FENWICK SOLAR FARM

Fenwick Solar Farm

EN010152

Draft Archaeological Mitigation Strategy

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Executive Summary

ES1 This document presents the Draft Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS) which sets out the scope and guiding principles for the planning and implementation of further evaluation surveys and proposed archaeological mitigation works to be undertaken in relation to the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Fenwick Solar Farm (hereafter referred to as 'the Scheme').

ES2 This document outlines proposed mitigation measures that the Applicant will implement, as well as the scope of further evaluation surveys to be undertaken within the Order limits, and sets out the roles and responsibilities designed to ensure that the evaluation and mitigation works are carried out. All works detailed in this document will be undertaken post-consent.

ES3 This document has been compiled based on the interim results of the trial trench evaluation undertaken within the Solar PV Site. Upon receipt of the final fieldwork report which is to be finalised post-DCO submission, this Draft AMS will be reviewed and updated where required, and a Final AMS will be issued in accordance with the requirements contained in Schedule 2 of the **Draft DCO [EN010152/APP/3.1]**.

ES4 The following evaluation surveys and mitigation strategies are set out within this document:

a. Trial trench evaluation within Fields NE3, NE8 and NE10 of the Solar PV Site;

b. Geophysical survey within the Grid Connection Corridor;

c. Preservation in-situ of archaeological remains through avoidance by design within the Solar PV Site and Grid Connection Corridor;

d. Preservation in-situ of archaeological remains through the use of surface-mounted pre-cast concrete blocks within the Solar PV Site;

e. Archaeological strip, map and record within the Solar PV Site and Grid Connection Corridor; and

f. Archaeological watching brief during construction within the Grid Connection Corridor.

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 This document presents the Draft Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS) which sets out the scope and guiding principles for the planning and implementation of further evaluation surveys and proposed archaeological mitigation works to be undertaken in relation to the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Fenwick Solar Farm (hereafter referred to as 'the Scheme').

1.1.2 The Scheme involves the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation facility with a capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW). It will connect to the National Grid either at the Existing National Grid Thorpe Marsh Substation or via the Grid Connection Line Drop with both options including necessary associated infrastructure. Since the proposed generating capacity surpasses 50 MW, the Scheme is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), requiring consent through a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1). Further details on the Scheme can be found in **ES Volume I Chapter 2: The Scheme [EN010152/APP/6.1]**.

1.1.3 The Scheme is to be located on land shown on **ES Volume II Figure 1-2: Site Boundary Plan [EN010152/APP/6.2]**. The Scheme comprises the Solar PV Site, Grid Connection Corridor, and the Existing National Grid Thorpe Marsh Substation as shown on **ES Volume II Figure 1-3: Elements of the Site [EN010152/APP/6.2]**. The land required for these elements is collectively referred to as the 'Order limits'.

1.1.4 This document outlines proposed mitigation measures that the Applicant will implement, as well as the scope of further evaluation surveys to be undertaken within the Order limits, and sets out the roles and responsibilities designed to ensure that the evaluation and mitigation works are carried out. All works detailed in this document will be undertaken post-consent and will be secured via this document and as a requirement within the **Draft DCO [EN010152/APP/3.1]**.

1.2 Purpose and Structure of the Draft AMS

1.2.1 The purpose of the Draft AMS is to set out the scope and methods proposed to mitigate effects of the Scheme on heritage assets within the Order limits, to secure compliance with relevant national and local planning policies.

1.2.2 This document describes the principles to be applied in undertaking archaeological evaluation and mitigation works including strategies for the protection of archaeological remains, and for the investigation, recording and analysis of archaeological remains that will be impacted as a result of construction.

1.2.3 The AMS is structured as follows:

a. Section 1 presents an overview of this document, including the purpose and structure of the AMS including aims and objectives, and the roles and responsibilities of each party to ensure the implementation of the AMS.

b. Section 2 presents an overview of the archaeological baseline and includes a summary of archaeological surveys that have been carried out for the Scheme;

c. Section 3 describes the archaeological evaluation surveys required to be undertaken within the Solar PV Site and Grid Connection Corridor;

d. Section 4 describes the potential archaeological mitigation strategies that may be deployed within the Order limits;

e. Section 5 sets out the protocols for unexpected archaeological discoveries;

f. Section 6 outlines the protocols for reporting and publication, including archiving requirements;

g. Section 7 sets out the requirement for and outline structure for Site-Specific Written Schemes of Investigation (SSWSIs);

h. Section 8 sets out the protocols for monitoring and approvals;

i. Section 9 outlines the requirements for public outreach and community engagement;

j. Section 10 outlines the protocols for variations to Scheme design; and

k. Section 11 provides a general overview of the Health and Safety requirements of the project.

1.3 Status of this document

1.3.1 This Draft AMS has been prepared for submission alongside the ES as a draft document.

1.3.2 This document has been compiled based on the interim results of the trial trench evaluation undertaken within the Solar PV Site. Upon review and approval of the final fieldwork report which is to be finalised post-DCO submission, this Draft AMS will be reviewed and updated where required, and a Final AMS will be issued post-DCO submission in accordance with the requirements contained in Schedule 2 of the **Draft DCO [EN010152/APP/3.1]**.

1.3.3 This Draft AMS has been agreed in principle with the Archaeological Advisor to South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS), who are acting on behalf of City of Doncaster Council. The Final AMS will be updated in agreement with the Archaeological Advisor for SYAS and provided to the Archaeological Advisor for SYAS for approval.

1.4 Roles and Responsibilities

1.4.1 The Applicant will establish the appropriate roles and responsibilities for site staff as set out in the **Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) [EN010152/APP/7.7]**.

1.4.2 The Archaeological Advisor to SYAS will be responsible for confirming that the requirements of the DCO are met, in accordance with any conditions relating to archaeology. The Archaeological Advisor to SYAS will be responsible for final sign off and approval of all mitigation measures.

1.4.3 The Applicant will appoint an Archaeological Clerk of Works (ACoW) for the Scheme. The ACoW, working on behalf of the Applicant, will be responsible

for liaising with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS to ensure that the evaluation and mitigation measures are correctly implemented, monitored, and maintained during the construction phase of the works. This will include monitoring the Archaeological Contractor's work to ensure compliance with the SSWSIs and this Draft AMS and monitoring the specific construction activities to ensure compliance with all archaeological mitigation requirements, including protection measures, set out in the **Outline Design Parameters Statement [EN010152/APP/7.4]**, **Framework CEMP [EN010152/APP/7.7**] and Draft AMS.

1.4.4 The Applicant will appoint an Archaeological Contractor to carry out the archaeological evaluation and mitigation fieldwork. The Archaeological Contractor will be responsible for the production of SSWSIs for each stage of archaeological investigation (refer to Section 7).

1.5 Aims and Objectives of this AMS

Aims

1.5.1 The overall aim of the AMS will be to ensure a robust methodology is confirmed to mitigate the impacts of the Scheme on archaeological remains. The Final AMS will confirm that priority will be given to the preservation in-situ of archaeological remains, and where avoidance is not possible, it will detail the methodology for archaeological excavation and recording.

General Objectives

1.5.2 The general objectives of the AMS comprise:

a. To confirm the approved methodology for completion of an appropriately detailed record of the archaeological resource that will be impacted as a result of the Scheme;

b. To provide a methodology for recording (where practicable) the nature, depth, extent, character and date of archaeological deposits or features encountered in order to successfully fulfil the research aims of the project;

c. To provide a methodology for recording the condition or state of preservation of any archaeological deposits or features encountered in order to successfully fulfil the research aims of the project;

d. To provide a methodology for recording and recovery of an adequate sample of the range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present in order to successfully fulfil the research aims of the project; and

e. To provide a methodology for the interpretation of the archaeology of the Order limits within its local, regional and national archaeological context.

1.5.3 The AMS will ensure that a comprehensive and structured record is produced that takes into account relevant research agendas and research themes, as well as the results of relevant archaeological investigations undertaken within and adjacent to the Order limits.

1.5.4 The AMS will confirm an approved methodology to ensure that a report that is commensurate with the significance of the findings is produced.

2. Background Information

2.1 Site Location, Topography and Geology

2.1.1 The Solar PV Site is located immediately adjacent to the east of the village of Fenwick, and approximately 1 km west and 1 km north of the villages of Sykehouse and Moss respectively.

2.1.2 The Solar PV Site is formed predominantly of agricultural fields, mainly under arable production with some areas of pasture, interspersed with individual trees, hedgerows, tree belts and farm access tracks. Elevations within the Solar PV Site are relatively flat, measuring between 6 m to 8 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

2.1.3 The Solar PV Site is underlain by a relatively consistent geology of the Sherwood Sandstone Group. This, in turn, is overlain by a superficial geology of laminated silts and clays of the Hemingbrough Glaciolacustrine Formation. Occasionally, within this dominant geology, are pockets of superficial sand of the Breighton Sand Formation. These are located mainly to the south and east of Fenwick, and are generally beyond the Solar PV Site.

2.1.4 The Grid Connection Corridor extends for approximately 6.3 km from the southern extent of the Solar PV Site towards the Existing National Grid Thorpe Marsh Substation. The land within the Grid Connection Corridor is predominantly agricultural fields and is relatively flat as it extends from the Solar PV Site, measuring approximately 7 m aOD and rising to 12 m aOD as it reaches Thorpe in Balne. The elevation then decreases to approximately 2 m aOD in the fields to the north of the Existing National Grid Thorpe Marsh Substation.

2.1.5 The Grid Connection Corridor is underlain by a solid geology of sandstone of the Chester Formation. Overlying this, the superficial geology is also mainly composed of laminated silts and clays of the Hemingbrough Glaciolacustrine Formation. In the area immediately surrounding the Existing National Grid Thorpe Marsh Substation, the superficial geology is composed of alluvial clays, sands and silts surrounding the course of the River Don.

2.2 Archaeological Baseline

2.2.1 The archaeological baseline presented below is drawn from the results of **ES Volume III Appendix 7-2: Cultural Heritage Desk-Based Assessment [EN010152/APP/6.3]**, **ES Volume III Appendix 7-4: Geophysical Survey Report [EN010152/APP/6.3]**, and the interim report for trial trenching (not published). Heritage assets are presented in **ES Volume III Appendix 7-3: Cultural Heritage Gazetteer of Heritage Assets [EN010152/APP/6.3]** and shown on **ES Volume II Figure 7-1: Designated Heritage Assets [EN010152/APP/6.2]** and **ES Volume II Figure 7-2: Non-Designated Heritage Assets [EN010152/APP/6.2]**.

2.2.2 These documents should be referred to separately as they provide a detailed archaeological and historical narrative for the Order limits.

Solar PV Site

2.2.3 A series of archaeological investigations comprising geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation have been undertaken for the Scheme which has identified the archaeological resource within the Solar PV Site.

2.2.4 Only those areas of archaeological activity within each field which have been identified in consultation with SYAS as requiring mitigation are summarised below on a field-by-field basis. The individual fields that comprise the Solar PV Site are referenced by a unique identification number: NW1, NW2, SE1, SE2 etc. (refer to Figure 2 at the end of this report).

Field NW1 (AEC004)

2.2.5 At the centre of the northern extent of the field, the geophysical survey identified a series of irregular and linear anomalies, seemingly forming rectilinear shapes. To the east of these are two longer, connected, linear anomalies which share their rough alignment. These responses seem likely to represent the remains of Iron Age or Romano-British settlement, perhaps with an associated field system.

2.2.6 Trench 4 identified a single N-S orientated gully which correlates with an anomaly identified on the geophysical survey, and which contained small quantities of charcoal and heat affected stones at its base. No finds were recovered from this feature. Trench 6 contained two parallel ditches orientated NW-SE, one of which was similar in dimensions/form and may be contemporary with the gully identified in Trench 4. No finds were recovered from these features.

2.2.7 Trench 5 contained a sequence of N-S orientated ditches, a NE-SW orientated ditch, and three pits, all of which correlate with anomalies identified on the geophysical survey. Within one of the pits, which was rectangular in shape with vertical sides, a coin was recovered, as well as pottery likely dating to the Romano-British period and a large quantity of charcoal. Given the unusual shape of this feature and charcoal content, this may represent part of an oven or kiln.

Field NW5 (AEC005)

2.2.8 The geophysical survey within this field identified a series of parallel linear anomalies, aligned roughly N-S and E-W, which seem most likely to represent modern field drainage. Older field drainage, aligned NE-SW, also seems to underlie the later field drains. Aligned NE-SW, a major gas main, also noted in Fields NW2 and NW9, bisects the field close to its centre. An E-W aligned field boundary, also present on 19th and early 20th century mapping, is recorded towards the northern extent of the field. At the northwesternmost extent of this field is a prominent rectilinear response enclosing at least one circular anomaly. This group of features may represent the remains of multi-phase Iron Age or Romano-British settlement activity.

2.2.9 Trenches 41, 42 and 43 identified a series of intercutting rectilinear and circular features in the northwestern corner of this field which largely correlate with the geophysical survey anomalies and likely represent an Iron Age/Romano-British settlement enclosure. Iron Age/Romano-British pottery and animal bone were identified within the ditch features and two oval pits were identified within Trench 43, which contained further animal bone and

pottery. These features likely represent a multi-phase settlement area characterised by movement of enclosure boundaries/recutting of existing ditches.

Field NW7 (AEC008)

2.2.10 At the centre of the southern part of the field is a small set of tightly packed linear and curvilinear anomalies identified on the geophysical survey, which may represent the remains of Iron Age or Romano-British settlement.

2.2.11 Trench 82 identified a rectangular ditched enclosure which correlated with the geophysical survey anomalies, and also identified the northern return of the enclosure which was not identified on the geophysical survey. Internal to the enclosure, three pits, three ditches and a gully were identified, and three further pits were identified outside of the enclosure to the south. Pottery dating to the Romano-British period, as well as ceramic building material (CBM), animal bone and metal finds were recovered from the features within this trench (AEC008).

2.2.12 In Trench 84, further linear features were identified, one of which correlates with a geophysical anomaly which extends from the southern arm of the enclosure identified in Trench 82. Pottery (currently undated) and slag were identified within these features. In addition, two pits were identified within the trench, one of which contained CBM.

Field NW9 (AEC006; AEC007)

2.2.13 The geophysical survey within this field identified widely spaced parallel linear anomalies, likely representing modern field drainage similar to that present in many of the surrounding fields. Also present are N-S and E-W aligned historic field boundaries corresponding with those present on historic mapping. Beyond this, the northern part of the field is bisected by a large linear anomaly representing a major gas main, which runs through this part of the Solar PV Site.

2.2.14 In the immediate area around the gas main, some weak curving and linear anomalies (AEC006) are also present, which may represent a focus of Iron Age or Romano-British settlement extending along the southern bank of the River Went. Given the strong response produced by the gas main, these much weaker anomalies do not show clearly in the data, and their interpretation is tentative. However, an archaeological origin is most likely based on their form and similarity to other archaeological anomalies identified in surrounding fields. No trenches were excavated to target these features due to the health and safety buffer zones around the gas main. In addition, within the southwestern corner of the field, a closely-spaced grouping of irregular anomalies were identified, however, an interpretation is uncertain due to their irregular form and lack of apparent pattern.

2.2.15 Trench 117 identified a cluster of features towards the eastern end of the trench which was recorded on the geophysical survey as a cluster of irregular amorphous anomalies with no apparent pattern. The features comprised a small pit which contained cremated animal bone and a ditch/pit feature which contained Roman pottery. The trench was expanded to expose a ring ditch with a wide southeast facing entrance and internal pits and a possible hearth. A sequence of two NW-SE orientated ditches, truncated by multiple pits were identified around the entrance to the ring ditch. Roman

pottery, CBM, and charred remains were identified within these features (AEC007).

Field NW10 (AEC009)

2.2.16 This field has been subject to the spreading of ‘green manure’ which has compromised the integrity of the geophysical survey data. The geophysical survey did not identify any anomalies that could represent possible archaeological remains, however, given that the survey data is of limited reliability, the presence of archaeological remains cannot be ruled out.

2.2.17 Within Trench 118, a narrow ring ditch was identified, as well as two ditches orientated roughly E-W to the north of the ring ditch. No finds were recovered from any of these features.

Field NE1 (AEC019 – 02791/01)

2.2.18 The geophysical survey within this field identified widely spaced, parallel, linear anomalies, which are interpreted as modern field drainage in line with that present in many of the surrounding fields. Also present are linear anomalies representative of historic field boundaries corresponding with those present on historic mapping. Beyond this, the northern extent of the field is bisected by a large linear anomaly representing a major gas main, which runs through this part of the Solar PV Site. Close to the northern extent of the field, an unclassified cropmark (02791/01) is marked on the Historic Environment Records (HER) data for the area, but no clear response is present within the geophysical survey at the location marked. A linear anomaly representing a former field boundary extends through this part of the field where the HER datapoint is marked, however, no further anomalies were detected that could be of possible archaeological origin.

2.2.19 Trench 136 contained an E-W aligned ditch which contained Iron Age/Roman pottery fragments, animal bone, CBM and metal finds. The ditch was later cut by a modern land drain. To the north of the ditch, a gully on the same alignment was identified which was heavily disturbed by rooting and contained no finds.

2.2.20 Trench 137 contained five ditches, all on a roughly N-S alignment. A single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from one of the ditches. Trenches 144, 148 and 153 also identified a N-S aligned feature that extends through the length of this field. These features correlate with the latest phase of modern drainage ditches which extend from/to the River Went to the north.

2.2.21 Trench 138 confirmed the presence of the former field boundary which extends N-S through this field. Modern material was recovered from the backfill.

2.2.22 Whilst no single trench directly targeted the data point which marks the location of the unclassified cropmark (02791/01) identified on the HER, the trenches did target the anomalies in this immediate area that could potentially represent archaeological features. The trenches in the immediate vicinity of this data point identified a series of ditches on N-S and E-W alignments which may represent a continuation of the Iron Age/Romano-British settlement activity seen in nearby fields. Trench 142 targeted the E-W anomaly which continues through where the HER data point is marked, and this feature was confirmed to be a former field boundary which continues east and west through adjacent fields.

Field NE9 (AEC010; AEC011)

2.2.23 The geophysical survey data within this field includes clear evidence of modern field drainage, characterised by linear anomalies which cover most of the field. Further linear anomalies on a differing alignment suggest the potential remains of historic ridge and furrow cultivation. Beyond this, two defined areas of rectilinear responses suggest the presence of archaeological features related to Iron Age or Romano-British settlement activity. The most northerly of these areas, adjacent to the River Went, comprises a series of linear anomalies seemingly forming rectangular/square enclosures. To the southeast, close to the field's eastern margin, a more defined area of activity is present which appears to represent one or two rectilinear enclosures with at least one possible roundhouse within them. These remains are likely to relate to an area of Iron Age or Romano-British settlement activity.

2.2.24 In the northernmost area of potential archaeological activity (AEC010), Trench 219 contained a shallow ring ditch (20 cm deep) which was devoid of finds and an E-W aligned ditch which contained two sherds of pottery of possible Iron Age date.

2.2.25 Trench 220 contained a small ditch orientated N-S. The ditch was comparable in form to the ditch identified in Trench 219 albeit smaller in dimensions and could be associated with the same rectangular sequence of ditches. The parallel anomaly to the west of this ditch was not identified in Trench 220. Based on the dimensions and distance between the ditches, these could be part of a field system, of possible Iron Age/Romano-British date, or modern field drainage as seen in other fields close to the River Went.

2.2.26 Trenches 224, 226 and 230 were positioned to target the cluster of geophysical anomalies towards the eastern extent of the field (AEC011).

2.2.27 Trench 224 contained three ditches orientated E-W, one of which correlates with the northern part of the square enclosure identified on the geophysical survey. Pottery (currently undated) was recovered from this ditch.

2.2.28 Trench 226 contained two ditches forming the east and west sides of the square enclosure, whose northern side was seen in Trench 224. One of the ditches contained pottery (currently undated). Within the enclosure, two further ditches were identified which may form internal divisions within the enclosure, one on a N-S alignment and the other on a NW-SE alignment. Pottery (currently undated) was recovered from these ditches. The NW-SE aligned ditch appeared to cut or be cut by multiple pits, one of which was excavated.

2.2.29 Trench 230 contained two ditches at its southern end which likely define the southern limit of the enclosure. The geophysical survey suggested these could represent a trackway, however, it is more likely they represent an expansion or retraction of the enclosure. The ditches were not observed in any adjacent trenches to suggest a continuation of a possible trackway. Within what would be the centre of the enclosure area, a large pit was identified which contained daub and burnt material. Postholes were also observed around the edge of the pit indicating a possible structure. Towards the north of the trench, a N-S aligned curvilinear feature, which was also identified in Trench 226, was excavated. The feature may represent part of

an enclosure or a possible ring ditch. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Field NE11 (AEC012 - 05633)

2.2.30 Across the western and central areas of the field, the geophysical survey identified widely spaced, parallel, linear anomalies running in a rough N-S alignment which illustrate a pattern of modern field drainage in line with that present in many of the surrounding fields. Beyond this evidence of agricultural practice, the field includes a series of rectilinear responses extending at right-angles away from the Fleet Drain, forming a chain of rectangular enclosures that appear to continue along the Fleet Drain within Fields NE8 and NE10 towards the southwest, and identified as HER points (05631) and (05632). These features were not targeted by trenches as this part of the field has been excluded from development and forms part of the Ecological Mitigation Area and Heritage Buffer Area.

2.2.31 Towards the northern extent of this field, and close to the River Went, a series of closely spaced linear responses seem to form a rectangular enclosure with at least one internal circular feature and marked by HER point (05633). These features seem most likely to represent Iron Age and/or Romano-British settlement activity.

2.2.32 Trenches 248, 249, 251 and 253 were positioned to target the rectangular enclosure located towards the northern boundary of the field (AEC012). Trench 248 contained a curvilinear ditch forming part of a ring ditch identified on the geophysical survey. Fragments of quern stone were recovered from within the ring ditch. An E-W aligned ditch which correlates with the southern limit of a rectangular/square enclosure was also identified in this trench. Pottery sherds (currently undated), CBM and animal bone were recovered from this ditch. Towards the south of this trench a wide E-W ditch was identified which was not recorded on the geophysical survey. The ditch reached a depth of 1.1 m and had a gradually sloping edge, steepening to a near vertical slope. Roman pottery was recovered from this feature. This feature may represent a field boundary/division and could date to the Roman period.

2.2.33 Trench 249 contained four N-S orientated ditches, two of which correspond with geophysical anomalies that seemingly form part of the larger rectangular enclosure. Pottery (as yet undated) was recovered from these ditches. These linear features likely represent internal and external divisions of a rectangular enclosure.

2.2.34 Trench 251 contained a single N-S orientated ditch which likely represents the eastern limit of the rectangular enclosure identified in Trenches 248 and 249. A post-pipe (a void in the ground that was once filled by a wooden post) was identified on the southeast side of the ditch, suggesting possible evidence of a revetment.

2.2.35 Trench 253 contained two N-S orientated ditches. These ditches correlate with drainage features identified on the geophysical survey; However, one of the ditches could be the continuation of a N-S ditch identified in Trench 249. A NE-SW orientated ditch was also identified in this trench and could possibly form the southern extent of the rectangular enclosure identified in Trenches 248 and 249.

Field SW3 (AEC020)

2.2.36 This field has been subject to the spreading of ‘green manure’ which has compromised the integrity of the geophysical survey data. The geophysical survey did not identify any anomalies that could represent possible archaeological remains, however, given that the survey data is of limited reliability, the presence of archaeological remains cannot be ruled out.

2.2.37 A concentration of features comprising ditches, gullies and pits that appear to be contemporary or associated with each other are located in Trenches 398, 399 and 407.

2.2.38 Trench 398 contained two parallel E-W orientated ditches that do not correlate with geophysical survey anomalies and do not continue beyond this trench into adjacent trenches, but which could form the return of ditches seen in Trench 399.

2.2.39 Trench 399 contained a series of sub-circular pits, a post-hole and two ditches. Roman pottery was recovered from the features. The features do not correlate with anomalies on the geophysical survey, however, the ditch orientated NE-SW could be an extension of the similarly aligned ditch identified in Trench 407 to the south.

2.2.40 Trench 407 contained two narrow gullies on a N-S orientation which likely represent former drainage ditches dividing the field. Between the two gullies were two pits of relatively shallow depth (0.16 m – 0.22 m deep) which contained no finds. A ditch orientated NE-SW was located at the western end of the trench, which does not correlate with anomalies on the geophysical survey but could be an extension of the NE-SW ditch identified in Trench 399 to the north.

Field SW6 (AEC021)

2.2.41 This field has been subject to the spreading of ‘green manure’ which has compromised the integrity of the geophysical survey data. The geophysical survey did not identify any anomalies that could represent possible archaeological remains, however, given that the survey data is of limited reliability, the presence of archaeological remains cannot be ruled out.

2.2.42 Trench 473 contained two intersecting ditches which had similar fills and dimensions, one of which produced medieval pottery. Trench 474 contained two narrow ditches, both containing similar grey clay fills, with pottery (currently undated) recovered from one. Trench 476 contained two gullies and a ditch all on an E-W alignment, as well as a single pit. No finds were recovered from these features. Whilst the relationship between these features is unclear, the linear features could represent an enclosure of currently unknown date.

Field SW8 (AEC015)

2.2.43 The geophysical survey within this field identified linear trends suggestive of historic cultivation and/or field drainage. Across the central part of the field, running roughly E-W, a curving anomaly corresponds to a field boundary present on historic mapping. To the north of this, within the central part of the northern half of the field, an area of discontinuous linear and rectilinear anomalies suggests a series of overlapping enclosures containing a number of circular structures, presumably ring ditches of Iron Age date. Surrounding

this, other linear anomalies of a similar character may represent ditched boundaries of trackways or fields, perhaps of a similar date. These anomalies may represent Iron Age and/or Romano-British settlement activity.

2.2.44 Trenches 509, 510 and 511 were positioned to target the cluster of geophysical survey anomalies located towards the eastern extent of the field. Within Trench 511, a dense concentration of archaeological features was identified, comprising ditches and pits. These features are likely to be internal to a larger rectangular enclosure, whose eastern and western limits were observed in Trenches 509 and 510 as ditches. Pottery (currently undated) and animal bone were recovered from the features.

2.2.45 Trench 515 contained two gullies at the southern end of the trench, approximately 9m apart. Given the slight curve of the gullies, it is possible that these form a ring ditch. Pottery of Iron Age/Roman date was recovered from one of the gullies.

2.2.46 Within Trench 517, two ditches on a N-S alignment align with a former field boundary visible on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map. In addition, a small cluster of pits were identified in this trench and a possible ditch terminus which contained fragments of CBM and two sherds of pottery (currently undated).

Field SW9 (AEC017; AEC018)

2.2.47 The geophysical survey within this field identified widely spaced parallel anomalies across its northern and southern extents. This is interpreted as modern field drainage similar to that present in many of the surrounding fields. Across the central part of the field, running E-W, a curving anomaly corresponds to a footpath and field boundary present on historic mapping. A further field boundary shown on the same mapping can be seen to correspond with a further anomaly extending southward to meet the field's current southern boundary. The geophysical survey did not identify any anomalies that could represent possible archaeological remains.

2.2.48 Trench 541 contained a ring ditch which contained pottery fragments (currently undated) and daub, as well as heat affected stones. A small pit or post-hole was located immediately to the east of the ring ditch. A ditch was also noted, terminating within the area encompassed by the ring ditch (AEC018).

2.2.49 Within Trenches 564, 565, 569, 571, 574 and 575, a series of ditches on a NE-SW alignment were identified, which broadly correspond with a field system identified by cropmarks to the south in Field SW10 and is almost certainly a continuation of this field system. However, the ditches in this field were generally smaller and shallower than those identified in Field SW10 although this is likely the result of later truncation in this field, it could equally represent a different phase of historic activity on the same alignment. Pottery (currently undated) was recovered from one of the ditches, and it is likely that these features form an Iron Age/Romano-British field system (AEC017).

Field SW10 (AEC016; AEC017)

2.2.50 This field was not subject to geophysical survey due to land access constraints.

2.2.51 Trenches 582, 585, 586, 588, 589, 590, 594, 596, 604, 606, 608, 610, 615, 620 and 630 were positioned to target a series of linear anomalies identified from cropmarks which likely represent an Iron Age/Romano-British field system. The field system formed by ditches appears to be a co-axial style arrangement, typical of South Yorkshire, associated with a trackway extending from Trench 620 in the south, through to Trenches 589 and 586 as it extends to the north. Pottery (currently undated) was recovered from the ditches, however no internal features such as pits or ring ditches were observed in the trenches (AEC017). Towards the northeastern extent of this field system, adjacent to the possible trackway, a concentration of features were recorded in Trench 582. These features could indicate an area of settlement activity within an enclosure (AEC016).

Field SE3 (AEC013; AEC014)

2.2.52 The geophysical survey data for this field is partly disturbed by the presence of overhead power lines and pylons which traverse its eastern side. More widely, the survey data illustrates a pattern of smaller former field boundaries which were likely removed to create a larger field, during the later medieval to post-medieval periods. Within the former fields, varied patterns of closely spaced linear anomalies suggest ridge and furrow cultivation and field drainage of likely post-medieval date. Closer to the northern margin of the field, along the line of the Fleet Drain, a number of curving and rectilinear anomalies are present. These seem to share alignments with possible archaeological features on the southern side of the Fleet Drain. Although weak, these anomalies may represent a spread of remains related to Iron Age and/or Romano-British settlement.

2.2.53 To the northeast of this field, Trenches 293, 294, 295, 296, 298 and 299 contained a series of linear features which correspond to geophysical anomalies and represent a rectangular enclosure with internal divisions/sub-enclosures. Pottery recovered from these features date to the Roman period. Within the enclosure, a series of pits were identified in Trench 299, most of which also contained pottery sherds (currently undated) (AEC013).

2.2.54 Trenches 305, 306, 307, 309, 310, 311, 315 contained a series of substantial ditches broadly corresponding with the geophysical survey anomalies. The large ditch in Trench 305 is of post-medieval date and corresponds to a former field boundary recorded on the 1st edition OS map. Whereas the rest of the features are likely of Iron Age/Roman date, based on a preliminary assessment of the finds recovered (AEC013). These features do not appear to be physically connected to the activity identified in Trenches 293 to 299 but are likely to be of similar date.

2.2.55 These two areas of archaeological activity likely represent Iron Age/Romano-British enclosure.

2.2.56 Trench 330 located in the southeastern corner of the field contained a curvilinear ditch containing pottery (currently undated) and burnt bone. This possibly forms a ring ditch with a terminus to the north. Between these two ditches, a gully was identified which contained heated pebbles and fragments of burnt bone. A larger ditch was identified towards the south of these features which contained a single sherd of Roman pottery and which may represent an encompassing enclosure based on its similar form to those features in the north of the field (AEC014).

Grid Connection Corridor

2.2.57 The archaeological baseline for the Grid Connection Corridor has been developed based on desk-based assessment research.

2.2.58 **ES Volume III Appendix 7-2: Cultural Heritage Desk-Based Assessment [EN010152/APP/6.3]** identified a high potential for archaeological remains to be encountered within the Grid Connection Corridor, dating to the Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods.

2.2.59 Evaluation surveys are proposed to be undertaken post-DCO consent (refer to Section 3) in order to further refine the baseline within the Grid Connection Corridor and this section will be updated following the results of those surveys.

2.3 Regional Research Framework and Agendas

2.3.1 Consideration of research agendas and themes is key to understanding the potential evidential significance of archaeological remains. The programme of archaeological evaluation and mitigation works will be carried out with the aim of addressing the general research parameters and objectives defined in the archaeological research frameworks for the region, including South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework (Ref. 18) and Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework (Ref. 19).

2.3.2 Based on the baseline evidence compiled to date, it is considered that the archaeological evaluation and mitigation works has the potential to inform the research questions outlined in the table below (Table 1). These themes will be reviewed and updated throughout the project. The strategy should be flexible, based on real-time information, and the agendas and themes reviewed during preparation of the SSWSIs, during each stage of archaeological fieldwork, and during preparation of the post-excavation assessment and fieldwork reports.

Table 1: Relevant Regional Research Agenda Strategic Objectives

Framework	Research Agenda	Research questions
South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework	Iron Age and Romano-British	QSY0013: Can we develop a regional model for the Iron Age and Romano-British periods in South Yorkshire that does not rely on those proposed for southern England or adjacent areas such as East Yorkshire and York, where the character of the archaeology was very different?
South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework	Iron Age and Romano-British	QSY0015: What sites and/or features were associated with the earliest Roman presence in South Yorkshire?
South Yorkshire Historic Environment	Iron Age and Romano-British	QSY0020: How can we better understand the extent and character of unenclosed Iron Age settlements?

Framework	Research Agenda	Research questions
Research Framework		
South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework	Iron Age and Romano-British	QSY0023: Are there any correlations between settlement form, date, and function during the Iron age and Romano-British periods?
South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework	Iron Age and Romano-British	QSY0026: Can we shed further light upon the development of field and boundary systems?
South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework	Iron Age and Romano-British	QSY0034: What were the reasons for variations in the form, shape, and size of Iron Age and Romano-British field systems and fields?
South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework	Iron Age and Romano-British	QSY0043: Can any spatial patterning be identified within roundhouses in South Yorkshire?
South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework	Iron Age and Romano-British	QSY0044: Can any clear traditions of the internal use of space within roundhouses and rectangular buildings be identified?
South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework	Iron Age and Romano-British	QSY0050: What was the purpose of small Iron Age/Romano-British subcircular and subrectangular enclosures?

3. Scope of Archaeological Evaluation Surveys

3.1 Overview

3.1.1 At the time of submission of the ES, three fields (NE3, NE8 and NE10) within the Solar PV Site were inaccessible for trial trench evaluation due to ecological constraints and ground conditions.

3.1.2 In addition, at the time of submission of the ES, two options were under consideration for connection of the Solar PV Site to the grid, including a potential line drop from existing overhead power lines within the Solar PV Site itself, or through a Grid Connection Corridor to the Existing National Grid Thorpe Marsh Substation. As such, no archaeological evaluation surveys were undertaken within the Grid Connection Corridor option at the time of DCO submission.

3.1.3 All archaeological evaluation surveys will be carried out in accordance with this Draft AMS, the approved SSWSI and any further specifications approved by the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS. The works will be undertaken in accordance with the guidance provided by Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), including the Code of Conduct (Ref. 2), the Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation, (Ref. 6) the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Ref. 5); the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service Standards for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Ref. 12), and other current and relevant good practice and standards and guidance.

3.2 Trial Trench Evaluation

3.2.1 Fields NE3, NE8 and NE10 located within the Solar PV Site (which were previously inaccessible) will be subject to trial trenching. The number and layout of the trenches has been agreed with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS and are shown on Figure 4 at the end of this report. All trenches measure 50 m (L) x 2 m (W).

3.2.2 A SSWSI (refer to Section 7) will be required setting out the full scope and methodology of this survey. The SSWSI will be prepared by the Archaeological Contractor and agreed with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS.

3.2.3 Following the completion of evaluation surveys within the Solar PV Site, mitigation measures may be required. Mitigation measures could include archaeological strip, map and record; or preservation in-situ through the use of surface-mounted pre-cast concrete blocks. A preliminary methodology for the potential mitigation measures is set out below in Section 4.

Aims and Objectives

General Aims

3.2.4 The general aims of the archaeological trial trench evaluation are to:

a. Provide additional information on the archaeological potential of the Solar PV Site; and

b. Inform the requirement for and scope of any archaeological mitigation works that may be required.

General Objectives

3.2.5 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the archaeological trial trenching are to:

a. Test the results of the geophysical survey;

b. Confirm the presence or absence of surviving archaeological remains within the Solar PV Site;

c. Determine the location, nature, extent, date, condition, state of preservation, significance and complexity of any archaeological remains and palaeoenvironmental sequences;

d. Determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present;

e. Interpret the archaeological remains within their local, regional and national archaeological context; and

f. Make available information about the archaeological resource within the Solar PV Site by reporting on the results of the archaeological trial trenching.

3.3 Geophysical Survey

3.3.1 If the Grid Connection Corridor option is selected for detailed design, archaeological evaluation surveys will be required to enhance the baseline assessment and provide sufficient information to develop an archaeological mitigation strategy for the Grid Connection Corridor. Subject to access agreements, geophysical survey of the Grid Connection Corridor is proposed in the first instance.

3.3.2 The route of the current Grid Connection Corridor option and the fields which may be suitable for geophysical survey depending on ground conditions and land-use, is shown on Figure 5 at the end of this report.

3.3.3 Following the completion of the geophysical survey, further evaluation surveys (such as trial trenching) may be required. The scope of any additional archaeological evaluation required will be agreed with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS and set out in a SSWSI to be produced by the Archaeological Contractor.

3.3.4 Following the completion of all required archaeological evaluation surveys within the Grid Connection Corridor, archaeological mitigation measures may be required. Mitigation measures may comprise an archaeological watching brief during construction; archaeological strip, map and record; or preservation in-situ through avoidance. A preliminary methodology for potential mitigation measures that may be required is set out below in Section 4.

Aims and Objectives

3.3.5 The general objectives of the geophysical survey are:

a. To investigate the archaeological potential of the Grid Connection Corridor;

b. To assess the presence/absence of potential archaeological anomalies;
c. To determine the level of risk that the archaeological resource would present to the Grid Connection Corridor option;
d. To inform the emerging design; and
e. To inform the scope of further evaluation and/or mitigation strategies.

4. Outline Scope of Archaeological Mitigation Measures

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 The Scheme has been designed to mitigate impacts upon heritage assets where practicable. Heritage Buffer Areas have been incorporated into the Scheme design to enable preservation in-situ of potentially significant archaeological remains identified by the geophysical survey within Fields SE1, NE8, NE10 and NE12. Further information on embedded archaeological mitigation measures is provided in **ES Volume I Chapter 7: Cultural Heritage [EN010152/APP/6.1]**, **Outline Design Parameters Statement [EN010152/APP/7.4]**, and **Framework CEMP [EN010152/APP/7.7].** These embedded mitigation areas are mapped on the **ES Volume II Figure 2-3: Indicative Site Layout Plan [EN010152/APP/6.2]** and set out below in Table 1.

4.1.2 For the purposes of this Draft AMS, provisional areas of archaeological activity identified through geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation have been identified within the Solar PV Site which may require additional mitigation. The detailed mitigation methodology will be agreed following review and acceptance of the final fieldwork report for the trial trenching, and this Draft AMS will be updated in agreement with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS and set out in the Final AMS.

4.1.3 Priority will be given to the preservation in-situ of archaeological remains where viable. Where mitigation through avoidance is not possible, a programme of archaeological excavation and recording (strip, map and record or archaeological watching brief) will be undertaken.

4.1.4 All archaeological works will be carried out in accordance with this Draft AMS, the Final AMS and the approved SSWSI and any further specifications required, in accordance with the requirements contained in Schedule 2 of the **Draft DCO [EN010152/APP/3.1]**. All archaeological work will be undertaken in accordance with the guidance provided by CIfA, including the Code of Conduct (Ref. 2), the Universal Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (Ref. 4), the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (Ref. 3), the Universal Guidance for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording (Ref. 8) and the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording (Ref. 7); the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service Archaeological Mitigation Standards and Guidance (Ref. 10) and Archaeological Watching Brief (Ref. 14), and other current and relevant good practice and standards and guidance.

4.2 Outline Mitigation Strategies

4.2.1 Within the Solar PV Site, the archaeological mitigation strategies may comprise:

a. Preservation in-situ through exclusion of the area from construction and operation and maintenance;

b. Preservation in-situ through the use of surface-mounted pre-cast concrete blocks; and

c. Strip, map and record.

4.2.2 Within the Grid Connection Corridor, the archaeological mitigation strategies may comprise:

a. Preservation in-situ through avoidance of archaeological remains or directional drilling;

b. Strip, map and record; and

c. Archaeological watching brief during construction.

4.2.3 A schedule of the preliminary archaeological mitigation sites and possible mitigation strategies for each mitigation site is outlined in Table 2 and presented on Figure 3 at the end of this report.

Table 2 Schedule of Preliminary Archaeological Mitigation Sites

Location within Order Limits	ES Gazetteer Reference	Description	Mitigation Type
NW8 (Solar PV Site)	05631	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains recorded on the HER and identified during geophysical survey	Preservation in-situ (avoidance)
NW10 (Solar PV Site)	05632	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains recorded on the HER and identified during geophysical survey	Preservation in-situ (avoidance)
NW1 (Solar PV Site)	AEC004	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
NW5 (Solar PV Site)	AEC005	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
NW9 (Solar PV Site)	AEC006	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
NW9 (Solar PV Site)	AEC007	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record

Location within Order Limits	ES Gazetteer Reference	Description	Mitigation Type
NW7 (Solar PV Site)	AEC008	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
NW10 (Solar PV Site)	AEC009	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
NE9 (Solar PV Site)	AEC010	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
NE9 (Solar PV Site)	AEC011	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
NE11 (Solar PV Site)	AEC012 - 05633	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
SE3 (Solar PV Site)	AEC013	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
SE3 (Solar PV Site)	AEC014	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
SW8 (Solar PV Site)	AEC015	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
SW10 (Solar PV Site)	AEC016	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks)

Location within Order Limits	ES Gazetteer Reference	Description	Mitigation Type
			or strip, map and record
SW9/SW10 (Solar PV Site)	AEC017	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
SW9 (Solar PV Site)	AEC018	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
NE1 (Solar PV Site)	AEC019 – 02791/01	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
SW3 (Solar PV Site)	AEC020	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
SW6 (Solar PV Site)	AEC021	Iron Age/Romano-British settlement remains identified during trial trench evaluation	Preservation in-situ (pre-cast concrete blocks) or strip, map and record
Grid Connection Corridor	-	Potential archaeological remains dating to the Iron Age, Romano, medieval and post-medieval periods	Archaeological watching brief, preservation in-situ (avoidance) or strip, map and record.

Preservation In-Situ

4.2.4 Within the Solar PV Site, areas identified for preservation in-situ will be mitigated through avoidance by design with the use of Heritage Buffer Areas embedded into the design of the Scheme, or where avoidance by design cannot be achieved, the use of pre-cast concrete blocks will be utilised in order to remove below ground impacts on archaeological remains.

4.2.5 Within the Grid Connection Corridor, areas identified for preservation in-situ will be mitigated through avoidance by design with the Scheme elements within the corridor micro-sited to avoid archaeological remains.

4.2.6 Where Heritage Buffer Areas have been embedded into the design of the Scheme to enable preservation in-situ of archaeological remains, these are shown on **ES Volume II Figure 2-3: Indicative Site Layout Plan [EN010152/APP/6.2]** and on Figure 3 at the end of this report. During construction and operation and maintenance, these mitigation sites will not be used for any construction or operation and maintenance related activities, access routes or laydown areas. Protective fencing will be installed around the perimeter of the archaeological mitigation site prior to the preliminary and main works construction phase, to prevent accidental damage during the works.

4.2.7 Notices prohibiting works within the fenced off area will be attached to the fencing. The protective fencing will be in place for the lifespan of the Scheme.

4.2.8 The type of fencing to be installed is set out in the **Outline Design Parameters Statement [EN010152/APP/7.4]**. Mitigation sites within protective fencing shall be maintained in accordance with the **Framework Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) [EN010152/APP/7.14]** and monitored by the ACoW as outlined in Section 8.

4.2.9 The construction details for the installation of pre-cast concrete blocks are set out in the **Framework CEMP [EN010152/APP/7.7]**. This includes a limit of 100 mm below ground level for any ground levelling required within these areas prior to the installation of concrete blocks.

Strip, Map and Record

4.2.10 The areas identified for strip, map and record will be stripped with mechanical plant to an archaeological specification which will be set out in a SSWSI to be produced by the Archaeological Contractor and approved by SYAS (refer to Section 7). The SSWSI will include a methodology for the stripping of topsoil, subsoil or other overburden to the correct archaeological horizon under the supervision of a qualified archaeologist, using mechanical plant with a toothless bucket. Plant will not be permitted to track over stripped areas until archaeological investigations at that location are complete. The Archaeological Contractor may deploy temporary fencing to demarcate the excavation area to ensure no plant inadvertently traverses the area during the works.

Archaeological Watching Brief

4.2.11 Within the Grid Connection Corridor, an archaeological watching brief may be required where intrusive groundworks and topsoil stripping are required.

4.2.12 Should significant archaeological remains be identified within an archaeological watching brief area, targeted strip, map and record will be implemented within areas of construction disturbance, in consultation with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS.

4.2.13 All topsoil, subsoil or other overburden stripping across these areas will be undertaken using mechanical plant fitted with a toothless bucket to the correct archaeological horizon, under the supervision of a qualified archaeologist.

4.2.14 The Applicant, principal contractor, and/or any other groundworks contractors operating on site will allow sufficient time for any archaeological

features to be excavated and recorded to meet the requirements of the SSWSI.

5. Procedures for Unexpected Archaeological Discoveries

5.1 Human Remains

5.1.1 Should human remains be discovered during the course of any archaeological fieldwork being undertaken for the Scheme, the remains will be covered and protected and left in-situ in the first instance, in accordance with current good practice. Should human remains be discovered, all works within the vicinity of the relevant area of the Order limits will immediately stop. The Archaeological Contractor will notify the ACoW and the H.M. Coroner with details of the remains immediately. The removal of human remains will only take place in accordance with a licence from the Ministry of Justice and under the appropriate Environmental Health regulations and the Burial Act 1857 (Ref. 20).

5.2 Unanticipated Significant or Complex Archaeological Discoveries

5.2.1 In the event of unanticipated significant or complex archaeological discoveries being made during the course of any archaeological fieldwork being undertaken for the Scheme, the Archaeological Contractor will notify the Applicant and the ACoW immediately. The ACoW will liaise with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS in order to determine an appropriate strategy for the excavation and recording of any such remains, and will liaise with the Archaeological Contractor and the Applicant to estimate the additional time and resources needed to complete the archaeological work should the remains require investigation beyond the scope set out within this Draft AMS and the SSWSI.

5.3 Unexpected Archaeological Discoveries during Construction

5.3.1 In the event of unexpected archaeological discoveries being made during construction activities where no archaeological mitigation works are being undertaken, the Applicant will notify the ACoW immediately. It is anticipated that all construction works within the vicinity of the unexpected remains will be suspended until completion of any required archaeological excavation and recording is completed in that area.

5.3.2 An additional SSWSI may be required to set out the methodology for the recording of the archaeological remains, and to allow adequate time within the construction programme. The ACoW will liaise with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS in order to determine whether the remains require further investigation, and to estimate the additional time and resources needed to complete the archaeological investigation should it be required.

6. Reporting and Publication

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 All reporting, publication and archiving will be undertaken in accordance with this AMS, the SSWSIs and will follow relevant archaeological standards and guidance, including but not limited to, those published by CIfA (Ref. 9) and SYAS (Ref. 10; Ref. 12; Ref. 14).

6.2 Interim Report

6.2.1 Interim reports will be prepared by the Archaeological Contractor for each stage of evaluation and mitigation works, and submitted to the ACoW and Archaeological Advisor to SYAS. The timings for these interim reports will agreed with the ACoW and the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS prior to the start of works and set out within the SSWSI.

6.3 Fieldwork Report

6.3.1 Fieldwork reports will be required following the completion of each stage of archaeological evaluation and mitigation fieldwork.

6.3.2 A fieldwork report will be submitted in draft within four weeks of the completion of each stage of archaeological evaluation fieldwork. This timescale may be flexible subject to approval by the ACoW and the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS.

6.3.3 If the results of the archaeological mitigation works are decided by the ACoW and the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS to not be significant enough to warrant detailed analysis and publication, then a fieldwork report will be produced.

6.3.4 The content and scope of each fieldwork report will be dependent on the findings, but typically will include the following:

a. A Quality Assurance sheet detailing as a minimum title, author, version, date, checked by, approved by.

b. OASIS Report Form.

c. A non-technical summary.

d. Site location drawing.

e. Archaeological and historical background.

f. Methodology.

g. Aims and objectives.

h. Results (to include full description, assessment of condition, quality and significance of the remains).

i. Statement of potential with recommendations.

j. A statement of the significance of the results in their local, regional and national context cross referenced to relevant research frameworks.

k. Current and proposed arrangements for archive storage and curation (including recipient museum details).

l. References.

m. General and detailed plans showing the location of the survey accurately positioned on an OS base map (to a standard scale).

n. Detailed plans and sections illustrating archaeological features (to a standard scale).

o. Detailed drawings at appropriate scale(s) and format to sufficiently illustrate the results of the topographic survey.

p. Colour photographic plates illustrating the site setting, work in progress and discovered archaeological remains.

q. A complete matrix for each archaeological area, if appropriate.

r. A cross-referenced index of the project archive.

s. Site Selection Strategy.

t. Data Management Plan.

6.3.5 A digital .pdf copy (complete with illustrations and plates) of the completed draft report will be submitted to the ACoW and the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS for comment. In finalising the report, the comments of the ACoW and the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS will be taken into account.

6.3.6 A digital record of the final report shall be submitted to the ACoW and the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS, containing image files in JPEG or TIFF format, digital text files in Microsoft Word format, and illustrations in AutoCAD format or ArcGIS shapefile format. A fully collated version of the report shall be included in .pdf format.

6.4 Post-excavation Assessment Report and Publication

6.4.1 If the results of any archaeological fieldwork are of sufficient significance to warrant publication, the report may take the form of a ‘Post-excavation Assessment Report’ and will include an Updated Project Design (UPD) in accordance with the guidance and standards set out in Historic England’s Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Ref. 17).

6.4.2 The Post-excavation Assessment Report and UPD will, as a minimum, present:

a. A summary of the project background, original aims and objectives.

b. An integrated description of the results by period for each area of archaeological mitigation.

c. A quantification of each artefact and ecofact type recovered during the mitigation works.

d. An assessment of how the results of the archaeological mitigation address the original and any new research objectives.

e. A proposal for a revised set of research objectives.

f. Recommendations for further analysis and publication.

6.4.3 If detailed analysis and publication are recommended by UPD, a stage of post-excavation analysis and publication will be required. The post-excavation analysis stage of the project will comprise the detailed quantification, analysis and reporting of the recorded archaeological remains

(contextual records), artefacts and ecofacts recovered during the programme of archaeological mitigation. The post-excavation analysis will be undertaken by the Archaeological Contractor supported by external specialists as appropriate.

6.5 Publication

6.5.1 If significant results are obtained and it is likely that further stages of archaeological work will be required (i.e. additional watching brief areas); or, if investigation of a single (or several closely related sites) is undertaken over several phases of archaeological work; publication shall be deferred until such time as the archaeological works are substantially complete.

6.5.2 The format of any publication shall be commensurate with the significance of the archaeological results and will be agreed with the ACoW and consulted on with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS. Online publication formats as well as traditional publication formats will be considered.

6.5.3 If the results merit it, a popular publication report and illustrated document explaining the results in layman's terms should be produced. The popular report should inform the non-expert audience about the discoveries and their significance in an accessible manner. Popular booklets may be produced both for children and for adult audiences.

6.5.4 Any identified publication should also aim to draw on the results of relevant previous archaeological investigations undertaken within and adjacent to the Scheme, to present a coherent and comprehensive record of the archaeological resource within its wider landscape view.

6.6 OASIS

6.6.1 At the start of the site work (immediately before each stage of archaeological fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record will be initiated, and key fields will be completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

6.6.2 The final OASIS record shall be included in the fieldwork report and/or post-excavation assessment report.

6.7 Archive and Data Management

6.7.1 Prior to the start of each stage of archaeological fieldwork, the Archaeological Contractor will contact the recipient museum to determine the requirements for the preparation and deposition of the physical archive and finds and agree any accession numbers.

6.7.2 The archive will be prepared in accordance with the CIfA guidelines, including the Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (Ref. 9), and the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service Archaeological Mitigation Standards and Guidance for (Ref. 10).

6.7.3 The Archaeological Contractor will compile a Data Management Plan and Selection Strategy in line with CIfA guidelines (Ref. 9) and include it in their SSWSI.

6.7.4 The digital archive must be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, such as the Archaeological Data Service (Ref. 16) and it is anticipated that the repository will have in-house Data Management Plans to allow for the long-

term preservation of the digital archive data, including plans for data back-up and migration to new digital formats as they emerge.

7. SSWSI Requirements

7.1 General Approach

7.1.1 The Archaeological Contractor will be responsible for the production of SSWSIs prior to the start of each stage of archaeological evaluation and mitigation fieldwork.

7.1.2 The SSWSIs will be drafted in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this AMS. The Archaeological Contractor will be responsible for the delivery of the archaeological evaluation and mitigation programme in accordance with the SSWSIs, and this responsibility will include all on-site and off-site archaeological works and recording.

7.1.3 The SSWSIs will be prepared in consultation with the ACoW and approved by the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS prior to the start of works.

7.1.4 The SSWSI will be prepared in accordance with current standards and guidance, including SYAS's Templates for Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief (Ref. 15), Archaeological Field Evaluation (Ref. 13), and Archaeological Mitigation (Ref. 11) and should include the following sections as a minimum:

a. A statement on the technical, research and ethical competences of the project team, including relevant professional accreditation;
b. Site location (including map) and descriptions;
c. Context of the project;
d. Geological and topographical background;
e. Archaeological and historical background;
f. General and specific research aims of the project, with reference to Regional Research Frameworks;
g. Methodology;
h. Collection and disposal strategy for artefacts, ecofacts, and all paper, graphic and digital materials (including Data Management Plan and Selection Strategy);
i. Arrangements for immediate conservation of artefacts;
j. Details of backfilling;
k. Post-fieldwork assessment and analysis of project data;
l. Report preparation (including details of the section headings);
m. Publication and dissemination proposals, as required;
n. Copyright;
o. Details of finds storage;
p. Programme and staffing;
q. Health and Safety considerations;
r. Environmental protection considerations; and
s. Monitoring procedures.

8. Monitoring Processes

8.1 Monitoring

8.1.1 The ACoW will liaise with the Archaeological Contractor to monitor progress and compliance with the requirements of this AMS and approved SSWSIs.

8.1.2 This will include (but not be limited to):

a. Monitoring of all aspects of on-site archaeological fieldwork; and

b. Monitoring of the installation and removal of protective measures, such as temporary fencing, and at sites where preservation of archaeological remains is required.

8.1.3 The ACoW will act as a coordinator in respect of access and monitoring arrangements with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS. This will include oversight of engagement between the Archaeological Contractor and the relevant stakeholders, including the Regional Science Advisor for Historic England, to ensure the timely provision of on-site advice to the fieldwork team.

8.1.4 The archaeological fieldwork will be subject to ongoing monitoring by the ACoW, who will have unrestricted access to the sites, site records, or any other information as may be required. The work will be inspected to ensure that is it being carried out to the required standard and that it will achieve the desired aims and objectives.

8.2 Stakeholders and Statutory Roles

8.2.1 Implementation of the AMS and SSWSIs will also be monitored by the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS.

8.2.2 Site monitoring meetings will be held as necessary throughout the archaeological programme to allow implementation of the works to be monitored to ensure adherence to the approved SSWSIs, effective decision making where required and to support timely ‘sign-off’ of archaeological completion.

8.3 Site Meetings

8.3.1 It is anticipated that monitoring meetings will be held as necessary throughout the archaeological programme to allow implementation of the works to be monitored to ensure adherence to the approved SSWSIs , effective decision making where required and to support timely ‘sign-off’ of archaeological completion.

8.3.2 Attendees will normally include, but not be limited to the following, as required:

a. ACoW;

b. Archaeological Contractor; and

c. Archaeological Advisor to SYAS.

8.4 Progress Reports

8.4.1 The Archaeological Contractor will prepare weekly progress reports for the duration of the archaeological works. The reports will be issued to the ACoW who will distribute them to the Applicant and the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS. The progress reports will include as a minimum:

a. General progress and summary of fieldwork results;

b. Programme and resources lookahead;

c. Site-specific issues (access/constraints etc.); and

d. SHE issues.

8.5 Approvals and Sign-Off of Archaeological Mitigation Sites

8.5.1 Site works that have been completed (confirmed as completed during a site meeting and agreed between the ACoW and the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS) will be subject to a sign-off procedure.

8.5.2 The Archaeological Contractor will submit a completion statement to the ACoW who will distribute it to the Applicant. The ACoW will also submit the completion statement to the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS as confirmation that the relevant works have been completed in compliance with the AMS and relevant SSWSI. The Archaeological Advisor to SYAS will have final approval and sign off of all archaeological evaluation and mitigation works.

9. Public Outreach and Community Engagement

9.1 General Approach

9.1.1 A programme of public outreach and community engagement will be developed prior to the start of works in liaison with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS will be set out in the Archaeological Contractors SSWSIs.

9.1.2 The aim of public outreach and community engagement is to collaboratively interpret and communicate the results of the archaeological mitigation works to a wide audience, including local communities directly impacted by the Scheme (that is, people living and working with the locality of the Scheme), and wider regional audiences where appropriate.

9.1.3 The objective of the public outreach and community engagement will be to provide information to a wide variety of audiences, ranging from those with a strong interest in archaeology and heritage, to those with no specific involvement.

9.1.4 The programme of public outreach and community engagement may incorporate site-based activities, initiatives undertaken during ongoing excavations, and activities undertaken throughout the post-excavation phase. These will be fully set out in the Archaeological Contractors SSWSIs but could include:

a. Live, local, site-based activities such as:
    i. guided site tours and guided walks (these will be subject to health, safety and access considerations).
b. Live, local, hands-on participative and learning events such as:
    i. Work experience or volunteer involvement in off-site post-excavation such as finds cleaning, processing and recording (subject to regulations regarding the use of volunteers on development-led archaeological projects).
    ii. pop-up exhibitions and artefact handling sessions.
c. Education and learning such as:
    i. Providing learning resources for classroom-based archaeology sessions aimed at involving children and teachers in their local archaeology and heritage.
    ii. Public talks and lectures, ranging from local talks to community organisations, local archaeology and history societies, to talks at regional conferences.

10. Variations to Scheme Design

10.1.1 Any variations to Scheme design which have the potential to result in additional impacts to archaeological remains not previously identified and/or would change previously identified impacts, will be subject to review. The review will identify any changes to previously identified impacts and will identify the requirement for an appropriate mitigation response.

10.1.2 Any variations to the Scheme design will be submitted to the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS for review. Appropriate mitigation responses will be identified and agreed in consultation with the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS and will be set out in the updated Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS).

10.1.3 The AMS will be updated and submitted to the Archaeological Advisor to SYAS for approval.

11. General Health and Safety Requirements

11.1.1 The Applicant is responsible for providing information on any relevant constraints within the Order limits, including, but not limited to, recently conducted service and utility searches (for both buried and overhead services) and Unexploded Ordnance Survey (UXO) reports.

11.1.2 The Archaeological Contractor shall prepare Risk Assessment(s) and a project specific Health and Safety Plan and submit these to the Applicant for approval prior to starting on site. These should include staff CVs which should detailed the Health and Safety qualifications held by the Archaeological Contractor site team, including Site Managers Safety Training Scheme (SMSTS) and Site Supervisors Safety Training Scheme (SSSTS).

11.1.3 The Archaeological Contractor's Risk Assessment(s) and project Health and Safety Plan shall make reference to relevant health and safety guidance and good practice (for example: Health and Safety Executive GS6 - Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Lines (Ref. 22); HS(G)47 - Avoiding Danger from Underground Services (Ref. 23); Energy Networks Association The Safe Use of Mechanical Plant in the Vicinity of Electricity Overhead Lines (Ref. 24); PAS 128 – Specification for underground utility detection, verification and location (Ref. 25); and The Environment Agency’s land contamination risk management (LCRM) (Ref. 26)).

11.1.4 The Applicant will provide the Archaeological Contractor with the results of recently conducted service and utility searches; however, the Archaeological Contractor shall be responsible for identifying any buried or overhead services and taking the necessary precautions to avoid damage to such services, prior to and during the fieldwork. The Archaeological Contractor will ensure that any individual scanning for buried services is both competent and appropriately trained in the use of a CAT and genny.

11.1.5 The Archaeological Contractor shall at all times maintain a safe working distance from the overhead and buried services/utilities. In addition, the Archaeological Contractor shall be responsible for any requirements with regard to work in the vicinity of watercourses.

11.1.6 All site personnel will wear personal protective equipment (PPE) as defined by the Archaeological Contractor’s approved risk assessment undertaken in accordance with mandatory requirements. Any visitors to the investigations will require a site induction in accordance with the Archaeological Contractor’s Health and Safety requirements and will have read the appropriate Archaeological Contractor’s site-specific Risk Assessment and Method Statement. The Archaeological Contractor will ensure that any visitors to the investigations are equipped with suitable PPE prior to entry to the Order limits. All equipment that is used in the course of the fieldwork must be 'fit for purpose' and be maintained in a sound working condition that complies with all relevant Health and Safety regulations and recommendations.

11.1.7 The Archaeological Contractor will assure the provision and maintenance of adequate, suitable and sufficient welfare and sanitary facilities at appropriate locations for the duration of the works. The locations for the temporary site welfare facilities and vehicle parking will be agreed with the Applicant and

the ACoW prior to the start of thew works. Facilities, roles and responsibilities shall adhere to the provisions of the relevant Health and Safety Executive guidance (Ref. 21).

11.1.8 All site personnel will familiarise themselves with the following:

a. Site emergency and evacuation procedures.

b. The site's health and safety coordinator.

c. The first aider.

d. The location of the nearest hospital and doctor's surgery.

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation/Term	Meaning
AMS	Archaeological Mitigation Strategy
ACoW	Archaeological Clerk of Works
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
DCO	Development Consent Order
ES	Environmental Statement
HER	Historic Environment Record
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
HWCN	Hazardous Waste Consignment Note
JIT	Just-in-Time
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LEMP	Landscape and Ecological Management Plan
MW	Megawatts
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
OS	Ordnance Survey
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PV	Photovoltaic
SMSTS	Site Managers Safety Training Scheme
SSSTS	Site Supervisors Safety Training Scheme
SSWSI	Site-Specific Written Scheme of Investigation
SYAS	South Yorkshire Archaeology Service
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance Survey
UPD	Updated Project Design

Annex A Figures

Revision: 0 Drawn: LP Checked: AK Approved: JW Date: 2024-10-24

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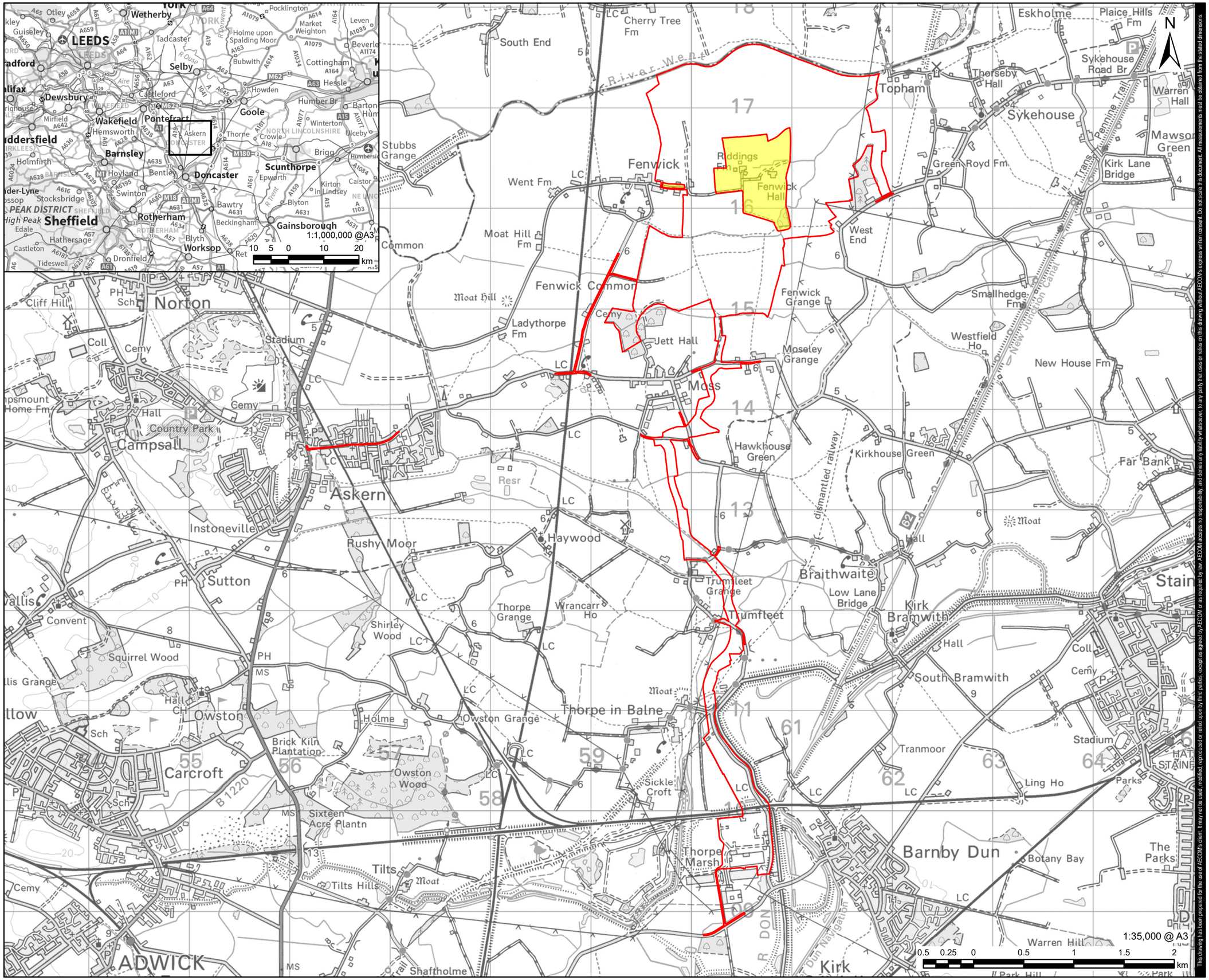

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LEGEND

- Order limits
- Land not included in the Order limits

NOTES

ISSUE PURPOSE

Archaeological Mitigation Strategy

PROJECT NUMBER

60698207

FIGURE TITLE

Site Location Plan

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1

Revision: 0 Drawn: LP Checked: AK Approved: JW Date: 2024-10-24

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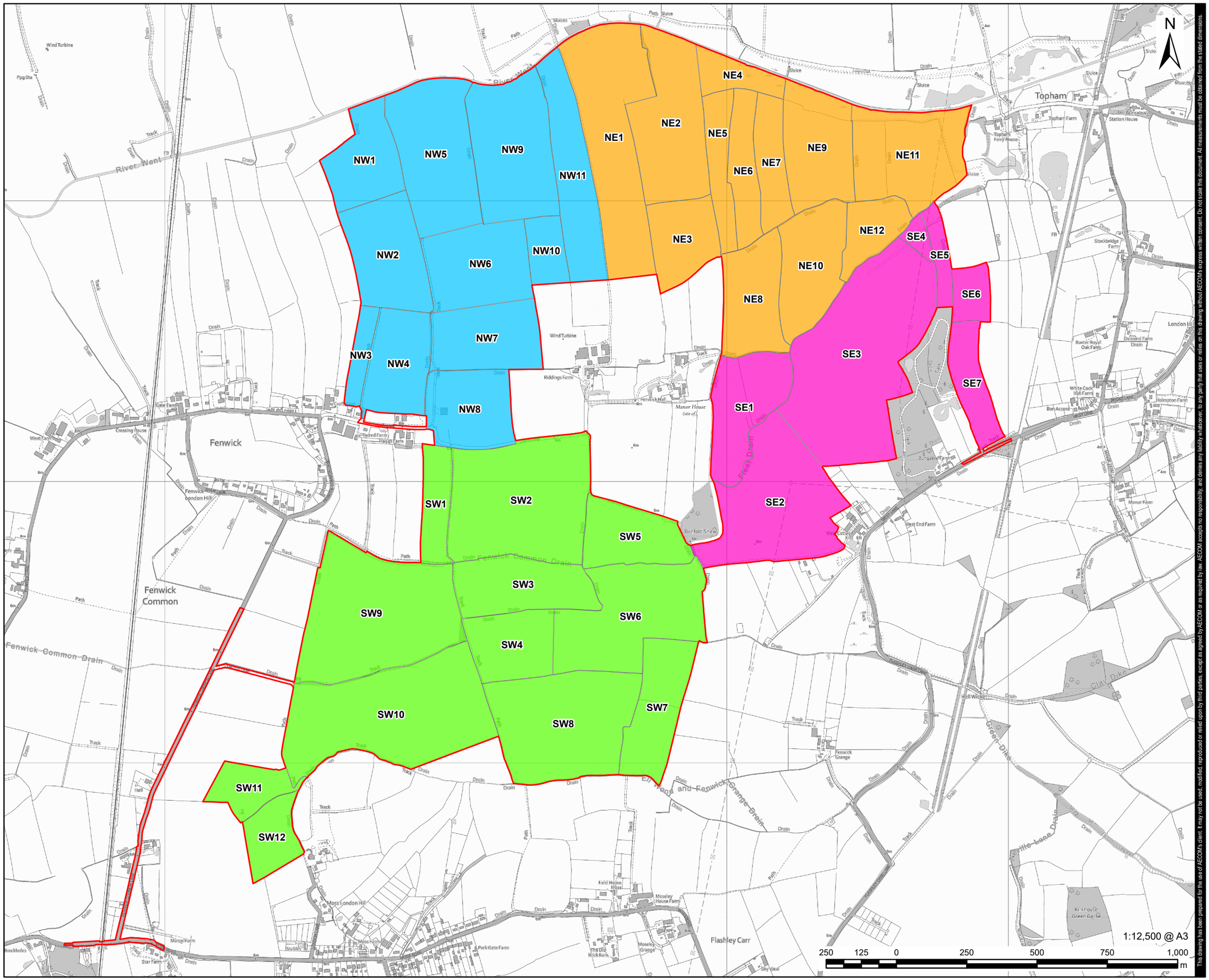

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LEGEND

- Solar PV Site

Field Boundary

- North East
- North West
- South East
- South West

NOTES

ISSUE PURPOSE

Archaeological Mitigation Strategy

PROJECT NUMBER

60698207

FIGURE TITLE

Field Number Plan for Solar PV Site

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 2

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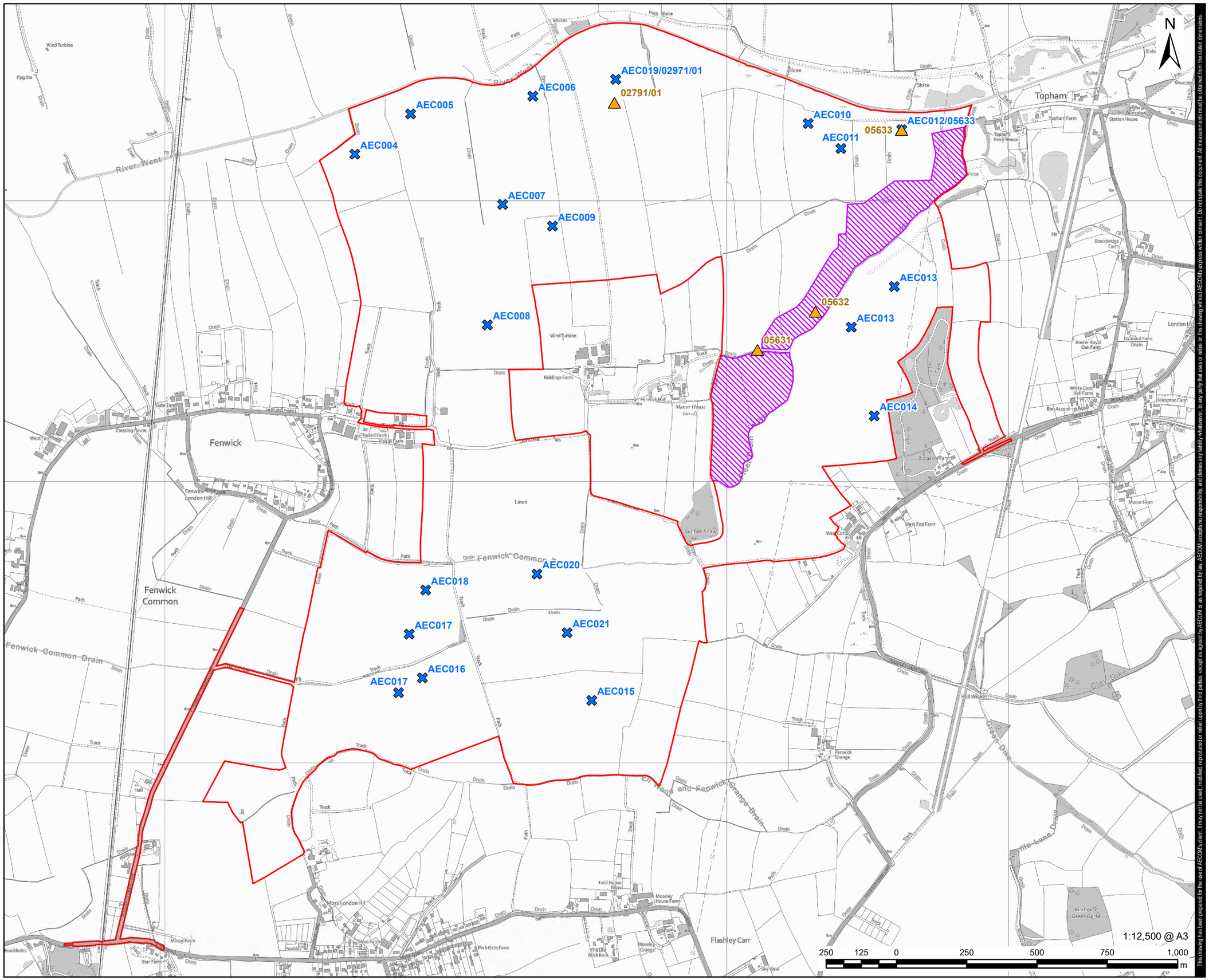

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LEGEND

- Solar PV Site
- Asset Recorded on the Historic Environment Record
- Area Identified for Additional Mitigation
- Heritage Buffer Area

NOTES

ISSUE PURPOSE

Archaeological Mitigation Strategy

PROJECT NUMBER

60698207

FIGURE TITLE

Preliminary Mitigation Sites

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 3

Revision: 0 Drawn: LP Checked: AK Approved: JW Date: 2024-10-24

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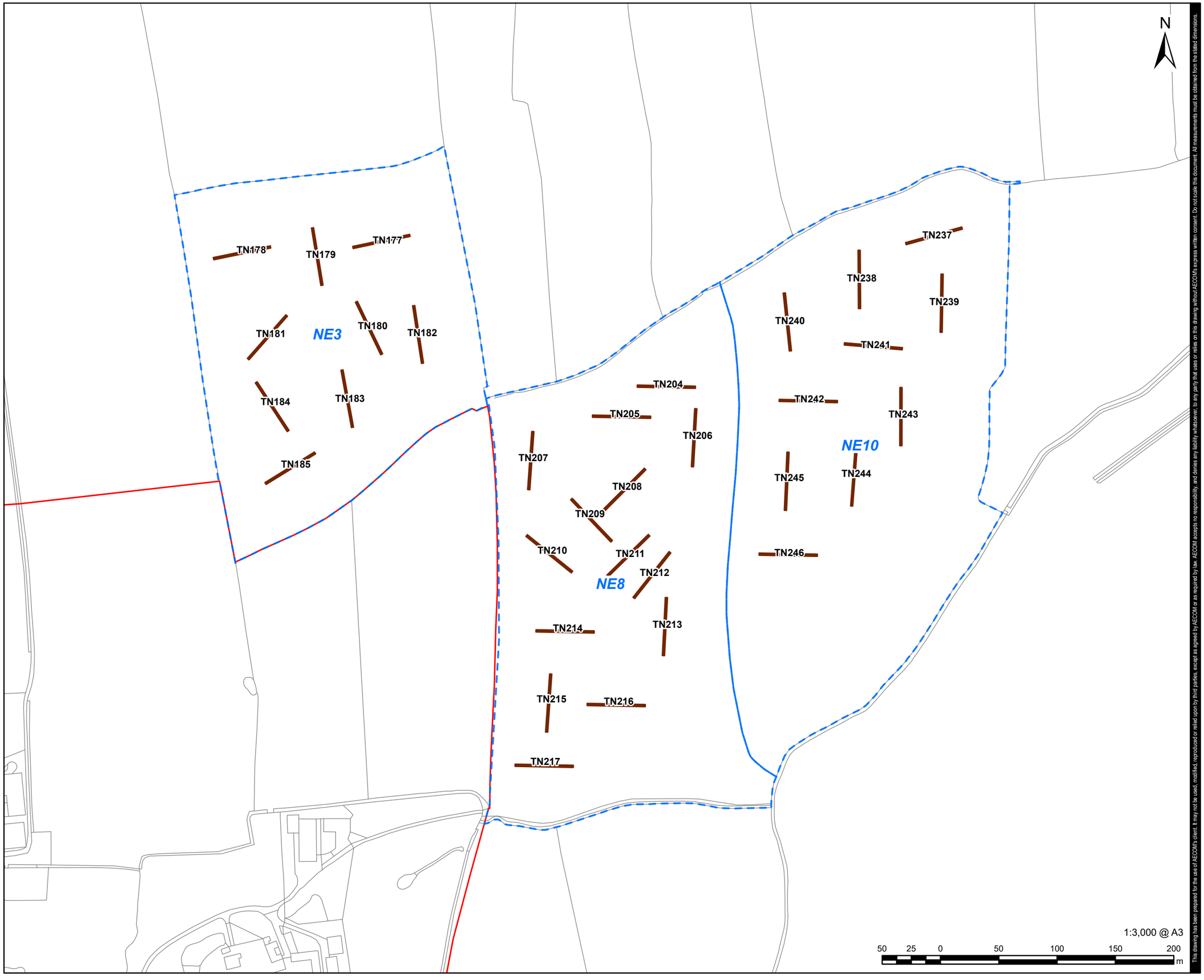

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LEGEND

- Solar PV Site
- Area for Trial Trench Evaluation
- Trial Trench

NOTES

ISSUE PURPOSE

Archaeological Mitigation Strategy

PROJECT NUMBER

60698207

FIGURE TITLE

Areas for Trial Trench Evaluation (Solar PV Site)

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 4

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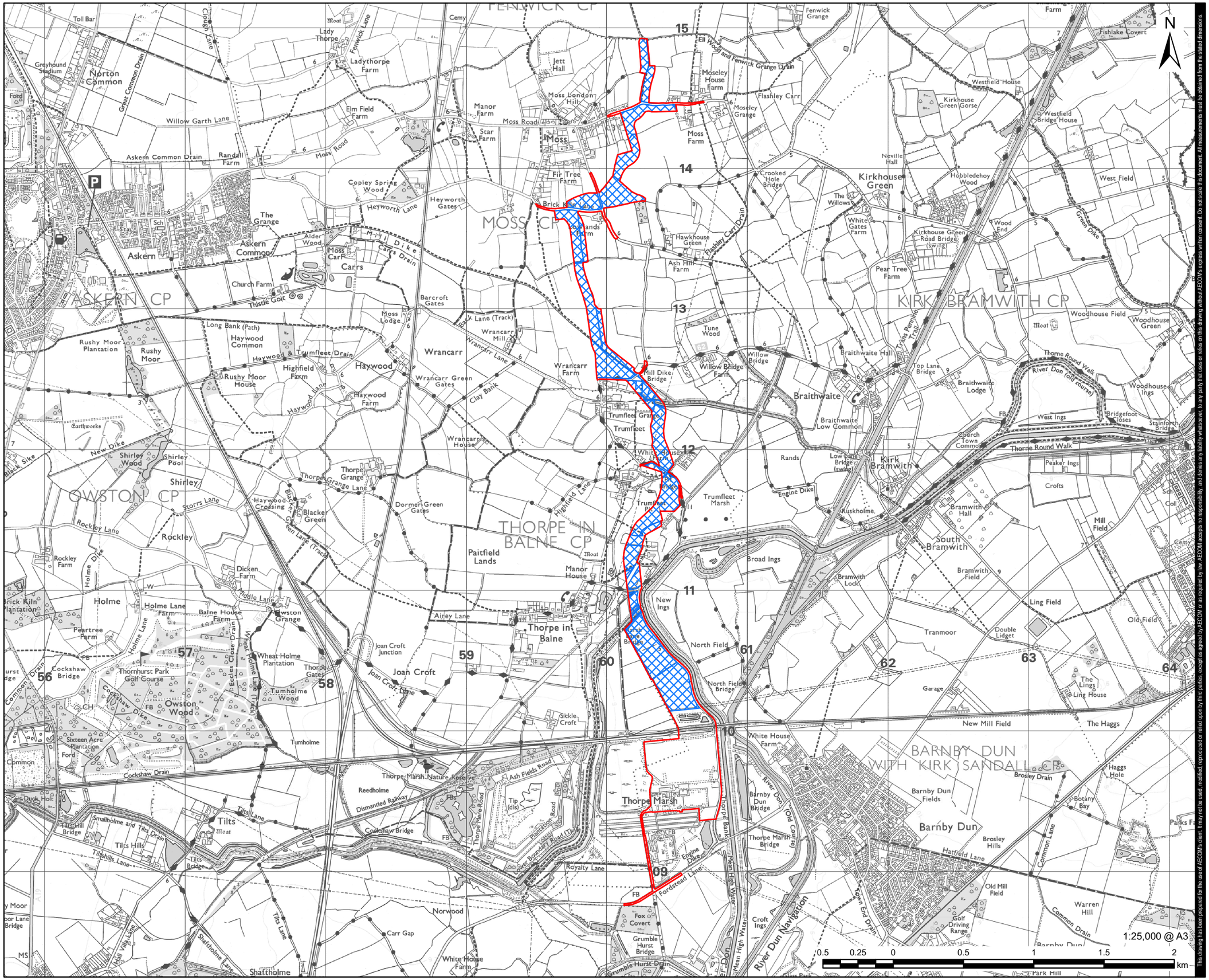

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LEGEND

- Grid Connection Corridor
- Preliminary Areas for Geophysical Survey

NOTES

ISSUE PURPOSE

Archaeological Mitigation Strategy

PROJECT NUMBER

60698207

FIGURE TITLE

Areas for Geophysical Survey (Grid Connection Corridor)

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 5

BUILD | OWN | OPERATE | MAINTAIN

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