



**SCOTTISHPOWER  
RENEWABLES**

# **East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO Offshore Windfarms**

## **Applicants' Responses to Examining Authority's Written Questions**

### **Appendix 12 Suffolk Seascape Sensitivity to Offshore Windfarms Final Report**

Applicants: East Anglia ONE North Limited and East Anglia TWO Limited

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**Applicable to East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO**

**Suffolk**

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# **Seascape sensitivity to offshore wind farms**

**Final Report**

for

**Suffolk County Council  
Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Partnership**

October 2020

**white**  
CONSULTANTS

with Northumbria University

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for

Suffolk County Council

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## CONTENTS

PART 1: Overview, method and summary of findings .....	2
1. Introduction.....	3
2. Consideration of Policy.....	3
3. Study approach and process.....	6
4. Summary of findings.....	12
PART 2: Detailed seascape zone assessments.....	2
Appendix A Factors influencing the sensitivity of seascape character areas .....	1
Appendix B Visibility modifiers.....	7
Appendix C Site visit .....	11
Appendix D Abbreviations and Glossary .....	13

## FIGURES

Figure no	Figure title	All After Page
1	National Marine Character Areas and local Seascape Character Types	1/13
2	County landscape character	
3	Landscape and Heritage Designations, and Coast Path (North)	
4	Landscape and Heritage Designations, and Coast Path (South)	
5	Offshore wind farms and Round 4 bidding area	
6	Average low magnitude of visual effect for wind turbines from coast	
7	Average medium magnitude of visual effect for wind turbines from coast	
8	Visual buffers for combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast	
9	Seascape sensitivity to offshore wind farms	
10	Seascape sensitivity to offshore wind farms- 2 (with proposed development)	

# **PART 1: Overview, method and summary of findings**



# 1. Introduction

- 1.1. White Consultants were appointed in June 2020 to carry out a seascape sensitivity study for offshore wind farms located in the inshore and offshore waters off the Suffolk coast. The study was commissioned and funded by Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Partnership in consultation with East Suffolk Council and Natural England. Northumbria University provided GIS and mapping support.
- 1.2. The brief states that the intention is that the Seascape Sensitivity Study will contribute to the baseline evidence for Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments (SLVIAs) and development of the proposals for a series of proposed developments in Suffolk's waters and coast consisting of two offshore wind farm extensions (Gabbard and Galloper), East Anglia 1N and 2 and East Anglia 3 (consented, but currently subject to amendments). Beyond that it will contribute to the development of proposals arising from the Crown Estate Round 4 seabed allocation.
- 1.3. The brief further indicates that the scope of the sensitivity study should focus on identifying how the sensitivity of seascape interacts with the sensitivity of adjacent coastal landscapes and designations in *Suffolk* including both Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and areas outside it.
- 1.4. The study area is defined by the area of the existing local seascape character study within the UK Marine plan area.
- 1.5. This report is the final report combining the Stage 1 desk study report with the findings of the site visit to the coast. Part 1 of this report sets out policy considerations, the method used to define zones for assessment and the assessment of seascape and visual sensitivity and then summarises the findings with figures. Part 2 sets out the assessment of each defined seascape zone. The factors influencing the sensitivity of seascape zones are included in Appendix A. Appendix B considers visibility distances derived from local weather stations data. Appendix C sets out details of the site visit. The study is a technical exercise and the report uses a number of technical terms for precision and as a means for reaching conclusions. These terms are defined in the Glossary in Appendix D along with abbreviations used.

# 2. Consideration of Policy

- 2.1. The review of policy is derived from our previous reports on OESEA seascape visual buffers study (BEIS, 2020) and approach to seascape sensitivity (MMO, 2020) with an additional focus on the study area.

## UK National Policy Statements

- 2.2. The UK Government produces National Policy Statements (NPSs) under the Planning Act (2008) which sets out Government policy for the development of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs). National policy statements EN-1 and EN-3 address national infrastructure planning in relation to renewable energy including offshore wind farms with an output above 100MW but are a material consideration for smaller projects.
- 2.3. **EN-1** states that virtually all nationally significant energy infrastructure projects will have effects on the landscape/seascape. Projects need to be designed carefully taking account of the potential impacts. The aim should be to minimise harm, providing reasonable mitigation where possible and appropriate (5.9.8). It reasserts that National Parks and AONBs have been confirmed as having the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. Each of these designated areas has specific statutory purposes which help to ensure their continued protection and which the decision-maker should have regard to in its decisions. The conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape and countryside should be given substantial weight by the decision-maker in deciding on applications for development consent in these areas. The same test applies to projects outside the designation boundaries which may have impacts within them (5.9.12). Therefore, both offshore wind farms and associated land-based infrastructure need to take this into consideration. The aim should be to avoid compromising the purposes of designations. This policy is a key driver in defining how the assessment of sensitivity is carried out.

- 2.4. Outside nationally designated areas, landscapes may be highly valued locally and protected by local landscape designation. However, these factors in themselves should not be used to refuse consent. The decision maker should judge whether any adverse impact is so damaging that it is not offset by the benefits of the project.
- 2.5. **EN-3** considers the seascape and visual effects of offshore windfarms in more detail. It sets out three principal considerations on the likely effect of offshore windfarms on the coast:
- Limit of visual perception from the coast
  - Individual characteristics of the coast which affect its capacity to absorb a development
  - How people perceive and interact with the seascape (2.6.203).
- 2.6. In terms of mitigation, it states that neither the design or scale of individual wind turbines can be changed without significantly affecting the output of the development so, instead, the layout of the turbines should be designed appropriately to minimise harm (2.6.210).
- 2.7. For smaller projects (below 100 MW) the Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009) indicates that decisions are made by the Marine Plan Authority (MPA). When considering the impact of an activity it states that the MPA should take into account existing character and quality, how highly it is valued and its capacity to accommodate change (2.6.5.3).

### AONBs

- 2.8. The 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, formed the basis for designating National Parks and AONBs. The Environment Act 1995 revised the original legislation. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act) subsequently acts as the legislative framework protecting AONBs, setting out natural beauty criteria, the designation process and the roles and responsibilities of different organisations. The Section 85 'duty of regard' requires all relevant authorities to have regard to the purpose of AONBs when exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or affecting, these areas.
- 2.9. The primary purpose of AONBs is to conserve and enhance natural beauty. In pursuing the primary purpose of the designation, account should be taken of the needs of agriculture, forestry and other rural industries and of the economic and social needs of local communities.
- 2.10. Natural Environment Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) states in relation to AONBs that:
- 'Land within the setting of these areas often makes an important contribution to maintaining their natural beauty, and where poorly located or designed development can do significant harm. This is especially the case where long views from or to the designated landscape are identified as important, or where the landscape character of land within and adjoining the designated area is complementary. Development within the settings of these areas will therefore need sensitive handling that takes these potential impacts into account.'* (Paragraph: 042 Reference ID: 8-042-20190721 Revision date: 21 07 2019)
- 2.11. It is noted that the Glover review (Landscapes Review, 2019) has made recommendations that AONBs should be strengthened, with increased funding, governance reform, new shared purposes with National Parks, and a greater voice on development. At the time of writing, this is being considered by Government.
- 2.12. Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Partnership sets out landscape character and special qualities along with its vision, aims, objectives and action plan in its Management Plan 2018- 2023. The special qualities are further refined in the Natural Beauty and Special Qualities indicators report (LDA Design, 2016). The relevant indicators are used in the sensitivity assessment. Development in the setting of the AONB is discussed in a position statement, endorsed by the AONB Partnership in December 2015. This indicates that the partnership considers that development in the setting of the AONB that would have a significant adverse impact on the natural beauty and special qualities of the area should not be supported. This is in line with Section 85 of the CRoW Act and Natural Environment PPG (paragraph 042).

### Heritage Coasts

- 2.13. Heritage Coasts were established to conserve the best stretches of undeveloped coast in England. They are non-statutory landscape definitions agreed between Natural England and

the relevant maritime authorities. Their purpose is to conserve, protect and enhance the natural beauty of the coastline and related flora and fauna and heritage features. They often overlap with National Parks and AONBs, as in the case of Suffolk, reinforcing the importance of these coasts. The purpose of Heritage Coast definition is similar to that of an AONB. Suffolk Heritage Coast was one of the first three coasts defined by the Countryside Commission in 1973. The Heritage Coast Plan was adopted in 1978. Its policies were subsequently incorporated into the AONB Management Plan which now includes objectives, policies and action that are applied to the Heritage Coast.

- 2.14. Heritage Coasts also occur in their own right where the hinterland does not have national landscape status. In these cases the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that planning policies and decisions within areas should be consistent with the special character of the area and the importance of its conservation (173).
- 2.15. Whilst not a policy document, the OESEA, 2020 report noted that decisions related to offshore wind farms indicated that National Park/AONB and Heritage Coast combined was the most sensitive combination of designations. It indicated that offshore wind farm development along the coast from these combined designations may be acceptable at a distance in seascape terms but not where the development is viewed directly offshore (13.74).

### Marine Planning

- 2.16. The **Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009** introduced eight key measures to help ensure ‘*clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas*’. The measures included the introduction of a marine planning system and the setting up of the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) delivering marine functions in English territorial waters and UK offshore waters for matters that are not devolved. The Act requires that all public authorities should undertake planning decisions should do so in accordance with the Marine Planning Statement.
- 2.17. The **UK Marine Policy Statement (MPS)** (2011) the national policy framework for preparing marine plans throughout the UK. The high level marine objectives (page 11, Box 1) include:

*‘Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society:*

*People appreciate the diversity of the marine environment, its **seascapes**, its natural and cultural heritage and its resources and act responsibly’* (this report emphasis).

- 2.18. The MPS sets out how seascape should be considered in marine spatial planning. It states: ‘*When developing Marine Plans, marine plan authorities should consider at a strategic level visual, cultural, historical and archaeological impacts not just for those coastal areas that are particularly important for seascape, but for all coastal areas, liaising with terrestrial planning authorities as necessary. In addition, any wider social and economic impacts of a development or activity on coastal landscapes and seascapes should be considered.*’ (Defra, 2011, 2.6.5.2)
- 2.19. It goes on to state: ‘*In considering the impact of an activity or development on seascape, the marine plan authority should take into account existing character and quality, how highly it is valued and its capacity to accommodate change specific to any development. Landscape Character Assessment methodology may be an aid to this process.*’ (Defra, 2011, 2.6.5.3).
- 2.20. The **East Marine Plan** was the first marine plan to be completed in England, in April 2014. The inshore area extends out from the mean high water mark to the territorial limit. The offshore area extends from the territorial limit to the boundary of the Exclusive Economic Zone. Policy SOC3 (page 58) states that proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference:
  - a. that they will not adversely impact the terrestrial and marine character of an area
  - b. how, if there are adverse impacts, they will minimise them
  - c. how, if they cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated against
  - d. the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts
- 2.21. Seascape character areas have been identified for the East inshore and offshore areas to support the East Marine Plan (URS/Scott Wilson for Natural England, 2012). These are at a national scale and were completed as part of a pilot study to inform seascape character



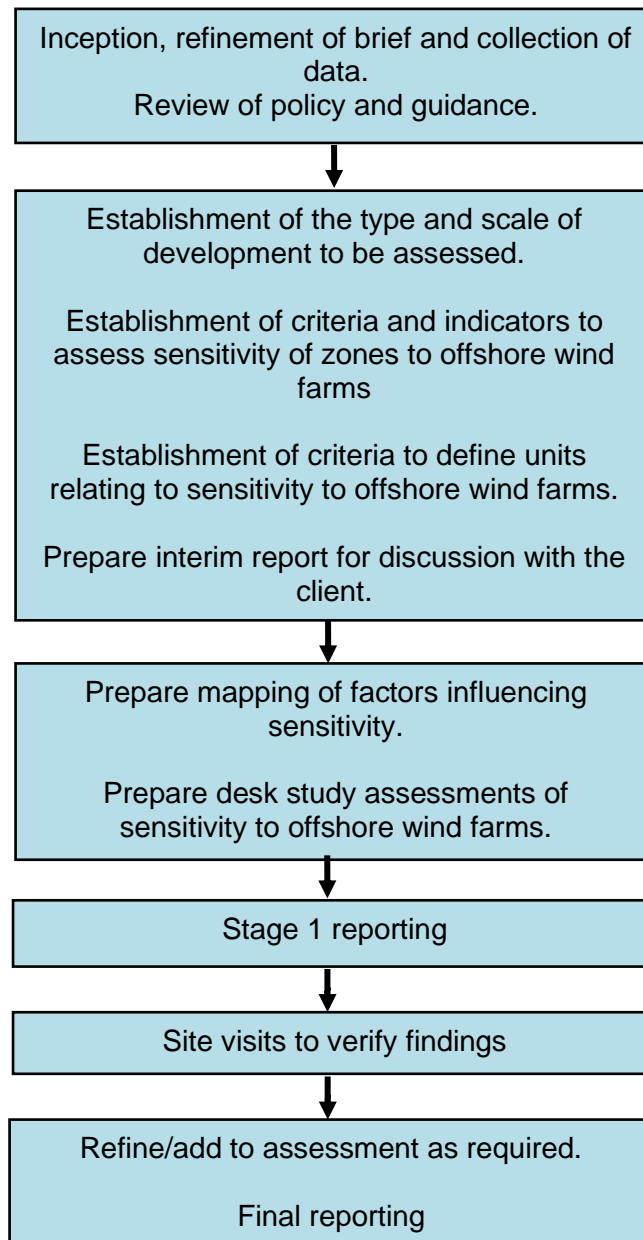
assessment (NECR106). They are the equivalent of the subsequent Marine Character Areas which were completed for the rest of English inshore and offshore waters.

- 2.22. Local seascape character areas have subsequently been defined and described at a more local level off the coast of Suffolk, South Norfolk and North Essex (LDA Design, 2018). This identified six seascape character types.

### 3. Study approach and process

#### Process

- 3.1. The study process is summarised below:



#### Focus and limitations of the report

- 3.2. The brief requires a sensitivity study to offshore wind farm developments including those potentially coming forward in the Crown Estate Round 4 process. The aim is to avoid significant adverse effects on high sensitivity seascape receptors. The premise that the study works on is that the most important effect of offshore windfarms is on the perception of seascape character from the coast ie the relationship between any proposed

development with coastal seascape character when seen in juxtaposition with each other. This means that the main drivers are distance from the coast and the character and value of the coastal seascape and its component sensitive receptors. Therefore, the areas or zones identified are focussed on this purpose alone and should not be used for other purposes or development types which may need full seascape characterisation taking intrinsic natural and cultural processes and other characteristics into account.

## Relevant Guidance

3.3. The most relevant guidelines and reports taken into consideration in this study are as follows:

- An approach to seascape sensitivity assessment, MMO, 2020.
- Offshore Energy Strategic Environmental Assessment (OESEA): Review and update of Seascape and Visual Buffer study for Offshore Wind farms, BEIS/Hartley Anderson, 2020. (Referred to in the report as OESEA, 2020).
- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Edition 3, (GLVIA 3) LI and IEMA, 2013.
- Guidance on the Assessment of the Impact of Offshore Windfarms: seascape and visual impact report, DTI, 2005.
- An approach to seascape character assessment, NECR 105 (Natural England)- broad brush guidance on seascape character assessment.
- Seascape and visual sensitivity to offshore wind farms in Wales: Strategic assessment and guidance. Stages 1-3. NRW Evidence Series. Report No: 315, NRW, Bangor, 2019
- Seascape character assessment: Suffolk, South Norfolk and North Essex, Suffolk County Council, 2018.
- East Inshore and East Offshore seascape character assessment, Natural England, 2012.
- Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Management Plan 2018-2023 and associated planning documents including the natural beauty indicators
- Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment 2008/updated 2019
- Relevant offshore wind farm SVIAs

3.4. The OESEA (2020) study sets out visual buffers for different types of coastal character and designations at an England and Wales level. It is worth noting (as noted in 4.43 of the report) that the buffers to designated areas are a strategic level tool to identify where effects are likely and do not necessarily suggest no-go areas for development. These areas would need to be subject to careful further assessment should development be proposed within them. This is the purpose of the study.

## Definitions

3.5. The following definitions are derived from the MMO Approach (2020) (1.5):

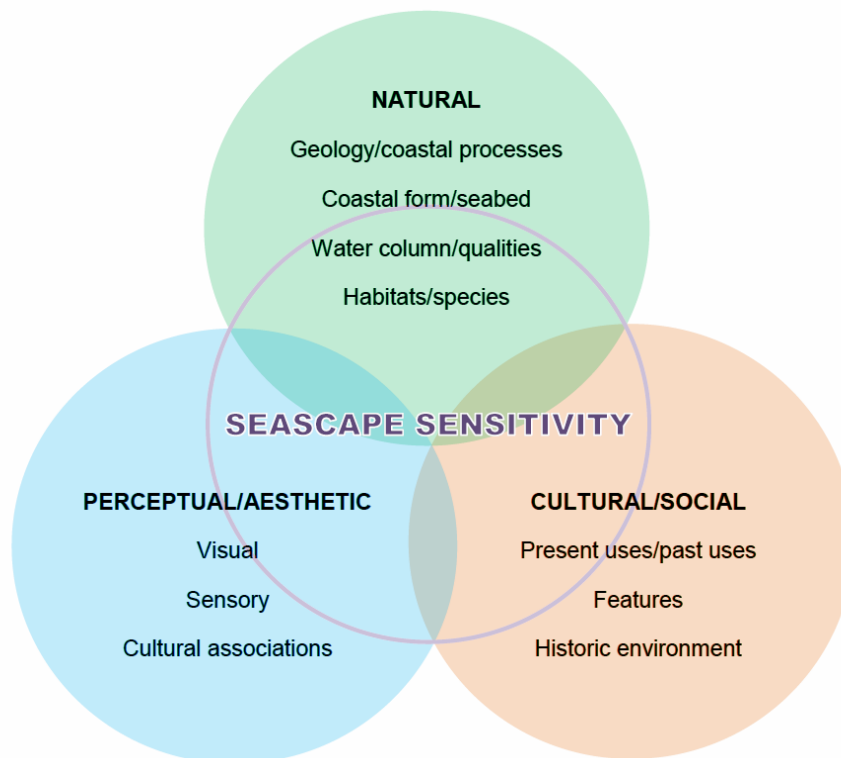
- Seascape character **susceptibility** is defined as the degree to which a defined seascape character area (SCA) and its associated visual qualities and attributes might respond to the specified types of development or change without undue negative effects on character and the visual resource.
- Seascape character **value** is defined as the relative value or importance attached to an SCA, which may express national or local consensus, because of its quality, its special qualities including perceptual aspects such as scenic beauty, tranquillity and wildness, natural or historic attributes or features, cultural associations, or its relationship with designated or valued landscapes and coasts.
- Seascape character **sensitivity** is a term applied to marine character and seascape and the associated visual resource, combining judgements of their susceptibility to a

specific type of development / development scenario or other change being considered and the value(s) related to that seascape, marine character and visual resource.

- 3.6. The potential for **cumulative effects** is explored in the area due to existing windfarms and other proposals. The strategic cumulative assessment is of the *combined* effect of all existing and consented developments, bearing in mind the proposed extensions and freestanding windfarms as well as the Round 4 bidding area.

### Structure of proforma assessment

- 3.7. The structure of the proforma assessment relates to the relevant components of seascape character as shown in Figure 2 from the MMO Approach (2020).



- 3.8. The nature of offshore wind farm development means that there is a particular emphasis on the perceptual and aesthetic criteria and indicators.

### Type and scale of development

- 3.9. The type and scale of offshore wind farm development is defined in the OESEA (2020) study and in the seascape and visual impact assessments (SVIAs) analysed. This study divides turbines into bands of heights each of which has different likely magnitudes of visual effects (see Figures 6 and 7). This report assumes that offshore wind farms are likely to be at a larger scale than has been seen previously. This tends to mean, based on the experience of Rounds 1 to 3, that the further offshore, the larger the development is likely to be in terms of turbine numbers, unless it is an extension of an existing development eg Greater Gabbard. This study assumes that the scale of development is between 20 and 300 turbines in the following turbine height to blade tip bands:

- 107-145m
- 146-175m
- 176-224m
- 225-300m
- 301-350m
- 351-400m

- 3.10. It is acknowledged that this covers a wide range of scales but reflects the types of development that have come forward or are likely to be considered in Round 4 or beyond.
- 3.11. Other characteristics of turbines include:
- Monopile or jacket foundations on the sea bed in seas of maximum depth 60m;
  - Floating foundations anchored to sea bed in deeper waters;
  - Generally pale grey painted towers and blades (eg RAL 7035) with Trinity House yellow on lower towers and bases;
  - Red aircraft warning lights of medium intensity on nacelles (upto 2000 candela);
  - Navigational warning lights on turbines and surrounding buoys;
  - Constantly in operation with moving turbine blades unless in calm conditions or very high wind conditions;
  - Offshore substations and operations bases on platforms in larger developments;
  - Cable on sea bed;
  - Long term installation and operation (but not permanent);
  - Associated maintenance and supply craft during operation.
- 3.12. It is assumed that there will be associated offshore and coastal ancillary development to enable transmission of electricity to shore but the implications of transmission inland has not been taken into account as this is considered in a separate study. The main driver of effects is assumed to be the turbines themselves and their associated lighting although it is acknowledged that other infrastructure such as offshore substations contribute to effects.

### Identifying criteria for seascape character and visual resource and indicators to explore sensitivity to development type

#### The seascape resource

- 3.13. The information used to inform the assessment includes:
- Bathymetry and elevation;
  - Existing seascape character assessments (Figure 1);
  - Landscape designations (Figures 3 and 4);
  - National Park and AONB management plans and related planning policies- with a particular emphasis on natural beauty/ special qualities indicators;
  - Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment 2008/updated 2019 (Figure 2)
  - Cultural heritage designations and features eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas (Figures 3 and 4);
  - Biodiversity designations eg SPAs, SACs, MCZs;
  - Coastal access eg Suffolk Coast Path (Figures 3 and 4);
  - Existing intervisibility analysis - defining land with sea views and sea visibility from land (part of the national seascape assessment);
  - Crown Estate existing round zones and Round 4 bidding area;
  - Existing marine uses and structures- existing windfarms etc (Figure 5);
  - Patterns of maritime use- shipping lanes and mineral extraction;
  - OESEA 2020 background report - identifying visual buffers for offshore windfarms related to National Parks and AONBs and elsewhere taking into consideration marine visibility modifiers;
  - Principles defined in Wales seascape sensitivity to offshore windfarms study Stage 2 report (2019).

### Defining seascape units/zones

- 3.14. NECR 105 sets out in broad brush terms how to carry out a seascape character assessment. This states characterisation concentrates on making clear what makes one area different or distinctive from another. It also states that it is based on the integration of natural and cultural information combined with aesthetic and perceptual experiential aspects. This has already been carried out in East inshore/offshore seascape character assessment, identifying four areas in the study area. This has been refined in the local seascape character assessment for Suffolk and adjacent coastal areas into six seascape character types.
- 3.15. The type of development proposed and the main national planning policies that drive decision-making, ie NPS EN1 and NPS EN3, mean that these units are not appropriate in themselves as a spatial representation for assessing sensitivity to offshore wind farms. The units need to appropriately reflect the large scale of development and large spread of visual effects of very tall structures in an open seascape combined with the relationship with national landscape-related designations. This means that this is not a character assessment in terms of NECR 105. Instead it is focussed on the factors which are most important in defining the relative seascape and visual sensitivity of an area to offshore wind farms, also taking into account existing and consented development. As such, the areas are defined as seascape zones to avoid any implication that they are characterised as seascape character areas taking in the full range of factors which define such areas eg bathymetry and seabed geology. The grain of the assessment may group together some existing areas and divide up others.
- 3.16. The definitive factors contributing to defining zones (Figures 9 and 10) are:
- The extent of visual buffers relating to the designated and other landscapes- these inform the distances of the zones away from the coast. These are primarily defined by SVIA analysis in the OESEA (2020) study (Figures 6, 7 and 8) and a review of meteorological visibility modifiers relating to the study area (see **Appendix C** for a contextual review);
  - The presence or otherwise of existing or consented windfarms, which affects seascape character (Figure 5);
  - The existing defined local seascape character areas (Figure 1);
  - National seascape character areas/marine character areas (Figure 1);
  - The character of the coastline.

### Criteria and Indicators

- 3.17. The sensitivity of a zone to offshore wind farms is based on a series of criteria with associated indicators which define what makes an area more or less susceptible to the development type or influences its value. These are set out in **Appendix A**.
- 3.18. For each zone we complete a proforma assessing different levels of susceptibility and value based on the indicators. It is important to note that whilst each factor will be scored, the overall sensitivity is not a simple adding up of the scores. Some criteria and indicators are more important than others and the summary of sensitivity explains the key factors underpinning the judgement.
- 3.19. The potential for cumulative effects are taken into consideration where possible development may result in adverse combined effects with existing and consented development. A series of criteria are set out in the proforma to assess the likelihood of this occurring and possible sensitivities deriving from this.

### Thresholds of sensitivity

- 3.20. The thresholds for landscape and visual sensitivity are defined below in Table 1. The five point scale reflects the subtlety of different seascape's character.



Table 1 Thresholds for landscape and visual sensitivity

Level	Definition
Low	Seascape and/or visual characteristics of the zone are robust or degraded and/or its values are low and it can accommodate the relevant type of development without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are very high.
Medium/low*	Seascape and/or visual characteristics of the zone are resilient to change and/or its values are medium/low or low and it can accommodate the relevant type of development in many situations without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are high.
Medium*	Seascape and/or visual characteristics of the zone are susceptible to change and/or its values are medium/low through to high/medium and/or it <i>may</i> have some potential to accommodate the relevant type of development in some <i>defined</i> situations without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are intermediate. Suitability for wind farm development will be determined by the distance offshore in relation to buffers set out in OESEA, 2020.
High/medium*	Seascape and/or visual characteristics of the zone are vulnerable to change and/or its values are medium through to high (although this level of value is not essential where landscape or visual susceptibility are key issues). The seascape zone may be able to accommodate the relevant type of development but only in limited situations without significant character change or adverse effects <i>if</i> defined in the relevant zone summary. Thresholds for significant change are low.
High*	Seascape and/or visual characteristics of the zone are very susceptible to change and/or its values are high or high/medium and it is unable to accommodate the relevant type of development without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are very low.

\*Suitability for wind farm development will also be determined by the distance offshore in relation to buffers set out in OESEA, 2020.

- 3.21. It is important to note as above that the levels of sensitivity must be read in conjunction with OESEA, 2020 buffer distances. This may mean that even in medium sensitivity seascapes that development is not appropriate if too close inshore. We define the extent, size and location of potentially suitable development in the recommendations and associated summary text. For high/medium sensitivity zones there may be sea which has high sensitivity with other parts which may have some very minor potential but this does not amount to a large scale allocation. Overall, this level of sensitivity is considered to be a constraint on large wind farms in terms of seascape and visual factors.

### Stage 1 reporting

- 3.22. The Stage 1 draft report summarised the method, findings for the seascape zones with associated mapping, and backed up by the detailed assessments.

### Site visits

- 3.23. A site visit to locations along the coast was carried out to verify boundaries and aesthetic and sensory qualities at representative key viewpoints (see **Appendix C**). This assisted in reviewing the natural beauty indicators and associated qualities, value and sensitivity. These findings fed into the final report.

## 4. Summary of findings

- 4.1. The seascape and visual sensitivity findings indicate the preferred zones for the location of offshore wind farms with a tabular summary of sensitivities for each seascape zone in Table 2 below. A detailed assessment for each zone is set out in Part 2 which sets out the recommendations for different heights of wind turbines. All these conclusions clearly only relate to seascape and visual matters and not other factors which have to be taken into consideration, particularly in relation to the intrinsic nature of the sea and sea bed.
- 4.2. The following conclusions summarised in Table 2 have been reached on the locations that development might proceed in terms of seascape and visual sensitivity factors. They are based entirely on the zone evaluations and if there is any perceived conflict or difference in emphasis between the two, the detailed evaluations should be taken as the definitive position. The zones and their sensitivities are set out in Figures 9 and 10.

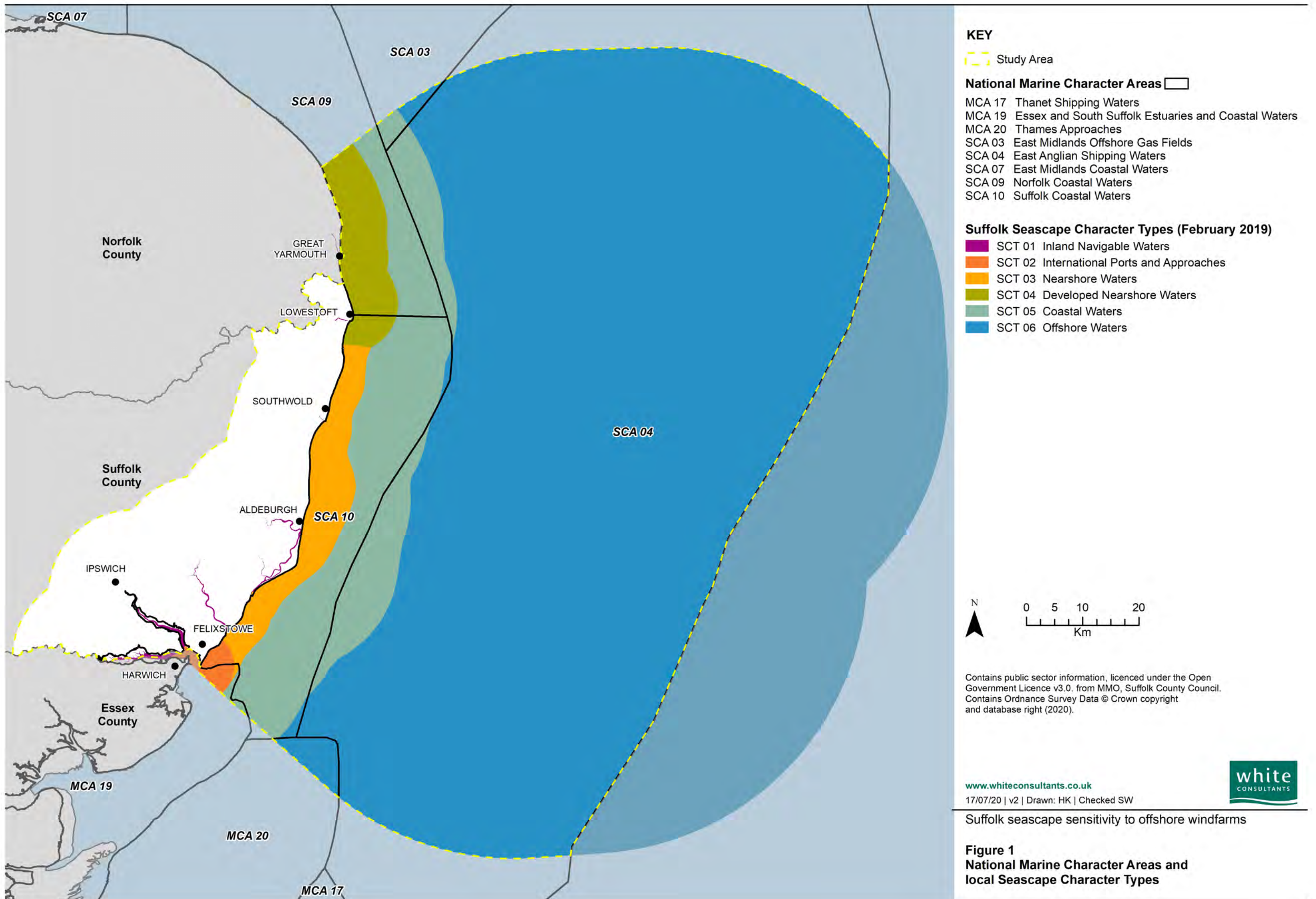
**Table 2 Suffolk seascape sensitivity**

Ref no	Name	Sensitivity
SCZ 01	Suffolk Heritage Coast Inshore- South	High/medium
SCZ 02	Suffolk Heritage Coast Offshore- South	Medium
SCZ 03	Greater Gabbard Environs	Medium
SCZ 04	Suffolk Heritage Coast Inshore- North	High
SCZ 05	Suffolk Heritage Coast Offshore- North	Medium
SCZ 06	North Suffolk and Norfolk Inshore	Medium
SCZ 07	North Suffolk and Norfolk Offshore	Medium
SCZ 08	Outer Offshore	Medium/low

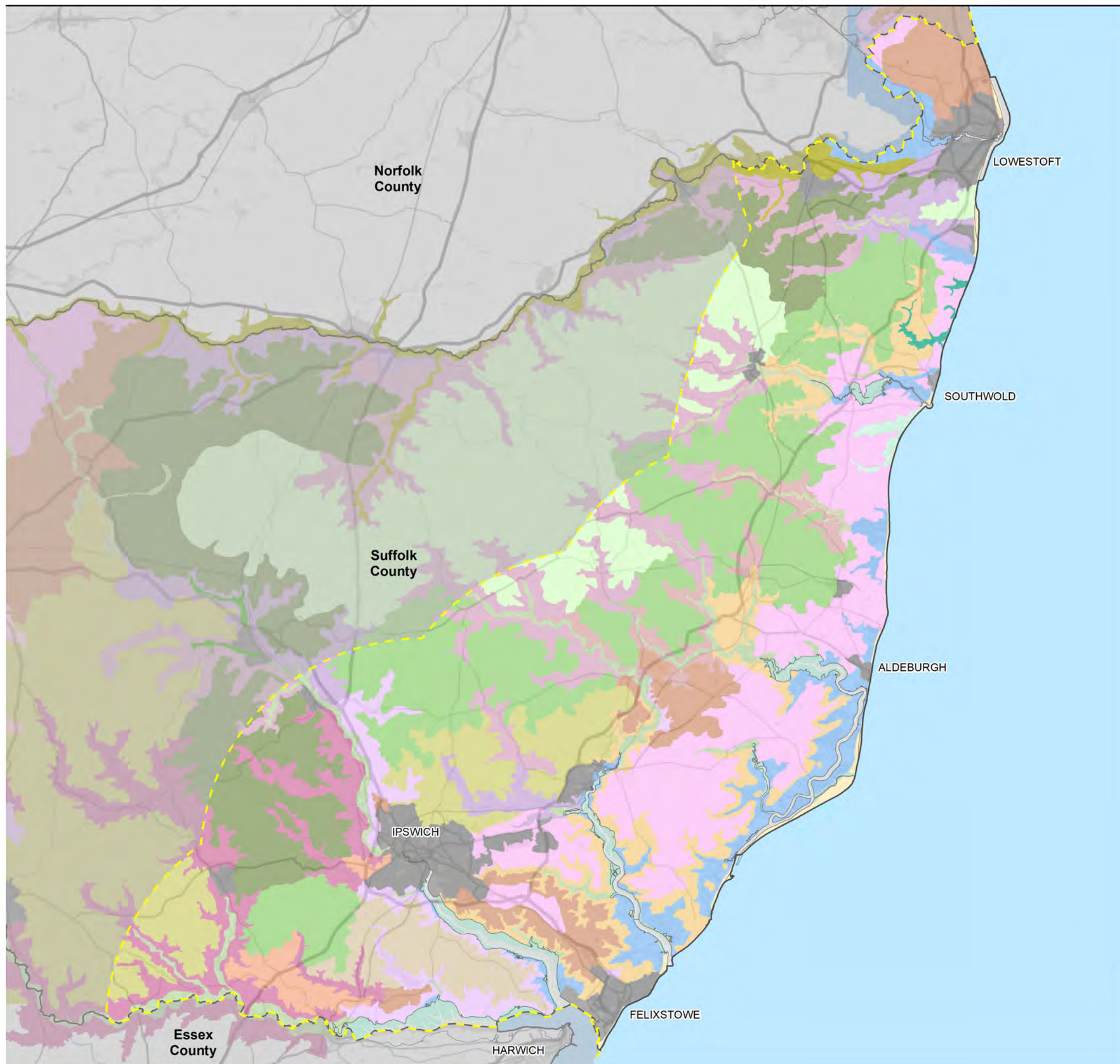
- 4.3. Overall, the seascape of Suffolk is sensitive to offshore wind farm development primarily due to its relationship with the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast, contributing significantly to the AONB's setting and natural beauty. The distance offshore of each seascape zone is primarily determined by the OESEA (2020) report which sets out buffers for different levels of sensitivity of coast and heights of turbine to blade tip. Though a low lying and gently curving coast, the qualities of panoramic unspoilt views, tranquillity and remoteness, the relatively clear visibility offshore indicated by weather station data (**Appendix B**), and the easterly aspect where turbines are potentially most visible in the afternoon/early evening all contribute with other factors to enhance the value and sensitivity of the area.
- 4.4. The site visit revealed the degree of intervisibility of Sizewell A and B nuclear power stations and the masts at Orford Ness with some stretches of coast on either side. Clearly, users walking along the coast needed to be facing towards the structures for them to feature in views. However, their visibility in places emphasised their contrast with the special qualities and natural beauty of the AONB in the intervening rural coast and the open sea and the predominantly clear horizon offshore. This could be considered to make the AONB and Heritage Coast more vulnerable to intrusion from energy infrastructure offshore which could cumulatively adversely affect the natural beauty of coast and its setting. Sizewell C would be likely to exacerbate this situation.
- 4.5. The most sensitive seascape zones are SCZ 01 and SCZ 04 which lie adjacent to the AONB and Heritage Coast.
- 4.6. SCZ 01 lies within 34km of the shore which is the suggested buffer for all scales of wind farm development to avoid significant adverse effects on a combined AONB and Heritage Coast. This combined with the susceptibility and other values related to the zone suggest an area of constraint on windfarm development. There is distinct separation between Greater Gabbard/Galloper and the London Array wind farms which, combined with distance, is helpful in avoiding substantial combined cumulative effects on the designated coastline. A very limited extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the south west (as currently proposed) may cause limited effects if the turbines are the same/similar in height and spacing to the existing. An extension further towards the coast *within* the seascape zone would be considered to cause harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB.

- 4.7. SCZ 02, just offshore from SCZ01, lies between 34km and 40km which potentially allows consideration of wind farms with turbines between 107m to 204m high but it contributes to the separation between Greater Gabbard/Galloper and the London Array wind farms. Further development, such as the wind farm extension proposed, needs to avoid a curtaining effect on the horizon and should be within the range of heights specified to avoid combined cumulative effects.
- 4.8. SCZ 03 is strongly associated with Greater Gabbard/Galloper offshore windfarms and it is considered that an extension within the area may be appropriate provided the turbines are the same or very similar height and spacing to the existing.
- 4.9. SCZ 04 lies within 34km of the shore which is the suggested buffer for all scales of wind farm development to avoid significant adverse effects on a combined AONB and Heritage Coast. This, combined with the susceptibility and other values related to the zone, suggest an area of strong constraint on windfarm development. Turbines as proposed in East Anglia TWO *within the zone* would be considered to cause significant harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB. A limited extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the south of the zone (as currently proposed) may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing. An extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper further towards the coast *within* the seascape zone would be considered to cause harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB.
- 4.10. SCZ 05, just offshore from SCZ 04, lies between 34km and 40km which potentially allows consideration of wind farms with turbines between 107-224m high but is a constraint buffer for turbines from 225-400m high to avoid significant adverse effects on a combined AONB and Heritage Coast. Arrays should avoid a curtaining effect when viewed from the AONB and Heritage Coast coastline. This could be achieved with gaps between arrays of at least 12km, preferably more, and arrays not exceeding 15km width as perceived from shore. A limited extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the south of the zone (as currently proposed) may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing.
- 4.11. SCZ 06 lies within 14km of the shore which is the suggested buffer for all scales of wind farm development to avoid significant adverse effects on largely undesignated coast with urban areas. This combined with the susceptibility and other values related to the zone suggest an area of constraint on windfarm development. Scroby Sands is an early development with small 2MW turbines located very close to shore. An extension of this would be problematic in seascape terms due to current commercially available turbine sizes and the potential for cumulative effects.
- 4.12. SCZ 07, just offshore of SCZ 06, lies between 14km and 30km which potentially allows consideration of appropriately designed wind farms with turbines between 107-350m high at graded distances offshore but is a suggested constraint buffer for turbines over 351m high to avoid significant adverse effects on the largely undesignated coast with urban areas. There may be some cumulative effects in conjunction with Scroby Sands and this would need to be carefully considered.
- 4.13. SCZ 08 is an area of more limited seascape/visual constraints, especially to the east. An extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the east and south east within the area may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing. Turbines as proposed in East Anglia TWO and ONE North *within the zone* would not be considered to cause significant harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB. Further proposals within the zone should be located as far offshore as possible, and if located towards the western boundary maintain large gaps (say 12km+) between arrays (say a similar size to East Anglia ONE North) so clear views of the horizon between arrays is possible from the designated coast.







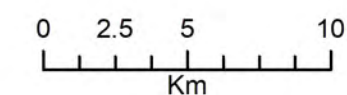


## KEY

Study Area

## Suffolk Landscape Character Types (Feb 2019)

- Ancient Estate Claylands
- Ancient Estate Farmlands
- Ancient Plateau Claylands
- Ancient Rolling Farmlands
- Coastal Dunes and Shingle Ridges
- Coastal Levels
- Estate Sandlands
- Open Coastal Fens
- Planned Fenlands
- Plateau Claylands
- Plateau Estate Farmlands
- Plateau Farmlands
- Rolling Estate Chalklands
- Rolling Estate Claylands
- Rolling Estate Farmlands
- Rolling Estate Sandlands
- Rolling Valley Claylands
- Rolling Valley Farmlands
- Rolling Valley Farmlands and Furze
- Saltmarsh and Intertidal Flats
- Settled Chalklands
- Settled Fenlands
- Undulating Ancient Farmlands
- Undulating Estate Farmlands
- Urban
- Valley Meadowlands
- Valley Meadows and Fens
- Wooded Chalk Slopes
- Wooded Fens
- Wooded Valley Meadowlands
- Wooded Valley Meadowlands and Fens



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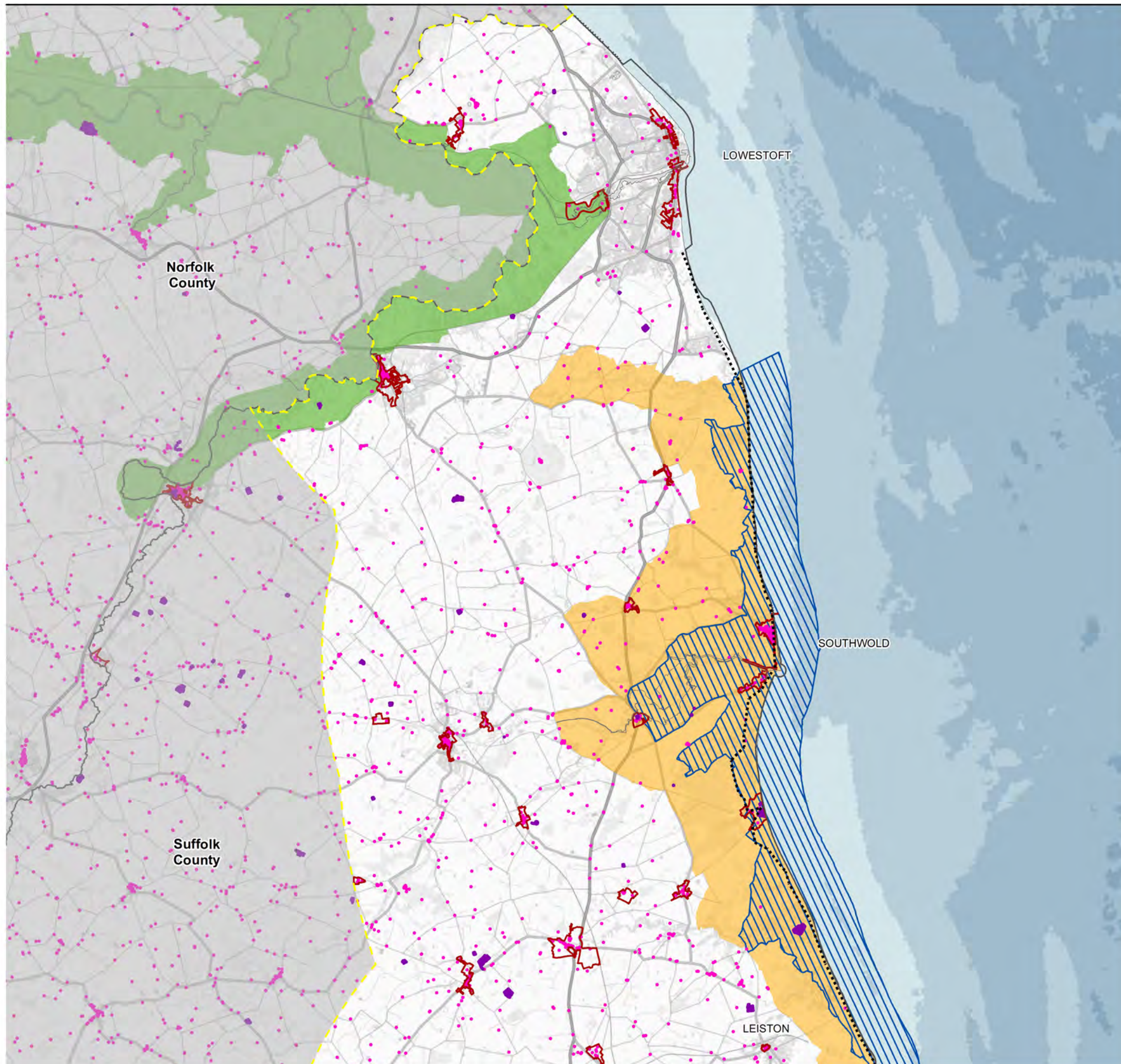
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Suffolk seascape sensitivity to offshore windfarms

**Figure 2**  
**County landscape character**



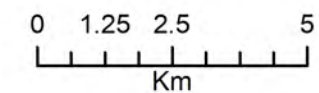


#### KEY

- Study Area
- ..... Suffolk Coast Path
- National Parks
- AONB
- Heritage Coasts
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled ancient monuments
- Listed Buildings

#### Bathymetry (m)

- 10 - 0
- 20 - -10
- 30 - -20
- 40 - -30
- 50 - -40
- 60 - -50



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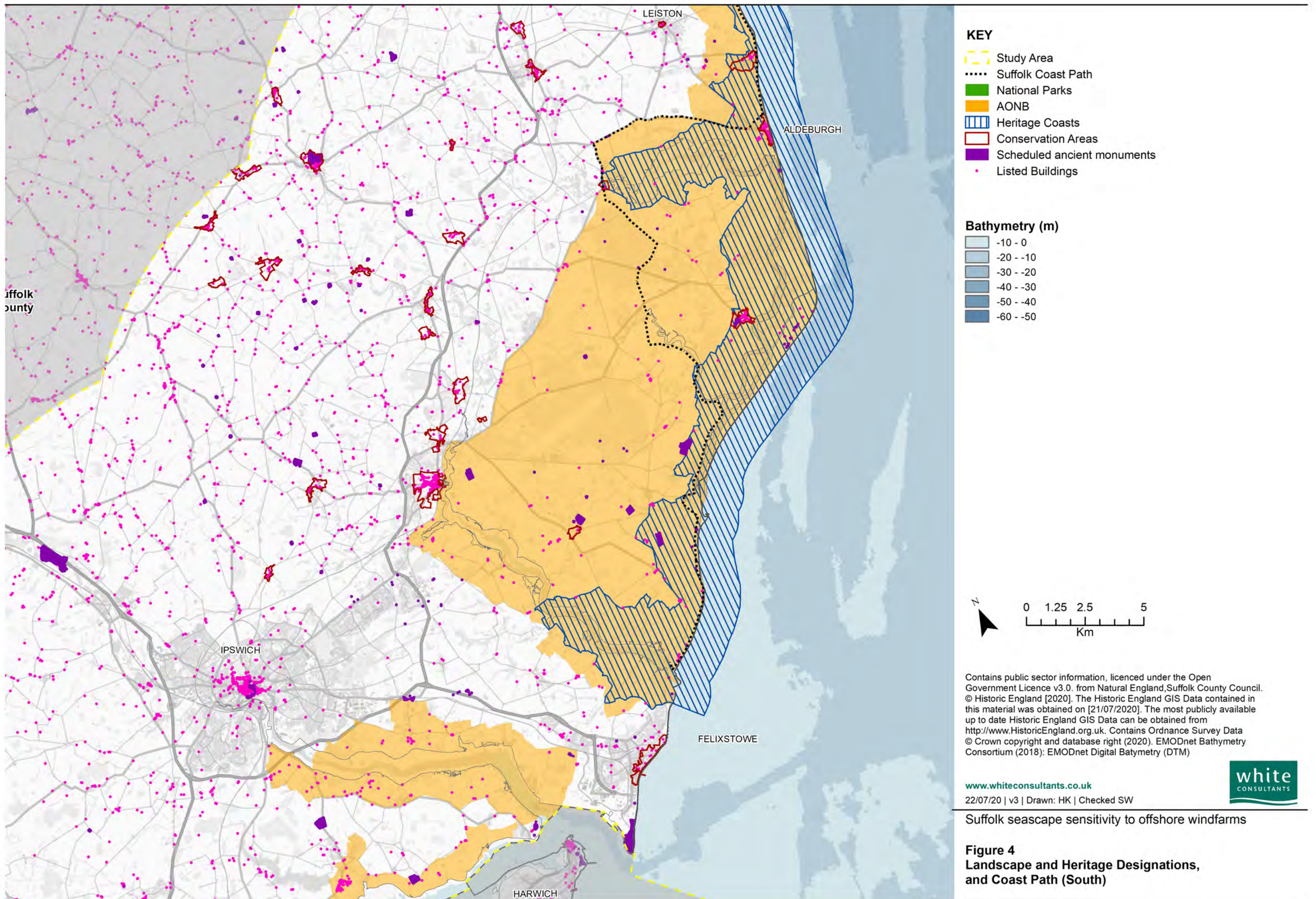
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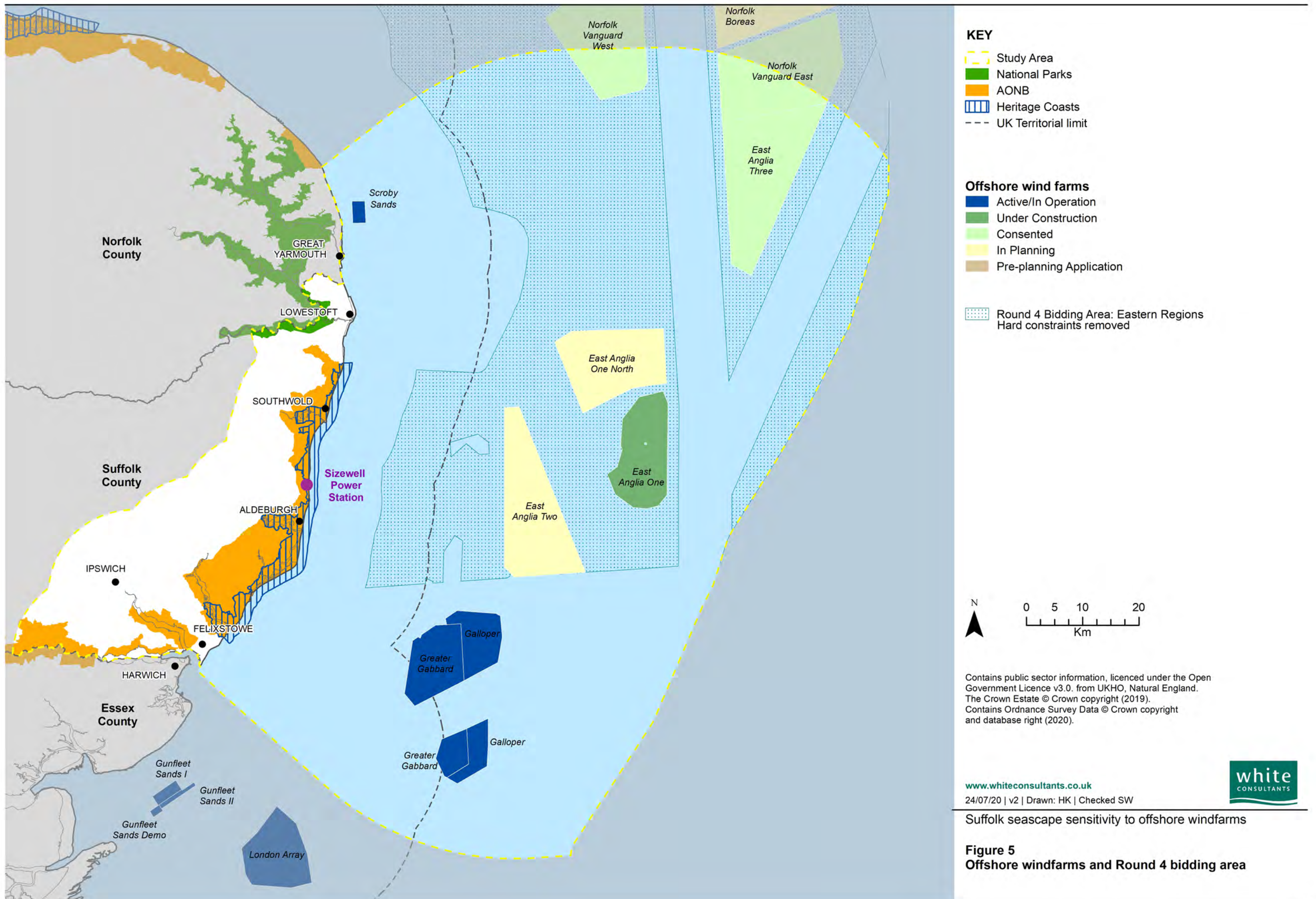
Suffolk seascape sensitivity to offshore windfarms

**Figure 3**  
**Landscape and Heritage Designations,**  
**and Coast Path (North)**

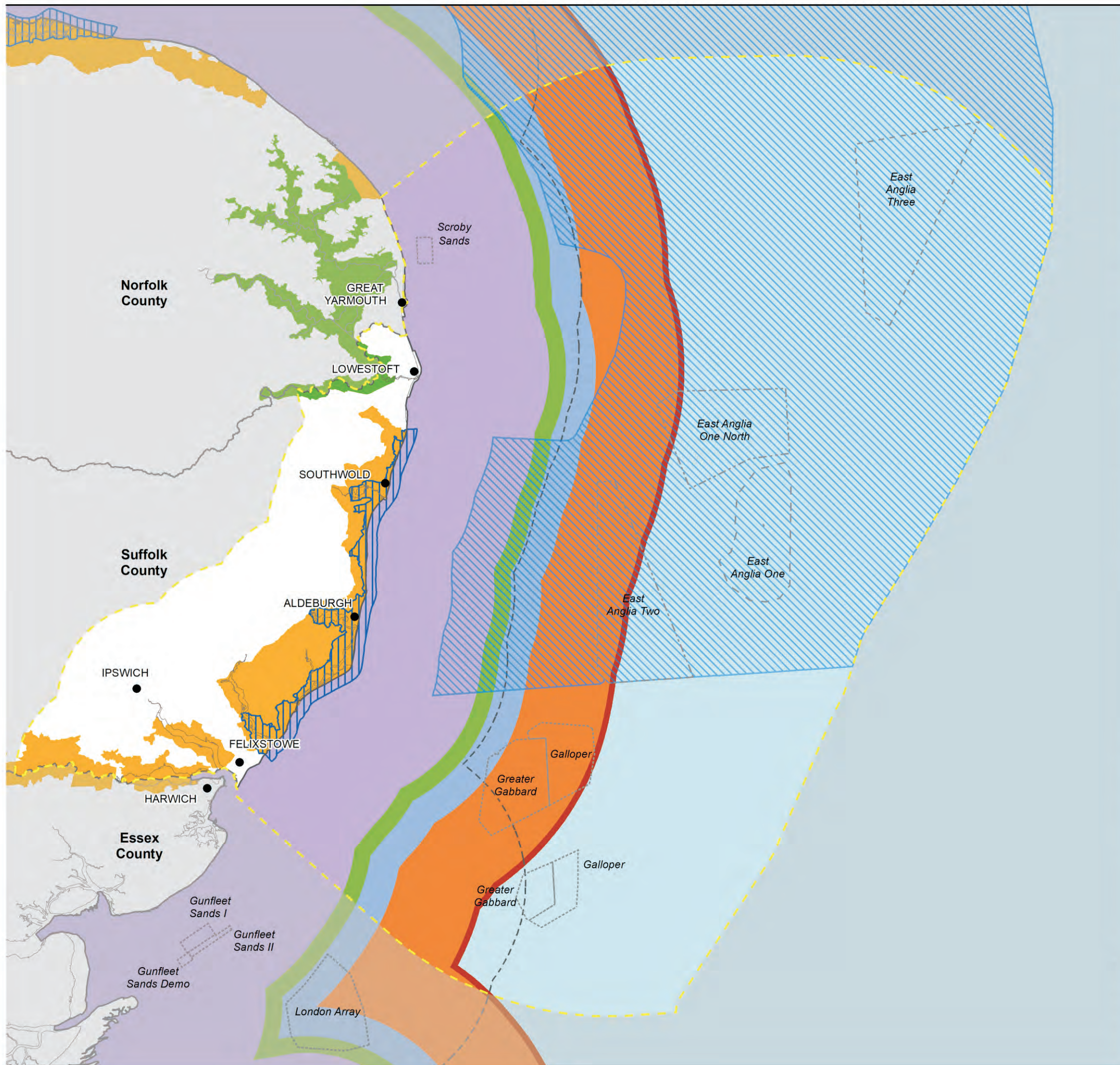












#### KEY

- Study Area
- Heritage Coasts
- AONB
- National Parks
- UK Territorial limit

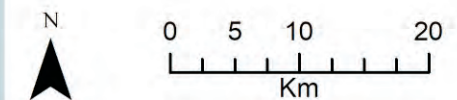
#### Average low\* magnitude of effect for wind turbines from coast (OESEA, 2020)

- 107-145m high turbines to blade tip = 19.2km
- 150-175m high turbines to blade tip = 21.7km
- 176-223m high turbines to blade tip = 26.2km
- 250-300m high turbines to blade tip = 38.6km
- 301-400m high turbines to blade tip = 39.5km

\*The distances represent the zones where there is an average low/moderate or low visual magnitude of effect on coastal receptors. Turbines of the size noted should be placed beyond the distance noted eg 107-145m turbines should be placed at least 19.2km from the coast.

#### Offshore wind farms

- Active/In Operation
- Consented
- In Planning
- Under Construction
- Round Four Area: Eastern Regions



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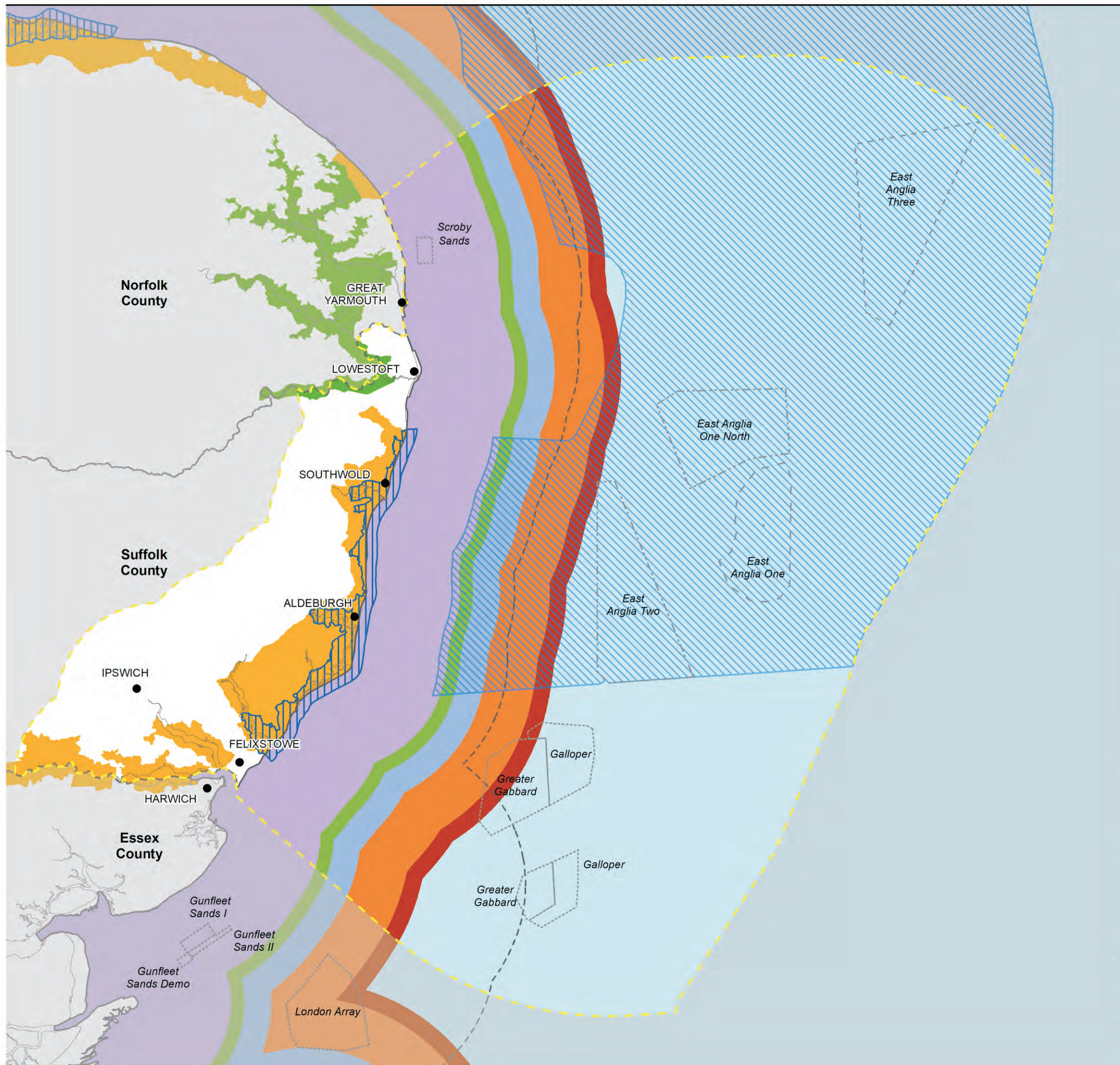
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Suffolk seascape sensitivity to offshore windfarms

**Figure 6**  
**Average low magnitude of visual effect for wind turbines from coast**





#### KEY

- Study Area
- Heritage Coasts
- AONB
- National Parks
- UK Territorial limit

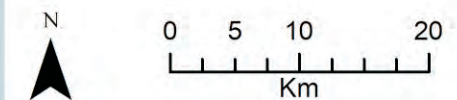
#### Average medium\* magnitude of effect for wind turbines from coast (OESEA, 2020)

- 107-145m high turbines to blade tip = 14km
- 150-175m high turbines to blade tip = 16km
- 176-223m high turbines to blade tip = 20km
- 250-300m high turbines to blade tip = 27.5km
- 301-400m high turbines to blade tip = 30km

\*The distances represent the zones where there is an average medium/moderate visual magnitude of effect on coastal receptors. Turbines of the size noted should be placed beyond the distance noted eg 107-145m turbines should be placed at least 14km from the coast.

#### Offshore wind farms

- Active/In Operation
- Consented
- In Planning
- Under Construction
- Round Four Area: Eastern Regions



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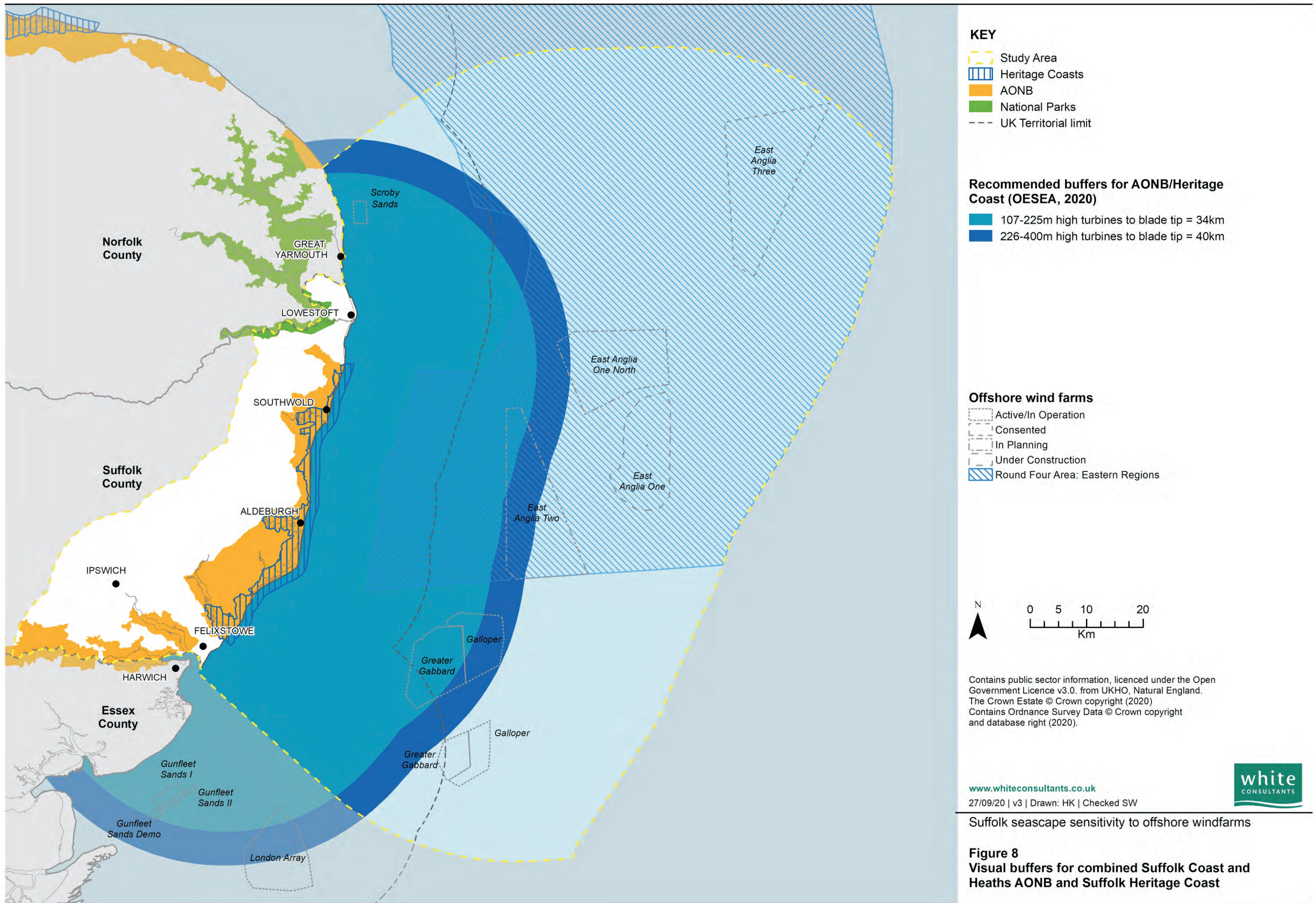
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Suffolk seascape sensitivity to offshore windfarms

**Figure 7**  
**Average medium magnitude of visual effect for wind turbines from coast**

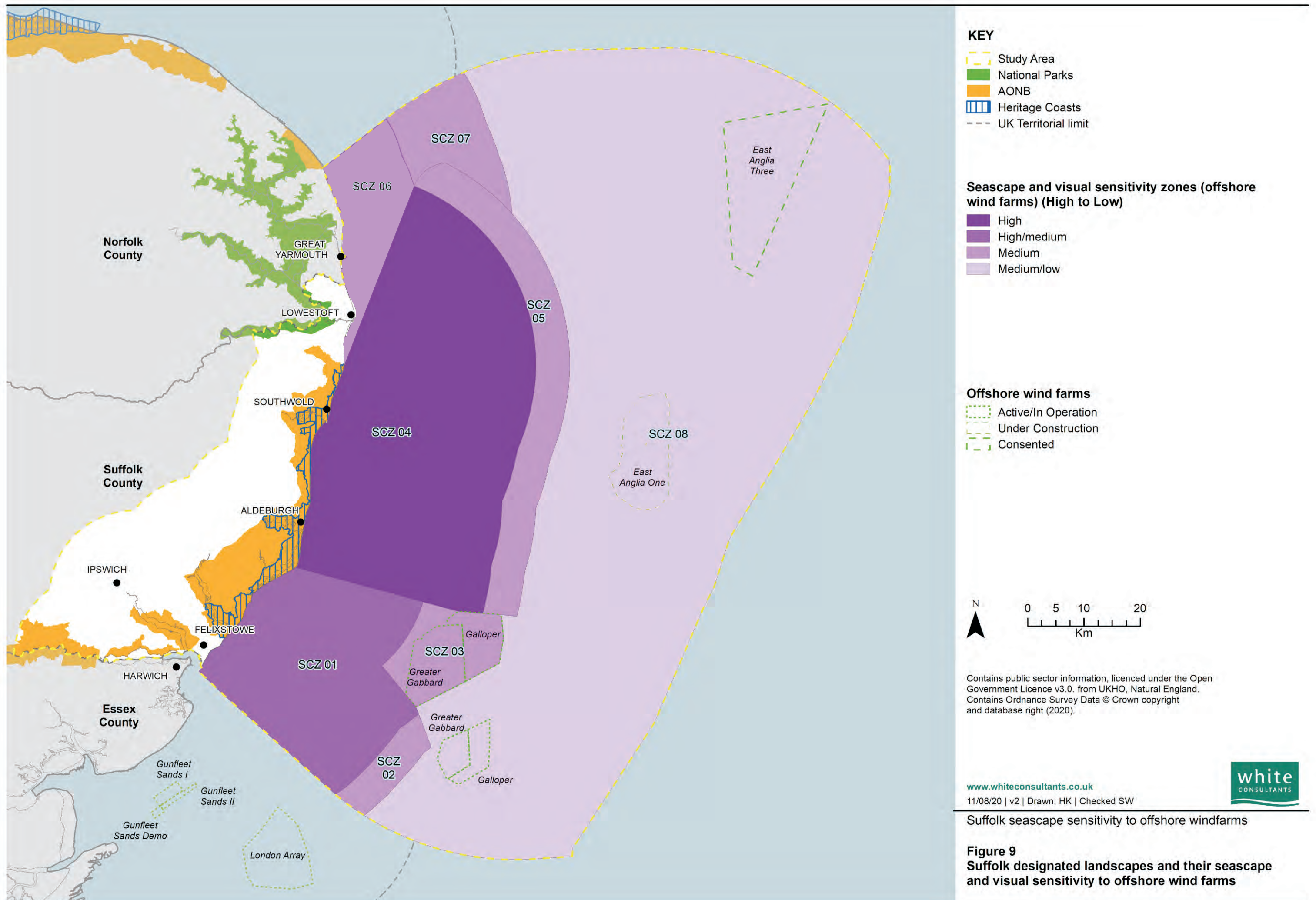




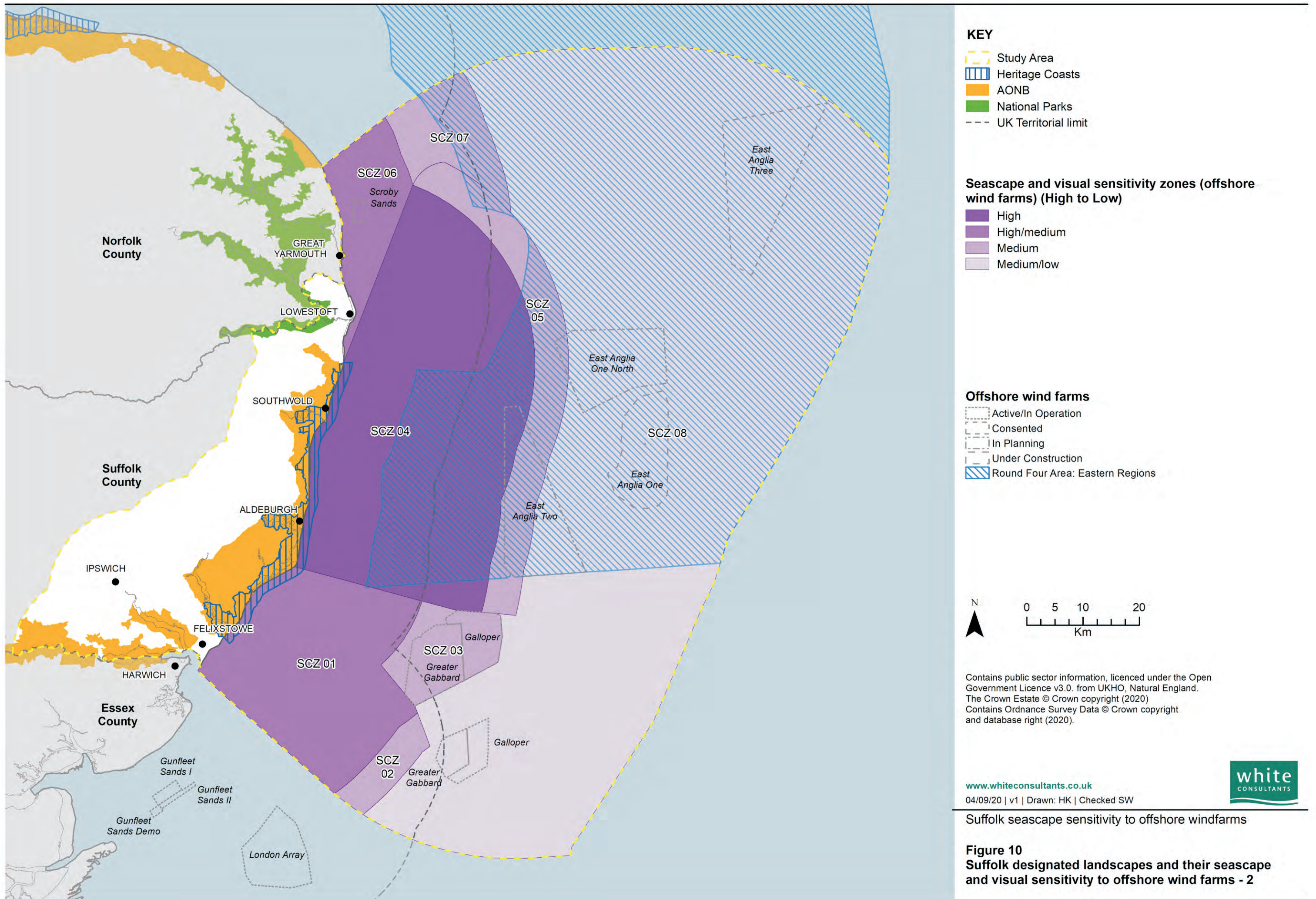
Suffolk seascape sensitivity to offshore windfarms

**Figure 8**  
**Visual buffers for combined Suffolk Coast and**  
**Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast**









Suffolk seascape sensitivity to offshore windfarms

**Figure 10**  
**Suffolk designated landscapes and their seascape and visual sensitivity to offshore wind farms - 2**



## **PART 2: Detailed seascape zone assessments**

<b>Seascape zone No: 01</b>	<b>Name: Suffolk Heritage Coast Inshore- South</b>
<i>Location/Extent</i>	
The seascape zone is defined by the southern boundary of the study area to the south, the change of direction of the coast at Orford Ness to the north, the boundary of average low/medium-low magnitude of effects of turbines of a similar scale to Greater Gabbard/Galloper to the east (21.7km) (derived from the OESEA study, 2020), and the suggested buffer distance for smaller turbines off combined AONBs and Heritage Coasts (34km) to the south east (also OESEA, 2020).	
<b>OVERALL SENSITIVITY</b>	
<i>Sensitivity</i>	High/medium
<i>Summary</i>	
<p>70% of the generally low-lying coast of this seascape zone is covered by the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast designation. The south western part between Felixstowe and Felixstowe Ferry is fronted by urban/suburban development, park or a golf course but includes a seafront Conservation Area and popular beaches. The approaches to Harwich Harbour/Felixstowe lie in the southern part of the inshore/offshore area and are used by a range of shipping including container vessels and ferries, as well as leisure craft from Shotley and the Deben estuary. Greater Gabbard/Galloper windfarms lie offshore from the zone.</p> <p>The zone's susceptibility lies in the panoramic views from the coast including the Suffolk Coast Path along this part of the coast and from the north, framed views from the Deben estuary, the sense of remoteness, tranquillity and openness at the distinctive spit at Orford Ness and around Shingle Street which the seascape contributes to, and which relate to the AONB's natural beauty criteria, and the relatively high frequency of visibility upto long distances offshore.</p> <p>The zone's value lies in its role as part of the setting of the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast with 70% of the coast covered by the designation, the views from the scheduled monuments overlooking the area including the listed Orford Castle and numerous Martello towers and from listed Bawdsey Manor and associated gardens, views from Aldeburgh Conservation Area to the north and SPA/SACs.</p> <p>The factors which slightly reduce sensitivity are the presence of shipping and associated infrastructure to the south and World War II and subsequent military infrastructure on the coast including the masts at Orford Ness, and the presence of Greater Gabbard/Galloper wind farms offshore, but the latter raise the potential for cumulative effects.</p>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS IN TERMS OF SEASCAPE AND VISUAL FACTORS</b>	
<i>Summary</i>	
<p>The seascape zone lies within 34km of the shore which is the suggested buffer for all scales of wind farm development to avoid significant adverse effects on a combined AONB and Heritage Coast. This combined with the susceptibility and other values related to the zone suggest an area of constraint on windfarm development. There is distinct separation between Greater Gabbard/Galloper and the London Array wind farms which, combined with distance, is helpful in avoiding substantial combined cumulative effects on the designated coastline. A very limited extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the south west (as currently proposed) may cause limited effects if the turbines are the same/similar in height and spacing to the existing. An extension further towards the coast <i>within</i> the seascape zone would be considered to cause harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB and Heritage Coast.</p>	
<b>SEASCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT</b>	
<i>National Marine Character Areas</i>	<p>MCA 19 Essex and South Suffolk Estuaries and Coastal Waters (part)</p> <p>MCA 20 Thames Approaches (part)</p> <p>SCA 04 East Anglian Shipping Waters (part)</p>



	SCA 10 Suffolk Coastal Waters (part)
<i>Local seascape character areas</i>	SCT 2 International Ports and Approaches (all) SCT 03 Nearshore Waters (part) SCT 05 Coastal Waters (part) SCT 06 Offshore Waters (part)
<b>VISUAL BUFFERS</b>	
<i>Distance offshore- range</i>	Shore to 34km except where between Greater Gabbard wind farm and the shore- 21.7km.
<i>Size of turbines potentially having low or medium/low magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines below 145m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 19.2km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 145-175m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 21.7 km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines above 176-225m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 26.2 km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines above 226-300m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect.</li> </ul>
<i>Size of turbines potentially having medium magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines below 145m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 14km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 145-175m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 15.8km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 176-225m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 20.2km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 226-300m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 27.5km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 301-350m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 30km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 351-400m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 30km+ from shore.</li> </ul>

<b>SUSCEPTIBILITY</b>							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
<b>Natural</b>							
<b>Hinterland</b>	Form/ topography/ character						The landform is generally low lying with some coastal plateau and some low slopes of the estate sandlands behind coastal levels.
<b>Coastal edge</b>	Cliffs, rocky coasts, upper beach, dunes etc						Mix of very gently curving bays with minor headlands and small estuaries and a very gently convex coast, occasional low cliffs, extensive shingle beaches in places including the very long spit at Orfordness and at Shingle Street.
<b>Coastal edge</b>	Intertidal						Mix of simple shingle beaches and banks with estuarial deposits, with groynes and rock armour at Felixstowe and in places elsewhere.

							Some small lagoons behind shingle banks.
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
Key habitats, features and species	Marine, intertidal, coastal edge (if relevant).						Estuary SPAs, Orford Shingle Street SAC, Outer Thames Estuary SPA (wintering red-throated diver and common tern and little tern during the breeding season), Margate and Long Sands SAC
Cultural/ Social							
Use of the sea (see under seascape pattern and foci for assessment)	Navigation, fishing, leisure, energy production, mineral extraction etc.						To the south- use by shipping accessing the ports of Felixstowe and Harwich (Harwich Haven) with associated beacons, buoys and anchorages, some aggregate production areas offshore, Greater Gabbard and London Array outside the area offshore, some fishing, leisure sailing eg from Shotley and Felixstowe Ferry, use of beaches at Felixstowe. Intensity of use reduces to the north.
Use of the coast/ hinterland	Settlement, industry, energy, marine related development such as ports, power stations, leisure/tourism, agriculture, conservation etc.						Felixstowe- port with related infrastructure and residential and leisure uses to the south, former military and atomic research station on Orfordness to north, otherwise rural coast/hinterland Suffolk Coast Path, golf course, limited settlements and Bawdsey Manor- PGL centre.
Historic features at sea, on seabed or buried below	eg wrecks, paleolandscapes						Recession of coastline over many years, numerous wrecks, some related to harbours.
Historic features on coast	eg coastal forts, castles, lighthouses						Napoleonic Wars fort (Landguard Fort) and numerous Martello towers, military related structures such as pagodas at Orford Ness, Bawdsey Manor historic park and garden, Orford Castle (and church) set back from the coast but overlooking it.
Cultural associations	eg former use of the sea or coast, boatmaking, former trade routes, associations with artists and writers, food traditions, spiritual connections, education and interpretation etc						Historic ports at Harwich and Felixstowe (associated with the Mayflower) with trade routes, defensive coast -Napoleonic forts and Martello towers, WWII infrastructure and former military use of Orfordness alongside the national nature reserve, Orford Castle, Bawdsey Manor- former manor, now outdoor education facility, painting of Orfordness lighthouse by Daniell.

Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
<b>Quality/ Condition</b>							
<b>Intactness</b>	Degree of completeness or fragmentation of area character or elements, presence of detractors and extent.						Seascape busier to the south with shipping and beacons apparent, Greater Gabbard and London Array visible in very good visibility. Masts at Orfordness.
<b>State of repair</b>	Condition of coastal natural and built features/ elements, maintained or not maintained.						Generally well maintained and protected coast (with designations) but managed dereliction at Orford Ness which contributes to distinctiveness.
<b>Aesthetic and Perceptual</b>							
<b>Scale</b>	Of sea in relation to coastal form or offshore.						The sea feels large scale with panoramic views
<b>Openness and enclosure</b>	Degree and nature of enclosure of sea by land, framing of views.						Openness is a key characteristic of the coast especially to the north with generally open views out to sea from beaches with some framing at the mouth of the Deben.
<b>Exposure</b>	Sheltered, calm, exposed.						Exposed, eroding and accreting coast with distinctive character to north with sheltered waters in estuaries and anchorages to the south.
<b>Aspect</b>	Relationship with sun.						South east facing with potential for highlighting of turbines in low sun in afternoon and near sunset especially in summer.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci</b>	Features and elements on/above the sea surface.						Presence of shipping/ferries with markers to the south but shipping less evident to the north. Windfarms at a distance offshore- 170m high turbines at Greater Gabbard/Galloper most apparent and London Array.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci - coast and hinterland</b>	eg Headlands, cliffs, high hills or landmarks such as towers or castles.						Very distinctive shingle spit at Orford Ness, some limited cliffs with small headlands, with Martello towers and Orford Castle inland increasing susceptibility. Small scale and low landmarks generally apart from 60m masts at Orfordness to the north.
<b>Contribution to the setting of a coast or seascape</b>							The zone is integral to the character of the coast all lying within the

character area							limits of visual perception
Weather-visibility modifiers	Based on 10 years local weather station data, the % of time that visibility is very good (20-40km) or excellent (40km+). (Two % in order to rt)						High levels of visibility Weybourne (34% and 20%) and Shoeburyness (36% and 9.5%).
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
Visual Characteristics							
Key views- land to sea sea to land sea to sea	Including nature of views and elevation, perhaps including iconic features.  Views from within area and from outside.						Land to sea- views from Orford Castle, Felixstowe seafront, around Martello towers and from Suffolk Coast Path- Felixstowe Ferry/Deben estuary/edge of Bawdsey Manor, Bawdsey East Street, Shingle Street and mouth of the Alde/Ore estuary which is a distinctive location near the end of Orford Ness.
Intervisibility of the area with important visual receptors	Amount/length/extent /nature of intervisibility and distance away from unit/development.  eg relationship in terms of angle of view, topographic influences						Most of the coast is accessible and directly facing the sea with a direct relationship with the seascape zone. The zone is also visible from the north eg Aldeburgh.
Typical receptors - type and number	eg coast walkers, visitors to coast/features, beach visitors, residents, leisure sailors, ferries, shipping, urban areas etc.  In designated areas or outside designated areas						Users of coast within AONB and Heritage Coast (70% of coast). Suffolk Coast Path users, visitors to beach, promenade and pier at Felixstowe, and to Felixstowe Ferry. Visitors to Orford Ness. Leisure sailing from Deben Estuary and Shotley. Harwich ferry users.
OVERALL SUSCEPTIBILITY							

## VALUE

## DESIGNATIONS

Landscape designations	AONB Designation	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB
	Heritage Coast Designation	Suffolk Heritage Coast
Historic	Key scheduled	Orford Castle; Martello Towers- on golf course adjoining Woodbridge Haven, at Felixstowe ferry, Rose Cottage,

designations	monuments	Bawdsey Beach, SE of Buckanay Farm and Shingle Street; Landguard Fort- Felixstowe.					
	Conservation Areas	Felixstowe, Orford (also Aldeburgh to north)					
	Key listed buildings	Orford Castle- Grade I listed building tower, Bawdsey Manor and associated buildings and structures, various Martello towers and battery observation post.					
	Historic parks and gardens	Bawdsey Manor Historic Park and Garden; Cliff Gardens (and Town Hall Garden), Felixstowe					
Marine nature conservation designations	SPA/SAC	Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Margate and Long Sands SAC, Southern North Sea SAC					
	Marine Conservation Zone	-					
VALUE CRITERIA							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M /L	L	Comments
Landscape designations- National, regional, local	eg National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coast, local countryside designations, (distance, relationship, extent of role as setting).						75% of the coast Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast combined
Nature conservation designations	Main relevant marine designations eg MCZ, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, etc						Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Margate and Long Sands SAC, Southern North Sea SAC
Heritage designations	Marine and coastal- eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and their settings						Bawdsey Manor Historic Park and Garden including listed structures, Felixstowe Conservation Area, Martello towers dotted along the coast- all increase value.
Relevant special qualities /natural beauty indicators	If landscape/ coastal designation overlooks area. (List and define the degree to which the area contributes to these).						The AONB and Heritage Coast directly overlook the seascape zone.
	Scenic quality- sense of place						Strong sense of place especially associated with Orford Ness and shingle beaches and banks and estuaries, and Martello towers overlooking the sea.
	Scenic quality- panoramic views and vantage points						Panoramic views from Coast Path
	Relative wildness, sense of remoteness, lack of human						Sense of remoteness to the north east around Shingle Street and Orford Ness with extensive shingle

	influence					banks, estuary and nature reserves.
	Relative tranquillity-absence of development					Substantially tranquil north of Bawdsey and in parts of Orford Ness reducing to the south east with limited tranquillity at Felixstowe on coast. Shipping reduces tranquillity to an extent.
	Relative tranquillity-dark skies					Substantially dark to the north east around Orford Ness, although possibly with mast lights to the north, reducing to the south east with lit streets at Felixstowe. Shipping, beacons and wind farms' red aviation lights offshore.
	Cultural associations/artistic representations					Historic defence structures, link to the Mayflower- Harwich, painting of Orfordness lighthouse by Daniell, smuggling around Shingle Street.
<b>Community values</b>	Value associated with area or features by people- communities of interest/place, public attitudes.					Leisure sailing, fishing and visits to the nature reserve form communities of interest, the Coast Path is well used and Felixstowe still popular.
<b>Recreational value</b>	Use for leisure or sport on sea, intertidal, coast.					Leisure sailing fishing and walking.
<b>OVERALL VALUE</b>						

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	Comments
Existing and consented offshore wind farms within zone	Greater Gabbard/ Galloper and London Array nearby. Further development potentially could cause cumulative effects if using larger turbines or extending the perceived width of development along the horizon.
Potential planned further development in zone	Greater Gabbard/ Galloper extension
Current relationship of wind farms and effect on seascape character and setting of AONB	At present there is a clear separation between Greater Gabbard/ Galloper and London Array (30km). They are apparent on the horizon and are located within the setting of the AONB. They are detractors and not a key characteristic of the AONB. Their effect is mitigated by the size of turbine, the distance offshore, the apparent width along the horizon and the influence of visibility modifiers/weather.
Potential cumulative combined effect of existing, consented and potential planned development on seascape character and setting of AONB	The Greater Gabbard/ Galloper extension would be likely to slightly increase adverse effects on the AONB but the level of effects would depend on the size of turbine proposed. If this was the same/very similar in height and spacing then the effects may be limited. If turbine size is increased, the level of effect would also increase. Views of East Anglia TWO may be possible from the northern part of the area- Orford Ness. This could create a curtain of turbines on the horizon in close juxtaposition with Greater Gabbard/Galloper (7km gap).



Compatibility of cumulative combined effects with AONB policies	A small extension using the same size turbines as existing for Greater Gabbard/ Galloper could be construed as minimising effects on the purposes of the AONB. East Anglia TWO would be likely to be incompatible.
CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	Comments
Recommendations for constraint or opportunities setting out the most suitable locations for development with appropriate design, scale and spacing in order to provide benefits and/or mitigate and minimise effects	A very limited extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the south west (as currently proposed) may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing. An extension further towards the coast <i>within</i> the seascape zone would be considered to cause harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB. No other wind farm developments are considered appropriate within the zone.

Seascape zone No: 02	Name: Suffolk Heritage Coast Offshore- South
Location	
The seascape zone is defined by the southern boundary of the study area to the south, a line between two Greater Gabbard arrays to the north east, the suggested buffer distance for smaller turbines off combined AONBs and Heritage Coasts (34km) (derived from the OESEA study, 2020) to the west and the suggested buffer distance for larger turbines to the east (40km).	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Sensitivity	Medium
Summary	
<p>The zone lies between 34km and 40km offshore from a generally low-lying coast which is 70% covered by the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast designation. The south western part of the coast between Felixstowe and Felixstowe Ferry is fronted by urban/suburban development, park or a golf course but includes a seafront Conservation Area and popular beaches. The approaches to Harwich Harbour/Felixstowe run through the zone and are used by a range of shipping including container vessels and ferries. Greater Gabbard/Galloper windfarms lie to the north and east.</p> <p>The zone's susceptibility lies in the panoramic views from the coast including the Suffolk Coast Path along this part of the coast and from the north, framed views from the Deben estuary, the sense of remoteness, tranquillity and openness at the distinctive spit at Orford Ness and around Shingle Street which the seascape contributes to, and which relate to the AONB's natural beauty criteria.</p> <p>The zone's value lies in its role as part of the setting of the combined AONB and Heritage Coast, the views from the scheduled monuments overlooking the area including the listed Orford Castle and numerous Martello towers and from listed Bawdsey Manor and associated gardens, and MCZ/SPA/SAC.</p> <p>The factors which reduce sensitivity are the distance offshore, the presence of shipping and World War II and subsequent military infrastructure on the coast including the masts at Orford Ness, and the presence of Greater Gabbard/Galloper wind farms, but the latter raise the potential for cumulative effects.</p>	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS IN TERMS OF SEASCAPE AND VISUAL FACTORS	
Summary	
<p>The seascape zone lies between 34km and 40km of the shore which potentially allows consideration of wind farms with turbines between 107-224m high but is a suggested constraint buffer for turbines from 225-400m high to avoid significant adverse effects on a combined AONB and Heritage Coast. This combined with the susceptibility and other values related to the zone suggest an area of constraint on windfarm development over 224m high. However, the zone contributes to the distinct separation between Greater Gabbard/Galloper and the London Array wind farms which, combined with distance, is helpful in avoiding substantial combined cumulative effects on the designated coastline. Extension of the Greater Gabbard/ Galloper arrays south or east into this area may cause adverse combined cumulative effects through either a curtaining effect on the horizon or if the turbines are higher than the existing.</p>	
SEASCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT	
National Marine Character Areas	SCA 04 East Anglian Shipping Waters
Local seascape character areas	SCT 06 Offshore Waters
VISUAL BUFFERS	
Distance offshore- range	34km-40km offshore
Size of turbines potentially having low or medium/low magnitude of effect*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines 226-300m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 38.6km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 301-350m would be likely to exceed low</li> </ul>

	<p>magnitude of effect less than 40km from shore.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines 351-400m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 40km+ from shore.</li> </ul>
<i>Size of turbines potentially having medium magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines 145-400m would not generally be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect. (Note: East Anglia TWO assessed as medium effect from 36km in SVIA)</li> </ul>

SUSCEPTIBILITY							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
<b>Natural</b>							
Hinterland	Form/ topography/ character						The landform is generally low lying with some coastal plateau and some low slopes of the estate sandlands behind coastal levels.
Coastal edge	Cliffs, rocky coasts, upper beach, dunes etc						Mix of very gently curving bays with minor headlands and small estuaries and a very gently convex coast, occasional low cliffs, extensive shingle beaches in places including the very long spit at Orfordness and at Shingle Street.
Coastal edge	Intertidal						Mix of simple gravel beaches and banks with estuarial deposits, with groynes and rock armour at Felixstowe and in places elsewhere. Some small lagoons behind shingle banks.
Key habitats, features and species	Marine, intertidal, coastal edge (if relevant).						Kentish Knock MCZ, Outer Thames Estuary SPA (wintering red-throated diver and common tern and little tern during the breeding season), Margate and Long Sands SAC
<b>Cultural/ Social</b>							
Use of the sea (see under seascape pattern and foci for assessment)	Navigation, fishing, leisure, energy production, mineral extraction etc.						Use by shipping accessing the ports of Felixstowe and Harwich, Greater Gabbard/ Galloper and London Array and some aggregate production nearby, possible fishing but busy shipping waters.
Use of the coast/ hinterland	Settlement, industry, energy, marine related development such as ports, power stations, leisure/tourism, agriculture, conservation etc.						Felixstowe- port with related infrastructure and residential and leisure uses to the south, former military and atomic research station on Orfordness to north, otherwise rural coast/hinterland Suffolk Coast Path, golf course, limited settlements and Bawdsey Manor-PGL centre.
Historic features at sea, on seabed	eg wrecks, paleolandscapes						Paleolandscape, recession of coastline over many years, a few

or buried below							wrecks.
Historic features on coast	eg coastal forts, castles, lighthouses						Napoleonic Wars fort (Landguard Fort) and numerous Martello towers, military related structures such as pagodas at Orford Ness, Bawdsey Manor historic park and garden, Orford Castle (and church) set back from the coast but overlooking it.
Cultural associations	eg former use of the sea or coast, boatmaking, former trade routes, associations with artists and writers, food traditions, spiritual connections, education and interpretation etc						Associated with shipping across the North Sea linking UK ports with Europe and from English Channel, paleolandscape associations pre-sea level rise and the North Sea.
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M /L	L	Comments
Quality/ Condition							
Intactness	Degree of completeness or fragmentation of area character or elements, presence of detractors and extent.						Seascape busy with shipping, Greater Gabbard/Galloper and London Array visible relatively nearby.
State of repair	Condition of coastal natural and built features/ elements, maintained or not maintained.						N/A
Aesthetic and Perceptual							
Scale	Of sea in relation to coastal form or offshore.						Large scale open sea
Openness and enclosure	Degree and nature of enclosure of sea by land, framing of views.						Very open away from the coast.
Exposure	Sheltered, calm, exposed.						Highly exposed open sea.
Aspect	Relationship with sun.						South east of the coast at a distance so potential for highlighting of turbines in low sun near sunset limited.
Seascape pattern and foci	Features and elements on/above the sea surface.						Presence of wind farms nearby and shipping/ferries.



<b>Seascape pattern and foci - coast and hinterland</b>	eg Headlands, cliffs, high hills or landmarks such as towers or castles.						Very distinctive shingle spit at Orford Ness, some limited cliffs with small headlands, with Martello towers and Orford Castle inland increasing susceptibility. Small scale and low landmarks generally apart from 60m masts at Orford Ness to the north.
<b>Contribution to the setting of a coast or seascape character area</b>							The zone is integral to the character of the coast all lying within the limits of visual perception
<b>Weather-visibility modifiers</b>	Based on 10 years local weather station data, the % of time that visibility is very good (20-40km) or excellent (40km+). (Two % in order to rt)						High levels of visibility Weybourne (34% and 20%) and Shoeburyness (36% and 9.5%).
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Visual Characteristics</b>							
<b>Key views- land to sea sea to land sea to sea</b>	Including nature of views and elevation, perhaps including iconic features.  Views from within area and from outside.						Land to sea- views from Orford Castle, Felixstowe seafront, around Martello towers and from Suffolk Coast Path- Felixstowe Ferry/Deben estuary/edge of Bawdsey Manor, Bawdsey East Street, Shingle Street and mouth of the Alde/Ore estuary which is a distinctive location near the end of Orford Ness. Sea to sea-views from ferries and other passenger ships.
<b>Intervisibility of the area with important visual receptors</b>	Amount/length/extent /nature of intervisibility and distance away from unit/development.  eg relationship in terms of angle of view, topographic influences						Most of the coast is accessible and directly facing the seascape zone at a distance.
<b>Typical receptors - type and number</b>	eg coast walkers, visitors to coast/features, beach visitors, residents, leisure sailors, ferries, shipping, urban areas etc.  In designated areas or outside designated areas						Users of coast within AONB and Heritage Coast (75% of coast). Suffolk Coast Path users, visitors to beach, promenade and pier at Felixstowe, and to Felixstowe Ferry. Visitors to Orford Ness. Harwich ferry and other passenger ship users.

**OVERALL  
SUSCEPTIBILITY****VALUE****DESIGNATIONS**

<i>Landscape designations on coast</i>	<i>AONB Designation</i>	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB
	<i>Heritage Coast Designation</i>	Suffolk Heritage Coast
<i>Historic designations on coast</i>	<i>Key scheduled monuments</i>	Orford Castle; Martello Towers- on golf course adjoining Woodbridge Haven, at Felixstowe ferry, Rose Cottage, Bawdsey Beach, SE of Buckanay Farm and Shingle Street; Landguard Fort- Felixstowe.
	<i>Conservation Areas</i>	Felixstowe, Orford (also Aldeburgh to north)
	<i>Key listed buildings</i>	Orford Castle- Grade I listed building tower, Bawdsey Manor and associated buildings and structures, various Martello towers and battery observation post.
	<i>Historic parks and gardens</i>	Bawdsey Manor Historic Park and Garden; Cliff Gardens (and Town Hall Garden), Felixstowe
<i>Marine nature conservation designations</i>	<i>SPA/SAC</i>	Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Margate and Long Sands SAC.
	<i>Marine Conservation Zone</i>	Kentish Knock MCZ

**VALUE CRITERIA**

Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
<b>Landscape designations- National, regional, local</b>	eg National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coast, local countryside designations, (distance, relationship, extent of role as setting).						75% of the coast Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast combined
<b>Nature conservation designations</b>	Main relevant marine designations eg MCZ, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, etc						Kentish Knock MCZ, Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Margate and Long Sands SAC
<b>Heritage designations</b>	Marine and coastal- eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and their settings						Bawdsey Manor Historic Park and Garden including listed structures, Felixstowe Conservation Area, Martello towers dotted along the coast- all increase value.
<b>Relevant special qualities</b>	If landscape/ coastal designation overlooks area. (List and define						The AONB and Heritage Coast directly overlook the seascape zone but at a distance of 34-40km.

<b>/natural beauty indicators</b>	the degree to which the area contributes to these).						
	Scenic quality- sense of place						Contributes to open seascape setting to AONB and Heritage Coast .
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M /L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	Scenic quality- panoramic views and vantage points						Panoramic views from Coast Path towards zone.
	Relative wildness, sense of remoteness, lack of human influence						Remote zone but used by shipping with wind farms nearby.
	Relative tranquillity- absence of development						Generally tranquil but use by shipping.
	Relative tranquillity- dark skies						Substantially dark with shipping and wind farms' red aviation lights to north, south and east.
	Cultural associations/artistic representations						Limited cultural associations other than maritime use.
<b>Community values</b>	Value associated with area or features by people- communities of interest/place, public attitudes.						Very limited community values
<b>Recreational value</b>	Use for leisure or sport on sea, intertidal, coast.						Very limited leisure sailing
<b>OVERALL VALUE</b>							

<b>CUMULATIVE EFFECTS</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Existing and consented offshore wind farms within zone	Greater Gabbard/ Galloper and London Array nearby. Further development potentially could cause cumulative effects if using larger turbines or extending the perceived width of development along the horizon.
Potential planned further development in zone	Greater Gabbard/ Galloper extension
Current relationship of wind farms and effect on seascape character and setting of AONB	At present there is a clear separation between Greater Gabbard/ Galloper and London Array (30km). They are apparent on the horizon and are located within the setting of the AONB. They are detractors and not a key characteristic of the AONB. Their effect is mitigated by the size of turbine, the distance offshore, the apparent width along the horizon and the influence of visibility modifiers/weather.
Potential cumulative combined effect of existing, consented and potential planned development on	There are no current plans for development in the seascape zone.

seascape character and setting of AONB	
<b>CUMULATIVE EFFECTS</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Compatibility of cumulative combined effects with AONB policies	There are no current plans for development in the seascape zone.
Recommendations for constraint or opportunities setting out the most suitable locations for development with appropriate design, scale and spacing in order to provide benefits and/or mitigate and minimise effects	Extensions of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper from the north or east within the seascape zone (if feasible) would be considered to cause harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB and Heritage Coast as they would reduce the gap between the existing arrays.



<b>Seascape zone No: 03</b>	<b>Name: Greater Gabbard Environs</b>
<i>Location/extent</i>	
The seascape zone is defined by the extent of the northern arrays of the Greater Gabbard and Galloper wind farms extending east towards the coast to the boundary of average low/medium-low magnitude of effects of turbines of a similar scale to those in the existing arrays (21.7km).	
<b>OVERALL SENSITIVITY</b>	
<i>Sensitivity</i>	Medium
<i>Summary</i>	
<p>The zone lies between 21.7km and 40km offshore. The majority of this is existing wind farm so the comments relate to the part of the zone to the west of the arrays, towards the coast. The area is offshore from a generally low-lying coast which is 70% covered by the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast designation which also continues northwards for a substantial distance. The south western part of the coast between Felixstowe and Felixstowe Ferry is fronted by urban/suburban development, park or a golf course but includes a seafront Conservation Area and popular beaches.</p> <p>The zone's susceptibility lies in the panoramic views from the coast including the Suffolk Coast Path along this part of the coast and from the north, the sense of remoteness, tranquillity and openness at the distinctive spit at Orford Ness and around Shingle Street which the seascape contributes to, and which relate to the AONB's natural beauty criteria.</p> <p>The zone's value lies in its role as part of the setting of the combined AONB and Heritage Coast, the views from the scheduled monuments overlooking the area including the listed Orford Castle and numerous Martello towers, from Aldeburgh Conservation Area and from listed Bawdsey Manor and associated gardens, and SPA/SACs.</p> <p>The factors which reduce sensitivity are the distance offshore, World War II and subsequent military infrastructure on the coast including the masts at Orford Ness, and the presence of Greater Gabbard/Galloper wind farms, but the latter raise the potential for cumulative effects.</p>	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS IN TERMS OF SEASCAPE AND VISUAL FACTORS</b>	
<i>Summary</i>	
The seascape zone lies over 21.7km from the shore which potentially allows consideration of wind farms with turbines upto 175m high but is a suggested constraint buffer for turbines above this to avoid significant adverse effects on a combined AONB and Heritage Coast. This combined with the susceptibility and other values related to the zone suggest an area of constraint on windfarm development over 175m high. Extension of the Greater Gabbard/ Galloper arrays east into this area may also cause adverse combined cumulative effects if the turbines are higher and with wider spacing than the existing.	
<b>SEASCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT</b>	
<i>National Marine Character Areas</i>	SCA 04 East Anglian Shipping Waters
<i>Local seascape character areas</i>	SCT 06 Offshore Waters
<b>VISUAL BUFFERS</b>	
<i>Distance offshore- range</i>	21.7km- c.40km offshore
<i>Size of turbines potentially having low or medium/ low magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turbines above 176-225m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 26.2 km from shore.</li> <li>• Turbines 226-300m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 38.6km from shore.</li> <li>• Turbines 301-350m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 40km from shore.</li> <li>• Turbines 351-400m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 40km+ from shore.</li> </ul>

<i>Size of turbines potentially having medium magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines 226-300m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 27.5km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 301-350m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 30km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 351-400m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 30km+ from shore.</li> </ul> <p>(Note: East Anglia TWO assessed as medium effect from 36km in SVIA)</p>
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SUSCEPTIBILITY							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
<b>Natural</b>							
Hinterland	Form/ topography/ character						The landform is generally low lying with some coastal plateau and some low slopes of the estate sandlands behind coastal levels.
Coastal edge	Cliffs, rocky coasts, upper beach, dunes etc						Mix of very gently curving bays with minor headlands and small estuaries and a very gently convex coast, occasional low cliffs, extensive shingle beaches in places including the very long spit at Orfordness and at Shingle Street.
Coastal edge	Intertidal						Mix of simple shingle beaches and banks with estuarial deposits, with groynes and rock armour at Felixstowe and in places elsewhere. Some small lagoons behind shingle banks.
Key habitats, features and species	Marine, intertidal, coastal edge (if relevant).						Southern North Sea SAC
<b>Cultural/ Social</b>							
Use of the sea (see under seascape pattern and foci for assessment)	Navigation, fishing, leisure, energy production, mineral extraction etc.						Greater Gabbard/ Galloper offshore windfarms and associated support vessels.
Use of the coast/ hinterland	Settlement, industry, energy, marine related development such as ports, power stations, leisure/tourism, agriculture, conservation etc.						Felixstowe- port with related infrastructure and residential and leisure uses to the south, former military and atomic research station on Orfordness to north, otherwise rural coast/hinterland Suffolk Coast Path, golf course, limited settlements and Bawdsey Manor- PGL centre.
Historic features at sea, on seabed or buried below	eg wrecks, paleolandscapes						Paleolandscape, potentially a few wrecks.

<b>Historic features on coast</b>	eg coastal forts, castles, lighthouses						Napoleonic Wars fort (Landguard Fort) and numerous Martello towers, military related structures such as pagodas at Orford Ness, Bawdsey Manor historic park and garden, Orford Castle (and church) set back from the coast but overlooking it.
<b>Cultural associations</b>	eg former use of the sea or coast, boatmaking, former trade routes, associations with artists and writers, food traditions, spiritual connections, education and interpretation etc						Paleolandscape associations pre-sea level rise and the North Sea.
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Quality/ Condition</b>							
<b>Intactness</b>	Degree of completeness or fragmentation of area character or elements, presence of detractors and extent.						Greater Gabbard/Galloper in area.
<b>State of repair</b>	Condition of coastal natural and built features/ elements, maintained or not maintained.						N/A
<b>Aesthetic and Perceptual</b>							
<b>Scale</b>	Of sea in relation to coastal form or offshore.						Large scale open sea with large turbine structures.
<b>Openness and enclosure</b>	Degree and nature of enclosure of sea by land, framing of views.						Very open away from the coast, some framing/enclosure by turbines.
<b>Exposure</b>	Sheltered, calm, exposed.						Highly exposed open sea.
<b>Aspect</b>	Relationship with sun.						East of the coast but with existing turbines to the east.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci</b>	Features and elements on/above the sea surface.						Presence of existing wind farms.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci - coast and hinterland</b>	eg Headlands, cliffs, high hills or landmarks such as towers or castles.						Very distinctive shingle spit at Orford Ness, some limited cliffs with small headlands, with Martello towers and Orford Castle inland

							increasing susceptibility. Small scale and low landmarks generally apart from 60m masts at Orford Ness to the north.
Contribution to the setting of a coast or seascape character area							The zone is visible from the coast within the limits of visual perception but the existing windfarm in the eastern part of the zone is a detractor and so does not contribute positively to the setting.
Weather-visibility modifiers	Based on 10 years local weather station data, the % of time that visibility is very good (20-40km) or excellent (40km+). (Two % in order).						High levels of visibility Weybourne (34% and 20%) and Shoeburyness (36% and 9.5%).
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
Visual Characteristics							
Key views- land to sea sea to land sea to sea	Including nature of views and elevation, perhaps including iconic features.  Views from within area and from outside.						Land to sea- views from Orford Castle, Felixstowe seafront, around Martello towers and from Suffolk Coast Path- Felixstowe Ferry/Deben estuary/edge of Bawdsey Manor, Bawdsey East Street, Shingle Street and mouth of the Alde/Ore estuary which is a distinctive location near the end of Orford Ness, Aldeburgh seafront. Sea to sea- views from ferries and other passenger ships.
Intervisibility of the area with important visual receptors	Amount/length/extent /nature of intervisibility and distance away from unit/development.  eg relationship in terms of angle of view, topographic influences						Most of the coast is accessible and directly facing the seascape zone at a distance. Views from Aldeburgh slightly oblique.
Typical receptors - type and number	eg coast walkers, visitors to coast/features, beach visitors, residents, leisure sailors, ferries, shipping, urban areas etc.  In designated areas or outside designated areas						Users of coast within AONB and Heritage Coast (75% of coast). Suffolk Coast Path users, visitors to beach, promenade and pier at Felixstowe, to Felixstowe Ferry, Orford Ness and the seafront at Aldeburgh. Harwich ferry and other passenger ship users.
OVERALL SUSCEPTIBILITY							

VALUE							
DESIGNATIONS							
<i>Landscape designations on coast</i>	<i>AONB Designation</i>	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB					
	<i>Heritage Coast Designation</i>	Suffolk Heritage Coast					
<i>Historic designations on coast</i>	<i>Key scheduled monuments</i>	Orford Castle; Martello Towers- on golf course adjoining Woodbridge Haven, at Felixstowe ferry, Rose Cottage, Bawdsey Beach, SE of Buckanay Farm and Shingle Street; Landguard Fort- Felixstowe.					
	<i>Conservation Areas</i>	Felixstowe, Orford (also Aldeburgh to north)					
	<i>Key listed buildings</i>	Orford Castle- Grade I listed building tower, Bawdsey Manor and associated buildings and structures, various Martello towers and battery observation post.					
	<i>Historic parks and gardens</i>	Bawdsey Manor Historic Park and Garden; Cliff Gardens (and Town Hall Garden), Felixstowe					
<i>Marine nature conservation designations</i>	<i>SPA/SAC</i>	Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Margate and Long Sands SAC, Southern North Sea SAC					
	<i>Marine Conservation Zone</i>	-					
VALUE CRITERIA							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M /L	L	Comments
Landscape designations- National, regional, local	eg National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coast, local countryside designations, (distance, relationship, extent of role as setting).						75% of the coast Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast combined
Nature conservation designations	Main relevant marine designations eg MCZ, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, etc						Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Margate and Long Sands SAC
Heritage designations	Marine and coastal- eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and their settings						Bawdsey Manor Historic Park and Garden including listed structures, Felixstowe Conservation Area, Martello towers dotted along the coast- all increase value.
Relevant special qualities /natural beauty indicators	If landscape/ coastal designation overlooks area. (List and define the degree to which the area contributes to these).						The AONB and Heritage Coast directly overlook the seascape zone but at a distance of 21.7- 40km.



	Scenic quality- sense of place						Eastern part contributes to open seascape setting to AONB and Heritage Coast but wind farm a detractor.
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	Scenic quality- panoramic views and vantage points						Panoramic views from Coast Path towards zone but wind farm a detractor.
	Relative wildness, sense of remoteness, lack of human influence						Remote zone but used by shipping with wind farms nearby.
	Relative tranquillity- absence of development						Presence of existing wind farm
	Relative tranquillity- dark skies						Wind farms' red aviation lights to east of the zone.
	Cultural associations/artistic representations						Limited cultural associations other than maritime use.
<b>Community values</b>	Value associated with area or features by people- communities of interest/place, public attitudes.						Very limited community values
<b>Recreational value</b>	Use for leisure or sport on sea, intertidal, coast.						Very limited leisure sailing
<b>OVERALL VALUE</b>							

<b>CUMULATIVE EFFECTS</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Existing and consented offshore wind farms within zone	Greater Gabbard/ Galloper in part of the zone. Further development potentially could cause cumulative effects if using larger turbines at different spacing to existing.
Potential planned further development in zone	Greater Gabbard/ Galloper extension
Current relationship of wind farms and effect on seascape character and setting of AONB	At present there is a clear separation between Greater Gabbard/ Galloper and London Array (30km). They are apparent on the horizon and are located within the setting of the AONB. They are detractors and not a key characteristic of the AONB. Their effect is mitigated by the size of turbine, the distance offshore, the apparent width along the horizon and the influence of visibility modifiers/weather.
Potential cumulative combined effect of existing, consented and potential planned development on seascape character and setting of AONB	An extension to Greater Gabbard/ Galloper within the area is only likely to have adverse cumulative effects if using larger turbines at different spacing to existing. This would be due to a greater visual effect on coastal receptors through the use of larger turbines and a more confusing visual composition with different spacings necessitated by the turbine size.

Compatibility of cumulative combined effects with AONB policies	There are no current plans for development in the seascape zone.
<b>CUMULATIVE EFFECTS</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Recommendations for constraint or opportunities setting out the most suitable locations for development with appropriate design, scale and spacing in order to provide benefits and/or mitigate and minimise effects	An extension to Greater Gabbard/ Galloper within the zone would be considered to minimise harm on the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB if turbines are the same size and spacing and arrangement as existing.

Seascape zone No: 04	Name: Suffolk Heritage Coast Inshore- North
Location	
<p>The seascape zone is off the northern part of the Suffolk Heritage Coast from Orfordness Lighthouse to Kessingland. It is defined by the change of direction of the coast at Orford Ness to the south, the northern point of the combined AONB and Heritage Coast to the north west, the line of view just off the coast beyond Lowestoft port from the AONB/HC out to 34km which is the suggested buffer distance for smaller turbines off combined AONBs and Heritage Coasts (34km) (derived from the OESEA study, 2019) to the north east and east.</p>	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Sensitivity	High
Summary	
<p>All of the generally low-lying coast of this seascape zone is covered by the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast designation. The coast is largely rural and sparsely settled interspersed with historic old ports/now popular seaside towns with beaches including Aldeburgh, Southwold and Dunwich with associated Conservation Areas and historic features. Sizewell A and B nuclear power stations lie roughly centrally. The area is used for fishing, both commercial and leisure, as evidenced by small craft on the shingle beaches and in estuary harbours, and for leisure sailing and other watersports. Greater Gabbard/Galloper windfarms lies offshore to the south, outside the zone.</p> <p>The zone's susceptibility lies in the panoramic views from the coast including the Suffolk Coast Path which continues to the north and south, such as around the Coastguard Cottages south of Dunwich, the strong sense of remoteness, tranquillity and openness at Orford Ness and between settlements which the seascape contributes to in association with the marshes inland, and which relate to the AONB's natural beauty criteria, the limited number of detractors and lighting both along the coast and offshore, and the relatively high frequency of offshore visibility over long distances.</p> <p>The zone's value lies in its role as a major part of the setting of the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast, the views from Conservation Areas with associated listing buildings at Aldeburgh, Southwold, Dunwich and Thorpeness, and from the scheduled monuments overlooking the area including the listed Orford Castle and MCZ/SPAs/SAC.</p> <p>The factors which slightly reduce sensitivity are Sizewell A and B nuclear power stations and the masts at Orford Ness to the south, but these do not affect the views to the open waters offshore, and the presence of Greater Gabbard/Galloper wind farms offshore to the south. The latter raise the potential for cumulative effects.</p>	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS IN TERMS OF SEASCAPE AND VISUAL FACTORS	
Summary	
<p>The seascape zone lies within 34km of the shore which is the suggested buffer for all scales of wind farm development to avoid significant adverse effects on a combined AONB and Heritage Coast. This combined with the susceptibility and other values related to the zone suggest an area of strong constraint on windfarm development. Turbines as proposed in East Anglia TWO <i>within the zone</i> would be considered to cause significant harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB. A limited extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the south of the zone (as currently proposed) may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing. An extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper further towards the coast <i>within the seascape zone</i> would be considered to cause harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB. Development within the Round 4 bidding area <i>within the zone</i> would be considered to cause significant harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB.</p>	
SEASCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT	
National Marine Character Areas	<p>SCA 04 East Anglian Shipping Waters (part)</p> <p>SCA 09 Norfolk Coastal Waters (part)</p>

	SCA 10 Suffolk Coastal Waters (part)
<i>Local seascape character areas</i>	SCT 03 Nearshore Waters (part) SCT 04 Developed Nearshore Waters (part) SCT 05 Coastal Waters (part) SCT 06 Offshore Waters (part)
<b>VISUAL BUFFERS</b>	
<i>Distance offshore- range</i>	Upto 34km from AONB and Heritage Coast (HC) coastal boundary.
<i>Size of turbines potentially having low magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines below 145m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 19.2km from AONB/HC.</li> <li>Turbines 145-175m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 21.7 km from AONB/HC.</li> <li>Turbines above 176-225m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 26.2 km from AONB/HC.</li> <li>Turbines above 226-300m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect.</li> </ul>
<i>Size of turbines potentially having medium magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines below 145m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 14km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 145-175m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 15.8km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines above 176-225m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 20.2km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 226-300m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 27.5km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 301-350m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 30km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 351-400m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 30km+ from shore.</li> </ul>

SUSCEPTIBILITY							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
<b>Natural</b>							
<b>Hinterland</b>	Form/ topography/ character						The landform is generally low lying coastal plateau with very gentle slopes of the estate sandlands either behind coastal levels and marshes or reaching the coast.
<b>Coastal edge</b>	Cliffs, rocky coasts, upper beach, dunes etc						Mix of straight or very gently curving bays with small estuaries, occasional low cliffs such as at Dunwich, Easton and Covehithe, and extensive shingle beaches in places including the very long spit at Orfordness.
<b>Coastal edge</b>	Intertidal						Mix of simple gravel beaches and banks with estuarial deposits, with groynes at Southwold. Some small

							lagoons behind coastal banks.
<b>Key habitats, features and species</b>	Marine, intertidal, coastal edge (if relevant).						Orford Inshore MCZ, Outer Thames Estuary SPA (wintering red-throated diver and common tern and little tern during the breeding season), Greater Wash SPA, Orford Shingle Street SAC
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Cultural/ Social</b>							
<b>Use of the sea</b> (see under seascape pattern and foci for assessment)	Navigation, fishing, leisure, energy production, mineral extraction etc.						Commercial fishing intense along the coast (eg fishing boat moorings at Southwold harbour and beached boats at Aldeburgh), use of beaches focussed on tourist towns, some leisure fishing, leisure sailing and watersports, some aggregate production areas offshore, Greater Gabbard and Galloper visible outside the area offshore.
<b>Use of the coast/ hinterland</b>	Settlement, industry, energy, marine related development such as ports, power stations, leisure/tourism, agriculture, conservation etc.						Popular seaside towns- Southwold, Aldeburgh, with other destinations including Thorpeness and Dunwich. Sizewell A and B Nuclear Power Stations are incongruous features in an area of sparsely settled coast. Orfordness radio masts lie to the south. Otherwise farmed rural coast/hinterland with significant areas of marsh/coastal levels and heath. Suffolk Coast Path and National Trust Coastguard Cottages at Dunwich heath.
<b>Historic features at sea, on seabed or buried below</b>	eg wrecks, paleolandscapes						Recession of coastline over many years, numerous wrecks, some related to harbours. Dunwich Bank Wreck- designated.
<b>Historic features on coast</b>	eg coastal forts, castles, lighthouses						Orford Castle tower set back from the coast to the south but overlooking it. Martello tower at Slaughden, Many conservation areas with associated listed buildings overlooking sea eg Southwold, Aldeburgh).
<b>Cultural associations</b>	eg former use of the sea or coast, boatmaking, former trade routes, associations with artists and writers, food traditions, spiritual connections, education and interpretation etc						Former historic ports at Southwold (with Georgian and Regency revival), Dunwich (now lost to the sea) and Aldeburgh with its former shipbuilding industry, Orford Castle and the defensive coast to the south- Slaughden Martello towers and former military use of Orford Ness; national nature reserves, Turner painting of Aldeburgh.



							Sizewell is associated with the nuclear age with associated ambivalent connotations.
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
Quality/Condition							
Intactness	Degree of completeness or fragmentation of area character or elements, presence of detractors and extent.						Seascape intact with very few detractors- Sizewell is visible along part of the coast- mostly south of Southwold, and Greater Gabbard is visible in very good visibility to the south east. Orford Ness masts to the south.
State of repair	Condition of coastal natural and built features/ elements, maintained or not maintained.						Generally well maintained and protected coast (with designations).
Aesthetic and Perceptual							
Scale	Of sea in relation to coastal form or offshore.						The sea feels large scale with panoramic views
Openness and enclosure	Degree and nature of enclosure of sea by land, framing of views.						Openness is a key characteristic of the coast with generally open views out to sea from beaches with some framing within settlements.
Exposure	Sheltered, calm, exposed.						Exposed, eroding coast with sheltered waters in river estuaries and mouths.
Aspect	Relationship with sun.						East facing with potential for highlighting of turbines in low sun in afternoon and sunset and interfering with sunrise.
Seascape pattern and foci	Features and elements on/above the sea surface.						Limited foci- local fishing boats and leisure boats apparent in places. Some shipping visible to the north out of Lowestoft/anchored (including cruise liner off Southwold during site visit). Greater Gabbard/Galloper visible from southern part of the coast in good/very good visibility.
Seascape pattern and foci - coast and hinterland	eg Headlands, cliffs, high hills or landmarks such as towers or castles.						Generally simple coast with few foci- to the south- very distinctive shingle spit at Orford Ness with Martello tower and masts. To the north- some limited cliffs and historic settlements, Southwold Pier. Sizewell power stations have some visual influence centrally

							between Southwold and Aldeburgh but not along the whole coast.
Contribution to the setting of a coast or seascape character area							The zone is integral to the character of the coast all lying within the limits of visual perception
Weather-visibility modifiers	Based on 10 years local weather station data, the % of time that visibility is very good (20-40km) or excellent (40km+). (Two % in order to rt)						High levels of visibility Weybourne (34% and 20%) and Shoeburyness (36% and 9.5%).
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
Visual Characteristics							
Key views- land to sea sea to land sea to sea	Including nature of views and elevation, perhaps including iconic features.  Views from within area and from outside.						Land to sea- views from Orford Castle, from Suffolk Coast Path (including likely new route along coast to the north), Aldeburgh and Southwold seafronts (and pier), Dunwich Coastguard Cottages.
Intervisibility of the area with important visual receptors	Amount/length/extent /nature of intervisibility and distance away from unit/development.  eg relationship in terms of angle of view, topographic influences						Most of the coast is accessible and directly facing the sea with a direct relationship with the seascape zone. The zone is also visible from the southern part of the AONB/HC and just offshore from Lowestoft South Conservation Area.
Typical receptors - type and number	eg coast walkers, visitors to coast/features, beach visitors, residents, leisure sailors, ferries, shipping, urban areas etc.  In designated areas or outside designated areas						Users of coast within AONB and Heritage Coast. Suffolk Coast Path users, visitors to beaches, promenades such as Southwold. Leisure sailing from Southwold Harbour and Lowestoft.
OVERALL SUSCEPTIBILITY							

## VALUE

## DESIGNATIONS

Landscape designations	AONB Designation	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB
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	<i>Heritage Coast Designation</i>	Suffolk Heritage Coast					
<i>Historic designations</i>	<i>Key scheduled monuments</i>	Orford Castle and Slaughden Martello Tower (south of Aldeburgh)- both with views over sea. Also Greyfriars, Dunwich- sheltered from view except at the south eastern coastal edge.					
	<i>Conservation Areas</i>	Aldeburgh, Thorpeness, Dunwich, Southwold, Lowestoft (south).					
	<i>Key listed buildings</i>	Orford Castle- Grade I listed building tower; Slaughden Martello Tower; Aldeburgh- eg Moot Hall, White Lion Hotel, Market Cross House, 8-14, Market Cross Place. Southwold- numerous eg Gun Hill Place, Centre Cliff, Cliff House and Shrimp Cottage, Bay View and East Cliff; Lowestoft- Wellington Esplanade.					
	<i>Historic parks and gardens</i>	-					
<i>Marine nature conservation designations</i>	<i>SPA/SAC</i>	Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Greater Wash SPA, Orford Shingle Street SAC					
	<i>Marine Conservation Zone</i>	Orford Inshore MCZ					
VALUE CRITERIA							
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M /L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Landscape designations- National, regional, local</b>	eg National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coast, local countryside designations, (distance, relationship, extent of role as setting).						All the coast is Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast combined
<b>Nature conservation designations</b>	Main relevant marine designations eg MCZ, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, etc						Orford Inshore MCZ, Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Greater Wash SPA, Orford Shingle Street SAC.
<b>Heritage designations</b>	Marine and coastal- eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and their settings						Conservation Areas at Aldeburgh, Thorpeness, Dunwich, Southwold, Lowestoft (south) and many related listed buildings; Slaughden Martello Tower (south of Aldeburgh) scheduled monuments- both with views over sea.
<b>Relevant special qualities /natural beauty indicators</b>	If landscape/ coastal designation overlooks area. (List and define the degree to which the area contributes to these).						The AONB and Heritage Coast directly overlook the seascape zone.
	Scenic quality- sense of place						Strong sense of place especially associated with old seaside towns with related marine character and views, views from coastal heaths, views from shingle ridges next to

							coastal levels/marshes, Orford Ness and the Slaughden Martello tower overlooking the sea.
	Scenic quality-panoramic views and vantage points						Panoramic views from Coast Path and locations such as Dunwich Coastguard Cottages, and beaches such as Aldeburgh and Southwold.
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
	Relative wildness, sense of remoteness, lack of human influence						Sense of remoteness at Orford Ness with estuary and nature reserves and between settlements to the north such as around Minsmere and Dingle Marshes.
	Relative tranquillity-absence of development						Substantially tranquil around Orford Ness with estuary and nature reserves and between settlement to the north such as around Minsmere and Dingle Marshes. Sizewell power stations are a presence that influences some views.
	Relative tranquillity-dark skies						Substantially dark to around Orford Ness, although possibly with mast lights, with only intermittent small settlements and Sizewell along a substantially dark coast. Wind farms' red aviation lights offshore to the south east.
	Cultural associations/artistic representations						Aldeburgh- festival and association with Britten; Dunwich, Southwold and Walberswick popular with artists, historic ports/harbours.
Community values	Value associated with area or features by people- communities of interest/place, public attitudes.						Leisure sailing between Aldeburgh and Lowestoft, fishing and visits to the nature reserves form communities of interest, the Coast Path is well used and all the coastal settlements and associated beaches are popular.
Recreational value	Use for leisure or sport on sea, intertidal, coast.						Leisure sailing, sea and beach angling and walking.
OVERALL VALUE							

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	Comments
Existing and consented offshore wind farms within zone	Greater Gabbard/ Galloper nearby. Further development potentially could cause cumulative effects if using larger turbines or extending the perceived width of development along the horizon.

Potential planned further development in zone	East Anglia TWO at around 30km offshore at its closest point. Greater Gabbard/ Galloper extension to the south. The Round 4 bidding area significantly impinges on the zone reaching 13km offshore over a distance of 40km.
CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	Comments
Current relationship of wind farms and effect on seascape character and setting of AONB	At present Greater Gabbard/ Galloper wind farms appear as an isolated array 25km-37km offshore within a wider panorama and open horizon and is within the setting of the AONB. They are detractors and not a key characteristic of the AONB. Their effect is mitigated by the size of turbine, the distance offshore, the apparent width along the horizon and the influence of visibility modifiers/weather.
Potential cumulative combined effect of existing, consented and potential planned development on seascape character and setting of AONB	<p>In clear visibility, East Anglia TWO could create a curtain of turbines 30km long on the horizon along almost the entire width of SCZ 04's coastline and separated from Greater Gabbard/ Galloper by only 7km. This would cause notable cumulative effects with the only substantial open horizon available in views to the north-east.</p> <p>The Greater Gabbard/ Galloper extension to the south would be likely to slightly increase adverse effects on the AONB but the level of effects would depend on the size of turbine proposed. If this was the same/very similar in height and spacing then the effects may be limited. If turbine size is increased, the level of effect would also increase.</p> <p>Development within the Round 4 bidding area would be likely to significantly exacerbate cumulative effects of the developments above and could fundamentally change the character of the seascape, potentially becoming one of the dominant characteristics. The effects would be greater the closer development is to the coast, and the greater the height of turbine and size of array.</p>
Compatibility of cumulative combined effects with AONB policies	East Anglia TWO would be incompatible with AONB policies especially relating to the purpose of conservation and enhancement and its special qualities/natural beauty. A small extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper using the same size turbines as existing could be construed as minimising effects on the purposes of the AONB. It is unlikely that any additional development in the Round 4 bidding area would be compatible with AONB policies.
Recommendations for constraint or opportunities setting out the most suitable locations for development with appropriate design, scale and spacing in order to provide benefits and/or mitigate and minimise effects	No wind farm developments are considered appropriate within the zone. A limited extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the south of the zone (as currently proposed) may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing. An extension further towards the coast <i>within</i> the seascape zone would be considered to cause harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB.



Seascape zone No: 05	Suffolk Heritage Coast Offshore- North
Location/extent	
<p>34km off the coast from Orfordness Lighthouse to Kessingland. The seascape zone is defined by the Galloper wind farm to the south, the suggested buffer distance for smaller turbines off the combined AONB and Heritage Coast (34km) (derived from the OESEA study, 2020) to the west, the suggested buffer distance for larger turbines (40km) to the east, both intersected with the line of view from the northern point of the AONB/HC to just off the coast beyond Lowestoft port.</p> <p><i>(Note: only Suffolk and associated receptors are assessed- ie Norfolk Coast AONB is not taken into consideration).</i></p>	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Sensitivity	Medium
Summary	
<p>The zone lies between 34km and 40km offshore from a generally low-lying coast which is covered by the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast designations. The coast is largely rural and sparsely settled, interspersed with historic old ports/now popular seaside towns with beaches including Aldeburgh, Southwold and Dunwich with associated Conservation Areas and historic features. Sizewell A and B nuclear power stations lie roughly centrally. The area is used for commercial fishing and some navigation. Greater Gabbard/Galloper windfarms lies to the south, outside the zone.</p> <p>The zone's susceptibility lies in the panoramic views from the coast including the Suffolk Coast Path which continues to the north and south, such as around the Coastguard Cottages south of Dunwich, the strong sense of remoteness, tranquillity and openness at Orford Ness and between settlements which the seascape contributes to in association with the marshes inland, and which relate to the AONB's natural beauty criteria, the limited number of detractors and lighting both along the coast and offshore, and the relatively high frequency of offshore visibility over long distances.</p> <p>The zone's value lies in its role as a part of the setting of the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast, the views from Conservation Areas with associated listing buildings at Aldeburgh, Southwold, Dunwich and Thorpeness, and from the scheduled monuments overlooking the area including the listed Orford Castle and SPA/SACs.</p> <p>The factors which slightly reduce sensitivity are Sizewell A and B nuclear power stations and the masts at Orford Ness to the south, but these do not affect the views to the open waters offshore, and the presence of Greater Gabbard/Galloper wind farms offshore to the south, but the latter raise the potential for cumulative effects.</p>	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS IN TERMS OF SEASCAPE AND VISUAL FACTORS	
Summary	
<p>The seascape zone lies between 34km and 40km of the shore which potentially allows consideration of wind farms with turbines between 107-224m high but is a suggested constraint buffer for turbines from 225-400m high to avoid significant adverse effects on a combined AONB and Heritage Coast. This combined with the susceptibility and other values related to the zone suggest an area of constraint on windfarm development over 225m high.</p> <p>Wind farm development using turbines less than 224m high is considered appropriate within the zone but arrays should avoid a curtaining effect when viewed from the AONB/HC coastline. This could be achieved with gaps between arrays of at least 12km, preferably more, and arrays not exceeding 15km width as perceived from shore.</p> <p>A limited extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the south of the zone (as currently proposed) may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing.</p> <p>Development of turbines over 225m high within the Round 4 bidding area <i>within the zone</i> would be considered to cause significant harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB.</p>	
SEASCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT	

National Marine Character Areas	SCA 04 East Anglian Shipping Waters
Local seascape character areas	SCT 05 Coastal Waters (small part to the north) SCT 06 Offshore Waters (majority)
<b>VISUAL BUFFERS</b>	
Distance offshore- range	34km-40km offshore
Size of turbines potentially having low magnitude of effect*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines 226-300m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 38.6km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 301-350m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 40km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 351-400m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 40km+ from shore.</li> </ul>
Size of turbines potentially having medium magnitude of effect*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines 145-400m would not generally be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect. (Note: East Anglia TWO assessed as medium effect from 36km in SVIA)</li> </ul>

SUSCEPTIBILITY							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
<b>Natural</b>							
Hinterland	Form/ topography/ character						The landform is generally low lying coastal plateau with very gentle slopes of the estate sandlands either behind coastal levels and marshes or reaching the coast.
Coastal edge	Cliffs, rocky coasts, upper beach, dunes etc						Mix of straight or very gently curving bays with small estuaries, occasional low cliffs such as at Dunwich, Easton and Covehithe, and extensive shingle beaches in places including the very long spit at Orfordness.
Coastal edge	Intertidal						Mix of simple gravel beaches and banks with estuarial deposits, with groynes at Southwold. Some small lagoons behind coastal banks.
Key habitats, features and species	Marine, intertidal, coastal edge (if relevant).						Outer Thames Estuary SPA (wintering red-throated diver and common tern and little tern during the breeding season), Southern North Sea SAC, Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC.
<b>Cultural/ Social</b>							
Use of the sea (see under seascape pattern and foci for assessment)	Navigation, fishing, leisure, energy production, mineral extraction etc.						Commercial fishing; some navigation from Great Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Felixstowe; Greater Gabbard/Galloper visible outside the area to the south.
Use of the coast/ hinterland	Settlement, industry, energy, marine related						Popular seaside towns- Southwold, Aldeburgh, with other destinations including Thorpeness and Dunwich.

	development such as ports, power stations, leisure/tourism, agriculture, conservation etc.						Sizewell A and B Nuclear Power Stations are incongruous features in an area of sparsely settled coast. Orfordness radio masts lie to the south. Otherwise farmed rural coast/hinterland with significant areas of marsh/coastal levels and heath. Suffolk Coast Path and National Trust Coastguard Cottages at Dunwich heath.
<b>Historic features at sea, on seabed or buried below</b>	eg wrecks, paleolandscapes						Paleolandscape, recession of coastline over many years, some wrecks.
<b>Historic features on coast</b>	eg coastal forts, castles, lighthouses						Orford Castle tower set back from the coast to the south but overlooking it. Martello tower at Slaughden, Many conservation areas with associated listed buildings overlooking sea eg Southwold, Aldeburgh).
<b>Cultural associations</b>	eg former use of the sea or coast, boatmaking, former trade routes, associations with artists and writers, food traditions, spiritual connections, education and interpretation etc						Associated with some navigation across the North Sea although away from main routes, paleolandscape associations pre-sea level rise and the North Sea.
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Quality/Condition</b>							
<b>Intactness</b>	Degree of completeness or fragmentation of area character or elements, presence of detractors and extent.						Seascape intact with very few detractors- Greater Gabbard/Galloper is visible to the south.
<b>State of repair</b>	Condition of coastal natural and built features/ elements, maintained or not maintained.						N/A
<b>Aesthetic and Perceptual</b>							
<b>Scale</b>	Of sea in relation to coastal form or offshore.						Large scale open sea
<b>Openness and enclosure</b>	Degree and nature of enclosure of sea by land, framing of						Very open away from the coast.

	views.						
<b>Exposure</b>	Sheltered, calm, exposed.						Highly exposed open sea.
<b>Aspect</b>	Relationship with sun.						East of the coast at a distance so potential for highlighting of turbines in low sun in afternoon through to sunset.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci</b>	Features and elements on/above the sea surface.						Presence of wind farms at southern extent.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci - coast and hinterland</b>	eg Headlands, cliffs, high hills or landmarks such as towers or castles.						Generally simple coast with few foci- to the south- very distinctive shingle spit at Orford Ness with Martello tower and masts. To the north- some limited cliffs and historic settlements, Southwold Pier. Sizewell power stations have some visual influence centrally between Southwold and Aldeburgh but not along the whole coast. Windfarm at a distance offshore to the south east.
<b>Contribution to the setting of a coast or seascape character area</b>							The zone is integral to the character of the coast all lying within the limits of visual perception albeit at a distance.
<b>Weather-visibility modifiers</b>	Based on 10 years local weather station data, the % of time that visibility is very good (20-40km) or excellent (40km+). (Two % in order to rt)						High levels of visibility Weybourne (34% and 20%) and Shoeburyness (36% and 9.5%).
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Visual Characteristics</b>							
<b>Key views- land to sea sea to land sea to sea</b>	Including nature of views and elevation, perhaps including iconic features.  Views from within area and from outside.						Land to sea- views from Orford Castle, from Suffolk Coast Path (including likely new route along coast to the north), Aldeburgh and Southwold seafronts (and pier), Dunwich Coastguard Cottages.
<b>Intervisibility of the area with important visual receptors</b>	Amount/length/extent/nature of intervisibility and distance away from unit/development.  eg relationship in terms of angle of view, topographic						Most of the coast is accessible and directly facing the sea with a direct relationship with the seascape zone. The zone is also visible from the southern part of the AONB/HC and offshore from Lowestoft South Conservation Area.

	influences					
<b>Typical receptors - type and number</b>	eg coast walkers, visitors to coast/features, beach visitors, residents, leisure sailors, ferries, shipping, urban areas etc.  In designated areas or outside designated areas					Users of coast within AONB and Heritage Coast. Suffolk Coast Path users, visitors to beaches, promenades such as Southwold. Leisure sailing from Southwold Harbour and Lowestoft.
<b>OVERALL SUSCEPTIBILITY</b>						

VALUE							
DESIGNATIONS							
<i>Landscape designations</i>	<i>AONB Designation</i>	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB					
	<i>Heritage Coast Designation</i>	Suffolk Heritage Coast					
<i>Historic designations</i>	<i>Key scheduled monuments</i>	Orford Castle and Slaughden Martello Tower (south of Aldeburgh)- both with views over sea. Also  Greyfriars, Dunwich- sheltered from view except at the south eastern coastal edge.					
	<i>Conservation Areas</i>	Aldeburgh, Thorpeness, Dunwich, Southwold, Lowestoft (south).					
	<i>Key listed buildings</i>	Orford Castle- Grade I listed; Slaughden Martello Tower; Aldeburgh- eg Moot Hall, White Lion Hotel, Market Cross House, 8-14, Market Cross Place; Dunwich- Greyfriars Monastery; Southwold- numerous eg Gun Hill Place, Centre Cliff, Cliff House and Shrimp Cottage, Bay View and East Cliff; Lowestoft- Wellington Esplanade.					
	<i>Historic parks and gardens</i>	-					
<i>Marine nature conservation designations</i>	<i>SPA/SAC</i>	Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Southern North Sea SAC, Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC.					
	<i>Marine Conservation Zone</i>	-					
VALUE CRITERIA							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M /L	L	Comments
Landscape designations- National, regional, local	eg National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coast, local countryside designations, (distance, relationship, extent of role as setting).						All the coast is Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast combined



<b>Nature conservation designations</b>	Main relevant marine designations eg MCZ, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, etc						Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Southern North Sea SAC, Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Heritage designations</b>	Marine and coastal- eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and their settings						Conservation Areas at Aldeburgh, Thorpeness, Dunwich, Southwold, Lowestoft (south) and many related listed buildings; Slaughden Martello Tower (south of Aldeburgh) scheduled monuments- both with views over sea. all increase value.
<b>Relevant special qualities /natural beauty indicators</b>	If landscape/ coastal designation overlooks area. (List and define the degree to which the area contributes to these).						The AONB and Heritage Coast overlook the seascape zone but at a distance of 34-40km.
	Scenic quality- sense of place						Contributes to open seascape setting to AONB and Heritage Coast .
	Scenic quality- panoramic views and vantage points						Panoramic views from Coast Path towards zone.
	Relative wildness, sense of remoteness, lack of human influence						Remote zone but wind farm to the south.
	Relative tranquillity- absence of development						Generally tranquil but some navigational use.
	Relative tranquillity- dark skies						Substantially dark with some navigational use and wind farms' red aviation lights to south.
	Cultural associations/artistic representations						Limited cultural associations other than maritime use.
<b>Community values</b>	Value associated with area or features by people- communities of interest/place, public attitudes.						Very limited community values
<b>Recreational value</b>	Use for leisure or sport on sea, intertidal, coast.						Leisure sailing, sea and beach angling and walking.
<b>OVERALL VALUE</b>							

**CUMULATIVE EFFECTS****Comments**

Existing and consented offshore wind farms within zone	Greater Gabbard/Galloper at the southern extent and East Anglia ONE to the east further offshore.
Potential planned further development in zone	East Anglia TWO and East Anglia ONE North. Greater Gabbard/Galloper extension to the south. The Round 4 bidding area covers a significant proportion of the zone.
Current relationship of wind farms and effect on seascape character and setting of AONB	At present Greater Gabbard/ Galloper wind farms to the south appear as an isolated array 25km-37km offshore within a wider panorama and open horizon and is within the setting of the AONB. They are detractors and not a key characteristic of the AONB. Their effect is mitigated by the size of turbine, the distance offshore, the apparent width along the horizon and the influence of visibility modifiers/weather. East Anglia ONE is not generally perceptible from the coast at 50km offshore at its closest point.
Potential cumulative combined effect of existing, consented and potential planned development on seascape character and setting of AONB	<p>In clear visibility, East Anglia TWO could create a curtain of turbines 30km long on the horizon along almost the entire width of SCZ 04's coastline and separated from Greater Gabbard/ Galloper by only 7km. This would cause notable cumulative effects with the only substantial open horizon available in views to the north-east. The part of East Anglia ONE North within the zone would add to cumulative effects, and though separated from EA TWO by 10km overlaps visually and so could add to the curtaining effect to the north, albeit further offshore in part.</p> <p>The Greater Gabbard/ Galloper extension to the south would be likely to slightly increase adverse effects on the AONB but the level of effects would depend on the size of turbine proposed. If this was the same/very similar in height and spacing then the effects may be limited. If turbine size is increased, the level of effect would also increase.</p> <p>Further development in the Round 4 bidding Area within the zone would potentially contribute further to the cumulative curtaining effect to the north, extending the influence of wind farms where not already perceived.</p>
Compatibility of cumulative combined effects with AONB policies	East Anglia TWO using the range of sizes of turbines proposed (250-300m high turbines) would be incompatible with AONB policies especially relating to the purpose of conservation and enhancement and its special qualities/natural beauty. A small extension using the same size turbines as existing for Greater Gabbard/ Galloper could be construed as minimising effects on the purposes of the AONB.
Recommendations for constraint or opportunities setting out the most suitable locations for development with appropriate design, scale and spacing in order to provide benefits and/or mitigate and minimise effects	<p>Wind farm development using turbines less than 225m high is considered appropriate within the zone but arrays should avoid a curtaining effect when viewed from the AONB/HC coastline. This could be achieved with gaps between arrays of at least 12km, preferably more, and arrays not exceeding 15km width as perceived from shore.</p> <p>A limited extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper within the zone as currently proposed may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing in order to minimise harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB.</p>

Seascape zone No: 06	Name: North Suffolk and Norfolk Inshore
Location	
<p>The seascape zone is off the northern part of the Suffolk and south Norfolk coasts from Kessingland to Winterton-on-Sea. It is defined by the coast to the west, the northern boundary of the study area to the north, the line of view from the northern point of the AONB/HC just off the coast beyond Lowestoft port to the south and the boundary of average medium magnitude of effects of turbines up to 145m high (14km) (derived from the OESEA study, 2020) to the north east.</p> <p>(Note: only Suffolk and associated receptors are assessed- ie Norfolk Coast AONB is not taken into consideration).</p>	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Sensitivity	Medium
Summary	
<p>The undesignated coast is generally low lying and gently curving with low cliffs. The main urban centre of Lowestoft has a small port which forms a minor headland, a seafront Conservation Area and popular beaches. Areas of rural countryside separate small seaside developments. The sea is used by commercial vessels accessing the port and Great Yarmouth to the north, for commercial fishing and for leisure craft. Scroby Sands wind farm lies within the zone.</p> <p>The zone's susceptibility lies in the panoramic views from the coast including the Suffolk Coast Path and England Coast Path to the north, the largely dark and open seascape, views from Lowestoft south seafront, Dunton Warren and Kessingland beach, and the relatively high frequency of visibility upto long distances offshore.</p> <p>The zone's value lies in its role as part of the setting of Lowestoft Conservation Area and SPAs/SAC.</p> <p>The factors which slightly reduce sensitivity are the presence of the urban area of Lowestoft with wind turbine, shipping, and the presence of Scroby Sands wind farm, but the latter raises the potential for cumulative effects.</p>	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS IN TERMS OF SEASCAPE AND VISUAL FACTORS	
Summary	
<p>The seascape zone lies within 14km of the shore which is the suggested buffer for all scales of wind farm development to avoid significant adverse effects on largely undesignated coast with urban areas. This combined with the susceptibility and other values related to the zone suggest an area of constraint on windfarm development. Scroby Sands is an early development with small 2MW turbines located very close to shore. An extension of this would be problematic in seascape terms due to current commercially available turbine sizes and the potential for cumulative effects.</p>	
SEASCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT	
National Marine Character Areas	SCA 03 East Midlands Offshore Gas Fields (part) SCA 04 East Anglian Shipping Waters (part) SCA 09 Norfolk Coastal Waters (part) SCA 10 Suffolk Coastal Waters (part)
Local seascape character areas	SCT 03 Nearshore Waters (part) SCT 04 Developed Nearshore Waters (part) SCT 05 Coastal Waters (part)
VISUAL BUFFERS	
Distance offshore- range	Upto 14km from the coast.
Size of turbines potentially having low magnitude of effect*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines below 145m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 19.2km from AONB/HC.</li> <li>Turbines 145m and above would be likely to exceed low</li> </ul>

	magnitude of effect
<i>Size of turbines potentially having medium magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines below 145m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 14km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 145m and above would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect</li> </ul>

SUSCEPTIBILITY		H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
Main criteria	Sub-criteria						
<b>Natural</b>							
Hinterland	Form/ topography/ character						The landform is generally low lying coastal plateau with very gentle slopes and valleys.
Coastal edge	Cliffs, rocky coasts, upper beach, dunes etc						Mix of straight or very gently curving bays with occasional low cliffs such as at Pakefield, Gunton and Corton, and a mix of sand and shingle beaches.
Coastal edge	Intertidal						Mix of simple gravel and sand beaches, with some with rock armour and groynes in places.
Key habitats, features and species	Marine, intertidal, coastal edge (if relevant).						Outer Thames Estuary SPA (wintering red-throated diver and common tern and little tern during the breeding season), Greater Wash SPA, Hammond and Winterton SAC.
<b>Cultural/ Social</b>							
Use of the sea (see under seascape pattern and foci for assessment)	Navigation, fishing, leisure, energy production, mineral extraction etc.						Lowestoft has a small port servicing offshore energy (Greater Gabbard/Galloper) and bulk cargoes, with a marina. There is an anchorage off Kessingland. Commercial fishing is found along the coast, use of beaches focussed on tourist towns, some leisure fishing, leisure sailing and watersports focussed on Lowestoft, aggregate production areas offshore from Lowestoft, and Scroby Sands offshore wind farm visible relatively close to shore.
Use of the coast/ hinterland	Settlement, industry, energy, marine related development such as ports, power stations, leisure/tourism, agriculture, conservation etc.						Lowestoft is a major town with some industry and a small port. Seaside destinations include holiday developments north and south of Lowestoft including caravan sites. Otherwise farmed rural coast/hinterland. Suffolk Coast Path and England Coast Path.
Historic features at sea, on seabed	eg wrecks, paleolandscapes						Recession of coastline over many years, numerous wrecks, some



or buried below							related to port approaches.
<b>Historic features on coast</b>	eg coastal forts, castles, lighthouses						Lowestoft South Conservation Area with associated listed buildings and gardens overlooking sea but focusses more to the east south east.
<b>Cultural associations</b>	eg former use of the sea or coast, boatmaking, former trade routes, associations with artists and writers, food traditions, spiritual connections, education and interpretation etc						Lowestoft associated with major fishing industry especially herring.
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Quality/ Condition</b>							
<b>Intactness</b>	Degree of completeness or fragmentation of area character or elements, presence of detractors and extent.						Seascape moderately intact but with some detractors- Scroby Sands wind farm and the turbine and industrial seafront at Lowestoft.
<b>State of repair</b>	Condition of coastal natural and built features/ elements, maintained or not maintained.						Generally well maintained with coastal protection but this is breaking up in places.
<b>Aesthetic and Perceptual</b>							
<b>Scale</b>	Of sea in relation to coastal form or offshore.						The sea feels large scale with panoramic views
<b>Openness and enclosure</b>	Degree and nature of enclosure of sea by land, framing of views.						Openness is a key characteristic of the coast with generally open views out to sea from beaches with some framing within Lowestoft Conservation Area.
<b>Exposure</b>	Sheltered, calm, exposed.						Exposed, eroding coast with sheltered waters in river/dock mouth.
<b>Aspect</b>	Relationship with sun.						East facing with potential for highlighting of turbines in low sun in afternoon and sunset.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci</b>	Features and elements on/above the sea surface.						Limited foci- Scroby Sands wind farm and some commercial and service vessels and leisure boats apparent in places.

<b>Seascape pattern and foci - coast and hinterland</b>	eg Headlands, cliffs, high hills or landmarks such as towers or castles.						There are a series of low cliffs but the main focus is Lowestoft with port protruding into the sea with wind turbine and commercial area, and the seafront of Conservation Area.
<b>Contribution to the setting of a coast or seascape character area</b>							The zone is integral to the character of the coast all lying within the limits of visual perception
<b>Weather-visibility modifiers</b>	Based on 10 years local weather station data, the % of time that visibility is very good (20-40km) or excellent (40km+). (Two % in order to rt)						High levels of visibility Weybourne (34% and 20%) and Shoeburyness (36% and 9.5%).
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Visual Characteristics</b>							
<b>Key views- land to sea sea to land sea to sea</b>	Including nature of views and elevation, perhaps including iconic features.  Views from within area and from outside.						Land to sea- views from Lowestoft south seafront, Gunton Warren and beach and Kessingland beach.
<b>Intervisibility of the area with important visual receptors</b>	Amount/length/extent /nature of intervisibility and distance away from unit/development.  eg relationship in terms of angle of view, topographic influences						Much of the coast is accessible and intervisible directly with the seascape zone.
<b>Typical receptors - type and number</b>	eg coast walkers, visitors to coast/features, beach visitors, residents, leisure sailors, ferries, shipping, urban areas etc.  In designated areas or outside designated areas						The Suffolk Coast Path lies to the south and the England Coast Path to the north (but excluding Lowestoft ABP port and commercial area). Users of the trails and linking paths can view the sea along with visitors to beaches, promenade at Lowestoft. Leisure sailing from Lowestoft.
<b>OVERALL SUSCEPTIBILITY</b>							

VALUE							
DESIGNATIONS							
Landscape designations	AONB Designation	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB to the south					
	Heritage Coast Designation	Suffolk Heritage Coast to the south					
Historic designations	Key scheduled monuments	-					
	Conservation Areas	Lowestoft (south).					
	Key listed buildings	Lowestoft- Wellington Esplanade.					
	Historic parks and gardens	-					
Marine nature conservation designations	SPA/SAC	Greater Wash SPA, Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC					
	Marine Conservation Zone	-					
VALUE CRITERIA							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M /L	L	Comments
Landscape designations- National, regional, local	eg National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coast, local countryside designations, (distance, relationship, extent of role as setting).						Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast to the south but the area plays a very limited role in their setting.
Nature conservation designations	Main relevant marine designations eg MCZ, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, etc						Greater Wash SPA, Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC
Heritage designations	Marine and coastal- eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and their settings						Lowestoft (south) with listed buildings and structures with views over the sea.
Relevant special qualities /natural beauty indicators	If landscape/ coastal designation overlooks area. (List and define the degree to which the area contributes to these).						The AONB and Heritage Coast do not overlook the seascape zone.
	Scenic quality- sense of place						Scenic quality in sea and coastal views with natural vegetated cliffs and hinterland at Gunton Warren and extensive beach at Kessingland.
	Scenic quality- panoramic views and vantage points						Panoramic views along the coast especially between settlements.

	Relative wildness, sense of remoteness, lack of human influence					The coast is relatively settled with limited green gaps.
	Relative tranquillity-absence of development					Tranquillity is limited to coastal edge/beach between settlements and offshore
	Relative tranquillity-dark skies					Substantially dark out to sea with some gaps between settlements. Scroby Sands wind farm's red aviation lights offshore.
	Cultural associations/artistic representations					Lowestoft- modern seafront art
<b>Community values</b>	Value associated with area or features by people- communities of interest/place, public attitudes.					Leisure sailing between Lowestoft and Aldeburgh, beach and sea fishing form communities of interest, the Coast Path is well used and the coastal settlements and associated beaches are popular.
<b>Recreational value</b>	Use for leisure or sport on sea, intertidal, coast.					Leisure sailing, sea and beach angling and walking. Suffolk Coast Path to the south and England Coast Path to the north.
<b>OVERALL VALUE</b>						

<b>CUMULATIVE EFFECTS</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Existing and consented offshore wind farms within zone	Scroby Sands offshore wind farm within zone but viewed end on and at an oblique angle north along the coast. Further development south or east potentially could cause cumulative effects if using larger turbines or extending the perceived width of development along the horizon.
Potential planned further development in zone	None known although the Round 4 bidding area lies around 27km offshore at its closest point.
Current relationship of wind farms and effect on seascape character and setting of AONB	Scroby Sands offshore wind farm does not affect Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB or its setting.
Potential cumulative combined effect of existing, consented and potential planned development on seascape character and setting of AONB	No cumulative effects are expected.
Compatibility of cumulative combined effects with AONB policies	N/A
Recommendations for constraint or opportunities setting out the most suitable locations for development with appropriate design, scale and spacing in order to provide benefits and/or mitigate and minimise effects	N/A



Seascape zone No: 07	Name: North Suffolk and Norfolk Offshore
Location	
<p>The seascape zone is off the northern part of the Suffolk and south Norfolk coasts from Kessingland to Winterton-on-Sea. It is defined by the northern boundary of the study area to the north, the boundary of average medium magnitude of effects of turbines up to 145m high (14km) (derived from the OESEA OESEA study, 2020) to the south west and medium magnitude of effects for larger turbines upto 400m high (30km) to the east, and a line between 34km and 40km from the northern edge of the AONB/HC to the south.</p> <p><i>(Note: only Suffolk and associated receptors are assessed- ie Norfolk Coast AONB is not taken into consideration).</i></p>	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Sensitivity	Medium
Summary	
<p>The zone lies between 14km and 30km offshore from the undesignated coast which is generally low lying and gently curving with low cliffs. The main urban centre of Lowestoft has a small port which forms a minor headland, a seafront Conservation Area and popular beaches. Areas of rural countryside separate small seaside developments. The sea is used for commercial fishing and by commercial vessels. Scroby Sands wind farm lies inshore of the zone.</p> <p>The zone's susceptibility lies in the panoramic views from the coast including the Suffolk Coast Path and England Coast Path to the north, the largely dark and open seascape, oblique views from Lowestoft south seafront, views from Dunton Warren and Kessingland beach, and the relatively high frequency of visibility upto long distances offshore.</p> <p>The zone's value lies in its role as a limited part of the setting of Lowestoft Conservation Area and SPAs/SAC.</p> <p>The factors which slightly reduce sensitivity are the presence of the urban area of Lowestoft with wind turbine, shipping, and the presence of Scroby Sands wind farm inshore, but the latter raises the potential for cumulative effects.</p>	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS IN TERMS OF SEASCAPE AND VISUAL FACTORS	
Summary	
<p>The seascape zone lies between 14km and 30km which potentially allows consideration of appropriately designed wind farms with turbines between 107-350m high at graded distances offshore (see below) but is a suggested constraint buffer for turbines over 351m high to avoid significant adverse effects on the largely undesignated coast with urban areas. Development within the Round 4 bidding area <i>within the zone</i> could be considered between 300m and 350m depending on distance offshore. There may be some cumulative effects in conjunction with Scroby Sands and this would need to be carefully considered.</p>	
SEASCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT	
National Marine Character Areas	SCA 03 East Midlands Offshore Gas Fields (part) SCA 04 East Anglian Shipping Waters (part)
Local seascape character areas	SCT 05 Coastal Waters (part) SCT 06 Offshore Waters (part)
VISUAL BUFFERS	
Distance offshore- range	14-30km from the coast.
Size of turbines potentially having low magnitude of effect*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines below 145m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 19.2km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 145-175m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 21.7 km from shore.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turbines above 176-225m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 26.2 km from shore.</li> <li>• Turbines 226-400m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 38.6 km from shore.</li> </ul>
<i>Size of turbines potentially having medium magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turbines 145-175m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 15.8km from shore.</li> <li>• Turbines above 176-225m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 20.2km from shore.</li> <li>• Turbines 226-300m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 27.5km from shore.</li> <li>• Turbines 301-350m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 30km from shore.</li> <li>• Turbines 351-400m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 30km+ from shore.</li> </ul>

SUSCEPTIBILITY							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
<b>Natural</b>							
Hinterland	Form/ topography/ character						The landform is generally low lying coastal plateau with very gentle slopes and valleys.
Coastal edge	Cliffs, rocky coasts, upper beach, dunes etc						Mix of straight or very gently curving bays with occasional low cliffs such as at Pakefield, Gunton and Corton, and a mix of sand and shingle beaches.
Coastal edge	Intertidal						Mix of simple gravel and sand beaches, with some with rock armour and groynes in places.
Key habitats, features and species	Marine, intertidal, coastal edge (if relevant).						Hammond and Winterton SAC.
<b>Cultural/ Social</b>							
Use of the sea (see under seascape pattern and foci for assessment)	Navigation, fishing, leisure, energy production, mineral extraction etc.						Used for commercial fishing and some navigation, on the edge of the oil/gas field.
Use of the coast/ hinterland	Settlement, industry, energy, marine related development such as ports, power stations, leisure/tourism, agriculture, conservation etc.						Lowestoft is a major town with some industry and a small port. Seaside destinations include holiday developments north and south of Lowestoft including caravan sites. Otherwise farmed rural coast/ hinterland. Suffolk Coast Path and England Coast Path.
Historic features at sea, on seabed	eg wrecks, paleolandscapes						Paleolandscape, some wrecks.

or buried below							
<b>Historic features on coast</b>	eg coastal forts, castles, lighthouses						Lowestoft South Conservation Area with associated listed buildings and gardens overlooking sea but focusses more to the east south east.
<b>Cultural associations</b>	eg former use of the sea or coast, boatmaking, former trade routes, associations with artists and writers, food traditions, spiritual connections, education and interpretation etc						Lowestoft associated with major fishing industry especially herring.
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Quality/ Condition</b>							
<b>Intactness</b>	Degree of completeness or fragmentation of area character or elements, presence of detractors and extent.						Seascape intact.
<b>State of repair</b>	Condition of coastal natural and built features/ elements, maintained or not maintained.						Generally well maintained with coastal protection but this is breaking up in places.
<b>Aesthetic and Perceptual</b>							
<b>Scale</b>	Of sea in relation to coastal form or offshore.						Large scale open sea
<b>Openness and enclosure</b>	Degree and nature of enclosure of sea by land, framing of views.						Very open away from the coast.
<b>Exposure</b>	Sheltered, calm, exposed.						Highly exposed open sea.
<b>Aspect</b>	Relationship with sun.						North east of Suffolk coast so away from sunset/sunrise locations.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci</b>	Features and elements on/above the sea surface.						Very limited foci - occasional vessels.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci - coast and hinterland</b>	eg Headlands, cliffs, high hills or landmarks such as towers or castles.						There are a series of low cliffs but the main focus is Lowestoft with port protruding into the sea with wind turbine and commercial area, and the seafront of Conservation



							Area.
Contribution to the setting of a coast or seascape character area							The zone lies within the limits of visual perception but is at an oblique angle to the coast.
Weather-visibility modifiers	Based on 10 years local weather station data, the % of time that visibility is very good (20-40km) or excellent (40km+). (Two % in order to rt)						High levels of visibility Weybourne (34% and 20%) and Shoeburyness (36% and 9.5%).
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
Visual Characteristics							
Key views- land to sea sea to land sea to sea	Including nature of views and elevation, perhaps including iconic features.  Views from within area and from outside.						Land to sea- oblique views from Lowestoft south seafront, Gunton Warren and beach and Kessingland beach.
Intervisibility of the area with important visual receptors	Amount/length/extent /nature of intervisibility and distance away from unit/development.  eg relationship in terms of angle of view, topographic influences						Much of the coast is accessible and intervisible obliquely with the seascape zone.
Typical receptors - type and number	eg coast walkers, visitors to coast/features, beach visitors, residents, leisure sailors, ferries, shipping, urban areas etc.  In designated areas or outside designated areas						The Suffolk Coast Path lies to the south and the England Coast Path to the north (but excluding Lowestoft ABP port). Users of the trails and linking paths can view the sea along with visitors to beaches, promenade at Lowestoft.
OVERALL SUSCEPTIBILITY							

## VALUE

### DESIGNATIONS

Landscape designations	AONB Designation	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB at a distance to the south west
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	<i>Heritage Coast Designation</i>	Suffolk Heritage Coast at a distance to the south west					
<i>Historic designations</i>	<i>Key scheduled monuments</i>	-					
	<i>Conservation Areas</i>	Lowestoft (south)- but oblique views.					
	<i>Key listed buildings</i>	Lowestoft- Wellington Esplanade but oblique views.					
	<i>Historic parks and gardens</i>	-					
<i>Marine nature conservation designations</i>	<i>SPA/SAC</i>	Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC					
	<i>Marine Conservation Zone</i>	-					
VALUE CRITERIA							
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M /L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Landscape designations- National, regional, local</b>	eg National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coast, local countryside designations, (distance, relationship, extent of role as setting).						Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast to the south west at a distance and the area plays a very limited role in their setting.
<b>Nature conservation designations</b>	Main relevant marine designations eg MCZ, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, etc						Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC
<b>Heritage designations</b>	Marine and coastal- eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and their settings						Lowestoft (south) with listed buildings and structures with oblique views over the sea.
<b>Relevant special qualities /natural beauty indicators</b>	If landscape/ coastal designation overlooks area. (List and define the degree to which the area contributes to these).						The AONB and Heritage Coast do not overlook the seascape zone.
	Scenic quality- sense of place						Scenic quality in sea and coastal views with natural vegetated cliffs and hinterland at Gunton Warren and extensive beach at Kessingland.
	Scenic quality- panoramic views and vantage points						Panoramic views along the coast especially between settlements.
	Relative wildness, sense of remoteness, lack of human influence						Remote zone with limited apparent human influence
	Relative						Generally tranquil- development

	tranquillity-absence of development						absent
	Relative tranquillity- dark skies						Substantially dark
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	Cultural associations/artistic representations						Limited cultural associations other than maritime use.
<b>Community values</b>	Value associated with area or features by people-communities of interest/place, public attitudes.						Very limited community values
<b>Recreational value</b>	Use for leisure or sport on sea, intertidal, coast.						Very limited leisure sailing
<b>OVERALL VALUE</b>							

<b>CUMULATIVE EFFECTS</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Existing and consented offshore wind farms within zone	No offshore wind farm within zone.
Potential planned further development in zone	Round 4 bidding area covers the eastern part of the area.
Current relationship of wind farms and effect on seascape character and setting of AONB	Scroby Sands offshore wind farm to the west does not affect Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB or its setting.
Potential cumulative combined effect of existing, consented and potential planned development on seascape character and setting of AONB	Limited cumulative effects are expected in respect of Suffolk receptors.
Compatibility of cumulative combined effects with AONB policies	N/A
Recommendations for constraint or opportunities setting out the most suitable locations for development with appropriate design, scale and spacing in order to provide benefits and/or mitigate and minimise effects	N/A



Seascape zone No: 08	Name: East Anglia Outer Offshore
Location/Extent	
<p>The seascape zone comprises the outer offshore waters running from the Thames estuary north off the coast of East Anglia. It is defined by the boundary of the study area to the north, south and east, and, to the west, the suggested buffer distance for larger turbines off combined AONBs and Heritage Coasts (40km) (derived from the OESEA study, 2020) except where adjacent to the northern arrays of the Greater Gabbard and Galloper wind farms and 30km off the undesignated coast to the north west.</p>	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY	
Sensitivity	Medium/low
Summary	
<p>The zone lies over 40km offshore from the low lying coast covered by the combined Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast designation. These open, exposed offshore waters of the North Sea include deep water routes for shipping with widespread commercial fishing, some aggregate production and oil/gas fields. The southern array of the Greater Gabbard/Galloper windfarms lie to the south and the East Anglia ONE wind farm has been recently constructed lying centrally. Further wind farms of East Anglia Three and Norfolk Vanguard have been consented to the north.</p> <p>The zone's susceptibility lies in the panoramic views from the coast including the Suffolk Coast Path, England Coast Path, and the sense of remoteness, tranquillity and openness of the coast which relate to the AONB's natural beauty criteria.</p> <p>The zone's value lies in its role as part of the setting of the combined AONB and Heritage Coast, the views from the scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings and associated gardens, and MCZ/SPA/SACs.</p> <p>However, the effects on these receptors are significantly modified and reduced by the minimum distance of the zone offshore which means that most developments would be perceived as small and would be visible/perceptible between 10-20% of the time.</p>	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS IN TERMS OF SEASCAPE AND VISUAL FACTORS	
Summary	
<p>The seascape zone is an area of more limited seascape/visual constraints, especially to the east. An extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the east and south east within the area may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing. Turbines as proposed in East Anglia TWO and ONE North <i>within the zone</i> would not be considered to cause significant harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB. Further proposals within the zone, such as in the Round 4 bidding area, should be located as far offshore as possible, and if located towards the western boundary maintain large gaps (say 12km+) between arrays (say a similar size to East Anglia ONE North) so clear views of the horizon between arrays is possible from the designated coast.</p>	
SEASCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT	
National Marine Character Areas	SCA 04 East Anglian Shipping Waters (part)
Local seascape character areas	SCT 06 Offshore Waters (part)
VISUAL BUFFERS	
Distance offshore- range	East/south east of Greater Gabbard/Galloper wind farms, 40km offshore of Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Heritage Coast and 30km offshore to the north.
Size of turbines potentially having low magnitude of effect*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines below 225m would not be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect within the zone.</li> <li>Turbines 226-300m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 38.6 km from shore.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines 301-350m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 40 km from shore.</li> <li>Turbines 351-400m would be likely to exceed low magnitude of effect less than 40km+ from shore.</li> </ul>
<i>Size of turbines potentially having medium magnitude of effect*</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turbines below 350m would not be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect within the zone.</li> <li>Turbines 351-400m would be likely to exceed medium magnitude of effect less than 30km+ from shore.</li> </ul>

SUSCEPTIBILITY							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
<b>Natural</b>							
Hinterland	Form/ topography/ character						The landform is generally low lying with low coastal plateau and slopes behind coastal levels.
Coastal edge	Cliffs, rocky coasts, upper beach, dunes etc						Mix of very gently curving bays with minor headlands and small estuaries and a very gently convex coast, occasional low cliffs, extensive shingle beaches in places including the very long spit at Orfordness.
Coastal edge	Intertidal						Mix of simple gravel beaches and banks with estuarial deposits, with groynes and rock armour in places.
Key habitats, features and species	Marine, intertidal, coastal edge (if relevant).						Offshore open water with sediments- Kentish Knock MCZ, Outer Thames Estuary SPA, Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC
<b>Cultural/ Social</b>							
Use of the sea (see under seascape pattern and foci for assessment)	Navigation, fishing, leisure, energy production, mineral extraction etc.						Shipping- deep water routes to the north and traffic separation zones to the south and anchorages on the approaches to Felixstowe/Harwich. Several wind farms in area including Greater Gabbard/Galloper and East Anglia ONE with more consented. Widespread commercial fishing and some aggregate production and oil/gas fields.
Use of the coast/ hinterland	Settlement, industry, energy, marine related development such as ports, power stations, leisure/tourism, agriculture, conservation etc.						Urban settlements with ports of Felixstowe to the south and Lowestoft to the north, Sizewell nuclear power stations, and a scattering of coastal settlements which are visitor destinations within a largely rural coast/hinterland including nature reserves and levels linked by the Suffolk Coast Path and England Coast Path. Orford Ness is a

							major shingle spit centrally located.
Historic features at sea, on seabed or buried below	eg wrecks, paleolandscapes						Paleolandscape, wrecks are widely scattered across the area including HMS Amphion from the World War II.
Historic features on coast	eg coastal forts, castles, lighthouses						Numerous Conservation Areas and associated listed buildings, Napoleonic Wars features including Martello towers, Orfordness lighthouse, Bawdsey Manor historic park and garden, Orford Castle set back from the coast but overlooking it.
Cultural associations	eg former use of the sea or coast, boatmaking, former trade routes, associations with artists and writers, food traditions, spiritual connections, education and interpretation etc						Associated with shipping across the North Sea linking UK ports with Europe and from English Channel, paleolandscape associations pre-sea level rise and the North Sea.
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M /L	L	Comments
Quality/ Condition							
Intactness	Degree of completeness or fragmentation of area character or elements, presence of detractors and extent.						Seascape largely open and intact with windfarms currently widely separated although busier with sea traffic where cross North Sea routes intersect with English Channel traffic.
State of repair	Condition of coastal natural and built features/ elements, maintained or not maintained.						N/A
Aesthetic and Perceptual							
Scale	Of sea in relation to coastal form or offshore.						Large scale open sea
Openness and enclosure	Degree and nature of enclosure of sea by land, framing of views.						Very open away from the coast.
Exposure	Sheltered, calm, exposed.						Highly exposed open sea.
Aspect	Relationship with sun.						East of the coast so potential for highlighting of turbines in low sun near sunset but at a distance.



Seascape pattern and foci	Features and elements on/above the sea surface.						Presence of wind farms and shipping/ferries.
Seascape pattern and foci - coast and hinterland	eg Headlands, cliffs, high hills or landmarks such as towers or castles.						Very distinctive shingle spit at Orford Ness, some limited cliffs with small headlands, with occasional historic seaside towns, Martello towers and Orford Castle inland. Small scale and low landmarks generally. Current windfarms in zone not perceptible from the coast.
Contribution to the setting of a coast or seascape character area							The zone contributes to the character of the coast but the eastern part of the area lies beyond the limits of visual perception.
Weather-visibility modifiers	Based on 10 years local weather station data, the % of time that visibility is excellent (40km+).						High levels of visibility Weybourne (20%) and Shoeburyness (9.5%).
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M / L	L	Comments
Visual Characteristics							
Key views- land to sea sea to land sea to sea	Including nature of views and elevation, perhaps including iconic features.  Views from within area and from outside.						Land to sea- views from coastal Conservation Areas, Orford Castle, Martello towers and from Suffolk Coast Path and England Coast Path.  Sea to sea- views from ferries.
Intervisibility of the area with important visual receptors	Amount/length/extent /nature of intervisibility and distance away from unit/development.  eg relationship in terms of angle of view, topographic influences						Most of the coast is accessible and directly facing the sea with a direct relationship with the seascape zone but at a distance.
Typical receptors - type and number	eg coast walkers, visitors to coast/features, beach visitors, residents, leisure sailors, ferries, shipping, urban areas etc.  In designated areas or outside designated areas						Users of coast within AONB and Heritage Coast, Suffolk Coast Path, visitors to historic towns and beaches. Leisure sailors from various estuaries at a distance. Harwich ferry users.
OVERALL SUSCEPTIBILITY							

VALUE							
DESIGNATIONS							
Landscape designations	AONB Designation	Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB					
	Heritage Coast Designation	Suffolk Heritage Coast					
Historic designations	Key scheduled monuments	Orford Castle; Landguard Fort- Felixstowe and associated Napoleonic Wars Martello Towers.  Greyfriars, Dunwich- sheltered from views except at the south eastern coastal edge.					
	Conservation Areas	Felixstowe, Orford, Aldeburgh, Thorpeness, Dunwich, Southwold, Lowestoft (south).					
	Key listed buildings	Orford Castle- Grade I listed building tower, Bawdsey Manor and associated buildings and structures, various Martello towers and battery observation post. Aldeburgh- eg Moot Hall, White Lion Hotel, Market Cross House, 8-14, Market Cross Place; Dunwich- Greyfriars Monastery; Southwold- numerous eg Gun Hill Place, Centre Cliff, Cliff House and Shrimp Cottage, Bay View and East Cliff; Lowestoft- Wellington Esplanade.					
	Historic parks and gardens	Bawdsey Manor Historic Park and Garden; Cliff Gardens (and Town Hall Garden), Felixstowe.					
Marine nature conservation designations	SPA/SAC	Outer Thames Estuary SPA; Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC.					
	Marine Conservation Zone	Kentish Knock MCZ					
VALUE CRITERIA							
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	H	H / M	M	M /L	L	Comments
Landscape designations- National, regional, local	eg National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coast, local countryside designations, (distance, relationship, extent of role as setting).						Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB and Suffolk Heritage Coast combined overlook zone but at a distance of 40km+.
Nature conservation designations	Main relevant marine designations eg MCZ, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, etc						Kentish Knock MCZ; Outer Thames Estuary SPA; Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC; Southern North Sea SAC.
Heritage designations	Marine and coastal- eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and their settings						Heritage assets dotted along the coast overlook the area but at a distance of 40km+.
Relevant special	If landscape/ coastal designation overlooks						The AONB and Heritage Coast directly overlook the seascape zone

<b>qualities /natural beauty indicators</b>	area. (List and define the degree to which the area contributes to these).						but at a distance of 40km+.
<b>Main criteria</b>	<b>Sub-criteria</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H / M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M / L</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	Scenic quality- sense of place						Eastern edge of the zone may contribute to the sense of place.
	Scenic quality- panoramic views and vantage points						Large structures on the eastern edge of the zone would be visible in long views.
	Relative wildness, sense of remoteness, lack of human influence						Eastern edge of the zone contributes to feeling of remoteness.
	Relative tranquillity- absence of development						Eastern edge of the zone contributes to relative tranquillity.
	Relative tranquillity- dark skies						Eastern edge of the zone contributes to relative tranquillity.
	Cultural associations/artistic representations						Broader cultural associations of trade and defence.
<b>Community values</b>	Value associated with area or features by people- communities of interest/place, public attitudes.						Very limited community values
<b>Recreational value</b>	Use for leisure or sport on sea, intertidal, coast.						Very limited leisure sailing
<b>OVERALL VALUE</b>							

<b>CUMULATIVE EFFECTS</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Existing and consented offshore wind farms within zone	Existing East Anglia One and Greater Gabbard/ Galloper within and adjacent to the zone and London Array nearby to the south. Consented East Anglia Three and Norfolk Vanguard East and West. Further development potentially could cause cumulative effects with Greater Gabbard/Galloper and London Array if using very large turbines extending along a major part of the horizon along the eastern edge of the zone.
Potential planned further development in zone	Greater Gabbard/ Galloper extension, East Anglia TWO and ONE North. The Round 4 bidding area covers a large part of the northern part of the zone.
Current relationship of wind farms and effect on seascape character and setting of AONB	Existing and consented wind farms within the area are sufficiently far offshore and separated to not have an effect on the setting of the AONB. To the north, the character of the seascape is developing into an offshore wind farm seascape.
Potential cumulative combined	The Greater Gabbard/ Galloper extension within the zone is

effect of existing, consented and potential planned development on seascape character and setting of AONB	<p>unlikely to significantly increase adverse effects on the AONB although the level of effects would depend on the size of turbine proposed. Views of East Anglia TWO and ONE North within the zone may be possible in very good/excellent visibility conditions which could create large groupings of turbines visible on the horizon and in close juxtaposition with Greater Gabbard/ Galloper (7km gap). Whilst at 40km+ the effects would be reduced, views to clear horizons between arrays are highly desirable off the AONB.</p> <p>Development within the Round 4 bidding area would be likely to increase cumulative effects of the developments above. Views to clear horizons between arrays are highly desirable off the AONB.</p>
CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	Comments
Compatibility of cumulative combined effects with AONB policies	An extension using similar size turbines as existing for Greater Gabbard/ Galloper could be construed as minimising effects on the purposes of the AONB. The parts of East Anglia TWO and ONE North <i>within the zone</i> could also be considered to minimise effects through distance and the increase in spacing between arrays to the north.
Recommendations for constraint or opportunities setting out the most suitable locations for development with appropriate design, scale and spacing in order to provide benefits and/or mitigate and minimise effects	An extension of Greater Gabbard/ Galloper to the east and south east within the area may cause limited effects but the turbines should be similar in height and spacing to the existing. Turbines as proposed in East Anglia TWO and ONE North <i>within the zone</i> would not be considered to cause significant harm to the qualities and natural beauty of the AONB. Further proposals within the zone, such as in Round 4, should be located as far offshore as possible, and if located towards the eastern boundary maintain large gaps (say 12km+) between arrays (say a similar size to East Anglia ONE North) so clear views of the horizon between arrays is possible from the designated coast.



## **Appendix A Factors influencing the sensitivity of seascape character areas**

## FACTORS INFLUENCING SENSITIVITY

### Seascape susceptibility criteria and indicators

Main criteria	Sub-criteria	Indicators of higher susceptibility	Indicators of lower susceptibility
<b>Natural</b>			
<b>Hinterland</b>	Form/topography/character	Mountainous or hilly hinterland ie long slopes rising from coast, high elevation	Plateau or flat hinterland. Highly enclosed by topography or land cover
<b>Coastal edge</b>	Cliffs, rocky coasts, upper beach, dunes etc	Intricate, complex, rugged forms and dramatic headlands/ends of peninsulas  Where great simplicity is the key characteristic and introduction of structures into very horizontal composition would compromise this.	Flat, horizontal or gently undulating or largely straight coast.  Simple forms
<b>Coastal edge</b>	Intertidal	Intricate, complex, rugged forms  Simple large beaches	Man-made interventions/structures in area
<b>Key habitats, features and species</b>	Marine, intertidal, coastal edge (if relevant).	Presence of marine habitats with high biodiversity in area of search.	Limited range and extent of biodiverse areas in area of search.
<b>Cultural/ Social</b>			
<b>Use of the sea</b>	Navigation, fishing, leisure, energy production, mineral extraction etc.	Uses with limited infrastructure.	Presence of energy production and large shipping vessels/trade routes nearby (not through area).
<b>Use of the coast/hinterland</b>	Settlement, industry, energy, marine related development such as ports, power stations, leisure/tourism, agriculture, conservation etc.	Uses with limited infrastructure.  Rural uses or semi-natural land.  Small scale, traditional, historic settlements and harbours.	Presence of industry/energy production/dock infrastructure.  Urban form
<b>Historic features at sea, on seabed or buried below</b>	eg wrecks, paleolandscapes	Substantial presence of wrecks and other submerged historic features which have significance as a group or make it difficult to microsite turbines.	Limited number or no heritage features.
<b>Historic features on coast</b>	eg coastal forts, castles, lighthouses	Presence of coastal and island historic features such as forts, castles, chapels, monasteries, other buildings and structures and other heritage features which have a strong relationship with the coast and sea visually, physically or	Limited number or no heritage features

		culturally.	
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	Indicators of higher susceptibility	Indicators of lower susceptibility
<b>Cultural associations</b>	eg former use of the sea or coast, boatmaking, former trade routes, associations with artists and writers, food traditions, spiritual connections, education and interpretation etc	Where there are strong collective cultural associations with the sea and coast through people and events and their expression through literature, art, music or other media. These can include religious connections, legends, books and poems, pictures, music, films, plays and other cultural media.	Limited or no cultural associations, or cultural associations which are compatible with development, possibly relating to industry, military infrastructure and trade.
<b>Quality/ Condition</b>			
<b>Intactness</b>	Degree of completeness or fragmentation or area character or elements, presence of detractors and extent.	Intact and consistent character of seascape. Few or no detractors.	Seascape character fragmented. Presence of detractors.
<b>State of repair</b>	Condition of coastal natural and built features/ elements, maintained or not maintained.	Well maintained seascape or landscape character at coast.	Poorly maintained seascape or landscape character at coast. Presence of dereliction/neglect.
<b>Aesthetic and Perceptual</b>			
<b>Scale</b>	Of sea in relation to coastal form or offshore.	Small scale, enclosed, views to horizon limited by landform Introduction of an element of scale into previously un-scaled area	Large scale views
<b>Openness and enclosure</b>	Degree and nature of enclosure of sea by land, framing of views.	Where openness is a key characteristic and introduction of built elements would compromise this.	Unframed open views unimpeded by natural elements or features.
<b>Exposure</b>	Sheltered, calm, exposed.	Sheltered and calm seascapes Where seascape is extremely exposed such that the perceived wild, elemental nature is a key characteristic and development would significantly change this perception.	Open, exposed seascapes which does not provide a perception of elemental or wild seascape character and development would be perceived as relating to these characteristics.

Main criteria	Sub-criteria	Indicators of higher susceptibility	Indicators of lower susceptibility
<b>Aspect</b>	Relationship with sun.	<p>Development would interfere with notable views of sunrises and particularly sunsets.</p> <p>Where turbines would be highlighted in contrast to their background by sun light or be highlighted in silhouette from backlighting, thereby increasing visual prominence.</p> <p>Development seen from higher level views, particularly where viewer elevation results in development, and its geometric layout pattern, being seen much closer than on the horizon line.</p>	Development located away from sunrise and sunset positions
<b>Seascape pattern and foci</b>	Features and elements on/above the sea surface.	Complex or unified pattern which would be disrupted by development.	Presence of existing vertical or other elements at sea including shipping/ferries.
<b>Seascape pattern and foci - coast and hinterland</b>	eg Headlands, cliffs, high hills or landmarks such as towers or castles.	<p>Important focal points eg islands, islets, headlands, distinctive sweeping beaches, and high hills.</p> <p>Open unspoilt views of the sea with no signs of development offshore.</p>	<p>Lack of intact pattern</p> <p>Lack of natural or historic feature focal points</p>
<b>Contribution to the setting of a coast or seascape character area</b>		Is perceived from, and forms the setting of, a sensitive coast or seascape character area within the limits of visual perception. (See sensitivity criteria below).	<p>Is perceived from a less sensitive coast or seascape character area.</p> <p>Is beyond the limits of visual perception.</p>
<b>Visual Characteristics</b>			
<b>Key views- land to sea sea to land sea to sea</b>	<p>Including nature of views and elevation, perhaps including iconic features.</p> <p>Views from within area and from outside.</p>	<p>Open or framed views from key viewpoints.</p> <p>Views to key features eg islands, other coasts, headlands.</p> <p>Views from well used sea area for leisure focussed on seascape/scenic quality.</p>	<p>Few or no views from key viewpoints.</p> <p>Sea not used for leisure sailing.</p>
<b>Intervisibility of the area with important visual receptors</b>	<p>Amount/length/ extent /nature of intervisibility and distance away from unit/ development.</p> <p>eg relationship in terms of angle of view, topography influences</p>	Strong intervisibility with coast in terms of length and/or area and/or relatively close to.	Poor intervisibility with coast in terms of length and/or area and/or relatively far away.



Main criteria	Sub-criteria	Indicators of higher susceptibility	Indicators of lower susceptibility
<b>Typical receptors - type and number</b>	eg coast walkers, visitors to coast/features, beach visitors, residents, leisure sailors, ferries, shipping, urban areas etc.  In designated areas or outside designated areas	Coast path and users of paths and access land.  Visitors to heritage features.  Promenade and pier users.  Leisure sailors.	Users of ferries.  Shipping.  People in urban areas at work.  Users of roads (unless corniche).  Users of railways.

### Seascape value criteria and indicators

Main criteria	Sub-criteria	Indicators of higher value	Indicators of lower value
<b>Landscape designations- National, regional, local</b>	eg National Parks, AONBs, Heritage Coast, local countryside designations, (distance, relationship, extent of role as setting).	Presence of National Parks, AONBs, especially if combined with Heritage Coast, overlooking area.  Perceived as lying within seascape setting of a designation.	Absence of landscape designations.  Not within seascape setting of a landscape designation.
<b>Nature conservation designations</b>	Marine and coastal eg MCZ, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, SSSI etc (if relevant).	Presence of nature conservation designations within or potentially affected by area of potential development.	Absence of nature conservation designations within or potentially affected by area of potential development
<b>Heritage designations</b>	Marine and coastal- eg scheduled monuments, Conservation Areas, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, and their settings (if relevant).	Presence of heritage designations overlooking or within area of potential development.  Perceived as lying within seascape setting of a designation.	Absence of heritage designations overlooking or within area of potential development
<b>Relevant special qualities /natural beauty indicators</b>	If landscape/ coastal designation overlooks area. (List and define the degree to which the area contributes to these).	Area contributes to special qualities/natural beauty indicators.	Area does not contribute to special qualities/ natural beauty indicators.
	Scenic quality- sense of place	A clear and recognisable sense of place which the area contributes to.	A limited sense of place and/or limited contribution to sense of place.
	Scenic quality- panoramic views and vantage points	Panoramic views out to sea and along Heritage Coast  Views from elevated	No or very limited views out to sea or along coast

		vantage points out to sea	No or very limited vantage points
Main criteria	Sub-criteria	Indicators of higher value	Indicators of lower value
<b>Relevant special qualities /natural beauty indicators (cont'd)</b>	Relative wildness, sense of remoteness, lack of human influence	Sense of remoteness with little indication of development onshore and offshore	Sense of settled landscape with presence of development onshore and offshore
	Relative tranquillity-absence of development	Perception of semi-natural character and absence of development and people	Perception of movement, development, people.
	Relative tranquillity-dark skies	Presence of dark skies with very limited light sources onshore and offshore	Presence of light sources on coast and offshore
	Cultural associations/artistic representations	Area with rich cultural associations.	Area with limited cultural associations.
<b>Community values</b>	Value associated with area or features/elements by people- communities of interest and place, public attitudes.	Area or features highly valued by people.	Area or features with attributed limited value by people.
<b>Recreational value</b>	Use for leisure or sport on sea, intertidal, coast.	Area used extensively for leisure especially related to enjoying seascape character and views.	Area with limited use for leisure, or where leisure relates to motorised pursuits/speed.

### Cumulative effects criteria and indicators

Criteria	Indicators of higher cumulative effect	Indicators of lower cumulative effect
Current relationship of existing and consented wind farms and effect on seascape character and setting of AONB	Current development already creates a wind farm seascape or is nearing this state and is beginning to have a significant adverse effect on the setting of the AONB, eg curtaining on the horizon.	There are no existing and consented wind farms or development is at a low density and forms a seascape with occasional wind farms and has a limited or no adverse effect on the setting of the AONB.
Potential cumulative combined effect of existing, consented and potential planned development on seascape character and setting of AONB	Combined development is likely to create a wind farm seascape or is nearing this state and is beginning to have a significant adverse effect on the setting of the AONB, eg curtaining.	There is no or very limited combined development or forms a seascape with occasional wind farms and has a limited or no adverse effect on the setting of the AONB.
Compatibility of potential cumulative combined effects with AONB policies	Combined development significantly adversely changes the perception of AONB natural beauty/special qualities.	Combined development has no or very limited effect on the perception of AONB natural beauty/ special qualities.
Recommendations for constraint or opportunity.	Recommendations may include avoiding or limiting further development with strict limits on size, scale and design of development.	Recommendations may be limited or include size, scale, location advice to avoid potential seascape issues in the future.

## **Appendix B Visibility modifiers**

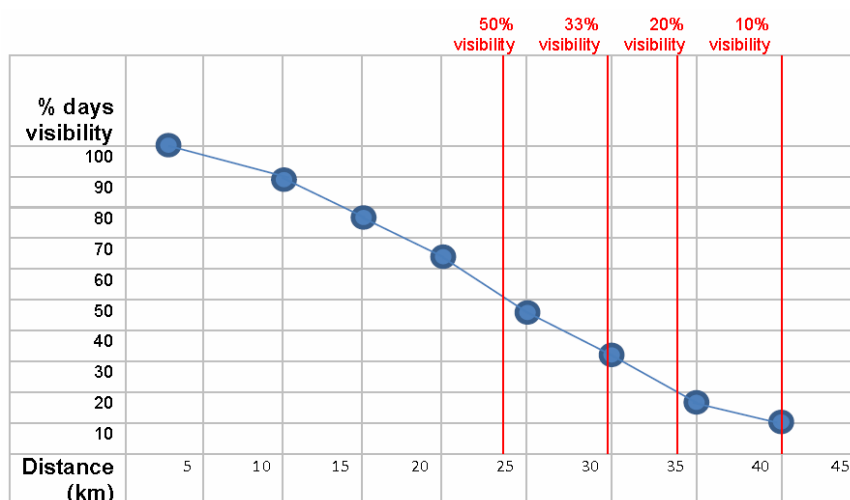
**Visibility Distances for Coastal Stations in England and Wales over a 10 year period (2008-2017)- illustrating relative visibility of local weather stations with others (Extract from OESEA,2020)**

Weather Stations	Visibility Distance (km)							
	0-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	35	40+
<b>Boulmer</b> % days visibility	10.9%	12.7%	12.4%	16.3%	13.9%	12.7%	4.6%	16.5%
cumulative totals	100.0%	89.1%	76.4%	64.0%	47.7%	33.8%	21.1%	16.5%
<b>Weybourne</b> % days visibility	9.9%	13.0%	13.5%	11.1%	9.8%	14.1%	6.0%	22.6%
cumulative totals	100%	90.1%	77.1%	63.6%	52.5%	42.7%	28.6%	22.6%
<b>Manston</b> % days visibility	10.7%	13.2%	12.7%	13.1%	12.8%	17.0%	6.7%	13.7%
cumulative totals	100%	89.3%	76.1%	63.3%	50.2%	37.4%	20.5%	13.7%
<b>Hurn</b> % days visibility	11.0%	13.1%	13.8%	19.7%	15.1%	20.3%	3.7%	3.1%
cumulative totals	100%	89.0%	75.8%	62.1%	42.3%	27.2%	6.8%	3.1%
<b>Culdrose</b> % days visibility	19.9%	16.1%	17.5%	28.7%	11.8%	4.6%	0.7%	0.7%
cumulative totals	100%	80.1%	64.0%	46.5%	17.8%	6.0%	1.4%	0.7%
<b>St Athan</b> % days visibility	6.5%	9.6%	10.7%	14.3%	14.7%	22.9%	9.2%	12.0%
cumulative totals	100%	93.5%	83.8%	73.1%	58.8%	44.1%	21.2%	12.0%
<b>Rhyl</b> % days visibility	5.4%	7.4%	11.5%	14.0%	13.8%	20.1%	8.8%	19.1%
cumulative totals	100%	94.6%	87.2%	75.7%	61.7%	47.9%	27.9%	19.1%
<b>St Bees Head</b> % days visibility	13.5%	12.7%	17.5%	21.8%	18.3%	10.3%	1.8%	4.0%
cumulative totals	100%	86.5%	73.8%	56.3%	34.5%	16.2%	5.8%	4.0%
<b>Average</b> % days visibility	11%	12.2%	13.7%	17.4%	13.8%	15.2%	5.2%	11.5%
<b>Avg. cumulative totals</b>	100%	89.0%	76.8%	63.1%	45.7%	31.9%	16.7%	11.5%

**Notes:**

The nearest coastal stations to the study area are highlighted in yellow- Weybourne and Manston (Ramsgate). Weybourne and Manston have substantially larger proportions of time with visibility over 35km and 40km than the national average.

**Average national visibility distances related to % days per annum (2008-2017) (Extract from OESEA, 2020)**





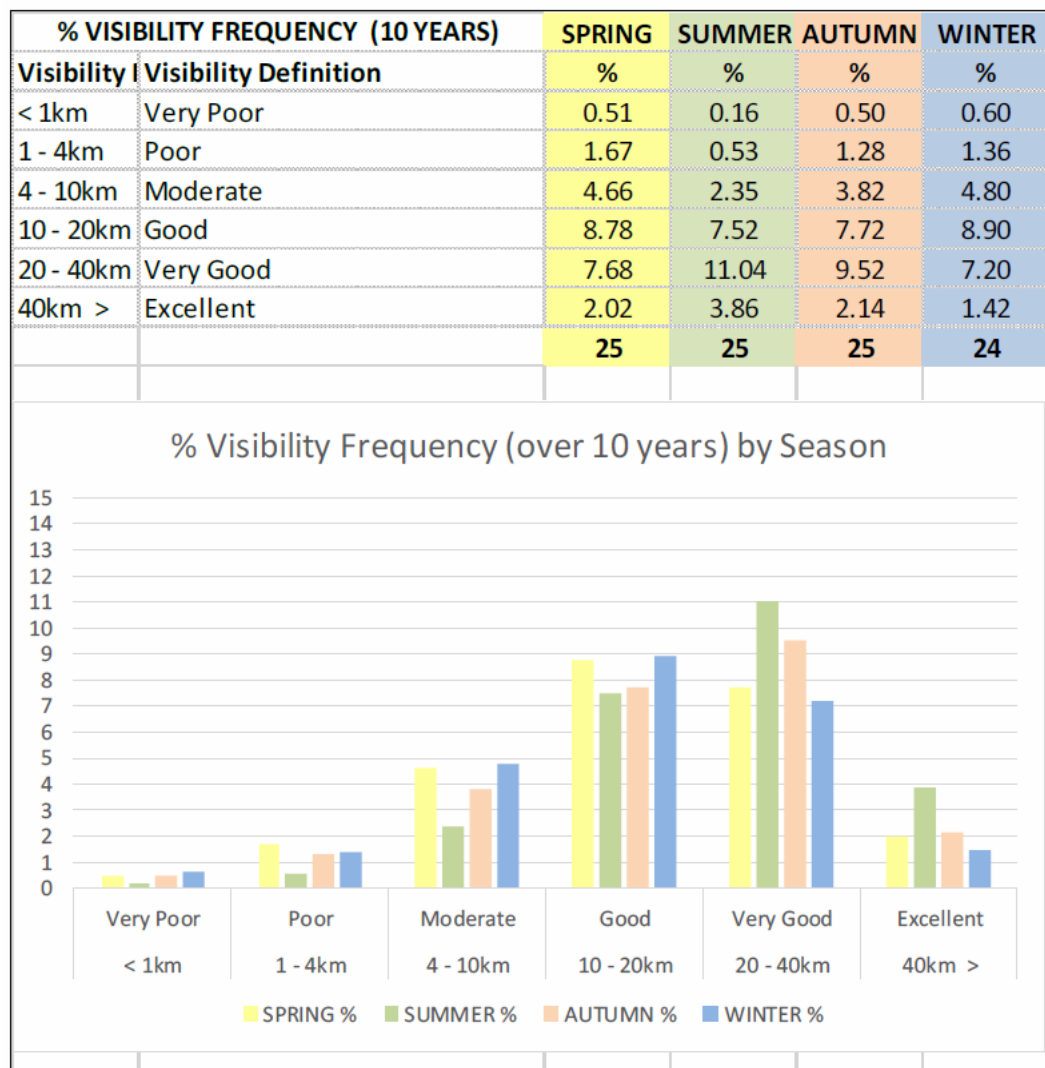
### Weather Station Locations (Extract from OESEA,2020)



### East Anglia TWO Environmental Statement (ES)

The effect of weather conditions on visibility was considered in the East Anglia TWO ES Appendix 28.8 Offshore Windfarm Visibility. This used data from Shoeburyness weather station (near Southend on Sea) which is relatively close to Manston. In addition to overall annual visibility at various distances which was similar to the nearby weather stations, the report also analysed frequency by season. This shows that there is a substantially higher proportion of days of very good and excellent visibility in the summer than in other seasons (see the table overleaf).

**Visibility frequency by season (extract from East Anglia TWO ES (Scottish Power) Appendix 28.8 Offshore Windfarm Visibility (page 17))**



**PlateA28.6 Visibility Frequency by Season**

## **Appendix C Site visit**

## Suffolk seascape sensitivity to offshore windfarms

### Site visit- 27-28 August 2020

The Suffolk coast was visited on the 27-28, August 2020. The findings of the site visit are incorporated in the detailed zone assessments.

The viewpoints visited are listed in order below.

#### 27 August

- Bawdsey- East Street car park
- Shingle Street- near mouth of the River Alde/Ore
- Orford Castle- grounds
- Orford Ness- Slaughden Martello tower
- Aldeburgh- beach
- Thorpeness- beach to the north of settlement
- Sizewell beach

#### 28 August

- Dunwich Coastguard Cottages
- Dunwich Heath
- Dunwich- priory and beach
- Southwold- IRB station beach
- Southwold - Gun Hill
- Southwold- East Cliff
- Kessingland- beach
- Lowestoft - Marine Parade- edge of South Beach
- Felixstowe Ferry

It was not possible to walk south down Orford Ness from the north much beyond Slaughden Martello tower due to National Trust restrictions on access.

The weather conditions on 27 August were a mixture of light to moderate cloud with occasional sun, with good visibility sometimes extending to very good visibility. The Thames Array was visible in the morning and the Greater Gabbard/Gallop array was visible for most of the day. Occasional sea mist offshore enveloped the Greater Gabbard/Gallop array at times. Sun reduced over the course of the day. This meant that the turbines were mostly viewed as grey shapes against a lighter background.

The weather conditions on 28 August were a mixture of light cloud with some sun, with good visibility sometimes extending to very good visibility. The Greater Gabbard/Gallop array was visible from the Dunwich and Felixstowe Ferry viewpoints but not from Southwold and further north- it is not clear if this was due to distance or sea mist. The turbines were mostly viewed as grey shapes against a lighter background in the morning and bright white in the afternoon (around 3pm) when highlighted by sunshine when viewed from Felixstowe Ferry. This did increase their visibility.

There were many visitors to the coast observed during the site visit. This may have been due to its proximity to the August Bank holiday weekend. Particular concentrations were located in Southwold, Aldeburgh, Orford Castle and Lowestoft with others observed along the coast path and on the beaches. The number of people reduced with distance away from the nearest car parks and settlement centres. In the settlements people promenaded along the coast or cliff paths or sat on beaches looking out to sea. Outside settlements people walked along beaches or the coast path where available, or on the adjacent heaths.

Visibility of the sea was mainly possible along the coastal edge and also from the more open low slopes behind the coast, including heaths. Elsewhere it was limited by vegetation such as hedges and trees or, in the case of coastal levels and marshes, by the seawall/embankment.

The visibility of Sizewell A and B nuclear power stations (c. 67m and c. 65m high respectively) and the masts at Orford Ness (c.60m down to c.13m high) were noted along the coast.



## **Appendix D Abbreviations and Glossary**

## Abbreviations

AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
CLVIA	Cumulative Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
DCO	Development Consent Order
DPO	Draft Plan Option
EIA	Environmental impact assessment
ES	Environmental statement
ExA	Examining Authority
GLVIA	Guidelines for landscape and visual impact assessment
GIS	Geographic information system
HPMCZ	Highly protected marine conservation zone
HSC	Historic Seascape Characterisation
HWM	High water mark
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
km	Kilometres
LCA	Landscape character assessment <i>or</i> landscape character area
LDP	Local Development Plan
LVIA	Landscape and visual impact assessment
LWM	low water mark
m	metres
MCA	Marine Character Area
MPA	Marine Planning Area
MPS	Marine Policy Statement
MHW	Mean high water
nm	nautical miles
NE	Natural England
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
PU	Shoreline Management Plan policy unit
RSU	Regional Seascape Unit
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCA	Seascape character assessment / seascape character area
SCT	Seascape character type
SLA	Special Landscape Area
SM	Scheduled Monument
SMR	Scheduled Monument Record
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SVIA	Seascape, (landscape) and visual impact assessment
UKCS	United Kingdom Continental Shelf
WHS	World Heritage Site
ZTV	Zone of theoretical visibility
ZVI	Zone of visual influence

## Glossary

Term	Definition
<b>Seascape, marine and coastal processes terms</b>	
<b>Abrasion</b>	The mechanical wearing effect on rocks caused by corrosion. The abrading agent can take a variety of forms e.g. sand, pebbles or boulders moving across a rock surface.
<b>Attrition</b>	The mechanism by which the particle size of any material is reduced by friction during transport.
<b>Biogenic</b>	A feature that is created by living organisms, either animal or plant.
<b>Characteristics</b>	elements, features and qualities which make a particular contribution to distinctive character.
<b>Characterisation</b>	the process of identifying areas of similar character, classifying and mapping them and describing their character. (NECR105)
<b>Classification</b>	concerned with dividing the seascape into areas of distinct, recognisable and consistent common character in grouping areas of similar character together. It requires the identification of patterns in the seascape, created by the way the natural and human influences interact and are perceived and experienced to create character in the seascape. (NECR105)
<b>Description</b>	capturing the overall essence of the character of the seascape, with reference to geology, landform, bathymetry, habitats, use of the coast and sea, cultural associations etc, drawing out the ways in which these factors interact together and are perceived and experienced and are associated with events and people.
<b>Demersal</b>	In relation to marine organisms: those which flourish on the ocean floor.
<b>Elements</b>	individual component parts of the seascape such as beaches, cliffs, submerged reefs, sea walls, groynes and rocky outcrops.
<b>Features</b>	particularly prominent or eye-catching elements such as lighthouses, rock stacks and coastal cliffs.
<b>Fetch</b>	The distance of open water across which wind blows or over which wind generated water wave travels, unobstructed by major land obstacles. The amount of fetch helps to determine the magnitude and energy of a wave and therefore its erosional or depositional tendencies on neighbouring shorelines.
<b>Hydraulic action</b>	Force exerted by moving water on rocks e.g. air forced into cracks in solid rocks by breaking waves is capable of causing their disintegration by expanding the fissures.
<b>Key characteristics</b>	those combination of elements which help given area its distinct sense of place. They can in many cases to be 'positive' characteristics but they may also in some cases be 'negative' features which nevertheless are important to the current character of the seascape. (Natural England, 2014)
<b>Landward limits (of a seascape character assessment)</b>	the distance which the seascape character assessment will expand onshore and inland. Such considerations relate to the mainland, peninsulas and islands, regardless of their distance out at sea. The extent is dependent on the purpose and/or scope of the assessment being undertaken.
<b>Littoral</b>	Pertaining to a shoreline.
<b>Longshore drift</b>	A general movement of beach material along the shoreline due to the effect of waves breaking obliquely on to the beach.
<b>Pelagic</b>	In relation to the environment: the open ocean as distinct from the ocean floor. In relation to marine organisms: those which flourish independent of the ocean floor and shoreline environments.
<b>Perception</b>	perception combines the sensory (that which we receive through our senses) with the cognitive (knowledge and understanding gained from many sources and experiences).
<b>Reef</b>	A line of rocks or material in the tidal zone of the coast, submerged at high water but partly uncovered at low water.
<b>Ria</b>	Submerged coastal valley or estuary resulting from a rise of sea level, often associated with post-glacial coasts.
<b>Marine character area</b>	See seascape character area. (Term used for national/regional scale units).

Term	Definition
<b>Saltation</b>	Sediment transported by bouncing or hopping along a surface carried by water or wind.
<b>Seascape</b>	Seascape is landscapes with views of the coast or seas, and coasts and the adjacent marine environment with cultural, historical and archaeological links with each other. (MPS)
<b>Seascape character</b>	Seascape character is a distinct and recognisable pattern of elements in the seascape that makes one seascape different from another, rather than better or worse. (NECR105)
<b>Seascape character assessment (SCA)</b>	SCA is the process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the seascape, and using this information to assist in managing change in the seascape. It seeks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features that make seascape distinctive. (NECR105)
<b>Seascape or marine character area</b>	These are single unique geographical areas of a particular seascape character type. Each has its own individual character and identity, even though it shares the same generic characteristics with other seascape character areas of the same type. (NECR105)
<b>Seascape or marine character capacity</b>	Seascape capacity refers to the amount of specified development or change which a particular marine or local seascape character area and the associated visual resource is able to accommodate without undue negative effects on its character and qualities. (Adapted from Natural England, 2019)
<b>Seascape or marine character sensitivity</b>	Term applied to marine character and seascape and the associated visual resource, combining judgements of their susceptibility to a specific type of development / development scenario or other change being considered and the value(s) related to that seascape, marine character and visual resource. (Derived from Natural England, 2019)
<b>Seascape or marine character susceptibility</b>	The degree to which a defined seascape or marine character area and its associated visual qualities and attributes might respond to the specified types of development or change without undue negative effects on character and the visual resource. (Adapted from Natural England, 2019)
<b>Seascape or marine character type</b>	These are distinct types of seascape that are relatively homogeneous in character. They are generic in nature in that they may occur in different locations but wherever they occur they share broadly similar combinations of geology, bathymetry, ecology, human influences and perceptual and aesthetic attributes. (NECR105)
<b>Seascape or marine character value</b>	The relative value or importance attached to a seascape or marine character area, which may express national or local consensus, because of its quality, its special qualities including perceptual aspects such as scenic beauty, tranquillity and wildness, natural or historic attributes or features, cultural associations, or its relationship with designated or valued landscapes and coasts. (Adapted from Natural England, 2019)
<b>Seascape quality</b>	The physical state of the seascape. It includes the extent to which typical character is represented in individual areas, sometimes referred to as strength of character, the intactness of the seascape from visual, functional and ecological perspectives and the condition or state of repair of individual elements of the seascape. (NECR105)
<b>Seascape strategy</b>	the objectives and overall vision of what the seascape should be like in the future, and what is thought to be desirable for a particular seascape character type or area, as a whole. (Natural England, 2014)
<b>Seascape, (Landscape) and Visual Impact Assessment (SVIA)</b>	SVIA is an established methodology which is used to assess the impact of the development or other use change on seascape, landscape and visual amenity. It includes analysis of the effects during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the development, including any restoration or after uses.
<b>Seaward limits (of an SCA)</b>	distance out to sea that the SCA will extend.
<b>Slack</b>	an area of almost motionless water.
<b>Suspension</b>	The process by which lightweight materials are transported by moving water in the zone of turbulent flow.
<b>Swash</b>	The movement of a turbulent layer of water up the slope of the beach as a result of the breaking of a wave. It is capable of moving beach material of substantial size and is an important factor in longshore drift.



Term	Definition
<b>Swell</b>	A regular movement of marine waves created by wind stress in the open ocean.
<b>Traction</b>	Solid load carried by water.
<b>Other terms associated with landscape</b>	
<b>Amenity (Planting)</b>	planting to provide environmental benefit such as decorative or screen planting.
<b>Analysis</b>	the process of dividing up the seascape/landscape into its component parts to gain a better understanding of it.
<b>Apparent</b>	object visible in the seascape/landscape.
<b>Approach</b>	the step-by-step process by which seascape/landscape assessment is undertaken.
<b>Arable</b>	land used for growing crops other than grass or woody species.
<b>Aspect</b>	in Wales, an aspect is a component of the LANDMAP information recorded, organised and evaluated into a nationally consistent spatial data set. The landscape information is divided into five aspects- geological landscape, landscape habitats, visual and sensory, historic landscape and cultural landscape.
<b>Aspect area</b>	areas defined in each of the LANDMAP aspect assessments which are mutually exclusive
<b>Assessment</b>	term to describe all the various ways of looking at, analysing, evaluating and describing the seascape/landscape or assessing impacts on seascape/landscape and visual receptors.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	the variety of life including all the different habitats and species in the world.
<b>Conservation</b>	the protection and careful management of natural and built resources and the environment.
<b>Complexity</b>	(in the context of describing a skyline) how varied or complicated the skyline is from dead flat with even vegetation at one end of the scale to mountainous with varied vegetation at the other.
<b>Consistent</b>	relatively unchanging element or pattern across a given area of seascape/landscape.
<b>Cultural heritage asset</b>	see heritage asset
<b>Cultural pattern</b>	expression of the historic pattern of enclosure and rural settlement.
<b>Cumulative impacts/effects</b>	either additional changes caused by a proposed development in conjunction with similar developments or the combined effect of a set of developments, taken together
<b>Distinctiveness</b>	see sense of place
<b>Diversity</b>	(in terms of the function of an area) the variety of different functions of an area.
<b>Dominant</b>	main defining feature or pattern.
<b>Effects</b>	term used in environmental impact assessment (EIA) where effects are changes arising from the action, operation or implementation of a proposed development.
<b>Effects, direct</b>	where development lies within a seascape/landscape and physically removes an element or feature e.g. rocks, cliff, coastal vegetation
<b>Effects, indirect</b>	effects away from the development such as perceived change of character or from associated development such as transport infrastructure
<b>Field Boundary</b>	the defined edge of a field whether fence, hedge, bank, ditch or wall.
<b>Field Size</b>	Large 2 Ha Above, Medium Around 1.5 Ha, Small Less Than 1 Ha.
<b>Geology</b>	the study of the origin, structure, composition and history of the Earth together with the processes that have led to its present state.
<b>Ground Type</b>	expression of the soil forming environment and its influence in determining the surface pattern of vegetation and land use.
<b>Hedge</b>	fence of shrubs or low trees, living or dead, or of turf or stone. Though strictly a row of bushes forming a hedge, hedgerow has been taken to mean the same as a hedge.

Term	Definition
<b>Hedge bank</b>	earth bank or mound relating to a hedge
<b>Heritage asset</b>	a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of historical significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. Designated heritage assets include world heritage sites, scheduled ancient monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, listed buildings and registered parks and gardens.
<b>Horticulture</b>	intensive form of cropping, such as vegetables or fruit.
<b>Impact</b>	used as part of overall term, as in EIA or LVIA, to help describe the process of assessing potentially significant effects- see effects.
<b>Inherent</b>	dictionary definition- 'existing as an inseparable part'. In the context of sensitivity means the sensitivity of the seascape/landscape area itself with all its component elements and features rather than its relationship with types of development or adjacent areas.
<b>Integrity</b>	unspoilt by large-scale, visually intrusive or other inharmonious development
<b>Landcover</b>	combinations of natural and man-made elements including vegetation that cover the land surface.
<b>Landform</b>	combinations of slope and elevation which combine to give shape and form to the land.
<b>Landscape</b>	an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors
<b>Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)</b>	A tool used to identify and assess the likely significance of the effects of change resulting from development both on the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right and on people's views and visual amenity. (GLVIA 3)
<b>Landscape Character</b>	a distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements, features and qualities in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.
<b>Landscape Character Area (LCA)</b>	these are single unique areas which are discrete geographical areas of a particular landscape character. Each has its own individual character and identity. These areas in Wales are primarily derived from LANDMAP aspects.
<b>Landscape Resource</b>	the overall stock of the landscape and its component parts. (The landscape considered as a measurable finite resource like any other e.g. minerals, land, water).
<b>Landscape value</b>	the relative value or importance attached to a landscape (often as a basis for designation or recognition), which expresses national or local consensus, because of its quality, special qualities including perceptual aspects such as scenic beauty, tranquillity or wildness, cultural associations or other conservation issues. In Wales, value is also attributed to each LANDMAP aspect using a variety of criteria.
<b>Magnitude of effect</b>	degree of change
<b>Mixed Farmland</b>	a combination of arable and pastoral farmland
<b>Mosaic</b>	mix of different landcovers at a fine grain such as woodland, pasture and heath.
<b>Objective</b>	method of assessment in which personal feelings and opinions do not influence characterisation or judgements.
<b>Outcrop</b>	the area where a particular rock appears at the surface.
<b>Pastoral</b>	land down to grass either grazed by animals or for cutting.
<b>Physiography</b>	expression of the shape and structure of the land surface as influenced both by the nature of the underlying geology and the effect of geomorphological processes.
<b>Polygon</b>	discrete digitised area in a geographic information system (GIS).
<b>Prominent</b>	Highly conspicuous feature or pattern in the landscape.
<b>Protect</b>	to keep from harm. 4.14.
<b>Qualities</b>	aesthetic (objective visible patterns) or perceptual (subjective responses by the seascape/landscape assessor) attributes of the seascape such as those relating to scale or tranquillity respectively.

Term	Definition
<b>Receptor, visual</b>	people in a variety of different situations who can experience views within an area and who may be affected by change or development. Receptors can include users of public footpaths, open access land, roads, rail or cycleways or urban or rural residents.
<b>Receptor, seascape/landscape</b>	seascape/landscape character areas, designations, elements or features which may be affected by development
<b>Remoteness</b>	physical isolation, removal from the presence of people, infrastructure (roads and railways, ferry and shipping routes) and settlement
<b>Resource</b>	see seascape/landscape resource.
<b>Restore</b>	repair or renew.
<b>Riparian</b>	vegetation associated with the water body, usually a river or stream.
<b>Scenic quality</b>	seascape/landscape with scenes of a picturesque quality with aesthetically pleasing elements in composition
<b>Semi-natural vegetation</b>	any type of vegetation that has been influenced by human activities, either directly or indirectly. The term is usually applied to areas which are reverting to nature due to lack of management.
<b>Sense of place</b>	the character of a place that makes it locally identifiable or distinctive i.e. different from other places. Some features or elements can evoke a strong sense of place e.g. islands, forts, vernacular architecture
<b>Sensory</b>	that which is received through the senses i.e. sight, hearing, smell, touch.
<b>Setting, of a heritage asset</b>	The surroundings in which the asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or a negative contribution to an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
<b>Settlement</b>	all dwellings/habitations, whether single or clustered in cities, towns and villages.
<b>Settlement Pattern</b>	the predominant pattern of settlement in an area.
<b>Significance</b>	a measure of the importance or gravity of the environmental effect, defined by significance criteria specific to the environmental topic. A significant effect needs to be taken into account in decision-making.
<b>Subjective</b>	method of assessment in which personal views and reaction are used in the characterisation process.
<b>Topography</b>	term used to describe the geological features of the Earth's surface e.g. mountains, hills, valleys, plains.
<b>Unity</b>	consistency of pattern over a wide area i.e. the repetition of similar elements, balance and proportion, scale and enclosure.
<b>Value</b>	see landscape value
<b>Vernacular</b>	built in the local style, from local materials.
<b>Visual Effects</b>	effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.