

Sensitivity of the receptor - Landscape

	Value	Susceptibility
High	Internationally/nationally designated landscape / townscape e.g world heritage sites, areas of outstanding natural beauty and national parks / national scenic areas (Scotland). A very distinctive landscape / townscape with strong, widespread and defining characteristics. High quality with no detracting features. Contains features that could be described as unique or are nationally scarce. Considerable conservation and / or recreational / heritage interest. Very strong sense of place.	Landscape / Townscape can accommodate a very limited change related to the proposed development without consequences arising on its defining characteristics including its condition/quality, natural, cultural/social, aesthetic and perceptual characteristics. Its landscape characteristics are very susceptible to change.
Medium	Locally designated e.g public open space Reasonably distinctive landscape / townscape or with some strong contributing characteristics. Average quality with features that are locally commonplace which may exhibit some detracting features. Intermediate conservation and/or recreational / heritage interest. A strong sense of place.	Landscape / Townscape is able to accommodate a small change related to the proposed development without consequences arising on its defining characteristics including its condition/quality, natural, cultural/social, aesthetic and perceptual characteristics. Its landscape characteristics are susceptible to change.
Low	Undesignated landscape Relatively bland or commonplace landscape / townscape or with limited positive characteristics. Features that make little contribution to local distinctiveness. Some detracting features. Limited conservation and/or recreational / heritage interest. Poor sense of place.	Landscape / Townscape is able to accommodate a medium change related to the proposed development without consequences arising on its defining characteristics including its condition/quality, natural, cultural/social, aesthetic and perceptual characteristics.. Its landscape characteristics are resilient and are of low susceptibility to change.
Negligible	Undesignated landscape A degraded or featureless landscape with little or no charateristics of quality or interest. No sense of place.	Landscape is able to accommodate a large change related to the proposed development without consequences arising on its defining characteristics including its condition/quality, natural, cultural/social, aesthetic and perceptual characteristics. Its landscape characteristics are not susceptible to change.

		Susceptibility			
		High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Value	High	High	High / Medium	Medium	Medium / Low
	Medium	High / Medium	Medium	Medium / Low	Low
	Low	Medium	Medium / Low	Low	Low / Negligible
	Negligible	Medium / Low	Low	Low / Negligible	Negligible

Figure A - 2.1

Magnitude of effects - Landscape

		Large	Medium	Small	Negligible
Size or scale	Typical description of the receptor	Major impact on landscape resources / elements or major alteration to key elements / features of the landscape			
		Partial impact on landscape resources / elements or moderate alteration to key elements / features of the landscape			
		Minor impact on landscape resources / elements or small alteration of elements / features of the landscape			
		Very minor impact on landscape resources / elements or negligible alteration of elements / features of the landscape			
Geographical extent	Typical description of the receptor	Wide - The effects of the proposed development would influence the entire character area			
		Intermediate - The effects of the proposed development would influence a moderate part of the character area			
		Localised - The effects of the proposed development would influence the character of the immediate setting or surroundings of the site			
		Limited - The effects of the proposed development would only influence the character of the site itself or a very minor extent of the character area			

Magnitude of landscape effects

The magnitude of effects is assessed by combining the judgments on the size or scale and the geographical extent of the landscape effect resulting from the proposals. The table provides an overall profile of these criteria for each factor. In determining the magnitude of effects during the construction phase and at completion, further consideration is also given to the duration and reversibility of the landscape effect.

Duration

Duration is a material consideration when determining the magnitude of effect and, where relevant, will be qualified in the data sheets contained within this report.

Duration is judged as short (less than 5 years), medium (5-10 years) or long (10-25 years) term.

Reversibility

The reversibility of an effect defines the prospects or practicality of the effect being reversed. Reversibility is judged as fully, partially or unable to reinstate/restore the original baseline situation

Figure A - 2.2

Sensitivity of the receptor - Visual

	Value	Susceptibility
High	Views from internationally / nationally designated landscapes / townscapes or landscapes recognised nationally as the best in the UK e.g areas of outstanding natural beauty, national parks/ national scenic areas (Scotland) national trails, registered parks and gardens or world heritage sites. Internationally / Nationally recognised views with a strong cultural association or well known references or promoted views in literature / art / guide books / viewpoints marked on OS maps.	People using residential street / areas or people travelling long distance recreation routes / National Trails, tourist scenic routes whose primary focus is on the landscape / townscape. Visitors to heritage assets or other attractions where the landscape setting is an important contributor to the experience. Visual receptors are very susceptible to change.
Medium	Views from local planning designations e.g country parks, Local Nature Reserves and conservation areas. Views from landscapes and townscapes well used by local residents who have a strong proprietary interest in the view or from landscapes with recognisable features that promote a strong sense of place.	People travelling along public rights of way, rural roads, tourist routes or railway users with secondary focus on the landscape / townscape. Visual receptors are susceptible to change.
Low	Views from undesignated landscapes or townscapes. Views from commonplace landscapes / townscapes with a weak sense of place, limited cultural associations and / or where receptors have limited proprietary interest in the view.	People travelling along urban roads, railways and footways whose attention is unlikely to be on the landscape / townscape. People engaged in outdoor sporting activities which does not depend upon appreciation of views. Visual receptors are of low susceptibility to change.
Negligible	Views from degraded landscapes or townscapes with very limited value to local residents or from landscapes / townscapes that require significant restoration.	People at places of work, educational or social venues who have very limited focus on the landscape / townscape. People driving along motorways. Visual receptors are not susceptible to change.

		Susceptibility			
		High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Value	High	High	High / Medium	Medium	Medium / Low
	Medium	High / Medium	Medium	Medium / Low	Low
	Low	Medium	Medium / Low	Low	Low / Negligible
	Negligible	Medium / Low	Low	Low / Negligible	Negligible

Figure A - 2.3

Magnitude of effects – Visual

		Large	Medium	Small	Negligible
Size or scale	Typical description of the receptor	Major alteration to the composition or nature of views through the introduction of highly prominent elements and / or the alteration of a large proportion of the field of view.			
		Partial alteration to the composition or nature of views through the introduction of elements that are of medium prominence and / or the alteration of a medium proportion of the field of view.			
		Minor alteration to the composition or nature of views through the introduction of elements that are of limited prominence and / or the alteration of a small proportion of the field of view.			
		Very minor alteration to the composition or nature of views through the introduction of elements that are barely visible and / or the alteration of a negligible proportion of the field of view.			
Geographical extent	Typical description of the receptor	Proposed development visible from a large number of locations and is central to the focus of open views and / or covers a wide extent of the area / section of the route			
		Proposed development visible from a medium number of locations and / or is not central to the focus of views and / or covers an intermediate extent of the area/section of a route			
		Proposed development visible from a small number of locations and / or is viewed obliquely to the main focus of views and / or covers a localised extent of the area/short section of a route			
		Proposed development visible from a single or limited locations and / or at a significant distance and / or covers a very minor extent of the area/section of a route			

Magnitude of visual effects

The magnitude of effects is assessed by combining the judgments on the size or scale and the geographical extent of the visual effect resulting from the proposals. The table provides an overall profile of these criteria for each factor. In determining the magnitude of effects during the construction phase and at completion, further consideration is also given to the duration and reversibility of the visual effect.

Duration

Duration is a material consideration when determining the magnitude of effect and, where relevant, will be qualified in the data sheets contained within this report.

Duration is judged as short (less than 5 years), medium (5-10 years) or long (10-25 years) term.

Reversibility

The reversibility of an effect defines the prospects or practicality of the effect being reversed. Reversibility is judged as fully, partially or unable to reinstate/restore the original baseline situation.

Figure A - 2.4