



# **Park House Farm Wind Farm**

## Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Cannock Wind Farm Services Limited

March 2020

Prepared by WYG Environment Planning Transport Limited.



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## 1.0 Introduction

1.1.1 WYG is instructed by Cannock Wind Farm Services Limited (CWFSL) to prepare this Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVApp) which relates to a section 73 planning application to permit a further 10 years of operation (until the end of March 2030) for the existing wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure at Park House Farm Wind Farm, Park House Farm, Lowca, Whitehaven. The approximate site centre grid reference is 298849E 523302N.

## 1.2 Scope of the Appraisal

1.2.1 Copeland Borough Council has given a EIA Screening Opinion on this proposed application and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required for this extension of life application, therefore the scope of this report is for a LVApp. This is in accordance with advice given by the Landscape Institute as described further in section 1.3.2.

1.2.2 A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was carried out in 1998 to support the original wind farm planning application based on the first edition of the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (1995). This appraisal for the extension of time to the planning permission has been carried out using Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Third Edition (April 2013) (GLVIA3) as described in section 1.3. The reference to 'turbines' throughout the LVApp relates to wind turbines.

1.2.3 Since the 1998 LVIA, planning policy and a number of other relevant documents have been updated and produced, and are referred to in the LVApp. These include:

- The Copeland Local Plan, adopted December 2013, and a number of saved policies form the Copeland Local Plan 2001-2016;
- Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit, Cumbria County Council, March 2011;
- Cumulative Impacts of Vertical Infrastructure, WYG, October 2014 (CIVI);
- Cumbria Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document, July 2007;
- Visual Representation of Windfarms, Scottish Natural Heritage, Version 2.2 February 2017;
- Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments, SNH, March

2012;

- Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 06/19 on Visual Representation of Development Proposals, September 2019.

1.2.4 The LVApp focuses on the likely effects on the landscape and visual amenity of the continued presence of the wind farm beyond its currently permitted span of 20 years for an additional 10 years and of the consequent delay in decommissioning the development and restoring the land.

1.2.5 The 1998 LVIA has been used as a basis for the preparation of LVApp. A summary of the 1998 LVIA is included in **Appendix 1** and referred to in the relevant sections of the report. At the Council's request the original Environmental Statement is also submitted with the section 73 application submission. Viewpoints included with the 1998 LVIA have been used to inform the viewpoint selection in the LVApp with viewpoints identified with no change and slight effects in the 1998 LVIA scoped out for the purpose of the appraisal (refer to **Appendix 1**). Effects on individual landscape features (such as trees and hedgerows) have been scoped out of this LVApp as effects on these features are not likely due to the nature of the proposals.

1.2.6 This LVApp provides an assessment of the effects of the continued existence of the wind farm, delayed decommissioning and delayed restoration of the landscape on the landscape character and landscape designations of the site and surrounding area, and the effect on peoples' views of the site and its setting, or visual amenity.

1.2.7 For the purposes of assessing the landscape and visual effects of this proposal, study areas have been defined, shown on **Figure LA.01 at Appendix 2**:

- The 'site' is defined by the location of the wind turbines on **Figure LA.01**;
- The landscape context extends to 20 km from the outermost wind turbines;
- The visual study area extends to 20 km from the outermost wind turbines; and
- The cumulative effects study area extends 35 km from the outermost wind turbines.

1.2.8 The objectives of the appraisal are to:

- Describe and evaluate the landscape of the site and surrounding landscape context and visual amenity of the surrounding area, which might be affected by the extension

of time;

- Examine the proposals for the extension of time and analyse the potential effects on the landscape and visual amenity associated with the proposals; and
- Provide an assessment of the landscape and visual effects of the extension of time with integral mitigation measures in place.

1.2.9 The LVApp is presented with separate sections dealing with effects on landscape, effects on visual amenity, and cumulative effects. The LVApp is illustrated by plans and photographs, (see **Appendix 2**) as follows:

Figure <b>LA.01</b>	Site Location
Figure <b>LA.02-1</b>	Local Designations: Landscape and Heritage
Figure <b>LA.02-2</b>	Local Designations: Biodiversity
Figure <b>LA.03</b>	Public Access
Figure <b>LA.04-1</b>	National Landscape Character
Figure <b>LA.04-2</b>	Local Landscape Character
Figure <b>LA.05</b>	Topography
Figure <b>LA.06</b>	Site Context
Figure <b>LA.07-1</b>	Zone of Theoretical Visibility: Bare Earth Analysis – Hub height
Figure <b>LA.07-2</b>	Zone of Theoretical Visibility: Bare Earth Analysis – Blade tip height
<b>Figure LA.07-3</b>	Zone of Theoretical Visibility: Bare Earth Analysis – Blade tip height overlaid with Local Landscape Character
Figure <b>LA.08</b>	Viewpoint Locations
Figure <b>LA.09-1</b>	Cumulative Sites within 35km study area
Figure <b>LA.09-2</b>	Wind energy developments considered within the cumulative assessment
Figure <b>LA.09-3</b>	Cumulative timeline – Year 2000
Figure <b>LA.09-4</b>	Cumulative timeline – Year 2005
Figure <b>LA.09-5</b>	Cumulative timeline – Year 2010
Figure <b>LA.09-6</b>	Cumulative timeline – Year 2015
Figure <b>LA.09-7</b>	Cumulative timeline – Year 2020
Figures <b>LA.10-1</b> to <b>LA.10-8</b>	Viewpoint Photography
Figures <b>LA.11-1</b>	Cumulative Viewpoint Photography

to **LA.11-6**

1.2.10 Detailed information is presented in Appendices as follows:

Appendix 1	1998 LVIA summary tables
Appendix 2	Figures
Appendix 3	General Assessment Methodology
Appendix 4	Consultation Tracker
Appendix 5	Landscape Policies
Appendix 6	Analysis of Landscape Character Types and descriptions
Appendix 7	Preliminary Viewpoints and Receptor List
Appendix 8	Cumulative Assessment Data
Appendix 9	Report Conditions

## 1.3 Appraisal Methodology

1.3.1 The methodology used for assessing the landscape and visual effects is based on the recommendations in Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Assessment 3rd Edition published by The Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment in 2013 (GLVIA3). A summary of the general methodology used is set out in **Appendix 3**.

1.3.2 The Landscape Institute has advised in relation to Landscape & Visual Appraisals outside a formal EIA process in its "Statement of Clarification 1/13"<sup>1</sup>:

In carrying out appraisals, the same principles and process as LVIA may be applied but, in so doing, it is not required to establish whether the effects arising are or are not significant given that the exercise is not being undertaken for EIA purposes. ... The emphasis on likely 'significant effects' in formal LVIA stresses the need for an approach that is proportional to the scale of the project that is being assessed and the nature of its likely effects. The same principle – focussing on a proportional approach – also applies to appraisals of landscape and visual impacts outside the formal requirements of EIA.

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<sup>1</sup> Landscape Institute website: <https://www.landscapeinstitute.org/technical/glvia3-panel/glvia3-clarifications/> [accessed January 2020]

1.3.3 The appraisal process for this LVApp comprises a combination of desk studies and field surveys, with subsequent analyses, and involved:

- A review of the 1998 LVIA and summary of information to inform the LVApp (refer to **Appendix 1**);
- A review of landscape designations and planning policies for the landscape, and of other landscape studies relevant to the area, including national and local landscape character assessments;
- A survey of the site and landscape context study areas and inspection of views of the site from publicly accessible viewpoints, including a photographic survey. The survey was carried out on the 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2020;
- The LVApp methodology was provided to Copeland Borough Council and a selection of viewpoints discussed and agreed with the planning case officer. Methodology in relation to the LVApp cumulative assessment was also provided. Further details of the consultation with the LPA are provided in **section 1.8** and summarised in **Appendix 4**;
- Evaluation of the features and elements of the landscape and their contribution to the landscape character, context and setting, based on these studies;
- Analysis of the proposals and consideration of potential landscape and visual effects of the proposed extension of life of the turbines;
- Assessment of the susceptibility and sensitivity of the landscape to the changes likely to arise from the extension of life of the turbines;
- Identification of the extent of theoretical visibility of the development and viewers, their susceptibility and sensitivity, and view locations, supported by a viewpoint analysis;
- Consideration of the extension to life proposals and the mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset adverse effects; and
- Assessment of magnitude of change arising from the extension to life proposal, the degree and nature of effects on the landscape and on visual amenity, with the mitigation proposals in place.

## 1.4 Assessment and Mitigation





1.4.1 Additional mitigation measures to those since the 1998 application are not proposed in relation to the extension to life proposals.

1.4.2 Details of the criteria for assessing landscape effects, visual effects, and cumulative effects, are set out in those respective sections.

## 1.5 **Weather**

1.5.1 The weather is a factor affecting the assessment of, especially, visual impacts. The Met Office<sup>2</sup> publish average statistics for weather patterns for the region, monthly and annual, for maximum and minimum temperatures, days of air frost, hours of sunshine, amount of rainfall - both generally and the number of days when rainfall is above 1 mm. However, there is no data for hours of sunshine for St Bees Head, the nearest climate station to where the site is located, so the England NW & Wales N District is stated instead. The relevant available data is as follows:

- Rainfall above 1 mm per day, which limits visibility, occurs on an average of 159.3 days in the year, about 43.6% of the year;
- There are on average 26.1 days when air frost occurs, which can produce hazy conditions limiting visibility, about 7.1% of the year; and
- There is an average of 1345.9 hours of sunshine per annum for the district, less than the regional average of 1376.2 hours).

1.5.2 As the area local to the wind farm can typically see rainfall occurring up to 43.6% of the year, the ability to appreciate the turbines in the landscape will be affected, particularly during periods of low cloud. The conclusions reached within this appraisal are likely to be influenced by such weather conditions.

## 1.6 **Guidance**

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<sup>2</sup> The data quoted are those for Lancaster, obtained from The Met Office website: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/maps-and-data/uk-climate-averages/gctqjxwu> [accessed 30/01/2020]



1.6.1 In addition to GLVIA3, the Landscape Institute's Technical Guidance Advice Note 06/19 Visual Representation of Development Proposals was referred to.

1.6.2 Relevant policy, landscape character assessments, and other contextual information sources were also referred to, including:

- Landscape Character Assessment: Guidance for England and Scotland, published by Countryside Agency, 2002;
- An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment, published by Natural England, October 2014;
- Natural England updated character area descriptions, July 2013;
- Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit, Landscape Character Assessment, 2011;
- Lake District National Park Landscape Character SPD, September 2018;
- Cumulative Impact of Vertical Infrastructure (CIVI), WYG, October 2014;
- Copeland Borough Council Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD (Adopted December 2013);
- Allerdale Borough Council Local Plan (Adopted July 2014);
- Lake District National Park Partnership, The Partnership's Plan, 2015-2020; and
- National Planning Policy Framework.

## 1.7 Photography

1.7.1 Photographs have a special role in describing landscape character and illustrating key views. In order for photograph to be representative and to create an image that is as similar as possible to that which is seen with the human eye, the Landscape Institute (LI) advises using a lens with a focal length equivalent to 50 mm for a 35 mm Single Lens Reflex (SLR) camera, and a horizontal field of view of a little under 40 degrees<sup>3</sup>. The camera used for the appraisal photography was a Canon EOS 6D MKII with a fixed 50 mm lens.

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<sup>3</sup> The Landscape Institute, Landscape Institute Technical Advice Note 06/19, Visual Representation of Development Proposal, September 2019 on LI website <https://www.landscapeinstitute.org/visualisation/> (accessed 30 January 2020)

1.7.2 Landscape photography includes wide angle or panoramic views requiring a sequence of photographs to be taken across the view. Where this approach is taken, a series of overlapping photographs are digitally spliced together using PTGui using a cylindrical projection to provide a panorama approximating to the normal field of view in a landscape context. Where necessary, the contrast and brightness of individual photographs is slightly manipulated to create a consistent panorama without visible joins. The viewpoint locations are shown on **Figure LA.08**.

1.7.3 Guidance in Visual Representation of Windfarms, Scottish Natural Heritage, Version 2.2 February 2017 has also been referred to for the production of the photography and figures.

## 1.8 Consultation

1.8.1 Consultation with Copeland Borough Council (CBC) was carried out regarding the assessment methodology, viewpoint assessment locations and any relevant sites to be considered within the cumulative assessment. The following were discussed:

- The assessment to be carried out would take the form of an LVApp in accordance with the WYG methodology supplied (included in **Appendix 3**);
- A list of proposed viewpoint locations considered appropriate for the assessment of visual effects, based on a selection of the viewpoints used for the original application for the wind farm alongside a selection of other locations identified during the course of the appraisal (further details are included in **section 5.5** and **Appendix 7**);
- The study area for the LVApp was confirmed to be 20km from the existing turbine locations; and
- Methodology on the LVApp cumulative assessment approach was provided.

1.8.2 The requirements in relation to each of these are considered within this appraisal. Details of consultation with CBC are set out at **Appendix 4**.

## 1.9 Limitations and assumptions

1.9.1 The site surveys were carried out during varying weather conditions and on some occasions relatively wet windy days, which is typical of the time of year in Cumbria. This may have resulted in some reduced visibility from some viewpoint locations. However, generally,



visibility was considered suitable for the appraisal as the wind turbines were visible enough to enable the appraisal to be carried out. The weather conditions at the time are also representative of typical conditions in the region, as discussed in section 1.5 above.



## 2.0 Landscape Policies and Designations

### 2.1 National and Local Policy

- 2.1.1 National Policy has been updated since the 1998 LVIA.
- 2.1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), updated in February 2019, sets out the planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It also provides a framework within which locally prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced. The NPPF 'is a material consideration' in planning decisions. Planning policies and decisions must also reflect relevant international obligations and statutory requirements.'
- 2.1.3 At the heart of the Framework is the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' which seeks to ensure that development is pursued in a positive way.
- 2.1.4 The NPPF defines 'sustainable development' and highlights in paragraph 8 that it has three overarching objectives: economic, social and environmental.
- 2.1.5 Of relevance to this LVApp is section 14 of the NPPF, "Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change" which states in paragraph 151 that "To help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy and heat, plans should: a) provide a positive strategy for energy from these sources, that maximises the potential for suitable development, while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily (including cumulative landscape and visual impacts)."
- 2.1.6 Also of relevance in section 15 of the NPPF, "Conserving and enhancing the natural environment" is paragraph 170 which states that: "Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment" including by "protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan); and recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland."
- 2.1.7 The NPPF is supplemented by Planning Practice Guidance, an online resource launched in 2014 with section revisions in 2018 and 2019.



## 2.2 Local Policy

2.2.1 Local policy has been updated since the 1998 LVIA.

2.2.2 Local planning policy relevant to the proposed development of the site is set out in the Copeland Borough Council Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD (Adopted in December 2013) and a number of policies 'saved' from the Copeland Local Plan 2001-2016. There are no 'saved' policies relevant to this appraisal. The following Core Strategy policies are relevant to the application and details of these policies can be found in **Appendix 5** of this report:

### **Copeland Borough Council Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD (Adopted December 2013)**

- Policy ST1 – Strategic Development Principles;
- Policy ST2 – Spatial Development Strategy;
- Policy ENV2 – Coastal Management;
- Policy ENV5 – Protecting and Enhancing the Borough's Countryside;
- Policy DM2 – Renewable Energy Development in the Borough;
- Policy DM26 - Landscaping

2.2.3 It should be noted that Copeland Borough Council is currently working to produce a Local Plan covering the plan period 2017-2035. Consultation on the "Issues and Options Draft" Local Plan ended 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

### **Allerdale Borough Council Local Plan (Adopted July 2014)**

2.2.4 The district boundary of Allerdale Borough Council falls within 400 metres of Park House Farm Wind Farm. A review of relevant policy with regards to landscape and visual matters has therefore been undertaken. The following policies from the adopted Allerdale Borough Council Local Plan (2014) are considered relevant to the application and are detailed in full at **Appendix 5**:

- S32 – Safeguarding Amenity; and
- S33 - Landscape.



## **Lake District National Park Partnership, The Partnership's Plan, 2015-2020**

2.2.5 'The Partnership's Plan' is the Management Plan for the English Lake District. Section 3 of the plan sets out the strategies for the National Park and World Heritage Site. The policy considered relevant in relation to this LVApp is as follows (detailed at **Appendix 5**):

- PE 6 – Major industries and provision of infrastructure outside the Lake District.

## **Cumbria Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document, July 2007**

2.2.6 This guidance has been developed jointly by the Cumbrian local planning authorities to support the implementation of renewable energy policies in the Local Development Frameworks and provide consistent guidance for wind energy development across the County.

**2.2.7** The document assesses the character type within which the site is located as having a *moderate* capacity to accommodate wind turbine development. This is described further in **section 4.3** below and **Appendix 5**.

## **2.3 Designations**

2.3.1 Landscape designations provide an indication of value. They are areas that have been recognised for qualities such as scenic beauty and the recreational potential of the landscape. Local landscape designations within 20 km are shown on **Figure LA02-1** and **LA02-2**, and those extending within approximately 20 km of the Proposed Development Site are summarised below. Locally designated landscapes located beyond 20 km of the site are also listed, but in order to present a focussed assessment these are not considered further within this assessment. This approach was agreed with Copeland Borough Council via LVIA scoping correspondence.

### **National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)**

2.3.2 The boundary of the Lake District National Park (LDNP) lies approximately 11km to the east of the site. The LDNP was designated in 1951<sup>4</sup>, with its purposes to:

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<sup>4</sup> [https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/aboutus/nat\\_parks\\_history](https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/aboutus/nat_parks_history)



- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Lake District National Park; and
- To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public.

2.3.3 In 2017 the LDNP became a UNESCO World Heritage Site (WHS) and its Special Qualities are described in **section 2.3.5**.

2.3.4 The boundary of the Solway Coast AONB lies approximately 15 km to the north of the site. The Solway Coast AONB was designated in 1964 in recognition of the quality of its landscape and the significant historic and scientific interest<sup>5</sup>. AONBs are protected and enhanced for nature, people, business and culture. Due to distance and lack of visibility of the turbines from this distance, this has been scoped out of the appraisal.

#### World Heritage Site

2.3.5 The LDNP is located approximately 11km to the east of the site. The LDNP WHS is recognised for its landscape value and its special qualities and attributes of Outstanding Universal Value are summarised as:

- A world class cultural landscape;
- Complex geology and geomorphology;
- Rich archaeology and historic landscape;
- Unique farming heritage and concentration of common land;
- The High Fells;
- Wealth of habitats and wildlife;
- Mosaic of lakes, tarns, rivers and coast;
- Extensive semi-natural woodlands;
- Distinctive buildings and settlement character;
- A source of artistic inspiration;

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<sup>5</sup> <https://visitallderdale.co.uk/this-is-allerdale/solway-coast-aonb/>





- A model for protecting cultural landscapes;
- A long tradition of tourism and outdoor activities; and
- Opportunities for quiet enjoyment<sup>6</sup>.

## Heritage Coast

2.3.6 Heritage Coasts were established to conserve the best stretches of undeveloped coast in England. St Bees Head Heritage Coast is located approximately 8.5km to the south of the site.

## Landscapes of County Importance

2.3.7 There are three designated areas of Landscapes of County Importance located within the 20km study area, one of which falls within 5km of the turbines, as shown on **Figure LA.02-1**.

## **Historic and Cultural Landscape Designations**

2.3.8 The setting of Historic and Cultural Landscape Designations is a consideration during the preparation of landscape and visual impact appraisals. However, the LVApp focusses on landscape character and visual amenity and does not address effects heritage assets.

## World Heritage Site

2.3.9 The Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Hadrian's Wall) WHS Buffer Zone is located approximately 15km to the north of the site.

## Scheduled Monuments

2.3.10 Scheduled Monuments are shown on **Figure LA.02-1**. There are numerous Scheduled Monuments located within the 20 km landscape context study area. 16no. scheduled monuments occur within 10km of the site which include a roman fort, defence enclosures, a former mining pit, and stone circle.

2.3.11 Between 10 and 20km of the site there are numerous scheduled monuments, mainly concentrated around the Conservation Areas at Maryport and Cockermouth with a large

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-review/policies/special-qualities-and-outstanding-universal-value-of-the-lake-district>

number within the LDNP WHS and the Solway Coast AONB/Frontiers of the Roman Empire WHS.

## Registered Parks and Gardens

- 2.3.12 There is one Registered Park and Garden (RPG) in the 20km study area: Workington Hall Grade II listed RPG is located approximately 6km to the north of the site. The majority of the RPG lies outside the ZTV and has therefore not been considered further within this appraisal.

## Conservation Areas

- 2.3.13 There are 15no. conservation areas (CAs) within the 20km study area including four at Whitehaven and two in Workington.

## Listed Buildings

- 2.3.14 The nearest listed building to the site is the Grade II listed Lowca War Memorial which is located approximately 1.5km to the south of the site. Three listed buildings are located approximately 2km to the east of the site in Distington. These are Chancel Arch from Medieval Church to North West of Present Church, Church of The Holy Spirit and Hayes Castle, which are all Grade II listed. Beyond this listed buildings are scattered throughout the study area, with the greatest concentrations being in the built up areas of Whitehaven, St Bees, Egremont, Cleator Moor, Workington, Cockermouth and Maryport. All listed buildings and structures located within the 20 km study area are shown on **Figure LA.02-1**.

## Ancient woodland

- 2.3.15 There are a number of small areas of Ancient and Semi-Natural Woodland located within 20km of the site. The closest is Andrew's Gill, which is directly to the south of the site boundary but it does not encroach on the site itself. Other areas that are close to the site include Moresby Wood and Millgrove Wood approximately 2.5km to the south east and an area to the east of Distington, approximately 3km to the east. These and the other areas within the study area are shown on **Figure LA.02-1**.

## **Ecological Designations**

- 2.3.16 Ecological designations, although not specifically related to landscape amenity and not assessed within this report, are an indication of landscape value. Ecological designations are shown on **Figure LA.02-2**. Ecology designations are assessed in the Extended Phase 1 Ecology Appraisal submitted with this application.

## RAMSAR site and Special Areas of Conservation

2.3.17 There are a number of Special Areas of Conservation located to the east of the site in the 20km study area, although the closest lies at approximately 13km south east.

## Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

2.3.18 There are a number of SSSIs within the 20 km study area as shown on **Figure LA.02-2**:

- St Bees Head SSSI is located approximately 6km to the south of the site;
- The River Derwent and Tributaries SSSI is located approximately 6km to the north of the site. It extends in an easterly direction towards Cockermouth and in a southerly direction from Bridgefoot to Ullock; and
- High Yeys SSSI, Yeathouse Quarry SSSI and The River Ehen (Ennerdale Water to Keekle Confluence) SSSI are all located between 8 and 9km to the south east of the site.

2.3.19 There are other SSSIs between 10km and 20km of the site which are shown on **Figure LA.02-2**.

## RSPB Reserves

2.3.20 An RSPB Reserve lies approximately 8km south of the site, around the St Bees Head coastline.

## National Nature Reserves (NNRs)

2.3.21 One NNR lies approximately 9km to the south east of the site.

## Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)

2.3.22 There are two LNRs within the 20 km study area: Harrington Reservoir LNR is located approximately 2.7 km to the north of the site; and Siddick Pond LNR is located approximately 6.8 km to the north of the site.

## **Public Access**

### Public rights of way (PRoW)

2.3.23 There is a complex network of footpaths and bridleways across the study area, as shown on **Figure LA.03**. Notably the England Coast Path (which is a bridleway for the section adjacent



to these site) passes adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site, then passes through the wind farm towards Cunning Point on the coast along a former mineral railway line route. The England Coastal Path is hope to be the 'longest managed and waymarked coastal path in the world'<sup>7</sup>. Its north west section is described as passing through a number of areas between the Scottish Borders and Welsh Borders and is described as 'a journey of contrast'<sup>8</sup>. The route in the vicinity of the site was approved in July 2013. Natural England chose not to align the route along the bridleway in the vicinity of Micklam Farm due to a proposed development<sup>9</sup>. The route was therefore routed through the Park House Farm Wind Farm site.

2.3.24 There are also numerous public footpaths and a bridleway linking with the England Coast Path near to the wind farm from Lowca Top Road.

2.3.25 Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk is a route that passes through the southern part of the study area between St Bees on the western coast and Ennerdale Water in the south east.

#### Open Access Land

2.3.26 There are a number of areas of open access land within 10km of the site. The closest are two areas at Moresby Moss (approximately 3km to the south east), and a larger area at High Park (approximately 6km to the south east).

2.3.27 Beyond 10km there are three areas to the north in the vicinity of Seaton and two areas to the south at Saltom Bay and Rottington.

#### National Cycle Routes

2.3.28 National Cycle Route 72 – Hadrian's Cycleway, is located approximately 1.5km to the east of the site at its nearest point. The route passes to the south east of Lowca village as it travels between Ravenglass and Tynemouth; a route of 276.8km in total length.

2.3.29 National Cycle Route 71 starts either at Workington (approximately 6km to the north of the site at its closest point) or Whitehaven (approximately 5.5km to the south of the site at is closest point) and heads east via Cockermouth to meet the southern strand of National Route

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/england-coast-path>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/england-coast-path-nw>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/england-coast-path-allonby-to-whitehaven>



71 at Thornthwaite.

## 2.4 **Interim Summary**

2.4.1 The following elements of the landscape policies and designations are relevant to the assessment of landscape and visual effects of this proposal:

- The LDNP WHS and its setting, as protected by policy PE6 in The Partnership's Plan (Lake District National Park Partnership);
- The local landscape character of the site and surrounding area covered by policies within Copeland Borough Council Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD and the landscapes of County Importance that fall within them; and
- The presence of the public rights of way within the wind farm itself and within surrounding area, including the England Coast Path, Coast to Coast Walk and NCRs 71 and 72.



## **3.0 The Proposed Wind Farm Life Extension**

### **3.1 The Development**

- 3.1.1 This section describes the main aspects of the proposed extension to life of the turbines which could potentially affect landscape and/or visual amenity.
- 3.1.2 The development involves the extension of operational life of the existing seven turbines and all associated ancillary infrastructure for a further 10 years (until the end of March 2030). They are set within rough pastoral land, grazed by sheep.
- 3.1.3 The existing turbines have a hub height of 40.5m with a 47m rotor diameter resulting in a blade tip height of 64m.

### **3.2 Sources of potential effects on landscape and views**

- 3.2.1 The main features of the development proposal which could potentially result in landscape and visual impacts are:
- The retention of the existing turbines and associated ancillary infrastructure for a further ten years;
  - The delay in decommissioning the wind farm; and
  - The delay in the restoration of the landscape.

### **3.3 Mitigation Measures**

- 3.3.1 No further mitigation measures have been proposed as a result of the retention of the wind farm for a further 10 years.
- 3.3.2 Mitigation measures identified in the 1998 LVIA included the land surrounding each turbine being reinstated for future agricultural use and the natural re-colonisation of the access tracks with pasture grasses. The access tracks were not readily visible during the site survey so it has been assumed this re-colonisation has occurred.



## 4.0 Effects on the Landscape

### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 This chapter deals with the effects on the landscape of the site and its surrounding context due to the proposed life extension of Park House Farm Wind Farm, and delayed decommissioning and delayed landscape restoration.
- 4.1.2 The assessment of effects on the landscape has first taken into consideration the findings of the 1998 LVIA for the proposed windfarm development. The findings are summarised in the tables included in **Appendix 1**. The 1998 LVIA identified the effects of the turbine proposals on the local landscape and county landscape. However, it should be noted that in 1998 the landscape character was very different to the current day situation, with fewer turbines and wind farms, and more industry and mining present in the local landscape. The current landscape baseline has therefore been used as the basis of this appraisal.
- 4.1.3 Since the 1998 LVIA, policies, landscape and visual assessment guidance, and character area descriptions have been updated. The updated information has been used to inform this assessment, with reference to the 1998 LVIA where applicable.
- 4.1.4 The 1998 LVIA addresses the effects of the wind farm proposals on landscape for a 20-year period. This appraisal addresses a ten year extension to that time period and addresses the effect of the changes that are likely to occur when the turbines are decommissioned, (which was originally assumed to be after 20 years of operation), in comparison to their retention for an additional 10 years prior to decommissioning. It follows standard LVApp methodology as described, with variations to address the specifics of this type of proposal.

### 4.2 Assessment Criteria

- 4.2.1 The assessment process is described generally in section 1.2 above. The general methodology for assessing the effects is set out in **Appendix 3**, and the criteria used in this LVApp are set out in the tables below.
- 4.2.2 The degree of the likely landscape effects of the extension to life of the existing wind farm is determined by relating the sensitivity of the receptors to the changes arising from the proposals, and the degree and nature of the changes in the landscape arising from the



proposals.

**Sensitivity**

4.2.3 As described in **Appendix 3**, the sensitivity of landscape receptors<sup>10</sup> is dependent on their value and susceptibility to, or ability to accommodate, the changes that would be brought about by the proposals. The sensitivity of landscape receptors is assessed by combining professional judgments of the value attached to the landscape or its components, established in the baseline study, and their susceptibility to the type of change arising from the proposals, as follows:

4.2.4 The following categories of landscape sensitivity to change are used, combining consideration of landscape value and susceptibility, with the criteria applied:

Table 4-1 Indicative criteria for assessing landscape sensitivity

Category	Indicative criteria
High sensitivity	A highly-valued landscape e.g. of national or international importance, whose character or key characteristics are very susceptible to change; Aspects of the landscape character are highly valued as “key characteristics” and often identified as susceptible to change in national or local character assessments; The landscape character is highly valued as intact and in good condition and particularly vulnerable to disturbance; A highly-valued landscape with no or limited potential for substitution or replacement.
Moderate sensitivity	A landscape of local importance or value, whose character or key characteristics are susceptible to change; Other characteristics of the landscape character also valued in national or local character assessments and susceptible to change; The landscape character is valued for moderate condition and not particularly vulnerable to disturbance; A moderately valued landscape with some potential for substitution or replacement.
Lesser sensitivity	No or little evidence of value or importance attached to the landscape area, its features or characteristics; Few features, characteristics or qualities susceptible to disturbance or particularly susceptible to improvement or upgrading; Good potential for substitution or replacement.

<sup>10</sup> The term used for elements and aspects of the landscape that might be affected by the proposals and people with views of the development





4.2.5 These are the criteria against which receptors are considered to arrive at a judgement as to their sensitivity, but it is not necessary for all the criteria set out for a category to apply.

**Magnitude of Change**

4.2.6 The degree of the likely landscape effects of the proposals is determined by relating the sensitivity of the receptors to the changes arising from the proposals, and the degree and nature of the changes in the landscape arising from the proposals.

4.2.7 The scale of magnitude of the changes is related to considerations of the size or scale of the change, the geographical extent of the area influenced, and the duration and reversibility of the change. The scale of magnitude of the changes is graded, as follows:

Table 4-2 Indicative criteria for assessing magnitude of landscape change

Magnitude of change	Landscape change
Great change	Major size or scale of change, affecting the landscape type or character of the area within which the proposal lies or extending over the wider area; likely to be longer term or permanently, with low prospect of reversibility.
Medium change	Intermediate size or scale of change, affecting part of the landscape type or character of the area within which the proposal lies, or larger scale of change at the level of the site or immediate context; likely to continue into the medium term, with good prospect of reversibility.
Small change	A minor proportion of the extent of the character type or area is affected or smaller scale of change over a larger extent; the changes occur at the level of the site or immediate context; likely to be short term and reversible.
Negligible/no change	No apparent change to landscape characteristics.

4.2.8 While GLVIA3 includes the duration of the change in the consideration of the magnitude of change, in some cases a major size or scale of change of shorter duration may be considered a 'great change'.

**Assessing Effects**

4.2.9 The degree of effect, whether adverse or beneficial, is assessed by relating the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change, by considering the following indicative criteria:



Table 4-3 Indicative criteria for assessing landscape effects

Landscape effect	Indicative criteria
Major	Highly sensitive landscape completely degraded or greatly changed, with little or no scope for mitigation; Great improvement, sufficient to upgrade overall landscape character.
Moderate	Medium change to moderately sensitive landscape; lesser change to higher sensitivity landscape or greater change to less sensitive landscape.
Minor	Small or limited adverse change to the existing landscape or its character; Greater change to less sensitive landscape; Considerable scope for mitigation; Small improvement to the existing landscape.
Negligible	No perceived change to the existing landscape character; The change is difficult to discern.

4.2.10 Intermediate conditions may be described, such as Moderate-Major, where the criteria for Moderate may be exceeded but not qualify as Major. Where the magnitude of change is 'no change', the effect would correspondingly be 'none'.

4.2.11 Effects may be adverse or beneficial. In some instances, the effect may be offset by other considerations, for example, through the mitigation proposals, and the resulting effect is neither beneficial nor adverse.

**4.3 Landscape Baseline**

4.3.1 The landscape baseline is a description and analysis of the existing landscape, against which the effects of the proposals are assessed. The landscape is described, first, by reference to landscape character assessments for the area in which the site is located, at national and local levels and, then, from site-specific surveys and analysis carried out for the purposes of this assessment.

**National landscape character assessment**

4.3.2 The National Character Assessment for England divides England into 159 distinct National



Character Areas (NCAs)<sup>11</sup>, for each of which a 'profile' is provided. Each NCA "is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. Their boundaries follow natural lines in the landscape rather than administrative boundaries, making them a good decision making framework for the natural environment".

4.3.3 The 1998 LVIA identifies the site as lying within the West Cumbria Coastal Regional Character Area, as jointly defined by the Countryside Commission and English Nature as part of the Character of England: Landscape, Wildlife and Natural Features (1996). This has subsequently been updated in the National Character Assessment for England and the site is located within the **National Character Area 07 West Cumbria Coastal Plain**<sup>12</sup>. The key characteristics are listed in **Appendix 6** and include:

- an undulating coastal landscape of varying width with open views to the Cumbria High Fells NCA and across the Irish Sea to Galloway and the Isle of Man;
- a diverse, open coastline;
- open pastoral farmland with occasional woodlands, basin and valley fens, remnant semi-natural grasslands/meadows associated with streamsides, low-lying land, and localised pockets of arable land;
- limited tree cover and a dispersed rural settlement pattern;
- Extensive urban-fringe influence is linked to highly visible industrial past and present, including quarrying, open cast mining, restoration and reclamation initiatives, manufacturing and processing plants and the nuclear energy industry; and
- A rich history is evident in the pattern of land use and heritage features dating from the Neolithic period onwards, including earthworks, forts and castles and all the Roman coastal forts that form part of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site.

4.3.4 Within the 'Landscape change' section, wind turbines are noted as "an increasing feature in the landscape with an expansion from their former limited coastal presence between Workington and Flimby to both inland sites, including a number of developments between

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making> [accessed 12/02/2020]

<sup>12</sup> <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6207059431260160?category=587130> [accessed 12/02/20]



Whitehaven and Cockermouth, and offshore where wind farms in the outer Solway and off Walney are widely visible.” It adds that “power generation is likely to remain a key driver for development in the area.” “Applications for development of wind turbines are increasing on and off-shore. These are all likely to impact on the visual character of the NCA.”

- 4.3.5 Within the 20km study area there are also **National Character Area 6 Solway Basin**<sup>13</sup> and **National Character Area 8 Cumbria High Fells**<sup>14</sup>. NCA 6 is located c. 14km to the north north east of the wind farm and NCA 8 is located c. 10km to the east of the wind farm. As these NCA's are located at distance from the existing wind farm it is considered unlikely for there to be any significant character effects upon the NCA's as a result of the proposed life extension and therefore NCA 6 and NCA 8 are not considered further within the LVIA.

### **County and District Level Landscape Assessments**

- 4.3.6 The 1998 LVIA identifies that the Cumbria Landscape Classification (October 1995) identifies the site as lying within landscape type 5 'Lowlands' sub type 5a 'Ridge and Valley'. Within the Cumbria Landscape Classification, under Vulnerability to Change, main changes were identified as likely to be from agricultural changes and development. Development included wind turbines.
- 4.3.7 This landscape classification has been updated and the most recently published Landscape Character assessment of relevance to the site is the Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit<sup>15</sup>, which was published in 2011. This identifies the site as still being located within landscape type Lowland, sub type Ridge and Valley (Type 5a). The key characteristics for landscape character Type 5a are identified in the 2011 assessment as:
- “A series of ridges and valleys that rises gently toward the limestone fringes of the Lakeland Fells;
  - Well managed regular shaped medium to large pasture fields;
  - Hedge bound pasture fields dominate, interspersed with native woodland, tree clumps and plantations;

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<sup>13</sup> <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5276440824119296?category=587130> [accessed 12/02/20]

<sup>14</sup> <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/2229157?category=587130> [accessed 12/02/20]

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/planning-environment/countryside/countryside-landscape/land/LandCharacter.asp> [accessed 12/02/20]

- Scattered farms and linear villages found along ridges; and
- Large scale structures generally scarce”.

4.3.8 A summary of the landscape character of Type 5a is include in **Appendix 6**. The development section of the character type description goes on to state that “Large scale wind energy schemes have already changed the character of the sub type, particularly around Workington”.

4.3.9 A further assessment, the Cumbria Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document, July 2007, judges character type 5a as having a **moderate** capacity to accommodate wind turbine development, with the appropriate scale of development being “*up to a small group, exceptionally a large group*”. (A small group is classed as 3-5 turbines and a large group is 6-9 turbines). “This reflects moderate sensitivity overall and moderate value as a largely undesignated landscape”. The Landscape Capacity Assessment Sheet for landscape type 5: Lowland is included in **Appendix 6**.

**4.3.10** The Cumbria County Council ‘Cumulative Impact of Vertical Infrastructure’ (CIVI) study<sup>16</sup> was completed by WYG in October 2014. It assesses the sensitivity to vertical infrastructure for each of the Cumbria landscape character types. In the CIVI study character type 5a was identified as having a moderate susceptibility and moderate sensitivity to medium scale vertical infrastructure (medium scale vertical infrastructure is defined in CIVI as 51-100m in height). Susceptibility and sensitivity are discussed in further detail in **section 4.9**.

4.3.11 Within the 20 km study area there are numerous other landscape character types as identified on **Figure LA.04-2**. In order to present a proportionate assessment in relation to the proposed life extension to the existing wind farm, a sifting exercise has been undertaken to determine which character types are most pertinent to the assessment, largely based on the level of association between the wind farm and the character types. The sifting analysis is set out at **Appendix 6**. Analysis has been undertaken to determine the likelihood of significant effects occurring as a result of the proposed wind farm life extension, based on the level of association between the Park House Farm Wind Farm site and the character types, using information gathered in the field and the ZTV at **Figure LA.04-3**. As a result of

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<sup>16</sup> <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/planning-environment/countryside/countryside-landscape/civi/civi.asp> [Accessed 19/02/20]

the analysis, the following landscape types are considered relevant to the assessment:

- 4 Coastal Sandstone, lying c. 5km to the south of the site boundary;
- 5d Lowland – Urban Fringe, of which there are several areas to the south and east, within 5km of the site boundary (which includes a Landscape of County Importance);
- 9a Intermediate Moorland and Plateau – Open Moorlands, lying c. 3km to the east of the site boundary; and
- 9d Intermediate Moorland and Plateau- Ridges, lying c. 4.5km to the south east of the site boundary (which includes a Landscape of County Importance).

4.3.12 A description of the character areas from the Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit are included in **Appendix 6**.

4.3.13 The Cumbria Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document (CWESPD) and CIVI identify the following for each landscape type:

- 4 Coastal Sandstone – CWESPD identifies the character type with a moderate/high sensitivity and high value. The CIVI study identifies the character type with a high susceptibility and a high sensitivity to medium scale vertical infrastructure.
- 5d Lowland – Urban Fringe – CWESPD identifies the character type with a moderate sensitivity and moderate value. The CIVI study identifies the character type with a moderate susceptibility and a moderate sensitivity to medium scale vertical infrastructure.
- 9a Intermediate Moorland and Plateau – CWESPD identifies the character type with a moderate sensitivity and moderate/high value. The CIVI study identifies the character type with a moderate susceptibility and a moderate sensitivity to medium scale vertical infrastructure.
- Open Moorlands and 9d Intermediate Moorland and Plateau- Ridges - CWESPD identifies the character type with a moderate sensitivity and moderate/high value. The CIVI study identifies the character type with a moderate susceptibility and a moderate sensitivity to medium scale vertical infrastructure.



## 4.4 Site-specific Appraisal

### The landscape of the site and its environs

- 4.4.1 The 1998 LVIA describes the landscape of the site and its locality as being characterised by a “distinctive lowland ridge that runs roughly parallel to the coast”. Much of the area is described as rolling or undulating pasture land that is open, medium-large in scale and windswept. Tree cover is absent, hedgerows are fragmented, and walls broken. Lowca is described as a small discrete settlement with a ‘distinctively urban character’, having developed as a pit village associated with Lowca coal mine. A dismantled mineral railway line is described as passing through the wind farm site.
- 4.4.2 The 1998 LVIA goes on to state that the Lowca ridge cannot be described as having “unspoilt natural character” as mining in the vicinity of Park House Farm is a “highly discordant feature which greatly degrades the character and quality of the landscape”. The application site itself is described as “steeply sloping fields of rough or semi improved grazing land with scrub”. The scenic quality of the site is described as being difficult to assess due to the presence of mining land in the immediate vicinity but the “open cliff-top location and associations with sky and sea are important aspects of the character of the site”.
- 4.4.3 In relation to this appraisal, the site and locality was visited during February 2020. The following commentary provides an updated description of the wind farm site and its environs. The primary change in landscape character in the last 22 years is the restoration of the landscape from mining land to a pastoral landscape and the development of a number of individual wind turbines and windfarms in the wider landscape.
- 4.4.4 Park House Farm Wind Farm is located on the western side of Lowca ridge, a ridgeline that runs north east to south west between Lowca village and Harrington. The landform of the wind farm site falls westwards towards the coastal cliffs at Cunning Point, from 70m AOD to 40m AOD. The coastal cliffs fall abruptly to the Solway Firth. **Figure LA.04-2** shows the topography of the site and the immediate context. The seascape is a primary characteristic of the site with a large horizon to the west. In good weather conditions views are available to Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man, as seen at the time of visit to the site.
- 4.4.5 The coastal landscape of the site is open and exposed and largely comprises rough grazing land, which is wet in places, with gorse scrub and wind blown vegetation. To the immediate north of the wind farm is Foxpit Gill, a small watercourse that is defined by scrubby



vegetation and to the immediate south of the wind farm is Andrew Gill, a further watercourse running through an area of Ancient Woodland that falls to the sea. Cat Gill runs through the site in an east to west direction between the two northernmost turbines. The western extent of the wind farm is formed by the cliff edge; the Whitehaven railway runs along the foot of the cliffs. To the immediate east of the wind farm is the route of a former mineral railway line which now forms part of the English Coast Path National Trail. The English Coast Path runs through the wind farm, between the southernmost turbines, crossing Andrew Gill, heading towards Micklam.

- 4.4.6 The surrounding landscape has been influenced historically by mining and industrial workings. A review of historical mapping<sup>17</sup> shows the location of Micklam Pit located to the south of the wind farm in the mid 1800's. Later a brick works was developed south of Micklam Farm, appearing on 1930's mapping. Both the brickworks and the farm are no longer present but their influence remains in the landscape with access roads and hard standings still apparent.
- 4.4.7 To the east of Park House Farm Wind Farm, between the wind farm and Lowca Top Road, the landscape was also mined, known as John Pit, as seen on 1930's mapping. The pit was located adjacent to Moor House, which sat next to the road but is no longer present in the landscape. John Pit wrapped around Moor House and extended north to Park Farm, which translates that a high proportion of the land between the wind farm and Lowca Top Road was once mined and is now restored to improved pasture with gorse scrub.
- 4.4.8 To the east of Lowca Top Road there are two existing wind turbines, one at being 79.6m to blade tip (Lowca Top Road), the other 80m to blade tip (Green House Farm). The settlement of Lowca is located to the south east of Park House Farm Wind Farm and comprises ribbon development along Lowca Top Road with a central community primary school. A post war housing estate (late 1950's) occupies lower lying ground to the south east of the original village core. Beyond the housing estate there is a commercial horticultural nursery business that comprises large scale glass houses located within a lower valley location. To the south west of Lowca village the landscape is influenced by the restored former Harrington Colliery.

## **Features of the site**

- 4.4.9 The key landscape features of the site are the existing seven wind turbines which are 64m to

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<sup>17</sup> <https://www.old-maps.co.uk/#/Map/298500/521500/10/101746>



blade tip, as shown on **Figure LA.06**. The wind turbines each have an area of associated hardstanding to the base of about 15m x 10m (but these have been buried under top soil and turf) and are accessed via a track about 4m wide which comes off the former mineral railway located to the immediate east. Cables are underground in trenches about 1m deep. The wind turbines and associated infrastructure (including substation building) are located within an area of rough pasture with gorse scrub that is grazed by sheep. There are no other built features associated with the wind farm.

## **Characteristics and aesthetics**

- 4.4.10 The landscape in which the wind farm is located is open and exposed to the elements. There are wide views available across the surrounding landscape and seascape. There is a great sense of a working landscape with scattered farmsteads and remnants of the industrial past. Small and medium scale single wind turbines are also present, largely associated with individual farms, such as those at Green House Farm and Harrington Parks Farm.
- 4.4.11 The localised elevated ridge landscape at Lowca, allowing inter-visibility with the valley to the east and the Solway Firth to the west, coupled with the absence of trees and woodland, creates a sense of a large-scale landscape. The horizons are wide and the sky is large in views across the wind farm. The sense of openness is also contributed to by the presence of wind stunted hedgerows that are very gappy, allowing continued visibility in the locality of the wind farm.
- 4.4.12 However, as one moves away from the wind farm, the nature of the Lowca ridgeline begins to restrict the extent of overall visibility, which is particularly experienced to the north of the site. The landscape is also in better condition to the north, with intact hedgerows that curtail and enclose visibility. To the south and east of Lowca, the landscape falls steeply to Lowca Beck and Providence Bay; the valley landscape provides enclosure to views and a sense of a smaller landscape.

## **4.5 Public Access**

- 4.5.1 As previously described, the route of the England Coast Path runs through the southern part of the wind farm along the route of the former mineral railway. A further footpath runs roughly east to west through the central part of the wind farm between the former mineral railway (England Coast Path) and the coastal railway line at Whitehaven Junction located at the foot of the cliffs to the west, as shown on **Figure LA.06**.



## 4.6 Landscape Baseline Summary

4.6.1 The site lies within an agricultural landscape and comprises an area of built development and hardstanding with a band of mature vegetation along its western extent. The following elements of the landscape baseline are relevant to the assessment of this proposal:

- The England Coast Path
- National Character Area 07 West Cumbria Coastal Plain;
- Landscape Character Type 4 - Coastal Sandstone;
- Landscape Character Type 5a - Lowland - Ridge and Valley;
- Landscape Character Type 5d - Lowland - Urban Fringe;
- Landscape Character Type 9a - Intermediate Moorland and Plateau - Open Moorlands;
- Landscape Character Type 9d - Intermediate Moorland and Plateau- Ridges; and
- The designated areas of the LDNP WHS, Solway Coast AONB and the St Bees Head Heritage Coast.

## 4.7 Landscape Value

4.7.1 The characteristics, sensitivities and guidelines in the existing character assessments at national and local level and the site-specific analyses carried out for the purposes of this LVApp were taken into account as indicators of the aspects of the landscape important to the character and evaluated according to the criteria in **Appendix 3 Table A3-1** in order to determine the value of the landscape receptors.

4.7.2 The 1998 LVIA identifies the landscape character of the 'Lowca landscape' as "moderate-low or moderate value at both the county and local scale". However, this is based on the value of the landscape in 1998, which has evolved in the intervening time period. The value described below is based on more recent guidance documents and the current landscape description.

4.7.3 The CWESPD identifies the value of the various character types. The CIVI study also identified the value of the local character areas (termed 'landscape category') based on a weighted scoring system in relation to landscape designations in each landscape area (categorised as A-D, with A being an area with the highest weighting, D a lower weighting). These have also been referred to when determining the landscape value of the areas.



4.7.4 The features/elements/characteristics identified as important or 'key' to the landscape character of the site with a description of their value are:

- **The England Coast Path** runs to the immediate east of the turbines. The route was approved in July 2013 and is hoped to be the longest managed and waymarked coastal path in the world. It is considered to be of **high value**;
- **The National Character Area 07 West Cumbria Coastal Plain** lies on the edge of the LDNP and contains landscapes of county importance, heritage coast and a number of heritage features. The landscape has also been subjected to a highly visible industrial past. It is considered to be of **medium value**;
- Landscape Character Type 4 - Coastal Sandstone is described as including "dramatic and exposed sandstone cliff scenery". It includes traditional buildings and an open character along the coast of wide and uninterrupted views. The CWESPD identifies the character type to be of high value. The CIVI report categorises the area as category D. However, due to its scenic landscape qualities it is considered to be of **high value**;
- Landscape Character Type 5a - Lowland - Ridge and Valley is described as dominated by improved farmed pasture, with villages from the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Industrial activities have influenced the landscape, wind energy schemes a recurring feature along with other vertical elements such as pylons. Attractive views are described as available over the Solway Firth and Lakeland Fells. The CWESPD identifies the character type to be of moderate value. The CIVI report categorises the area as category D. Overall, the value of this area is considered to be **medium**;
- Landscape Character Type 5d - Lowland - Urban Fringe is described as "being subjected to urban and industrial influences" and the towns are described as progressively encroaching on the pastoral character of the agricultural landscapes. The CWESPD identifies the character type to be of moderate value. The CIVI report categorises the area as category D. This area also includes a Landscape of County Importance and is therefore considered to be of **medium value**;
- Landscape Character Type 9a - Intermediate Moorland and Plateau - Open Moorlands is described as a generally open landscape with the lower parts lightly settled with small settlements and isolated properties. It includes fortified sites and roman roads and forts and is described as having expansive views of the Lakeland Fells, providing a dramatic backdrop. The CWESPD identifies the character type to be of moderate/high value. The CIVI report categorises the area as category D. Due to its



scenic landscape qualities it is considered to be of **high value**;

- Landscape Character Type 9d - Intermediate Moorland and Plateau is described as true heather moorland and a managed farmed landscape. There is a significant manmade character to parts of the landscape, including large scale wind turbines and pylons. The landscape is affected by large scale quarrying. Available views are often wide and expansive with striking views of the Lakeland Fells and Duddon Estuary. The CWESPD identifies the character type to be of moderate/high value. The CIVI report categorises the area as category D. Although with manmade character to parts of the landscape a large portion in the study area is designated a Landscape of County Importance, has scenic quality and recreational opportunities, therefore it is considered to be of **high value**;
- The LDNP WHS is a 'world class cultural landscape' recognised for its landscape value and special qualities. It is therefore considered to be of **high value**; and
- St Bees Head Heritage Coast consists of undeveloped coast with scenic qualities, valued for its recreational opportunities and is therefore considered to be of **high value**.

## 4.8 Effects on the Landscape

- 4.8.1 This section examines the landscape effects arising as a result of the proposed development with reference to effects on landscape character, including consideration of effects on designated landscapes.
- 4.8.2 The landscape fabric of the site is not likely to alter as a result of the extension of life of the turbines and has therefore not been considered further within this appraisal. The only landscape feature considered within this appraisal is the England Coast Path, as it passes directly through the wind turbines.
- 4.8.3 Landscape character is derived from the combination and pattern of landscape elements. The effects of proposed development on landscape character would arise from its relationship to these combinations and patterns, and thus the character of the landscape. Effects on the landscape features, qualities and character may occur where there are either



direct or indirect physical changes to the landscape. Direct changes to landscape fabric would only occur within the application boundary.

4.8.4 The effect of the proposals on landscape character will depend on the key characteristics of the receiving landscape; the degree to which the proposals are considered consistent with or at odds with them, and how the proposals would influence the landscape context, affected by:

- the distance from the site;
- weather conditions; and
- the 'fit' of the proposals within the landscape pattern and characteristics.

## 4.9 Sensitivity

4.9.1 Landscape sensitivity is a product of consideration of the value associated with it and its susceptibility of the changes likely to arise from the proposals. Criteria for determining the landscape value and landscape susceptibility are set out in **Appendix 3**. For this informal appraisal the assessment of sensitivity is based on bringing value and susceptibility considerations together in one combined step, in accordance with the criteria set out in **Table 4.1 Indicative criteria for assessing landscape sensitivity** above.

Table 4.4 Sensitivity of landscape receptors

Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
<b>Landscape Features</b>			
The England Coast Path	<b>High</b>	The coast path runs in close proximity to the wind turbines and the path was chosen to be routed through the wind farm when it was defined rather than away from it. The route of the path is considered <b>not susceptible</b> to the continued presence of the turbines.	<b>Moderate</b>
<b>National Landscape Character Area</b>			
NCA 07 West Cumbria Coastal Plain	<b>Medium</b>	Due to the number of existing turbines present in this character area it is unlikely that the turbines retention or removal from the area will change the character of this area. The character area is therefore	<b>Moderate</b> (described in the 1998 LVIA as medium-low)



Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
		considered <b>not susceptible</b> to the continued presence of the turbines.	
<b>County and District Level Landscape Character Areas - Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance - Landscape Character Types</b>			
4 Coastal Sandstone	<b>High</b>	The CIVI study identified the area as having a high susceptibility to medium scale vertical infrastructure. As the current permission is for the turbines to be removed, their retention in the landscape results in it being <b>very susceptible</b> to their continued presence.	<b>High</b>
5a Lowland - Ridge and Valley	<b>Medium</b>	The CIVI study identified the area as having a moderate susceptibility to medium scale vertical infrastructure. As the current permission is for the turbines to be removed, their retention in the landscape results in it being <b>very susceptible</b> to their continued presence.	<b>Moderate</b> (The general area is assessed in the 1998 LVIA as moderate to low sensitivity or moderate)
5d Lowland - Urban Fringe	<b>Medium</b>	The CIVI study identified the area as having a moderate susceptibility to medium scale vertical infrastructure. As the current permission is for the turbines to be removed, their retention in the landscape results in it being <b>very susceptible</b> to their continued presence.	<b>Moderate</b>
9a Intermediate Moorland and Plateau - Open Moorlands	<b>High</b>	The CIVI study identified the area as having a moderate susceptibility to medium scale vertical infrastructure. As the current permission is for the turbines to be removed, their retention in the landscape results in it being <b>very susceptible</b> to their continued presence.	<b>High</b>
9d Intermediate Moorland and Plateau- Ridges	<b>High</b>	The CIVI study identified the area as having a moderate susceptibility to medium scale vertical infrastructure. As the current permission is for the turbines to be removed, their retention in the landscape results in it being <b>very susceptible</b> to their continued presence.	<b>High</b>
<b>Designations</b>			



Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
LDNP WHS	<b>High</b>	Due to the number of existing turbines present in the setting of this designation, and distance involved, it is unlikely that the turbines retention or removal from the setting will change the character of this area. The designated area is therefore considered <b>not susceptible</b> to the continued presence of the turbines.	<b>Moderate</b>
St Bees Head Heritage Coast	<b>High</b>	Due to the number of existing turbines present in the setting of this designation, and distance involved, it is unlikely that the turbines retention or removal from the setting will change the character of this area. The designation is therefore considered <b>not susceptible</b> to the continued presence of the turbines.	<b>Moderate</b>

#### 4.10 Magnitude of Change

4.10.1 The features of the development giving rise to changes in the landscape are:

- The retention of the existing turbines and associated ancillary infrastructure for a further ten years;
- The delay in decommissioning the wind farm; and
- The delay in the restoration of the landscape.

4.10.2 The degree to which aesthetic or perceptual aspects of the landscape are altered by the changes that are likely to occur when the turbines are decommissioned, followed by the changes that are likely to occur due to their retention for an additional 10 years prior to decommissioning, are identified below.

Table 4.5 Assessment of Landscape Magnitude of Change

Receptor	Magnitude of Change
<b>Landscape Features</b>	
The England Coast Path	Once the current Park House Farm turbines are decommissioned the route of the England Coast Path would pass through a largely working agricultural coastal landscape in this section, as walkers and other users pass between



Receptor	Magnitude of Change
	<p>Harrington Parks Farm and Lowca. However other single turbines will remain within this tract of landscape, beyond Lowca Top Road.</p> <p>The extension of life to the wind farm would result in the retention of the turbines directly alongside the England Coast Path for a further 10 year period. However, the Path was established after the wind farm was constructed, and the route was chosen to pass through the turbine area rather than take the route of the bridleway to the immediate east (as represented by Viewpoint 15). The additional ten-year period to await the decommissioning of the wind farm would not alter the enjoyment of the landscape by Path users as the wind farm has always been present along the route. The key characteristics of the route within the landscape would remain for this section of the route.</p> <p>The removal of the turbines from the landscape is anticipated to result in little change to the setting of the path due to the presence of other turbines within the view. Therefore, their retention within the setting of the Path for another 10 years is likely to give rise to a <b>small</b> magnitude of change only.</p> <p>The delay in the decommissioning of the wind farm would give rise to a <b>small</b> magnitude of change</p>
National Landscape Character Area	
<p>NCA 07 West Cumbria Coastal Plain</p>	<p>NCA 07 covers a tract of landscape that has been typified by historical industrial development and energy production. Park House Farm Wind Farm reflects such landscape characteristics and is typical of the for the area. Taking this into consideration, for the national character area as a whole, the delay in decommissioning the wind farm for the medium term would not alter or change the nature of the underlying landscape, locally or regionally. This is also applicable once the current turbines are decommissioned due to the scale of the NCA.</p> <p>The magnitude of change as a result of the proposed life extension is anticipated to be <b>negligible</b>.</p>
County and District Landscape Character Areas	
Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance - Landscape Character Types	
<p>4 Coastal Sandstone</p>	<p>The coastal sandstone LCT covers the St Bees headland and the coastline at Whitehaven. Once the wind farm is decommissioned, the closest wind farm to the LCT would be removed from the wider landscape, but other wind turbines in the same tract of land beyond the LCT would remain alongside other types of built form and vertical structures such as pylons.</p> <p>The continued presence of the wind farm in the wider landscape beyond the LCT for a further ten years would not greatly alter the perception of the underlying landscape characteristics of the coastal landscape, which is typified by its expansive coastal nature. The magnitude of change is considered <b>small</b>.</p>





Receptor	Magnitude of Change
<p>5a Lowland - Ridge and Valley</p>	<p>Park House Farm Wind Farm is located within LCT 5a. The removal of the turbines on decommissioning would decrease the presence of turbines along the coastal edge of the LCT, however, other taller turbines within the wider surrounding LCT would remain. As such there would be little alteration in landscape character within the wider part of the LCT in which the wind farm is located. Similarly, in relation to the other units of the LCT within the study area, there are other existing wind farms and single turbines that would continue to influence wider landscape character and consequently overall landscape character would not be greatly altered overall.</p> <p>The retention of the wind farm would have a direct effect upon the LCT in which the wind farm is located, limited to the coastal edge area of the LCT, for a medium term duration. This is due to the prominence of the turbines within an otherwise underdeveloped nature of the coastal edge. The magnitude of change in landscape character between decommissioning and extension of life would be <b>medium</b>.</p> <p>Within the wider surrounding part of the LCT, the wind turbines would be perceived in the context of other taller single wind turbines within the locality, set within the simple, coastal lowland ridge landscape. Within the valley landscapes the continued presence of the wind farm would not alter the underlying nature of the valley to the east of Lowca ridge. The magnitude of change in landscape character between decommissioning and extension of life would be no greater than <b>small</b>.</p> <p>From the unit of the LCT to the north east of Workington, the wind farm would continue to form a small element in a much larger landscape, located beyond the urban context of Salterbeck and Harrington. The change in underlying character due to the retention of life of the turbines would be <b>small</b>.</p>
<p>5d Lowland - Urban Fringe</p>	<p>The Lowland – Urban Fringe LCT covers the valley landscape located to the south and east of Lowca. The decommissioning of the wind farm would remove its presence from the wider landscape beyond the LCT units, which is higher, open ground to the south and north east of the wind farm, within 5km distance (see <b>Figure LA.07-3</b>). Nevertheless, there would still remain a presence of wind turbines within the LCT and as such the change in overall landscape character would be limited.</p> <p>With the extension of life of the wind farm, the turbines would continue to influence landscape character to a limited degree from within the valley landscape to the south and north west of Lowca, but again they would be perceived alongside other turbines already present in the area. These turbines would also continue to be present throughout the 10-year extension of life of Park House Farm Wind Farm.</p> <p>The magnitude of change as a result of the proposed life extension in the setting of the character area is anticipated to be <b>small</b>.</p>



Receptor	Magnitude of Change
<p>9a Intermediate Moorland and Plateau - Open Moorlands</p>	<p>The decommissioning of Park House Farm Wind Farm is likely to be perceptible from within the LCT located closest to the site; at Moresby but its removal from the landscape is unlikely to give rise to great improvement in the landscape character of this area. Fairfield Wind Farm is located within LCT 9a at Moresby and directly influences the underlying landscape to a much greater degree than Park House Farm.</p> <p>Similarly, the extension of life of the Park House Farm turbines would not greatly alter the perception of landscape character of LCT 9a. The wind farm is located at distance from the LCT unit with numerous other turbines located within the intervening landscape alongside the existing Fairfield Wind Farm. Fairfield Wind Farm would continue to operational throughout the additional 10-year period of Park House Farm.</p> <p>Overall, the magnitude of change as a result of the proposed life extension is anticipated to be <b>negligible</b>.</p>
<p>9d Intermediate Moorland and Plateau- Ridges</p>	<p>There is one instance of LCT 9d within the 20km study area, located at c. 4.5km to the south east of the site and extending to c. 8km to the east. Much of the LCT is formed by land that slopes away from the site and as such the LCT has little association with the coastal landscape to the west. The decommissioning of the wind farm would not be perceived from the majority of the LCT. From higher ground in the west of the LCT, where there is a greater association with the coastline, the removal of Park House Farm from the wider landscape would not alter the underlying the characteristics of the LCT.</p> <p>Within this LCT the levels of association with the coastal landscape to the west is low, there is a greater association with the LDNP to the east. The retention of the Park House Farm turbines for a further 10-year period would not detrimentally affect the baseline landscape character of the LCT.</p> <p>Overall, the magnitude of change as a result of the proposed life extension is anticipated to be <b>negligible</b>.</p>
Designations	
<p>LDNP WHS</p>	<p>The LDNP WHS is located 11km from Park House Farm Wind Farm. The removal of the turbines on decommissioning would not be greatly perceptible from within the LDNP and their removal would result in little change or no change to the setting of the LDNP.</p> <p>The retention of the turbines during the proposed life extension would not be greatly perceived either as they are present alongside a number of other turbines in the surrounding landscape. <b>No change</b> is anticipated as a result of the proposed life extension of the turbines.</p>
<p>St Bees Head Heritage Coast</p>	<p>St Bees Head Heritage Coast is located 8.5km from Park House Farm Wind Farm. Levels of inter-visibility between the Heritage Coast and the Park House Farm turbines varies greatly and from many locations within the</p>



Receptor	Magnitude of Change
	<p>designated landscape the presence of the wind farm in the wider landscape is not perceptible. Where the wind farm is perceived, it is done so in the context of the wider developed West Cumbrian coastline and is typical of the characteristics of this landscape. The removal of the turbines on decommissioning would not be greatly perceptible from the designated landscape as a whole, so is unlikely to alter its landscape setting. The retention of the turbines during the proposed life extension would not greatly alter the underlying landscape characteristics that forms the Heritage Coast. The magnitude of change as a result of the proposed life extension is anticipated to be <b>negligible</b>.</p>

**4.11 Assessment of Effects**

4.11.1 Consideration of the magnitude of the changes due to the proposals is combined with consideration of the sensitivity of landscape receptors affected by the proposals to assess the degree and nature of the effect due to the retention of the turbines.

4.11.2 The assessment conclusions are set out in the following table:

## Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Table 4.6 Summary of effects on the landscape

Landscape Receptor	Sensitivity to changes arising from the proposals	Magnitude of change due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period	Degree & nature of effects due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period
<b>Landscape Features</b>			
The England Coast Path	Moderate	Small change	<b>Minor adverse.</b> Limited adverse effects are anticipated during the medium term duration of the extension of life to the wind farm.
<b>National Landscape Character Area</b>			
NCA 07 West Cumbria Coastal Plain	Moderate	Negligible	<b>Negligible</b> - the retention of the turbines for an additional 10 years would make little difference to the underlying character of the national character area.
<b>Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance - Landscape Character Types</b>			
4 Coastal Sandstone	High	Small change	<b>Minor adverse</b> – a limited adverse change is anticipated to this landscape area due to limited levels of inter-visibility with the turbines and the presence of other existing wind energy development and other built form within the wider landscape.
5a Lowland - Ridge and Valley	Moderate	Medium change – localised coastal edge area of the LCT in which the wind farm is located	<b>Moderate adverse</b> – A localised part of the LCT in which the wind farm is located. Adverse effects are anticipated during the medium term duration of the

Reference: A108663

## Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Landscape Receptor	Sensitivity to changes arising from the proposals	Magnitude of change due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period	Degree & nature of effects due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period
<b>Landscape Features</b>			
		Small change – wider surrounding area of LCT in which the wind farm is located within and other units of the LCT	extension of life to the wind farm, limited to the coastal edge landscape of the LCT.  <b>Minor adverse</b> - wider surrounding area of LCT in which the wind farm is located within and other units of the LCT. A limited adverse change is anticipated due to the presence of other turbines within the intervening landscape that would still influence underlying character.
5d Lowland - Urban Fringe	Moderate	Small change	<b>Minor adverse</b> - a limited adverse change is anticipated to this landscape area due to the lower lying nature of the landform and presence of built form in the intervening landscape.
9a Intermediate Moorland and Plateau - Open Moorlands	High	Negligible	<b>Negligible</b> - the retention of the turbines for an additional 10 years would make little difference to the underlying landscape character.
9d Intermediate Moorland and Plateau- Ridges	High	Negligible	<b>Negligible</b> - the retention of the turbines for an additional 10 years would make little difference to the underlying landscape character.
LDNP WHS	Moderate	No change	<b>No change</b> - the retention of the turbines for an additional 10 years would make no difference to the



## Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Landscape Receptor	Sensitivity to changes arising from the proposals	Magnitude of change due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period	Degree & nature of effects due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period
<b>Landscape Features</b>			
			underlying landscape character and appreciation of the designated landscape.
St Bees Head Heritage Coast	Moderate	Negligible	<b>Negligible</b> - the retention of the turbines for an additional 10 years would make little difference to the underlying landscape character and appreciation of the designated landscape.



## 4.12 Conclusions

- 4.12.1 Localised moderate adverse effects have been identified on the landscape character type in which the wind farm is located within. This is largely due to the nature of change in the underlying landscape post decommissioning of the wind farm. The decommissioning of the wind farm would result in the loss of the structures at the coastal edge. The extension of life for a further ten-year period would continue the presence of wind turbines in such a coastal setting.
- 4.12.2 A number of minor adverse and negligible effects have also been identified from other identified LCA's, LCT's and designations. Although the wind farm is likely to be perceived from numerous LCTs within the study area, it is considered to result in little change to the nature of underlying landscape character, particularly as other wind energy development is so prevalent along the west Cumbrian coastline.



## 5.0 Effects on Visual Amenity

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 This section deals with the effects on visual amenity, arising from changes in the views available to people in the surrounding area.
- 5.1.2 The assessment of effects on the visual amenity have first taken into consideration the 1998 LVIA for the proposed wind farm development. These are summarised in the tables included in **Appendix 1**. The 1998 LVIA identified a number of viewpoints to be considered within the assessment. These viewpoints have been reviewed and scoped down accordingly for the purpose of the appraisal, as detailed in **Appendix 7**. This has been based on site survey work and takes account of potential new visual receptors in the landscape since 1998.
- 5.1.3 The 1998 LVIA addresses the effects of the wind farm proposals on views and visual amenity for a 20-year period. This appraisal addresses a ten year extension to that time period and addresses the effect of the changes that will occur when the turbines are decommissioned, (which was originally assumed to be after 20 years of operation), in comparison to their retention for an additional 10 years prior to decommissioning. It follows standard LVApp methodology as described, with variations to address the specifics of this type of proposal.

### 5.2 Assessment Criteria

- 5.2.1 The assessment process is described generally in **Section 1.3**. The general methodology for assessing the effects is set out in **Appendix 3**, and the criteria used in this LVApp are set out in the tables below.
- 5.2.2 The degree of the likely visual effects of the proposals is determined by relating the sensitivity of the receptors to the changes arising from the proposals, and the degree and nature of the changes in the views available to people and in their visual amenity arising from the proposals.

#### **Visual Sensitivity**

- 5.2.3 The sensitivity of viewers is affected by the susceptibility of the viewer to changes in views and visual amenity and the value attached to particular view locations and views. The





context of the location contributes to susceptibility, for example, people viewing from residential properties or from a valued landscape are likely to be more susceptible to change than people viewing from an industrial context. Particular views may have importance and be valued, for example, as 'classic' views depicted in art or reported in literature, or as part of the experience of a valued landscape or promoted recreation facility or route.

5.2.4 The following criteria for visual sensitivity, combining susceptibility and value considerations, are used:

Table 5.1 Indicative criteria for assessing visual sensitivity

Category	Indicative criteria
High sensitivity	Viewers in residential or community properties with open views of the site; Views experienced by many viewers; Daily, prolonged or sustained views available over a long period, or where the view of the landscape is an important attractant; A view from a landscape, recreation facility or route valued nationally or internationally for its visual amenity.
Moderate sensitivity	Viewers in residential or community properties with partial or largely screened views of the site; Frequent open views available of the site; Viewers are pursuing activities such as sports or outdoor work, where the landscape is not the principal reason for being there or the focus of attention is only partly on the view; A view of the site from other valued landscapes, or a regionally important recreation facility or route.
Lesser sensitivity	A view of low importance or value, or where the viewer's attention is not focused their surroundings; A view of the site from a landscape of moderate or less importance; Occasional open views or glimpsed views available of the site passing views available to travellers in vehicles; A view available to few viewers.

**5.3 Magnitude of change**

5.3.1 The degree of the likely visual effects of the proposals is determined by relating the sensitivity of the receptors and the changes in the landscape or view of the landscape to which they will be subjected. The scale of magnitude of the changes in visual amenity is evaluated in terms of size or scale, the geographical extent of the area influenced, duration and reversibility, as follows:

Table 5.2 Indicative criteria for assessing magnitude of visual change

Magnitude of change	Visual change
Great change	Major size or scale of change, affecting a large proportion of the angle of the view, or affecting views from a wide area; continuing into the longer term or permanently, with low prospect of reversibility.
Medium change	Intermediate size or scale of change, affecting angle of the view, or affecting views from the wider area, or larger scale of change in views from within the site or immediate context; continuing into the medium term, with good prospect of reversibility.
Small change	A minor proportion of the angle of view is affected or the contribution of the changed elements or characteristics to the composition of the view is not important; the changes are viewed from longer distances, are short term and reversible.
Negligible/no change	Barely perceptible change or the change is difficult to discern; No change in the view or the changes due to the development are out of view.

## 5.4 Assessing effects

- 5.4.1 The degree of effect, whether adverse or beneficial, is assessed by relating the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change, using the following indicative criteria:

Table 5.3 Indicative criteria for assessing visual effects

Visual effect	Indicative criteria
Major	Great change or visual intrusion experienced by highly sensitive viewers or from highly sensitive public viewpoints; The proposal would cause a great deterioration in the existing view available to highly sensitive viewers; Great improvement in the view, sufficient to upgrade overall visual amenity.
Moderate	Medium change or visual intrusion experienced by moderately sensitive viewers; Smaller change to higher sensitivity viewers or greater change to less sensitive viewers.
Minor	Small or localised visual intrusion in the existing view, especially for less sensitive viewers; Small or localised reduction in visual intrusion, or improvement in the view.
Negligible/none	Negligible change in the view or the change is difficult to discern even for a highly sensitive viewer.

- 5.4.2 In addition to these criteria, in some instances the effect may be discernible or greater, but offset by other considerations, for example, through the mitigation or landscape proposals for the development, and the resulting effect is neither beneficial nor adverse.

## 5.5 Visual Baseline

### Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

- 5.5.1 ZTVs have been produced to illustrate the visibility of the existing wind turbines within the study area. The ZTVs illustrated on **Figure LA.07-1 and LA07-2** are based on a bare earth scenario where no allowance has been made for potential screening by minor variations in topography, existing vegetation, buildings within settlement, etc.
- 5.5.2 For the visual appraisal, a ZTV study area of a 20 km radius from the site was investigated and mapped (**Figure LA.07-1 and LA.07-2**). Potentially sensitive visual receptors include residents, people visiting areas covered by landscape designations, areas or sites of historic interest, public footpaths, bridleways and cycle routes, and visitor attractions.
- 5.5.3 During the field study the ZTV and previous viewpoints selected in the 1998 LVIA were used as a starting point and features such as vegetation, buildings or localised topographic variation, which define actual visibility, were identified. Representative viewpoints were then selected for the visual appraisal (refer to **Appendix 7**). The locations of viewpoints studied relate to the 'receptors', that is, residents and users of the landscape, and locations from which they may have views towards or of the site.

### Viewpoint Study

- 5.5.4 The Zone of theoretical visibility drawing, **Figures LA.07-1 and LA.07-2**, illustrates the location of the proposals and shows the ZTV at a scale of 1:50,000. **Figure LA.08** shows the locations of the appraisal photographs, which are reproduced in **Appendix 2**. Viewpoint locations were discussed and agreed with a Principal Planning Officer at Copeland Borough Council (refer to **Appendix 4**). No further viewpoints were suggested.
- 5.5.5 Following site surveys, one further viewpoint was added to the appraisal by WYG to better represent close distance views from the south of the site.

5.5.6 Views of the site are available from various locations surrounding the site, although vegetation and topography does interrupt views towards the site from some locations. The key areas of visibility are:

- views from the north from Harrington and Seaton (southern edge of Workington);
- views from nearby receptors to the north, east and south east within 2km of the site;
- views from the south from Whitehaven and suburbs, and the coast at St Bees; and
- views from the south west from higher ground around Quality Corner and Harras Moor.

5.5.7 The following table illustrates the viewpoints selected for this appraisal, the receptors present, and the reasons for their selection.

Table 5.4 Viewpoint details

VP Ref	Location	Direction and Distance from site (km)	Receptors represented and reasons for selection
1	Harrington Parks Farm and England Coast Path junction with Public footpath 262.036	0.95 to north north east	Residential, National Trail and PROW within close proximity to the turbines (Represents viewpoints 7 and 9 in the 1998 LVIA)
2	Park House Farm Public Footpath 262.001	0.94 to north west	Residential and PROW within close proximity to the turbines (Represents viewpoint 6 in the 1998 LVIA)
3	Lowca Community School, Micklam House, School House and Micklam Cottages, Lowca Top Road, Lowca	0.80 to south west	Residential, community building and road users within close proximity to the turbines (Represents viewpoint 1 in the 1998 LVIA)
4	Marina at Harrington	1.56 to north	Large public space and marina with potential views of all 7 turbines
5	High Close, High Harrington	1.70 to north east	Edge of residential area with potential views of all 7 turbines (Represents viewpoint 13 in the 1998 LVIA)
6	Moorclose Road near Harrington Nature Reserve, Salterbeck,	2.56 to north east	Public space, Residential and Road users with potential views of all 7 turbines (Represents viewpoint 14 in the 1998 LVIA)



VP Ref	Location	Direction and Distance from site (km)	Receptors represented and reasons for selection
7	England Coast Path and Public Footpath 262.010 – Salterbeck	3.09 to north	National Trail with potential views of all 7 turbines
8	Public Footpath 417.008 at Quality Corner	3.00 to south east	Residential and PROW with potential views of all 7 turbines
9	Bransty Road, Bransty	3.20 to south	Residential and road users with potential views of all 7 turbines (Represents viewpoint 17 in the 1998 LVIA)
10	Public Footpath 431.008 at Harras Moor	3.95 to south east	PROW and Residential on localised elevated landform with potential views of all 7 turbines
11	The Candlestick, Whitehaven	4.73 to south south west	Public space with viewing area within Whitehaven conservation area (Represents viewpoint 19 in the 1998 LVIA)
12	Public space off Ennerdale Terrace, Kells Whitehaven	6.04 to south	Residential and public space located over 5km from the site with potential views of all 7 turbines (Represents viewpoint 23 in the 1998 LVIA)
13	Public Bridleway #250026, south west of Seaton	7.01 to north north east	PROW located over 5km from the site with potential views of all 7 turbines
14	St Bees, Coast to Coast Path and Public Footpath 431.039	7.74 to south south west	PROW situated on the St Bees Head Heritage Coast & Landscape of County Importance (Represents viewpoint 28 in the 1998 LVIA)
15	Public Bridleway 413.016, Micklam	0.44 to south	PROW in close proximity to the turbines

Table 5.5 Existing view descriptions

VP Ref	Landscape context at viewpoint	Existing view towards site
1	The viewpoint is located on the England Coast Path immediately south of Harrington Parks Farm, at the junction with Footpath 262.036. The path passes along a concrete track past the farmstead, which is located on higher ground than the path. The route follows the coastline between Harrington	The immediate view in a southerly direction comprises some stables and farm associated waste in a layby area. The existing wind farm is visible beyond the stables, seen as cluster located on the coastal cliff edge. The landform continues to rise in a south easterly direction, limited the extent of views, although other wind turbines in the



VP Ref	Landscape context at viewpoint	Existing view towards site
	and Lowca.	locality are visible. The open and expansive Solway Firth is seen to the immediate south west and west.
2	The public footpath passes through an area of pastoral land bound by wind blown hedges and post and rail fencing. The lower lying land is poorly drained with large areas of flooded grassland at the time of visit. Park House Farm is located in the near landscape as an isolated collection of buildings. The landscape is open with a strong sense of a coastal location.	The view from the footpath is open and expansive towards the Solway Firth. The existing wind farm occupies the near landscape to the south west of the footpath, with the single turbine at Harrington Parks Farm seen to the north west. The existing turbines are seen in the middle distance within the context of the broad coastal ridge, beyond the cluster of buildings associated with Park House Farm.
3	The viewpoint is located outside Lowca Community School and adjacent to Micklam Cottages, off Lowca Top Road. Ribbon development is located along the eastern side of road in the form of residential properties. The landscape to the west of the road is pasture land bounded by gappy hedgerows and post and rail fencing. The view represents the visual experience afforded by road users, residents and people on the footway.	The view in the direction of the site is shortened by the presence of a localised ridgeline in the immediate view and by the presence of a gappy hedgerow. Telegraph poles crossing the landscape provide the vertical scale in the near view. Due to the roll in the landform to the immediate west of the road, the Solway Firth is not visible. The existing turbines are seen as a small cluster of vertical features located beyond the near horizon.
4	The viewpoint is located at Harrington marina adjacent to the large area of open space with picnic benches and car parking. The open space is located directly adjacent to the coast and thus is open and exposed to the elements. The low-lying marina is backed by coastal cliffs.	The view in a northerly direction from the marina comprises the coastline and its associated cliffs. The existing wind farm is located in close proximity to the cliff edge, occupying a relatively small part of the expansive coastal view. The immediate view comprises the large open space at the marina and the elevated properties along Rose Hill towards Harrington Parks Farm.
5	The viewpoint is located at the head of the cul-de-sac at High Close on the grass verge between numbers 21 and 22. The properties are two story dwellings that occupy a higher elevation than other properties in the settlement. A PRoW passes to the west of High Close, along a track, but the route is visually enclosed by trees and hedgerow to both sides of the	The view from the head of High Close looks across small pastoral fields bounded by gappy hedgerows. There is a slight roll in the landform to the south of the viewpoint, which contributes to limiting the extent of overall visibility of the Park House Farm turbines, alongside the hedgerow in the near view.



VP Ref	Landscape context at viewpoint	Existing view towards site
	route.	
6	<p>The viewpoint is located on the western side of Moorclose Road, Salterbeck, immediately north of St Mary's Catholic Primary School and immediately north west of Harrington Nature Reserve. Moorclose Road is lined with semi detached properties that are set back from the road by a wide verge. The road passes over increasingly high ground above the Eller Beck. Eller Beck passes through the nature reserve, which is located on lower ground than the viewpoint and is heavily treed.</p>	<p>The view in a southerly direction is channelled by the road and the built form and trees that line it. As the landform falls away from the viewpoint, views of the coastal cliffs to the south of Salterbeck and Harrington are available. The existing wind farm can be seen occupying a cliff top position in the middle distance, beyond the context of the intervening settlement. The existing turbines occupy a relatively small part of the view and are seen alongside the turbine at Harrington Parks Farm. The collection of farm buildings at Harrington Parks Farm are also visible on the Lowca ridge.</p>
7	<p>The viewpoint is located on the England Coastal Path north of Shore Road and a small lake/public space on the western edge of Salterbeck. The viewpoint is situated on localised high ground enabling a wider view than those experienced at the properties along Shore Road. To the immediate west of the viewpoint is the Cumbrian Coast railway line and beyond the railway line is the site of the former Workington Iron and Steel Works, which has been demolished and the land left redundant, evident by the herras fencing surrounding the site.</p>	<p>The view in a southerly direction comprises the immediate public space, settlement and brownfield site context, with views of the coast to the south west. The backdrop of the view is comprised by the rising landform of Lowca ridge and the existing turbines are seen on the west facing coastal slope. The existing turbines occupy a small part of the existing, channelled view.</p>
8	<p>The viewpoint is located on public footpath 417.008 to the immediate west of a row of properties at Quality Corner, Moresby. The landscape is elevated above Parton and the coastline allowing for an open and expansive visual outlook.</p>	<p>The immediate viewpoint context comprises improved pasture grazed by sheep, a single wind turbine at Huntinghow Farm and overhead pylons. The open view extends over Parton towards Lowca. Lowca ridge is seen in the middle distance and the existing wind farm can be seen beyond the top of the ridge. The wind farm is seen in the context of numerous other turbines and pylons in the same angle of view and within an open, large scale coastal landscape. The view is assumed to be similar to that experienced by the community at Quality Corner from dwellings, particularly first floor windows.</p>





VP Ref	Landscape context at viewpoint	Existing view towards site
9	<p>The viewpoint is located at a bus stop on Bransty Road, just south of the junction with South View Road and represents the view from the settlement as experienced from the road/footway. The road is lined to the east with semi detached and terraced dwellings, the landscape to the west of the road is undeveloped allowing for open and expansive views across the grassland towards the Solway Firth.</p>	<p>Views in a northerly direction are open and expansive along the coastline towards Lowca which occupies the eastern side of the ridge on the near horizon. The settlement of Parton is seen in the valley landscape to the immediate north. The shingle beach at Providence Bay is also seen; the steeply sloping cliffs rise above the bay towards Park House Farm Wind Farm. The existing turbines are seen as a small cluster above the horizon that forms the middle distance view. The vertical scale of the turbines is less than the two other existing turbines present to the east of Lowca Top Road.</p>
10	<p>The viewpoint is located on public footpath 431.008 at Harras Moor. The footpath leaves a farm road and bridleway and heads east along a steep hillside allowing for expansive and open views over Whitehaven. The locality is characterised by sheep grazed pasture bounded by stone walls.</p>	<p>The view towards the site is in a north westerly direction, away from the primary views over Whitehaven and the coastline to the west. The view is limited to a short section of the path as the rising land screens the view with increasing elevation in an easterly direction. The existing wind farm is seen in a small part of the view in the context of the large-scale coastal ridge alongside other wind turbines in the locality and industry in the backdrop of the view. The view from the footpath is assumed to be similar to views experienced by residents at Harras Park Farm.</p>
11	<p>The Candlestick is a remnant ventilation chimney from the former Wellington Pit on the south shore of Whitehaven. The Candlestick is accessed via a series of steps and ramps that wind around the landform that the chimney occupies above Whitehaven harbour. At the Candlestick there are benches orientated to afford the northerly views over the harbour and along the coastline. There is also historical interpretation in the paving material in relation to the former mine, which was built in the guise of a castle. A viewing telescope is provided on the western side of The Candlestick, orientated towards the Solway</p>	<p>The view from The Candlestick is expansive in a westerly, northerly and north easterly direction incorporating Whitehaven harbour and Bransty. A large proportion of the view is occupied by the Solway Firth. The existing turbines can be seen beyond the horizon formed by the cliffs above Redness Point. The vertical scale of the turbines is diminished by the rising landform on the eastern horizon, the turbines appear in keeping with the overall scale of the horizon.</p>





VP Ref	Landscape context at viewpoint	Existing view towards site
	Firth. The open space at The Candlestick is used for passive recreation such as dog walking.	
12	The viewpoint is located on the eastern edge of a public space / playing fields in Kells to the south of Whitehaven. The rectilinear space is bounded on all sides by residential dwellings on Ennerdale Terrace, Monkbray Road, Monkbray Brow and High Road. The open space is located on higher ground than the bungalows off Monkbray Road to the immediate east thus allowing views in a southerly direction towards the existing wind farm.	The view comprises the immediate urban context of Kells with longer distance views to the north and east available above the Monkbray bungalows to the immediate east of the viewpoint location. The rising land at Harras Moor can be seen to the north east and higher ground at Hensingham is seen to the east. In the distant backdrop of the view the existing Park House Farm Wind Farm is visible between a gap in the rooftops. The view is similar to that gained from the local road network, such as Lakeland Avenue. The view is fleeting as one walks along the edge of the open space as the intervening rooftops curtail the view. The existing turbines form a small element in a much wider view. The wider panorama from the viewpoint, beyond the 90 degree angle of view shown, includes the western edge of the LDNP, which is seen in the distant east.
13	The viewpoint is located on a public bridleway near to a covered reservoir on the south western edge of Seaton. The open nature of the agricultural landscape allows for a panoramic view along the west Cumbrian coastline. The Park House Farm Wind Farm is located to the south beyond the urban context of Workington.	The view to the south looks across an open landscape towards Workington. Beyond Workington the landform rises to Lowca ridge where the existing turbines are located. The wider view looks along the coastline at Workington and north to Maryport. The existing Park House Farm turbines form a very small element in the backdrop of a much wider view. In poorer weather the existing turbines are barely visible in the view.
14	The viewpoint is located on the Coast to Coast footpath and footpath at St Bees Head near to Birkhams Quarry and Quarry Bungalows. The viewpoint is located on elevated land atop coastal cliffs allowing expansive views across the Solway Firth and along the West Cumbria coastline.	The view from the Coast to Coast path is vast and takes in the Solway Firth across to Scotland and Northern Ireland, and the west Cumbrian coastline, which extends in a northerly direction to include Whitehaven, Workington and on towards Maryport. The existing Park House Farm turbines are seen on the western side of Lowca ridge in the middle distance view. They are seen in the context of other existing vertical structures and form an overall small element in a much wider visual context.



VP Ref	Landscape context at viewpoint	Existing view towards site
15	The viewpoint is located on public bridleway 413.016 in the vicinity of the former Micklam Farm. The land at Micklam Farm is now subject to a planning approval for a holiday park. The landscape is open and exposed to the Solway Firth with wet pasture and gorse heath bounded by wind blown hedgerows and post and rail fencing.	The view is open and expansive across the Solway Firth. The existing wind farm is seen in this coastal context in the near view. The large-scale nature of the view is dominated by the seascape and large horizon, and although the wind farm is located close to the viewer, it does not appear overly prominent due to its coastal cliff top location. Other existing single turbines are also visible including that at Harrington Parks Farm.

## 5.6 Visual Receptors

5.6.1 The assessment of visual effects is described by considering how the different groups of “visual receptors” may be affected. The following is a review of the viewers (the visual receptors) and views available to them at the selected representative locations.

### People in settlements and residential properties

5.6.2 People within residential properties located at:

- Harrington Parks Farm (represented by viewpoint 1) affording oblique near distance views towards the wind farm;
- Park House Farm (represented by viewpoint 2) affording open, direct views in close proximity of the wind farm;
- Micklam House, School House and Micklam Cottages, Lowca Top Road, Lowca. (represented by viewpoint 3) affording direct, filtered, close views towards the wind farm;
- Properties on High Close in High Harrington, particularly numbers 19-22 (represented by viewpoint 5) affording direct, partial, filtered and middle distance views towards the wind farm;
- Properties in on Moorclose Road Salterbeck, (represented by viewpoint 6), affording oblique, open, middle distance views towards the wind farm;
- Properties at Quality Corner, Moresby (represented by viewpoint 8), properties on Bransty Road, Bransty, particularly numbers 43 & 44 (represented by viewpoint 9)

and properties at Harras Moor (represented by viewpoint 10) affording open and middle distance views towards the wind farm; and

- Properties on Ennerdale Terrace, Kells, Whitehaven (represented by viewpoint 12) affording long distance, glimpsed views towards the site from rear windows.

## **Users of public rights of way, the England Coastal Path, the Coast to Coast Walk and areas of public access**

5.6.3 Users of public rights of way and the England Coast Path include:

- England Coast Path (represented by viewpoint 1) affording channelled, direct, close proximity views towards the wind farm;
- Footpath 262.001 near Park House Farm (represented by viewpoint 2) affording intermittently open, direct and close distance views towards the wind farm;
- Public space at Harrington Marina (represented by viewpoint 4), Footpath 417.008 (represented by viewpoint 8) and Public space at The Candlestick above Whitehaven harbour (represented by viewpoint 11) affording direct, open, middle distance views towards the wind farm;
- Footpath 262.035 at High Harrington (represented by Viewpoint 5) affording restricted views due to presence of trees and hedgerows to both side of the footpath;
- Public space at Harrington Nature Reserve (represented by Viewpoint 6) affording limited, filtered views due to the presence of vegetation and built form in the immediate locality;
- England Coast Path and footpath 262.010 (represented by viewpoint 7) affording channelled, open and direct views towards the wind farm;
- Footpath 431.008 (represented by viewpoint 10) affording middle distance, oblique and intermittent views towards the wind farm;
- Public space off Ennerdale Terrace, Kells, (represented by viewpoint 12) affording long distance, channelled and glimpsed views towards the wind farm;
- Footpath 250.026 (represented by viewpoint 13), Footpath 431.039 and Wainwright's Coast to Coast Walk at St Bees Head (represented by viewpoint 14) affording expansive, long distance, open views towards the wind farm; and
- Bridleway 413.016 (represented by viewpoint 15) affording direct, open, expansive and close distance views of the wind farm.



## **Tourist Destination**

5.6.4 Users of tourist destinations include:

- St Bees Head (represented by viewpoint 14) affording open, direct and long distance views towards the wind farm; and
- The Candlestick, Whitehaven (represented by viewpoint 11) affording open, direct and middle distance views towards the wind farm.

## **Road users**

5.6.5 Road users include:

- Lowca Top Road (represented by viewpoint 3) affording oblique, intermittent, partially filtered and close distance views towards the wind farm;
- Moorclose Road, Salterbeck, (represented by viewpoint 6) affording channelled, direct, middle distance views towards the wind farm;
- Bransty Road, Bransty (represented by viewpoint 9) affording direct views towards the wind farm; and
- Lakeland Avenue, Kells, (represented by viewpoint 12) affording direct, glimpsed, intermittent middle distance views towards the wind farm.

## **5.7 Visual Baseline Summary**

5.7.1 A summary of the visual baseline information to be taken into account as part of the detailed assessment of the effects on visual amenity is as follows:

- Visibility from the surrounding residents, particularly those within close proximity to the site;
- Visibility from users of the surrounding rights of way network, including those on the nearby England Coast Path;
- Visibility from receptors at The Candlestick, Whitehaven and St Bees Head; and
- Visibility from users of the local road network.



## 5.8 Effects on Visual Amenity

### Sensitivity

- 5.8.1 The sensitivity of viewers is affected by factors such as the distance to the viewer, the relative number of viewers affected and the importance of the site in the overall view. The context of the viewpoint may also contribute to its ability to accommodate change; for example, a view from residential properties or from a valued landscape might be regarded as less able to accommodate change, than a view from an industrial context. **Table 5.1** provides examples of High, Moderate and Lesser sensitivity, demonstrating how the contributing factors are interpreted.
- 5.8.2 The 1998 LVIA details the methodology for defining sensitivity but does not then go on to assign a sensitivity to the specific receptors represented by each viewpoint assessed. The summary tables of the 1998 LVIA in **Appendix 1** include a column for 'assumed sensitivity' for the receptors at the viewpoint locations, based on the LVIA's methodology. Where the viewpoints in the LVApp and 1998 LVIA correlate, the original sensitivities are taken into consideration with those based on the current baseline.
- 5.8.3 The sensitivity of the visual receptors is assessed as set out within Table 5.6:

Table 5.6 Sensitivity of visual receptors

Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
<b>Residential</b>			
Harrington Parks Farm (Viewpoint 1)	Open coastal views from farmstead, disrupted by building waste and presence of stables, reducing its value to medium.	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	Moderate
Park House Farm (Viewpoint 2)	Open coastal views from farmstead considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	High
Micklam House, School House and Micklam Cottages, Lowca. (Viewpoint 3)	Open views from front façades of dwellings considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	High



Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Properties on High Close, High Harrington (Viewpoint 5)	Rural views of rolling pasture from rear façades of dwellings considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	High
Properties in Salterbeck (Viewpoint 6)	Oblique views to site from front façade windows considered lower in value due to urban context of view	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	Moderate
Quality Corner (Viewpoint 8)	Open coastal views from rear façades of dwellings considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	High
Properties on Bransty Road, Brantsy (Viewpoint 9)	Open and panoramic coastal views from front facades of dwellings considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	High
Properties at Harras Moor (Viewpoint 10)	Open and panoramic coastal views considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	High
Properties in Kells, Whitehaven (Viewpoint 12)	Restricted views due to urban context considered lower in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	Moderate
<b>England Coast Path, Coast to Coast Walk, other PRoW and public open spaces</b>			
England Coast Path (Viewpoint 1)	Open and panoramic coastal views considered high in value but views to south influenced by farming activity and building waste storage – overall medium value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity along the route	Moderate
PRoW users near Park House Farm (footpath 262.001) (Viewpoint 2)	Intermittently restricted views due to presence of trees and	High susceptibility to changes in their visual	Moderate



Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
	hedgerows to both sides of the footpath – lower in value	amenity along the route	
Harrington marina and public space (Viewpoint 4)	Open and panoramic coastal views considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity along the route	High
Footpath 262.035 (Viewpoint 5)	Restricted views due to presence of trees and hedgerows to both side of the footpath – lower in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity along the route	Moderate
Harrington Parks Nature Reserve (Viewpoint 6)	Restricted and limited views out of the reserve due to presence of trees and built form. Focus on internal views within reserve – lower in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	Moderate
England Coast Path and footpath 262.010 (Viewpoint 7)	Coastal views influenced by presence of former iron and steel works and immediate urban context – lower value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity along the route	Moderate
Footpath 417.008 (Viewpoint 8)	Open and panoramic coastal views considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity along the route	High
Footpath 417.008 (Viewpoint 10)	Open coastal views to west with restricted views to wind farm due to presence of rising landform and farmstead in immediate view – high value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity along the route	High
Open space and viewing area at The Candlestick above	Open and panoramic coastal views	High susceptibility to changes in their visual	High



Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Whitehaven harbour (Viewpoint 11)	considered high in value	amenity along the route	
Public space off Ennerdale Terrace, Kells, (Viewpoint 12)	Restricted views due to presence of immediate urban context– lower value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	Moderate
Footpath 250.026 (Viewpoint 13)	Open and panoramic coastal views considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity along the route	High
Footpath 431.039 and Wainwright’s Coast to Coast Walk along St Bees Head (Viewpoint 14)	Open and panoramic coastal views considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity along the route	High
Bridleway 413.016 (Viewpoint 15)	Open and panoramic coastal views considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity along the route	High
<b>Tourist Destinations</b>			
St Bees Head (Viewpoint 14)	Open and panoramic coastal views considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	High
The Candlestick (Viewpoint 11)	Open and panoramic coastal views considered high in value	High susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity	High
<b>Roads</b>			
Lowca Top Road (Viewpoint 3)	Views intermittent, partially filtered by roadside vegetation – lower value	Lesser susceptibility to changes in visual amenity	Lesser
Moorclose Road, Salterbeck, (viewpoint 6)	Views frequently interrupted due to presence of immediate built form – lower value	Lesser susceptibility to changes in visual amenity	Lesser





Receptor	Value	Susceptibility	Sensitivity
Bransty Road, Bransty (viewpoint 9)	Direct, open views in northerly direction considered high in value	Lesser susceptibility to changes in visual amenity	Moderate
Lakeland Avenue, Kells, (viewpoint 12)	Restricted views due to presence of immediate urban context – lower value	Lesser susceptibility to changes in visual amenity	Lesser

5.8.4 To summarise the sensitivity of receptors:

- People in settlements and residential properties: high susceptibility to changes in their visual amenity; open, unobstructed, attractive, views, many of which include views the coast, are assessed as of high value. The high susceptibility and high value results in a high sensitivity for residential receptors at viewpoints 2, 3, 5, 8, 9 and 10. Obstructed and partial views result in a lower value to the view. The high sensitivity and low value results in a moderate sensitivity for residential receptors at viewpoints 1, 6, and 12;
- Users of the England Coast Path and the Coast to Coast Walk and tourists at visitor attractions: high susceptibility to change in their visual amenity as their interest is likely to be focused on the landscape;
- Users of local public rights of way and public spaces: high susceptibility to change in their visual amenity as their interest is likely to be focused on the landscape except for viewpoint 12 where the open space is used for active recreation activity and susceptibility is considered to be lower. Views are considered to be of high value at viewpoints 4, 8, 11, 13, 14, and 15. The high value and high susceptibility results in a high sensitivity for receptors at these viewpoint locations. Medium value views are assessed in relation to the England Coast Path at viewpoint 1 due to the presence of farming activity/storage. The medium value and high susceptibility results in a moderate sensitivity for receptors at viewpoint 1. Lower value views are assessed where views are restricted or oblique. Lower value and high susceptibility results in moderate sensitivity in relation to receptors at viewpoints 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, and 12.
- Users of public roads: low susceptibility to change in their visual amenity; the views from the road network largely comprise the working West Cumbrian landscape, and therefore are considered to be of medium value. The low susceptibility and medium



value results in a lesser sensitivity to the views afforded by the road users (viewpoint 3, viewpoint 6, and viewpoint 12). High value views are considered at viewpoint 9 due to the open nature of coastal views. High value and low susceptibility results in moderate sensitivity.

## **Magnitude of Change**

5.8.5 The representative views are described below first looking at the changes that are likely to occur when the turbines are decommissioned, then comparing this to their retention for an additional 10 years prior to decommissioning.

5.8.6 The features of the development giving rise to changes in the views afforded by receptors are:

- The retention of the existing turbines and associated ancillary infrastructure for a further ten years;
- The delay in decommissioning the wind farm; and
- The delay in the restoration of the landscape.



# Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Table 5.7 View with development and magnitude of change

VP ref	VP name	View due to extension of life and Magnitude of Change
1	Harrington Parks Farm and England Coast Path junction with Public footpath 262.036	<p>When the Park House Farm turbines are removed, there would be seven less turbines seen in the view in a southerly direction from this viewpoint. The soil and rubble mounds in the immediate view would remain a detractor in the landscape and the two turbines at Lowca Top Road and Green House Farm would still be seen in the view but would form a small part of the overall view available. Overall, the view would be influenced by the baseline working pastoral landscape with farming/small holding land use along the former mineral railway line, which now forms the England Coast Path, and vast coastal views to the west.</p> <p>The presence of the existing Park House Farm turbines in the landscape for a further 10 year period would continue the existence of the wind turbine cluster in the view as one walks south along the long distance path, but the turbines would continue to form a relatively incidental feature in a much wider view of the coast. The vertical scale of the Park House Farm turbines in the view is no greater than that of the single turbine at Lowca Top Road, and the Park House Farm turbines are not a prominent feature in the view. There are also already a number of other features associated with the working landscape that would continue to be present in the same part of the view (see <b>Figures LA.09-3 to LA.09.07</b>). Overall, the turbines would not appear as an incongruous feature in the view if they were to remain for a further 10 years.</p> <p>The delay in the decommissioning of the wind farm would give rise to no greater than a <b>small</b> magnitude of change overall.</p>
2	Park House Farm Public Footpath 262.001	<p>When the seven Park House Farm turbines, are removed the view from the footpath would be over the medium scale pastoral landscape towards Park House Farm. The view towards the vast Solway Firth would no longer be interrupted by the turbines in the near view. However, the presence of the farmstead and telegraph poles along the farm track would continue to influence the view, typical of the local working landscape. The single turbine at Green House Farm would continue to be seen in the south of the view.</p> <p>With the proposed extension of life, the Park House Farm turbines would continue to be seen within the context of the medium scale landscape and expansive coastal views. The cluster of Park House Farm turbines would be seen beyond the large farm buildings at Park House Farm, in the same angle of view as the existing turbine at Green</p>

Reference: A108663



# Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

VP ref	VP name	View due to extension of life and Magnitude of Change
		<p>House Farm, and although the turbines would interrupt the view of the coast, there would be a maintained level of visual permeability. The turbines would occupy part of a much wider view available, seen in the context of the taller turbine at Green House Farm in the view to the east. Overall, the Park House Farm turbines would appear as highly perceptible features in the large-scale coastal view.</p> <p>The delay in the decommissioning of the wind farm would give rise to no greater than a <b>medium</b> magnitude of change overall.</p>
3	Lowca Community School, Micklam House, School House and Micklam Cottages, Lowca Top Road, Lowca	<p>From the viewpoint location, the blades of six of the seven Park House Farm turbines can be seen; the rolling landform in the immediate view screens the presence of one turbine and also provides visual screening to the towers of three other turbines. With the removal of the Park House Farm turbines from the view, the change would be noticeable, but the turbines are not particularly prominent in the view and the overall change in the view would be small.</p> <p>The proposed extension of life of the turbines would retain the turbines in the view for a further 10-year period. However, the turbines would be seen largely in the backdrop of the short distance view and would be a small-scale element in the view. The wind farm would not occupy the full extent of the view available and would be seen in the context of the simple horizon and large sky beyond.</p> <p>The delay in the decommissioning of the wind farm would give rise to a <b>small</b> magnitude of change overall.</p>
4	Quayside at Harrington	<p>The view from the quayside at Harrington in a southerly direction is far reaching towards St Bees Head. With the removal of the Park House Farm turbines from the view to the south, the loss of the cluster of vertical elements that forms the wind farm will create a sense of an undeveloped coastal edge as the remaining built features in the view occupy a higher location on Lowca ridge. This includes two single turbines at Green House Farm and Harrington Parks Farm. The removal of the turbines on decommissioning from the view from the quayside is considered to be beneficial to the nature of the overall view to the south.</p> <p>The proposed life extension of the wind farm would retain the presence of the turbines on the coastal edge for a further 10-year period. The wind farm would continue to be a distinctive feature in the view to the south, seen in the context of the large-scale coastal view upon the simple horizon of the lower edge of the Lowca ridge.</p>

Reference: A108663



Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

VP ref	VP name	View due to extension of life and Magnitude of Change
5	High Close, High Harrington	<p>The delay in the decommissioning of the wind farm would give rise to a <b>medium</b> magnitude of change overall.</p> <p>From the viewpoint location the existing Park House Farm turbines are not readily perceptible, the roll in the landform in the near view provides visual screening to the lower turbine towers and the hedgerow that crosses the view atop the near horizon heavily filters the presence of the majority of the turbines. The existing turbine at Harrington Parks Farm forms the most notable vertical element in the near view. As the existing wind farm is not readily perceptible, the decommissioning of the site would also not be very notable. The view from the nearby footpath is also similar, the hedgerow vegetation limits views towards the existing wind farm and its removal from the landscape would not be highly perceptible.</p> <p>The extension of life to Park House Farm Wind Farm would not greatly impact upon the view from High Close, or the nearby footpath, as the turbines are not readily notable in the wider view. The existing turbine at Harrington Parks Farm would remain the most notable feature in the otherwise pastoral view, and would remain present throughout the same time period (see <b>Figures LA.09-3 to LA.09.07</b>).</p> <p>The magnitude of change in the view as a result of the delay in decommissioning Park House Farm Wind Farm is considered to be <b>negligible</b>.</p>
6	Moorclose Road near Harrington Nature Reserve, Salterbeck,	<p>On decommissioning, there would be six less turbines seen above the horizon in the view to the south (the seventh turbine of the wind farm is not noticeable from the viewpoint). The turbine at Harrington Parks Farm would remain visible upon Lowca ridge, which forms the horizon in the view. The primary features of the view would remain the immediate urban context and the nature reserve. Views of the wind farm from within the nature reserve are limited due to the presence of vegetation and built form and the localised lower landform limiting views out of the reserve.</p> <p>The proposed life extension of the wind farm would continue the presence of turbines above the horizon in the backdrop of the view. They appear smaller in vertical scale than the existing turbine at Harrington Parks Farm but nonetheless are noticeable from the road and the footway. However, the wind farm occupies a small part of the overall view available and is not prominent. Visibility of the turbines is limited from within the nature reserve, particularly during summer months.</p> <p>The delay in the decommissioning of the wind farm would give rise to no greater than a <b>small</b> magnitude of change</p>

Reference: A108663



# Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

VP ref	VP name	View due to extension of life and Magnitude of Change
7	England Coast Path and Public Footpath 262.010 – Salterbeck	<p>overall.</p> <p>The removal of the turbines on decommissioning from the far reaching view to the south from the England Coast Path would remove the vertical structures that occupy the coastal edge and mid horizon. The edge of the coastal cliffs would appear undeveloped on decommissioning of the wind farm, but there would remain a presence of turbines in the same angle of view with three single turbines seen on higher ground on Lowca ridge, above the properties seen within the near view. The existing view is dominated by the presence of security fencing running along the coastal railway line and surrounds the former Corus steel works site to the immediate west and this is considered a detractor in the view. The decommissioning of the turbines would not greatly improve the nature of the overall view available.</p> <p>The extension of life of the wind farm for a further 10 year period would continue the presence of the turbines above the coastal cliffs in the backdrop of the view. However, the primary feature of the view would continue to be the former Corus steel works and the fencing that lines the adjacent railway line. The Park House Farm turbines would form a relatively small feature in a wider urban and coastal view, seen in the context of other existing turbines located on the same horizon.</p> <p>The delay in the decommissioning of the wind farm would give rise to no greater than a <b>small</b> magnitude of change overall.</p>
8	Public Footpath 417.008 at Quality Corner	<p>The removal of the Park House Farm Wind Farm on decommissioning would result in the loss of the small cluster of turbines occupying the coastal location in the expansive view available from the footpath. The existing view would still feature other turbines in the landscape, including one in the immediate vicinity alongside the overhead pylons that pass through the near view. The offshore wind farm at Robin Rigg would also remain visible in good weather conditions. The removal of the turbines would be noticeable from the viewpoint but the overall character of the view would not be greatly changed due to distance from the site, the panoramic nature of the overall view, and the other vertical elements visible in the view.</p> <p>With the extension of life of Park House Farm Wind Farm, the cluster of turbines in the middle distance view would remain visible for a further ten years. They would continue to appear smaller in vertical scale than the existing turbines at Lowca Top Road and Green House Farm, which would also remain in the view for the same time duration (see <b>Figures LA.09-3 to LA.09.07</b>). They would continue to be a perceptible but not prominent feature of a much</p>

Reference: A108663



Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

VP ref	VP name	View due to extension of life and Magnitude of Change
		<p>wider view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change in the view as a result of the delay in decommissioning Park House Farm Wind Farm is considered to be <b>small</b>.</p>
9	Bransty Road, Bransty	<p>On decommissioning, the view from Bransty Road would remain influenced by the presence of wind turbines, particularly those at Lowca Top Road and Green House Farm which are more prominent in the landscape than Park House Farm Wind Farm. The removal of the Park House Farm turbines from the view allows for an appreciation of an undeveloped coastal edge west of Lowca village, but in the same part of the view there would still remain other existing turbines alongside the urban context of Parton in the immediate valley with Lowca beyond. Overall, the view to the north towards the site forms a small part of a much more expansive view across the Solway Firth to the west.</p> <p>The extension of life of the Park House Farm Wind Farm would see the retention of the turbines in the view for a further 10 year period. The turbines would remain seen in the context of other existing turbines in the same part of the view, for the same timeframe (see <b>Figures LA.09-3 to LA.09-7</b>). The Park House Farm turbines would continue to form a relatively small feature within a much wider coastal view that is characterised by a mixed urban and agricultural view.</p> <p>The delay in the decommissioning of the wind farm would give rise to no greater than a <b>small</b> magnitude of change overall.</p>
10	Public Footpath 431.008 at Harras Moor	<p>The primary view from Harras Moor is in a westerly direction over Whitehaven Harbour. Park House Farm Wind Farm is located to the north northwest, away from the primary view. On decommissioning of the wind farm, the view to the north northwest would still be influenced by the presence of turbines, including Oldside, Green House Farm, Lowca Top Road and Robin Rigg offshore. The loss of Park House Farm Wind Farm from the view would reduce the number of turbines seen overall.</p> <p>The extension of life to Park House Farm Wind Farm would continue the presence of the wind farm in the secondary view to the north north west, alongside a number of the other turbines/wind farms. The Park House Farm turbines do not appear prominent in the view, they are seen in the context of other taller turbines in the same angle of view. The expansive view across the Solway Firth to the southern coastline of Dumfries and Galloway would remain.</p>

Reference: A108663



## Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

VP ref	VP name	View due to extension of life and Magnitude of Change
		The magnitude of change in the view as a result of the delay in decommissioning Park House Farm Wind Farm is considered to be <b>small</b> .
11	The Candlestick, Whitehaven	<p>The view from The Candlestick in a northerly direction looks over Whitehaven Harbour towards Bransty and Lowca. The overall view available is expansive along and across the coast. Park House Farm Wind Farm forms a relatively small cluster of turbines on the coastal edge. When the wind farm is decommissioned, the view would only be altered marginally as there are so many other elements within the view that are more prominent or noticeable.</p> <p>The extension of life of the wind farm for a further 10 years would continue the presence of the turbine cluster on the coastal edge, seen in the context of the immediate harbour and the panoramic seascape. The turbines would continue to be seen alongside other single turbines in the locality, particularly Green House Farm and Lowca Top Road. The wind farm is not prominent, rather an incidental feature in a much wider and varied view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change in the view as a result of the delay in decommissioning Park House Farm Wind Farm is considered to be <b>small</b>.</p>
12	Public space off Ennerdale Terrace, Kells Whitehaven	<p>The view towards Park House Farm Wind Farm from the public space in Kells is intermittent and distant. When the wind farm is decommissioned, its absence from the view would not be greatly notable. The wind farm forms a minor and incidental feature in the view from the public space and surrounding streetscape, including from Lakeland Avenue.</p> <p>The continued presence of the wind farm for a further 10 years would not be greatly detrimental to the visual amenity afforded from the open space/playing fields and nearby properties. The primary focus of views is the immediate urban context and the view to the east looks towards the fringes of the LDNP. The turbines would continue to be an incidental feature in the distant view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change in the view as a result of the delay in decommissioning Park House Farm Wind Farm is considered to be <b>negligible</b>.</p>
13	Public Bridleway #250026, south west of Seaton	Park House Farm Wind Farm forms a small element in the much wider view available from the bridleway. Its removal from the view post decommissioning of the turbines, would not be highly notable. The wind farm is seen in the context of the urban landscape of Workington that occurs in the mid distance view; the wind farm is located beyond the far horizon and appears relatively small in vertical scale, particularly in comparison to the telegraph poles in the

Reference: A108663





## Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

VP ref	VP name	View due to extension of life and Magnitude of Change
		<p>immediate view.</p> <p>The extension of life of the wind farm for a further 10 year period would continue the presence of the wind farm above the far horizon, but it would form an incidental feature in the view to the south. It would not detract the visual amenity afforded from the bridleway.</p> <p>The magnitude of change in the view as a result of the delay in decommissioning Park House Farm Wind Farm is considered to be <b>negligible</b>.</p>
14	St Bees, Coast to Coast Path and Public Footpath 431.039	<p>The view available from the Coast to Coast walk at St Bees is vast across the Solway Firth and along the west Cumbrian coastline. Park House Farm Wind Farm is seen in the middle-distance view, partially back clothed by land in the backdrop of the view. The urban context of Woodhouse/Kells, Bransty and Moresby form more notable features in the view than Park House Farm Wind Farm and the turbines located on Lowca ridge. The removal of the wind farm from the view, on decommissioning, would be just be perceptible, and it would result in the closest wind farm to the viewpoint being lost. However, as there are so many other features seen in the view, including taller single turbines in the same part of the view, the removal of the turbines is not considered to greatly benefit the underlying quality of visual amenity afforded at the viewpoint location, due the scenic quality already available.</p> <p>The retention of the wind farm for a further 10 years would retain the closest wind farm to the viewpoint, but it would remain at distance from St Bees Head and would be seen in the context of other existing turbines in the locality of the site and existing industrial features at Workington/Maryport in the far distance. It would not detract from the visual amenity afforded from the coastal route and Heritage Coast.</p> <p>The delay in the decommissioning of the wind farm would give rise to no greater than a <b>negligible</b> magnitude of change overall.</p>
15	Public Bridleway 413.016, Micklam	<p>The viewpoint is located directly south of Park House Farm Wind Farm and as such the seven turbines form prominent features in the immediate view. When the wind farm is decommissioned, the removal of the turbines would create a locally open view in a northerly direction along the coast. The nearest existing wind farm to the viewpoint would become those at Workington with the single turbines at Harrington Parks Farm, Lowca Top Road and Green House Farm prominent in the near landscape. The turbines at Robin Rigg would also remain prominent in the distant view on clear days. The removal of Park House Farm Wind Farm would be beneficial to the view overall.</p>

Reference: A108663



# Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

VP ref	VP name	View due to extension of life and Magnitude of Change
		<p>The extension of life of Park House Farm Wind Farm for a further 10 year period would continue the presence of the turbines in the immediate view. Although the turbines appear prominent in the view, and they appear in the context of expansive sea views and the simple underlying coastal fringe, which is already typified by other existing wind energy development, some of which will still remain during the same time period, as shown on <b>Figures LA.09-3 to LA.09-7</b>.</p> <p>Overall, the Park House Farm turbines do not greatly interrupt the expansive coastal views, and as the duration of the life extension is medium term, the magnitude of change in the view as a result of the delay in decommissioning Park House Farm Wind Farm is considered to be <b>medium</b>.</p>



# Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

## Assessment

5.8.7 The visual effects assessment has been informed by the selection of viewpoints within the 1998 LVIA, site surveys and the ZTV study shown on **Figure LA.07-1** and **LA.07-2**. The ZTV identified a number of locations from which the turbines might be theoretically visible. A selection of representative views to illustrate the views available at a range of distances and for different receptors are identified and described in **Table 5.5** and the sensitivity of the viewers (visual receptors) represented defined in **Table 5.6** above.

5.8.8 The following table sets out the assessment of effects on the visual amenity of the identified viewers likely to be affected by the proposals:

Table 5.8 Assessment of visual effects

Reference Viewpoints	Viewers/ Visual Receptors & Sensitivity	Magnitude of change due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning	Degree & nature of effects due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning
1 (Represents viewpoints 7 and 9 in the 1998 LVIA)	Residents with oblique views – <b>moderate sensitivity</b>  National Trail (England Coast Path) and Footpath 262.036 users– <b>moderate sensitivity</b>	<b>Small change</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> for both residents, national trail and footpath users due to the nature of oblique views by residents and presence of other visual detractors experienced by footpath users.
2	Residents with direct views – <b>high sensitivity</b>	<b>Medium change</b>	<b>Moderate adverse</b> for residents – due to a medium change to sensitive viewers.

Reference: A108663



# Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Reference Viewpoints	Viewers/ Visual Receptors & Sensitivity	Magnitude of change due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning	Degree & nature of effects due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning
(Represents viewpoint 6 in the 1998 LVIA)	Footpath 262.001 users – <b>moderate sensitivity</b>		<b>Moderate adverse</b> for footpath users – due to a medium change to moderately sensitive viewers experiencing intermittently open views of the wind farm.
3 (Represents viewpoint 1 in the 1998 LVIA)	Residents with direct views – <b>high sensitivity</b>  Road users – <b>lesser sensitivity</b>	<b>Small change</b>	<b>Moderate adverse</b> for residents – due to a medium change to high and moderate sensitivity receptors affording direct views of the wind farm.  <b>Minor adverse</b> for road users - due to nature of oblique views afforded.
4	Public space and marina users with direct views – <b>high sensitivity</b>	<b>Medium change</b>	<b>Moderate adverse</b> for all receptors– due to the open nature of coastal views available.
5 (Represents viewpoint 13 in the 1998 LVIA)	Residents with direct, filtered views and footpath users with heavily filtered views – <b>high sensitivity</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Negligible</b> for all receptors– although visible, the change would make little difference to the view afforded.

Reference: A108663



Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Reference Viewpoints	Viewers/ Visual Receptors & Sensitivity	Magnitude of change due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning	Degree & nature of effects due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning
<p>6 (Represents viewpoint 14 in the 1998 LVIA)</p>	<p>Residents with oblique views – <b>moderate sensitivity</b></p> <p>Public space users with restricted, filtered views – <b>moderate sensitivity</b></p> <p>Road users – <b>lesser sensitivity</b></p>	<p><b>Small change</b></p>	<p><b>Minor adverse</b> for all receptors - due to nature of oblique views by residents and restricted views by other receptors.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>National Trail and Footpath 262.010 users (England Coast Path) – <b>moderate sensitivity</b></p>	<p><b>Small change</b></p>	<p><b>Moderate adverse</b>– due to a small change to moderately sensitive receptors affording open views of the development.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Residents with direct views – <b>high sensitivity</b></p> <p>Footpath 417.008 users – <b>moderate sensitivity</b></p>	<p><b>Small change</b></p>	<p><b>Moderate adverse</b> for residents and footpath users – due to a small change to high and moderate sensitivity receptors affording open views of the wind farm.</p>

Reference: A108663



## Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Reference Viewpoints	Viewers/ Visual Receptors & Sensitivity	Magnitude of change due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning	Degree & nature of effects due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning
9 (Represents viewpoint 17 in the 1998 LVIA)	Residents with direct views – <b>high sensitivity</b>  Road users – <b>moderate sensitivity</b>	<b>Small change</b>	<b>Moderate adverse</b> for residents and road users – due to a small change to high and moderate sensitivity receptors affording open views of the wind farm.
10	Residents with direct views – <b>high sensitivity</b>  Footpath 431.008 users – <b>moderate sensitivity</b>	<b>Small change</b>	<b>Moderate adverse</b> for residents – due to a small change to high sensitivity receptors affording direct views of the wind farm.  <b>Minor adverse</b> for footpath users – resulting from oblique views from footpath.
11 (Represents viewpoint 19 in the 1998 LVIA)	Public space users and tourist visitors – <b>high sensitivity</b>	<b>Small change</b>	<b>Moderate adverse</b> for residents – due to a small change to high sensitivity receptors affording open views of the wind farm.
12 (Represents viewpoint 23 in the 1998 LVIA)	Residents with distant, restricted views – <b>moderate sensitivity</b>  Public space users – <b>moderate sensitivity</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Negligible</b> for all receptors– although visible, the change would make little difference to the view afforded.

Reference: A108663



# Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Reference Viewpoints	Viewers/ Visual Receptors & Sensitivity	Magnitude of change due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning	Degree & nature of effects due to retention of the turbines for a further ten year period rather than decommissioning
	Road users – <b>lesser sensitivity</b>		
13	Footpath 250.026 users – <b>high sensitivity</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Negligible</b> for all receptors— although visible, the change would make little difference to the view afforded.
14 (Represents viewpoint 28 in the 1998 LVIA)	Wainwright’s Coast to Coast Walk and Footpath 431.039 users, and tourist visitors – <b>high sensitivity</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Negligible</b> for all receptors— although visible, the change would make little difference to the view afforded.
15	Bridleway 413.016 – <b>high sensitivity</b>	<b>Medium change</b>	<b>Moderate adverse</b> – due to a medium change to high sensitivity receptors affording direct, close distance views of the wind farm.

Reference: A108663



## Conclusions

- 5.8.9 Moderate adverse effects have been identified on a number of receptors at nine of the 15 viewpoints assessed. This is largely due to the presence of the turbines seen within an otherwise underdeveloped coastal edge landscape. The decommissioning of the wind farm would result in the loss of the structures from the coastal edge landscape, as perceived by receptors at a number of the viewpoints. The extension of life for a further ten-year period would continue the presence of wind turbines in such coastal views. However, many views towards Park House Farm Wind Farm already feature other wind turbines of various age and vertical height and these features will continue to influence views throughout the proposed life extension of Park House Farm and beyond. The continued presence of the Park House Farm wind turbines in such coastal views for a further ten-year period would be a small contribution to this influence.
- 5.8.10 A number of minor adverse and negligible effects have been identified, primarily from oblique, restricted or distant views. Although the wind farm is likely to be visible from these locations, it would result in little change to the nature of the overall view afforded, which is typically vast and expansive along and across the West Cumbrian coastline.





## 6.0 Assessment of Cumulative Landscape and Visual Effects

6.1.1 The cumulative landscape and visual effects assessed are of this proposal with other wind farm developments within a study area of 35km (as recommended within Visual Representation of Windfarms, Scottish Natural Heritage, Version 2.2 February 2017). This study considers existing developments, those under construction and those either consented or at validated planning application stage. It also considers other types of development.

6.1.2 As this proposal relates to the extension of life of an existing wind farm, WYG has carried out a two stage approach to the cumulative assessment which comprises the following:

1. An analysis of the change in the pattern of turbine development in the surrounding area from 2000 (when Park House Farm Wind Farm was constructed) to present day (2020); and
2. An analysis of current relevant consented and in planning applications (including wind turbine developments and other applications) within the agreed study area.

6.1.3 All operational, consented and proposed wind energy developments 15m and above within a 35km radius of Lowca have been mapped (refer to **Figure LA 09-1**). These have then been scoped down to relevant wind energy developments, taking into consideration the size of turbines, number of turbines, and distance from the Park House Farm Wind Farm turbines (refer to **Figure LA09-2**). Developments have been considered based on the following criteria:

- Developments with turbines from 15m to 50m to blade-tip within 5km of Park House Farm;
- Developments with turbines from 50m to 100m to blade-tip within 15km of Park House Farm and 50-100m developments with four or more turbines to 35km; and
- Developments with turbines 100m and over within 35km of Park House Farm.

6.1.4 **Table 6.1** below illustrates the operational, consented and proposed wind energy developments scoped into the assessment. It also lists the other non-wind turbine developments considered as part of the cumulative assessment.



Table 6-1 Developments considered within the Cumulative Assessment

Name	Application Ref	LPA	Status	Turbines	Blade-Tip Height (m)	Distance from Park House Farm turbines (Km)	Year Operational	Comments re Operational Year
Oldside	2/1995/0916	Allerdale	Operational	9	61	6.19	1996	
Siddick	2/1995/0342	Allerdale	Operational	7	61	8.05	1996	
Winscales	2/1997/0902	Allerdale	Operational	11	70	5.66	2005	
Voridian	2/2003/0721	Allerdale	Operational	2	115	8.21	2006	
Wharrels Hill	2/2001/0008	Allerdale	Operational	8	81	23.58	2007	
Winscales Moor	2/2006/1321	Allerdale	Operational	7	81	6.6	2007	
Robin Rigg		Offshore	Operational	60	125	17.59	2010	
Fairfield	4/06/2684/0	Copeland	Operational	5	76	3.41	2011	
Hellrigg (Parkhead Farm)	2/2007/0076	Allerdale	Operational	4	121	31.12	2011	
Flimby	2/2007/1255	Allerdale	Operational	3	102	10.78	2013	
Tallentire	2/2008/0261	Allerdale	Operational	6	100	18	2013	
Green House Farm	4/11/2480/0F1	Copeland	Operational	1	80	0.64	2014	
Harrington Parks Farm	2/2012/0051	Allerdale	Operational	1	61	0.95	2014	
Lowca Top Road	4/12/2557/0F1	Copeland	Operational	1	79.6	0.73	2014	
Moor House Farm	2/2011/0444	Allerdale	Operational	1	47.1	3.29	2014	Assumed - on 2016 aerial - conditions discharged 02/2014

Reference: A108663

# Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal



Name	Application Ref	LPA	Status	Turbines	Blade-Tip Height (m)	Distance from Park House Farm turbines (Km)	Year Operational	Comments re Operational Year
Stubsgill Farm	4/13/2173/0F1	Copeland	Operational	1	45.5	3.5	2014	
Warwick Hall Farm	2/2008/0997	Allerdale	Operational	3	107	24.19	2014	
Castlerigg Farm	4/13/2125/0F1	Copeland	Operational	1	77	2.75	2015	
Distington	4/12/2250/0F1	Copeland	Operational	1	34.2	1.71	2015	Approved 2012 assumed 3 years
East Town End	2/2013/0495	Allerdale	Operational	1	74	6.01	2015	Assumed - works started July 2014
Hunday Farm	2/2013/0082	Allerdale	Operational	1	77	4.95	2015	Approved 2014 - present on 2016 aerial
Huntinghow Cottage	4/11/2593/0F1	Copeland	Operational	1	19.25	3	2015	Approved 2012 assumed 3 years
Potato Pot	2/2012/0594	Allerdale	Operational	3	100	5.46	2015	
Tarn Bank	2/2013/0494	Allerdale	Operational	1	74	6.39	2015	Assumed - works started July 2014
Watch Hill	4/12/2170/0F1	Copeland	Operational	1	74	3.07	2015	Approved 2013 - present on 2016 aerial
Wythegill	2/2011/0259	Allerdale	Operational	1	100	8.63	2015	
Fox House Farm	2/2012/0916	Allerdale	Operational	1	77	13.88	2016	Assumed - conditions discharged 2015
High Farm	4/15/2187/0F1	Copeland	Consented	1	74	3.22	0	
<b>Other types of development considered</b>								
Holiday Park at Micklam	4/18/2476/0B1	Copeland	Consented			0.1	0	

Reference: A108663

# Park House Farm Wind Farm Landscape and Visual Appraisal



Name	Application Ref	LPA	Status	Turbines	Blade-Tip Height (m)	Distance from Park House Farm turbines (Km)	Year Operational	Comments re Operational Year
New glasshouses on land north of woodland Nurseries, Lowca	4/20/2022/0F1	Copeland	In planning process			1.16	0	
Redevelopment of Corus steelworks site, Workington to residential development		Allerdale	Consented			3	0	
Woodhouse Colliery (former Marchon Site south of Whitehaven)		Cumbria County Council	Consented. Subject to judicial review brought about by third party			6.5	0	

Reference: A108663



- 6.1.5 Stage 1 of the cumulative assessment considers the 27no. operational wind turbine developments listed in **Table 6-1** alongside the turbines to be retained at Park House Farm.
- 6.1.6 Stage 2 of the cumulative assessment considers the cumulative effects of extending the life of the Park House turbines in combination with the consented High Farm turbine; the consented holiday park at Micklam and the proposed glasshouses on land north of woodland Nurseries (in the planning process). This is considered in relation to a) the landscape character and b) the viewpoints/visual receptors identified. The cumulative visual appraisal has been carried out from 6no. of the viewpoints assessed in the visual appraisal (refer to **Figures LA.11-1 to LA.11-6** illustrating 360 degree views from viewpoints 1, 4, 7, 8, 13 and 15).
- 6.1.7 Schemes at the pre- application or scoping stage were not considered due to lack of certainty about their ultimate form and limited publicly available information to inform the assessment.
- 6.1.8 The timescales of the developments considered in relation to that of the proposals have been estimated from the information available.
- 6.1.9 The information about the other projects, and their ZTVs where available, was obtained from their respective planning applications or other documents in the public domain. Where such information was not available, the developments are described from site observation.
- 6.1.10 Cumulative landscape and visual effects result from additional changes to landscape and visual amenity caused by the proposals in conjunction or in combination with other proposed development. The types of cumulative effects assessed are:
- Additive effects: landscape and/or visual effects combined with or in addition to the effects of the other developments;
  - Sequential: experience of first one effect, and later another at different places as one moves through the landscape;
  - Temporal: effects accumulating over a period of time on the landscape or visual amenity, from this proposal and the other developments.

6.1.11 Cumulative landscape and visual effects that may introduce new types of change and/or increase or extend effects of the main project are identified and whether the proposed project adds to or combines with the other projects to create an important cumulative effect.

## 6.2 **Stage 1: Cumulative Landscape Effects between 2000 and 2020**

6.2.1 In stage 1 of this cumulative assessment, the cumulative change to the landscape since 2000, when the Park House Farm windfarm was constructed, to present day (2020), is analysed. This considers turbine developments that have been built since 2000, noting which turbine developments were already in operation in 2000. It also considers other relevant developments identified which are likely to have altered the landscape since 2000.

6.2.2 Cumulative Viewpoint photography is included on **Figures LA.11-1 to LA.11-6**. This illustrates 360 degree views from key viewpoints (viewpoints 1, 4, 7, 8, 13 and 15). **Figures LA.09-3 to LA.09-7** illustrate how the development of wind farms and turbines has increased in the study area over the 20-year period. The turbines illustrated on figures **LA.09-3 to LA.09-7** only include those developments scoped into this assessment, so it should be noted that other turbines are also present with the surrounding landscape, as illustrated on **Figure LA.09-1** and listed in the data included in **Appendix 8**.

6.2.3 A timeline is included in **Appendix 8** which illustrates the life span of the turbines considered within this assessment. The colours shown illustrate the various scales of turbines (purple shows 100+m to blade tip, green between 50-100m to blade tip, and yellow less than 50m in height to blade tip). The timeline shows that should the life of the Park House Farm turbines be extended by 10 years, the majority of the turbines currently present in the landscape will still be present during and beyond that time period.

### **2000**

6.2.4 When the Park House Farm turbines were constructed, the only other turbines (scoped into this appraisal) present within the landscape of the study area were Oldside (9 turbines) and Siddick (7 turbines), which had been in the landscape for approximately 4 years (as illustrated in **Figure LA.09-3**).

6.2.5 At this point in time, directly to the east of the Park House Farm turbines was Lowca Open Cast Coal Site, which is referred to in the 1998 LVIA. It is not clear at what date the coal site ceased operation. However, it is likely that the immediate landscape to the east of the

Lowca site looked very different in 2000 to its current condition, as referred to in the 1998 LVIA.

## **2000-2005**

6.2.6 In 2005, the three wind farms are joined by Winscales, at 70m to blade tip and consisting of 11 turbines. This wind farm then had the tallest turbines and contains more turbines than each of the other windfarms in the study area. Winscales permitted life span would run to the end of the proposed extended life span of Park House Farm Wind Farm (as shown on **Figure LA.09-4**).

## **2005-2010**

6.2.7 In this time period, 4 wind farms are added, with increasing height to the turbines, which range from 81m to 125m. Three of the wind farms are onshore and contain relatively small numbers of turbines (between 2 and 8 turbines). Robin Rigg is an off shore wind farm and contains 60 turbines, at 125m to blade tip (as shown on **Figure LA.09-5**).

6.2.8 In addition, during this time period, the large Corus Steel site, as shown on **Figure LA.09-8**, is closed and demolished.

## **2010-2015**

6.2.9 During this time period, as shown on **Figure LA.09-6**, there is a large increase in the number of turbines and wind farms constructed in the study area. 19 separate turbine developments are constructed, although only 6 of these have between 3-4 turbines, the rest are for individual turbines of varying heights. Four of the groups of turbines comprise turbines of 100m to blade tip or more.

## **2015-2020**

6.2.10 Only one single turbine of 77m to blade tip is constructed in this time period at Fox House Farm.

## **2020 and beyond**

6.2.11 There is currently one consented application in for a turbine of 74m to blade tip at High Farm. Once constructed, this is likely to be present in the landscape until 2045. This appraisal relates to the proposed extension of life of Park House Farm Wind Farm, which, if approved, would then be present in the landscape until 2030. Park House Farm would be present



alongside the other turbines in the landscape, a number of which are anticipated to remain until 2039 and 2040 (As illustrated on the timeline on **Appendix 8**).

6.2.12 The above timeline appraisal determines that the proposed extension of life of Park House Farm Wind Farm would occur in a timeframe where numerous other wind energy developments and single turbines would still remain in the landscape, The landscape and visual effects of the addition of Park House Farm to this baseline landscape would be **negligible**; there would be little landscape or visual effect.

6.2.13 It is likely other development will happen in the surrounding study area in the 10 year time life extension period, with the proposed holiday park at Micklam, the proposed glass houses on land north of Blomfields Within Woodlands Nurseries, Lowca, pending a decision, the consented redevelopment of Corus Steel Works for residential use and the consented Woodhouse Colliery (subject to judicial review) (as shown on **Figure LA.09-8**). These are discussed in further detail in stage 2 of this cumulative appraisal.

### 6.3 Stage 2: Cumulative landscape effects

6.3.1 The stage 2 assessment considers cumulative effects on the fabric of the landscape and its individual elements or features; on the aesthetic, perceptual or experiential aspects of the landscape, such as scale, sense of enclosure, diversity, pattern, colour, sense of naturalness, remoteness or tranquillity, and on the overall character of the landscape, especially modification to key characteristics and possible creation of new landscape character. It takes into consideration recommendations in Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments, SNH March 2012.

6.3.2 Final conclusions about the degree of the cumulative effect on the landscape of this proposed project with the other developments considered are based upon the following considerations:

Table 6.1 Judging the degree of cumulative landscape effects

Degree of effect	Indicative criteria
Major	<p>Large irreversible effects, over an extensive area, on elements and/or aesthetic and perceptual aspects that are key to the character of nationally valued landscapes.</p> <p>Cumulatively, the developments are a key characteristic of the landscape, defining a new landscape character type or area.</p>





Degree of effect	Indicative criteria
Moderate	Cumulatively, the developments are becoming a characteristic of the landscape, but not of sufficient dominance to be a defining characteristic of the area.
Minor	Cumulatively, the developments are not an important or key characteristic of the landscape and have little effect on the values and experiences associated with the landscape e.g. wildness, sense of history;  Reversible 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 the landscape.
Negligible	The developments have little effect on the landscape character, cumulatively.

**Analysis and assessment**

**Additive effects**

- 6.3.3 In considering the likely effects of the extension of life of Park House Farm Wind Farm alongside the five identified cumulative developments in **Table 6-1**, the potential for greatest cumulative effects arises as a consequence of the addition of the wind farm alongside the approved development of Micklam Holiday Park due to their close proximity (within 100m). The small unit of LCT 5a, in which the both developments are located, would be directly altered, changing the underlying working agricultural landscape of the LCT. However, the proposed life extension of the wind farm would give rise to a medium term, temporary and reversible change in landscape character. Overall, the addition of the wind farm to the LCT alongside the holiday park (if ever implemented) would give rise to a medium magnitude of change within the unit of LCT 5a resulting in a **moderate adverse** cumulative landscape effect. The developments would become a characteristic of the landscape, but not of sufficient dominance to be a defining characteristic of the area.
- 6.3.4 There would also be some localised direct effects upon a small unit of LCT 5d as a result of the added effect of the wind farm alongside the potential holiday park development, but cumulatively, the developments are not an important or key characteristic of the landscape and have little effect on the values and experiences associated with the landscape.
- 6.3.5 The existing glasshouses at Blomfields Within Woodlands Nurseries, Lowca, are located within the valley landscape to the east of Lowca ridge and a highly noticeable feature within



the valley and from higher ground on the opposing side of the valley. However, there is very little association between the landscape in which the Park House Farm Wind Farm is located and the valley in which the glasshouses are proposed. The proposed glasshouse development would also be located in the context of the existing large-scale glasshouse development. Cumulatively, the developments have little effect on landscape character and the effect would be **negligible**.

- 6.3.6 The consented turbine at High Farm is located over 3km from Park House Farm Wind Farm and is 74m to blade tip. As shown on **Figures LA.11-1.1** to **LA.11-6.1** this single turbine is a barely perceptible feature in the wider landscape of the study area and therefore it is considered that there is no likelihood of cumulative landscape effects arising within the study area as a result of the High Farm in addition to Park House Farm, particularly when taking into account baseline landscape character conditions in relation to other existing wind energy development.
- 6.3.7 The consented development at Woodhouse Colliery (subject to judicial review) is located to the south of Whitehaven within an area defined as 'Urban'. The sources of landscape and visual effects from the Woodhouse Colliery proposal were identified in the LVIA for the planning application as the large scale Main Mine Site<sup>18</sup>, containing the majority of above ground structures, and Rail Loading Facility, 2.3km from the main site. The construction period would be 2 years long overall followed by a 50 year operational life. The LVIA identified significant effects on landscape receptors local to the development. At c. 6.5 kilometres, the development would be at too great a distance from Park House Farm turbines to give rise to cumulative effects from the extension of the life of the Park House Farm wind turbines, considering also the settlement of Workington and other developments in the intervening landscape.
- 6.3.8 The consented phased redevelopment of the former Corus steelworks in Workington is located c. 3km to the north of Park House Farm Wind Farm. The combination of the residential development at the former Corus site and the extension of life of Park House Farm Wind Farm would not give rise to any cumulative effects upon wider landscape character due to the limited of association between the two.

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<sup>18</sup> Chapter 10, LVIA, of Woodhouse Colliery Planning Application Environmental Statement, West Cumbria Mining 2017 (Planning Application ref PL\1689\05)



- 6.3.9 In considering all of the identified cumulative sites in addition with Park House Farm Wind Farm, their combined presence in the landscape of the study area would have little effect on the landscape character, cumulatively. The underlying landscape is influenced by various types of existing development including large urban and industrial areas and numerous wind energy developments. The contribution of the Park House Farm Wind Farm to cumulative landscape effects in addition to the other assessed schemes would result in no greater than **negligible** effects overall.
- 6.3.10 In terms of cumulative effects upon identified landscape designations and the identified national character area and other LCT's, the previously assessed effects of the Park House Farm Wind Farm in its own right are no greater than negligible. As one of a range of wind energy and other developments, the contribution of the presence of the Park House Farm wind turbines for a further 10 years, in combination with the other identified schemes, would be **negligible**.

### **Sequential effects**

- 6.3.11 The key routes identified for assessment of potential sequential effects are the England Coast Path and Lowca Top Road. The England Coast Path currently runs through the study area between Allonby and Whitehaven. The landscape along the route varies from working agricultural land to urban fringe and towns and former industrial land. The identified cumulative schemes most likely to be experienced in the landscape sequentially with Park House Farm Wind Farm would be the redevelopment of the Corus steelworks and Micklam Holiday Park, as these are located in close proximity to the route. The redevelopment of the former steelworks would be experienced as part of the wider townscape of Workington with limited association with the agricultural landscape in which the wind farm is located. There would be little effect experienced, cumulatively.
- 6.3.12 The Micklam Holiday Park would be experienced in the same part of the landscape as the wind farm and therefore sequential effects would be very localised. Cumulatively, the developments would become a characteristic of the landscape in which the route passes, but not of sufficient dominance to be a defining characteristic of the area. The change brought about by the wind farm would be medium term duration, temporary and reversible. Overall, sequential landscape effects are considered to be **moderate adverse**, experienced for a short part of the route as it passes to the west of Lowca.



6.3.13 Lowca Top Road passes to the east of the wind farm and directly east of the approved holiday park at Micklam. The two developments are likely to be perceived in the landscape sequentially from the route, but due to the presence of other existing turbines located directly adjacent to the route, the presence of turbines is already an underlying characteristics of the landscape. It is considered that there would be no greater than **minor adverse** sequential effects upon the perception of landscape character. Cumulatively, the developments would have little effect on the values and experiences gained from Lowca Top Road.

**Temporal effects**

6.3.14 The decommissioning of Park House Farm Wind Farm would remove the turbines from the landscape. There would be no temporal cumulative landscape effects arising as a result of the wind farm post decommissioning.

**6.4 Cumulative visual effects**

6.4.1 Cumulative visual effects, resulting from changes in the content and character of the views due to introduction of new elements or removal of or damage to existing ones, are identified and the nature of views available and the contribution of project being assessed to cumulative visual effects. Additive effects may occur either when developments are seen together in one angle of view or where they are seen when looking in different directions from one location. The effects on viewers as they follow linear routes and move through the landscape are considered.

6.4.2 The following factors inform the judgment about the relative degrees of visual effects:

Table 6.2 Judging the degree of cumulative visual effects

Degree of effect	Indicative criteria
Major	Cumulatively, the developments dominate the view, seeming to define a new visual aesthetic; Large scale effects arising from new, non-characteristic or discordant or intrusive elements into the view of highly sensitive receptors, or at recognised and important viewpoints, or from recognised scenic routes.
Moderate	Cumulatively, the developments are seen as a characteristic of the landscape in the view, but not of sufficient dominance to be a defining characteristic of the visual amenity.



Degree of effect	Indicative criteria
Minor	Cumulatively, the developments are separate isolated elements of the landscape in the view, too infrequent and of insufficient importance to be perceived as a characteristic of the area; Cumulatively, the effects on visual amenity are reversible, of short duration, or occur over a restricted area.
Negligible	The developments have little effect on the visual amenity, cumulatively.

**Analysis and assessment**

**Additive effects**

- 6.4.3 The cumulative visual assessment is based on the identification of six key viewpoints from which there are wider views available of the surrounding landscape. The likely cumulative effects are discussed in turn below.
- 6.4.4 Viewpoint 1 is located on the England Coast Path at Harrington Parks Farm. The expansive coastline is seen to west and north, away from the wind farm, with views to the south and east limited by landform (**Figures LA.11-1.1 and LA.11-1.2**). The other identified cumulative schemes would not form noticeable features in the view; the proposed holiday park is located beyond the ridgeline in the near view to the south and the Corus steelworks site is only partially seen in the distant view to the north in the context of the existing urban fringe of Workington. There would no cumulative visual effects experienced at the viewpoint.
- 6.4.5 Viewpoint 4 is located at the Quayside at Harrington Marina. Again, there are expansive coastal views available to the north, west and south but views inland to the east are restricted by landform (**Figures LA.11-2.1 and LA.11-2.2**). No other cumulative schemes are seen from the viewpoint locations and therefore there would be no cumulative visual effects.
- 6.4.6 Viewpoint 7, located on the England Coast Path at Salterbeck, is also located directly east of the former Corus steelworks site. The expansive brownfield site is subject to approved phased residential development and on completion this development. The outlook from the route would ultimately change, although the security fencing in the immediate view is likely to remain due to the presence of the coastal railway line (**Figures LA.11-3.1 and LA.11-3.2**). The other cumulative developments would not be perceptible from the viewpoint location. The addition of Park House Farm Wind Farm to the view that also includes the



residential development is unlikely to give rise to notable cumulative effects due to the nature of the existing urban view at the viewpoint location. The residential development would be in keeping with the surrounding urban fringe context, and the wind farm would be seen in the context of other existing turbines in the backdrop of the view. Overall, the developments would be separate isolated elements of the landscape in the view and it is considered that there would be no greater than a **minor adverse** cumulative effect whilst the wind farm remains present in the wider view.

- 6.4.7 Viewpoint 8 is located on open land at Quality Corner, Moresby from where there are extensive coastal views. From the viewpoint, the consented High Farm turbine would be visible in the same part of the view to the east as the existing Fairfield wind farm and the Watch Hill and Castlerigg single turbines (**Figure LA.11-4.1**). The proposed Micklam holiday park has the potential to be seen in the same part of the view as Park House Farm Wind Farm but it would also be seen in the context of the existing built form of Lowca village. The proposed glasshouses at the growers nursery within the valley would also be seen, but again it would be in the context of the existing expanse of greenhouses in the view (**Figure LA.11-4.1**). It is considered that the ability to see Park House Farm Wind Farm in addition to the other identified cumulative developments from the viewpoint location would give rise to no greater than a **minor adverse** cumulative visual effect. The developments are all seen in the context of existing similar built form and so would not introduce new features in undeveloped parts of the landscape. Cumulatively, the effects of the addition of the wind farm on visual amenity would be reversible, temporary and medium term duration.
- 6.4.8 In views from viewpoint 13 on the edge of Seaton, Park House Farm Wind Farm is seen in the same part of the view as the consented single turbine at High Farm (**Figure LA.11-5.2**). However, High Farm forms a very small element in the long distance view available and is seen alongside a number of other turbines beyond the far horizon to the south. Cumulative visual effects are considered **negligible**. The developments have little effect on the visual amenity, cumulatively. No other cumulative developments would be seen from the viewpoint.
- 6.4.9 Viewpoint 15 is located immediately south of the site at the north western boundary of the proposed Micklam holiday park, on a public bridleway which links to the England Coast Path (**Figure LA.11-6.1** and **Figure LA.11-6.2**). There would be combined views of the wind farm and the holiday park from this location should the approved holiday park be built and the cumulative visual effect is assessed as **moderate adverse** during the medium term duration of the wind farm extension of life. Cumulatively, the developments would be seen as



a characteristic of the landscape in the immediate view, but not of sufficient dominance to be a defining characteristic of the visual amenity. The vast views of the seascape to the west would remain. The other identified cumulative schemes would not be perceptible from the viewpoint.

## Sequential effects

- 6.4.10 The key routes in terms of the identification of sequential visual effects are the England Coast Path and Lowca Top Road. Effects upon the England Coast Path are already discussed in relation to the viewpoints above. There would be worst case **moderate adverse** sequential effects experienced from a short section of the path as it passes the wind farm and holiday park sites. Such views are more likely to be experienced as combined views rather than sequential views due to the close proximity of the two developments. Cumulatively, the developments would be seen as a characteristic of the landscape in the immediate view, but not of sufficient dominance to be a defining characteristic of the visual amenity. The expansive views across the Solway Firth to the west would remain. Elsewhere, sequential effects with the Corus steelworks site would not be highly perceived due to distance and the urban context of baseline views as the route passes Workington.
- 6.4.11 Sequential views from Lowca Top Road are likely to be experienced as receptors travel past the wind farm and the holiday park site. The development of the proposed holiday park is likely to interrupt views of the turbines beyond due to its location directly adjacent to the road. The Park House Farm turbines are likely to become less visible when travelling in a northerly direction as a result. When travelling south along the road, the turbines would be only intermittently visible due to the rolling nature of the intervening landform. The greatest opportunity for views is in close proximity to the Park House Farm and the wind farm itself. Sequential views with the proposed holiday park would be experienced over a short duration only, restricted to a short section of the road. Overall, sequential effects upon users of Lowca Top Road are considered to be no greater than **minor adverse**.

## Temporal effects

- 6.4.12 The decommissioning of Park House Farm Wind Farm would remove the turbines from the landscape. There would be no temporal cumulative visual effects arising as a result of the wind farm post decommissioning.

## Conclusions



6.4.13 The cumulative assessment has determined that cumulative landscape and visual effects would be greatest from landscape character types and visual receptors located in close proximity to the wind farm, arising as a consequence of additive and sequential effects of the wind farm in combination with the approved holiday park at Micklam Farm. **Moderate adverse** effects would be experienced in relation to LCT5a, where the wind farm and holiday park are located, the route of the England Coast Path and sequential views from it, and Viewpoint 15 at Micklam Farm. Such effects would be experienced over the medium term duration and are temporary and reversible. For all other landscape and visual receptors, cumulative effects would either be **minor adverse** or **negligible**.





## 7.0 Summary and Conclusions

### 7.1 Summary of Findings

#### **The Proposed Development**

- 7.1.1 WYG is instructed by Cannock Wind Farm Services Limited to prepare this Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVApp) which relates to a section 73 planning application to permit a further 10 years of operation (until the end of March 2030) for the existing wind turbines at Park House Farm Wind Farm, Lowca, Whitehaven. The approximate site centre grid reference is 298849E 523302N.
- 7.1.2 The site lies within an open, working agricultural landscape on the edge of the west Cumbrian coastline. The coastal landscape of the site is open and exposed and largely comprises rough grazing land, which is wet in places, with gorse scrub and wind blown vegetation. The seascape is a primary characteristic of the site with a large horizon to the west. The surrounding landscape to the site has been influenced historically by mining and industrial workings. Although such workings are no longer present, their influence still remains in the landscape. Other wind energy developments are present within the surrounding area, with two existing single turbines located off Lowca Top Road, east of Park House Farm Wind Farm.
- 7.1.3 Both the desk based study and the site based studies have identified a number of landscape and visual elements to be considered in the appraisal of potential landscape and visual effects including landscape character, the England Coast Path and the local footpath network, and users of local public spaces.
- 7.1.4 The LVApp focuses on the likely effects on the landscape and visual amenity of the continued presence of the wind farm beyond its currently permitted span of 20 years for an additional 10 years and of the consequent delay in decommissioning the development and restoring the land.

#### **Landscape Assessment**

- 7.1.5 Localised moderate adverse effects have been identified on the landscape character type in which the wind farm is located within. This is largely due to the nature of change in the underlying landscape post decommissioning of the wind farm. The decommissioning of the



wind farm would result in the loss of the structures at the coastal edge. The extension of life for a further ten-year period would continue the presence of wind turbines in such a coastal setting.

- 7.1.6 A number of minor adverse and negligible effects have also been identified from other identified LCA's, LCT's and designations. Although the wind farm is likely to be perceived from numerous LCTs within the study area, it is considered to result in little change to the nature of underlying landscape character, particularly as other wind energy development is so prevalent along the west Cumbrian coastline.

### **Visual Assessment**

- 7.1.7 Moderate adverse effects have been identified on a number of receptors at nine of the 15 viewpoints assessed. This is largely due to the presence of the turbines seen within an otherwise underdeveloped coastal edge landscape. The decommissioning of the wind farm would result in the loss of the structures from the coastal edge landscape, as perceived by receptors at a number of the viewpoints. The extension of life for a further ten-year period would continue the presence of wind turbines in such coastal views. However, many views towards Park House Farm Wind Farm already feature other wind turbines of various age and vertical height and these features will continue to influence views throughout the proposed life extension of Park House Farm turbines and beyond. The continued presence of the Park House Farm wind turbines in such coastal views for a further ten year period would be a small contribution to this influence.
- 7.1.8 A number of minor adverse and negligible effects have been identified, primarily from oblique, restricted or distant views. Although the wind farm is likely to be visible from these locations, it would result in little change to the nature of the overall view afforded, which is typically vast and expansive along and across the West Cumbrian coastline.

### **Cumulative Assessment**

- 7.1.9 The cumulative assessment has determined that cumulative landscape and visual effects would be greatest from landscape character types and visual receptors located in close proximity to the wind farm, arising as a consequence of additive and sequential effects of the wind farm in combination with the proposed holiday park at Micklam Farm. Moderate adverse effects would be experienced in relation to LCT5a, where the wind farm and holiday park are located, the route of the England Coast Path and sequential views from it, and Viewpoint 15 at Micklam Farm. Such effects would be experienced over a medium-term duration and are



temporary and reversible. For all other landscape and visual receptors, cumulative effects would either be minor adverse or negligible.



## 8.0 References

- The Landscape Institute, Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, (2013) Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (Third Edition);
- An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment, Natural England, October 2014;
- Visual Representation of Windfarms, Scottish Natural Heritage, Version 2.2 February 2017;
- Assessing the Cumulative Impact of Onshore Wind Energy Developments, SNH March 2012;
- Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 06/19 Visual Representation of Development Proposals, September 2019;
- National Character Area 07 West Cumbria Coastal Plain;
- Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit, Cumbria County Council, 2011;
- National Planning Policy Framework;
- National Planning Policy Guidance;
- Copeland Borough Council Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD (Adopted December 2013);
- Copeland Local Plan 2001 – 2016;
- Allerdale Borough Council Local Plan (Adopted July 2014);
- Lake District National Park Partnership, The Partnership's Plan, 2015 - 2020;
- Cumbria Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document (CWESPD), July 2007;
- Cumulative Impact of Vertical Infrastructure (CIVI), WYG, October 2014;
- MAGIC 2010. Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC). ([www.magic.gov.uk](http://www.magic.gov.uk));
- Landscape Institute website: [www.landscapeinstitute.org/technical/glvia3-panel/glvia3-clarifications](http://www.landscapeinstitute.org/technical/glvia3-panel/glvia3-clarifications);
- Chapter 10, LVIA, of Woodhouse Colliery Planning Application Environmental Statement, 2017, West Cumbria Mining (Planning Application ref PL\1689\05);
- The Met Office website: <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk>;
- Ordnance Survey Mapping, 1:25,000 ([www.emapsite.co.uk](http://www.emapsite.co.uk));
- Historical OS Mapping ([www.old-maps.co.uk](http://www.old-maps.co.uk));
- Google 2010. Google Maps Aerial photography <http://maps.google.co.uk/maps>;
- [www.lakedistrict.gov.uk](http://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk);
- <https://visitallerdale.co.uk>;
- [www.nationaltrail.co.uk](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk); and
- [www.gov.uk/government/collections/england-coast-path-allonby-to-whitehaven..](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/england-coast-path-allonby-to-whitehaven..)



**Appendices**



**Appendix 1. 1998 LVIA Summary Tables**

The below tables are a summary of the assessment of sensitivity, magnitude and effect on the landscape and visual receptors of the study area from Chapter 7: Landscape of the Environmental Statement submitted by Powergen Renewables in respect of landscape and visual issues, 1998.

### Landscape Effects

Landscape Receptor	Notes	Landscape Value	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Landscape Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)
Local landscape (Landscape type No 4 Open Ridges and Slopes) Defined by Assessment of County Landscapes Technical Paper No 4; Copeland AGLV draft study	Medium-large scale and characteristically rolling ridge and valley landform which would help to absorb the wind turbines within the landscape and would screen or interrupt potential views	Moderate to low or moderate at best - general quality and value at county and local scale	Medium or medium - low sensitivity to windcluster development.	Major change within and immediately adjacent to the application site	Substantial-moderate significance over a limited local area; reducing to moderate significance within the local ridge and valley landscape

Landscape Receptor	Notes	Landscape Value	Sensitivity	Magnitude	Landscape Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)
West Cumbria Coastal Plain (County landscape)		Moderate to low or moderate at best - general quality and value at county and local scale	Medium - low	Minor change	Slight significance

### Visual Effects

Viewpoint Ref	Viewpoint Name	Assumed Sensitivity	Magnitude	Visual Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)
1	Micklam House School, Micklam Cottages, 2 houses on Ghyll Grove Lowca, Lowca Top Road	High	High or High-medium	Substantial
2	Ghyll Grove Estate (most), Lowca	High	Nil	No impacts
3	West and East Croft Terraces, East Road, Solway Road, Croft Head (most) Lowca	High	Nil	No impacts
4	N side of Meadow View and Croft Head, Lowca	High	Low	Slight
5	Stamford Hill, Stamford Hill Farm	High	Nil	No impacts
6	Park House Farm, Micklam Farm	High	High	Substantial
7	Foxpit Cottage	High	High	Substantial
8	Green House, Syke Whinns	High	High – medium	Substantial-moderate
9	Harrington Parks Farm/England Coast Path		High – medium	Substantial-moderate



Viewpoint Ref	Viewpoint Name	Assumed Sensitivity	Magnitude	Visual Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)
10	Jubilee House	High	Low	Slight
11	Moreseby Hall Church and Moreseby Farm	High	Low	Slight
12	Parton (old town)	High	Low	Slight
13	High Close in High Harrington	High	High – medium	Substantial-moderate
14	Some properties in Harrington, Salterbeck, southern parts of Workington	High	High – medium or Medium	Substantial-moderate or moderate
15	Distington	High	Nil	No impacts
16	Lillyhall Estate	Low	Medium	Slight
17	Some properties in Brantsy	High	Medium	Substantial-moderate or moderate
18	Some Properties in Howgate, Moresby, adjacent to A595(T)	High	Low	Slight
19	Whitehaven Harbour	Medium	Medium	Moderate
20	High Park Ridge	High	Medium – low	Slight
21	Workington Oldside	High	Medium – low	Slight
22	Winscales/Hunday	High	Low	Slight
23	Some properties in Kells/ Woodhouse, Whitehaven	High	Low	Moderate-slight or slight
24	Cleator Moor	High	Nil	No impacts
25	Egremont	High	Nil	No impacts
26	Some properties in Seaton	High	Low	Slight
27	Cockermouth	High	Nil	No impacts
28	St Bees Head Heritage Coast	Medium	Low or nil	Slight

Viewpoint Ref	Viewpoint Name	Assumed Sensitivity	Magnitude	Visual Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)
29	Elevated viewpoints with the LDNP	Medium	Low or nil	Slight or nil



**Appendix 2. Figures**



## **Appendix 3. General Assessment Methodology**

### **General Methodology**

Although not an 'EIA' project the methodology used in this informal appraisal has been based upon the recommendations in Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd Edition published by The Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment in 2013 (GLVIA3). As advised in the Guidelines, the general approach and process can be applied to non-EIA assessments, or "Appraisals". The Landscape Institute's Statement of Clarification 1/13 also advises that it is not required in an Appraisal to establish whether the effects arising are or are not significant. However, the degree and nature of the effects identified is assessed.

### **Landscape Effects Assessment**

#### **Establishing the landscape baseline**

Baseline studies for assessing the landscape effects included a mix of desk study and field work to identify and record the character of the landscape and the elements, features and aesthetic and perceptual factors which contribute to it.

The elements that make up the landscape in the study area were recorded, including:

- physical influences - geology, soils, landform, drainage and water bodies;
- land cover, including different types of vegetation and patterns and types of tree cover;
- the influence of human activity, such as, land use and management, the character of settlements and buildings, the pattern and type of fields and enclosure; and
- the aesthetic and perceptual aspects of the landscape, e.g.: its scale, complexity, openness, tranquillity, wildness.

The overall character of the landscape in the study area was considered, including the particular combinations of elements and aesthetic and perceptual aspects that make each distinctive, usually by identification as key characteristics of the landscape. Evidence about change in the landscape was considered, including the condition of the different landscape types and/or areas, and their constituent parts and evidence of current pressures causing change in the landscape.

#### **Landscape Value**

The European Landscape Convention promotes taking account of all landscapes, including ordinary or undesignated landscapes. The relative value attached to the landscape was considered at the baseline stage to inform the judgments about the effects likely to occur, whether to areas of landscape as a whole or to individual elements, features and aesthetic or perceptual dimensions, at the community, local, national or international levels.

Landscape designation is a starting point in understanding landscape value but value may also be attached to undesignated landscapes. Special Qualities, reasons for designation, relevant policies in management plans or designation-specific policies in development plans, were consulted in assessing the relative value of the landscape within designated areas.

Areas of landscape whose character is judged to be intact and in good condition, and where scenic quality, wildness or tranquillity, and natural or cultural heritage features make a particular contribution to the landscape, or where there are important associations, are likely to be highly valued. For "ordinary, everyday landscapes", the judgement was based upon the degree to which they are



representative of typical character, the intactness of the landscape and the condition of its elements, scenic quality, sense of place, aesthetic and perceptual qualities.

When determining the landscape value the following elements were considered, in addition to consideration of values associated with designations:

- The importance of the landscape, or the perceived value of the landscape to users or consultees, as indicated by, for example, international, national or local designations;
- The importance of elements or components of the landscape in the landscape character of the area or in their contribution to the landscape setting of other areas;
- Intrinsic aesthetic characteristics, scenic quality or sense of place, including providing landscape setting to other places;
- Cultural associations in the arts or in guides to the area, or popular use of the area for recreation, where experience of the landscape is important;
- The presence and scale of detractors in the landscape and the degree to which they are susceptible to improvement or upgrading; and
- Conservation interests: The presence of features of wildlife, earth science or archaeological or historical and cultural interest can add to the value of the landscape as well as having value in their own right.

The following table indicates the criteria used to determine the Landscape value:

A3-1 Indicative criteria to determine landscape value

Value	Criteria
High Value	<p>Landscapes subject to international, national or local designations, <b>and</b> non-designated landscapes where the following considerations apply:</p> <p>Areas of landscape whose character is judged to be intact and in good condition;</p> <p>Scenic quality, wildness or tranquillity, and/or natural or cultural heritage features make a particular contribution to the landscape;</p> <p>There are important cultural and artistic associations;</p> <p>They are representative of typical character of the area or have a character or elements that are valued for their rarity;</p> <p>Particular components may be identified as important contributors to the landscape character;</p> <p>The landscape is valued for recreational activities where experience of the landscape is important.</p>
Low Value	<p>Areas of landscape whose character is in poor condition;</p> <p>Scenic quality, wildness or tranquillity, and/or natural or cultural heritage features are not key characteristics of the landscape;</p> <p>Cultural and artistic associations are absent;</p> <p>They are not representative of typical character of the area, but are also not valued for rarity;</p> <p>Particular components may be identified as important contributors to the landscape character;</p> <p>There is little scope for recreational activities where experience of the landscape is important.</p>

Where the value falls between high and low, an intermediate level of value is assigned, e.g. "medium".

The landscape baseline report aims to:

- describe, map and illustrate the character of the landscape of both the wider study area and the site and its immediate surroundings;
- identify and describe the individual elements and aesthetic and perceptual aspects of the landscape, particularly those that are key characteristics contributing to its distinctive character;
- indicate the condition of the landscape, including the condition of landscape elements or features;
- project forward drivers and trends in change and how they may affect the landscape over time, in the absence of the proposal; and
- evaluate the landscape and, where appropriate, its components, aesthetic and perceptual aspects, particularly the key characteristics.

### **Assessing the Landscape Effects**

The baseline information about the landscape was combined with understanding of the details of the proposal to identify and describe the landscape effects. The landscape receptors were identified, that is, the components or aspects of the landscape likely to be affected, such as, overall character or key characteristics, individual elements or features, or specific aesthetic or perceptual aspects.

Interactions between the landscape receptors and the components or characteristics of the development at its different stages were considered: construction and operation, and the different types of effect: direct and indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long- term, permanent and temporary, adverse and beneficial.

Landscape effects considered included:

- change in and/or partial or complete loss of elements, features or aesthetic or perceptual aspects that contribute to the character and distinctiveness of the landscape;
- addition of new elements or features that will influence the character and distinctiveness of the landscape; and
- combined effects of these changes on overall character.

The landscape effects were categorised as adverse, beneficial, or negligible in their consequences for the landscape, judged from the degree to which the proposal fits with existing character and the contribution the development makes to the landscape in its own right, even if in contrast to existing character.

The assessment of the landscape effects was based on assessment of the sensitivity of the landscape receptors and the magnitude of the change in the landscape arising from the proposal.

### **Sensitivity of the Landscape Receptors**

The sensitivity of landscape receptors combines judgments of their susceptibility to the type of change arising from the development proposal and the value attached to the landscape.



Susceptibility to change means the ability of the landscape receptor to accommodate the proposed development without undue consequences for the maintenance of the baseline situation and/or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies.

The value attached to the landscape receptors was established in the baseline study.

When determining the landscape susceptibility, the following elements were considered:

- The ability of the landscape receptor to accommodate the proposed development without undue consequences for the maintenance of the landscape character and/or the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies;
- The degree to which the changes arising from the development would alter the overall character, quality/condition of a particular landscape type or area;
- The degree to which the changes arising from the development would alter individual elements or features or aesthetic and perceptual aspects important to the landscape character; and
- Existing landscape studies may identify the sensitivity of the landscape type or area or its characteristics to the general type of development that is proposed.

The following table indicates the criteria used to determine the landscape susceptibility:

A1-2 Criteria for landscape sensitivity

Susceptibility	Criteria
Very Susceptible	<p>The changes arising from the type of development would alter the overall character, quality/condition of a particular landscape type or area.</p> <p>The changes arising from the type of development would alter or remove individual elements or features or aesthetic and perceptual aspects important to, or add new elements incongruous to, the landscape character.</p> <p>The type of development would compromise the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies for the landscape.</p> <p>The changes arising from the type of development would alter or remove elements or features or aesthetic and perceptual aspects important to the landscape character, or add new elements that would reinforce the key characteristics of the landscape character.</p>
Not Susceptible	<p>The changes arising from the type of development would not alter the overall character, quality/condition of a particular landscape type or area.</p> <p>The type of development would not compromise the achievement of landscape planning policies and strategies for the landscape.</p> <p>The changes arising from the type of development would not alter or remove individual elements or features or aesthetic and perceptual aspects important to, or add new elements incongruous to, the landscape character.</p>



**Magnitude of Landscape change**

Effects on landscape receptors are assessed in terms of size or scale, the geographical extent of the area influenced, and its duration and reversibility.

A1-3 Considerations for assessing magnitude of landscape change

Consideration	Indicative criteria
Size or scale of change	<p>Categorised on a scale of Large, Medium, Small, Negligible or None, based upon:</p> <p>The extent of existing landscape elements that will be lost (or added), the proportion of the total extent that this represents and the contribution of that element to the character of the landscape;</p> <p>The degree to which aesthetic or perceptual aspects of the landscape are altered either by removal of existing components of the landscape or additions of new ones; and</p> <p>Whether the effect changes the key characteristics of the landscape, which are critical to its distinctive character.</p>
Geographical area over which the landscape would be changed	<p>Categorised on a scale of:</p> <p>Small: at site level, within the development site itself or at the level of the immediate setting of the site;</p> <p>Medium: at the scale of the landscape type or character area within which the proposal lies; and</p> <p>Large: where the development influences several landscape types or character areas.</p>
The duration of the changes	<p>The durations of changes due to the development are categorised as:</p> <p>Short term: zero to five years;</p> <p>Medium term: five to ten years;</p> <p>Long term: ten to twenty-five years; and</p> <p>Permanent: more than twenty-five.</p>
Reversibility	<p>The prospect and the practicality of the effect being reversed within twenty-five years</p>

**Degree of Landscape Effects**

Final conclusions about the degree of effect relate the separate judgements about sensitivity of the receptors and magnitude of the changes combined, based upon the following considerations:





- Major effect: irreversible adverse or beneficial effects, over an extensive area, on elements and/or aesthetic and perceptual aspects that are key to the character of nationally valued landscapes;
- Moderate effect: where effects are judged to be between the criteria for either Major or Minor effects;
- Minor effect: Reversible adverse or beneficial 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;
- Negligible effects where there is little or no perceived change to the existing landscape character or the change is difficult to discern.

## Visual Effects Assessment

### Establishing the Visual Baseline

Baseline studies for visual effects establish:

- the area in which the development may be visible;
- the different groups of people who may experience views of the development;
- the location where they will be affected;
- the nature of the views at those points; and
- where possible, the approximate or relative number of the different groups of people who may be affected by the changes in views or visual amenity.

In identifying important viewpoints, heritage assets in the vicinity of the proposed development and their settings were taken into account.

The potential areas where the site and development proposal are likely to be visible were mapped. Landscape components affecting visibility, like buildings, walls, fences, trees, hedgerows, woodland and banks, were identified through field surveys and mapped.

The people within the area who may be affected by the changes in views and visual amenity – the visual receptors – were identified:

- people living in the area;
- people passing through on roads and the local lanes;
- people visiting promoted landscapes or attractions; and
- people engaged in recreation of different types, including users of public rights of way, bridleways and access land.

Views that form part of the experience and enjoyment of the landscape were noted, for example, from promoted paths, tourist or scenic routes and associated viewpoints.

The proposed viewpoints were discussed with the local authority, and informed by the visual appraisal, field surveys, and by desk research on access and recreation, heritage assets and other valued landscapes, tourist attractions and destinations, popular vantage points, and relative distribution of population. Viewpoints were selected to represent the experience of different types of visual receptors.

The details of viewpoint locations were mapped and catalogued, and the direction and area covered by the view recorded, sufficient to allow someone else to return to the location and record the same view. Photography was carried out in accordance with the Landscape Institute's guidance in Photography and Photomontage in landscape and visual impact assessment, Advice Note 01/11.

The baseline report aims to describe, map and illustrate:

- the type and relative numbers of people (visual receptors) likely to be affected, making clear the activities they are likely to be involved in when enjoying the view;
- details of the viewpoints and of the visual receptors likely to be affected at each;
- the nature, composition and characteristics of the existing view, noting any particular horizontal or vertical emphasis, and any key foci; existing views have been illustrated in annotated photographs identifying important components of the view;
- elements, such as landform, buildings or vegetation, which may interrupt, filter or otherwise influence the views; and
- whether or how the view may be affected by seasonal or weather variation.

## **Assessing the Visual Effects**

### **Predicting and describing visual effects**

The baseline information about the visual receptors was combined with understanding of the details of the proposal to identify and describe the visual effects, considering:

- changes in views and visual amenity arising from elements of the development;
- the distance of the viewpoint from the development and whether the viewer would focus on the development due to its scale and proximity or whether the development would be only a small or minor element in a panoramic view;
- whether the view is stationary or transient or one of a sequence of views;
- the nature of the changes: changes in the skyline, creation of a new visual focus in the view, introduction of new elements, changes in visual simplicity or complexity, alteration of visual scale or the degree of visual enclosure; and
- seasonal differences in effects, arising from the varying degree of screening and/or filtering of views by vegetation in summer and winter.

Categorising the visual effects as adverse or beneficial (or neutral) in their consequences for views and visual amenity was based on judgments about whether the changes affect the quality of the visual experience, and the nature of the existing views and the nature of the changes to the views.

The visual effects were assessed, based on assessment of the nature of the visual receptors and their sensitivity, and the nature of the effect on views and visual amenity, that is, the magnitude of visual change.

### **Sensitivity of Visual Receptors**

The people or groups of people likely to be affected at a specific viewpoint – the visual receptors – are assessed in terms of their susceptibility to change in views and visual amenity and the value attached to particular views.



The susceptibility of visual receptors to changes in views and visual amenity is a function of the occupation or activity of people experiencing the view at particular locations and the extent to which their attention or interest is focused on the views or the visual amenity they experience at particular locations.

The visual receptors most susceptible to change include:

- residents at home;
- people engaged in outdoor recreation, including use of public rights of way, whose attention or interest is likely to be focused on the landscape and on particular views;
- visitors to designated landscapes, heritage assets, or other attractions, where views of the surroundings are an important contributor to the experience; and
- communities where views contribute to the landscape setting enjoyed by residents in the area.

Visual receptors less susceptible to change include:

- people engaged in outdoor sport or recreation which does not involve or depend upon appreciation of views of the landscape;
- people at their place of work whose attention may be focused on their work or activity not on their surroundings and where the setting is not important to the quality of working life; and
- travellers on road, rail or other transport routes, except along recognised scenic routes, where awareness of views is likely to be high.

Judgments were made about the value attached to the views identified, taking account of recognition, for example, in relation to heritage assets, or through planning designations, appearance in guidebooks or on tourist maps, promotion of particular locations or provision of facilities provided for their enjoyment, such as parking places, sign boards and interpretive material, or references to them in literature or art.

The sensitivity of visual receptors to change is categorised as high, moderate or lesser, in accordance with the criteria set out below.

A1-4 Indicative criteria for visual sensitivity

Category	Indicative criteria
High sensitivity	Viewers in residential or community properties.  Views experienced by many viewers.  Daily, prolonged or sustained views available over a long period, or where the view of the landscape is an important attractant.  A view from a landscape, recreation facility or route valued nationally or internationally for its visual amenity.
Moderate sensitivity	Viewers in residential or community properties with partial or largely screened views of the site.  Frequent open views available.



Category	Indicative criteria
	<p>Viewers are pursuing activities such as sports or outdoor work, where the landscape is not the principal reason for being there or the focus of attention is only partly on the view.</p> <p>A view from other valued landscapes, or a regionally important recreation facility or route.</p>
Lesser sensitivity	<p>A view of low importance or value, or where the viewer's attention is not focused their surroundings.</p> <p>A view from a landscape of moderate or less importance, or a locally important recreation facility.</p> <p>Occasional open views or glimpsed views available; passing views available to travellers in vehicles.</p> <p>A view available to few viewers.</p>

**Magnitude of Visual Change**

The visual effects identified are evaluated in terms of size or scale, the geographical extent of the area influenced, duration and reversibility.

A1-5 Considerations for assessing magnitude of visual change

Consideration	Indicative criteria
Size or scale of change	<p>Categorised on a scale of major, moderate, minor or none, based upon:</p> <p>The degree of the loss or addition of features in the view;</p> <p>The extent of changes in the composition of the view, including the proportion of the view occupied by the proposed development;</p> <p>The degree of contrast or integration of the changes with the existing or remaining landscape elements and characteristics;</p> <p>The nature of the view of the proposed development, whether full, partial or glimpsed, or the relative amount of time over which it will be experienced.</p>
Geographical area over which the changes would be experienced	<p>The geographic extent reflects:</p> <p>The extent of the area over which the changes would be visible;</p> <p>The angle of view in relation to the main activity of the receptor;</p> <p>The distance of the viewpoint from the proposed development.</p>
The duration of the changes	<p>Categorised as:</p> <p>Short term: zero to five years;</p> <p>Medium term: five to ten years;</p> <p>Long term: ten to twenty-five years; and</p> <p>Permanent: more than twenty-five.</p>



Consideration	Indicative criteria
Reversibility	The prospect and the practicality of the effect being reversed within twenty-five years, or within a generation

**Judging the overall visual effects**

Final conclusions about the degree of visual effects relate the separate judgements about sensitivity of the receptors and magnitude of the changes, for example:

- Major effect: Large scale changes which introduce new, non-characteristic or discordant or intrusive elements into the view, especially where affecting people who are particularly sensitive to changes in views and visual amenity or people at recognised and important viewpoints or from recognised scenic routes.
- Minor effect: limited or localised change, or reversible short term changes, in views available to people for whom the view of the landscape is not the principle focus of interest.
- As for landscape effects, where effects are judged to be between these extremes, they may be assigned moderate levels of effect.
- Negligible effect: The change in the view is imperceptible or difficult to discern.



### Appendix 4. Consultation Tracker

The following consultation has been carried out in relation to the LVApp:

Date	Consultation type	Consultation Response Received in relation to Landscape and Visual	WYG response
3.10.2019	Letter issued by WYG to Copeland Borough Council to request a screening opinion on the proposed extension of life for Park House Farm Wind Farm.	10.12.2019 - Response received from Copeland Borough Council summarises that 'impacts of the development proposed to be submitted ...would not be significant and further environmental information does not need to be added to the original Environmental Statement. Any impacts arising from the proposed development can be adequately and appropriately assessed via the submission of appropriate information and evidence'	To prepare a Landscape and Visual Appraisal in relation to the proposals.
27.01.2020	Letter issued by WYG to Copeland Borough Council containing the proposed methodology and scope for the Landscape and Visual Appraisal	30.01.2020 – Response received from Copeland Borough Council stating 'in overall terms, no objection exists to proposed methodology, which appears fair given the nature etc. of the development'. Queries were raised in relation to a 10km study area stated in the methodology.	06.02.2020 – WYG provided clarification that we would be looking at 20km study area as recommended in SNH guidance.
06.02.2020	Email correspondence from WYG to Copeland Borough Council detailing proposed LVApp viewpoint locations and rationale for comment.	28.02.2020 – Copeland's Planning Officer responded that they had no comments in respect of the proposed viewpoints. They asked for clear justification of the exclusion of viewpoints include in the 1998 LVIA 'and reference to that document should be included in any assessment for completeness and the avoidance of doubt'	WYG include a justification table in <b>Appendix 7</b>
24.02.2020	Email correspondence to Allerdale Borough Council in respect of obtaining a list of wind turbine applications submitted since 2016 (not currently	28.02.2020 Allerdale Borough Council provided data confirming there have been no new turbine application in Allerdale since 2015.	-



Date	Consultation type	Consultation Response Received in relation to Landscape and Visual	WYG response
	provided on Allerdale's website)		
25.02.2020	Email correspondence from WYG to Copeland Borough Council to detail the approach to the LVApp cumulative appraisal.	28.02.2020 – Copeland's Planning Officer responded that 'the approach appears to have merit in broad terms'. They did not have any 'further consented or in planning permission schemes for wind turbine development that would be relevant' or any other development.	-



## **Appendix 5. Landscape Policy**

### Copeland Local Plan 2013-2028: Adopted Core Strategy and Development Management Policies

#### **Policy ST1 – Strategic Development Principles**

The Strategic Development Principles that inform and underpin the Borough's planning policies are:

##### A Economic and Social Sustainability

- i) Support the development of energy infrastructure, related economic clusters, rural diversification and tourism in appropriate locations;
- ii) Support diversity in jobs, and investment in education and training, especially that which creates and attracts business;
- iii) Ensure development creates a residential offer which meets the needs and aspirations of the Borough's housing markets;
- iv) Support development that provides or contributes to the Borough's social and community infrastructure enabling everyone to have good access to jobs, shops, services and recreational and sports facilities.

##### B Environmental Sustainability

- i) Encourage development that minimises carbon emissions, maximises energy efficiency and helps us to adapt to the effects of climate change;
- ii) Focus development on sites that are at least risk from flooding and where development in areas of flood risk is unavoidable, ensure that the risk is minimised or mitigated through appropriate design;
- iii) Protect, enhance and encourage the creation of new areas of green infrastructure, recognising the important role that the natural environment and healthy ecosystems have to play in the future social and economic, as well as environmental sustainability of Copeland;
- iv) Reuse existing buildings and previously developed land wherever possible, directing development away from greenfield sites, where this is consistent with wider sustainability objectives;
- v) Ensure that new development minimises waste and maximises opportunities for recycling;
- vi) Minimise the need to travel, support the provision of sustainable transport infrastructure and measures that encourage its use;
- vii) Prioritise development in the main towns where there is previously developed land and infrastructure capacity;

##### C Protect, enhance and restore the Borough's valued assets

- i) Protect and enhance areas, sites, species and features of biodiversity value, landscapes and the undeveloped coast;
- ii) Protect and enhance the Borough's cultural and historic features and their settings;





- iii) Provide and enhance recreational opportunities for the Borough's residents and its visitors, protecting existing provision and ensuring that future development meets appropriate standards in terms of quantity and quality;
- iv) Manage development pressures to protect the Borough's agricultural assets;
- v) Support the reclamation and redevelopment or restoration of the Borough's vacant or derelict sites, whilst taking account of landscape, biodiversity and historic environment objectives;
- vi) Ensure development minimises air, ground and water pollution.

## D Ensure the creation and retention of quality places

- i) Apply rigorous design standards that retain and enhance locally distinctive places, improve build quality and achieve efficient use of land;
- ii) Ensure development provides or safeguards good levels of residential amenity and security;
- iii) Accommodate traffic and access arrangements in ways that make it safe and convenient for pedestrians and cyclists to move around;
- iv) Ensure new development addresses land contamination with appropriate remediation measures.

Planning applications that accord with these principles and relevant Development Management policies, and do not undermine the Spatial Development Strategy, will be approved without unnecessary delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

## **Policy ST2 – Spatial Development Strategy**

Development in the Borough should be distributed in accordance with the following principles:

A Growth: providing for and facilitating growth in the local economy, particularly in the energy sector, accompanied by net growth in jobs and an associated increase in demand for housing and services.

B Concentration: development will be located in the Borough's settlements at an appropriate scale, within defined settlement boundaries, in accordance with the Borough's settlement hierarchy as set out in Figure 3.2:

- i) Focussing the largest scale development and regeneration on Whitehaven and the important development opportunities there;
- ii) Supporting moderate levels of development reflecting the respective scale and functions of the smaller towns (Cleator Moor, Egremont and Millom), and contributing to the regeneration of the town centres;
- iii) Permitting appropriately scaled development in defined Local Centres which helps to sustain services and facilities for local communities;

C Restricting development outside the defined settlement boundaries to that which has a proven requirement for such a location, including:



- i) Energy - nuclear: support for the development of new nuclear generating capacity at Moorside, and a willingness to discuss a potential Geological Disposal Facility for higher level radioactive waste in the Borough;
- ii) Energy - renewable: support for renewable energy generating proposals which best maximise renewable resources and which minimise environmental and amenity impacts;
- iii) Essential infrastructure to support energy development and other infrastructure that requires locating outside settlement limits;
- iv) Existing major employment locations, especially Westlakes Science and Technology Park, and the completion of defined allocated or safeguarded employment sites;
- v) Land uses characteristically located outside settlements, such as agriculture or forestry, farm diversification schemes or tourism activities requiring location in the countryside, or prisons;
- vi) Housing that meets proven specific and local needs including provision for agricultural workers, replacement dwellings, replacement of residential caravans, affordable housing and the conversion of rural buildings to residential use.

D Proportions: the four towns are expected to accommodate approximately 80% of all (non-nuclear) development over the plan period.

E Safety: the potential impact of proposals within Safeguarding Zones for hazardous installations should be properly considered.

## **Policy ENV2 – Coastal Management**

To reinforce the Coastal Zone's assets and opportunities the Council will:

A Promote the developed coast as a destination for leisure, culture and tourism, with strong links to Whitehaven Harbour / town centre in the north and to Millom in the south;

B Maximise opportunities along the undeveloped coast for tourism and outdoor recreation through support for the North West Coastal Trail and Colourful Coast projects;

C Support the management of more of the undeveloped coast for biodiversity;

D Support energy generating developments that require a coastal location along the undeveloped coast, provided that the potential impacts on biodiversity, landscape and heritage assets are carefully assessed against the benefits. Where negative impacts are likely these must be mitigated against and compensated for;

E Protect the intrinsic qualities of the St Bees Head Heritage Coast in terms of development proposals within or affecting views from the designation. At the same time encourage schemes which assist appropriate access to and interpretation of the Heritage Coast area;

F Work with partners to manage the risks associated with coastal erosion and flooding and ensure that all new development is located outside areas identified as being at risk either now or in future phases of the Shoreline Management Plan.



## **Policy ENV5 – Protecting and Enhancing the Borough’s Landscapes**

The Borough’s landscapes will be protected and enhanced by:

A Protecting all landscapes from inappropriate change by ensuring that development does not threaten or detract from the distinctive characteristics of that particular area;

B Where the benefits of the development outweigh the potential harm, ensuring that the impact of the development on the landscape is minimised through adequate mitigation, preferably on-site;

C Supporting proposals which enhance the value of the Borough’s landscapes.

## **Policy DM2 – Renewable Energy Development in the Borough**

Proposals for renewable energy development in the Borough will be supported where they satisfy the following criteria:

A Proposals should be developed with the Borough’s community and key stakeholders in accordance with the Council’s current adopted approach to stakeholder involvement

B There would be no unacceptable adverse visual effects

C There would be no unacceptable adverse effects on landscape or townscape character and distinctiveness

D There would be no unacceptable impacts on biodiversity or geodiversity

E The proposals would not cause an unacceptable harm to features of nature or heritage conservation importance

F There are no unacceptable impacts of noise, odour, dust, fumes, light or other nuisance that is likely to affect residents and other adjoining land users

G Any waste arising as a result of the development will be minimised and managed appropriately

H Provision is made in proposals for the removal and site restoration at the end of the operating life of the installation

Adequate mitigation measures would be secured to minimise the potential impacts of any renewable energy development proposals and to deliver significant benefits to the community where the scheme is to be sited wherever possible. If necessary such measures would be secured through Planning Obligations.

## **Policy DM26 – Landscaping**

All development proposals will be assessed in terms of their potential impact on the landscape. Developers should refer to the Cumbria Landscape Character Assessment and Cumbria Historic Landscape Characterisation documents for their particular character area



and design their development to be congruent with that character. The Council will continue to protect the areas designated as Landscapes of County Importance on the Proposals Map from inappropriate change until a more detailed Landscape Character Assessment can be completed for the Copeland plan area.

Proposals will be assessed according to whether the proposed structures and associated landscaping relate well in terms of visual impact, scale, character, amenity value and local distinctiveness and the cumulative impact of developments will be taken into account as part of this assessment.

Allerdale Borough Council, Local Plan, July 2014.

## **S32 - Safeguarding Amenity**

Support will be given for proposals which make a positive contribution to the area by maintaining or improving the quality of the environment and amenity. The development of new housing or other environmentally sensitive development will normally be resisted in locations where there is potential to incur statutory nuisance or poor standards of residential amenity by virtue of impacts such as air pollution, noise, smell, dust, vibration, light or other pollution.

Proposals will not be supported where they would:

- a. Result in pollution or hazards which prejudice the health and safety of communities and their environments, including nature conservation interests and the water environment which cannot be overcome by appropriate mitigation measures;
- b. Result in a detrimental effect on the local area in terms of visual amenity, distinctive character or environmental quality;
- c. Generate severe highway infrastructure or network problems in relation to access, road safety, traffic flow or car parking;
- d. Have an unacceptable effect on residential amenity and surrounding land uses in terms of loss of privacy as a result of overlooking, or increased sense of enclosure as a result of overbearing development or a loss of sunlight/daylight received by the property as a result of overshadowing;
- e. Cause significant adverse environmental impact in relation to landscape, biodiversity or geodiversity, cause pollution to the water environment or cause deterioration of the Water Framework Directive Classification Status;
- f. Unduly prejudice the satisfactory development or operation of adjoining land and/or the development of the surrounding area as a whole.

## **S33 - Landscape**

The landscape character and local distinctiveness of the Plan Area shall be protected, conserved and, wherever possible, enhanced. An assessment of the impact on the landscape character will be required for all major residential, commercial and industrial developments and may also be required for any other development which the Council considers may impact upon the landscape, particularly within sensitive or protected areas.



Cumbria Landscape Character Assessment Toolkit (or successor documents) will be used to inform the detailed assessment of individual proposals. Proposals for development should be compatible with the distinctive characteristics and features of Cumbria's landscape types and sub types.

Proposals will be assessed in relation to:

- a) locally distinctive natural or built features,
- b) visual intrusion or impact,
- c) scale in relation to the landscape and features,
- d) the character of the built environment,
- e) public access and community value of the landscape,
- f) historic patterns and attributes,
- g) biodiversity features, ecological networks and semi-natural habitats, and
- h) openness, remoteness and tranquillity.

The Council will support proposals that involve the removal or a reduction in the impact of existing structures and land uses that are detrimental to the visual quality of the landscape.

Lake District National Park Partnership, The Partnership's Plan, 2015-2020

## **PE 6 – Major industries and provision of infrastructure outside the Lake District.**

Our strategy is to recognise the importance of nuclear and energy industries in West Cumbria and other major economic investments in Cumbria. Where they do not prejudice the Lake District, its setting, Special Qualities, attributes of Outstanding Universal Value, or visitor economy we will assist with the development of proposals for associated infrastructure.



**Appendix 6 Analysis of Landscape Character Types and descriptions**

## Appendix 6 – Analysis of Landscape Character Types

The following table sets out of all of the Landscape Character Types that fall within the 20km study area. Analysis has been undertaken to determine the likelihood of significant effects occurring as a result of the proposed wind farm life extension, based on the level of association between the Park House Farm Wind Farm site and the character types, using information gathered in the field and the ZTV at **Figure LA04-3**.

Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance 2011			
1a	Bay and Estuary - Intertidal Flats	The character type covers a discrete area of the coast to the north and south of Maryport and to the south west of Seascale. The bays north, west, and south west facing – away from the direction of Park House Farm Wind Farm- and are primarily associated with the North Sea. Levels of theoretical inter-visibility with the Wind Farm are also minimal and where an appreciation of the landscape of the turbines is available, it would be perceived beyond the intervening landscape that features other existing vertical infrastructure, including existing turbines. The character type located south of Maryport is backed by Siddick Wind Farm which has a much greater influence on the character type than Park House Farm Wind Farm. Overall, Park	No - it is not likely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the coastal landscape.

Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
		House Farm Wind Farm does not heavily influence the character of character type 1a.	
2a	Coastal Margins - Dunes and Beaches	There is one very discrete area of the character type located beyond 16km to the north of Park House Farm Wind Farm. There is no ZTV coverage within the character type and there is unlikely to be any association between it and the landscape at the site.	No - it is not likely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the coastal landscape.
2c	Coastal Margins - Coastal Plain	There is one discrete area of the character type located beyond 16km to the north of Park House Farm Wind Farm. There is no ZTV coverage within the character type and there is unlikely to be any association between it and the landscape at the site.	No - it is not likely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the coastal landscape.
2d	Coastal Margins - Coastal Urban Fringe	There is one instance of the character type within the 20km study area, located to the immediate north of Workington at a distance of c. 6km. ZTV coverage across the area is high. The character type is located directly north of Workington, the built up nature of which interrupts the association with the landscape further south. The likelihood of Park House Farm Wind Farm of	No - it is not likely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the coastal landscape.



Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
		altering the baseline landscape is low.	
4	Coastal Sandstone	One large area of the character type is present within the 20km study area, to the south of Whitehaven at a distance of c. 5km from Park House Farm Wind Farm. The area around St Bees Head falls within ZTV coverage, but much of the remaining area does not. As there is a high degree of association between the coastal landscape at St Bees Head and the coastline near the wind farm, an assessment of effects is considered relevant.	Yes – Due to the level of association between the coastline of the character type and the coastline near the wind farm.
5a	Lowland - Ridge and Valley	Park House Farm Wind Farm is located within the character type. Direct effects are likely.	Yes – The Wind Farm is located within the character type

Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
5b	Lowland - Low Farmland	There are a number of areas of the character type within the 20km study area, all of which cover a relatively large parcel of land. There is no ZTV coverage across the areas located within the southern part of the study area, and there is very minimal coverage in the area located to the north west, beyond Maryport. As such, Park House Farm Wind Farm is unlikely to alter the underlying characteristics of the character type.	No - it is not likely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the landscape.
5c	Lowland - Rolling Lowland	There is one instance of the character type located within the 20km study area, at c. 8km to the north east of Park House Farm Wind Farm. ZTV coverage within the rolling farmland is patchy. The rolling nature of the underlying landscape, coupled with the prevalence of hedgerows and tree belts, reduces the overall level of association with the coastline to	No - it is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the landscape.

Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
		the west. It is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter such characteristics.	
5d	Lowland - Urban Fringe	There are several small areas of the character located within 5km of Park House Farm Wind Farm. ZTV coverage is high across these areas. There is a high association between the urban fringe and the coastal landscape in which the wind Farm is located. An assessment of effects is therefore considered relevant.	Yes - Due to the level of association between the character type and the coastal landscape at the site.
8b	Main Valleys - Broad Valleys	There are several instances of the character type within the 20km study area. ZTV coverage is very minimal and mostly limited to areas adjacent to urban landscapes. There is a low degree of association between the character type and the coastal landscape in which the Wind Farm is located.	No - it is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the valley landscapes.
9a	Intermediate Moorland and Plateau - Open Moorlands	One area of the character type is located within c. 3km of Park House Farm Wind Farm. There is a degree of association between the Plateau landscape and ZTV coverage is prevalent on its westernmost edge, closest to the Wind Farm. An assessment of effects is considered necessary.	Yes - Due to the level of association between the character type and the coastal landscape at the site.

Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
9d	Intermediate Moorland and Plateau- Ridges	The character type is located c.4.5km to the south east of Park House Farm Wind Farm. The plateau landscape allows for an appreciation of the coastline and thus the Wind Farm. As a consequence, an assessment of effects is considered relevant.	Yes - Due to the level of association between the plateau landscape and the coastline at the site.
11a	Upland Fringe - Foothills	There is one large, ribbon like area, and one discrete area of the character type within the 20km study area. The overall level of association between the Upland Fringe Foothills and the landscape at the site is minimal; the coastal landscape to the west is not a perceptible feature within the character type. ZTV coverage across the Upland Fringe Foothills is limited to small patches of higher ground. The largest area of ZTV coverage is found in a large area of mixed woodland south of Cleator Moor.	No - it is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the Upland Fringe Foothills landscape.
12b	Higher Limestone - Rolling Fringe	There is one area of the charter type within 20km of Park House Farm Wind Farm. The area comprises a rolling, open landscape with high association with the Cumbria Fells to the east; the Fells form a backdrop to the character type. Although	No - it is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the landscape.

Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
		<p>the coastline is not directly visible from much of the area, the Park House Farm turbines can be seen at distance. This is shown on the ZTV, a limited patchy of coverage is present north of Pardshaw, However, the availability of such distant intervisibility of the turbines, alongside others along the coast, is not considered to greatly alter the underlying nature of the rolling landscape. The greatest level of association would remain with the Fells to the east.</p>	
U	Urban	<p>There are a number of urban areas within the 20km study area, two of which have a relatively high degree of theoretical intervisibility with the existing wind farm (Whitehaven and Workington). However, the underlying nature of the settlements is primarily influenced by the urban local environs and is unlikely to be altered by the presence of the wind farm in the wider landscape.</p>	<p>No – it is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the urban landscape.</p>
Lake District National Park Landscape Character SPD 2018			
Landscape Character Types			

Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
Type J	High Fell Fringe	<p>There are four instances of the character type within 20km of the Wind Farm, one of which is located c. 9.5km from the Wind Farm. However, this instance of the character type has barely any ZTV coverage. Of the other three areas of the character type, only the two northernmost areas fall within ZTV coverage. One area is located east of Cockermouth at c.14km from the Wind Farm. There is limited association between this area and the landscape of the site, largely due to distance and nature of the intervening landscape. The final area wraps around Low Fell and is a rolling landscape that is well treed. There is very limited perception of the coastal landscape in which the Wind Farm located.</p>	No - it is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the underlying characteristics of the High Fell Fringe landscape.
Type	Rugged Angular Slate High Fell	<p>There are four areas of the character type located within 20km of Park House Farm Wind Farm, the closest of which is located c.11km to the east. The landscape is typified by elevated land that enables panoramic views across the surrounding landscape, including the coastline at the site. However, ZTV coverage within the</p>	No - it is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the characteristics of the underlying landscape.

Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
		<p>character type is patchy and intermittent and so instances of being able to perceive the turbines in the wider landscape is sporadic. The ability to perceive the turbines on the distant coastline, alongside numerous vertical structures, would not fundamentally alter the underlying nature of the Rugged Angular Slate High Fell.</p>	
Type F	Rugged/Craggy Volcanic High Fell	<p>There is one large area of the character type located within the 20km study area, at c.14 km to the south east of Park House Farm Wind Farm at its closest point. The majority of the character type is located over 15km from the Wind Farm. The character type feature high peaks that allow panoramic external views over the surrounding landscape and as such intervisibility with other character types is high. However, ZTV coverage of the Wind Farm is patchy and intermittent, limited to the Fells that rise above Ennerdale Water where association with other landscapes is largely focused on the valley landscape at Ennerdale below rather than</p>	No - it is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the characteristics of the underlying landscape.

Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
		associated with the coastal landscape to the west.	
Type I	Upland Limestone Farmland	There is one discrete area of the character type within the study area, located at c.16.5km from the Wind Farm in a north easterly direction. The landscape is heavy treed with internal visibility. Association with the wider landscape is limited. The presence of the Wind Farm at such distance from the character type is unlikely to alter the baseline landscape.	No - it is unlikely that Park House Farm Wind Farm would alter the characteristics of the underlying landscape.
Type	Upland Valley	There are three areas of the upland valley landscape within 20km of Park House Farm Wind Farm. All of the valleys are flanked by higher fells that enclose the experience of the landscape, with internal views and an association with the upper slopes of the valleys only. There is no ZTV coverage falling across this character type. Park House Farm Wind Farm is unlikely to alter the characteristics of the underlying landscape at such distance from the west Cumbria coastline.	No - Park House Farm Wind Farm is unlikely to alter the characteristics of the underlying landscape.
Areas of Distinctive Landscape			



Character Type Reference	Character Type Name	Level of Association with the Park House Farm Wind Farm site	Included within the LVIA?
<p>The LNDP Landscape Character SPD goes onto identify 71 'Areas of Distinctive Character'. As these areas correlate to the Landscape Character Types already analysed above, which have been determined to not require further assessment within the LVIA, it is not considered necessary to provide further analysis against the Areas of Distinctive Character.</p>			

## LANDSCAPE TYPE 5: LOWLAND

<b>Landscape Sub-Types</b>	5a Ridge and Valley 5b Low Farmland	5c Rolling Lowland 5e Drained Mosses
<b>Key Characteristics</b>	<b>Sensitivity</b>	
<b>Landscape Character:</b>		
<b>Scale and Enclosure</b> Medium to large scale landform varying from undulating to rolling to ridge and valley terrain. Enclosure and interruption increasing with degree of relief but long wide views from summits. Field units generally medium to large. Some vegetative enclosure and local scale indicators through presence of occasional valley woodlands, small plantations or shelterbelts, hedges and hedgerow trees but becoming sparser in higher areas and towards coast.	<b>Low/Moderate (2)</b> Small group would not intimidate this rolling landscape and exceptionally a large group might be absorbed on a broader ridge or open flatter area. Undulating fringes and occasional narrow valleys highly sensitive due to intimate scale and potential over dominance in narrow zones of visibility.	
<b>Complexity and Order</b> Fairly simple agricultural patterns dominated by improved pasture with limited features, variation related to grain of topography and exposure. Flatter areas and broad ridge tops - regular pattern of oblong or squarish fields often perpendicular to prevailing wind enclosed by hedges, straight roads, linear settlements along ridge tops, punctuated by farmsteads with associated tree clumps and shelterbelts. Rolling terrain and sheltered valleys – irregular fields, river/streamside woodland and trees, winding roads, more nucleated settlements and remnant mossland (5e, 5b).	<b>Low/Moderate (2)</b> Opportunities for turbine development to relate to strong ridgelines or mirror regular field patterns and create new focal points in sparser areas with strong siting rationale due to abundance of wind. More irregular patterns present fewer opportunities to link or connect turbine development.	
<b>Manmade Influence</b> Intensively managed and heavily settled 'working' countryside. Associated development and land cover patterns generally traditional and rural in character. Some larger modern development features including existing turbines, pylons, masts, major roads and railway, farm sheds and mineral workings and on urban edges industrial buildings, housing estates and golf courses. In West Cumbria legacy of immature and uniform landscapes from open cast coal mining (5a).	<b>Moderate (3)</b> Some potential for positive association with 'working' character and integration with regular manmade field patterns. However likely to appear incongruous against traditional rural development features. Could be less conspicuous near urban edges or where related to key manmade features sharing similar characteristics. May be perceived as further despoliation on restored areas that already have a negative image.	
<b>Skyline</b> Landform generally has horizontal emphasis but relief creates multiple horizons and intermediate ridges frequently broken by trees and woodland. Dissected by numerous valleys. Relatively few vertical structures, pylons sometimes locally dominant but otherwise occasional silos, existing turbines, chimneys or industrial buildings on urban edges, and transmission masts on neighbouring coast or high ground.	<b>Moderate/High (4)</b> Variable and unpredictable relationship with skyline and partial visibility likely to result in confused image. Valleys rims vulnerable to disturbing effects of partial views and blade flash. Limited opportunity to correspond to other vertical structures. Scope for confusion of form and function in proximity to pylons.	
<b>Connections and Adjacent Landscapes</b> Strong relationships with neighbouring high ground especially where the transition is sudden eg North Pennines (13), Sandale, High Park escarpments (12). These create a large scale context and significant backdrop in terms of views out of type 5 as well as prospects of it. Neighbouring coastal landscapes have similar although more localised effects. Type 5 also contributes to the setting of important valleys eg Eden and Derwent, towns within them eg Workington, Solway Coast AONB (2) and LDNP.	<b>Moderate/High (4)</b> Whilst large scale contexts of adjacent landscapes may assist in absorption of turbine development potential for intrusion in open prospects from high ground and coast, often of national importance, are increased. Also potential for localised intrusion on townscape settings and valley rims.	
<b>Remoteness and Tranquillity</b> Busy well populated working countryside especially around main settlements and transport corridors radiating out from Carlisle. However much quieter hinterland perceived as a rural backwater and pockets of remoteness/tranquillity around relic mosslands.	<b>Moderate (3)</b> Noise and movement of turbines could relate to busier areas but would be less suited to more peaceful parts.	
<b>Visual:</b>		
<b>Visual Interruption</b> Generally interrupted by relief, woodlands, hedges and buildings.	<b>Low/Moderate (2)</b> Turbine development likely to be more easily absorbed in wider landscape due to presence of interruptions resulting in glimpsed or intermittent views.	
<b>Settlement and Key Views</b> Heavily settled lowland crossed by major transport corridors into West Cumbria notably the A66, A69 A595. Numerous small market towns, villages, hamlets and isolated properties in a dispersed pattern right across type 5, linked by minor roads and lanes. Also crossed by Hadrian's Wall Trail, NCR 72 and C2C cycle route.	<b>High (5)</b> Limited scope to site development away from settled areas. Size of development constrained by small scale nature of existing settlements, with potential for over dominance.	
<b>Overall Sensitivity</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	

## LANDSCAPE TYPE 5: LOWLAND

<b>Value</b>	
<b>Landscape Designations and Planning Policies</b>	<b>Scale it Matters and Why</b>
<b>Frontiers of the Roman Empire: Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and Setting</b> Carlisle to Newtown nr Brampton S part of 5b (site and setting) and seaward parts of 5a/b between Maryport and Silloth (setting)	International: Protection of core archaeological features of the Roman wall and coastal defences as well as their landscape setting
<b>Solway Coast AONB</b> Covers small parts of 5b	National: Conservation and enhancement of natural beauty attributable to: wild and remote qualities due to absence of large scale industrialisation, main roads and railways; rich presence of birdlife and expansive area of salt-marshes; distinctive contrasting sequence of coastal margins/ farmland and mossland; open and attractive views to Scottish coast and Lakeland fells; small distinctive villages.
<b>Registered Historic Parks and Gardens</b> Workington Hall (5a)	National: Protection of special historic interest of parks and gardens and their settings
<b>Ancient Woodland</b> Sparse concentrations alongside the Rivers Lyne (5b) and Petheril (5b) nr Carlisle, gill woodlands in Allerdale below Sandale escarpment and sides of Broughton Moor (5a) and Greenscoe Valley Barrow (5c)	National/Regional: Conservation of ancient semi-natural woodlands as irreplaceable nature conservation assets with associated interests including characteristic landscapes
<b>Rarity</b>	<b>Area of County</b>
5a Ridge and Valley 5b Low Farmland 5c Rolling Lowland 5e Drained Mosses	6.8%: common 9.3%: common 2.1%: unusual 0.4%: rare
<b>Conservation Interests and Associations</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Historic Environment</b> Varied interest Conservation Areas: Numerous small towns and villages across Solway Basin (5a/b), Settle Carlisle Railway and handful of small towns/villages E of Carlisle around Eden Valley (5b/c). Elsewhere only occasional villages including Greysouthen and Beckermeth W Cumbria (5b/c), Longtown in Borders (5b) and Lindal-in-Furness (5c).	Evidence of Roman occupation prolific in places. Traditional field systems round settlements/fossilised strips of medieval origin (5a, 5c). Remains of former industries-iron/coal workings, quarrying (5a). Land improvement and mineral exploitation by Cistercian monks (5b). To north medieval fortified sites associated with Anglo-Scottish border (5b). Ancient hedgerows, red sandstone buildings, some stately homes and parks (5c). North of Carlisle regular field patterns characteristic of late enclosure (5b).
<b>Ecology</b> Largely an agricultural landscape with isolated areas of semi-natural vegetation  Occasional small SSSIs, RIGGS and NNRs	Upland oak woodland (5a, 5b) Lowland raised bog (5b,5e) Rush pasture /purple moor-grass (5a, 5b, 5e) Rivers and streams (5a, 5b,5c) Species rich hedgerows and basin mire (5c)
<b>Cultural</b> Limited interest	Charles Dickens/Wilkie Collins 'The Lazy Tour of Idle Apprentices' (journey from Carrode Fell to Allonby) Wigton area settings for novels by Melvyn Bragg

## LANDSCAPE TYPE 5: LOWLAND

### Capacity Statement

Overall the Lowland landscape type is judged to have **moderate** capacity to accommodate turbine development. This reflects moderate sensitivity overall and moderate value as a largely undesignated landscape. A significant exception is the small area of lowland that falls within the Solway Coast AONB designation\*. Here high value and sensitivity attributable to a sense of remoteness, lack of large scale development and contribution as a backdrop and contrast to wilder coastal edge landscapes indicate that any scale of wind energy development is likely to be inappropriate. Whilst this type has moderately strong historical interest this is attributable to the presence of conservation areas, Roman remains, medieval field patterns, historic parks etc. It is considered that wind energy development could be accommodated provided it does not impinge on the site or setting of these valued features and therefore this value should not reduce capacity in the landscape as a whole. Elsewhere some notable localised geographical variations in the sense of enclosure created by the undulating and rolling topography and regularity of land cover patterns affect appropriateness.

Greatest potential occurs in the open flatter areas and broad ridge tops where small or, in exceptional circumstances, large turbine groups could relate to the medium to large scale landform without dominating wide views and integrate with regular field patterns. The sense of exposure in these areas would also evoke a sense of purpose and rationality. In the more sheltered and enclosed valleys or undulating fringes turbine development would feel over dominant and conflict with more irregular land cover patterns.

Whilst significant interruption by relief and vegetation would assist absorption in the wider landscape these same features are likely to result in unpredictable relationships between turbines and a variable skyline with intensifying or disturbing effects such framing or blade flash over valley rims. A key characteristic limiting capacity is the dispersed pattern of numerous small rural settlements making it difficult to site developments sufficiently distant so as not to adversely affect their sense of scale and character. Settlement size and pattern suggest that up to a small group of turbines would generally be appropriate. Other more localised sensitivities include potential erosion of peaceful rural backwater qualities and impact on valued views from neighbouring high ground or coast, important valleys and towns such as Workington within them.

Particular sensitivities in relation to the setting of international and national designations include:

- *contribution of the quieter hinterlands to a sense of remoteness and the sequence of contrasting landscapes in the Solway Coast AONB*
- *open sequential views from recreation and tourist routes along the coastal edge of the AONB and along Frontiers of the Roman Empire: Hadrian's Wall across the lowland ridges towards Lakeland fells most notably from Cumbria Coastal Way, the B5300, National Cycle Route 72, Hadrian's Wall Trail and from viewpoints at forts and milecastles associated with the Wall*
- *distinctive vistas to and from the northern and western fells of the Lake District NP and open estuarine views from the Ravenglass and Eskdale 'gateway'*
- *vistas of the north-western tip of the North Pennines AONB*

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\* For those areas that fall within the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Policy R45 in the Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan 2001 – 2016 applies

## National Character Area 07 West Cumbria Coastal Plain

The key characteristics are listed below and those applicable to the site and its surroundings are highlighted in **bold**:

- The NCA consists of an **undulating coastal landscape** of varying width **with open views to the Cumbria High Fells NCA** and **across the Irish Sea to Galloway and the Isle of Man**.
- The area has a **diverse, open coastline** ranging from depositional sand, shingle and pebble beaches and sand dunes, through low soft cliffs of glacial or industrial origin, to high sandstone cliffs with a rich and varied flora and fauna, including dune grasslands, seabird colonies and the natterjack toad.
- There **are lowland river valleys with limited ancient semi-natural woodland**, and **expansive estuarine landscapes** with lowland raised mires, salt marshes, mudflats and intertidal habitats with large numbers of wintering waders and wildfowl.
- Important areas **of brownfield biodiversity**, often in urban-fringe locations, are characterised by rare plants, reptiles and invertebrates including the small blue butterfly.
- The area includes **open pastoral farmland with occasional woodlands, basin and valley fens, remnant semi-natural grasslands/meadows associated with streambanks, low-lying land, and localised pockets of arable land** supporting species such as curlew and wintering hen harrier.
- There are **areas of ancient enclosure with medium to large rectilinear fields and few hedgerow trees**. They are bounded by hedges (often gappy and augmented by wire fences), stonewalls on higher ground, and stone-faced earthbanks locally known as 'kests' along the coast.
- There is **limited tree cover**, with most woodland to be found on steeper slopes and along river corridors. There are **some plantation woodlands and shelterbelts** associated with the upland margins of the area and former open cast mining sites.
- There is a **dispersed rural settlement pattern** of hamlets and isolated farmsteads with some villages.
- **Distinctive building materials** are a combination of locally quarried red sandstone, red brick and render augmented by coastal pebbles along the southern coast.
- **Larger urban settlements and coastal towns** are closely linked with the growth and location of the area's strong industrial history of coal and iron ore mining, processing ore, smelting and ship-building.

- Extensive urban-fringe influence is linked to **highly visible industrial past and present**, including **quarrying, open cast mining**, restoration and reclamation initiatives, **manufacturing and processing plants** and the **nuclear energy industry**.
- A rich history is evident in the pattern of land use and heritage features dating from the Neolithic period onwards, including earthworks, forts and castles and all the Roman coastal forts that form part of the **Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site**.

Within the 'Opportunities' section, the statements of Environmental Opportunity include:

- SEO 1: Conserve and enhance the unique open coast and estuarine landscapes with their distinct geology, improving and connecting habitats and their species, and enabling natural coastal processes to occur to enhance and improve the coast's ability to adapt to and mitigate the impact of climate change.
- SEO 2 is concerned with 'Manage and enhance the farmed environment to secure viable and sustainable farming, improving water quality of the rivers and coast, reducing soil erosion, strengthening historic landscape character, conserving heritage features and archaeology, supporting species populations that are dependent on this area, and improving habitat connectivity'.

Examples listed in relation to SEO 1 include:

- Producing a plan of key actions for the protection and enhancement of the St Bees Heritage Coast; and
- Providing a high-quality England Coast Path National Trail that informs visitors to the sensitivities of the coastal environment and promotes informed enjoyment of the coast and adjacent areas.

Examples listed in relation to SEO 2 include:

- Supporting the delivery of key actions in the Lake District National Park Management Plan aimed at protecting and enhancing National Park landscape and its surrounds;
- Restoring and establishing woodlands along watercourses to improve water quality, control erosion and flooding, and improve habitat connectivity and resilience; and
- Restoring drystone walls where these have fallen into decay and maintaining the link between walls and local geology such as St Bees sandstone in the northern part of the NCA and field stone on the upland fringes.

Within the 'Landscape change' section, the following points are of relevance to the area:

- There has been a lack of woodland management which has resulted in the decline of some broadleaved and ancient semi-natural woodland;
- Overall woodland cover is sparse at six per cent of the NCA;
- Areas of mixed and coniferous woodland have been planted east of Whitehaven, associated with landscape reclamation schemes;
- Wind turbines have become an increasing feature in the landscape with an expansion from their former limited coastal presence between Workington and Flimby to both inland sites, including a number of developments between Whitehaven and Cockermouth, and offshore where wind farms in the outer Solway and off Walney are widely visible;
- The decline of open cast mining for coal and the incentive to maximise economic return from land may result in increased investment in land through agricultural improvement, particularly around the Cumbria Coalfields east of Whitehaven. This may affect the character of less improved areas of the agricultural landscape. Continuing restoration of mineral sites may provide opportunities for large scale habitat creation, greenspace and access initiatives;
- The England Coast Path, a new National Trail around all of England's open coast, will for the first time give people the right of access around all of England's open coast, including –where appropriate, 'spreading room' along the way where they can rest, relax or admire the view. The Coastal Access scheme sets out to avoid negative impacts on sensitive features found on and along the coast and supports future work to protect or increase existing, access to and from the coast that may provide links to circular walks with the England Coast Path so may act as driver for positive change; and
- With the area labelled as Britain's Energy Coast, power generation is likely to remain a key driver for development in the area. Increased demand is likely to need a mix of renewables, wind power, wood fuel, biomass and nuclear developments with associated research development and waste management industries becoming important. Applications for development of wind turbines are increasing on and off-shore. These are all likely to impact on the visual character of the NCA.

## Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit

Sub type **Ridge and Valley (Type 5a)** can be summarised as:

The landscape rises gently to high wide ridges with long views or falls to small, narrow valleys. The Ellen Valley forms a distinctive feature. The landscape is dominated by improved farmed pasture. Fields are typically regular in shape and are medium to large in size. Arable fields provide an occasional contrast with the pasture. The patchwork field pattern is interspersed with both native broadleaved and planted coniferous woodlands and some unimproved and features include dense high hedges, woodland, especially along narrow valleys, shelterbelts, remnant parkland and tree clumps.

Scattered farm buildings are dispersed throughout the area and are often concealed by undulations in the land and woodlands. Villages are linear or nucleated in form, having developed this character largely in the later 19th and 20th centuries, and mainly sited along ridge tops. Roads that connect the villages along the ridge tops are generally straight. Roads in the valleys tend to wind along contours and are flanked by high hedges or banks. Industrial activities have influenced the landscape, with areas of reclaimed open cast land introducing modern field patterns, woodland and plantation features. Wind energy schemes are a reoccurring feature, and along with other vertical elements such as pylons, are often sited along ridge tops. They interrupt the skyline and form prominent features in the landscape.

This sub type is culturally very varied. Fields are often planned enclosure of former arable common fields and common grazing land. In general nucleated villages developed late in a historically dispersed settlement pattern. It features ancient market centres such as Aspatria, Wigton and Dalston. On the outskirts of many settlements are the remains of former industries including iron mining and working, coal mining, quarrying and lime burning. Evidence of Roman occupation is prolific in places and includes Roman roads and settlements like Papcastle. More recent military sites are a feature as at Great Broughton and Great Orton.

These are medium scale landscapes generally enclosed in valleys and around woodlands with a more open feel along the ridge tops. Here the experience of the landscape can be influenced by changes in the seasons and weather and there can be a more elemental experience on exposed ridge tops. There are strong associations both with the nearby limestone fringe and coast due to the long views from the ridge tops. In particular there are attractive views over the Solway Firth and to the Lakeland Fells. Despite the concentration of large scale wind energy schemes that dominate the landscape around Workington, many parts remain intact and retain the sense of a pleasant, peaceful working farmed landscape.'

The development section states 'The continued need to support renewable energy schemes is likely to result in an increase in large scale wind energy schemes, energy crops and biomass planting. Large scale wind energy schemes have already changed the character of the sub type, particularly around Workington. Without careful control parts of this sub type could become defined by wind energy development. This could have knock on effects on the character of adjacent landscape types due to the far-reaching visual effects of such development.



The guidelines for development in the sub type state:

Ensure that the capacity for tall and vertical development such as pylons and turbines is agreed and not exceeded to maintain views, particularly in area surrounding Workington; and

Large scale wind energy schemes should follow the guidance and capacity assessments of the Cumbria Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document. Wind turbines and other energy infrastructure should be carefully sited and designed to prevent this sub type becoming an energy landscape.

#### **Type 4 Coastal Sandstone**

Key characteristics are as follows:

- Coastal sandstone cliffs;
- Sandstone rolling hills and plateaus;
- Large open fields;
- Prominent hedge banks bound pastoral fields;
- Small woodland blocks along valley sides;
- Exposed coastal edge moving to intimate; and
- Enclosed farmland inland

'The large scale landscape includes the dramatic and exposed sandstone cliff scenery of St Bees Head. Beyond this to the south are rolling coastal hills and inland a farmed plateau.

The St Bees area is characterised by remnants of the former monastic landscape. The settlements are nucleated and discrete. Many of the buildings are in the local vernacular tradition and built of sandstone. The field pattern is a mix of former common arable field, ancient enclosures and planned enclosure.

The open character of the landscape along the coast offers wide and uninterrupted views across to sea horizons and along the coast. There is a feeling of remoteness and wildness along the coastal edge with the exposure to the cliff edge, changing weather and sea. Inland there is a more intimate feel due to the simple farmed character and the more enclosed rolling land and small valleys.'

#### **Type 5d Lowland – Urban Fringe**

Key characteristics are as follows:

- Long term urban influences on agricultural land;
- Recreation, large scale buildings and industrial estates are common;

- Mining and opencast coal workings are found around Keekle and Moor Row; and
- Wooded valleys, restored woodland and some semi-urbanised woodland provide interest.

'These agricultural landscapes have been subjected to urban and industrial influences for a long time and in many parts maintain a rural character. Field patterns remain distinct in the largely pastoral areas, often bounded by strong hedges and hedgerow trees. Woodland, wetland and scrub has been reintroduced through restoration schemes. Derelict land is dotted throughout the landscape. Despite the scars of former industries, much of the countryside character is still intact with wooded valleys retained along valleys that cut across the landscape.'

Whitehaven was, briefly in the 18th century, the second Atlantic coast port (after Bristol) trading with Ireland, and exporting coal, so in West Cumbria the urban fringes contain much evidence of former coal and iron mining. The settlement pattern is generally dispersed and of fairly recent origin.

This is a busy area where modern development dominates the pastoral character. The towns can be seen as progressively encroaching and areas have an air of neglect. The more agricultural areas and parts where woodland and open green spaces remain are important green lungs close to the towns and cities which provide respite from the busy areas and a connection to the wider countryside.'

### **Type 9a Intermediate Moorland and Plateau – Open Moorlands**

Key characteristics are as follows:

- High mostly open landscapes;
- Undulating semi-improved and unimproved pasture;
- Open rough moorland;
- Areas of deciduous woodland; and
- Areas of peat and raised mire.

'This is a high, generally open landscape. The predominant land cover is a mixture of semi-improved pasture in large rectangular 'lots' and extensive areas of unimproved and unfenced moorland. Deciduous and semi natural woodland can be found in small pockets, shelterbelts and along streams and becks in the more sheltered valleys. The lower parts of the landscape are lightly settled, either with small settlements or dispersed, isolated properties.'

The settlement pattern is generally dispersed with some clusters of 19th century industrial workers housing. The fields are often large and formed by late moorland enclosure. The landscape type features remains associated with the border, including fortified sites, Roman roads and forts and evidence of coal mining around Moresby.

In the north the large open landscapes give a feeling of remoteness and the darker, rougher moorland contrasts with the greener, smoother improved pasture. The changes in colour and texture and feeling of remoteness can be accentuated by changes in the seasons and weather. Views stretch

to the Scottish Hills and are uncluttered and framed by forest. In the west the landscape still feels large and open but less remote due to its more managed look and past uses. However sudden changes to poor weather can lead to a feeling of remoteness in higher areas. Despite the row of pylons it retains large expansive views of the Lakeland Fells which provide a dramatic backdrop to the landscape.'

### **Type 9d Intermediate Moorland and Plateau- Ridges:**

Key characteristics are as follows:

- Distinct ridges;
- Extensive areas of true heathland moorland;
- Improved pasture with distinctive stone walls; and
- Woodland and small belts of trees form prominent features.

'The landscape is a mixture of true heather moorland and a more managed farmed landscape. Unmanaged heather cover or bracken on higher ground gives way to pasture on the lower slopes. The improved pasture can be found in distinct rectangular fields bounded by strong stone walls. Tree cover is sparse and limited to a few remnants of old woodland and small belts of trees. Settlement is scarce. Isolated farmsteads and hamlets are scattered along the sides of the ridges. The landscape has been shaped by man in several ways and features linked to including open cast mining (now restored), quarrying, reservoirs and energy infrastructure intersperse the open moorland and farmed pasture. These introduce a significant man made character to parts of the landscape. In particular the large scale wind turbines and pylons form prominent vertical features.

Settlement is sparse but in the lower areas is generally nucleated whereas higher up it is dispersed and later in origin. Lower down the fields are irregular and often small, but on higher land they are generally regular and a product of late enclosure. The landscape is strongly affected by large-scale quarrying with the quarries at Bannishead being a particularly distinctive feature.

These are generally open, large scale landscapes. The unenclosed moorland gives a feeling of wildness. Views are often wide and expansive and uninterrupted and striking views of the Lakeland Fells and Duddon Estuary and Morecambe Bay provide drama and reinforce the sense of wildness. Changes in weather conditions can accentuate the sense of wildness.'



**Appendix 7. Preliminary Viewpoints and Receptor List**



## Park House Farm Wind Farm Preliminary Viewpoint and Receptor List

The following tables set out our rationale for viewpoint selection in relation to Park House Farm Wind Farm. The viewpoint list is based on the viewpoints identified in the 1998 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) prepared for the development, and our own desk top study of the site and surrounding 20km study area, which includes ZTV analysis based on a 20km study area. This takes account of potential new visual receptors, e.g. properties, public rights of way, roads or tourist attractions which may have been constructed/ created since 1998 including the proposed holiday park at Micklam (application ref. 4/06/2013/0).

We have reviewed the 29no. viewpoints included in the 1998 LVIA (Table 1 below). The table sets out whether each viewpoint is scoped in or out and the reasoning behind this. Viewpoints have been scoped out where the previous assessment identified no change (nil) (7 no.) or slight effects (12 no.). The exception is VP13 St Bees Head which is assessed as having a slight effect, but we have included in the list due to its designation as a Heritage Coast and Landscape of County Importance.

Table 2 illustrates the proposed viewpoints selected for our appraisal. We have selected a total of 14no. viewpoints and the viewpoint locations have been marked up approximately on the ZTV attached.

**Table 1: Review of Viewpoints from the 1998 LVIA**

Viewpoint Ref	Viewpoint Name	Visual Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)	Scoped in or out	Reasoning
1	Micklam House School, Micklam Cottages, 2 houses on Ghyll Grove Lowca, Lowca Top Road	Substantial	In	Represented by WYG selected VP: Lowca Village, Lowca Top Road. In ZTV.
2	Ghyll Grove Estate (most), Lowca	No impacts	Out	Not located within the ZTV

Viewpoint Ref	Viewpoint Name	Visual Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)	Scoped in or out	Reasoning
3	West and East Croft Terraces, East Road, Solway Road, Croft Head (most) Lowca	No impacts	Out	Not located within the ZTV
4	N side of Meadow View and Croft Head, Lowca	Slight	Out	Slight effects identified previously therefore scoped out.
5	Stamford Hill, Stamford Hill Farm	No impacts	Out	Not located within the ZTV
6	Park House Farm, Micklam Farm	Substantial	In	Represented by WYG selected VP: Park House Farm.
7	Foxpit Cottage	Substantial	In	Represented by WYG selected VP at Harrington Parks Farm Close proximity to turbines, although may be screened by woodland
8	Green House, Syke Whinns	Substantial-moderate	Out	Not located within the ZTV
9	Harrington Parks Farm/England Coast Path	Substantial-moderate	In	Represented by WYG selected VP: Harrington Parks Farm
10	Jubilee House	Slight	Out	Close but visibility of just 1 turbine and previously assessed as slight
11	Moreseby Hall Church and	Slight	Out	Slight effects identified previously therefore scoped out..

Viewpoint Ref	Viewpoint Name	Visual Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)	Scoped in or out	Reasoning
	Moreseby Farm			
12	Parton (old town)	Slight	Out	Slight effects identified previously therefore scoped out.
13	High Close in High Harrington	Substantial-moderate	In	Represented by WYG selected VP: High Close, High Harrington Within ZTV
14	Some properties in Harrington, Salterbeck, southern parts of Workington	Substantial-moderate or moderate	In	Represented by WYG selected VP: Moorclose Road, Salterbeck
15	Distington	No impacts	Out	No impacts identified previously therefore scoped out.
16	Lillyhall Estate	Slight	Out	Slight effects identified previously therefore scoped out.
17	Some properties in Brantsy	Substantial-moderate or moderate	In	Represented by WYG selected VP: Bransty Road, Bransty
18	Some Properties in Howgate, Moresby, adjacent to A595(T)	Slight	Out	Slight effects identified previously therefore scoped out.
19	Whitehaven Harbour	Moderate	In	Represented by WYG selected VP: The Candlestick, Whitehaven
20	High Park Ridge	Slight	Out	Slight effects identified previously therefore scoped out.
21	Workington Oldside	Slight	Out	Slight effects identified previously therefore scoped out.

Viewpoint Ref	Viewpoint Name	Visual Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)	Scoped in or out	Reasoning
22	Winscale/Hunday	Slight	Out	Slight effects identified previously therefore scoped out.
23	Some properties in Kells/Woodhouse, Whitehaven	Moderate-slight or slight	In	Represented by WYG selected VP: Public space off Ennerdale Terrace. Within ZTV and moderate-slight effect
24	Cleator Moor	No impacts	Out	No impacts identified previously therefore scoped out.
25	Egremont	No impacts	Out	No impacts identified previously therefore scoped out.
26	Some properties in Seaton	Slight	Out	No impacts identified previously therefore scoped out.
27	Cockermouth	No impacts	Out	No impacts identified previously therefore scoped out.
28	St Bees Head Heritage Coast	Slight	In	Heritage Coast designation. Although previously identified as slight the viewpoint lies within 9km of the site and is a designated coast. Represented by WYG selected VP at St Bees Head.
29	Elevated viewpoints with the LDNP	Slight or nil	Out	No impacts identified previously therefore scoped out.



**Table 2: Proposed Viewpoints for 2020 Landscape and Visual Appraisal**

New Number	Viewpoint Name	Receptor Type	Viewpoint included within 1998 LVIA?	Visual Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)
1	Foxpit Cottage/ Harrington Parks Farm (England Coast Path)	PROW/Residential	Yes – VP7 and VP9	Substantial (VP7) Substantial/moderate (VP9)
2	Park House Farm	PROW/Residential	Yes – VP6	Substantial
3	Micklam House School, Micklam Cottages, 2 houses on Ghyll Grove Lowca, Lowca Top Road. Including proposed Micklam Holiday Park	Road user/ Residential	Yes – VP1	Substantial
4	Quayside at Harrington	Public space	No	New viewpoint not yet assessed
5	High Close in High Harrington	Residential	Yes – VP13	Substantial-moderate
6	Properties in Harrington, Salterbeck, southern parts of Workington. Harrington Nature Reserve.	Residential/Public Space	Yes VP14	Substantial-moderate or moderate
7	England Coast Path – Salterbeck	PROW	No	New viewpoint not yet assessed
8	Quality Corner	PROW	No	New viewpoint not yet assessed
9	Properties in Brantsy	Residential/Road	Yes – VP17	Substantial-moderate or moderate
10	PROW Harras Moor	PROW/Residential	No	New viewpoint not yet assessed

New Number	Viewpoint Name	Receptor Type	Viewpoint included within 1998 LVIA?	Visual Effects (termed 'Significance of impacts' in 1998 LVIA)
11	Whitehaven Harbour	Conservation Area/SM/Public space	Yes – VP19	Moderate
12	Properties in Kells/ Woodhouse, Whitehaven	Residential/Public Space	Yes VP23	Moderate-slight or slight
13	Bridleway south of Seaton	PROW	No	New viewpoint not yet assessed
14	St Bees Head	Heritage Coast & Landscape of County Importance/PROW	Yes – VP28	Slight



**Appendix 8. Cumulative Assessment Data**

All operational, consented and submitted schemes within 35km of Park House Farm Turbines

Development name	Status	LPA	Application Reference	Blade Tip Height	Number of Turbines
Robin Rigg	Operational	Offshore		125	60
Winscales	Operational	Allerdale	2/1997/0902	70	11
Oldside	Operational	Allerdale	2/1995/0916	61	9
Wharrels Hill	Operational	Allerdale	2/2001/0008	81	8
Siddick	Operational	Allerdale	2/1995/0342	61	7
Winscales Moor	Operational	Allerdale	2/2006/1321	81	7
Tallentire	Operational	Allerdale	2/2008/0261	100	6
Fairfield	Operational	Copeland	4/06/2684/0	76	5
Hellrigg (Parkhead Farm)	Operational	Allerdale	2/2007/0076	121	4
Langrigg Hall	Operational	Allerdale	2/2011/0589	27.13	4
Flimby	Operational	Allerdale	2/2007/1255	102	3
High Pow	Operational	Allerdale	2/2004/0944	95	3
Potato Pot	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0594	100	3
Warwick Hall Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2008/0997	107	3
Yeorton Hall	Operational	Copeland	4/11/2183/0F1	15	3
Brownrigg Hall Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2013/0336	21.5	2
Fairladies Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/11/2033/0F1	24.5	2
Voridian	Operational	Allerdale	2/2003/0721	115	2
Whangs Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/11/2534/0F1	34.2	2
Bonny Hill	Operational	Allerdale	2/2007/1028	15.95	1
Bothel Craggs Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2010/0539	24.8	1
Brayton Mill	Operational	Allerdale	2/2011/0973	62	1
Bromfield Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2013/0144	48.5	1
Broom Hill	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0794	34.5	1
Castlerigg Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2125/0F1	77	1
Cleator Moor	Operational	Copeland	4/93/0010/0	24	1
Croft House	Operational	Allerdale	2/2013/0858	17.4	1
Crossrigg Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2010/0988	20.4	1
Distington	Operational	Copeland	4/12/2250/0F1	34.2	1
Drigg Moorside Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2061/0F1	45.5	1
East Town End	Operational	Allerdale	2/2013/0495	74	1
Ellerbeck Barns	Operational	Copeland	4/11/2111/0F1	15	1
Field No 3721	Operational	Lake District National Park	7/2010/2038	17.75	1
Firs Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0753	45	1
Fox House Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0916	77	1
Ghyll Cottage	Operational	Copeland	4/12/2119/0F1	15.05	1
Green House Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/11/2480/0F1	80	1
Green Lonning	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2240/0F1	34.2	1
Greenbank Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/10/2272/0F1	15	1
Hall Bank	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0424	34.3	1
Harrington Parks Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0051	61	1
Hawes Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2217/0F1	15	1
High Aketon	Operational	Allerdale	2/2011/0293	27.13	1
High House	Operational	Copeland	4/14/2241/0F1	21.5	1
High Houses	Operational	Lake District National Park	7/2011/2164	19.9	1
Highfield Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2157/0F1	45.5	1
Homerigg Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0429	27.1	1
Homerigg Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2011/0917	27.13	1
Hunday Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2013/0082	77	1
Huntinghow Cottage	Operational	Copeland	4/11/2593/0F1	19.25	1
Land At High Aketon	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0026	27.13	1

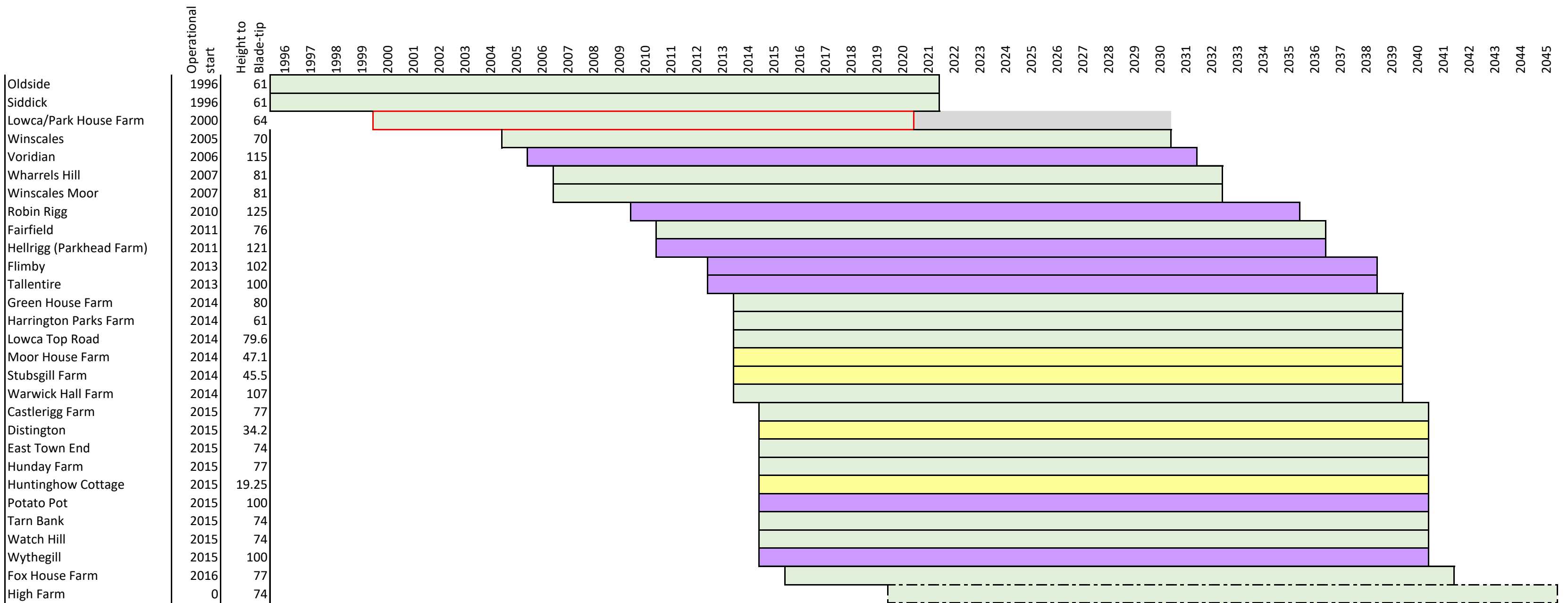
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Land To South Of Bell House Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/14/2511/OF1	36.6	1
Langhorn Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2318/OF1	46.3	1
Langley Park Farm	Operational	Lake District National Park	7/2011/4064	21	1
Leesrigg Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0635	34.2	1
Low Tarns	Operational	Allerdale	2/2009/0876	25	1
Low Tarns	Operational	Allerdale	2/2011/0860	25	1
Low Thorney Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/12/2566/OF1	24.8	1
Lowca Top Road	Operational	Copeland	4/12/2557/OF1	79.6	1
Lowmoor	Operational	Allerdale	2/2010/0018	20	1
Marlborough Hall Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2071/OF1	34.2	1
Maryport	Operational	Allerdale	2/2007/0689	17.5	1
Moor House Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2011/0444	47.1	1
New Grange	Operational	Allerdale	2/2015/0389	48.01	1
Oughterside Mill	Operational	Allerdale	2/2014/0582	34.5	1
Oxenriggs Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2392/OF1	34.5	1
Petersburgh Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/14/2251/OF1	45	1
Prospect House	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0603	67	1
Red Hall	Operational	Allerdale	2/2010/0817	24.8	1
Seascale School	Operational	Copeland	4/10/9004/OF2	19.5	1
Springfield Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/12/2096/OF1	22.52	1
Stepping Stones Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2009/0355	17.7	1
Stubsgill Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2173/OF1	45.5	1
Tarn Bank	Operational	Allerdale	2/2013/0494	74	1
Tarns Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0345	46	1
Thornflatt Farm	Operational	Lake District National Park	7/2006/4107	17.75	1
Torrerie	Operational	Dumfries and Galloway	11/P/2/0146	19.9	1
Watch Hill	Operational	Copeland	4/12/2170/OF1	74	1
Wath Brow	Operational	Copeland	4/09/2341/0	15	1
West House Farm	Operational	Allerdale	2/2012/0914	77	1
Westlakes Research Institute	Operational	Copeland	4/09/2318/0	15.25	1
Wythegill	Operational	Allerdale	2/2011/0259	100	1
Yeorton Hall Farm	Operational	Copeland	4/13/2091/OF1	45.5	1
Arlecdon Wastewater Treatment Works	Consented	Copeland	4/14/9005/OF2	17.75	1
Bailey Ground Farm	Consented	Copeland	4/12/2173/OF1	39	1
Croftlands	Consented	Allerdale	2/2011/0363	27.13	1
Goose Green Farm	Consented	Allerdale	2/2012/0315	67	1
Green Lonning	Consented	Copeland	4/12/2199/OF1	24.8	1
High Farm	Consented	Copeland	4/15/2187/OF1	74	1
Lane Head Farm	Consented	Allerdale	2/2012/0498	61	1
Lucy Close	Consented	Allerdale	2/2010/0533	24.8	1
Outgang Farm	Consented	Allerdale	2/2010/0530	24.8	1
Overwater Hall Hotel	Consented	Lake District National Park	7/2007/2078	19.8	1
Prospect House	Consented	Allerdale	2/2010/0722	24.9	1
Sandale Transmitting Station	Consented	Allerdale	2/2010/0657	15.6	1
Springfield House	Consented	Allerdale	2/2007/1053	19.5	1
Stubbsgill Farm	Consented	Allerdale	2/2010/0992	20.4	1
Torrerie 2	Consented	Dumfries and Galloway	13/P/2/0252	20.35	1
Newlands Farm	Submitted	Allerdale	2/2013/0134	35	1

Schemes scoped into the Landscape and Visual Appraisal

Name	Application Ref	LPA	STATUS	Turbines	Blade-Tip Height (m)	Distance from Lowca (Km)	Year Operational	Comments re Operational Year
Oldside	2/1995/0916	Allerdale	Operational	9	61	6.19	1996	
Siddick	2/1995/0342	Allerdale	Operational	7	61	8.05	1996	
Winscales	2/1997/0902	Allerdale	Operational	11	70	5.66	2005	
Voridian	2/2003/0721	Allerdale	Operational	2	115	8.21	2006	
Wharrels Hill	2/2001/0008	Allerdale	Operational	8	81	23.58	2007	
Winscales Moor	2/2006/1321	Allerdale	Operational	7	81	6.6	2007	
Robin Rigg		Offshore	Operational	60	125	17.59	2010	
Fairfield	4/06/2684/0	Copeland	Operational	5	76	3.41	2011	
Hellrigg (Parkhead Farm)	2/2007/0076	Allerdale	Operational	4	121	31.12	2011	
Flimby	2/2007/1255	Allerdale	Operational	3	102	10.78	2013	
Tallentire	2/2008/0261	Allerdale	Operational	6	100	18	2013	
Green House Farm	4/11/2480/OF1	Copeland	Operational	1	80	0.64	2014	
Harrington Parks Farm	2/2012/0051	Allerdale	Operational	1	61	0.95	2014	
Lowca Top Road	4/12/2557/OF1	Copeland	Operational	1	79.6	0.73	2014	
Moor House Farm	2/2011/0444	Allerdale	Operational	1	47.1	3.29	2014	Assumed - on 2016 aerial - conditions discharged 02/2014
Stubsgill Farm	4/13/2173/OF1	Copeland	Operational	1	45.5	3.5	2014	
Warwick Hall Farm	2/2008/0997	Allerdale	Operational	3	107	24.19	2014	
Castlerigg Farm	4/13/2125/OF1	Copeland	Operational	1	77	2.75	2015	
Distington	4/12/2250/OF1	Copeland	Operational	1	34.2	1.71	2015	Approved 2012 assumed 3 years
East Town End	2/2013/0495	Allerdale	Operational	1	74	6.01	2015	Assumed - works started july 2014
Hunday Farm	2/2013/0082	Allerdale	Operational	1	77	4.95	2015	Approved 2014 - present on 2016 aerial
Huntinghow Cottage	4/11/2593/OF1	Copeland	Operational	1	19.25	3	2015	Approved 2012 assumed 3 years
Potato Pot	2/2012/0594	Allerdale	Operational	3	100	5.46	2015	
Tarn Bank	2/2013/0494	Allerdale	Operational	1	74	6.39	2015	Assumed - works started july 2014
Watch Hill	4/12/2170/OF1	Copeland	Operational	1	74	3.07	2015	Approved 2013 - present on 2016 aerial
Wythegill	2/2011/0259	Allerdale	Operational	1	100	8.63	2015	
Fox House Farm	2/2012/0916	Allerdale	Operational	1	77	13.88	2016	Assumed - conditions discharged 2015
High Farm	4/15/2187/OF1	Copeland	Consented	1	74	3.22	0	

**Timeline**





## Appendix 9. Report Conditions

### Landscape and Visual Appraisal for Park House Farm Wind Farm

This report is produced solely for the benefit of Cannock Wind Farm Services Limited and no liability is accepted for any reliance placed on it by any other party unless specifically agreed by us in writing.

This report is prepared for the proposed uses stated in the report and should not be relied upon for other purposes unless specifically agreed by us in writing. In time, technological advances, improved practices, fresh information or amended legislation may necessitate a re-assessment. Opinions and information provided in this report are on the basis of WYG using reasonable skill and care in the preparation of the report.

This report refers, within the limitations stated, to the environment of the site in the context of the surrounding area at the time of the inspections. Environmental conditions can vary and no warranty is given as to the possibility of changes in the environment of the site and surrounding area at differing times.

This report is limited to those aspects reported on, within the scope and limits agreed with the client under our appointment. It is necessarily restricted and no liability is accepted for any other aspect. It is based on the information sources indicated in the report. Some of the opinions are based on unconfirmed data and information and are presented accordingly within the scope for this report.

Reliance has been placed on the documents and information supplied to WYG by others, no independent verification of these has been made by WYG and no warranty is given on them. No liability is accepted or warranty given in relation to the performance, reliability, standing etc of any products, services, organisations or companies referred to in this report.

Whilst reasonable skill and care have been used, no investigative method can eliminate the possibility of obtaining partially imprecise, incomplete or not fully representative information. Any monitoring or survey work undertaken as part of the commission will have been subject to limitations, including for example timescale, seasonal, budget and weather related conditions.

Although care is taken to select monitoring and survey periods that are typical of the environmental conditions being measured, within the overall reporting programme constraints, measured conditions may not be fully representative of the actual conditions. Any predictive or modelling work, undertaken as part of the commission will be subject to limitations including the representativeness of data used by the model and the assumptions inherent within the approach used. Actual environmental conditions are typically more complex and variable than the investigative, predictive and modelling approaches indicate in practice, and the output of such approaches cannot be relied upon as a comprehensive or accurate indicator of future conditions.

The potential influence of our assessment and report on other aspects of any development or future planning requires evaluation by other involved parties.

The performance of environmental protection measures and of buildings and other structures in relation to acoustics, vibration, noise mitigation and other environmental issues is influenced to a large extent by the degree to which the relevant environmental considerations are incorporated into the final design and specifications and the quality of workmanship and compliance with the specifications on site during construction. WYG accept no liability for issues with performance arising from such factors.

March 2020  
WYG Environment Planning Transport Ltd