

4. Summary of Mitigation and Residual Effects

Introduction

- 4.1 The purpose of this Chapter is to provide a summary of the outcome of the assessments reported within **Technical Chapters 2 and 3**. Through these conclusions, BDBC will have sufficient information on environmental impacts to inform their decision-making process.
- 4.2 The residual effects defined within this Chapter rely upon the implementation of a series of mitigation measures. These measures are set out below in the Environmental Management Plan (**Table 4.1**). The EIA has considered primary, secondary and tertiary mitigation in line with the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals (ISEP) *Environmental Impact Assessment Guide to Delivering Quality Development*¹. These are defined as follows:
- **Primary** – modifications to the location or design of the Proposed Development made during the pre-application stage that are an inherent part of the project;
 - **Secondary** – actions that will require further activity in order to achieve the anticipated outcome; and
 - **Tertiary** – actions that would occur with or without input from the EIA feeding into the design process. These include actions that will be undertaken to meet other existing legislation requirements or actions that are considered to be standard practices used to manage commonly occurring environmental effects.

¹ ISEP (2015). *EIA Guide to Delivering Quality Development*.

Table 4.1: Environmental Management Plan

Mitigation Measure	Description / Details of Measure
Primary Mitigation	
Landscape and Ecology Strategy Plan	• Respect for Landscape Character and Openness – The design aims to conserve the inherent openness and expansive character of the chalk downland landscape, avoiding the introduction of features or planting that would result in undue enclosure or suburbanisation. • Topography-Led Layout – The siting of solar arrays responds directly to the gently rolling landform, with development directed towards lower-lying and less visually prominent areas, and away from skylines and elevated ground. • Minimisation of Visual Effects through Siting – The Proposed Development establishes sensitive placement of infrastructure, rather than reliance on extensive new planting. Existing landform and vegetation would utilise to reduce intervisibility and visual intrusion. • Protection and Enhancement of Existing Landscape Features – Established hedgerows, tree belts and woodland would be retained and enhanced where appropriate, with measures focused on strengthening structure, improving condition, and infilling gaps in a manner consistent with local character. • Avoidance of Incongruous Mitigation Measures – Proposed landscape interventions reflect traditional land management practices and consider the established landscape character of the Site including those characteristics identified in aforementioned landscape character appraisals. In particular, excessive hedgerow heights or substantial woodland belts that are uncharacteristic of the chalkland landscape shall be avoided. • Targeted Landscape Enhancement – Where mitigation planting is required, it shall be localised and proportionate, focusing on reinforcing existing features (e.g. hedgerows and tree belts) rather than introducing new large-scale planting blocks. • Protection of Key Views and Visual Receptors – The layout seeks to minimise effects on sensitive visual receptors, including: – Views to and from the Church of All Saints and its setting; – Views from the North Wessex Downs National Landscape; and – Public rights of way, particularly St James' Way.

Mitigation Measure	Description / Details of Measure
	• Setback from Sensitive Boundaries and Routes – Solar arrays would be offset from visually sensitive edges, including road corridors and footpaths, to maintain a sense of openness and reduce perceived visual dominance. • Reduction of Intervisibility – In areas of weak landscape structure, opportunities would be taken to reduce intervisibility through subtle enhancement of existing vegetation, including hedgerow reinforcement and understorey planting. • Reinforcement of Historic Landscape Pattern – Where appropriate, the reinstatement of historic field boundaries is proposed to break up the scale of the development and improve landscape integration. • Integration with the Wider Landscape Context – The Proposed Development has regard to its role within the setting of the North Wessex Downs National Landscape, ensuring that design decisions align with relevant management objectives, including those relating to landscape character and visual quality.
Tertiary Mitigation	
Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	The CEMP would specify the following measures: • Use of site hoardings. • Tree and hedgerow protection measures. • Management of construction traffic. • Control of working hours. • Other appropriate housekeeping on the Site.

Summary of Residual and Significant Effects

- 4.3 The summary of the outputs of the assessment (i.e. residual effects and the judgement on significance) for both the construction and operation stages are set out within **Table 4.2** and **Table 4.3** respectively.
- 4.4 The effects identified as ‘Significant’ are highlighted in **bold** as appropriate.

Table 4.2: Summary of Residual Effects and Significant Effects During Construction

Technical Chapter	Potential Effect	Receptor	Residual Effect
Chapter 2: Landscape and Visual	Changes to local landscape character	Site/Landscape Fabric	Moderate to Major Adverse
	Changes to the character and amenity of visual receptors	Public Right of Way users of St James’ Way long distance footpath (Ref: 267/7013; 208/1/3; 161/4/1 and 161/5/1)	Moderate Adverse
Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage	Effect on Heritage Significance, including Setting	Monk Sherborne Conservation Area	Minor Adverse
		Sherborne St John Conservation Area	Negligible Adverse
		All Saints Church, Monk Sherborne (Grade I Listed Building).	Minor Adverse
		Keyhole Enclosure SE of Field Barn Farm (Scheduled Monument)	Negligible Adverse
		Rookery Farmhouse (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse
		Appletree Cottage (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse
		Eastrop Cottage (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse
		Thames Dell (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse
		Monk Sherborne War Memorial (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse

Technical Chapter	Potential Effect	Receptor	Residual Effect
		Manor Farm (Non-Designated Heritage Asset)	Negligible to Minor Adverse
		Queen's Cottages (Non-Designated Heritage Asset)	Negligible to Minor Adverse
	Change to the character and appearance of the conservation area	Sherborne St John Conservation Area	Negligible Adverse

Table 4.3: Summary of Residual Effects and Significant Effects During Operation

Technical Chapter	Potential Effect	Receptor	Residual Effect
Chapter 2: Landscape and Visual	Changes to local landscape character	Site/Landscape Fabric	Year 1 = Moderate to Major Adverse Year 15 = Moderate to Major Adverse
	Changes to the character and amenity of visual receptors	Public Right of Way users of St James' Way long distance footpath (Ref: 267/7013; 208/1/3; 161/4/1 and 161/5/1)	Year 1 = Moderate Adverse Year 15 = Minor to Moderate Adverse
	Cumulative changes to local landscape character from Cumulative Project 1	LCA16 – Basingstoke Down	Year 1 = Minor to Moderate Adverse Year 15 = Minor to Moderate Adverse
	Cumulative changes to the character and amenity of visual receptors from Cumulative Project 1	Public Right of Way users of St James' Way long distance footpath (Ref: 267/7013; 208/1/3; 161/4/1 and 161/5/1)	Year 1 = Moderate Adverse Year 15 = Minor to

Technical Chapter	Potential Effect	Receptor	Residual Effect
			Moderate Adverse
	Cumulative changes to local landscape character from Cumulative Project 2	LCA16 – Basingstoke Down (in part)	Year 1 = Moderate Adverse Year 15 = Moderate Adverse
	Cumulative changes to the character and amenity of visual receptors from Cumulative Project 2	Public Right of Way users of St James' Way long distance footpath (Ref: 267/7013; 208/1/3; 161/4/1 and 161/5/1)	Year 1 = Moderate Adverse Year 15 = Minor to Moderate Adverse
	Cumulative changes to local landscape character from Cumulative Project 3	LCA16 – Basingstoke Down	Year 1 = Minor to Moderate Adverse Year 15 = Minor to Moderate Adverse
Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage	Effect on Heritage Significance, including Setting	Monk Sherborne Conservation Area	Minor Adverse
		Sherborne St John Conservation Area	Negligible Adverse
		All Saints Church, Monk Sherborne (Grade I Listed Building).	Minor Adverse
		Keyhole Enclosure SE of Field Barn Farm (Scheduled Monument)	Minor Adverse
		Rookery Farmhouse (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse
		Appletree Cottage (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse
		Eastrop Cottage (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse

Technical Chapter	Potential Effect	Receptor	Residual Effect
		Thames Dell (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse
		Monk Sherborne War Memorial (Grade II Listed Building)	Negligible Adverse
		Manor Farm (Non-Designated Heritage Asset)	Negligible to Minor Adverse
		Queen's Cottages (Non-Designated Heritage Asset)	Negligible to Minor Adverse
	Change to the character and appearance of the conservation area	Sherborne St John Conservation Area	Negligible Adverse