

Wylfa Newydd Project

**6.4.58 ES Volume D - WNDA Development
App D10-1 - Published sources of landscape
character**

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Extracts of relevant published sources of landscape character are set out in this appendix in order to provide the full version of source text (verbatim), which is summarised in chapter D10 (landscape and visual) (Application Reference Number: 6.4.10). Extracts are set out below under the title of the relevant documents, and should be read in conjunction with figures D10-9 to D10-10 (Application Reference Number: 6.4.101) of this Environmental Statement.
- 1.1.2 The extracts include descriptions of published Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) within the overarching study area defined for the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), as illustrated on figure D10-1 of this Environmental Statement (Application Reference Number: 6.4.101). The overarching study area is based on a 15km offset from the centre of the Power Station, since there is potential for landscape effects within this area, as explained in chapter D10 (Application Reference Number: 6.4.10).
- 1.1.3 Extracts are also included from published *LANDMAP* [RD1 to RD5] aspect areas within the detailed study area, which is illustrated on figure D10-1 (Application Reference Number: 6.4.101). The detailed study area extends up to 6km from the centre of the Power Station. This is the area where theoretical intervisibility is principally concentrated during operation of the Power Station and where there is greater potential for significant landscape effects.

2 National Landscape Character Areas

2.1.1 National Landscape Character Areas (NLCAs) are defined by Natural Resources Wales (NRW). The following documents describe the landscape character within the overarching study area for the LVIA as set out in chapter D10 (Application Reference Number: 6.4.10):

- *National Landscape Character, NLCA01: Anglesey Coast* [RD6] and;
- *National Landscape Character, NLCA02: Central Anglesey* [RD7].

2.2 National Character Areas

NLCA01: Anglesey Coast

2.2.1 The relevant key characteristics listed below for NLCA01: Anglesey Coast have been extracted from the character profile:

“The coastal zone - of by far the largest island in Wales [Anglesey] (720km²) ...”

“Much of the highest land - on the island falls within the coastal area, including Parys Mountain (147m) ...”

“Strong geological orientation - There is a southwest to northeast geological orientation, resulting in corrugated topography, which is manifest along the coastline in places as rocky headlands and sandy bays.”

“Great variety of coastal types - The coastline has great variety, from sheer coastal cliffs and dramatic rocky headlands, to small sandy coves and extensive low lying dunes and sandy estuaries.”

“Wind exposure but some shelter - The striking and windswept heathland landscapes of the wild coastline ... together with the barren, mined landscape of Parys Mountain, contrast markedly with the gentler, green, pastoral landscapes inland, away from the immediate coastal edge.”

“Pasture - Soils include deep loams supporting predominantly pastoral land cover with occasional hay meadows, away from the coastline.”

“Heather and heath - a feature of the thin soils in the more elevated areas such as... the coastline near Amlwch.”

“Clodd[i]au - or earth bank field boundaries feature in the north and west with occasional stone walls, whereas hedges are more common in the south and east.”

“Prehistoric and funerary sites - including standing stones ...”

“Coastal Settlements - often relating to former industry, such as the mining town of Amlwch at the foot of Parys Mountain ... Much 20th Century coastal development relates to tourism and retirement property.”

“A number of prominent man-made landmarks – including ... Parys Mountain (distinctive industrial quarry landscape), Wylfa Nuclear Power Station ...” [RD6]

NLCA02: Central Anglesey

2.2.2 The relevant key characteristics listed below for NLCA02: Central Anglesey have been extracted from the character profile:

“The land-locked central part of Anglesey - part of the largest island in Wales (720km²).

“Rock outcrops and a distinct geological grain - the gentle topography, low lying and near flat in places, follows a northeast to southwest 'grain' imposed by major faults ... In various places there are many craggy rock outcrops.”

“Extensive drumlin fields - thick layers of glacial boulder clays, especially in northwest Anglesey, result in a classic 'basket of eggs' rolling drumlin landscape.”

“Lowland pastures and mixed field patterns - silty and peat soils underlie lowland pastoral grazing land bounded by a strongly geometric pattern of medium to large scale and, more occasionally, small scale fields.”

“Minor rivers and fens - A number of minor rivers and streams cross the landscape, whose alignment is influenced by the northeast to southwest trend. There are many shallow hollows and fens with wetland features including rush pasture and valley mires...”

“Hedgerows and cloddiau - This is generally a rolling, open landscape with a well established pattern of field boundaries, predominantly of hedgerows but with cloddiau in some areas.”

“Few woodlands - Woodlands larger than a small copse are an exception, [including] ...estate woodlands at Presaddfed (Bodedern). Except in sheltered areas, individual trees are few.”

“Generally rural settlement patterns - The only urban settlement is the county town of Llangefni, in the centre of the island. Its nucleated historic core contrasts with modern peripheral housing and expanding light industrial and business park developments. There are only a few villages, but numerous scattered hamlets and farms throughout the area...”

“Prehistoric and funerary sites - ritual and funerary monuments including cairns and round barrows, Iron Age hill forts and Early Christian churches, burial grounds and inscribed stones.”

“Historic windmill towers - including some restored examples, form local features.”

“Modern wind farms - generally limited to an area north of Llanddeusant, but are seen in longer distance views from a much wider area.”

“Llyn Alaw - a large reservoir, nearly 3 miles long and a notable visual feature, providing significant over wintering habitat for wildfowl...” [RD7]

3 The Isle of Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan Review 2015 – 2020

3.1.1 *The Isle of Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan Review 2015 – 2020* aims “... to take account of the natural resources within and outside of its boundaries [of the AONB] and understand how using an ecosystem approach can better manage the natural resources of the AONB.” (Executive summary, chapter 1, section 1.2, page 1 [RD8]).

3.1.2 Chapter 3 of the *Isle of Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan Review 2015 – 2020* [RD8], section 3.2 (page 6), describes the AONB as:

“... predominantly a coastal designation, covering most of Anglesey’s 201 kilometre coastline but also [encompassing] Holyhead Mountain and Mynydd Bodafon along with substantial areas of land which form the essential backdrop to the coast. The total coverage of the AONB on Anglesey is approximately 221sq kms (21,500 hectares).

The landscape of the AONB reflects the varied underlying geology and is a diverse mixture of marine and terrestrial habitats, including rugged cliffs, heathland, sand dunes, salt marshes and mud flats. Holyhead Mountain, the cliffs of North and South Stack and rocky coves are the dominant features of the island’s northern coastline ...” [RD8]

3.1.3 Section 3.5 (page 6) states:

“There are many distinctive features to the unique landscape of the AONB. The coastline is undoubtedly a defining feature; however, the character of the landscape has been influenced by centuries of farming and also traditional industries such as quarrying. Agriculture is the main land use in the AONB, and stone walls, hedgerows and field patterns are an integral part of the landscape.” [RD8]

3.1.4 Section 3.11 (page 7) recognises the focus on Anglesey for energy development including nuclear power and states:

“...The proximity of these industries to the AONB and the need to bring the energy ashore highlights their influence on both the landscape and the seascape of the AONB, and also the pressure from development in close proximity to the countryside and coast.” [RD8]

3.1.5 Table 4 in chapter 4 (Guiding Principles and Forces for Change) (page 13) of the *Isle of Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan Review 2015 – 2020* [RD8] lists the features and special qualities of the Anglesey AONB.

3.1.6 AONB features listed comprise:

- coastal landscape/seascape features;
- traditional agricultural landscape features; and

- geological and geomorphological features.

3.1.7 Special qualities are listed as:

- expansive views/seascapes;
- peace and tranquillity;
- islands around Anglesey;
- broadleaved woodlands;
- lowland coastal heath;
- species-rich roadside verges;
- ecologically important coastal and wetland habitats (including rocky shores, estuaries, saltmarshes and beaches);
- built environment including Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings;
- archaeology and ancient monuments/historic landscapes, parks and gardens;
- rural agricultural/coastal communities;
- Welsh language;
- soil air and water quality;
- Public Rights of Way network; and
- accessible land and water.

3.1.8 Section 4.2 (page 16) includes the definition of an 'ecosystem approach' from the *Convention on Biological Diversity* [RD9]:

"A strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way."

3.1.9 Furthermore, it is explained that:

"On Anglesey, adopting an ecosystem approach would mean a full recognition of the values the AONB's special qualities offer to people and if maintained and enhanced, to future generations" [RD8].

3.1.10 Section 4.3 (page 16) states that "*The AONB has a relatively open, rolling, undulating landscape*" [RD8].

3.1.11 Section 4.4 (page 18) describes AONB seascapes as a "... *highly valued part of the Welsh scenery, they can also be some of our last 'wild' landscape areas and support a wealth of natural heritage*" [RD8].

3.1.12 Section 4.10 (pages 21 and 22) states that:

"It is clear that the AONB faces some major developmental pressures over this plan period and further into the future. By gaining a better understanding of the AONB's special qualities and features and improving our understanding of the ecosystem approach and its implications, it will be possible to prepare clear policies to help manage these pressures." [RD8]

3.1.13 Chapter 5 (page 24) of the *Isle of Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan Review 2015 – 2020* [RD8] provides the vision for the future of the AONB:

“The unique landscape/seascape, natural beauty and special qualities of the Isle of Anglesey AONB are conserved and enhanced for the benefit of present and future generations. Communities within the AONB are dynamic and vibrant and can relate to their local environment whilst sustainable activities contribute positively to a healthy rural and coastal economy.” [RD8]

3.1.14 In section 5 (page 25), the vision and strategy for the AONB is categorised in six themes as follows:

- enhancing countryside and coastal character (CCC);
- maintaining nature and the environment (NE);
- supporting opportunities for visiting and enjoying the AONB (VE);
- maintaining the living and working landscape (LWL);
- raising awareness and appreciation (AA) and;
- developing the ecosystem approach (TEA).

3.1.15 Section 5.1 specifies policies which seek to fulfil management objectives for enhancing countryside and coastal character, the overall aim of which is to conserve and enhance the “...natural beauty, special qualities and distinctiveness of the landscape of the Isle of Anglesey AONB, including its natural, cultural and historical features ... for the benefit of present and future generations.” [RD8]

3.1.16 Policies relevant to the assessment of landscape and visual effects in relation to the Power Station and related works are presented in table 3-1 to table 3-4 below [RD8].

Table 3-1 AONB management objective 1: Landscape/seascape policies

Enhancing countryside and coastal character (CCC) Management objective 1: Landscape/seascape (extracts from [RD8]) “The coastal landscape/seascape will be actively conserved through appropriate management”	
Policy code	Policy
CCC1.1	“LANDMAP is used as the process by which the landscape character of the AONB is valued and assessed”
CCC1.2	“The Anglesey Seascapes Character Assessment is used to determine the likely impacts of marine developments on the special qualities and features of the AONB”
CCC1.3	“There is a need to maintain the accessibility and conservation interest of sites of geological and geomorphological importance”
CCC1.4	“Elements of the landscape that have been degraded and lost their character will be restored and enhanced to safeguard the quality of the landscape”

Table 3-2 AONB management objective 2: Historic landscape and culture policies

Enhancing countryside and coastal character (CCC) Management objective 2: Historic landscape and culture (extracts from [RD8]) “Historic, archaeological and cultural sites are important features of the Isle of Anglesey AONB. Strong planning policies will protect such sites from development that degrades the special qualities of the AONB.”	
Policy code	Policy
CCC2.1	“Identify, protect and actively conserve the historic, archaeological and cultural resources of the AONB with relevant agencies”
CCC2.2	“Support the use of traditional skills and practices during restoration of the AONB’s special” qualities”
CCC2.3	“Ensure that high quality, co-ordinated and consistent interpretation material is provided to inform people about the rich history of the AONB”

Table 3-3 AONB management objective 3: Development policies

Enhancing countryside and coastal character (CCC) Management objective 3: Development (extracts from [RD8]) “Planning Policies will ensure that all development within and adjacent to the boundary of the AONB is compatible with the aims and objectives of the designation and that new developments enhance local character.”	
Policy code	Policy
CCC3.1	“All development proposals within and up to 2[km] adjacent to the AONB will be rigorously assessed to minimise inappropriate development which might damage the special qualities and features of the AONB or the integrity of European designated sites”
CCC3.2	“All new developments and re-developments within and up to 2[km] adjacent to the AONB will be expected to adopt the highest standard of design, materials and landscaping in order to enhance the special qualities and features of the AONB. Proposals of an appropriate scale and nature, embodying the principles of sustainable development, will be supported”
CCC3.3	“Ensure that the planning policies reflect the statutory duty of the Council to conserve and enhance the special qualities and features of the AONB”
CCC3.4	“Continue to encourage the under grounding of existing and proposed power and telephone lines”

Table 3-4 AONB management objective 4: Peace and tranquillity

Enhancing countryside and coastal character (CCC) Management objective 4: Peace and tranquillity (extracts from [RD8]) “Unspoilt panoramic views and tranquil atmosphere are safeguarded from improvement that would degrade the special quality of the AONB.”	
Policy code	Policy
CCC 4.1	“Work to maintain the solitude and natural beauty of the AONB”
CCC 4.2	“Work towards securing Dark Skies status for Anglesey”
CCC 4.3	“Ensure noise intrusion into the AONB is within acceptable limits”

4 Special Landscape Areas

4.1 Review of Special Landscape Areas in Gwynedd and Anglesey

4.1.1 *The Review of Special Landscape Areas in Gwynedd and Anglesey* [RD10] is a supporting document to the *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan 2011 - 2026 - Written Statement* [RD11]. It refines the extent of the Special Landscape Area (SLA) designation on Anglesey, from the former island-wide SLA designation, which only excluded the Isle of Anglesey AONB. The adopted *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan 2011 - 2026 - Written Statement* [RD11] identifies six smaller, separate SLAs on Anglesey.

4.1.2 There are two SLAs within the overarching study area, referred to as “12: *Parciau Estatelands*” and “13: *Parys Mountain and Slopes*”, and one SLA within the detailed study area, referred to as “14: *Mynydd Mechell and Surrounds*”. The *Review of Special Landscape Areas in Gwynedd and Anglesey* [RD10] provides a summary justification in chapter 3 for the designation of each SLA. Further detail on the SLAs is provided within Statements of Value and Significance for each SLA at Appendix 1 of the *Review of Special Landscape Areas in Gwynedd and Anglesey*. Both the summary justification and further detailed descriptions are provided below for the SLAs within the study areas for the LVIA.

12: Parciau Estatelands

4.1.3 The summary justification for the SLA 12: Parciau Estatelands is as follows:

“Distinctive parkland/managed estate landscape
Very lightly settled and highly tranquil
Area of coherent landscape character
Overall score of ‘Outstanding’ in Historic Landscapes aspect (‘Moderate’ for Visual & Sensory)
Setting to Anglesey AONB and coastal road (A5025).” [RD10]

4.1.4 The Statement of Significance for the SLA 12: Parciau Estatelands states:

“The Parciau Estatelands Special Landscape Area is located in east Anglesey, inland from the coastal settlement of Moelfre and the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty boundary.

The Parciau Estatelands SLA is a landscape with a strong parkland/managed estate feel, with swathes of mixed and ornamental woodlands, pastoral farmland and patches of gorse providing a varied texture. The landscape includes valued remnant heathland and wetlands (marshy grassland and fen) The strong historic and cultural evolution of the landscape is evident in a number of valued archaeological sites and features. Evidence for late prehistoric and Roman occupation includes Parciau hillfort, sometimes

known as Bryn Ddol, inside of which stone hut circles have been discovered. Chapels of medieval origin, the remains of a medieval settlement and buildings/features relating to the Parciau Estate (including a large domestic house and associated parkland, dovecotes, chapels and estate buildings) further strengthen the SLA's historic character. This peaceful, rural SLA lies immediately adjacent to the Anglesey AONB...

Planning and management proposals in the SLA and within its landscape setting should take account of the following special qualities:

The strong estate/parkland feel of the landscape with valued historic features and archaeological sites ...;

The landscape's function as a setting to the Anglesey AONB;

Significant views from higher ground to the adjacent AONB ...;

The peaceful and strongly rural character of the landscape, with a general lack of modern development." [RD10]

13: Parys Mountain and Slopes

4.1.5 The summary justification for the SLA 13: Parys Mountain and Slopes is as follows:

"Unique and visually prominent feature in north Anglesey - a strong feature of the landscape and backdrop to the seascape

High cultural significance - strong sense of timelessness

Geology and land use giving rise to distinctive colourful landscape and unique ecology

Large parts of area (particularly Parys Mountain core) score highly across the combined LANDMAP aspects (>High)

Parys Mountain scores 'Outstanding' for the Visual & Sensory overall evaluation

Setting to the Anglesey AONB - mountain and slopes descend to the coast; strong intervisibility between the sea, coast and mountain" [RD10]

4.1.6 The Statement of Significance for the SLA 13: Parys Mountain states:

"The Parys Mountain Special Landscape Area encompasses Parys Mountain and its surrounding transitional sloping landscape to the north...

The south of the SLA is formed by the core of Parys Mountain, a unique, prominent ridge which rises to some 150 metres [Above Ordnance Datum] AOD and forms a visually dominant feature which is set within gradually sloping and undulating farmland landscape. A former copper mine (at its time the largest in Britain), has left... [an] unusual landscape of colourful outcrops in striking shades of red, orange and brown, as a result of weathered ore deposits. The landscape reflects its rich industrial legacy, and relic features include derelict pit headgear, settling ponds, tips and quarry faces (designated as a Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest)... The more gentle slopes surrounding Parys Mountain include undulating open farmland,

descending towards the AONB-designated north coast. The SLA has a strong intervisibility with the sea and coastline...

Planning and management proposals in the SLA and within its landscape setting should take account of the following special qualities:

Its function as a unique, iconic and distinctive feature in northeast Anglesey;

Its visual prominence when viewed from the AONB-designated coastline, with strong visual links between the sea, coast, AONB and SLA;

Its expansive vistas and long distance views;

Its nationally important historic and cultural legacy (part of the Amlwch and Parys Mountain Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest);

... Its remote character with general absence of modern development." [RD10]

14: Mynydd Mechell and Surrounds

4.1.7 The summary justification for the SLA 14: Mynydd Mechell and Surrounds is as follows:

"Distinctive 'wild' landscape with pockets of heathland, rough grazing, rock exposures and hummocky topography

Unity between stone walls and stone vernacular of buildings

Feeling of remoteness and tranquillity; very lightly settled

Whole area scores highly across the combined LANDMAP aspects (>High)

Scores 'high' in Visual & Sensory aspect across the area

Forms a setting to the AONB in the west

Area under pressure from surrounding wind farms at odds with its semi-natural, remote and small-scale character" [RD10]

4.1.8 The Statement of Significance for the SLA 14: Mynydd Mechell and Surrounds states:

"The Mynydd Mechell SLA forms a very distinctive small-scale craggy and wild landscape which is clearly discernible from the smoother rolling landscape which surrounds it..."

The SLA is a distinctive landscape, characterised by a craggy, strongly undulating landform with small irregular rough pasture fields bounded by stone walls, rock outcrops and patches of gorse, with numerous ponds. Although the landscape only rises to a height of 92m AOD, it possesses a 'wild' and upland quality, which is easily discernible from the smoothly rolling, drumlin-formed landscape which surrounds the SLA. The SLA includes open rocky moorland and a varied patchwork of semi-natural habitats set within pastoral farmland. It evokes a strong rural quality, and is largely unspoilt with a general absence of modern development. Small twisting lanes follow the undulating topography and occasional houses, farms and hamlets scattered along them, with the main village serving the area being Carreglefn (located

to the southeast). The area has a strong cultural and historic significance, including evidence of settlement from prehistoric times...

Planning and management proposals in the SLA and within its landscape setting should take account of the following special qualities:

The distinctive, small scale craggy landscape, with a wild upland and deeply rural character, contrasting with surrounding smoothly rolling, drumlin formed landscape.

Its intricate network of small irregular fields, paths, tracks, winding roads and [sparse] settlement pattern.

... Unity of the landscape, with vernacular features such as dry stone walls sand stone buildings.

Historic and cultural significance of the landscape, with strong field patterns, evidence of past historic land use and settlement [from] prehistoric times.” [RD10]

5 The Isle of Anglesey: Anglesey Landscape Strategy Update 2011

- 5.1.1 At county level, there are ten LCAs identified in *The Isle of Anglesey: Anglesey Landscape Strategy Update 2011* [RD12], within the overarching study area for the LVIA.
- 5.1.2 LCA 9 Red Wharf Bay and LCA 18: Valley Airfield Environs are located more than 15km from the centre of the Power Station. As such, LCAs 9 and 18 have been scoped out of the assessment, since it is not considered likely that there would be a significant effect on these LCAs.
- 5.1.3 There is theoretical intervisibility to the Power Station and related works and therefore potential for landscape effects for the other eight LCAs within the overarching study area. The key characteristics for these LCAs are set out below. Relevant development and management issues have also been included for LCAs encompassing the Wylfa Newydd Development Area, which are LCA 4: North West Coast and LCA 5: North West Anglesey.

5.2 Landscape Character Areas

LCA 2: Holy Island

- 5.2.1 The relevant key characteristics for the LCA 2: Holy Island are described as follows:

“The LCA forms the majority of Holy Island and contains the main settlement of the island, Holyhead. It is a physically distinct unit separated from the main island, but linked by a causeway (Stanley Embankment) and the Four Mile Bridge... the landscape is relatively low lying but due to the underlying geology has a number of craggy outcrops. The area has small fields typically with stone boundaries and gorse hedges. The fir trees that grow here exhibit a windblown form... At Penrhos is the former estate of the Stanley family which is now managed as a Country Park.

There are a number of important habitats - dry heaths, coastal and intertidal - often within a larger matrix of improved grassland. However, many of these ‘islands’ of habitat value are designated as SSSIs... Holyhead, centred on a Roman town, has become a major port with associated industries. In more recent years the arrival of the A55 has increased this. Part of the town is designated as a Conservation Area. The LCA represents a landscape character that is quite distinctive – rural, wild, exposed, coastal – with the main detractor being aircraft noise from the adjacent RAF Valley airfield. Cross reference to Seascapes Regional [Unit] 8...” [RD12]

LCA 3: Inland Sea

- 5.2.2 The relevant key characteristics for the LCA 3: Inland Sea are described as follows:

“The Inland Sea, which separates Holy Island from Anglesey refers to a wide area of the Holy Island Strait impounded by the Stanley Embankment (built

by Telford to carry the A5 road) to the north running down to Four Mile Bridge. This area is influenced by tidal currents which makes it popular for water sports and boat users. In more recent years the embankment has been widened to carry firstly the railway and now the A55 road to Holyhead. This has increased noise and movement in the area.

... To the north of the embankment the strait opens out to include Traeth y Gribin which forms a large sandy foreshore with limited rocky outcrops and includes the low tide channel of the Afon Alaw. In many ways the landscape of the LCA forms part of the adjacent areas; however, it is such a strong feature locally that it justifies being a distinct LCA in its own right..." [RD12]

LCA 4: North West Coast

5.2.3 The relevant key characteristics for the LCA 4: North West Coast are described as follows:

"... From the Alaw estuary up to Carmel Head, the west-facing coast is one of sandy bays and coves interspersed with rocky cliffs and headlands, particularly from Porth Trefadog northwards... From Carmel Head which rises up to 50 metres AOD eastwards is an area of coast with a more convoluted pattern. For most part it is rocky, with Cemaes Bay providing the only sandy beach. Cemlyn Bay provides a different character, with a brackish lagoon entrapped by a crescent shaped shingle beach..."

A coastal path provides accessibility for most of the way giving a series of ever changing views. Much of the area is owned by the National Trust, particularly around Carmel Head. Despite the quiet, if exposed nature of the area there is much evidence of man's activities including quarries, brickworks and lime kilns... Perhaps the most conspicuous evidence of man's activities is the nuclear power station at Wylfa to the west of Cemaes. Cross reference to Regional Seascape Units 7 and 8 (see appendix D10-2 published sources of seascape character, Application Reference Number: 6.4.59)." [RD12]

5.2.4 Key issues relevant to the assessment of landscape effects for the Power Station and related works comprise:

Coastal Landscapes

"The area includes a range of cliffs and coves. Any development or management proposals should take... account [of]: -

Any direct or indirect impacts upon the range of habitat types

Given its interrelationship with the AONB, any proposals must consider the impact upon people's perceptions of the character and quality of the coast.

Work closely with key landowners, such as the National Trust.

Have regard to the AONB Management Plan." [RD12]

Settlement

"Although only a few settlements lie within the LCA, it is important that any development proposals should: -

- Be of a form and character that reflects each settlement.
- Be considered within terms of cumulative impacts upon the wider landscape.
- Integrate the development using land form, vegetation patterns etc.
- Do not impose standard solutions.
- Have regard of the Cemaes Bay Conservation Area [Supplementary Planning Guidance]." [RD12]

LCA 5: North West Anglesey

5.2.5 The relevant key characteristics for the LCA 5: North West Anglesey are described as follows:

"...It covers the north west of the island from Amlwch down to the A5/A55 corridor between Valley and Caergeiliog. The key feature of its character is the extensive drumlin field. This has resulted in the classic 'basket of eggs' description for the landscape. The extent of this deposit is important in the Welsh context. The hillocks trend in a southwest to northeast direction and closely abut LCA 4 on the coast. In places they even run right down to the coastal edge... Interspersed with this landform are a number of hard rocky features such as Mynydd y Garn and Mynydd Mechell.

The majority of the landscape is characterised by improved grassland, especially in the drumlin field. However, there are a number of marshy grasslands amongst the drumlins as well as small scattered areas of scrub. There are also extensive areas of scattered rocky outcrops ... Here dry ericaceous heath and acid grasslands are found, interspersed with low lying marshy areas...

... Another, more distinctive feature of the landscape is the development of wind farms, particularly to the north of Llyn Alaw. Ironically windmills have long been found on Anglesey and this interrelationship with wind energy continues." [RD12],

5.2.6 Key issues relevant to the assessment of landscape effects for the Power Station and related works comprise:

Coastal Landscapes

"Abutting LCA 4, any development or management proposals should: -
Have regard to the AONB Management Plan." [RD12]

Settlement Edge

"Any proposals for development or landscape management should...:
[Reflect] The development pattern of the area.
Seek to use landform, vegetation patterns to mitigate impacts.
Ensure scale, form and materials respect the local vernacular.
Utilise and retain local field boundary patterns - cloddiau, fences, hedgerows..." [RD12]

Energy Landscapes

“The area is characterised by a number of windfarms. In considering any further developments particular emphasis should be given to cumulative effects upon the landscape character.” [RD12]

LCA 6: Amlwch and Environs

5.2.7 The relevant key characteristics for the LCA 6: Amlwch and Environs are described as follows:

“... This LCA is centred around the historic town of Amlwch and includes the northern coastline between Bull Bay and Point Lynas. It essentially lies within a broad, shallow valley extending down to the coastline. The town is one of several parts. The main historic town is inland, astride the A5025 road. Closer to the coast is an extensive area of disused chemical works, whilst the port fronts onto the coast.... Again more modern windfarm development has been an increasing feature and like LCA 5, the juxtaposition of disused windmills to modern windfarms clearly reflects the importance of wind energy in this part of the island.

... settlement can be said to be utilitarian rather than picturesque, particularly Amlwch reflecting its industrial past. An important consideration is the inclusion of part of the LCA on the CCW/Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales. Cross reference to Seascapes Regional Unit 7 (see appendix D10-2, Application Reference Number: 6.4.59).” [RD12]

LCA 7: Parys Mountain

5.2.8 The relevant key characteristics for the LCA 7: Parys Mountain are described as follows:

“... A unique, iconic landscape feature on Anglesey. In terms of landform, it forms a low but prominent ridge on a west-southwest – east-northeast orientation. Some 2km long and 1km wide, rising to some 150 metres AOD, it forms a visually dominant feature within the more undulating surrounds.... at its peak Parys Mountain was the largest copper mine in Britain. The mainly opencast method of extraction has left a 'moonscape' of colourful outcrops impregnated with copper, lead and sulphur...

In conjunction with Amlwch, Parys Mountain is included in the CCW/Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales, reflecting the rich industrial legacy.” [RD12]

LCA 8: Dulas Bay Hinterland

5.2.9 The relevant key characteristics for the LCA 8: Dulas Bay Hinterland are described as follows:

“The LCA is focused upon the ...coastal landscape of Dulas Bay... As with much of this part of Anglesey, the landscape is gently undulating. The most prominent outcrop is Mynydd Bodafon. Formed by schists and quartzite

pushing through the adjacent rocks, it rises to 178 metres AOD and forms the visual backdrop to the coastal landscape.

There are a number of woodland blocks and tree belts in the area that are closely associated with parkland developments such as Plas Lligwy... and Parciau. Further inland... [is a] ...clustered settlement pattern.

...Inland, the landscape is one of improved grassland and in places arable land. Within this, hedgerows and hedgebanks are common; however, other semi-natural vegetation, including woodlands, scrub and marshy grasslands, are mostly scattered and isolated..." [RD12]

LCA 17: West Central Anglesey

5.2.10 The relevant key characteristics for the LCA 17: West Central Anglesey are described as follows:

"An expansive LCA which includes a large area of the rural heartland of Anglesey..."

The topography of the LCA forms a gently undulating pattern which largely reflects the influences of the underlying geology, especially the Coedana granite. This results in the very typical small rocky outcrops that are scattered around this part of the island. These are mirrored by the complex of small areas of semi-natural habitat – mires, trees, hedgerows and hedgebanks, which are found throughout the area within a larger matrix of improved agricultural grassland. These form an important landscape resource and contribute markedly to the character of the area, breaking up areas of uniformity within the wider landscape.

The A5 and A55 roads pass through the area..." [RD12]

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

6.1.1 The *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13], undertaken on behalf of Gwynedd Council, the IACC and the Snowdonia National Park Authority, considers landscape sensitivity and capacity relating to wind energy, solar photo-voltaic energy, overhead electricity lines, mobile masts and static caravan/chalet parks development, and is therefore of limited relevance to the Power Station and related works. However, landscape sensitivity and capacity issues in relation to overhead electricity lines are likely to be of relevance to the assessment of cumulative effects. General conclusions or findings considered applicable to the Wylfa Newydd Development Area and surrounding area are described below.

6.1.2 In order to assess the sensitivity and capacity of the landscape, the *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13] considers discrete geographical areas, which correspond to the county LCAs defined in *The Isle of Anglesey: Anglesey Landscape Strategy Update 2011* [RD12]. Extracts from the sensitivity evaluation of those areas corresponding with the county LCAs 2 to 8 and 17 are included below.

6.1.3 The Wylfa Newydd Development Area and the majority of the detailed study area for the LVIA lie within character areas A04: North West Coast (corresponding to county LCA 4: North West Coast) and A05: North West Anglesey (corresponding to county LCA 5: North West Anglesey). Information about landscape objectives and overall capacity are therefore included in the summary below, for these two areas only.

6.2 Landscape Character Areas

A02: Holy Island

6.2.1 In relation to A02: Holy Island, the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report [RD13] acknowledges that:

“Views are typically open within this LCA. Landform rises in a north westerly direction towards Holyhead Mountain which provides a prominent landmark...

This medium scale, rolling coastal landscape is in part characterised by development and transport corridors, which lessen the sensitivity of the landscape to a 400 kV overhead line development, in particular to the north. Sensitivity is further reduced by the presence of a number of masts and the Anglesey Aluminium chimney stack which is a prominent man-made feature. The natural characteristics of the more sparsely settled, tranquil coastal landscape... impart a higher degree of sensitivity and have resulted in parts of this LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. Sensitivity in these

areas is further enhanced by the lack of tree cover and openness of this landscape and intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes and areas of cultural heritage value.”

A03: Inland Sea

6.2.2 In relation to A03: Inland Sea, the *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13] acknowledges that:

“Views are typically open within this LCA. There are strong visual links with ... the Inland Sea. Expansive coastal views are afforded from the north of this LCA ...

The typically natural characteristics of this sparsely settled and tranquil, flat coastal landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in its designation as part of the Anglesey AONB. This sensitivity is further enhanced by its intervisibility with adjoining and other high value landscapes, a lack of opportunity to screen tall pylons and by the cultural heritage value of the landscape. When combined with some sensitive visual receptors overall sensitivity of this landscape to a 400 kV overhead development is considered high.”

A04: North West Coast

6.2.3 In relation to A04: North West Coast, the *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13] acknowledges that:

“Views are typically open and exposed along the coastline of this LCA...

This medium scale, coastal landscape comprises a mosaic of fields interspersed with open rugged coastline which provide dramatic settings and skylines. The natural characteristics of this sparsely settled, tranquil and scenic landscape impart a high degree of sensitivity and have resulted in much of the LCA being designated within the Anglesey AONB. When combined with a high degree of intervisibility along the coastline together with the cultural heritage value of the landscape, the overall sensitivity to a A400 kV overhead line development is considered typically high. However, the influence of the Wylfa nuclear power station to the northeast and its associated 400 kV overhead line locally reduces sensitivity.”

6.2.4 The main landscape objective for A04: North West Coast is ‘landscape protection’, defined as, “*Typically no development or very infrequent smaller scale renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.*” on page iv of the *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13].

6.2.5 The indicative overall landscape capacity, which is only of partial relevance to the Power Station and related works, is stated as “*Typically no capacity for further 400 kV overhead line developments.*” [RD13]

A05: North West Anglesey

6.2.6 In relation to A05: North West Anglesey, the *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13] acknowledges that:

“Views are typically open within this LCA. Coastal views are available from areas in the north and west...

This is a medium scale landscape comprising extensive drumlin fields with scattered rocky outcrops. Northern and western areas are particularly scenic and designated as part the Anglesey AONB, thus increasing sensitivity in those localities. In areas adjacent to the AONB sensitivity is enhanced by the intervisibility with the adjoining high value landscape. The distinctive wild landscape of Mynydd Mechell [and] Surrounds SLA is also particularly sensitive.

Elsewhere the LCA’s long established history with wind energy development and the presence of modern day structures which punctuate the skylines such as existing wind turbines, 400 kV and 132 kV overhead lines and also the presence of major transport corridors reduces the sensitivity of the landscape.”

6.2.7 The main landscape objectives for A05: North West Anglesey Coast are ‘landscape protection’ of “... *all areas that lie within or contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA*” and ‘landscape accommodation’ of “... *all areas that do not contribute to the outlook and setting of the AONB and SLA*”, while a “... *degree of Landscape Change is accepted where modern vertical development influences the landscape to the north of this LCA.*”

6.2.8 The ‘Landscape accommodation’ objective “...*aims to retain the overall character, quality and integrity of the landscape, whilst accepting that occasional small to medium scale developments may be allowed...*” and is “*Typically [applicable to] a landscape with occasional renewable energy, transmission infrastructure and/or tourism development.*”, as stated on page 46 of the *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13].

6.2.9 In terms of landscape capacity, the *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13] the following statement is considered partly relevant:

“Outside the AONB and SLA it is considered there may be some capacity for further 400 kV overhead line development; however, any new development should be carefully sited to avoid significant cumulative effects with other existing vertical modern developments including an existing 400 kV overhead line in the north.” [RD13]

A06: Amlwch and Environs

6.2.10 In relation to A06: Amlwch and Environs, the *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13] acknowledges that:

“Views are typically open within this LCA. Expansive coastal and seaward views are afforded from the north. This LCA has a strong intervisibility with adjacent coastal LCAs. Inland, views are more restricted/enclosed...”

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

A07: Parys Mountain

6.2.11 In relation to A07: Parys Mountain, *the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13] acknowledges that:

“Views are typically open within this LCA. There are strong visual links between the sea and coastal areas, and this LCA...”

This LCA comprises a low but prominent ridge of historically disturbed land. Although the presence of nearby wind farms and views to existing 400 kV overhead lines lessen sensitivity to further 400 kV overhead line development this is outweighed by the unique, iconic and exposed nature of this landscape, which is a distinctive skyline feature in the north of Anglesey. Important landscape and cultural heritage associations reinforce this enhanced sensitivity and are reflected by much of the area being designated within the Amlwch and Parys Mountain Registered Historic Landscape and Parys Mountain and Slopes SLA which seeks to retain its character as an example of a rare landscape in Wales.”

A08: Dulas Bay Hinterland

6.2.12 In relation to A08: Dulas Bay Hinterland, *the Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13] acknowledges that:

“Views are typically open within this LCA. Mynydd Bodafon affords far reaching views ...”

This medium scale rolling lowland landscape is influenced by modern vertical structures to the west, such as existing overhead lines, wind turbines and visible wind farms; thus locally reducing sensitivity to further 400 kV overhead line development.

In counterbalance, sensitivity increases within the parts of this LCA that fall within the Anglesey AONB and the distinctive Parciau Estatelands SLA as these areas are more tranquil, remote and scenic. The AONB is focused towards the east along the coast and the prominent landform of Mynydd Bodafon and is largely free from energy and other modern developments ...”

A17: West Central Anglesey

6.2.13 In relation to A17: West Central Anglesey, the *Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment, Final Report* [RD13] acknowledges that:

“Views are typically open within this LCA ...

This medium scale, low lying landscape comprises large areas of mixed farmland. Modern vertical structures such as existing overhead lines, wind turbines and mobiles masts are visible; thus reducing sensitivity. The ... A5/A55 corridor [detracts] from the tranquillity of the landscape, further reducing sensitivity.

This lowered sensitivity is counterbalanced by the scattered settlement pattern and presence of a number of sensitive visual receptors and the cultural heritage value of the landscape...”

7 LANDMAP, Level 3

7.1.1 *LANDMAP* is a data source for landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape, published by NRW [RD1 to RD5]. A number of aspect layers are categorised, including the *LANDMAP Level 3 visual and sensory aspect*, which provides the primary appraisal relevant to informing landscape character assessments. However, the other aspects areas provide other relevant information about the geology, habitats, historic and cultural influences on the landscape, which also is relevant in relation to landscape characterisation.

7.1.2 Extracts of summary descriptions from the 'collector surveys' for the different *LANDMAP* aspect areas, are quoted in table 7-1 to table 7-5 below. The summary descriptions for the visual and sensory, historic landscape and cultural landscape aspect areas include all aspect areas located within the detailed study area, from which there is theoretical visibility of the Main Construction of the Power Station. The summary descriptions for the geological landscape and landscape habitats aspect areas include all aspect areas local to the Wylfa Newydd Development Area, since geology and landscape habitats would primarily have the potential to be affected directly only. Figures 1 to 5 of appendix D10-3 (local landscape and seascape character study) (Application Reference Number: 6.4.60) show the locations of the aspect areas referred to.

Table 7-1 Summary description of *LANDMAP* Level 3 geological landscape aspect areas

<i>LANDMAP</i> Level 3 geological landscape aspect areas	<i>LANDMAP</i> collector survey summary description/extracts [RD1]
Henborth (YNSMNGL108)	"Rocky shore platform of Cambrian metamorphic rocks (Monian Supergroup) below dominantly soft cliff in glacial clays (Quaternary: Pleistocene). Latter shows important cross section of drumlin."
Cemlyn (YNSMNGL008)	"Distinctive bay with well-developed arcuate shingle/sand barrier enclosing a lagoon/wetland system (Quaternary: Recent)."
Cemaes (YNSMNGL007) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	"Glacial drift-dominated (Quaternary: Pleistocene) coastal platform with minor outcrops of Monian Supergroup metamorphic rocks (Cambrian) and associated igneous rocks. Significant development includes Cemaes and a nuclear power station."

LANDMAP Level 3 geological landscape aspect areas	LANDMAP collector survey summary description/extracts [RD1]
Cemaes-Amlwch coast (YNSMNGL097) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“Irregular coastline with several embayments, inlets and headlands but broadly east-west coastline with high cliffs in central areas (up to c. 50 m) and lower towards the east (c. 10-15 m.) Cliffs dominated by exposure of Cambrian metamorphic rocks (Monian Supergroup, Cambrian); foreshore typical narrow or absent. Includes classic exposures of the Llanbadrig area which include Ordovician conglomerates unconformably overlying Monian rocks.”
Llanfechell¹ (YNSMNGL002) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“Extensive low, undulating terrain dominated by rounded, mounds of glacial clay (till) up to 800m across (“drumlins”) (Quaternary: Pleistocene) - well developed especially in southwestern and central areas. Spaces between mounds often boggy but may also show small outcrops of underlying metamorphic rocks, etc (Monian Supergroup, Cambrian). Some larger areas of craggy outcrop also exist, e.g. near Llanfaethlu and Elim. Small outcrops of Ordovician slaty shales also present.”
Dinas Gynfor (YNSMNGL006)	“Undulating coastal massif characterised by craggy outcrops /knolls of Monian Supergroup metamorphic rocks (Cambrian). Some pools between.”
Llaneilian-Bodgadfa (YNSMNGL004)	“Complex of drift-filled depressions and valleys developed mainly between metamorphic rocks outcrop-dominated areas to the north ... and the major drumlin-field to the south (Llanfechel Aspect Area) ... Till, alluvium, etc. present. (Quaternary: Pleistocene-Holocene).”
Afon Wygyr (YNSMNGL010)	“River-stream complex (Quaternary: Recent) with narrow flood plain linking inter-drumlin drainage basins and within Llanfechel Aspect Area. Ultimately flows broadly north by west to the sea at Cemaes.”

¹ Note that the spelling of this aspect area in the source data set is ‘Llanfechel’.

<i>LANDMAP Level 3 geological landscape aspect areas</i>	<i>LANDMAP collector survey summary description/extracts [RD1]</i>
Mynydd Mechell (YNSMNGL009)	“Large rocky platform with distinctive "etched" appearance characterised by crags, bluffs and low knolls of Monian Supergroup metamorphic and igneous rocks (Cambrian). Depressions between outcrops drift-filled.”
Llanrhyddlad² (YNSMNGL015)	“Low, irregular ridge with a characteristic west-north-west - east-south-east orientation dominated by Ordovician rocks. Surface outcrops present, but smaller and more scattered than in Precambrian-Cambrian dominated areas...”
Mynydd y Garn (YNSMNGL011)	“Coastal massif forming the north-west corner of Anglesey. Dominated by Monian Supergroup metamorphic rocks (Cambrian) and Ordovician slaty mudrocks, conglomerates, etc. and includes the Carmel Head tectonic thrust. Area characterised by dense rocky outcrops and dissected by short broadly east-west valleys cut into the coastal slope on its western side. Includes the discrete and steepsided knoll of Mynydd y Garn in the south-east.”

² Note that the spelling of this aspect area in the source data set is 'Llanrhyddiad'.

Table 7-2 Summary description of *LANDMAP* Level 3 landscape habitats aspect areas

<i>LANDMAP</i> Level 3 landscape habitats aspect areas	<i>LANDMAP</i> collector survey summary description/extracts[RD2]
Coast - E. & W. of Cemlyn Bay (YNSMNLH066) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	<p>“An area of coastal habitat consisting of intertidal rocks, and the coastal grassland/heath present in the coastal strip just up from the intertidal area.</p> <p>... contains intertidal and maritime slope habitat (Priority BAP [biodiversity action plan] habitat)</p> <p>... A large part of the area is designated as a pSINC [(proposed site of nature conservation) now adopted as a Wildlife Site [RD11]] further recognising its ecological value and also the close proximity to the tern colony and thus providing foraging opportunities...”</p>
Cemlyn Bay (YNSMNLH080)	<p>“A saline lagoon behind a shingle ridge together with number of other adjacent semi-natural habitats that are coastal influenced.</p> <p>The area contains valuable habitat that is of international importance as a habitat which is reflected in its [Special Area of Conservation] designation and supports very important tern colonies reflected in the [Special Protection Area] designation. The saline lagoon is regarded as the best example of this in Wales.”</p>
Wylfa Power Station and surrounds (YNSMNLH050) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	<p>“A nuclear power plant on the coast with areas of coniferous planting, amenity grassland and semi-improved grassland in the immediately surrounding area that is distinct from the surrounding improved grassland.</p> <p>... the Nuclear power plant... is the dominant feature... but there are areas of semi-improved grassland that have more ecological significance and a number of key species appear to be present. There are SSSI [Site of Special Scientific Interest] designations ...”</p>

LANDMAP Level 3 Landscape habitats aspect areas	LANDMAP collector survey summary description/extracts[RD2]
Coast – Wylfa – Hell’s Mouth (YNSMNLH118) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	<p>“An area of coastal habitat consisting of intertidal rocks, the hard cliffs that rise up above this area and the coastal grassland on the cliff tops.</p> <p>... the area contains valuable cliff and intertidal habitat (Priority BAP habitat) ... (the SSSI designations are either geological or are as at Tre'r Gof a discrete fen area that is only a relatively small part of Aspect Area). A large part of the area is designated as a pSINC [now adopted as a Wildlife Site [RD11]] further recognising its ecological value ...”</p>
Farmland – N.W. Anglesey (YNSMNLH096) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	<p>“An area of farmland that is largely improved grassland, generally not a particularly valuable ecological habitat, with limited semi-natural habitat.</p> <p>... There are a reasonable number of key species records ... the presence of some smallish pSINC [now adopted as Wildlife Sites [RD11]] areas should be noted.”</p>
Cae Gwyn (YNSMNLH041) (on fringe of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	<p>“An area of damp habitat with areas of fen, acid grassland, dense scrub, reeds and marsh grassland all creating a mosaic, there is also some heath vegetation on a ridge in the middle of the Aspect Area.</p> <p>... The area is only small and appears to have limited key species records but it does contain a good mosaic of valuable Priority BAP habitat which is reflected in the designation of a SSSI over a considerable part of the Aspect Area ...”</p>
Farmland – N. Anglesey (YNSMNLH031)	<p>“An area of farmland that is largely improved grassland with a noticeable arable element as well but limited semi-natural habitat.</p> <p>... small parts of three pSINCs [now adopted as Wildlife Sites [RD11]] close to the coast and Afon Wygyr pSINC [now adopted as a Wildlife Site [RD11]] are present.”</p>

<i>LANDMAP</i> Level 3 Landscape habitats aspect areas	<i>LANDMAP</i> collector survey summary description/extracts[RD2]
N.E. of Cemaes (YNSMNLH043)	<p>“An area of improved grassland dominated habitat, but with numerous small areas of semi-natural habitat scattered throughout it with bracken being the most frequent but also marshy grassland, dense scrub, semi-improved acid grassland and most notably two fen areas being present.</p> <p>... the [Llanbadrig - Dinas Gynfor] SSSI is geological ...”</p>
Mynydd y Garn (YNSMNLH030)	<p>“An area of improved grassland farmland with many areas of more valuable semi-natural habitats (mainly acid grassland and dry heath) scattered within it,</p> <p>... [which is] reflected in the presence of some pSINC [now adopted as Wildlife Site [RD11]] designations..., but the area does not contain many key species and the mosaic of different habitats, whilst adding value, does not contain the same variety of habitat...”</p>

**Table 7-3 Summary description of *LANDMAP* Level 3 Visual and
Sensory Aspect Areas**

<i>LANDMAP</i> Level 3 Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas	<i>LANDMAP</i> collector survey summary description/extracts [RD3]
Cemlyn (YNSMNVS036)	“On the northern coast, west of Cemaes, this is a brackish lagoon, impounded by a crescent-shaped shingle beach. It is a nature reserve, owned by the National Trust and managed by North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT) primarily for its sea bird interest. It is a popular spot for bird watching and is served by two car parks, one at either end.”
North-west drumlins (YNSMNVS008) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“This extensive area, covering most of eastern part of north Anglesey, stretches from Cemaes and Llyn Alaw in the east to the northwest coast and the A55 in the west. The basket of eggs glacial landscape of smooth oval hillocks and damp hollows is typically covered with regular medium-sized fields with hedges, mainly pasture for sheep and cattle, with some arable land. There are numerous small villages, hamlets and scattered farms, linked with small roads, giving a settled character to this quiet, unremarkable but pleasant landscape ...”

LANDMAP Level 3 Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas	LANDMAP collector survey summary description/extracts [RD3]
North coast (YNSMNVS035) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	"From Carmel Point in the west to Point Lynas, east of Amlwch, this is a convoluted area of north-facing coastline. For most of its length it is rocky or with shingle beaches, the only sandy bathing beach being at Cemaes. Considerable lengths are owned and managed by the National Trust. A series of headlands project, and there are either low shallow cliffs behind or steep slopes up to higher land. For much of its length the coastal footpath runs alongside providing a series of changing views along the wild rugged coast and out to the Skerries. Although much of it feels remote now, there are remains of past industry, with quarries and brickworks and lime kilns. Wylfa A power station, set on its headland, is a conspicuous intrusion for several miles in both directions ..."
Wylfa power station (YNSMNVS086) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	"This nuclear power station is on the north coast, near Cemaes. The buildings are uncompromising cubes which loom on the skyline and are conspicuous against the backdrop of the sea from many miles around. From close up, it is partially screened by bunds, and woodland and the grounds are neatly managed ..."
Cemaes (YNSMNVS068) (on fringe of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	"Cemaes is located on an inlet on the north coast. Its waterfront is attractive, with a small harbour and sandy beach, but its outskirts, on higher land on either side are the usual mundane housing estates. There is an attractive small stream in an open valley leading through the settlement to the sea. It is now a popular holiday place. Small areas of agricultural and/or wild land are included where they form an important part of the setting of the settlement."

LANDMAP Level 3 Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas	LANDMAP collector survey summary description/extracts [RD3]
North coast hinterland (YNSMNVS011)	"To the east and west of Amlwch, extending from the coast 2km inland, this is an intricate small scale landscape with winding lanes, glimpses of the coast, small craggy hillocks and damp valleys. There are scattered houses and small fields. Within the area is the settlement of Bull Bay dominated by bungalows and holiday accommodation, and an adjacent golf course. These detract from the integrity of the nearby landscape, as do views glimpsed to Wylfa A power station. Otherwise, this is an attractive varied landscape ..."
Drumlins with windfarms (YNSMNVS010)	"Groups of wind turbines dominate the landscape in the north part of Anglesey, south of the A5025 and Amlwch, to Llyn Alaw, and west to around Mynydd Mechell. The basket of eggs glacial landscape of smooth oval hillocks and damp hollows is typically covered with regular large fields with hedges, mainly pasture for sheep and cattle, with some arable land. There are scattered farms, linked with small roads, all within close sight of wind turbines which appear incongruous on this lowland farmland."
Llanfechell (YNSMNVS069)	"Llanfechell is a medium-sized village, about two miles in from the north coast. Its centre is quite attractive, with a curving main street, clock tower and curious white-painted church tower. Late twentieth century housing estates on either side are unattractive ..."
Mynydd Mechell (YNSMNVS009)	"In the centre of the northern part of Anglesey, this area has a rocky upland character, with small irregular fields bounded by stone walls, areas of bare rock and gorse, and numerous small ponds. Although only rising to a maximum of 92m, this is in contrast to the smooth surrounding lowland drumlins. There are small twisting lanes and scattered houses and farms, with the spread out villages of Mynydd Mechell and Carreglefn. From within the area, views are mainly limited by the nearby rocky terrain, whilst from the surrounding land the area is apparent by its craggy skyline. It is generally an attractive varied small scale rural landscape."

LANDMAP Level 3 Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas	LANDMAP collector survey summary description/extracts [RD3]
Mynydd y Garn (YNSMNVS002)	"This area of upland is on the northwest tip of Anglesey, rising from the coast to 170m. It is distinctly more craggy than the adjacent lowland and has scattered outcrops of rocks, with gorse and stone walls, plus an area of forestry. Small winding roads give access to scattered farms and the small linear village of Llanfairynghornwy the eastern edge. From the high points there are 360 degree views, including to the Skerries off Carmel Head ..."
North-west coast (YNSMNVS034)	"From the Alaw Estuary northward to Carmel Point, this length of coast faces west. It consists mainly of sandy bays and coves interspersed with stretches of rocky coast and small headlands, backed by shallow low slopes. Along the northern third, where the land is higher, there are only rocks with steeply rising slopes behind, giving a wild feeling to this part. For much of its length the coastal footpath runs alongside and there are a few access points for bathing. On the whole it is a quiet unspoilt stretch of coastline with fine views west to Holy Island and along the rugged coast itself."
Llyn Alaw (YNSMNVS056)	"This is a shallow reservoir among the hillocks in the north central part of Anglesey. It was formed in 1966 and is the largest stretch of inland water on Anglesey. From the visitor centre at the southern end, the dam can be reached and the ugly pumping station on a knoll is prominent. Pasture fields slope gently down to the water's edge and the view is generally not very interesting and limited to the nearby hillocks. The northern end is more varied, with some marshy areas and a hide for watching the wildfowl. It is also used for fishing, but there are no paths around it."

Table 7-4 Summary description of *LANDMAP* Level 3 historic landscape aspect areas

<i>LANDMAP</i> Level 3 historic landscape aspect areas	<i>LANDMAP</i> collector survey summary description/extracts [RD4]
Cemlyn coastal strip (YNSMNHL056) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“This is a disparate and large low-lying coastal area of improved fields and scattered farms on the remote northern coast, including few individual features of historic interest (Cestyll Park and Garden Grade II, an unusual, small and intimate 1920s garden, well-suited to its rocky, seaside site).”
Wylfa (YNSMNHL055) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“There is no direct evidence of prehistoric activity in this area, although early and late prehistoric occupation within the surrounding landscape has been demonstrated. The place-name Cestyll (castles) in the west of the area may represent a promontory fort, although no traces remain, and other defended areas are found in the vicinity of Wylfa. Similarly, there is no direct evidence of Roman activity here, but scatters of Roman finds in the area indicate some presence during this period. In the Middle Ages, the two townships of Tre'r Gof and Cafnan "had a tenurial interest" in the area. Boats were built at Wylfa. During the Second World War, a Chain Home radar defence station was established on the promontory to detect enemy aircraft and manage shipping. In 1963 work began on the construction of the nuclear power station at Wylfa, and it was commissioned in 1972.”
Cemaes ³ (YNSMNHL054) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“Late prehistoric/Romano-British activity around Cemaes is suggested by the finds of a typical saddle quern and hoard of 3rd century Roman coins. Cemais [Cemaes] was the maerdref of the commote of Talybolion in the medieval period, with farm names indicating its original focus. Later, Cemaes developed as a fishing village and evolved into a shipbuilding centre and a harbour from which marble and limestone were exported, but the arrival of the railways in the mid-19th-century led to the decline in shipbuilding and exports.”

³ Note that the spelling of this aspect area in the source data set is 'Cemais'.

LANDMAP Level 3 historic landscape aspect areas	LANDMAP collector survey summary description/extracts [RD4]
North coast, Mon (YNSMNHL053)	"The far northern coast of Anglesey is a very distinctive area, defined on its southern side by the main road. It comprises rocky outcrops, with scattered archaeological sites and later settlement: there is no space here for standard fields and it has an atmosphere of being remote. It is very much coastal - oriented."
Fieldscape, Rhosbeirio (YNSMNHL052)	"Prehistoric occupation of the area is illustrated by a number of archaeological remains, especially from the bronze age, including round barrows, tools and standing stones. Occupation in the Roman period has also been demonstrated by the presence of artefacts, including coins, a brooch and copper cakes, and earthworks from this period. There are several medieval and post-medieval chapels and churches in the area, while other post-medieval constructions include Plas Bodewryd, built in the 15th to 16th centuries, and an 18th century dovecote. Character-wise, this is an area of gently rolling rural fields and farms inland from the coast, which contains the first windfarm to be built on Anglesey and which now dominates the visual impact."
Fieldscape, north-west Mon (YNSMNHL057) (on fringe of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	"This elongated strip of small field systems and clusters of nucleated settlement lies between the upland bloc of Mynydd y Garn and the low-lying systems to the north and east. Although characteristic of Anglesey, it is differentiated from other areas by its varied field and settlement patterns."
Llanfechell (YNSMNHL072)	"Four prehistoric standing stones exist on the outskirts of Llanfechell, indicating prehistoric occupation of the area. St. Mechell's Church, which is thought to date from the 12th century, demonstrates medieval occupation. The church is named after Mechell son of Echwys ab Gwyn Gohoew, who is believed to be buried in Llanfechell. In the 18th century, William Bulkeley lived at Brynnddu, Llanfechell, where he wrote diaries, most of which still survive and which provide details about the area of Llanfechell, St. Mechell's Church and rural life in the 18th century."

<i>LANDMAP</i> Level 3 historic landscape aspect areas	<i>LANDMAP</i> collector survey summary description/extracts [RD4]
Mynydd Mechell (YNSMNHL058)	“This higher-lying, rocky area contains a very distinctive pattern of small fields and clustered settlement, along with a complex set of tracks and footpaths.”
Fieldscape, central eastern Mon (YNSMNHL016)	“Most of (inland) Anglesey is still essentially rural in nature, and this large, disparate area occupies most of the island. Although there are smaller differences in the types and natures of the field patterns, and the scattered, non-nucleated settlements, mostly due to historical processes, to differentiate between them requires a more detailed study at level 4.”
Mynydd y Garn (YNSMNHL059)	“This is an area of mountain with distinctive, undeveloped (later) irregular fields, and scattered settlement pattern unlike "lowland" areas of the island.”
Llanddeusant (YNSMNHL035)	“An early medieval chapel, now in ruins, demonstrates medieval occupation around Llanddeusant. Most of the activity here, however, is post-medieval, including two chapels, domestic buildings and a smithy. The settlement was also known for its mills, some of which still remain, such as Melin Howell, and particularly Llynnon Mill, which is now a visitor attraction. The later settlement is based on the road system.”

Table 7-5 Summary description of *LANDMAP* Level 3 cultural landscape aspect areas

<i>LANDMAP</i> Level 3 cultural landscape aspect areas	<i>LANDMAP</i> collector survey summary description/extracts [RD5]
Northern coast (YNSMNCL019) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“Cultural essence: Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. A rural area, dominated by the looming presence of Wylfa, with many small fields and scattered dwellings. Porth Swtan is believed to be the last thatched dwelling on Anglesey and has been rebuilt as a heritage centre.”

LANDMAP Level 3 cultural landscape aspect areas	LANDMAP collector survey summary description/extracts [RD5]
Central Anglesey (YNSMNCL033) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“The deep rural core of the island, comparatively untouched by the transport routes to the southwest, and with a slower pace of life than the maritime periphery. There are many small variations within this broad cultural character area, none sufficient to make it an area of its own.”
Wylfa Nuclear Power Station (YNSMNCL010) (encompassing part of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“Cultural essence: major employer; potential to disrupt economy if unsustainable. Wylfa continues to operate at the time of writing. It houses two Magnox nuclear reactors, which were built 1963-1971, with a combined capacity of 980 Mw. It currently has a contract to supply electricity to Anglesey Aluminium Metal at Holyhead until September 2009. A proposal for a Wylfa B is under discussion. The power station is a major regional employer.”
Cemaes (YNSMNCL028) (on fringe of the Wylfa Newydd Development Area)	“Cultural essence: coastal settlement. A small fishing port of Medieval origins - the road bridge at the harbour disguises the extent to which it forms an excellent natural haven - much developed in the 19th century and later as a tourist destination. Some fishing still goes on here.”
North east coast (YNSMNCL026)	“Cultural essence: Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. An area which forms part of an AONB but which is little known and little visited. It contains the remarkable industrial site of Porthwen brickworks, which poses a particular management in that it is collapsing. It also includes Lyster's remarkable lighthouse at Trwyn Eilian.”
Llyn Alaw (YNSMNCL025)	“Cultural essence: recreational area... A reservoir created in the years 1963-6, now a popular resort with anglers and walkers.”

8 References

Table 8-1 Summary of References

ID	Reference
RD1	NRW. 2013. <i>LANDMAP. Geological Landscape dataset</i> . [Online]. [Accessed: 14 February 2017]. Available from: http://landmap-maps.naturalresources.wales/ .
RD2	NRW. 2013. <i>LANDMAP. Landscape Habitats dataset</i> . [Online]. [Accessed: 14 February 2017]. Available from: http://landmap-maps.naturalresources.wales/ .
RD3	NRW. 2013. <i>LANDMAP. Visual and Sensory dataset</i> . [Online]. [Accessed: 14 February 2017]. Available from: http://landmap-maps.naturalresources.wales/ .
RD4	NRW. 2013. <i>LANDMAP. Historic Landscape dataset</i> . [Online]. [Accessed: 14 February 2017]. Available from: http://landmap-maps.naturalresources.wales/ .
RD5	NRW. 2011. <i>LANDMAP. Cultural Landscape dataset</i> . [Online]. [Accessed: 14 February 2017]. Available from: http://landmap-maps.naturalresources.wales/ .
RD6	NRW. 2014. <i>National Landscape Character, NLCA01: Anglesey Coast</i> . Available by request from NRW, Maes y Ffynnon, Ffordd Penrhos, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2DW, contact: John.briggs@cyfoethnaturiol.cymru .
RD7	NRW. 2014. <i>National Landscape Character, NLCA02: Central Anglesey</i> . Available by request from NRW, Maes y Ffynnon, Ffordd Penrhos, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2DW, contact: John.briggs@cyfoethnaturiol.cymru .
RD8	IACC. 2015. <i>The Isle of Anglesey AONB Management Plan Review 2015 – 2020</i> . [Online]. [Accessed: 20 February 2017]. Available from: http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/Journals/w/x/m/Anglesey-AONB-Management-Plan-2015_20.pdf .
RD9	United Nations. 1992. <i>Convention on Biological Diversity</i> .
RD10	Land Use Consultants. 2012. <i>Review of Special Landscape Areas in Gwynedd and Anglesey</i> . (Document No. DC.008). [Online]. [Accessed: 20 February 2017]. Available from: https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Council/Documents---Council/Strategies-and-policies/Environment-and-planning/Planning-policy/Supporting-documents/Review-of-SLAs-in-Gwynedd-and-Anglesey-(DC.008).pdf .

ID	Reference
RD11	Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council. 2017. <i>Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan 2011 – 2026, Written Statement</i> . [Online]. [Accessed: 13 September 2017]. Available from: http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/planning-and-waste/planning-policy/joint-local-development-plan-anglesey-and-gwynedd/ .
RD12	IACC and TACP. 2011. <i>The Isle of Anglesey: Anglesey Landscape Strategy Update 2011 (Document No. DC.011)</i> . [Online]. [Accessed: 20 February 2017]. Available from: https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Council/Documents---Council/Strategies-and-policies/Environment-and-planning/Planning-policy/Supporting-documents/Anglesey-Landscape-Strategy---Update-2011-(DC.011).pdf .
RD13	Gillespies LLP, Gwynedd Council, Isle of Anglesey Council and Snowdonia National Park Authority. 2014. <i>Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment</i> . (Document No.DC.020) [Online]. [Accessed: 21 February 2017]. Available from: https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Council/Documents---Council/Strategies-and-policies/Environment-and-planning/Planning-policy/Supporting-documents/Landscape-Sensitivity-and-Capacity-Assessment-(DC.020).pdf .