



Great Harmeston Solar Farm Environmental Statement

Technical Appendix 5.7

Visual Detailed Assessment



The scoping out stage carried out in **Appendix 5.6 Visual – Scoping Out** identified that receptors present at the following viewpoints have the potential to experience significant visual effects:

- Viewpoint 1.
- Viewpoint 2.
- Viewpoint 3.
- Viewpoint 6.
- Viewpoint 7.
- Viewpoint 13.
- Viewpoint 14.
- Viewpoint 15.
- Viewpoint 16.
- Viewpoint 17.
- Viewpoint 18.

The following tables provide a detailed visual assessment of the shortlisted viewpoints and include the description of baseline views.

For simplicity, the Construction Phase considers the Proposed Development in isolation without the proposed cumulative schemes.

Operational Phase relates to effects at Year 1 and includes consideration of the operational cumulative schemes. The assessment of the construction phase is written with reference to **Chapter 4 Proposed Development**.

Residual Effects relate to Year 15, and the assessment includes consideration of the operational cumulative schemes. Cumulative effects consider proposed cumulative scheme, i.e. those in planning, scoping, screening as appropriate.

Figure 5.11 Context baseline Views and Photoviews provides the photographic evidence with **Figure 5.12 Photomontages** supporting the assessment.

The assessment in this **Appendix 5.7 Visual – Detailed Assessment** is written with reference to the proposed mitigation planting **Figure 5.3 Landscape Masterplan** and **Appendix 5.5 Arboricultural Survey, Impact Assessment and Protection Plan**.

Viewpoint 1				
Northwestern section of Old Rosemarket Road				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Recreational receptors	Medium	High	High	394m
Road users (rural lane)	Medium	Medium	Medium	
<p>Existing View:</p> <p>This is one of the first locations along this road (except Preliminary View 9, Appendix 5.x) from where the Site is visible. Views are limited to the higher ground in its eastern parcel: Fields F28 and F31. The slope of the land across the Fields acts to foreshorten the views of the Site’s interior. The perimeter and internal hedgerows provide a scale comparison. The Site is seen in direct context of the adjacent dwellings – those along Hayston Road and the north western section of The Old Rosemarket Road. Conifer trees at Fairviews are easily recognisable features, often seen from other locations in the surrounding landscape. Westbury Cottage visible in the middle ground.</p> <p>The visible part of the Site occupies a very small part of the overall panorama.</p> <p>Viewpoint 2 is considered to be representative of views gained from this section of the road, between Preliminary View 9 and the railway overbridge, on the edge of Johnston (Viewpoint 3). Views are controlled by the roadside hedgebank and are generally channelled along the road. Occasional views, where field gates permit, extend south west towards Steynton.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase:</p> <p>The construction phase would introduce some very limited movement and activities across both Fields, but this would not detract from the overall quality and character of the view given the modest distance and intervening vegetation.</p> <p>The road users would gain glimpses of the Site land as they go over the bridge with views quickly interrupted by the intervening vegetation that marks the road.</p>			Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible
			Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible
<p>Operational Phase:</p> <p>The north western area of the solar panels in Field F31 is expected to be the most visible part of the Proposed Development. The 50 m wide buffer to the settlement edge ensures the higher ground in Field F31 remains open and the developable area is pushed further down the slope, with the upper edge of the solar panels sitting c. 1 – 2 m lower. The buffer accommodating the overhead power lines within Field F31 introduces a gap with the solar panels across the remaining part of the Field located further 1 – 2 m lower than those along its northern edge.</p> <p>The northern half of Field F32, that abutting The Old Rosemarket Road, is screened by intervening trees and built form of Westbury Cottage. Its southern part sits much lower thus the solar panels would exert very limited influence over this view.</p>			Low	Long-term, reversible – Moderate Adverse
			Low	Long-term, reversible – Minor Adverse

Viewpoint 1		
<p>Mitigation Measures: Buffer to the settlement edge. Internal hedgerow H84 (3 m high) between Fields F31 and F32 to be allowed to grow out by c. 0.5 – 1 m to form a strong tall feature, be maintained thereafter as such, to be sufficiently tall to continue to be visible amongst the solar panels and break up the overall scale of the Proposed Development. Introduced hedgerow trees would help filter / screen some of the panels in Field F31.</p>		
<p>Residual Effects: It is predicted that at Year 15 the increase in canopy cover would have the ability to substantially restrict the panels in Field F31. The existing vegetation along the railway line and the intervening woodland at Westbury Cottage would gain height and would substantially restrict views of the solar panels in Field F32.</p>	Negligible	Long-term, reversible – Negligible
<p>Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15): The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative scheme.</p>	No Change	Long-term, reversible – No Effects
<p>Decommissioning Phase: At this stage, it is predicted that the mature boundary hedgerows and hedgerow trees would completely screen the existing modules within Fields F31 and F32, or their views would be inconsequential. During the decommissioning phase views are likely to include the cranes and activities associated with decommissioning but these would be highly localised and temporary, and short-term with the mature boundary vegetation restricting views into this part of the Site.</p>	Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible

Viewpoint 2				
Northwestern section of Old Rosemarket Road (railway overbridge)				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Recreational receptors	Medium	High	High	11m
Road users (rural lane)	Medium	Medium	Medium	
<p>Existing View:</p> <p>Restricted and largely glimpsed view as one travels across the railway overbridge, on the edge of Johnston. Views are controlled by the roadside vegetation and are of a relatively narrow angle of view. The visible extent of the Site: Fields F31 and F32, occupies the majority of the foreground with Fairlawns marking the southern edge of Field F31. The A477 is screened by its roadside hedgerow, but taller vehicles are easily appreciated, creating a mid range horizon when looking due west.</p> <p>The view is rural and relatively quiet, with occasional noise and movement introduced by the railway line, and traffic along the A477. Views along the railway tracks and over the low lying eastern part of Field F32 extend towards the distant horizon, and include built form in Steynton and wind turbines around Milford Haven. Modern housing on the edge of Steynton is identifiable in the far distance, largely due to its relative elevation and light reflected by the elevations. The turbines east of Milford Haven and the tall chimney stacks of the oil refinery are identifiable but their influence is limited given the direction of view and its restricted nature.</p> <p>Hedgerows, hedgerow trees, and linear woodlands form one of the main components of the landscape here.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase:</p> <p>The construction stage would be seen by recreational receptors at very close range and in direct views. The construction phase would introduce some notable change across both Felds, increasing the human presence in the landscape and altering its rurality.</p> <p>The road users would gain glimpses of the Site land as they go over the bridge with views quickly interrupted by the intervening vegetation that marks the road.</p>			High	Short-term, temporary – Major Adverse
			Low	Short-term, temporary – Minor Adverse
<p>Operational Phase:</p>			High	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse

Viewpoint 2		
<p>The recreational receptors would gain views of the solar panels at very close range and in direct views. At present there is little intervening features that would soften / screen the development in Fields F31 and F32. Trees along The Old Rosemarket Road enclose the northern edge of the eastern parcel, restricting views of the infrastructure.</p> <p>The road users would gain glimpses of the solar panels as they go over the bridge with views quickly interrupted by the intervening vegetation that marks the road. Views of the distant features on the skyline would not be affected. Restricted nature of views reduces the perception of the infrastructure.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other solar farms. Minor increase in complexity but the visible wind turbines are distant and substantially screened, and do not read as forming part of the local landscape / visual context.</p>	Low	Long-term, reversible – Minor Adverse
<p>Mitigation Measures: Internal hedgerow H84 (3 m high) between Fields F31 and F32 to be allowed to grow out c 0.5 – 1 m to form a strong tall feature, and be maintained thereafter as such, allowing it to be still visible amongst the panels. This would help reduce the scale of the development and soften the appearance of the panels in Field F31. Consider introducing trees into the internal hedgerow H84 to increase canopy cover and screening.</p>		
<p>Residual Effects: It is predicted that at Year 15 the developing hedgerow tree canopies would have the ability to screen / substantially restrict views of the panels in Field F31.</p> <p>The existing vegetation along the railway line would gain height and would help soften the eastern edge of Field F32, but views would continue to be gained in winter and as one walks over the bridge. The proposed vegetation in the north eastern corner of Field F32 would substantially screen parts of the development in this particular field, as illustrated by the existing trees seen to the right of the view.</p> <p>Views gained by road receptors are expected to be curtailed by the internal hedgerow screening much of the development in Field F31.</p>	Medium	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse
	Negligible	Long-term, reversible – Negligible
<p>Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15): The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative scheme.</p>		
<p>Decommissioning Phase: At this stage, it is predicted that the mature hedgerow trees between Fields F31 and F32, and vegetation along the edge of Field F32, would substantially restrict the existing solar modules. During the decommissioning phase views are likely to include the cranes and activities across this part of the Site and highly restricted views of cranes in Field F31. Such views would be highly localised and temporary, and short-term. Once the solar panels and associated infrastructure have been removed the view would reverse to its current rural character.</p>	Low	Long-term, reversible – Moderate Adverse
	Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible

Viewpoint 3				
Northwestern end of Old Rosemarket Road				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Recreational receptors	Medium	High	High	1m
Residents in Johnston	Medium	High	High	
Road users (rural lane)	Medium	Medium	Medium	
<p>Existing View: Strongly enclosed views along the road with built form, fencing, garden vegetation, and vegetation along The Old Rosemarket Road channelling the views. The focus is on the road itself. Views through the field gate are of little scenic value and limited attractiveness. Views through the field gate are very oblique to right angle. Distant landscape is appreciated but does not attract attention given the incidental nature of this view, restricted by the perimeter wall / vegetation at No. 44. The elevated section of the A477 is clearly visible and numerous turbines in the distant southern study area are seen against the sky – relatively strong feature due to their numbers and seen simultaneously with tall chimney stacks of the oil refinery. Field F32 can be seen, partially, over the boundary vegetation / wall and through the tree canopies. Site land associated with field F31 is screened. Settlement edge character. Views gained by the residents at Woodlands View are substantially restricted by the understorey and tree vegetation along The Old Rosemarket Road. Views from No. 44 and its curtilage would be very close range and direct but in parts restricted by its boundary features.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase: Theoretically, the construction stage would be seen by the receptors at very close range and in restricted views. The vegetation along the edge of the Site and within the curtilage of No. 44 is substantial enough to reduce the adverse influence or filter such views. Restricted views of movement and infrastructure. Cranes in Field F31 likely to be seen across the curtilage of No. 44. Limited visual relationship with the wider landscape. Views gained by road receptors in transition and at right angle. Views gained by residents do vary in character and nature from direct and relatively open (No. 44) to substantial restricted (residents along Woodlands View street).</p>			Low	Short-term, temporary – Moderate Adverse
			Negligible (residents along Woodlands View) to High (No. 44)	Short-term, temporary – Negligible to Major Adverse
			Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible

Viewpoint 6				
A477 to and from Johnston				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Residents in Johnston	Medium	High	High	0m
Road users (A class road)	Medium	Low	Medium	
<p>Existing View: Elevated view over the roadside hedgerow H26, across Field F31 towards undulating rural landscape – attractive views; with the interior of Field F28 seen through the modest height roadside hedgerow H20 (2 m high, recently cut). Visibility of the Site Land will be restricted for moving road receptors. Travelling south, the focus is on the distant landscape with the landform rising around the A477 / Neyland Road. A small group of trees is visible on the horizon and marks the location of the A477 lay-by (Preliminary View 21). The modern housing in Steynton is visible in an oblique view but the roadside hedgerow partially interrupts the line of sight, and this part of the panorama / horizon is not particularly attractive with multiple wind turbines and tall chimney stacks punctuating the horizon.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase: The construction activities, plant movement, and cranes etc would be seen potentially at close quarters, and if carried out simultaneously across Fields F31 and F28 would affect the available panorama. The roadside hedgerow, coupled with the slope of the land and direction of travel, assist in channelling the views due south east, but the influence would be evident given the extent of the solar panels and their proximity to the roadside hedgerow. Residents at Fairviews and adjacent Poppy Fields (both bungalows) would experience the change at close quarters, but the line of sight from Poppy Fields is interrupted by their perimeter wall, roadside hedgerow (i.e. perimeter hedgerow at Field F28), and frequent fast-moving traffic along the A477. Perimeter wall at Fairviews interrupts their views due south west towards field F28 but a gap in boundary planting along the southern edge of their curtilage allows for relatively unrestricted and direct views into Field F32.</p>			High (Fairviews) to Negligible (Poppy Fields)	Short-term, temporary – Major Adverse to Negligible
			High (assuming its simultaneous across F31 and F28)	Short-term, temporary – Major Adverse
<p>Operational Phase:</p>			High (Fairviews) to Negligible (Poppy Fields)	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse to Negligible

Viewpoint 6		
<p>Views from Fairviews would be close range with the collar panels located c. 50 m away from their curtilage and at a slightly lower elevation. Views, nevertheless, would be redefined. Views from Poppy Fields would be altered to an inconsequential degree, given the nature of views and context.</p> <p>The solar panels in Field F31 would substantially restrict views due south east, channelling the views along the road corridor. The rural context would be partially removed. The solar panels in Field F28 would be partially restricted and their upper parts would screen / restrict views towards Steynton, the wind turbines and chimney stacks – limited loss to the visual amenity when looking due south west.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other solar farms. The visible wind turbines are distant and do not read as being part of the local landscape albeit they influence the character of the wider landscape. The difference in typology and visual characteristics of the wind turbines assist in reducing the degree of change. Increase in complexity but distance helps partially mitigate against the change.</p> <p>Views from the dwellings appear to be restricted to appreciate the cumulative schemes and the panels are likely to screen views from Fairviews. Cumulative views from Poppy Fields and its curtilage are unlikely to be gained.</p>	High	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse
<p>Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>Reduction in extent of the panels across the higher ground Field F31 – buffer to the northern edge and adjacent Fairviews. Positive management and gapping up of the roadside hedgerows (H26 and H20). Allow the roadside hedgerow to grow taller to c 2 m height to restrict views of the panels and preserve views towards the distant landscape.</p>		
<p>Residual Effects:</p> <p>With time the c. 50 m wide buffer to Field F31 would soften views of the solar panels from Fairviews.</p> <p>Assuming the roadside hedgerow can be allowed to grow taller and condition of hedgerow H20 can be improved, views from the road would become channelled and focused due south with the distant landscape forming the main element of the view.</p> <p>Assuming the management of the roadside hedgerow cannot be altered, it is predicted that views of the Proposed Development would persist throughout its operational stage.</p>	Low (Fairviews & Poppy Fields)	Long-term, reversible – Moderate Adverse
	Low	Long-term, reversible – Minor Adverse
<p>Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15):</p> <p>The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative schemes.</p>		
<p>Decommissioning Phase:</p> <p>Close range and direct (Fairviews) views. The roadside hedgerow would assist in limiting the views in.</p>		
	Low (assuming its simultaneous across F31 and F28) to Low (Poppy Fields only)	Short-term, temporary – Minor Adverse to Moderate Adverse (Poppy Fields only)

Viewpoint 7				
A477 and A4076 / Milford Road Roundabout				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Residents in Johnston	Medium	High	High	0m
Road users (A class road)	Medium	Low	Medium	
<p>Existing View: View gained from a footway along the A477, near the roundabout with the A4076 / Milford Road. Roadside hedgerows, either side of the roads, and fencing, restrict views from ground floor windows of the nearby dwellings and indeed the land associated with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Overall, very limited inter-visibility between the Site Land and dwellings on the south eastern edge of Johnston (those along Ayston View and at the roundabout). Very limited visual relationship with the wider countryside. Restricted views west include the rising land past Lower Bulford with cumulative operational Solar Site B sat atop – very limited influence due to distance and limited area of solar panels being visible. Smooth landform slopes towards Bulford Road Diversion revealing strongly rectilinear field pattern. Woodland on the lower slopes. Settlement edge character with strong influence of locally major highways. Operational Wind Scheme No. 9 visible due south – sequential views from the footway partially restricted by intervening roadside hedgerows and trees – very limited influence. Wind turbines around Milford Haven not visible, or when seen as part of sequential experience would be inconsequential. In winter, the roadside hedgerow allows for restricted views into the Site Land at Field F15.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase: Construction activities within Field F15 are expected to be appreciated to a degree. Movement, human presence and views of plant moving across Field F15 would be largely obstructed by the roadside hedgerow helping to diminish its influence. Views from dwellings on the south eastern edge of Johnson and the church would be substantially interrupted by a hedgerow along the northern edge of the road and close boarded fencing associated with some of the dwellings at Ayston View / or roadside hedgerow elsewhere. Views from first floor windows include Site Land in Field F28. Views gained by road users traveling along this section of the road and across the roundabout would be gained in transition and at speed. The focus is largely on the settlement edge or movement along the road as one approaches a busy roundabout. Lower speed when approaching the roundabout. When traveling south along the A4076 / Milford Road views remain curtailed by a roadside hedgerow and the eye is naturally drawn south towards the rising horizon around Steynton thus the attention is deflected away from the Site.</p>			Negligible (ground floor) to Low (first floor windows)	Short-term, temporary – Negligible ground floor) to Moderate Adverse (first floor windows)

Viewpoint 7		
	Low	Short-term, temporary – Minor Adverse
<p>Operational Phase: It is predicted that views from the footway would include the upper most parts of the solar panels along the northern and eastern edges of Field F15, seen above the roadside hedgerow (H78, 2 m high, recently cut). Internal offset from the roadside hedgerow (for maintenance), whilst limited, would assist in reducing their visibility and reduce any contrast / competition with this semi-natural feature. Views of the Operational Wind Scheme No. 9 alter the character of the view to some limited degree with the operational Solar Site B exerting very limited influence. The Proposed Development would bring energy infrastructure into the foreground, but views would remain restricted and glimpsed. This is not a place where one would linger thus the landscape is experienced in transition, and views of the wider countryside are very restricted. The operational Solar Site B and proposed Development are likely to be understood as two different schemes.</p>	Negligible (ground floor) to Low (first floor windows)	Long-term, reversible – Negligible ground floor) to Moderate Adverse (first floor windows)
	Medium	Long-term, reversible – Moderate Adverse
<p>Mitigation Measures: Field F41 remains undeveloped – buffer to the settlement. Improve condition of the perimeter hedgerow to Fields F15 and F28 and allow it to grow out to c. 2.5 m. Relax the management regime – the hedgerow appears to be cut back relatively low.</p>		
<p>Residual Effects: Assuming the new perimeter hedgerow has established, and allowed to grow out to c. 2.5 m and its condition improved, views into Field F15 would be substantially restricted or completely screened from ground level. Views into Field 28 from first floor windows would continue to be gained – the new perimeter hedgerow here ought to be maintained at c. 2.5 m height in order to preserve the long distant views currently gained by the residents at Ayston View. Assuming the additional mitigation planting has not been implemented the effects identified at Year 1 would persist throughout the operational phase of the Proposed Development.</p>	Negligible (F15) to Low (first floor windows)	Long-term, reversible – Negligible to Moderate Adverse
	Negligible	Long-term, reversible – Negligible
<p>Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15): The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative schemes.</p>	No Change	Long-term, reversible – No Effects
<p>Decommissioning Phase: Close range but restricted views. The roadside hedgerow would assist in limiting the views in.</p>	Low	Short-term, temporary – Minor Adverse
	Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible

Viewpoint 13				
A4076 / Milford Road to and from Johnston				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Road users (A class road)	Medium	Low	Medium	0m
<p>Existing View: Pleasant views across the undulating countryside. Field pattern accentuated by hedgerows with tree belts on the lower and higher ground across the panorama. Operational Wind Scheme No. 9 seen at close quarters with the operational Solar Site B seen behind / slightly to the right cloaking one of the gently undulating fields. The geometry of the existing solar panels is somewhat lost and the scheme reflects very little light in dull weather conditions, appearing the same colour as the overcast sky. Farm buildings and a silo seen across the road. The interior of the Site’s western parcel is visible in this view and is perceptible by travelling road receptor along this section of the road – F7 (very restricted but close range view over the roadside hedgerow H54), F1, F3, and F4. No visual relationship with Johnston due to intervening landform. Views east screened by a roadside hedgerow. Views due south west along the road corridor include modern housing on Thornton Road – between Milford haven and Steyton. Large scale turbines around Milford Haven not visible. The two smaller turbines north west of Milford Haven (near the oil refinery facilities) are identifiable against the sky but exert surprisingly limited influence even in good weather conditions.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase: Construction activities across the southern fields of the western parcel would be seen across much of the panorama, partially interrupting views west and affecting the ruralness of the view. Subject to phasing the development along the eastern perimeter would potentially restrict / screen views of the activities across the remaining areas within this part of the Site, which would result in effects similar or equal to those at Year 1 of the operational phase. Assuming the works start at Field F2, the change to the view would be gradual with the initial stages exerting very limited influence. Field F1 left undeveloped.</p>			High	Short-term, temporary – Major Adverse
<p>Operational Phase: Very close range views of the solar panels and fencing in Fields F7 and F6, with F5 further away. The solar panels would be clearly seen above the intervening roadside hedgerow, which appears relatively low. Due to the alignment of the arrays the receptors would be looking at the edge of the panels and their geometry would be very evident. Views of the solar panels in the remaining Fields of the western parcel are expected to be screened by those seen in the foreground. Views from the lay-by are direct but road users would gain oblique to right angle views. The Proposed Development would add to the complexity of the landscape, being seen in direct context of the operational wind turbine and more distant solar farm. The upper edge of the solar panels in Field F7 is expected to screen or substantially restrict views of the operational Solar Site B, effectively removing it from the view or making it inconsequential in visual terms. Field F1 left undeveloped.</p>			High	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse

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Viewpoint 13		
<p>Mitigation Measures: Perimeter roadside hedgerow along Fields F5 – F7 to be allowed to grow out to c. 2.5 m and its condition improved, to ensure effects can be mitigated in the long term. Field F1 left undeveloped.</p>		
<p>Residual Effects: Assuming the perimeter hedgerow has been allowed to grow out to c. 2.5 m and its condition has improved (substantial screening in winter), views into Fields F5 – F7 would be substantially restricted. Assuming the additional mitigation planting has not been implemented the effects identified at Year 1 would persist throughout the operational phase of the Proposed Development.</p>	Low	Long-term, reversible – Minor Adverse
<p>Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15): The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative schemes.</p>	No Change	Long-term, reversible – No Effects
<p>Decommissioning Phase: Close range across the closest three Fields F5 – F7. The roadside hedgerow would have gained height and would have become dense, providing meaningful screening.</p>	Low	Short-term, temporary – Minor Adverse

Viewpoint 14				
Rural lane linking the A4076 / Milford Road with Tierson & Public Footpath PP84/6				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Recreational users	Medium	High	High	553m
Road users (rural lane)	Medium	Medium	Medium	
<p>Existing View:</p> <p>Strongly channelled and narrow view along the road with the roadside hedgebanks either side substantially restricting views of the surrounding countryside. Views through a field gate towards the Site are available as one drives past the operational Solar Site B at which point the road diverts south east. Views are restricted and framed resulting in a very arrow angle of view, experienced in transition and at speed as one follows the curve of the road.</p> <p>Views gained by PRoW users are direct and open, and somewhat elevated relative to the Site but gained at some distance away from the closest visible part of the Site (c. 850 m to western edge of Fields F10 and F14) with the closest Field 2 screened in this view by the intervening landform.</p> <p>The operational Solar Site B abuts the PRoW to the north and is seen at very close range, extending onto the higher ground albeit views further down the PRoW are screened by its perimeter hedgerow. The operational Wind Scheme No. 9 is seen just over 1 km away, being positioned on the lower ground, with the landform sloping away from the PRoW receptor, and with the backcloth of distant and gently rising rural countryside seen above the Site.</p> <p>Large scale turbines around Milford Haven are visible when looking south east, and form an easily recognisable cluster seen against the sky, affecting the south eastern part of the visible horizon.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase:</p> <p>Views of the construction activities would be limited to the Site’s western parcel only. The low lying Fields F1 – F4 are screened by the landform which forms close range foreground. Subject to phasing much of the Site could be subject to simultaneous activities, affecting much of the available panorama. In this particular view these activities would be seen c. 850 m away at their closest point, on the lower ground.</p> <p>The speed of travel and highly restricted nature of views gained by the road users at this location, and indeed along this road, would result in inconsequential / negligible change to the view.</p>			Low	Short-term, temporary – Moderate Adverse
			Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible

Viewpoint 14		
<p>Operational Phase: The Proposed Development would extent across much of the panorama looking east and south east. Its position within the landscape – occupying a lower lying land relative to this Viewpoint, helps reduce its influence with the skyline and horizon looking east remaining unaffected and continuing to contribute to the visual amenity. The northern Fields F10 – F15 are separated from Fields F5 – F7 by three medium scale agricultural fields which fall outside of the Site’s boundaries and would remain open and undeveloped. This would help reduce the overall scale of the Proposed Development and retain a sense of rurality and openness. Views gained by the road users would be highly restricted and inconsequential.</p>	Medium	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse
	Negligible	Long-term, reversible – Negligible
<p>Mitigation Measures: The condition of the internal and perimeter hedgerows to be improved, and hedgerows allowed to grow to c. 2.5 m where lower, allowing them to be still visible amongst the panels and helping to break up the overall scale of the Proposed Development.</p>		
<p>Residual Effects: It is predicted that the introduced mitigation measures would not be sufficient to reduce the Year 1 effects, and these would persist throughout the operational phase of the Proposed Development. The existing woodlands would have gained height but are unlikely to reduce the effects given their low lying position and location relative to the developed Fields.</p>	Medium	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse
	Negligible	Long-term, reversible – Negligible
<p>Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15): The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative schemes.</p>	No Change	Long-term, reversible – No Effects
<p>Decommissioning Phase: Open and direct views across much of the western parcel. The mature internal and perimeter vegetation would assist in controlling some of the views but subject to phasing the activities could potentially extend across much of the visible Fields in this western parcel. Views gained by the road users would be highly restricted and inconsequential.</p>	Low	Short-term, temporary – Moderate Adverse
	Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible

Viewpoint 15				
Public Footpath PP84/6 north west of the Site.				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Recreational users	Medium	High	High	238m
<p>Existing View: View similar to that described at Viewpoint 14 but more open and extending across much of the western parcel, including its south western Fields F1 – F4. Views of the Site Land in Field F15 are substantially foreshortened by the landform but Fields F14 and F10 are somewhat more visible being located c. 260 m away and sloping west towards the receptor. Woodlands in the incise valleys provide separation. Fields F1 – F4 are clearly visible c. 360 m away.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase: Similar to Viewpoint 14 but seen closer and across the whole of the western parcel.</p>			Medium	Short-term, temporary – Major Adverse
<p>Operational Phase: Similar to Viewpoint 14 but seen closer and across the whole of the western parcel.</p>			High	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse
<p>Mitigation Measures: Similar to Viewpoint 14.</p>				
<p>Residual Effects: Similar to Viewpoint 14.</p>				
<p>Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15): The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative schemes.</p>			No Change	Long-term, reversible – No Effects

Viewpoint 15		
Decommissioning Phase: Similar to Viewpoint 14 but seen closer and across the whole of the western parcel.	Medium	Short-term, temporary – Major Adverse

Viewpoint 16				
Bridleway PP48/8, south of Boltonhill Quarry.				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Recreational users	Medium	High	High	772m
<p>Existing View: Incidental and restricted view gained through a field gate. Foreground formed by an agricultural field with the landform partially restricting the mid range landscape. Johnston partially visible to the left of the view along with Bulford Road Diversion. Elevated location offering very distant views towards Milford haven and beyond. Multiple wind turbines and chimney stacks visible on the horizon. The operational Solar Site B is not visible from this Viewpoint or indeed the lane and PRow. The operational Wind Scheme No. 9 is seen just c. 1.7 km away, on the lower ground, with the landform sloping away from the PRow receptor, and with the backcloth of distant and gently rising rural countryside. The Site forms part of the low lying middle ground and its contribution to the visual amenity and character of the landscape is somewhat reduced. Views are limited to Fields Field F15 (interrupted by a line of trees), F12, F5 (very restricted) F6, F7 of the western parcel only. Large scale turbines around Milford Haven are visible and form an easily recognisable cluster seen in the distance against the sky but their negative influence is somewhat reduced given the distance.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase: Views of the construction stage would be relatively distant with the closest areas in Fields F12 and F15 seen c. 1.2 and 1 km respectively as part of the lower lying landscape and away from the skyline and rural backdrop. Assuming the construction works occur simultaneously all visible Fields within the western parcel the change to the view would be identifiable but inconsequential.</p>			Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible
<p>Operational Phase: The receptors would be looking at the back of the panels and due to the distance, the geometry of solar arrays would be lost / would not be that apparent, and this would reduce their appreciation – they would appear darker in colour and recessive in the landscape. A line of trees substantially interrupts views into Field F15 and this, coupled with the undeveloped fields south of F15 and F12 / F11, and limited to very limited inter-visibility with the remaining identified Fields, would assist in reducing the scale of the Proposed Development. Views are foreshortened by the landform.</p>			Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible
<p>Mitigation Measures: The condition of the internal and perimeter hedgerows to be improved, and hedgerows allowed to grow to c. 2.5 m where lower, allowing them to be still visible amongst the panels and helping to break up the overall scale of the Proposed Development. Offset along the northern edge of Field F15.</p>				
<p>Residual Effects: It is predicted that the existing vegetation outside the Site would increase in height and help further screen/ restrict views of Field F15. Development in Fields F12, F6, and F7 are expected to be still visible.</p>				

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Appendix 5.7 Visual – Detailed Assessment

Viewpoint 16		
<p>Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15): The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative schemes.</p>	No Change	Long-term, reversible – No Effects
<p>Decommissioning Phase: Limited perception of movement / human activities. Existing vegetation around the Site is expected to have grown substantially restricting views into Field 15.</p>	Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible

Viewpoint 17				
Public Footpath PP84 7/1, south east of Boltonhill Water Works.				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Recreational users	Medium	High	High	523m
Existing View: View similar to that described at Viewpoint 16 but closer and more open and extending across much of the western parcel, including its south western Fields F1 – F4.				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
Construction Phase: Similar to that described at Viewpoint 16 but closer and include larger part of the Site’s western parcel.			Low	Short-term, temporary – Moderate Adverse
Operational Phase: Similar to that described at Viewpoint 16 but closer and include larger part of the Site’s western parcel.			Medium	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse
Mitigation Measures: Refer to the description at Viewpoint 16.				
Residual Effects: Similar to that described at Viewpoint 16 but closer and include larger part of the Site’s western parcel.			Medium	Long-term, reversible – Major Adverse
Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15): The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative schemes.			No Change	Long-term, reversible – No Effects
Decommissioning Phase: Similar to that described at Viewpoint 16 but closer and include larger part of the Site’s western parcel.			Low	Short-term, temporary – Moderate Adverse

Viewpoint 18				
Bulford Road Diversion, south west of Johnston.				
Receptor Type	Value of View	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Distance to the Site (closest area of solar panels)
Residents in Johnston	Medium	High	High	178m
Recreational users	Medium	High	High	
Road users (major highway)	Medium	Low	Medium	
<p>Existing View: Views gained by road users travelling at speed, and slower moving cyclists and other recreational receptors travelling along this loop to and from Johnston. Vegetation along the highway and embankments (closer to the A4076 / Milford Road Roundabout). Juvenile trees along the southern side of the road. Maturing group of trees on the northern side of the road, close to dwellings at Bulford Close on the south western edge of Johnston. Multiple wind turbines and chimney stacks visible on the horizon in the distance. The operational Solar Site B is partially visible from this Viewpoint – views limited to a small elevated area of solar modules visible above a line of trees but partially screened by mature trees along the road. The operational Wind Scheme No. 9 is seen c. 1 km away, directly behind the western part of Field 15. Backcloth of distant and gently rising rural countryside – seen due south. The eastern part of Field F15 is substantially restricted with the adjacent field (outside of the Site’s boundary) gently rising and seen directly behind.</p>				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
<p>Construction Phase: Residents at Johnston would have their views screened or substantially restricted by the intervening hedgerows and tree canopies – as observed from within Field 15 looking back towards the settlement edge. Views include blank gable end elevations or rooftops only (with no dormer windows) – property at the southern end of Bulford Close are bungalows, with only one property observed to have a balcony set within the roofscape – its views are restricted by close boarded fence and evergreen hedge, and tree canopies. With regards the road and recreational users, views of the construction phase would be largely limited to the western part of Field F15 which forms the middle ground with F12 just visible to its right. Views would include plant movement, cranes, human presence etc seen in the context of the settlement edge landscape and major highway. Any activities within the eastern part of Field F15 would exert considerably reduced influence given the screening provided by the juvenile trees and visual association with the adjacent highway.</p>			Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible
			Low	Short-term, temporary – Moderate Adverse
			Low	Short-term, temporary – Minor Adverse

Viewpoint 18		
<p>Operational Phase: Receptors would gain views of the solar panels in the western part of Field 15, looking at the back of the panels, changing the land use, colour and texture of the middle ground. Their arrangement would reflect the landform and this would help preserve the underlying landform of the local landscape with the solar panels in the central part of Field F15 screened due to slope of the land and then substantially restricted by intervening tree canopies – its eastern part.</p>	Negligible	Long-term, reversible – Negligible
	Low	Long-term, reversible – Moderate Adverse
	Low	Long-term, reversible – Minor Adverse
<p>Mitigation Measures: Woodland planting along the northern edge of Field 15 (its western part).</p>		
<p>Residual Effects: It is expected that the maturing woodland planting would screen the western part of Field F15 and F12, and the existing roadside trees would screen views of the eastern part of Field F15.</p>	Negligible	Long-term, reversible – Negligible
<p>Cumulative Effects (Year 1 and Year 15): The Proposed Development would not be seen from this viewpoint in cumulation with any other identified cumulative schemes.</p>	No Change	Long-term, reversible – No Effects
<p>Decommissioning Phase: It is expected that the maturing woodland planting and roadside trees would screen the activities in Field F15 and F12.</p>	Negligible	Short-term, temporary – Negligible