a sense of scale.

Table 2.11: Static Caravan/Chalet Park Development Typologies

Static Caravan/Chalet Park Typology	Indicative Criteria
VERY SMALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 10 units (typically below 1 hectare in area)
SMALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11-25 units (typically below 2 hectares in area)
MEDIUM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26-75 units (typically below 10 hectares in area)
LARGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 76-200 units (typically below 15 hectares in area)
VERY LARGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 200 units (typically over 15 hectares in area)

Landscape Strategies

- 2.52 The Design Commission for Wales (DCfW) in its 2012 document, *Designing Wind Farms in Wales*, applied Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) guidance to the development of its own guidance specifically relating to the development of wind farms. In this document three landscape objectives are discussed:
- **Landscape Protection:** a ‘landscape with no wind farms or infrequent wind farms’.
 - **Landscape Accommodation:** a ‘landscape with occasional wind farms’.
 - **Landscape Change:** a ‘landscape with wind farms’.

- 2.53 The Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park study has been commissioned to identify the sensitivity of landscapes specifically in relation to five different development types including renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and tourism development (not just wind energy development). Although the DCfW guidance only considers wind farms it is useful as a guide to developing landscape objectives and has been utilised and modified to reflect the variety of developments which are being addressed in this report. It is important to note that these should not be seen as rigidly prescriptive objectives.
- 2.54 Each LCA is assigned one (or more) of the four broad landscape objectives as defined below. These may differ depending on the type of development being considered but will ultimately assist the Councils' and Park Authority's decision making on new applications as the landscape objectives then form the basis for recommendations on the type and scale of development which may/may not be appropriate in each of the LCAs.

Objective 1	
Landscape Protection	<i>Typically no development or very infrequent smaller scale renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.</i>
<p>Landscape protection is applicable to landscapes where the conservation of resource and visual experience of the landscape has been assessed to be of very high importance. It aims to retain or reinforce the present character, quality and integrity of the landscape and to avoid significant harm to its key characteristic.</p> <p>Whilst smaller scale development may be appropriate in certain circumstances within areas where landscape protection is the primary objective, such opportunities are likely to be very limited due to the landscape and visual sensitivities of these areas and is dependent on how well the scale and design of development relates to the existing landscape and visual constraints.</p> <p>The presence of statutorily protected landscapes substantially reduces the degree to which development can be accommodated and it will be important to understand how the different types of development could affect the special qualities for which it is designated. PPW (Edition 5, 2012) aims to maintain the integrity and quality of the landscape within the National Parks, AONBs, Natura 2000 Habitat Directive Sites, National Nature Reserves and World Heritage Sites. In these areas, landscape protection will be the most appropriate landscape objective, reflecting the high degree of protection afforded these designated areas.</p> <p>Particularly with tall structures such as turbines, mobile masts or high voltage overhead lines, intervisibility between LCAs must be carefully considered to avoid adverse cumulative landscape and visual effects arising from multiple developments. There may, however, be distant views of developments located in nearby LCAs, which may be perceptible under conditions of good visibility.</p>	

Objective 2	
Landscape Accommodation	<i>Typically a landscape with occasional renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.</i>
<p>Landscape accommodation is typically applicable to landscapes where the conservation of landscape character and views has been assessed to be of moderate to high importance.</p> <p>This objective aims to retain the overall character, quality and integrity of the landscape, whilst accepting that occasional small to medium scale developments may be allowed. Such development may affect the perception of the landscape in close proximity, but should not have a widespread influence on the overall experience of the landscape of the LCA, or bring about large scale changes in character and conflict with or alter its defining characteristics.</p>	

Objective 3	
Landscape Change	<i>Typically a landscape with relatively frequent renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.</i>
<p>Landscape change is applicable to landscapes where it is accepted that the landscape character can accommodate some change as a result of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.</p> <p>The landscape change objective accepts that several developments may be located within the LCA and that these may have an effect both locally and across a wider area and therefore become a defining characteristic of the landscape. In such areas it will still be important to ensure that developments fit with the scale and character of the landscape. It should be possible to appreciate the character of the landscape without developments dominating every view.</p>	

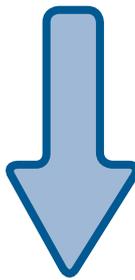
Objective 4	
New Landscape	<i>Typically a landscape with a notable amount of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.</i>
<p>The implicit objective in these landscapes is to accept a significant change in landscape character. All other landscape features are seen in the context of extensive renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development. Where it is accepted that the area is one whose landscape character may be allowed to change, good landscape design principles still need to be followed to ensure that the development is appropriate to the scale and character of the landscape.</p>	

- 2.55 The relationship or thresholds of landscape change that may arise from development vary depending on the landscape and the nature of the potential development. It is assumed however that there is typically higher capacity for development in areas of lower sensitivity where landscape change is considered more acceptable. Conversely areas of higher sensitivity, particularly those which are designated, are likely to have very limited capacity. In addition, larger landscape character areas may be able to accommodate a greater number of developments.

Indicative Landscape Capacity

- 2.56 An overall indicative landscape capacity for the different types development has been derived for each LCA area by considering the following:
- Overall landscape and visual sensitivity to each type of development which is considered in the determination of the objective(s) for the area.
 - How the landscapes of the area are perceived and experienced and contribute to strategic and local issues.
 - Operational and consented renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments within and adjacent to each LCA.
 - The size of each LCA. There may be scope for a greater number of developments within large LCAs before a capacity threshold is reached.
- 2.57 Whilst the indicative landscape capacity helps to identify the type of developments which could be potentially accommodated, this does not in itself suggest that planning applications for development in these areas will be appropriate. Other variables such as environmental designations and technical constraints, the site specific siting, layout and design and need for the development are beyond the scope of this assessment and will need to be considered on a case by case basis.

2.58 The general relationship between landscape sensitivity, landscape objectives and capacity is illustrated below.

Landscape Sensitivity	Landscape Objective	Landscape Capacity	Threshold
Higher Sensitivity	Landscape Protection	Limited Capacity	<i>Typically no development or very infrequent smaller scale renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development</i>
	Landscape Accommodation		<i>Typically a landscape with occasional renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development</i>
	Landscape Change		<i>Typically a landscape with relatively frequent renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development</i>
	Lower Sensitivity		New Landscape

Siting and Design Guidance in Relation to Potential Landscape and Visual Impacts of Renewable Energy, Transmission Infrastructure and/or Tourism Development

- 2.59 Specific guidance notes have been formulated for each type of development to help direct any proposed development to the most appropriate locations in landscape and visual terms within each LCA. This guidance broadly indicates what type(s) of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development (if any) may be considered appropriate and highlights specific design and siting issues. Any specific constraints which may reduce the potential of particular areas to accommodate the different types of development are noted as are any potential cumulative and cross boundary effects.
- 2.60 Generic siting and design guidance notes are included in Section 5, together with links to other relevant sources of information which can be used to inform sensitive design and siting. These notes should be read alongside the specific design and siting guidance which is included in the strategies for each LCA.

SECTION 3: BASELINE LANDSCAPE OF THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY, GWYNEDD AND SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK

Landscape Character Baseline of the Study Area

Key Landscape Characteristics of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park

- 3.1 The Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia comprise a diverse mix of landscapes many of which are highly valued for their great natural beauty and tranquillity. The Isle of Anglesey is relatively low lying and has a beautiful and often dramatic coastline. Snowdonia National Park is renowned for its rugged mountainous landscapes but also offers beautiful and unspoilt valley and coastal landscapes. Gwynedd offers a dramatic contrast between broad coastal and estuarine landscapes and the imposing mountains which rise up behind them. Busy port and coastal resort towns contrast markedly with the highly rural areas inland. Topography plans within Appendix 7 illustrate the diverse landform of the study area.
- 3.2 Landscape character assessment has been undertaken for all three areas and this has resulted in 59 LCAs across the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park. The LCAs are illustrated in Figure 3 (and Appendix 8) and are set out in the following three reports:
- Background Paper: Isle of Anglesey Landscape Strategy (Update 2011). This background paper subdivides the local planning authority area into 18 LCAs.
 - Background Paper: Gwynedd Landscape Strategy (Update 2012). This document is based on the Landscape Character SPG (Adopted November 2009) produced for the Gwynedd UDP which subdivides the local planning authority area into 16 LCAs.
 - Landscapes of Eryri (Working Draft) Supplementary Planning Guidance - Snowdonia National Park Authority, Eryri Local Development Plan 2007-2022 (para 3.10, p.44). This document subdivides the local planning authority area into 25 LCAs.

Protected Landscapes (*Statutory and Non-Statutory*) Within the Study Area

- 3.3 The landscapes of the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park are protected by a significant proportion of both statutory and non-statutory landscape related designations.
- 3.4 The study area includes Snowdonia National Park, Anglesey AONB and Llŷn AONB. These landscape designations, together with landscape related cultural heritage constraints, are illustrated on Figures 4.1 and 4.2 and the key designations related to landscape character and value are outlined below.

World Heritage Sites

Caernarfon Castle and Town Walls, Beaumaris and Harlech Castles (Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd) World Heritage Site.

- 3.5 The extensive and detailed contemporary technical, social, and economic documentation of the castles, and the survival of adjacent fortified town at Caernarfon, makes them one of the major references of medieval history²⁵. The World Heritage Site is comprised of four castles and associated fortified towns, three of which are located within the study area, as follows:
- Caernarfon Castle and Town Walls, is located on the north coastal boundary of Gwynedd, on the south bank of the Menai Strait.
 - Beaumaris Castle can be found to the east of the Isle of Anglesey on the north bank of the Menai Strait.
 - Harlech Castle is located within the SNPA on the west coast, south of Porthmadog.

25 <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1540>

- 3.6 There is no detailed guidance regarding the siting of proposed wind energy, telecommunications and tourism developments in relation to this World Heritage Site or its essential setting, however Part 2 of The Castles and Town Walls of Edward I in Gwynedd, World Heritage Site Management Plan²⁶ discusses the importance of significant/historic views into and out of each monument in the World Heritage Site, stating that inappropriate development would obstruct or interfere with these views, which generally extend beyond the areas of essential setting. This is particularly relevant to the wind energy, telecommunications and tourism developments.

National Parks

- 3.7 The study area includes the entirety of **Snowdonia National Park**. The Park is the largest of three National Parks in Wales and attracts thousands of visitors each year. It is administered by its own National Park Authority whose aim is to:
- Conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area.
 - Promote opportunities to understand and enjoy its special qualities.
 - Foster the economic and social wellbeing of its communities.

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Anglesey AONB

- 3.8 Covering the majority of the Isle of Anglesey's 201km coastline and its immediate hinterland (one third of the island and 21,500 ha), Anglesey AONB is the largest AONB in Wales. Whilst predominantly a coastal designation, it also includes Holyhead Mountain and Mynydd Bodafon. The vision for the AONB as contained within the AONB 'Management Plan 2009 – 2014' is of a unique landscape with dynamic and vibrant communities who are closely related to their environment, with sustainable economic activities contributing positively to a healthy rural economy. It is described as a peaceful and tranquil rural retreat and an ideal location in which to relax and enjoy quiet forms of recreation. As such, the objective is that development within and adjacent to the AONB reflect the objectives of the Management Plan and the traditional character of the island.

Llŷn AONB

- 3.9 Covering approximately one quarter of the Llŷn Peninsula and around 15,500 ha of land, the AONB is described within its 'Management Plan 2010-2015' as naturally beautiful, undeveloped and with far reaching views. Its special qualities include its coastal landscape, its tranquil and clean environment, rich biodiversity and cultural heritage and a close knit community with its roots in the local area. A vision and policies for future action are included within the Management Plan with the aim of leading and encouraging developments beneficial to the AONB whilst controlling and limiting developments identified as being harmful.

Heritage Coast

- 3.10 Heritage Coasts are stretches of outstanding, undeveloped coast which are managed to conserve their natural beauty, and where appropriate, to improve accessibility for visitors. Although not statutorily designated, the definition of these nationally valued coastlines is formalised by agreement between the relevant maritime local authorities and NRW. The study area contains four stretches of Heritage Coast, all of which fall within either the Anglesey or Llŷn Peninsula AONBs.
- The **North Anglesey Heritage Coast** wraps around 28km of the northern coastline of the Isle of Anglesey from Church Bay in the west to Penrhyn Glas in the east, being broken only to exclude Wylfa Head (which is the location of the Wylfa power station) and Amlwch Port.
 - **Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast**, to the west of the Isle of Anglesey, spans 12km of the western coastline of Holy Island.
 - **Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast** to the southwest coast of the Isle of Anglesey covers 7km of the Aberffraw and Malltraeth Bays.
 - The **Llŷn Heritage Coast** encompasses 88km of the north, west and southern coastlines from Aberdesach in the north to Machroes in the south, to include the small islands which lie off the coast.

26 <http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/historicenvironment/protection/worldheritage/cstlsedward1/?lang=en>

Anglesey and Gwynedd Special Landscape Areas

- 3.11 A number of areas within the Isle of Anglesey and Gwynedd are designated as Special Landscape Areas (SLAs) within the revised deposit LDP:
- 3.12 The Isle of Anglesey
- SLA 11 – Malltraeth Marsh and Surrounds
 - SLA 12 – Parciau Estatelands
 - SLA 13 – Parys Mountain and Slopes
 - SLA 14 – Mynydd Mechell and Surrounds
 - SLA 15 – Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale
 - SLA 16 – Southern Anglesey Estatelands
- 3.13 Gwynedd
- SLA 01 – Western Llŷn
 - SLA 02 – Porthmadog and Tremadog Bay
 - SLA 03 – Glaslyn and Dwyryd Estuary Landscapes
 - SLA 04 – Penllyn
 - SLA 05 – Corris
 - SLA 06 – Barmouth Bay
 - SLA 07 – North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia
 - SLA 08 – Foryd Bay
 - SLA 09 – Menai
 - SLA 10 – Bangor Mountain
- 3.14 The purpose of this regional designation is to ensure that the character of these areas is not altered by inappropriate forms of development and that features which contribute to local distinctiveness are conserved.

Eryri Local Development Plan (ELDP) Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2)

- 3.15 *'Areas of Natural Beauty, as defined under Section 3 of the Wildlife and Countryside Amendment Act 1985, have been identified on the [LDP] Proposals Map. These areas often coincide with area of open country (as defined and mapped under CRow Act 2000) and within areas of nature conservation importance. They include extensive tracts of unenclosed uplands, heather moorland and semi natural mountain grassland. The [National Park] Authority expects prospective developers to recognise their sensitivity and value and to prove that any development will not adversely affect their character or amenity.'* (Paragraph 3.9)

ELDP Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2)

- 3.16 *'...small areas of Snowdonia's coastline can be described as having a largely unspoilt character. These are identified on the Proposals map as the Undeveloped Coast. They are broadly coterminous with the coastal features identified by Section 3 of the Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Act 1985 in that they are 'areas of, cliff or foreshore (including any bank, barrier, beach, flat or other land adjacent to the foreshore), the natural beauty of which the Authority considers is particularly important to conserve. In addition areas of coastal heath on cliffs and former cliffs have been included south of Llwyngwrl along with the small enclosed fields which are characteristic of this area.'* (Paragraph 3.7)

Open Access Land

- 3.17 In May 2005 the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRow) came into force, clearly identifying open access land (open country and/or common land) in Wales. One fifth of Wales is mapped as 'access land' where the public have a right of access on foot.²⁷ A large proportion of land within the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park is mapped as Open Access Land.

27 <http://www.ccg.gov.uk/enjoying-the-country/open-access-land.aspx>

National Trails

- 3.18 National Trails in England and Wales** (formerly Long Distance Routes) are designated long distance footpaths and bridleways administered by Natural England and NRW. They are important for both local enjoyment of the countryside and for tourism. Development which can be seen from these paths therefore has the potential to affect this enjoyment.
- 3.19 The Wales Coast Path** was developed by the Welsh Government in partnership with NRW and is promoted as an important route for both local and visitor enjoyment of the Welsh coastline, thereby boosting the economy and public health. Therefore, whilst it is not technically a designated National Trail, it is very much viewed and promoted as such and has therefore been included within this study.

Registered Historic Landscapes (Wales)

- 3.20** The Historic Landscapes Register maintained by Cadw aims to help planners and developers introduce changes and new developments in ways that will cause the least harm to the historic character of the land. Inclusion in the Register does not confer statutory protection – but it does help highlight the cultural heritage importance of some parts of the landscape.
- 3.21** The Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park partially or fully contains a number of Registered Historic Landscapes which are described within the Register as follows:
- **Aberglaslyn** – ‘A man-made landscape occupying a reclaimed river estuary situated in south Snowdonia, the whole conceived as one man’s grand scheme, probably the most ambitious of its kind in 19th century Britain.’
 - **Amlwch a Mynydd Parys (Amlwch and Parys Mountain)** - ‘An unparalleled, internationally important and visually highly striking landscape situated on Parys Mountain in north east Anglesey, comprising huge, mainly hand-dug, opencast, 18th to 19th centuries copper mines and waste tips, with an extensive attendant complex of processing features and structures superimposed on earlier workings dating from the prehistoric and possibly Roman and medieval periods.’
 - **Ardudwy** – ‘A large, exceptionally archaeologically rich and well-studied landscape situated on the western flanks of the Rhinog Mountains, containing extensive relict evidence of recurrent land use and settlement from prehistoric to recent times.’
 - **Blaenau Ffestiniog** – ‘The foremost slate mining and quarrying landscape in Wales, sited in an elevated natural basin and its tributary valleys in south Snowdonia, containing an undisputed wealth of industrial archaeological remains comprising visually imposing and extensive slate quarry and mine workings, waste tips, associated buildings, transport systems and settlements dating from the late 18th to the early 20th centuries.’
 - **Bro Dolgellau (Vale of Dolgellau)** – ‘A natural basin at the confluence of two valleys situated between Cader Idris, the Arenig and Rhinog Mountains, containing diverse evidence of land use and exploitation from the prehistoric, medieval and recent periods.’
 - **Bro Trawsfynydd a Chwm Prysor (Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor)** – ‘A natural upland basin and tributary valley, adjoining the east side of the Rhinog Mountains to the south of Snowdonia, containing well-preserved evidence of communications and recurrent military use from Roman to recent times.’
 - **Creuddyn & Conwy (Creuddyn a Chonwy)** - ‘This mainly coastal landscape, comprising the Great and Little Orme’s Heads and the lower part of the Conwy Estuary and its hinterland in north Snowdonia, contains evidence of highly diverse land use and settlement from the early prehistoric period to the present’.
 - **Dinorwig** – ‘A low coastal plateau and adjoining glaciated valley situated on the north west side of Snowdon, containing evidence of land use and settlement from the prehistoric period onwards, superimposed by recent extensive and outstanding remains of the 19th and 20th centuries slate industry.’
 - **Dyffryn Dysynni (Dysynni Valley)** – ‘The picturesque Dysynni Valley to the south west of the Cader Idris range in south Gwynedd contains diverse evidence of human occupation and activity from the prehistoric period to the recent past.’
 - **Dyffryn Nantlle (Nantlle Valley)** – ‘A glaciated valley situated on the west side of the Snowdonian massif, having contrasting evidence of relict prehistoric and later land use, superimposed by the 19th and 20th centuries remains of the large-scale industrial exploitation of slate.’

- **Dyffryn Ogwen (Ogwen Valley)** – ‘The classic glaciated valley in north Snowdonia, containing contrasting evidence of prehistoric and later land use, superimposed by the extensive and visually dramatic remains of the recent and continuing industrial exploitation of slate.’
- **Gogledd Arllechwedd (North Arllechwedd)** - ‘A dissected, mainly upland, area situated on the northern flanks of the Carneddau ridge in north Snowdonia, containing well-preserved relict evidence of recurrent land use and settlement from the prehistoric to medieval and later periods.’
- **Llyn Ac Ynys Enlli (Lleyn and Bardsey Island)** – ‘Lleyn is a large and topographically varied peninsula lying to the south west of Snowdonia, with composite, yet highly integrated and well-preserved evidence of land use, showing continuity and territorial unity possibly from prehistoric times.’
- **Mawddach** – ‘A river estuary and surrounding coastal slopes situated to the west of Cader Idris in south Gwynedd, containing extensive relict evidence of diverse land use and activity from prehistoric and later periods.’
- **Pen Isaf Dyffryn Conwy (Lower Conwy Valley)** - ‘A topographically diverse landscape, straddling the lower Conwy valley and adjacent uplands on the north eastern flanks of the Carneddau ridge in north Snowdonia, containing extensive and well-preserved relict evidence of land use, communications and defence from the prehistoric period onwards.’
- **Penmon** - ‘A coastal plateau, promontory and small island situated in south east Anglesey, showing continuity of land use and activity from the late prehistoric period to the recent past.’
- **Y Bala a Glannau Tegid (Bala and Bala Lakesides)** – ‘The upper Dee valley provides a natural and historically strategic and important route corridor across North Wales, the area identified here being centred on Bala Lake and its immediate catchment, where there is a succession and concentration of defensive sites and settlements from the Roman and medieval periods.’

Registered Parks and Gardens

- 3.22 A large number of Registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales are found within the study area. Although not protected by statutory designation they are nationally valued as they form an important and integral part of the historic and cultural fabric of Wales.

Protected Landscapes (Statutory and Non-Statutory) Outside the Study Area

Areas of Outstanding Beauty

- 3.23 The Cynwyd and Llandrillo AOB (formerly Berwyn Mountains AOB revised March 2013) lies just outside the study area to the south east. The aim of this non-statutory designation is to protect the Berwyn Mountains, in recognition of its nationally important landscape value.

An Overview of Operational and Consented Developments

- 3.24 The following figures and accompanying tables A9.01 – A9.05 (within Appendix 9) identify and illustrate the development baseline for this study as at the end of March 2014.
- Figure 2.1 - Operational and consented wind energy developments shown within the study area and 35 km buffer; including existing and proposed offshore wind energy developments.
 - Figure 2.2 - Operational and consented field-scale solar PV energy developments shown within the study area and 5 km buffer.
 - Figure 2.3 - Operational and consented 400 kV overhead line developments shown within the study area and 10 km buffer.
 - Figure 2.4 - Operational and consented mobile mast developments shown within the study area and 10 km buffer.
 - Figure 2.5 - Operational and consented static caravan/chalet park developments shown within the study area and 5 km buffer.
- 3.25 The data used to compile Tables A9.01 – A9.05 and Figures 2.1 to 2.5, was provided and confirmed by the Steering Group.
- 3.26 All of the operational developments were considered as part of the baseline for the sensitivity assessments of the LCAs.

- 3.27 For the purposes of developing landscape strategies and considering capacity within each of the LCAs, all of the consented developments were assumed to have been built and as such were considered as part of the baseline, together with operational developments.

Operational and Consented Wind Energy Developments

- 3.28 The highest concentrations of wind energy developments within the study area for wind energy developments are found to the north of the Isle of Anglesey where there are currently three wind farms in operation together with a number of single and double wind turbine developments of various heights (some up to 92.5 m to blade tip). There are a number of mainly domestic, micro and small scale developments scattered throughout Gwynedd; however there is one large development (Braich Ddu) located on the eastern edge of LCA G12. There are very few domestic and micro developments within the National Park.
- 3.29 There are several notable areas of wind energy development outside the study area; these are as follows:
- The first is to the north east of LCA S07 in and around Moel Maelogen wind farm to the east of Llanrwst in Conwy; these turbines are visible from parts of Snowdonia National Park.
 - The second is a cluster of micro to medium scale wind energy developments just north of LCA G12, to the south of Cerrigydrudion in Conwy.
 - The third comprises the wind farms associated with SSA A (Clogaenog Forest), which lies within 15 km of the study area to the east. This location, together with that identified to the north of Anglesey represents the densest cluster of wind energy developments within the study area and buffer. Some of the turbines are visible from parts of Snowdonia National Park.
 - The fourth comprises the wind farms associated with SSA B (Carno North), which roughly lies within 20 km of the study area. Some of the turbines are visible from parts of Snowdonia National Park.
- 3.30 In some areas (in particular to the north of Anglesey), the presence of existing wind energy developments as an existing feature in the landscape, somewhat reduces the sensitivity of the landscape to that particular type of development. However, the capacity for new development has to be carefully considered to avoid the occurrence of cumulative landscape and visual effects.

Operational and Consented Field Scale Solar PV Energy Developments

- 3.31 There is currently only one operational development within the study area for field scale solar PV energy developments. This is in Gwynedd (within the car park at Penrhyn Castle in LCA G01). There are none within the study area buffer.
- 3.32 One very large development has been consented to the north east of LCA A16 in the Isle of Anglesey and a further micro scale development consented in LDA G07 on the Llŷn Peninsula in Gwynedd.

Operational and Consented Mobile Mast Developments

- 3.33 Operational and consented mobile mast, telecommunication infrastructure developments are dispersed throughout the study area for mobile mast developments (the study area encompasses the National Park) but these are typically focussed along major road networks and settlements. There are more notable concentrations around Betws-y-Coed to the north east and Dolgellau to the south.
- 3.34 As well as the traditional lattice and monopole style mobile masts there are also a number of camouflaged masts concentrated along the coastline and to the south of the National Park.

Operational and Consented 400 kV Overhead Line Developments

- 3.35 There are several existing 400 kV lines within the study area for 400 kV overhead lines.
- 3.36 There is just one existing 400 kV overhead line in the Isle of Anglesey itself, running from Wylfa power station on the north coast down past Llafairpwllgwyngyll and across the Menai Strait to a substation near Pentir in Gwynedd. The other 400 kV overhead line within the study area passes through the north of the National Park and Gwynedd (roughly running parallel to the coastline offset from 2 to 6 km).

- 3.37 In addition to the 400 kV overhead lines within the study area and buffer, there are several lower voltage overhead pylon lines which influence the landscape in places.

Operational and Consented Static Caravan/Chalet Park Developments

- 3.38 Operational and consented caravan/chalet park developments are typically located along the coastlines of the study area (encompassing all of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia).
- On Anglesey, these developments are concentrated on the east and west coastlines. To the east, often large to very large caravan/chalet parks can be found inland of the popular sandy beaches of Traeth-coch and Traeth Lligwy. To the west, such developments (again often large to very large) are located in proximity to Trearddur Bay and Rhosneigr.
 - Within Gwynedd, the Llŷn Peninsula has large numbers of caravan/chalet park developments, particularly along its south coast and clustered around the settlements and beaches of Abersoch, Llanbedrog and Porthmadog. The LCA of G07 has a particularly high concentration (over 50), a significant proportion of which are classified as large to very large and therefore creating a notable presence within the LCA. Further south and along the west coast of Gwynedd, the developments become a little more dispersed, with clusters to be found at Abermaw and Tywyn. Again, a significant proportion of these are classified as large to very large.
 - Within Snowdonia, smaller clusters, but frequently of a large to very large size, are found along the coast, particularly close to Harlech and Coed Ystumgwern. Inland, groups of smaller developments can be found along the banks of the Afon Dysynni at Bryncrug and along the Afon Wnion at Dolgellau. Further clusters can be found at Llŷn Tegid and again at the popular tourist destination of Betws-y-coed.
- 3.39 Outside of the study area, operational and consented caravan/chalet park developments tend to be concentrated to the south along the Afon Dyfi and to the north east of the study area on the banks of the Afon Conwy, with larger clusters to be found close to the popular tourist towns of Conwy and Llanrwst.
- 3.40 **It is recommended that the Councils maintain a 'live' register of all development applications and consents in the future; similar to the tables within Appendix 9 and Figures 2.1 to 2.5. This information will assist the decision making process when processing applications for new renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments, in particular when considering the indicative capacities identified for each of the LCAs.**

SECTION 4: EVALUATION OF LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY AND FORMULATION OF STRATEGIES

- 4.1 A total of 59 landscape character areas (LCAs) were identified across the study area (as illustrated in Figure 3 and Appendix 8). These LCAs are listed below in Table 4.01 together with an overall evaluation of their landscape and visual sensitivity in relation to wind energy, field-scale solar PV energy, 400 kV overhead line, mobile masts and static caravan/chalet park developments. The overall sensitivity evaluations are illustrated in Figures 6.1 – 6.5.

Key to Sensitivity

Very High	High	Medium-High	Medium	Low-Medium	Low	Development Type Not Applicable
VH	H	M-H	M	L-M	L	

Table 4.01: Summary of Sensitivity

Landscape Character Area		Assessed Sensitivity					Page no.
Ref	Name	Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
ANGELSEY							
A01	Holyhead Mountain	VH	VH	VH		VH	60
A02	Holy Island	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	70
A03	Inland Sea	H	H	H		H	82
A04	North West Coast	VH	VH	VH		VH	92
A05	North West Anglesey	M	M	M		M	102
A06	Amlwch and Environs	M	M	M		M	116
A07	Parys Mountain	H	H	H		H	126
A08	Dulas Bay Hinterland	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	134
A09	Red Wharf Bay	M-H	M	M-H		M	146
A10	Penmon and Puffin Island	H	H	H		H	158
A11	Eastern Menai Strait	H	M-H	H		M-H	168
A12	East Central Anglesey	M-H	M	M-H		M	180
A13	Western Menai Strait	H	H	H		H	192
A14	Newborough	H	H	H		H	202
A15	Afon Cefni	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	212
A16	Aberffraw	M-H	M	M-H		M	224
A17	West Central Anglesey	M	L-M	M		L-M	236
A18	Valley Airfield Environs	M	M	M		M	248
GWYNEDD							
G01	Bangor Coastal Plain	M-H	M	M-H		M	260
G02	Penisarwaun Plateau	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	272
G03	Llanberis - Bethesda	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	282
G04	Caernarfon - Coast & Plateau	M-H	M	M-H		M	294
G05	Snowdon Massif	M-H	M-H	M-H		M-H	306
G06	Llŷn North Coast	VH	VH			VH	316
G07	Western Llŷn	H	H			H	324
G08	Pwllheli - Criccieth Coast	M-H	M			M	334
G09	Porthmadog	H	M-H			M-H	342
G10	Central Llŷn	M-H	M			M	352

Landscape Character Area		Assessed Sensitivity					Page no.
Ref	Name	Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks	
G11	Blaenau Ffestiniog	M-H				M	362
G12	Llandderfel	M-H	M-H			M-H	370
G13	Barmouth	M-H				M-H	378
G14	Corris	M-H				M-H	386
G15	Tywyn	M-H				M	392
G16	Menai Coast	M-H	M	M-H		M	400
SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK							
S01	Ucheldir y Gogledd	VH			VH	VH	410
S02	Y Carneddau	VH			VH	VH	420
S03	Yr Wyddfa a'r Glyderau	VH			VH	VH	428
S04	Moel Hebog	VH			VH	VH	436
S05	Y Moelwynion	VH			VH	VH	444
S06	Coedwig Gwydyr	M-H			M-H	M-H	452
S07	Dyffryn Conwy	H			H	H	460
S08	Dyffryn Y Ddwryd	M-H			M-H	M-H	468
S09	Y Mignient	VH			VH	VH	476
S10	Morfa Harlech	H			H	H	484
S11	Morfa Dyffryn	M-H			M-H	M-H	494
S12	Cefnwlod Arfordir Arudwy	M-H			M-H	M-H	502
S13	Y Rhinogau	VH			VH	VH	510
S14	Dyffrynnoedd Mawddach a'r Wnion	M-H			M-H	M-H	518
S15	Yr Arenig	VH			VH	VH	528
S16	Llyn Tegid A Dyffryn Dyfrdwy	M-H			M-H	M-H	536
S17	Aber Y Fawddach	H			H	H	544
S18	Mynyddoedd Yr Aran	VH			VH	VH	552
S19	Coedwig Penllyn	H			H	H	560
S20	Cadair Idris	VH			VH	VH	568
S21	Pen Dyffryn Dyfi	VH			VH	VH	576
S22	Coedwig Dyfi	H			H	H	584
S23	Dyffryn Dysynni	H			H	H	592
S24	Y Tarrenau	VH			VH	VH	602
S25	Aber y Ddyfi	H			H	M-H	610

Approach to Evaluating Sensitivity of Landscape Character Areas

4.2 The following text (in addition to the methodology) describes the how the sensitivity evaluations have been approached and presented for each Landscape Character Area (LCA):

- A key plan and text describing location, extent and key characteristics are provided, as a brief introduction to each LCA.
- The evaluation of the sensitivity of each LCA in relation to each of the different developments is broken down into four overarching sensitivity criteria categories within a table, as follows:
 - Landscape
 - Visual
 - Aesthetical, Perceptual and Experiential
 - Value

- Detailed criteria are included within each of these overarching categories and evaluations of sensitivity (lower, medium and higher) are made against each of these respectively.
- LANDMAP²⁸ has been used as a tool for assisting the evaluations of sensitivity as outlined in Tables 2.03 – 2.07 of the methodology (Section 2). The text shown in *grey italics* within the 'Characteristics of the LCA' column represents LANDMAP evaluations specific to each LCA. For example *VS4: Levels / Hills/Valleys* _(52%) denotes visual and sensory LANDMAP evaluations of topographic form. The percentage number in brackets represents the approximate coverage of the LANDMAP evaluation in relation to the LCA and the underlined text signifies the evaluation(s) which geographically cover the majority of the LCA.
- In addition to the LANDMAP evaluations a wide range of data sources have been drawn upon to reinforce / build upon the initial LANDMAP evaluations. These data sources are identified in the methodology Tables 2.03 – 2.07 (Section 2).
- Site visits have also been made to verify the evaluations.
- The text shown in black represents the key findings of LANDMAP backed up by additional data source research and site visits; text highlighted in bold indicates the main findings that have informed the assessed sensitivity of each criterion.
- A summary of overall sensitivity to each of the different developments is included at the end of each table.

4.2 It is important to note that the overall sensitivity evaluation of each LCA is not based on any mathematical formula (for example - adding up the individual lower, moderate and higher scores and dividing by the total) but on the professional judgements of two chartered landscape architects through a balanced assessment of all the characteristics which takes into consideration the key criteria and the weight of evidence in relation to sensitivity. As explained in the methodology the overall assessment of sensitivity has been made using a more detailed six point sensitivity scale, low, low-medium, medium, medium-high, high and very-high.

Approach to the Formulation of Strategies for Development within Each Landscape Character Area

4.3 The following text describes the how the landscape strategy and guidance notes are presented for each LCA:

- The landscape strategy and guidance notes are presented in table format.
- Only the development types relevant to the particular LCA are included in the table (refer Figures 2.1 – 2.5 for study areas).
- The overall sensitivity assessment for each development considered is included at the start of the table.
- This is followed by a summary of operational and consented development as at the end of March 2014 (described in accordance with the development typologies outlined in Tables 2.08 – 2.11 in Section 2).
- The landscape strategy for the area is then set out and includes a description of the landscape objective(s) for the LCA in relation to each form of development, followed by an indication of the relative amounts and scales of development which might be accommodated (indicative overall capacity).
- The strategy and guidance table is then followed by a further table which sets out specific guidance notes regarding the design and siting of the different forms of development in relation to each LCA.

4.4 It is important to note that the strategy and guidance tables should be read together with the relevant sensitivity evaluation tables (including those for adjacent LCA's) to ensure a better understanding of the context of the landscape and identify key issues. This is particularly important when a proposed development is near to the boundary of and LCA and also for the taller vertical developments (wind turbines, 400 kV overhead lines and mobile masts) as their visual influence may extend over some distance.

28 The LANDMAP data sources relevant to this study area are illustrated on plans of the study area which are contained on a CD within Appendix 6 for reference.

A01 Holyhead Mountain



1:25,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is located on Holy Island to the far north west of the Isle of Anglesey and comprises Holyhead Mountain; the highest point on the Isle of Anglesey.

Key Characteristics

- Vast scale, exposed landscape
- Rocky coastal landscape
- Distinctive rocky moorland and peak of Holyhead Mountain with South Stack Lighthouse

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a vast scale landscape. VS8: Medium (26%)/ Large (22%)/ <u>Vast</u> (52%)	↓		↓		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Much of this LCA comprises unenclosed upland. However where fields exist these are generally medium scale and in a regular pattern with generally stone wall field boundaries. VS7: <u>Stone walls</u> (52%)/ Mixture (24%)/ None (24%) VS8: Medium (26%)/ Large (22%)/ <u>Vast</u> (52%)		↑			
	Landform	Distinctive rounded profile with the cliffs and headland of North and South Stacks being well known landmarks. The rocky Holyhead Mountain forms the highest point on the Isle of Anglesey. VS Classification Level 2: Coastal/ (24%)/ <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (52%)/Rolling Lowland (24%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (52%)/ Rolling/Undulating (24%)/ Hills/ Valleys (22%)	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Landcover pattern comprises predominately open rocky moorland and scarp slopes with pastoral fields to the south.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Cliffs & Cliff Tops (22%)/ Hillside & Scarp Slopes (52%)/ Mosaic Rolling Lowland (24%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (52%)/ Field Pattern/ Mosaic (24%)/ Mixture (22%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Man-made Influences	<p>The few settlements are focused alongside minor roads leaving much of the landscape undeveloped. Tourist car parks locally exert man-made influence over the landscape whilst the historic South Stack Lighthouse is an important man-made landmark.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Linear</u> (52%)/ Scattered Rural/Farm (24%)/ No Settlements (24%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Good</u> (52%)/ Unassessed (48%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Settlement Pattern	<p>There are few houses and farmsteads focused mainly alongside minor roads</p> <p>VS6: <u>Linear</u> (52%)/ Scattered Rural/Farm (24%)/ No Settlements (24%)</p>			↓		
Skylines and Settings	<p>Holyhead Mountain is a prominent and distinctive landmark visible from many parts of western Isle of Anglesey and from boats approaching Holyhead from Ireland. Peaks, cliffs and headlands along the coastline also create dramatic skylines in views to and from the LCA.</p>	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	<p>Occasional/infrequent traffic on the limited local road network brings some movement into this otherwise tranquil landscape.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (52%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (48%)</p>	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views are typically open and exposed within this LCA. Broad and dramatic coastal vistas include that of the South Stack lighthouse which is a focal point along the coast.</p> <p>Distant views are afforded in particular from Holyhead Mountain across to Snowdonia in the east and the Llŷn Peninsula on the southern seaward horizon.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Open</u> (48%) / <u>Exposed</u> (52%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Isolated properties ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ The Wales Coast Path long distance route ▪ Visitor attractions including the South Stack lighthouse, RSPB Seabird Centre and Breakwater Country Park ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ Ferries and boats ▪ The local road network 	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn AONB ▪ Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast ▪ The Great Breakwater and Holyhead Mountain Village Conservation Area ▪ South Stack Lighthouse ▪ Breakwater Country Park ▪ Hillfort 	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally considered good with some areas having high to outstanding integrity.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Good</u> (52%) / Unassessed (48%)</p> <p>VS47: Outstanding (22%) / <u>High</u> (54%) / Moderate (24%)</p>			↑		
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: Strong (100%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>Outstanding</u> (52%) / High (26%) / Unassessed (22%)</p> <p>VS47: Outstanding (22%) / <u>High</u> (54%) / Moderate (24%)</p> <p>VS48: Outstanding (52%) / High (48%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>The vast and exposed nature of the LCA give a sense strong of remoteness and tranquillity in particular along the coast. This is heightened by a distinct contrast with the nearby busy port town of Holyhead.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Threatening; Remote;</u> (52%) / Noisy; Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Wild; Smell; (24%) / Tranquil; Smell; Attractive; Noisy; Settled; Spiritual (24%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value</p> <p>(including landscape related features)</p>	<p>The LCA lies almost entirely within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Land.</p> <p>Much of the LCA coastline is defined as Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along the north, west and southern boundary of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Outstanding</u> (74%)/ <u>High</u> (26%)/</p> <p>VS49: <u>Outstanding</u> (74%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (26%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>Outstanding</u> (71%)/ <u>Low</u> (28%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (28%)/ <u>High</u> (71%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (8%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (92%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (8%)/ <u>High</u> (92%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Historic Value</p>	<p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>HL38: <u>Moderate</u> (100%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types²⁹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	The natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, remote and tranquil coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB. The sensitivity is further enhanced by intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes and by its cultural heritage value. When combined with some sensitive visual receptors and the presence of the prominent and distinctive landform of Holyhead Mountain the overall sensitivity of this landscape to wind energy development is considered very high.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of limited/very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	The natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, remote and tranquil coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB. The rugged coastline, prominent landform of Holyhead Mountain and exposed nature of the LCA further increase sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development and the prevalence of unenclosed upland and stone wall boundaries reduces the opportunity for localised screening.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments within this LCA.

²⁹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	The natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, remote and tranquil coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB. The sensitivity is further enhanced by intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes and by its cultural heritage value. When combined with some sensitive visual receptors and the presence of the prominent and distinctive landform of Holyhead Mountain the overall sensitivity of this landscape to a 400 kV overhead line is considered very high.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented 400 kV overhead line developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments within this LCA.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	The natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, remote and tranquil coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB. The rugged coastline, prominent landform of Holyhead Mountain and exposed nature of the LCA further increase sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development and the prevalence of unenclosed upland and stone wall boundaries reduces the opportunity for localised screening.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments within this LCA.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓			
Conserve the natural beauty and undeveloped characteristics of Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast.	✓			
Views towards the rugged outcrops of Holyhead Mountain are locally distinctive and should be preserved.	✓			
Avoid siting any development within the sight lines of key views, particularly out to sea.	✓			
Vertical developments should not interrupt the open skylines or diminish the scale of the cliffs and rocky outcrops along the coastline.	✓			
Protect the settings and key views to and from focal points such as South Stack lighthouse.	✓			
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coastal Path and local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓			
Site small scale wind energy development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the wider landscape and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓			
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓			

Location and Extent

This LCA is located on Holy Island to the far north west of the Isle of Anglesey and comprises the largest settlement on the Isle of Anglesey (the port town of Holyhead).

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, coastal landscape
- Typically rolling lowland bounded by coast to north/south
- Holyhead port is an important urban/industrial centre

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (93%)/ <u>Large</u> (7%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Much of this LCA comprises open land; however where fields exist these are generally small to medium scale, in a regular pattern with a mixture of field boundaries . VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (89%)/ <u>None</u> (7%) VS8: <u>Medium</u> (93%)/ <u>Large</u> (7%)		-			
	Landform	Typically rolling lowland bounded by coast to north/south. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Built Land</u> (23%)/ <u>Coastal</u> (7%)/ <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (68%) VS4: <u>Levels</u> (14%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (86%)	↓	↓	↓		↓
	Landcover	With the exception of the urban land uses associated with Holyhead and Trearddur, land cover comprises a mosaic of agricultural fields and open	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>craggy ridges interspersed with dispersed settlements. Tree cover is sparse in this LCA.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Dispersed Settlement (8%)/ Intertidal (7%) / <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (68%)/ Urban (15%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (69%)/ Development (21%) / Water (9%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>The LCA is heavily influenced by modern developments primarily associated with the port town of Holyhead and Trearddur village, the established road network (A5, A55, and B4545) and Chester to Holyhead railway line. Modern development includes mobile masts concentrated around Holyhead and a number of static caravan/chalet parks located along the south western coastline.</p> <p>Outside the development corridor, scattered rural farms and a network of minor roads exert a lesser man-made influence.</p> <p>VS6: Urban (13%)/ <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (68%)/ No Settlements (7%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓
Settlement Pattern	<p>Settlement is concentrated around Holyhead and Trearddur. Settlements elsewhere typically include small villages and dispersed farmsteads.</p> <p>VS6: Urban (13%)/ <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (68%)/ No Settlements (7%)</p>			-		
Skylines and Settings	<p>The industrial Anglesey Aluminium chimney stack (137m high) is visible from much of western Isle of Anglesey and exerts a conspicuous man-made influence on the skyline.</p> <p>Skylines inland within the LCA are not particularly prominent; however, cliffs and rocky outcrops along the coastline create some dramatic settings and</p>	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>skylines. In adjacent LCA A01 the distinctive, rocky landform of Holyhead Mountain provides a backdrop to this landscape. The South Stack Lighthouse is also visible on the skyline from areas along the south western coastline.</p>					
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>There is a concentration of constant movement along the main road networks and within the settlements. Outside the road corridors and Holyhead-Trearddur development corridor, infrequent traffic introduces some movement into the otherwise relatively still landscape.</p> <p>VS18: Constant (18%) / Frequent (6%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (76%)</p>					
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA.</p> <p>Landform rises in a north westerly direction towards Holyhead Mountain which provides a prominent landmark and backdrop to views from this LCA. Long distance views are also afforded across Caernarfon Bay to the Llŷn Peninsula and to Snowdonia.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed (10%) / <u>Open</u> (90%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numerous properties (mainly within Holyhead/Trearddur and with scattered settlements) ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans North Wales Coast cycle route (NCN route 5) and national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions including South Stack Lighthouse, RSPB Seabird Centre and Breakwater Country Park ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A5 and A55 tourist routes and Chester to Holyhead Railway 	↑	↑	↑	↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ferries and boats The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Anglesey Coast AONB (including Holyhead Mountain) Llŷn AONB Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast Hillfort 	↑		↑		
Condition	The integrity of the landscape is moderate . Although the condition of the landscape is currently unassessed by LANDMAP the outcome of surveys on site suggest landscape condition is generally fair . VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) VS47: High (5%) / <u>Moderate</u> (73%) / Low (21%)			-		
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically High LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: <u>Strong</u> (98%) VS46: <u>High</u> (74%) / Moderate (14%) / Low (12%) VS47: High (5%) / <u>Moderate</u> (73%) / Low (21%) VS48: High (98%)	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity The influence of Holyhead, other settlements and the busy road network give a sense of activity and movement to much of this landscape thus greatly reducing tranquillity. In contrast, away from these influences, particularly to the south west at South	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Stack Cliffs Nature Reserve, the sense of remoteness and tranquillity increases.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil</u>; <u>Smell</u>; <u>Attractive</u>; <u>Noisy</u>; <u>Settled</u>; <u>Spiritual</u> (68%)/ <u>Noisy</u>; <u>Safe</u>; <u>Settled</u>; <u>Attractive</u>; <u>Unattractive</u> (8%)</p>					

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>Much of this LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Sustrans national cycle routes North Wales Coast (NCN route 5) and Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8).</p> <p>A section of the north west coastline is defined as Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along much of the boundary of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (77%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (18%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (92%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>Outstanding</u> (15%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (50%)/ <u>Low</u> (33%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (13%)/ <u>High</u> (15%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (49%)/ <u>Low</u> (22%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (10%)/ <u>High</u> (5%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (55%)/ <u>Low</u> (30%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (10%)/ <u>High</u> (15%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (60%)/ <u>Low</u> (15%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑	
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (21%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (79%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (44%)/ <u>High</u> (30%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (27%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (44%)/ <u>High</u> (41%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (16%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑	

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³⁰ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium -High	<p>This medium scale, rolling coastal landscape is in part characterised by development and transport corridors, which lessen the sensitivity of the landscape, in particular to the north. Sensitivity is further reduced by the presence of a number of masts and the Anglesey Aluminium chimney stack which is a prominent man-made skyline feature.</p> <p>The natural characteristics of the more sparsely settled, tranquil coastal landscape (outside the Holyhead- Trearddur development corridor) impart a higher degree of sensitivity and have resulted in parts of this LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. Sensitivity in these areas is further enhanced by intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes and areas of cultural heritage value.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and are outside the AONB.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB, and areas that contribute to its setting, there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside the AONB there may be some capacity for micro scale developments where these relate well to the existing built environment. These could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip.</p> <p>In all cases development should avoid the undeveloped coastal edge and its immediate setting and should be clearly separated so that their effects remain local and there is no collective/cumulative defining influence on the landscape.</p>

³⁰ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium -High	<p>This medium scale, rolling coastal landscape is in part characterised by development and transport corridors, which lessen the sensitivity of the landscape to field-scale solar PV energy developments, in particular to the north. Although much of this LCA comprises open craggy ridges, where fields exist a mixture of field boundaries introduces the possibility of increasing vegetation height to provide further localised screening.</p> <p>The reduced sensitivity is outweighed by the natural characteristics of the more sparsely settled, tranquil coastal landscape (outside the Holyhead-Trearddur development corridor) which imparts a higher degree of sensitivity and has resulted in parts of this LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. Sensitivity in these areas is further enhanced by intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes such as Holyhead Mountain and areas of cultural heritage value.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and are outside the AONB.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB, and areas that contribute to its setting, there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB there may be limited capacity for well sited micro scale developments, in particular where these relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p> <p>In all cases development should avoid the undeveloped coastal edge and its immediate setting and should be clearly separated so that their effects remain local and there is no collective/cumulative defining influence on the landscape.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium -High	<p>This medium scale, rolling coastal landscape is in part characterised by development and transport corridors, which lessen the sensitivity of the landscape to a 400 kV overhead line development, in particular to the north. Sensitivity is further reduced by the presence of a number of masts and the Anglesey Aluminium chimney stack which is a prominent man-made feature.</p> <p>The natural characteristics of the more sparsely settled, tranquil coastal landscape (outside the Holyhead- Trearddur development corridor) impart a higher degree of sensitivity and have resulted in parts of this LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. Sensitivity in these areas is further enhanced by the lack of tree cover and openness of this landscape and intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes and areas of cultural heritage value.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and are outside the AONB.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented 400 kV overhead line developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Typically no, or very limited capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments.</p> <p>In all cases development should avoid the AONB and in particular the undeveloped coastal edge and its immediate setting.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium -High	<p>This medium scale, rolling coastal landscape is in part characterised by development and transport corridors, which lessen the sensitivity of the landscape to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions, particularly to the north around Holyhead and where there are a number of existing static caravan/chalet parks along the south west coast and around Trearddur Bay.</p> <p>The reduced sensitivity is counterbalanced by the natural characteristics of the more sparsely settled, tranquil coastal landscape (outside the Holyhead-Trearddur development corridor) which impart a higher degree of sensitivity and have resulted in parts of this LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. Sensitivity in these areas is further enhanced by limited tree cover and high intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes such as Holyhead Mountain and also the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and are outside the AONB.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large development - 3 no. large developments - 2 no. medium developments - 1 no. small development - 1 no. very small development <p>(development concentrated around Trearddur Bay and the south west coast)</p>
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB, and areas that contribute to its setting, there is typically no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>Outside the AONB there may be very limited capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions, typically comprising very infrequent, very small scale well sited developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p> <p>In all cases development should avoid the undeveloped coastal edge and its immediate setting and should be clearly separated so that their effects remain local and there is no collective/cumulative defining influence on the landscape.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 KV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the natural beauty and undeveloped characteristics of Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Views towards the rugged outcrops of Holyhead Mountain are locally distinctive and should be preserved.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development within the sight lines of key views, particularly out to sea.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vertical developments should not interrupt the open skylines or diminish the scale of the cliffs and rocky outcrops along the coastline.	✓		✓	
Consider the cumulative impact of vertical developments when viewed in combination with the Anglesey Aluminium tower, visible throughout much of the LCA.	✓		✓	
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly beauty and careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans North Wales Coast cycle route (NCN route 5), national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		✓	

Location and Extent

This LCA is located to the north west of the Isle of Anglesey and is part of a small island which is separated from the main island to the east by the Inland Sea (but linked by the Stanley Embankment Causeway and Four Mile Bridge).

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Typically coastal, distinctive estuarine character
- Stanley Embankment and Four Mile Bridge are major transportation links to the mainland

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: Small (22%) / <u>Medium</u> (76%) / Large (02%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Estuarine landscape with few fields. Where fields exist, these are generally medium scale, with a regular field pattern and mixture of boundaries. VS7: Mixture (29%) / <u>None</u> (69%) VS8: Small (22%) / <u>Medium</u> (76%)		-			
	Landform	Relatively flat estuarine/coastal landform with an area of rolling lowland to the south. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Coastal</u> / (62%) / Developed Unbuilt Land (5%) / Coastal Waters (8%) / Rolling Lowland (24%)	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS4: <u>Levels</u> (74%)/ Rolling/Undulating (26%)					
Landcover	<p>Landcover is predominately intertidal, open to the north and narrowing to the south creating a distinctive estuarine character. Inland areas are typified by a mosaic of pastoral fields, marshy areas and scrub/woodland.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Estuary (8%)/ <u>Intertidal</u> (62%) / Mosaic Rolling Lowland (22%)/ Mosaic Rolling Lowland (22%)</p> <p>VS5: Field Pattern/ Mosaic (24%)/ <u>Water</u> (70%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Man-made Influences	<p>This LCA is generally undeveloped being dominated by the intertidal Inland Sea. However, the Stanley Embankment transport corridor to the north together with Four Mile Bridge and the village of Four Mile Bridge to the south exert a degree of local man-made influence. As does the Anglesey Aluminium chimney stack which lies just outside this LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (24%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (72%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>Much of the LCA is unsettled with the exception of part of the small village of Four Mile Bridge and a few scattered farmsteads.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (24%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (72%)</p>			↓		
Skylines and Settings	<p>Holyhead Mountain in LCA A01 is a distinctive skyline feature to the north/west and provides a backdrop to this landscape. Expansive coastal views are afforded from the north of this LCA, interrupted in places by the Stanley Embankment and the industrial Anglesey Aluminium Chimney stack which is a conspicuous skyline feature in this LCA, and is visible from many parts of the Isle of Anglesey.</p>	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	<p>Movement is concentrated along the A55, A5 and B4545. Elsewhere infrequent traffic on the local road network together with boat users and water sport activities brings some movement into the otherwise relatively tranquil landscape.</p> <p>VS18: Occasional (11%)/ <u>Infrequent</u> (57%)/ Rare (30%)</p>	-				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views are typically open within this LCA. There are strong visual links with Holyhead Mountain and the Inland Sea. Expansive coastal views are afforded from the north of this LCA as are views to the Llŷn Peninsula to the south.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed (30%)/ <u>Open</u> (70%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clustered properties in the village of Four Miles and a few isolated properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans North Wales Coast Cycle Route (NCN route 5) and national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ The A5 and A55 tourist routes and Chester to Holyhead Railway ▪ The local road network and bridges ▪ Water sport and boats 	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn AONB 	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape Character Area)							
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP but site based assessment considered the condition to be fair to good.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: Outstanding (8%)/ High (44%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (46%)</p>						
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (75%)/ Moderate (25%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>High</u> (83%)/ Moderate (15%)</p> <p>VS47: Outstanding (8%)/ High (44%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (46%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>High</u> (75%)/ Moderate (25%)</p>		↑	↑	↑	↑	
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>The influence of the main roads locally detract from the perceived remoteness and tranquillity which is typical of much of this LCA. The neighbouring RAF Valley Airfield site also reduces perceived remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Noisy; Attractive; Tranquil; Sheltered</u> (22%)/ <u>Tranquil; Smell; Attractive; Noisy; Settled; Spiritual</u> (22%)/ <u>Noisy; Attractive; Tranquil; Sheltered; Threatening</u> (11%) / <u>Noisy; Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Wild; Smell</u> (9%)/ <u>Attractive; Tranquil; Safe; Wild; Smell; Sheltered</u> (8%)</p>		-	-	-	-	
<p>Landscape Value</p> <p>(including landscape related features)</p>	<p>This LCA lies entirely within Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Sustrans national cycle routes North Wales Coast (NCN route 5) and Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8).</p>		↑	↑	↑	↑	

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
		<p>The Wales Coast Path runs across the south of the LCA and again along its eastern boundary.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (91%) / Moderate (7%)</p> <p>VS49: Outstanding (22%) / High (19%) / <u>Moderate</u> (54%) / Low (5%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>High</u> (63%) / Moderate (36%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Moderate</u> (93%)</p> <p>GL31: High (30%) / Moderate (10%) / <u>Low</u> (60%)</p> <p>GL33: High (20%) / <u>Moderate</u> (80%)</p>					
Value	Historic Value	<p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: High (37%) / <u>Moderate</u> (62%)</p> <p>HL35: Outstanding (27%) / <u>High</u> (40%) / Moderate (33%)</p> <p>HL40: Outstanding (27%) / <u>High</u> (42%) / Moderate (31%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³¹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	The typically natural characteristics of this sparsely settled and tranquil coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB. This sensitivity is further enhanced by its intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes and by its cultural heritage value. When combined with some sensitive visual receptors overall sensitivity of this landscape to wind energy development is considered high.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	This typically medium scale, flat coastal landscape has relatively few visual receptors and the mix of field boundaries and blocks of vegetation increase opportunities for localised screening. However, the typically natural characteristics of this sparsely settled and tranquil coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB. When combined with cultural heritage value the overall sensitivity of this landscape to field-scale solar PV energy development is considered high.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments within this LCA.

³¹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	The typically natural characteristics of this sparsely settled and tranquil, flat coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB. This sensitivity is further enhanced by its intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes, a lack of opportunity to screen tall pylons and by the cultural heritage value of the landscape. When combined with some sensitive visual receptors overall sensitivity of this landscape to a 400 kV overhead development is considered high.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented 400 kV overhead line developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments within this LCA.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	This typically medium scale, flat coastal landscape has relatively few visual receptors and the mix of field boundaries and blocks of vegetation increase opportunities for localised screening. However, the character of this sparsely settled and tranquil coastal landscape imparts a high degree of sensitivity and has resulted in its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB. When combined with its cultural heritage value the overall sensitivity of this landscape to static caravan/chalet park development is considered high.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. very small development (on the northern boundary of this LCA- split between A03 and A04)
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments or extensions within this LCA.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Views towards the rugged outcrops of Holyhead Mountain are locally distinctive and should be preserved.	✓			
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓			
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, in particular along the Inland Sea.	✓			
Site small scale wind energy development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the wider landscape and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓			
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓			
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓			
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓			
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓			
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coastal Path, Sustrans national cycle routes North Wales Coast (NCN route 5) and Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff, Holyhead (NCN route 8) and local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓			

A04 North West Coast



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a relatively narrow coastal strip to the north of Anglesey from the Alaw estuary at Valley around the coast to the Bull Bay area.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Narrow, Rocky, Coastal
- Minor tracks/coastal paths.
- Wylfa nuclear power station

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: Small (17%) / <u>Medium</u> (48%) / Large (35%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally small to medium scale, irregular field pattern with a mixture of low field boundaries. VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (82%) / None (13%) VS8: Small (17%) / <u>Medium</u> (48%) / Large (35%)		↑			
	Landform	Rolling lowland coastal landscape with stretches of rocky coast and small headlands. VS Classification Level 2: Coastal (16%) / Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (31%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (49%) VS4: Levels (16%) / High Hills/Mountains (31%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (53%)	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Landcover is typified by a mosaic of fields interspersed with open rugged coastline. There is very little tree cover except for a relatively large coniferous plantation towards Carmel Head and a smaller plantation near Wylfa nuclear power station.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes (31%)/ Intertidal (16%)/ Mosaic Rolling Lowland (17%)/ <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (32%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern</u>/ <u>Mosaic</u> (49%)/ <u>Water</u> (16%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (31%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Man-made Influences	<p>Throughout much of this LCA, man-made influences are typically limited to the local road network and scattered isolated properties.</p> <p>Wylfa nuclear power station and its associated 400 kV overhead line have a significant localised influence on the landscape to the far north east of this area and a static caravan site has a localised influence in the south west.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (80%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (16%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Good</u> (33%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (67%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Settlement Pattern	<p>Settlement pattern is typified by a dispersed pattern of isolated rural properties.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (80%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (16%)</p>			↓		
Skylines and Settings	<p>Cliffs and rocky outcrops along the coastline create some dramatic settings and skylines. Holyhead Mountain is visible across the sea.</p> <p>To the south east Wylfa nuclear power station and associated 400 kV overhead line are conspicuous and locally dominating features, interrupting the skyline and some views along the coast.</p>	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	<p>Infrequent traffic along local roads brings some movement into this otherwise still landscape.</p> <p>VS18: Infrequent _(96%)</p>	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views are typically open and exposed along the coastline of this LCA.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed _(17%)/ <u>Open</u> _(52%)/ Exposed _(31%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties/farmsteads ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions such as the National Trust owned land around Carmel Head ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The local road network ▪ Ferries and boats 	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Anglesey AONB (including Holyhead Mountain) ▪ North Anglesey Heritage Coast ▪ Hillfort ▪ A Registered Park and Garden 	↑		↑		
	Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally considered good with high integrity.</p> <p>VS27: Good _(33%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> _(67%)</p>			↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS47: Outstanding (31%)/ High (47%)/ Moderate (17%)					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (55%)/ Moderate (25%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>High</u> (64%)/ Moderate (32%)</p> <p>VS47: Outstanding (31%)/ <u>High</u> (47%)/ Moderate (17%)</p> <p>VS48: High (52%)/ Moderate (45%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>A typical lack of development together with the exposed nature of this coastline imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>The presence of the Wylfa nuclear power station to the north east and relatively large static caravan park to the south west locally detract from perceived remoteness.</p> <p>VS24: Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Wild; Spiritual; Smell (31%)/ <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Noisy; Settled; Safe</u> (32%)/ Noisy; Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Wild; Smell (13%) / <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Settled; Safe; Sheltered; Exposed</u> (17%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Landscape Value</p> <p>(including landscape related features)</p> <p>Much of the LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566)</p> <p>Much of the LCA coastline is defined as North Anglesey Heritage Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along the entire length of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
		<p>VS50: <u>High</u> (61%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (32%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>High</u> (35%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (31%)/ <u>Low</u> (32%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>High</u> (14%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (50%)/ <u>Low</u> (34%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (50%)/ <u>High</u> (24%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (17%)/ <u>Low</u> (9%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>High</u> (42%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (38%)/ <u>Low</u> (20%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (5%)/ <u>High</u> (80%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (15%)</p>					
Value	Historic Value	<p>The essential setting of a Registered Park and Garden falls within the LCA.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>Unassessed</u> (31%)/ <u>High</u> (32%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (36%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (8%)/ <u>High</u> (56%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (36%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (15%)/ <u>High</u> (61%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (24%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³² (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	This medium scale, coastal landscape comprises a mosaic of fields interspersed with open rugged coastline which provide dramatic settings and skylines. The natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, tranquil and scenic landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in much of the LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. When combined with a high degree of intervisibility along the coastline together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape the overall sensitivity to wind energy development is considered high. However, the influence of the Wylfa nuclear power station to the north east and its associated 400 kV overhead line locally reduces sensitivity.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).</p> <p>In all cases development should avoid the open/undeveloped coastal edge and its immediate setting and should be clearly separated so that their effects remain local and there is no collective/cumulative defining influence on the landscape.</p>

³² NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	This medium scale, coastal landscape comprises an irregular mosaic of small to medium scale fields with a mixture of low field boundaries which limit opportunities for localised screening. This farmland is interspersed with areas of open rugged coastline which provide dramatic settings. The natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, tranquil and scenic landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in much of the LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. When combined with the cultural heritage value of the landscape the overall sensitivity of this landscape to field-scale solar PV energy development is considered high. However, the influence of the Wylfa nuclear power station to the north east and its associated 400 kV overhead line locally reduces sensitivity.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments within this LCA.

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	This medium scale, coastal landscape comprises a mosaic of fields interspersed with open rugged coastline which provide dramatic settings and skylines. The natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, tranquil and scenic landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in much of the LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. When combined with a high degree of intervisibility along the coastline together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape, the overall sensitivity to a 400 kV overhead line development is considered typically high. However, the influence of the Wylfa nuclear power station to the north east and its associated 400 kV overhead line locally reduces sensitivity.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. section of 400 kV overhead line associated with Wylfa to the far north east
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for further 400 kV overhead line developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This medium scale, coastal landscape comprises an irregular mosaic of small to medium scale fields with a mixture of low field boundaries which limit opportunities for localised screening. This farmland is interspersed with areas of open rugged coastline which provide dramatic settings. The natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, tranquil and scenic landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in much of the LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. When combined with the cultural heritage value of the landscape the overall sensitivity of this landscape to static caravan/chalet park development and extensions is considered high. However, the influence of an existing static caravan park to the south west of the LCA locally reduces sensitivity to this type of development as does the influence of the Wylfa nuclear power station and its associated 400 kV overhead line to the north east.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very small development (on the southern boundary of this LCA-split between A03 and A04) - 1 no. very large development (to the far south west of the LCA – split between A04 and A05)
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments or extensions within this LCA.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓			
Conserve the natural beauty and undeveloped characteristics of the North Anglesey Heritage Coast.	✓			
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, and within the sight lines of key views, in particular along the coast.	✓			
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓			
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓			
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓			
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓			
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects. In particular consider potential cumulative effects of any new development in combination with the Wylfa nuclear power station and associated 400 kV overhead line.	✓			
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coastal Path, Sustrans national cycle route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566) and local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓			
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓			
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		✓	

A05 North West Anglesey



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises the north west of Anglesey from Cemaes down to the A5/A55 corridor between Valley and Caergeiliog.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Extensive drumlin fields with scattered rocky outcrops
- Historic association with wind energy development from windmills to more recent wind turbine developments

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (92%)/ <u>Large</u> (5%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally medium to large scale fields . Typically regular field pattern with localised areas of irregular and more complex patterns to the north. Mixture of field boundaries . VS7: Stone walls (5%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (92%) VS8: <u>Medium</u> (92%)/ <u>Large</u> (5%)		-			
	Landform	Typically rolling and undulating landform . Extensive drumlin fields with scattered rocky outcrops VS Classification Level 2: Rolling Lowland (94%) VS4: Rolling/Undulating (95%)	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Landcover comprises a mosaic of mixed farmland, generally pastoral with some arable land. Several large lakes are also present, one of which is Llyn Alaw, the largest waterbody on Anglesey.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Mosaic Rolling Lowland (8%)/ <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (86%)</p> <p>VS5: Field Pattern/ Mosaic (93%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Man-made Influences	<p>Scattered rural farms exert a largely undeveloped rural character over much of this landscape. However, the presence of historic windmills, a number of isolated wind turbines and two wind farms highlight a historic relationship with wind energy developments. The presence of 132 kV and 400 kV overhead lines and telecommunication masts introduce additional modern vertical structures into the landscape. The Anglesey Aluminium chimney stack is also visible to the south west, and the A5/A55 corridor bisects the southern end of the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (96%)</p> <p>VS27: Unassessed (98%)</p>	↓	-	↓		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>Settlement predominately consists of a dispersed pattern of rural properties and properties within small villages such as Valley and Caergeiliog (to the south) and Cemaes (to the north) which are clustered and concentrated along the road network.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (96%)</p>			-		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Skylines and Settings	<p>Skylines within this LCA are relatively simple and sweeping punctuated in places by wind turbines/windmills, overhead lines and telecommunication infrastructure. The Anglesey Aluminium chimney stack is also visible from western parts of the LCA.</p> <p>Mynydd y Garn is a locally sensitive and distinctive landform visible in the north of the LCA.</p>	↓		↓		
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Relatively infrequent away from the settlements, roads, wind farms and turbines.</p> <p>VS18: Infrequent <small>(98%)</small></p>	-				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA. Coastal views are available from areas in the north and west.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed <small>(9%)</small> / <u>Open</u> <small>(89%)</small></p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties with some small clusters around the road network ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5), route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566) • Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A5 and A55 tourist routes ▪ The local road network ▪ Ferries and boats 	-	-	-	-	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds SLA ▪ North Anglesey Heritage Coast ▪ Hillfort ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens 	-		-		
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP; however the integrity of the landscape is assessed as high and site based assessment considered condition to be fair to good.</p> <p>VS27: Unassessed (98%) VS47: <u>High</u> (69%) / Moderate (9%) / Low (20%)</p>			↑		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation VS25: Strong (28%) / <u>Moderate</u> (71%) VS46: High (10%) / <u>Moderate</u> (70%) / Low (20%) VS47: <u>High</u> (69%) / Moderate (9%) / Low (20%) VS48: High (28%) / <u>Moderate</u> (71%)	-	-	-		-
	Remoteness/Tranquillity	Much of this LCA is relatively tranquil . However, the presence of wind farms to the north and the busy road network to the north, south and west lessen the sense of remoteness and tranquillity. VS24: <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Noisy; Settled; Safe</u> (67%) / Tranquil; Settled; Threatening (19%)	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>Northern and western parts of this LCA lie within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>An area to the centre north of this LCA is regionally designated as the Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5), route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and national cycle route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566).</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along parts of the western edge of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas High.</p> <p>VS50: High (10%) / <u>Moderate</u> (89%) VS49: High (26%) / <u>Moderate</u> (6%) / <u>Low</u> (68%) LH45: High (7%) / <u>Moderate</u> (68%) / <u>Low</u> (26%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (88%) / <u>Moderate</u> (10%) GL31: <u>High</u> (45%) / <u>Moderate</u> (40%) / <u>Low</u> (15%) GL33: <u>High</u> (60%) / <u>Moderate</u> (40%)</p>	-	-	-		-	
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>Registered Parks and Gardens lie within this LCA.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>Unassessed</u> (11%) / <u>High</u> (64%) / <u>Moderate</u> (25%) HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (60%) / <u>High</u> (21%) / <u>Moderate</u> (19%) HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (60%) / <u>High</u> (35%) / <u>Moderate</u> (6%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑	

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³³ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	This is a medium scale landscape comprising extensive drumlin fields with scattered rocky outcrops. Parts of the LCA designated within the Anglesey AONB are considered particularly scenic and therefore more highly sensitive to wind energy development. In areas adjacent to the AONB sensitivity is enhanced by the intervisibility with the adjoining high value landscape. The distinctive wild landscape of Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds SLA is also particularly sensitive. Elsewhere the LCA's long established history with wind energy development and the presence of modern day structures such as existing wind turbines, 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines and major transport corridors reduces the sensitivity of the landscape to further wind energy development.

³³ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA and are outside these areas.</p> <p>A degree of Landscape Change is accepted where modern vertical development including large wind farms influence the landscape to the north of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 no. very large windfarms - 1 no. large development - 2 no. small developments - 2 no. micro development - 3 no. domestic developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and all areas that contribute to their setting, there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLA it is considered there may be some capacity for further micro to small scale developments which could typically comprise single or small clusters of turbines up to 50 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with existing wind farms and other vertical modern developments.</p> <p>The degree of Landscape Change which has already taken place in the north of this LCA in terms of wind energy development has more than reached its limit. Additional medium to large scale developments may tip the balance of wind energy development to landscape and create a ‘New Landscape’ (wind farm landscape). Therefore there is no capacity for further medium to large scale developments.</p>

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale landscape is influenced in many places by modern day developments such as wind farms, 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines and major transport corridors; the presence of which reduces sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development. A typically regular pattern of medium to large scale fields with a mixture of field boundaries introduces the possibility of increasing vegetation height to provide localised screening of such developments thus reducing sensitivity further.</p> <p>In counterbalance, localised areas of less regular and more complex field patterns to the north, together with scenic areas designated within the Anglesey AONB, are considered more highly sensitive to field-scale solar PV energy development. The distinctive wild landscape of Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds SLA is also particularly sensitive and sensitivity is further enhanced by the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLA it is considered there may be some capacity for micro to small scale developments, in particular where these would relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover. There may also be limited capacity for very infrequent sensitively sited small to medium scale development towards the south of the LCA.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This is a medium scale landscape comprising extensive drumlin fields with scattered rocky outcrops. Northern and western areas are particularly scenic and designated as part the Anglesey AONB, thus increasing sensitivity in those localities. In areas adjacent to the AONB sensitivity is enhanced by the intervisibility with the adjoining high value landscape. The distinctive wild landscape of Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds SLA is also particularly sensitive.</p> <p>Elsewhere the LCA's long established history with wind energy development and the presence of modern day structures which punctuate the skylines such as existing wind turbines, 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines and also the presence of major transport corridors reduces the sensitivity of the landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA are outside these areas.</p> <p>A degree of Landscape Change is accepted where modern vertical development influences the landscape to the north of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 no. sections of an existing 400 kV overhead line to the north east of the LCA - 1 no. section of an existing 400 kV overhead line crossing the LCA from the north to the south west - 1 no. section of an existing low voltage pylon overhead line to the south west - 1 no. section of an existing low voltage pylon overhead line to the north east
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLA it is considered there may be some capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including an existing 400 kV overhead line in the north.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale rolling lowland landscape is influenced in many places by modern day developments such as wind farms, 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines and major transport corridors; the presence of which reduces sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development. A typically regular pattern of medium to large scale fields is also indicative of a reduced sensitivity; however, this is counterbalanced by sparse tree cover which limits opportunities for screening and integrating such developments within the landscape.</p> <p>Localised areas of less regular and more complex field patterns to the north, together with scenic areas designated within the Anglesey AONB, are considered more highly sensitive to static caravan/chalet park development. The distinctive wild landscape of Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds SLA is also particularly sensitive and this is further enhanced by the overall cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large development (to the far south west of the LCA – split between A04 and A05) - 1 no. medium development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLA it is considered there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views.	✓		✓	
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features, such as Registered Parks and Gardens and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5), route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics in less developed areas.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		✓	

A06 Amlwch and Environs



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA includes the historic settlement of Amlwch and the northern coastline between Bull Bay and Point Lynas.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Rolling lowland; bounded by the coast on the northern side
- Cultural heritage interest

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a small to medium scale landscape. VS8: Small (20%) / <u>Medium</u> (65%) / Large (15%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Field scales and patterns vary. Mainly medium to large scale fields with an irregular field pattern to the west . To the south and adjacent to Rhosybol, field scale becomes small to medium and the pattern more regular . To the central and east of the area, field scale is small to medium, irregular and sometimes complex . There is a mixture of low field boundaries throughout this area. VS7: Mixture (96%) VS8: Small (20%) / <u>Medium</u> (65%) / Large (15%)		↑			
	Landform	Rolling lowland landscape bounded by the coastline to the north. VS Classification Level 2: Built Land (6%) / Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (15%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (77%) VS4: High Hills/Mountains (15%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (83%) /	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type					
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
Landcover	<p>Landcover inland is predominately agricultural, characterised by a mosaic of pastures with areas of open rugged coastline to the north. Urban landcover around Amlwch, includes a relatively large area of industrial land use.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes (15%)/ Mosaic Rolling Lowland (22%)/ <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (56%) / Urban (6%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (77%)/ Development (6%)/ Mixture (15%)</p>	-	-	-		-	
Man-made Influences	<p>Man-made influence along the coastline is concentrated around the historic town of Amlwch, where industry influences the coastal landscape, and also the small settlement of Bull Bay. Elsewhere built form includes scattered rural properties, several static caravan/chalet parks, wind turbines, wind farms, telecommunications masts, overhead lines (both 132 kV and 400 kV) and the remnants of a previous oil storage facility.</p> <p>VS6: Urban (6%)/ Scattered Rural/Farm (92%) VS27: <u>Good</u> (15%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (85%)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓	
Settlement Pattern	<p>Urban settlement and densely dispersed rural properties.</p> <p>VS6: Urban (6%)/ Scattered Rural/Farm (92%)</p>			↑			
Skylines and Settings	<p>The extensive coastline provides the setting and skylines to the north of the LCA. Skylines elsewhere are relatively simple and punctuated in places by overhead lines, telecommunications masts and turbines.</p>	-		-			
Visual	Movement	<p>Relatively infrequent away from the settlements, roads, wind farms and turbines.</p> <p>VS18: Constant (6%)/ <u>Infrequent</u> (94%)</p>	-				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas	<p>Views are typically open within this LCA. Expansive coastal and seaward views are afforded from the</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>north. This LCA has a strong intervisibility with adjacent coastal LCAs.</p> <p>Inland, views are more restricted/enclosed apart from distinctive views of Parys Mountain and Mynydd Eilian.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed (27%) / <u>Open</u> (58%) / Exposed (15%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Settlements and scattered properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions including Parys Mountain ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The local road network ▪ Watersport and boats 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ North Anglesey Heritage Coast ▪ Great Orme Heritage Coast ▪ Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds SLA ▪ Parys Mountain & Slopes SLA ▪ Amlwch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape 	↑		↑		
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally considered fair.</p> <p>VS27: Good (15%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (85%)</p> <p>VS47: High (5%) / Moderate (35%) / <u>Low</u> (60%)</p>					

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Although there is a typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation, coastal parts of this LCA lie within the Anglesey AONB and are considered highly scenic.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (99%) VS46: High (39%)/ <u>Low</u> (60%) VS47: High (5%)/ Moderate (35%)/ <u>Low</u> (60%) VS48: <u>High</u> (84%)/ Moderate (16%)</p>	-	-	-		-
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity	<p>Activity and development associated with settlements and infrastructure lessen the sense of remoteness and tranquillity. Pockets of landscape away from the road network are more tranquil.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil; Settled; Threatening</u> (55%)/ Tranquil; Attractive; Settled; Safe; Sheltered; Exposed (20%)/ Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Settled (15%)</p>	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>Coastal parts of this LCA lie within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Other areas lie within parts of the Parys Mountain & Slopes SLA and Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and the Sustrans national cycle route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566).</p> <p>Much of the LCA coastline is defined as North Anglesey Heritage Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along the north of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: High (24%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (70%)/ Low (6%) VS49: <u>High</u> (71%)/ Moderate (28%) LH45: Moderate (34%)/ <u>Low</u> (63%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (59%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (32%)/ Low (7%) GL31: High (25%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (30%)/ <u>Low</u> (45%) GL33: High (45%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (55%)</p>	-	-	-		-
	Historic Value	<p>This LCA includes an area of the Amlwch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: Outstanding (33%)/ High (14%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (38%)/ Unassessed (14%) HL35: Outstanding (34%)/ <u>High</u> (44%)/ Moderate (22%) HL40: Outstanding (28%)/ <u>High</u> (40%)/ Moderate (32%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³⁴ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	The presence of a number of modern day developments including wind turbines and wind farms within and around much of this LCA reduces sensitivity to wind energy developments, particularly inland. The more open, scenic and tranquil coastal areas of this LCA remain largely undisturbed, are designated within the Anglesey AONB and considered much more highly sensitive. Sensitivity is enhanced by cultural heritage value and within areas that provide a valued setting to the AONB including Parys Mountain & Slopes SLA.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p> <p>A degree of Landscape Change is accepted where modern vertical development including large wind farms influence the landscape to the west and south of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LCA fringes on 1 no. very large wind farm development (predominantly contained within A05) - 1 no. large development - 7 no. micro developments - 2 no. domestic developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be limited capacity for further micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid visual clutter/cumulative effects with existing wind farms and other vertical modern developments.</p> <p>The degree of Landscape Change which has already taken place in the west and south of this LCA in terms of wind energy development has more than reached its limit. Additional developments (larger than micro scale) may tip the balance of wind energy development to landscape and create a ‘New Landscape’ (wind farm landscape). Therefore there is no capacity for further developments larger than micro scale.</p>

³⁴ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>Modern development including 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines, wind turbines, industry and urban development, influences the medium scale, rolling lowland landscape thus reducing sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development. In counterbalance the LCA comprises a diverse mix of field patterns and sizes with a mixture of typically low field boundaries and has cultural heritage value which increases sensitivity.</p> <p>Views are afforded over much of this area from Parys Mountain & Slopes SLA, particularly from the highest points located within adjacent LCA A07. The open, scenic and tranquil coastal areas which lie within the Anglesey AONB further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for well sited micro to small scale developments, in particular where these may relate to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>Existing 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines and wind turbines punctuate the skyline thus reducing sensitivity to this type of development, particularly inland. However, there is a densely dispersed settlement pattern in this LCA which is indicative of increased sensitivity. In addition, the more open, scenic and tranquil coastal areas of this LCA which remain largely undisturbed are designated within the Anglesey AONB and considered much more highly sensitive to overhead line development. Sensitivity is enhanced by cultural heritage value and within areas that provide a valued setting to the AONB including Parys Mountain & Slopes SLA.</p>

LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries. A degree of Landscape Change is accepted where modern vertical development influences the landscape to the north west and south of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 no. sections of an existing 400 kV overhead line to the south west of the LCA - 2 no. sections of an existing 132 kV overhead line located centrally and to the west
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including an existing 400 kV overhead line in the south.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

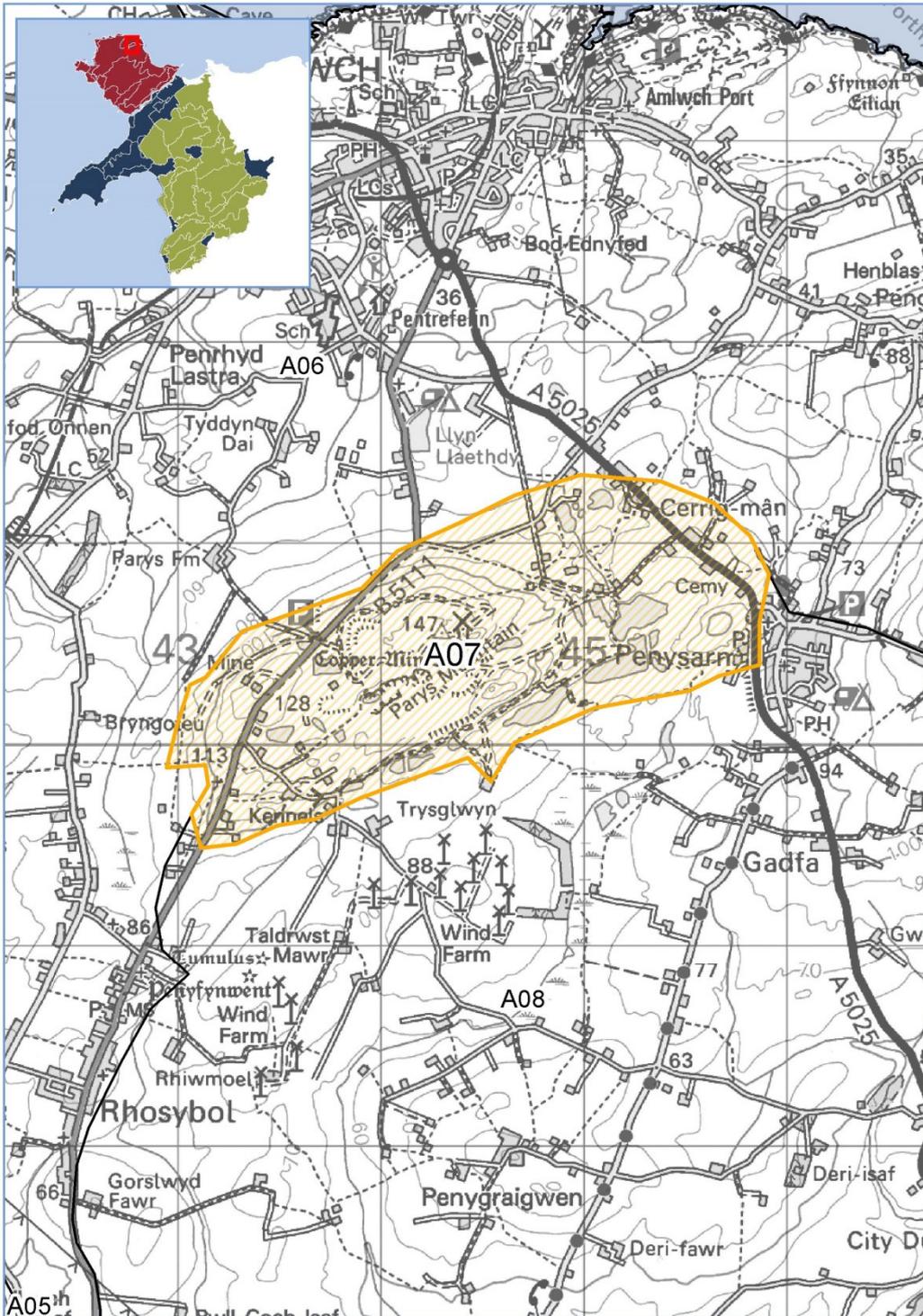
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>Although heavily influenced by modern development including relatively large settlements and static caravan/chalet parks, this medium scale, rolling lowland landscape comprises a mosaic of field patterns and sizes with a mixture of low field boundaries and limited tree cover. This limits opportunities for localised screening and increases the sensitivity of the landscape to static caravan/chalet park development.</p> <p>Views are afforded over much of the area from Parys Mountain & Slopes SLA, particularly from the highest points located within adjacent LCA A07. The increased intervisibility along the open, scenic and tranquil coastal areas which lie within the Anglesey AONB and the cultural heritage value of parts of this LCA further increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 no. medium developments - 1 no. small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments or extensions.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 KV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Parys Mountain & Slopes; and Mynedd Mechell & Surrounds Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the natural beauty and undeveloped characteristics of North Anglesey Heritage Coast.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views, in particular towards Mynedd Mechell, Parys Mountain, Mynydd Eilian and along the coast.	✓		✓	
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Amlwch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓	✓	✓

A07 Parys Mountain



1:25,000



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Location and Extent

Located in-between LCAs A06 and A08 to the north east of Anglesey, the extent of this character area is defined by its historical association with copper mining.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale, open landscape
- Low but prominent ridge
- Distinctive, historical landscape associated with copper mining

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (44%) / <u>Large</u> (56%)	↓		↓		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Field systems are present around the perimeter of the opencast copper mine. Fields are generally small scale with some medium scale . There is generally an irregular field pattern and a mixture of field boundaries . VS7: Mixture (44%) / <u>None</u> (56%) VS8: Medium (44%) / <u>Large</u> (56%)		↑			
	Landform	Low but prominent ridge of distinctive, historically disturbed land. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Developed Unbuilt Land</u> (56%) / Rolling Lowland (44%) VS4: <u>Disturbed</u> (56%) / Rolling/Undulating (44%)	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Landcover is dominated by the colourful outcrops, settling ponds, tips, quarry faces and heathlands of a culturally and historically important former copper mine.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: <u>Derelict/Waste Ground</u> (56%)/ Open Rolling Lowland (44%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (56%)/ Field Pattern/ Mosaic (44%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Man-made Influences	<p>The cultural and historically important relics of the copper mine are the most significant man-made influence in this LCA. Other modern day influences include the A5025 and views to nearby wind farms/turbines in other LCA's, most notably LCA A08.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (44%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (56%) VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>Predominately unsettled with some scattered rural farms around the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (44%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (56%)</p>			↓		
Skylines and Settings	<p>Parys Mountain is a unique and prominent ridge which forms a visually dominant and distinctive skyline feature in this LCA and provides the setting to the Anglesey AONB in this location.</p>	↑		↑		
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Local traffic brings infrequent movement into the landscape</p> <p>VS18: Infrequent (100%)</p>	↑				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA. There are strong visual links between the sea and coastal areas, and this LCA.</p> <p>VS9: Open (100%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered farm properties ▪ Long distance route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (Sustrans National Cycle Route 566) ▪ Open Access Areas 	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local attractions including the relics of the copper mine Local public rights of way The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Anglesey AONB Parys Mountain & Slopes SLA Amlwch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape 	↑		↑		
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP and integrity is low. Site based assessment generally considered landscape condition also to be low due to the influence of past copper mining.</p> <p>VS27: Unassessed (100%) VS47: Low (100%)</p>			↓		
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically low scenic quality LANDMAP evaluation but with strong local distinctiveness and outstanding character</p> <p>VS25: Strong (100%) VS46: High (39%) / Low (60%) VS47: Low (100%) VS48: Outstanding (56%) / High (44%)</p>	-	-	-		-
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>Despite the landscape being heavily disturbed by past mining activities, it maintains a unique tranquil and somewhat remote quality in places.</p> <p>Busy roads to the east and west bring a local level of disturbance and detract from the tranquillity and remoteness.</p> <p>VS24: Exposed; Unattractive; Threatening; Attractive; Tranquil (56%) / Tranquil; Settled; Threatening (44%)</p>	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>Almost all of this LCA lies within the regionally designated Parys Mountain & Slopes SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas.</p> <p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Outstanding</u> (56%) / Moderate (44%) VS49: <u>Outstanding</u> (56%) / High (44%) LH45: <u>High</u> (52%) / Moderate (27%) / Low (21%) LH42: Unassessed (20%) / High (54%) / Moderate (26%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (61%) / High (29%) / Moderate (10%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (61%) / High (29%) / Moderate (10%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>Much of this LCA lies within the Amwlch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: Outstanding (99%) HL35: Outstanding (100%) HL40: Outstanding (97%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³⁵ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	This LCA comprises a low but prominent ridge of historically disturbed land. Although movement along the road corridor and within nearby wind farms lessen sensitivity to wind energy development this is outweighed by the unique, iconic and exposed nature of this landscape, which is a distinctive skyline feature in the north of Anglesey. Important landscape and cultural heritage associations reinforce this enhanced sensitivity and are reflected by much of the area being designated within the Amwlch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape and Parys Mountain and Slopes SLA which seeks to retain its character as an example of a rare landscape in Wales.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-wind energy developments.
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	This LCA comprises a low but prominent ridge of historically disturbed land. The unique, iconic and exposed nature of this landscape, which is a highly visible landform in the north of Anglesey, imparts a high sensitivity. Important landscape and cultural heritage associations reinforce this enhanced sensitivity and are reflected by much of the area being designated within the Amwlch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape and Parys Mountain and Slopes SLA which seeks to retain its character as an example of a rare landscape in Wales.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments.
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.

³⁵ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	This LCA comprises a low but prominent ridge of historically disturbed land. Although the presence of nearby wind farms and views to existing 400 kV overhead lines lessen sensitivity to further 400 kV overhead line development this is outweighed by the unique, iconic and exposed nature of this landscape, which is a distinctive skyline feature in the north of Anglesey. Important landscape and cultural heritage associations reinforce this enhanced sensitivity and are reflected by much of the area being designated within the Amwlch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape and Parys Mountain and Slopes SLA which seeks to retain its character as an example of a rare landscape in Wales.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented 400 kV overhead line developments.
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	This LCA comprises a low but prominent ridge of historically disturbed land. The unique, iconic and exposed nature of this landscape, which is a highly visible landform in the north of Anglesey imparts a high sensitivity. Important landscape and cultural heritage associations reinforce this enhanced sensitivity and are reflected by much of the area being designated within the Amwlch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape and Parys Mountain and Slopes SLA which seeks to retain its character as an example of a rare landscape in Wales.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments.
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Guidance notes not applicable here because this LCA has no capacity for any of the developments.				

A08 Dulas Bay Hinterland



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises the coastal landscape of Dulas Bay to the east extending inland to the west to a more rolling undulating landscape.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Gently undulating coastal landform
- Cultural heritage interest

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable					
Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA						Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type					
							Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (93%)/ <u>Large</u> (7%)						-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Typically medium to large scale, regular field pattern with a mixture of field boundaries. Smaller fields are found around settlements. VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (94%) VS8: <u>Medium</u> (93%)/ <u>Large</u> (7%)							↓			
	Landform	Rolling coastal landform to the east, gently undulating inland to the west with a prominent outcrop at Mynydd Bodafon rising to 178 m AOD; the second highest point in Anglesey. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (7%)/ <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (90%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (6%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (90%)						-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Characterised by a mosaic of farmland; primarily pasture with some arable land and a significant number of woodland blocks and tree belts associated with parkland landscapes towards the east of the LCA.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes (5%)/ <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (89%) VS5: <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (90%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (5%)</p>	↑	-	↑		-
Man-made Influences	<p>Although sparsely settled, the A5025 and energy developments (including wind farms, wind turbines and a 400 kV overhead line) exert a moderate man-made influence over the area.</p> <p>A large number of static caravans to the north east (and the visibility of static caravans in LCA A09) add to the man-made influence.</p> <p>Pockets of undisturbed land are found away from the road network.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (96%) VS27: <u>Good</u> (7%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (93%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>Typically scattered rural properties.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (96%)</p>			↑		
Skylines and Settings	<p>Mynydd Bodafon is a prominent skyline feature in this LCA and forms the visual backdrop to the coastal landscape. The distinctive circular spire of Dulas Church is a landmark visible from land and sea.</p> <p>Elsewhere skylines are simpler and sometimes interrupted by wind turbines and transmission masts to the north.</p> <p>The small island of Ynys Dulas with its tower lies just off the coast and provides a focal point in seaward views from the coast.</p>	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	Local traffic brings infrequent movement into the landscape. VS18: Infrequent (100%)	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	Views are typically open within this LCA. Mynydd Bodafon affords far reaching views to Holyhead Mountain, the Great Orme in Conwy and the National Park. VS9: <u>Open</u> (93%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (5%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and Sustrans national cycle route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566). ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The local road network ▪ Watersport and boats 					
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ North Anglesey Heritage Coast ▪ Great Orme Heritage Coast ▪ Parciau Estatelands SLA ▪ Parys Mountain & Slopes SLA ▪ Amlwch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Hillfort ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens 	↑		↑		
	Condition	The condition of the landscape is generally unassessed by LANDMAP but the integrity is considered high . Site based assessment considered the condition to be good .			↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS27: Good (7%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (93%) VS47: <u>High</u> (81%)/ Moderate (5%)/ Low (11%)					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Varied LANDMAP evaluations range from Low to High . VS25: Strong (22%)/ <u>Weak</u> (73%)/ Moderate (5%) VS46: High (10%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (79%)/ Low (11%) VS47: <u>High</u> (81%)/ Moderate (5%)/ Low (11%) VS48: High (13%)/ Moderate (10%)/ <u>Low</u> (73%)					
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity Away from the A5025 road corridor, energy developments, settlements and static caravan sites, pockets of the landscape retain a sense of remoteness and tranquillity . VS24: <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Noisy; Settled; Safe</u> (78%)					
Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	Approximately a third of this LCA falls within Anglesey AONB. Southern parts of this LCA fall within the Parciau Estatelands SLA. Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN route 5) and from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566). The Wales Coast Path runs through the north eastern section of the LCA. Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation. VS50: Moderate (95%) VS49: High (19%)/ <u>Low</u> (78%) LH45: High (10%)/ Moderate (30%)/ <u>Low</u> (58%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (66%)/ Moderate (26%) GL31: <u>High</u> (80%)/ Moderate (10%)/ Low (10%) GL33: Outstanding (10%)/ <u>High</u> (80%)/ Moderate (10%)					

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Historic Value	<p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (70%) / Moderate (11%) / Unassessed (17%) HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (55%) / High (9%) / Moderate (27%) / Unassessed (8%) HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (55%) / High (23%) / Moderate (22%)</p>	↑	↑	↑	-	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³⁶ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>To the west this gently undulating landscape is influenced by modern vertical structures including existing overhead lines, wind turbines and wind farms; thus locally reducing sensitivity to further wind energy development.</p> <p>In counterbalance, sensitivity increases within the parts of this LCA that fall within the Anglesey AONB and the distinctive Parciau Estatelands SLA as these areas are more tranquil, remote and scenic. The AONB is focussed towards the east along the coast and the prominent landform of Mynydd Bodafon and is largely free from energy and other modern developments (with the exception of some static caravan/chalet parks).</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p> <p>A degree of Landscape Change is accepted where modern vertical development including a large wind farm influences the landscape to the north west of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large windfarm - 2 no. small development - 1 no. micro development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be limited capacity for further micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid visual clutter/cumulative effects with existing wind farms and other vertical modern developments.</p>

³⁶ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale rolling lowland landscape comprises typically medium to large scale fields in a regular field pattern. A mixture of field boundaries introduces the possibility of increasing vegetation height to provide further localised screening which is indicative of a reduced sensitivity to field-scale solar energy development. This landscape is influenced by highly visible modern development in the west such as existing overhead lines, wind turbines and wind farms which lessen sensitivity further.</p> <p>In counterbalance, sensitivity increases within the parts of this LCA that fall within the Anglesey AONB and the distinctive Parciau Estatelands SLA as these areas are more tranquil, remote and scenic. The AONB is focussed towards the east along the coast and the prominent landform of Mynydd Bodafon and is largely free from energy and other modern developments (with the exception of some static caravan/chalet parks).</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for micro scale developments, in particular where these may relate to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium - High	<p>This medium scale rolling lowland landscape is influenced by modern vertical structures to the west, such as existing overhead lines, wind turbines and visible wind farms; thus locally reducing sensitivity to further 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>In counterbalance, sensitivity increases within the parts of this LCA that fall within the Anglesey AONB and the distinctive Parciau Estatelands SLA as these areas are more tranquil, remote and scenic. The AONB is focussed towards the east along the coast and the prominent landform of Mynydd Bodafon and is largely free from energy and other modern developments (with the exception of some static caravan/chalet parks).</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p> <p>A degree of Landscape Change is accepted where modern vertical development influences the landscape to the north and west of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	- 2 no. sections of an existing 400 kV overhead line located to the south west of the LCA
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including an existing 400 kV overhead line in the west.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

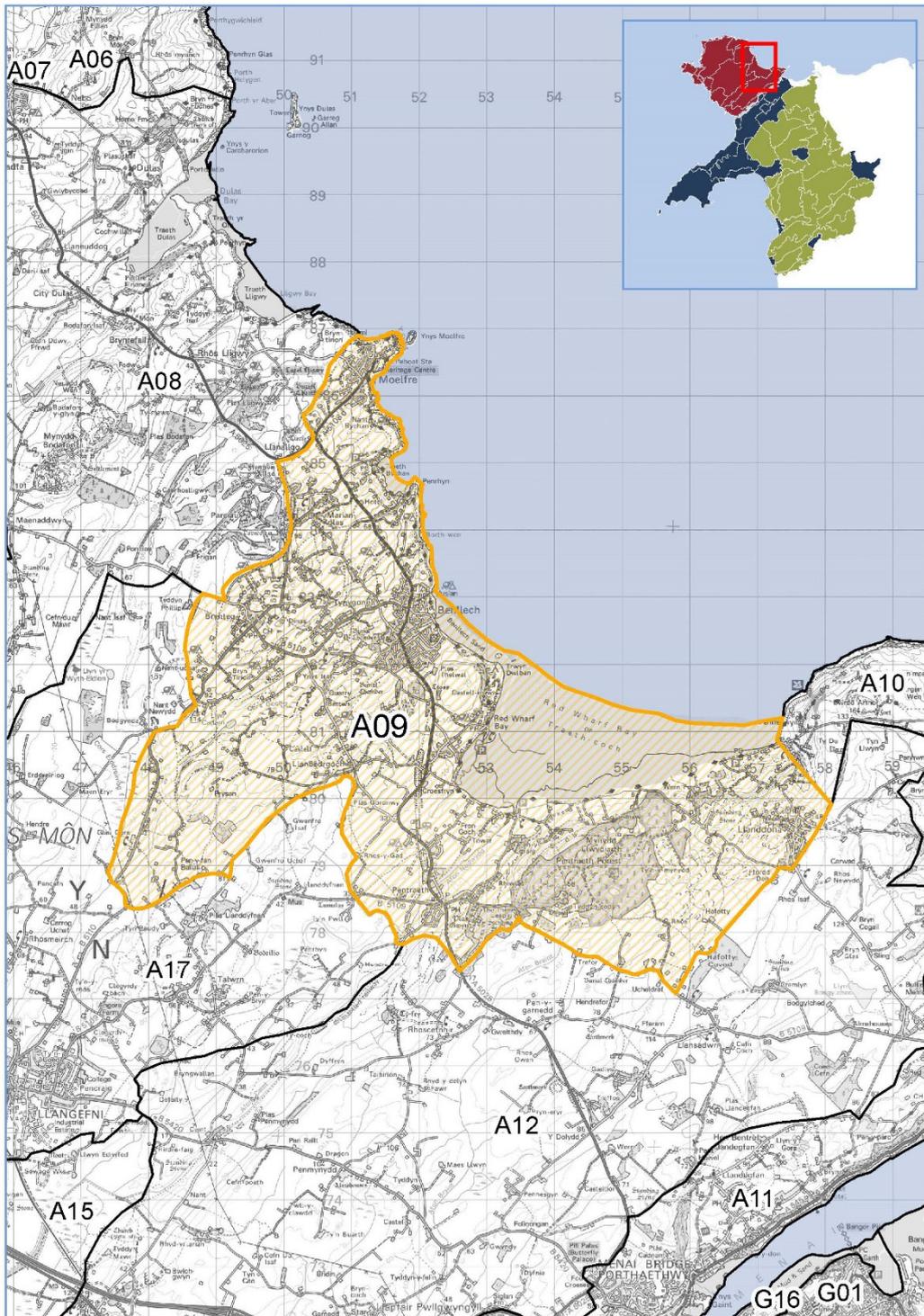
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale rolling lowland landscape comprises typically medium to large scale fields with a regular field pattern. A mixture of field boundaries and tree cover introduces the possibility of increasing vegetation height to provide further localised screening which is indicative of a reduced sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development. To the west the landscape is influenced by highly visible modern development including existing overhead lines, wind turbines and wind farms which lessen sensitivity further. A number of static caravan/chalet parks exist in this landscape, thus locally lessening sensitivity.</p> <p>In counterbalance, sensitivity increases within the parts of this LCA that fall within the Anglesey AONB and the distinctive Parciau Estatelands SLA as these areas are more tranquil, remote and scenic. The AONB is focussed towards the east along the coast and the prominent landform of Mynydd Bodafon and is largely free from energy and other modern developments.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p> <p>A degree of Landscape Change is accepted where development influences the landscape to the north and west of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large development (to the south east split between A09 and A09) - 3 no. large developments - 6 no. medium developments - 3 no. very small developments <p>(development concentrated to the east near the coast)</p>
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments or extensions.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for very small to small scale sensitively sited and well-designed developments, in particular where these may relate well to the existing built environment/settlements.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Parciau Estatelands Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views, in particular towards Mynydd Bodafon, Ynys Dulas and along the coast.	✓		✓	
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and Sustrans national cycle route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		✓	

A09 Red Wharf Bay



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises the historic settlement of Moelfre to the north and includes the sweeping landscape of Red Wharf Bay towards Llanddona in the east.

Key Characteristics

- Small scale, open landscape
- Coastal landform becoming rolling and undulating inland
- High number of caravan sites

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	A landscape with contrasting sense of scale. Typically small to medium scale to the west and large in scale to the east. VS8: Small (38%) / Medium (25%) / Large (37%)	↑		↑		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Typically small to medium scale, varying between regular and irregular field pattern with a mixture field boundaries. VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (78%) / None (21%) VS8: Small (38%) / Medium (25%) / Large (37%)		↑			
	Landform	A level coastal landscape to the east. Inland the landscape becomes more rolling and undulating .	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>VS Classification Level 2: <u>Coastal</u> (15%) / lowland Valleys (17%) / Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (23%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (41%)</p> <p>VS4: Levels (15%) / Plateaux (23%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (62%)</p>					
Landcover	<p>Rural landcover typified by an intricate mosaic of pastures and hedgerows with trees and small woodland blocks to the north. The large sandy Red Wharf Bay lies to the east and relatively large coastal settlements of Benllech and Moelfre to the north. Pentraeth Forest covers a large area to the south.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic (17%) / Intertidal (15%) / <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (37%) / Open Lowland Valleys (18%) / Wooded Hillside & Scarp Slopes (6%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern</u> / <u>Mosaic</u> (75%) / Development (04%) / Water (15%) / Woodland (6%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Man-made Influences	<p>The historic village of Moelfre and the modern, tourist base development of Benllech are connected by a network of main roads, and exert a developed man-made influence to the north of the LCA. A series of smaller villages are concentrated along the main roads.</p> <p>A high number of caravan sites and static caravan/chalet parks and other modern developments in the area including a 400 kV overhead line, mobile masts, wind turbines and quarrying further contribute to the man-made influence in the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (75%) / No Settlements (21%)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type					
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet/Parks	
	VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)						
Settlement Pattern	<p>Outside of the villages of Moelfre and Benllech, the settlement pattern typically comprises densely dispersed rural farmsteads.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (75%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (21%)</p>			↑			
Skylines and Settings	Simple sweeping skylines are interrupted by field and hedgerow trees, wood poles, dispersed rural properties and occasional wind turbines, overhead lines and mobile masts.	↓		↓			
Visual	Movement	Infrequent traffic along the local roads introduces some movement throughout much of this LCA. Movement is more frequent around the larger coastal settlements.	-				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Typically extensive open with extensive coastal views available from Red Wharf Bay; the Great Orme being prominent in views to the east.</p> <p>Along many roads and footpaths inland, views are restricted and enclosed by vegetation.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (21%)/ <u>Open</u> (59%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (14%)/ <u>Confined</u> (6%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numerous properties including those within the coastal settlements of Moelfre and Benllech ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans 	↑	↑	↑	↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Access Areas Local attractions and public rights of way The local road network Watersport and boats 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Anglesey AONB The Great Orme Heritage Coast Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale and Parciau Estatelands SLA Penmon Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens 	↑		↑		
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP however the integrity is considered moderate-high and site based assessment considered the condition to be fair.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: High (45%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (51%)</p>			-		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: Strong (38%)/ Weak (7%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (55%)</p> <p>VS46: Outstanding (14%)/ <u>High</u> (65%)/ Moderate (19%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (81%)/ Low (11%)</p> <p>VS48: Outstanding (14%)/ High (34%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (46%)/ Low (7%)</p>					
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity	<p>Frequent man-made influences reduce the sense of remoteness in this area. Away from the main road network, villages, tourist activity and a large number of caravan sites within this LCA there is a sense of tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Settled; Wild</u> (37%)/ Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Wild; Spiritual; Smell (17%)/ Attractive; Tranquil; Wild; Smell; Noisy; Exposed (14%)</p>					

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value</p> <p>(including landscape related features)</p> <p>Approximately half of this LCA falls within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Northern fringes of the LCA lie within the Parciau Estatelands SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and a Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5).</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs across the northern extent of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: Outstanding (14%) / High (34%) / <u>Moderate</u> (50%)</p> <p>VS49: High (20%) / <u>Moderate</u> (69%) / Low (11%)</p> <p>LH45: High (6%) / <u>Moderate</u> (87%) / Low (03%)</p> <p>LH42: Unassessed (12%) / <u>Moderate</u> (84%)</p> <p>GL31: Outstanding (5%) / <u>High</u> (60%) / Moderate (25%) / <u>Low</u> (10%)</p> <p>GL33: Outstanding (20%) / <u>High</u> (50%) / Moderate (30%)</p>	-	-	-		-	
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (51%) / Unassessed (48%)</p> <p>HL35: Outstanding (28%) / <u>High</u> (49%) / Unassessed (19%)</p> <p>HL40: Outstanding (28%) / <u>High</u> (69%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑	

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³⁷ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- high	<p>This coastal landscape is varying in scale and comprises a mosaic of rural landcover together with the historic village of Moelfre and more modern, tourist based village of Benllech. These villages, together with the established road network, a high number of static caravans and some existing wind turbines and telecommunication masts have an influence on the character of the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity in places, therefore reducing sensitivity to wind energy developments.</p> <p>The lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the presence of sensitive receptors, and views afforded to and from these and other important landscape and cultural heritage features including Anglesey AONB. This is reinforced by the presence of sensitive scenic and tranquil landscapes within the Anglesey AONB itself and the extensive coastal views together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA and are outside their boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 no. small developments - 3 no. domestic developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLA it is considered there may be limited capacity for further micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with other developments.</p>

³⁷ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This coastal landscape varies in scale and comprises a mosaic of rural landcover along with the historic village of Moelfre and more modern, tourist based village of Benllech. These villages, together with the established road network, high number of static caravans and existing wind turbines and telecommunication masts have an influence on the character of the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity in places, therefore reducing the sensitivity field scale solar PV development.</p> <p>The lowered sensitivity is counterbalanced by the fact that this coastal landscape varies in scale, and parts of which comprise an intricate mosaic of small to medium fields, often irregular in pattern which is indicative of an increased sensitivity to such development. This is reinforced by the presence of sensitive scenic and tranquil landscapes within the Anglesey AONB and the extensive coastal views together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA and are outside their boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and areas that contribute to their setting there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB there may be limited capacity for micro scale developments, in particular where these relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- high	<p>This coastal landscape is varying in scale and comprises a mosaic of rural landcover together with the historic village of Moelfre and more modern, tourist based village of Benllech. These villages, together with the established road network, high number of static caravans and existing wind turbines and telecommunication masts have an influence on the character of the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity in places, therefore reducing sensitivity to 400 kV overhead line development. The presence of an existing 400 kV overhead line to the far west further reduces sensitivity.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the nature of the densely dispersed settlement pattern outside the villages, the presence of sensitive receptors, and views afforded to and from these and other important landscape and cultural heritage features including Anglesey AONB. This is reinforced by the presence of sensitive scenic and tranquil landscapes within the Anglesey AONB itself and the extensive coastal views together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. section of an existing 400 kV overhead line to the far west of the LCA
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no further capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments within this LCA.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This coastal landscape varies in scale and comprises a mosaic of rural landcover along with the historic village of Moelfre and more modern, tourist based village of Benllech. These villages, together with the established road network, high number of static caravans and existing wind turbines and telecommunication masts have an influence on the character of the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity in places, therefore reducing the sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the fact that this coastal landscape varies in in scale, and parts of which comprise an intricate mosaic of small to medium fields, often irregular in pattern which is indicative of an increased sensitivity to such development. This is reinforced by the presence of sensitive scenic and tranquil landscapes within the Anglesey AONB and the extensive coastal views together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape. Nonetheless the influence of significant numbers of static caravans/chalets impart a lowered sensitivity throughout parts of this landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p> <p>Landscape Change is accepted where numerous developments influences the landscape to the north of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 no. very large development (1 to the north west split between A09 and A09 and 1 to the north west split between A09 and A17) - 3 no. large development - 6 no. medium developments - 5 no. small developments - 1 no. very small development <p>(development concentrated within the north-western half of this LCA)</p>
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>Outside the AONB there may be limited capacity for further very small to small sensitively sited static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p> <p>In all cases development should avoid the undeveloped coastal edge and its immediate setting.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓		✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Parciau Estatelands Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓		✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views, in particular along the coast.	✓			
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓		✓
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓		✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features, including Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓		✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓			
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓		✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓		✓

A10 Penmon and Puffin Island



1:50,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA forms the south eastern edge of Anglesey and extends to Puffin Island, a small island located just off the mainland, in the Irish Sea.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale
- Open and exposed coastal plateau
- Cultural heritage interest

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (85%)/ <u>Large</u> (15%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally small to medium scale, largely irregular field pattern with a mixture of field boundaries. VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (89%)/ <u>None</u> (11%) VS8: <u>Medium</u> (85%)/ <u>Large</u> (15%)		↑			
	Landform	Typically lowland landscape characterised by a gently rolling plateau which drops down steeply to a narrow shingle and rock shoreline. Bwrdd Arthur (a hillfort) lies on a flat topped limestone hill. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Coastal</u> (10%)/ <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (15%)/ <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (75%) VS4: <u>Levels</u> (7%)/ <u>Plateaux</u> (15%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (78%)	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Rural landcover typified by a mosaic of pastures with some open coastal areas.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes (15%)/ Intertidal (7%)/ <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (74%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (90%)/ Water (6%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Man-made Influences	<p>Man-made influences are most evident in the quarrying activity to the east along the coast. Elsewhere man-made influence is limited to the presence of the Penmon lighthouse off the tip of Penmon, a mobile mast and two small wind turbines associated with scattered rural properties which are linked by few minor roads.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (90%)/ No Settlements (10%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>Scattered rural properties.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (90%)/ No Settlements (10%)</p>			-		
Skylines and Settings	<p>Skylines are relatively flat and simple inland with views along the coast punctuated by Penmon lighthouse and rocky outcrops. Bwrdd Arthur hillfort and Puffin Island are distinctive landforms on the skyline in views from land and sea.</p>	↑		↑		
Visual	<p>Infrequent local road traffic introduces some movement within this otherwise relatively still landscape.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Infrequent</u> (90%)/ Rare (10%)</p>	↑				
	<p>Views are typically open within this LCA with extensive coastal vistas to the north and east. The low, rounded form of Puffin Island dominates the seascape in views to the east, with the Great Orme visible beyond. Views are also afforded to the National Park.</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
each Landscape Character Area)	<p>VS9: <u>Open</u> (100%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Scattered properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The Great Orme ▪ The local road network ▪ Watersport and boats 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale SLA ▪ Penmon Registered Historic Landscape ▪ The Great Orme Heritage Coast ▪ Hillfort 	↑		↑		
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP with integrity considered moderate. On site assessment considered the condition of this landscape to be fair.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: High (22%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (74%)</p>			-		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	Typically High LANDMAP evaluation and a strong character , with some areas Outstanding . VS25: <u>Strong</u> (98%) VS46: <u>High</u> (96%) VS47: High (22%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (74%) VS48: <u>Outstanding</u> (73%)/ High (25%)	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity	This area has an exposed and remote quality, particularly towards the coast and away from properties. There is a strong sense of tranquillity throughout much of this LCA. VS24: <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Settled; Exposed; Spiritual; Remote</u> (72%)/ Noisy; Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Wild; Smell; Remote (10%)	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p>	<p>Much of this LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>A small part of the LCA lies within the Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs across much of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (93%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>High</u> (76%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (24%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>Outstanding</u> (9%)/ <u>High</u> (17%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (74%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (73%)/ <u>High</u> (6%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (21%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (14%)/ <u>High</u> (77%)/ <u>Low</u> (9%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (14%)/ <u>High</u> (77%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (9%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Historic Value</p>	<p>The entire LCA lies within Penmon Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>Outstanding</u> (20%)/ <u>High</u> (80%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (34%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (66%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³⁸ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This lowland coastal plateau comprises a mosaic of pastures interspersed with areas of land disturbed by past quarrying activities. Existing small scale wind turbines and masts introduce limited amount of modern, vertical development into this LCA; thus locally reducing the sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by undisturbed coastal vistas and the sense of remoteness and tranquillity experienced throughout much of this landscape which has a high scenic quality and a strong character, thus resulting in much of the LCA being designated within Anglesey AONB. This is further reinforced by the presence of sensitive receptors and a high degree of intervisibility with other highly sensitive landscapes and the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p> <p>Puffin Island is a local landmark and is particularly highly sensitive to any development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. micro development - 1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

³⁸ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This lowland coastal plateau comprises a mosaic of pastures interspersed with areas of land disturbed by past quarrying activities; thus indicative of a reduced sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development. A mixture of field boundaries provides possible localised screening; however, in counterbalance the largely irregular field patterns and smaller scale field systems are considered sensitive to this type of development.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by the undisturbed coastal vistas and the sense of remoteness and tranquillity experienced throughout much of this landscape which has a high scenic quality and a strong character, thus resulting in much of the LCA being designated within Anglesey AONB. This is further reinforced by the presence of sensitive receptors and a high degree of intervisibility with other highly sensitive landscapes and the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p> <p>Puffin Island is a local landmark and is particularly highly sensitive to any development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments within this LCA.

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This lowland coastal plateau comprises a mosaic of pastures interspersed with areas of land disturbed by past quarrying activities. Existing small scale wind turbines and masts introduce limited amount of modern, vertical development into this LCA; thus locally reducing the sensitivity. This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by undisturbed coastal vistas and the sense of remoteness and tranquillity experienced throughout much of this landscape which has a high scenic quality and a strong character, thus resulting in much of the LCA being designated within Anglesey AONB. This is further reinforced by the presence of sensitive receptors and a high degree of intervisibility with other highly sensitive landscapes and the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p> <p>Puffin Island is a local landmark and is particularly highly sensitive to any development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented 400 kV overhead line developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments within this LCA.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

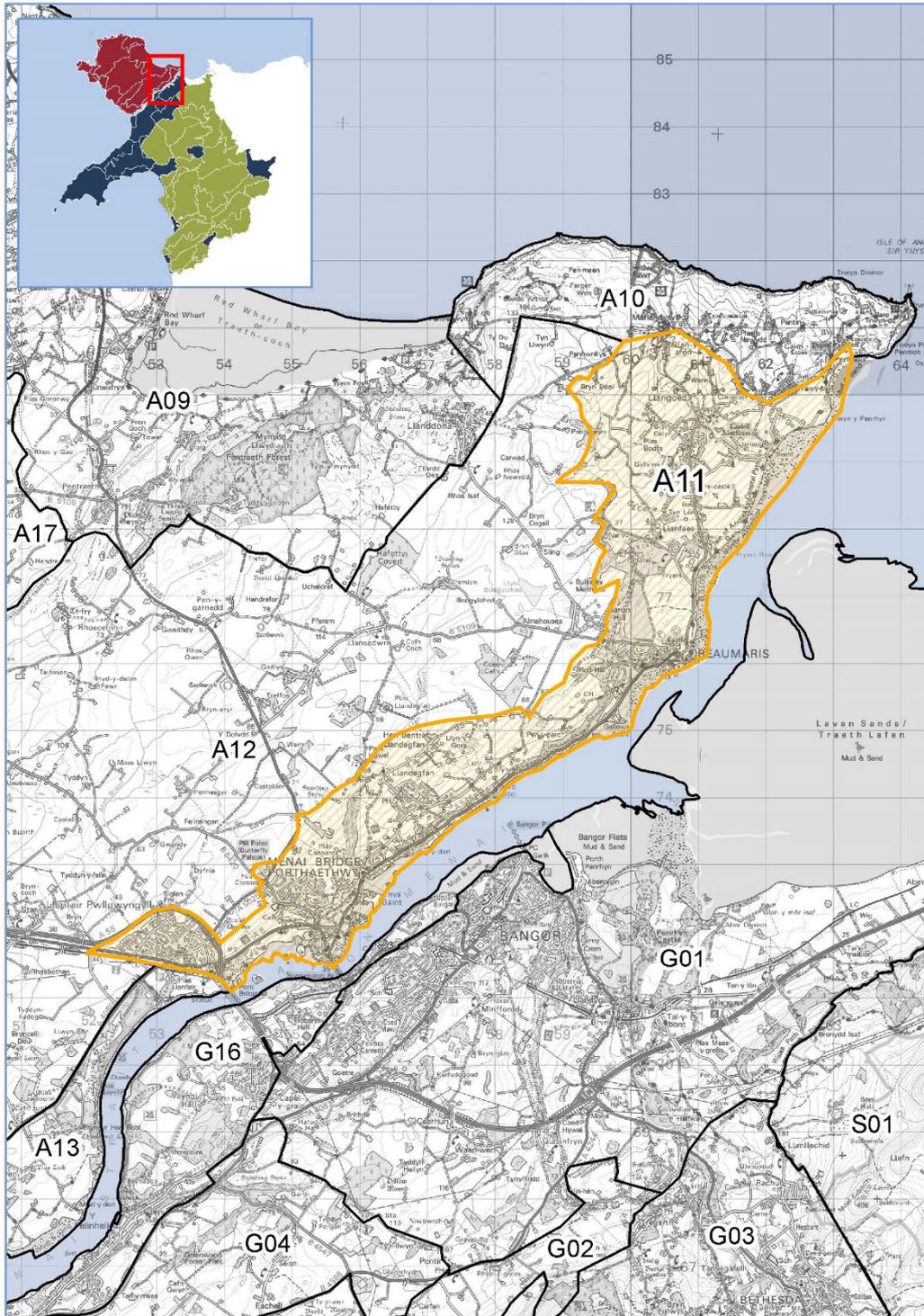
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This lowland coastal plateau has an open and exposed character comprising a mosaic of pastures interspersed with areas of land disturbed by past quarrying activities which locally reduce the sensitivity of the landscape.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by undisturbed coastal vistas and the sense of remoteness and tranquillity experienced throughout much of this landscape which has a high scenic quality and a strong character, thus resulting in much of the LCA being designated within Anglesey AONB. This is further reinforced by the presence of sensitive receptors and a high degree of intervisibility with other highly sensitive landscapes, the cultural heritage value of the landscape and the fact that this area is free from any visible existing static caravan developments.</p> <p>Puffin Island is a local landmark and is particularly highly sensitive to any development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments within this LCA.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 KV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓			
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale Special Landscape Area.	✓			
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, in particular along the Menai Strait and towards Snowdonia National Park and Puffin Island.	✓			
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting (including Puffin Island).	✓			
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓			
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓			
Maintain the integrity of Penmon Registered Historic Landscape.	✓			
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Bwrdd Arthur hillfort; and the key views to and from these features.	✓			
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓			
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓			
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path, and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓			
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓			

A11 Eastern Menai Strait



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA extends along the Menai Strait from the Menai Bridge past Beaumaris to the outskirts of Penmon in the north east.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open coastal landscape
- Cultural heritage interest
- Close visual interrelationship with the mainland

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: Small (18%) / <u>Medium</u> (80%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Typically medium scale, irregular field pattern to the north with the pattern becoming more regular to the south, with are a mixture of field boundaries throughout. VS7: Managed Hedge (21%) / <u>Mixture</u> (71%) / None (8%) VS8: Small (18%) / <u>Medium</u> (80%)		-			
	Landform	The landform comprises a locally significant ridge abutting the Menai Strait and central plateau of Anglesey. VS Classification Level 2: Built Land (16%) / Coastal (11%) / Lowland Valleys (13%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (60%)	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS4: Levels (11%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (76%)/ Hills/ Valleys (13%)					
Landcover	<p>Rural landcover interspersed with scattered semi-natural vegetation dominates most of the LCA.</p> <p>Areas of urban development focused along the A545 and B5109 whilst the intertidal character of the Menai Strait bounds the south eastern edge of the LCA.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Intertidal (11%)/ <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (39%)/ Open Rolling Lowland (21%) / Urban (13%)/ Wooded Lowland Valleys (11%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern</u>/ <u>Mosaic</u> (62%)/ Development (16%) / Water (6%)/ Woodland (05%)/ Mixture (11%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Man-made Influences	<p>Urban developments that influence the character of this landscape are concentrated along the A545 and B5109 and associated with the larger settlements.</p> <p>Other modern development includes a 400 kV overhead line which skirts the south western edge of the LCA, a mobile mast and static caravan parks are also found to the north east.</p> <p>The two large bridges which cross the Menai Strait are historical and architectural focal points.</p> <p>VS6: Urban (13%)/ <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (66%)/ Clustered (6%)/ Mixture (5%) / No Settlements (7%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓
Settlement Pattern	<p>Dense urban settlement is concentrated along the main roads, primarily within the south western half of this LCA. Elsewhere, settlement comprises scattered farmsteads.</p> <p>VS6: Urban (13%)/ <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (66%)/ Mixture (5%) / No Settlements (7%)</p>			↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Skylines and Settings	The 19th Century Menai Bridges: Telford’s Suspension Bridge, and Stephenson’s Britannia Bridge are prominent and distinctive landmarks viewed on the skyline in the west of this LCA and the peaks of the National Park form the distant skylines to the south. Beaumaris Castle is a skyline feature to the east of Beaumaris. Further inland skylines are less prominent.	-		-		
Movement	Traffic on the busy road network introduces constant movement to some parts of this LCA, whereas there is much less frequent traffic elsewhere. VS18: Constant (16%) / Frequent (11%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (72%)	-				
Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	Views are typically open within this LCA; views from some areas around Beaumaris are contained by woodland. Views to and from the mainland are important to this LCA which acts as the eastern gateway to Anglesey. The LCA has a strong intervisibility with the mainland, with views afforded over the Menai Strait towards Bangor and its surrounds back dropped by the mountains of the National Park. There is also a strong intervisibility with the agricultural heartland of Anglesey. VS9: Enclosed (23%) / <u>Open</u> (76%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numerous properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8). ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions such as Beaumaris Castle ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A5, A55 and A545 tourist routes and Chester to Holyhead Railway 	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local road network Watersport and boats 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site Anglesey AONB The 19th Century Menai Bridges: Telford's Suspension Bridge, and Stephenson's Britannia Bridge Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale, Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds and Southern Anglesey Estatelands SLAs Penmon Registered Historic Landscape Hillfort Registered Parks and Gardens 	↑		↑		
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP but the integrity is moderate-high and site based assessment considered the condition to be fair to good.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (42%) / <u>Moderate</u> (50%) / <u>Low</u> (8%)</p>			-		
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (32%) / <u>Weak</u> (27%) / <u>Moderate</u> (40%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>High</u> (62%) / <u>Moderate</u> (29%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (42%) / <u>Moderate</u> (50%) / <u>Low</u> (8%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>Outstanding</u> (8%) / <u>High</u> (24%) / <u>Moderate</u> (40%) / <u>Low</u> (27%)</p>	-	-	-		-
	Remoteness/Tranquillity	<p>Modern infrastructure and settlements detract from the tranquillity of the landscape; however, some small areas inland and to the north retain a sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p>	↓	↓	↓	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS24: <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Settled; Safe; Sheltered</u> (34%) / Tranquil; Settled; Safe (21%)	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Yellow

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>Much of this LCA lies within Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Part of the LCA lies within Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8).</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along the length of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: Outstanding (8%)/ High (25%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (61%)/ Low (7%)</p> <p>VS49: Outstanding (5%)/ High (22%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (47%)/ Low (27%)</p> <p>LH45: Outstanding (11%)/ High (14%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (63%)/ Low (12%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (59%)/ High (19%)/ Moderate (10%)/ Low (12%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (45%)/ High (10%)/ Low (10%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (45%)/ High (10%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (45%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Historic Value	<p>The northern half of this LCA lies within the Penmon Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>Outstanding</u> (5%)/ <u>High</u> (77%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (18%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (77%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (23%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types³⁹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	Although the character of this medium scale, undulating coastal landscape is influenced in some places by existing vertical development, sensitivity to wind energy developments is enhanced by the presence of many sensitive visual receptors and intervisibility and associations with important landscape and cultural heritage features including the National Park, Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site and Anglesey AONB. This landscape is also valued as a back drop to the Menai Strait in views from the south east.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-high	<p>This medium scale, undulating coastal landscape is relatively developed in places which lessens the sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development. Although a mixture of field boundaries provides opportunities for localised screening; irregular field patterns and smaller scale field systems are considered more sensitive.</p> <p>Sensitivity is enhanced by many sensitive visual receptors and intervisibility and associations with important landscape and cultural heritage features including the National Park, Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site and Anglesey AONB.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments within this LCA.

³⁹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	Although the character of this medium scale, undulating coastal landscape is influenced in some places by existing 400 kV overhead line development (running alongside the Menai Bridge and past Llanfiarpwllgwyngyll in the south west), sensitivity is enhanced elsewhere by the presence of a many sensitive visual receptors and intervisibility and associations with important landscape and cultural heritage features including the National Park, Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site and Anglesey AONB. This landscape is also valued as a back drop to the Menai Strait in views from the south east.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- No existing or consented 400 kV overhead line developments within this LCA - 1 no. section of an existing 400 kV overhead line located just outside the southern boundary
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

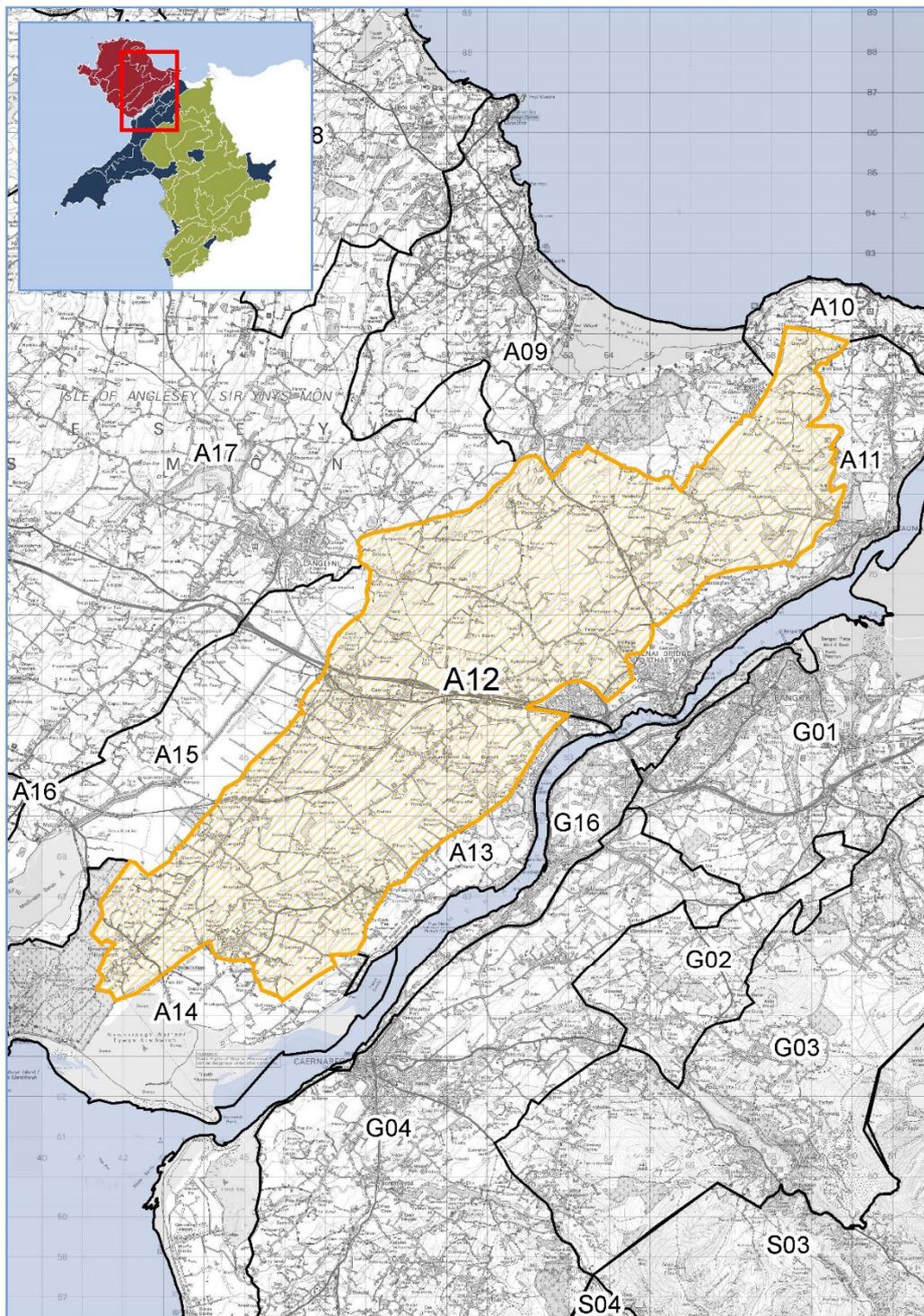
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-high	This medium scale, undulating coastal landscape is relatively developed in places which lessens the sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development. The presence of static caravan/chalet parks within this LCA reduces sensitivity further although the irregular field patterns and smaller scale field systems within this LCA are considered more sensitive. Sensitivity is enhanced by the presence of many sensitive visual receptors and intervisibility and associations with important landscape and cultural heritage features including the National Park, Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site and Anglesey AONB.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB, SLA, and WHS (Beaumaris Castle). Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB, SLA and WHS (Beaumaris Castle) and are outside these areas.
Baseline Development	2 no. medium developments (to towards the north east of this LCA)
Indicative Overall Capacity	Within the AONB and SLA (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments or extensions. Outside the AONB and SLA it is considered there may be limited capacity for very small to small scale well sited developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Maintain the setting and key views to and from Beaumaris Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓			✓
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓			✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale Special Landscape Area.	✓			✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, in particular along the Menai Strait (including Telford’s Suspension Bridge, and Stephenson’s Britannia Bridge) and towards Snowdonia National Park and also Puffin Island.	✓			✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓			✓
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓			✓
Maintain the integrity of Penmon Registered Historic Landscape.	✓			✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓			✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓			✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical and other development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓			✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓			✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓			✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		✓	

A12 East Central Anglesey



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises the inland buffer zone to the Menai Strait and extends from Newborough in the south west up past Llanddona in the north east.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, rural landscape
- Rolling and undulating landform
- Cultural heritage value

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (97%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Typically medium to large scale, regular field pattern with localised areas of smaller scale fields, particularly adjacent to settlements in the south. There are a mixture of field boundaries including a high number of managed hedgerows and stone walls. VS7: Managed Hedge (44%)/ Mixture (55%) VS8: <u>Medium</u> (97%)		-			
	Landform	Typically a gently rolling and undulating landscape with few hills and valleys. VS Classification Level 2: Lowland Valleys (15%)/ Rolling Lowland (81%) VS4: <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (93%)/ Hills/ Valleys (6%)	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Typically agricultural landcover comprising a mosaic of fields interspersed with settlements and areas of woodland.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Open Lowland Valleys (14%)/ <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (82%)</p> <p>VS5: Field Pattern/ Mosaic (96%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Man-made Influences	<p>Parts of the LCA are influenced by modern development with the A5/A55 transport corridor, Chester to Holyhead railway line and a 400 kV overhead line running through the centre of the area. Mobile masts and a wind turbine also introduce modern vertical structures into the landscape.</p> <p>High prevalence of settlements clustered along the road network towards the centre and south west of the LCA add to the man-made influence. There is one static caravan park located to the south west</p> <p>Away from the developments the rural farmland landscape is relatively free from modern development.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (97%)</p> <p>VS27: Unassessed (100%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>Typically scattered rural properties with some villages clustered along the road network.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (97%)</p>			-		
Skylines and Settings	<p>Skylines within this LCA are not particularly prominent; however the high hills of the National Park are visible and backdrop views to the south-west. Overhead lines punctuate the skyline towards the centre of this LCA.</p>	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	<p>Infrequent traffic introduces some movement throughout this LCA. Movement is particularly concentrated along the A55 and A5 main road corridors.</p> <p>VS18: Infrequent (97%)</p>	-				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views are mostly open; however, some views are enclosed by woodlands and high hedgerows. The Llŷn Peninsular is visible on southern horizon and there are views towards the National Park.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (43%)/ <u>Open</u> (57%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Villages and numerous scattered properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8). ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A5, A55 and A545 tourist routes and Chester to Holyhead Railway ▪ The local road network 	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn AONB ▪ Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale, Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds and Southern Anglesey Estatelands SLA ▪ Penmon Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens 	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type									
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks					
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP however the integrity is considered high and site based assessment considered the condition to be fair to good.</p> <p>VS27: Unassessed (100%)</p> <p>VS47: High (96%)</p>			↑							
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation</p> <p>VS25: Strong (7%) / <u>Weak</u> (46%) / <u>Moderate</u> (47%)</p> <p>VS46: Moderate (95%)</p> <p>VS47: High (96%)</p> <p>VS48: Moderate (53%) / <u>Low</u> (46%)</p>					-	-	-	-	-
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity	<p>The presence of settlement, major transport routes and other modern developments within this LCA all contribute to a generally lowered sense of remoteness towards the centre of this LCA, whereas elsewhere there is a much stronger sense of tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil; Settled; Safe</u> (44%) / <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Settled; Safe; Sheltered</u> (33%)</p>					-	-	-	-	-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value</p> <p>(including landscape related features)</p>	<p>Much of this LCA fringes on the Anglesey AONB with some small parts of the AONB included in this area.</p> <p>Small parts of this LCA lie within the Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale SLA, Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA and Southern Anglesey Estatelands SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8).</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs through parts of the southern and central areas of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Moderate</u> (96%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (13%)/ <u>Low</u> (85%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>Moderate</u> (95%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (57%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (42%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (32%)/ <u>Low</u> (66%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (32%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (68%)</p>					

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Historic Value	<p>A small part of this LCA lies within the Penmon Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>This LCA includes a number of Registered Parks and Gardens.</p> <p>Typically High to Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (66%) / Moderate (30%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (65%) / High (10%) / Moderate (22%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (59%) / High (19%) / Moderate (22%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴⁰ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

⁴⁰ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, agricultural landscape has a gently rolling and undulating landform which is considered moderately sensitive to wind energy developments. The presence of major transport infrastructure and overhead lines locally reduces the sensitivity.</p> <p>The value of this landscape as a setting to the Anglesey AONB and Snowdonia National Park together with a number of sensitive receptors and a high cultural heritage value as recognised through a number of historic designations (such as Penmon Registered Historic Landscape and Registered Parks and Gardens) increases the overall sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. medium development - 1 no. micro development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be limited capacity for further micro to small scale well sited developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height.</p>

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale, agricultural landscape has a gently rolling and undulating landform. The presence of major transport infrastructure, small villages and overhead lines locally reduces the sensitivity to field-scale solar PV development as does the presence of medium to large fields which are typically regular in pattern. Although woodland blocks may offer screening in some places the mixture of low field boundaries, which mostly comprise stone walls and managed hedgerows, increases sensitivity as there are fewer opportunities for localised screening of such developments.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further increased by the value of this landscape as a setting to the Anglesey AONB together with a high cultural heritage value as recognised through a number of historic designations (such as Penmon Registered Historic Landscape and Registered Parks and Gardens) increases the overall sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for well sited micro to small scale developments, in particular where these may relate to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, agricultural landscape has a gently rolling and undulating landform that is considered more accommodating to 400 kV overhead line development. The presence of major transport infrastructure and existing 400 kV line running near to the A55, locally reduces sensitivity further.</p> <p>The value of this landscape as a setting to the Anglesey AONB and Snowdonia National Park together with a number of sensitive receptors and a high cultural heritage value as recognised through a number of historic designations (such as Penmon Registered Historic Landscape and Registered Parks and Gardens) increases the overall sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. section of an existing 400 kV overhead line located centrally - 1 no. section of an existing low voltage pylon overhead line located centrally
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including an existing 400 kV overhead line.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

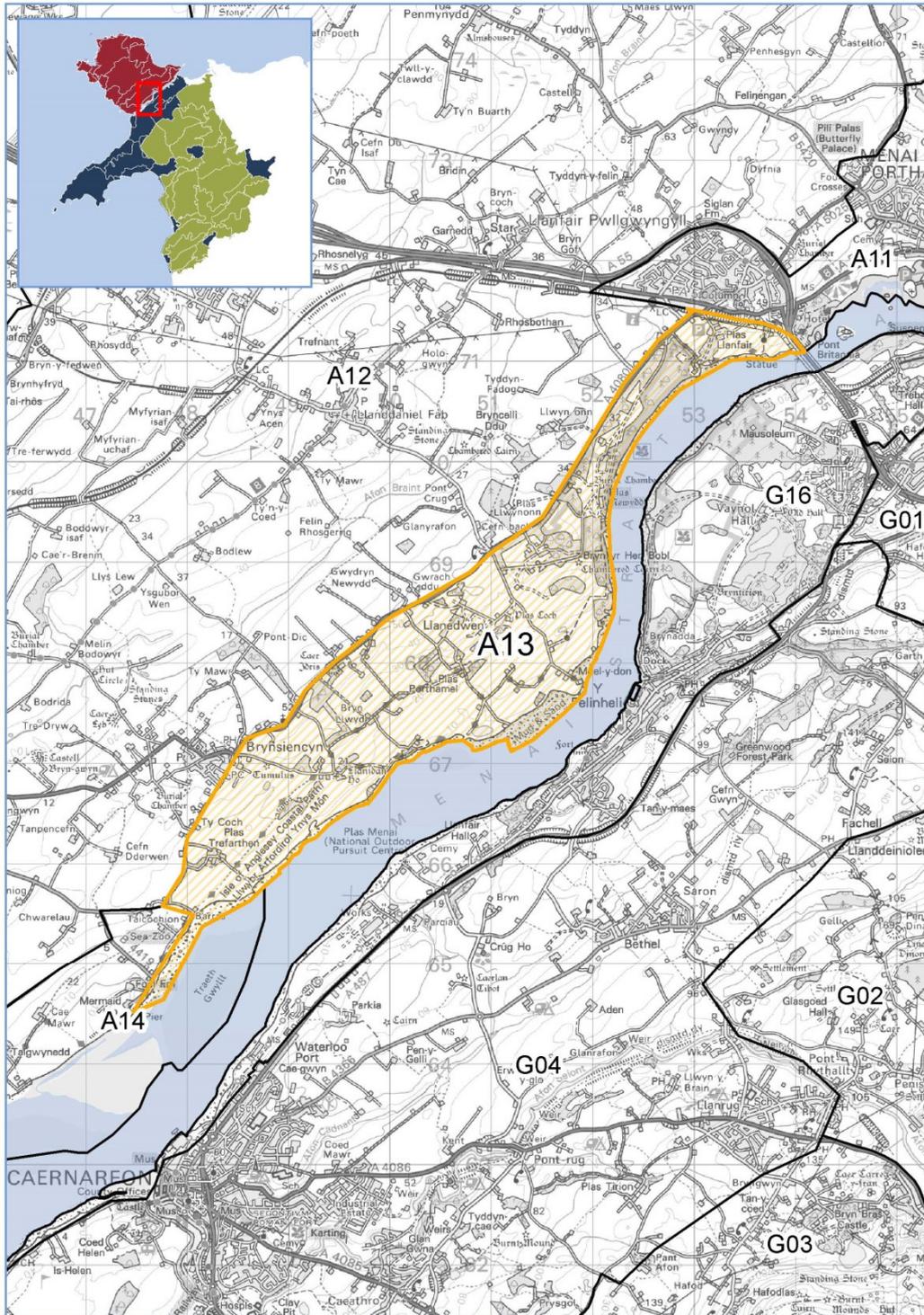
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale, agricultural landscape has a gently rolling and undulating landform. The presence of major transport infrastructure, overhead lines and a relatively small number of existing static caravan/chalet parks locally reduces the sensitivity, as does the presence of medium to large fields which are typically regular in pattern. Woodland blocks offer potential screening in some areas; however, a mixture of low field boundaries, which mostly comprise stone walls and managed hedgerows across much of this LCA, increases sensitivity as there are fewer opportunities for localised screening of such developments.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further increased by the value of this landscape as a setting to the Anglesey AONB together with a high cultural heritage value as recognised through a number of historic designations (such as Penmon Registered Historic Landscape and Registered Parks and Gardens) increases the overall sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs and are outside their boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	- 2 no. small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 KV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale; Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds; and Southern Anglesey Estatelands Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views, in particular towards Snowdonia National Park.	✓		✓	
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Penmon Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features, including Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓	✓	✓

A13 Western Menai Strait



1:50,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA extends from the Menai Bridge in the east to Brynsiencyn and beyond in the west. Inland, the boundary is formed by the break of slope marking the edge of the Isle of Anglesey's central plateau.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale
- Flat, open coastal landscape
- Rural landcover
- Cultural heritage interest

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (96%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally medium scale, irregular field pattern with a mixture of field boundaries. VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (90%) / <u>None</u> (10%) VS8: <u>Medium</u> (96%)		-			
	Landform	This LCA comprises lowland hills and valley slopes abutting the plateau landscape of central Anglesey together with a relatively flat coastal fringe . VS Classification Level 2: Coastal/ (10%) / Lowland Valleys (89%) VS4: Levels (10%) / <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> (89%)	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Rural landcover interspersed with scattered semi-natural vegetation dominates most of the LCA.</p> <p>The intertidal character of the Menai Strait bounds the south eastern edge of the LCA.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Intertidal (10%)/ <u>Mosaic Lowland Valleys</u> (89%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (89%)/ <u>Water</u> (10%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Man-made Influences	<p>Modern man-made influence is most apparent at the north eastern edge of the LCA where the A55 and A5 main road corridors and Chester to Holyhead railway line are found together with a 400 kV overhead line which crosses over the Menai Strait next to the bridge. Modern development also includes one mobile mast.</p> <p>Elsewhere the landscape remains more rural in nature and less influenced by modern development with the exception of number of small settlements, such as Brynsiencyn and Cefn Bach, which are scattered around the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (89%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (10%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>Dispersed small settlements and rural properties.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (89%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (10%)</p>			-		
Skylines and Settings	<p>This LCA forms the backdrop to the Menai Strait and the high hills of Snowdonia are visible to the south. The 19th Century Stephenson's Britannia Bridge is a prominent and distinctive landmark viewed on the skyline in the east of this LCA with a 400 kV overhead line visible in the immediate foreground.</p>	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	<p>Infrequent road traffic introduces some movement into this otherwise relatively still landscape.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Infrequent</u> (96%)</p>	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views to and from the mainland are important to this LCA which serves as the western gateway to the Isle of Anglesey.</p> <p>Views are mainly open within this LCA. The LCA has a strong intervisibility with the mainland, with views afforded over the Menai Strait being back dropped by the mountains of the National Park.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Open</u> (99%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8). ▪ Caernarfon Castle ▪ Local attractions such as Plas Newydd, Llanfairpwll ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A55 and A4080 tourist routes and Chester to Holyhead Railway ▪ The local road network ▪ Watersport and boats 	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Caernarfon Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site ▪ The Wales Coast Path 	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Beaumaris Wooded Slopes and Llangoed Vale SLA ▪ Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA ▪ Southern Anglesey Estatelands SLA ▪ Penmon Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Hillfort ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens 					
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP. On site assessment considered the condition of this landscape to be good. The landscape integrity is considered high.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: Outstanding (10%)/ <u>High</u> (90%)</p>			↑		
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (99%)</p> <p>VS46: Outstanding (10%)/ <u>High</u> (89%)</p> <p>VS47: Outstanding (10%)/ <u>High</u> (90%)</p> <p>VS48: High (96%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>The A55 corridor detracts from the otherwise tranquil and remote quality of much of the LCA.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Sheltered; Safe; Settled; Spiritual</u> (89%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p>	<p>The entire LCA falls within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along much of the length of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: Outstanding (10%) / <u>High</u> (89%)</p> <p>VS49: Outstanding (7%) / <u>High</u> (91%)</p> <p>LH45: Outstanding (9%) / <u>Moderate</u> (91%)</p> <p>LH42: High (24%) / <u>Moderate</u> (76%)</p> <p>GL31: Outstanding (5%) / <u>Moderate</u> (8%) / <u>Low</u> (83%)</p> <p>GL33: Outstanding (5%) / High (8%) / <u>Moderate</u> (83%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Historic Value</p>	<p>Registered Parks and Gardens are present in this LCA.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: High (18%) / <u>Moderate</u> (82%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (95%) / High (5%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (95%) / High (5%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴¹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale and mostly flat, coastal landscape is influenced locally to the north by the A55 corridor and Chester to Holyhead railway and overhead lines; thus locally reducing the sensitivity. However the LCA becomes increasingly rural and undisturbed to the west and much of this landscape is considered to have a strong character and high scenic quality and levels of tranquillity, which is reflected in the area being designated within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Furthermore, despite the transport corridor introducing modern development to the LCA, it also represents a main gateway to the Isle of Anglesey along which many visitors travel. A high degree of intervisibility with important landscapes including the National Park, enhances sensitivity further.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

⁴¹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale coastal landscape is influenced by the A55 corridor, Chester to Holyhead railway and overhead lines to the north but becomes increasingly rural and undisturbed to the west. Away from the more sensitive immediate coastal fringe, the relatively flat landform inland comprises medium scale fields with a mixture of field boundaries which are considered to have a slightly reduced sensitivity.</p> <p>This is outweighed by the fact that much of this landscape is considered to have a strong character and high scenic quality and levels of tranquillity, which is reflected in the area being designated within the Anglesey AONB. Furthermore, despite the transport corridor introducing modern development to the LCA, it also represents a main gateway to the Isle of Anglesey along which many visitors travel. A high degree of intervisibility with important landscapes including the National Park enhances sensitivity further.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments within this LCA.

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale and mostly flat, coastal landscape is influenced locally to the north by the A55 corridor and Chester to Holyhead railway and overhead lines; thus locally reducing the sensitivity. However the LCA becomes increasingly rural and undisturbed to the west and much of this landscape is considered to have a strong character and high scenic quality and levels of tranquillity, which is reflected in the area being designated within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Furthermore, despite the transport corridor introducing modern development to the LCA, it also represents a main gateway to the Isle of Anglesey along which many visitors travel. A high degree of intervisibility with important landscapes including the National Park, enhances sensitivity further.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. section of an existing 400 kV overhead line located to the far north east of the LCA
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments within this LCA.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

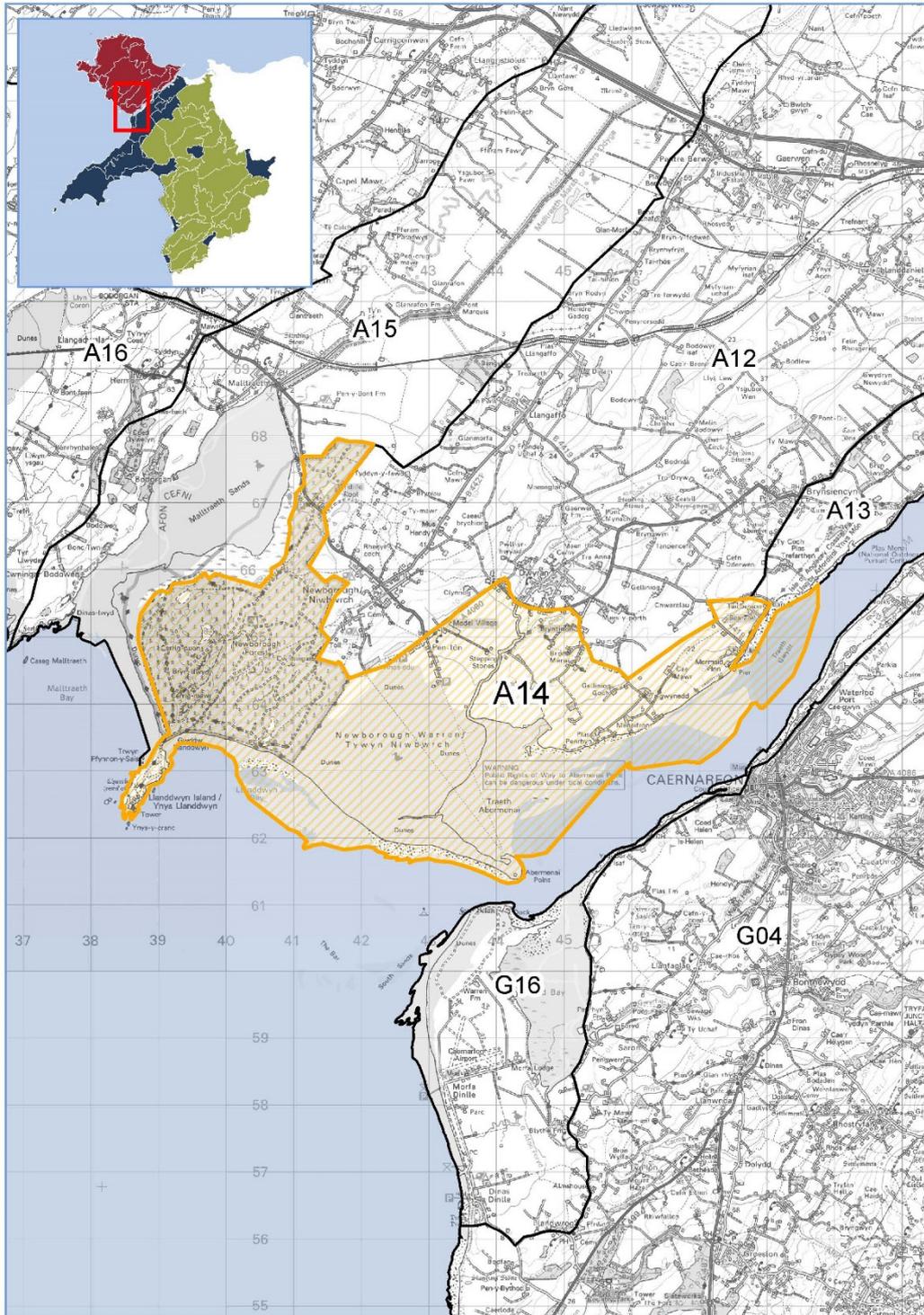
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale coastal landscape is influenced by the A55 corridor, Chester to Holyhead railway and overhead lines to the north but becomes increasingly rural and undisturbed to the west. Away from the more sensitive immediate coastal fringe, the relatively flat landform inland comprises medium scale fields with a mixture of field boundaries which may provide opportunities for screening such developments, therefore slightly reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>This is outweighed by the fact that much of this landscape is considered to have a strong character and high scenic quality and levels of tranquillity, which is reflected in the area being designated within the Anglesey AONB. Furthermore, despite the transport corridor introducing modern development to the LCA, to the north, it also represents a main gateway to the Isle of Anglesey along which many visitors travel. A high degree of intervisibility with important landscapes including the National Park enhances sensitivity further.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. large development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments and/or extensions within this LCA.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Maintain the setting and key views to and from Caernarfon Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓			
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓			
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views, in particular along the Menai Strait (including Stephenson's Britannia Bridge) and towards Snowdonia National Park.	✓			
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓			
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓			
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓			
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓			
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓			
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) and route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓			
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓			
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		✓	

A14 Newborough



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a distinct coastal landscape on the south western promontory of the Isle of Anglesey.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale, open landscape
- Extensive dune system and associated streams, inlets and intertidal zone
- Coniferous plantations

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (48%) / <u>Large</u> (52%)	↓		↓		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Where field systems are present centrally and to the east of the LCA, field scale is typically medium to large and field pattern is relatively regular . There are a mixture field boundaries including stone walls and hedgerows . Outside the field systems, the areas of dunes and coniferous plantation are large scale and have no boundaries . VS7: Mixture (27%) / <u>None</u> (73%) VS8: Medium (48%) / <u>Large</u> (52%)		-			
	Landform	Centrally and to the east the landform is gently rolling lowland whilst the landform to the western and southern borders of the LCA is flat . VS Classification Level 2: Coastal (44%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (55%)	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS4: Levels (22%)/ Rolling/Undulating (78%)					
Landcover	<p>The dominant landcover is the coastal dune system of Newborough Warren to the south west.</p> <p>To the north – north west the LCA is covered by the large coniferous Newborough Forest.</p> <p>Centrally and to the east, landcover is a mosaic of mixed farmland.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Dunes & Dune Slack (21%)/ Intertidal (22%)/ Open Rolling Lowland (26%) Other Coastal Wild Land (30%)</p> <p>VS5: Open Land (23%)/ Field Pattern/ Mosaic (25%)/ Water (22%)/ <u>Woodland</u> (30%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Man-made Influences	<p>Modern day man-made influences are limited to the local road network and dispersed settlement pattern.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (26%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (74%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
Settlement Pattern	<p>This LCA is relatively unsettled. The few settlements are associated with the mixed farmland to the centre and east of the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (26%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (74%)</p>			↓		
Skylines and Settings	<p>Newborough Forest to the north – north west is a distinctive skyline feature. The Llŷn Peninsular and Snowdonia are also visible to the south and east with skylines elsewhere being flat and relatively simple.</p>	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	Occasional and infrequent traffic on local roads and access tracks introduce some movement into this otherwise still landscape . VS18: Occasional _(14%) / <u>Infrequent</u> _(86%)	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	Views are typically open within this LCA with the exception of the afforested areas to the north west within which views are confined VS9: <u>Open</u> _(61%) / <u>Exposed</u> _(9%) / <u>Confined</u> _(30%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties ▪ The Wales Coast Path ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Caernarfon Castle ▪ Local attractions including Ynys Llanddwyn with its church and lighthouse ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A4080 tourist route ▪ The local road network ▪ Watersport and boats 	-	-	-		-
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn AONB ▪ Caernarfon Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site ▪ Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA ▪ Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast 	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP but the integrity is considered High-Outstanding. On site assessment considered the condition of this landscape to be fair to good.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: Outstanding (44%) / High (56%)</p>			↑		
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (74%) / <u>Moderate</u> (26%) /</p> <p>VS46: Outstanding (43%) / Moderate (56%)</p> <p>VS47: Outstanding (44%) / High (56%)</p> <p>VS48: Outstanding (44%) / Moderate (55%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>Away from the small number of dispersed properties and influence of the A4080, the landscape has a strong sense of tranquillity and remoteness particularly the western areas of Newborough Forest and the sands at Newborough Warren.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Sheltered; Threatening; Remote</u> (30%) / <u>Tranquil; Safe; Sheltered; Remote</u> (25%) / <u>Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Wild; Smell; Sheltered</u> (21%) / <u>Attractive; Smell; Tranquil; Remote; Wild</u> (14%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs across almost the entire length of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: Outstanding (44%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (56%)</p> <p>VS49: Outstanding (21%)/ <u>High</u> (54%)/ Moderate (25%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>Outstanding</u> (74%)/ Moderate (25%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>High</u> (65%)/ Moderate (35%)</p> <p>GL31: High (42%)/ Moderate (5%)/ Low (41%)</p> <p>GL33: Outstanding (39%)/ High (8%)/ Moderate (21)/ Low (22%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Historic Value	<p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (65%)/ Moderate (01%)/ Unassessed (34%)</p> <p>HL35: Outstanding (9%)/ <u>High</u> (91%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>High</u> (97%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴² (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This landscape is typically large scale and flat in places and comprises large areas of relatively uniform landcover which is indicative of a reduced sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This is overridden by the natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, tranquil and distinctive landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity and is reflected in the fact that the entire LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB. Sensitivity is further enhanced by the cultural heritage value of the landscape and strong intervisibility with the mainland and other highly valued landscapes.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>The relative flatness of the landscape combined with the regular pattern of medium to large scale agricultural fields slightly reduces the sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development to the centre and east of the LCA. However, the mix of field boundaries which includes stone walls and low hedgerows reduces opportunities for screening such developments and therefore increases sensitivity.</p> <p>Furthermore, the natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, tranquil and distinctive landscape, including extensive coastal dune systems, imparts a high degree of sensitivity to this type of development which is reflected in the fact that the entire LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB. Sensitivity is further enhanced by the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.

⁴² NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This LCA comprises a typically large scale, relatively flat and largely unsettled landscape which is indicative of a reduced sensitivity to 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>This is overridden by the coastal nature and characteristics of this sparsely settled, tranquil and distinctive landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity to this type of development and are reflected in the fact that the entire LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB. Sensitivity is further enhanced by the cultural heritage value of the landscape and strong intervisibility with the mainland and other highly valued landscapes.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented 400 kV overhead line developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>The relative flatness of the landscape combined with the regular pattern of medium to large scale agricultural fields slightly reduces the sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development to the centre and east of the LCA. However, the mix of field boundaries which includes stone walls and low hedgerows reduces opportunities for screening such developments and therefore increases sensitivity. The presence of a large coniferous forest locally reduces sensitivity by offering potential for screening such development.</p> <p>This is overridden by the coastal nature and characteristics of this sparsely settled, tranquil and distinctive landscape, including extensive coastal dune systems, which impart a high degree of sensitivity and is reflected in the fact that the entire LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB. Sensitivity is further enhanced by the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

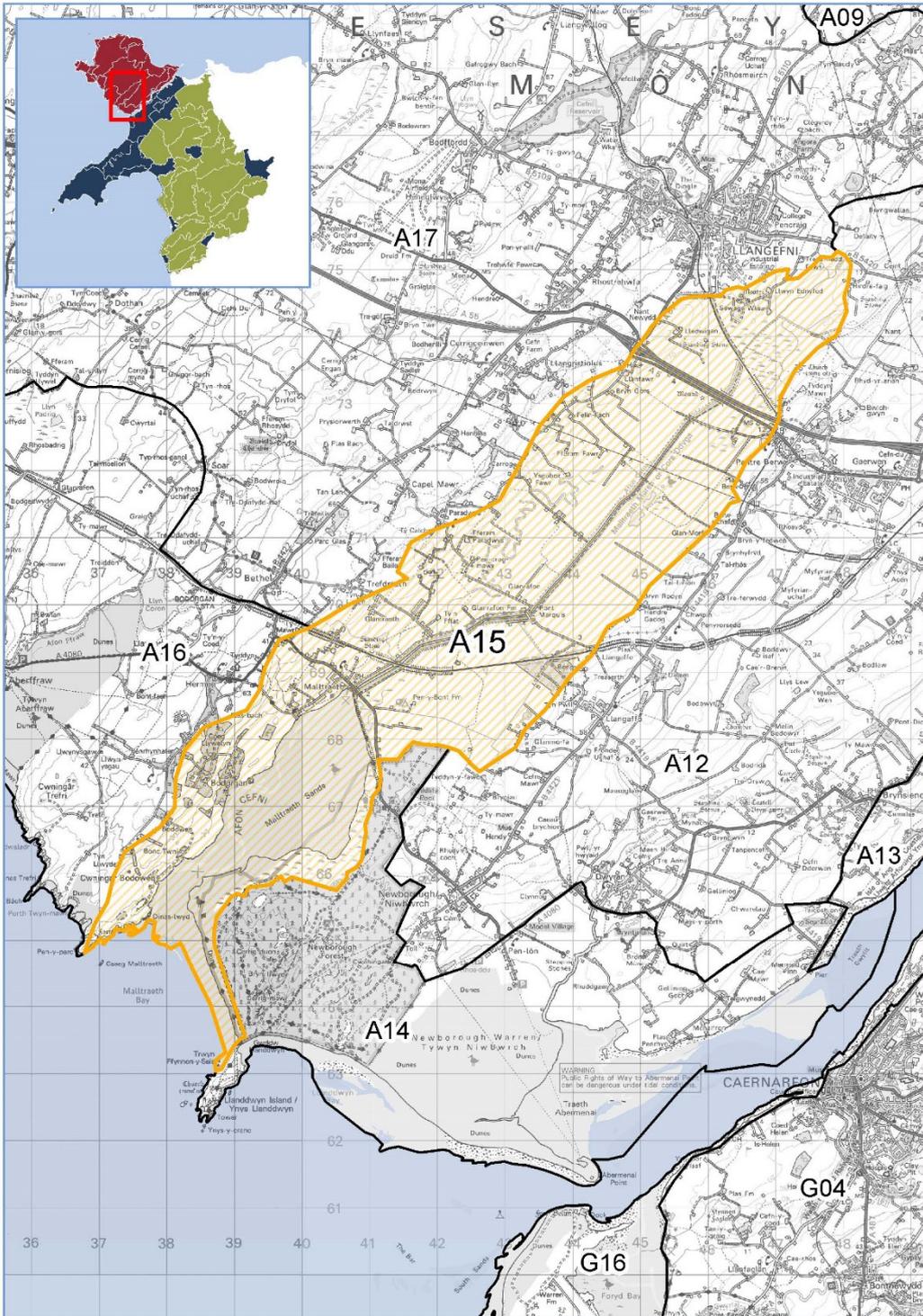
Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Maintain key views to and from Caernarfon Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓			
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓			
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views, in particular along the Menai Strait, towards the sea and Llŷn Peninsular and towards Snowdonia National Park.	✓			
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓			
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓			
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓			
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓			
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coastal Path and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓			
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓			

■

A15 Afon Cefni



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is centred along the Afon Cefni extending past the A5/A55 corridor in the north east down to Malltraeth sands in the south west.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Low lying coastal landform
- Distinctive man-made drainage pattern strongly influences landscape character

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (80%)/ <u>Large</u> (20%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally medium to large scale, relatively regular field pattern with a high percentage of managed hedge field boundaries. VS7: <u>Managed Hedge</u> (51%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (29%)/ <u>None</u> (17%) VS8: <u>Medium</u> (80%)/ <u>Large</u> (20%)		-			
	Landform	Landform is typified by a broad, flat, low lying and open valley . VS Classification Level 2: <u>Built Land</u> (01%)/ <u>Coastal</u> (08%)/ <u>Developed Unbuilt Land</u> (01%) / <u>Coastal Waters</u> (12%)/ <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (24%)/ <u>Flat Lowland/Levels</u> (51%) VS4: <u>Levels</u> (70%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (28%)	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Network of drainage channels interspersed with mixed farmland to the north and sandy intertidal landcover to the south.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Estuary (31%) / Flat Open Lowland Farmland (51%) / Mosaic Rolling Lowland (24%)</p> <p>VS5: Open Land (16%) / Field Pattern/ Mosaic (66%) / Water (17%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Man-made Influences	<p>Transport infrastructure influences the northern end of the LCA where the landscape is crossed by the A5/A55 transport corridor and Chester to Holyhead railway line. Elsewhere the LCA remains a sparsely settled highly rural landscape, relatively devoid of modern development.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (80%) / No Settlements (20%)</p> <p>VS27: Unassessed (100%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>Relatively few settlements are scattered throughout the landscape with a small cluster at the northern tip of Malltraeth sands.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (80%) / No Settlements (20%)</p>			↓		
Skylines and Settings	<p>This LCA comprises a strongly horizontal landscape, with relatively simple uninterrupted skylines. The Llŷn Peninsular and mountains of Snowdonia are visible on southern horizon.</p>	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	<p>With the exception of road traffic on the main roads and within settlements, movement is generally infrequent throughout most of the LCA.</p> <p>VS18: Occasional_(12%)/ Frequent_(13%) / <u>Infrequent</u>_(74%)</p>	-				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Typically open views across valley floor framed by the valley sides. The eye is drawn along the valley and out to sea. Views from Malltraeth sands to the south lead to exposed, expansive coastal views with the Llŷn Peninsular and mountains of Snowdonia visible on the southern horizon.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Open</u>_(92%)/ Exposed_(8%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8). ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A5, A55 and A4080 tourist routes and Chester to Holyhead Railway ▪ The local road network ▪ Water sport and boats 	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn AONB ▪ Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast ▪ Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA 	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered Parks and Gardens 					
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP however the integrity is considered high and site based assessment considered condition to be fair to good.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>Outstanding</u> (17%)/ <u>High</u> (82%)</p>			↑		
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>The scenic qualities and character of parts of this LCA are recognised in the fact that much of the LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB and Malltraeth Marsh and Surrounds SLA.</p> <p>Typically high LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (73%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (27%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>Outstanding</u> (17%)/ <u>High</u> (13%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (18%)/ <u>LOW</u> (52%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>Outstanding</u> (17%)/ <u>High</u> (82%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>Outstanding</u> (17%)/ <u>High</u> (67%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (16%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>The A5/A55 road corridor and the Chester to Holyhead railway link together with small settlements introduce local levels of disturbance and reduce the sense of remoteness. However, away from these influences much of this landscape has a sense of tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil; Settled</u> (51%)/ <u>Tranquil; Attractive;</u> <u>Noisy; Safe; Spiritual; Exposed</u></p>	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	(13%) / Attractive; Smell; Tranquil; Remote; Wild (12%) / Tranquil; Attractive; Noisy; Settled; Safe; Spiritual (11%)					

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value</p> <p>(including landscape related features)</p> <p>The south western half of this LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>The north eastern half of the LCA lies within the Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8).</p> <p>Much of the LCA coastline is defined as Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path crosses the southern part of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: Outstanding (17%)/ High (16%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (67%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>High</u> (84%)/ Moderate (13%)</p> <p>LH45: Outstanding (23%)/ <u>High</u> (45%)/ Moderate (27%)/ Low (5%)</p> <p>LH42: Unassessed (13%)/ <u>High</u> (52%)/ Moderate (31%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>High</u> (73%)/ Moderate (5%)/ Low (12%)</p> <p>GL33: Outstanding (19%)/ <u>High</u> (69%)/ Moderate (12%)/</p>						
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>Registered Parks and Gardens are present in this LCA.</p> <p>Typically High to Outstanding LANDMAP evaluations.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (79%)/ Moderate (12%)/ Low (9%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (80%)/ Low (9%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (68%)/ High (23%)/ Low (9%)</p>						

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴³ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, low lying, coastal landscape comprises the channelised Afon Cefni and a managed drainage network interspersed with mixed farmland to the north. Transport infrastructure to the north of the LCA brings man-made influence and frequent movement, thus locally reducing sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the remoteness and tranquillity experienced in other parts of the landscape as reflected by the designation of the regional Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA and parts of this landscape being designated within the Anglesey AONB. Coastal areas have a strong intervisibility with surrounding areas of Anglesey AONB and together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape, this further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

⁴³ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, low lying, coastal landscape comprises the channelised Afon Cefni and a managed drainage network interspersed with mixed farmed fields, typically medium to large in scale and relatively regular in pattern. The fields are typically bounded by managed hedgerows to the north; leaving these unmanaged may provide an opportunity for screening field-scale solar PV energy developments however this would not be in keeping with the character of the landscape.</p> <p>Transport infrastructure influences the north of the LCA thus locally reducing the sensitivity. However this is outweighed by the remoteness and tranquillity experienced in other areas of the landscape as reflected by the designation of the regional Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA and parts of this landscape designated within the Anglesey AONB which together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments within this LCA.

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, low lying, coastal landscape comprises the channelised Afon Cefni and a managed drainage network interspersed with mixed farmland to the north.</p> <p>Transport infrastructure to the north of the LCA introduces man-made influence, thus locally reducing sensitivity to 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the remoteness and tranquillity experienced in other parts of the landscape as reflected by the designation of the regional Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA and parts of this landscape being designated within the Anglesey AONB. Coastal areas have a strong intervisibility with surrounding areas of Anglesey AONB and, together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape, this further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	2 no. sections of an existing low voltage pylon overhead line located either side of the Afon Cefni (it is undergrounded through the valley)
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments within this LCA.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, low lying, coastal landscape comprises the channelised Afon Cefni and a managed drainage network interspersed with mixed farmed fields, typically medium to large in scale and relatively regular in pattern. The fields are typically bounded by managed hedgerows to the north; leaving these unmanaged may provide some opportunity for screening static caravan/chalet park developments however this is not considered in keeping with the character of much of the landscape. Tree cover is also relatively sparse in this landscape, further reducing screening opportunities.</p> <p>Transport infrastructure influences the north of the LCA thus locally reducing the sensitivity. This is outweighed by the remoteness and tranquillity experienced in other areas of the landscape as reflected by the designation of the regional Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA and parts of this landscape designated within the Anglesey AONB which together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape, further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments within this LCA.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓			
Conserve the natural beauty and undeveloped characteristics of Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast.	✓			
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views, in particular towards the sea and Llŷn Peninsular and Snowdonia National Park.	✓			
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly beauty and careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓			
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓			
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓			
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓			

■

A16 Aberffraw



1:50,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is located along the south western coast of the Isle of Anglesey centred on Aberffraw.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open coastal landscape
- Extensive dune system
- Cultural heritage interest

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (100%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Field scale varies from small to large within this LCA. Field pattern is mainly regular with some localised irregular areas, particularly to the south. There is a mixture of hedgerow and stone wall field boundaries. VS7: Fences (13%) / <u>Mixture</u> (83%) VS8: <u>Medium</u> (100%)		-			
	Landform	Landform is generally gently rolling lowland becoming flatter towards the western coastal boundary. VS Classification Level 2: Coastal (15%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (83%) VS4: <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (96%)	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Landcover is typified by agricultural field systems and an area of sand dunes near Aberffraw.</p> <p>The western edge of the LCA comprises a sandy, intertidal landcover that extends throughout the entire western boundary.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Dunes & Dune Slack (11%) / Mosaic Rolling Lowland (35%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (48%)</p> <p>VS5: Open Land (44%) / <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (52%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Man-made Influences	<p>Relatively sparse, scattered settlement pattern. Man-made influence is most evident where the Isle of Anglesey race track is located to the west of the LCA.</p> <p>Elsewhere, man-made influence is limited to the small historical settlement of Aberffraw and the local road network.</p> <p>A small number of mobile masts and small wind turbines locally add modern vertical development to parts of this landscape.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (83%) / No Settlements (15%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>Relatively sparse, scattered settlement pattern. The small village of Aberffraw is the largest settlement.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (83%) / No Settlements (15%)</p>			↓		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Skylines and Settings	Skylines within this LCA are simple and sweeping across the relatively flat landform. Skylines and setting along the immediate coastline are more varied and dramatic .	-		-		
Movement	Movement is generally infrequent throughout the LCA although, the Isle of Anglesey race track introduces intermittent movement to north west at times. VS18: Frequent (30%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (70%)	-				
Visual Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	Views are open within this LCA, with sweeping vistas afforded to the Llŷn Peninsular across the sea to the south. St Cwyfan's Church is a local focal point, situated on a small tidal island just off the coast near Aberffraw. VS9: <u>Open</u> (100%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small settlements and scattered properties Long distance routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8). Open Access Areas Local attractions and public rights of way Chester to Holyhead Railway The A4080 tourist route The local road network Watersport and boats 	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anglesey AONB Llŷn AONB Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA Registered Park and Garden 	↑		↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
outside of each Landscape Character Area)						
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP; however the integrity is considered high and site based assessment considered the condition to be fair to good.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (98%)</p>			↑		
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Much of the LCA is recognised as having high scenic qualities through its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some High areas.</p> <p>VS25: Strong (13%)/ <u>Weak</u> (47%)/ Moderate (39%)</p> <p>VS46: High (35%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (63%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (98%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>High</u> (41%)/ Moderate (11%)/ <u>Low</u> (48%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>Although there is a sense of remoteness in some places, tranquillity is heavily disrupted by the Isle of Anglesey race track when in use.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Noisy; Settled; Safe</u> (47%)/ Tranquil; Attractive; Noisy; Safe; Spiritual; Exposed (30%)/ Tranquil; Exposed; Wild; Smell; Sheltered (11%)</p>	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>Much of the LCA lies within the Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Eastern parts of this LCA lie within the Malltraeth Marsh and Surrounds SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8).</p> <p>Much of the LCA coastline is defined as Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along the southern and central part of the LCA.</p> <p>LANDMAP evaluations range from Low to High with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (46%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (52%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>High</u> (43%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (9%)/ <u>Low</u> (48%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>Outstanding</u> (12%)/ <u>High</u> (6%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (5%)/ <u>Low</u> (77%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (77%)/ <u>High</u> (16%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (6%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>High</u> (69%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (26%)/ <u>Low</u> (5%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (11%)/ <u>High</u> (84%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (5%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑	
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>The south eastern edge of this this LCA lies within the fringes of a Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>Outstanding</u> (70%)/ <u>High</u> (9%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (21%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (79%)/ <u>High</u> (21%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑	

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴⁴ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale landscape comprises relatively flat, rolling lowland that is indicative of a lowered sensitivity. The Isle of Anglesey race track locally detracts from the sense of tranquillity experienced elsewhere introducing intermittent disturbance and movement to the area. Together with the presence of wind turbines and mobile masts, which introduce modern vertical development to the landscape, this further lessens sensitivity.</p> <p>This is outweighed by much of the LCA falling within the valued landscape of the Anglesey AONB including sensitive dune systems and sandy inter-tidal zones and proximity to Aberffaw Heritage Coast. A number of sensitive receptors, intervisibility and open views throughout the LCA, further increase sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	2 no. domestic developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic to micro scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

⁴⁴ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale landscape comprises relatively flat, rolling lowland that is indicative of a lowered sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development. The Isle of Anglesey race track and other modern developments including wind turbines and mobile masts, locally detract from the sense of tranquillity experienced elsewhere; thus further reducing the sensitivity.</p> <p>Parts of this LCA which comprise regular patterns of larger field systems with mixed field boundaries are considered to have a lowered sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development, in particular where there are hedgerows which may introduce the possibility of increasing vegetation height to provide further localised screening.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by much of the LCA falling within the valued landscape of the Anglesey AONB including sensitive dune systems and sandy inter-tidal zones and the proximity to Aberffaw Heritage Coast.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	1 no. very large development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLA, there is very little capacity for developments due to the proposed very large development to the north east. However, there may be a limited capacity for some well sited micro to small scale developments, in particular where these may relate to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-high	<p>This medium scale, sparsely settled landscape comprises relatively flat, rolling lowland that is indicative of a lowered sensitivity to 400 kV overhead line development. The Isle of Anglesey race track locally detracts from the sense of tranquillity experienced elsewhere. Together with the presence of wind turbines and mobile masts, which introduce modern vertical development to the landscape, this further lessens sensitivity.</p> <p>This is outweighed by much of the LCA falling within the valued landscape of the Anglesey AONB including sensitive dune systems, sandy inter-tidal zones and proximity to Aberffaw Heritage Coast. A number of sensitive receptors, intervisibility and open views throughout the LCA, further increase sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented 400 kV overhead line developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line development.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale landscape comprises relatively flat, rolling lowland that is indicative of a lowered sensitivity. The Isle of Anglesey race track and other modern developments including wind turbines and mobile masts, locally detract from the sense of tranquillity experienced elsewhere, thus further reducing the sensitivity.</p> <p>Parts of this LCA which comprise regular patterns of larger field systems with mixed field boundaries are considered to have a lowered sensitivity, in particular where hedgerows introduce the possibility of increasing vegetation height to provide further localised screening.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the coastal nature of this LCA and the fact that a large part of it lies within the valued landscape of the Anglesey AONB including sensitive dune systems, sandy inter-tidal zones and the proximity to Aberffaw Heritage Coast.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLA (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLA it is considered there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓		✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds; and Southern Anglesey Estatelands Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓		✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views, in particular towards the sea over to the Llŷn Peninsular and towards St Cwyfan's Church.	✓			
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓		✓
Conserve the natural beauty and undeveloped characteristics of Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast.	✓	✓		✓
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓		✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features, including Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓		✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓			
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓		✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓		✓

A17 West Central Anglesey



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

This extensive LCA comprises a large area of the Isle of Anglesey’s agricultural heartland including the settlements of Gwalchmai and Llangefni.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Rolling and undulating and form
- Expansive agricultural heartland of the Isle of Anglesey

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: Medium (98%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally medium to large scale fields . Typically regular field pattern with localised areas of smaller, irregular and more complex field patterns around settlements. Mixture of field boundaries . VS7: Fences (03%)/Mixture (97%) VS8: Medium (98%)		↓			
	Landform	Typically gently rolling and undulating landform with a number of rocky outcrops which locally increase sensitivity. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (90%) VS4: <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (98%)	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>Landcover comprises a typically uniform pattern of mixed farmland, mainly pastoral with some arable land and some small areas of semi-natural habitat which break up the uniformity of the wider landscape. Mining activities influence parts of the LCA and Cefni reservoir lies just south of centre.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (39%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (53%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (95%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Man-made Influences	<p>With the exception of the settlements of Gwalchmai and Llangefni, settlement pattern elsewhere is typified by scattered rural properties.</p> <p>The A5/A55 corridor passes through the centre-west of the LCA and the presence of a 400 kV overhead line, wind turbines and mobile masts introduce modern vertical structures into the landscape. Other modern development includes a small number of quarries and static caravan parks and RAF Mona airfield which is located towards the centre of the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (96%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	<p>With the exception of the settlements of Gwalchmai and Llangefni, settlement pattern is typified by scattered rural properties.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (96%)</p>			↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Skylines and Settings	Skylines are not particularly prominent in this LCA and are sometimes interrupted by modern developments such as overhead lines and wind turbines .	↓		↓		
Movement	With the exception of road traffic along the main roads, movement is relatively infrequent in the LCA. VS18: <u>Infrequent</u> (97%)	↑				
Visual	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)					
	Views are typically open within this LCA, with distant views to the Llŷn Peninsular to the south from the immediate coastline. VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (6%)/ <u>Open</u> (94%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small villages and scattered properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5), route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566). ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions such as Dingle local nature reserve, Llangefni ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A5, A55 and A4080 tourist routes and the Chester to Holyhead Railway ▪ The local road network ▪ Watersport and boats 	-	-	-	-	
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn AONB ▪ Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA ▪ Parciau Estatelands SLA ▪ Hillfort 	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
outside of each Landscape Character Area)						
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP; however integrity is considered high. Site based assessment considered the condition to be fair.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (93%) / <u>Moderate</u> (5%)</p>					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation</p> <p>VS25: <u>Weak</u> (49%) / <u>Moderate</u> (48%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>Moderate</u> (98%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (93%) / <u>Moderate</u> (5%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>Moderate</u> (48%) / <u>Low</u> (50%)</p>					
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>The busy road network, Mona airfield and activity within settlements all contribute to a reduced sense of remoteness and tranquillity locally within the central and western part of the LCA. However, elsewhere away from these influences the LCA is relatively tranquil and undisturbed.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Noisy; Settled; Safe</u> (52%) / <u>Tranquil; Attractive; Noisy; Settled; Safe; Spiritual</u> (38%)</p>					

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value</p> <p>(including landscape related features)</p>	<p>A small part of this LCA along the western coastline lies within Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Small parts of this LCA lie within Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds SLA and Parciau Estatelands SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5), route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and route from Llanddeusant to Newborough (NCN route 566).</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path briefly enters the LCA on its south western boundary.</p> <p>Typically Low to Moderate LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Moderate</u> (98%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (42%)/ <u>Low</u> (57%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>Moderate</u> (69%)/ <u>Low</u> (28%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (89%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (9%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>High</u> (56%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (20%)/ <u>Low</u> (24%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>High</u> (75%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (22%)/</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓
	<p>Historic Value</p>	<p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (85%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (10%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (82%)/ <u>High</u> (15%)/</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (82%)/ <u>High</u> (15%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴⁵ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale, low lying landscape comprises large areas of mixed farmland. Modern vertical structures such as existing overhead lines, wind turbines and mobile masts are visible elements within the LCA; thus reducing sensitivity. The Mona airfield and A5/A55 corridor locally detract from the tranquillity of the landscape, further reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is counterbalanced by the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors and the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p> <p>The most westerly tip of the LCA falls within Anglesey AONB, increasing the sensitivity in this area.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>For all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs, and are outside these areas, the overriding objective is Landscape Accommodation; however, a degree of Landscape Change could be accommodated in places.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. small development - 3 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for further micro to small scale developments which could typically comprise single or small clusters of turbines (up to 3 in number) up to 50 m to blade tip height. Any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with existing turbines and wind farms and other vertical modern developments.</p>

⁴⁵ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Low-Medium	<p>This medium scale, low lying landscape comprises large areas of mixed farmland. Field systems are typically regular with medium to large scale fields bounded by a mixture of stone walls and hedgerows which is indicative of a lower sensitivity and introduces the possibility of increasing vegetation height to provide further localised screening.</p> <p>The Mona airfield and A5/A55 corridor detract from the tranquillity of the landscape, further reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is counterbalanced slightly by the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p> <p>The most westerly tip of the LCA falls within Anglesey AONB, increasing the sensitivity in this area.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>For all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs, and are outside these areas, the overriding objective is Landscape Accommodation; however, a degree of Landscape Change could be accommodated in places.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy (with the exception of very infrequent micro scale, development)</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for micro to small scale developments. There may also be limited capacity for larger scale developments, in particular towards the south west where the landscape is already influenced by modern infrastructure; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with other developments.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale, low lying landscape comprises large areas of mixed farmland. Modern vertical structures such as existing overhead lines, wind turbines and mobile masts are visible; thus reducing sensitivity. The Mona airfield and A5/A55 corridor detract from the tranquillity of the landscape, further reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is counterbalanced by the scattered settlement pattern and presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors and the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p> <p>The most westerly tip of the LCA falls within Anglesey AONB, increasing the sensitivity in this area.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>For all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs, and are outside these areas, the overriding objective is Landscape Accommodation; however, a degree of Landscape Change could be accommodated in places.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 no. sections of an existing 400 kV overhead line located to the far east of the LCA - 1 no. section of an existing low voltage pylon overhead line to the south west of the LCA
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including an existing 400 kV overhead line in the north east.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

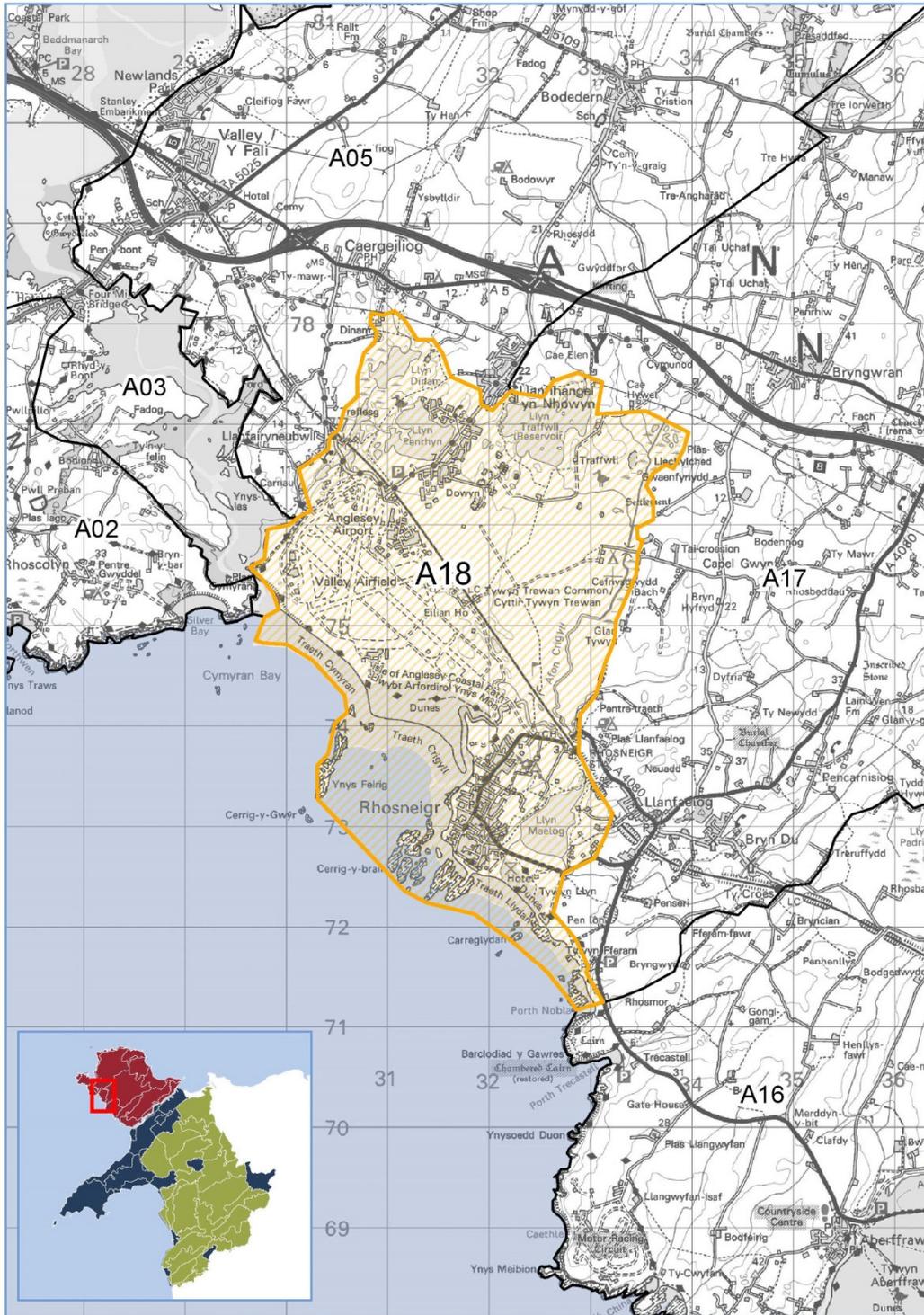
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Low-Medium	<p>This medium scale, low lying landscape comprises large areas of mixed farmland. Field systems are typically regular with medium to large scale fields bounded by a mixture of stone walls and hedgerows, the latter introducing the possibility of increasing vegetation height to provide localised screening, thus reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>The Mona airfield and A5/A55 corridor detract from the tranquillity of the landscape, further reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is counterbalanced slightly by the cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p> <p>The most westerly tip of the LCA falls within Anglesey AONB, increasing the sensitivity in this area.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs.</p> <p>For all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLAs, and are outside these areas, the overriding objective is Landscape Accommodation; however, a degree of Landscape Change could be accommodated in places.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large development (1 to the north east split between A17 and A09) - 2 no. medium developments <p>(developments located towards the periphery of the LCA)</p>
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for very small to small scale developments, and/or limited capacity for well-designed and sensitively sited larger scale developments, which should, in all cases relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Malltraeth Marsh & Surrounds; and Parciau Estatelands Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views.	✓		✓	
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features, and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle routes from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5), route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and route from Llanneusant to Newborough (NCN route 566), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development this LCA and erosion of rural characteristics in less developed areas.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		✓	

A18 Valley Airfield Environs



1:50,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a flat coastal plain extending from the RAF Valley Airfield in the north down past Rhosneigr in the south.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Flat coastal plain
- RAF Valley Airfield

Sensitivity Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (80%)/ <u>Large</u> (20%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Large areas of this LCA comprise an airfield, sand dunes and a lake. Outside of these areas, field systems are generally medium to large in scale and have a semi regular field pattern with a mixture of fences, hedgerows and stone wall field boundaries. VS7: <u>Fences</u> (20%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (65%)/ <u>None</u> (15%) VS8: <u>Medium</u> (80%)/ <u>Large</u> (20%)		-			
	Landform	A flat landscape bounded by coast to the west. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Built Land</u> (7%)/ <u>Coastal</u> (15%)/ <u>Developed Unbuilt Land</u> (20%) / <u>Flat Lowland Levels</u> (52%)/ <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (6%)	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS4: <u>Levels</u> (87%)/ Rolling/Undulating (13%)					
Landcover	<p>RAF Valley Airfield lies to the north west and, with the 20th century holiday settlement of Rhosneigr, represents urban landcover within the LCA.</p> <p>Elsewhere there is typically a mosaic of farmland interspersed with a series of wetlands and waterbodies.</p> <p>The western boundary of the LCA comprises sandy dunes along the coastline.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: <u>Amenity Land</u> (20%)/ <u>Flat Lowland Mosaic</u> (52%)/ <u>Intertidal</u> (15%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (6%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (20%)/ <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (6%)/ <u>Development</u> (7%) / <u>Water</u> (15%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (52%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Man-made Influences	<p>The LCA is influenced by modern development, most notably through the RAF Valley Airfield, which exerts a strong visual influence to the north west whilst introducing movement and a high level of noise disturbance that impacts on the surrounding areas.</p> <p>Other man-made influences include the tourist-based village of Rhosneigr to the south west, the Chester to Holyhead railway line, a number of static caravan sites and several mobile masts.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (22%)/ <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (59%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (15%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓
Settlement Pattern	<p>Settlement is concentrated within and around the coastal village of Rhosneigr to the south west. Elsewhere this LCA is sparsely settled.</p>			↓		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS6: Clustered (22%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (59%) / No Settlements (15%)					
Skylines and Settings	The simple and sweeping skylines of this LCA are interrupted by the buildings associated with RAF Valley Airfield.	↓		↓		
Visual	Movement The presence of traffic on the road network and the RAF Valley Airfield brings frequent movement to areas of the LCA. Elsewhere, movement is less frequent. VS18: Constant (7%) / Frequent (15%) / Infrequent (78%)	↓				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are open throughout this LCA with long distance views over the coastline to the Llŷn Peninsular to the south. VS9: <u>Open</u> (100%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numerous clustered and scattered properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8). ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ Chester to Holyhead Railway ▪ The A4080 tourist route ▪ The local road network ▪ Watersport and boats 	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn AONB 	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)						
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is unassessed by LANDMAP; however the integrity is considered moderate and site based assessment considered the condition to be fair.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>Moderate</u> (76%)/ <u>Low</u> (22%)</p>					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with a strong local distinctiveness</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (91%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (7%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>High</u> (15%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (62%)/ <u>Low</u> (22%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>Moderate</u> (76%)/ <u>Low</u> (22%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>High</u> (91%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (7%)</p>	-	-	-		-
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>A high level of intrusion in connection with the RAF Valley Airfield, settlement and main road corridors detracts from the tranquillity of the landscape.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Noisy</u> (52%)/ <u>Noisy</u>; <u>Attractive</u>; <u>Exposed</u>; <u>Wild</u>; <u>Smell</u> (15%)/ <u>Unattractive</u>; <u>Threatening</u>; <u>Noisy</u>; <u>Exposed</u> (20%)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value</p> <p>(including landscape related features)</p>	<p>North western and south eastern parts of this LCA lie within Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Area and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8).</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along the length of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate - High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: High (15%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (62%)/ Low (22%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>High</u> (51%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (40%)/ Low (9%)</p> <p>LH45: Outstanding (8%)/ High (26%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (44%)/ Low (22%)</p> <p>LH42: Unassessed (24%)/ <u>High</u> (50%)/ Moderate (20%)/ Low (7%)</p> <p>GL31: Moderate (35%)/ <u>Low</u> (53%)</p> <p>GL33: High (14%)/ Moderate (39%)/ Low (49%)</p>					
	<p>Historic Value</p>	<p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>Outstanding</u> (47%)/ High (34%)/ Moderate (19%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Outstanding</u> (81%)/ Moderate (19%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>Outstanding</u> (81%)/ Moderate (19%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴⁶ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This typically medium scale, coastal landscape is heavily influenced by modern development, particularly the RAF Valley Airfield which brings a level of visual intrusion and movement to the areas thus reducing the sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by a number of sensitive visual receptors within and around the LCA, including those in the tourist based resort of Rhosneigr. Open and expansive views are afforded along the coastline and this LCA has a high intervisibility with areas of Anglesey AONB.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and are outside its boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be limited capacity for micro to small scale well sited developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height.</p>

⁴⁶ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This typically medium scale, coastal landscape is heavily influenced by modern development, particularly the RAF Valley Airfield which brings a level of visual intrusion to the area. The flat landform away from the coast comprises medium to large scale field systems enclosed by a mixture of boundaries including hedgerows which introduce the possibility of increasing vegetation height to provide further localised screening and therefore lessen sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of open and expansive views afforded along the coastline and the intervisibility with areas of Anglesey AONB which (together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape) increases the sensitivity to development</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and are outside its boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be some capacity for well sited micro scale developments, in particular where these may relate to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This typically medium scale, coastal landscape is heavily influenced by modern development, particularly the RAF Valley Airfield which brings a level of visual intrusion and movement to the area thus reducing the sensitivity to 400 kV overhead line development. Outside the main resort of Rhosneigr the LCA is sparsely settled, further reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by a number of sensitive visual receptors within and around the LCA, including those in the tourist based resort of Rhosneigr. Open and expansive views are afforded along the coastline; this LCA has a high intervisibility with areas of Anglesey AONB.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation –all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and are outside its boundaries.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No existing or consented 400 kV overhead line developments within this LCA - 1 no. section of existing low voltage pylon overhead line marginally enters the LCA to the far north before being undergrounded at Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn - 1 no. section of an existing low voltage pylon overhead line located just outside of the northern boundary west of Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>Outside the AONB and SLAs it is considered there may be limited capacity for 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical and other modern developments.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

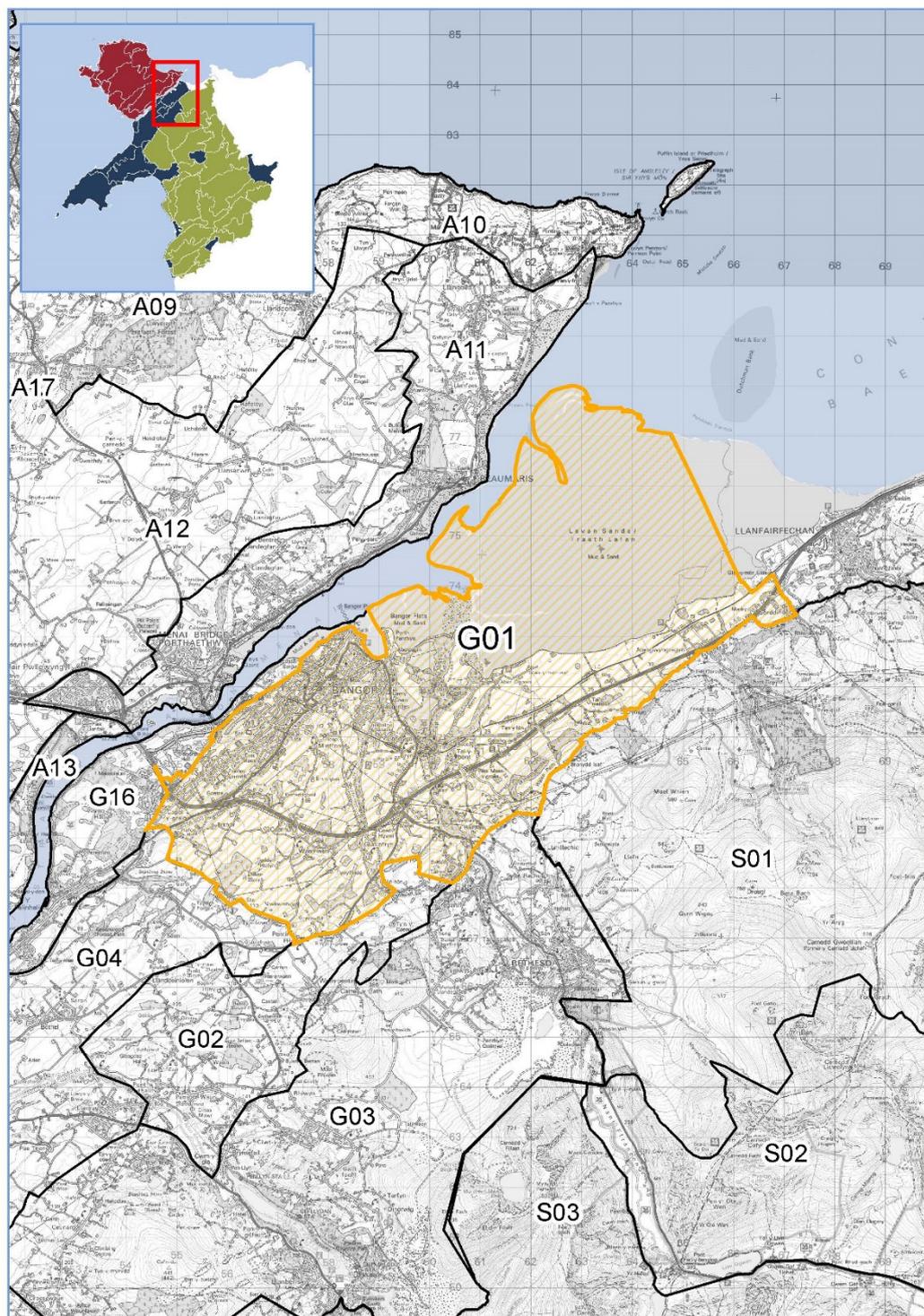
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This typically medium scale and open coastal landscape is influenced by modern development, particularly the RAF Valley Airfield which brings a level of visual intrusion to the area: thus reducing the sensitivity to development. A number of static caravan/chalet parks are clustered to the east of Rhosneigr with some focused along the coastline, locally reducing the sensitivity.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced slightly by the presence of open and expansive views afforded along the coastline and the intervisibility with areas of Anglesey AONB which (together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape) increases the sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very small development - 1 no. small development - 2 no. medium developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Although a lower sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments may indicate a higher capacity in this LCA, there may be very limited capacity, if any, for further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions. This is due to the relatively small size of the LCA together with the amount of modern development which already influences the landscape (including RAF Valley Airfield and several larger scale static caravan/chalet parks).</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of the Anglesey AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and outside the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views.	✓		✓	
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that the developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features, and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing turbines and vertical development; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓	✓

G01 Bangor Coastal Plain



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises the large settlement of Bangor which fronts on to the Menai Strait and the immediate coastline of Gwynedd to the far north east.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, settled landscape
- Narrow coastal plain, bounded inland by Snowdonia
- Major transport / communication corridor
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (99%) / <u>Small</u> (1%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally medium to large scale, regular field pattern with a mixture of field boundaries. Some localised areas of small scale, irregular and sometimes complex field patterns, particularly adjacent to settlements. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (99%) / <u>Small</u> (1%) VS7: <u>Managed Hedge</u> (11%) / <u>Mixture</u> (52%) / <u>None</u> (37%)		↓			
	Landform	Narrow coastal plain , bounded inland by Snowdonia. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Built Land</u> (11%) / <u>Coastal</u> (37%) (Lavan Sands) / <u>Flat Lowland/Levels</u> (11%) / <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (8%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (32%) VS4: <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (51%) / <u>Levels</u> (48%)	↓	↓	↓		↓
	Landcover	Land cover pattern around the urban area of Bangor largely reflects the influence of Penrhyn Estate – planned, formal parkland , estate farms and	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>settlements with a number of south-north flowing streams in small well wooded valleys.</p> <p>VS Level 3: Flat Open Lowland Farmland (11%) / Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing (8%) / <u>Intertidal</u> (37%) (Lavan Sands) / Mosaic Rolling Lowland (6%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (27%) / Urban (11%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (44%) / <u>Mixture</u> (45%) (Lavan Sands) / Development (11%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>This LCA is influenced by modern development within Bangor and major transport infrastructure, including the A55 and North Wales Coast Railway. Overhead lines traverse the southern part of the LCA and a number of mobile masts are concentrated around Bangor.</p> <p>VS6: <u>No Settlements</u> (37%) (Lavan Sands) / <u>Clustered</u> (35%) / Urban (11%) / Scattered/Rural Farm (17%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Fair</u> (46%) / <u>Good</u> (43%) (primarily Lavan Sands) / Unassessed (12%) (urban areas)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓
Settlement Pattern	<p>Bangor is a relatively large and compact urban settlement which lies in the north of this LCA. Settlement elsewhere is typically clustered into small villages with few isolated properties.</p> <p>VS6: <u>No Settlements</u> (37%) (Lavan Sands) / <u>Clustered</u> (35%) / Urban (11%) / Scattered/Rural Farm (17%)</p>			↓		
Skylines and Settings	<p>Skylines and settings are dominated by the two 19th Century Menai Bridges: Telford's Suspension Bridge, and Stephenson's Britannia Bridge. The distinctive skyline of the Snowdonia Massif lies immediately to the south of the area and the distinctive landform feature of Bangor Mountain sits centrally within the LCA and contributes greatly to the setting of Bangor.</p>	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	Skylines are occasionally punctuated by overhead lines and existing modern built development.					
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Frequent road traffic brings movement throughout this LCA, in particular to the north around Bangor and along the A55. In contrast, movement at Lavan Sands is limited to the movement of the tide and water.</p> <p>VS18: Constant (11%) / <u>Frequent</u> (52%) / <u>Rare</u> (37%) (Lavan Sands)</p>	↓				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA. There are strong visual links with the Menai Strait and the southern edge of the Isle of Anglesey and this area is also overlooked by the National Park.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Open</u> (88%) / <u>Enclosed</u> (12%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numerous properties (mainly within Bangor and small clustered settlements) ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes North Wales Coast (NCN route 5), route Lôn Las Ogwen (section of NCN route 82) and route Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8) ▪ Local attractions such as Penrhyn Castle ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A487, A55 and A5 tourist routes and North Wales Coast Railway ▪ The local road network ▪ Water sport and boat users 	↑	↑	↑		↑
	<p>Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Great Orme Heritage Coast ▪ North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA ▪ Menai SLA ▪ Bangor Mountain SLA ▪ Penmon Registered Historic Landscape ▪ North Arllechwedd Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape 	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered Parks and Gardens 					
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally fair to good.</p> <p>VS27: <u>Fair</u> (46%) / <u>Good</u> (43%) (primarily Lavan Sands) / <u>Unassessed</u> (12%) (urban areas) VS47: <u>High</u> (55%) / <u>Moderate</u> (18%) / <u>Low</u> (27%)</p>					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation</p> <p>VS25: <u>Moderate</u> (57%) / <u>Strong</u> (43%) (Lavan Sands) VS46: <u>High</u> (50%) (primarily Lavan Sands) / <u>Moderate</u> (50%) VS47: <u>High</u> (55%) / <u>Moderate</u> (18%) / <u>Low</u> (27%) VS48: <u>High</u> (43%) (primarily Lavan Sands) / <u>Moderate</u> (57%)</p>					
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>The settlements and major transport routes within this LCA give a sense of activity and movement to much of the area, thus lessening the sense of remoteness and tranquillity (with the exception of Lavan Sands which is considered relatively tranquil).</p> <p>VS24: <u>Settled</u> (27%) / <u>Smell; Tranquil; Exposed; Remote; Wild; Spiritual</u> (37%) (Lavan Sands) / <u>Other</u> (8%) / <u>Attractive</u> (6%) / <u>Settled; Tranquil; Noisy; Exposed; Smell</u> (11%) / <u>Unattractive; Noisy; Sheltered; Safe; Settled</u> (11%)</p>					
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>The regionally designated Bangor Mountain SLA lies wholly within this LCA. Parts of North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA and Vaynol Estate and Surrounds SLA also lie within this LCA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Sustrans national cycle routes North Wales Coast (NCN route 5), route Lôn Las Ogwen (section of NCN route 82) and route Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8).</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path crosses much of the LCA.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (43%) (primarily Lavan Sands) / <u>Moderate</u> (57%)</p>					

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
		<p>VS49: Outstanding (37%) (primarily Lavan Sands) / High (6%) / Moderate (57%)</p> <p>LH45: High (41%) / Moderate (39%) / Low (20%)</p> <p>LH42: High (20%) / Moderate (67%) / Low (13%)</p> <p>GL31: Outstanding (55%) / High (10%) / Moderate (35%)</p> <p>GL33: High (65%) / Moderate (35%)</p>					
	Historic Value	<p>Much of this LCA lies within the North Arllechwedd and Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscapes. A small part of the LCA lies within the Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape. A Registered Park and Garden is also present.</p> <p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: Outstanding (31%) / High (37%) / Moderate (25%) / Unassessed (7%)</p> <p>HL35: Outstanding (55%) / High (38%) / Moderate (7%)</p> <p>HL40: Outstanding (57%) / High (36%) / Moderate (6%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴⁷ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale and mostly flat, mixed use coastal landscape is in places heavily developed, lessening the sensitivity of the landscape to wind energy development.</p> <p>This is overridden by the presence of distinctive skylines in combination with of a high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes and nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site).</p> <p>Lavan Sands is particularly tranquil and devoid of man-made influence, therefore sensitivity in this locality is considered higher.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This is a medium scale and mostly flat, mixed use coastal landscape which in places is heavily developed. Field systems are typically medium in scale and regular in pattern with a mix of field boundaries lessening the sensitivity of the landscape to field-scale solar PV energy development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors in some places, nationally designated cycle routes and nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site).</p> <p>Lavan Sands is particularly tranquil and devoid of man-made influence, therefore sensitivity in this locality is considered higher.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

⁴⁷ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs and areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and are outside the SLAs.</p>
Baseline Development	1 no. micro development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Within all areas that contribute to the setting of the National Park, there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments . However, outside these areas there may be some limited capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments . This could typically comprise occasional, well sited micro to small scale developments .

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>The medium scale and mostly flat, mixed use coastal landscape is in places heavily developed and includes an existing 400 kV overhead line, which locally lessens the sensitivity of the landscape.</p> <p>This is overridden by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes and nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site).</p> <p>Lavan Sands is particularly tranquil and devoid of man-made influence, therefore sensitivity in this locality is considered higher.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs and areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and are outside the SLAs.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. section of existing 400 kV overhead line broadly parallels the boundaries of the LCA to the south west. - 1 no. section of existing 132 kV overhead line runs broadly parallel to the 400 kV overhead line to the south west of the LCA
Indicative Overall Capacity	Within all areas that contribute to the setting of the National Park, there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments . However, outside these areas there may be some limited capacity for further 400 kV overhead line developments .

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This is a medium scale and mostly flat, mixed use coastal landscape which in places is heavily developed. Away from urban areas field systems are typically medium in scale and regular in pattern with a mix of field boundaries; this together with the fact that the landscape is relatively well treed, reduces the sensitivity of the landscape to static caravan / chalet parks and extensions.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes and nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes in combination with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site).</p> <p>Lavan Sands is particularly tranquil and devoid of man-made influence, therefore sensitivity in this locality is considered higher.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs and areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and are outside the SLAs.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Within all areas that contribute to the setting of the National Park there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments . However, outside these areas there may be some capacity for very small to small , well designed and sited static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

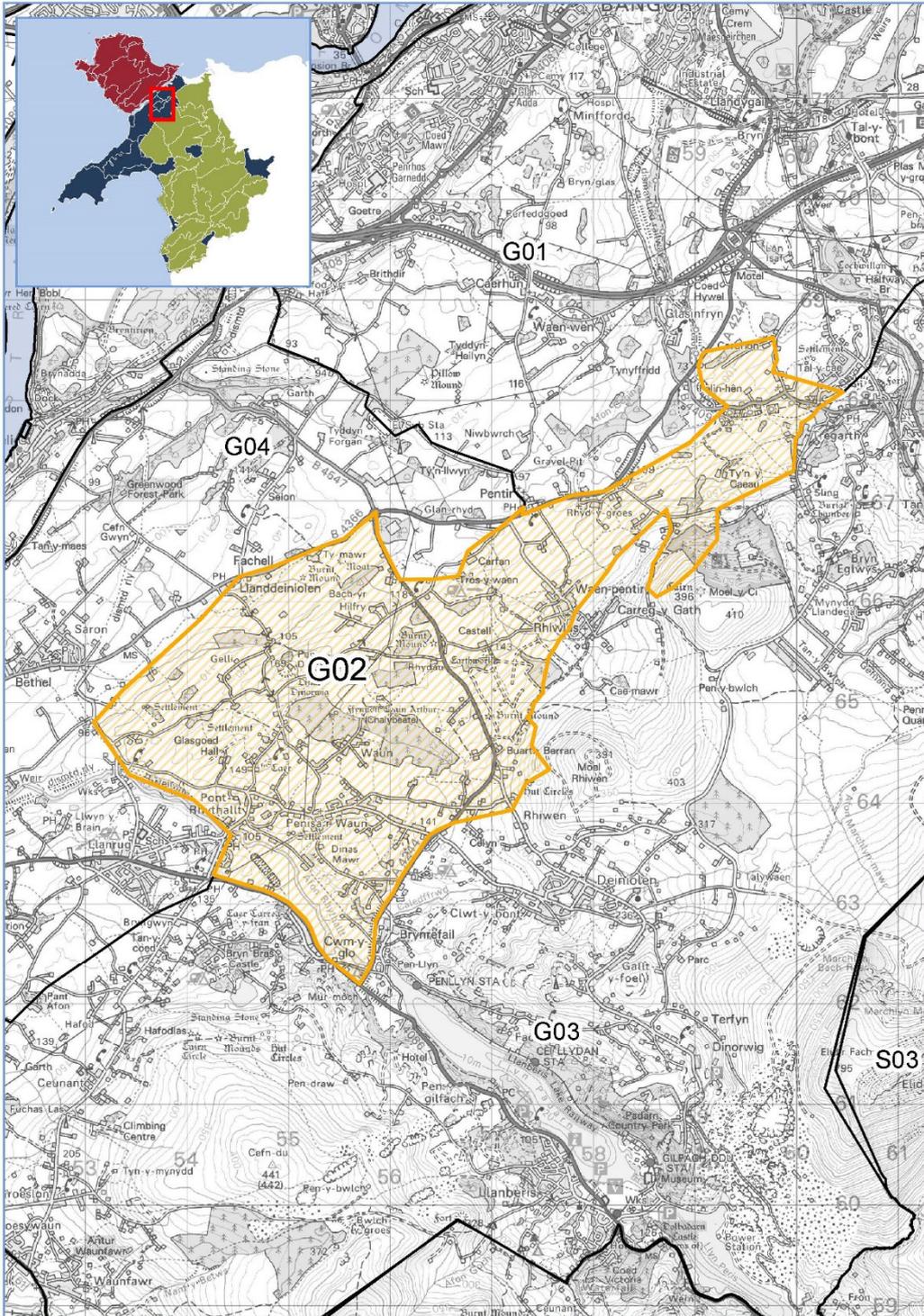
The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and wider setting.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Anglesey AONB.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the setting and key views to and from Beaumaris Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the North Western Fringes of Snowdonia Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the distinctive and valued landform of Bangor Mountain Special Landscape Area, its special qualities and its wider setting. The siting and design of any proposed development should not significantly compromise the undeveloped character for which a large part of this area is valued.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should not compromise the natural beauty and wider setting of Lavan Sands.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, particularly along the Menai Strait.	✓		✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of North Arllechwedd; Ogwen Valley; and Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens (including that in which Penrhyn Castle lies); and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle routes [North Wales Coast (NCN route 5), Lôn Las Ogwen (section of NCN route 82) and Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8)], and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A55 tourist route and North Wales Coast Railway.	✓	✓	✓	✓

Anglesey, Gwynedd & Snowdonia National Park
Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment

Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓		✓
Avoid siting any development within the sight lines of key views, particularly out to sea.	✓	✓	✓	✓

G02 Penisarwaun Plateau



1:50,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a relatively small area to the north of Gwynedd from Penisarwaun to Tregarth, approximately 2.5 km inland of the Menai Strait.

Key Characteristics

- Typically medium scale, agricultural landscape
- Intermediate zone between the coast and Snowdonia
- Large woodlands and plantations
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: Medium (98%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally small to medium scale, regular field pattern with a prevalence of stone wall boundaries. VS8: Medium (98%) VS7: Mixture (30%) / <u>Stone Walls</u> (68%)		↑			
	Landform	Typically gently undulating/rolling landform with steeper slopes to the south. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (67%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (6%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (25%) VS4: <u>Hills/Valleys</u> (73%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (26%)	-	-	-		-
	Landcover	Mosaic of pastures and woodland with one relatively large coniferous plantation.	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS Classification Level 3: <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing</u> (67%) / Open Lowland Valleys (5%) / Open Rolling Lowland (25%) VS5: <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (98%)					
Man-made Influences	Man-made influences in this LCA include the A4244 and a pattern of small clustered settlements . A 400 kV overhead line runs in a north south orientation across the central section of the LCA and a 132 kV overhead line runs parallel to part of its north west boundary. VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (92%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (7%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (26%) / Unassessed (74%)	-	-	-		-
Settlement Pattern	Settlement pattern is typically clustered . VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (92%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (7%)			↓		
Skylines and Settings	This LCA is rarely seen as a skyline feature with the exception of the ridge where Dinas Dinorwig Hillfort is located. Skylines are occasionally punctuated by overhead lines and existing built development. The distinctive Snowdonia skyline lies to the south.	-		-		
Movement	Road traffic brings frequent movement along the A4244 and there is a relatively dense network of local roads and lanes. VS18: <u>Frequent</u> (98%)	↓				
Visual	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically open within this LCA. There are strong visual links with adjacent LCAs in particular to the south where the landform rapidly rises along the fringe of Snowdonia. VS9: <u>Open</u> (97%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Long distance routes including Sustrans Lôn Las Ogwen cycle route (section of NCN route 82) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The local road network 	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape Hillforts 	↑		↑		
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally fair.</p> <p>VS27: Fair (26%) / Unassessed (74%) VS47: High (13%) / Low (45%) / Moderate (42%)</p>			-		
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation</p> <p>VS25: Moderate (100%) VS46: Moderate (90%) / High (9%) VS47: Low (25%) / Moderate (67%) / High (7%) VS48: Moderate (98%)</p>	-	-	-	-
	Remoteness/Tranquillity	<p>The presence of settlement, modern development and the main road networks in this area lessen the sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: Settled (26%) / Other (67%) / Settled; Noisy (5%)</p>	↓	↓	↓	↓
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>Part of the regionally designated North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA lies within this LCA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Ogwen (section of NCN route 82).</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: Moderate (98%) VS49: Moderate (98%) LH45: Low (17%) / Moderate (47%) / High (34%) LH42: Low (45%) / Moderate (38%) / High (17%) GL31: High (79%) / Outstanding (18%) GL33: High (97%)</p>	-	-	-	-
	Historic Value	<p>The majority of this LCA lies within Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape and the remainder lies</p>	↑	↑	↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>within the Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (71%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (28%) HL35: <u>High</u> (32%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (67%) HL40: <u>High</u> (10%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (90%)</p>					

Development Type	Summary of Sensitivity	Overall Sensitivity
Wind Energy		
Field-Scale Solar PV Energy		
400 kV Overhead Line		
Mobile Masts	Development type not applicable to this LCA	
Static Caravan/Chalet Parks & Extensions		

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴⁸ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>Frequent movement and the busy road network bring movement and man-made influence to the area (including an existing 400 kV overhead line which punctuates the skyline in places), thus locally reducing tranquillity and lessening sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This is overridden by strong visual links with adjacent sensitive LCAs (including the National Park), a mosaic landcover pattern and the outstanding historic value of the LCA which increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with existing vertical modern developments.</p>

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>The presence of overhead lines, settlements and the road network lessens the sense of remoteness and tranquillity of the LCA and locally reduces sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development. In addition coniferous plantations and woodland blocks to the west offer potential screening opportunities for such development.</p> <p>This is overridden by the small to medium scale of the fields together with a prevalence of stone wall field boundaries and intervisibility with elevated areas of the National Park together with the outstanding historic value of the LCA which increases sensitivity.</p>

⁴⁸ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent micro scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for well sited micro to small scale developments.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>The settlement pattern and man-made influences in this landscape include an existing 400 kV overhead line which punctuates the skyline in places and locally reduces the sensitivity to further 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>This is overridden by strong visual links with adjacent LCAs, (including the National Park), a mosaic landcover pattern and the outstanding historic value of the LCA which increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p> <p>A degree of Landscape Change is accepted where an existing 400 kV line influences the landscape of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. section of existing 400 kV overhead line bisects the LCA - 1 no. section of existing 132 kV overhead line to the north
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be some capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including an existing 400 kV overhead line in the north.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

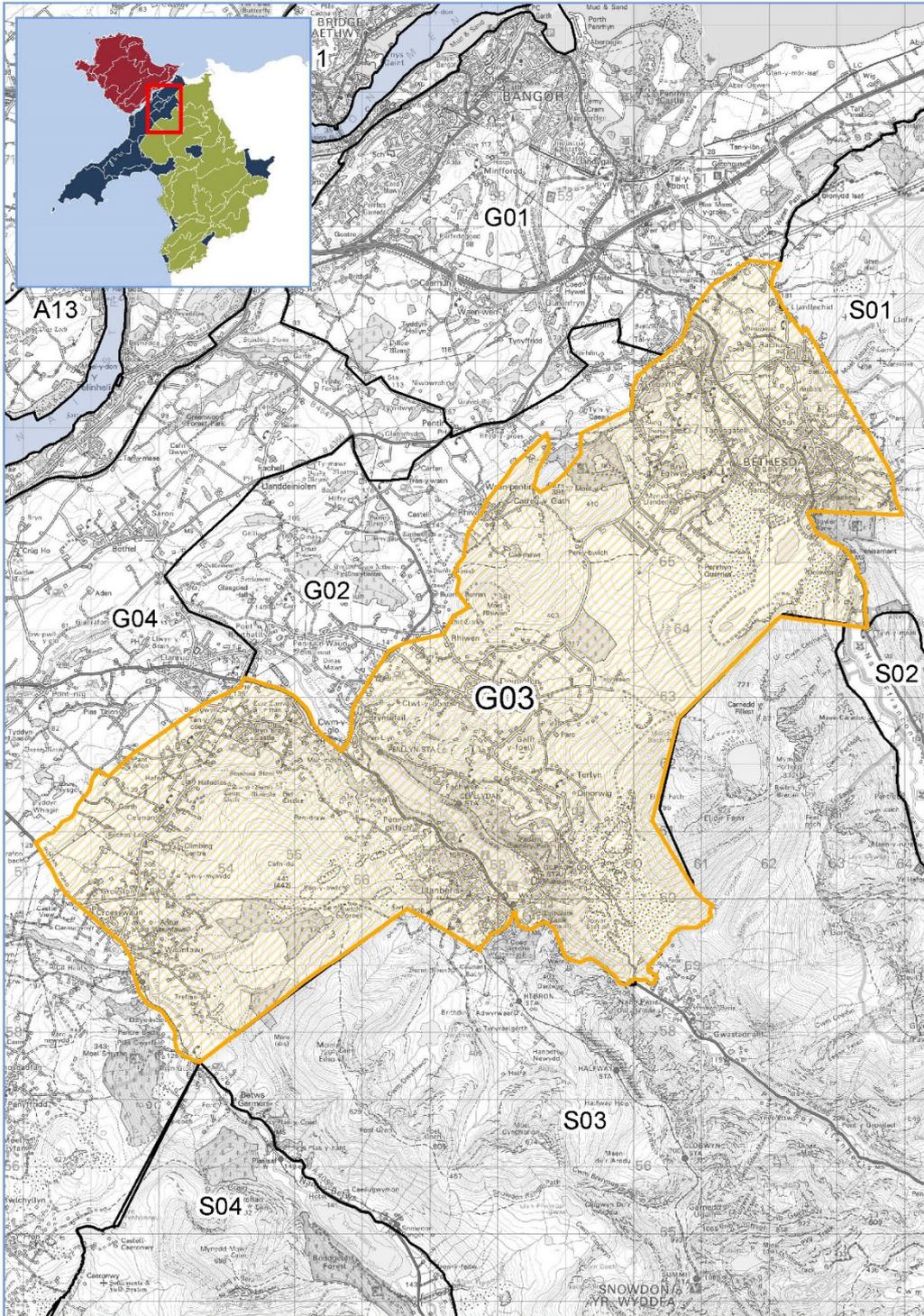
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>The presence of overhead lines, settlements, the road network and an existing static caravan/chalet park located in a relatively flat area to the west of the LCA all serve to lessen the sense of remoteness and tranquillity of the LCA and reduce sensitivity to further static caravan/chalet park developments. In addition coniferous plantations and woodland blocks to the west offer potential screening opportunities for such development.</p> <p>This is overridden by the small to medium scale of the field systems together with a prevalence of stone walls and strong visual links with adjacent LCAs, especially the higher vantage points of the National Park, which together with the outstanding historic value of the LCA increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	- 1 no. medium development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and wider setting.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Anglesey AONB.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the North Western Fringes of Snowdonia Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views.	✓		✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Ogwen Valley and Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as hillforts; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing 400 kV overhead lines. Siting should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including Sustrans Lôn Las Ogwen cycle route (section of NCN route 82), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓		✓

G03 Llanberis - Bethesda



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a typically upland landscape on the fringe of Snowdonia; running south west from Waunfawr, to Bethesda in the north east.

Key Characteristics

- Medium to large scale upland landscape, on the fringe of Snowdonia
- Extensive areas of former slate workings
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium to large scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (61%) / <u>Large</u> (36%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	The field systems present (in between the settlements, slate workings and unenclosed uplands), typically display small to medium scale, relatively regular field patterns mainly bounded by stone walls . VS8: <u>Medium</u> (61%) / <u>Large</u> (36%) VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (19%) / <u>None</u> (40%) / <u>Stone Walls</u> (39%)		↑			
	Landform	Upland fringe landscape comprising high hills and valleys with large areas of disturbed land (former slate workings). VS Classification Level 2: <u>Developed Unbuilt Land</u> (12%) / <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (28%) / <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (45%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (5%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (28%) / <u>Hills/Valleys</u> (50%) / <u>Disturbed</u> (12%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (9%)	-	-	-		-
	Landcover	Network of pasture fields, scattered trees and scrub along lower slopes. Rough grass upland grazing areas and scattered rocky outcrops on the eastern	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>edge adjoining the National Park, interspersed with large areas of derelict slate quarries.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Derelict/Waste Ground (8%) / <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing</u> (45%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (13%) / <u>Upland Grazing</u> (28%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (46%) / <u>Mixture</u> (18%) / <u>Open Land</u> (28%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>The most notable man-made influence on the landscape are the abandoned slate quarries and waste tips. Settlement pattern is typically clustered. Areas of higher ground are much more sparsely settled.</p> <p>Development includes a 400 kV overhead line which runs parallel to part of the north west boundary, a number of mobile masts and several static caravan/chalet parks.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (47%) / <u>No settlements</u> (16%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (33%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Fair</u> (9%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (91%)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓
Settlement Pattern	<p>Settlement pattern is typically clustered into villages, often quarrying communities which are concentrated in the valleys. Areas of higher ground are much more sparsely settled.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (47%) / <u>No settlements</u> (16%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (33%)</p>			↓		
Skylines and Settings	<p>The prominent and distinctive skylines of Snowdon Massif provide a dramatic backdrop to this LCA although pylons associated with a 400 kV overhead line punctuate the skyline in some places.</p>	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	<p>Movement is frequent within the settlements and along the associated road networks; whereas areas of higher ground are relatively still.</p> <p>VS18: Occasional (8%) / Infrequent (32%) / <u>Frequent</u> (52%) / Constant (8%)</p>	-				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views are typically open and exposed within this LCA. The area lies directly adjacent to and is overlooked by the National Park.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed (9%) / <u>Open</u> (50%) / <u>Exposed</u> (41%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Snowdon (including walkers and users of the Snowdon Mountain Railway) ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way (including Llanberis Lake Railway, Snowdon Mountain Railway, Padarn Country Park and Electric Mountain and Dinorwig Power Station Visitor Centre and the National Slate Museum) ▪ Long distance routes including Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Ogwen from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and Sustrans regional cycle route Lon Gwyrfa (RR 61) ▪ The A5 and A4086 tourist routes and a small section of the Welsh Highland Railway ▪ The local road network 	↑	↑	↑	↑	
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park (including Snowdon itself) ▪ Beaumaris Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site (distant views) ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA ▪ Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Hillforts ▪ A Registered Park and Garden ▪ Open Access Areas 	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 					
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally fair.</p> <p>VS27: Fair (9%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (91%) VS47: Low (5%) / <u>Moderate</u> (48%) / <u>High</u> (40%) / Outstanding (8%)</p>					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Moderate</u> (91%) / Strong (9%) VS46: <u>Moderate</u> (52%) / <u>High</u> (38%) / Outstanding (8%) VS47: Low (5%) / <u>Moderate</u> (48%) / <u>High</u> (40%) / Outstanding (8%) VS48: <u>Moderate</u> (54%) / <u>High</u> (38%) / Outstanding (8%)</p>					
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>The sense of remoteness and tranquillity varies across the area. These qualities are diminished in and around the settlements, former slate quarries and along the A4086 and A5 road corridors. Elsewhere there are some distinct pockets of remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: Exposed; Attractive; Tranquil; Remote (21%) / Exposed; Attractive; Tranquil; Remote; Wild; Spiritual (8%) / <u>Other</u> (57%)</p>					
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>This LCA adjoins the National Park.</p> <p>Parts of the regionally designated North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA lie within this LCA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Ogwen from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82).</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Moderate</u> (53%) / <u>High</u> (37%) / Outstanding (8%) VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (64%) / <u>High</u> (25%) / Outstanding (11%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
		<p>LH45: Low (15%) / <u>Moderate</u> (32%) / <u>High</u> (35%) / Outstanding (18%)</p> <p>LH42: Low (6%) / <u>Moderate</u> (67%) / <u>High</u> (23%) / Outstanding (33%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>Moderate</u> (26%) / <u>High</u> (41%) / Outstanding (33%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>Moderate</u> (26%) / <u>High</u> (41%) / Outstanding (33%)</p>					
	Historic Value	<p>Much of this LCA lies within the Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape and around a third of the area lies within the Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape. A Registered Park and Garden is also present. This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (71%) / Outstanding (28%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>High</u> (32%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (67%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>High</u> (10%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (90%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁴⁹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-high	<p>This medium to large scale upland fringe landscape is influenced by development within clustered settlements and disused quarries and tips which locally reduces sensitivity to wind energy development. Frequent movement in certain areas further reduces sensitivity.</p> <p>This is outweighed by a number of sensitive receptors, open and exposed views and the area's strong associations and intervisibility with the National Park, including Snowdon Massif which increases the sensitivity to wind energy development. The sensitivity of the landscape is also reflected in the fact that much of the LCA is regionally designated as a Special Landscape Area and almost the entire area lies within nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLA (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with existing vertical modern developments.</p>

⁴⁹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium - High	<p>This medium to large scale upland fringe landscape is influenced by development within clustered settlements and disused quarries and tips which locally reduces sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development.</p> <p>This is overridden by the frequent occurrence of small to medium scale fields with a prevalence of stone wall field boundaries which increases the sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development. Intervisibility with elevated areas of the National Park enhances sensitivity further. The sensitivity of the landscape is also reflected in the fact that much of the LCA is regionally designated as a Special Landscape Area and almost the entire area lies within nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLA (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for well sited micro scale developments.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium - High	<p>This medium to large scale upland fringe landscape is influenced by development within clustered settlements and disused quarries and tips which locally reduces sensitivity to 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>This is outweighed by a number of sensitive receptors, open and exposed views and the area's strong associations and intervisibility with the National Park, including Snowdon Massif. The enhanced sensitivity of the landscape is also reflected in the fact that much of the LCA is regionally designated as a Special Landscape Area and almost the entire area lies within nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p> <p>A degree of Landscape Change is accepted where an existing 400 kV line influences the landscape to the west of this LCA.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. section of existing 400 kV overhead line to the west - 1 no. section of existing 400 kV overhead line to the far north east - 1 no. section of existing 132 kV overhead line just outside of the boundary to the far north east.
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLA (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including an existing 400 kV overhead line in the west.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium - High	<p>This medium to large scale upland fringe landscape is influenced by development associated with disused quarries and tips and that within clustered settlements including a couple of large static caravan/chalet parks near to the main roads along the western boundary. Although these are relatively well screened by vegetation, they locally reduce sensitivity to further developments and extensions. Coniferous plantations and woodland blocks elsewhere to the north and west also offer potential screening opportunities for such development.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is overridden by the frequent occurrence of small to medium scale fields with a prevalence of stone wall field boundaries which increases sensitivity together with a high degree of intervisibility with elevated areas of the National Park. The sensitivity of the landscape is also reflected in the fact that much of the LCA is regionally designated as a Special Landscape Area and almost the entire area lies within nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large development - 1 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLA (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

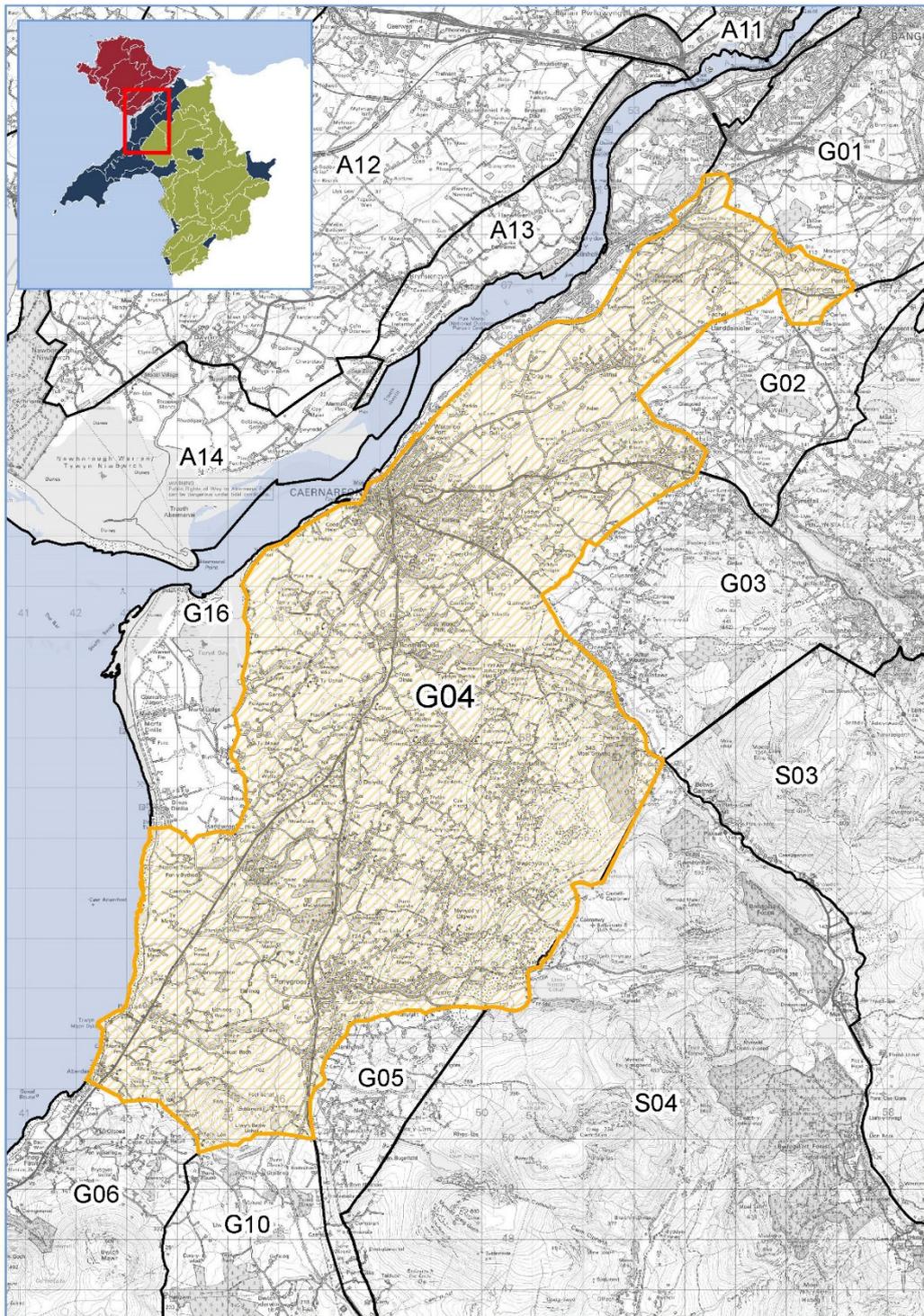
Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Anglesey AONB.			✓	
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Beaumaris Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.			✓	
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the North Western Fringes of Snowdonia Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, particularly towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓		✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Ogwen Valley; and Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Ogwen from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and Sustrans regional cycle route Lon Gwyrfaï (RR 61) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from recreational receptors, particularly the more sensitive receptors such as visitors to Snowdon using Snowdon Mountain Railway.				

Avoid cumulative effects on the A4086 tourist route and Welsh Highland Railway.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓		✓
Avoid siting any development within the sight lines of key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		✓	

G04 Caernarfon - Coast & Plateau



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is located to the north of Gwynedd and comprises the historic town of Caernarfon. The area extends down from Pentir to the coastline of Caernarfon Bay and upland fringes of the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- Typically medium scale, coastal fringe landscape
- Rolling lowland
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (81%) / <u>Large</u> (18%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Field pattern and sizes vary across the LCA. There are predominantly small scale fields , in both regular and irregular field patterns with a mixture of boundary types inland and to the east of the A487 with stone walls becoming more prevalent towards upland areas. Elsewhere, along the coast in the west, fields are generally medium to large in scale, more regular in pattern and are bounded by low hedgerows and stone walls. Areas of large scale unenclosed uplands lie to the east. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (81%) / <u>Large</u> (18%) VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (65%) / <u>None</u> (9%) / <u>Stone Walls</u> (22%)		-			
	Landform	Landform is typified by rolling lowland which extends towards the upland fringes of Moel Tryfan and Mynydd y Cilgwyn.	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS Classification Level 2: Built Land (5%) / Exposed Upland/Plateau (5%) / Flat Lowland/Levels (12%) / Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (20%) / Lowland Valleys (6%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (48%) VS4: Hills/Valleys (24%) / High Hills/Mountains (5%) / Levels (13%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (55%)					
Landcover	Predominantly agricultural landcover comprising a mosaic of fields with some large coniferous plantations and broadleaf woodlands towards the centre of the area and open uplands to the east. VS Classification Level 3: Flat Open Lowland Farmland (12%) / Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing (20%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (44%) / Upland Grazing (5%) VS5: Development (5%) / <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (84%) / Mixture (5%) / Open Land (6%)	↑	↑	↑		↑
Man-made Influences	Clustered settlement pattern ranging from small groups of properties to large towns. The landscape is influenced by the built environment at Caernarfon, a large historic town core with a mix of more modern settlement edges. Other modern developments include abandoned slate quarries and waste tips. Two sections of 400 kV overhead line , one section of 132 kV overhead line are located to the south and east. There are a number of static caravan parks mainly located along the western boundary. There are also a large number of mobile masts, much of which are concentrated around Caernarfon and some operational wind turbines. VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (62%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (29%) VS27: Fair (48%) / Unassessed (48%)	↓	↓	↓		↓
Settlement Pattern	Typically clustered settlement pattern. VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (62%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (29%)			↓		
Skylines and Settings	The two 19th Century Menai Bridges; Telford's Suspension Bridge, and Stephenson's Britannia Bridge create distinct settings and skylines to the north east. Snowdonia and Llŷn Peninsula create	-		-		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	prominent backdrops to the south and west. Elsewhere skylines are not particularly distinctive.					
Visual	Movement Frequent road traffic brings movement into much of this LCA. VS18: Constant (5%) / <u>Frequent</u> (70%) / Infrequent (22%)	↓				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically open within this LCA. There are strong visual links parts of Anglesey AONB to the north, the Llŷn AONB to the west and the National Park although some views towards the National Park are restricted in places by intervening landform. VS9: Enclosed (10%) / <u>Open</u> (71%) / Exposed (20%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numerous properties including Caernarfon ▪ Caernarfon Castle ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8) and Sustrans regional cycle route Lon Gwyrfai (RR 61) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions such as Green Wood Forest Park, Gypsy Wood Park and the Welsh Highland Railway ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A487, A4085 and A499 tourist routes and the Welsh Highland Railway ▪ The local road network ▪ Water sport and boat users 	↑	↑	↑	↑	
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Caernarfon Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn AONB ▪ Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast ▪ Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast ▪ Bangor Mountain SLA ▪ North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA ▪ Foryd Bay SLA ▪ Vaynol Estate and Surrounds SLA ▪ Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape 	↑		↑		

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape Hillforts Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 					
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally considered fair.</p> <p>VS27: Fair (48%) / Unassessed (48%) VS47: <u>Low</u> (45%) / <u>Moderate</u> (40%) / High (15%)</p>					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation</p> <p>VS25: <u>Moderate</u> (96%) VS46: <u>Moderate</u> (71%) / High (27%) VS47: <u>Low</u> (45%) / <u>Moderate</u> (40%) / High (15%) VS48: <u>Moderate</u> (83%) / High (15%)</p>	-	-	-		-
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>The presence of settlement, modern development and the main road networks lessen the sense of remoteness and tranquillity in this area.</p> <p>VS24: Exposed; Attractive; Tranquil; Remote (5%) / Exposed; Smell; Tranquil (12%) / Other (29%) / <u>Settled</u> (46%)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>The south eastern edge of this LCA lies just within the Llŷn AONB.</p> <p>Part of the regionally designated North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA lies within this LCA together with small parts of Foryd Bay SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8).</p> <p>A small section of the coastline is defined as Llŷn Heritage Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along much of the length of the north western boundary.</p>	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
		<p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Moderate</u> (85%) / High (12%) VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (86%) / High (12%) LH45: Low (6%) / <u>Moderate</u> (53%) / High (36%) / Outstanding (5%) LH42: Low (15%) / <u>Moderate</u> (54%) / High (31%) GL31: Moderate (29%) / High (34%) / Outstanding (37%) GL33: Moderate (29%) / <u>High</u> (55%) / Outstanding (16%)</p>					
	Historic Value	<p>This LCA wholly contains Caernarfon Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site, and its essential setting.</p> <p>The south eastern part of this LCA lies within the Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape. A small part of the LCA also lies within the Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Two Registered Parks and Gardens are also present.</p> <p>This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: Moderate (13%) / <u>High</u> (61%) / Outstanding (19%) HL35: High (50%) / Outstanding (46%) HL40: <u>High</u> (64%) / Outstanding (32%)</p>					

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁵⁰ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium - High	<p>This medium scale coastal fringe landscape is influenced by frequent movement and the presence of modern, man-made development as associated with towns, quarries and overhead lines which all serve to reduce sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This is overridden by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes, nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes and Caernarfon Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site, together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Llŷn AONB).</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the AONB and SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS (Caernarfon Castle), AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS (Caernarfon Castle), AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. micro developments - 4 no. domestic developments - 1 no. small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park and WHS), there is typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with existing vertical modern developments.</p>

⁵⁰ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale coastal fringe landscape is influenced by the presence of modern, man-made development as associated with towns, quarries and overhead lines which all serve to reduce sensitivity field-scale solar PV energy development. Field systems vary in scale and pattern throughout the area as do field boundaries; the least sensitive areas in terms of field scale and pattern are located towards the coast in the west where interviewing blocks of woodland and tree belts are more frequent and may provide opportunities for screening. Elsewhere, field systems are considered more sensitive due to their smaller scale and/or stone wall field boundaries.</p> <p>Sensitivity is enhanced in parts of this LCA by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors, together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Llŷn AONB).</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the AONB and SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS (Caernarfon Castle), AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS (Caernarfon Castle), AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park and WHS), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for well sited micro scale developments.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium - High	<p>This medium scale coastal fringe landscape is influenced by the presence of modern, man-made development as associated with towns, quarries and an existing 400 kV overhead line (running from south east to north east) which all serve to reduce sensitivity to further 400 kV overhead line development.</p> <p>This is overridden by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes, nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes and Caernarfon Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site, together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Llŷn AONB).</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the AONB and SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS (Caernarfon Castle), AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS (Caernarfon Castle), AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. section of existing 400 kV overhead line located to the north east of the LCA - 1 no. section of existing 400 kV overhead line located centrally - 1 no. section of existing 132 kV overhead line located to the north of the LCA
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park and WHS), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including existing 400 kV overhead lines.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale coastal fringe landscape is influenced by the presence of modern, man-made development as associated with towns, quarries and overhead lines which all serve to reduce sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development. Landcover varies in pattern and scale throughout the area, the least sensitive areas in terms of landcover are located towards the coast in the west where intervening blocks of woodland and tree belts are more frequent and may offer opportunities for screening.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors in parts of this LCA, together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Llŷn AONB).</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the AONB and SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS (Caernarfon Castle), AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS (Caernarfon Castle), AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large developments - 2 no. large developments - 3 no. medium developments - 1 no. small development - 2 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park and WHS), there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

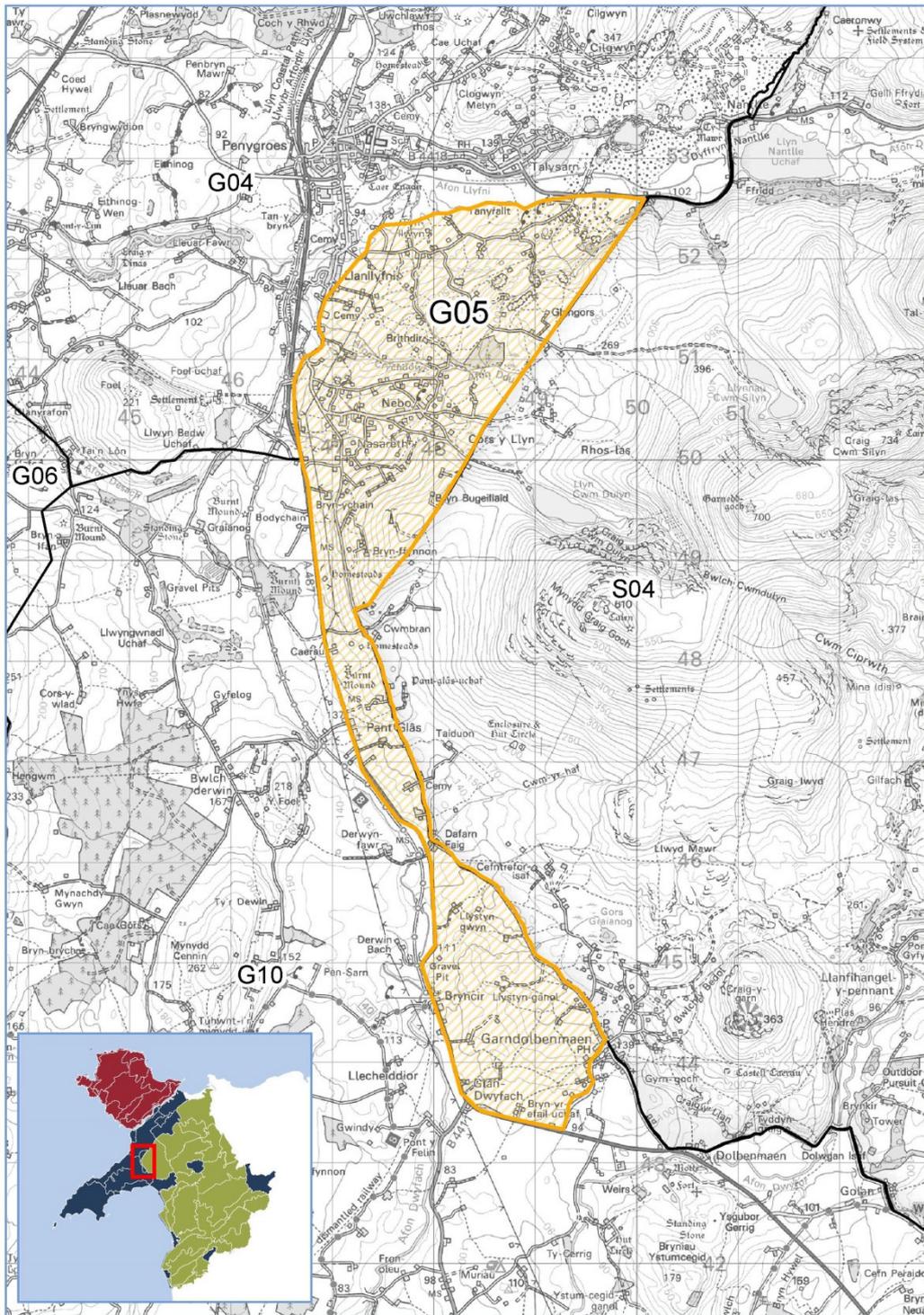
Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the setting and key views to and from Caernarfon Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the natural beauty of Llŷn AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effect of modern vertical development both within and beyond the AONB needs to be considered using visualisations.	✓		✓	
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Anglesey AONB.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account of and conserve the special qualities of the North Western Fringes of Snowdonia, and Foryd Bay, Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, particularly along the Menai Strait and towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓		✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Nantlle Valley, and Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8) and Sustrans regional cycle route Lon Gwyrfa (RR 61), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓

Avoid cumulative effects on the A487 tourist route and the Welsh Highland Railway.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓		✓
Avoid siting any development within the sight lines of key views, particularly out to sea.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		✓	

G05 Snowdon Massif



1:50,000



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Location and Extent

A relatively small LCA to the north of Gwynedd which borders the western edge of the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- A large scale, open landscape
- Upland mountain character
- Stone wall boundaries

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	A large scale landscape. VS8: Large (100%)	↓		↓		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally regular field pattern; small to medium scale fields with predominantly stone wall boundaries . VS8: Large (100%) VS7: Mixture (5%) / None (7%) / <u>Stone Walls</u> (88%)		↑			
	Landform	This upland landscape has slopes typically orientated north west. VS Classification Level 2: Developed Unbuilt Land (7%) / <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (88%) / Lowland Valleys (5%) VS4: <u>Hills/Valleys</u> (93%) / Disturbed (7%)	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Landcover	Upland farmland , predominantly pastoral fields, interspersed with former slate workings. VS Classification Level 3: Derelict/Waste Ground (7%) / <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing</u> (88%) / Open Lowland Valleys (5%) VS5: <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (93%) / Mixture (7%)	-	-	-		-
	Man-made Influences	This LCA is influenced by modern vertical structures including existing overhead lines and a large	↓	↓	↓		↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	telecommunication/transmission mast and other mobile masts. Abandoned slate quarries and waste tips are also present. Settlement pattern is typically clustered . VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (88%) / No settlements (7%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (5%) VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)					
Settlement Pattern	Settlement pattern is typically clustered along the local road network. VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (88%) / No settlements (7%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (5%)			↓		
Skylines and Settings	Overhead lines punctuate the skyline to the west and a large telecommunication/ transmission mast is a conspicuous man-made feature towards the centre of the LCA. The landscape of this LCA is rarely seen as a skyline feature itself; however it provides a setting to the prominent skylines of the adjacent National Park which backdrops views looking east from elsewhere in Gwynedd.	↑		↑		
Visual	Movement Road traffic brings frequent movement along the A487 and relatively dense network of local roads and lanes. VS18: Occasional (7%) / Infrequent (5%) / <u>Frequent</u> (88%)	↓				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically open within this LCA. VS9: <u>Open</u> (93%) / Exposed (7%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Isolated properties ▪ Long distance routes including Sustrans Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8) and Sustrans link route to NCN route 8 ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The 487 tourist route and Welsh Highland Railway The local road network	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type					
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Llyn AONB North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑		↑			
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally fair.</p> <p>VS27: Unassessed (100%) VS47: <u>Moderate</u> (93%) / High (7%)</p>			-			
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation</p> <p>VS25: Moderate (96%) VS46: <u>Moderate</u> (93%) / High (7%) VS47: <u>Moderate</u> (93%) / High (7%) VS48: <u>Moderate</u> (93%) / High (7%)</p>	-	-	-	-	
	Remoteness/Tranquillity	<p>The presence of settlement and the local road network lessen the sense of remoteness and tranquillity in parts of this LCA.</p> <p>VS24: Other (100%)</p>	-	-	-	-	
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>Parts of the North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA lie within this LCA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8) and Sustrans link route to NCN route 8.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Moderate</u> (93%) / High (7%) VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (100%) LH45: Moderate (48%) / High (52%) LH42: <u>Low</u> (46%) / Moderate (7%) / <u>High</u> (47%) GL31: Outstanding (100%) GL33: Outstanding (100%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Historic Value	<p>The northern part of this LCA lies within the Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>Moderate</u> (43%) / High (19%) / Outstanding (6%) / Unassessed (32%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>High</u> (51%) / Outstanding (17%) / Unassessed (30%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>High</u> (81%) / Outstanding (17%)</p>					

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁵¹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	This is a large scale, rural upland landscape which in places is influenced by modern development such as overhead lines, telecommunications/ transmission masts, abandoned slate quarries and waste tips; thus lessening the sense of remoteness and tranquillity. The sensitivity of the landscape to wind energy developments is therefore lessened. This is outweighed by the area's strong associations and intervisibility with the National Park and other more sensitive landscapes such as the Llŷn AONB together with the fact that the north of the LCA lies within the nationally important Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	There is typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)

⁵¹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This is a large scale, rural upland landscape, which in places is influenced by modern development such as overhead lines, telecommunications/transmission masts, abandoned slate quarries and waste tips, all of which reduce the sense of remoteness and tranquillity and lessen the sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy developments. This is outweighed by the more steeply sloping nature of the landform, prevalence of small fields bounded by stone walls and the area's strong associations and intervisibility with the National Park and other more highly sensitive landscapes such as the Llŷn AONB which serve to greatly increase sensitivity. This is further compounded in the north where parts of the LCA lie within the nationally important Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLA or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLA (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the AONB and the National Park), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for well sited micro scale developments.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This is a large scale, rural upland landscape which in places is influenced by modern development such as overhead lines, telecommunications/transmission masts, abandoned slate quarries and waste tips; thus reducing the sense of remoteness and tranquillity. The sensitivity of the landscape to 400 kV overhead line developments is therefore lessened. This is outweighed by the area's strong associations and intervisibility with the National Park and other more sensitive landscapes such as the Llŷn AONB together with the fact that the north of the LCA lies within the nationally important Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

Landscape Objective	Although it is recognised that Landscape Change has occurred where the existing 400 kV overhead line development influences the landscape, Landscape Protection is the overriding objective.
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. section of existing 400 kV overhead line development following the western boundary to the north - 1 no. section of existing 400 kV overhead line located just outside of the western boundary to the south - 1 no. section of 132 kV overhead line located just outside of the boundary to the south
Indicative Overall Capacity	Although it is recognised that landscape change has already occurred in parts of the LCA and sensitivity is slightly reduced as a consequence, there is no capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development on the grounds that capacity has been reached and due to the overall higher sensitivity of this LCA.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

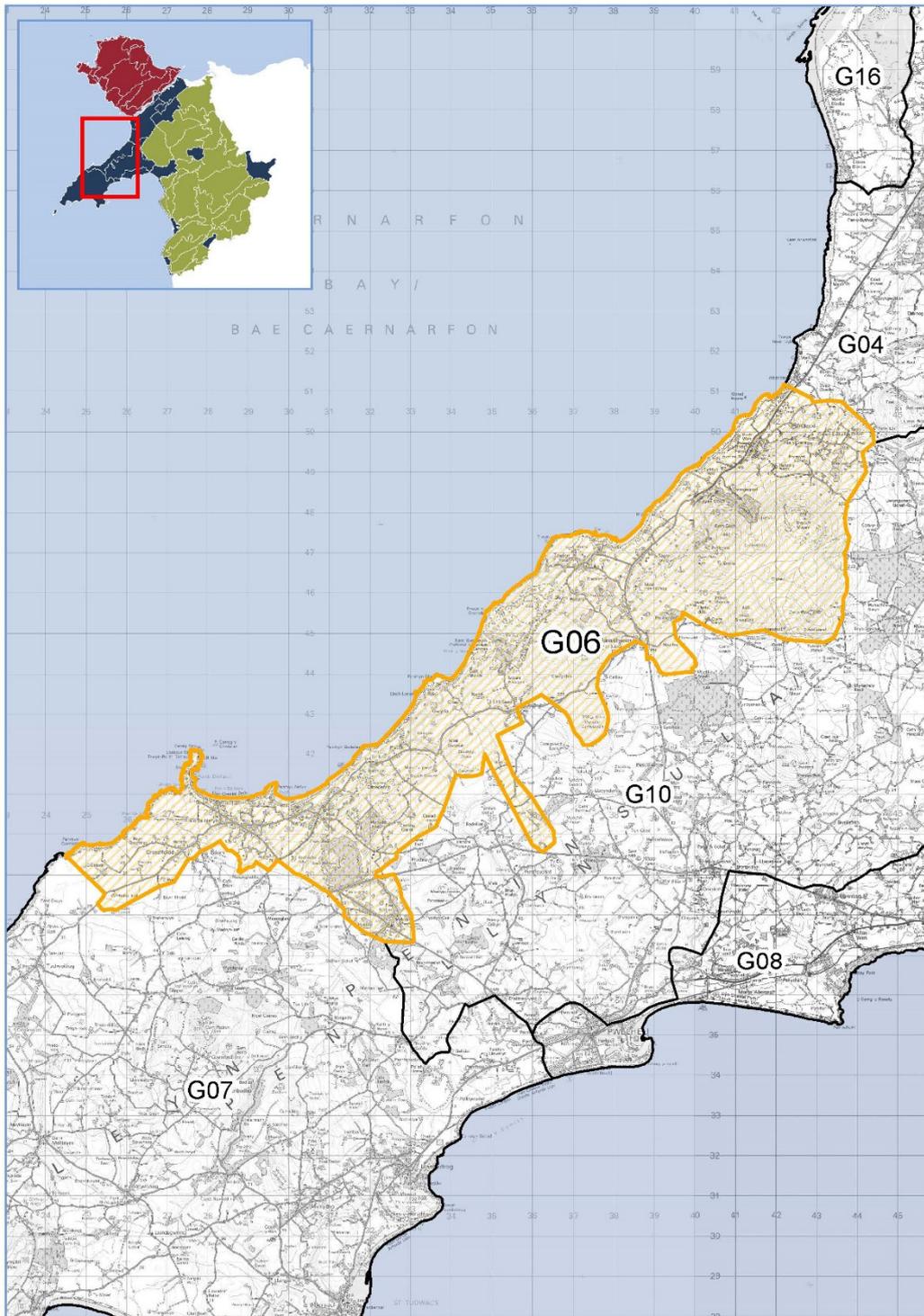
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	This is a large scale, rural upland landscape which in places is influenced by modern development such as overhead lines, telecommunications/transmission masts and abandoned slate quarries and waste tips; thus lessening the sense of remoteness and tranquillity. The sensitivity of the landscape to static caravan/chalet parks and extension developments is therefore considered lower. This is outweighed by the more steeply sloping nature of the landform, prevalence of small fields bounded by stone walls and the area's strong associations and intervisibility with the National Park and other more sensitive landscapes such as the Llŷn AONB together with the fact that the north of the LCA lies within the nationally important Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLA or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLA (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the AONB and National Park), there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development in relation to the strong intervisibility between Anglesey AONB and Snowdonia National Park.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Llŷn AONB.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account of and conserve the special qualities of the North Western Fringes of Snowdonia, and Foryd Bay, Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, particularly towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓		✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments, such as 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including Sustrans Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8) and Sustrans link route to NCN route 8), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A487 tourist route and the Welsh Highland Railway.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓		✓

G06 Llŷn North Coast



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a narrow coastal strip along the northern coast of the Llŷn Peninsula running south west from Capel Uchaf down past Morfa Nefyn.

Key Characteristics

- Medium to large scale, highly scenic coastal landscape
- Typified by a succession of prominent mountains which run down to a narrow coastal plain
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium to large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (52%) / Large (47%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Predominantly small to medium scale, generally regular but with localised areas of more irregular and complex field patterns found between large areas of unenclosed upland. Fields are larger scale and more irregular to the south and west. Predominantly stone wall field boundaries. VS8: Medium (52%) / Large (47%) VS7: Hedge With Trees (9%) / Mixture (21%) / None (7%) / <u>Stone Walls</u> (63%)		↑			
	Landform	A succession of prominent mountains run down to a narrow coastal plain . VS Classification Level 2: Coastal (5%) / <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (32%) / <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (31%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (26%) VS4: High Hills/Mountains (32%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (60%) / Levels (6%)	↑	↑			↑
	Landcover	A mosaic of low lying coastal farmland, interspersed with areas of coastal and upland heath, broadleaf	↑	↑			↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>woodlands and coniferous plantations and grazed open hillside and scarp slopes.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes</u> <u>Grazing</u> (31%) / <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (9%) / <u>Mosaic Upland & Plateaux</u> (6%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (17%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (27%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (26%) / <u>Mixture</u> (39%) / <u>Open Land</u> (30%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>Settlement pattern is generally limited to scattered rural properties and villages which are concentrated along the A499 and the B4417. A small number of static caravan/chalet parks are located along the coastline; in particular around Nefyn; there are also a number of mobile masts in this LCA. Elsewhere, particularly on higher ground, man-made influence is less evident.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (6%) / <u>No settlements</u> (34%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (47%) / <u>Village</u> (13%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Fair</u> (11%) / <u>Good</u> (27%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (62%)</p>	↑	↑			↑
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	<p>Skylines are distinctive. In contrast with the narrow coastal plain a succession of prominent mountains run along the length of this LCA, creating a distinctive skyline.</p>	↑				
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Road traffic brings frequent movement into the lower lying parts of this landscape; particularly around the coastal settlements of Nefyn and Morfa Nefyn. Away from the settlements and roads movement is limited.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (36%) / <u>Frequent</u> (57%)</p>	-				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Open</u> (91%) / <u>Exposed</u> (8%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties 	↑	↑			↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans regional route Llŷn Peninsula (RR 41) Open Access Areas Local attractions and public rights of way The A499 and A497 tourist routes The local road network Water sport and boat users 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Llŷn AONB Anglesey AONB Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast Western Llŷn SLA Snowdon Massif SLA Lleyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape Hillforts A Registered Park and Garden 	↑				
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: Moderate (54%) / Strong (46%) VS46: Moderate (16%) / High (57%) / Outstanding (27%) VS47: Low (6%) / Moderate (59%) / High (7%) / Outstanding (27%) VS48: Moderate (49%) / High (24%) / Outstanding (27%)</p>	↑	↑			↑
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>Away from the settlements, active mineral sites and main road corridors the sense of tranquillity and remoteness increases.</p> <p>VS24: Attractive; Exposed; Wild (6%) / Exposed; Wild; Attractive; Tranquil; Threatening; Remote (27%) / Other (31%) / Settled (10%) / Settled; Attractive; Noisy; Exposed; Spiritual (6%) / Settled; Tranquil; Attractive; Exposed; Spiritual (5%) / Smell (10%)</p>	↑	↑			↑
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>Much of this LCA lies within the Llŷn AONB.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas.</p>	↑	↑			↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Southern parts of the LCA lie within the regionally designated Western Llŷn SLA.</p> <p>The Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast runs along the length of the LCA's coastline.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along the entire length of the northern boundary.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Moderate</u> (54%) / <u>High</u> (19%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (27%) VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (62%) / <u>High</u> (38%) LH45: <u>Low</u> (13%) / <u>Moderate</u> (40%) / <u>High</u> (33%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (14%) LH42: <u>Low</u> (26%) / <u>Moderate</u> (49%) / <u>High</u> (25%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (97%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (97%)</p>					
Historic Value	<p>The southern half of this LCA lies within the Lleyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>The LCA also contains a Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p>This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (61%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (7%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (31%) HL35: <u>Moderate</u> (25%) / <u>High</u> (48%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (28%) HL40: <u>Moderate</u> (10%) / <u>High</u> (57%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (33%)</p>	↑	↑			↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁵² (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	This medium to large scale, open coastal landscape comprises a succession of prominent mountains which run down to a narrow coastal plain. The natural characteristics and dramatic scenery of this striking and relatively undeveloped coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its identification as a Heritage Coast and its designation as part of the Llŷn AONB. This sensitivity is further enhanced by the value placed on the southern parts of the LCA which lie within the Lleyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape together with the intervisibility and associations with other sensitive landscapes and visual receptors.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	This medium to large scale, open coastal landscape comprises a succession of prominent mountains which run down to a narrow coastal plain. The natural characteristics and dramatic scenery of this striking and relatively undeveloped coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its identification as a Heritage Coast and its designation as part of the Llŷn AONB. This sensitivity is further enhanced by the value placed on the southern parts of the LCA which lie within the Lleyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape together with the intervisibility and associations with other sensitive landscapes and visual receptors.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent, micro scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

⁵² NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

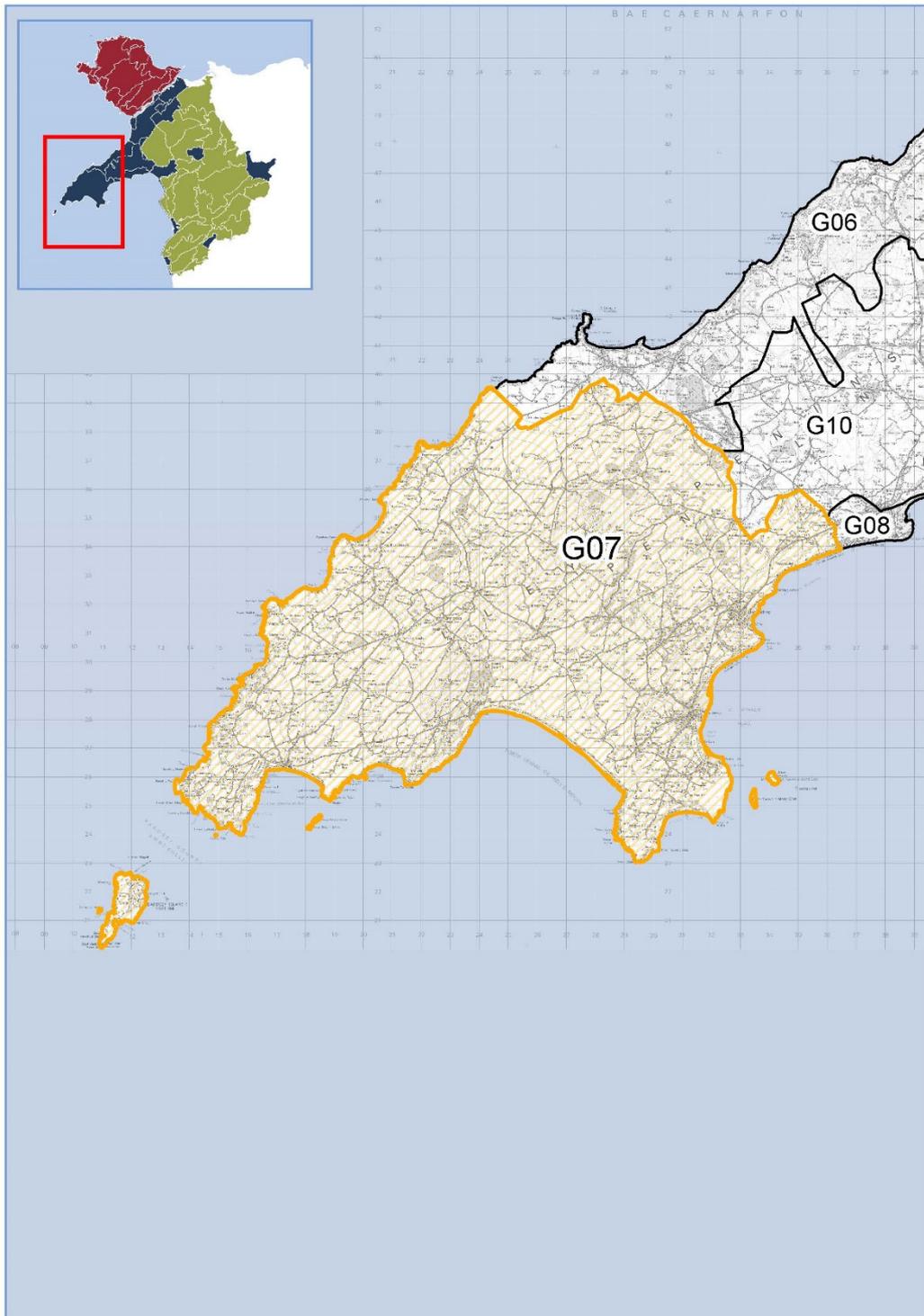
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	This medium to large scale, open coastal landscape comprises a succession of prominent mountains which run down to a narrow coastal plain. The natural characteristics and dramatic scenery of this striking and relatively undeveloped coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its identification as a Heritage Coast and its designation as part of the Llŷn AONB. This sensitivity is further enhanced by the value placed on the southern parts of the LCA which lie within the Llyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape together with the intervisibility and associations with other sensitive landscapes and visual receptors.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 3 no. medium developments - 3 no. small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments (with the exception of very infrequent, very small scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Llŷn AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and beyond the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account of and conserve the special qualities of the Western Llŷn Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the natural beauty and undeveloped characteristics of Llŷn Heritage Coast.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the strong sense of tranquillity and remoteness felt throughout much this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views.	✓		
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓	✓
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the wider landscape and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Llyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		

G07 Western Llŷn



1:175,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is situated at the western extremity of Llŷn Peninsula within Gwynedd

Key Characteristics

- Typically a medium scale, coastal landscape
- Diverse coastline ranging from exposed cliff faces to broad sheltered bays
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (61%) / <u>Large</u> (36%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Varied scale of small, medium and large fields, largely irregular and sometimes complex with a mixture of field boundaries which are typically low in height. Includes areas of unenclosed uplands. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (61%) / <u>Large</u> (36%) VS7: <u>Hedge With Trees</u> (34%) / <u>Mixture</u> (53%) / <u>None</u> (6%) / <u>Stone Walls</u> (6%)		↑			
	Landform	Typically a rolling and undulating lowland landscape with some prominent hills in the central area. The coastline of this LCA varies from exposed cliff faces in the north to broader sheltered bays in the south. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Coastal</u> (5%) / <u>Flat Lowland/Levels</u> (11%) / <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (11%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (68%) VS4: <u>Levels</u> (9%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (88%)	↑	↑			↑
	Landcover	This rural landscape comprises a mosaic of fields with some open hillsides and coastal areas.	↑	↑			↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS Classification Level 3: Coastal (5%) / Flat Lowland/Levels (11%) / Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (11%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (68%) VS5: <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (74%) / Mixture (9%) / Open Land (15%)					
Man-made Influences	Man-made influences are primarily concentrated around the popular coastal seaside resort of Abersoch and along the A499 and include significant numbers of static caravan/chalet parks and touring caravan parks. Elsewhere influences are typically limited to scattered rural properties and small settlements which are linked by the local road system; although there are several small wind turbines and mobile masts located throughout this LCA. VS6: Clustered (5%) / No settlements (6%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (58%) / Village (31%) VS27: Unassessed (98%)	↑	↑			-
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Skylines and settings along the coastline are dramatic and distinctive , particularly to the north where there are many exposed cliff faces. Inland there are some prominent hills to the north east of the LCA which punctuate the skyline. Snowdonia's distinctive skyline provides a backdrop in views to the east. Elsewhere skylines are less prominent.	↑				
Visual	Movement Road traffic brings frequent movement into this LCA, in particular towards the east of the area around Abersoch and other settlements. Away from the settlements, and to the north and west, movement is less frequent. VS18: Infrequent (29%) / <u>Frequent</u> (67%)	-				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically open within this LCA. VS9: <u>Open</u> (81%) / Exposed (14%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:	↑	↑			↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans regional cycle routes 41, 42 and 43 ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Popular coastal resorts, primarily Abersoch ▪ Local attractions such as Oriel Plas Glyn-Y-Weddw and Plas-yn-Rhiw ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A499 and A497 tourist routes ▪ The local road network ▪ Water sport and boat users 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site ▪ Llŷn AONB ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast ▪ Aberffraw Heritage Coast ▪ Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast ▪ Western Llŷn SLA ▪ Llyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Hillforts ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens 	↑				
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Much of this LCA lies within the Llŷn AONB. Typically a Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation, with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Moderate</u> (86%) / <u>Strong</u> (14%) VS46: <u>Moderate</u> (37%) / <u>High</u> (59%) VS47: <u>Moderate</u> (81%) / <u>High</u> (13%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (6%) VS48: <u>Moderate</u> (53%) / <u>High</u> (42%)</p>	↑	↑			↑
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>The presence of settlements and road traffic locally reduces the sense of remoteness; particularly around Abersoch. Away from this busy eastern coastline, the landscape inland is much more tranquil</p>	↑	↑			↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>and the sense of remoteness greatly increases along the undeveloped coastline to the north and west and within open areas.</p> <p>VS24: Exposed; Attractive; Tranquil; Remote (21%) / Exposed; Attractive; Tranquil; Remote; Wild; Spiritual (8%) / <u>Other</u> (57%)</p>					
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>Much of this LCA lies within the Llŷn AONB (including all of Bardsey Island).</p> <p>The remaining areas lie within the regionally designated Western Llŷn SLA.</p> <p>Much of the coastline of this LCA is recognised as the Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along the entire coastal boundary of the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Moderate</u> (74%) / High (20%) VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (78%) / High (20%) LH45: Low (5%) / <u>Moderate</u> (73%) / High (13%) / Outstanding (9%) LH42: Low (11%) / <u>Moderate</u> (74%) / High (13%) GL31: Moderate (7%) / High (15%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (78%) GL33: Moderate (7%) / High (15%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (78%)</p>					
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>The entire LCA lies within the Llein and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>The LCA also contains a Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p>This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: Moderate (9%) / <u>High</u> (34%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (56%) HL35: Low (7%) / <u>Moderate</u> (32%) / <u>High</u> (49%) / Outstanding (10%)</p>					

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	HL40: <u>Moderate</u> (34%) / <u>High</u> (45%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (20%)					

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁵³ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This generally medium scale, rolling and undulating peninsula landscape is heavily influenced by the presence and sense of proximity to the coast. Settlement and man-made influence is concentrated towards the south eastern coastline; along the more undeveloped, open parts of the coast there is a much stronger sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>The scenic quality and strong sense of place which is experienced in this landscape has resulted in parts of it being nationally designated within the Llŷn AONB and the remaining areas within the regionally designated Western Llŷn SLA. Much of the coastline is recognised as the Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast. The entire LCA also lies within the Llyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape. Its sensitivity to wind energy development is further enhanced by the number of sensitive visual receptors and the presence of some prominent skylines and intervisibility with high value landscapes, including the National Park.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 no. domestic developments - 3 no. small developments - 2 no. micro developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This generally medium scale, rolling and undulating peninsula landscape is heavily influenced by the presence and sense of proximity to the coast. Settlement and man-made influence is concentrated towards the south eastern coastline; along the more undeveloped, open parts of the coast there is a much stronger sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>The scenic quality and strong sense of place which is experienced in this landscape has resulted in parts of it being nationally designated within the Llŷn AONB and the remaining areas within the Regionally designated Western Llŷn SLA. Much of the coastline is recognised as the Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast. The entire LCA also lies within the Llyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.</p>

⁵³ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

High	Sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development is further enhanced by the presence of sensitive visual receptors across the LCA together with a mix of field boundaries which are often low in height and the irregular and sometimes complex field patterns which are common in this area.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. micro development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent, micro scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

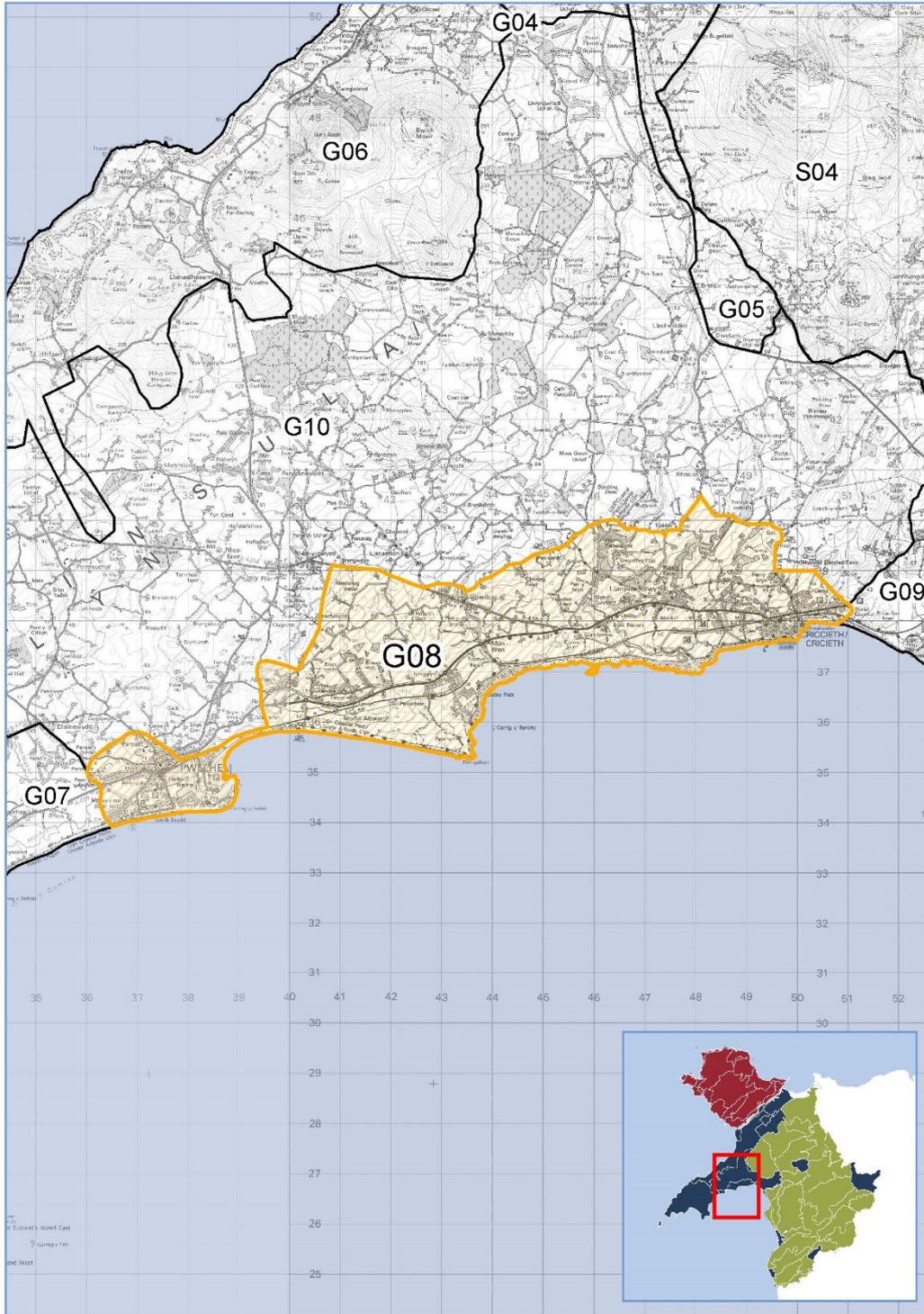
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This generally medium scale, rolling and undulating peninsula landscape is heavily influenced by the presence and sense of proximity to the coast. Settlement and man-made influence is concentrated towards the south eastern coastline, where a significant number of existing static caravan/chalet parks are currently present. Sensitivity to this type of development is somewhat reduced in areas where these developments currently exist because of the influence they already have on the landscape. Conversely, along the more open and undeveloped parts of the coast there is a much stronger sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus increasing sensitivity to this type of development.</p> <p>The scenic quality and strong sense of place experienced in this landscape has resulted in parts of it being nationally designated within the Llŷn AONB and the remaining areas within the regionally designated Western Llŷn SLA. Much of the coastline is also recognised as the Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast. The entire LCA also lies within the Llyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Although it is recognised that Landscape Change has occurred where numerous developments influence the landscape, in particular along the south eastern coastline; it is considered that capacity has been reached and in the interests of protecting the undeveloped coastline elsewhere Landscape Protection is the overriding objective
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 no. very large developments - 7 no. large developments - 21 no. medium developments - 16 no. small developments - 18 no. very small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Due to the considerable numbers of static caravan/chalet parks, there is very limited capacity, if any, for further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Llŷn AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and beyond the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the natural beauty and undeveloped characteristics of Llŷn Heritage Coast.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account of and conserve the special qualities of the Western Llŷn Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the strong sense of tranquillity and remoteness felt throughout much this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views.	✓		
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓	✓
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the wider landscape and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Lleyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		

G08 Pwllheli - Criccieth Coast



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is located along the southern coastline of the Llŷn Peninsula in Gwynedd, running south west from Criccieth to Pwllhelli; both popular holiday destinations.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, coastal landscape
- A narrow, low lying coastal plain

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (88%) / <u>Large</u> (8%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally medium scale, irregular field pattern with a mixture of low field boundaries . Inland and along the river valleys, fields are largely bounded by hedgerows with trees. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (88%) / <u>Large</u> (8%) VS7: <u>Hedge With Trees</u> (41%) / <u>Mixture</u> (52%)		-			
	Landform	Low lying coastal plain dissected by a number of small river valleys. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Built Land</u> (8%) / <u>Coastal</u> (8%) / <u>Flat Lowland/Levels</u> (26%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (5%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (53%) VS4: <u>Levels</u> (34%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (61%) / <u>Hills/Valleys</u> (5%)	-	↓			↓
	Landcover	A mosaic of woodland and mixed farmland with high prevalence of hedgerow trees to the north of the LCA and more open farmland to the south and along the coast. Rural landcover is interspersed with	-	-			-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>modern built development concentrated around Pwllheli and Criccieth.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: <u>Flat Open Lowland Farmland</u> (25%) / <u>Intertidal</u> (7%) / <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (34%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (19%) / <u>Urban</u> (8%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Development</u> (8%) / <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (85%) / <u>Open Land</u> (8%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>Urban development is concentrated around the popular coastal resort settlements of Pwllheli and Criccieth and along the A497 main road corridor and includes a number of static caravan/chalet parks and mobile masts concentrated around Pwllheli.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (26%) / <u>No settlements</u> (8%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (5%) / <u>Urban</u> (8%) / <u>Village</u> (53%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p>	-	-			-
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Skylines are not particularly prominent within this LCA. Moel-y-gest provides a backdrop in views to the east with Snowdonia rising up behind the Glaslyn and Dwyryd estuaries.	-				
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Movement is frequent in this LCA, particularly in connection with the popular coastal resorts of Pwllheli and Criccieth and along the network of main and local roads.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Infrequent</u> (11%) / <u>Frequent</u> (81%) / <u>Constant</u> (8%)</p>	↓				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (12%) / <u>Open</u> (88%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties 	↑	↑			↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a Sustrans regional route (RR40) Open Access Areas The popular resorts of Pwllheli and Criccieth Harlech Castle Local attractions such as Criccieth Castle Local public rights of way The A497 and A499 tourist routes and the Cambrian Coast Railway The local road network Water sport and boat users 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site Llŷn AONB Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast Porthmadog and Tremadog Bay SLA Llŷn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape A Registered Park and Garden 	↑				
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: Moderate (100%) VS46: Moderate (49%) / High (51%) VS47: Low (30%) / Moderate (65%) / High (5%) VS48: Moderate (98%)	-	-			-
	Remoteness/Tranquillity The presence of settlement and the road network in this LCA reduces the sense of remoteness and tranquillity. VS24: Other (54%) / Settled (34%) / Smell; Tranquil; Noisy; Exposed (7%)	↓	↓			↓

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8).</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs across much of the southern coastal boundary.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: Low ^(5%) / <u>Moderate</u> ^(95%) VS49: Moderate ^(97%) LH45: Low ^(5%) / <u>Moderate</u> ^(88%) / High ^(8%) / Outstanding ^(11%) LH42: Low ^(10%) / <u>Moderate</u> ^(61%) / High ^(21%) / Outstanding ^(7%) GL31: Moderate ^(15%) / High ^(31%) / <u>Outstanding</u> ^(53%) GL33: Moderate ^(15%) / High ^(31%) / <u>Outstanding</u> ^(53%)</p>	-	-			-
	Historic Value	<p>The western end of this LCA lies within the Lleyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>A Registered Park and Garden is also present.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: Moderate ^(22%) / High ^(17%) / Unassessed ^(58%) HL35: Low ^(10%) / Moderate ^(7%) / <u>High</u> ^(61%) / Outstanding ^(22%) HL40: Moderate ^(13%) / <u>High</u> ^(59%) / Outstanding ^(28%)</p>	↑	↑			↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁵⁴ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, low lying coastal plain landscape comprises a mosaic of rural landcover interspersed with modern coastal resort developments. These resorts, together with major road and rail infrastructure strongly influence the character of the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus reducing sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors, important cultural heritage features and a high degree of intervisibility with highly valued landscapes including the National Park.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the areas that contribute to the setting of the SLAs and the National Park, there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with existing vertical modern developments.</p>

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale, low lying coastal plain landscape comprises a mosaic of rural landcover interspersed with modern coastal resort developments. These resorts, together with major road and rail infrastructure strongly influence the character of the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus reducing sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced in some parts by the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors and important cultural heritage features together with some more highly sensitive field systems.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

⁵⁴ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within all areas that contribute to the setting of the SLAs and the National Park, there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>However, outside these areas there may be some limited capacity for very infrequent well-sited and micro scale field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale, low lying coastal plain landscape comprises a mosaic of rural landcover interspersed with modern coastal resort developments; including many static caravan/chalet parks. These resorts, together with major road and rail infrastructure strongly influence the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus reducing sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced in some parts by the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors and important cultural heritage features.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and SLAs.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large development - 4 no. large developments - 1 no. medium developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the areas that contribute to the setting of the SLAs and the National Park, there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p> <p>In all cases development should avoid the undeveloped coastal edge and its immediate setting and should be clearly separated so that their effects remain local and there is no collective/cumulative defining influence on the landscape.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and wider setting.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from the Llŷn AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Llyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Crickieth Castle and Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a Sustrans Regional Route (RR40) and local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the wider landscape and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of modern development. Siting should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A497 tourist route and Cambrian Coast Railway.	✓	✓	✓

G09 Porthmadog



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is centred on the port town of Porthmadog; a popular tourist destination in Gwynedd. The LCA is bounded to the north, east and south by the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, coastal/estuarine landscape
- Combination of flat landscape to the south with some steep occasionally craggy slopes elsewhere
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (85%) / <u>Large</u> (11%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Fields to the north east of Porthmadog are typically medium to large in scale and follow a relatively simple, regular field pattern with a mixture of low field boundaries. To the south and west field systems are more irregular and complex in pattern and smaller in scale . VS8: <u>Medium</u> (85%) / <u>Large</u> (11%) VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (78%) / <u>None</u> (21%)		-			
	Landform	Landform is typified by the level polder⁵⁵ of Traeth Mawr which contrasts with the surrounding, sharply rising, uplands of the National Park and Moel-y-Gest which is a prominent hill within this LCA. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Built Land</u> (10%) / <u>Coastal</u> (21%) / <u>Flat Lowland/Levels</u> (34%) / <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (11%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (19%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (10%) / <u>Levels</u> (67%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (23%)	↑	-			-

⁵⁵ A piece of low-lying land reclaimed from the sea or a river and protected by dykes
(<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/polder>)

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landcover	<p>A mosaic of rural landcover dominates the northern and western parts of this LCA with modern development focussed in the south towards the coastline and along the estuary. A number of historic parkland landscapes are present within this LCA; most notably Portmeirion.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: <u>Flat Open Lowland Farmland</u> (34%) / <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic</u> (11%) / <u>Intertidal</u> (21%) / <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (12%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (7%) / <u>Urban</u> (10%) VS5: <u>Development</u> (10%) / <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (53%) / <u>Mixture</u> (35%)</p>	↑	↑			↑
Man-made Influences	<p>Urban development along the coast is concentrated along the A497 and A487 and around the popular resorts and other settlements. Other man-made influences include quarrying, the Welsh Highland Heritage Railway, the Ffestiniog Railway, the Cambrian Coast Railway and the popular tourist destination of Portmeirion. A number of static caravan/chalet parks and mobile masts are also present. Modern development also includes a 400 kV overhead line and two sections of 132 kV overhead line which parallel each other at the east and western extents of the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (9%) / <u>No settlements</u> (23%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (51%) / <u>Urban</u> (7%) / <u>Village</u> (10%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (45%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (55%)</p>	↓	↓			↓
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	The distinctive skylines of the National Park provide a dramatic backdrop to this LCA. Skylines within the LCA itself are less prominent; with the exception of the distinctive Moel-y-Gest.	↑				
Visual	Movement Movement to the north and west of this LCA is limited . Elsewhere, frequent traffic and trains on the road and rail network brings movement into the landscape .	-				

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS18: Rare (19%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (52%) / Frequent (17%) / Constant (10%)					
Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views are typically open along the coastal fringes of this LCA, whereas there is a stronger sense of enclosure inland.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (51%) / <u>Open</u> (38%) / Exposed (10%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and route from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ Porthmadog and other popular holiday resorts ▪ Harlech Castle ▪ Criccieth Castle ▪ Local attractions including Portmeirion and the Welsh Highland and Welsh Highland Heritage Railways ▪ The Ffestiniog Railway and the Cambrian Coast Railway ▪ The A497, A487 and A498 tourist routes ▪ The local road network ▪ Water sport and boat users 	↑	↑			↑
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site ▪ Llŷn AONB ▪ Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast ▪ Porthmadog and Tremadog Bay SLA ▪ Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary Landscapes SLA ▪ Aberglaslyn Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Ardudwy Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens ▪ Hillfort ▪ ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) ▪ ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑				

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation.				
	Remoteness/Tranquillity	With the exception of the open peak and slopes of Moel-y-Gest and the estuarine landscape to the north the sense of remoteness and tranquillity is much reduced in this LCA. This is due to the main road network, tourism and other commercial developments.				
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	Much of this LCA lies within The Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary Landscapes SLA and Porthmadog and Tremadog Bay SLA (these two SLAs are more or less wholly contained in this LCA).				
		Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and route from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82).				
		Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding .				
	Historic Value	Much of this LCA lies within the Aberglaslyn Registered Historic Landscape.				

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Several Registered Parks and Gardens are also present.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: Moderate (47%) / High (37%) HL35: Low (5%) / Moderate (13%) / High (16%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (66%) HL40: Moderate (18%) / High (32%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (50%)</p>					

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁵⁶ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale, coastal/estuarine landscape comprises a mosaic of rural landcover interspersed with modern coastal resort developments. These resorts, together with major road and rail infrastructure influence the character of the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus reducing sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is overridden by the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors, important cultural heritage features such as the Registered Park and Gardens of Portmeirion and intervisibility with highly valued landscapes including the National Park. The sensitivity of this LCA is reflected in much of the area lying within two regionally designated Special Landscape Areas and a Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. domestic development 1 no. micro development
Indicative Overall Capacity	There is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, coastal/estuarine landscape comprises a mosaic of rural landcover interspersed with modern coastal resort developments. These resorts, together with major road and rail infrastructure influence the character of the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus locally reducing sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy development.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is overridden by the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors, important cultural heritage features such as the Registered Park and Gardens of Portmeirion and intervisibility with highly valued landscapes including the National Park which overlooks much of this lower lying landscape. The sensitivity of this LCA is also reflected in much of the area lying within two regionally designated Special Landscape Areas and a Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

⁵⁶ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	There is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, coastal/estuarine landscape comprises a mosaic of rural landcover interspersed with modern coastal resort developments; including a notable number of static caravan/chalet parks. These resorts, together with major road and rail infrastructure influence the character of the landscape and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus locally reducing sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is overridden by the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors, important cultural heritage features such as the Registered Park and Gardens of Portmeirion and intervisibility with highly valued landscapes including the National Park which overlooks much of this lower lying landscape. The sensitivity of this LCA is reflected in much of the area lying within two regionally designated Special Landscape Areas and a Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Although it is recognised that Landscape Change has occurred where numerous developments influence the landscape, in particular along the south western coastline, capacity has been reached and in the interests of protecting the undeveloped coastline and other areas Landscape Protection is the overriding objective.
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large developments - 1 no. large developments - 4 no. medium developments - 1 no. very small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Due to the considerable numbers of static caravan/chalet parks, in combination with the overall higher sensitivity, there is no capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.

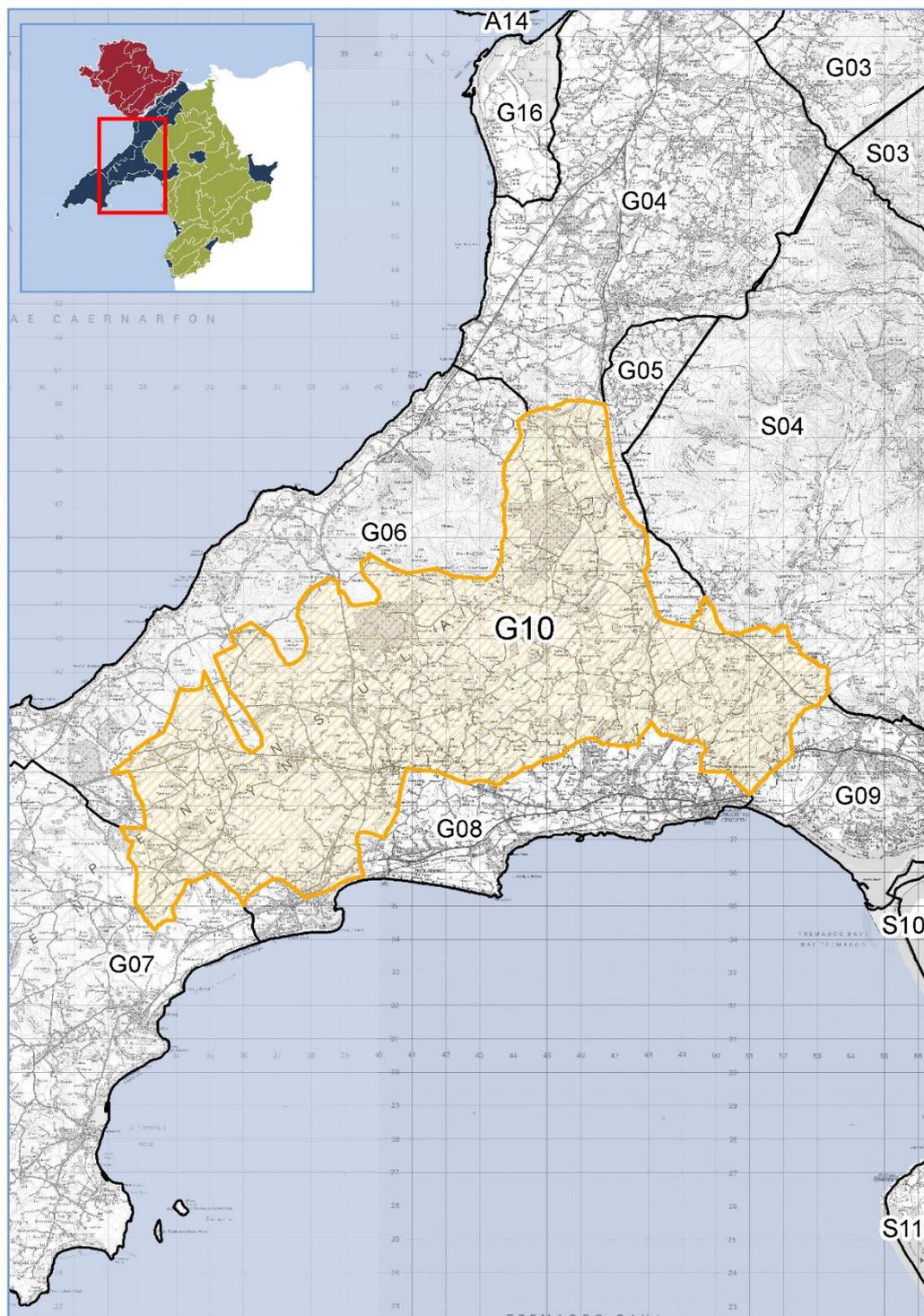
Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓		
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓		
Consider the effects of development on views to and from the Llŷn AONB.	✓		
Development should take account of and conserve the special qualities of the Dywryd Estuary Landscapes; and Porthmadog and Tremadog Bay Special Landscape Areas.	✓		
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views.	✓		
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting, in particular avoiding areas defined as ELDP Undeveloped Coast.	✓		
Maintain the integrity of Aberglaslyn Registered Historic Landscape.	✓		
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Criccieth Castle and Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓		
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓		
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓		
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and route from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82) and local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓		
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the wider landscape and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓		
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of modern development. Siting should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		

Avoid cumulative effects on the A497 and A487 main/tourist routes, Ffestiniog Railway and the Cambrian Coast Railway.	✓		
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		

G10 Central Llŷn



1:150,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises the central area of the Llŷn Peninsula from Bryncir near the A487 in the north east to Rhydyclafdy in the south west.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, agricultural landscape
- Rolling and undulating lowland

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: Medium (98%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally medium scale, predominantly regular field pattern with field boundaries dominated by hedgerows with trees. Fields become larger in scale to the north west. VS8: Medium (98%) VS7: <u>Hedge With Trees</u> (54%) / <u>Mixture</u> (17%) / <u>Stone Walls</u> (29%)		↓			
	Landform	A lowland landscape characterised by a gently rolling plateau interspersed by some prominent hills such as Mynydd Cennin, Y Foel and Garn Bentyrch. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (36%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (6%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (57%) VS4: <u>Hills/Valleys</u> (6%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (93%)	-	-			-
	Landcover	Rural landcover typified by a mosaic of pastoral fields with some large coniferous plantation to the north.	-	-			-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing (36%) / <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (51%) / Open Rolling Lowland (6%) VS5: <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (71%) / <u>Mixture</u> (29%)					
Man-made Influences	Moderately densely dispersed pattern of individual properties and villages linked by major and minor roads. Static caravan/chalet parks are concentrated around Criccieth. 400 kV overhead lines traverse the eastern part of this LCA and a 132 kV overhead line runs centrally across the LCA in a broadly east west orientation. VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (41%) / <u>Village</u> (57%) VS27: Unassessed (100%)	-	-			-
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Although skylines across parts of the area are relatively simple and sweeping there are some prominent hills such as Mynydd Cennin, Y Foel and Garn Bentyrch. Skylines are also broken by the distant hills of the National Park and nearby hills along the north of the Llŷn Peninsula.	↑				
Movement	Local traffic introduces frequent movement into much of this landscape. VS18: Infrequent (5%) / <u>Frequent</u> (95%)	↓				
Visual	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically open within this LCA. VS9: Open (98%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8), a link route to NCN route 8 and regional routes 40 and 41 ▪ Some relatively small Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions such as Glasfryn Parc ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A487, A499 and A497 tourist routes 	↑	↑			↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site Llŷn AONB Anglesey AONB Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast Holyhead Mountain Heritage Coast Western Llŷn SLA North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA Llŷn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape Hillforts Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑				
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: Moderate (100%) VS46: Moderate (64%) / High (36%) VS47: Moderate (98%) VS48: Moderate (93%) / Outstanding (6%)</p>	-	-			-
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>The farmed character and presence of dispersed properties and network of local roads in this landscape imparts a reduced sense of remoteness. Away from the concentrated settlements and main road corridors, this LCA is perceived to be relatively tranquil.</p> <p>VS24: Other (47%) / Settled (51%)</p>	-	-			-
Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The north western edges of this LCA lie within the Llŷn AONB.</p> <p>Far western parts of the LCA lie within the regionally designated Western Llŷn SLA.</p>	-	-			-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
		<p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a link route to NCN route 8.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path Runs across the LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: Moderate (100%) VS49: Moderate (100%) LH45: Low (12%) / <u>Moderate</u> (66%) / High (22%) LH42: Low (16%) / <u>Moderate</u> (71%) / High (13%) GL31: Moderate (25%) / High (10%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (65%) GL33: Moderate (25%) / High (10%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (65%)</p>					
	Historic Value	<p>A large area to the west of this LCA lies within the Lleyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Several Registered Parks and Gardens are also present. This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: Low (6%) / Moderate (14%) / <u>High</u> (38%) HL35: Low (11%) / Moderate (29%) / <u>High</u> (61%) HL40: Low (6%) / Moderate (23%) / <u>High</u> (70%)</p>	↑	↑			↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁵⁷ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This typically medium scale, gently rolling, rural landscape comprises a farmland mosaic of pastures. There are some large coniferous plantations to the north of the LCA and existing 400 kV overhead lines punctuate the skyline to the far east which locally reduces sensitivity to wind energy development. Nevertheless, this is a relatively tranquil landscape with man-made influence otherwise limited to scattered rural properties and villages, connected by a network of local roads.</p> <p>Views to and from important landscapes and cultural heritage features such as the Llŷn AONB, Special Landscape Areas and Historic Landscapes, increases the sensitivity of this landscape to wind energy developments. Sensitivity is further enhanced by the value placed on parts of the landscape which lie within the Llŷn AONB and Lleyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape. This combined with the presence of other sensitive receptors imparts a relatively high degree of sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the AONB and SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. micro development - 5 no. small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with existing vertical modern developments.</p>

⁵⁷ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there is no strategy for these types of development.

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This typically medium scale, gently rolling, rural landscape comprises a relatively regular mosaic of mainly medium scale fields bounded by hedgerows with trees which may offer screening and therefore lower sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy developments. There are some large coniferous plantation to the north of the LCA and existing 400 kV overhead lines punctuate the skyline to the far east which further reduces sensitivity. Nevertheless, this is a relatively tranquil landscape with man-made influence otherwise limited to scattered rural properties and villages, connected by a network of local roads.</p> <p>Sensitivity is enhanced in places by the value placed on parts of the landscape which lie within the Llŷn AONB and Llyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape, together with the presence of some sensitive receptors.</p> <p>Views to and from important landscapes and cultural heritage features increase the sensitivity of this landscape to field-scale solar PV energy development; particularly in the more elevated, open and exposed parts of this LCA. In the less elevated, well-treed areas visual sensitivity is reduced.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the AONB and SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for well sited micro to small scale developments.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

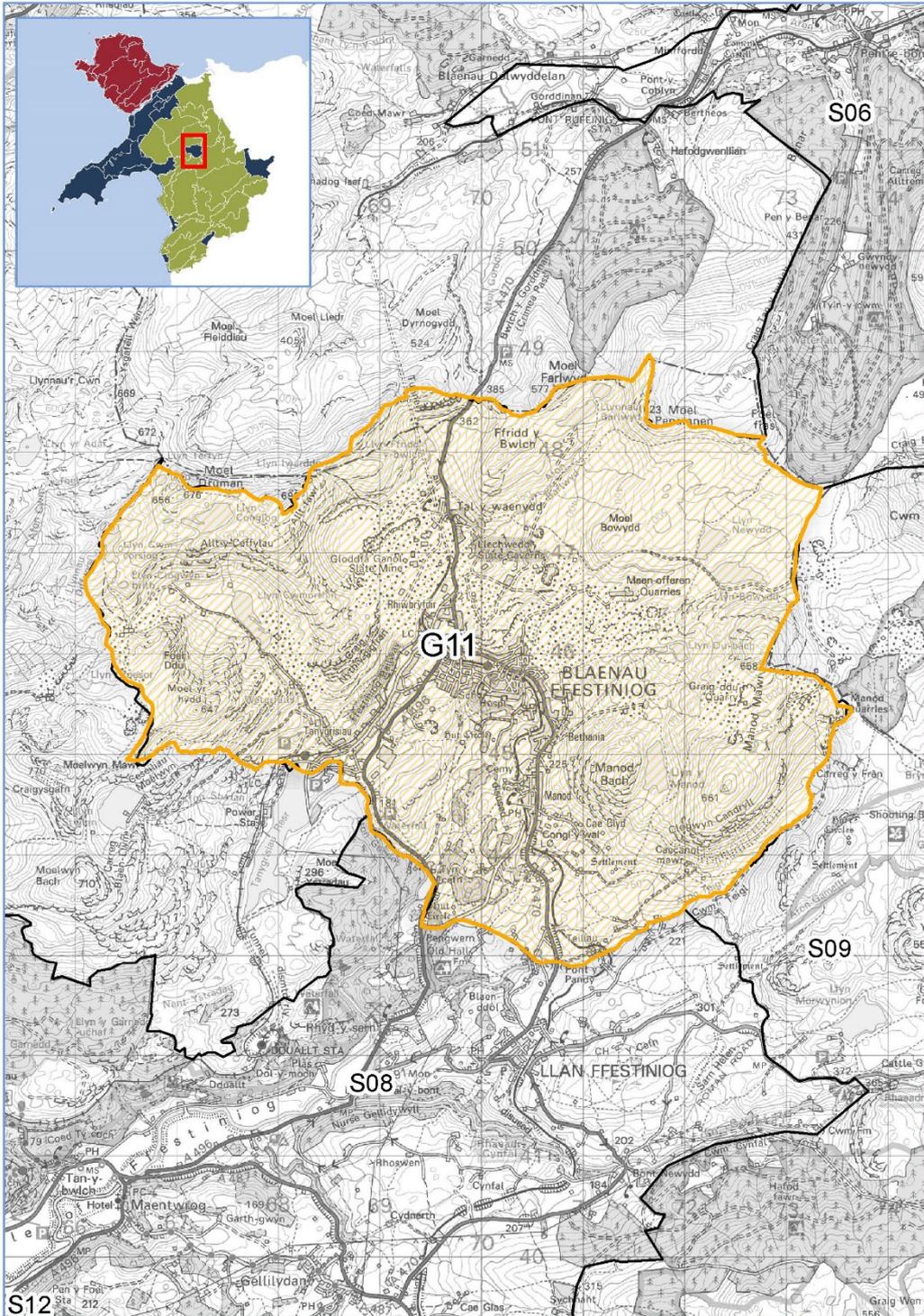
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This typically medium scale, gently rolling, rural landscape comprises a farmland mosaic of pastures. There are some large coniferous plantations to the north of the LCA and existing 400 kV overhead lines punctuate the skyline to the far east. Nevertheless, this is a relatively tranquil landscape with man-made influence otherwise limited to scattered rural properties and villages, connected by a network of local roads.</p> <p>Sensitivity is enhanced in places by the value placed on parts of the landscape which lie within the Llŷn AONB and Lleyn and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape, together with the presence of some sensitive receptors.</p> <p>Views to and from important landscapes and cultural heritage features increase the sensitivity of this landscape to static caravan/chalet parks and extensions; particularly in the more elevated, open and exposed parts of this LCA. In the less elevated, well-treed areas visual sensitivity is reduced.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the AONB and SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 no. medium developments - 3 no. small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the AONB and SLAs (and all areas that contribute to their setting and the setting of the National Park), there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p> <p>In all cases development should avoid the undeveloped coastal edge and its immediate setting and should be clearly separated so that their effects remain local and there is no collective/cumulative defining influence on the landscape.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.			
Conserve the natural beauty of Llŷn AONB, its special qualities and its wider setting. The effects of development both within and beyond the AONB need to be considered.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account of and conserve the special qualities of the Western Llŷn Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views.	✓		
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓	✓
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the wider landscape and erosion of rural characteristics.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Lleyne and Bardsey Island Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8), a link route to NCN route 8 and Regional Route 40 and local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A499 and A487 tourist routes.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		

G11 Blaenau Ffestiniog



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a discrete area of landscape around the slate quarrying town of Blaenau Ffestiniog in Gwynedd. The LCA is completely surrounded by the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- Large to vast scale upland landscape
- Dominated by slate waste of former mineral extraction

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a landscape which is large to vast in scale . VS8: Medium ^(8%) / <u>Large</u> ^(49%) / <u>Vast</u> ^(43%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Landform is characterised by high hills and valleys and heavily influenced by slate quarrying. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Built Land</u> ^(49%) / <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> ^(43%) / Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes ^(8%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> ^(43%) / <u>Hills/Valleys</u> ^(49%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> ^(8%)	↑				↑
	Landcover	Landcover is typified by upland moorland interspersed with barren and rocky slopes and upland lakes and reservoirs . This LCA is also heavily influenced by former slate quarrying and associated waste tips and to some degree urban development. VS Classification Level 3: Barren/Rocky Upland ^(10%) / Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing ^(8%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> ^(33%) / <u>Urban</u> ^(49%) VS5: Mixture ^(57%) / Open Land ^(43%)	-				-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Man-made Influences	<p>Modern development is concentrated within and near to the urban settlements that are concentrated along the main road corridors to the south of this LCA. Elsewhere this landscape is unsettled. In addition to settlements the main influences are the former slate quarries and associated waste tips, the A470 tourist route and Ffestiniog Railway.</p> <p>VS6: Mixture (8%) / <u>No settlements</u> (43%) / <u>Village</u> (49%) VS27: Fair (51%) / Poor (49%)</p>	↓				↓
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	This LCA has some distinctive and prominent skylines.	↑				
Visual	Movement					
	<p>Traffic brings frequent and sometimes constant movement into this LCA; in particular to the south and central areas. In sharp contrast a lack of movement gives the mountain tops a more still character.</p> <p>VS18: Occasional (43%) / Constant (57%)</p>	-				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open and exposed within higher parts of this LCA, whereas views within the lower lying areas are enclosed in contrast. There are strong visual links with the adjacent mountains of the National Park.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (49%) / <u>Open</u> (8%) / <u>Exposed</u> (43%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions including the Llechwedd Slate caverns ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A470 and A496 tourist routes ▪ The Ffestiniog Railway ▪ The local road network 	-				-
Views to and from Important	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape 	↑				

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 					
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character A landscape with strong contrasts in scenic quality with Low to Outstanding LANDMAP evaluations. VS25: <u>Strong</u> (92%) / <u>Weak</u> (8%) VS46: <u>Low</u> (49%) / <u>Moderate</u> (8%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (43%) VS47: <u>Low</u> (49%) / <u>Moderate</u> (8%) / <u>High</u> (43%) VS48: <u>Moderate</u> (8%) / <u>High</u> (49%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (43%)	-				-
	Remoteness/Tranquillity The sense of remoteness and tranquillity varies greatly throughout this LCA. More elevated parts of the landscape are remote and have a stronger sense of tranquillity. This is much reduced in and around Blaenau Ffestiniog. VS24: <u>Exposed</u> (33%) / <u>Other</u> (57%) / <u>Wild</u> (10%)	-				-
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features) Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas. Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . VS50: <u>Low</u> (49%) / <u>Moderate</u> (8%) / <u>High</u> (10%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (33%) VS49: <u>Low</u> (49%) / <u>Moderate</u> (8%) / <u>High</u> (43%) LH45: <u>Low</u> (7%) / <u>Moderate</u> (58%) / <u>High</u> (5%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (30%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) GL31: <u>Moderate</u> (47%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (37%) GL33: <u>Moderate</u> (47%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (53%)	↑				↑
	Historic Value Much of this LCA lies within the Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape. Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation. HL38: <u>High</u> (74%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (14%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (11%)	↑				↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	HL35: High (13%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (87%) HL40: High (10%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (90%)					

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁵⁸ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This upland landscape is considered large to vast in scale and is heavily influenced by former slate quarrying; large areas of slate waste being visible throughout the area. This is indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development. The southern and central parts of this LCA are also influenced by urban settlement.</p> <p>The area has a strong sense of place as influenced by this historic landscape which is reflected in much of the area being included within the Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape. This together with the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors and the area's prominent skylines and intervisibility and strong associations with the National Park greatly increase sensitivity to wind energy developments.</p>

⁵⁸ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, 400 kV overhead lines and field-scale solar PV energy developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty, there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with existing vertical modern developments.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

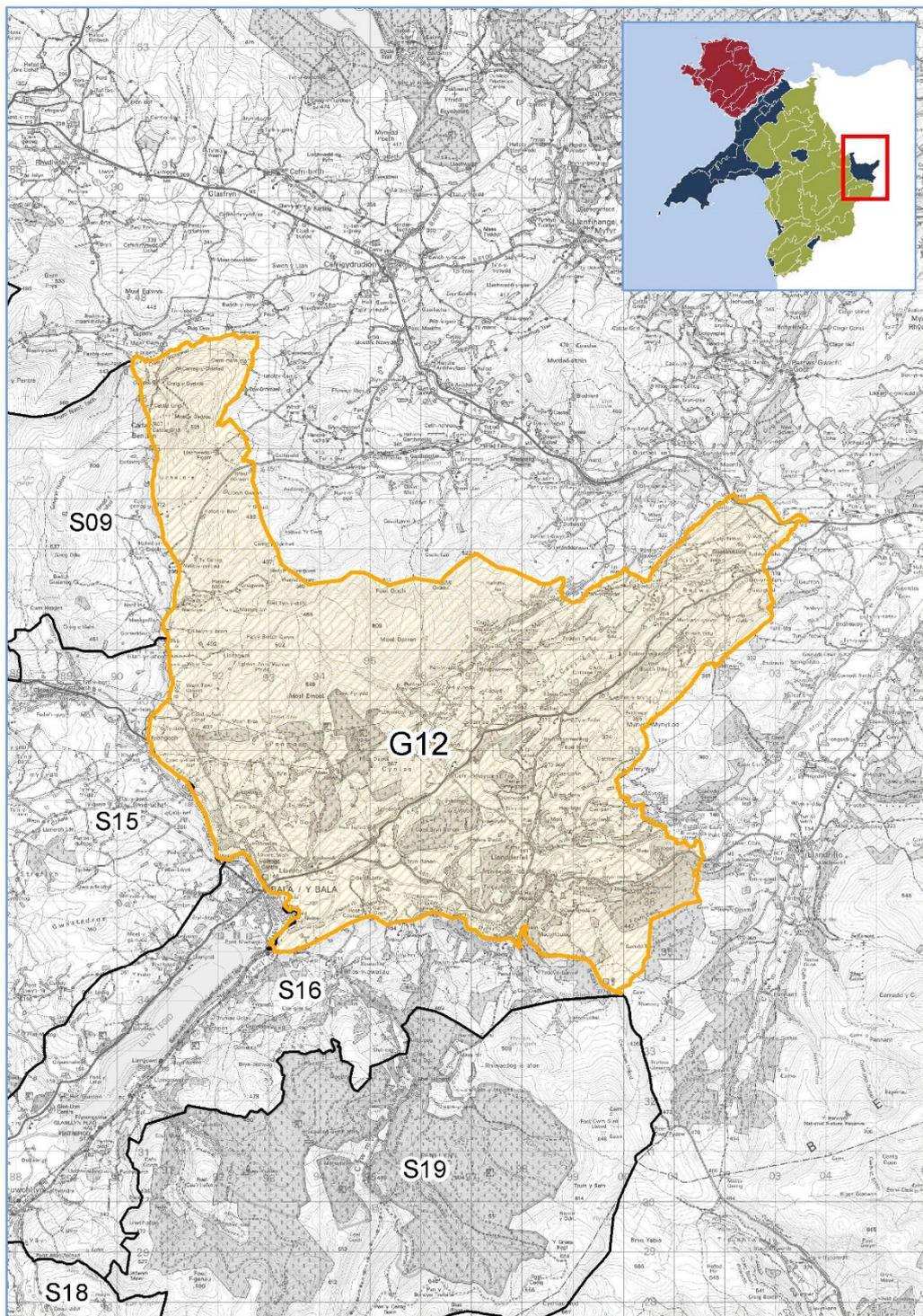
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This upland landscape is considered large to vast in scale and is heavily influenced by former slate quarrying; large areas of slate waste being visible throughout the area. The southern and central part of this LCA is influenced by urban settlement. The influence of these developments reduces sensitivity to developments such as static caravan/chalet parks.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the strong sense of place influenced by this historic landscape which is reflected in much of the area being included within the Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape, together with the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within areas that contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park and ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty, there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open mountain sides and within the sight lines of key views, in particular towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A470 tourist route and Ffestiniog Railway.	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development within the sight lines of key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓

G12 Llandderfel



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Location and Extent

This LCA is located to the far east of Gwynedd, abutting the county of Conwy to the north, Denbighshire to the east and the National Park to the west and south. Bala lies immediately outside this LCA to the south west.

Key Characteristics

- Typically medium scale, agricultural landscape
- Rolling and undulating landform
- Broadleaf woodlands and coniferous plantations

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (76%) / <u>Large</u> (23%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Where field systems are present these are typically complex , with fields being generally medium in scale , and following an irregular field pattern. There are a mixture of field boundaries with many field and hedgerow trees present in the lower lying valleys. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (76%) / <u>Large</u> (23%) VS7: <u>Fences</u> (10%) / <u>Mixture</u> (89%)		↑			
	Landform	Landform is typically rolling and undulating rising up to around 500 m AOD to the north of the LCA. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (24%) / <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (53%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (13%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (24%) / <u>Hills/Valleys</u> (18%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (53%)	↑	↑			↑
	Landcover	Predominantly pastures with a large area of open upland moorland, large coniferous plantations and some broadleaved woodlands.	-	-			-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS Classification Level 3: <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing</u> (48%) / <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic</u> (5%) / <u>Mosaic Lowland Valleys</u> (13%) / <u>Open Upland Valleys</u> (10%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (24%) VS5: <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (60%) / <u>Mixture</u> (16%) / <u>Open Land</u> (24%)					
Man-made Influences	Settlement is concentrated in the lower lying areas, predominantly along the A494 road network and the upper Dee Valley; the upland moorland areas remain unsettled . Overhead lines traverse the LCA, to the north of the A494, running broadly in parallel with this road. A number of telecommunications masts are also located within this LCA. VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (28%) / <u>No settlements</u> (42%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (28%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (100%)	↓	↓			↓
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	There are some prominent, undeveloped skylines within this LCA, particularly to the north of the area. In places skylines are interrupted by overhead lines, wind turbines and telecommunications masts.	-				
Movement	Traffic introduces frequent movement , generally within the southern and eastern parts of this LCA. Away from these areas, particularly in higher open land, movement is much less frequent . VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (23%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (16%) / <u>Frequent</u> (50%) / <u>Constant</u> (11%)	-				
Visual						
Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	Views are typically open within this LCA. VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (6%) / <u>Open</u> (70%) / <u>Exposed</u> (24%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Long distance routes such as the Clwydian Way, Hiraethog Trail and the North Berwyn Way ▪ Sustrans regional cycle route 15 	↑	↑			↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Access Areas Local attractions and public rights of way The A4212 and A494 tourist routes The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Cynwyd and Llandrillo AOB (within Denbighshire) Bala Hinterland SLA Bala and Bala Lakeside Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens Hillfort ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑				
Condition	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally fair.</p> <p>VS27: Fair (100%) VS47: <u>Moderate</u> (82%) / High (17%)</p>					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation				
	Remoteness/Tranquillity	<p>The sense of remoteness and tranquillity varies across the area. There are some distinct pockets of remoteness and tranquillity, which in other places are reduced by the presence of settlement and the road network.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Weak</u> (87%) / Moderate (12%) VS46: <u>Moderate</u> (76%) / High (24%) VS47: <u>Moderate</u> (82%) / High (17%) VS48: Low (5%) / <u>Moderate</u> (71%) / High (24%)</p> <p>VS24: <u>Other</u> (45%) / <u>Settled</u> (48%) / Sheltered (6%)</p>	-	-		-
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>This LCA lies entirely within the Bala Hinterland SLA (The LCA and SLA share the same boundary).</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas.</p>	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Moderate</u> (76%) / High (24%) VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (99%) LH45: <u>Low</u> (53%) / <u>Moderate</u> (39%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (6%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (99%) GL31: <u>Moderate</u> (99%) GL33: <u>Moderate</u> (99%)</p>					
Historic Value	<p>South western parts of this LCA lie within the Bala and Bala Lakeside Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>A Registered Park and Garden is also present.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>Moderate</u> (19%) / <u>High</u> (25%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (54%) HL35: <u>Moderate</u> (60%) / <u>High</u> (36%) HL40: <u>Moderate</u> (10%) / <u>High</u> (88%)</p>	-	-			-

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁵⁹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This typically medium scale, rolling and undulating rural landscape is in places influenced by modern development such as overhead lines, wind turbines, telecommunications masts and static caravan/chalet parks, mainly located to the south east of the LCA. Sensitivity to wind energy developments is therefore considered to be lower.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the area's strong associations with the National Park together with the fact that this LCA lies entirely within the Bala Hinterland SLA. South western parts of the LCA also lie within the Bala and Bala Lakeside Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. small development - 1 no. large development - There are also several developments ranging from micro to large just outside the study area to the north of G12
Indicative Overall Capacity	There is typically no capacity for further wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This typically medium scale, rural landscape is in places influenced by modern development such as overhead lines, wind turbines, telecommunications masts and static caravan/chalet parks which are mainly located to the south east of the LCA. Sensitivity to field-scale solar PV energy developments is considered relatively high due to the rolling and undulating nature of the landform combined with irregular field patterns and the area's strong associations with the National Park together with the fact that this LCA lies entirely within the Bala Hinterland SLA. South western parts of the LCA also lie within the Bala and Bala Lakeside Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	There is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent micro scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

⁵⁹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there is no strategy for these types of development.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

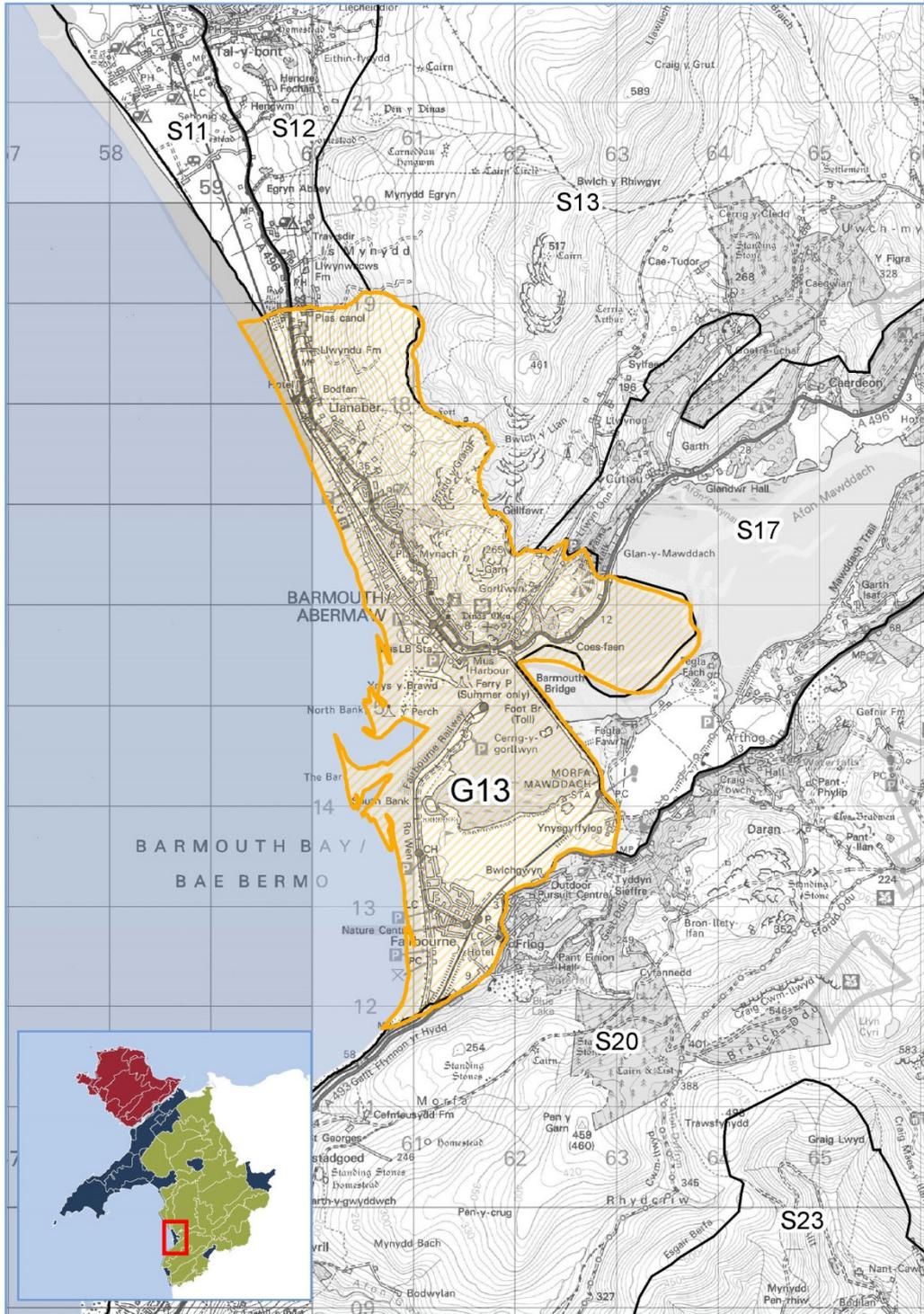
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This typically medium scale, rural landscape is in places influenced by modern development such as overhead lines, wind turbines, telecommunications masts and static caravan/chalet parks which are mainly located to the south of the LCA. Sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions is considered lower in the south east.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is counterbalanced by the area's strong associations with the National Park together with the fact that this LCA lies entirely within the Bala Hinterland SLA. South western parts of the LCA also lie within the Bala and Bala Lakeside Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. large development - 2 no. medium development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>There is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments throughout much of this LCA, although there may be limited capacity for very small to small, well designed and sited static caravan/chalet park developments to the south / south east of the LCA.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB in Denbighshire.	✓		
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Cynwyd and Llandrillo AOB in Denbighshire.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Bala Hinterland Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, particularly towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓		
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity experienced in areas of higher ground.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Bala and Bala Lakesides Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing 400 kV overhead lines and turbines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A494.	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development within the sight lines of key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓		

G13 Barmouth



1:50,000



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Location and Extent

This relatively small LCA lies along the south western coast of Gwynedd and comprises the coastal resorts of Barmouth and Fairbourne at the mouth of the Mawddach Estuary.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, low lying coastal landscape with a broad, open estuary
- Enclosed to the east by the rising upland landscape of the National Park
- Moderately developed for tourism

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (91%) / <u>Large</u> (9%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	There are marked contrasts in the landform of this LCA which is typified by a broad open estuary and narrow coastal plain backed by sharply rising ground inland. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Built Land</u> (31%) / <u>Coastal</u> (32%) / <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (9%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (26%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (9%) / <u>Levels</u> (22%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (66%)	↑				↑
	Landcover	A mix of agricultural landcover , typified by pastoral fields interspersed between coastal settlements and areas of broadleaf woodland and coniferous plantation together with upland fringe enclosures, of ffridd. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Intertidal</u> (31%) / <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (26%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (9%) / <u>Urban</u> (31%) VS5: <u>Mixture</u> (91%) / <u>Open Land</u> (9%)	-				-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Man-made Influences	<p>Man-made influences in this LCA are typically concentrated along the narrow coastal strip around the primary settlements of Barmouth and Fairbourne, the A496 main road and Cambrian Coast Railway line and include a number of static caravan/chalet parks. As landform rises inland man-made influence is less evident.</p> <p>VS6: No settlements (9%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (58%) / Urban (31%) VS27: Fair (100%)</p>	-				-
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	There are some prominent skylines within this LCA. The hills of Snowdonia form an impressive backdrop inland with Tremadog Bay providing a wide seascape setting to the coast.	↑				
Movement	<p>Movement is varied throughout this LCA. Traffic within the settlements and along the A496 main road brings frequent and sometimes constant movement along the immediate coast, whereas within the higher areas inland movement is much less frequent.</p> <p>VS18: Occasional (9%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (28%) / <u>Frequent</u> (32%) / <u>Constant</u> (31%)</p>	-				
Visual Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views are typically open within this LCA.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed (6%) / <u>Open</u> (70%) / Exposed (24%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numerous properties particularly along the coast ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a link route to NCN route 8 ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ The popular coastal resorts and local attractions such as the Fairbourne Steam Railway ▪ Public rights of way ▪ Barmouth Bridge 	↑				↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boats and Ferries The A496 and A493 tourist routes and the Cambrian Coast Railway The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Llŷn AONB Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast Barmouth SLA Arduwy Registered Historic Landscape Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑				
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation VS25: <u>Moderate</u> (81%) / Strong (19%) VS46: Low (31%) / Moderate (29%) / High (40%) VS47: Low (30%) / Moderate (30%) / High (40%) VS48: <u>Moderate</u> (60%) / High (40%)	-				-
	Remoteness/Tranquillity There is a perception of remoteness and tranquillity in the more elevated parts of this LCA. Away from this, the main road corridors and relatively large settlements along the coast greatly reduce the sense of remoteness and tranquillity . VS24: Exposed (9%) / <u>Smell</u> (47%) / Smell; Attractive; Sheltered; Spiritual (10%) / <u>Unattractive; Smell</u> (31%)	-				-
Value	Much of this LCA lies within the Barmouth SLA (This LCA and the SLA share the same boundary with the exclusion of an area around Fairbourne). Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas, and Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a link route to NCN route 8. The Wales Coast Path runs along the length of the LCA. Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding .	↑				↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
		<p>VS50: Low ^(31%) / Moderate ^(29%) / High ^(40%) VS49: Low ^(31%) / Moderate ^(29%) / High ^(40%) LH45: Low ^(31%) / Moderate ^(26%) / High ^(9%) / <u>Outstanding</u> ^(34%) LH42: Unassessed ^(100%) GL31: Outstanding ^(99%) GL33: Outstanding ^(99%)</p>					
	Historic Value	<p>This LCA lies entirely within the Arduwy Registered Historic Landscape and the Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Part of the LCA also lies within the essential setting of a Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: Moderate ^(22%) / <u>High</u> ^(53%) / Outstanding ^(8%) / Unassessed ^(16%) HL35: Moderate ^(16%) / <u>High</u> ^(44%) / <u>Outstanding</u> ^(40%) HL40: Moderate ^(16%) / <u>High</u> ^(44%) / <u>Outstanding</u> ^(40%)</p>	↑				↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁶⁰ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, low lying coastal landscape comprises the wide Barmouth estuary and is enclosed by the rising upland landscape of the National Park to the east. The uplands continue into the northern half of this LCA running down to a narrow coastal plain which is relatively highly developed for tourism.</p> <p>Coastal resorts, together with major road and rail infrastructure influence the character of the landscape along the coastline and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus reducing sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the presence of prominent landform inland together with a number of sensitive visual receptors, important cultural heritage features and a high degree of intervisibility with highly valued landscapes including the National Park. The LCA also lies entirely within the Barmouth SLA and parts of the Ardudwy Registered Historic Landscape and the Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, low lying coastal landscape comprises the mouth of the wide Barmouth estuary and is enclosed by the rising upland landscape of the National Park to the east. The uplands continue into the northern half of this LCA running down to a narrow coastal plain which is relatively highly developed for tourism.</p> <p>Coastal resorts, together with major road and rail infrastructure and the presence of a notable number of static caravan/chalet parks influence the character of the landscape along the coastline and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus locally reducing sensitivity to static caravan/chalet parks.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the presence of a high number of sensitive receptors and high degree of intervisibility with highly valued landscapes including the National Park. The LCA also lies entirely within the Barmouth SLA and parts of the Ardudwy Registered Historic Landscape and the Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape.</p>

⁶⁰ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, 400 kV overhead lines and field-scale solar PV energy developments, therefore there is no strategy for these types of development.

LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Although it is recognised that Landscape Change has occurred where numerous developments influence the landscape, in particular along the south western coastline; it is considered that capacity has been reached and in the interests of protecting the undeveloped coastline and other areas Landscape Protection is the overriding objective.
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. large development - 3 no. medium development - 1 no. small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Due to the considerable numbers of static caravan/chalet parks, there is typically very limited capacity, if any, for further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.		
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓
Development should take account of and conserve the special qualities of the Barmouth Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views.	✓	
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting, in particular avoiding the setting of areas defined as ELDP Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Ardudwy and Mawddach Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such the Registered Park and Garden; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a link route to NCN route 8 and local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the wider landscape.	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of modern development. Siting should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A496 and A493 main/tourist routes, Ffestiniog Railway and the Machynlleth to Pwllheli Coast Railway.	✓	✓

Location and Extent

This LCA is located to the far south of Gwynedd around Corris. The LCA borders Powys to the south and the National Park to the north, west and east.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale, upland landscape
- Extensive conifer plantations
- Remnant quarry sites with slate waste

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Medium ^(16%) / <u>Large</u> ^(84%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Upland landform typified by high hills and mountains . VS Classification Level 2: <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> ^(84%) / Upland Valleys ^(16%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> ^(84%) / Hills/Valleys ^(16%)	↑				↑
	Landcover	The uniformity of the coniferous plantation which covers much of this LCA is broken up by broadleaved woodland, open upland areas, remnant quarries and Small pastures are present along the valley bottoms. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Wooded Hillside& Scarp Slopes</u> ^(84%) / Wooded Upland Valleys ^(16%) VS5: Woodland ^(100%)	-				-
	Man-made Influences	Much of this LCA is unsettled . Man-made influences include commercial forestry plantations , former	-				-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>slate quarries and the A487 tourist route, along which settlement is concentrated.</p> <p>VS6: Clustered (16%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (84%) VS27: Fair (100%)</p>					
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	There are some prominent skylines within this LCA. The distinctive skylines of the National Park also backdrop views from this LCA.	↑				
Movement	<p>Away from the A487 road corridor movement in this LCA is limited.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (84%) / Infrequent (16%)</p>	↑				
Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Many views are confined within this LCA, particularly within the lower lying areas and in and around the plantations and woodlands. Away from these areas, there is good intervisibility between this LCA and the National Park with strong visual links to and from higher areas, particularly Cadair Idris.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Confined</u> (84%) / Enclosed (16%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relatively few properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Long distance national cycle route Sustrans Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A487 tourist route ▪ The local road network 	-				-
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snowdonia National Park • Corris SLA • ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑				

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
each Landscape Character Area)						
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically High LANDMAP evaluation VS25: Moderate (16%) / Strong (84%) VS46: Low (84%) / Moderate (16%) VS47: Moderate (16%) / High (84%) VS48: Moderate (16%) / High (84%)	↑				↑
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity Being predominantly unsettled and with relatively few local roads, this LCA has a sense of tranquillity and remoteness . Away from these areas this is in places locally reduced by commercial forestry activities and modern developments along the A487 corridor. VS24: Other (16%) / Sheltered (84%)	↑				↑
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features) This LCA lies entirely within the Corris SLA (The LCA and SLA share the same boundary). Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8). Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation. VS50: Moderate (100%) VS49: Low (84%) / Moderate (16%) LH45: Low (51%) / Moderate (23%) / High (26%) LH42: Unassessed (90%) / (blank) (10%) GL31: High (100%) GL33: High (100%)	↑				↑
	Historic Value Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . HL38: Moderate (22%) / High (67%) / Unassessed (11%) HL35: Low (41%) / High (22%) / Outstanding (37%) HL40: Low (11%) / Moderate (30%) / High (22%) / Outstanding (37%)	↑				↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁶¹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This typically large scale, upland landscape is largely unsettled and has relatively few local roads which gives a sense of tranquillity and remoteness.</p> <p>The landscape is dominated by extensive coniferous plantations and the presence of sensitive visual receptors is limited, thus giving a lower landscape and visual sensitivity to wind energy developments.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the area's strong associations and intervisibility with the National Park and the regional value of the landscape which is reflected in it lying entirely within the Corris SLA.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This typically large scale, upland landscape is predominantly unsettled and has relatively few local roads which imparts a sense of tranquillity and remoteness. The area has strong associations with the National Park and the regional value of the landscape is reflected by it lying entirely within the Corris SLA, thus enhancing its sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the fact that the landscape is dominated by extensive coniferous plantations, interspersed with former slate quarries and that there are relatively few sensitive visual receptors in this area.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments (with the exception of very infrequent sensitively sited and well-designed very small developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban).

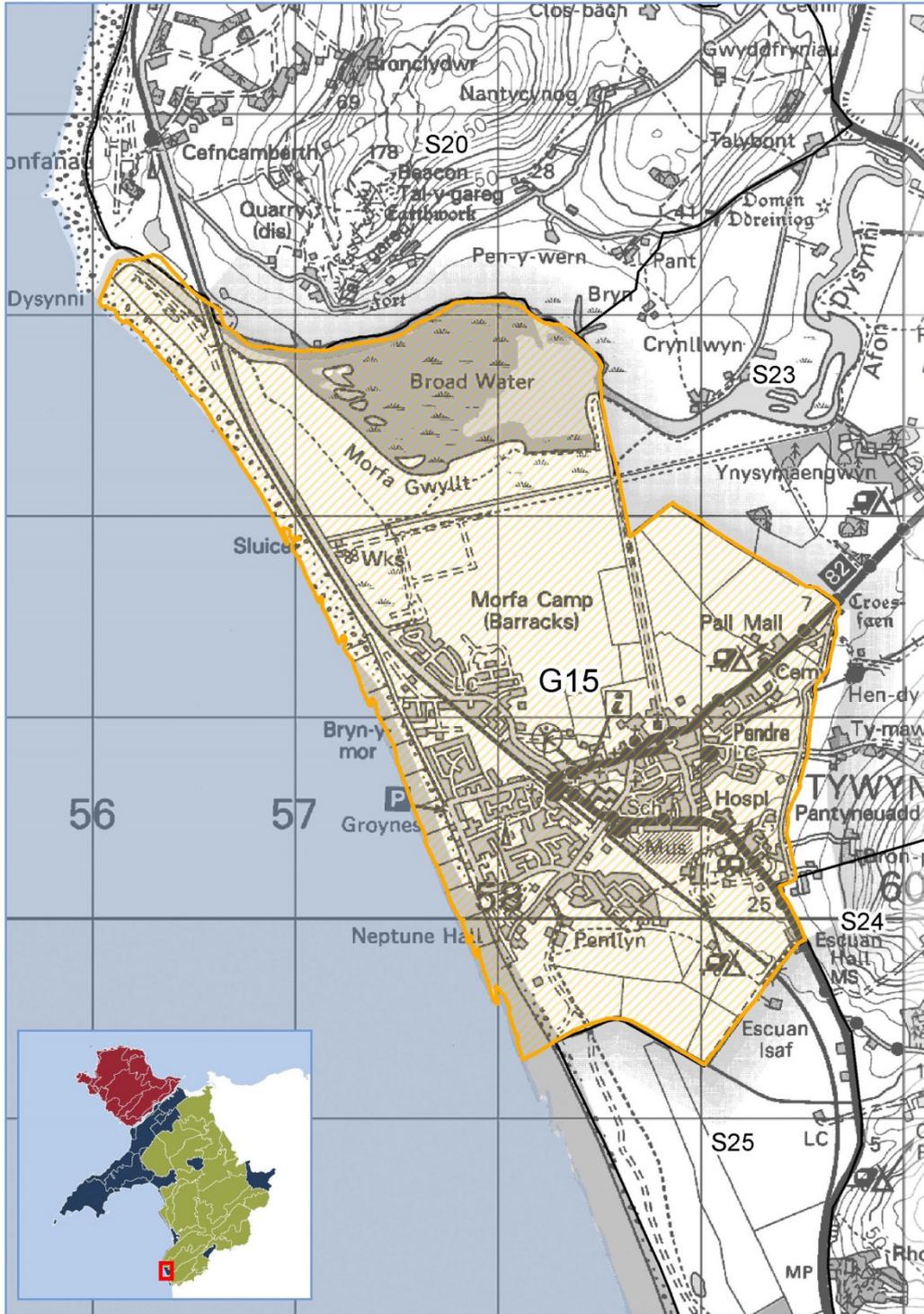
⁶¹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, 400 kV overhead lines and field-scale solar PV energy developments, therefore there is no strategy for these types of development.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓
Development should take account of and conserve the special qualities of the Corris Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, particularly towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including national cycle route Sustrans Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A487 tourist route.	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓

G15 Tywyn



1:25,000



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Location and Extent

This relatively small LCA lies on the coastline to the far south west of Gwynedd. The LCA comprises the coastal town of Tywyn and is bordered by the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, flat, open coastal landscape
- Enclosed to the east by the rising upland landscape of the National Park
- Relatively heavily developed to the south

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (91%) / <u>Large</u> (9%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Low lying, flat coastal plain. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Built Land</u> (37%) / <u>Coastal</u> (61%) VS4: <u>Levels</u> (99%)	↓				↓
	Landcover	Coastal resort settlement surrounded by low lying rough pastures. River estuary to the north. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Dunes & Dune Slack</u> (9%) / <u>Intertidal</u> (52%) / <u>Urban</u> (37%) VS5: <u>Development</u> (37%) / <u>Mixture</u> (52%) / <u>Open Land</u> (9%)	↓				↓
	Man-made Influences	This LCA is heavily influenced by development . Modern estates and caravan parks dominate the resort town of Tywyn which covers just under half of this LCA. Sewage works are located to the north and the A493 main road runs through the south of the LCA. The Cambrian Coast Railway line runs through Tywyn and along the coastline.	↓				↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS6: <u>No settlements</u> (52%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (9%) / <u>Urban</u> (37%) VS27: <u>Poor</u> (52%) / <u>Fair</u> (48%)					
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Skylines within this LCA are relatively simple , although they are at times interrupted by built form associated with Tywyn and a low voltage overhead line on timber poles. St Cadfan's Church tower is a prominent focal feature on the skyline. Surrounding upland areas (within the National Park) provide distinctive skylines which backdrop views to the north and east .	↑				
Movement	This coastal landscape is predominantly characterised by activity with some quieter areas away from the transport routes and tourism development. VS18: <u>Frequent</u> (63%) / <u>Constant</u> (37%)	↓				
Visual Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	Views are typically open and the area has strong associations with the National Park which lies immediately adjacent. In places views to the sea are limited by railway embankment. There are views from the north of the LCA to an active quarry across the water of the Afon Dysynni. Some views to the sea are limited by the raised railway line embankment. VS9: <u>Open</u> (100%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numerous properties ▪ Long distance routes including Sustrans Porthmadog to Machynlleth cycle route (NCN route 82) and the Wales Coast Path ▪ Local attractions such as the Talyllyn Railway ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A493 tourist route and Cambrian Coast Railway 	↑				↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local road network Water sport and boat users 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Llŷn AONB Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑				
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically Low LANDMAP evaluation VS25: <u>Weak</u> (90%) / <u>Moderate</u> (10%) VS46: <u>Low</u> (89%) / <u>High</u> (10%) VS47: <u>Low</u> (89%) / <u>High</u> (9%) VS48: <u>Low</u> (89%) / <u>High</u> (9%)	↓				↓
	Remoteness/Tranquillity The main road and rail corridors and relatively large settlement of Tywyn greatly reduce the sense of remoteness and tranquillity within this LCA. VS24: <u>Exposed; Other</u> (9%) / <u>Sheltered; Other</u> (37%) / <u>Smell</u> (52%)	↓				↓
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features) Typically Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . Nationally designated features include Sustrans national cycle route Porthmadog to Machynlleth (NCN route 82). The Wales Coast Path runs along the length of the LCA. VS50: <u>Low</u> (89%) / <u>High</u> (9%) VS49: <u>Low</u> (37%) / <u>Moderate</u> (54%) / <u>High</u> (9%) LH45: <u>Low</u> (27%) / <u>Moderate</u> (45%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (28%) LH42: <u>High</u> (45%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (55%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)	-				-
	Historic Value	This LCA lies within the Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape.	↑			

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: High ^(25%) / <u>Outstanding</u> ^(75%)</p> <p>HL35: High ^(25%) / <u>Outstanding</u> ^(75%)</p> <p>HL40: Outstanding ^(100%)</p>					

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁶² (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, low lying, open coastal landscape is enclosed to the east by the rising upland landscape of the National Park.</p> <p>The coastal town of Tywyn together with major road and rail infrastructure influence the character of the landscape along this section of coastline and diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity, thus reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors, strong associations and a high degree of intervisibility with the National Park. The LCA also lies entirely within the Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings).

⁶² NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, 400 kV overhead lines and field-scale solar PV energy developments, therefore there is no strategy for these types of development.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

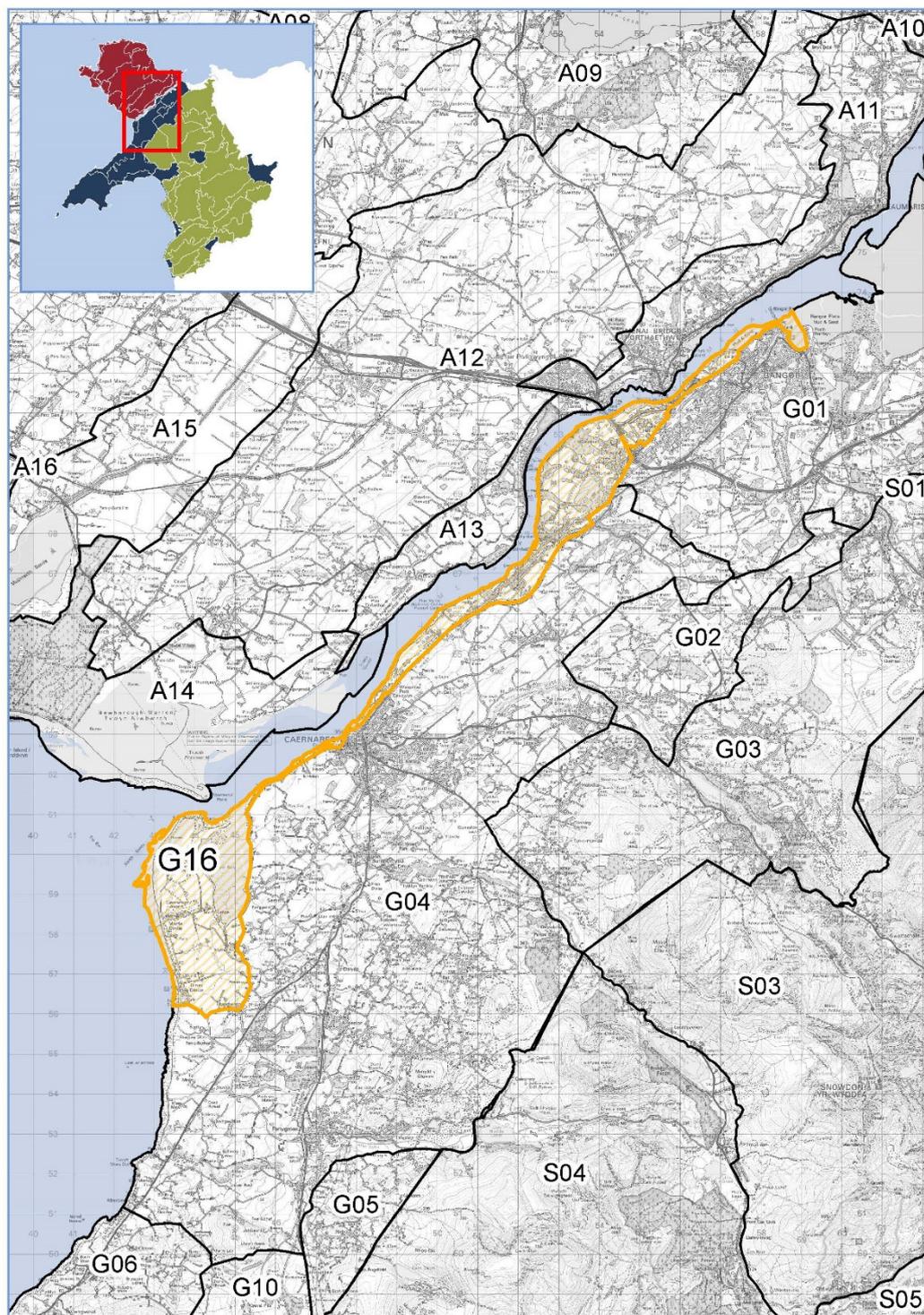
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale, low lying, open coastal landscape is enclosed to the east by the rising upland landscape of the National Park.</p> <p>The coastal town of Tywyn together with major road and rail infrastructure and the presence of several static caravan/chalet parks have a notable man-made influence on the character of the landscape along this section of coastline and also diminish the sense of remoteness and tranquillity thus reducing sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is counterbalanced by the LCAs strong associations and a high degree of intervisibility with the National Park. The LCA also lies entirely within the Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Although it is recognised that Landscape Change has occurred where numerous developments influence the landscape, in particular to the south of the LCA around Tywyn; Landscape Protection is the overriding objective.
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 no. very large developments - 3 no. large development - 1 no. medium developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Due to the considerable numbers of static caravan/chalet parks, there is typically very limited capacity, if any, for further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline and within the sight lines of key views.	✓	
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting, in particular avoiding the setting of areas defined as ELDP Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans Bangor to Fishguard cycle route (NCN route 82) and local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓
Site small scale development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the wider landscape.	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of modern development. Siting should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A493 main/tourist routes and the Cambrian Coast Railway.	✓	✓

G16 Menai Coast



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a narrow coastal area which runs along the Menai Strait from Bangor in the north, skirting along the northern edge of Caernarfon down to Dinas Dinlle in the south west.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, low lying, open coastal landscape
- Varied landscape pattern

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 KV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: Small (5%) / <u>Medium</u> (67%) / Large (28%)	-		-		
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Generally medium to large scale fields broadly following a regular field pattern with a mixture of field boundaries. VS8: Small (5%) / <u>Medium</u> (67%) / Large (28%) VS7: <u>Mixture</u> (69%) / None (31%)		↓			
	Landform	Narrow coastal landscape characterised by flat landform to the south and more rolling and undulating landform to the north . VS Classification Level 2: Built Land (17%) / <u>Coastal</u> (31%) / <u>Flat Lowland/Levels</u> (28%) / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (25%) VS4: Levels (53%) / Rolling/Undulating (47%)	-	-	-		-
	Landcover	A varied pattern of landcover including farmland, woodland, historic parkland, a commercial airfield and other commercial and urban developments. VS Classification Level 3: Dispersed Settlement (7%) / Dunes & Dune Slack (5%) / <u>Flat Open Lowland Farmland</u> (28%) / <u>Intertidal</u> (25%) / <u>Mosaic Rolling Lowland</u> (25%) / Urban (10%)	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS5: Development (10%) / <u>Field Pattern/Mosaic</u> (52%) / Mixture (10%) / Open Land (6%) / Water (22%)					
Man-made Influences	<p>Man-made influences that affect the character of this LCA include main road corridors, Caernarfon Airport, Parc Menai business park, settlements and static caravan parks. Although located outside this LCA the urban settlements of Bangor and Caernarfon also influence the landscape. Development also includes section of 400 kV overhead line to the north of the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Mixture (7%) / <u>No settlements</u> (31%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (52%) / Urban (10%)</p> <p>VS27: Fair (25%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (72%)</p>	↓	↓	↓		↓
Settlement Pattern	<p>With the exception of the area of historic parkland (north of Y Felinheli) and farmland to the far south west, the settlement pattern of this LCA is typified by urban settlements and densely dispersed rural properties.</p> <p>VS6: Mixture (7%) / <u>No settlements</u> (31%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (52%) / Urban (10%)</p>			↑		
Skylines and Settings	<p>This LCA provides a setting to the Menai Strait as well as Anglesey AONB. Distinctive skylines features within this landscape include prominent landform at Dinas Dinlle (Iron Age Hillfort), the Menai Suspension Bridge, Britannia Bridge and Bangor Pier. 400 kV overhead lines punctuate the skyline towards the north of this LCA and wind turbines are visible on the skyline in the south; locally reducing sensitivity. To the south, the peaks of Snowdonia and the Llŷn Peninsula provide a dramatic backdrop.</p>	↑		↑		
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Road traffic brings frequent movement to the north of this LCA; whereas movement towards the south is less frequent.</p> <p>VS18: Rare (16%) / Occasional (10%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (32%) / <u>Frequent</u> (32%) / Constant (10%)</p>	-				

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p>	<p>Views are typically open and exposed within this LCA.</p> <p>VS9: Open ^(56%) / Exposed ^(41%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Numerous properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5) ▪ Local attractions including Caernarfon Castle ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A487, A55, A5 and A493 tourist routes and Welsh Highland Railway ▪ The local road network ▪ Water sport and boat users 	↑	↑	↑		↑
<p>Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p>	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Caernarfon Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Llŷn AONB ▪ Aberffraw Bay Heritage Coast ▪ Llŷn Coast Heritage Coast ▪ Foryd Bay SLA ▪ Vaynol Estate and Surrounds SLA ▪ Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens ▪ Hillforts 	↑		↑		
<p>Condition</p>	<p>The condition of the landscape is generally fair.</p> <p>VS27: Fair ^(25%) / <u>Unassessed</u> ^(72%)</p> <p>VS47: Low ^(14%) / <u>Moderate</u> ^(56%) / High ^(17%) / Outstanding ^(14%)</p>					
<p>Aesthetic, Perceptual</p>	<p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation</p> <p>VS25: <u>Moderate</u> ^(78%) / Strong ^(22%)</p> <p>VS46: Moderate ^(21%) / <u>High</u> ^(79%)</p> <p>VS47: Low ^(14%) / <u>Moderate</u> ^(56%) / High ^(17%) / Outstanding ^(14%)</p>	-	-	-		-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
		VS48: Low (7%) / <u>Moderate</u> (46%) / <u>High</u> (48%)					
	Remoteness/Tranquillity	<p>There are some distinct pockets of tranquillity in this LCA, particularly along the immediate coastline and within the historic parkland. Elsewhere the sense of remoteness and tranquillity is reduced by the presence of settlement, main road networks and commercial infrastructure such as Caernarfon Airport.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Attractive</u> (25%) / <u>Exposed; Smell; Tranquil</u> (28%) / <u>Other</u> (7%) / <u>Other; Unattractive; Settled</u> (7%) / <u>Smell</u> (8%) / <u>Smell; Attractive; Tranquil; Exposed; Remote; Wild</u> (5%) / <u>Smell; Tranquil; Exposed; Threatening; Remote; Wild</u> (14%)</p>	-	-	-		-
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>Much of this LCA lies within the regionally designated Foryd Bay SLA and Vaynol Estate and Surrounds SLA.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5).</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs through much of this LCA.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: Low (7%) / <u>Moderate</u> (42%) / <u>High</u> (51%) VS49: Low (7%) / <u>Moderate</u> (41%) / <u>High</u> (49%) LH45: Low (5%) / <u>Moderate</u> (45%) / <u>High</u> (34%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (16%) LH42: Low (12%) / <u>Moderate</u> (53%) / <u>High</u> (34%) GL31: <u>Moderate</u> (14%) / <u>High</u> (49%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (37%) GL33: <u>Moderate</u> (14%) / <u>High</u> (53%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (33%)</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑
	Historic Value	<p>North eastern parts of this LCA lie within the Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape and Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>A hillfort and Registered Park and Garden are also present.</p>	↑	↑	↑		↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: Moderate (22%) / <u>High</u> (43%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (35%)</p> <p>HL35: Moderate (15%) / High (33%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (52%)</p> <p>HL40: Moderate (15%) / <u>High</u> (44%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (41%)</p>					

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁶³ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, narrow coastal landscape is in some places heavily influenced by modern development which lessens the sensitivity of the landscape to wind energy developments.</p> <p>This is overridden by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors and nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes together with good intervisibility with important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Caernarfon Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site).</p> <p>Also, much of the LCA lies within the regionally designated Foryd Bay SLA and Vaynol Estate and Surrounds SLA.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS, AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS, AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. small development - 1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLAs (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the National Park, WHS and AONBs), there is typically no capacity for wind energy development (with the exception of very infrequent domestic scale, development which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings)</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for micro scale developments which could typically comprise single turbines up to 20 m to blade tip height; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid cumulative effects with existing vertical modern developments.</p>

FIELD-SCALE SOLAR PV ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale, narrow coastal landscape is in some places heavily influenced by modern development. Field systems are typically medium scale and regular in pattern with a mix of field boundaries present. The sensitivity of the landscape to field-scale solar PV energy developments is therefore considered lower.</p>

⁶³ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study area for mobile masts, therefore there is no strategy for this type of development.

	<p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors and nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes together with a high degree of intervisibility from Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Also, much of the LCA lies within the regionally designated Foryd Bay SLA and Vaynol Estate and Surrounds SLA.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS, AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS, AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	No existing or consented field-scale solar PV energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLAs (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the National Park, WHS and AONBs), there is typically no capacity for field-scale solar PV energy developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for well sited micro scale developments.</p>

400 kV OVERHEAD LINE

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, narrow coastal landscape is in some places heavily influenced by modern development including an existing 400 kV overhead line, which crosses the Menai Strait north of the LCA, thus lessening the sensitivity of the landscape to this type of development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors and nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes, together with good intervisibility with important landscape and cultural heritage features (including the National Park, Anglesey AONB and Caernarfon Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site).</p> <p>Also, much of the LCA lies within the regionally designated Foryd Bay SLA and Vaynol Estate and Surrounds SLA.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS, AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS, AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	1 no. section of existing 400 kV overhead line to the north
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLAs (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the National Park, WHS and AONBs), there is typically no capacity for 400 kV overhead line developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be limited capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including existing 400 kV overhead lines.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

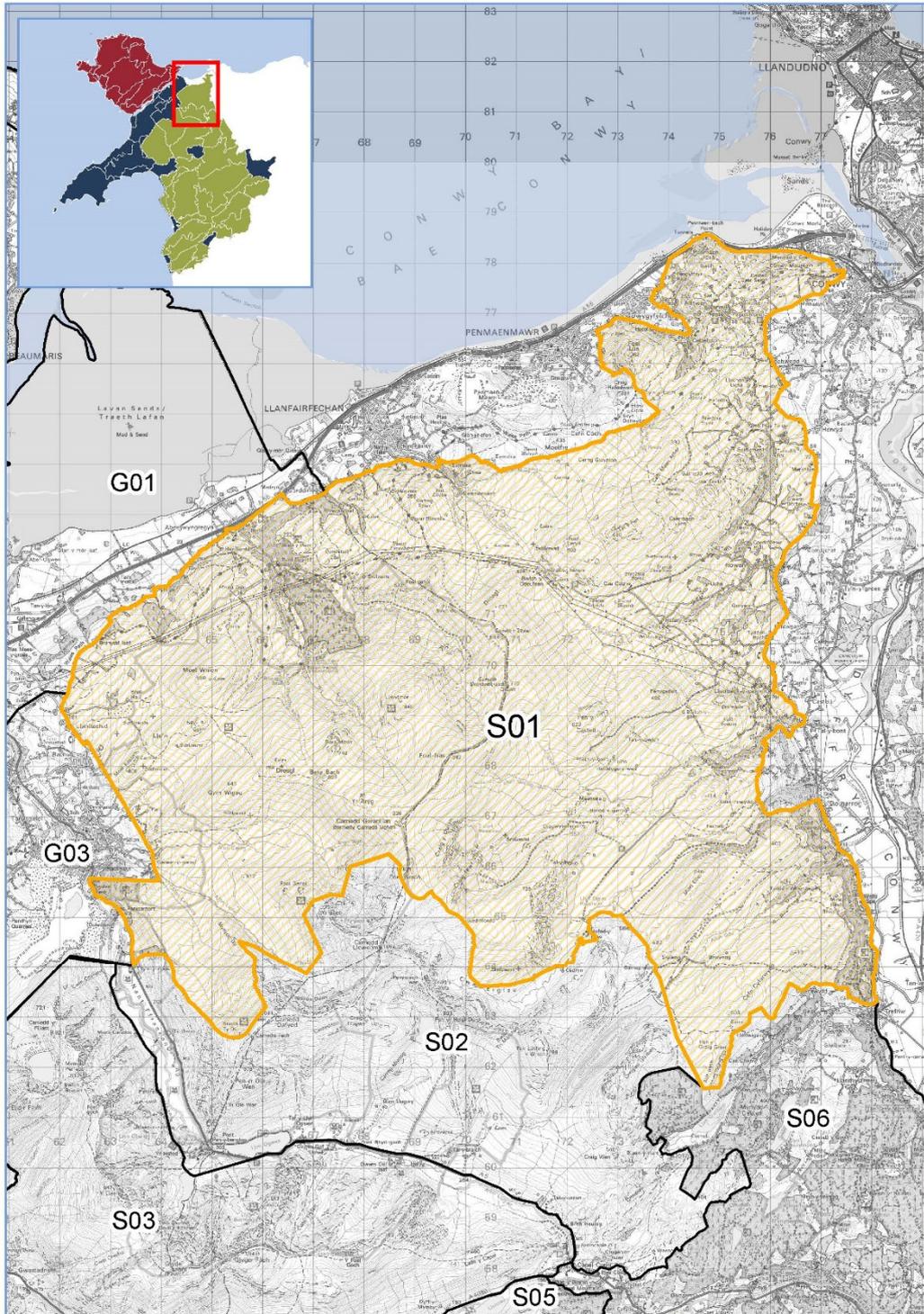
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium	<p>This medium scale, narrow coastal landscape is in some places heavily influenced by modern development thus lessening sensitivity to static caravan / chalet parks and extensions.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of a high number of sensitive visual receptors and nationally important Registered Historic Landscapes together with a high degree of intervisibility from Anglesey AONB.</p> <p>Also, much of the LCA lies within the regionally designated Foryd Bay SLA and Vaynol Estate and Surrounds SLA.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	<p>Landscape Protection – all areas that lie within the SLAs or contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS, AONBs and SLAs.</p> <p>Landscape Accommodation – areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the National Park, WHS, AONBs and SLAs and are outside these areas.</p>
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large development - 1 no. large development - 1 no. medium development - 1 no. small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Within the SLA (and all areas that contribute to its setting and the setting of the National Park, WHS and AONBs), there is typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.</p> <p>Outside these areas there may be some capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed very small to small scale developments, which should relate well to the existing built environment/urban landcover.</p>

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and wider setting.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Anglesey AONB.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the setting and key views to and from Caernarfon Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Foryd Bay; and Vaynol Estate and Surrounds, Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting vertical developments on the open skyline, on open hillsides and within the sight lines of key views, particularly along the Menai Strait and out to sea.	✓		✓	
Development should not detract from the setting of distinctive man-made features such as the Menai Suspension Bridge, Britannia Bridge and Bangor Pier.	✓		✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Ogwen Valley; and Dinorwig, Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Dinas Dinlle (Iron Age Hillfort) and Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ensure new access tracks do not damage historic field patterns and replant any hedges affected by construction.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓		✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN routes 5), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A487 tourist route and Welsh Highland Railway.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓		✓

S01 Ucheldir y Gogledd



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a series of peaks extending from Bethesda in the west to Conwy valley in the east. The boundary extends to the outskirts of Conwy in the north where this LCA forms an immediate and dramatic backdrop to the coast.

Key Characteristics

- Vast scale, exposed landscape
- Upland landscape with a series of peaks
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a vast scale landscape. VS8: Medium (23%) / <u>Vast</u> (75%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Exposed upland landscape with a series of high peaks . VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland</u> (77%) / Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (22%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (77%) / Hills/Valleys (16%) /Rolling/Undulating (7%) VS8: Medium (23%) / <u>Vast</u> (75%)	↑			↑	↑

	Landcover	Unenclosed mountains provide rough grazing land which contrasts with more complex historic field	↓			-	↑
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		<p>systems on the foothills. The intermediate area is defined by large regular enclosures of ffridd⁶⁴.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic (16%)/ Upland Grazing (75%) VS5: Open Land (77%)/ Mixture (22%)</p>					
	Man-made Influences	<p>Modern day man-made influence is limited to the north and eastern edges of this LCA and includes static caravan parks and a single small turbine. Clustered settlements which lie along a network of minor roads on the higher slopes of the Conwy valley. Both 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines parallel each other in the northern section of the LCA.</p> <p>Elsewhere and throughout much of this LCA there is very little human influence aside from the remains of historical slate quarrying.</p> <p>VS6: Clustered (22%)/ No Settlements (77%) VS27: Fair (100%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
	Skylines and Settings	<p>Skylines are formed by a series of prominent and distinctive peaks including Moel Wnion, Drosogl, Foel Ganol, Pen y Castell, Drum, Carnedd Gwenllian, Tal y Fan and Conwy Mountain.</p>	↑			↑	
Visual	Movement	<p>Limited road traffic brings occasional movement to the landscape, which otherwise has a still character.</p> <p>VS18: Occasional (75%)/ Frequent (16%) / Infrequent (8%)/</p>	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views to the north are typically long distance with outward views over Anglesey, the Menai Strait and Conwy coastline. The A55 main road corridor, and offshore and onshore wind farms outside this LCA are also visible from some places to the north and east of the LCA.</p> <p>Views south are restricted by the Carneddau Range.</p> <p>VS9: Open (24%)/ Exposed (75%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Residential properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Open Access Areas 	↑			↑	↑

⁶⁴ Ffridd describes a diverse mixture of grassland and heathland vegetation with bracken and scrub often found on the valley sides between upland and lowland parts of Wales. There is no direct Welsh to English translation for this term.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ Nearby attractions including Conwy Castle, Beaumaris Castle and the Great Orme ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN route 5) and Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) ▪ The A5 tourist route ▪ The local road network ▪ Water sports and boats 					
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park (including Snowdon) ▪ The Great Orme Heritage Coast ▪ Anglesey AONB ▪ Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB ▪ Lower Conwy Valley Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Creuddyn and Conwy Registered Historic Landscape ▪ North Arllechwedd Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape ▪ North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA ▪ Hillforts ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens ▪ ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
	Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	Much of the landscape is defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty. Typically high LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: <u>Strong</u> (6%) / <u>Moderate</u> (94%) VS46: <u>High</u> (86%) / <u>Moderate</u> (11%) VS47: <u>High</u> (88%) / <u>Moderate</u> (11%) VS48: <u>High</u> (88%) / <u>Moderate</u> (12%)	↑			↑	↑
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity	Highly tranquil and exposed with few modern intrusions. VS24: <u>Exposed</u> (77%) / <u>Settled</u> ; <u>Attractive</u> ; <u>Exposed</u> ; <u>Wild</u> ; <u>Spiritual</u> (5%) / <u>Settled</u> ; <u>Attractive</u> ; <u>Sheltered</u> (11%) / <u>Other</u> (6%)	↑			↑	↑

Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p>	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN route 5).</p> <p>This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (88%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (11%) VS49: <u>High</u> (77%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (22%) LH45: <u>High</u> (9%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (23%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (65%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) GL31: <u>High</u> (20%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (80%) GL33: <u>High</u> (20%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (80%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Historic Value</p>	<p>Much of this LCA lies within the following Registered Historic Landscapes: Lower Conwy Valley; Creuddyn and Conwy; North Arllechwedd; and Ogwen Valley.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (64%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (30%) HL35: <u>High</u> (34%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (65%) HL40: <u>High</u> (37%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (62%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁶⁵ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>Although the vast scale and relatively simple landcover of this LCA may be indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development, this is far outweighed by the natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic upland mountain landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by instantly recognisable skylines, created by dramatic and varied topography, together with a relative lack of human influence which imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. However, although some distance away, the visibility of both offshore and onshore wind turbines from northern and eastern areas does have a localised impact on tranquillity and remoteness in parts of this landscape, as do the 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines in the north.</p> <p>Extensive views are afforded to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features including the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Anglesey AONB, the Great Orme Heritage Coast and a number of Registered Historic Landscapes. Due to its location in the northern corner of the National Park this LCA may be viewed as an important gateway to the National Park, particularly for many visitors travelling along the busy A55. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

⁶⁵ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY						
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by instantly recognisable skylines, created by dramatic and varied topography, together with a relative lack of human influence which impart a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. However, although there are currently no masts within the LCA itself there are a number of visible masts bordering this LCA. These together with the presence of 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines in the north have a localised impact on tranquillity and remoteness and detract from the scenic quality, thus lessening sensitivity to mobile mast development in some areas.</p> <p>Extensive views are afforded to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features including the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Anglesey AONB, the Great Orme Heritage Coast and a number of Registered Historic Landscapes. Due to its location in the northern corner of the National Park this LCA may be viewed as an important gateway to the National Park, in particular for many visitors travelling along the busy A55. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity.</p>					
	LANDSCAPE STRATEGY					
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Landscape Objective</th> <th>Landscape Protection</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Baseline Development</td> <td>No existing or consented mobile mast developments within the LCA. A number of mobile masts are located outside the west, north and eastern boundaries.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indicative Overall Capacity</td> <td>Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection	Baseline Development	No existing or consented mobile mast developments within the LCA. A number of mobile masts are located outside the west, north and eastern boundaries.	Indicative Overall Capacity
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection					
Baseline Development	No existing or consented mobile mast developments within the LCA. A number of mobile masts are located outside the west, north and eastern boundaries.					
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)					

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by vast areas of unenclosed upland grazing and the dramatic and varied topography which typifies this LCA. A relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA, increasing sensitivity further. However, there are existing static caravan/chalet parks within and around the northern and eastern fringes of this LCA which are visible from higher vantage points, especially footpaths and thus have a localised impact on tranquillity and remoteness and detract from the scenic quality, thus lessening sensitivity in some areas.</p> <p>The cultural heritage value of this landscape is recognised by the number of Registered Historic Landscapes which covers much of this LCA. Due to its location in the northern corner of the National Park this LCA may be viewed as an</p>

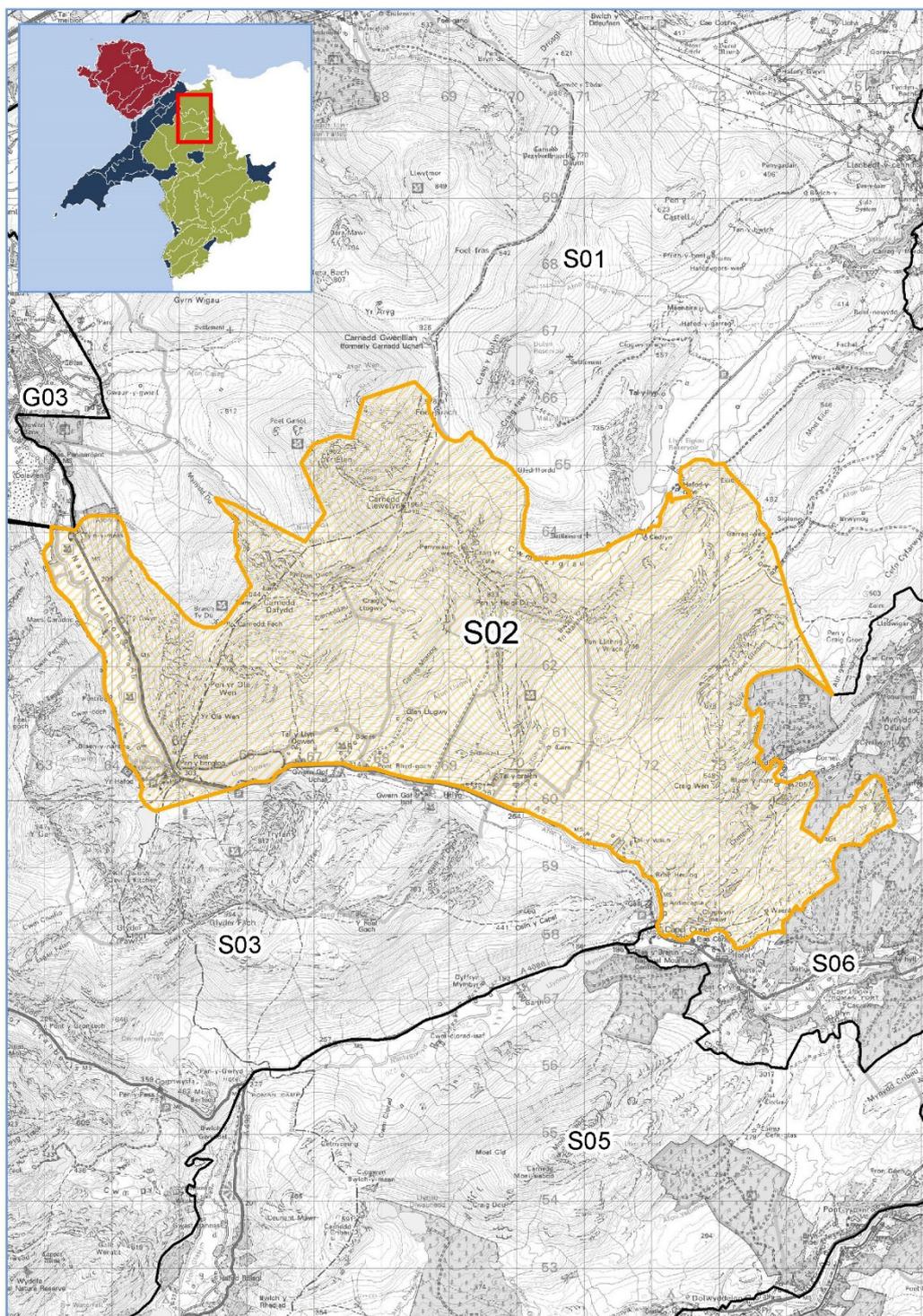
	important gateway to the National Park, in particular for many visitors travelling along the busy A55. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. very large development - 1 no. medium development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments within the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty and exposed areas to the north. However, there may be limited capacity for very small scale and sensitively sited static caravan/chalet park developments to the east and on the edge of the National Park.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Anglesey AONB and Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of the North Western Fringes of Snowdonia Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the distinctive and valued landform of Bangor Mountain Special Landscape Area, its special qualities and its wider setting. Siting and design of any development should not significantly compromise the undeveloped character for which a large part of this area is valued.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly those seaward and towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Lower Conwy Valley, North Arllechwedd, Creuddyn and Conwy and Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments, such as 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route from Reading to Holyhead (NCN route 5), Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82)], and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A55 tourist route and North Wales Coast Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓	✓	

S02 Y Carneddau



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises the Carneddau mountain range bounded to the west by the U-shaped valley of Nant Ffrancon and to the south by the Afon Lligwy and the A5.

Key Characteristics

- Vast scale, exposed landscape
- High hills and mountains bounded by roads and valleys
- Includes the second highest peak in Snowdonia (Carnedd Llywelyn)

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a vast scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (23%)/ <u>Vast</u> (75%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	High hills and mountains including the high ridgeline of the Carneddau mountain range, bounded to the west by the U-shaped valley of Nant Ffrancon and by the A5 and Afon Llugwy valley to the south. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (77%)/ <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (22%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (77%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (7%)/ <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> (16%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Open craggy mountain summits , rough upland grazing, scarp slopes and large rectangular enclosures of ffridd interspersed with large lakes. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Upland Grazing</u> (75%)/ <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic</u> (16%)/ <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing</u> (6%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (77%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (22%)	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type					
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
Man-made Influences	<p>Primarily unsettled with few vernacular properties clustered along the A5.</p> <p>Few overt man-made influences other than minor roads and mobile masts to the west and south.</p> <p>VS6: Clustered (22%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (77%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (100%)</p>	↑			↑	↑	
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable						
Skylines and Settings	The high and prominent ridgeline of the Carneddau mountain range and the high peak of Carnedd Llywelyn (the second highest in Snowdonia) form highly distinctive skylines within this LCA.	↑			↑		
Visual	Movement	Limited road traffic brings occasional movement to the landscape, which otherwise has a still character.	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Panoramic views from the mountains overlooking the seascapes of Conwy and Anglesey to the north.</p> <p>To the south the open and exposed landscape allows expansive views over the Carneddau mountain range.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Open</u> (24%) / <u>Exposed</u> (75%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clustered properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park (including Snowdon) ▪ Long distance routes including Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A5 tourist route ▪ The local road network 	↑			↑	↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park (including Snowdon) ▪ Anglesey AONB 	↑			↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
<p>Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 					
<p>Condition</p>	Not applicable					
<p>Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential</p>	<p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation</p> <p>VS25: <u>Moderate</u> (94%)/ <u>Strong</u> (6%) VS46: <u>High</u> (86%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (11%) VS47: <u>High</u> (88%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (11%) VS48: <u>High</u> (88%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (12%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>Exposed, remote and wild mountain range with no road access into the higher mountains.</p> <p>The A5 to the south and west introduces a degree of visual intrusion and noise disturbance, slightly reducing the perceived tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Exposed</u> (77%)/ <u>Settled; Attractive; Sheltered</u> (11%)/ <u>Other</u> (6%)/ <u>Settled; Attractive; Exposed; Wild; Spiritual</u> (5%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and a Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82).</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (88%) / <u>Moderate</u> (11%) VS49: <u>High</u> (77%) / <u>Moderate</u> (22%) LH45: <u>High</u> (9%) / <u>Moderate</u> (23%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (65%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) GL31: <u>High</u> (20%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (80%) GL33: <u>High</u> (20%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (80%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>The western fringes of this LCA lie within the Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (65%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (30%) HL35: <u>High</u> (35%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (65%) HL40: <u>High</u> (37%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (62%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁶⁶ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>Although the vast scale of this landscape may be indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development, this is far outweighed by the natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic craggy upland mountain landscape which imparts a high degree of sensitivity and has resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by instantly recognisable skylines, created by dramatic and varied topography of the Carneddau mountain range which together with a relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. However, the perception of tranquillity is locally affected along the A5 road corridor to the south and western edges of the LCA.</p> <p>Extensive views are afforded to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features including the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Anglesey AONB, the Great Orme Heritage Coast and a number of Registered Historic Landscapes. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments

⁶⁶ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic craggy upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by instantly recognisable skylines, created by dramatic and varied topography of the Carneddau mountain range, which together with a relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. However, the perception of tranquillity is locally affected along the A5 road corridor to the south and western edges of the LCA. The presence of existing mobile mast along this corridor further reduce sensitivity to this type of development in the south east.</p> <p>Extensive views are afforded to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features including the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Anglesey AONB, the Great Orme Heritage Coast and a number of Registered Historic Landscapes. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	6 no. mobile mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

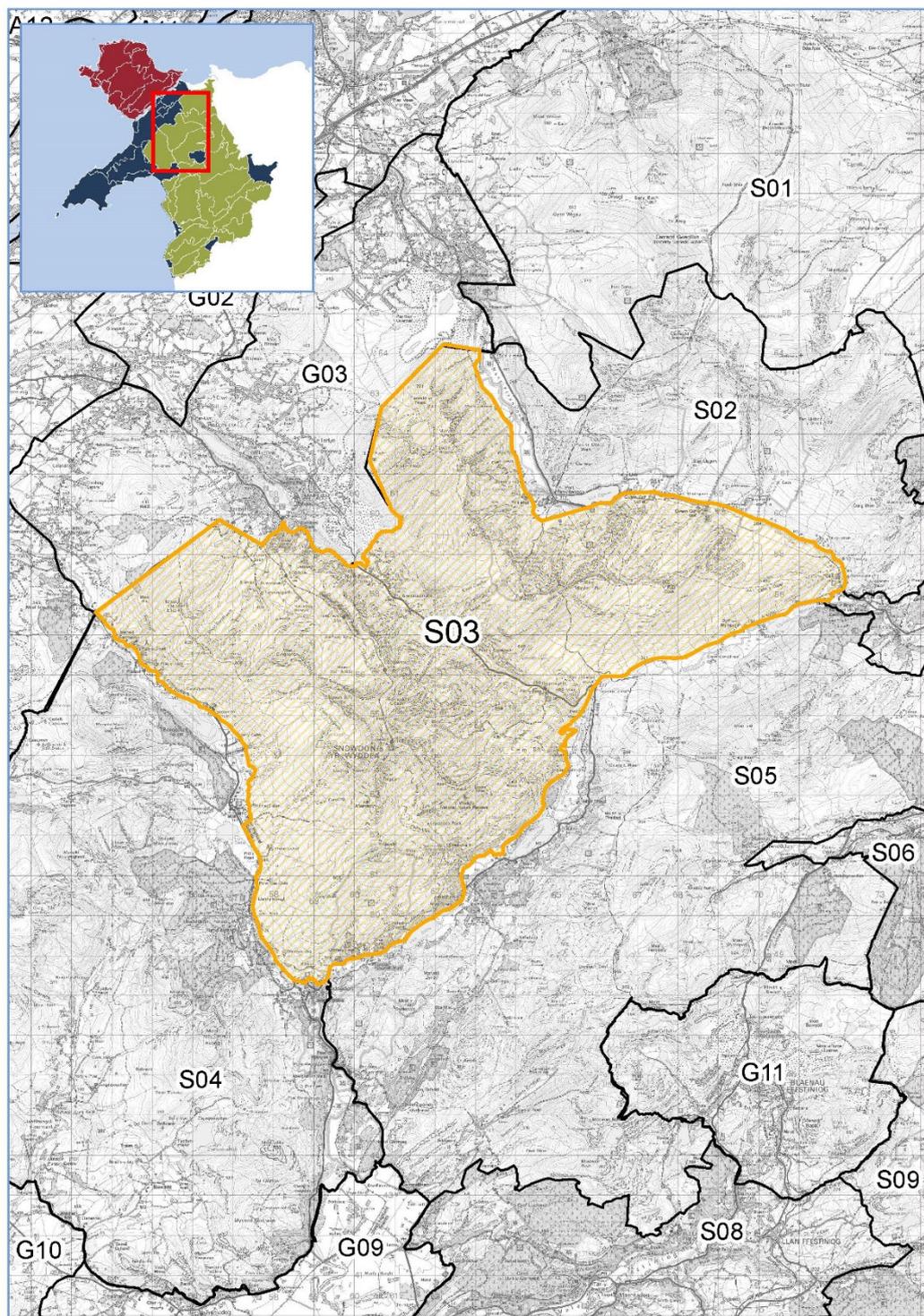
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic craggy upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by the highly exposed nature of the dramatic and varied topography of the Carneddau mountain range (including the second highest peak in the National Park), which together with a relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. Although the perception of tranquillity is locally affected along the A5 road corridor to the south and western edges of the LCA, this area remains largely unsettled and is highly visible from surrounding mountains therefore greatly increasing sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Anglesey AONB and Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines, or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards Snowdon and other focal points within the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed developments to avoid incremental cumulative effects.	✓	✓	✓

S03 Yr Wyddfa a'r Glyderau



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises Snowdon together with a number of other rugged mountain peaks including the Glyderau mountain range. It is roughly encircled by a network of main tourist roads.

Key Characteristics

- Vast scale, exposed landscape
- High hills and mountains including the highly distinctive peak of Snowdon
- Visual and historic heart of the National Park

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a vast scale landscape. VS8: Medium (6%) / <u>Vast</u> (92%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Rugged mountain terrain, with rocky ridges and summits including Snowdon, the highest mountain in Wales (rising to 1,086 metres). VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (92%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (92%) / Hills/ Valleys (7%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Unenclosed mountains provide rough grazing land which contrasts with more complex field systems on the lower valley slopes and floors. The intermediate area is defined by large regular enclosures of ffridd enclosed by stone walls . VS Classification Level 3: <u>Barren/Rocky Upland</u> (49%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (44%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (96%)	↑			↑	↑
	Man-made Influences	Predominately unsettled with relatively little human influence .	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>The road network that encircles and passes through the LCA locally increases human influence towards the centre and outer fringes of this LCA. Other man-made influences include Snowdon Mountain Railway, Hafod Eryri (the Visitor Centre at the Summit of Snowdon), and a small number of mobile masts, wind turbines and a static caravan park all of which locally influence the landscape.</p> <p>VS6: <u>No Settlements</u> (92%) VS27: <u>Good</u> (18%) / <u>Fair</u> (82%)</p>					
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Snowdon and a series of iconic peaks form a distinctive, rugged skyline with prominent rocky ridges and summits.	↑			↑	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>The minor road network and Snowdon Mountain Railway bring occasional and infrequent movement around the perimeter and through the centre of the LCA but elsewhere much of this landscape is still.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (44%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (49%)</p>	↑				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Exposed panoramic views from Snowdon and other peaks extend to the coast to the north and across neighbouring mountain ranges in all other directions.</p> <p>The valley bottoms offers views enclosed by the surrounding peaks.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (6%) / <u>Exposed</u> (92%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties and small villages ▪ Snowdonia National Park (including Snowdon) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Long distance route, Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) ▪ Local attractions such as Snowdon Mountain Railway and the Welsh Highland Railway ▪ Local public rights of way 	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The A5, A4085 and A498 tourist routes The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park (including Snowdon) Anglesey AONB Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia SLA Dinorwig and Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscapes Hillfort Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically outstanding LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: <u>Strong</u> (96%) VS46: <u>Outstanding</u> (95%) / <u>High</u> (5%) VS47: <u>High</u> (97%) VS48: <u>Outstanding</u> (95%)	↑			↑	↑
	Remoteness/Tranquillity There is an overriding sense of tranquillity and wildness throughout most of this LCA. VS24: <u>Exposed; Wild</u> (49%) / <u>Exposed</u> (44%)	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and a Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82).</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>Outstanding</u> (95%) VS49: <u>Outstanding</u> (50%)/ <u>High</u> (47%) LH45: <u>High</u> (16%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (23%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (60%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (99%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>Large parts of this LCA lie within Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscape and Ogwen Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>A Registered Park and Garden is located to the south within this LCA.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (72%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (24%) HL35: <u>High</u> (28%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (72%) HL40: <u>High</u> (36%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (64%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁶⁷ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>Although the vast scale of this landscape may be indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development, this is far outweighed by the natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic craggy upland mountain landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by the instantly recognisable skylines, created by dramatic and varied topography of Snowdon and the Glyderau mountain range. This is further enhanced by a relative lack of human influence which imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. However, the perception of tranquillity is locally affected along the road corridors around the fringes and also running through the centre of the LCA.</p> <p>Extensive views are afforded to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features including the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Anglesey AONB, the Great Orme Heritage Coast and a number of Registered Historic Landscapes. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	2 no. domestic developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic craggy upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by instantly recognisable skylines, created by dramatic and varied topography of Snowdon and the Glyderau mountain range. This is further enhanced by a relative lack of human influence which imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout</p>

⁶⁷ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Very High	<p>much of this LCA. However, the perception of tranquillity is locally eroded along the road corridors around the fringes and also running through the centre of the LCA.</p> <p>Extensive views are afforded to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features including the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Anglesey AONB, the Great Orme Heritage Coast and a number of Registered Historic Landscapes. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 2 no. mobile mast developments - 2 no. camouflaged mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

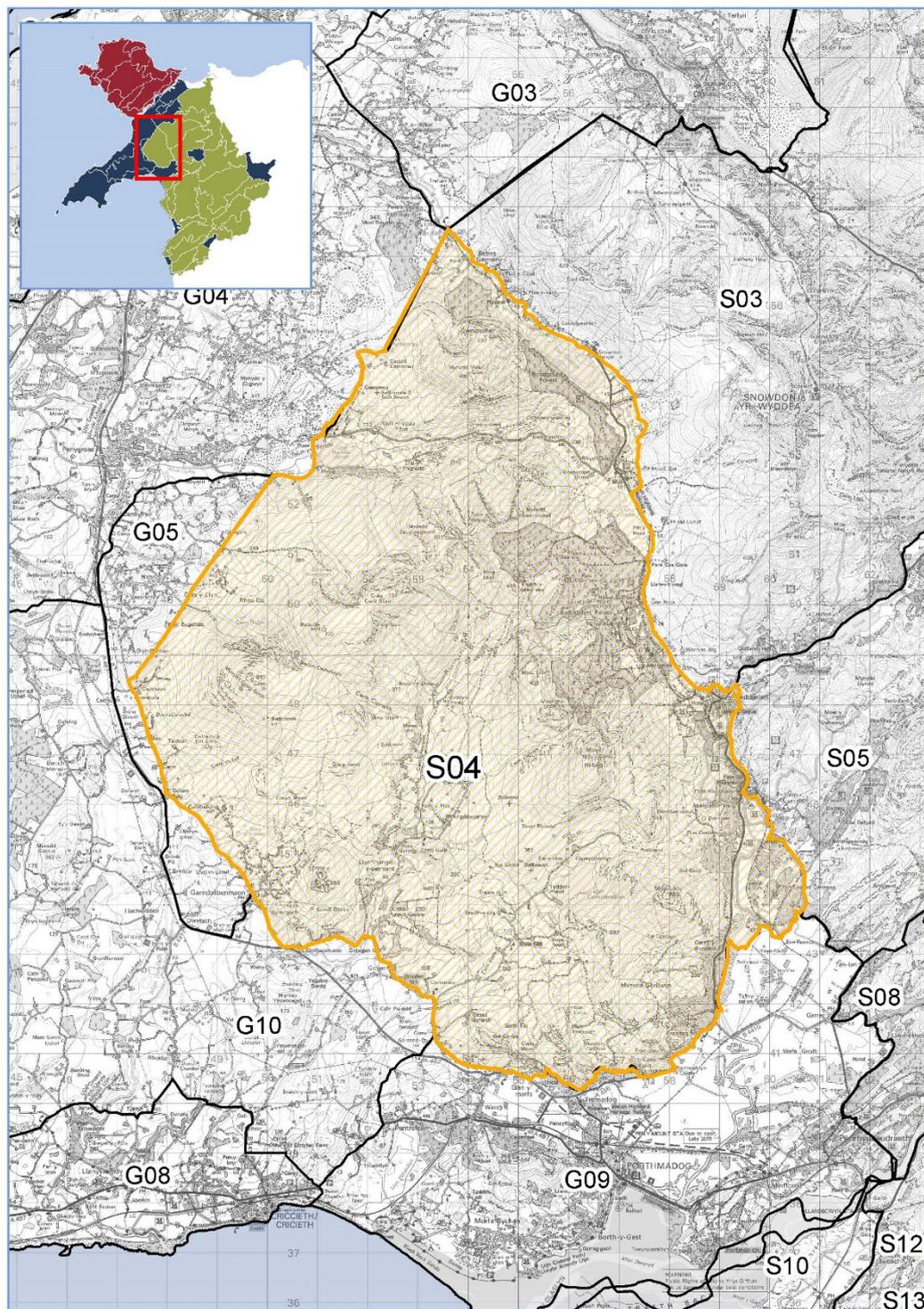
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic craggy upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by the highly exposed nature of the dramatic and varied topography of Snowdon (the highest mountain in Wales) and the Glyderau mountain range, which together with a relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. Although the perception of tranquillity is locally eroded along road corridors around the fringes and also running through the centre of the LCA these corridors remain largely unsettled and are highly visible from the surrounding mountains therefore greatly increasing sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the North Western Fringes of Snowdonia Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views.	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Ogwen Valley; and Dinorwig Registered Historic Landscapes	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Consider views from recreational receptors, particularly the more sensitive receptors such as visitors to Snowdon using Snowdon Mountain Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A4086 tourist route and Welsh Highland Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓	✓	

S04 Moel Hebog



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises a series of distinctive peaks and glacial lakes forming the western boundary of the National Park and is bounded to the east by the A4085.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale, exposed landscape
- Series of valleys between craggy mountain peaks
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (31%)/ <u>Large</u> (69%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Typified by high hills and valleys ; a series of distinctive peaks and glaciated valleys with glacial lakes found at the valley heads. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (64%)/ <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (21%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (15%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (69%)/ <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> (15%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (16%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Open, craggy mountain summits, rough upland grazing and scarp slopes and large rectangular enclosures of ffridd interspersed with large lakes . Semi-improved pastures and rough grassland fields on lower slopes and valleys defined by a small-scale historic field pattern. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Upland Moorland</u> (56%)/ <u>Open Lowland Valleys</u> (11%) / <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes</u>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	Mosaic (15%)/Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic (15%) /Wooded Hillside& Scarp Slopes (5%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (64%)/ Field Pattern/ Mosaic (23%)/ Woodland (5%)/ Mixture (6%)					
Man-made Influences	Centrally, the LCA is unsettled with little human influence . Human influence increases slightly around the periphery of the LCA with a few clustered dwellings along minor roads and the A4085 to the east. There is also one caravan park to the south. VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (9%)/ Clustered (20%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (70%) VS27: Good (9%)/ <u>Fair</u> (90%)	↑			↑	↑
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	A series of prominent peaks and views to the summit of Snowdon to the north and north east form distinctive skylines for this LCA.	↑			↑	
Visual	Movement Movement is infrequent , especially in the central area. Occasional movement comes from the more peripheral road network. VS18: Occasional (14%) / Frequent (13%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (72%)	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically open and exposed , especially from the higher vantage points. Views from the valley bottom are typically enclosed, and confined by the surrounding landform. VS9: Enclosed (15%)/ Open (16%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (64%) / Confined (5%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clustered properties and scattered farms ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Long distance routes including Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and a further link to NCN route 8 	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Access Areas Local attractions such as the Welsh Highland Railway Local public rights of way The A4085 and A498 tourist routes The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park (including Snowdon) Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary Landscapes, North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia and Porthmadog and Tremadog Bay SLAs Aberglaslyn and Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscapes Hillforts Registered Park and Garden ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (63%) / Moderate (20%) / Weak (17%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>High</u> (67%) / Moderate (18%) / Outstanding (10%) / Low (5%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (73%) / Moderate (27%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>High</u> (73%) / Moderate (19%) / Outstanding (9%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>Typically a highly tranquil landscape. Parts of the LCA are exposed and wild in places.</p> <p>The A4085 bounds the eastern edge of the LCA introducing some minor disturbance and noise intrusion.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Exposed</u>; <u>Wild</u> (56%) / Sheltered (15%) / Other (12%) / Exposed (8%) / Other; Attractive; Settled; Spiritual (5%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8) and a further link to NCN route 8.</p> <p>Much of the area is classified as ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typically High to Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (69%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (22%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (9%) VS49: <u>High</u> (64%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (30%)/ <u>Low</u> (5%) LH45: <u>High</u> (43%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (20%)/ <u>Low</u> (11%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (27%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (98%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (99%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (99%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>Northern parts of this LCA lie within the Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape and southern parts lie within Aberglaslyn Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (43%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (35%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (22%) HL35: <u>High</u> (57%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (9%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (34%) HL40: <u>High</u> (62%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (6%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (32%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁶⁸ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>Although the large scale may be indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development this is far outweighed by the natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic upland mountain landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by prominent peaks and views to and from the summit of Snowdon and other important landscape and cultural heritage features including the Llŷn AONB, Anglesey AONB and a number of Registered Historic Landscapes. A relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity. The perception of tranquillity is locally eroded along the road corridor to the east.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity to mobile mast development is further enhanced by prominent open upland areas, craggy peaks and views to and from the summit of Snowdon and other important landscape and cultural heritage features including the Llŷn AONB, Anglesey AONB and a number of Registered Historic Landscapes. A relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity. Sensitivity to mobile mast development is locally reduced where the perception of tranquillity is locally eroded along the road corridor to the east, where there</p>

⁶⁸ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Very High	are large blocks of coniferous plantation and also in Beddgelert where there are already a few mobile masts.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. mobile mast development - 1 no. camouflaged mast development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

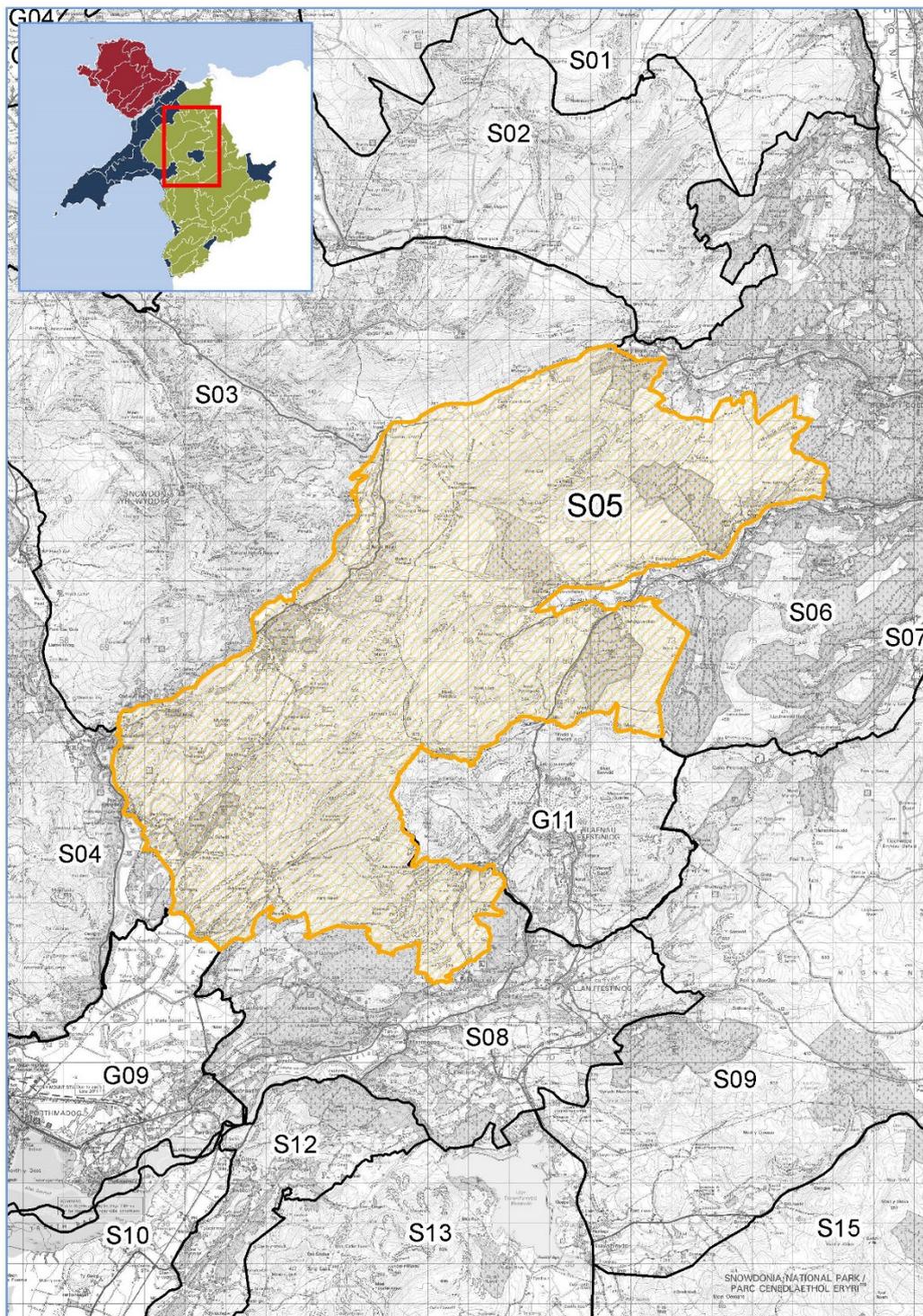
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development and extensions is further enhanced by the highly exposed and prominent open upland areas and craggy peaks, which together with a relative lack of human influence impart a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA.</p> <p>Although the perception of tranquillity is locally eroded along the road corridors around the edges of the LCA these corridors remain relatively unsettled and are highly visible from surrounding mountains therefore greatly increasing sensitivity.</p> <p>Sensitivity is locally reduced where static caravan/chalet parks are located to the far north and south of this LCA and where large blocks of coniferous plantation are found to the north west of Beddgelert.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. large development - 2 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity within the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty for static caravan/chalet park developments. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small to small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development in relation to the strong intervisibility between the Anglesey and Llŷn AONBs and Snowdonia National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Llŷn AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of the Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary Landscapes, North-Western Fringes of Snowdonia and Porthmadog and Tremadog Bay Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Aberglaslyn and Nantlle Valley Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features including Registered Park and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments, such as 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru between Cardiff and Holyhead (NCN route 8), a further Link to NCN route 8) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A487 tourist route and the Welsh Highland Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.			

S05 Y Moelwynion



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA wraps is located to the north of Blaenau Ffestiniog and comprises steep valley slopes covered with coniferous plantations alongside a valley floor dominated by large waterbodies.

Key Characteristics

- Vast scale, exposed landscape
- High hills and valleys
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a vast scale landscape. VS8: Medium (7%)/ <u>Vast</u> (90%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Landform comprises high hills and mountains with associated valleys . VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (90%)/ <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (8%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (81%)/ <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> (14%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Open, craggy mountain tops surrounded by large regular enclosures of ffridd and upland moorland . Valley slopes and bottoms defined by small-scale irregular field pattern. Medium-scale conifer plantations on prominent slopes. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Barren/Rocky Upland</u> (9%)/ <u>Upland Moorland</u> (80%)/ <u>Mosaic Lowland Valleys</u> (5%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (92%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (6%)	-			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Man-made Influences	<p>Predominantly unsettled and undeveloped character throughout much of the LCA.</p> <p>Localised human influence comes from industrial relics (associated with mining/quarrying) and the Tanygrisiau pump storage hydro-electric power station and associated 400 kV overhead line. Main roads include the A498 and A470 which run along the north east and south east edges of the LCA. Scattered rural farms, mobile masts, hydro energy schemes and views east towards Blaenau Ffestiniog also locally increase the perception of human influence.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (5%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (90%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (99%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Successive peaks and ridgelines with distinctive skylines and settings.	↑			↑	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>A relative lack of movement gives this landscape a still character.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (90%) / <u>Frequent</u> (9%)</p>	↑				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA with expansive views particularly from the higher vantage points of the mountain range.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (8%) / <u>Exposed</u> (90%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Long distance Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) ▪ Local attractions include as the Ffestiniog Railway and the Welsh Highland Railway ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A470 and A498 tourist routes ▪ The local road network 	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary Landscapes SLA ▪ Aberglaslyn and Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens ▪ ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: <u>Strong</u> (93%) VS46: <u>Outstanding</u> (92%) VS47: <u>High</u> (97%) VS48: <u>Outstanding</u> (92%)	↑			↑	↑
	Remoteness/Tranquillity Away from small settlements and the localised disturbance of roads this LCA has a highly remote and tranquil quality . VS24: <u>Exposed</u> (80%) / <u>Wild</u> (9%)	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	The entire LCA falls within the National Park. Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas. Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty. Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation. VS50: High (13%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (83%) VS49: <u>High</u> (95%) / Moderate (5%) LH45: High (17%) / Moderate (13%) / Low (8%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (61%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) GL31: High (30%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (69%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	Southern parts of this LCA lie within Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic landscape and the LCA borders on the Aberglaslyn Registered Historic landscape to the far east. This LCA also includes a number of Registered Parks and Gardens. Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . HL38: High (20%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (70%) / Outstanding (5%) HL35: <u>High</u> (75%) / Moderate (5%) / Outstanding (20%) HL40: <u>High</u> (77%) / Moderate (5%) / Outstanding (18%)	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁶⁹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>Although the large scale may be indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development this is far outweighed by the natural characteristics of this highly distinctive and scenic upland mountain landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by distinctive skylines formed by a series of successive peaks and ridgelines and views to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features including a number of Registered Historic Landscapes and Registered Parks and Gardens. A relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity and at times wilderness throughout much of this LCA. This combined with a high number of sensitive visual receptors, further enhances sensitivity. Although, the perception of tranquillity is locally eroded along the road corridors to the outer edges of this LCA.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

⁶⁹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics, outstanding scenic quality and sense of remoteness of this LCA impart a high degree of sensitivity. This is reflected by the entire LCA being designated within the National Park and much of the area being recognised as an Area of Natural Beauty in the Eryri Local Development Plan. The distinctive skylines formed by a series of successive peaks and ridgelines further increase the sensitivity to mobile masts.</p> <p>The LCA does contain a number of mobile masts, most of which are clustered within the coniferous plantations alongside the road network towards the north east; thus locally reducing sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	13 no. mobile mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

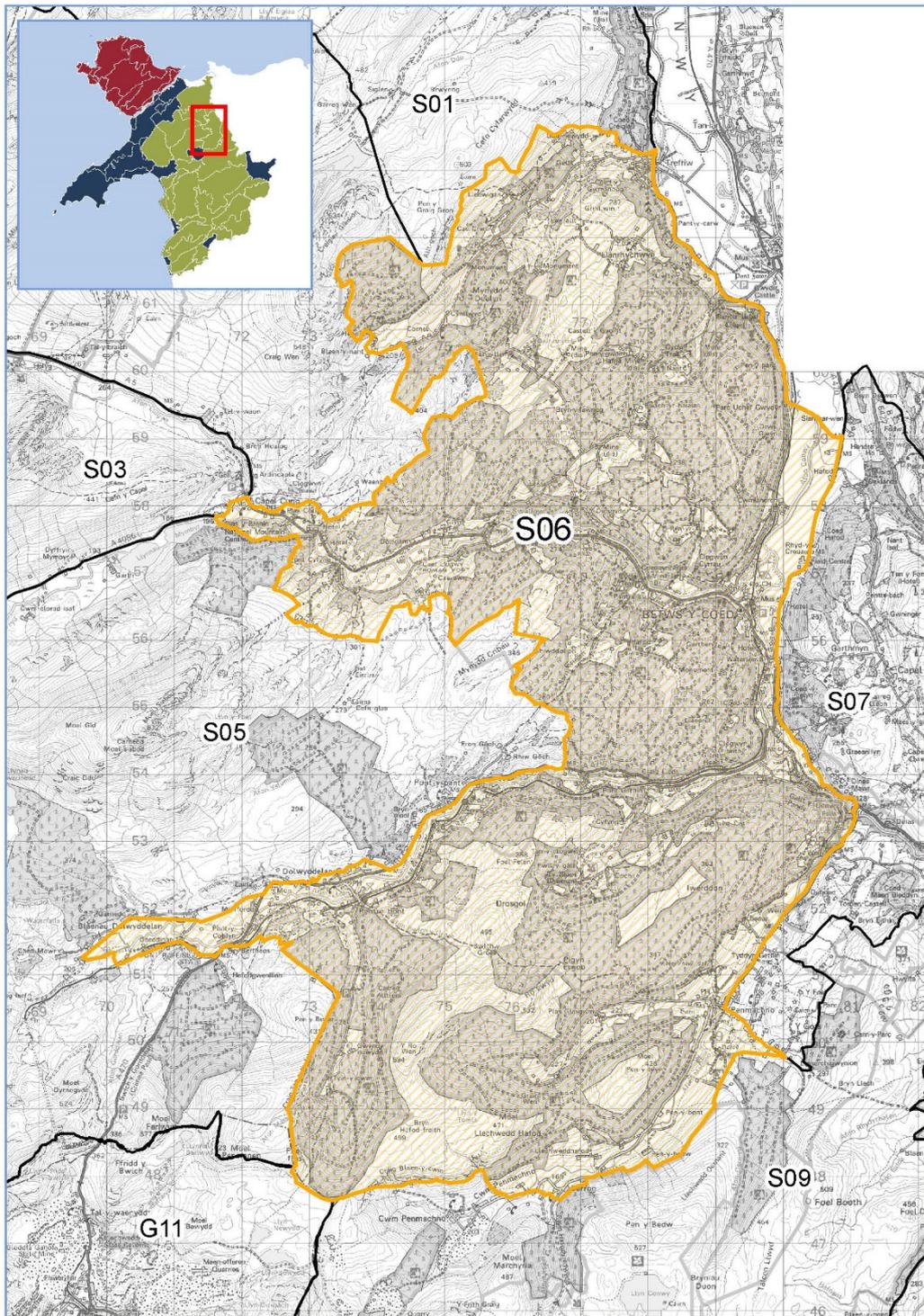
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics, outstanding scenic quality and sense of remoteness of this LCA impart a high degree of sensitivity. This is reflected by the entire LCA being designated within the National Park and much of the area being recognised as an Area of Natural Beauty in the Eryri Local Development Plan.</p> <p>The vast and exposed nature of this landscape further increases sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development; although there are areas of relatively large coniferous plantation alongside the road network which locally lessen sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity within the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty for static caravan/chalet park developments. However, outside of these areas there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of the Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary Landscapes Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Aberglaslyn and Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments, such as 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including Sustrans Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A498 and A470 tourist routes, Ffestiniog Railway and the Welsh Highland Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓

S06 Coedwig Gwydyr



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This landscape is bounded by the Vale of Conwy to the east and the higher land of the National Park to the west. The LCA includes the popular visitor destination of Betws-y-Coed.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale, confined landscape
- High hills and valleys
- Extensive conifer plantations

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Medium ^(14%) / Large ^(74%) / Vast ^(7%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Strongly undulating landform, rounded hill summits dissected by a series of valleys , with higher hills to the south. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> ^(74%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> ^(17%) / <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> ^(7%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> ^(81%) / <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> ^(14%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Extensive conifer plantations on hill slopes and summits contrasting with some open rough grazed summits and lower lying pockets of pastoral farmland, marshy grassland and meadows along the valley floors.	↓			↓	↓

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS Classification Level 3: <u>Wooded Hillside& Scarp Slopes</u> (74%) / <u>Mosaic Lowland Valleys</u> (9%) / <u>Open Lowland Valleys</u> (6%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (6%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (7%) / <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (7%) / <u>Woodland</u> (76%) / <u>Mixture</u> (10%)					
Man-made Influences	Extensive conifer plantations cover much of this LCA. Betws-y-Coed is a nucleated town popular with tourists which lies to the east of the LCA. Associated tourist related development such as static caravan/chalet parks bring a man-made influence to this part of the LCA. This influence is extended into the west along the A5 main road corridor where a number of mobile masts are located together with properties and hotels. The industrial past of this LCA is evident in the presence of relics such as mines, waste heaps and shafts. VS6: <u>Village</u> (9%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (5%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (81%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (100%)	↓			↓	↓
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	The complex topography and wooded slopes create varied and distinctive skylines. To the south higher land and a series of peaks create more dramatic skylines.	↑			↑	
Visual	Movement Away from the road network and tourist related development around Betws-y-Coed a lack of movement gives this landscape a still character. VS18: <u>Constant</u> (5%) / <u>Occasional</u> (81%) / <u>Frequent</u> (13%)	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically confined by the topography and vegetation within this LCA; however, some scenic panoramic views are available from popular viewpoints on the higher ground. VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (18%) / <u>Confined</u> (74%) / <u>Exposed</u> (7%)	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerous properties on the valley floor Snowdonia National Park Betws-y-Coed popular tourist destination Open Access Areas Local attractions and public rights of way The Conwy Valley Railway The A5 and A470 tourist routes The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>This landscape conveys a strong character and sense of place with high scenic qualities.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (81%) / Moderate (19%) VS46: High (13%) / Moderate (6%) / <u>Low</u> (74%) / Outstanding (6%) VS47: <u>High</u> (94%) / Moderate (6%) VS48: <u>High</u> (89%) / Moderate (5%) / Low (6%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>Away from settlements and the localised disturbance of roads this LCA has a highly remote and tranquil quality.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Sheltered</u> (82%) / Settled (10%) / Exposed (6%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas.</p> <p>Small areas defined as ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (56%) / Moderate (38%) / Outstanding (6%) VS49: <u>High</u> (9%) / Moderate (16%) / <u>Low</u> (74%) LH45: <u>High</u> (9%) / <u>Moderate</u> (21%) / Low (37%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (33%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) GL31: <u>High</u> (18%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (78%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (97%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (41%) / Moderate (56%) HL35: <u>High</u> (26%) / Moderate (14%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (60%) HL40: <u>High</u> (61%) / Moderate (9%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (30%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷⁰ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>Extensive conifer plantations exert a strong visual influence over the landscape and control views throughout the LCA. This serves to lessen sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>Although the large scale of this landscape may also be indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development this is counterbalanced by the strong character of the landscape and varied and distinctive skylines created by the wooded slopes. Much of the landscape, particularly the more elevated areas, is tranquil and remote in character.</p> <p>Betws-y-Coed is an important tourist destination and attracts a high number of sensitive visual receptors, increasing sensitivity in this part of the LCA. Sensitivity is further enhanced in areas of higher ground by views to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features including the mountain ranges of the Glyderau, the Carneddau, the Snowdon Massif itself and Registered Parks and Gardens. The designation of this LCA within the National Park and some parts within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty reinforces the sensitivity of the landscape to development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Limited capacity for domestic to micro scale wind energy developments that relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>Extensive conifer plantations strongly influence the landscape and confine views throughout the LCA. This serves to lessen sensitivity to mobile mast development.</p> <p>The presence of number of existing mobile masts located along the road network, locally reduces sensitivity to this type of development, although some of these are camouflaged to better blend into the landscape in particularly sensitive locations.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the strong character of the landscape and varied and distinctive skylines created by the wooded slopes. Much of the</p>

⁷⁰ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

	<p>landscape is considered tranquil and remote, particularly the more elevated areas.</p> <p>Betws-y-Coed is an important tourist destination and attracts a high number of sensitive visual receptors, increasing sensitivity in this part of the LCA. Sensitivity is further enhanced in areas of higher ground by views to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features including the mountain ranges of the Glyderau, the Carneddau, the Snowdon Massif itself and Registered Parks and Gardens. The designation of this LCA within the National Park and some parts within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty reinforces the sensitivity of the landscape to development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 8 no. mobile mast developments - 2 no. camouflaged mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty, (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

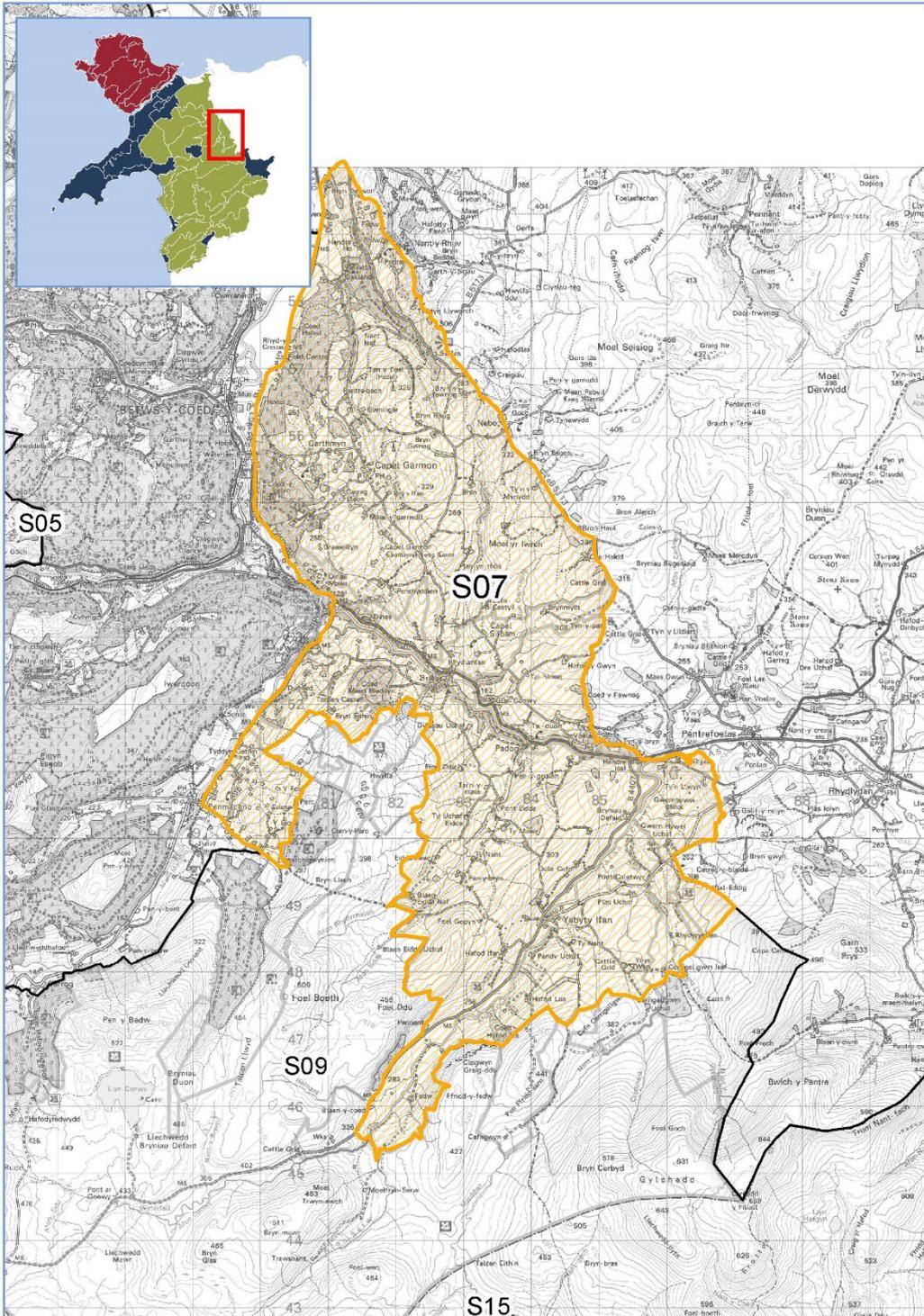
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>Extensive conifer plantations strongly influence the character of much of the landscape and together with undulating landform this confines views throughout much of the LCA. This offers potential screening opportunities which is indicative of lower visual sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments. The presence of existing static caravan/chalet parks along main roads to the east near Betws-y-Coed, further reduces sensitivity to this type of development.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the strong character of the landscape, the presence of valued semi-natural broadleaved woodlands along valley/gorge slopes and the fact that much of the landscape is considered tranquil and remote, particularly in the more elevated areas.</p> <p>Betws-y-Coed is an important tourist destination and attracts a high number of sensitive visual receptors, increasing sensitivity in this part of the LCA. The designation of this LCA within the National Park and some parts within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty reinforces the sensitivity of the landscape to development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. medium development - 3 no. small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity within the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty for static caravan/chalet park developments. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small to small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments, siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A5 and A470 tourist routes and the Conwy Valley Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect...	✓	✓	✓
As well as taking into account views from elevated isolated properties, siting should take into consideration important views from the more densely populated settlement of Betws-y-Coed. The town is a popular visitor destination with its own visitor attractions and has a strong connection with the landscape in which it is situated.	✓	✓	✓

S07 Dyffryn Conwy



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This landscape Character Area is considered to be the eastern gateway into the National Park and is centred on the Afon Conwy as it flows through the eastern edge of the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale, open rural landscape
- Undulating landform defined by the Afon Conwy and its tributaries

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: <u>Large</u> (79%) / <u>Vast</u> (15%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Undulating vale landscape with occasional rounded hill summits. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (79%) / <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (15%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (6%) VS4: <u>Plateaux</u> (15%) / <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (50%) / <u>Hills/Valleys</u> (34%)	-			-	-
	Landcover	A varied mosaic of historical small-medium size, irregular fields, predominantly pastoral interspersed with wooded valleys and riverbanks with large mixed and coniferous plantation dominant to the north of the LCA. Pockets of open rough grazing are present on many hill summits. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing</u> (31%) / <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic</u> (48%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (15%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (15%) / <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (80%)	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Man-made Influences	<p>Modern man-made influences are typically concentrated along the A5 trunk road/tourist route and B4406, with only scattered rural properties elsewhere.</p> <p>Development includes several mobile masts located centrally and to the west, and a small number of static caravan/chalet parks to the north east.</p> <p>VS6: Clustered (31%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (66%) VS27: Fair (100%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	<p>Skylines within this LCA are relatively simple and sweeping, punctuated in places by scattered mature trees and small woodland blocks and strips. The higher mountains of Snowdonia create distinctive skylines which backdrop views to the west.</p>	-			-	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Away from the main road corridors movement is infrequent.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Infrequent</u> (94%)</p>	↑				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA with elevated viewpoints afforded from higher ground affording panoramic scenic views of the nearby mountain ranges to the west.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (6%) / <u>Open</u> (79%) / <u>Exposed</u> (15%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Residential properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A5 and A470 tourist routes ▪ The local road network 	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Denbigh Moors Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens 	↑			↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 					
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically a Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . VS25: <u>Weak</u> (31%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (53%)/ <u>Strong</u> (15%) VS46: <u>High</u> (51%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (34%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (15%) VS47: <u>High</u> (52%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (48%) VS48: <u>High</u> (6%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (79%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (15%)	↑			↑	↑
	Remoteness/Tranquillity The road network and small villages provides a localised level of disturbance in the LCA. Away from this the landscape is tranquil and sometimes remote . VS24: <u>Exposed</u> ; <u>Remote</u> (15%)/ <u>Other</u> (48%)/ <u>Settled</u> (35%)	↑			↑	↑
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features) The entire LCA falls within the National Park. Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas. Small areas defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty. Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . VS50: <u>High</u> (6%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (79%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (15%) VS49: <u>High</u> (17%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (83%) LH45: <u>High</u> (15%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (81%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) GL31: <u>High</u> (56%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (43%) GL33: <u>High</u> (49%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (50%)	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . HL38: <u>High</u> (79%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (5%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (16%) HL35: <u>High</u> (21%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (78%) HL40: <u>High</u> (99%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (1%)	-			-	-

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷¹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>The presence of some large conifer plantations to the north locally reduces sensitivity to this type of development.</p> <p>Although the large scale of this undulating landscape may also be indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development this is counterbalanced by the presence of complex field patterns and semi-natural wooded river banks found in parts of this area. Infrequent movement and a lack of modern development enhances the sense of tranquillity and, together with the open nature of the landscape and a high degree of intervisibility with other sensitive LCAs further increases the overall sensitivity to wind energy development. Additionally, the LCA's designation as a National Park reinforces sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>The presence of some large conifer plantations to the north and a number of existing mobile masts located along the A5 other roads bordering this LCA, locally reduces sensitivity to this type of development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence complex field patterns and semi-natural wooded river banks found in other parts of this area. There is also strong sense of tranquillity throughout much of the LCA which, together with the open nature of the landscape and a high degree of intervisibility with other sensitive LCAs enhances the overall sensitivity. Additionally, the LCA's designation as a National Park reinforces the high sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

⁷¹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	5 no. mobile mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, that there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

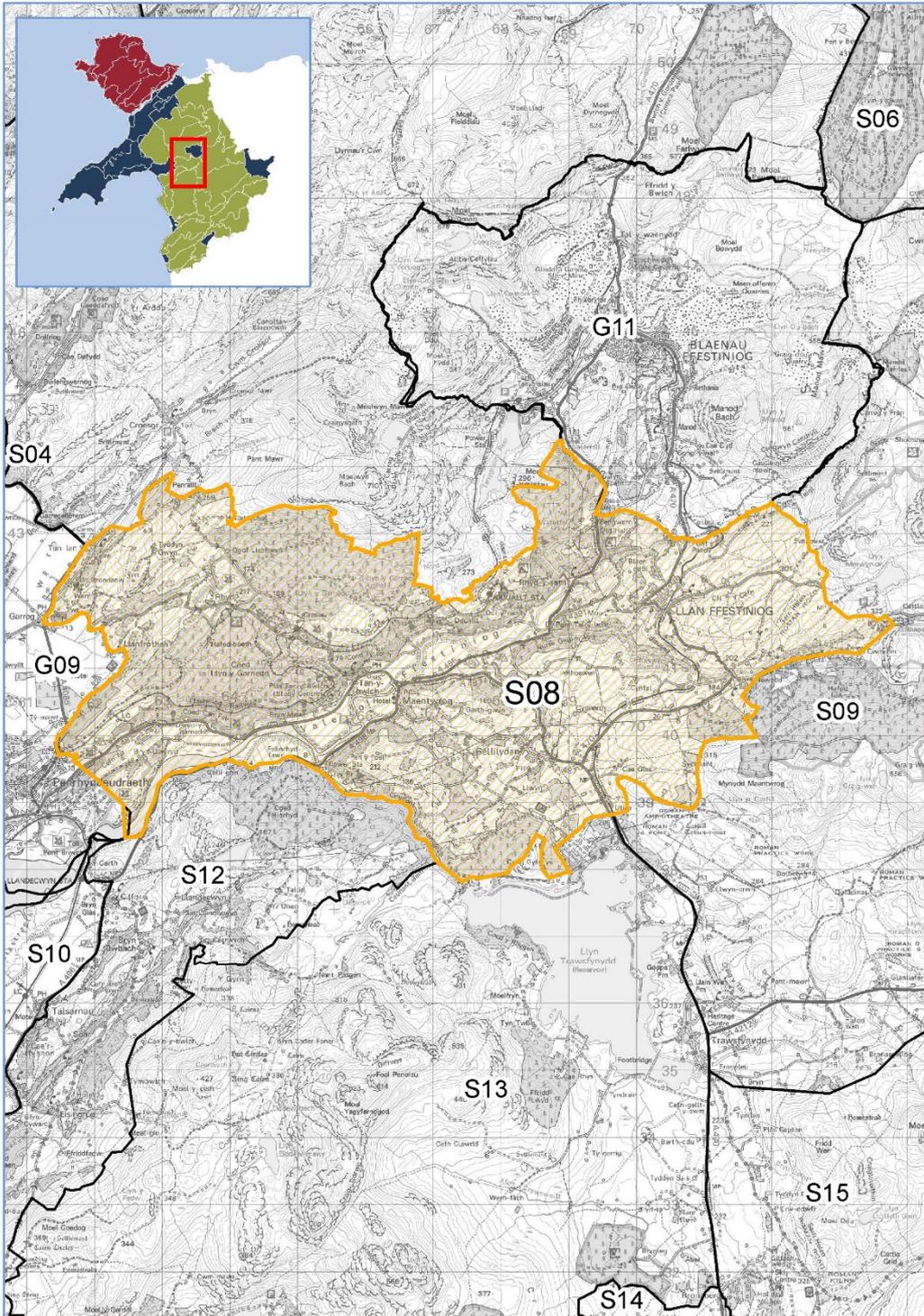
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>The presence of some large conifer plantations to the north locally reduces sensitivity to this type of development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence complex field patterns and semi-natural wooded river banks found in other parts of this area. There is also strong sense of tranquillity throughout much of the LCA which, together with the open nature of the landscape and a high degree of intervisibility with other sensitive LCAs enhances the overall sensitivity. Additionally, the LCA's designation as a National Park reinforces the high sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	2 no. very small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity within the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty for static caravan/chalet park developments. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small to small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Denbigh Moors Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments, siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on the A5 and A470 tourist routes.	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
As well as taking into account views from elevated isolated properties, siting should take into consideration important views from the more densely populated settlement of Betws-y-Coed. The town is a popular visitor destination with its own visitor attractions and has a strong connection with the landscape in which it is situated.	✓	✓	✓

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Location and Extent

This LCA extends from the north of Llan Ffestiniog down to Penrhyndeudraeth, forming a relatively broad, open flat valley...

Key Characteristics

- Medium to large scale, landscape
- Complex topography
- Nationally important oak-dominated ancient woodlands

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium to large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (36%)/ <u>Large</u> (60%)/	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Complex topography , broad valley floor surrounded by varied, gently rolling vale landscape, immediately backed by a steep gorge. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (48%)/ <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (16%)/ <u>Rolling Lowland</u> (32%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (30%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (52%) / <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> (8%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	A variety of landcover is present, steep valley sides are covered by woodland; predominantly coniferous with some significant areas of oak-dominated ancient woodland. Mosaics of marshes and small scale irregular pastures follow the valley floors. Pockets of open rough grazed land are found on some hill summits.	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing (14%)/ Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic (6%)/ Mosaic Rolling Lowland (29%)/ Open Lowland Valleys (8%)/ Wooded Hillside & Scarp Slopes (28%)/ Wooded Lowland Valleys (6%) VS5: Mixture (43%)/ Woodland (42%)/ Open Land (10%)/ Field Pattern/ Mosaic (5%)					
Man-made Influences	The villages of Maentwrog, Gellilydan and Ffestiniog are connected by the A470, A487 and A496 and exert a moderate man-made influence over the landscape. Parts of the LCA are also influenced locally by modern vertical structures such as existing 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines, mobile masts and static caravan/chalet parks. Away from road and settlements some pockets of the landscape remain undisturbed . VS6: Clustered (16%)/ Mixture (14%)/ No Settlements (44%)/ Scattered Rural/Farm (16%)/ Village (17%) VS27: Fair (100%)					
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	The complex topography backed by a steep gorge and wooded valley sides provide prominent skylines throughout the LCA. Skylines are punctuated by overhead lines and occasional masts.					
Visual	Movement Frequent road traffic along the A470, A487 and A496 brings movement, particularly to the centre of the LCA. Movement is less frequent elsewhere. VS18: Constant (14%)/ Frequent (39%)/ Infrequent (17%)/ Occasional (30%)					
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically open towards the east particularly from higher vantage points. Views in the west are more confined by dense woodland ; however, views to the coast are afforded from some vantage points on higher ground.					

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>VS9: <u>Confined</u> (42%)/ <u>Open</u> (40%)/ <u>Enclosed</u> (14%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerous properties particularly in the villages Snowdonia National Park Long distance routes including Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) Open Access Areas Local attractions such as the Ffestiniog Railway Local public rights of way The A487 and A470 tourist routes The local road network 					
	<p>Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary Landscapes SLA Aberglaslyn Registered Historic Landscape Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn ELDP Undeveloped Coast ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
	Condition	Not applicable				
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically a Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation. Small parts of the area are defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (46%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (32%)/ <u>Weak</u> (22%) VS46: <u>Low</u> (28%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (65%) VS47: <u>High</u> (60%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (25%)/ <u>Low</u> (15%) VS48: <u>High</u> (50%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (46%)</p>	-			-	-
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>Away from the road network and settlements much of this landscape is relatively tranquil.</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS24: Other; Tranquil; Sheltered; Remote; Spiritual (14%)/ <u>Sheltered</u> (42%)/ <u>Other</u> (38%)					
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and a Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82).</p> <p>Small parts of the landscape are defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path follows a section of the banks of the Afon Dwyryd to the west.</p> <p>Typical Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: High (22%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (74%) VS49: High (12%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (60%)/ Low (28%) LH45: High (17%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (56%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (23%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) GL31: High (31%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (61%)/ Low (7%) GL33: High (31%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (61%)/ Low (7%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>The southern part of this LCA lies within the Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>The LCA also contains a Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (60%)/ Moderate (27%)/ Unassessed (12%) HL35: High (36%)/ Moderate (13%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (50%) HL40: High (56%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (42%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷² (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium to large scale complex landscape is particularly influenced by the villages of Maentwrog, Gellilydan and Ffestiniog which, together with the established road network, bring movement and activity to central and southern parts of the LCA. Views to and from the west are largely confined by dense woodland. Skylines to the south and east are punctuated by existing vertical structures such as overhead lines, further reducing sensitivity to wind energy development. This is counterbalanced by the fact that some parts of the LCA have a strong intervisibility with higher areas of the surrounding National Park and coastline.</p> <p>Sensitivity is enhanced further by the complex mosaic of field patterns, woodland (including ancient woodlands) and parkland landscapes, some of which are considered highly scenic. Away from the settlements and roads the landscape is relatively tranquil. Its designation as part of the National Park reinforces sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty and ELDP Undeveloped Coast.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium to large scale complex landscape is particularly influenced by the villages of Maentwrog, Gellilydan and Ffestiniog which, together with the road network, bring movement and activity to central and southern parts of the LCA. Views to and from the west are largely confined by dense woodland. Skylines to the south and east are punctuated by existing vertical structures such as overhead lines, further reducing sensitivity to mobile mast development. This is counterbalanced by the fact that some parts of the LCA have a strong intervisibility with higher areas of the surrounding National Park and coastline.</p> <p>Sensitivity is enhanced further by the complex mosaic of field patterns, woodland (including ancient woodlands) and parkland landscapes within this LCA, some of which are considered highly scenic. Away from the</p>

⁷² NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

	settlements and roads the landscape is relatively tranquil. Its designation as part of the National Park reinforces sensitivity.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 10 no. mobile mast developments - 2 no. camouflaged mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, it is considered that there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

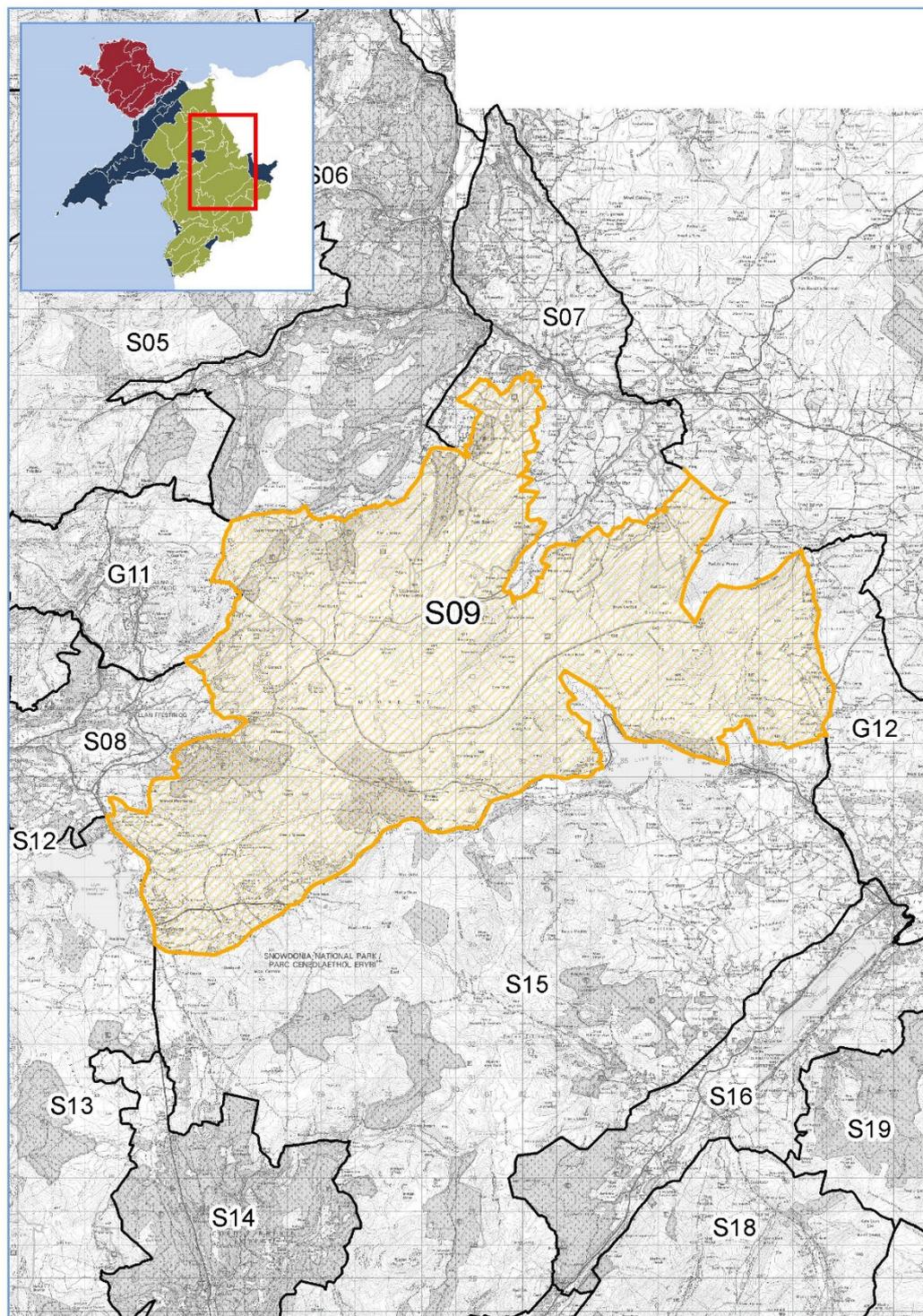
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium to large scale, complex landscape is particularly influenced by the villages of Maentwrog, Gellilydan and Ffestiniog which, together with the road network, bring development and activity to central parts of the LCA. There are also some existing static caravan/chalet parks in this LCA. Views to and from the east are confined by dense woodland including conifer plantations which offer potential screening opportunities and are indicative of lower visual sensitivity.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the complex mosaic of field patterns, woodland (including ancient woodlands) and parkland landscapes within this LCA, some of which are considered highly scenic. Away from the settlements and roads the landscape is relatively tranquil. Its designation as part of the National Park also reinforces sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity within the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty or ELDP Undeveloped Coast for static caravan/chalet park developments. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small to small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary Landscapes Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Aberglaslyn Registered, Blaenau Ffestiniog and Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82), route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the Ffestiniog Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid impacts upon the setting of areas defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓	✓

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Location and Extent

This LCA extends from the Prysor and Tryweryn valleys in the south to the Machno valley in the north. The western extent is bounded by the A470 while the eastern extend is bounded by Gwynedd landscape character area G12 and marks the edge of the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- Vast scale, exposed landscape
- Undulating upland area
- Predominantly treeless, upland moorland

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a vast scale landscape. VS8: Medium (11%)/ Large (7%)/ <u>Vast</u> (82%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Undulating upland plateau , punctuated by isolated summits and u-shaped valleys. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (86%)/ Upland Valleys (10%) VS4: High Hills/Mountains (6%)/ <u>Plateaux</u> (81%) / Hills/ Valleys (12%)	-			-	-
	Landcover	Landcover is predominantly treeless upland moorland interspersed with wetlands and waterbodies. Coniferous plantation blocks are located on the fringes. Lower valley sides are typically a mosaic of pastoral farmland. VS Classification Level 3: Open Upland Valleys (10%)/ <u>Upland Moorland</u> (86%) VS5: Field Pattern/Mosaic (9%)/ <u>Open Land</u> (87%)	↓			-	↑
Man-made Influences	This LCA is largely unsettled . Man-made influences are typically limited to the local road network. A few	↑			↑	↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>scattered farm settlements and slate quarries are found throughout the area.</p> <p>A 400 kV overhead line is a prominent local feature on the southern edge of the LCA along the A4212. A small number of mobile masts are also present.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (91%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (7%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (95%)</p>					
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	<p>Although in some places skylines within this LCA are simple and sweeping, many are punctuated by distinctive isolated summits, large blocks of coniferous plantation and views of mountain ranges in adjacent and distant LCAs. Skylines to the south are punctuated by tall pylons.</p>	↑			↑	
Movement	<p>Movement is infrequent throughout the landscape.</p> <p>VS18: Occasional (6%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (91%)</p>	↑				
Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views are typically exposed within this LCA with long distance panoramic views available from higher ground.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed (7%) / Open (6%) / <u>Exposed</u> (86%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Long distance Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) runs along small section of the LCA's western boundary ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A487, A470 and A4212 tourist routes ▪ The local road network 	↑			↑	↑
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Bala Hinterland SLA ▪ Blaenau Ffestiniog Registered Historic Landscape 	↑			↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape Hillfort Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 					
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: <u>Strong</u> (87%) / Moderate (11%) VS46: High (10%) / Moderate (7%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (82%) VS47: <u>High</u> (96%) VS48: High (10%) / Moderate (8%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (82%)	↑			↑	↑
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity Away from settlements and roads this LCA has a highly tranquil and remote quality. VS24: Exposed; Remote (81%) / Exposed (6%) / Other (11%)	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82).</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: High (9%)/ Moderate (8%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (82%) VS49: <u>High</u> (86%)/ Moderate (13%) LH45: <u>Outstanding</u> (78%)/Moderate (11%)/ Low (11%) LH42: Unassessed (100%) GL31: High (13%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (71%)/ Unassessed (15%) GL33: High (8%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (92%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: High (20%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (72%)/ Unassessed (5%) HL35: <u>High</u> (79%)/ Moderate (9%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (12%) HL40: <u>High</u> (89%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (8%)</p>	-			-	-

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷³ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>Although the vast scale and consistent landcover may be indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development, this is far outweighed by the natural characteristics of this highly scenic, remote and tranquil upland landscape, which is considered to be one of the focal landscapes within the National Park. The scenic quality of the landscape is reflected by much it being defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty. Views are open and exposed throughout much of this LCA and the landscape has a strong intervisibility with surrounding parts of the National Park.</p> <p>Sensitivity to wind energy developments is locally reduced where a 400 kV overhead line runs from east-west across the southern end of the LCA.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically has no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This LCA is considered to be one of the focal landscapes within the National Park. The natural characteristics of this highly scenic, remote and tranquil landscape, impart a high degree of sensitivity to mobile mast development. The scenic quality of the landscape is reflected by much of it being defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty. Views are open and exposed throughout much of this LCA and the landscape has a strong intervisibility with surrounding parts of the National Park.</p> <p>Sensitivity to mobile mast development is locally reduced where a 400 kV overhead line runs from east-west across the southern end of the LCA.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	3 no. mobile mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

⁷³ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	This LCA is considered to be one of the focal landscapes within the National Park. The natural characteristics of this highly scenic, remote and tranquil, upland moorland landscape, impart a high degree of sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development. The scenic quality of the landscape is reflected by much of it being defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty. Views are open and exposed throughout much of this LCA and the landscape has a strong intervisibility with surrounding parts of the National Park.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of Bala Hinterland Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the integrity of Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A470 tourist route.	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓	✓	

S10 Morfa Harlech



1:50,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA extends from the Dwyrdd Estuary in the north, south to the town of Harlech. The LCA is bounded by the B4573 in the east and the coast to the west.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Coastal landform

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (99%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Landform comprises a predominantly low lying coastal zone to the north and west rising slightly inland to the east where it becomes more gently rolling and undulating . VS Classification Level 2: <u>Coastal</u> (96%) VS4: <u>Levels</u> (80%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (20%)	↓			↓	↓
	Landcover	To the north and west landcover is dominated by the dunes and slacks of the Dwyrdd Estuary and coastline. Inland the landcover is predominantly reclaimed marshes and farmland interspersed with coniferous plantations . VS Classification Level 3: <u>Dunes & Dune Slack</u> (80%)/ <u>Dunes & Dune Slack</u> (17%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (28%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (71%)	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Man-made Influences	<p>The LCA is predominantly unsettled apart from Harlech in the south west of the LCA and a couple of static caravan/chalet parks.</p> <p>Major transport infrastructure including the A496 and Cambrian Coast Railway Line, traverses the LCA in a north-south direction.</p> <p>400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines introduce modern vertical development into the LCA, crossing the Dwyryd Estuary at the north eastern tip of the LCA. A wind turbine and mobile mast are located to the south east.</p> <p>VS6: Clustered (13%) / Village (7%) / No Settlements (77%) VS27: Fair (83%) / Unassessed (17%)</p>	-			-	-
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Although skylines are not prominent in this LCA, the rocky outline of Moel-y-Gest in LCA G09 is a distinctive landmark in views from within the LCA which itself is backed by the dramatic skylines created by the mountains of Snowdonia, in particular the Rhinogau mountain range.	↑			↑	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Frequent movement is focused along the A496 which is a busy tourist route. Elsewhere, movement is infrequent with occasional boats in the Dwyryd Estuary.</p> <p>VS18: Frequent (59%) / Infrequent (22%) / Rare (17%)</p>	-				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are generally open within this LCA with long distance views overlooking the coast and the Llŷn Peninsula and striking panoramic views inland looking towards the upland heart of the National Park. Ynys Giftan forms a feature in the middle estuary.</p> <p>VS9: Open (100%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerous clustered and scattered properties 	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Harlech Castle Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) Open Access Areas Local attractions such as Portmeirion Local public rights of way including busy tourist routes The Cambrian Coast Railway, the Ffestiniog Railway and the Welsh Highland Railway The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary SLA Porthmadog and Tremadog Bay SLA Arduwy Registered Historic Landscape Aberglaslyn Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (96%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>High</u> (58%) / <u>Moderate</u> (42%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>Moderate</u> (83%) / <u>High</u> (17%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>High</u> (96%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>The A496 and Cambrian Coast Line Railway traverse the LCA lessening the sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>Although away from transport infrastructure the LCA retains a sense of remoteness and tranquillity, particularly out of the tourist season along the immediate coast at Morfa Harlech.</p>	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type					
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks	
	VS24: <u>Smell</u> ; <u>Noisy</u> ; <u>Sheltered</u> ; <u>Remote</u> (40%)/ <u>Smell</u> ; <u>Attractive</u> ; <u>Exposed</u> ; <u>Wild</u> ; <u>Spiritual</u> (21%)/ <u>Smell</u> (11%) / <u>Smell</u> ; <u>Exposed</u> (7%)/ <u>Tranquil</u> ; <u>Smell</u> (17%)						
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	The entire LCA falls within the National Park.	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	This LCA lies within the Arduwy Registered Historic Landscape.					

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷⁴ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale coastal landscape is influenced by the modern development and movement associated with the A496 and Cambrian Coast Railway line. This, together with the influence of 400 kV overhead lines to the north east locally reduces sensitivity.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the sense of remoteness and tranquillity (particularly out of the tourist season) experienced away from the transport network. There is also a high degree of intervisibility along the coastline and much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as Undeveloped Coast. Additionally, a number of sensitive receptors, including views to and from the Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site, enhance the overall sensitivity of the LCA. The high sensitivity is reinforced by the cultural heritage importance of the landscape and it's designation within the National Park.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. micro development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty and ELDP Undeveloped Coast.)

⁷⁴ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale, coastal landscape is influenced by the modern development and movement associated with the A496 and Cambrian Coast Railway line. This together with the influence of 400 kV overhead lines to the north east; locally reduces sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the sense of remoteness and tranquillity (particularly out of the tourist season) experienced away from the transport network. There is also a high degree of intervisibility along the coastline and much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as Undeveloped Coast. A number of sensitive receptors, including views to and from the Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site, enhances the overall sensitivity of the LCA which is further reinforced by the cultural heritage importance of the landscape and it's designation within the National Park.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. mobile mast development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale, relatively flat coastal landscape is influenced by the modern development and movement associated with the A496 and Cambrian Coast Railway line. This together with the influence of existing static caravan/chalet parks to the south west and 400 kV overhead lines to the north east; locally reduces sensitivity to wind energy development.</p> <p>This is lowered sensitivity is outweighed by the sense of remoteness and tranquillity (particularly out of the tourist season) experienced away from the transport network. There is also high degree of intervisibility along the coastline and much of this landscape is defined within ELDP as Undeveloped Coast. Additionally, a number of sensitive receptors, including views to and from the Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site, enhances the overall sensitivity of the LCA. The high sensitivity is reinforced by the cultural heritage importance of the landscape and it's designation within the National Park.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. large development - 1 no. medium development - 1 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.=

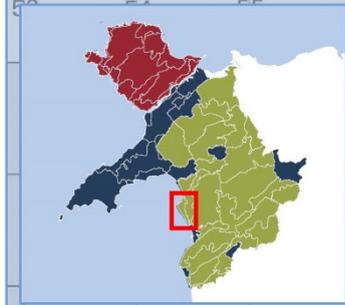
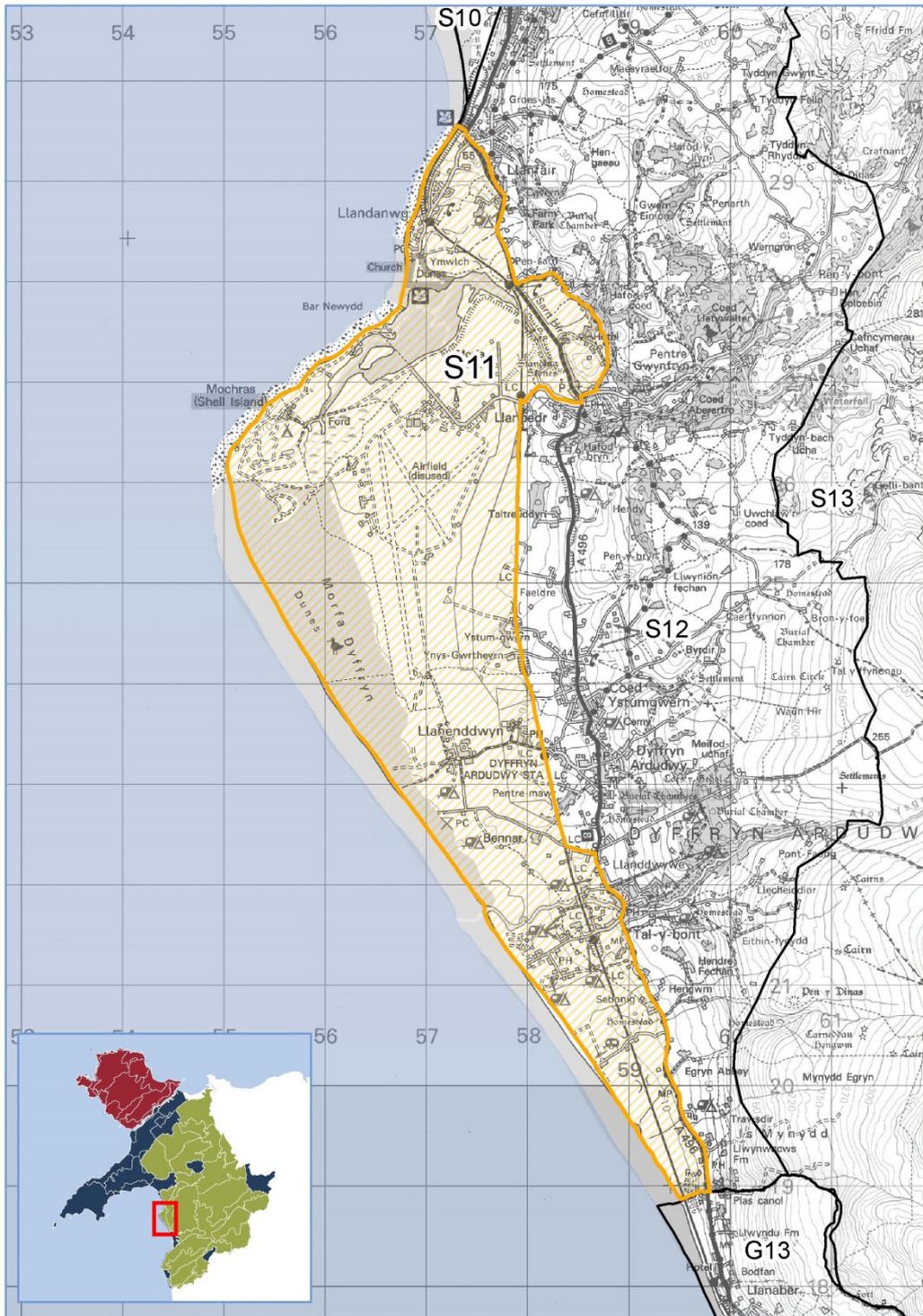
Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Llŷn AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of the Glaslyn & Dywryd Estuary and Porthmadog and Tremadog Bay Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the setting and key views to and from Harlech Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Ardudwy and Aberglaslyn Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens and important local attractions such as Portmeirion; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments such as existing 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development within the sight lines of key views, particularly out to sea.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting, in particular avoiding areas defined as ELDP Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on busy tourist routes such as the A496, the Cambrian Coast Railway, the Ffestiniog Railway and the Welsh Highland Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓

As well as taking into account views from elevated isolated properties, siting should take into consideration important views from the more densely populated settlement of Porthmadog. The town has a number of visitor attractions associated with it and a strong connection with the landscape in which it is situated.	✓	✓	✓
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S11 Morfa Dyffryn



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Location and Extent

This LCA extends from the Afon Artro estuary in the north, encompassing the coast and its hinterland and terminating just north of Abermaw. As such it provides the western frontage to the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale, open landscape
- Flat coastal landscape
- LCA comprised of large areas of dunes, the area known as Mochras and Llanbedr Airfield

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (97%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Generally low lying, flat coastal plain . VS Classification Level 2: <u>Coastal</u> (90%)/ <u>Built form</u> (6%) VS4: <u>Levels</u> (97%)	-			-	-
	Landcover	The landcover predominantly comprises a large dune system , with dunes and dune slack towards the coast together with a wide intertidal zone at Morfa Dyffryn to the north. Llanbedr Airfield and associated buildings create localised urban landcover towards the centre of the LCA. Further inland, pastures forming a small scale irregular field pattern. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Dunes & Dune Slack</u> (90%)/ <u>Urban</u> (6%)	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS5: <u>Mixture</u> (97%)					
Man-made Influences	<p>Transport infrastructure, includes the A496 and Cambrian Coast Railway line which traverses the LCA in a north to south direction and defines the eastern edge of the LCA.</p> <p>Modern developments also include Llanbedr Airfield and associated buildings and a number of small settlements such as Llanfair, Coed Ystumgwern and Llanbedr.</p> <p>A number of static caravan/chalet parks influence the character of this LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (90%) / Urban (6%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (100%)</p>	↓			↓	↓
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	The landscape within the LCA is low lying with a lack of prominent landform . The backdrop provided by the mountains of Snowdonia creates dramatic skylines and settings , in particular the Rhinogau mountain range.	↑			↑	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>The presence of road and rail traffic brings frequent movement into parts of this LCA, in particular during the busy summer months.</p> <p>VS18: Constant (6%) / Frequent (90%)</p>	-				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA with panoramic long distance views available along the coastline and towards the Llŷn Peninsula to the north west and towards the upland heart of the National Park to the east, in particular the Rhinogau mountain range.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Open</u> (100%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scattered properties ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coastal Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) 	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Access Areas Local attractions such as Shell Island (Mochras) Local public rights of way The Cambrian Coast Railway The local road network including important coastal tourist routes. 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site Barmouth SLA Arduwy Registered Historic Landscape Cors-y-Gedol Registered Parks and Garden ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically moderate LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: <u>Moderate</u> (100%) VS46: <u>High</u> (33%) / <u>Moderate</u> (67%) VS47: <u>High</u> (17%) / <u>Moderate</u> (83%) VS48: <u>High</u> (30%) / <u>Moderate</u> (70%)	-			-	-
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity Away from the inland transport network the landscape is relatively tranquil , particularly out of the tourist season in the coastal dune landscape of Shell Island (Mochras). VS24: <u>Smell</u> (30%) / <u>Smell; Unattractive; Exposed; Spiritual</u> (61%) / <u>Smell; Unattractive; Noisy; Sheltered; Settled</u> (6%)	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	The entire LCA falls within the National Park. Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8). Includes area defined within ELDP as Area of Undeveloped Coast. The Wales Coast Path runs along the north and western boundary. Typical moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . VS50: High (30%) / <u>Moderate</u> (64%) / Low (6%) VS49: High (30%) / <u>Moderate</u> (70%) LH45: <u>Moderate</u> (69%) / Outstanding (29%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)	-			-	-
	Historic Value	This LCA lies within the Arduwy Registered Historic Landscape. Typically High LANDMAP evaluation. HL38: <u>High</u> (64%) / Moderate (32%) HL35: <u>High</u> (77%) / Moderate (18%) HL40: <u>Moderate</u> (95%)	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷⁵ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- High	<p>This medium scale, relatively flat coastal landscape is influenced by various forms of modern development including transport infrastructure, Llanbedr Airfield, small settlements and a relatively high number of static caravan/chalet parks. The industrial size and nature of the buildings within the airfield are a particular visual detractor; this in combination with the man-made influence of the other developments causes a reduced sensitivity.</p> <p>In counterbalance, the entire LCA lies within Snowdonia National Park and has high cultural heritage importance. Western parts are also comparatively undeveloped and as such are defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast. A high number of sensitive receptors together with high intervisibility with other coastal landscapes including Llŷn AONB and also the inland heart of the National Park further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Undeveloped Coast.)

⁷⁵ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- High	<p>This medium scale, relatively flat coastal landscape is influenced by various forms of modern development including transport infrastructure, Llanbedr Airfield, small settlements and a relatively high number of static caravan/chalet parks. The industrial size and nature of the buildings within the airfield are a particular visual detractor; this in combination with the man-made influence of the other developments causes a reduced sensitivity.</p> <p>In counterbalance, the entire LCA lies within Snowdonia National Park and has high cultural heritage importance. Western parts are also comparatively undeveloped and as such are defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast. A high number of sensitive receptors together with high intervisibility with other coastal landscapes including Llŷn AONB and also the inland heart of the National Park further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. mobile mast development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

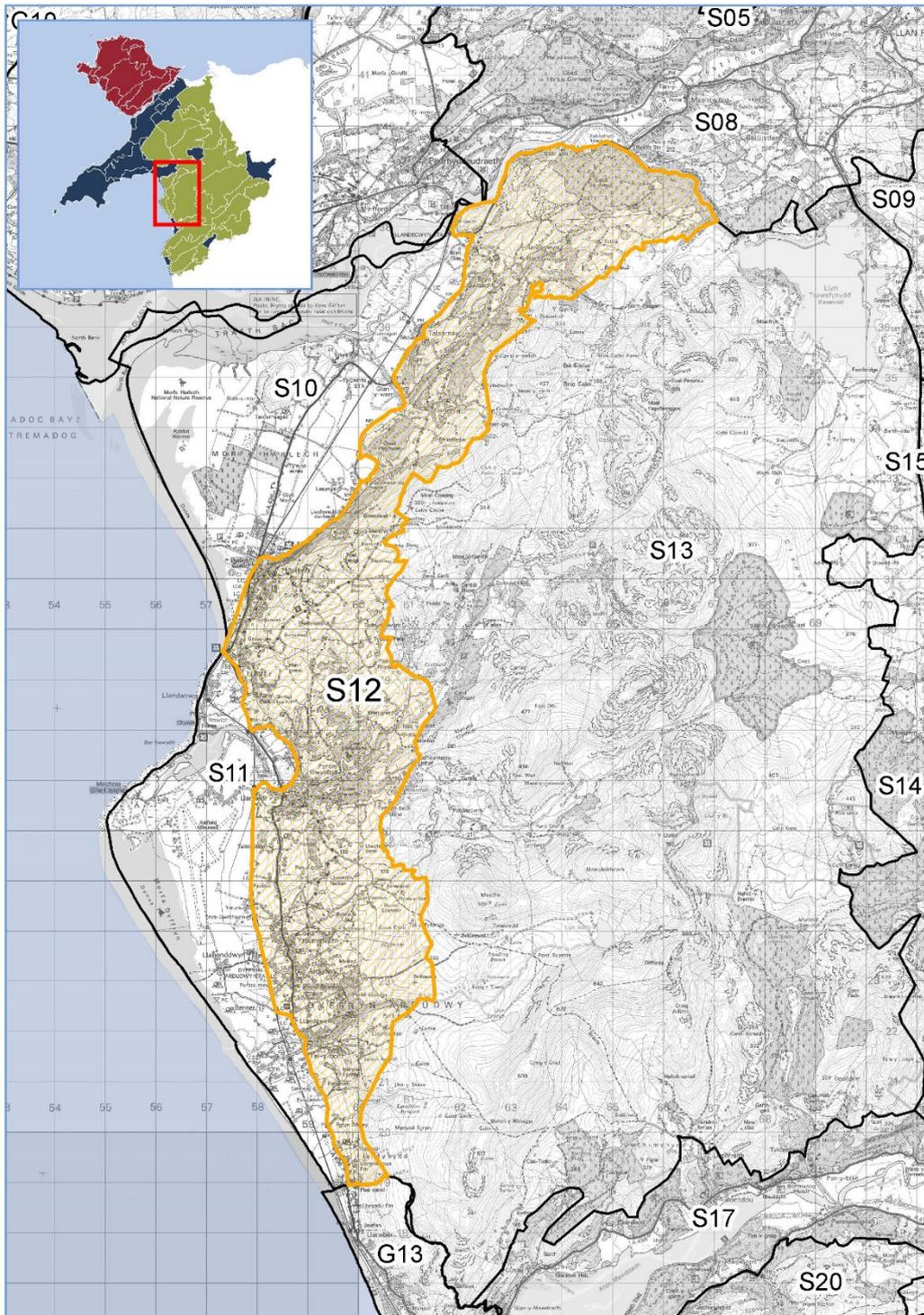
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale, relatively flat coastal landscape is influenced by various forms of modern development including transport infrastructure, Llanbedr Airfield, small settlements and a relatively high number of static caravan/chalet parks which causes a reduced sensitivity to further static caravan/chalet park development and extensions. The industrial size and nature of the buildings within the airfield are a particular visual detractor as are the high number of static caravans in this LCA.</p> <p>In counterbalance, the entire LCA lies within Snowdonia National Park and has high cultural heritage importance. Western parts are also comparatively undeveloped and as such are defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast. A high number of sensitive receptors together with high intervisibility with other coastal landscapes including Llŷn AONB and also the inland heart of the National Park further enhances sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Although it is recognised that Landscape Change has occurred where numerous developments influence the landscape, in particular to the southern coastline; Landscape Protection is the overriding objective.
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 no. very large development - 3 no. large developments - 2 no. medium developments - 1 no. small development - 3 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	No capacity for further static caravan/chalet park developments on the grounds that capacity has been reached.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Llŷn AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of Barmouth Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the setting and key views to and from Harlech Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly seawards and towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Ardudwy Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens and important local attractions such as Shell Island (Mochras); and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting, in particular avoiding areas defined as ELDP Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on busy tourist routes such as the A496 and the Cambrian Coast Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓

S12 Cefnwlad Arfordir Ardudwy



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is located immediately to the west of the Rhinogau mountain range and extends from the mouth of the Afon Dwyryd in the north to the National Park boundary of Barmouth in the south.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale open landscape
- Landform slopes dramatically down towards the coast
- Cultural Heritage Interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Small <small>(6%)</small> / Medium <small>(10%)</small> / <u>Large</u> <small>(84%)</small>	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Landform is typically rolling and undulating and dissected by a series of valleys. Landform slopes down dramatically towards the coast in the west. VS Classification Level 2: Lowland Valleys <small>(6%)</small> / <u>Rolling Lowland</u> <small>(86%)</small> VS4: <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> <small>(87%)</small> / Hills/ Valleys <small>(6%)</small>	-			-	-
	Landcover	Predominantly pastoral agricultural landcover with a large area of low lying open lowland towards the coast. Coniferous plantations and some nationally important semi-natural woodland are scattered throughout. Several small waterbodies are scattered throughout the open lowland to the north east of the LCA.	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS Classification Level 3: Mosaic Rolling Lowland (6%)/ <u>Open Rolling Lowland</u> (81%)/ Wooded Lowland Valleys (6%) VS5: <u>Mixture</u> (97%)					
Man-made Influences	Settlement pattern is typically clustered in small villages along the A496 to the west of the LCA, and characterised by scattered properties on the more elevated land east of the A496. 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines, wind turbines and masts bring some modern vertical developments into the landscape. There are also a number of static caravan/chalet parks. Harlech Castle is a historically important feature on the western edge of the LCA. VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (80%)/ Scattered Rural/Farm (8%)/ Settlements (9%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (00%)	-			-	-
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	The rising land to the east of the LCA is framed by the dominant skyline of Snowdonia, particularly the Rhinogau mountain range. An expansive skyline to the north of the LCA is interrupted by overhead lines.	↑			↑	
Visual	Movement Road traffic brings occasional movement into the landscape along the A496, particularly in the summer months. VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (82%) / Frequent (8%) / Infrequent (13%)	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically open within this LCA with higher ground providing strong visual links between the mountains and the coast. Views are often extensive with hills of the Llŷn Peninsula visible to the north. VS9: Confined (6%)/ Enclosed (6%)/ <u>Open</u> (84%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerous properties typically clustered along the A496. Harlech Castle Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) Open Access Areas Local attractions and public rights of way The Cambrian Coast Railway The local road network including the A496 which is an important coastal tourist route 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site Barmouth SLA Ardudwy Registered Historic Landscape Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape Hillfort Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not Applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Typically moderate LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: <u>Moderate</u> (90%) / <u>Strong</u> (10%) VS46: <u>High</u> (79%) / <u>Moderate</u> (21%) VS47: <u>Moderate</u> (84%) / <u>High</u> (16%) VS48: <u>High</u> (16%) / <u>Moderate</u> (84%)	-			-	-
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity Away from the settlements and A496 road corridor the sense of tranquillity and remoteness increases . VS24: <u>Other</u> (75%) / <u>Other</u> ; Tranquil; Sheltered; Remote; Spiritual (6%) / <u>Sheltered</u> (6%) / <u>Smell</u> (6%)	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8).</p> <p>Small parts of ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along small sections of the west boundary and crosses the LCA to the north.</p> <p>Typical Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: High (16%) / <u>Moderate</u> (83%) VS49: High (9%) / <u>Moderate</u> (90%) LH45: High (21%) / <u>Moderate</u> (32%) / <u>Low</u> (7%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (40%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%) GL31: High (40%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (58%) GL33: High (40%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (58%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>This LCA comprises Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.</p> <p>The LCA lies almost entirely within the Ardudwy Registered Historic Landscape with the exception of a small part to the far north.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typically Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: High (9%) / <u>Moderate</u> (12%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (23%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (56%) HL35: High (40%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (60%) HL40: High (33%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (63%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷⁶ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This large scale landscape comprises pastures interspersed with conifer plantations. Clustered villages focussed along the A496, together with the Cambrian Coast Railway line, introduce movement to the west of this LCA. Skylines in the north are interrupted by existing vertical structures such as overhead lines, further reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site which contributes towards the outstanding cultural heritage value of the landscape together with a high number of sensitive receptors and intervisibility with highly sensitive LCA's. Additionally, the LCA's designation within the National Park further reinforces sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. small development - 1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This large scale landscape comprises pastures interspersed with conifer plantations. Clustered villages are focussed along the A496; these together with the Cambrian Coast Railway line represent man-made influences to the west of this LCA. Skylines in the north are interrupted by existing vertical structures such as overhead lines, further reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site which contributes towards the outstanding cultural heritage value of the landscape together with a high number of sensitive receptors and intervisibility with highly sensitive LCA's. Additionally, the LCA's designation within the National Park further reinforces sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

⁷⁶ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Anglesey, Gwynedd & Snowdonia National Park

Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment

Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 10 no. mobile mast developments - 2 no. camouflaged mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no further capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

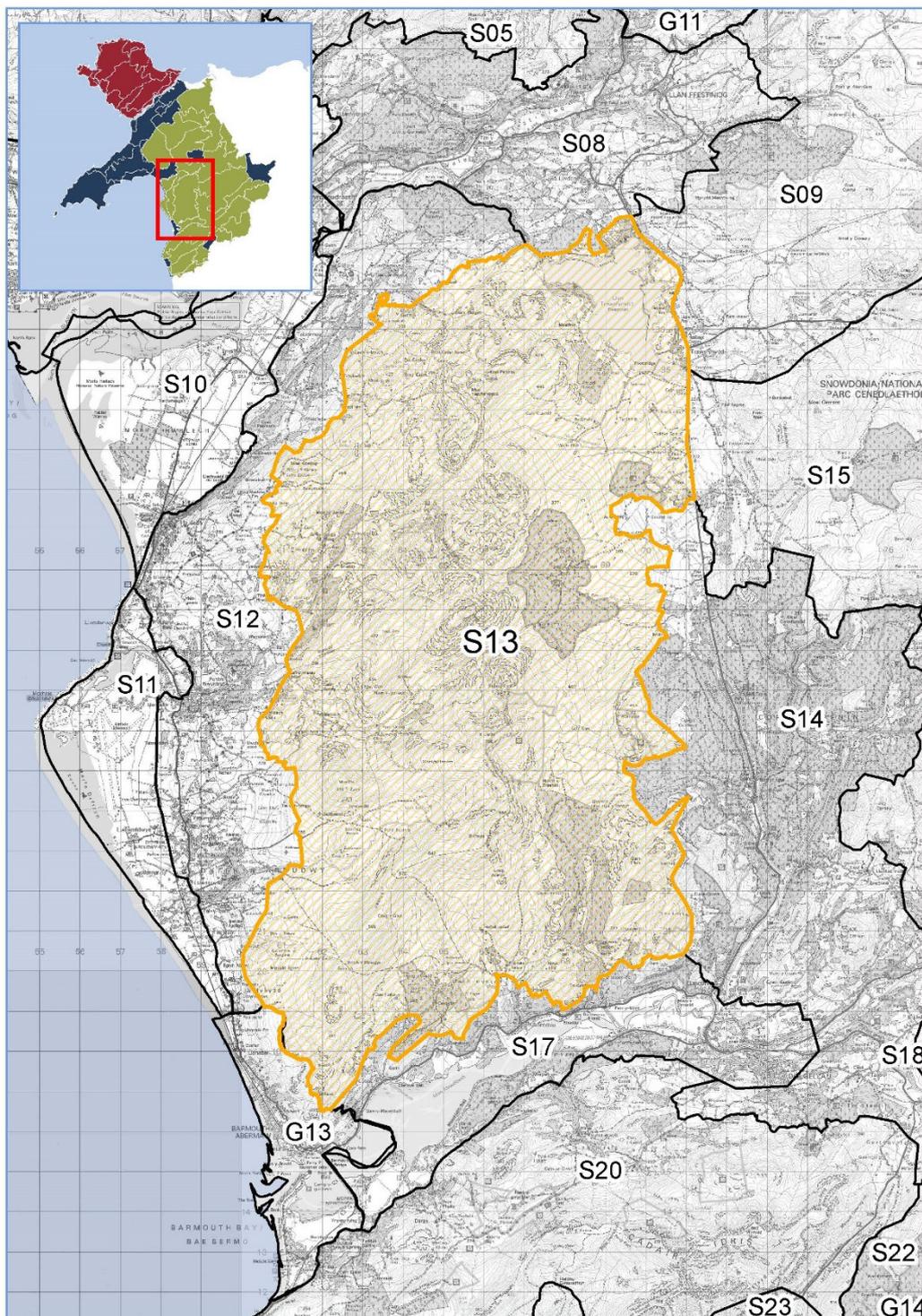
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This large scale landscape comprises pastures interspersed with conifer plantations. Clustered villages and existing static caravan/chalet parks are focussed along the A496 and local road networks; these together with the Cambrian Coast Railway line and overhead lines represent man-made influences to the west and north of this LCA and locally lessen sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of Harlech Castle - Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site which contributes towards the outstanding cultural heritage value of the landscape together with a high number of sensitive receptors and intervisibility with highly sensitive LCA's. The LCA's designation within the National Park further reinforces sensitivity as does the presence of some nationally important semi-natural woodland and some highly scenic parts of this LCA which are defined within ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. medium development - 3 no. small developments - 4 no. very small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments , in particular within the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small scale developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty and Undeveloped Coast, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Llŷn AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of Barmouth Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the setting and key views to and from Harlech Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly seawards and towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Ardudwy and Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting, in particular avoiding areas defined as ELDP Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on busy tourist routes such as the A496 and the Cambrian Coast Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓	✓	

S13 Y Rhinogau



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA centres on the rugged Rhinogau mountain range extending from the slopes above the Dwyrdd and Glaslyn estuaries in the north down to the Mawddach estuary in the south.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale upland and exposed landscape
- Rugged mountains and valleys
- Influenced (in the north east) by Llyn Trawsfynydd reservoir and former nuclear power station

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (8%)/ <u>Large</u> (89%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Rugged mountain chain comprising high hills and valleys. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/ Plateau</u> (76%)/ <u>Upland Valleys</u> (7%)/ <u>Inland Water (Including Associated Edge)</u> (6%)/ <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (5%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (80%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (16%)/ <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> (5%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Landcover is typified by open rugged mountain summits and upland moorland interspersed with barren and rocky uplands and frequent glacial lakes. A number of conifer plantations and mixed woodlands are present on some valley sides.	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
	<p>VS Classification Level 3: Barren/ Rocky upland (14%)/ Lake (6%)/ Open Upland Valleys (7%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (62%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (76%)/ Field Pattern/ Mosaic (12%)/ Woodland (60%)/ Mixture (6%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>Much of this landscape is unsettled with human influences limited to the sparse road network that criss-cross edges of the mountainous heart.</p> <p>The Llyn Trawsfynydd reservoir and former nuclear power station is a locally prominent man-made landmark in the far north of the LCA. Overhead lines associated with the power station introduce further modern vertical structures to the north of the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Village (6%) / Clustered (12%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (80%) VS27: Good (14%)/ <u>Fair</u> (86%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	<p>Skylines formed by the craggy mountains and rugged topography are highly distinctive and prominent. The Trawsfynydd nuclear power station forms a prominent man-made landmark locally in the north.</p>	↑			↑	
Movement	<p>Occasional movement is focused along the sparse road network whilst most of the remote and inaccessible higher ground of the mountain chain has a still character.</p> <p>VS18: Constant (6%) / <u>Occasional</u> (82%) / Infrequent (13%)</p>	↑				
Visual						
Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Views are typically open and exposed within this LCA with higher vantage points affording long panoramic, unspoilt views eastwards to the coast and north to the heart of the National Park.</p> <p>The Llyn Trawsfynydd reservoir and former nuclear power station is a prominent man-made landmark in the north.</p> <p>Enclosed (5%)/ Open (16%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (76%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few clustered properties Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) Open Access Areas Local attractions and public rights of way The A470 and A4212 tourist routes The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Barmouth SLA Arduwy Registered Historic Landscape Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape Hillforts Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not Applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (80%) / Moderate (20%) VS46: <u>High</u> (79%) / Outstanding (14%) VS47: <u>High</u> (82%) / Moderate (12%) / Low (6%) VS48: <u>High</u> (68%) / Moderate (18%) / Outstanding (14%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>The area has a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity associated with its inaccessibility. The former nuclear power station at Trawsfynydd locally detracts from this remoteness in the north.</p> <p>VS24: Tranquil (6%) / Wild (14%) / Sheltered (6%) / <u>Exposed</u> (62%) / Other (12%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8).</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (64%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (22%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (14%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>High</u> (64%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (18%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (14%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>High</u> (13%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (27%)/ <u>Low</u> (7%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (53%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (100%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>High</u> (13%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (86%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>High</u> (13%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (87%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>The western half of this LCA lies within the Arduwy Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Northern parts of the LCA lie within the Trawsfynydd Basin & Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (36%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (38%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (26%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>High</u> (13%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (22%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (66%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>High</u> (34%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (66%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷⁷ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

⁷⁷ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This large scale landscape is locally influenced by the Llyn Trawsfynydd reservoir and former nuclear power station which forms a prominent man-made landmark in the north of the LCA. Overhead lines associated with the power station introduce modern vertical structures to the north of the LCA, thus locally reducing the sensitivity.</p> <p>This is however, far outweighed by the natural characteristics of the majority of this remote and rugged, highly scenic mountainous landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by its dramatic skylines and a strong intervisibility with neighbouring LCAs.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This large scale landscape is locally influenced by the Llyn Trawsfynydd reservoir and former nuclear power station which forms a prominent man-made landmark in the north of the LCA. Overhead lines associated with the power station introduce modern vertical structures to the north of the LCA, thus locally reducing the sensitivity.</p> <p>This is however, far outweighed by the natural characteristics of the majority of this remote and rugged, highly scenic mountainous landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by its dramatic skylines and a strong intervisibility with neighbouring LCAs.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

Anglesey, Gwynedd & Snowdonia National Park

Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment

Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 4 no. mobile mast developments - 1 no. camouflaged mast development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, and particularly to the south and north eastern boundaries where settlement pattern is most dense, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

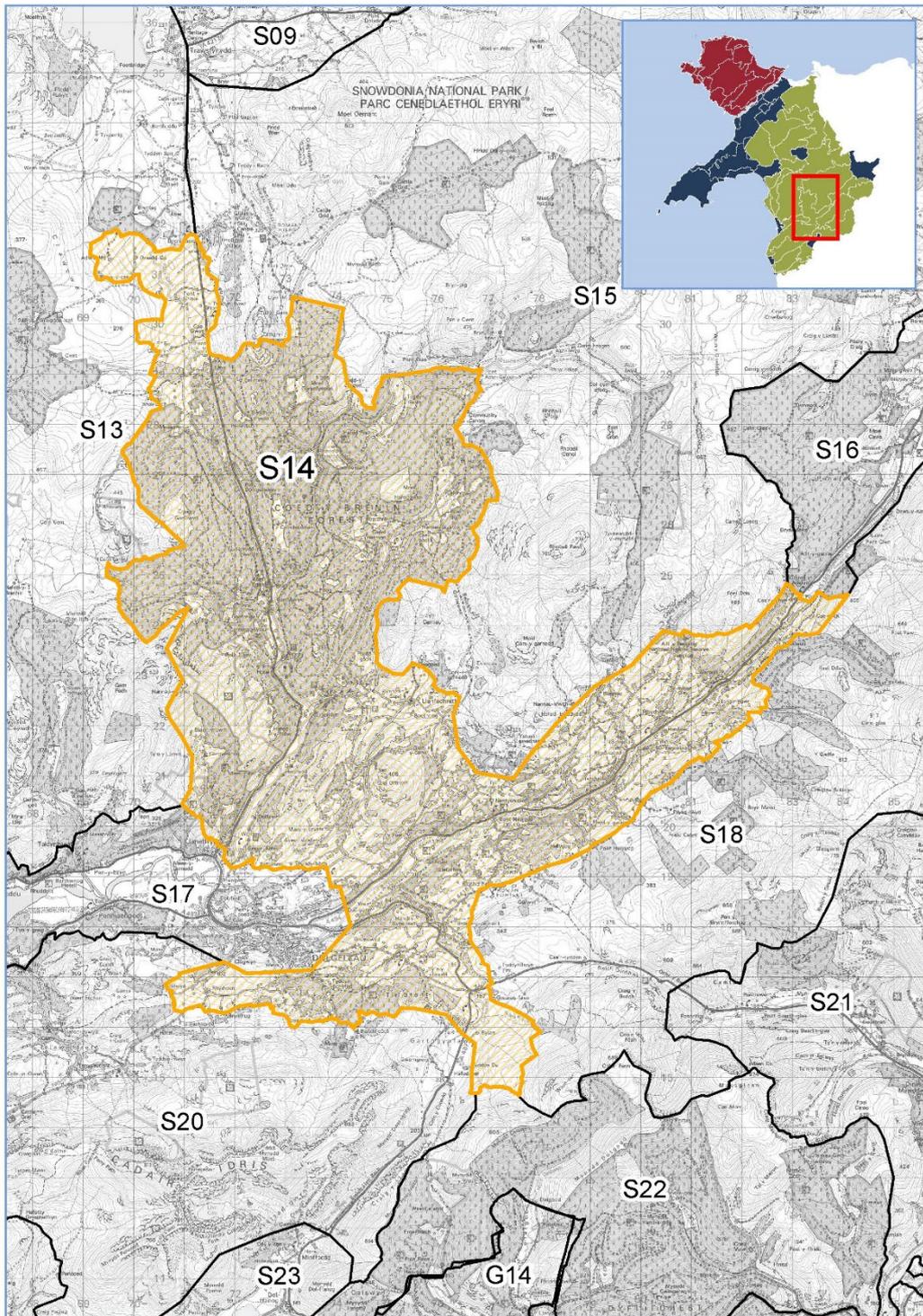
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This large scale landscape is locally influenced by the Llyn Trawsfynydd reservoir and former nuclear power station which forms a prominent man-made landmark in the north of the LCA. Overhead lines associated with the power station introduce modern vertical structures to the north of the LCA, thus locally reducing the sensitivity.</p> <p>This is however, far outweighed by the natural characteristics of the majority of this remote and rugged, highly scenic mountainous landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by the highly exposed nature of the varied and dramatic topography of the LCA although the coniferous plantations may offer some screening opportunities and thus indicate a locally lowered sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.			
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Llŷn AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of Barmouth Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain the setting and key views to and from Harlech Castle, Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd World Heritage Site.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Ardudwy, Mawddach, Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor and Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments such as 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82), route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid impacts upon the setting of areas defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓	✓	

S14 Dyffrynnoedd Mawddach a'r Wnion



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises the Mawddach and Eden valleys flowing from the uplands to the north of Dolgellau and extends eastwards along the course of the Wnion.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale confined landscape
- Complex topography defined by three main valleys surrounded by steep slopes and upland blocks
- Extensive conifer plantations to the north and frequent bands of broadleaved woodland elsewhere

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium-large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (41%)/ Large (58%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Complex topography defined by three main valleys surrounded by steep slopes and upland blocks. VS Classification Level 2: Exposed Upland/Plateau (8%)/ <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (43%)/ Rolling Lowland (16%)/ Lowland Valleys (25%)/ Upland Valleys (7%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (52%)/ Rolling/Undulating (24%)/ Hills/ Valleys (25%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Landcover comprises a mix of mostly well wooded valley sides, locally wooded lowland valley and wetlands associated with the Afon Eden and Wnion. On higher valley sides and upland areas, the woodlands comprise a mix of more extensive commercial conifer plantations and bands of	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>broadleaf woodlands which tend to become more common on lower valley sides and the valley floor.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Mosaic Lowland Valleys (12%) / Open Upland Valleys (7%) / Mosaic Rolling lowland (16%) / Upland Moorland (8%) / <u>Wooded Hillside & Scarp Slopes</u> (43%) / Wooded Lowland Valleys (13%)</p> <p>VS5: Open Land (8%) / Field Pattern / <u>Mosaic</u> (36%) / <u>Woodland</u> (45%) / <u>Mixture</u> (11%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>Man-made influences comprise clustered settlements along the valley floor, connected by the A470 and A494 roads which are busy routes, particularly in the summer months.</p> <p>The Coed y Brenin mountain biking centre is a popular tourist destination and includes visitor centre and car park; there are also a number of static caravan/chalet parks within this LCA.</p> <p>A number of mobile masts are scattered throughout the LCA along the main road network and bring localised modern vertical developments to the area.</p> <p>Commercial forestry on some higher slopes imparts a man-made influence throughout the LCA, but particularly in the northern half of the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Clustered (29%) / Mixture (16%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (52%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Fair</u> (100%)</p>	-			-	-
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Varied topography within this LCA provides some dominant skylines . However, the intermittently wooded landcover serves to foreshorten many skyline views.	↑			↑	

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	Road traffic brings sometimes frequent movement along the A470 and A494 roads particularly during summer months as these are busy tourist routes to the coast. VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (50%) / <u>Frequent</u> (25%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (25%)	-				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	Views confined by woodland in places , with some open, long distance views afforded from higher ground surrounding the valleys. VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (13%) / <u>Open</u> (38%) / <u>Exposed</u> (6%) / <u>Confined</u> (43%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Long distance routes including Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A487, A470 and A494 tourist routes ▪ The local road network 	-			-	-
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Hillforts ▪ Registered Parks and Gardens ▪ ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
	Condition	Not Applicable					

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Small areas defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (51%) / <u>Weak</u> (16%) / <u>Moderate</u> (33%) VS46: <u>High</u> (28%) / <u>Moderate</u> (29%) / <u>Low</u> (43%) VS47: <u>High</u> (54%) / <u>Moderate</u> (46%) VS48: <u>High</u> (52%) / <u>Moderate</u> (48%)</p>	-			-	-
	Remoteness/Tranquillity	<p>Away from the road network this LCA is perceived to be relatively tranquil.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Sheltered</u> (56%) / <u>Exposed</u> (6%) / <u>Other</u> (36%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8).</p> <p>Small areas defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: High (11%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (89%) VS49: High (7%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (50%)/ <u>Low</u> (43%) LH45: High (23%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (60%)/ <u>Low</u> (9%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (7%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (95%) GL31: High (12%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (86%) GL33: High (12%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (86%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>A large part of this LCA lies within the Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>A small part of the LCA lies within the Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>The LCA also includes Registered Parks and Gardens.</p> <p>This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (89%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (9%) HL35: <u>High</u> (59%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (41%) HL40: <u>High</u> (44%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (56%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷⁸ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- High	<p>This large scale, valley landscape is characterised by well wooded valley sides with frequent large conifer plantations. Views are often locally confined by woodland, especially in the southern half of the LCA, thus reducing sensitivity.</p> <p>Away from the busier valley floor and main roads, despite the extensive commercial forestry, the landscape maintains a sense of remoteness and tranquillity which imparts a high degree of sensitivity and has resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by cultural heritage value and the highly scenic nature of some parts of this LCA which are defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- High	<p>This large scale, valley landscape is characterised by well wooded valley sides with frequent large conifer plantations. Views are often locally confined by woodland, especially in the southern half of the LCA; this together with the presence of a number of existing mobile masts imparts a lower sensitivity.</p> <p>Away from the busier valley floor and main roads, despite the extensive commercial forestry, the landscape maintains a sense of remoteness and tranquillity which imparts a high degree of sensitivity and has resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Sensitivity is further enhanced by cultural heritage value and the highly scenic nature of some parts of this LCA which are defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	14 no. mobile mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments in particular within ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty. However, outside of these areas, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

⁷⁸ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

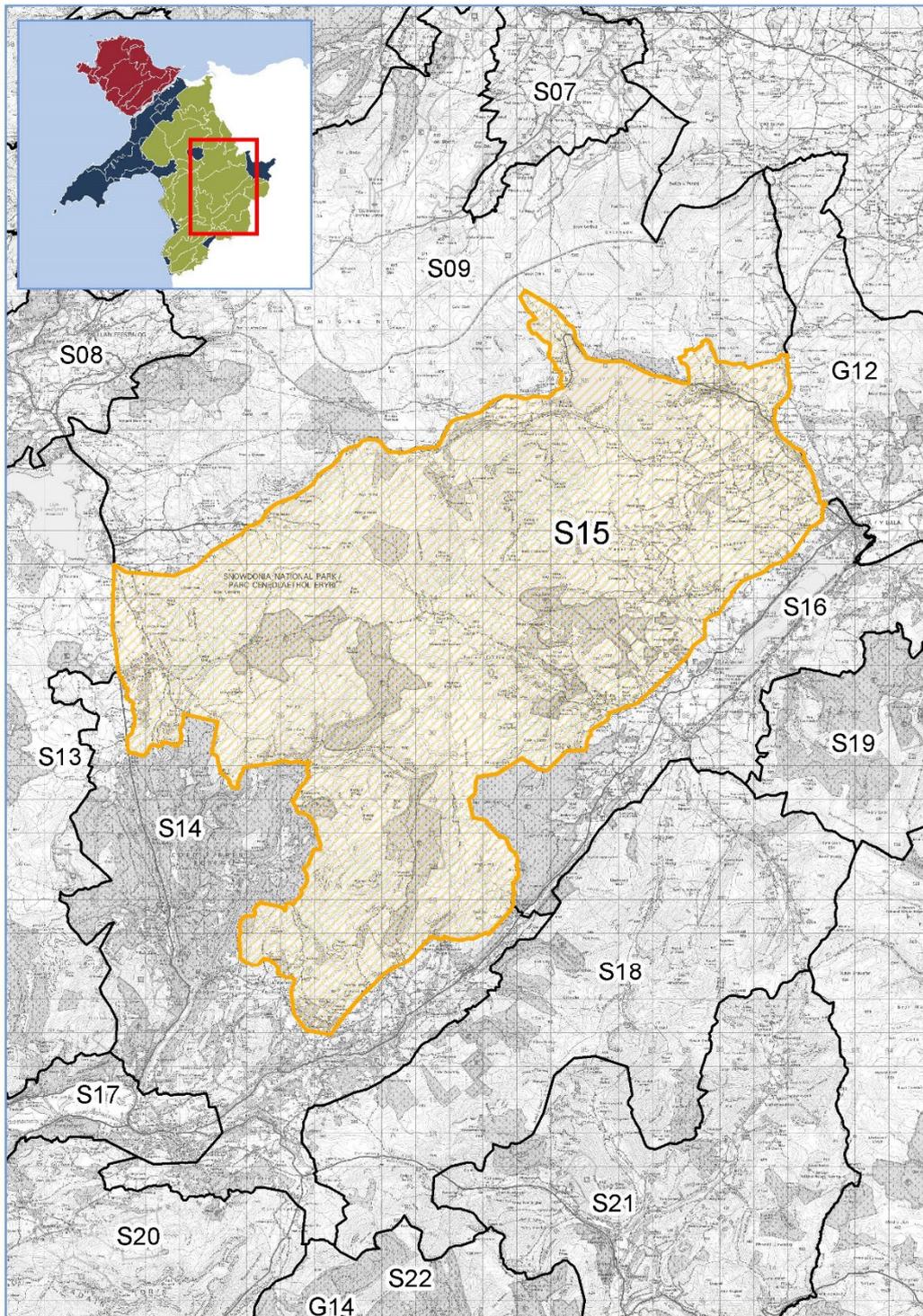
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- High	<p>This large scale, valley landscape is characterised by well wooded valley sides with frequent large coniferous plantations, which offer potential screening opportunities for static caravan/chalet park developments. Views are often locally confined by woodland, especially in the southern half of the LCA; this together with the presence of a number of existing static caravan/chalet park developments imparts a lower sensitivity to further static caravan/chalet park developments and extensions.</p> <p>Away from the busier valley floor and main roads and despite the extensive commercial forestry, the landscape maintains a sense of remoteness and tranquillity which imparts a high degree of sensitivity and has resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Sensitivity is enhanced by cultural heritage value and the highly scenic nature of some parts of this LCA which are defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 5 no. medium developments - 2 no. small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments in particular within the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed very small to small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor and Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular such as Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8), and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓	✓	

S15 Yr Arenig



1:150,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is centred on Arenig Fawr with Tryweryn valley to the east (on the National Park boundary) and Coed y Brenin to the west. To the north are the Mignient Uplands whilst the Upper Dee valley is located to the south.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale, open landscape
- High upland hills with distinctive valleys and small glacial lakes
- Remote and unsettled

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (27%)/ Large (73%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not Applicable					
	Landform	High upland hills with areas of upland plateau and locally distinctive U-shaped and hanging valleys and some small glacial lakes. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/ Plateau</u> (67%)/ Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (20%)/ Upland Valleys (5%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (67%)/ Rolling/Undulating (24%)/ Hills/ Valleys (8%)	-			-	-
	Landcover	Landcover is predominantly treeless upland moorland interspersed with wetlands and waterbodies with the large Llyn Celyn reservoir located to the north east. Small belts of commercial coniferous plantations are located in the central uplands and along some valley sides while lower	↓			-	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>slopes and valleys comprise mosaic of well-treed pastoral farmland.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic (20%)/ Open Upland Valleys (5%)/ <u>Upland Moorland</u> (67%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (68%)/ Field Pattern/ Mosaic (28%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>This LCA is predominantly unsettled with 400 kV overhead power lines in the Trywern Valley to the north, water treatment works at Llidiardau, commercial forestry and the remnant of quarries all having a localised influence.</p> <p>A dispersed pattern of settlement, concentrated in the valleys and on lower slopes is connected by a local road network and includes several static caravan/chalet parks. The A4212 and A470 which are important transport corridors and particularly busy in summer months, both skirt the edge of the LCA.</p> <p>VS6: Clustered (24%)/ <u>No settlements</u> (70%)/ Village (00%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (5%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Fair</u> (99%)</p>					
Settlement Pattern	Not Applicable					
Skylines and Settings	<p>In some places skylines within this LCA are simple, sweeping and uninterrupted. However, the summits of Arenig Fawr, Moel Llyfnant and Rhobell Fawr are prominent landforms in some views, as are the dramatic skylines created by surrounding mountain ranges. Skylines to the north are punctuated by large pylons.</p>					
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>This landscape is perceived to be relatively still with the exception of occasional road traffic which brings movement along the main road network (A4212 to the east and A470 to the west) particularly in the summer months.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (50%) / Frequent (25%) / Infrequent (25%)</p>					
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both)</p> <p>Views are typically open within this LCA with panoramic long distance views available from mountain summits; in particular from the summit of</p>					

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>Arenig which provides uninterrupted views of all significant North Wales mountain ranges.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (7%)/ <u>Open</u> (93%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scattered properties Long distance Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and Sustrans regional routes 13, 14 and 15 Open Access Areas Local attractions and public rights of way The A470, A4212 and A494 tourist routes The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Bala Hinterland SLA Bala and Bala Lakesides Registered Historic Landscape Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (31%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (66%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>High</u> (93%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (6%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (22%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (77%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>High</u> (69%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (30%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>Much of the uplands are inaccessible by road and the LCA has a high sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Attractive</u> (12%)/ <u>Tranquil</u> (17%)/ <u>Other</u> (28%)/ <u>Threatening</u> (38%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82).</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical Moderate - Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: High (31%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (69%) VS49: <u>Moderate</u> (99%)/ LH45: High (8%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (19%)/ Low (19%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (54%) LH42: High (8%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (19%)/ Low (19%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (54%) GL31: High (16%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (81%) GL33: High (16%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (84%)</p>		↑			↑	↑
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>North western parts of this LCA lie within the Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>A small part of this LCA lies within Bala and Bala Lakesides Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: High (27%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (62%)/ Unassessed (11%) HL35: <u>High</u> (73%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (25%) HL40: <u>High</u> (92%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (8%)</p>		-			-	-

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁷⁹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>Although the large scale of this landscape may be indicative of a lowered sensitivity to wind energy development this is outweighed by the natural characteristics of this highly scenic upland mountain landscape which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by the prominent peaks and skylines within this LCA together with a high degree of intervisibility with other sensitive LCAs and landscapes in North Wales. A relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity; this together with cultural heritage value further reinforces sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments in particular within ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of a limited number of domestic scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

⁷⁹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly scenic upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity to mobile mast development is further enhanced by the prominent peaks and skylines within this LCA together with a high degree of intervisibility with other sensitive LCAs and landscapes in North Wales. A relative lack of human influence imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity; this together with cultural heritage value further reinforces sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8 no. mobile mast developments - 2 no. camouflaged mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no further capacity for mobile mast developments in particular within ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

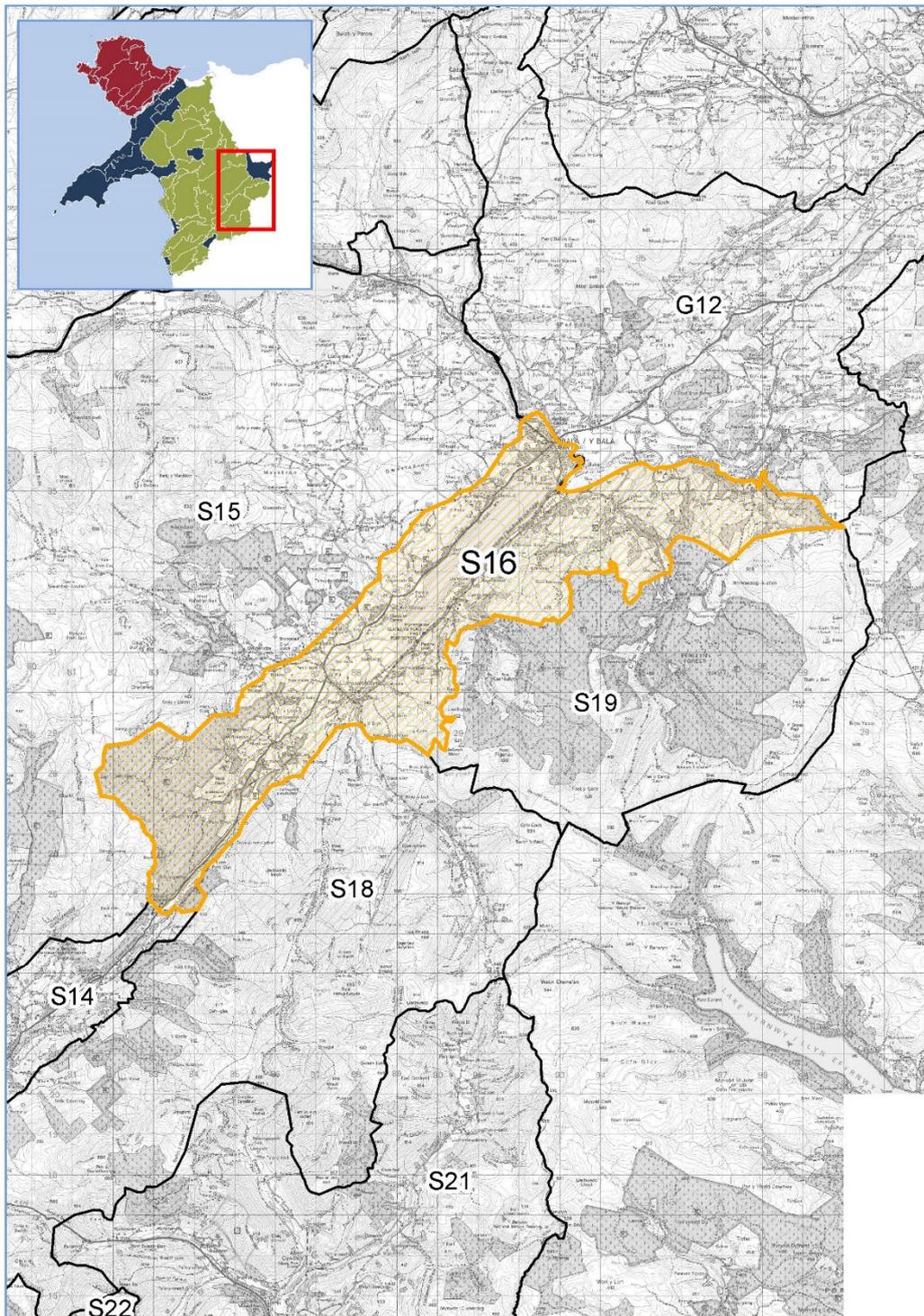
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this highly scenic upland mountain landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park development is further enhanced by the exposed nature of the landscape and a relative lack of human influence which imparts a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity; reinforced by the cultural heritage value of the LCA.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large development - 2 no. medium development - 1 no. small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments in particular within ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed, very small to small scale developments to the north east).

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Bala Hinterland Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Bala and Bala Lakesides and Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments such as 400 kV overhead lines. Siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular such as Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82) and Sustrans Regional Routes 13 and 15, and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓

S16 Llyn Tegid A Dyffryn Dyfrdwy



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprise the upper Dee Valley extending from Llyn Tegid (Lake Bala) in the east (which marks the eastern boundary of the National Park) to the watershed of the Afon Dyfrdwy and Afon Wnion in the south-west.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale landscape
- U-shaped valley landform
- Large deep glacial lake

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (67%)/ <u>Large</u> (21%)/ <u>Vast</u> (13%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not Applicable					
	Landform	U-Shaped valley. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/ Plateau</u> (13%)/ <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (55%)/ <u>Inland Water (Including Associated Edge)</u> (8%)/ <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (23%) VS4: <u>Levels</u> (00%)/ <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (33%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (35%)/ <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> (29%)	-			-	-
	Landcover	Strongly pastoral landscape with mosaic of small, irregular fields, scattered mature trees and small broadleaved woodlands. Pockets of unenclosed rough grassland and heathland on hill summits and upper slopes. Significant blocks and bands of coniferous and mixed plantations on valley sides to the south. The Afon Dyfrdwy meanders through the landscape to the south feeding into Llyn Tegid (the largest natural lake in Wales) which dominates the valley floor.	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>VS Classification Level 3: <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic</u> (35%) / <u>Lake</u> (8%) / <u>Mosaic Lowland Valleys</u> (22%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (13%) / <u>Wooded Hillside & Scarp Slopes</u> (20%)</p> <p>VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (13%) / <u>Field Pattern</u> / <u>Mosaic</u> (29%) / <u>Water</u> (8%) / <u>Woodland</u> (20%) / <u>Mixture</u> (31%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>Man-made influences include the settlements of Bala and Llanuwchllyn; located on opposite ends of Llyn Tegid and connected by the relatively busy A494 and B4403 roads.</p> <p>Tourist developments, such as a number of static caravan/chalet parks, camping sites and car parks bring movement and activity to the area, in particular during the busier summer months. The Llyn Tegid Railway follows the southern shoreline of the Dee Valley.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Clustered</u> (10%) / <u>Village</u> (19%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (35%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (33%)</p> <p>VS27: <u>Fair</u> (100%)</p>	-			-	↓
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Much of landscape within this LCA is rarely seen as a skyline feature ; however, the skylines created by the elevated parts of this LCA and adjacent upland areas are prominent ; these frame and provide a backdrop to views out of the valley.	↑			↑	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Rail and road traffic brings frequent movement to parts of the LCA, together with boating and water sports activities on the lake. Elsewhere, movement is more infrequent.</p> <p>VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (21%) / <u>Frequent</u> (36%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (40%)</p>	-				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically open from the higher ground above Llyn Tegid with views more enclosed within the valley and by intervening landform and vegetation to the south.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (29%) / <u>Exposed</u> (13%) / <u>Confined</u> (20%) / <u>Open</u> (39%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerous properties particularly in Bala and Llanuwchllyn Open Access Areas Sustrans regional routes 12, 13, 14 and 15 Local attractions including the Llyn Tegid Railway Local public rights of way The A4212 and A494 tourist routes The local road network Boats and water sports 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Bala Hinterland SLA Bala and Bala Lakesides Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Small areas defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typically Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (41%) / <u>Weak</u> (14%) / <u>Moderate</u> (45%) / VS46: <u>High</u> (45%) / <u>Moderate</u> (35%) / <u>Low</u> (20%) VS47: <u>High</u> (49%) / <u>Moderate</u> (51%) VS48: <u>High</u> (42%) / <u>Moderate</u> (55%)</p>	-			-	-
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>The presence of settlements and the transport network lowers the sense of remoteness and tranquillity although away from the settlements and main road corridors the sense of tranquillity and remoteness increases.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Tranquil</u> (8%) / <u>Sheltered</u> (21%) / <u>Exposed</u> (13%) / <u>Other</u> (57%)</p>	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas</p> <p>Small areas defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical Moderate LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: High (14%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (86%) VS49: High (13%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (67%)/ Low (20%) LH45: Outstanding (11%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (39%)/ <u>Low</u> (48%) LH42: Outstanding (11%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (39%)/ <u>Low</u> (48%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (79%)/ Low (20%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (79%)/ Low (20%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>Much of this landscape lies within Bala and Bala Lakesides Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>The LCA fringes on a Registered Park and Garden to the north.</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (83%)/ Moderate (17%) HL35: High (17%)/ Moderate (16%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (68%) HL40: <u>High</u> (83%)/ Outstanding (17%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸⁰ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- High	<p>The medium scale valley is located within the National Park and is characterised by a mosaic of small scale, irregular fields, scattered mature trees and small broadleaved woodlands which typically increases sensitivity.</p> <p>There are a number of key vistas and sensitive receptors in this LCA, including views to and from a number of landscape and cultural heritage features which further increases sensitivity. The area also has a high cultural heritage value.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of modern man-made elements such as the town of Bala, villages, main roads and a narrow gauge railway which introduce frequent movement into this landscape thereby lowering sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- High	<p>The medium scale valley is located within the National Park and is characterised by a mosaic of small scale, irregular fields, scattered mature trees and small broadleaved woodlands which typically increases sensitivity.</p> <p>There are a number of key vistas and sensitive receptors in this LCA, including views to and from a number of landscape and cultural heritage features which further increases sensitivity. The area also has a high cultural heritage value.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of modern man-made elements such as the town of Bala, villages, main roads and a narrow gauge railway which introduce frequent movement into this landscape thereby lowering sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

⁸⁰ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Anglesey, Gwynedd & Snowdonia National Park

Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment

Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	2 no. mobile mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments in particular within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

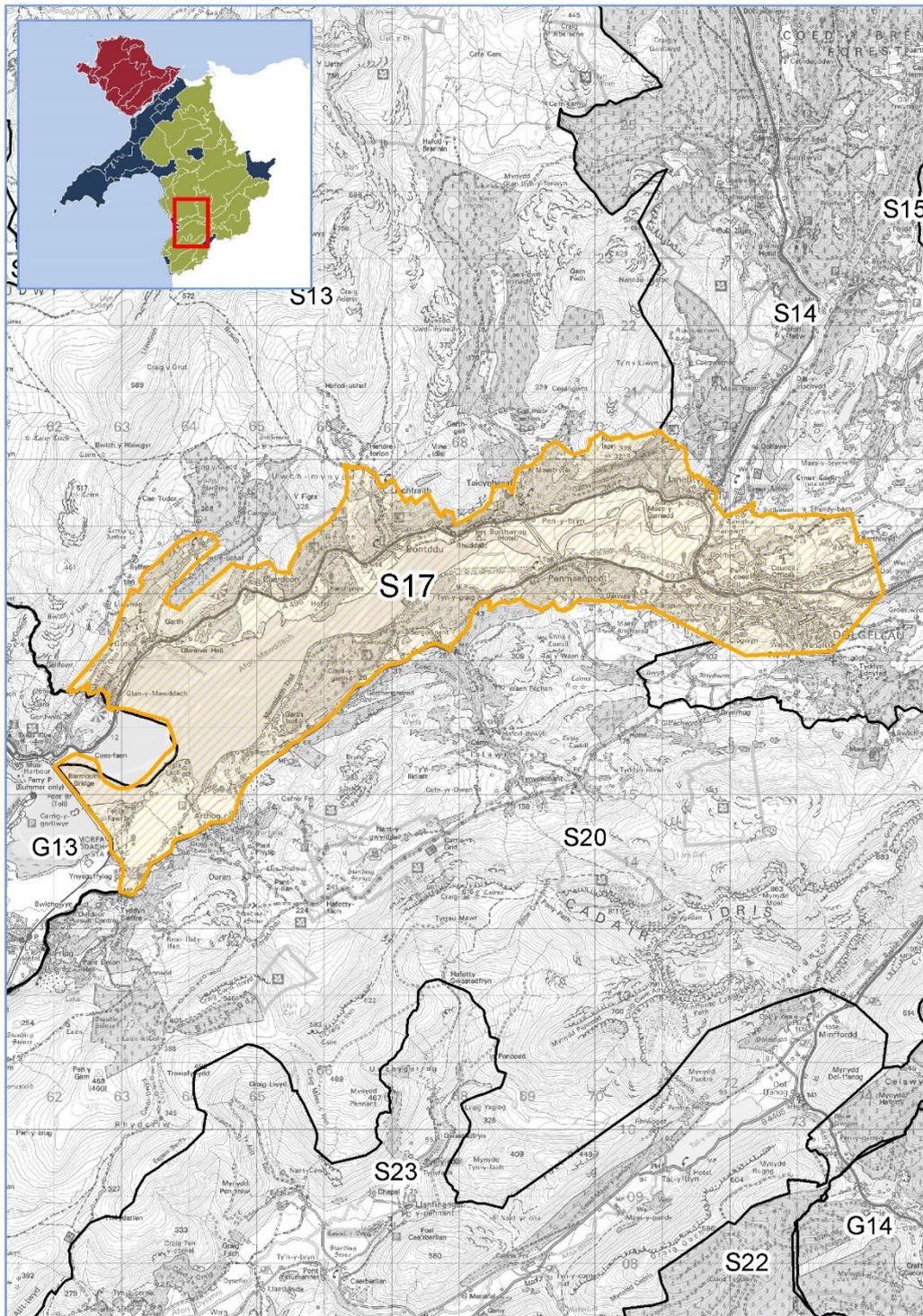
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium- High	<p>The medium scale valley is located within the National Park and is characterised by a mosaic of small scale, irregular fields, scattered mature trees and small broadleaved woodlands which typically increases sensitivity.</p> <p>There are a number of key vistas and sensitive receptors in this LCA, including views to and from a number of landscape and cultural heritage features and open views from the higher ground above Llyn Tegid which further increases sensitivity. The area also has a high cultural heritage value.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the presence of modern man-made elements such as the town of Bala, villages, main roads, a narrow gauge railway and existing static caravan/chalet parks which introduce frequent movement into this landscape thereby lowering sensitivity to further static caravan/chalet park development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 no. medium developments - 1 no. small developments - 1 no. very small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no further capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments in particular within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small to small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Bala Hinterland Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Bala and Bala Lakesides Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular such as Sustrans regional cycle routes 12, 13, 15 and 16 and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
As well as taking into account views from elevated isolated properties, siting should take into consideration important views from the more densely populated settlements of Bala and Llanuwchllyn. These settlements have a number of visitor attractions associated with them and a strong connection with the landscape in which they are situated.	✓	✓	✓

S17 Aber Y Fawddach



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is focussed on the Mawddach Estuary, extending from Dolgellau in the east towards the fringes of the mouth of the estuary near Barmouth in the west.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale landscape
- Broad open estuary flanked by steeply rising landform
- Extensive coniferous and broadleaved woodland
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (77%)/ <u>Large</u> (23%)	-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Broad, flat estuary contained by steeply rising landform either side. VS Classification Level 2: Built land (6%)/ Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (21%)/ Rolling Lowland (8%)/ Lowland Valleys (20%)/ <u>Coastal</u> (44%) VS4: Levels (21%)/ High Hills/Mountains (8%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (45%)/ Hills/ Valleys (26%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Landcover is typified by the estuary itself. Areas of grazing marsh are present on the estuary fringes together with pockets of small scale regular and irregular pastoral fields. The valley sides are dominated by extensive coniferous plantations and broadleaved woodlands . To the east there is a more complex mosaic of small scale regular and irregular	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>pastoral fields interspersed with small woodland blocks and numerous hedgerow trees.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic (15%)/ <u>Intertidal</u> (44%)/ Mosaic Rolling lowland (7%) / Urban (6%) / Wooded Hillside& Scarp Slopes (6%) / Wooded Lowland Valleys (16%)</p> <p>VS5: Field Pattern/ Mosaic (26%)/ Development (6%) / Woodland (7%) / <u>Mixture</u> (58%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>Principally concentrated around the historic market town of Dolgellau and also along the A470, A496 and A493 main roads, including a number of static caravan/chalet parks, and a small number of wind turbines and mobile masts. The Grade II* Barmouth railway viaduct is a notable man-made feature to the far western edge of this LCA. Elsewhere, particularly on higher ground, man-made influences are much less evident.</p> <p>VS6: Urban (6%)/ Village (15%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (44%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (7%) / No Settlements (8%)</p> <p>VS27: Fair (100%)</p>	-			-	-
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Prominent landform within and surrounding this LCA, including Cadair Idris, creates distinctive skylines .	↑			↑	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Local traffic within settlements, principally Dolgellau, and traffic along the main roads introduces frequent movement into much of the landscape. Away from the roads, movement is less frequent.</p> <p>VS18: Constant (6%) / Occasional (8%) / <u>Frequent</u> (49%) / Infrequent (36%)</p>	-				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Although this landscape is typically enclosed by steep sided landform either side of the estuary, far reaching views are afforded from elevated vantage points over the estuary to the coast and also inland to prominent mountains such as Cadair Idris.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (65%)/ <u>Open</u> (26%)/ <u>Confined</u> (6%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties Snowdonia National Park Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82), route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a further link to NCN route 8 Open Access Areas Local attractions including Barmouth Bridge Local public rights of way The A470, A494 and A493 tourist routes and Cambrian Coast Railway The local road network 					
	<p>Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Barmouth SLA Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
	Condition	Not applicable				
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>This landscape is highly scenic which is reflected in its designation as part of the National Park.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: Strong (31%) / Weak (7%) / <u>Moderate</u> (62%) VS46: <u>High</u> (65%) / Moderate (23%) / Low (12%) VS47: <u>High</u> (52%) / <u>Moderate</u> (42%) / Low (6%) VS48: <u>High</u> (67%) / Moderate (27%) / Low (6%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Remoteness/ Tranquillity</p> <p>The main roads and activity concentrated around Dolgellau locally reduce the sense of tranquillity which is perceived elsewhere. Areas of higher ground are more remote in character.</p> <p>VS24: Attractive (23%) / Unattractive (6%) / Sheltered (8%) / Smell (21%) / <u>Other</u> (40%) /</p>	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82), route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a further link to NCN route 8.</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as Undeveloped Coast with small parts of ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path runs along the western edge of this LCA.</p> <p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (61%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (33%)/ <u>Low</u> (06%) VS49: <u>High</u> (61%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (27%)/ <u>Low</u> (12%) LH45: <u>High</u> (11%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (64%)/ <u>Low</u> (21%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (98%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (60%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (40%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (60%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (40%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>Much of this LCA lies within the Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape with the majority of the remaining areas lying within the Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Registered Parks and Gardens also lie within this LCA.</p> <p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (22%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (18%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (54%) HL35: <u>High</u> (7%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (93%) HL40: <u>High</u> (22%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (78%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸¹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale, estuarine landscape is enclosed by steep valley sides and wholly contained within the National Park. The developed character, particularly to the east and along the main road network, lessens sensitivity.</p> <p>This is outweighed by the distinctive and scenic valley setting, much of which is defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast. The panoramic views and high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes and two nationally important Historic Landscapes together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park, the Wales Coast Path and a Registered Park and Garden) enhances sensitivity further.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty and ELDP Undeveloped Coast.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale, estuarine landscape is enclosed by steep valley sides and wholly contained within the National Park. The developed character, particularly to the east and along the main road network, lessens sensitivity. Furthermore, the extensive areas of woodland do provide potential to mitigate and accommodate such development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the distinctive and scenic valley setting, much of which is defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast. The panoramic views and high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes and two nationally important Historic Landscapes together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park, the Wales Coast Path and a Registered Park and Garden) enhances sensitivity further.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

⁸¹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Anglesey, Gwynedd & Snowdonia National Park

Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment

Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	8 no. mobile mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty and ELDP Undeveloped Coast, (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments, particularly around more heavily populated areas such as Dolgellau.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

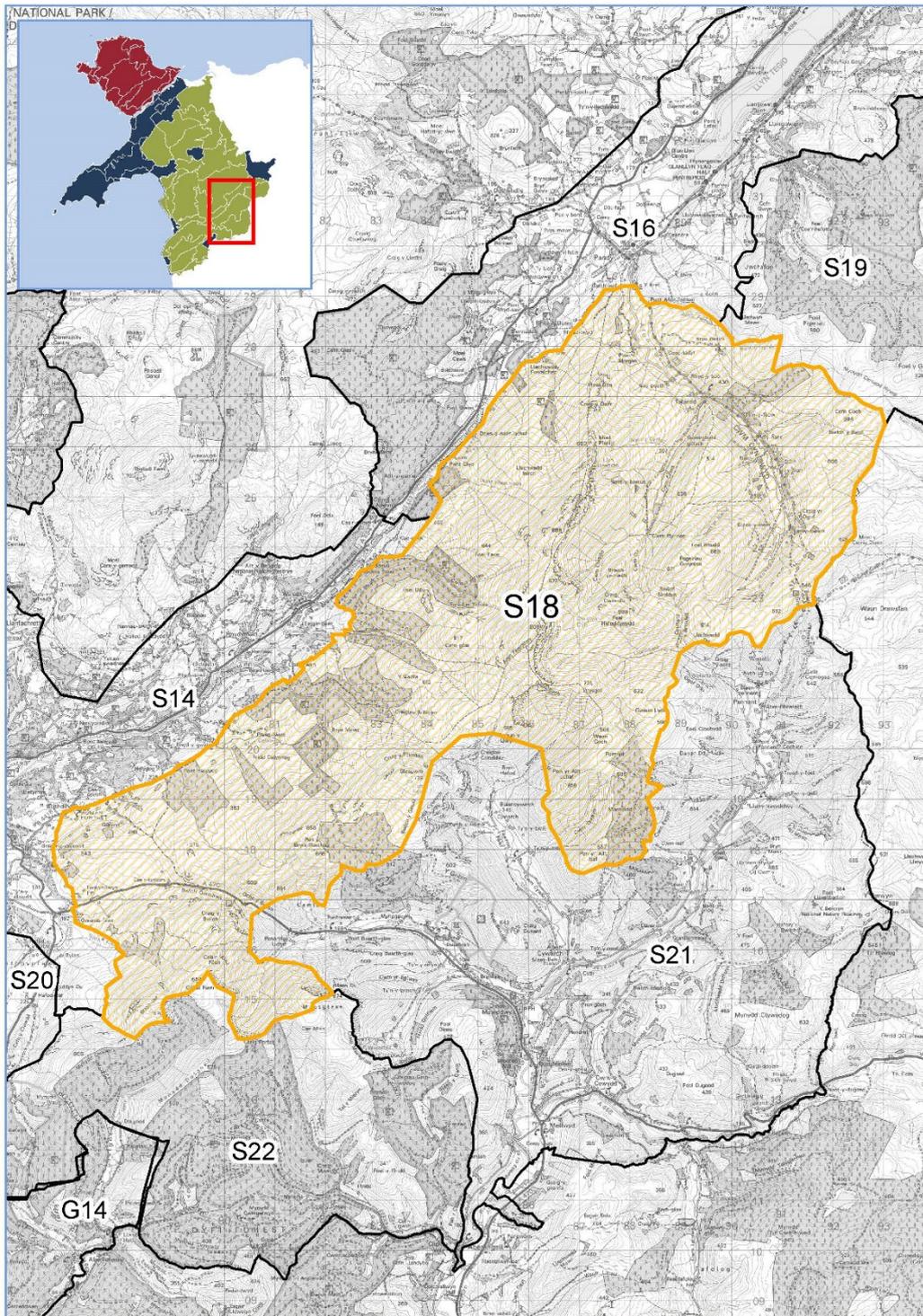
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale, estuarine landscape is enclosed by steep valley sides and wholly contained within the National Park. The developed character, particularly to the east and along the main road network, lessens sensitivity. Furthermore, the extensive areas of woodland provide potential to mitigate and accommodate such development.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the distinctive and scenic valley setting, much of which is defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast, the panoramic views and high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes and two nationally important Historic Landscapes together with a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park, the Wales Coast Path and a Registered Park and Garden) enhance sensitivity further.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. medium development - 2 no. small developments - 1 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no further capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of Barmouth Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly seawards and towards the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Mawddach and Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens and important local attractions such as Barmouth Bridge; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes such as the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82), route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8), a further link to NCN route 8 and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid impacts upon areas defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast and upon their setting.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on busy tourist routes such as the A470, A494 and A493 and the Cambrian Coast Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
As well as taking into account views from elevated isolated properties, siting should take into consideration important views from the more densely populated settlement of Dolgellau. The town has a number of visitor attractions associated with it and a strong connection with the landscape in which it is situated.	✓	✓	✓

S18 Mynyddoedd Yr Aran



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA extends to the Afon Twrch and Cwm Cynllwyd valley to the north and encompasses the main Aran ridgeline running south west towards Dolgellau and extends to Bwlch y Groes near the eastern boundary of the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- A vast mountainous upland landscape
- Prominent and remote open mountain ridgeline

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a vast landscape. VS8: Medium (13%)/ Large (6%)/ <u>Vast</u> (81%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Landform is typified by high hills and mountains with a prominent ridgeline running along the LCA. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (86%) / Lowland valleys (6%) / Upland Valleys (5%) / VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (87%) / Hills/ Valleys (11%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Although the main Aran ridgeline is typified by rugged and rocky landcover much of this LCA is dominated by open upland moorland punctuated to the west by large conifer plantations . There is a localised network of irregular pastures on the valley floors. VS Classification Level 3: Barren/ Rocky upland (5%) / Mosaic Lowland Valleys (6%) / Open Upland Valleys (5%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (81%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (86%) / Field Pattern/ Mosaic (11%)	-			-	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Man-made Influences	<p>With the exception of the A470 to the south west man-made influences are limited. This LCA is predominantly unsettled and devoid of roads.</p> <p>VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (7%)/ Clustered (6%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (87%) VS27: Good (5%)/ Fair (95%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Prominent landform within this LCA creates dramatic skylines .	↑			↑	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Infrequent movement within this landscape imparts a still character.</p> <p>VS18: Occasional (6%) / Frequent (6%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (89%)</p>	↑				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Views are typically exposed and far reaching within this LCA. Extensive panoramic views are afforded towards the main Snowdonia peaks of Rhinogau and Cadair Idris and eastwards across the wider Berwyn Mountains, including the nearby Lake Vyrnwy.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed (6%)/ Open (8%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (86%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relatively few properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Sustrans regional route 12 and national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A470 and A494 tourist routes ▪ The limited local road network 	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Bala and Bala Lakeside Registered Historic Landscape ▪ ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
	Condition	Not applicable				

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty. Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . VS25: <u>Strong</u> (87%) / <u>Moderate</u> (13%) / VS46: <u>High</u> (94%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (5%) VS47: <u>High</u> (89%) / <u>Moderate</u> (6%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (5%) VS48: <u>High</u> (82%) / <u>Moderate</u> (13%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (5%)	↑			↑	↑
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity Much of this landscape has a wild, remote and tranquil character. VS24: <u>Wild</u> (5%) / <u>Exposed</u> (81%) / <u>Other</u> (13%)	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas.</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (81%)/ Moderate (14%)/ Outstanding (5%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>High</u> (81%)/ Moderate (13%)/ Outstanding (5%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>Low</u> (85%)/ Outstanding (8%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (36%)/ (<u>blank</u>) (64%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>High</u> (14%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (86%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>High</u> (14%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (86%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>A small part of this LCA to the south west falls within the Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>A very small part to the north of this LCA lies within the outer fringes of the Bala and Bala Lakeside Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (100%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>Moderate</u> (86%)/ Outstanding (10%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>High</u> (100%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸² (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	This is a vast and largely unpopulated upland landscape with large areas of exposed open moorland and blocks of coniferous plantation. Although these characteristics may be indicative of a reduced sensitivity to wind energy development, they are far outweighed by the high scenic quality, distinctive mountainous character and dramatic skylines of the LCA which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. This is heightened by much of this area being defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty and the presence of the prominent Aran ridgeline which is a key feature of the LCA and from which wind energy development may significantly detract. Such development may also effect the extensive and panoramic views available from the LCA and this, together with the presence of highly sensitive visual receptors, a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park) and two nationally important Historic Landscapes greatly increases sensitivity.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. micro development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

⁸² NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This vast and largely unpopulated upland landscape, is lacking in man-made influence, with large areas of open moorland and blocks of coniferous plantation. The high scenic quality, distinctive mountainous character and dramatic skylines of the LCA impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. This is heightened by much of this area being defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty and the presence of the prominent Aran ridgeline which is a key feature of the LCA and from which mobile mast development may significantly detract. Such development may also effect the extensive and panoramic views available from the LCA and this together with the presence of highly sensitive visual receptors, a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park) and two nationally important Historic Landscapes greatly increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 7 no. mobile mast developments - 2 no. camouflaged mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

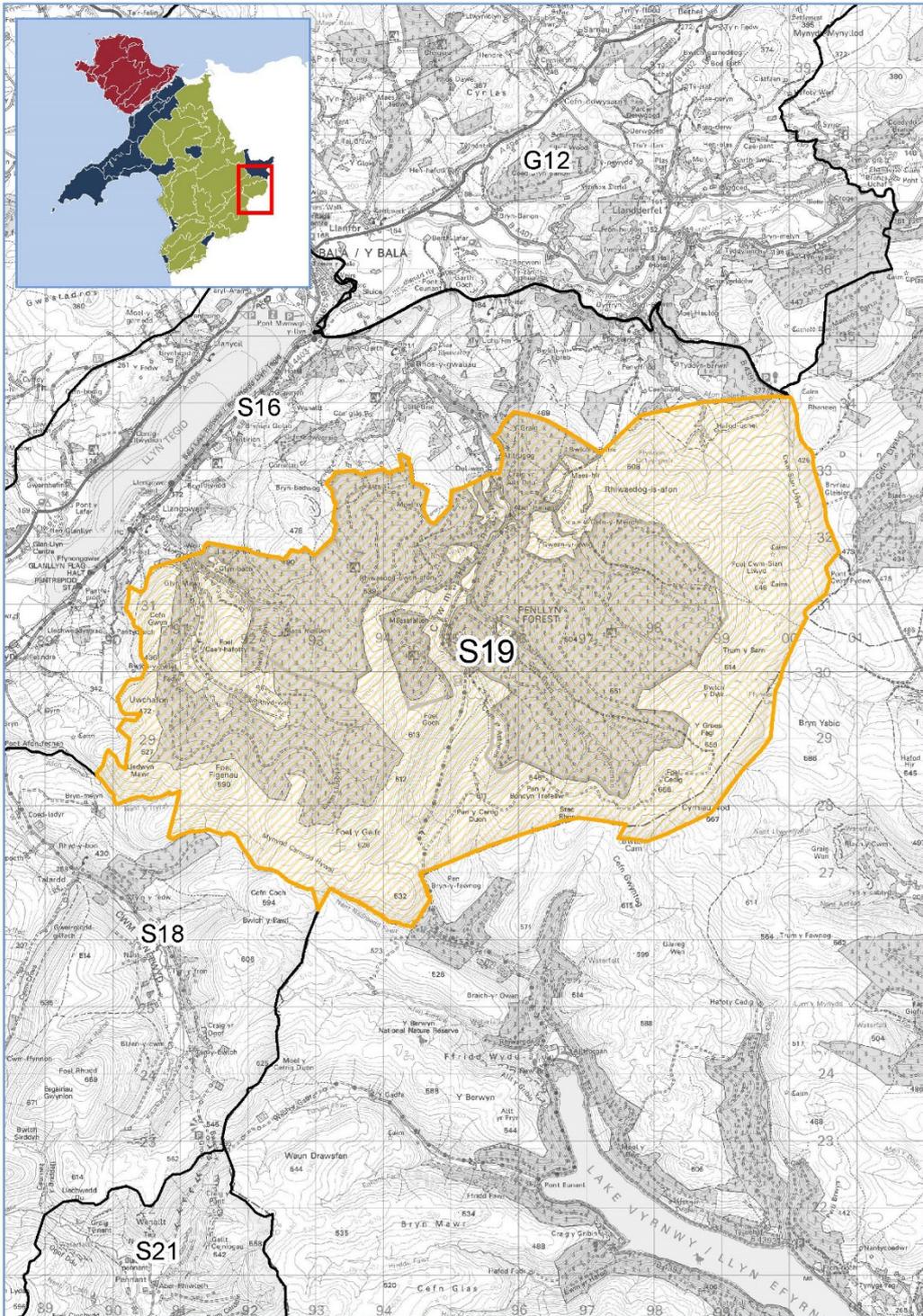
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This vast and largely unpopulated upland landscape has significant areas of open moorland and is lacking in man-made influences. Together with the high scenic quality and distinctive mountainous character of this LCA imparts a high degree of sensitivity and has resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>The nature and arrangement of static caravan/chalet park development typically conflicts with the natural characteristics of much of this landscape. Such development may also effect the extensive and panoramic views available to and from the LCA and this, together with the presence of highly sensitive visual receptors, a high degree of intervisibility from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park) and two nationally important Historic Landscapes greatly increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.			
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly towards the National Park...	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Bala and Bala Lakesides and the Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes such as Sustrans Regional Route 12, national cycle route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A470 tourist route.			
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓

S19 Coedwig Penllyn



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is centred on Penllyn Forest to the south eastern corner of the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- A landscape which is large to vast in scale
- Extensive coniferous plantation
- Upland moorland rises above scarp slopes and wooded hillsides
- A number of fast flowing streams and waterfalls forming the headwaters of the rivers below

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large to vast landscape. VS8: Large <small>(50%)</small> / Vast <small>(47%)</small>	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Landform is typified by upland plateau and a series of rounded hills broken by scarp slopes . VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> <small>(47%)</small> / <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> <small>(50%)</small> VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> <small>(95%)</small>	-			-	-
	Landcover	Extensive coniferous plantations , outside of which, exposed heather upland heath dominates with farmed pastoral fields found on the valley floors. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Upland Moorland</u> <small>(47%)</small> / <u>Wooded Hillside and Scarp Slopes</u> <small>(50%)</small> VS5: <u>Open Land</u> <small>(47%)</small> / <u>Woodland</u> <small>(50%)</small>	↓			↓	↓
	Man-made Influences	This landscape is mainly unsettled with little modern development. Modern day human influences are limited to large areas of commercial coniferous plantation.	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS6: <u>No Settlements</u> (97%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (98%)					
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Heavily undulating and largely uninterrupted skylines are created by the rounded hills within this LCA. Large blocks of coniferous plantation are features of some of the higher skylines.	↑			↑	
Visual	Movement A lack of settlement and road networks means there is only occasional and infrequent movement within this landscape, which imparts a still character . VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (50%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (48%)	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are often enclosed by steep sided landform or by the extensive areas of plantation. Where landform and landcover permits, views become far reaching and at times panoramic with scenic views north and west and strong intervisibility with the Berwyn Mountains and Lake Vyrnwy. VS9: <u>Confined</u> (50%) / <u>Exposed</u> (47%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relatively few properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Sustrans regional route 12 ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The limited local road network 	-			-	-
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB ▪ Cynwyd and Llandrillo AOB (within Denbighshire) ▪ Bala Hinterland SLA ▪ Tanat Valley Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Berwyn Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Bala and Bala Lakesides Registered Historic Landscape ▪ ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>This landscape is highly scenic and has a strong sense of place which is reflected in its designation as part of the National Park.</p> <p>Typically High LANDMAP evaluation</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (97%) VS46: <u>High</u> (50%) / <u>Low</u> (50%) VS47: <u>High</u> (100%) VS48: <u>High</u> (100%)</p>					
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>This landscape has a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Sheltered</u> (53%) / <u>Exposed</u> (45%)</p>					
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>The entire LCA falls within National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas.</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typically High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (50%) / <u>Moderate</u> (50%) VS49: <u>High</u> (47%) / <u>Low</u> (50%) LH45: <u>High</u> (46%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (42%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (98%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (98%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (98%)</p>					
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>Cefn Gwyn to the west falls within the Bala and Bala Lakeside Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Moderate.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (98%) HL35: <u>Moderate</u> (98%) HL40: <u>High</u> (98%)</p>					

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸³ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>A predominantly unsettled, upland plateau landscape, large to vast in scale and typified by upland moorland and extensive coniferous plantation. Although these characteristics may be indicative of a reduced sensitivity to wind energy development, they are counterbalanced by the high scenic quality, distinctive mountainous character and prominent skylines of the LCA which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. This together with a notable lack of modern day human influence (limited to commercial plantations interspersed by a network of forest access tracks) enhances sensitivity. Parts of this area are also defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Wind energy development may affect the extensive and panoramic views available from parts of this LCA. There is a high degree of intervisibility with other important landscape and cultural heritage features including other parts of the National Park, the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Bala Hinterland SLA and three nationally important Historic Landscapes which further increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>A predominantly unsettled, upland plateau landscape, large to vast in scale and typified by upland moorland and extensive coniferous plantation. Although these characteristics may be indicative of a reduced sensitivity to mobile mast development, they are counterbalanced by the high scenic quality, distinctive mountainous character and prominent skylines of the LCA which impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. This together with a notable lack of modern day human influence (limited to commercial plantations interspersed by a network of forest access tracks) enhances sensitivity. Parts of this area are also defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Mobile mast development may affect the extensive and panoramic views available from parts of this LCA. There is a high degree of intervisibility with other</p>

⁸³ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

High	important landscape and cultural heritage features including other parts of the National Park, the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Bala Hinterland SLA and three nationally important Historic Landscapes which further increases sensitivity.
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented mobile mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

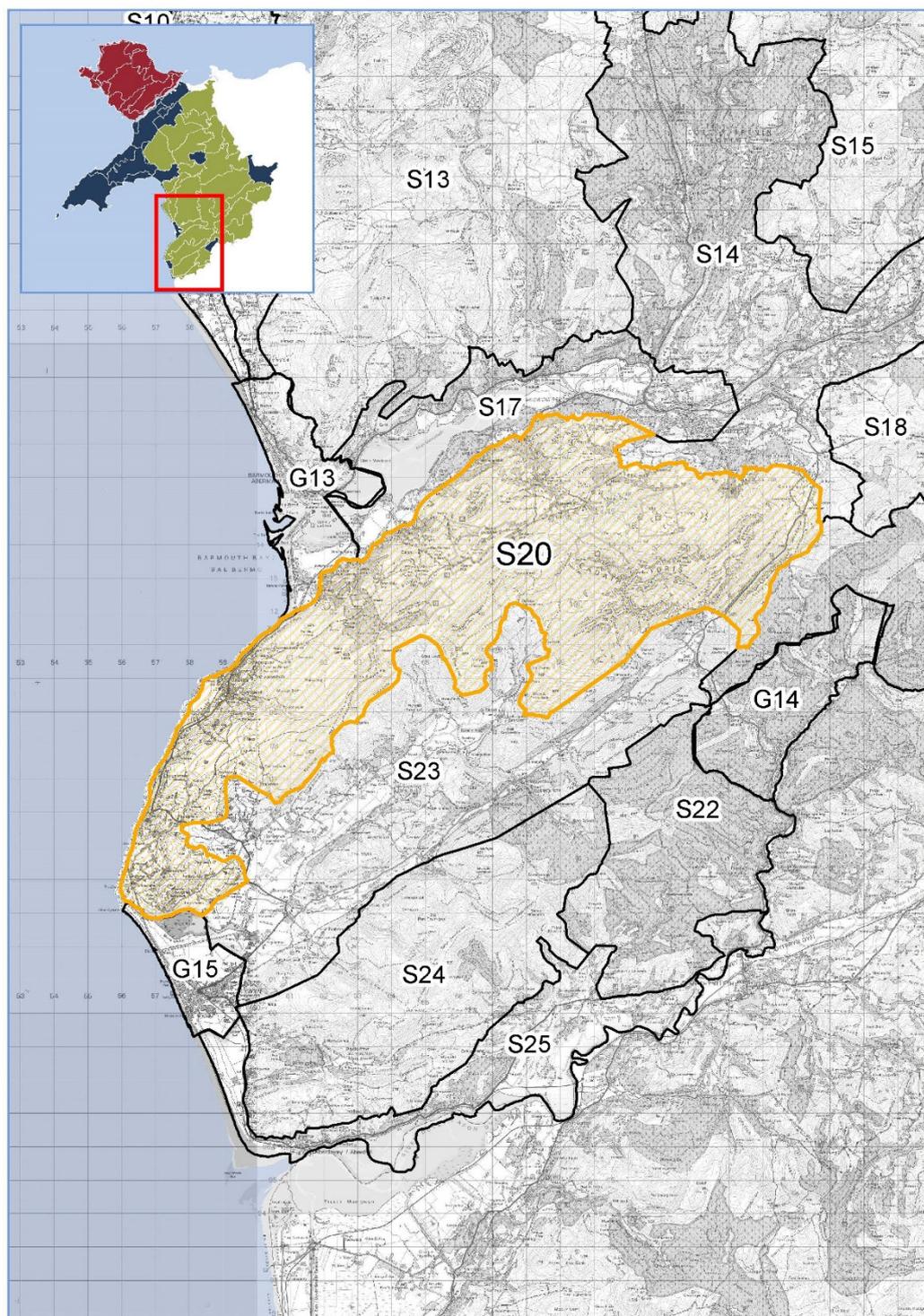
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This LCA comprises a vast and predominantly unsettled upland landscape with significant areas of open moorland and extensive coniferous plantations. Overt man-made influence within this LCA is limited to commercial plantations which are interspersed with a network of forest access tracks. The high scenic quality and distinctive mountainous character of this LCA imparts a high degree of sensitivity and has resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Parts of this area are also defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty. Although the plantations may offer potential screening opportunities and are indicative of lower visual sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments, the nature and arrangement of such development typically conflicts with the natural characteristics of many parts of this landscape.</p> <p>There is a high degree of intervisibility to and from important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park) and two nationally important Historic Landscapes which further increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the effects of development on views to and from Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB.	✓	✓	✓
Development should take account and conserve the special qualities of the Bala Hinterland Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Tanat Valley, Berwyn and Bala and Bala Lakesides Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes such as Sustrans regional route 12 and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓

S20 Cadair Idris



1:150,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises the uplands immediately south of the Mawddach Estuary extending south east to include the Cadair Idris massif and south west to the settlement of Llwyngwriol on the coast.

Key Characteristics

- Large scale, mountainous landscape extending to the coast
- Open summits and slopes contrast with well wooded valleys
- Cultural heritage interest

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (30%)/ <u>Large</u> (58%)/ Vast (12%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Typified by high hills and mountains extending to a narrow coastal strip. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (48%)/ <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (46%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (48%)/ <u>Rolling/Undulating</u> (44%)/ Hills/ Valleys (6%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Craggy open mountain summits and scarp slopes. Upland moorland surrounded by improved pastures . Small scale irregular fields are interspersed with woodland within the valleys and lower elevations including several large conifer plantations. VS Classification Level 3: Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic (21%)/ Barren/ Rocky Upland (11%)/ <u>Upland</u>	-			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<u>Moorland</u> (37%) / Wooded Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing (25%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (39%) / <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (47%) / <u>Mixture</u> (14%)					
Man-made Influences	Much of this LCA is unsettled. Development concentrated along a narrow coastal strip to the west and including the A493, the Cambrian Coast Railway, small settlements, a number of static caravan/chalet parks and a disused quarry, together with a couple of telecommunication masts and wind turbines. The A487 runs down the far eastern edge of the LCA. VS6: <u>Village</u> (23%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (25%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (62%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (100%)	↑			↑	↑
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Prominent landform within this LCA creates distinctive skylines.	↑			↑	
Visual	Movement With the exception of frequent road traffic along a narrow coastal strip to the far west and on the A487 to the east this landscape has a still character. VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (46%) / <u>Frequent</u> (30%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (24%)	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically open and exposed within this LCA and can be far reaching towards the coast and beyond the National Park. VS9: <u>Open</u> (49%) / <u>Exposed</u> (48%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Long distance routes including the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82), Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a further short link between the two ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way 	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The A493 and A487 tourist routes and the Cambrian Coast Railway The local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Barmouth SLA Upper Corris SLA Ardudwy Registered Historic Landscape Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape Hillforts Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not Applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS25: Strong (12%)/Moderate (88%) VS46: High (51%)/ Outstanding (46%) VS47: High (48%)/ Moderate (52%) VS48: High (60%)/ Moderate (29%)/ Outstanding (11%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>The tranquillity and remoteness of much of this landscape imparts a sense of wilderness in places.</p> <p>VS24: Wild (11%) / Exposed (62%) / Other (23%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82), Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and a further short link between the two.</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty. The LCA also includes areas defined within ELDP as Area of Undeveloped Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path also runs along the western edge of this LCA.</p> <p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (60%) / <u>Moderate</u> (29%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (11%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>High</u> (60%) / <u>Moderate</u> (29%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (11%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>High</u> (14%) / <u>Low</u> (6%) / <u>Moderate</u> (37%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (43%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>High</u> (16%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (83%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (100%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>Much of this LCA lies within the Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Small parts of the LCA also lie within the Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape and Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include hillforts.</p> <p>This area also includes hillforts.</p> <p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (46%) / <u>Moderate</u> (26%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (28%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>High</u> (52%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (45%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>High</u> (51%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (45%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸⁴ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this distinctive and highly scenic mountainous upland landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of the area is defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty. Away from the immediate coastline, the large scale landscape is typically unsettled and has few local roads; imparting a strong sense of tranquillity and remoteness and a sense of wilderness in places.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by the high cultural heritage value of the landscape and the presence of some prominent and distinctive skylines, formed by mountains and ridgelines such as Cadair Idris. There is a high degree of intervisibility with adjoining landscapes and far reaching views to the coast, and beyond the National Park.</p> <p>Sensitivity within localised western parts of this LCA is marginally reduced due to the influence of existing modern development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	2 no. domestic developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty and ELDP Undeveloped Coast.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this distinctive and highly scenic mountainous upland landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of the area is defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty. Away from the immediate coastline, the large scale landscape is typically unsettled and has few local roads; imparting a strong sense of tranquillity and remoteness and a sense of wilderness in places.</p> <p>Sensitivity to mobile mast development is further enhanced by the high cultural heritage value of the landscape and the presence of some prominent and distinctive skylines, formed by mountains and ridgelines such as Cadair Idris. There is a high degree of intervisibility with adjoining</p>

⁸⁴ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Very High	<p>landscapes and far reaching views to the coast, and beyond the National Park.</p> <p>Sensitivity within localised western parts of this LCA is marginally reduced due to the influence of existing modern development.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 no. mobile mast developments - 2 no. camouflaged mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	<p>Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty and EDLP Undeveloped Coast, (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.</p>

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

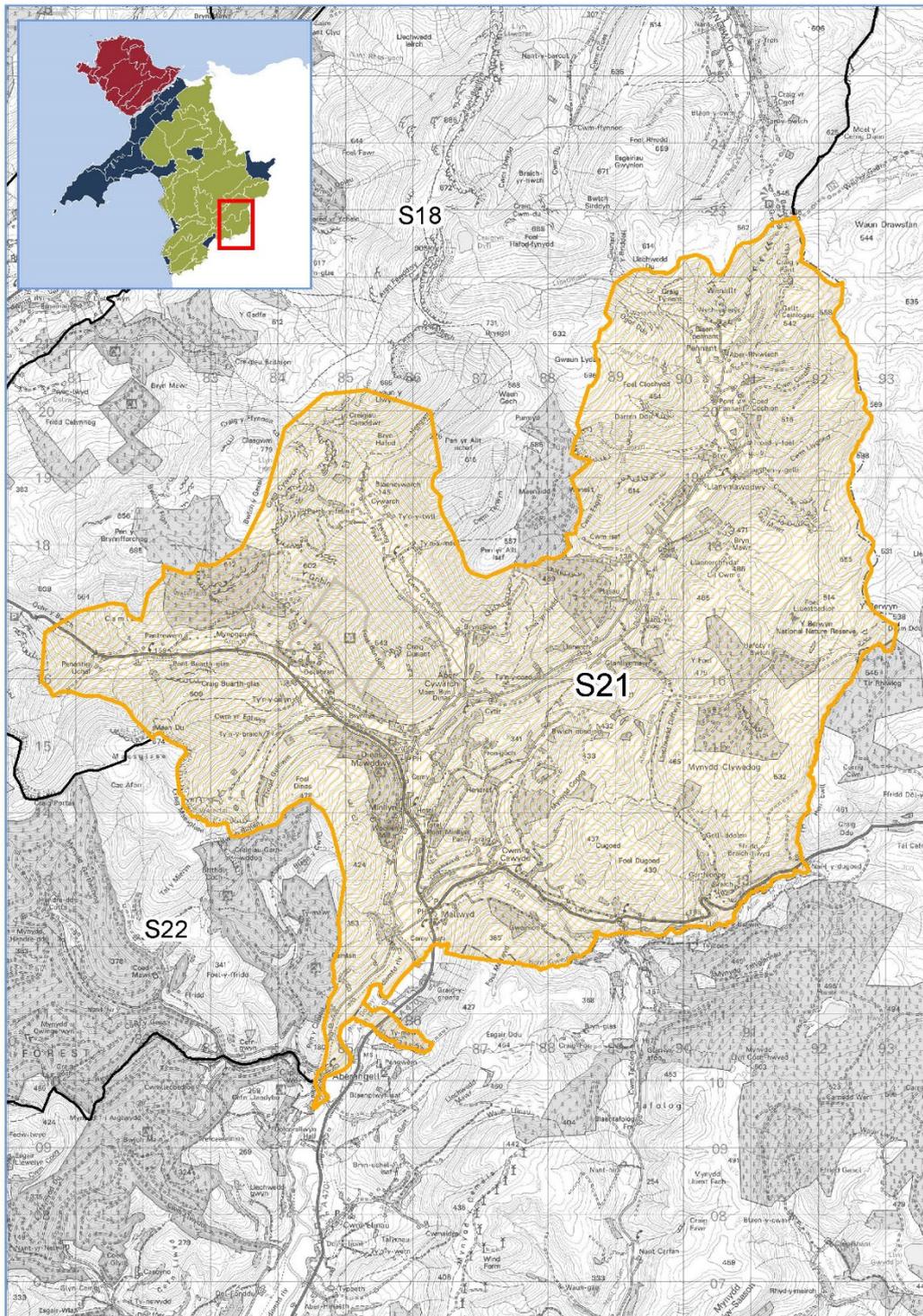
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>The natural characteristics of this distinctive and highly scenic mountainous upland landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of the area is defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty. Away from the immediate coastline, the large scale landscape is typically unsettled and has few local roads. The tranquillity and remoteness of much of this landscape imparts a sense of wilderness in places which increases sensitivity.</p> <p>This is further enhanced by the sensitive nature and numbers of visual receptors, a high degree of intervisibility and far reaching views to the coast, and beyond the National Park together with the high landscape and cultural heritage value of the landscape.</p> <p>Sensitivity within localised western parts of this LCA is marginally reduced due to the influence of existing static caravan/chalet parks.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. very large development - 1 no. large development - 1 no. small developments - 2 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of Barmouth and Upper Corris Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly seaward and towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Arddudwy, Vale of Dolgellau, Mawddach and Dysynni Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes such as the Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes Bangor to Fishguard (NCN route 82), route Lôn Las Cymru cycle route (NCN route 8) and a further short link between the two., and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting, in particular avoiding areas defined as ELDP Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on busy tourist routes such as the A493 and A487 and the Cambrian Coast Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features	✓	✓	

S21 Pen Dyffryn Dyfi



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA is located to the far south east of the National Park

Key Characteristics

- Large to vast in scale
- Network of steep sided U-shaped valleys between high hills and mountains

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a vast landscape. VS8: <u>Large</u> (38%) / <u>Vast</u> (62%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Landform is typified by steep sided U-shaped valleys between high hills and mountains . VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (62%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (37%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (62%) / <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> (37%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Extensive grazed upland moorland on hill summits and valley sides with some large coniferous plantations contrasting with a mosaic of small-scale pastures interspersed with mature hedgerow trees and clumps of woodland located along the valley floors. VS Classification Level 3: <u>Mosaic Lowland Valleys</u> (38%) / <u>Upland Moorland</u> (62%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (62%) / <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (38%)	-			-	↑
	Man-made Influences	Man-made influences are limited to the A470 and A458 main road corridors and include a number of mobile masts. Isolated properties and minor roads	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>are located along the valley floors and there is a concentration of development including static caravan/chalet parks around the historic village of Dinas-Mawddwy. The higher parts of this LCA remain unsettled and relatively devoid of human influence.</p> <p>VS6: Village (37%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (62%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (99%)</p>					
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Landform within this LCA creates some prominent skylines.	↑			↑	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Road traffic along the A458 and A470 brings frequent movement to the south west of this LCA, elsewhere along the valley floors movement is less frequent and the higher ground has a still character.</p> <p>VS18: Frequent (37%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (62%)</p>	-				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Much of this landscape is exposed with far reaching panoramic views over the National Park and across the Berwyn Mountains from areas of high ground. In contrast views within the deep valley floors are enclosed.</p> <p>VS9: Enclosed (37%) / <u>Exposed</u> (62%)</p> <p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Berwyn Mountains ▪ Short section of Sustrans regional route 12 runs along the boundary to the north east ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions and public rights of way ▪ The A458 and A470 tourist route ▪ The local road network 	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)						
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	<p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: <u>Strong</u> (63%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (37%)</p> <p>VS46: <u>High</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>High</u> (100%)</p>				
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity	<p>Typically a tranquil and relatively remote landscape.</p> <p>VS24: <u>Settled</u> (37%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (62%)</p>				
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas.</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical High-Outstanding LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (100%)</p> <p>VS49: <u>High</u> (62%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (38%)</p> <p>LH45: <u>High</u> (9%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (25%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (28%)/ <u>Low</u> (38%)</p> <p>LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (71%)/ (blank) (28%)</p> <p>GL31: <u>High</u> (5%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (95%)</p> <p>GL33: <u>High</u> (5%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (95%)</p>				
	Historic Value	<p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (67%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (32%)</p> <p>HL35: <u>High</u> (33%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (67%)</p> <p>HL40: <u>High</u> (100%)/</p>				

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸⁵ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This LCA is referred to in the 'Landscapes of Eryri Supplementary Planning Guidance' as a 'gateway' to the National Park; it comprises a network of steep sided valleys which lie between the high hills and mountains that form prominent and distinctive skylines throughout this area. Scattered settlement is limited to the relatively tranquil valley floors. Here modern development includes several existing telecommunications/mobile masts. In areas of higher ground the sense of remoteness, tranquillity and scenic quality of the landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in the designation of this landscape within Snowdonia National Park. Elevated parts are also defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>The expansive views afforded to and from this LCA and other areas of the National Park and the Berwyn Mountains enhances sensitivity further.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This LCA is referred to in the 'Landscapes of Eryri Supplementary Planning Guidance' as a 'gateway' to the National Park; it comprises a network of steep sided valleys which lie between the high hills and mountains that form prominent and distinctive skylines throughout this area. Scattered settlement is limited to the relatively tranquil valley floors together with associated modern development including several existing telecommunications/mobile masts which locally reduce sensitivity. In areas of higher ground the sense of remoteness, tranquillity and scenic quality of the landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in the designation of this landscape within Snowdonia National Park. Elevated parts are also defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>The expansive views afforded to and from this LCA and other areas of the National Park and the Berwyn Mountains further increases sensitivity in areas of higher more open ground.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

⁸⁵ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 3 no. mobile mast developments - 3 no. camouflaged mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

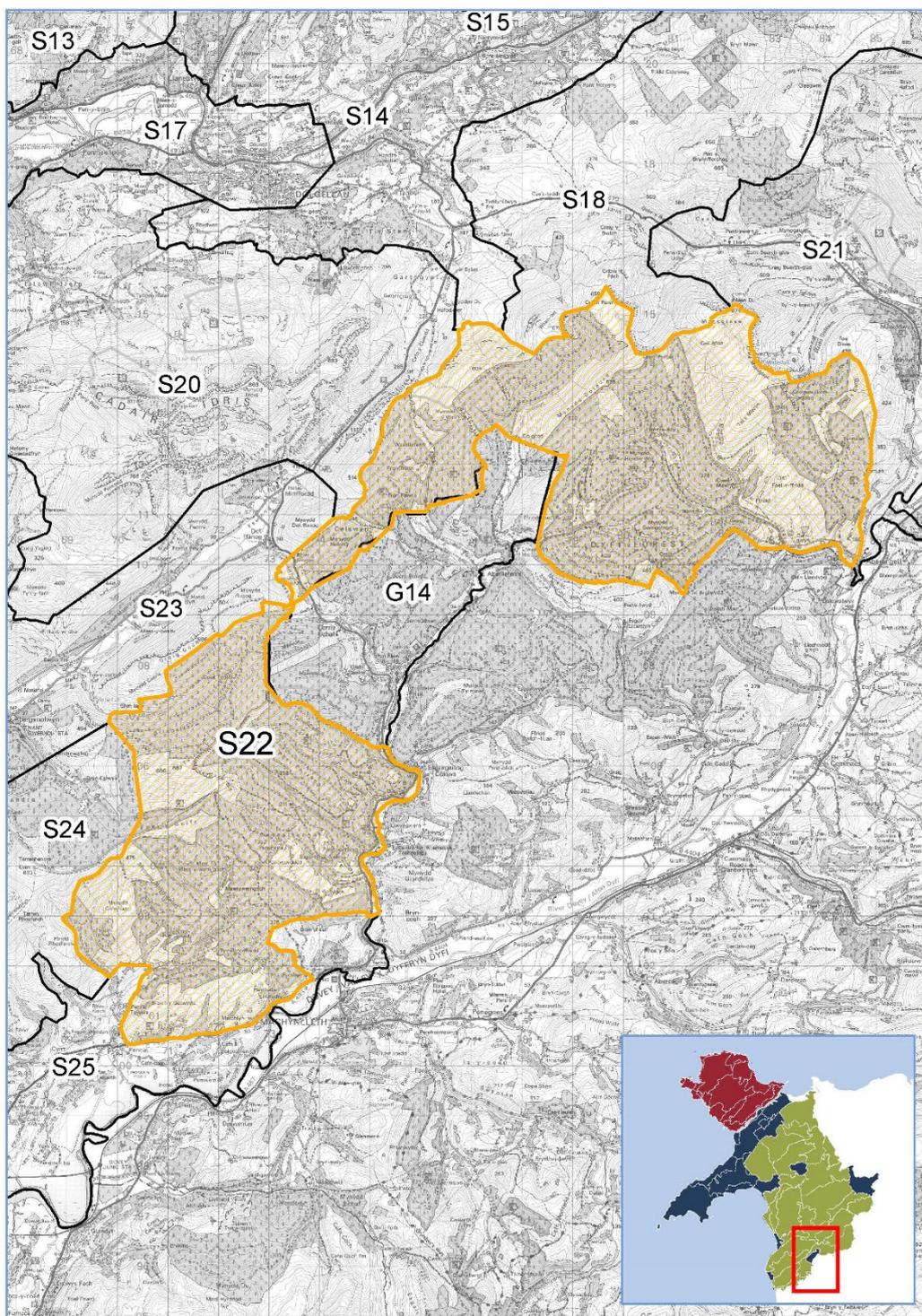
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This LCA is referred to in the 'Landscapes of Eryri Supplementary Planning Guidance' as a 'gateway' to the National Park; it comprises a network of steep sided valleys which lie between the high hills and mountains. Scattered settlement is limited to the relatively tranquil valley floors where associated modern development includes several telecommunications/mobile masts and existing static caravan/chalet parks which locally reduce sensitivity. In areas of higher ground the sense of remoteness and tranquillity and scenic quality of the landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in the designation of this landscape within Snowdonia National Park. Elevated parts are also defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>The expansive views afforded to and from this LCA and other areas of the National Park and the Berwyn Mountains further increases sensitivity in areas of more open higher ground.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. medium developments - 1 no. small developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity within the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty for static caravan/chalet park developments. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small to small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views.	✓	✓	
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features and important tourist destinations such as the Berwyn Mountains and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes such as Sustrans regional route 12 and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on the A458 and A470 tourist routes.			
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓

S22 Coedwig Dyfi



1:100,000



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Location and Extent

A heavily forested LCA which includes higher ground and upper valleys above Corris and Corris Uchaf. This landscape forms the central-southern fringe of the National Park.

Key Characteristics

- Predominantly a large scale landscape
- Complex landform of extremely steep valleys with rounded hill summits cutting through upland landscape
- Almost entirely covered in coniferous plantation

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable	
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Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (5%)/ <u>Large</u> (83%)/ Vast (12%)	↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable					
	Landform	Complex landform of extremely steep valleys with rounded hill summits cutting through upland landscape. VS Classification Level 2: Exposed Upland/Plateau (14%)/ <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (81%)/ Lowland Valleys (5%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (95%)/ Hills/ Valleys (5%)	↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Almost entirely covered in coniferous plantation with narrow bands of broadleaved woodland along valley sides. VS Classification Level 3: Upland Moorland (12%)/ <u>Wooded Hillside & Scarp Slopes</u> (81%) VS5: Open Land (14%) / Field Pattern/ Mosaic (5%) / <u>Woodland</u> (81%)	↓			↓	↓
	Man-made Influences	Man-made influences limited to disused quarries and tips. The most notable human influence in this LCA	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
	are the extensive areas of commercial coniferous plantation. VS6: Village (5%) / <u>No Settlements</u> (95%) VS27: Fair (96%)					
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Prominent landform within this LCA creates distinctive skylines.	↑			↑	
Movement	Occasional and infrequent movement within this landscape imparts a still character. VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (83%) / <u>Frequent</u> (5%) / <u>Infrequent</u> (12%)	↑				
Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	Views are typically confined within this LCA. Away from wooded areas and where landform and elevation allows, there are extensive views of the Dyfi Valley, Cadair Idris and Aran Ranges. VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (5%) / <u>Confined</u> (81%) / <u>Exposed</u> (14%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relatively few properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Long distance routes including the Welsh Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82), route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8) and regional route 80 ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ The A493 and A487 tourist routes ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A487 and A493 tourist routes ▪ The limited local road network 	-			-	-
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Corris SLA ▪ Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscapes ▪ Registered Park and Garden ▪ ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Includes areas defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty. Typically High LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: <u>Strong</u> (93%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (7%) VS46: <u>High</u> (14%)/ <u>Low</u> (81%) VS47: <u>High</u> (100%) VS48: <u>High</u> (100%)	↑			↑	↑
	Remoteness/Tranquillity An isolated landscape with a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity . VS24: <u>Settled</u> (5%)/ <u>Sheltered</u> (81%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (12%)	↑			↑	↑
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features) The entire LCA falls within the National Park. Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82) and route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8). Includes areas defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty. Typically High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding . VS50: <u>High</u> (19%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (81%) VS49: <u>High</u> (14%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (5%)/ <u>Low</u> (81%) LH45: <u>High</u> (32%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (19%)/ <u>Low</u> (49%) LH42: <u>Unassessed</u> (89%)/ (blank) (11%) GL31: <u>High</u> (66%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (34%) GL33: <u>High</u> (66%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (34%)	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation. HL38: <u>High</u> (100%) HL35: <u>Moderate</u> (99%) HL40: <u>High</u> (54%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (46%)	-			-	-

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸⁶ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This typically large scale, upland landscape is dominated by extensive coniferous plantations and the presence of sensitive visual receptors within the LCA is limited; thus indicative of a lowered landscape and visual sensitivity.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the fact that this landscape is largely devoid of modern development and has relatively few local roads which imparts a sense of tranquillity and remoteness. The area's inclusion within the National Park and its strong associations and intervisibility with highly valued, historic landscapes also increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented wind energy developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Area of Natural Beauty.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This typically large scale, upland landscape is dominated by extensive coniferous plantations. The presence of sensitive visual receptors within the LCA is limited and extensive areas of woodland provide potential to mitigate and accommodate such development; thus indicative of a lowered landscape and visual sensitivity.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the fact that this landscape is largely devoid of modern development and has relatively few local roads which imparts a sense of tranquillity and remoteness. The area's inclusion within the National Park and its strong associations and intervisibility with highly valued, historic landscapes also increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented mobile mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

⁸⁶ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

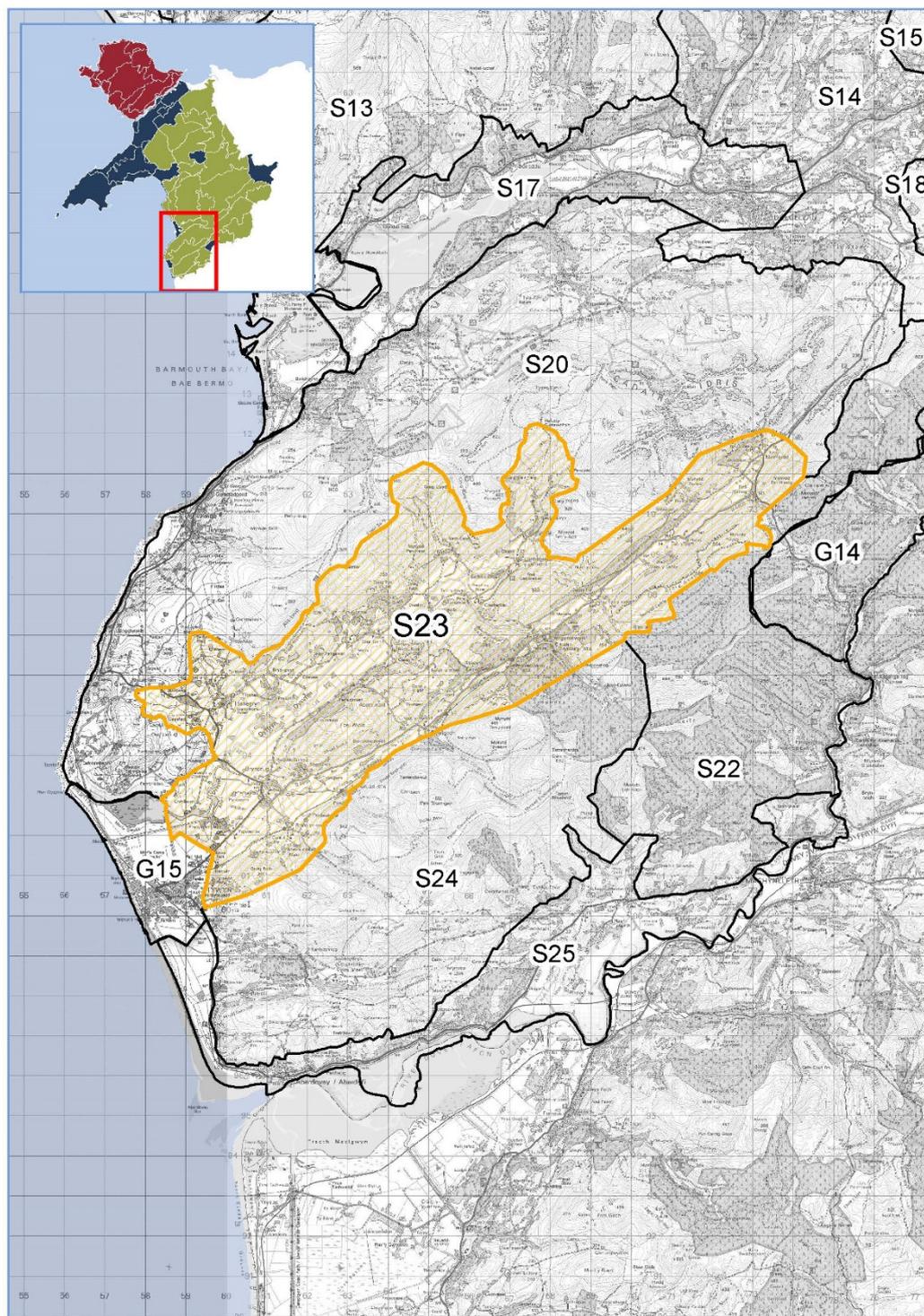
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This typically large scale, upland landscape is dominated by extensive coniferous plantations. The presence of sensitive visual receptors within the LCA is limited and extensive areas of woodland provide potential to mitigate and accommodate such development, thus indicative of a lowered landscape and visual sensitivity.</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the fact that this landscape is predominantly devoid of modern development and has relatively few local roads which imparts a sense of tranquillity and remoteness. The varied mountainous landform of the LCA and the area's inclusion within the National Park and its strong associations with highly valued, historic landscapes also increase sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	No existing or consented static caravan/chalet park developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments in particular within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of the Corris Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Vale of Dolgellau Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes such as Welsh Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82), route Lôn Las Cymru (NCN route 8), regional route 80, and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓

S23 Dyffryn Dysynni



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA includes the main section of the Dysynni Valley to include both its broad floodplain and the narrow valleys at its source at Llyn Mwyngil. It also includes the tributary valleys of the Afon Cadair and Nant-caw.

Key Characteristics

- Medium scale landscape
- Narrow, deep sided, U-shaped valley opening into the broad floodplain of the Afon Dysynni to the west.
- Varied landcover ranging from upland heath, coniferous and mixed plantation, and pastoral grassland to valley floors and saltmarsh and reed beds to mouth of the valley.

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable					
Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA						Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type					
							Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (61%)/ <u>Large</u> (28%)/ <u>Vast</u> (10%)						-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable										
	Landform	Narrow, deep sided, U-shaped valley opening into the broad floodplain of the Afon Dysynni to the west. To the east, the LCA is dominated by the glacial lake of Llyn Mwyngil, above which are steep slopes and upland plateau . VS Classification Level 2: <u>Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes</u> (28%)/ <u>Exposed Upland/ Plateau</u> (35%)/ <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (28%)/ <u>Flat Lowland/ Levels</u> (7%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (39%)/ <u>Levels</u> (8%)/ <u>Hills/ Valleys</u> (52%)						↑			↑	↑
	Landcover	Large blocks of coniferous and mixed plantation to valley sides with bands of broadleaved woodland . Heathland and grassland to the upper slopes and uplands above Llyn Mwyngil. Grazed open valley						-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>sides and mosaic of pastures and woodland blocks to valley floor. Landcover associated with coastal location such as saltmarsh and reed beds located to the west at the mouth of the valley.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Flat Open Lowland Farmland (7%)/ <u>Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing</u> (25%)/ <u>Open Lowland Valleys</u> (25%) / <u>Upland Grazing</u> (17%)/ <u>Upland Moorland</u> (18%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (36%)/ <u>Field Pattern/ Mosaic</u> (35%)/ <u>Mixture</u> (25%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>The influence of modern development is typically restricted to the valley floors and includes several relatively large villages (Abergynolwyn, Llanegryn and Brynchrug), Dispersed farmsteads and hamlets are scattered across the LCA and are linked by a network of connecting roads including the A493, A487 and the B4405. Other man-made influences comprise several small wind turbines, mobile masts, disused quarries and several tourist destinations including static caravan/chalet parks, caravan/camping sites and the Talylyn Railway. Extensive areas of coniferous and mixed plantation are also a dominant feature. Man-made influence is much less evident towards the tops of the hills/mountains.</p> <p>VS6: <u>Village</u> (12%) / <u>Scattered Rural/Farm</u> (46%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (40%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (99%)</p>	-			-	-
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	The landform of the steep sided valley which contrasts with the surrounding, sometimes prominent upland landform creates distinctive skylines .	↑			↑	

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Visual	Movement	Local and tourist traffic within and between settlements, particularly westwards towards Tywyn and the coast introduces frequent movement into the valley floor. Elsewhere, movement is much less frequent . VS18: Occasional (29%) / Frequent (14%) / Infrequent (58%)	-				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	Although views are typically enclosed within this LCA there are some vantage points from the head of the valley and from surrounding uplands from which long views are afforded towards the coast and over the National Park. VS9: Enclosed (52%) / Open (9%) / Exposed (35%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Long distance routes including Sustrans national cycle routes from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82) and a link to NCN route 8; Lôn Dysynni cycle route. ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions such as the Tallyllyn Railway ▪ Local public rights of way ▪ The A487 and A493 tourist routes ▪ The local road network 	↑			↑	↑
	Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Corris SLA ▪ Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Mawddach Registered Historic Landscape ▪ Hillfort ▪ Registered Park and Garden ▪ ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) ▪ ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
	Condition	Not applicable					

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character	<p>This landscape is highly scenic which is reflected in its designation as part of the National Park and parts of the LCA being defined within ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: Strong (17%)/ Weak (19%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (64%)</p> <p>VS46: High (31%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (56%)/ Outstanding (8%)</p> <p>VS47: <u>High</u> (46%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (53%)</p> <p>VS48: <u>High</u> (57%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (43%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Remoteness/ Tranquillity	<p>Away from the main roads there is a strong sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p> <p>VS24: Exposed; Wild (17%) / Sheltered (10%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (43%)/ Other (22%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle routes from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82) and a link to NCN route 8.</p> <p>Some parts of the LCA are defined as ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty and Undeveloped Coast.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding. VS50: <u>High</u> (39%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (60%) VS49: <u>High</u> (39%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (57%) LH45: <u>High</u> (19%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (68%)/ Outstanding (12%) LH42: <u>High</u> (40%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (60%) GL31: <u>Outstanding</u> (99%) GL33: <u>Outstanding</u> (99%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>Much of the LCA falls within the Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>This LCA also includes a Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p>This area also includes a hillfort.</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding. HL38: <u>High</u> (74%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (23%) HL35: <u>High</u> (63%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (19%)/ Outstanding (18%) HL40: <u>High</u> (89%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (8%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸⁷ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale, deep sided valley opens into the broad floodplain of the Afon Dysynni to the west. A limited amount of modern development, including wind turbines, telecommunications infrastructure and static caravan/chalet parks is restricted to the valley floors along which there is a localised reduction in sensitivity.</p> <p>This is overridden by the distinctive and scenic valley setting, dramatic skylines and the potential to experience far reaching views from higher ground. A high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes and a nationally important Historic Landscape and Registered Park and Garden together with a high degree of intervisibility from other important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park and the Wales Coast Path) greatly increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic to micro scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside of the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty and ELDP Undeveloped Coast.)

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale, deep sided valley opens into the broad floodplain of the Afon Dysynni to the west. A limited amount of modern development, including wind turbines, telecommunications infrastructure and static caravan/chalet parks is restricted to the valley floor along which there is a localised reduction in sensitivity.</p> <p>This is overridden by the distinctive and scenic valley setting, the potential to experience far reaching views from higher ground. A high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes and a nationally important Historic Landscape and Registered Park and Garden together with a high degree of intervisibility from other important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park and the Wales Coast Path) greatly increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	

⁸⁷ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 3 no. mobile mast developments - 2 no. camouflaged mast developments
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty and ELDP Undeveloped Coast, (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.) However, outside of these areas, there may be limited capacity for sensitively sited and well-designed mobile mast developments.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

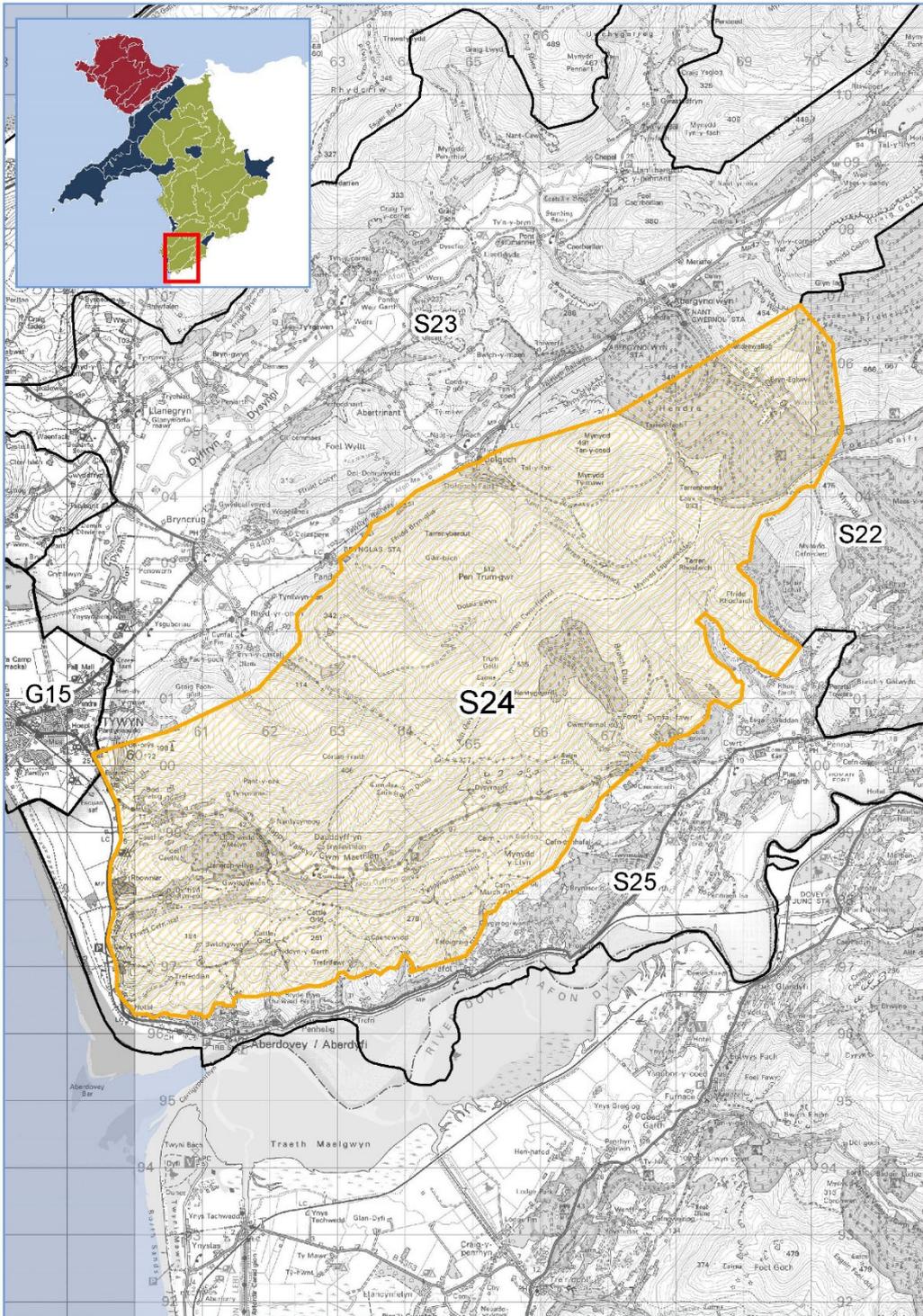
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale deep sided, U-shaped valley opens into the broad floodplain of the Afon Dysynni to the west. A limited amount of modern development, including wind turbines, telecommunications infrastructure and static caravan/chalet parks is restricted to the valley floor along which there is a localised reduction in sensitivity (in particular to the west within the wider part of the valley).</p> <p>This is counterbalanced by the distinctive and scenic valley setting, the potential to experience far reaching views from higher ground. A high number of sensitive visual receptors, nationally designated cycle routes and a nationally important Historic Landscape and Registered Park and Garden together with a high degree of intervisibility from other important landscape and cultural heritage features (including other parts of the National Park and the Wales Coast Path) increases sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. very large development - 1 no. large development - 3 no. medium development - 1 no. small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments. In particular within the ELDP Areas of Natural Beauty or ELDP Undeveloped Coast. However, outside of these areas, there may be capacity for a limited number of sensitively sited, well designed and very small to small scale static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of Corris Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly seaward views and those toward the uplands of the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Mawddach and Dysynni Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes such as Sustrans national cycle routes from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82), a link to NCN route 8; Lôn Dysynni cycle route and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid impacts upon the setting of areas defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on busy tourist routes such as the A493 and tourist attractions such as the Talylyn Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain intervisibility between hilltop cultural heritage features.	✓	✓	

S24 Y Tarrenau



1:75,000



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Location and Extent

This LCA comprises land rising from the coast and the Dyfi Estuary in the south west which form a series of uplands, dissected by the valley of the Cwm Maethlon, also known as ‘Happy Valley’.

Key Characteristics

- Typically a large scale landscape
- Upland area between the Dysynni and Dyfi valleys, including a ridge of peaks and broken by Cwm Maethlon.
- Large areas of upland heath with several large areas of coniferous plantation with more pastures in the lower ground.

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable					
Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA						Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type					
							Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
Landscape	Scale	Typically a large scale landscape. VS8: Medium (10%)/ Large (88%)						↓				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable										
	Landform	Upland landscape between the Dysynni and Dyfi valleys with areas of upland plateau and a ridge of peaks broken by the valley of Cwm Maethlon. VS Classification Level 2: <u>Exposed Upland/Plateau</u> (81%)/ Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (9%)/ Lowland Valleys (10%) VS4: <u>High Hills/Mountains</u> (89%)/ Hills/Valleys (10%)						-			-	↑
	Landcover	Extensive areas of heath and upland moorland dominate this LCA together with large coniferous plantations to the east. Bands of broadleaved woodland occupy the valley sides with improved pasture along valley floors.						↓			-	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	VS Classification Level 3: <u>Upland Grazing</u> (79%)/ Wooded Hillside & Scarp Slopes (9%)/ Wooded Lowland Valleys (9%) VS5: <u>Open Land</u> (81%)/ Field Pattern/ Mosaic (10%)/ Woodland (9%)					
Man-made Influences	Limited to some large areas commercial forestry in the north eastern half of the LCA and some of properties and static caravan/chalet parks concentrated in the south and west. Modern vertical development includes a small number of wind turbines and mobile masts to the south west. VS6: Scattered Rural/Farm (10%)/ <u>No Settlements</u> (89%) VS27: <u>Fair</u> (100%)	↑			↑	↑
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	The elevated nature and coastal setting of much of the LCA produces some prominent and distinctive skylines .	↑			↑	
Visual	Movement Movement is limited within this area which has a broadly still character . VS18: <u>Occasional</u> (88%) / Infrequent (12%)	↑				
	Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area) Views are typically exposed within this LCA. The elevated nature of much of the LCA allows extensive views over southern Snowdonia, including Rhinogau, Cadair Idris and south towards the Cambrian Mountains. VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (10%)/ <u>Confined</u> (9%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (81%) Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relatively few properties ▪ Snowdonia National Park ▪ Long distance routes including Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82) and regional route 80 ▪ Open Access Areas ▪ Local attractions such as the Talyllyn Railway 	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local public rights of way The A493 tourist route The restricted local road network 					
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)	These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Corris SLA Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
Condition	Not applicable					
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	Scenic Quality and Character Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty. Typical High LANDMAP evaluation. VS25: <u>Strong</u> (11%) / <u>Moderate</u> (89%) VS46: <u>High</u> (81%) / <u>Moderate</u> (10%) / <u>Low</u> (9%) VS47: <u>High</u> (90%) / <u>Moderate</u> (10%) VS48: <u>High</u> (99%)	↑			↑	↑
	Remoteness/Tranquillity The tranquillity and remoteness of much of this landscape imparts a sense of wilderness in places. VS24: <u>Settled</u> (9%) / <u>Wild</u> (79%) / <u>Sheltered</u> (10%)	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria		Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
			Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Value	Landscape Value (including landscape related features)	<p>The entire LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82).</p> <p>Much of the landscape is defined within ELDP as Area of Natural Beauty.</p> <p>Typical High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (81%) / <u>Moderate</u> (19%) VS49: <u>High</u> (81%) / <u>Moderate</u> (10%) / <u>Low</u> (9%) LH45: <u>High</u> (13%) / <u>Moderate</u> (74%) / <u>Low</u> (13%) LH42: <u>High</u> (9%) / <u>Unassessed</u> (91%) GL31: <u>High</u> (43%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (57%) GL33: <u>High</u> (43%) / <u>Outstanding</u> (57%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	Historic Value	<p>The central western part of the LCA falls within the Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (100%) HL35: <u>Moderate</u> (100%) HL40: <u>Moderate</u> (98%)</p>	-			-	-

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸⁸ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This large scale upland landscape is dominated by a simple landcover pattern formed by extensive areas of open heath and moorland; characteristics which are indicative of a lowered sensitivity.</p> <p>However, this is outweighed by the fact that this landscape is typically unsettled, has relatively few roads and is devoid of modern development. There is a sense of tranquillity, remoteness and, in some places, wilderness which has resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty and has strong associations and intervisibility with highly valued, historic landscapes which greatly increase sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This large scale upland landscape is dominated by extensive areas of open heath and moorland; characteristics which are indicative of a lowered sensitivity.</p> <p>However, this is outweighed by the fact that this landscape is typically unsettled, has relatively few roads and is devoid of modern development. There is a sense of tranquillity, remoteness and, in some places wilderness which has resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty and has strong associations and intervisibility with highly valued, historic landscapes which greatly increase sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	1 no. mobile mast development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for mobile mast developments (with the exception of a limited number of sensitively sited and well-designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

⁸⁸ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

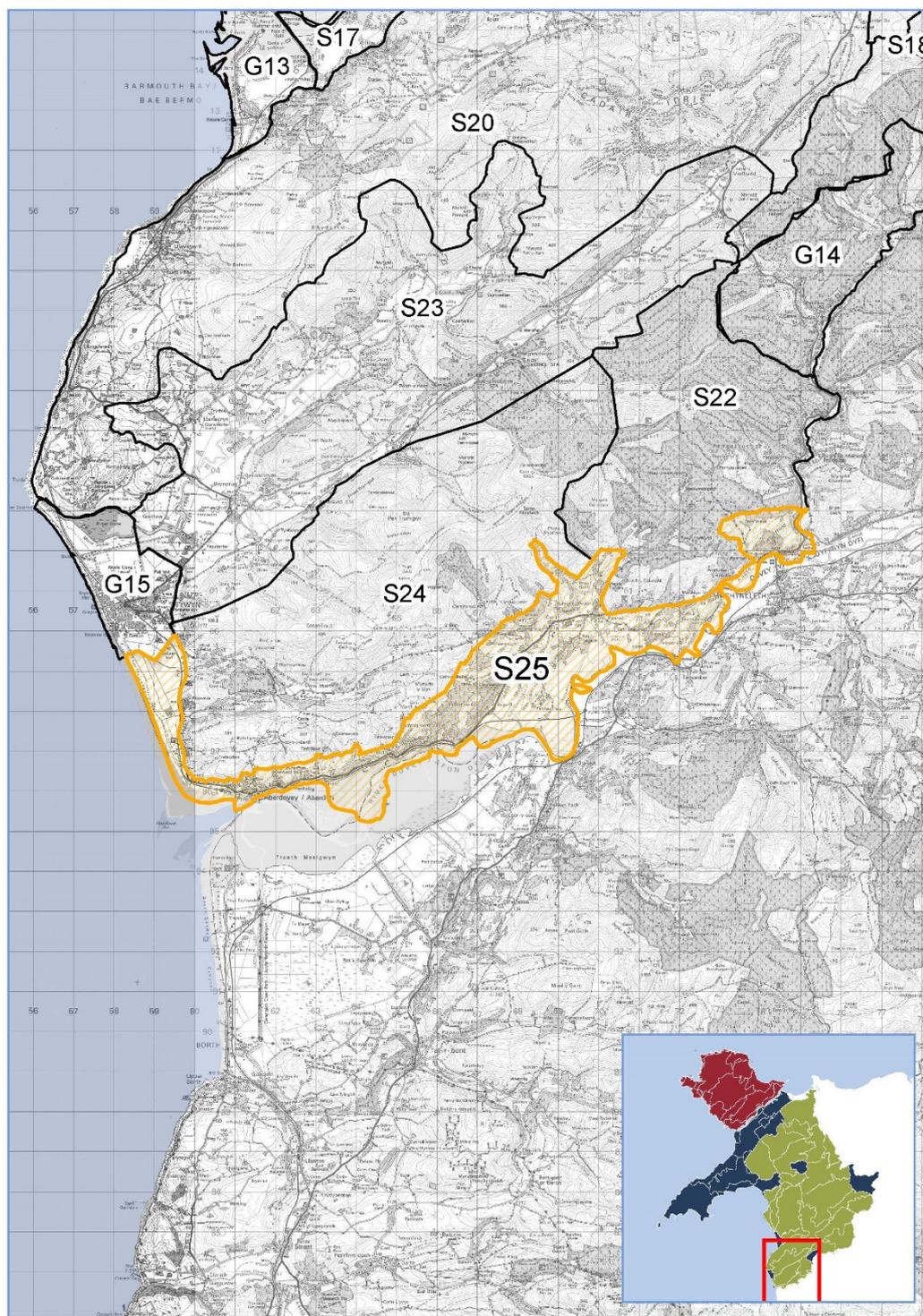
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Very High	<p>This large scale upland landscape is dominated by extensive areas of open heath and moorland with extensive views and intervisibility.</p> <p>This landscape is typically unsettled, has relatively few roads and is devoid of modern development all of which imparts a sense of tranquillity, remoteness and, in some places, wilderness which has resulted in its designation within Snowdonia National Park. Much of this area is also defined within the ELDP as an Area of Natural Beauty and has strong associations and intervisibility with highly valued, historic landscapes which greatly increases its sensitivity.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 no. large development - 1 no. medium development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks and Extensions
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of Corris Special Landscape Areas.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly seaward views and those towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of the Dysynni Registered Historic Landscapes.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes such as Sustrans national cycle route Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82), regional route 80 and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on busy tourist routes such as the A493 and tourist attractions such as the Talylyn Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid impacts upon the setting of areas defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓	✓

S25 Aber y Ddyfi



1:125,000



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Location and Extent

The LCA includes the northern banks of the Dyfi Estuary and the resort town of Aberdyfi, following the course of the river and its tributaries inland to the edge of the National Park just north of Machynlleth.

Key Characteristics

- Typically a medium scale landscape
- Predominantly comprised of the Dyfi and its floodplain with the land rising to the north and east into a landscape of undulating steep valleys
- Predominantly an estuarine landscape fringed by sand banks, mudflats and sand dunes, rising to wooded slopes to an upland landscape of woodland and rough grazing

Evaluation

The following table illustrates the appraisal of this Landscape Character Area (LCA) against sensitivity criteria which have been predetermined for the five different development types.

Key	Higher Sensitivity	↑	Medium Sensitivity	-	Lower Sensitivity	↓	Criterion/development type not applicable					
Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA						Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type					
							Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks	
Landscape	Scale	Typically a medium scale landscape. VS8: <u>Medium</u> (78%)/ <u>Large</u> (22%)						-				
	Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure	Not applicable										
	Landform	Narrow low lying coastal strip with a wide river floodplain inland. Land rises steeply to the north and east to a landscape of hills and valleys. VS Classification Level 2: Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes (9%)/ Exposed Upland / Plateau (8%) / <u>Lowland Valleys</u> (68%) / Coastal (12%) VS4: Levels (15%)/ High Hills/Mountains (8%) / <u>Hills/Valleys</u> (77%)						-			-	-
	Landcover	Varied landcover including estuarine sand banks, mudflats and sand dunes , with parts of the reclaimed floodplain forming grazing marsh. As the land rises, blocks of broadleaved and coniferous woodland are found on the slopes together with						↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>grazed open land. Inland and occupying lower areas there is a mosaic of pastures with hedgerows and hedgerow trees and small woodland blocks.</p> <p>VS Classification Level 3: Dunes & Dune Slack (11%)/ Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic (9%)/ <u>Open Lowland Valleys</u> (54%) / Upland Grazing (8%) / Wooded Lowland Valleys (14%) VS5: High Hills/Mountains (8%)/ <u>Hills/Valleys</u> (77%)/ Levels (15%)</p>					
Man-made Influences	<p>Man-made influences are concentrated around the popular resort town of Aberdyfi and the connecting transport links of the A493 and Cambrian Coast Railway.</p> <p>Development including a number of static caravan/chalet parks, mobile masts and a small wind turbine are located within this LCA, typically associated with the A493 corridor.</p> <p>VS6: Clustered (8%)/ <u>Village</u> (54%) / Scattered Rural/Farm (26%)/ No Settlements (12%) VS27: <u>Good</u> (57%)/ <u>Fair</u> (42%)</p>	-			-	↓
Settlement Pattern	Not applicable					
Skylines and Settings	Broad estuarine setting with landform rising steeply behind it creating distinctive skylines .	↑			↑	
Visual	<p>Movement</p> <p>Frequent and sometimes constant movement is concentrated within the settlements of Aberdyfi and Pennal and along the A493. Vehicles and trains travelling along the connecting network of local roads and the Cambrian Coast Railway also introduce movement. Elsewhere, inland and in parts of the estuary, the landscape is relatively still.</p> <p>VS18: Constant (14%) / Occasional (12%) / <u>Frequent</u> (66%) / Infrequent (9%)</p>	-				
	<p>Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>Whilst the landscape is typically enclosed by the steep sided landform to the north of the estuary, far reaching views are afforded from high points over the Dyfi estuary to the coast and inland to southern Snowdonia and Ceredigion.</p> <p>VS9: <u>Enclosed</u> (65%)/ <u>Open</u> (27%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (8%)</p>	↑			↑	↑

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
	<p>Typical receptors include occupiers, users and visitors to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties Snowdonia National Park Long distance routes including Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN Route 8), route from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82) and regional route 80 Open Access Areas Local attractions and public rights of way The A493 and A487 tourist routes and Cambrian Coast Railway The A487 and A493 tourist routes The local road network 					
	<p>Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each Landscape Character Area)</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snowdonia National Park Corris SLA Dysynni Valley Registered Historic Landscape Registered Parks and Gardens ELDP Area of Natural Beauty (Development Policy 2) ELDP Morfa Harlech & Morfa Dyffryn Area of Undeveloped Coast (Development Policy 2) 	↑			↑	
	Condition	Not applicable				
Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential	<p>Scenic Quality and Character</p> <p>This coastal landscape is a distinctive and picturesque as reflected by the area being designated as part of the National Park. + Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation.</p> <p>VS25: Strong (5%) / <u>Moderate</u> (95%) VS46: High (26%) / <u>Moderate</u> (70%) VS47: <u>High</u> (73%) / Moderate (24%) VS48: <u>High</u> (81%) / Moderate (16%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Remoteness/Tranquillity</p> <p>The main roads/railway and activity around settlements, particularly those of Aberdyfi and Pennal, locally reduce the sense of tranquillity. Elsewhere to higher ground and on parts of the estuary there remains a sense of remoteness and tranquillity.</p>	-			-	-

Sensitivity Criteria	Characteristics of the LCA	Assessment of Landscape Sensitivity to each Development Type				
		Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/ Chalet Parks
	VS24: <u>Settled</u> (54%)/ <u>Wild</u> (8%) / <u>Spiritual</u> (7%)/ <u>Exposed</u> (9%)/ <u>Other</u> (11%)/ <u>Safe</u> (8%)					
Value	<p>Landscape Value (including landscape related features)</p> <p>This LCA falls within the National Park.</p> <p>Nationally designated features also include Open Access Areas and Sustrans national cycle route from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82).</p> <p>Includes area defined within ELDP as Area of Undeveloped Coast.</p> <p>The Wales Coast Path also runs along the western edge of this LCA.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>VS50: <u>High</u> (80%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (17%) VS49: <u>High</u> (21%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (77%) LH45: <u>High</u> (32%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (45%)/ <u>Low</u> (20%) LH42: <u>High</u> (5%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (91%) GL31: <u>High</u> (35%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (62%) GL33: <u>High</u> (38%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (62%)</p>	↑			↑	↑
	<p>Historic Value</p> <p>The northern coastal edge is within the Dysyni Valley Registered Historic Landscape.</p> <p>Typical Moderate-High LANDMAP evaluation with some areas Outstanding.</p> <p>HL38: <u>High</u> (57%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (29%)/ <u>Unassessed</u> (11%) HL35: <u>High</u> (40%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (55%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (5%) HL40: <u>High</u> (39%)/ <u>Moderate</u> (56%)/ <u>Outstanding</u> (5%)</p>	-			-	-

Overall Landscape Sensitivity and Strategy

The following tables provide an overall summary of sensitivity in relation to the relevant development types⁸⁹ (based on the LCA sensitivity evaluation table), together with the proposed landscape strategy:

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale coastal/estuarine landscape lies entirely within the National Park. The area is distinctive and picturesque and has prominent skylines created by the valley sides. There is a varied pattern of landcover including man-made influences which are centred on main settlements and transport routes. Parts of the immediate coastline are comparatively undeveloped defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast.</p> <p>Sensitivity to wind energy development is further enhanced due to the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors and intervisibility between this and other highly valued landscapes, including Registered Historic Landscapes and other parts of the National Park.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 1 no. small development - 1 no. domestic development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no capacity for wind energy developments (with the exception of a limited number of domestic scale wind energy developments which should relate well to existing settlement/buildings and which are outside ELDP Undeveloped Coast.)

⁸⁹ NOTE: This LCA falls outside the study areas for field-scale solar PV energy and 400 kV overhead line developments, therefore there are no strategies for these types of development.

MOBILE MASTS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
High	<p>This medium scale coastal/estuarine landscape lies within the National Park. The area is distinctive and picturesque and prominent skylines created by the valley sides. There is a varied pattern of landcover including man-made influences which are centred on main settlements and transport routes. Parts of the immediate coastline are comparatively undeveloped and defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast.</p> <p>Sensitivity to mobile mast development is further enhanced due to the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors and intervisibility between this and other highly valued landscapes, including Registered Historic Landscapes and other parts of the National Park.</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 7 no. mobile mast developments - 1 no. camouflaged mast development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no further capacity for mobile mast developments in particular within ELDP Undeveloped Coast (with the exception of limited well sited and designed camouflaged mobile masts.)

STATIC CARAVAN/ CHALET PARKS AND EXTENSIONS

OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Medium-High	<p>This medium scale coastal/estuarine landscape lies within the National Park. Blocks of broadleaved and coniferous woodland exert an influence over parts of this landscape and, together with strongly undulating landform, confine views throughout much of the LCA. This offers potential screening opportunities which are indicative of lower visual sensitivity to static caravan/chalet park developments. Man-made influences on this landscape include several existing static caravan/chalet parks concentrated around main settlements and transport routes; thus locally reducing sensitivity. However, parts of the immediate coastline are comparatively undeveloped and as such are defined within the ELDP as Undeveloped Coast.</p> <p>Sensitivity is further enhanced by the area's distinctive and picturesque qualities, together with the presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors and intervisibility between this and other highly valued landscapes (including Registered Historic Landscapes and other parts of the National Park including those defined within ELDP as an Area of Undeveloped Coast).</p>
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY	
Landscape Objective	Landscape Protection
Baseline Development	- 2 no. large developments - 3 no. medium development - 2 no. small developments - 1 no. very small development
Indicative Overall Capacity	Typically no further capacity for static caravan/chalet park developments.

Guidance

The table below provides LCA specific guidance notes on siting developments to minimise adverse effects.

Guidance Notes on Siting	Wind Energy	Field-Scale Solar PV Energy	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Conserve the natural beauty of Snowdonia National Park, its special qualities and its wider setting. Consider the effects of development on views to and from Snowdonia National Park. The effect of development outside the National Park boundary needs to be considered using visualisations. Development must avoid creating a sense of unacceptable encroachment, encirclement, prominence, or discordance, individually or cumulatively on the National Park.	✓	✓	✓
Development should respect and conserve the character and setting of the landscape defined within the ELDP as Areas of Natural Beauty, in particular areas valued for their remote and wild qualities.	✓	✓	✓
Conserve the special qualities of Corris Special Landscape Area.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting developments on open skylines or hillsides and protect key views, particularly seaward views and those towards the uplands of the National Park.	✓	✓	
Maintain the integrity of Dysynni Registered Historic Landscape.	✓	✓	✓
Protect the settings of designated and other important cultural heritage features such as Registered Parks and Gardens; and the key views to and from these features.	✓	✓	✓
Consider views from residential receptors, particularly those that already have views of existing modern vertical developments; siting of additional vertical development should aim to avoid cumulative visual effects.	✓	✓	
Ensure that developments are clearly separate so that their effect on the perception of the landscape remains local and there is no collective / cumulative defining influence on the experience of the landscape. This requires a particularly careful consideration of the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on popular routes such as Wales Coast Path, Sustrans national cycle routes Lôn Las Cymru (NCN Route 8), route from Bangor to Fishguard (NCN 82), regional route 80, a further short link between the two and other valued local viewpoints – use visualisations to assess sequential views (including views to existing development).	✓	✓	✓
Site smaller development close to existing buildings to avoid the proliferation of development within the less developed parts of this LCA.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid siting any development along the coastline and its immediate setting, in particular avoiding areas defined as ELDP Undeveloped Coast.	✓	✓	✓
Avoid cumulative effects on busy tourist routes such as the A493 and Cambrian Coast Railway.	✓	✓	✓
Consider the locations of existing and proposed development when planning a new development to avoid incremental cumulative effect.	✓	✓	✓
As well as taking into account views from elevated isolated properties, siting should take into consideration important views from the more densely populated settlement of Aberdyfi. The town is a popular visitor destination and has a strong connection with the landscape in which it is situated.	✓	✓	✓

SECTION 5: GENERIC GUIDANCE ON SITING & DESIGN

- 5.1 The following notes are included to provide additional generic guidance on the siting and design of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments to aid the integration of such developments into the landscape. These should be read in conjunction with the more specific guidance notes that are included for each LCA (refer to Section 4).
- 5.2 This sensitivity and capacity study provides the basis for identifying the key landscape characteristics of the LCA and the wider area. It also identifies the sensitivity of the landscape to energy, telecommunications and/or tourism developments and any special qualities which should be protected. However, this is a strategic study and in all cases, applications must be considered on their individual merits and detailed analysis is required to fully appreciate the nature of the development, site and its surroundings.
- 5.3 The initial stages in planning any development involve the identification of an appropriate type/scale of development and the consideration and selection of a suitable site in order to minimise landscape and visual effects. For example, choosing an appropriate site may help mitigate the visual impact of a development even before the detailed design stage. As a starting point, the sensitivity assessment of the relevant LCA should be consulted for each potential development to gain an understanding of the baseline landscape character and key sensitivities to that particular type of development.
- 5.4 The next step is to consult the strategy for that type of development within the LCA to understand whether there may be scope to accommodate it and, if so, where it may best be located. The specific siting and design guidelines produced for each LCA may also assist in the selection of a suitable site and type/scale of development. At this point it is also important to understand how the baseline situation with regard to that particular development may have changed through consultation with the local planning authority (this is particularly important where there may be a need to consider potential cumulative effects (refer Section 6)).
- 5.5 It is important to note that there are often local variations in the character and sensitivity of each LCA, therefore a site specific analysis should be undertaken to identify any potential landscape and/or visual issues at any given location. As part of this it will be important to consider potential impact on the following:
- Landscape character (particularly key characteristics)
 - Key views
 - Special qualities (of landscape designations/remoteness/tranquillity etc.)
- 5.6 Impacts on landscape character are likely to be related to the following:

Potential Impacts on Landscape Character	Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Scale of the landscape – whether it is small or large and whether the proposed development is of an appropriate scale	✓		✓		
Field Pattern, Scale and Enclosure – whether field scale is large or small and patterns are simple or complex and how the proposed development relates or conflicts with this together with the sense of enclosure.		✓			
Landform – whether landform is complex or simple and how the nature of the proposed development relates to this or conflicts with it. Development can dominate small scale or intricate landform if not carefully sited.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Landcover – how the proposed developments fits in or conflicts with the pattern of the land cover and what sensitive features may be at risk.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Potential Impacts on Landscape Character	Wind Energy	Field Scale Solar PV Energy	400 kV Overhead Line	Mobile Masts	Static Caravan/Chalet Parks
Man-made Influences – does the proposed development introduce an uncharacteristic man-made influence into a landscape?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Settlement Pattern – 400 kV overhead lines cannot easily deviate around individual or small groups of properties			✓		
Skylines and settings – vertical structures such as wind turbines, pylons and mobile masts can affect the simplicity of skyline or ridges even if located below such features	✓		✓		

Useful Sources of Information

5.7 The following guidance documents are a useful source of information to assist the sensitive siting and design of renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments:

Wind Energy Development

- *Design Commission for Wales (2012) Designing Wind Farms in Wales*
- *Natural Resources Wales (2013) LANDMAP Information Guidance Note 3: Using LANDMAP for Landscape and Visual Assessment of Onshore Wind Turbines*
- *Scottish Natural Heritage (1996, edited in 2000) Guidelines on the Environmental Impacts of Windfarms and Small Scale Hydroelectric Schemes*
- *Scottish Natural Heritage (2009) Siting and Designing Wind Farms in the Landscape, Version 1*
- *EN-1, Section 4.5 sets out the principles for good design that should be applied to all energy infrastructure*
- *EN-1, Section 5.9 covers generic landscape and visual impacts of energy projects*
- *Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition, Routledge (GLVIA3)*
- *The Landscape Institute, Advice Note 01/11: Photography and Photomontage in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, March 2011*

Field-Scale Solar PV Energy Development

- *Natural England, Solar parks: maximising environmental benefits, Natural England Technical Information Note TIN101 (2011), First Edition*
- *EN-1, Section 4.5 sets out the principles for good design that should be applied to all energy infrastructure*
- *EN-1, Section 5.9 covers generic landscape and visual impacts of energy projects*
- *Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition, Routledge (GLVIA3)*
- *The Landscape Institute, Advice Note 01/11: Photography and photomontage in landscape and visual impact assessment, March 2011*

400 kV Overhead Lines

- *Holford Rules - with National Grid Company (NGC) 1992 and Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Limited (SHETL) 2003 notes (Guidelines for the routeing of new overhead lines, the Holford Rules were originally set out in 1959 by Lord Holford, which have been reviewed and supplemented and form the basis for the approach to routeing new overhead lines) – Refer to Appendix 10)*
- *EN-1, Section 4.5 sets out the principles for good design that should be applied to all energy infrastructure*
- *EN-1, Section 5.9 covers generic landscape and visual impacts of energy projects*
- *EN-5, Section 2.7 sets out good design in respect of landscape and visual amenity (refers back to the Holford Rules)*
- *George A. Gouly (1989) Visual Amenity Aspects of High Voltage Transmission*
- *Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition, Routledge (GLVIA3)*
- *The Landscape Institute, Advice Note 01/11: Photography and photomontage in landscape and visual impact assessment, March 2011*

Mobile Masts

- *Welsh Assembly Government, Planning Policy Wales, Technical Advice Note (TAN) 19: Telecommunications (2002)*
- *Turnbull Jeffrey Partnership (2002). Siting and Design Guidelines for Mobile Telecommunications Developments in the Highlands and Islands. Scottish Natural Heritage Commissioned Report No. F00AA508*
- *Code of Best Practice on Mobile Network Development in England (2013) – Appendix B Siting and Design Principles (produced jointly by representatives of central and local government and the mobile phone industry, builds on Government guidance and operators' commitments)*
- *Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition, Routledge (GLVIA3)*
- *The Landscape Institute, Advice Note 01/11: Photography and photomontage in landscape and visual impact assessment, March 2011*

Static Caravan/Chalet Park Development

- *Welsh Assembly Government, Planning Guidance (Wales), Technical Advice Note (TAN) 13: Tourism (1997)*
- *Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition, Routledge (GLVIA3)*
- *The Landscape Institute, Advice Note 01/11: Photography and photomontage in landscape and visual impact assessment, March 2011*

5.8 In addition to the above sources of information Cadw has also produced a number of useful publications. Those particularly relevant to this study are as follows:

- *Caring for Coastal Heritage http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/docs/cadw/publications/Caring_for_Coastal_Heritage_EN_CY.pdf*
- *Caring for Historic Landscapes http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/docs/cadw/publications/Caring_for_Historic_Landscapes_EN_CY.pdf*

SECTION 6: GUIDANCE FOR ASSESSING CUMULATIVE LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL EFFECTS

- 6.1 Although this landscape sensitivity and capacity study has identified that parts of the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park may be able to accommodate renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism developments, care must be taken to prevent unacceptable (significant) cumulative landscape and visual effects arising either from multiple developments of the same type or multiple developments of different types.
- 6.2 This area of landscape and visual assessment is evolving and there is no prescribed approach since the issues depend on the specific characteristics of both the proposed developments and the location in which they are to be sited. It is not possible to provide generic guidance on numbers or distances between proposed developments and each proposal should be considered on a case-by-case basis. This is normally achieved through a cumulative landscape and visual assessment as part of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process. The requirement for consideration of cumulative landscape and visual effects is a matter for agreement at the scoping stage of the assessment through discussion with the relevant planning authority and consultation bodies.
- 6.3 The results of an assessment of the cumulative landscape and visual effects of any development should be reviewed against the landscape strategy and objective for the LCA/LCAs within which it lies, as well as those for neighbouring LCAs. This is important to determine whether or not the proposed development (in combination with/or addition to the various other developments) fits with the landscape strategy identified for the LCA or whether it would conflict with the strategy.

Definition of Cumulative Landscape and Visual Effects

- 6.4 The assessment of cumulative landscape and visual effects⁹⁰ deals with the effects of a proposed development interacting with the effects of other development(s) (associated with or separate to the proposed development). This is in recognition that the overall combined landscape and visual effects of a number of similar developments concentrated in one area may be greater than the sum of the effects from the same developments if considered individually.
- 6.5 GLVIA3⁹¹ (para. 7.3) refers to the Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) definition of cumulative effects as set out in their 2012 paper⁹²:
- **Cumulative effects** are 'the additional changes caused by a proposed development in conjunction with other similar developments or as the combined effect of a set of developments, taken together' (SNH, 2012: 4);
 - **Cumulative landscape effects** are effects that 'can impact on either the physical fabric or character of the landscape, or any special values attached to it' (SNH, 2012: 10); and
 - **Cumulative visual effects** are effects that can be caused by combined visibility, which 'occurs where the observer is able to see two or more developments from one view-point' and/or sequential effects which 'occur when the observer has to move to another viewpoint to see different developments' (SNH, 2012: 11). (GLVIA3 Paragraph 7.3)

Requirement to Assess Cumulative Landscape and Visual Effects

- 6.6 The assessment of cumulative effects is set within the framework of EIA⁹³. EIA is a methodical approach to undertaking an assessment of the likely significant impacts that a proposed project may have on the environment; thus enabling decision makers to take into account these impacts when considering applications.
- 6.7 EIA is always required for developments which fall within Schedule 1 of the Regulations⁹⁴; however, none of the developments considered in this study fall within this category.

90 Alternatively referred to as cumulative landscape and visual impact assessment (CLVIA)

91 Landscape Institute and Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition, Routledge

92 SNH (2012) Assessing the cumulative impact of onshore wind energy development, Inverness: Scottish Natural Heritage

93 The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011, consolidate previous regulations and set out the current requirements for meeting European Directive 85/337/EEC.

94 EIA Regulations 2011 (see footnote 2)

- 6.8 EIA may be required for developments that are located in, or partly in a 'sensitive area' or fall within Schedule 2 of the Regulations and exceed the relevant thresholds. Schedule 2 developments includes, energy producing installations such as wind farms, and tourist development with the following thresholds:
- The threshold for wind energy developments is more than 2 turbines, or where the hub height of any turbine or any other structure exceeds 15 metres (Regulation 2(1))
 - The threshold for tourist development in relation to **static caravan/chalet parks** (permanent camp sites and caravan sites) is where the area of the development exceeds 1 hectare, or where the area of development exceeds 0.5 hectare if it is a permanent caravan site with more than 200 pitches⁹⁵
- 6.9 Where a development would exceed these thresholds the proposal needs to be screened by the planning authority to determine whether significant effects are likely and hence whether an EIA is required. Projects listed in Schedule 2 which are located in, or partly in, a sensitive area also need to be screened, even if they are below the thresholds or do not meet the criteria.
- 6.10 **Solar PV development** is not expressly listed in Schedule 2, however they may fall within the energy industry list under 'industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water', the threshold for which is where the area of development exceeds 0.5 hectare. In the absence of a definitive guide it is suggested the decision would lie with the local planning authority (or the Secretary of State in the case of an appeal) to determine whether or not a development of this nature would require an EIA.
- 6.11 **Mobile mast development (telecommunications infrastructure)** is also not listed in Schedule 2 and therefore is outside the Regulations; however, such developments may require planning permission particularly within the National Park. The local planning authority would then decide what level of assessment is required.
- 6.12 **A 400 kV overhead line** falls within the definition of a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' (NSIP) under Sections 14 (1)(b) and 16 (1)(b) of the Planning Act. This is because it is a proposal for the development and operation of an electric line above ground that will have a voltage capacity at or above 132 kV. As such, a Development Consent is required to authorise the Proposed Development under Section 31 of the Planning Act (Ref. 1-15). Development Consent for an NSIP is granted by the Secretary of State (SoS) by means of an 'Order' (a Development Consent Order, or DCO). A DCO can have the effect of granting planning permission in addition to a range of other consents and authorisations for a development. An application for Development Consent (normally with a supporting EIA) is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Following acceptance of the application, PINS make an examination of the submitted documents and report their recommendations to the SoS. The SoS subsequently determines whether to grant a DCO for the NSIP. PINS consider DCO applications in accordance with relevant National Policy Statements (NPS). The overarching Energy NPS (EN-1) (Ref. 1-16) and the Electricity Networks Infrastructure NPS (EN-5) (Ref. 1-17) are relevant to the proposals and support the need for energy infrastructure in principle.
- 6.13 If a proposed development requires an EIA, then Schedule 4, Part 1 of the EIA Regulations states that: 'a description of the likely significant effects of the Development on the environment, which should cover the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the development.....'⁹⁶
- 6.14 Circular 02/99, which provides guidance on the Regulations, states: 'in judging.... the effects of a development....local planning authorities should always have regard to the possible cumulative effects with any existing or approved development' (paragraph 46).
- 6.15 Once it has been established that an EIA is required, a scoping opinion should be sought from the local planning authority to determine what topics should be considered within the EIA; this will determine whether or not a landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA) and assessment of cumulative landscape and visual effects is required. Detailed assessments of cumulative landscape and visual effects are required when it is considered that the proposal could result in a significant cumulative effect which could influence the eventual planning decision.

95 <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/environmental-impact-assessment/considering-and-determining-planning-applications-that-have-been-subject-to-an-environmental-impact-assessment/annex/>

96 'Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments', Scottish Natural Heritage, March 2012

- 6.16 It is important to note that GLVIA3 advocates that whilst cumulative landscape and visual effects assessment can relate to any form of development, to keep the task reasonable and proportional it is important to focus on likely significant effects; ‘the emphasis on EIA is on likely significant effects rather than on comprehensively cataloguing of every conceivable effect that might occur’⁹⁷.
- 6.17 Significance is not absolute and can only be defined in relation to each development and its location. GLVIA3 notes that there are no hard and fast rules but generally:
- *‘The most significant cumulative landscape effects are likely to be those that would give rise to changes in the landscape character of the study area of such an extent as to have major effects on its key characteristics and even, in some cases, to transform it into a different landscape type.’ (para 7.28)*
 - *‘Higher levels of significance may rise from cumulative visual effects related to developments that are in close proximity to the main project and are clearly visible together in views’.*
 - *Developments that are highly inter-visible with overlapping ZTVs - even though the individual developments may be at some distance from the main project and from individual viewpoints, and when viewed individually not particularly significant, the overall combined effect on a viewer at a particular viewpoint may be more significant.’ (para 7.38)*

Published Guidance

- 6.18 There are three main sources of published guidance for undertaking an assessment of cumulative landscape and visual effects:
- *Scottish Natural Heritage (March 2012) Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments*
 - *Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) (Third Edition 2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA3)*
 - *LANDMAP Guidance Note 3: Guidance for Wales, Using LANDMAP for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment of Onshore Wind Turbines (May 2013)*

Applying the Guidance

- 6.19 The developments considered in this study can broadly be broken into two ‘forms’ of development, **‘vertical’ development** and **‘horizontal’ development** as follows:

Vertical Development	Horizontal Development
Wind Energy Development	Field-scale Solar PV Energy Development
400 kV Overhead Line Development	Static Caravan/Chalet Park Development
Mobile Mast Development	

- 6.20 The indicative approach outlined below can be used as a starting point for assessing the cumulative landscape and visual effects of any of these developments and identifies any differences in approach between the assessment of ‘vertical’ and ‘horizontal’ developments.
- 6.21 The assessment of cumulative landscape and visual effects for ‘vertical’ developments should broadly follow the guidance produced by SNH (Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments) and that set out within GLVIA3 and LANDMAP Guidance Note 3. There is no specific guidance for assessing the cumulative landscape and visual effects of field-scale solar PV energy developments or static caravan/chalet parks therefore it is recommended that assessment of ‘horizontal’ development should follow the guidance set out within GLVIA3.
- 6.22 The scope of a cumulative assessment (level of detail that is required) should be agreed with the local planning authority and will be dependent upon the sensitivity of the site, the nature of the proposal and other consented and operational developments and the potential for significant cumulative effects (bearing in mind that the assessment should remain appropriate and proportionate).

Study Area

- 6.23 The establishment of the study area may depend a number of factors, as follows:
- The overall size and scale of the proposed new development
 - The size and location of other existing and proposed developments in the landscape
 - The topography of the landscape in which it is proposed
 - The sensitivity of the landscape and neighbouring or more distant landscapes
- 6.24 The initial task in defining a study area is to identify all major developments (operational, consented or in planning) which may interact with the proposed development, giving rise to potential significant cumulative landscape and visual effects.
- 6.25 To do this it is necessary to identify the distance within which significant effects would be likely to occur for each type of development. This is because the distance between the main proposed development and any other development to be included in the cumulative assessment affects the magnitude of the cumulative effects which may occur and therefore judgements about their significance.
- 6.26 This is explained further below by reference to zones of influence – areas where significant landscape and visual effects are most likely to occur.
- 6.27 The types of development to be considered should be agreed with the local planning authority at the outset of the study together with the zones of influence. As outlined in LANDMAP Guidance Note 3 (May 2013) it is not necessarily the case that cumulative assessments of wind energy developments should only consider other operational and consented wind energy developments, these assessments may also consider other vertical types of development such as overhead lines as well as horizontal developments such as field-scale solar PV where this is requested or agreed with the local planning authority.
- 6.28 *'A CLVIA should describe and assess any additional and combined cumulative effects of a potential wind energy development (wind turbines and associated infrastructure) on the landscape when considered in conjunction with other existing or consented wind energy developments or those "in planning", and potentially other non-energy developments.'* Section 8, LANDMAP Guidance Note 3 (May 2013)
- 6.29 For 'vertical' developments study areas may initially extend over relatively large distances. Recommended distances of zones of theoretical visibility (ZTV) for different height wind turbines are outlined in Table 2 of SNH publication 'Visual Representation of Windfarms, Good Practice Guidance' (2006); these indicate that study areas could extend up to 35 km. This table could be used as a starting point for establishing study areas for the cumulative assessments of the 'vertical' developments; however, in order to keep the task proportionate it is recommended that they be scaled down to 'zones of influence' as and when more detailed analysis identifies areas where it is reasonable to consider that significant effects may occur.
- 6.30 For 'horizontal' developments it is reasonable to assume that the study area would be smaller in comparison because the landscape and visual effects of such development are unlikely to extend over such long distances. Study areas for these types of development may initially be up to 10 km but again the progression of more detailed analysis may scale down the extents to focus on 'zones of influence' in which significant effects are most likely to occur.

Cumulative Zone of Theoretical Visibility

- 6.31 A cumulative zone of theoretical visibility (CZTV) is often a useful tool, used to inform the assessment of cumulative visual effects. Where considered beneficial, a zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) should be generated for the main development being proposed. This can then be compared on a plan to the ZTVs for the other developments being taken into consideration (often these ZTVs will have been produced as part of the EIA/planning application for the other developments – if this is not the case a decision needs to be made about how useful generating new ZTV for each of the other developments). The different ZTVs can then be combined to analyse where interactions between developments are likely to occur and presented as a CZTV or series of different CZTVs to help explain the various cumulative scenarios being assessed (see below). This tool can also be used to refine the overall study area.

Cumulative Scenarios

- 6.32 Where a number of different development proposals are involved, assessments of cumulative landscape and visual effects often consider a range of scenarios.
- 6.33 For each scenario the CLVIA should assess the effects of the proposed scheme in combination with the other developments and identify the contribution that the proposed scheme makes to the degree of cumulative effect. GLVIA3 states that *'agreement should be reached about whether the cumulative effects assessment is to focus primarily on the additional effects of the main project under consideration, or on the combined effects of all the past, present and future proposals together with the new project.'* Paragraph 1.18, GVLIA
- 6.34 The scenarios and approach to their assessment should be agreed with the local planning authority.

Assessment of Cumulative Landscape Effects

- 6.35 The assessment of cumulative landscape effects is concerned with the totality of potential effects on the landscape, taking into consideration the overall combination of effects from the construction and operation of the proposed development together with the other similar developments as combined in the various cumulative scenarios. These effects may result from changes in the fabric, aesthetic aspects and overall character of the landscape in particular places, arising from the introduction of new elements or from the removal of or damage to existing ones.
- 6.36 The identification and assessment of the significance of cumulative landscape effects should follow the same approach as that taken in the LVIA. The emphasis of the assessment, however, should always be on the proposed development and how or whether it would add to (or combine with) the other developments being considered to create or increase the magnitude of a significant landscape effect.
- 6.37 In making judgements the assessment should consider:
- The susceptibility of the landscape to the types of development being considered.
 - The value attached to the landscape, reflecting its designation status and other valued components of the landscape.
 - The nature or magnitude of effects, both in terms of scale and geographical area.
- 6.38 The significance of identified cumulative landscape effects should then be assessed through the application of professional judgement, based on a combination of the above factors and whether the change is likely to be temporary or permanent, long or short term.
- 6.39 Significance is not absolute and can only be defined in relation to each development and its location. GLVIA3 notes that there are no hard and fast rules but generally:
- *'Major loss or irreversible negative effects over an extensive area, on elements and/or aesthetic and perceptual aspects that are key to the character of nationally valued landscapes are likely to be of the greatest significance.'*
 - *'Reversible negative effects of short duration, over a restricted area, on elements and/or aesthetic and perceptual aspects that contribute to but are not key characteristics of the character of landscapes of community value are likely to be of least significance and may, depending on the circumstances, be judged as not significant.'*
 - *'Where assessment of significance place landscape effects between these extremes, judgements must be made about whether or not they are significant, with full explanations of why these conclusions have been reached.'* (para.5.56)
- 6.40 GLVIA3 also notes that:
- 6.41 *'the most significant cumulative landscape effects are likely to be those that would give rise to changes in the landscape character of the study area of such an extent as to have major effects on its key characteristics and even, in some cases, to transform it into a different landscape type. This may be the case where the project itself tips the balance through its additional effects. The emphasis must always remain on the main project being assessed and how or whether it adds to or combines with the others being considered to create a significant cumulative effect.'* para. 7.27

- 6.42 It is recommended that the assessment initially considers potential effects upon designated landscapes (paying particular attention to the individual special qualities of those areas), followed by an assessment of cumulative effects upon the different LCAs likely to be affected.

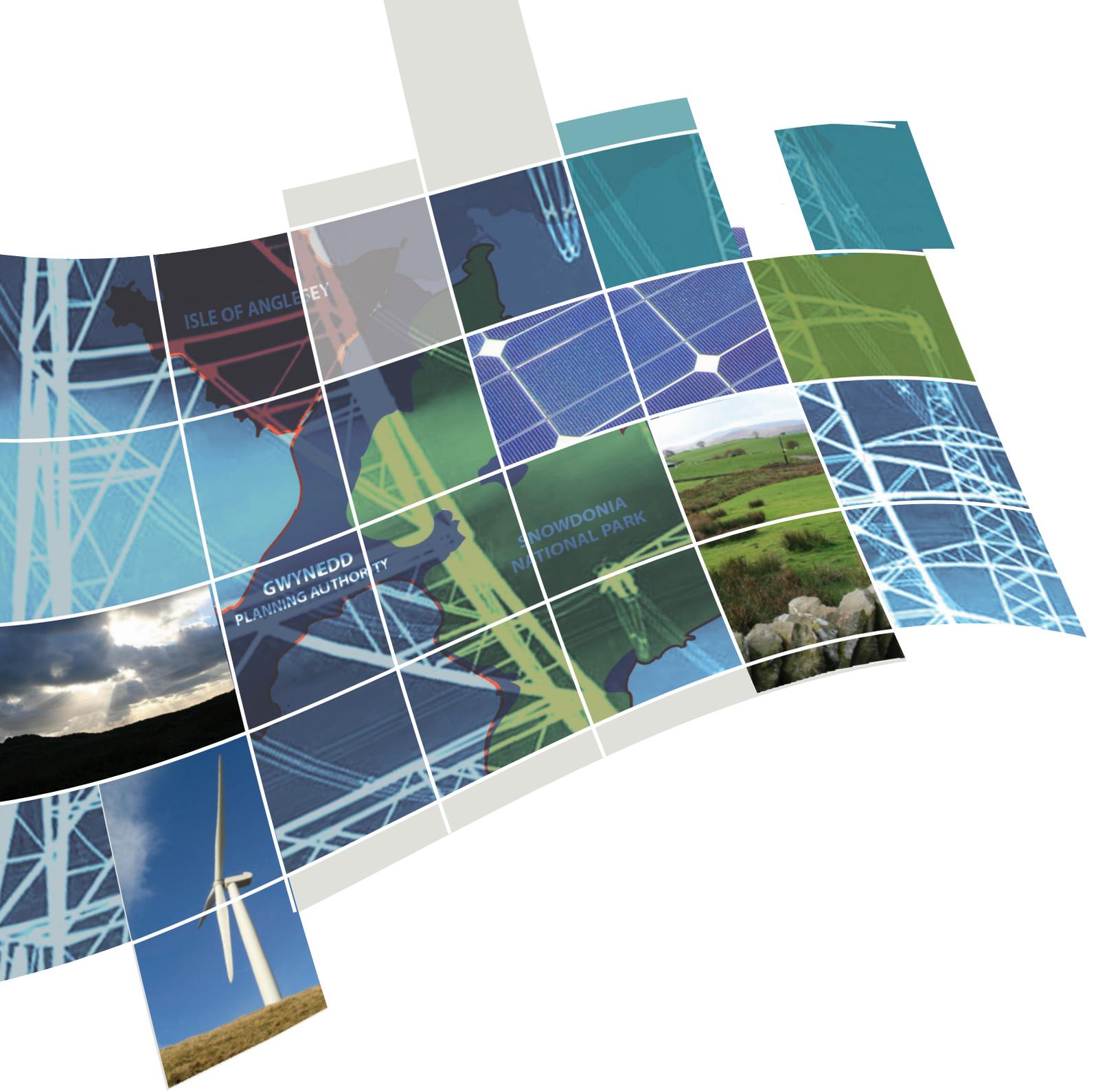
Assessment of Cumulative Visual Effects

- 6.43 The assessment of cumulative visual effects is concerned with the identification and assessment of the additional effects on peoples' views arising from the proposed development when seen together with the other projects as set out in the various cumulative scenarios. These effects would result from changes in the character and content of the views experienced due to the introduction of new elements or removal of or damage to existing ones.
- 6.44 The identification and assessment of the significance of cumulative visual effects follows the same approach as that taken in the LVIA. The emphasis of the assessment, however, should always be on the proposed development and how or whether it would add to, or combine with, the other developments being considered to create or increase the magnitude of a significant visual effect.
- 6.45 The cumulative visual assessment should be backed up by cumulative wireframes set beneath photographs and/or photomontages prepared from key viewpoints to illustrate the magnitude of cumulative visual effects (these can also be useful to illustrate the nature and degree of cumulative change to the landscape).
- 6.46 A number of representative and/or worst-case viewpoints should be selected and agreed with the local planning authority to illustrate the potential cumulative visual effects arising from the main development being assessed, in combination with the other developments within the various scenarios. Viewpoints should be specifically selected to illustrate cumulative effects.
- 6.47 The visual receptors should be categorised in terms of their importance and susceptibility to change. Judgement should then be made on the magnitude of visual effects, and consideration given to the way in which any sequential views would be experienced from roads and important routes such as National Cycle Routes and the Wales Coast Path.
- 6.48 The significance of effects of development on views is related to the nature and sensitivity of the receptor, the characteristics of the development being proposed and the extent, nature and characteristics of the views, which itself is a reflection of the landscape character.
- 6.49 GLVIA3 (para. 7.38) notes that typically higher levels of significance are considered to arise from:
- 'Developments that are in close proximity to the main project and are clearly visible together in views from the selected viewpoints.
 - Developments that are highly inter-visible with overlapping ZTVs – even though the individual developments may be at some distance from the main project and from individual viewpoints, and when viewed individually not particularly significant, the overall combined cumulative effect on a viewer at a particular viewpoint may be more significant.'

- 6.50 It is recommended that the assessment initially considers potential effects on views to and from designated landscapes followed by an assessment of cumulative visual effects based on selected viewpoints, and an assessment of the cumulative visual effects on various receptors along the route (with the emphasis being on the identification of likely significant effects) .

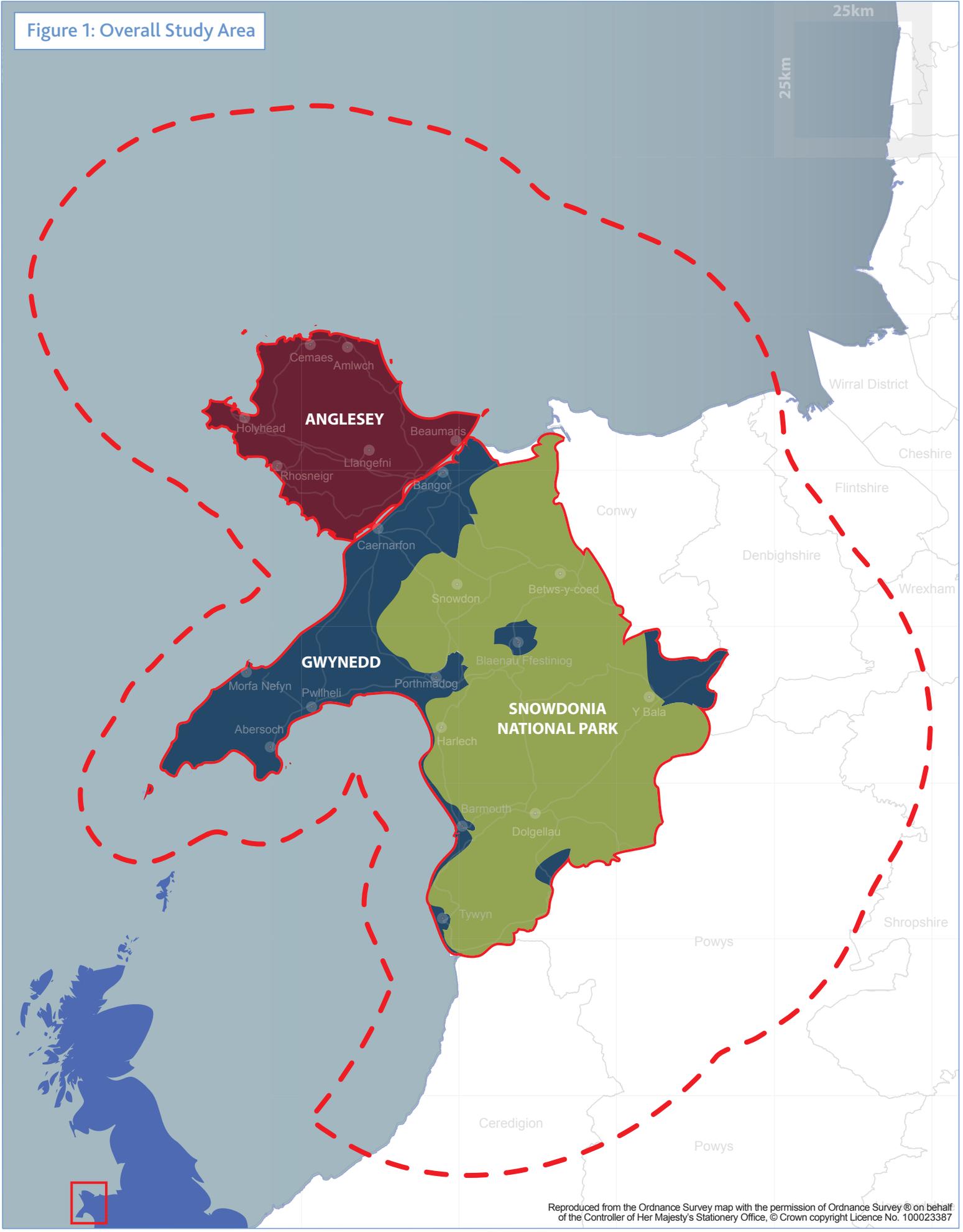
Assessing Significance

- 6.51 The significance of identified cumulative landscape and visual effects should be assessed through the application of professional judgement, based on a combination of the sensitivity of the landscape/visual receptor, the magnitude of the change and whether the change is likely to be temporary or permanent, long or short term. The cumulative assessment should identify which effects are considered to be significant (in the context of the EIA Regulations for EIA development) as well as whether they are adverse or beneficial.



FIGURES

Figure 1: Overall Study Area



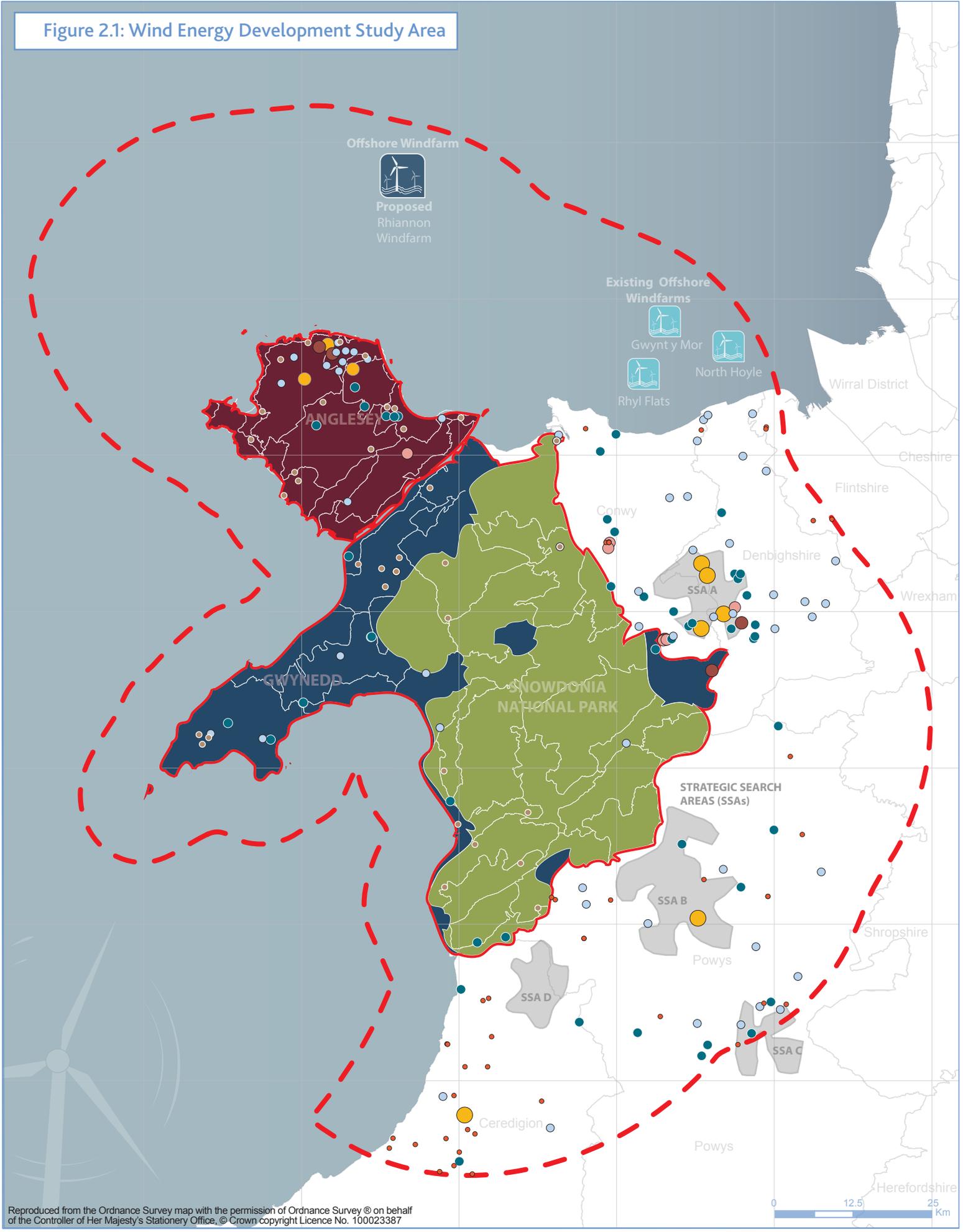
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Study Area (solid red line)

Study Area Buffer (dashed red line) = 10km to west coast, 35km to the north, east and south



Figure 2.1: Wind Energy Development Study Area



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Wind Study Area

Wind Study Area Buffer

Unknown
(Relevant data not received)

Domestic

Micro

Small

Medium

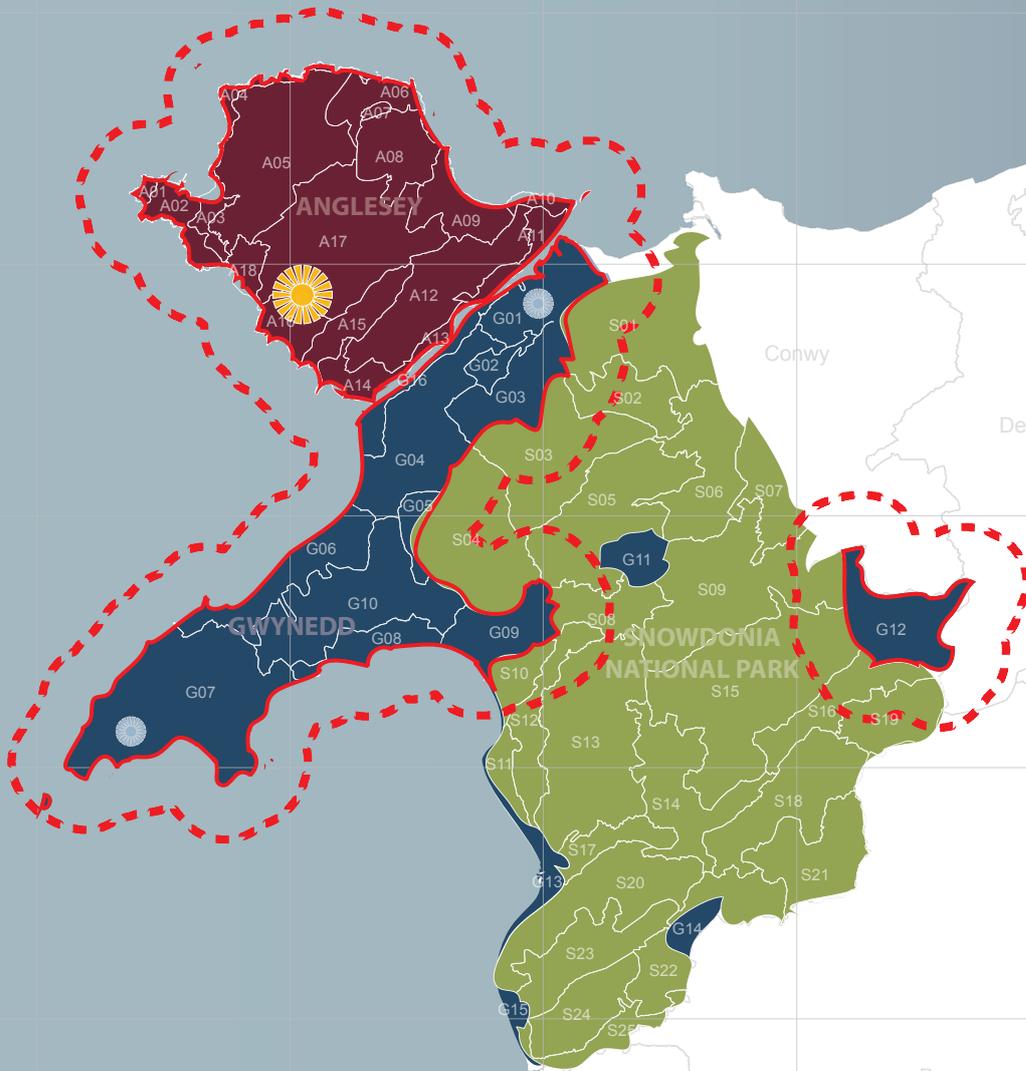
Large

Very Large

WIND ENERGY TYPOLOGIES
(Operational & Consented Developments)



Figure 2.2: Field Scale Solar PV Energy Development Study Area



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FIELD SCALE SOLAR PV DEVELOPMENT TYPOLOGIES
(Operational & Consented Developments)



Domestic



Micro



Small



Medium



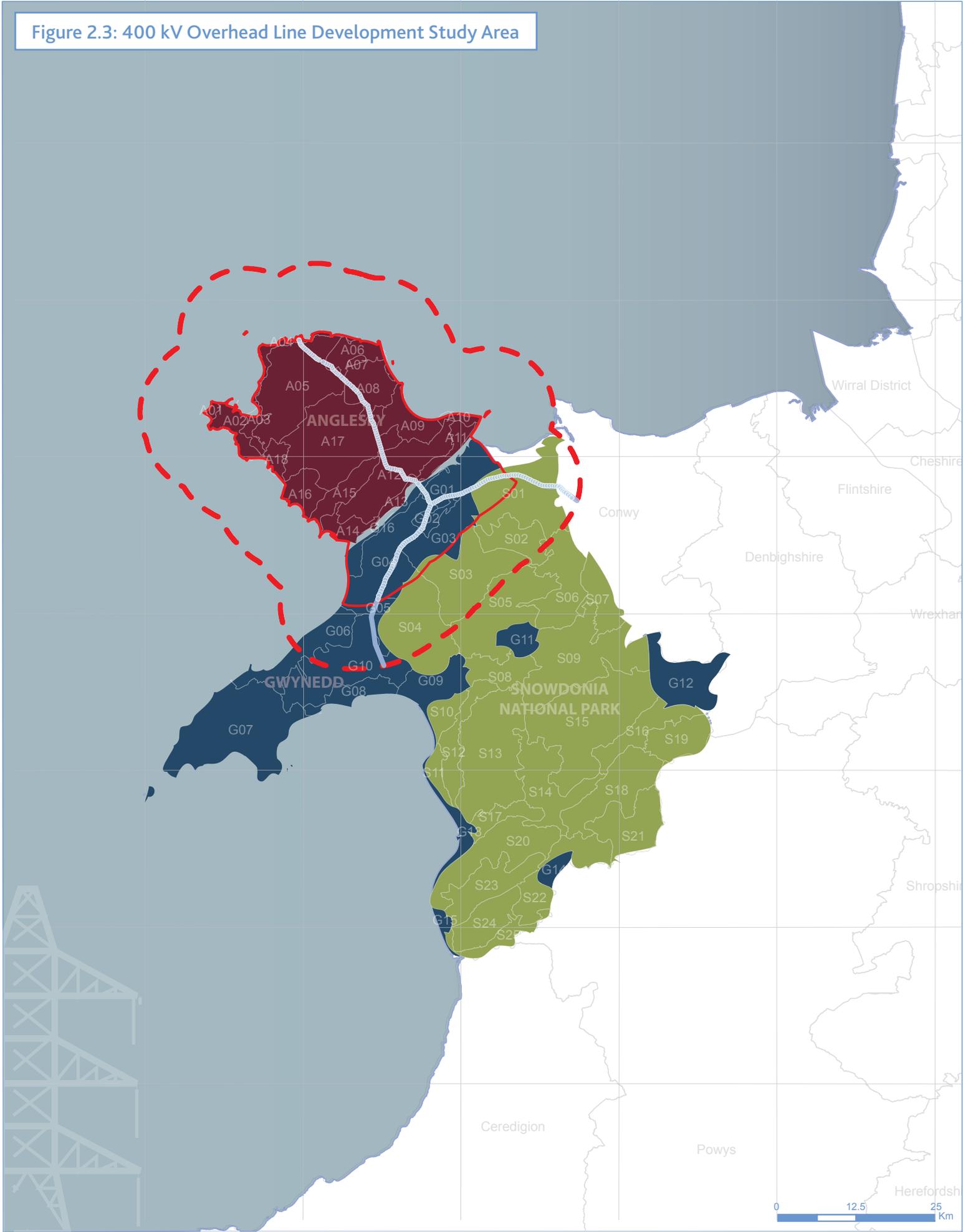
Large



Very Large



Figure 2.3: 400 kV Overhead Line Development Study Area



400 kV Study Area

400 kV Study Area Buffer

400 kV DEVELOPMENT TYPOLOGIES
(Operational & Consented Developments)

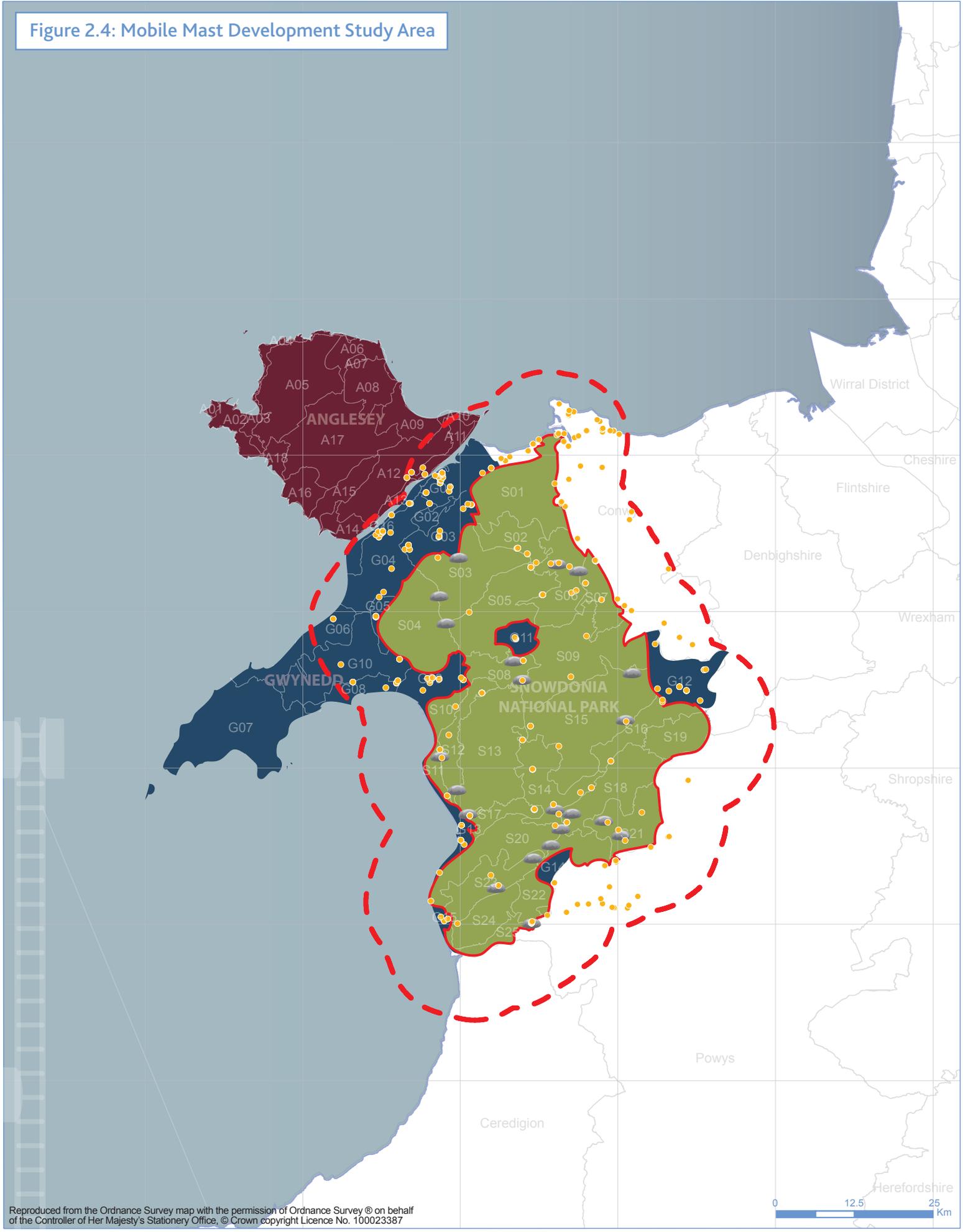
400 kV



(Key symbols scaled by 250%)



Figure 2.4: Mobile Mast Development Study Area



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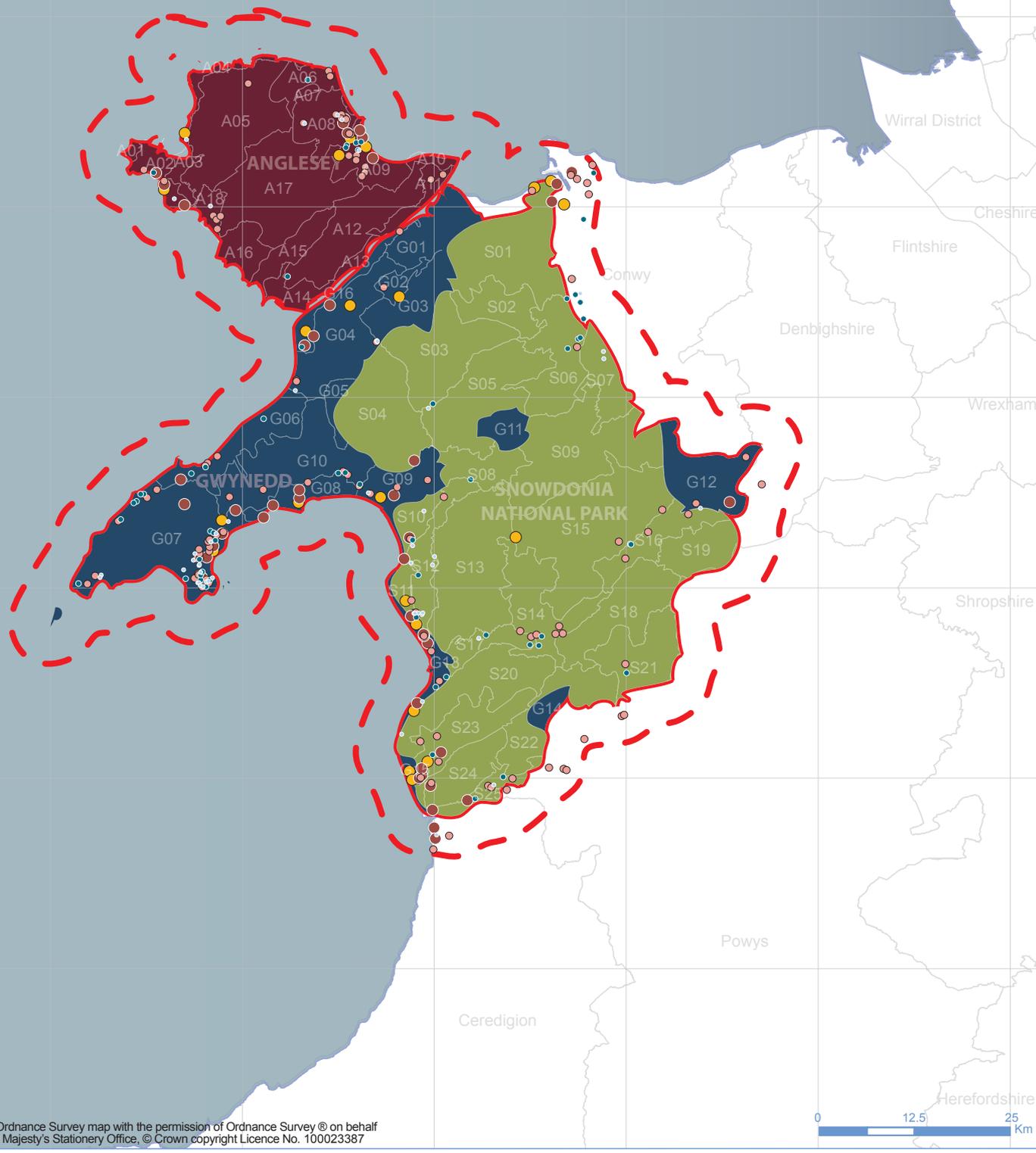


MOBILE MAST TYPOLOGIES
(Operational & Consented Developments)

- Mobile Mast ●
 - Disguised Mobile Mast
- (Key symbols scaled by 250%)



Figure 2.5: Static Caravan/Chalet Park Development Study Area



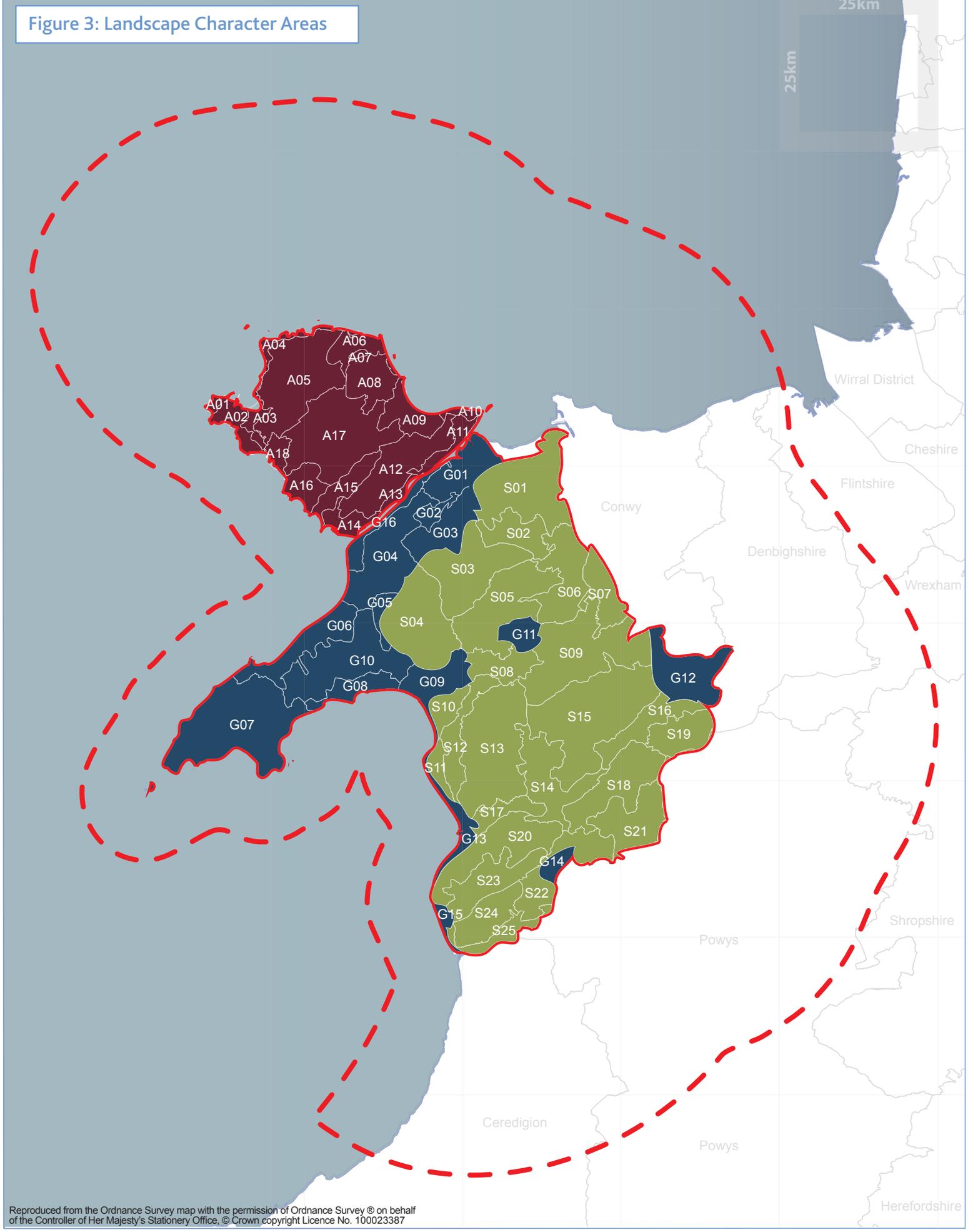
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STATIC CARAVAN/CHALET PARK TYPOLOGIES
(Operational & Consented Developments)

- Very Small
- Small
- Medium
- Large
- Very Large

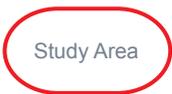


Figure 3: Landscape Character Areas



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LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS



Study Area



Study Area Buffer



ANGLESEY
(Prefix A)



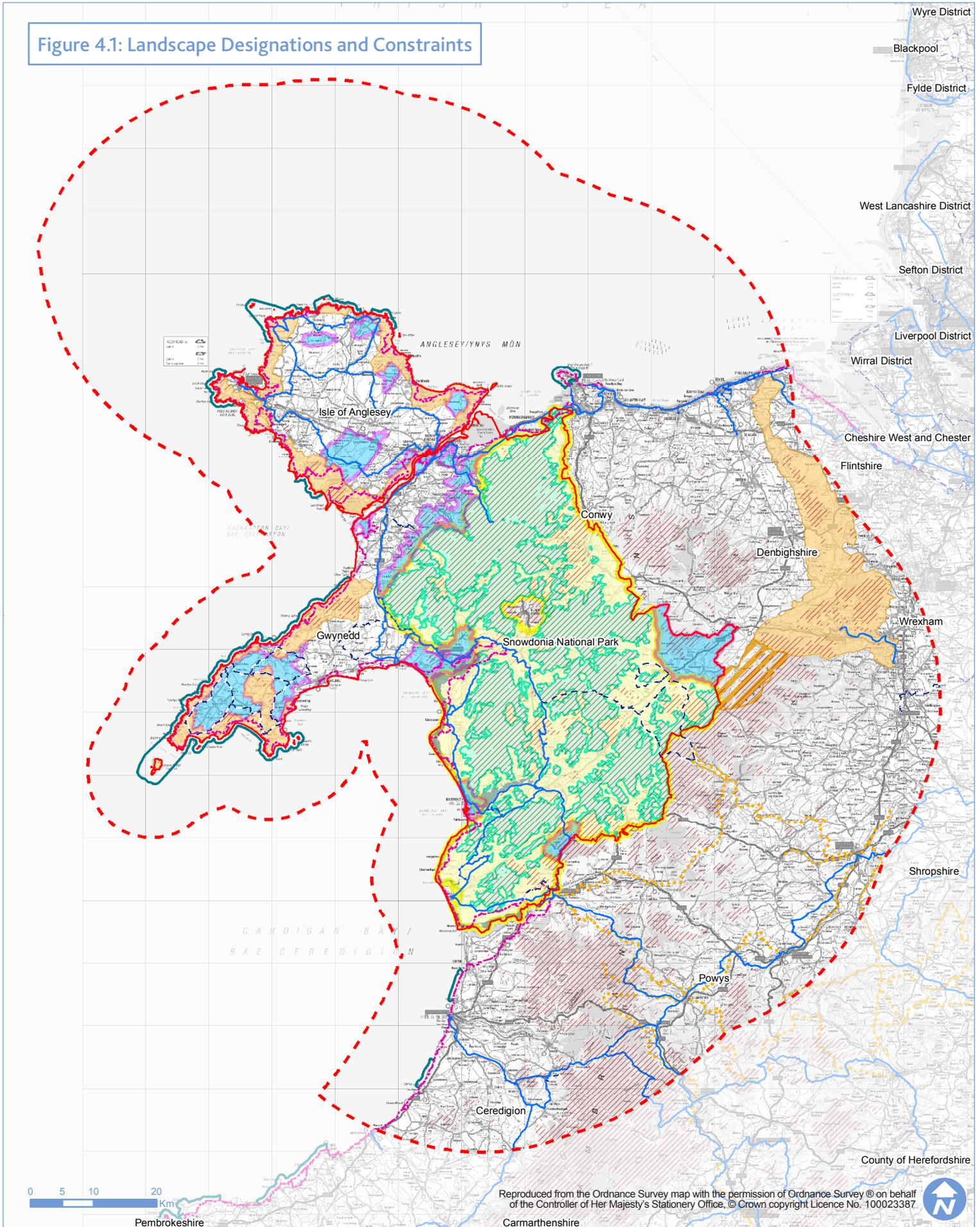
GWYNEDD
(Prefix G)



SNOWDONIA
(Prefix S)



Figure 4.1: Landscape Designations and Constraints

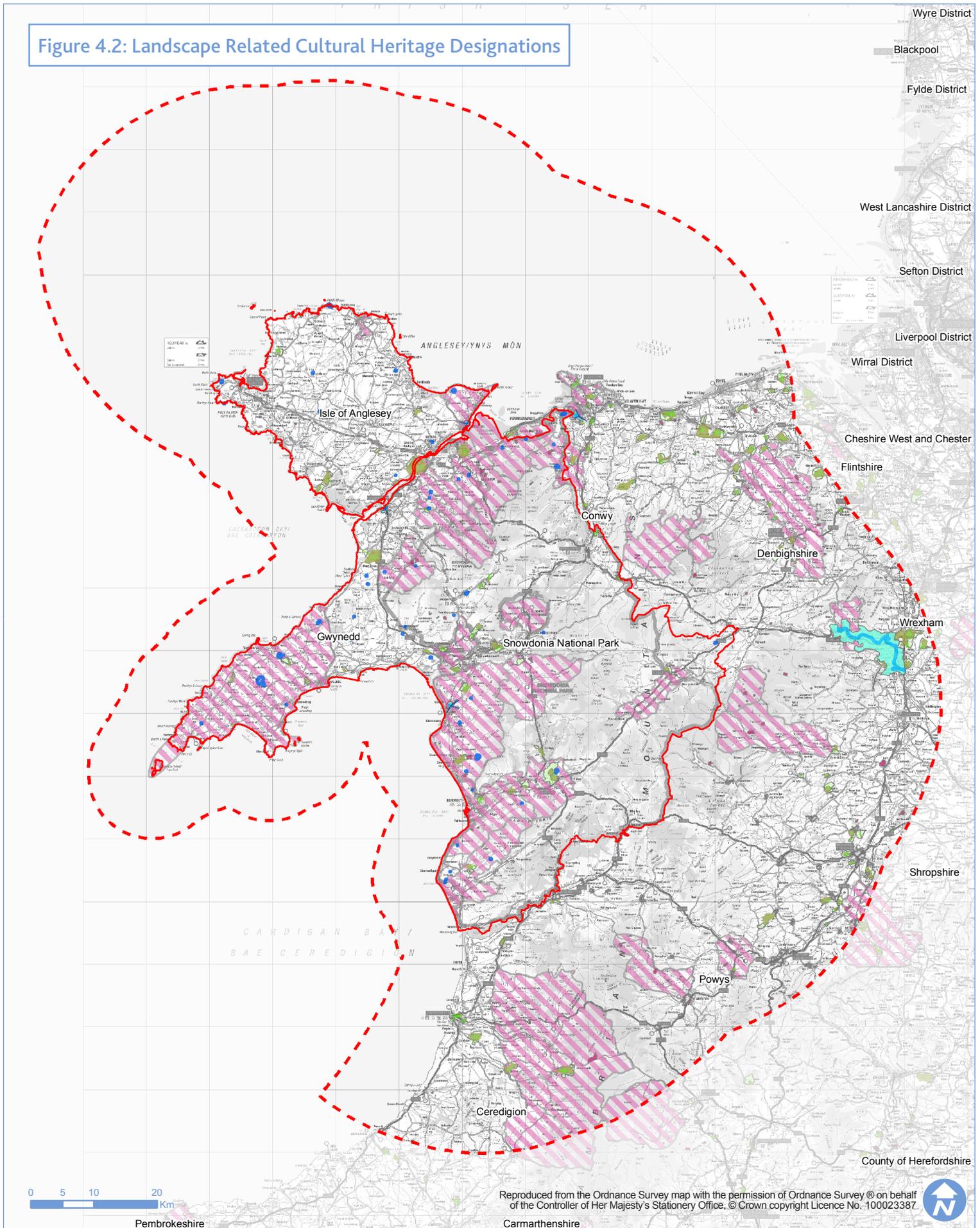


- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Overall Study Area | Regional Cycle Route | Eryri Local Development Plan Undeveloped Coast | Cynwyd and Llandrillo Area of Outstanding Beauty (AOB) |
| Study Area | National Cycle Route | Eryri Local Development Plan Area Natural Beauty | AONB |
| | National Cycle Link | Special Landscape | Heritage Coasts |
| | National Trails | Wales Coastal Path | National Park |
| | Wales Coastal Path | Open Access Land | |

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Figure 4.2: Landscape Related Cultural Heritage Designations



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- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Overall Study Area | Hillfort | Historic Park and Garden | World Heritage Sites |
| Study Area | Conservation Area | Gardens & Kitchen Gardens | World Heritage Sites Essential Setting |
| Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) | Historic Park and Garden Essential Setting | Historic Park and Garden Significant View | World Heritage Sites Significant View |
| Welsh Historic Landscape (WHL) | Historic Park and Garden Significant View | World Heritage Sites Arcs of View | |

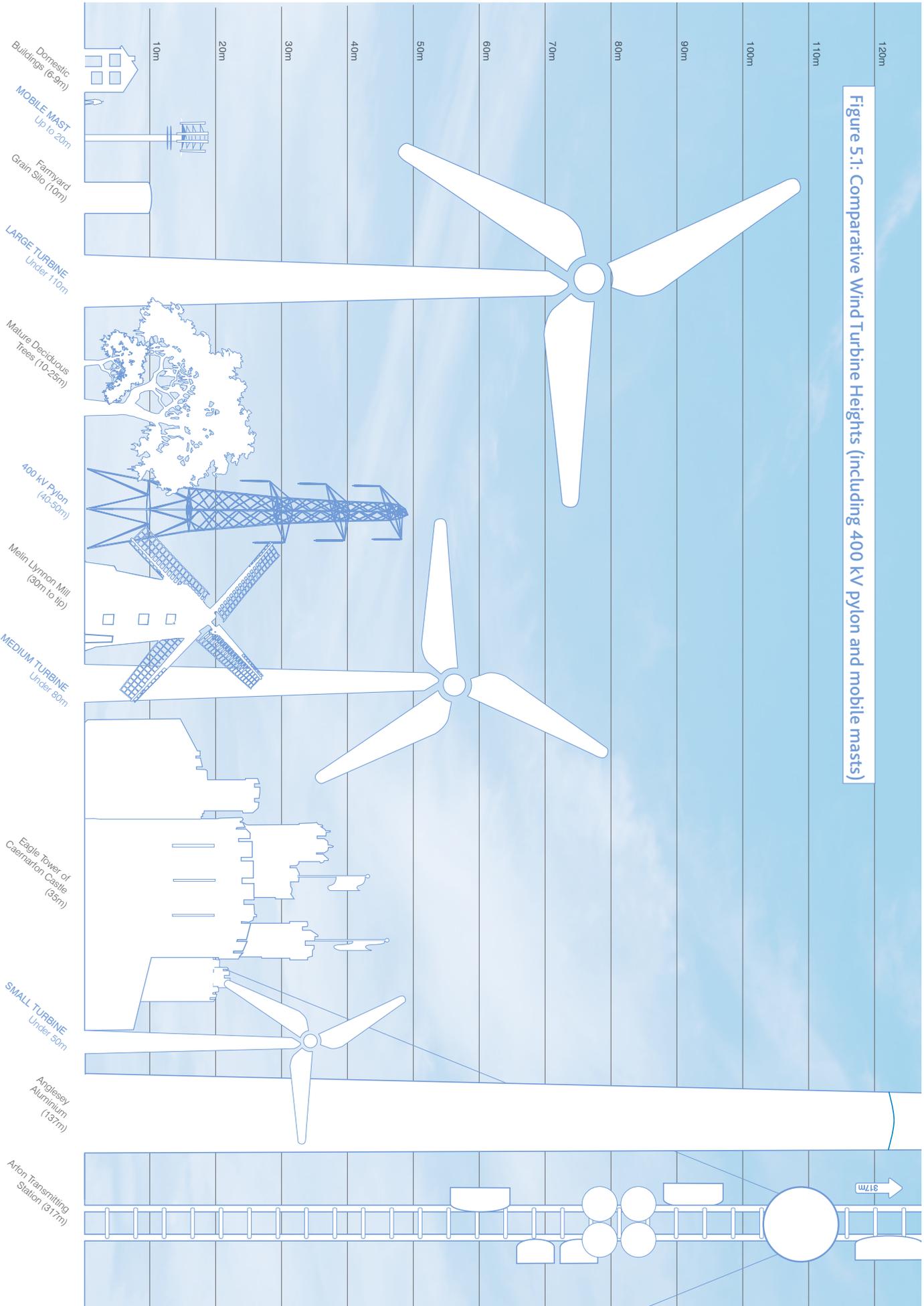
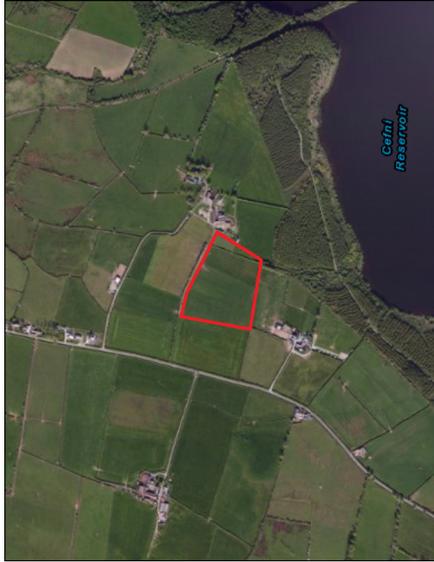


Figure 5.2: Comparative Field Scale Solar PV Development Scales



1:12,500
Micro (less than 1 ha)
Rugby pitch - 0.7 ha - 70 m x 100 m



1:12,500
Small (1-5 ha)
Field from LCA A17 West Central Anglesey just north of the Cefni Reservoir - 4 ha



1:12,500
Medium (5-10 ha)
Llyn Glasfryn in LCA G10 Central Llyn - 6 ha



1:12,500
Large (10-20 ha)
Llyn Llygeirian west of Mynydd Mechell - 13.5 ha



1:12,500
Very Large (over 20 ha)
Proposed Bodorgan Solar Farm - 30 ha

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Figure 5.3: Comparative Static Caravan/Chalet Parks Development and Extensions



1:5,000

Very Small

G07 - 6 Statics



1:5,000

Small

S23 - Approx 0.32Ha



1:5,000

Medium

G07 - Approx 34 Statics



1:5,000

Large

A09 - Approx 164 Statics

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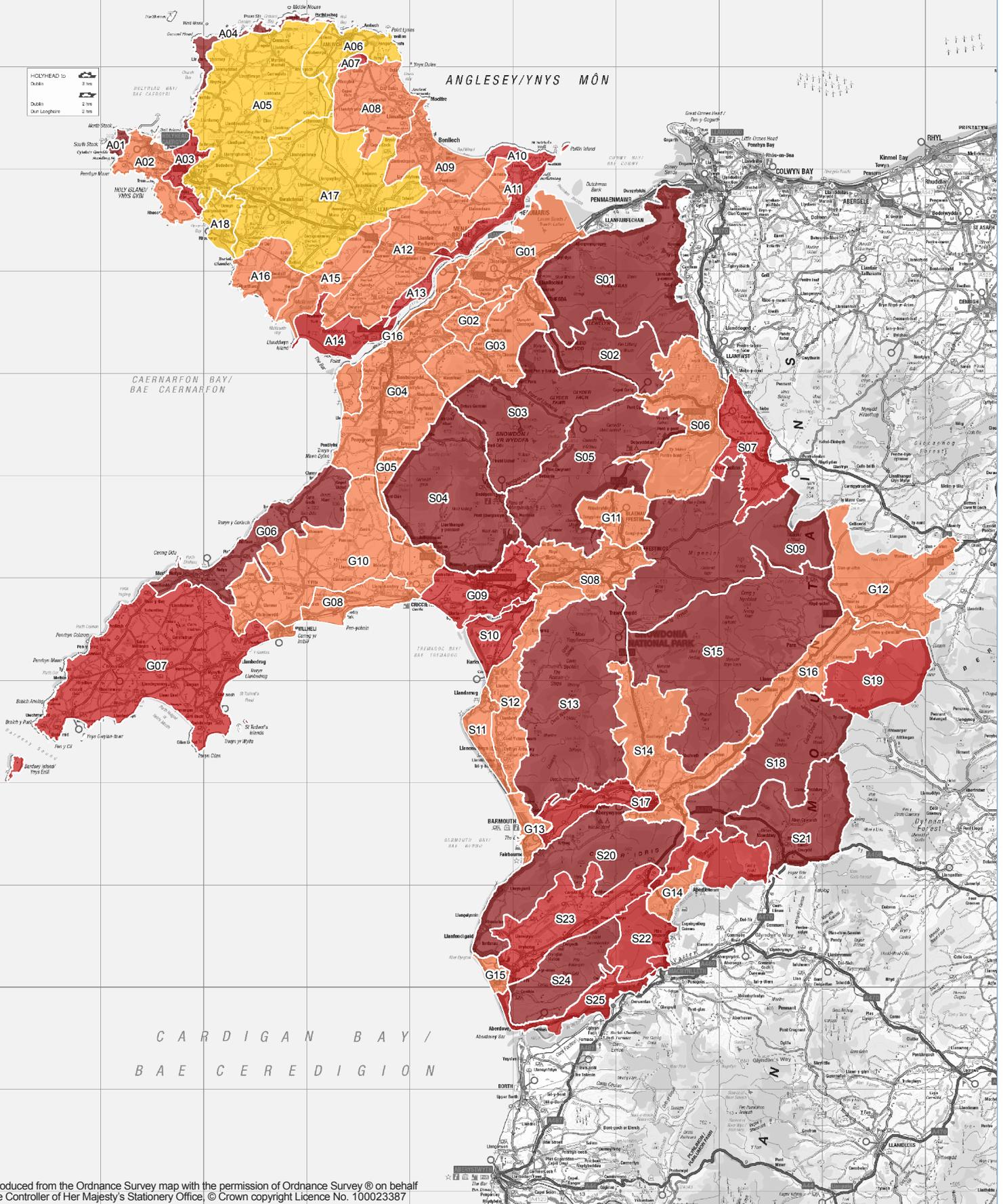


1:5,000

Very Large

G07 - Approx 526 Statics

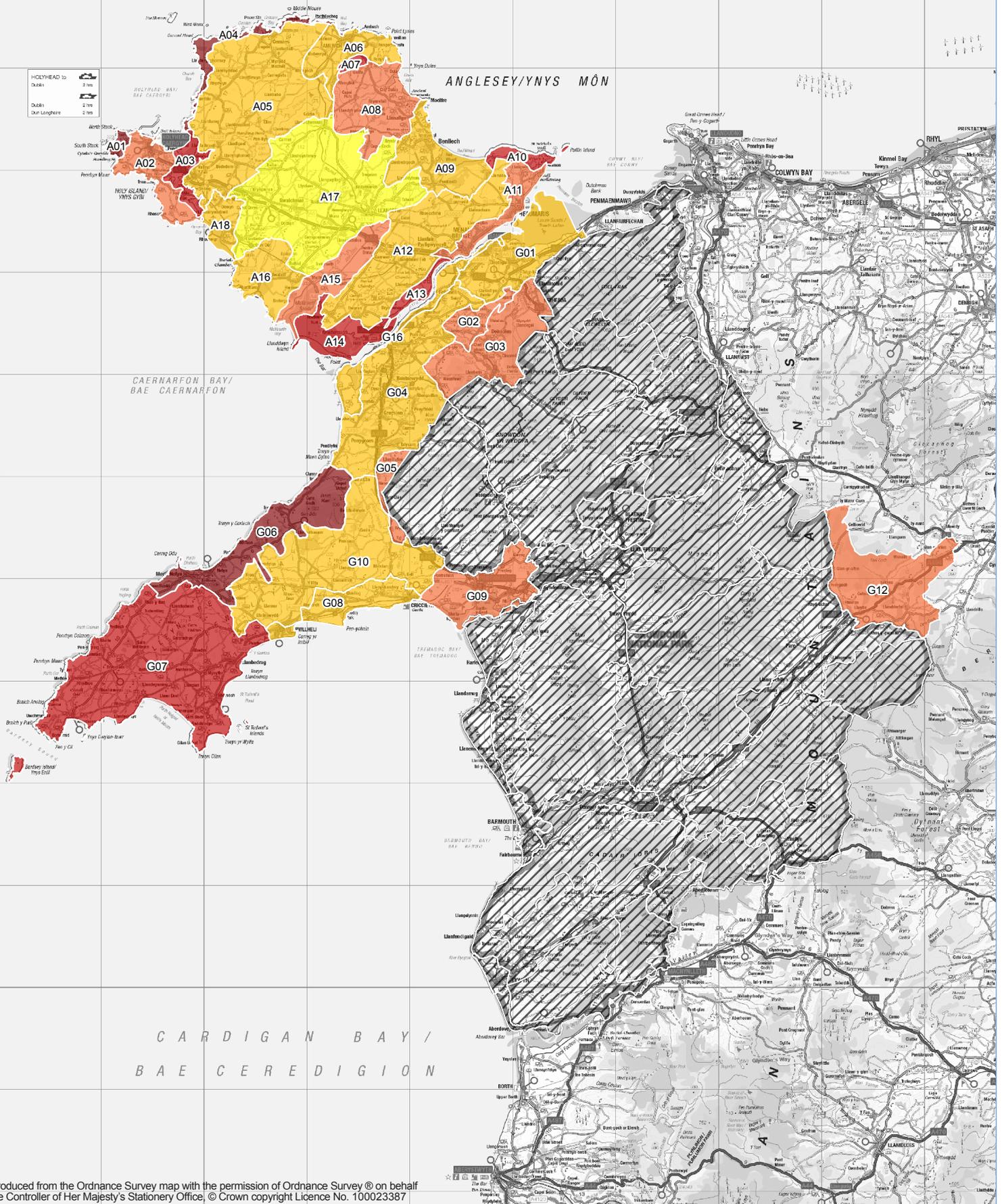
Figure 6.1: Overall Sensitivity to Wind Energy Developments



Not Assessed
 Low
 Low-Medium
 Medium
 Medium-High
 High
 Very High



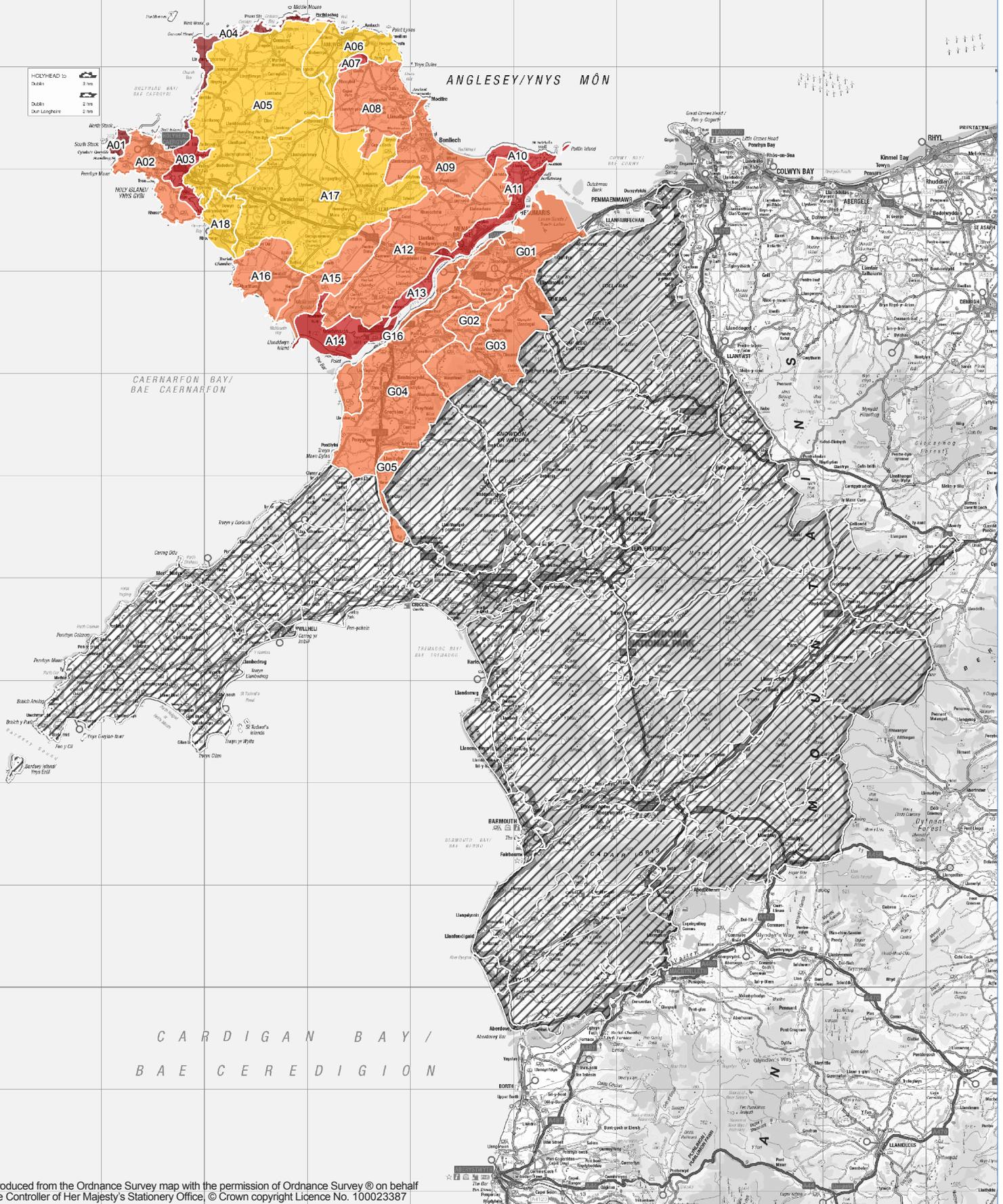
Figure 6.2: Overall Sensitivity to Field-Scale Solar PV Energy Developments



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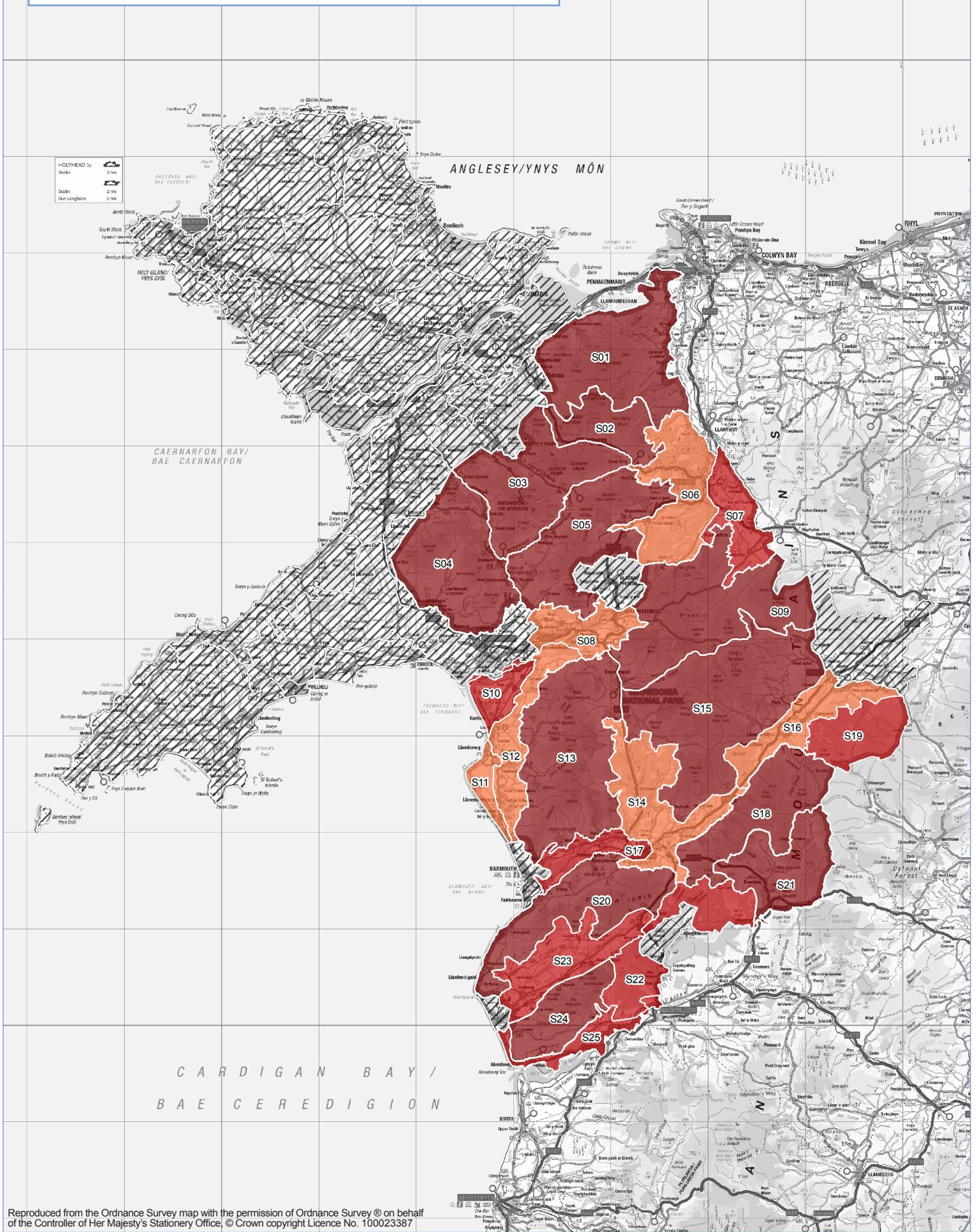
Figure 6.3: Overall Sensitivity to 400 kV Overhead Line Developments



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Figure 6.4: Overall Sensitivity to Mobile Mast Developments

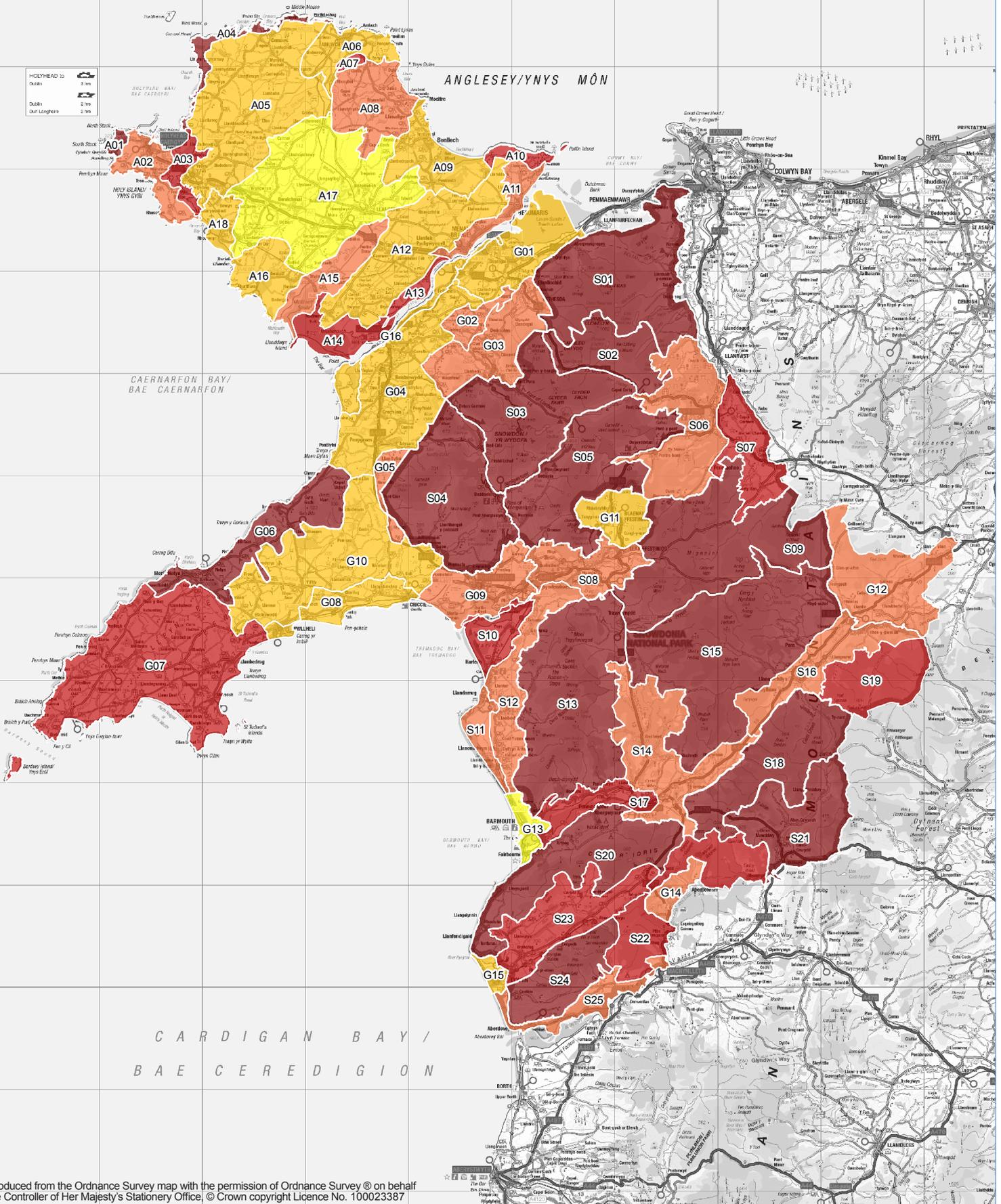


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Not Assessed
 Low
 Low-Medium
 Medium
 Medium-High
 High
 Very High



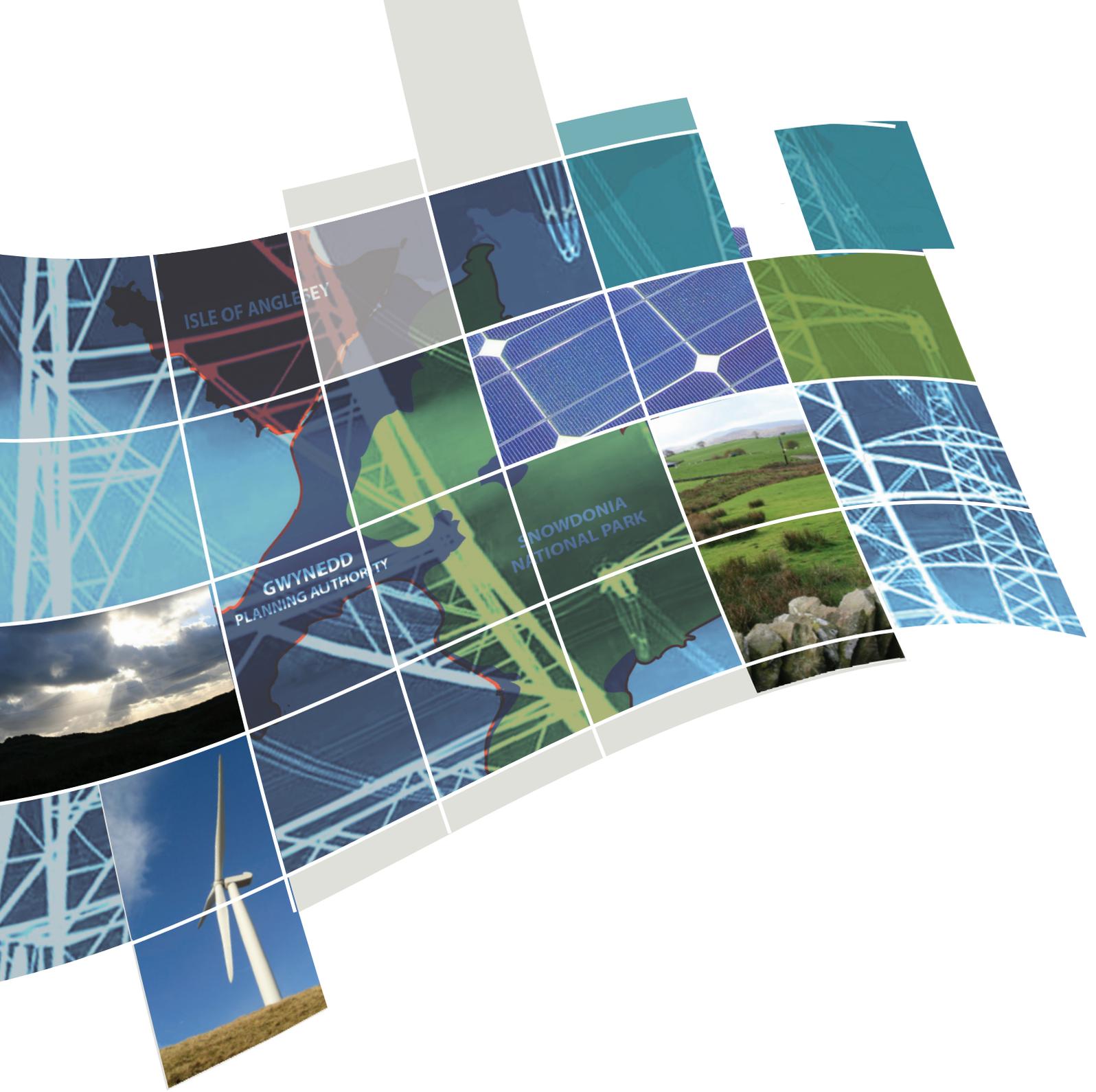
Figure 6.5: Overall Sensitivity to Static Caravan/Chalet Park Developments



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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Hydro Energy Development - Overview and Considerations

What is Hydro Energy Development?

Hydro energy developments extract energy from water and can fall into two categories: storage or run-of-river. The characteristics and equipment of the development differ depending on the scheme type.

Run-of-river schemes use the natural flow of a river by directing water down a pipeline to power a turbine before returning the water directly to the watercourse. Visible components may include weirs, over ground pipes, Archimedes screws and a small impoundment to control flows.

A storage scheme involves the construction of a reservoir to control the flow of water to turbines. Pumped storage systems move water between two reservoirs located at different elevations (i.e upper and lower) to store and generate electricity. Visible components of a storage systems may include; reservoirs/dams, powerhouse/generator (sized according to the scale of development), access tracks and an overhead line connection to the national grid.

There are three main categories used to define output from hydroelectric power:

- micro-scale capacity: hydro plant producing less than 50 kilowatts
- small-scale capacity: hydro plant producing less than 5 megawatts
- large-scale capacity: hydro plant producing more than 5 megawatts (MW)

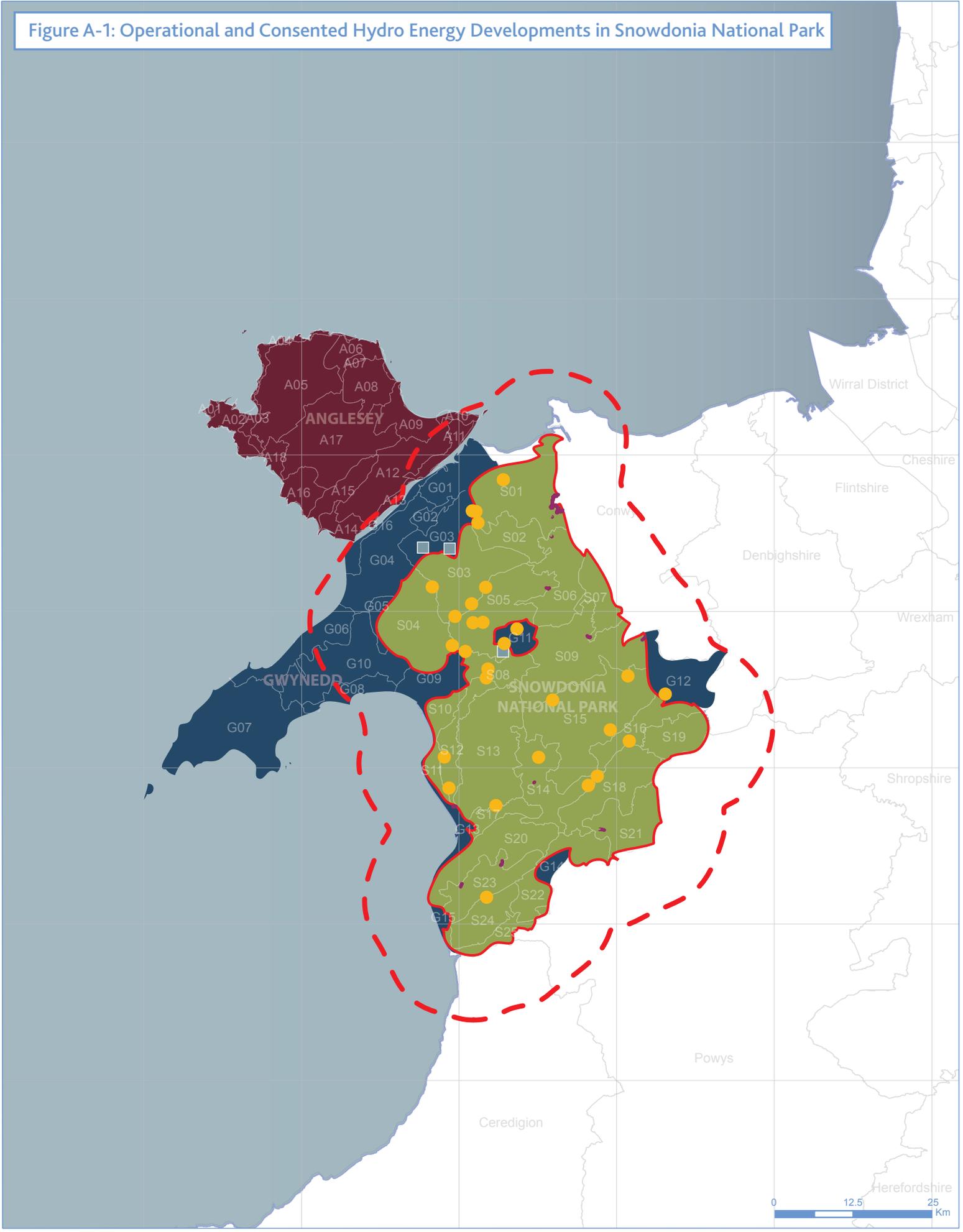
For the purposes of this report these categories have been broken down further to help provide an understanding of the different scales of development that currently exist.

Table A-1: Hydro Energy Development Typologies

Hydro Energy	Indicative Output (broad output category ⁹⁸)	Indicative Criteria
MICRO	under 100 kW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generates enough electricity up to 100 homes ▪ Includes 'pico' scale, off-grid generation (up to 5kW)
MINI	100 kW - 1 MW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generates enough electricity to power between 100 and 1,000 homes
SMALL	1 to 5 MW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generates enough electricity to power between 1,000 and 5,000 homes ▪ Typically pumped storage ▪ Community schemes
MEDIUM	5 MW – 100 MW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generates enough electricity to power between 5,000 and 100,000 homes ▪ Commercial schemes
LARGE	Over 100 MW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generates enough electricity to power over 100,000 homes ▪ Large commercial schemes

98 These values are for guidance only and should not be taken as a criterion for determining typology. Efficiency and energy outputs are continually subject to advances in technology and operational efficiency, therefore it is recognised that these values are likely to change.

Figure A-1: Operational and Consented Hydro Energy Developments in Snowdonia National Park



HYDRO ENERGY TYPOLOGIES
(Operational & Consented Developments)

- Pumped Storage Hydro
- Run of River Scheme

SNPA Schemes permitted with conditions



(Available data from 2011-2014)



Existing Hydro Energy Developments in Snowdonia National Park

The landscapes of Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park are under a degree of pressure regarding onshore hydro energy developments because it is recognised that these landscapes have the physical characteristics to support these developments⁹⁹. The topography and climate of Snowdonia National Park particularly has meant that there is a long history of using water to produce power, from early water wheels to grind corn to complex systems of reservoirs, leats and wheels to power machinery at metal mines, slate quarries and woollen mills.

In Wales as in England, local planning authorities handle planning applications for onshore generating stations with a capacity up to 50MW. Development consent for generating stations with a capacity greater than 50MW in England and Wales are granted by the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989.

Figure A-1 shows the consented and operational hydro energy developments within the National Park (and 1km study area buffer) which range from large scale schemes (over 100MW) through to micro schemes (below 100kW).

Examples of large scale, pumped storage schemes include: Dolgarrog Power Station (constructed before Snowdonia received national Park status), Ffestiniog power station constructed in 1964 and Dinorwig Power Station constructed in 1984 just outside of the National Park; all three required major civil engineering works, construction of storage reservoirs, installation of over ground pipes and the installation of turbine houses.

An example of a typical micro scheme would be the consented 13 kilowatt micro-hydro scheme at Caerddaniel Farm near Barmouth which comprises a weir, turbine house, buried penstock and a buried tailrace to return water to the river (NP5/51/471).

The natural characteristics of the National Park provide opportunities for future hydro energy developments at all scales. However, it is the smaller scale developments (those with an output below 5 MW) that are considered more suitable for the National Park as stated in the Eryri Local Development Plan:

“Whilst large-scale energy generation projects are incompatible with National Park status an assessment of renewable energy in Snowdonia considered that scope might exist to contribute to reducing demand for electricity derived from fossil fuels through efficiency savings and through small-scale renewable energy developments to meet domestic or community needs. These included small-scale hydro, domestic wind turbines, photovoltaics, biomass and landfill gas.¹⁰⁰”

Key Landscape and Visual Sensitivities to Small Hydro Energy Development

There are several components of hydro energy developments that may affect landscape character; these are the weir, turbine house, tailrace, pipes and power lines. Some landscapes may be able to better accommodate hydro schemes than others. For example, where rivers are lined with trees it may be possible to conceal hydro schemes. It may also be possible to restore old water mill sites.

The impact of a small scale hydro energy scheme varies considerably depending on its siting and design in relationship to the landscape in which it is being developed. Schemes may fall across different Landscape Character Areas so each different element of a scheme should be considered both in relation to its impact on the immediate landscape as well as their collective impact of the scheme across several landscape areas.

99 Carbon Management Renewable Energy Report Hydropower Screening Study for Gwynedd Werdd (March 2013)

100 Paragraph 3.19 of the LDP sets out the Authority's position on energy

Key landscape characteristics that can be used to identify sensitivity to this type of energy development include:

- **Landscape Criteria**
 - Scale and Enclosure
 - Landcover - landcover patterns and woodland patterns along the river valleys (hydro schemes in rivers lined with trees may be concealed better than those in open landscapes)
 - Watercourses and Waterbodies - river patterns and sizes as well as other water bodies
 - Man-made Influences - settlement density and pattern and presence of mill buildings and structures

- **Visual Criteria**
 - Visibility, Key Views, Vistas and Typical Receptors - views across and around river valleys

- **Aesthetic, Perceptual and Experiential Criteria**
 - Remoteness and Tranquility

- **Value Criteria**
 - Landscape Value
 - Historic Value

Guidelines For Siting and Design

The following documents provide useful information relating to guidelines for sensitive siting and design of hydro energy developments:

- SNH Guidance: Hydroelectric schemes and the natural heritage (Version 1 – December 2010)¹⁰¹
- SNH Guidelines on the environmental impacts of windfarms and small-scale hydroelectric schemes (1996, subsequently edited in 2000)¹⁰²

¹⁰¹ <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/C278964.pdf>

¹⁰² <http://www.snh.gov.uk/publications-data-and-research/publications/search-the-catalogue/publication-detail/?id=108>

Appendix 2: Planning Policy Wales

Relevant policies include the following:

5.3.6 National Parks and AONBs are of equal status in terms of landscape and scenic beauty and both must be afforded the highest status of protection from inappropriate developments. In development plan policies and development management decisions National Parks and AONBs must be treated as of equivalent status. In National Parks and AONBs, development plan policies and development management decisions should give great weight to conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of these areas.

5.3.11 Non-statutory designations, such as Special Landscape Areas or Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation, should be soundly based on a formal scientific assessment of the nature conservation, landscape or geological value of the site. Local non-statutory sites can add value to the planning process particularly if such designations are informed by community participation and reflect community values. Local planning authorities should apply these designations to areas of substantive conservation value where there is good reason to believe that normal planning policies cannot provide the necessary protection. Such designations should not unduly restrict acceptable development.

5.5.6 In National Parks or AONBs, special considerations apply to major development proposals which are more national than local in character. Major developments should not take place in National Parks or AONBs except in exceptional circumstances. This may arise where, after rigorous examination, there is demonstrated to be an overriding public need and refusal would be severely detrimental to the local economy and there is no potential for locating the development elsewhere or meeting the need in some other way.

5.7.2 Development plans should normally only propose coastal locations for development which needs to be on the coast. In particular, the undeveloped coast will rarely be the most appropriate location for development. Where new development requires a coastal location the developed coast will normally provide the best option, provided that due regard is paid to the risks of erosion, flooding or land instability.

5.7.4 Policies should aim to protect or enhance the character and landscape of the undeveloped coastline. Planning policies to be pursued in **Heritage Coast** areas should be incorporated in development plans. Designation as a heritage coast does not directly affect the status of the area in planning terms. However, the features which contributed to the designation of such areas may be important in formulating planning policies or making development management decisions.

6.5.24 World Heritage Sites are a material consideration to be taken into account by local planning authorities in the determination of planning applications, and by the Welsh Government in determining cases on appeal or following call-in. The impact of development proposals on both the sites and their settings should be carefully considered.

6.5.25 Local planning authorities should protect parks and gardens and their settings included in the first part of the 'Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales'. Cadw should be consulted on planning applications affecting grade 1 and II* sites and the Garden History Society should be consulted on all parks and gardens on the Register³¹. Information on the historic landscapes in the second part of the Register should be taken into account by local planning authorities in considering the implications of developments which are of such a scale that they would have a more than local impact on an area on the Register (see para 6.4.9). The effect of proposed development on a park or garden contained in the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales, or on the setting of such a park or garden, may be a material consideration in the determination of a planning application.

12.1.4 The Welsh Government aims to secure the environmental and telecommunications infrastructure necessary to achieve sustainable development objectives, while minimising adverse impacts on the environment, health and communities.

Extracts from LANDMAP Information Guidance Note 3: Using LANDMAP for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment of Onshore Wind Turbines (May 2013)

2 Planning Policy for Onshore Wind Energy

In the context of wind farm developments three types of areas have been identified in the Technical Advice Note (TAN) 8 on Renewable Energy (2005) as having differing status (points 1-3 below). However, LANDMAP information should still be used in all three of the TAN 8 contexts below (Welsh Assembly Government 2005, Annex D, section 8.4) to assist in avoiding, minimizing and compensating for impacts.

- National Parks (NPs) and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs)

TAN 8 states *“There is an implicit objective in TAN 8 to maintain the integrity and the quality of the landscape within the National Parks / AONBs of Wales i.e. no change in landscape character from wind turbine developments.”*

The WAG Policy Statement on National Parks and National Park Authorities in Wales (2007) states *“In line with WAG’s (Welsh Assembly Government) policy on major developments within the Welsh Parks- and as set out in TAN 8 – there should be no significant change in landscape character as a result of wind turbine development within National Parks (or the AONBs). In conjunction with this, it is an aim of WAG that, where feasible, transmission cables should be under-grounded.”*

- Areas within and immediately adjacent to Strategic Search Areas (SSAs)

TAN 8 Strategic Search Areas (SSAs) are considered the most appropriate locations for large scale wind farm development (Welsh Government, 2005). TAN 8 states that *“within (and immediately adjacent) to the SSAs, the implicit objective is to accept landscape change i.e. a significant change in landscape character from wind turbine development”*.

However, given the height of turbines, the visual impacts of a wind farm inside a SSA, may affect the character of areas some distance away. Such issues are most likely to arise where SSAs are close to National Parks and AONBs but also where there are areas of high ground enabling a high degree of intervisibility, such as the mountains of Snowdonia and the Brecon Beacons.

- Other areas outside the SSAs

TAN 8 states that *“in the rest of Wales outside the SSAs, the implicit objective is to maintain the landscape character i.e. no significant change in landscape character from wind turbine development”*.

Whilst *“most areas outside SSAs should remain free of large wind power schemes”*, wind farm schemes may be proposed on urban/industrial brownfield sites (up to 25MW), as smaller community based schemes (generally less than 5 MW) or as part of the re-powering and/or extension of existing wind farms. The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) should help determine if the *“environmental and landscape impacts are acceptable”* (TAN 8 2.11-2.14).

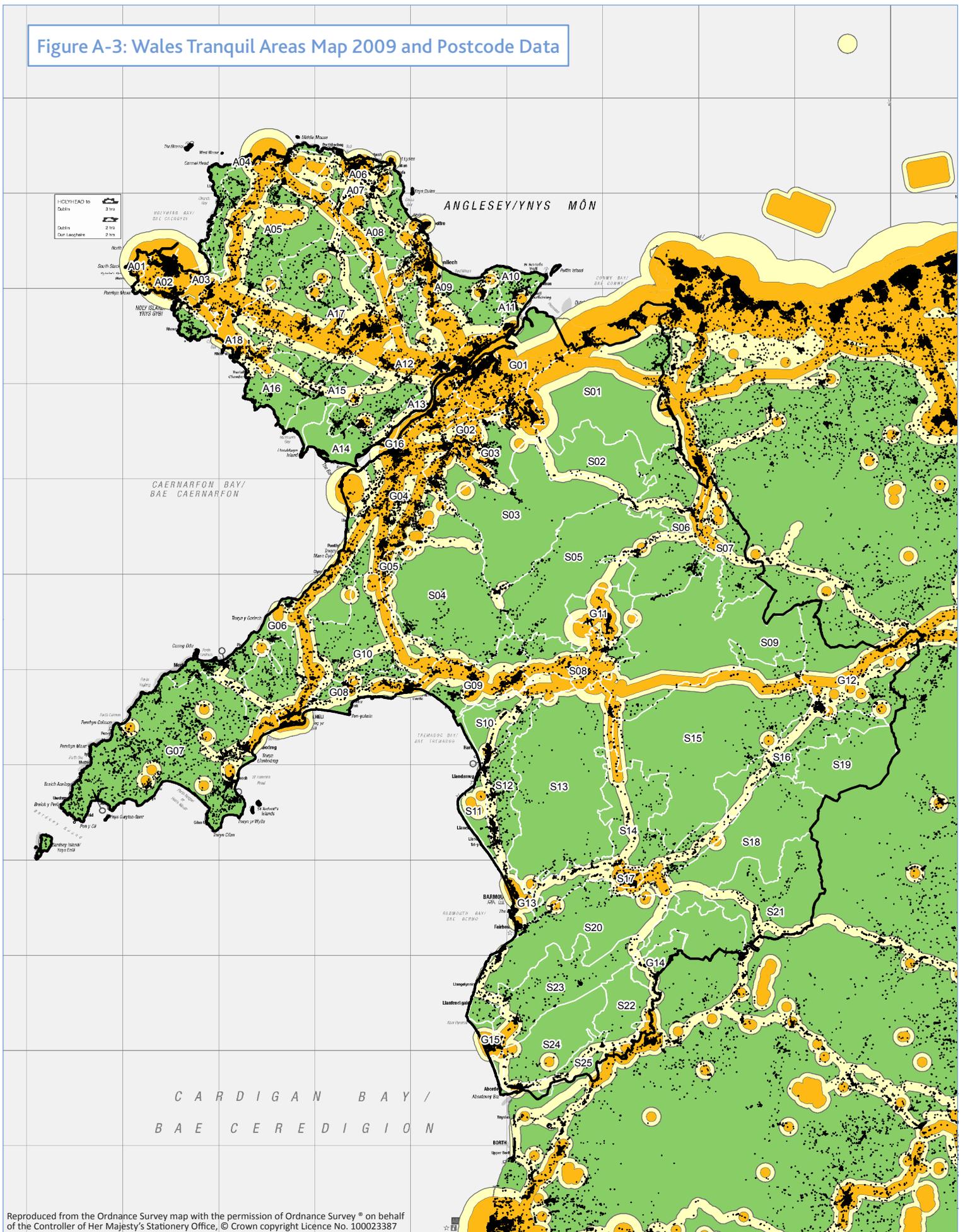
PPW states that renewable energy projects should generally be supported by local planning authorities. However it also states that in determining applications LPAs should take into account: *“the impact on natural heritage, the coast and the historic environment....ways to avoid, mitigate or compensate identified adverse impacts”* (12.10).

LANDMAP data can be valuable in understanding and avoiding or mitigating the impact of developments.

Good design principles and micro-siting is relevant in all instances to minimise the landscape and visual impacts of wind farms.

Appendix 3: Wales Tranquil Areas Map 2009 and Postcode Data Plan

Figure A-3: Wales Tranquil Areas Map 2009 and Postcode Data



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Tranquil Areas 2009

Postcode Data

- Zone B
- Zone C
- Undisturbed



Appendix 4: Glossary & Definitions

Glossary

Table A7.01 below provides a glossary of the abbreviations used in the guidance. It is followed by definitions of key words used within this report for clarity.

Table A7.01: Glossary Table

AOB	Area of Outstanding Beauty
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
DCfW	Design Commission for Wales
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ELDP	Eryri Local Development Plan
EU	European Union
GLVIA	Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment ⁸⁸
JLDP	Joint Local Development Plan
KW	Kilowatt
LCA	Landscape Character Area
LCT	Landscape Character Type
LDP	Local Development Plan
MW	Megawatt
NRW	Natural Resources Wales (formerly the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW))
PPW	Planning Policy Wales
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SLA	Special Landscape Area
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SNPA	Snowdonia National Park Authority
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance
SSA	Strategic Search Area
SSA A	Strategic Search Area A (Clocaenog Forest)
SSA B	Strategic Search Area B (Carno North)
SSA D	Strategic Search Area D (Nant y Moch)
SSSIs	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
TAN	Technical Advice Note
TAN8	Technical Advice Note 8: Planning for Renewable Energy
UDP	Unitary Development Plan
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

103 Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third edition (GLVIA) (The Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

Definitions

For the purposes of this study, the following definitions are taken from (or closely based on) the guidance referred to in Stage One of the Methodology (Section 2):

Landscape is an area as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.¹⁰⁴ GLVIA notes that the term does not only mean landscapes that are recognised as being special or valuable but is also about the ordinary and the everyday – landscapes where people live and work, and spend their leisure time. This includes rural landscapes, seascapes and townscapes.

Seascape should be taken as meaning landscapes with views of the coast or seas, and coasts and the adjacent marine environment with cultural, historical and archaeological links with each other¹⁰⁵

Landscape Effects are effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right¹⁰⁶

Visual Effects are effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people¹⁰⁷

Landscape Sensitivity is related to landscape character and how susceptible this is to change. Landscapes which are highly sensitive are at risk of having their key characteristics fundamentally altered, leading to a different landscape character. Sensitivity varies according to the type of development proposed and the landscape's individual elements, features and characteristics.

Visual Sensitivity reflects the views people have of the landscape and the effects of change on those views. When a landscape is changed, there is a probability that it will be seen by someone and often by several groups of people. This may affect both specific views and have an effect on the overall outlook (visual amenity) that people enjoy. Visual sensitivity depends both on the nature of the potential development as well as the nature of peoples' specific views and visual amenity. It also reflects the numbers and types of people who are likely to perceive the landscape and the extent to which they can accept change without perceiving effects upon their view to be negative.

Landscape Value is defined as the relative value that is attached to different landscapes by society and is often reflected in designation. Where this is the case it is important to understand what aspects of the landscape led to its designation and how these might be affected by potential development.

Landscape Capacity relates to how much change arising from a particular type of development can be accommodated without unacceptable adverse effects on the character or perception of the landscape and without compromising any values attached to it.

Landscape Scale in relation to the evaluation of LCAs relates to the relationship of key elements or spaces of each LCA, such as woodland or open space, within the whole landscape. This does not refer merely to the size of the LCA. It may be that a small LCA is assessed to be vast in scale as it is a small part of a continuous whole such as a mountain range or extensive forest. In contrast smaller scale landscapes may typically comprise elements and spaces of a community scale such as hamlets, woodland clearings, small field or woodland units.

104 Council of Europe, 2000 as set out in GLVIA Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third edition (GLVIA) (The Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

105 HM Government, Northern Island Executive, Scottish Government and Welsh Assembly Government, 2011: 21) as set out in GLVIA Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third edition (GLVIA) (The Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

106 Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third edition (GLVIA) (The Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

107 Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Third edition (GLVIA) (The Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment 2013)

Cumulative Effects 'result from the additional changes caused by a proposed development in conjunction with other similar developments or as the combined effect of a set of developments taken together'.

Cumulative Landscape Effects 'can impact on either the physical fabric or character of the landscape, or any special values attached to it'

Cumulative Visual Effects can be caused by combined visibility, which 'occurs where the observer is able to see two or more developments from one viewpoint' and/or sequential effects which 'occur when the observer has to move to another viewpoint to see different developments'⁹³

Tranquillity is defined as the quality of calm experienced in places with mainly natural features and activities, free from disturbance from manmade ones¹⁰⁹

108 Cumulative Effects, Cumulative Landscape Effects and Cumulative Visual Effects definitions taken from SNH (2012)
Assessing the cumulative impact of onshore wind energy development, Inverness: Scottish Natural Heritage
109 <http://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/tranquillity>

Appendix 5: Background Documents

- *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan, Background Paper: Gwynedd Landscape Strategy (Update 2012)*
- *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan, Background Paper: Isle of Anglesey Landscape Strategy (Update 2011)*
- *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan, Background Paper: Review of Anglesey and Gwynedd Special Landscape Areas (2012)*
- *Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia Renewable Energy Capacity Assessment' (2012)*
- *Isle of Anglesey Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), Holiday Accommodation (Adopted 2007)*
- *Isle of Anglesey Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), NW Regional Planning Guidance (Adopted 2002)*
- *Isle of Anglesey Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), Onshore Wind Energy (Adopted 2013)*
- *The Isle of Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Management Plan (2009-2014)*
- *Cadw (1998) Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*
- *Cadw (2001) Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales*
- *Cadw (2007) Guide to Good Practice on Using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process, (revised) 2nd edition*
- *Cadw (1999) Caring for Coastal Heritage*
- *Cadw (2007) Caring for Historic Landscapes*
- *Cadw (1998) Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest In Wales*
- *Cadw (2004) World Heritage Site Management Plan, The Castles and Town Walls of Edward I in Gwynedd*
- *The Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage (2002) Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland*
- *Clark, J., Darlington, J. & Fairclough, G. (2004) Using Historic Landscape Characterisation*
- *Code of Best Practice on Mobile Network Development in England (2013) – Appendix B Siting and Design Principles (produced jointly by representatives of central and local government and the mobile phone industry, builds on Government guidance and operators' commitments)*
- *Countryside Council for Wales (2009) Seascape Assessment of Wales*
- *Countryside Council for Wales (et al) (2011) Guide to Best Practice in Seascape Assessment*
- *Countryside Council for Wales, (March 2009) Wales Tranquil Areas Map*
- *Countryside Council for Wales (2009) Wales Landscape Character Areas*
- *Countryside Council for Wales, Cadw and Welsh Assembly Government (2007) Guide to Good Practice on Using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process*
- *Countryside Council for Wales (2009) Welsh Seascapes and their Sensitivity to Offshore Developments. Policy Research report No. 08/5*
- *Department of Energy and Climate Change (2009) Guidance on the Assessment of Cumulative Effects of Onshore Wind Farms. Entec Phase 2 Report 2nd draft.*
- *Department of Energy and Climate Change, 2011, Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)*
- *Department of Energy and Climate Change, 2011, National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3)*
- *Design Commission for Wales (2012) Designing Wind Farms in Wales*
- *Devon Landscape Policy Group Advice Note No. 2: Accommodating Wind and Solar PV Developments in Devon's Landscape, 2013*
- *Fiona Fyfe Associates, Anglesey and Snowdonia National Park Seascape Assessment (2013)*

- *George A. Goulty, (1990) Visual Amenity Aspects of High Voltage Transmission*
- *Gwynedd Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), Holiday Accommodation (Adopted July 2011)*
- *Gwynedd Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), Onshore Wind Energy (Draft December 2012)*
- *Gwynedd Council, Penrhyn Llŷn (Llŷn Peninsular) Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Management Plan (2010-2015)*
- *Gwynedd Werdd (October 2012), Scoping Renewable Energy Opportunities in Gwynedd*
- *The Highland Council (2012) Interim Supplementary Planning Guidance: Onshore Wind Energy*
- *Holford Rules - with National Grid Company (NGC) 1992 and Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Limited (SHETL) 2003 notes*
- *Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) (Third Edition 2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA)*
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Appendix 6: LANDMAP Data in Relation to the Study Area (March 2014)

The plans contained in Appendix 6 illustrate the range of LANDMAP data which was used to inform the evaluations of sensitivity to wind energy developments for each of the landscape units. Information from the following 24 LANDMAP data layers was overlaid onto the study area and represents the LANDMAP data as at March 2014:

Visual & Sensory Datasets

VS Level 2: Landform
VS Level 3: Land Cover
VS4: Topographic Form
VS5: Land Cover Pattern
VS6: Settlement Pattern
VS7: Boundary Type
VS8: Scale
VS9: Enclosure
VS18: Level of Human Access
VS24: Perceptual and Sensory Qualities
VS25: Sense of Place
VS27: Condition
VS46: Scenic Quality
VS47: Integrity
VS48: Character
VS49: Rarity
VS50: Overall Evaluation

Historic Landscape Datasets

HL35: Integrity
HL38: Rarity
HL40: Overall Evaluation

Geological Landscape Datasets

GL31: Rarity / Uniqueness
GL33: Overall Evaluation

Landscape Habitats Datasets

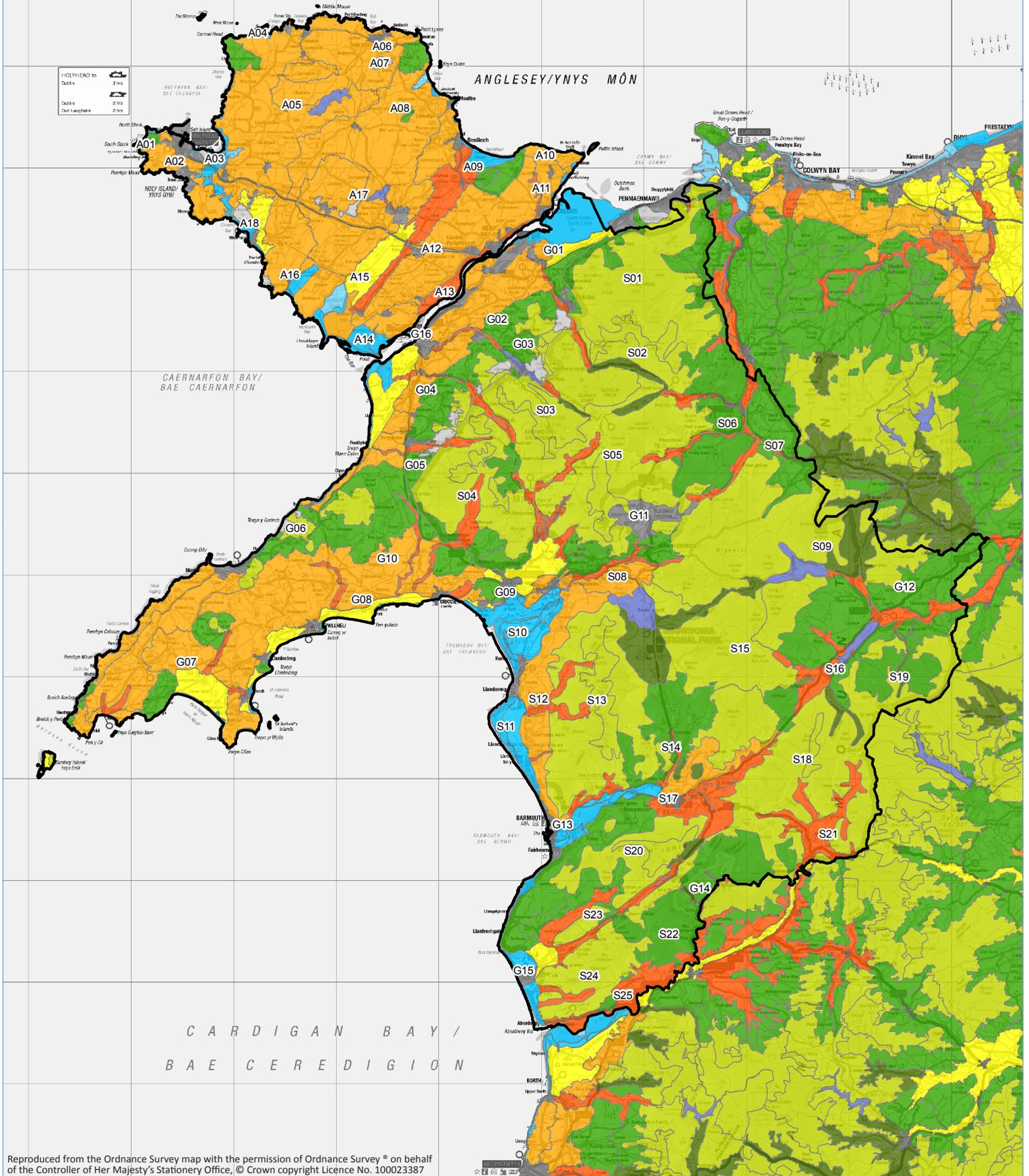
LH42: Connectivity / Cohesion
LH45: Overall Evaluation

Cultural Landscape Datasets

Although GVLIA recommends that data from all five LANDMAP layers should be used in any assessment, the Cultural Landscape information provided in the Cultural Landscape layer was not sufficiently detailed to be useful for this study¹¹⁰.

110 LANDMAP Information Guidance Note 3 doesn't identify any specific evaluation criteria for Cultural Landscape

Figure A-6.1: VS Level 2 Landform

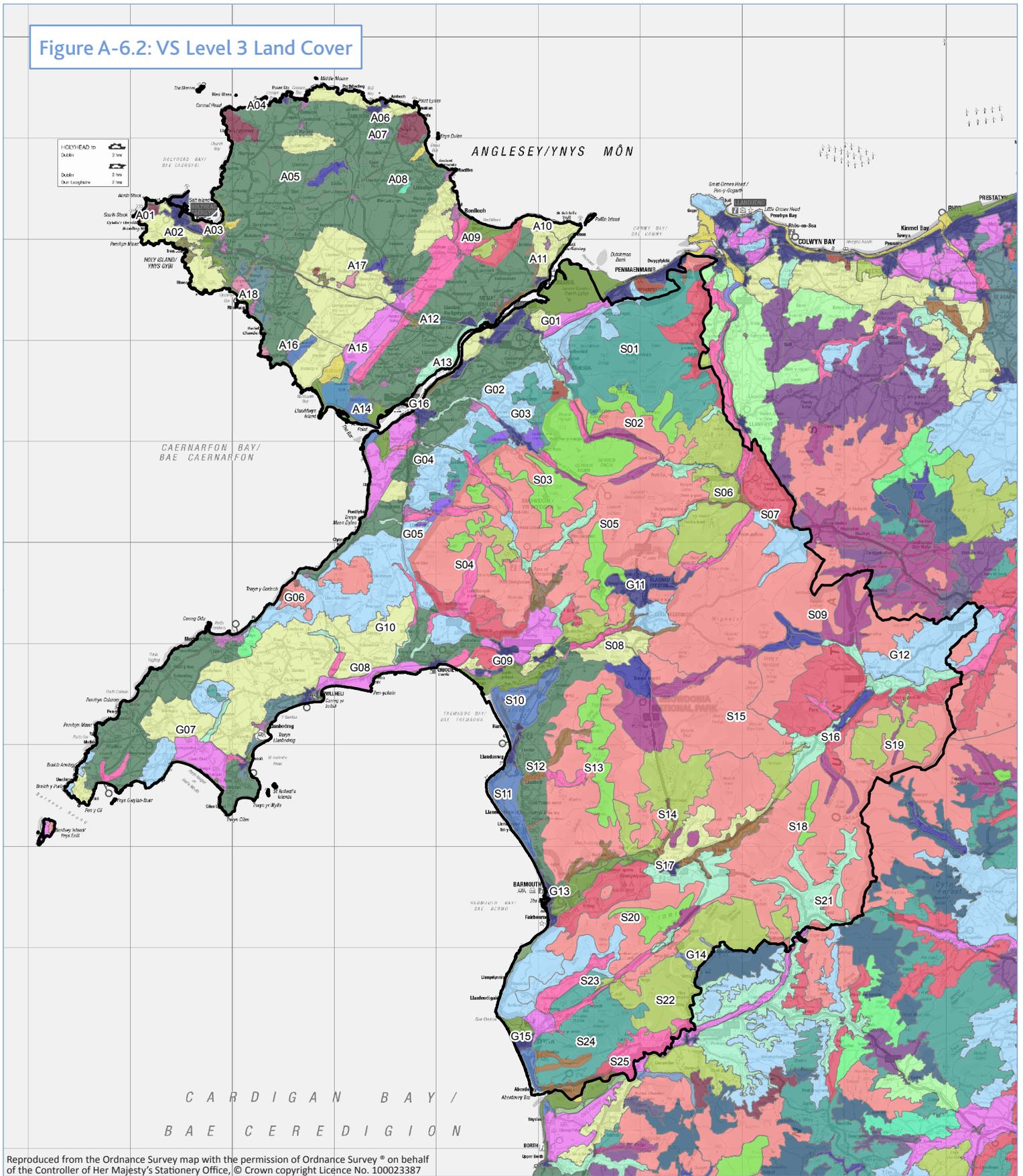


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- | | | |
|---|--|---|
|  Built Land |  Exposed Upland/Plateau |  Lowland Valleys |
|  Coastal |  Flat Lowland/Levels |  Rolling Lowland |
|  Coastal Waters |  Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes |  Upland Valleys |
|  Developed Unbuilt Land |  Inland Water (Including Associated Edge) | |



Figure A-6.2: VS Level 3 Land Cover

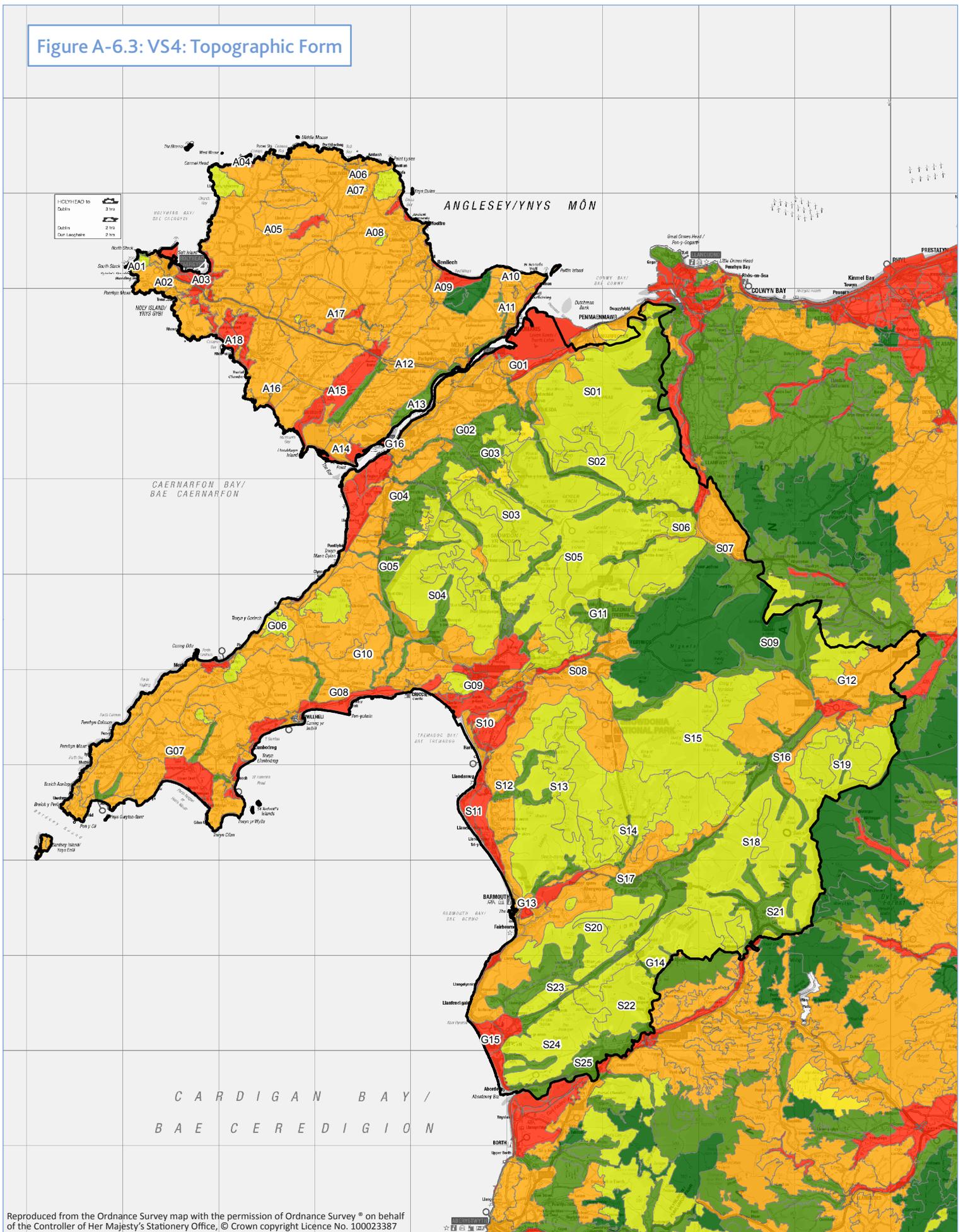


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- | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Amenity Land | Hill & Lower Plateau Grazing | Mosaic Upland & Plateaux | Upland Grazing |
| Barren/Rocky Upland | Hill & Lower Plateau Mosaic | Open Hillside & Scarp Slopes | Upland Moorland |
| Cliffs & Cliff Tops | Hillside & Scarp Slopes Grazing | Open Lowland Valleys | Urban |
| Derelict/Waste Ground | Hillside & Scarp Slopes Moorland | Open Rolling Lowland | Village |
| Dispersed Settlement | Hillside & Scarp Slopes Mosaic | Open Upland Valleys | Wooded Hillside & Scarp Slopes |
| Dunes & Dune Slack | Intertidal | Open/Wooded Mosaic Upland Valleys | Wooded Lowland Valleys |
| Estuary | Lake | Other Costal Wild Land | Wooded Rolling Lowland |
| Excavation | Mosaic Lowland Valleys | River | Wooded Upland & Plateaux |
| Flat Lowland Mosaic | Mosaic Rolling Lowland | Road Corridor | Wooded Upland Valleys |
| Flat Open Lowland Farmland | | | |



Figure A-6.3: VS4: Topographic Form



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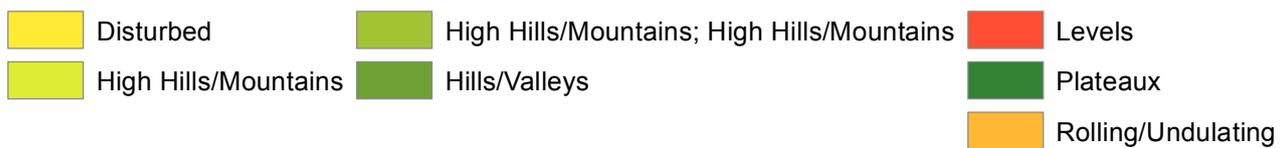
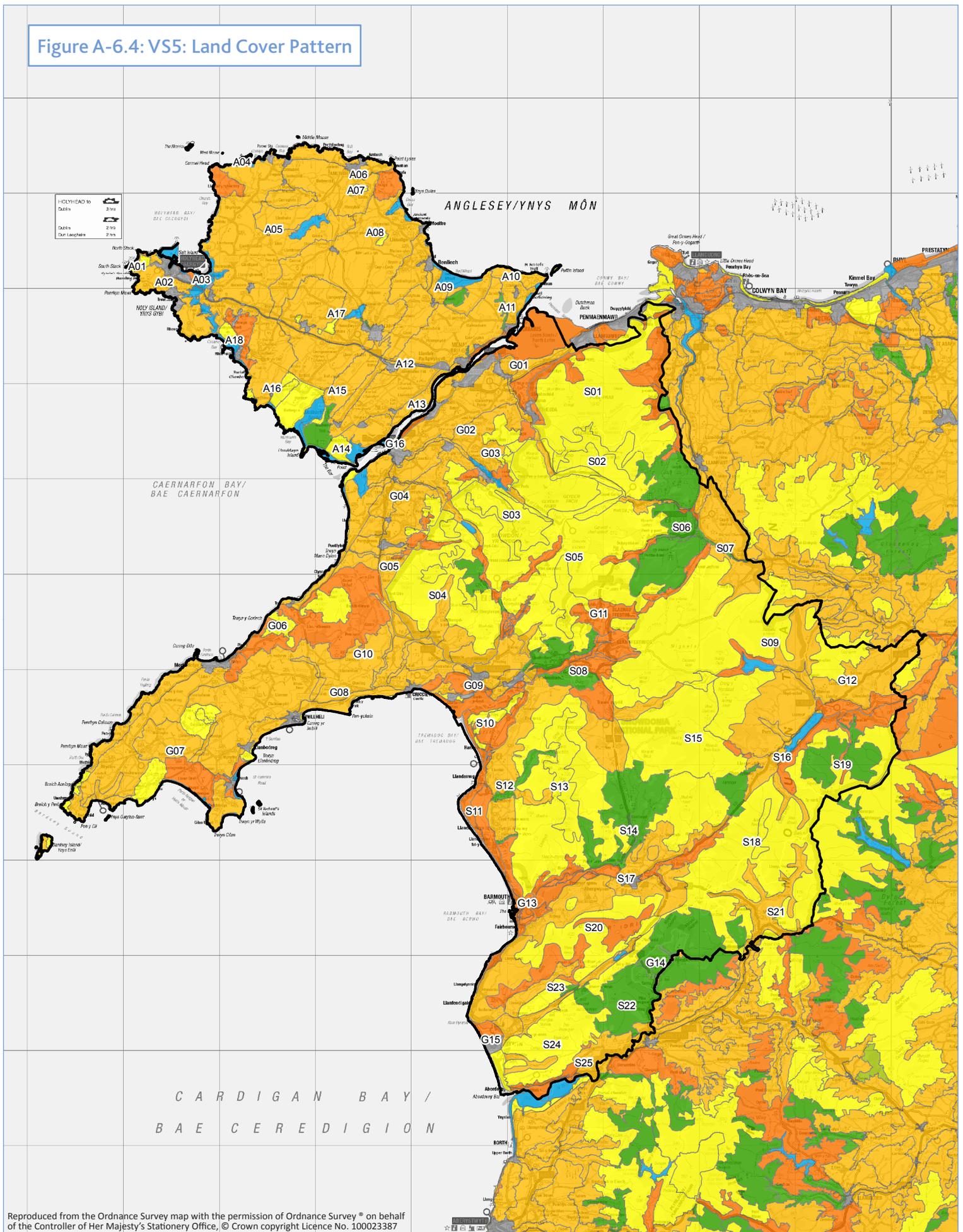


Figure A-6.4: VS5: Land Cover Pattern

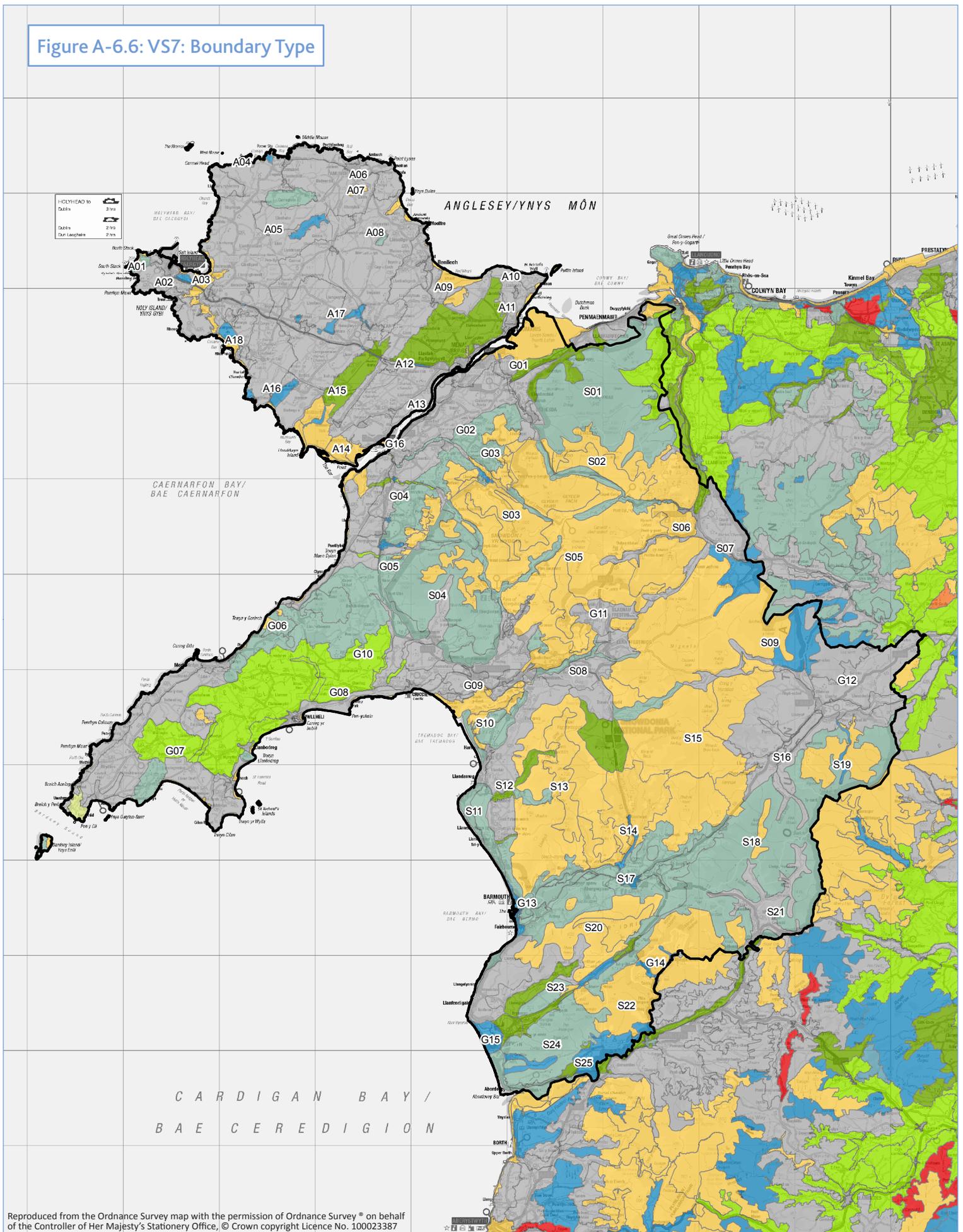


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- | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|---|--|---|-----------|
|  | Development |  | Field Pattern/Mosaic; Field Pattern/Mosaic |  | Open Land |
|  | Field Pattern/Mosaic |  | Mixture |  | Water |
| | | | |  | Woodland |



Figure A-6.6: VS7: Boundary Type

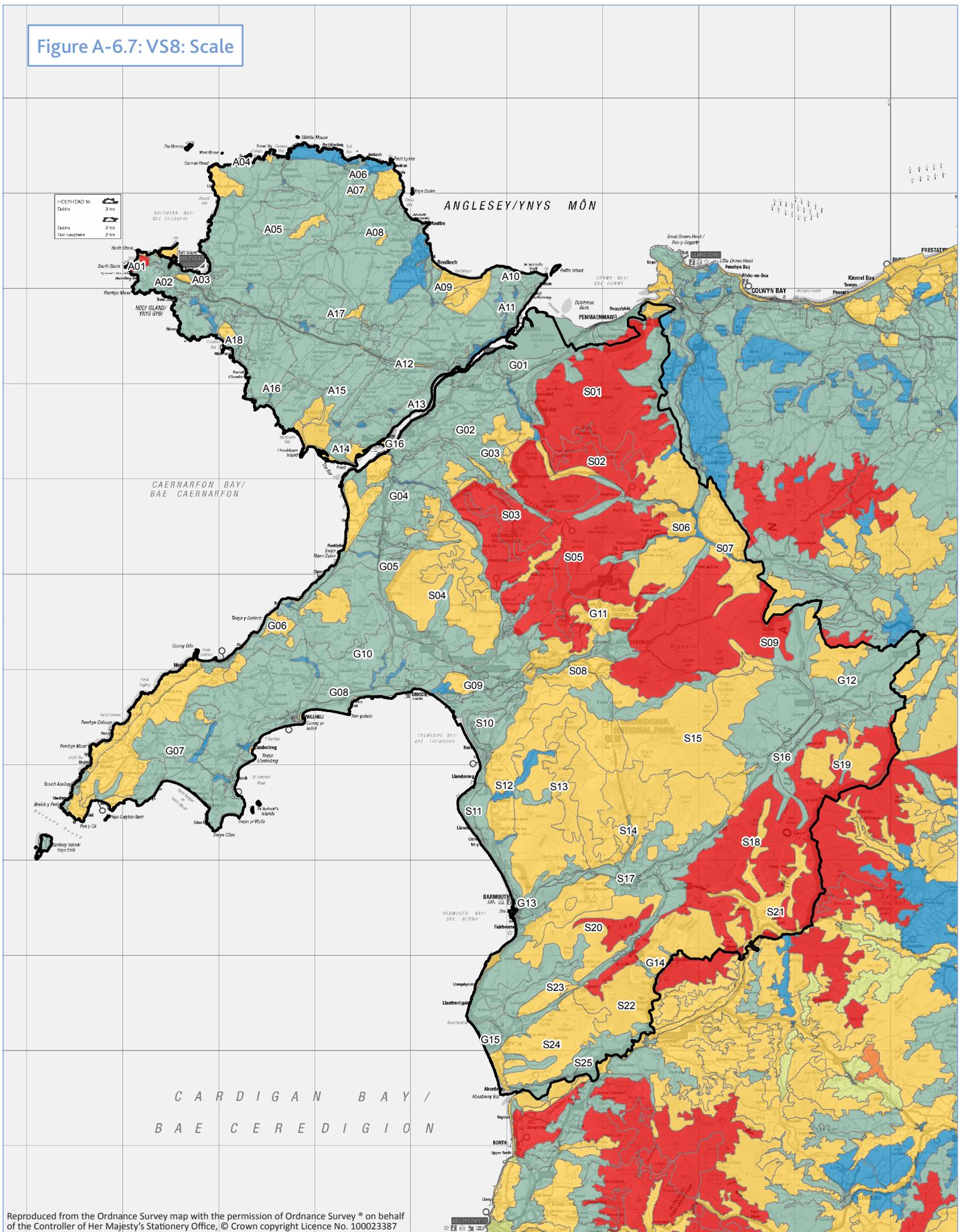


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- | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|---|------------------|---|------------------|
|  | Clawdd/Hedgebanks |  | Hedge With Trees |  | None |
|  | Fences |  | Managed Hedge |  | Overgrown Hedges |
|  | Fences With Trees |  | Mixture |  | Slate Fences |
| | |  | Stone Walls | | |



Figure A-6.7: VS8: Scale

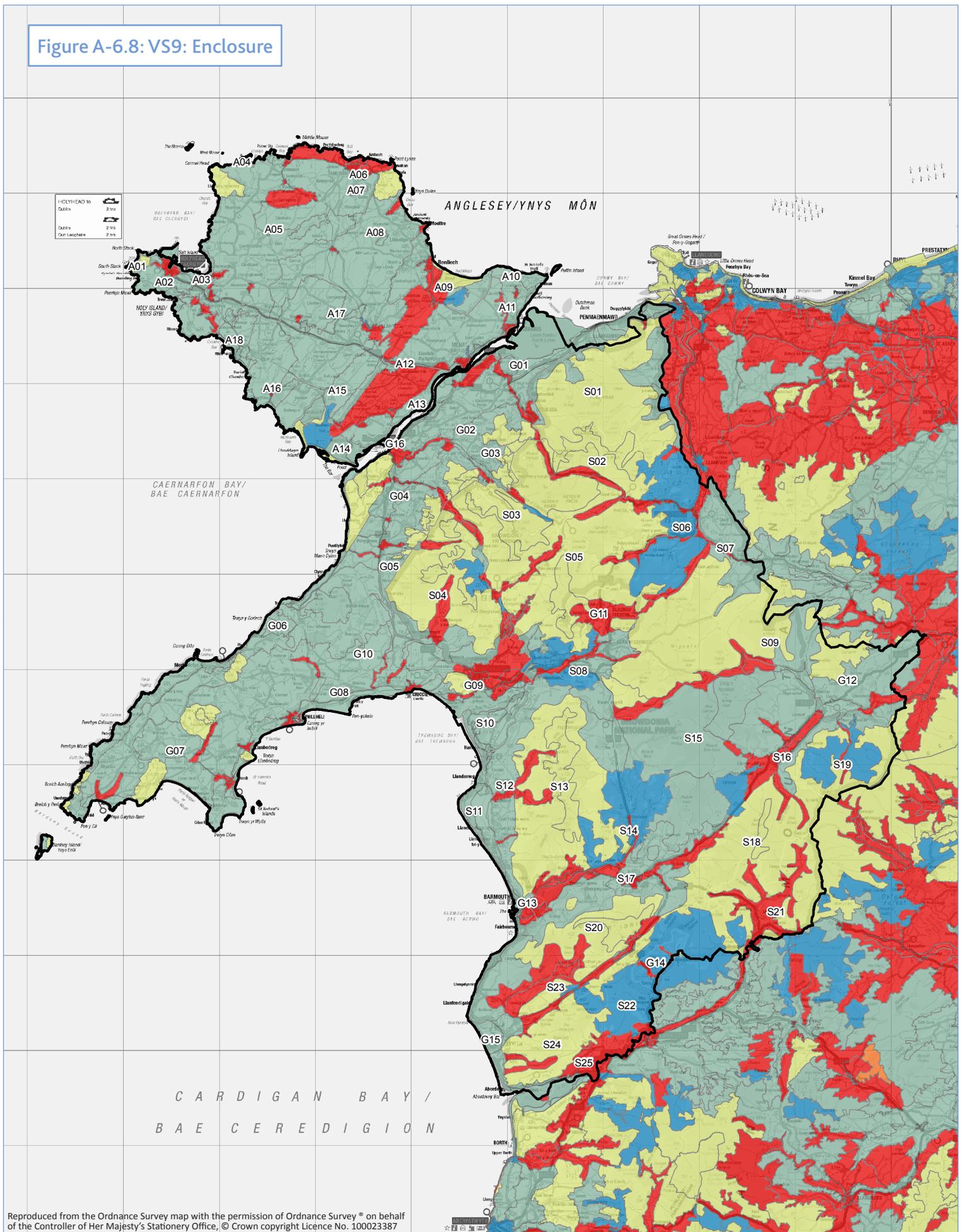


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- | | | |
|---|--|---|
|  Intimate |  Large; Large |  Small |
|  Large |  Medium |  Vast |



Figure A-6.8: VS9: Enclosure

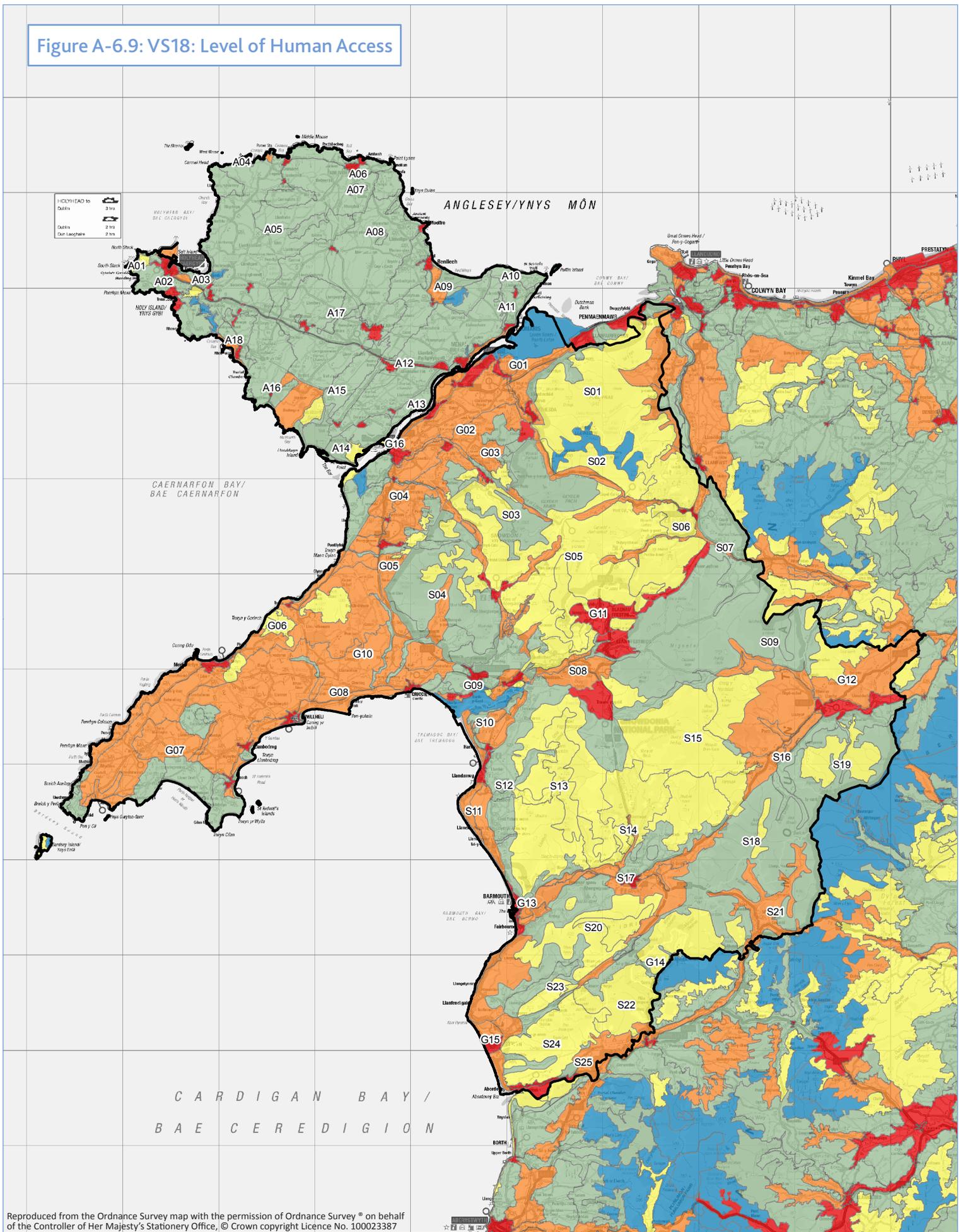


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- Confined
- Exposed
- Open; Open
- Enclosed
- Open



Figure A-6.9: VS18: Level of Human Access



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- Constant
- Frequent
- Occasional
- Infrequent
- Rare



Figure A-6.10: VS24: Perceptual and Sensory Qualities

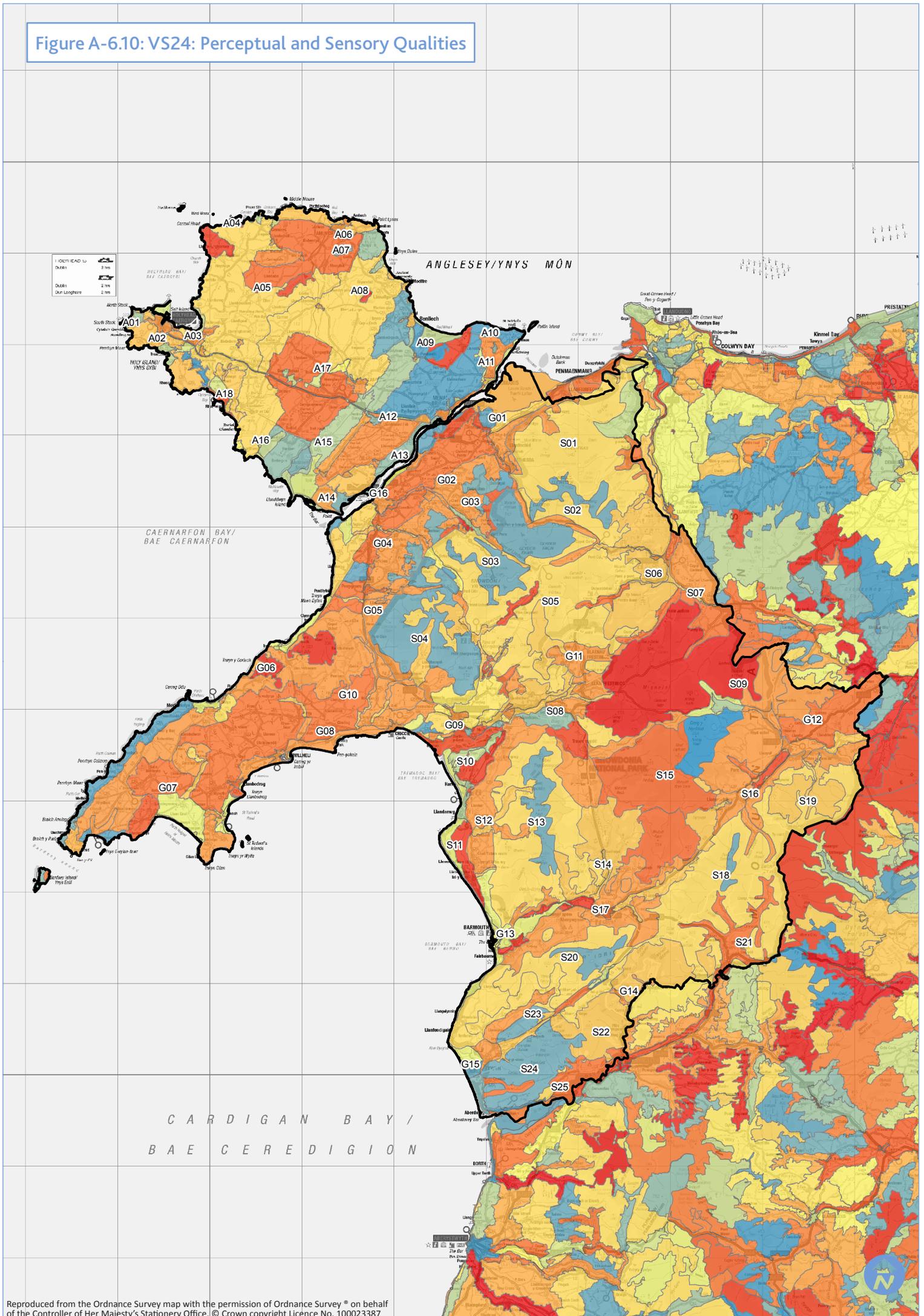
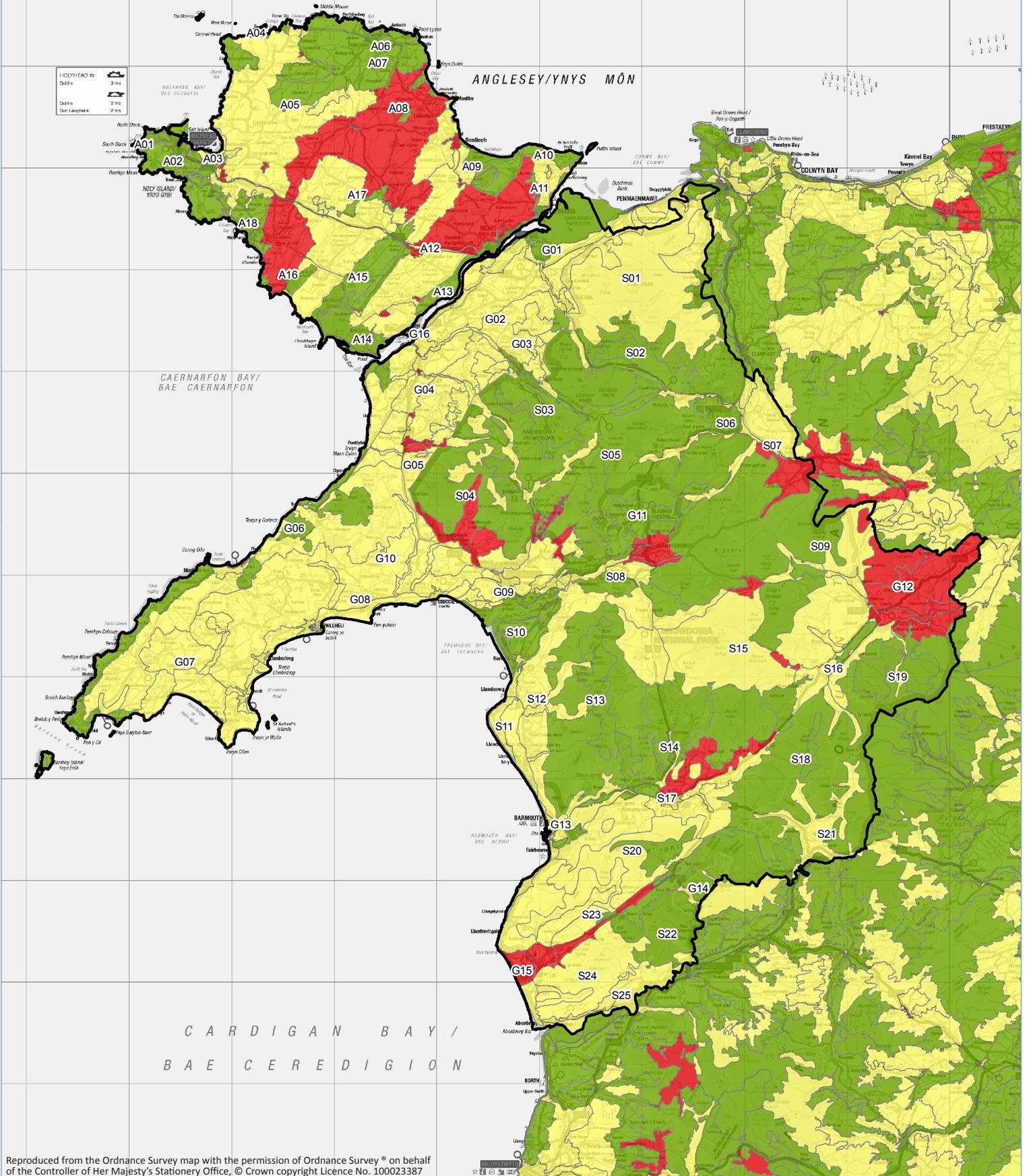


Figure A-6.11: VS25: Sense of Place

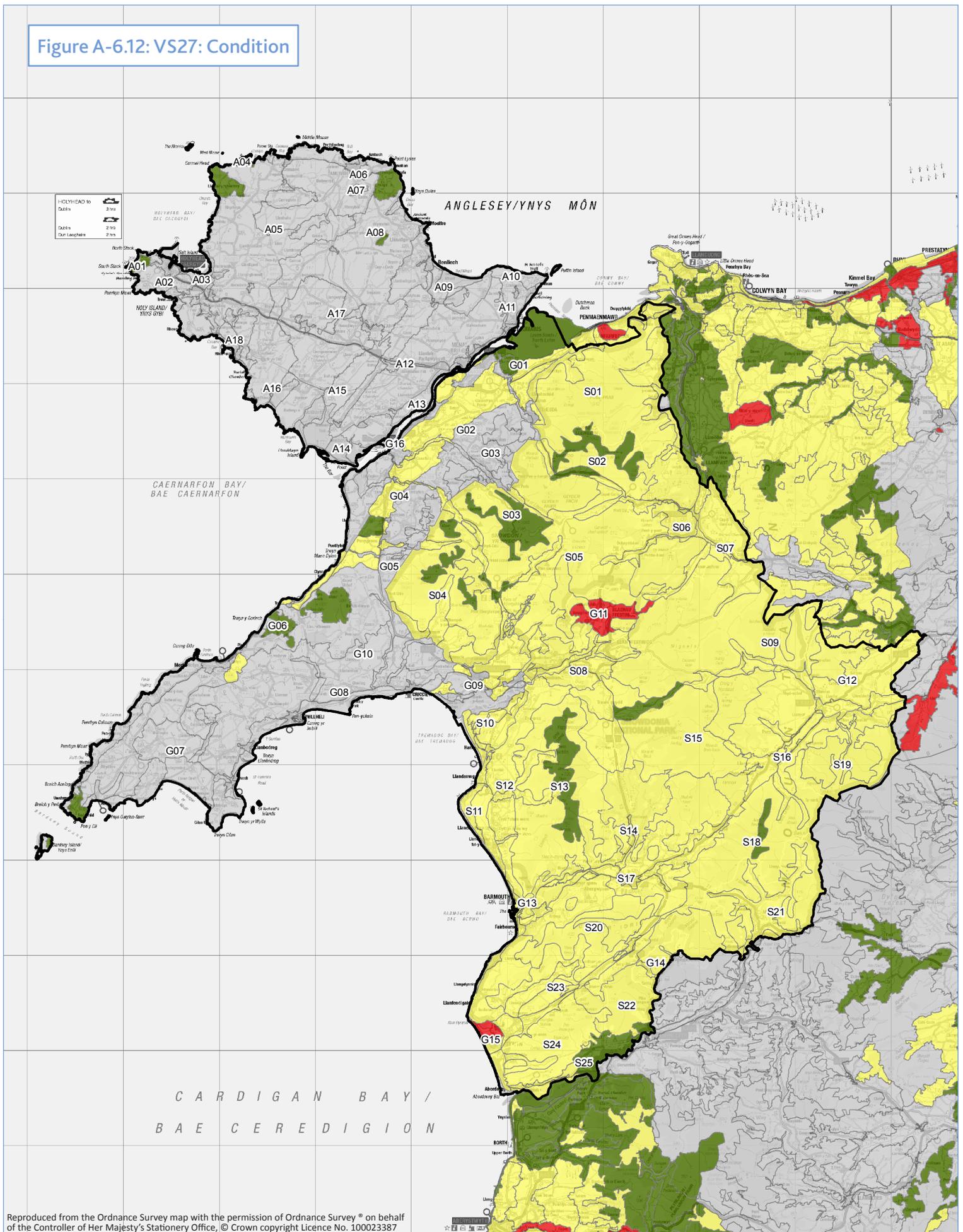


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Strong Moderate Weak



Figure A-6.12: VS27: Condition



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Figure A-6.13: VS46: Scenic Quality

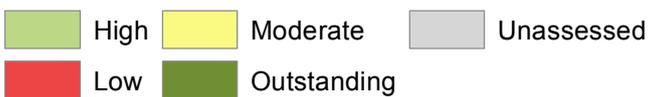
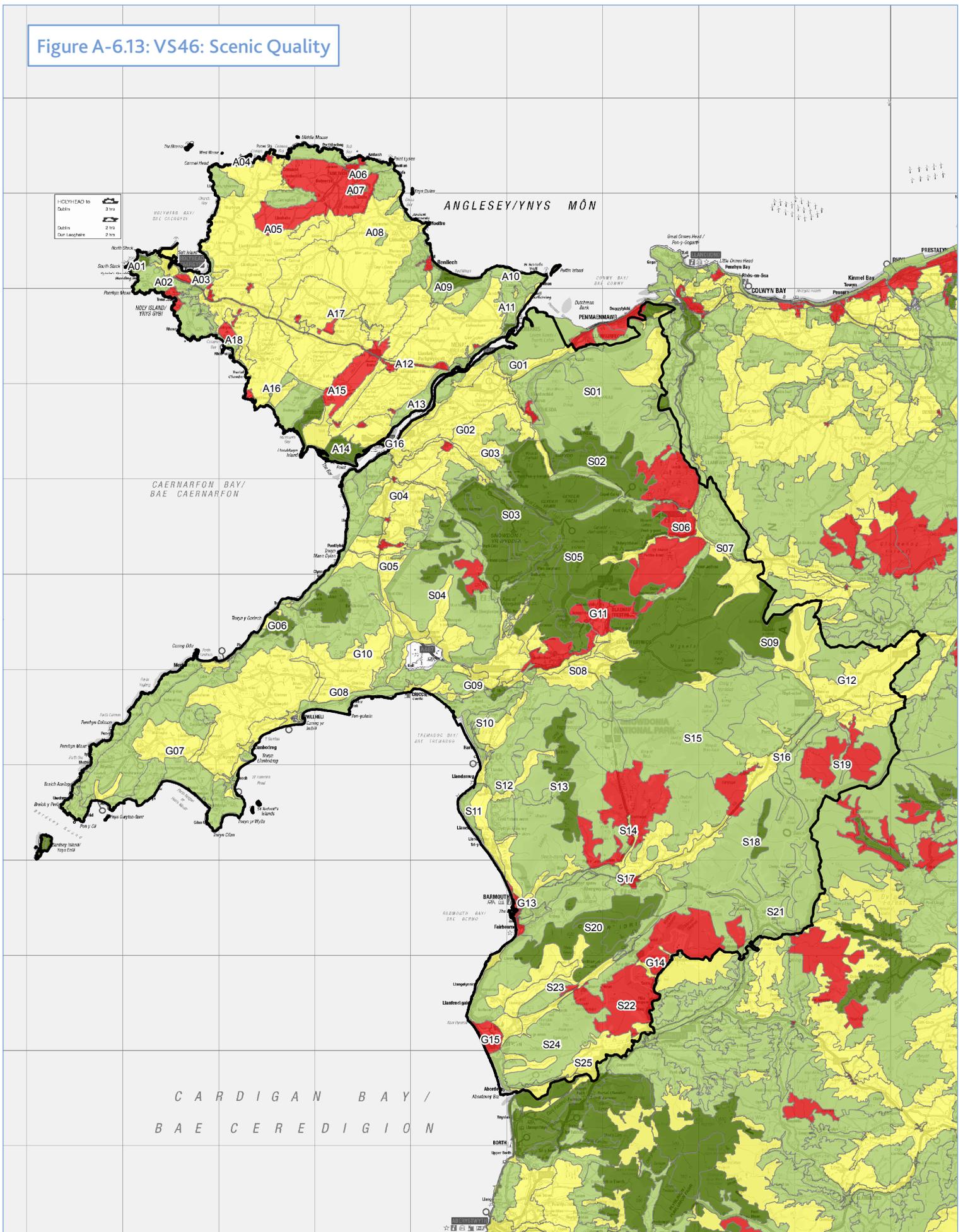
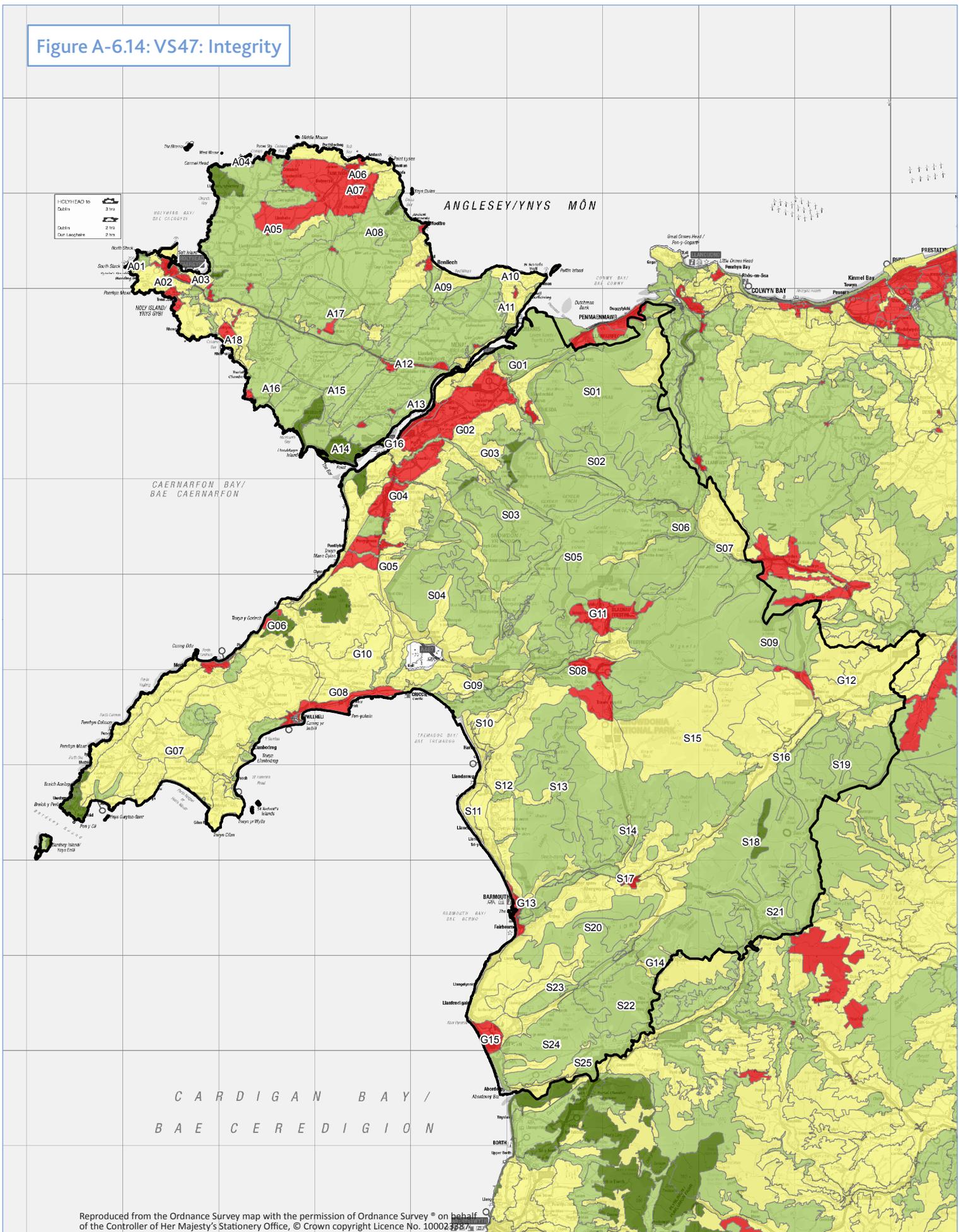


Figure A-6.14: VS47: Integrity

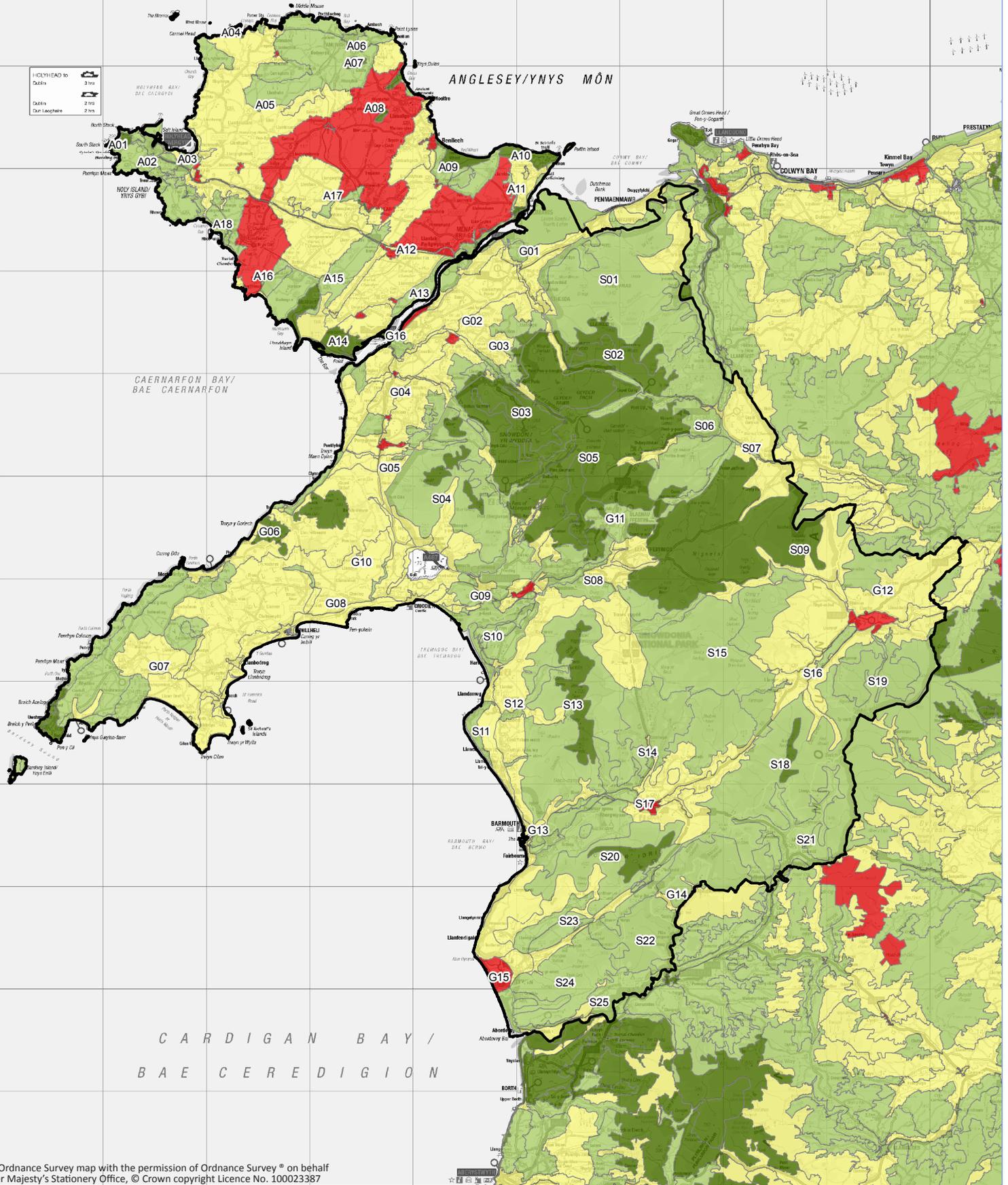


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Outstanding
 High
 Moderate
 Low



Figure A-6.15: VS48: Character

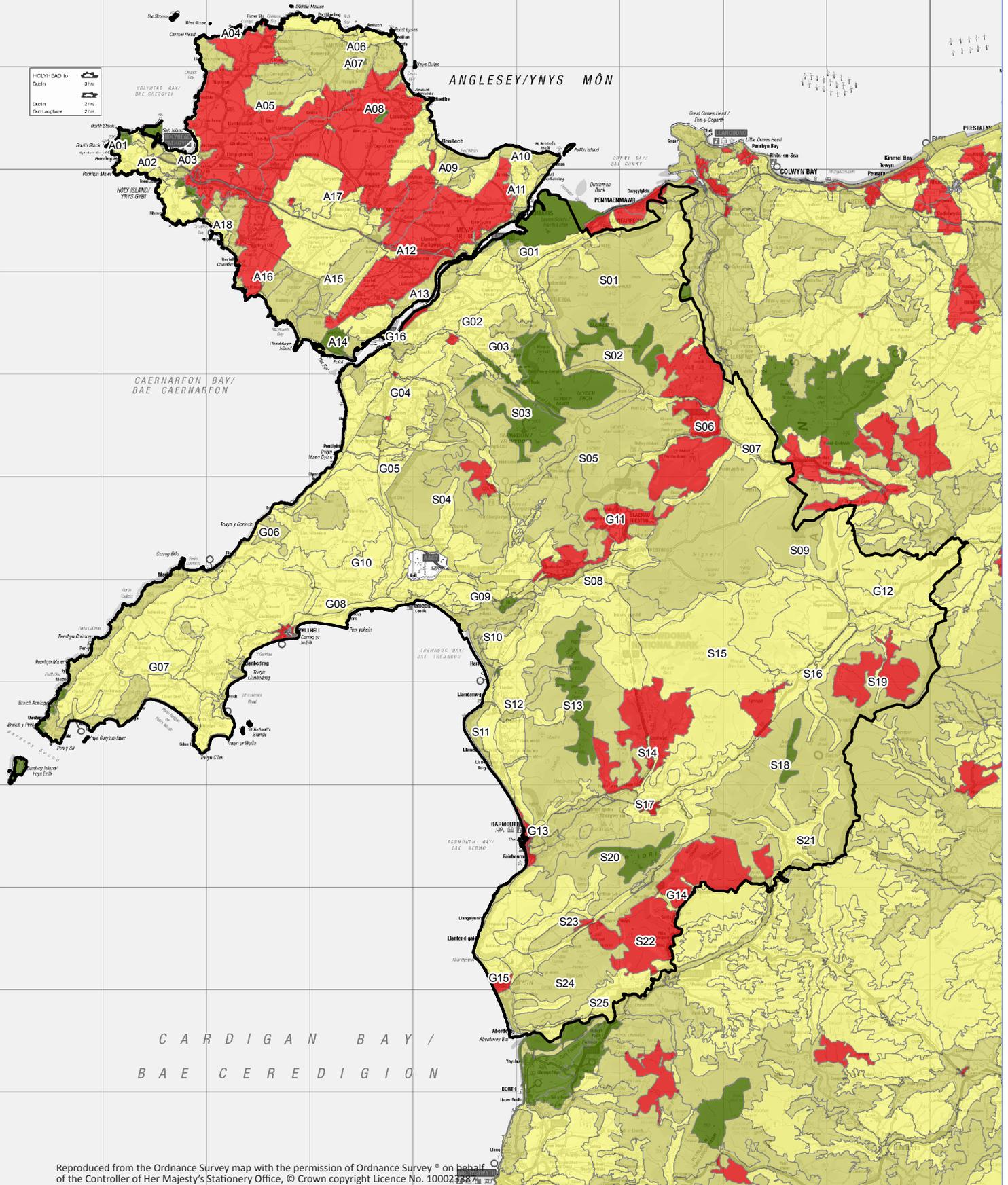


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Outstanding High Moderate Low



Figure A-6.16: VS49: Rarity

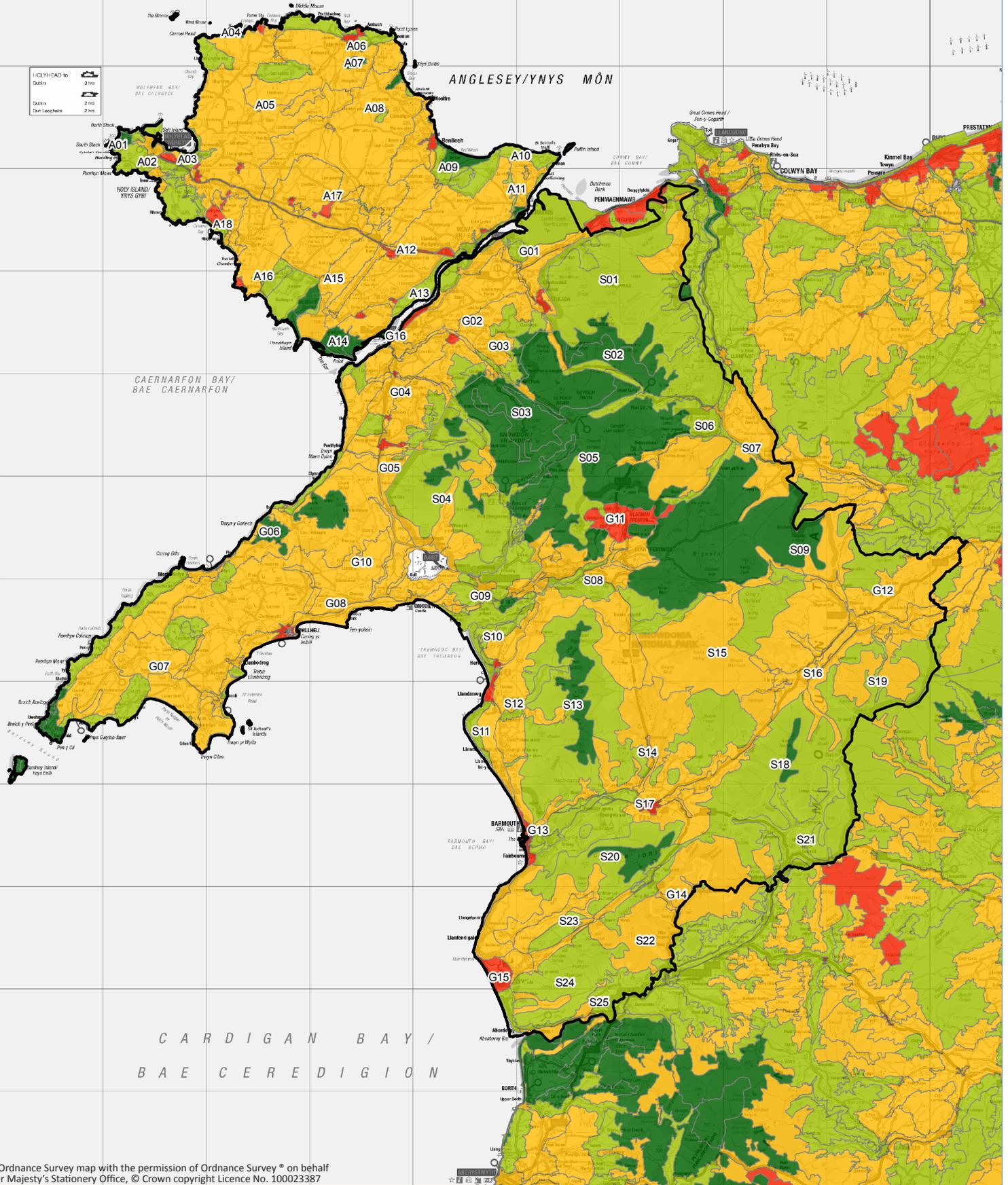


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Outstanding
 High
 Moderate
 Low



Figure A-6.17: VS50: Overall Evaluation

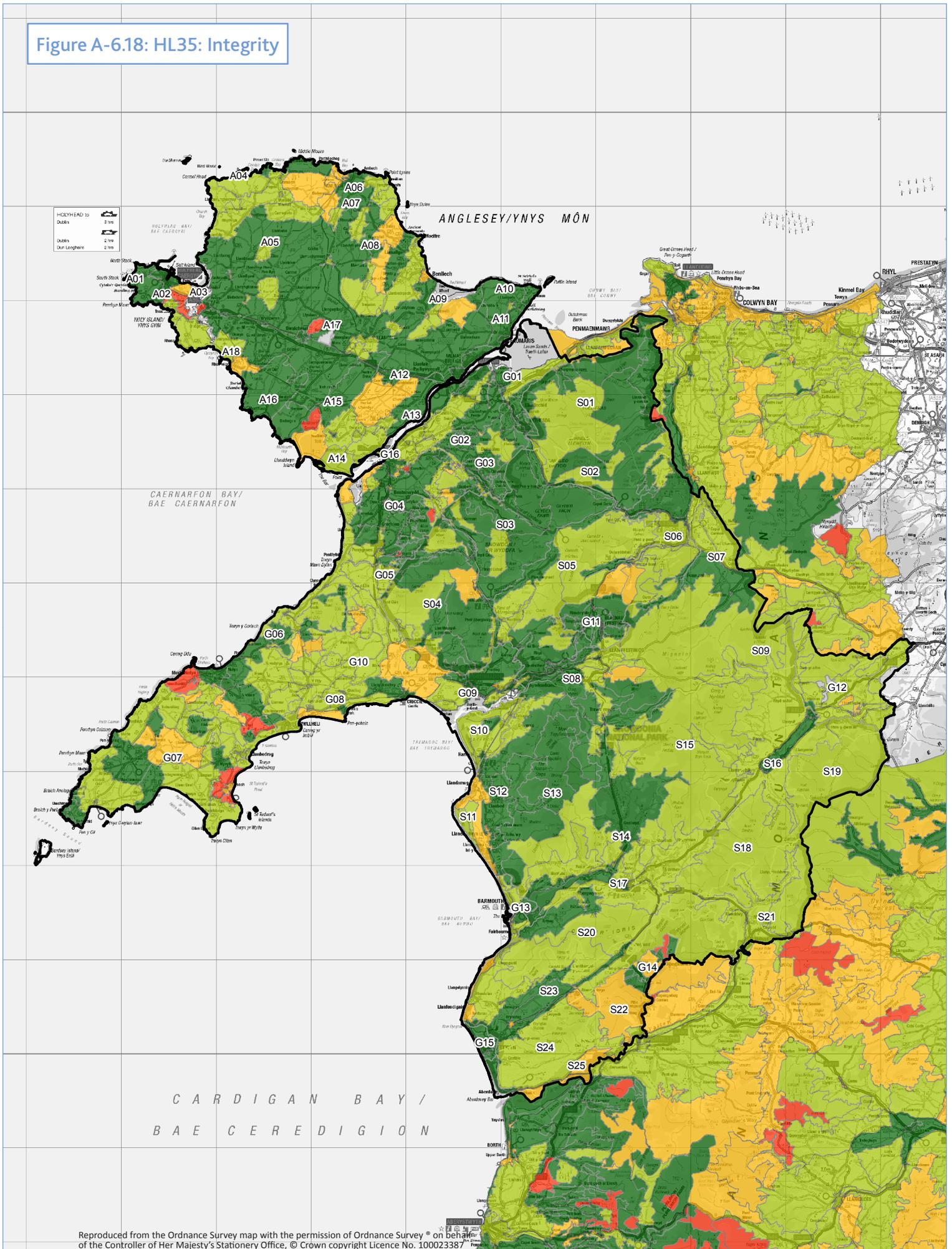


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Outstanding
 High
 Moderate
 Low



Figure A-6.18: HL35: Integrity

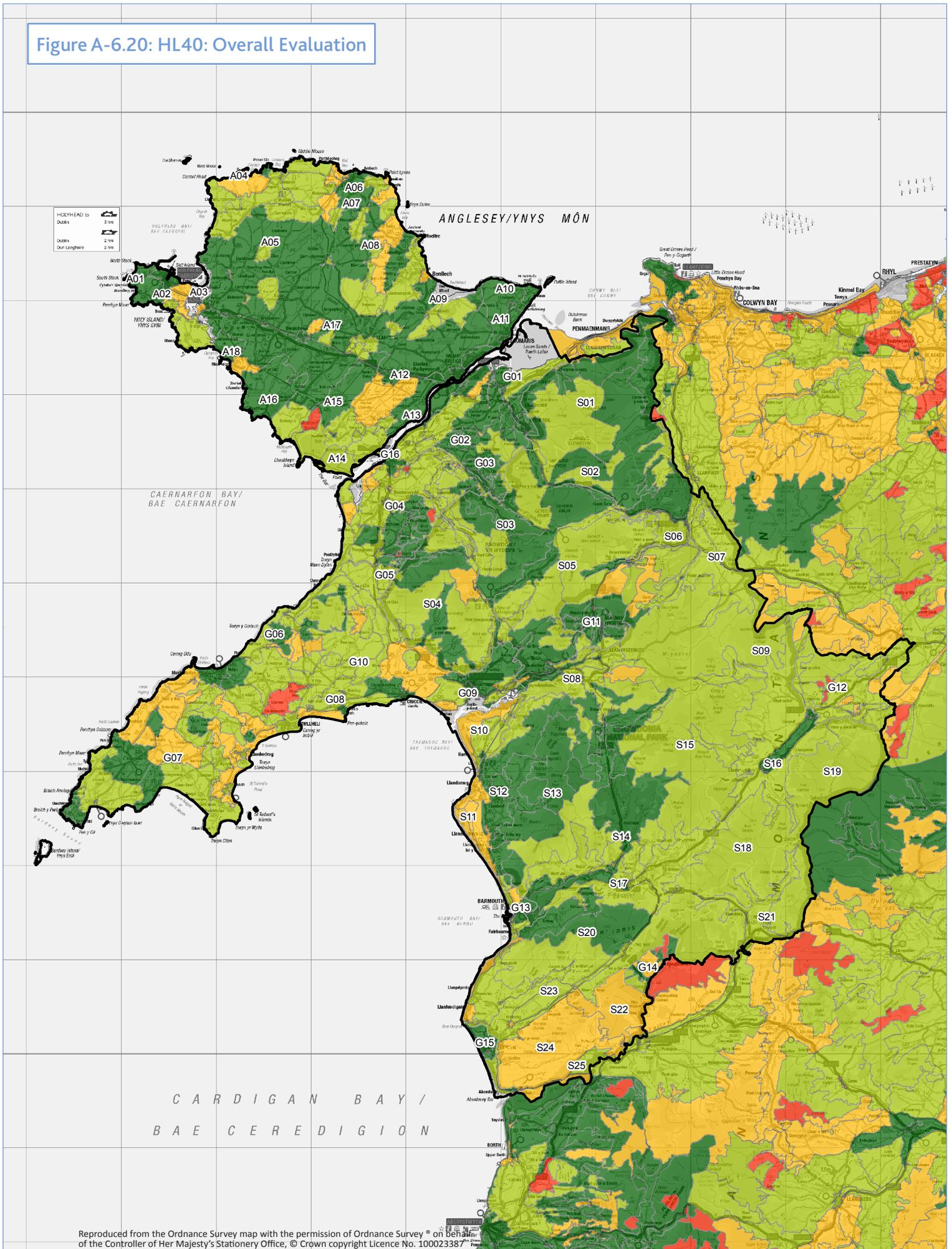


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Outstanding
 High
 Moderate
 Low
 Unassessed



Figure A-6.20: HL40: Overall Evaluation

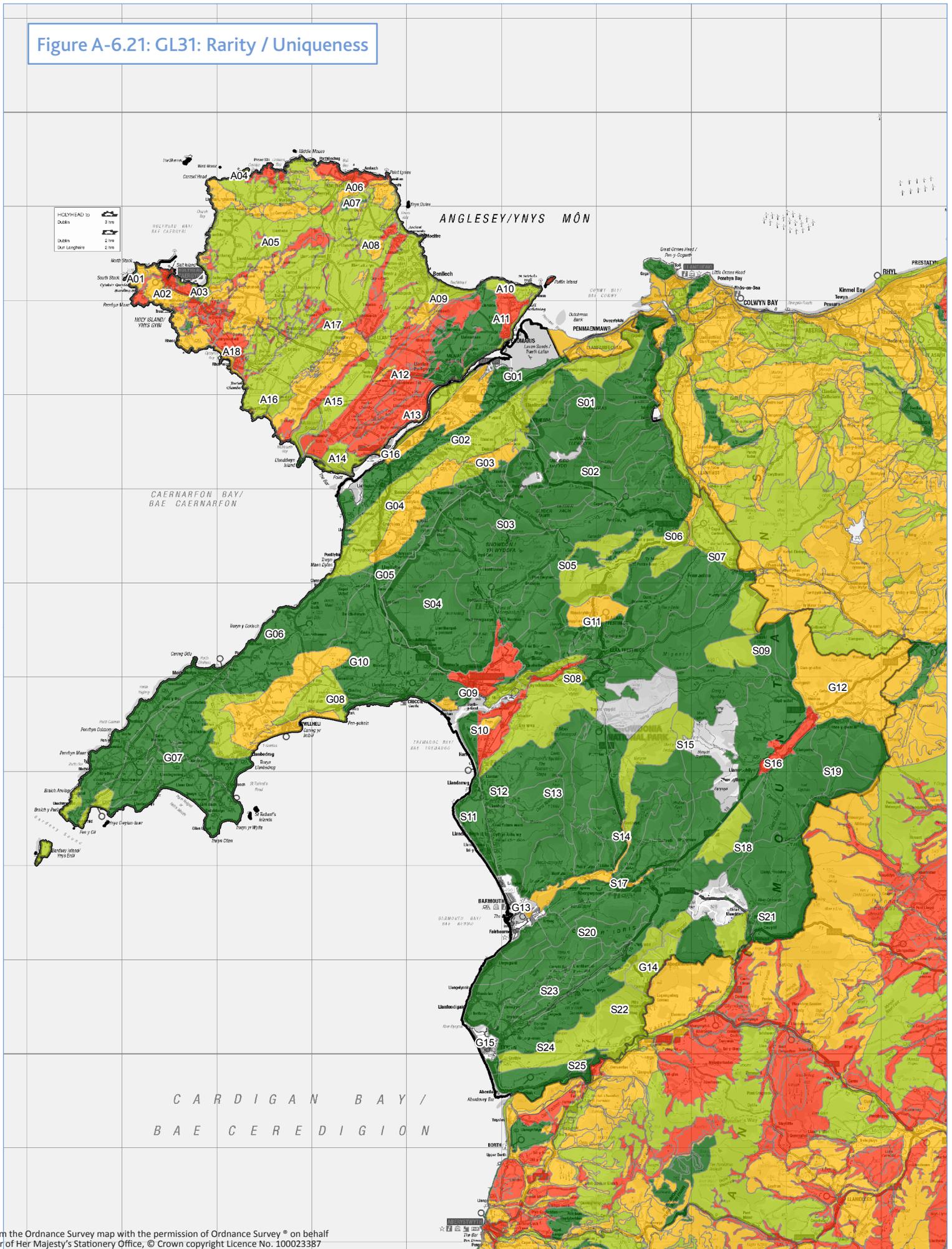


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Outstanding
 High
 Moderate
 Low
 Unassessed



Figure A-6.21: GL31: Rarity / Uniqueness

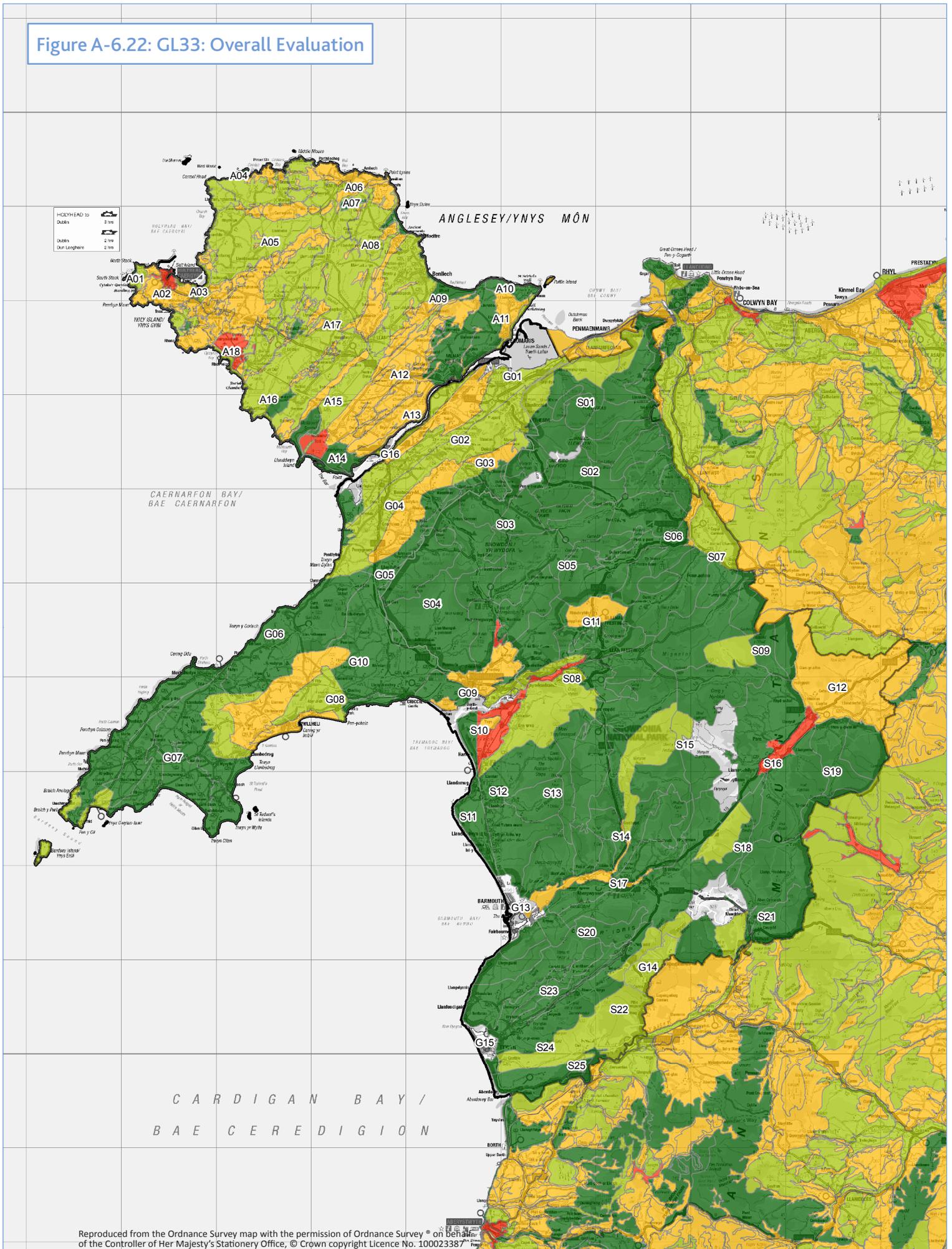


Outstanding High Moderate Low Unassessed



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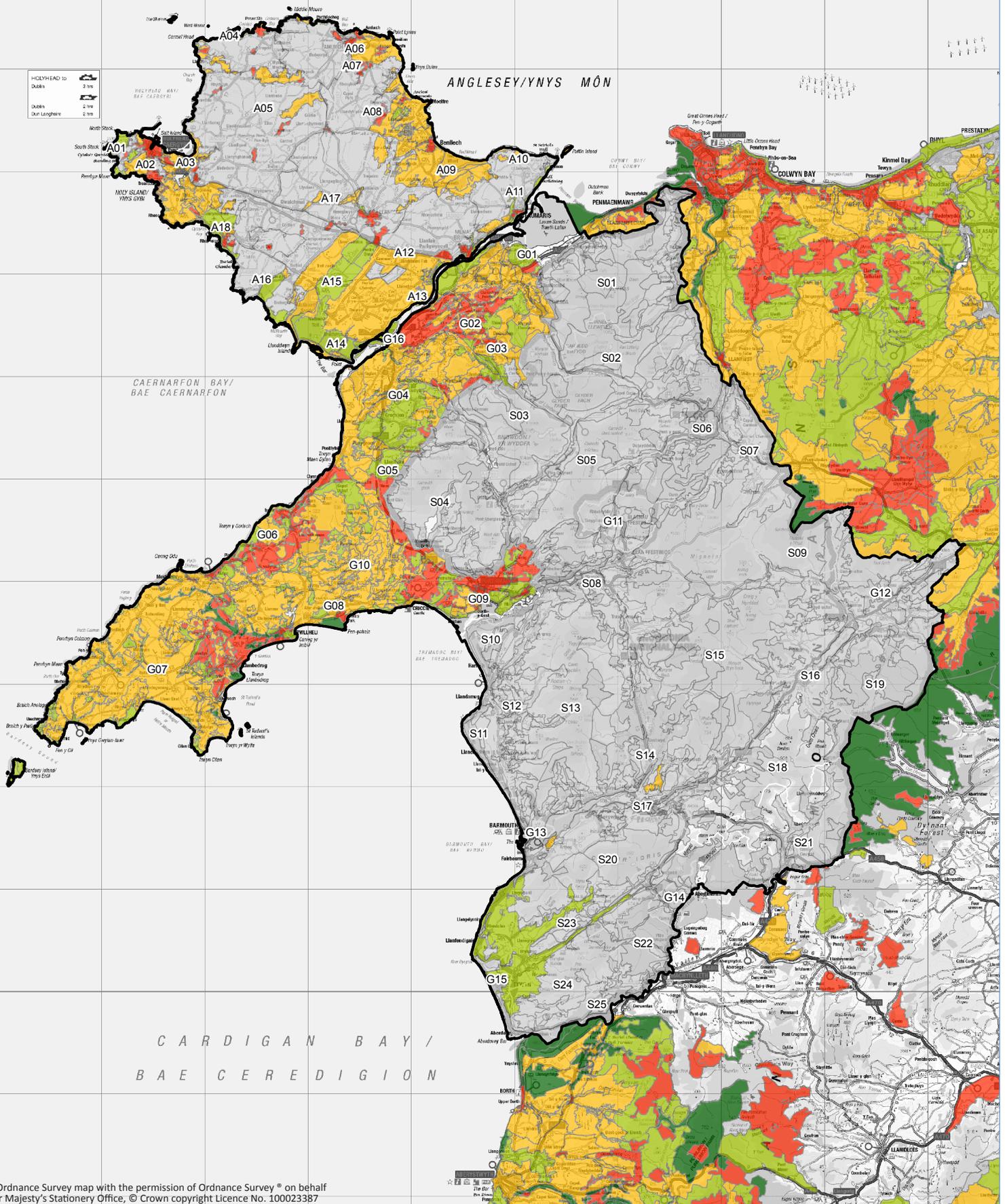
Figure A-6.22: GL33: Overall Evaluation



Outstanding
 High
 Moderate
 Low



Figure A-6.23: LH42: Connectivity / Cohesion

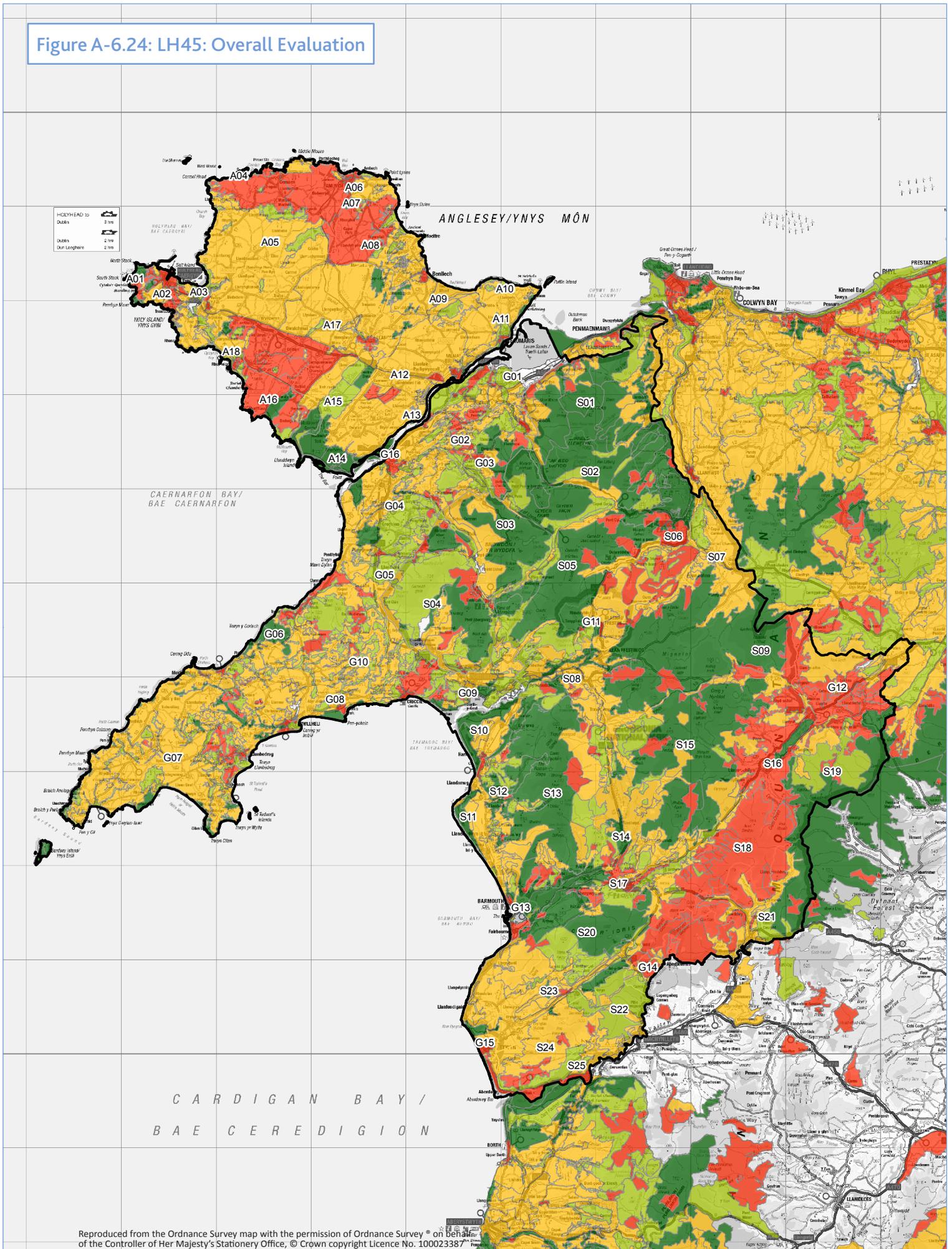


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Outstanding High Moderate Low Unassessed



Figure A-6.24: LH45: Overall Evaluation



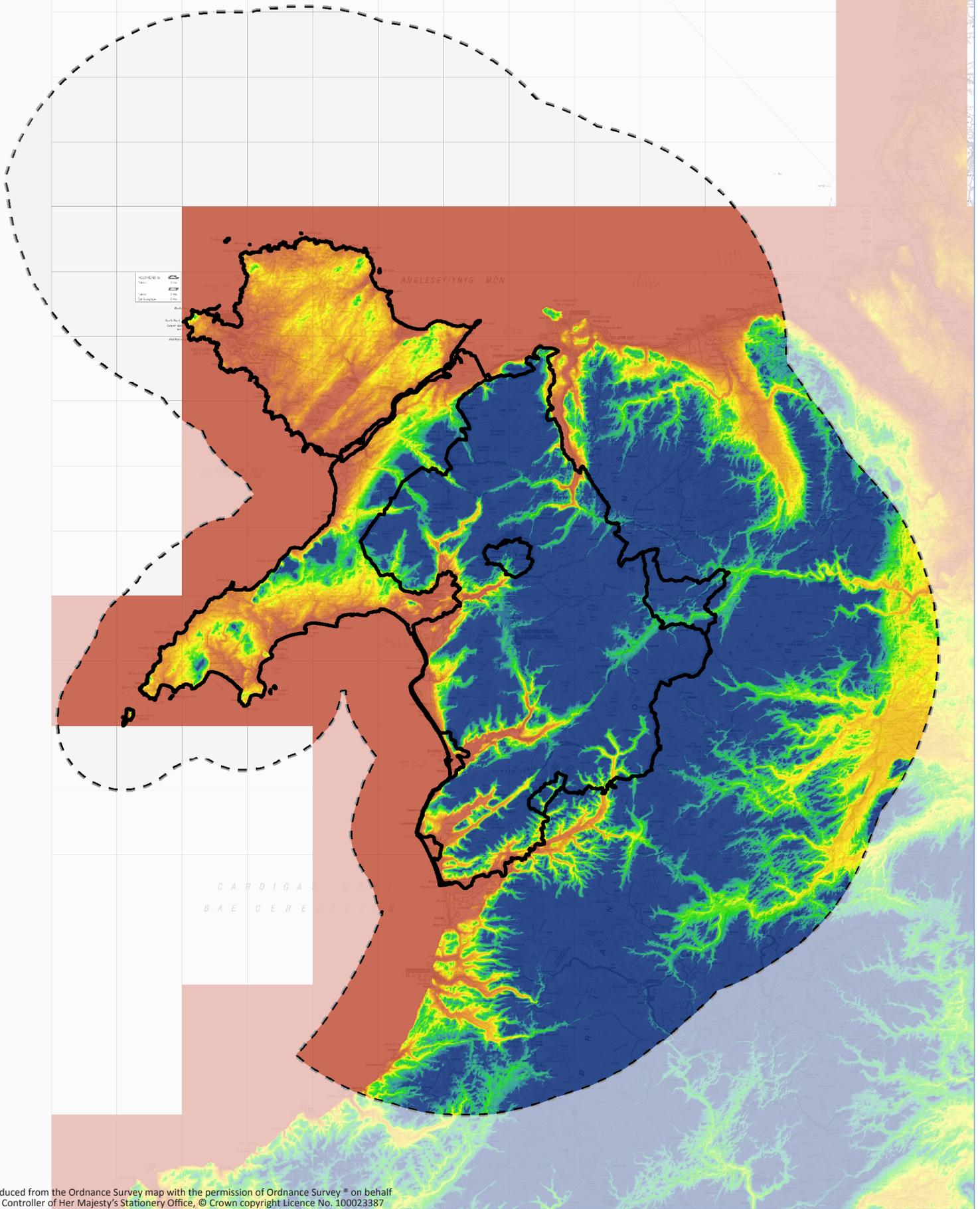
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Outstanding
 High
 Moderate
 Low



Appendix 7: Plans Illustrating the Topography of the Study Area

Figure A-7.1 Topography Map 300 AoD



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 Overall Study Area
 Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Boundaries

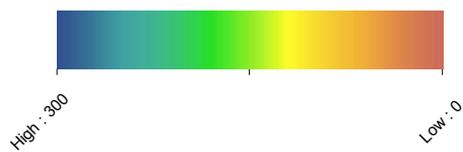
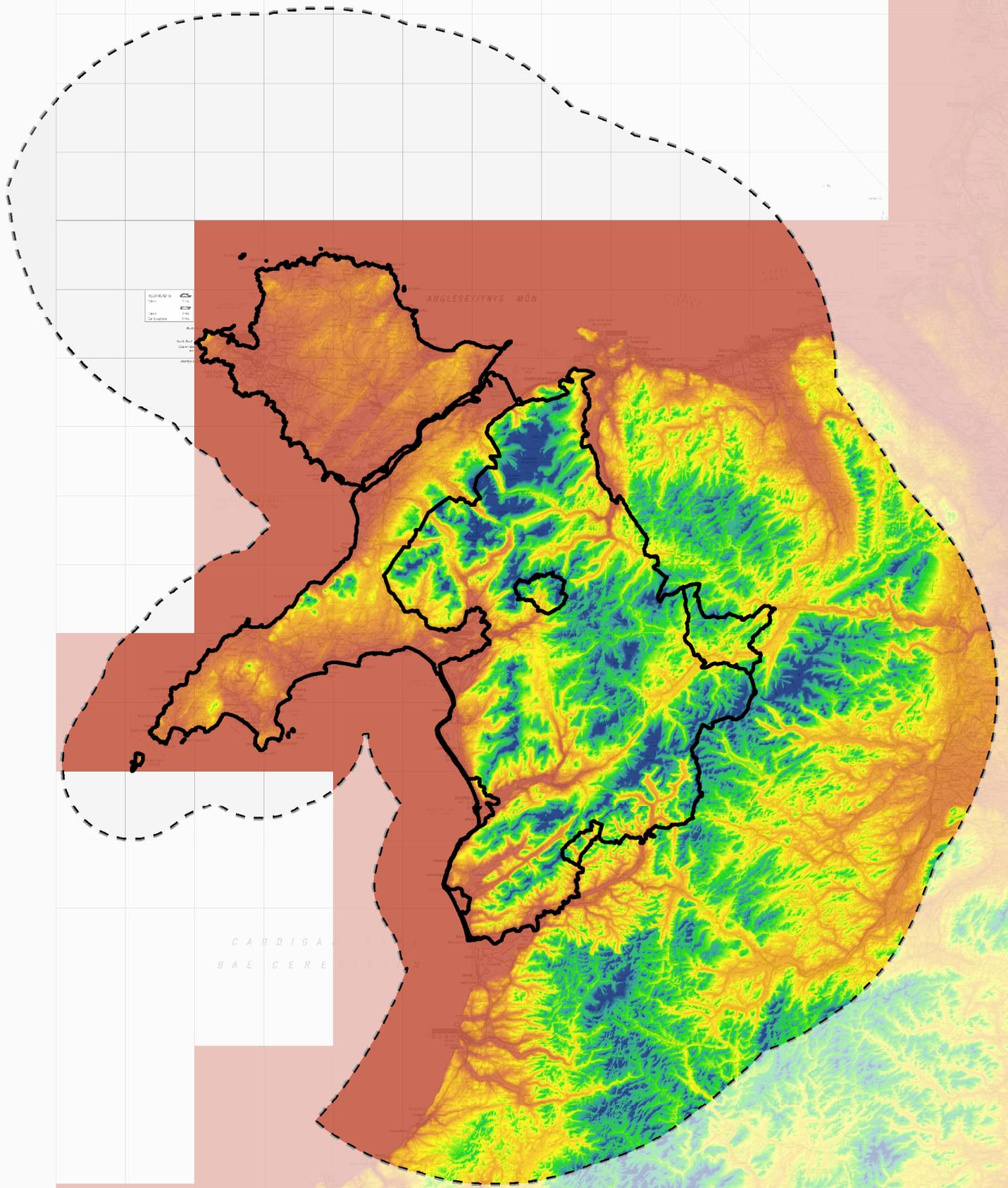


Figure A-7.2: Topography Map 700 AoD



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Overall Study Area

Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Boundaries

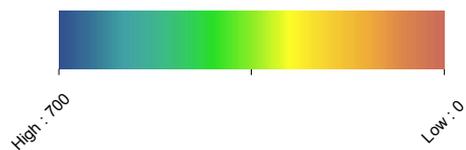
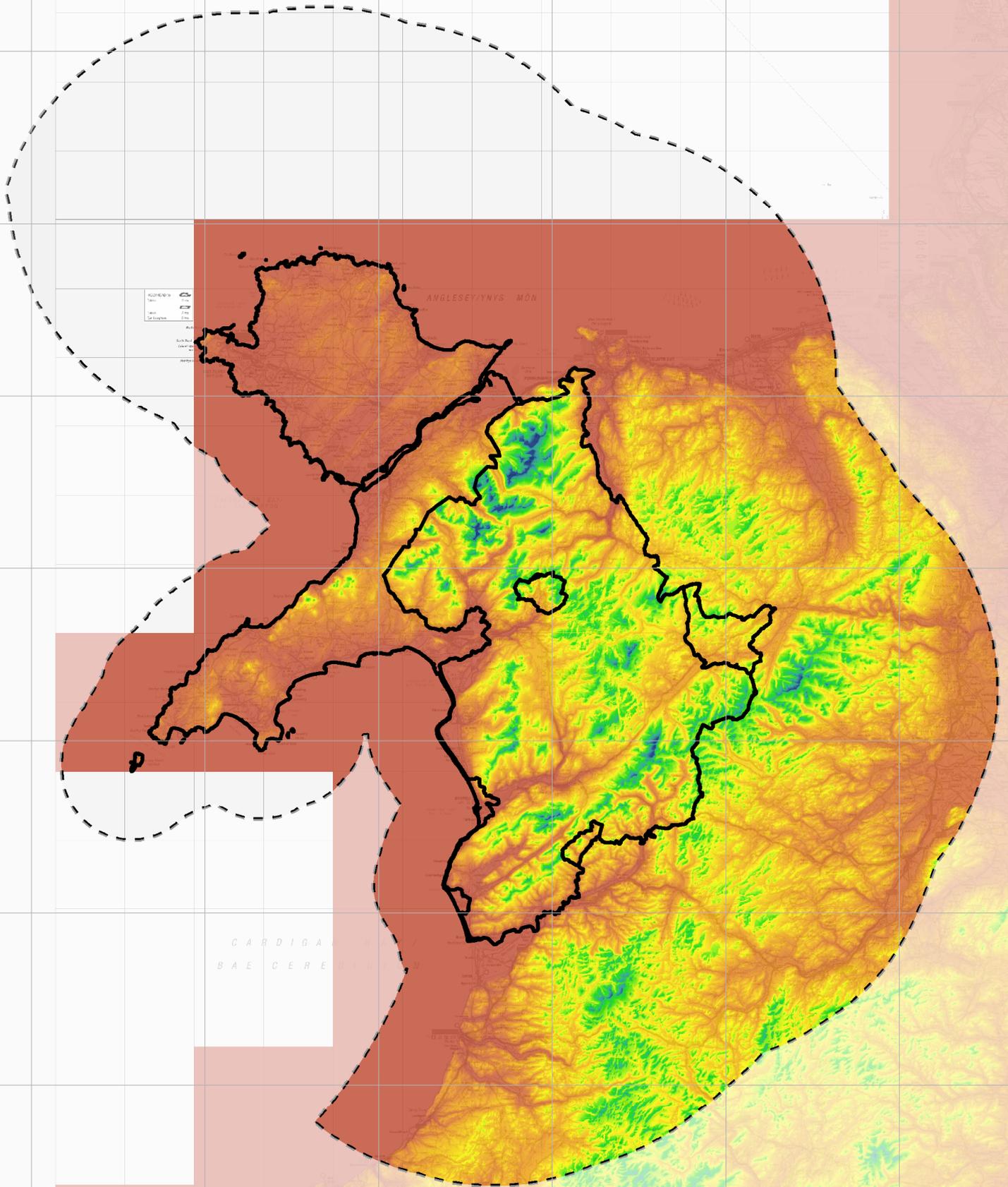


Figure A-7.3: Topography Map 1100 AoD

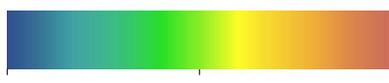


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Overall Study

Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Boundaries

High : 1100

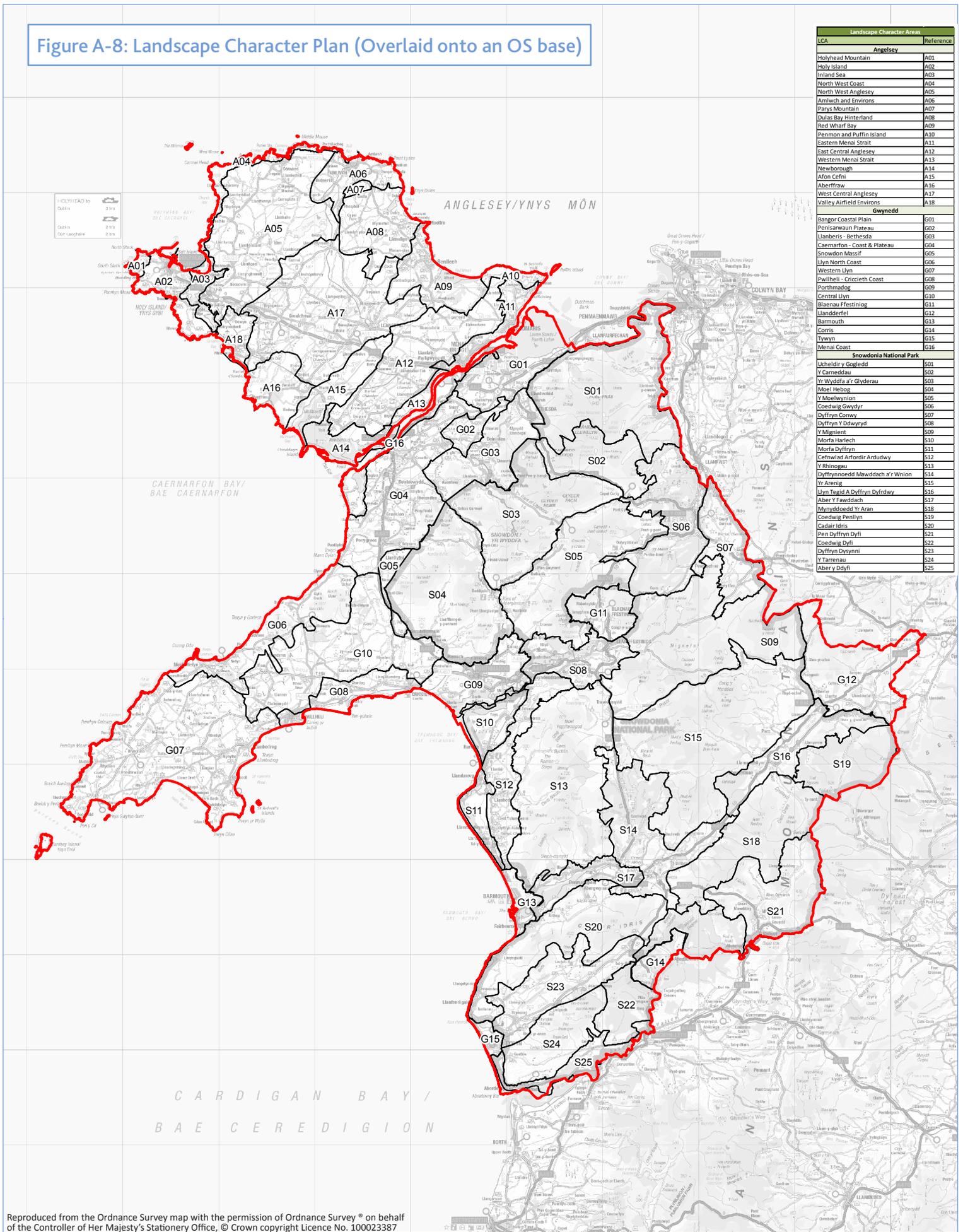


Low : 0



Appendix 8: Landscape Character Area Plan (overlaid onto an OS base)

Figure A-8: Landscape Character Plan (Overlaid onto an OS base)



Landscape Character Areas		
LCA	Reference	
Anglesey		
Holyhead Mountain	A01	
Holy Island	A02	
Inland Sea	A03	
North West Coast	A04	
North West Anglesey	A05	
Amlwch and Environs	A06	
Parys Mountain	A07	
Dulas Bay Hinterland	A08	
Red Wharf Bay	A09	
Penmon and Puffin Island	A10	
Eastern Menai Strait	A11	
East Central Anglesey	A12	
Western Menai Strait	A13	
Newborough	A14	
Afon Cefni	A15	
Aberffraw	A16	
West Central Anglesey	A17	
Valley Airfield Environs	A18	
Gwynedd		
Bangor Coastal Plain	G01	
Penisawain Plateau	G02	
Llanberis - Bethesda	G03	
Caernarfon - Coast & Plateau	G04	
Snowdon Massif	G05	
Llyn North Coast	G06	
Western Llyn	G07	
Pwllmel - Criccieth Coast	G08	
Portmadoc	G09	
Central Llyn	G10	
Blaenau Ffestiniog	G11	
Llandderfel	G12	
Barmouth	G13	
Corris	G14	
Trynwr	G15	
Menai Coast	G16	
Snowdonia National Park		
Ucheldir y Gogledd	S01	
Y Carneddau	S02	
Yr Wyddfa a'r Glyderau	S03	
Mael Hergoch	S04	
Y Maelwyrion	S05	
Coedwig Gwydyr	S06	
Dyffryn Conwy	S07	
Dyffryn Y Ddwyryd	S08	
Y Mignant	S09	
Morfa Harlech	S10	
Morfa Dyffryn	S11	
Cefnwlad Arfordir Arduwy	S12	
Y Rhinogau	S13	
Dyffrynnoedd Mawddach a'r Wnion	S14	
Yr Arenig	S15	
Llyn Tegid A Dyffryn Dyrdwy	S16	
Aber Y Fawddach	S17	
Mynyddoedd Yr Aran	S18	
Coedwig Penllyn	S19	
Cadair Idris	S20	
Pen Dyffryn Dyfi	S21	
Coedwig Dyfi	S22	
Dyffryn Dyffryn	S23	
Y Tarnau	S24	
Aber y Ddylfi	S25	

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- Study Area
- Landscape Character Areas



Appendix 9: Operational and Consented Development Tables (March 2014)

Table A9.01 – Operational and Consented Onshore Wind Energy Developments (Source data up to end of March 2014)

This table illustrates the typologies of the operational and consented wind energy developments in relation to each of the Landscape Character Areas.

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
A03	Penrhyn Fadog, Four Mile	Operational/Consented	1	9	Domestic	43C156
A05	Gongl Rhedyn, Cemaes	Operational/Consented	1	9	Domestic	20C107A
A05	Bodlasan Bach, Llanfachra	Operational/Consented	1	15	Domestic	27C28A
A05	Penlloegr, Ll'fairynghorn	Operational/Consented	1	15	Domestic	18C137C
A05	Gaerwen Farm, Llanfaethlu	Operational/Consented	1	18	Micro	29C101B
A05	Llanfechell (Cae Mawr)	Operational/Consented	1	19.4	Micro	38C219C
A05	Maes Mawr, Llanfechell	Operational/Consented	1	34.2	Small	38C185C
A05	Caerdegog Uchaf, Llanfechell	Operational/Consented	1	34.2	Small	38C277B
A05	Tai Hen, Rhosgoch	Operational/Consented	1	99	Large	20C277
A06	Ty Cefn, Burwen	Operational/Consented	1	9	Domestic	11C396B
A06	Tremarfor, Llaneilian	Operational/Consented	1	15	Domestic	24C165A
A06	Rhoslan	Operational/Consented	1	18	Micro	38C266
A06	Bryn Goleu, Rhosybol	Operational/Consented	1	18	Micro	44C182C
A06	Llaethdy Mawr	Operational/Consented	1	18	Micro	11C575
A06	Ty Coch, Rhosgoch	Operational/Consented	1	18	Micro	11C524
A06	Erwau'r Gwynt	Operational/Consented	1	18	Micro	11C216C
A06	Penrallt Penrhyd, Amlwch	Operational/Consented	2	19	Micro	11C573
A06	Bryntirion	Operational/Consented	1	19	Micro	44C293
A06	Ysgellog, Rhosgoch	Operational/Consented	2	93	Large	11C557B
A08	Pensarn (Rhiwlas Nebo)	Operational/Consented	1	19	Micro	24C192D
A08	Plas Llanfihangel, Capel Coch	Operational/Consented	2	34	Small	23C280A
A08	Llandyfrydog (Bodneithior)	Operational/Consented	2	39.6	Small	44C290A
A09	1 Llain Wen, Tynyngogl	Operational/Consented	1	9	Domestic	30C628

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
A09	11 Parc Coediog, Pentraet	Operational/Consented	1	9	Domestic	42C198
A09	Cae Ysgawen, Brynteg	Operational/Consented	1	9	Domestic	30C548A
A09	Ynys Uchaf, Brynteg	Operational/Consented	1	21	Small	30C726C
A09	Glyn, Llanbedrgoch	Operational/Consented	1	27	Small	30C716A
A09	Llanbedrgoch (Bryn Mair)	Operational/Consented	1	27.1	Small	30C713
A10	OS: 6729, Llangoed	Operational/Consented	1	12	Domestic	35C264B
A10	Arqiva Broadcasting Mast, Llanddona	Operational/Consented	1	20	Micro	22C34Y
A12	Glan Morfa Lodge, Llangaf	Operational/Consented	1	16	Micro	45C115L
A12	Pentraeth (Bryn Eryr Uchaf) Anemometer	Operational/Consented	1	60	Medium	41C125A
A16	The Anglesey Circuit, Ty	Operational/Consented	1	10	Domestic	10C33N
A16	Henllys Groes, Aberffraw	Operational/Consented	1	15	Domestic	10C75C
A17	Coleg Menai, Llangefni	Operational/Consented	1	7	Domestic	34LPA850D/DA/CC
A17	Ty Croes, Rhosneigr	Operational/Consented	1	8	Domestic	28C393
A17	Llanerchymedd (Chwaen Bach)	Operational/Consented	1	13.2	Domestic	25C102B
A17	Pen yr Orsedd, trefor	Operational/Consented	1	22	Small	14C125F
G01	Tesco Stores, Caernarfon Rd, Bangor	Operational/Consented	2	11	Domestic	C09A/0027/11/LL
G04	Nant bach, Moel tryfan, Rhosgadfan	Operational/Consented	1	9	Domestic	C08A/0534/24/LL
G04	Bryn Peris, Rhos Isaf, Rhostryfan	Operational/Consented	1	9	Domestic	C09A/0531/24/LL
G04	Bryn Mair, Waunfawr, Caernarfon	Operational/Consented	1	10	Domestic	C08A/0498/12/LL
G04	Bryn Trallwyn Uchaf, Cilgwyn	Operational/Consented	1	12	Domestic	C08A/0002/17/LL
G04	Llys Gwynt, Seion	Operational/Consented	1	27	Small	C12/0383/18/LL
G04	Nant Bach, Moel Tryfan, Rhosgadfan	Operational/Consented	1	18	Micro	C09A/0264/24/LL
G05	Llystyn Canol, Garndolbenmaen	Operational/Consented	1	34.4	Small	C12/0366/36/LL
G07	Coed y Llan, Rhydlios, Pwllheli	Operational/Consented	1	7	Domestic	C07D/0617/30LL
G07	Cae Graig, Rhoshirwaun	Operational/Consented	1	11	Domestic	C09D/0436/30/LL

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
G07	Canolfan y Felin Uchaf, Rhoshirwaun, Pwllheli	Operational/Consented	1	15	Domestic	C11/0449/30/LL
G07	Bryn Hyfryd, Bryncroes, Pengroeslon	Operational/Consented	1	17	Micro	C10D/0369/32/LL
G07	Bodwi, Mynytho, Pwllheli	Operational/Consented	1	19	Micro	C11/0270/39/LL
G07	Bodrydd, Rhoshirwaun	Operational/Consented	1	25	Small	C12/1216/30/LL
G07	Castell March, Abersoch	Operational/Consented	1	33	Small	C11/1026/39/LL
G07	Field No 4600, Crugeran, Sarn, Pwllheli	Operational/Consented	1	34	Small	C11/0129/32/LL
G09	Cefn, Morfa Bychan	Operational/Consented	1	13.8	Domestic	C13/0945/44/LL
G09	Ysgol y Gorlan, Tremadog, Porthmadog	Operational/Consented	1	18	Micro	C09D/0109/44/LL
G10	Cefn Caer Ferch, Pencaenewydd	Operational/Consented	1	18	Micro	C13/0245/41/LL
G10	Gwynfryn Farm, Llannor	Operational/Consented	1	24	Small	C10D/0337/45/LL
G10	Gwynfryn Farm, Llannor, Pwllheli	Operational/Consented	1	30	Small	C11/0644/45/LL
G10	Derwin Fawr, Garndolbenmaen	Operational/Consented	1	34.4	Small	C12/0378/34/LL
G10	Derwin Fawr, Garndolbenmaen	Operational/Consented	1	34	Small	C11/0495/34/LL
G10	Derwin Fawr, Garndolbenmaen	Operational/Consented	1	35	Small	C110888/34/LL
G12	Llwyn Gwgan, llangwm	Operational/Consented	1	34	Small	C13/0144/04/LL
G12	Braich Ddu	Operational/Consented	3	90	Large	C04M/0038/04/LL
G13	Ysgol y Traeth, Abermaw	Operational/Consented	1	15	Domestic	C08M/0001/00/R3
G16	Penrhos Bach, Llanwnda	Operational/Consented	1	9	Domestic	C06A/0870/24/LL
G16	Caernarfon Airport, Dinas Dinlle	Operational/Consented	2	45	Small	C10A/0507/17/LL
S01	Tyrau Duon, Sychnant Pass, Conwy	Permitted with conditions	1	15	Domestic	NP4/19/27K
S03	Gorsaf Deledu Arqiva, Tir ger Cae'r Dinas, Beddgelert	Permitted with conditions	1	7	Domestic	NP2/11/284B
S03	Land at Hafoty Newydd, Llanberis	Permitted with conditions	1	13	Domestic	NP3/15/184

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
S06	Castell y Gwynt, Llanrhychwyn, LL270YZ	Permitted with conditions	1	12	Domestic	NP4/32/122A
S10	Ysgol Ardudwy, Harlech	Permitted with conditions	1	15	Micro	NP5/61/67G
S12	Tyddyn Bach, Dyffryn Ardudwy, LL442RQ	Permitted with conditions	1	13	Domestic	NP5/58/531
S12	Trawsdir Camping and Touring Park, Llanaber, LL421RR	Permitted with conditions	1	22	Small	NP5/58/8V
S17	Coleg Meirion Dwyfor, Ffordd Ty'n y Coed, Dolgellau	Permitted with conditions	1	4	Domestic	NP5/57/494R
S18	Land near Garth Isaf Farm, Llanuwchllyn	Permitted with conditions	1	19	Micro	NP5/71/407A
S20	Cyfanedd Uchaf, Arthog	Permitted with conditions	1	12	Domestic	NP5/52/61A
S20	Land near Rhyd y Criw, Llanegryn	Permitted with conditions	1	15	Domestic	NP5/64/8D
S23	Land at Rhiwogof Farm, Tal y Llyn, LL369AJ	Permitted with conditions	1	13	Domestic	NP5/67/18C
S24	Land at Esgairgyfela, Aberdyfi, LL530SP	Permitted with conditions	1	22	Small	NP5/50/656
S25	Bron yr Aur, Pennal	Permitted with conditions	1	13	Domestic	NP5/75/152A
S25	Penmaen Isa, Pennal, SY209LD	Permitted with conditions	1	23	Small	NP5/75/80C
WINDFARMS						
A05	Llyn Alaw	Operational	34	31 to Hub	Very Large	
A07	Trysglwyn	Operational	14	25 to hub	Very Large	
A05/A06	Rhyd y Groes	Operational	24 (1 in A05, 23 in A06)	31 to Hub	Very Large	

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
OUTSIDE STUDY AREA						
CONWY & DENBIGSHIRE						
	Brenig windfarm	Operational/Consented	16	100.00	Very Large	25/2007/0565
	Derwydd Bach	Operational/Consented	10	120.50	Very Large	04/2007/0964
	Land at Mwdwl Eithin (Nant Bach), South of Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, Corwen	Operational/Consented	11	100.00	Very Large	0/35170
	Tir Mostyn (Foel Goch)	Operational/Consented	25	75.00	Very Large	25/1999/0710
	(Phase Three) Hafotty Ucha, Llangwm	Operational/Consented	1	86.00	Large	0/29712
	Wern Ddu	Operational/Consented	4	90.00	Large	06/2005/1453
	(Phase One) Hafotty Ucha, Llangwm	Operational/Consented	1	60.00	Medium	1/16350
	(Phase One) Moel Maelogen, Maelogen Fawr Farm, Nr. Llanrwst	Operational/Consented	3	76.00	Medium	0/23169
	(Phase Two) Hafotty Ucha, Llangwm	Operational/Consented	2	74.00	Medium	0/25079
	(Phase Two) Moel Maelogen, Maelogen Fawr Farm, Nr. Llanrwst	Operational/Consented	9	76.00	Medium	0/27745
	Land at Cilgoed	Operational/Consented	1	78.00	Medium	12/2011/0858
	Bryniau Pair Isa, Pandy Tudur, Abergele, Conwy, LL22 8RU	Operational/Consented	1	27.10	Small	0/38889
	Cae Gwyn	Operational/Consented	1	35.00	Small	14/2010/0959
	Cae Haidd, Nebo, Llanrwst, Conwy, LL26 0TF	Operational/Consented	1	27.10	Small	0/38698
	Cae'r Weirglodd	Operational/Consented	1	35.00	Small	14/2010/0960
	Colwyn Leisure Centre, Eirias Park, Colwyn Bay, Conwy, LL29 7SP	Operational/Consented	1	21.00	Small	0/36472
	Crud Y Gwynt Farm, Bryn Y Maen Farm, Bryn Y Maen, Colwyn Bay, LL28 5EW	Operational/Consented	1	35.00	Small	0/37779
	Foel Fawr, Llanrwst, Conwy, LL26 0NT	Operational/Consented	1	27.10	Small	0/39143

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
	Fron Bella, Ffordd Fronbellaf, Pentrefoelas, Betws Y Coed, Conwy, LL24 0TE	Operational/Consented	1	35.00	Small	0/38179
	Gwaenynog Bach	Operational/Consented	1	46.00	Small	01/2012/0813
	Land at Cerrig Oerion	Operational/Consented	2	46.00	Small	14/2011/1264
	Land at Clegir Canol	Operational/Consented	1	29.50	Small	04/2008/1322
	Llechwedd y Gaer, Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, Corwen, Conwy, LL21 9UH	Operational/Consented	1	27.13	Small	0/39214
	Maes Gwyn, Llanfihangel GM, LL21 9UH	Operational/Consented	1	21.90	Small	0/39176
	Maesgwyn Ucha, Tyn Y Celyn	Operational/Consented	1	46.00	Small	06/2011/1509
	Maestyddyn Isa	Operational/Consented	1	46.00	Small	11/2012/0372
	Nant Yr Helyg, Ty Nant, Corwen, Conwy, LL21 0RH	Operational/Consented	1	26.55	Small	0/39067
	Tain Y Foel, Cerrigydrudion, Conwy, LL21 9TD	Operational/Consented	1	46.00	Small	0/38865
	Tyddyn Y Cae Hir	Operational/Consented	1	26.50	Small	06/2012/0289
	Tyn Y Celyn	Operational/Consented	2	46.00	Small	06/2011/0249
	Apollo Cinema (UK) Ltd	Operational/Consented	1	18.00	Micro	45/2010/1496
	Castell y Gwynt, Llanrhychwyn	Operational/Consented	1	13.91	Micro	NP4/32/122A
	Cefn Du	Operational/Consented	1	15.00	Micro	47/2010/0509
	Corsydd, Rhuddlan Road, St George, Abergele, Conwy LL22 9SD	Operational/Consented	1	12.00	Micro	0/35905
	Dyfannedd	Operational/Consented	1	19.00	Micro	04/2012/0478
	Foel Gollog	Operational/Consented	1	15.00	Micro	15/2008/0095
	Hafod Dinbych Uchaf, Pentrefoelas, Conwy, LL24 0TD	Operational/Consented	1	15.00	Micro	0/36910

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
	Land Adjoining Bryn Nantllech, Llanfairtalhaiarn, Abergele, Conwy, LL22 8TW	Operational/Consented	1	9.00	Micro	0/33472
	Land at Ffynnon Wen, Ty Nant, Corwen, Conwy, LL21 0RH	Operational/Consented	1	12.00	Micro	0/32597
	Llainwen Ucha	Operational/Consented	1	20.00	Micro	20/2009/1470
	Llanerchgron Ucha	Operational/Consented	1	12.00	Micro	13/2005/0872
	Maes Truan	Operational/Consented	1	20.00	Micro	19/2009/1501
	Minffordd, Llanefydd, Denbigh, LL16 5EP	Operational/Consented	1	15.00	Micro	0/36687
	Nant Y Wrach	Operational/Consented	1	8.50	Micro	04/2008/0807
	Ocean Beach Site	Operational/Consented	10	18.00	Micro	45/2006/1200
	Penrallt	Operational/Consented	1	17.50	Micro	43/2009/1621
	Plas y Ial	Operational/Consented	1	18.00	Micro	10/2008/0906
	Primrose Cottage	Operational/Consented	1	10.60	Micro	47/2007/1526
	Rhiwlas Isa	Operational/Consented	1	20.00	Micro	23/2010/0577
	Tyn Llidart	Operational/Consented	1	17.50	Micro	17/2005/0412
	Tyn Y Bwlch, Cerrigydrudion, Corwen, LL21 0SB	Operational/Consented	1	15.00	Micro	0/38299
	Tyrau Duon	Operational/Consented	0	16.80	Micro	NP4/19/27J
	Unit 12, Parc Caer Seion, Conwy. LL32 8FA	Operational/Consented	1	18.00	Micro	0/36156
	Wern Uchaf	Operational/Consented	1	19.00	Micro	25/2012/0445
	Bryn Coch Farm, Cae Rhug Lane, Gwernaffield	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	46632
	Fron Deg, Marian, Trelawnyd	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	42723
	Groewood, 47 Denbigh Circle, Kinmel Bay, Rhyl, Conwy, LL18 5HW	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	0/32634

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
	Gwynfor, Bryn Pydew Road, Bryn Pydew, Conwy, LL31 9QA	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	0/34850
	Land at Moel Maelogen Windfarm, Llanrwst, Conwy, LL26 0NY	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	0/35588
	Land North East of Pant Glas at Moel Maelogen Windfarm, Llanrwst, Conwy	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	0/34314
	Land South of Moel Maelogen at Moel Maelogen Windfarm, Llanrwst, Conwy, LL26 0PD	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	0/34330
	Moel Maelogen Windfarm, Llanrwst Road, Llanrwst, Conwy, LL26 0NY	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	0/38077
	Pentre Bach, Marian, Trelawnyd	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	48969
	Tyddyn y Foel, Pentre, Cilcain	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	44039
	Windfarm Moel Maelogen, Llanrwst Road, Llanrwst, Conwy, LL26 0NY	Operational/Consented	1	0.00	N/A	0/38065
CEREDIGION						
	Cefn Croes Wind Farm, Canolbarth Forest, Devil's Bridge, Aberystwyth	Operational	39	100.00	Very Large	
	Mountain land above Pwlldraenllwyn, Llangwryfon	Operational	20	66.00	Very Large	
	Mynydd Gorddu, Elerch, Talybont	Operational	20	55.50	Very Large	
	Caerllugest Farm, Llangeitho	Approved	1	35.00	Small	
		Approved	1	45.00	Small	
	Brynda, Llanrhystud	Approved	1	11.75	Micro	
	Land adj Ffynnonfawr, Ffair Rhos, Ystrad Meurig	Approved	1	17.75	Micro	
	Argoed Fawr, Llandre, Bow Street	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Banc Bwa Drain, Goginan	Operational	8	0.00	N/A	

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
	Blaenplwyf Telecommunications Broadcast Site Blaenplwyf, Aberystwyth	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Bryn, Bronant	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Carregwen, Nebo, Llanon	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Cilcert Uchaf, Penuwch, Tregaron	Approved	2	0.00	N/A	
	Corgam, Bwlchllan, Lampeter	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Cwmhwylog, New Cross, Aberystwyth	Approved	2	0.00	N/A	
	Field no. 528, Alltfadog, Capel Madog, Aberystwyth	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Foel Fawr, Eglwysfach.	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Garden/field, Gwar Lethr, Penuwch	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Llangwryfon Wind Farm	Approved	11	0.00	N/A	
	Llech Padarn, Llangeitho, Tregaron	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Maesnewydd, Llandre, Aberystwyth	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Minawel, Ffair Rhos, Ystrad Meurig	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Pantlleinau, Bontnewydd, Aberystwyth	Approved	2	0.00	N/A	
	Pen y Gwaith, Ysbyty Ystwyth, Ystrad Meurig	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Pensarn, Bronant, Aberystwyth	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Penuwch Fach, Capel Seion, Aberystwyth	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	RSPB Ynyshir Reserve	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Site off Parc-Y-Llyn, Aberystwyth	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Site off Parc-Y-Llyn, Aberystwyth	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
	Ynyshir Farm, Llanon	Approved	1	0.00	N/A	
		Approved	1	0.00	N/A	

Landscape Character Area	Name	Status	Number of turbines	Height to Blade Tip (m)	Typology Relevant to Study	App No.
POWYS						
	Clatter	Approved	12	116.0	Very Large	M/2007/0931
	Abercegir	Consented	1	5.5	Micro	P/2008/1422
	Bryn Penarth, revised proposal*	Consented	1	11.0	Micro	M/2006/0358
	Dolfor	Consented	1	17.7	Micro	P/2010/0038
	Dolfor	Consented	1	17.7	Micro	P/2010/1005
	Golfa, Welshpool	Consented	1	17.7	Micro	P/2010/1083
	Llanidloes	Consented	1	17.5	Micro	P/2009/0994
	Llanidloes	Consented	1	17.7	Micro	P/2011/0103
	Meifod	Consented	1	19.5	Micro	P/2011/0264
	Sychtyn*	Consented	1	17.7	Micro	P/2009/1246
	Talerddig, Llanbrynmair	Consented	1	19.5	Micro	M/2006/0207
	Tregynon, Newtown	Consented	1	17.7	Micro	P/2010/1221
	Aberhosan, Machynlleth	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	P/2012/0750
	Dolfor	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	P/2012/0824
	Kerry	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	P/2012/1039
	Kerry Ridgeway	Consented	2	0.0	N/A	P/2012/0613
	L Ym M, Oswestry	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	P/2012/1057
	Llanerfyl, Welshpool	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	P/2012/0976
	Llangurig	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	M/2007/0116
	Llanidloes	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	P/2012/0945
	Machynlleth	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	P/2009/0254
	Machynlleth	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	P/2010/0058
	Malgwyn*	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	M/2000/0286
	Mochdre, Newtown	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	M/2004/0284
	Old Hall, Llanidloes	Consented	1	0.0	N/A	P/2012/0099
	Penrhos, Llanymynech	Consented	2	0.0	N/A	P/2012/0613
	Bryn Cwmrhiewdre*	Consented	1	25.0	Small	P2008 1231
	Commins Coch, Machynlleth	Consented	1	21.0	Small	P/2011/0593
	Dolfor	Consented	2	34.5	Small	P2011 0723
	Dolfor	Consented	1	20.9	Small	P/2011/0376
	Foel	Consented	1	35.0	Small	P/2012/1019
	Llanerfyl, Welshpool	Consented	2	21.7	Small	P/2012/1289
	Llanfair Caereinion	Consented	1	48.0	Small	P/2012/0547
	Llanfair Caereinion	Consented	1	35.0	Small	P/2012/0687
	Llanidloes	Consented	1	34.2	Small	P/2011/1358
	Parc Isaf*	Consented	1	35.0	Small	P/2012/0001

Table A9.02 – Operational and Consented Field-Scale Solar PV Energy Developments (Source data up to end of March 2014)

This table illustrates the typologies of the operational and consented field-scale solar PV energy developments in relation to each of the Landscape Character Areas.

Landscape Character Area	Site	Status	Proposal	Scale	Typology	Planning Application Number
G07	Canolfan y Felin Uchaf, Rhoshirwaun, Pwllheli	Permitted	Erection of a wind turbine and 2 x solar arrays	PV 200m square in area	Micro	C11/0449/30/ LL
G01	Land to South of Penrhyn Castle, Bangor	Permitted	Installation of pv panels in 4 arrays (200 panels in total)	Field Scale (200 panels)	Micro	C11/1040/16/ LL
A16	Tai Moelion, Ty Croes	Permitted	Erection of solar array	Field Scale (64,000 solar panels 70-acre site)	Very Large	10C114A

Table A9.03 – Operational and Consented 400 kV Overhead Line Developments (Source data up to end of March 2014)

This table illustrates the typologies of the operational and consented 400 kV overhead line developments in relation to each of the Landscape Character Areas.

Landscape Character Areas	Size	Number of Pylons
A04	400 kV	2
A05	132 kV	82
A05	400 kV	19
A06	400 kV	8
A08	400 kV	18
A09	400 kV	2
A12	132 kV	26
A12	400 kV	21
A13	132 kV	3
A13	400 kV	3
A15	132 kV	3
A17	132 kV	42
A17	400 kV	16
G01	132 kV	12
G01	400 kV	11
G16	132 kV	3
G16	400 kV	3

Landscape Character Area	Band	Type	Operator	Disguised mast	Disguised As
G01	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G01	2100	UMTS	Vodafone	No	
G03	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G03	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G03	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G03	900	GSM	O2	No	
G03	900	GSM	O2	No	
G03	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G03	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G03	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G03	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G03	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G03	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G03	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G03	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G03	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G03	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G03	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G03	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G03	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G03	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G03	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G03	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G03	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G03	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G03	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G03	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G03	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G03	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G03	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G03	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G04	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G04	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G04	900	GSM	O2	No	

Landscape Character Area	Band	Type	Operator	Disguised mast	Disguised As
G04	900	GSM	O2	No	
G04	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G04	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G04	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G04	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G04	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G04	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G04	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G04	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G04	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G04	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G04	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G04	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G04	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G04	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G04	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G04	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G04	2100	UMTS	Orange	No	
G04	2100	UMTS	Orange	No	
G04	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G04	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G04	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G04	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G05	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G05	900	GSM	O2	No	
G05	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G05	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G05	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G05	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G05	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G05	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G05	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G06	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G06	900	GSM	O2	No	
G08	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
G08	900	GSM	O2	No	
G08	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G08	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G09	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
G09	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
G09	900	GSM	O2	No	
G09	900	GSM	O2	No	
G09	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G09	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G09	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G09	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G09	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G09	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G09	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G09	1800	GSM	Orange	No	

Landscape Character Area	Band	Type	Operator	Disguised mast	Disguised As
G09	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G09	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G09	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G09	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G09	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G10	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G10	900	GSM	O2	No	
G10	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G10	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G10	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G10	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G10	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G10	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G10	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G10	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G10	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G10	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G10	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G10	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G11	900	GSM	O2	No	
G11	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G11	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G12	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G12	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G12	900	GSM	O2	No	
G12	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G12	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G12	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G12	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
G12	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G12	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G12	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
G13	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
G13	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
G13	900	GSM	O2	No	
G13	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G13	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G13	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G13	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G13	2100	UMTS	Three	No	

Landscape Character Area	Band	Type	Operator	Disguised mast	Disguised As
G15	900	GSM	O2	No	
G15	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G15	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G15	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G15	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
G15	2100	UMTS	Orange	No	
G16	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G16	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
G16	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S02	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S02	900	GSM	O2	No	
S02	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S02	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S02	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S02	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S03	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S03	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S03	-	-	-	Yes	Antennas mounted on old barn
S03	-	-	-	Yes	Antennas on two 5m timber poles
S04	400	TETRA	Airwave	Yes	Antennas mounted on hotel
S04	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S05	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S05	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S05	900	GSM	O2	No	
S05	900	GSM	O2	No	
S05	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S05	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S05	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S05	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S05	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S05	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S05	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S05	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S05	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S06	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S06	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S06	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S06	900	GSM	O2	No	
S06	900	GSM	O2	No	
S06	1800	GSM	Orange	Yes	Antennas disguised as flagpoles
S06	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S06	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S06	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S06	2100	UMTS	Three	Yes	Antennas disguised as Cypress tree
S07	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S07	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S07	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S07	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S07	2100	UMTS	Three	No	

Landscape Character Area	Band	Type	Operator	Disguised mast	Disguised As
S08	900	GSM	O2	Yes	Additional antennas and microwave dishes installed on existing TV Relay Tower
S08	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S08	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S08	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S08	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S08	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S08	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S08	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S08	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S08	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S08	-	-	-	Yes	Antennas installed on National Grid pylon
S09	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S09	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S09	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S10	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
S11	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
S11	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
S11	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
S11	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
S12	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S12	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S12	900	GSM	O2	No	
S12	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S12	1800	GSM	Orange	Yes	Antennas mounted on farm building
S12	1800	GSM	Orange	Yes	Antenna disguised as 10m telegraph pole
S12	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S12	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S12	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S13	400	TETRA	Airwave	Yes	Additional antennas and microwave dishes installed on existing TV Relay Tower
S13	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S13	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S13	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S13	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S14	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S14	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S14	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S14	900	GSM	O2	No	
S14	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S14	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S14	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S14	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S14	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S14	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S14	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	

Landscape Character Area	Band	Type	Operator	Disguised mast	Disguised As
S14	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S14	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S14	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S15	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S15	900	GSM	O2	Yes	Additional antennas and microwave dishes installed on existing TV Relay Tower
S15	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S15	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S15	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S15	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S15	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S15	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S15	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S15	1800	GSM	Orange	Yes	Antennas disguised as electrical apparatus
S16	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S16	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S17	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S17	900	GSM	O2	No	
S17	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S17	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S17	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S17	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S17	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S17	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S18	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S18	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S18	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S18	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S18	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S18	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S18	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
S18	-	-	-	Yes	Antennas disguised as rock outcrop
S18	-	-	-	Yes	Antenna disguised as 15m telegraph pole
S20	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S20	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
S20	900	GSM	Network Rail	No	
S20	-	-	-	Yes	Antennas disguised as rock outcrop
S20	-	-	-	Yes	Antennas mounted on modern farm building
S21	400	TETRA	Airwave	Yes	Antennas mounted on modern farm building
S21	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S21	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S21	1800	GSM	Orange	Yes	Antenna disguised as 10m telegraph pole
S21	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S21	-	-	-	Yes	Antenna disguised as 10m telegraph pole
S23	400	TETRA	Airwave	Yes	Antennas mounted on farm building
S23	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S23	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	

Landscape Character Area	Band	Type	Operator	Disguised mast	Disguised As
S23	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S23	-	-	-	Yes	Antenna disguised as 15m telegraph pole
S24	400	TETRA	Airwave	No	
S25	400	TETRA	Airwave	Yes	Additional antennas and microwave dishes installed on existing TV Relay Tower
S25	900	GSM	O2	No	
S25	900	GSM	Vodafone	No	
S25	1800	GSM	Orange	No	
S25	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S25	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S25	1800	GSM	T-Mobile	No	
S25	2100	UMTS	Three	No	
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	900	GSM	Vodafone		

Landscape Character Area	Band	Type	Operator	Disguised mast	Disguised As
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	1800	GSM	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	O2		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Orange		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Orange		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Three		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Conwy - Conwy	2100	UMTS	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Powys - Powys	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Powys - Powys	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Powys - Powys	400	TETRA	Airwave		

Landscape Character Area	Band	Type	Operator	Disguised mast	Disguised As
Powys - Powys	400	TETRA	Airwave		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Network Rail		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Network Rail		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Network Rail		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Network Rail		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Network Rail		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Network Rail		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	O2		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	O2		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	O2		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	O2		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	900	GSM	Vodafone		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	Orange		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	Orange		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	Orange		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	Orange		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	Orange		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	Orange		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	1800	GSM	T-Mobile		
Powys - Powys	2100	UMTS	Three		
Powys - Powys	2100	UMTS	Three		
Powys - Powys	2100	UMTS	Three		
Powys - Powys	2100	UMTS	Three		
Powys - Powys	2100	UMTS	Three		

Table A9.05 – Operational and Consented Static Caravan/chalet Park Developments (Source data up to end of March 2014)

This table illustrates the typologies of the operational and consented static caravan/chalet park developments in relation to each of the Landscape Character Areas.

Landscape Character Area	Number of Statics	Area (Ha)	Typology
A02	8.09	336	Very Large
A02	6.51	133	Large
A02	3.42	145	Large
A02	4.41	164	Large
A02	1.04	38	Medium
A02	1.88	50	Medium
A02	0.59	24	Small
A02	0.27	6	Very Small
A03, A04	0.21	7	Very Small
A04, A05	14.36	430	Very Large
A05	0.78	31	Medium
A06	0.71	37	Medium
A06	1.08	44	Medium
A06	0.08	14	Small
A08	2.94	81	Large
A08	3.46	94	Large
A08	3.68	97	Large
A08	1.45	32	Medium
A08	1.04	37	Medium
A08	2.76	39	Medium
A08	1.33	46	Medium
A08	1.43	52	Medium
A08	2.17	69	Medium
A08	0.01	3	Very Small
A08	0.35	4	Very Small
A08	0.10	5	Very Small
A08, A09	7.00	234	Very Large
A09	9.60	268	Very Large
A09	3.20	84	Large
A09	3.36	84	Large
A09	8.47	161	Large
A09	1.22	32	Medium
A09	1.37	32	Medium
A09	1.20	46	Medium
A09	1.68	62	Medium
A09	1.77	63	Medium
A09	2.52	71	Medium
A09	2.93	74	Medium
A09	0.54	13	Small
A09	0.31	14	Small
A09	0.53	20	Small
A09	0.73	20	Small
A09	0.71	24	Small
A09	0.12	6	Very Small
A09, A17	4.17	222	Very large
A11	1.63	25	Medium
A11	1.86	28	Medium
A12	0.86	20	Small

A12	1.11	24	Small
A13	5.76	156	Large
A17	6.23	222	Very large
A17	2.18	59	Medium
A17	1.59	67	Medium
A18	1.41	42	Medium
A18	3.35	64	Medium
A18	0.45	11	Small
A18	0.45	5	Very Small
G02	2.20	73	Medium
G03	7.13	293	Very Large
G03	0.09	3	Very Small
G04	23.43	392	Very Large
G04	2.94	153	Large
G04	6.34	190	Large
G04	0.57	28	Medium
G04	0.57	31	Medium
G04	0.90	52	Medium
G04	1.38	3	Small
G04	0.02	3	Very Small
G04	0.59	9	Very Small
G06	0.86	28	Medium
G06	1.48	40	Medium
G06	2.89	75	Medium
G06	0.50	14	Small
G06	0.83	15	Small
G06	0.70	17	Small
G07	10.30	407	Very Large
G07	22.56	526	Very Large
G07	2.29	101	Large
G07	2.11	103	Large
G07	5.59	107	Large
G07	2.72	114	Large
G07	3.07	124	Large
G07	7.57	160	Large
G07	3.34	197	Large
G07	0.78	27	Medium
G07	0.51	28	Medium
G07	0.56	28	Medium
G07	0.33	29	Medium
G07	0.59	32	Medium
G07	0.52	34	Medium
G07	1.00	34	Medium
G07	0.92	38	Medium
G07	1.62	38	Medium
G07	1.75	39	Medium
G07	1.20	40	Medium
G07	0.77	43	Medium
G07	3.67	44	Medium
G07	0.90	48	Medium
G07	1.66	58	Medium
G07	1.90	58	Medium
G07	1.81	60	Medium
G07	0.75	61	Medium
G07	0.97	61	Medium

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G07	1.55	62	Medium
G07	1.73	65	Medium
G07	0.25	11	Small
G07	0.38	11	Small
G07	0.39	11	Small
G07	0.24	12	Small
G07	0.49	12	Small
G07	0.32	15	Small
G07	0.47	15	Small
G07	0.19	17	Small
G07	0.40	17	Small
G07	0.21	18	Small
G07	0.37	19	Small
G07	0.41	20	Small
G07	0.91	21	Small
G07	0.47	25	Small
G07	0.47	25	Small
G07	0.63	25	Small
G07	0.09	3	Very Small
G07	0.13	3	Very Small
G07	0.13	5	Very Small
G07	0.07	5	Very Small
G07	0.05	6	Very Small
G07	0.08	6	Very Small
G07	0.09	6	Very Small
G07	0.12	6	Very Small
G07	0.05	7	Very Small
G07	0.07	7	Very Small
G07	0.09	7	Very Small
G07	0.18	7	Very Small
G07	0.54	7	Very Small
G07	0.15	8	Very Small
G07	0.19	8	Very Small
G07	0.12	9	Very Small
G07	0.25	9	Very Small
G07	0.36	10	Very Small
G08	29.70	675	Very Large
G08	1.62	92	Large
G08	4.54	112	Large
G08	2.72	122	Large
G08	3.55	122	Large
G08	1.63	67	Medium
G09	42.89	1449	Very Large
G09	12.85	186	Large
G09	0.65	26	Medium
G09	1.27	42	Medium
G09	1.69	46	Medium
G09	4.39	74	Medium
G09	0.43	8	Very Small
G10	0.99	40	Medium
G10	2.01	43	Medium
G10	1.09	54	Medium
G10	1.68	63	Medium
G10	0.46	16	Small
G10	1.00	19	Small

G10	0.86	22	Small
G12	3.44	99	Large
G12	2.61	62	Medium
G12	1.77	71	Medium
G13	2.07	91	Large
G13	1.04	34	Medium
G13	2.68	60	Medium
G13	1.95	73	Medium
G13	0.75	15	Small
G15	9.42	442	Very Large
G15	11.90	470	Very Large
G15	2.58	79	Large
G15	2.14	83	Large
G15	2.39	102	Large
G15	1.63	43	Medium
G16	11.02	237	Very Large
G16	6.25	195	Large
G16	0.95	42	Medium
G16	0.72	21	Small
S01	7.67	228	Very Large
S01	0.85	33	Medium
S03	0.38	13	Small
S04	19.23	195	Large
S04	0.02	3	Very Small
S04	0.33	3	Very Small
S05	0.91	5	Very Small
S06	1.28	64	Medium
S06	0.50	17	Small
S06	0.81	19	Small
S06	0.91	23	Small
S07	0.41	4	Very Small
S07	0.17	6	Very Small
S08	0.48	12	Small
S10	3.38	111	Large
S10	1.23	48	Medium
S10	0.16	3	Very Small
S11	7.33	240	Very Large
S11	10.75	242	Very Large
S11	9.73	326	Very Large
S11	8.77	482	Very Large
S11	4.64	91	Large
S11	3.74	178	Large
S11	6.53	197	Large
S11	3.23	29	Medium
S11	1.32	32	Medium
S11	0.31	13	Small
S11	0.21	1	Very Small
S11	0.16	5	Very Small
S11	0.75	6	Very Small
S12	1.18	27	Medium
S12	1.88	8	Small
S12	0.50	17	Small
S12	0.59	23	Small
S12	0.04	1	Very Small
S12	0.04	1	Very Small

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S12	0.05	1	Very Small
S12	0.09	1	Very Small
S13	0.30	5	Very Small
S14	2.45	27	Medium
S14	2.73	37	Medium
S14	1.06	41	Medium
S14	2.34	56	Medium
S14	1.12	59	Medium
S14	0.63	18	Small
S14	0.89	19	Small
S15	14.42	304	Very Large
S15	1.06	35	Medium
S15	3.47	54	Medium
S15	0.17	24	Small
S16	1.06	30	Medium
S16	3.21	44	Medium
S16	1.72	49	Medium
S16	1.04	24	Small
S16	0.05	1	Very Small
S17	2.75	27	Medium
S17	0.79	22	Small
S17	1.46	22	Small
S17	0.39	10	Very Small
S20	10.77	409	Very Large
S20	1.38	79	Large
S20	0.94	17	Small
S20	0.07	1	Very Small
S20	0.17	6	Very Small
S21	1.18	60	Medium
S21	0.67	14	Small
S23	6.14	238	Very Large
S23	5.31	154	Large
S23	1.15	30	Medium
S23	1.18	46	Medium
S23	1.80	56	Medium
S23	0.32	23	Small
S24	5.64	79	Large
S24	2.77	66	Medium
S25	6.03	76	Large
S25	2.18	98	Large
S25	1.93	31	Medium
S25	0.92	42	Medium
S25	5.63	71	Medium
S25	0.48	16	Small
S25	1.89	25	Small
S25	0.54	9	Very Small

Outside Study area			
Cerediggion			
	160	10.2	Large
	150-160	4.6	Large
	60	1.6	Medium
	50	1.8	Medium
	60	3.8	Medium
	(2a) 3	0.1	Very Small
Conwy			
	150	2.6	Large
	225-250	13.3	Very Large
	20	1.0	Small
	20	1.1	Small
	9	0.8	Very Small
	20	1.1	Small
	300-350	35.5	Very Large
	80	4.8	Large
	120	3.6	Large
	36	1.8	Medium
	46	1.9	Medium
	43	1.0	Medium
	60	1.7	Medium
	20	0.2	Small
	36	0.5	Medium
	11	0.3	Small
	15	0.3	Small
	55	2.8	Medium
Denbigshire			
	55	4.2	Medium
Powys			
	60	3.7	Medium
	70	2.8	Medium
	50	2.5	Medium
	70	5.8	Medium
	45	2.0	Medium
	45	1.3	Medium

Appendix 10: Holford Rules

Guidelines on overhead line routing were first formulated in 1959 by Sir William later Lord, Holford, who was a part-time member of the CEB. National Grid has reviewed these guidelines, known as the 'Holford Rules', and concluded that they have stood the test of time. National Grid therefore intends to continue to employ them as a basis of the company's approach to overhead line routing.

Since the formulation of the original Rules, formal requirements for environmental assessment have been introduced. Whilst environmental assessment for overhead lines addresses wider topics than the visual amenity issue on which the Rules concentrate, they remain a valuable tool in the selecting and assessing potential route options as part of the environmental assessment process. The original Rules and their added notes of clarification are set out below.

GUIDELINES FOR THE ROUTING OF NEW HIGH VOLTAGE OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINES

Rule 1:

Avoid altogether, if possible, the major areas of highest amenity value, by so planning the general route of the first line in the first place, even if the total mileage is somewhat increased in consequence.

Note on Rule 1

Investigate the possibility of alternative routes, avoiding if possible the areas of the highest amenity value. The consideration of alternative routes must be an integral feature of environmental statements.

Areas of highest amenity value are:

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
National Parks
Heritage Coasts
World Heritage Sites

Rule 2:

Avoid smaller areas of high amenity value, or scientific interests by deviation; provided that this can be done without using too many angle towers, ie the more massive structures which are used when lines change direction.

Note on Rule 2

Some areas (e.g. Site of Special Scientific Interest) may require special consideration for potential effects on ecology (e.g. to their flora and fauna).

Where possible choose routes which minimise the effects on the setting of areas of architectural, historic and archaeological interest including Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Listed Parks and Gardens and Ancient Monuments.

Rule 3:

Other things being equal, choose the most direct line, with no sharp changes of direction and thus with fewer angle towers.

Note of Rule 3

Where possible choose inconspicuous locations for angle towers, terminal towers and sealing end compounds.

Rule 4:

Choose tree and hill backgrounds in preference to sky backgrounds wherever possible; and when the line has to cross a ridge, secure this opaque background as long as possible and cross obliquely when a dip in the ridge provides an opportunity. Where it does not, cross directly, preferably between belts of trees.

Rule 5:

Prefer moderately open valleys with woods where the apparent height of towers will be reduced, and views of the line will be broken by trees.

Note on Rules 4 & 5

Utilise background and foreground features to reduce the apparent height and domination of towers from pan viewpoints.

Minimise the exposure of numbers of towers on prominent ridges and skylines.

Where possible avoiding cutting extensive swathes through woodland blocks and consider opportunities for skirting edges of copses and woods.

Protecting existing vegetation, including woodland and hedgerows, and safeguard visual and ecological links with the surrounding landscape.

Rule 6:

In country which is flat and sparsely planted, keep the high voltage lines as far as possible independent of smaller lines, converging routes, distribution poles and other masts, wires and cables, so as to avoid a concentration or 'wirescape'.

Note on Rule 6:

In all locations minimise confusing appearance.

Arrange wherever practicable that parallel or closely related routes are planned with tower types, spans and conductors forming a coherent appearance; where routes need to diverge, allow where practicable sufficient separation to limit the effects on properties and features between the lines.

Rule 7:

Approach urban area through industrial zones, where they exist; and when pleasant residential and recreational land intervenes between the approach line and the substation, go carefully into the comparative costs of the undergrounding, for lines other than those of the highest voltage.

Note on Rule 7

When a line needs to pass through a development area, route it so as to minimise as far as possible the effect on development.

Alignments should be chosen after consideration of effects on the amenity of existing development and on proposals for new development.

When siting substations take account of the effects of the terminal towers and line connections that will need to be made and take advantage of screening features such as ground form and vegetation.

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

Residential Areas

Avoid routing close to residential areas as far as possible on grounds of general amenity.

Designations of County, District and Local Value

Where possible choose routes which minimise the effect on Special Landscape Areas, areas of Great Landscape Value and other similar designations of County, District or Local value.

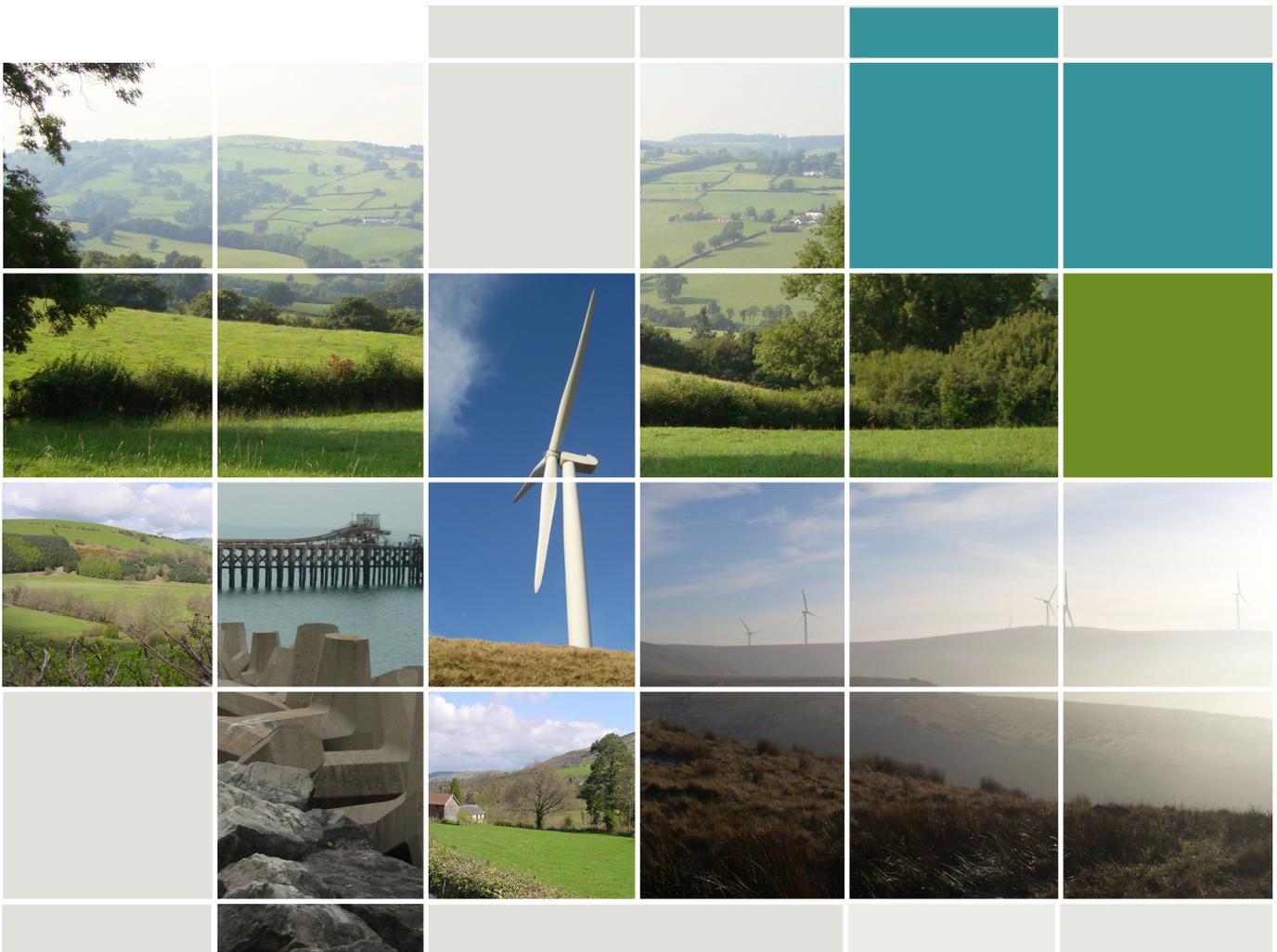
Alternative Tower Designs

In addition to adopting appropriate routing, evaluate where appropriate the use of alternative tower designs now available where these would be advantageous visually, and where the extra cost can be justified.



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