



# **Frodsham Solar**

## **Environmental Statement: Volume 2**

### **Appendix 6-8: Effects on Viewpoints**

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**Revision P01**

## Appendix 6-8

### Effects on Viewpoints

Prepared for: Frodsham Solar Ltd

May 2025

EN010153/DR/6.2

- 1.1.1 This Appendix of the Environmental Statement ('ES') sets out the assessment of the visual effects of the operational phase of the Proposed Development from a series of twenty-nine predetermined Viewpoint locations. Refer to **ES Volume 3 Figures 6.6-6.34 [EN010153/DR/6/3]** for annotated baseline photography from each Viewpoint. Refer to **ES Volume 3 Figures 6.36-6.48 [EN010153/DR/6/3]** for photomontages from Viewpoints 3, 6, 9, 17 and 25.
- 1.1.2 Refer to **ES Volume 1 Chapter 6.0 Landscape and Visual Amenity [EN010153/DR/6/1]** for further details of the process by which the Viewpoints were selected, and to **ES Volume 2 Appendix 6-1 [EN010153/DR/6/2]** for the methodology followed in undertaking the assessment of visual effects. Refer to **ES Volume 2 Appendix 6-6 [EN010153/DR/6/5]** for an assessment of visual effects during the construction phase.

| Viewpoint 1: Mersey Way, near Hale  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 347457,380905  |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking south across the Mersey Estuary from location on the northern bank, along the Mersey Way long-distance path. The view is over the Estuary, when industrial development at Runcorn, and Frodsham Wind Farm both conspicuous on the southern shore. Development further to the west is also visible (out of shot on the Viewpoint figure). The woodland landform of Frodsham and Helsby Hills at the northern edge of the Cheshire Sandstone Ridge is a distinctive skyline feature. |   |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Walkers<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The views available across and along the estuary will be the main reason for any journey.</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No landscape designations.</li><li>Promoted long-distance path.</li></ul> |
| Sensitivity   |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to walkers on the Mersey Way. The views available along and across the estuary will be the main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high.  |   |

| <p>The Viewpoint is not located within any landscape designation. It is however located along a promoted long-distance path, and hence there is clear and recognised recreational value. Value is high.<br/>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b>.</p>  |   |
|---|---|
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent   |
| <p><b>Scale of Change in view:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential glimpses of Proposed Development on the southern side of the Estuary.</li> <li>The new structures would not be prominent due to their low height.</li> <li>The well-established influence of industry and infrastructure development would not change</li> </ul> <p><b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is clearly visible in the background of the view.</li> </ul> <p><b>Nature of the View:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Angle:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.7km to Order Limits</li> <li>2.9km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 1.25km of the Mersey Way</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude   |   |
| <p><b>Small</b></p> <p>The Proposed Development would be visible on the southern side of the Mersey Estuary. Given the low height of the new structures, these would not be prominent, especially given the existing context of much larger existing structures. The well-established influence of industrial and infrastructure development would not change from baseline.</p>  |   |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |   |
| <p>A <b>minor</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be a very limited addition into the background of a view where the presence of large-scale industrial and infrastructure development along the Mersey Estuary is a well-established existing influence. In this context, the Proposed Development would not stand out.</p> <p>Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>   |   |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |   |
| <p>The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b>.</p>   |   |

| Viewpoint 2: A56, Sutton Weaver   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 354370,379338  |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking west from roadside at the edge of Sutton Weaver. The view is across the adjacent field towards the Mersey estuary. Pylons are prominent foreground features. Frodsham Wind Farm is prominent towards the rear of the view. Other industry/infrastructure development is a minor presence. Urban development at Frodsham is evident in the middle and rear ground. Frodsham hill and Helsby Hill are distinctive landforms in the background of the view. The properties to the rear of the Viewpoint tend to be screened by roadside vegetation, but some do have similar views to that illustrated on the Viewpoint figure. |  |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct views from some properties.</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Road users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically have a medium susceptibility.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Not a location where people are likely to gather for any scenic qualities.</li> <li>Not a typical view from Sutton Weaver</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects direct views from a small number of properties. Susceptibility to change is high. The Viewpoint also reflects the views available to road users, who typically have a medium susceptibility to change, and there is nothing at the Viewpoint that would raise or lower this. The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is not a location where people are likely to gather to experience any scenic qualities, nor does it reflect typical views from Sutton Weaver. Value is low to medium<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b> .  |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Glimpses of the Proposed Development towards the rear of the view and largely screened by intervening vegetation cover.</li> <li>No appreciable change in view from baseline</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is a well-established presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear view from some nearby properties.</li> <li>Heavily screened by vegetation from the majority of properties.</li> <li>Transient views from the road</li> </ul>                | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct from properties. Perpendicular to the direction of road travel.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.05km to Order Limits</li> <li>2.1km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Viewpoint and adjacent properties.</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude   |  |
| <b>Negligible</b><br>The Proposed Development would be largely screened from view by vegetation cover. Glimpses of the proposed new structures would potentially be available through localised breaks and low points in this vegetation, but would not be eye-catching. The well-established influence of industrial and infrastructure development would not change appreciably from baseline.  |  |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |  |
| A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be a very limited addition into the background of a view where the presence of large-scale industrial and infrastructure development along the Mersey Estuary is a well-established existing influence. In this context, the Proposed Development would not stand out and would in all likelihood be difficult to perceive clearly.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .   |  |

| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial   |
|--|
| The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance nor detract from the view. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b> . |



| Viewpoint 3: Ship Street, Frodsham   |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 352059,378437   |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north from the edge of Frodsham. The view is from the roadside close to residential properties, which have similar views to that illustrated on the Viewpoint Figure, and is located along National Cycle Route 5. Views towards the Solar Array Development Area are filtered through foreground vegetation cover. The M62 is partially visible in the middle ground, and moving traffic can be seen. Industrial development at Runcorn, electricity pylons and Frodsham Wind Farm are all visible in the background of the view to the rear of vegetation cover.  |  |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Residents<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct views from main windows.</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Cyclists<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will be focussed on the road ahead</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Road users<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Typically have a medium susceptibility.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No landscape designations.</li> <li>• National Cycle Route 5</li> <li>• Similar views available from the majority of nearby properties.</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity  |  |
| <p>The Viewpoint reflects direct views from a small number of properties. Susceptibility to change is high. Given the location (public road) cyclist will be focussed principally on the road ahead rather than upon their surroundings, and their susceptibility to change is medium. The Viewpoint also reflects the views available to road users, who typically have a medium susceptibility to change, and there is nothing at the Viewpoint that would justify raising or lowering this.</p> <p>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. The Viewpoint is located along National Cycle Route 5. Similar views are available from the majority of nearby properties, and as such, the Viewpoint does reflect a typical view from this part of Frodsham. Value is medium to high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b>.</p> |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Proposed Development would be well screened by foreground vegetation cover.</li> <li>• The proposed solar panels would be partially visible through breaks in this vegetation.</li> <li>• Limited change towards the rear of the view.</li> <li>• As proposed planting establishes, the visibility of the solar panels to the north-east would reduce</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial/infrastructure development is a well-established presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• View filtered through vegetation.</li> </ul>  | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct from properties. Perpendicular to the direction of road travel</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40m to Order Limits</li> <li>• 268m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approx. 300m stretch of Ship Street (and properties that front onto the road)</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude  |  |
| <b>Small</b><br>The Proposed Development would be well screened from view by foreground vegetation cover located between the Viewpoint and the M56. The proposed solar panels would be partially visible through breaks in this vegetation cover, but would represent only a small scale addition to the existing view. As proposed planting establishes, the visibility of the solar panels to the north-east of the Viewpoint would reduce. There would be limited change toward the rear of the view.   |  |
| Level and Significance of Effect   |  |

|   |
|---|
| <p>A <b>minor to moderate</b> level of effect would occur initially, reducing to <b>minor</b> in the long-term. The Proposed Development would be well screened by intervening features, but some new elements would be visible through vegetation on the further side of the M56. Visibility would reduce over time as proposed planting establishes and provides additional screening. Limited background change would occur, but the nature of the view available from Ship Street and from properties along it would remain very similar to baseline, namely a view interrupted by vegetation cover at short range and with industry/infrastructure development in the background. Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p> |
| <b>Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial</b>   |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .   |

| Viewpoint 4: Hawthorne Road, Frodsham  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 351778,378194   |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north from side road at the edge of Frodsham. Views towards the Solar Array Development Area are very well screened by vegetation cover south of the M62, including at Hawthorne Road Community Orchard (located immediately north of the Viewpoint). Industrial development at Runcorn and Frodsham Wind Farm is also well screened. The majority of nearby properties are located with main views perpendicular to the Solar Array Development Area. A single property on Rodgers Close immediately to the north has direct views.  |  |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct views from main windows at one property.</li> <li>Majority have views from end windows</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Road users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically have a medium susceptibility.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Similar views available from nearby properties</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity  |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available from nearby properties. In most cases, the properties are oriented with main views at right angles to the direction of the Solar Array Development Area. Direct views are available from garden areas, and from a single property on Rodgers Close. The Viewpoint also reflects the views available to road users, who typically have a medium susceptibility to change, and there is nothing at the Viewpoint that would justify raising or lowering this.<br><br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. Similar views are available from the majority of nearby properties, and as such, the Viewpoint does reflect a typical view from this part of Frodsham. Value is medium to high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b> . |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be very well screened by intervening vegetation cover.</li> <li>Potential glimpses of new structures at worst</li> <li>No appreciable change in view from baseline</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure development is well screened.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>View well screened by vegetation cover at short range.</li> </ul>   | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perpendicular to main views from the majority of properties.</li> <li>Direct view from a single property and from the road.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>245m to Order Limits</li> <li>270m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hawthorne Road, Rodgers Close and adjacent properties.</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude  |  |
| <b>Negligible</b><br>The Proposed Development would be very well screened from view by intervening vegetation cover between the Viewpoint and the M56. At worst, glimpses of the proposed new structures would potentially be available from the road and from some of the adjacent properties, notable the property on Rodgers Close with main views facing north. The view would not change appreciably from baseline.   |  |
| Level and Significance of Effect   |  |
| A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be very well screened by intervening vegetation cover, and the view would not change appreciably from baseline.   |  |



|  |
|--|
| Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .  |
| <b>Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial</b>  |
| The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance nor detract from the view. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b> . |

| Viewpoint 5: Langdale Way, Frodsham  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 352633,377838   |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north-west from side street at the eastern edge of Frodsham. The view is looking out across the Mersey estuary from an elevated location. Industrial development at Runcorn and Frodsham Wind Farm are conspicuous toward the rear of the view. Development north of the river is evident in the background. The foreground is dominated by residential development. The Solar Array Development Area is partially visible beyond the houses and middle ground vegetation cover. Nearby properties are located with main views perpendicular to the Solar Array Development Area  |   |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Views from end windows.</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Road users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically have a medium susceptibility.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Similar views available from nearby properties.</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity  |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available from nearby properties. The properties are oriented with main views at right angles to the direction of the Solar Array Development Area. This absence of direct views from main windows reduces susceptibility to change is medium to high. The Viewpoint also reflects the views available to road users, who typically have a medium susceptibility to change, and there is nothing at the Viewpoint that would justify raising or lowering this. The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. Similar views are available from the majority of nearby properties, and as such, the Viewpoint does reflect a typical view from this part of Frodsham. Value is medium to high. Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b> .  |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be partially visible with the majority of new structures screened by intervening buildings and vegetation.</li> <li>Solar panels located in the north-western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be visible towards the rear of the view.</li> <li>Change would occur in a context where the presence of industry/infrastructure development in the background of the view is well-established</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is a well-established background presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear view northwards, but with foreground features providing some screening.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perpendicular to main views from properties.</li> <li>Direct from the road</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>825m to Order Limits</li> <li>1.08km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Viewpoint and adjacent properties.</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude  |   |
| <b>Small</b><br>The Proposed Development would be partially visible with the majority of new structures screened by intervening buildings and vegetation. Those new solar panels and associated structures located in the north-western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be visible towards the rear of the view. Change would occur in a context where the presence of industrial and infrastructure development along the Mersey Estuary is a well-established influence.  |   |

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| Viewpoint 6: Public footpath, near St Laurence's Church, Frodsham  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 351941,377383   |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View north from public footpath that runs through Churchfields public open space. The view is looking northward across the Mersey estuary. The Solar Array Development Area, industrial development at Runcorn and Frodsham Wind Farm are all clearly visible in the middle ground. Churchfields includes a play area and several benches.   |   |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Open space users<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be a major reason for many visits.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Public open space.</li> <li>Public right of way.</li> <li>Conservation Area.</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity  |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of Churchfields. The views available will be a major reason for many visits. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>the Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located within a Conservation Area and hence there is designated heritage interest. It is located on a public right of way running through an area of public open space. There is recognised amenity/recreational value. Value is high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There would be some limited screening by foreground features, but the majority of the Solar Array Development and both BESS/Substation options would be clearly visible in the middle ground</li> <li>A limited but clearly perceptible increase in the well-established influence of industry and infrastructure development upon views across the Mersey Estuary</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is a well-established background presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>840m to Order Limits</li> <li>1.07km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Churchfields.</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude  |   |
| <b>Small to Medium</b><br>The majority of the Proposed Development would be clearly visible in the middle ground of the view. There would be some limited screening by foreground buildings and vegetation, but the majority of the Solar Array Development and both BESS/Substation options would be visible. There would be a limited but clearly perceptible increase in the well-established influence of industry and infrastructure development upon views across the Mersey Estuary.  |   |
| Level and Significance of Effect   |   |
| A <b>moderate</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be introduced into the middle ground of a view where the influence of industrial and infrastructure development is already well-established. This influence would increase as a result of the Proposed Development, but not to such a degree that there would be any fundamental change in the nature of the views available looking out from Churchfields across the Mersey Estuary.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .  |   |

| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |
|---|
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> . |

| Viewpoint 7: Castle Park, Frodsham   |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 351451,377233   |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north from Castle Park. Tree cover to the north provides very heavy screening of views towards the Solar Array Development Area. Frodsham Wind Farm can be seen above the trees, and glimpses of industrial development at Runcorn are also available. Castle Park includes a play area, sports facilities, paths, car parking and an arts centre   |  |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Open space users<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be a major reason for many visits.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Public open space.</li> <li>Conservation Area.</li> <li>Registered Park and Garden</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity  |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of Castle Park. The views available will be a major reason for many visits. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located within a Conservation Area and Registered Park and Garden and hence there is designated heritage interest. It is located on a public right of way running through an area of public open space. There is recognised amenity/recreational value. Value is high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be partially visible with the majority of new structures screened by intervening buildings and vegetation.</li> <li>Solar panels located in the south-western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be visible towards the rear of the view.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is a limited background presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>View curtailed by tree cover.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>610m to Order Limits</li> <li>1.04km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South-western part of Castle Park.</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude  |  |
| <b>Small</b><br>The Proposed Development would be partially visible with the majority of new structures screened by intervening buildings and vegetation. Those new solar panels and associated structures located in the south-western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be visible towards the rear of the view. Change would occur in a context where the presence of industrial and infrastructure development along the Mersey Estuary is a limited background presence.   |  |
| Level and Significance of Effect   |  |
| A <b>minor</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be a partially visible addition to the background of a view, where other existing industrial and infrastructure development would remain notably more prominent, but which is itself a limited influence upon the existing view. There would be little change in the nature of the view from baseline.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .  |  |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial   |  |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .  |  |



| Viewpoint 8: A56, Chester Road, Frodsham   |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 351138,376962   |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north-west from the intersection of the A56 with a public footpath at the western edge of Frodsham. The view is looking over a field and houses in the foreground with industrial development at Runcorn and Frodsham Wind Farm visible towards the rear of the view. Glimpses of the Solar Array Development Area are available through intervening vegetation cover. Trees along the roadside immediately to the rear of the Viewpoint (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figure) heavily filter views from the houses to the south. Views from the road are also restricted by vegetation cover   |  |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct views from main windows</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Walkers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any journey.</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Road users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically have a medium susceptibility.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Public right of way</li> <li>Typical of views from the edge of Frodsham</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity  |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects views available from the western edge of Frodsham. Views available to residents in nearby properties from their main windows are in the direction of the Solar Array Development Area. The views available from the public footpath will be the main reason for any journey. In both cases, susceptibility to change is high. The Viewpoint also reflects the views available to road users, who typically have a medium susceptibility to change, and there is nothing at the Viewpoint that would justify raising or lowering this.<br>The viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a public right of way and does represent a typical view from this part of Frodsham. Value is medium to high<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> . |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partial visibility of some areas of solar panels within the western part of the Solar Array Development Area.</li> <li>Potential glimpses of panels located further to the east</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is a background presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear from footpath. Heavily filtered by vegetation from properties. Transient from the road and also filtered by vegetation.</li> </ul>  | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct from properties and footpath. Perpendicular to the direction of road travel.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>795m to Order Limits</li> <li>1.2km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjacent stretches of road and footpath, and nearby properties.</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude  |  |
| <b>Small</b><br>The Proposed Development would be largely screened from view by intervening vegetation cover located between the Viewpoint and the Solar Array Development Area. Some areas of solar panels located in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be partially visible through this vegetation cover, and there would also potentially be glimpses of some panels located further to the east. there would be an incremental increase in the influence of industrial and infrastructure development upon the background of the view.   |  |

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| Viewpoint 9: Frodsham Hill War Memorial   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 351770,377058  |  |
| <p><b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br/>View from prominent hill top war memorial within public open space, accessible via a series of public rights of way, and located on the Sandstone Trail and North Cheshire Way long-distance paths. The view overlooks the Mersey estuary and provides a 180 degree panoramic vista. There are multiple points of interest and a wide variety of different land uses visible including agriculture, urban development, industrial development, major roads, rail corridors and waterways. Traffic noise from the M56 is evident and aircraft can be seen landing and taking off at Liverpool Airport. The hills of the Pennines and the Clwydian Range are visible to the north-east and west respectively in clear viewing conditions (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figures). Energy infrastructure in the form of wind turbines, power stations, energy from waste facilities, an oil refinery and large-scale transmission infrastructure is visible. Ongoing development at Protos has recently introduced and will continue to introduce new elements including large energy recovery and carbon capture projects. The Mersey Estuary and the farmland within Frodsham Marshes are also prominent features. This is a view across a dynamic landscape where the experience is as much about gaining a 'birds eye view' of the region as it is about appreciation of a natural landscape.</p> |  |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value  |
| <p><b>Receptor:</b> Visitors to the War Memorial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be amongst the main reasons for any visit.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Helsby &amp; Frodsham Hills ASCV.</li> <li>Grade II Listed Building.</li> <li>Sandstone Trail and North Cheshire Way long-distance paths.</li> <li>Public open space.</li> <li>Public rights of way lead to the Viewpoint.</li> <li>Prominent and well-known location.</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |  |
| <p>The Viewpoint reflects the views available to visitors to the War Memorial. The availability of the views looking out to the north will be amongst the main reasons for any visit (some visits are likely to be to see the Memorial itself). As such, susceptibility to change is high.</p> <p>The Viewpoint is located within a local landscape designation and is located at a designated heritage asset (Grade II listed). The Viewpoint is located on two promoted long-distance paths, is on the public rights of way network and is also located within an area of public open space. The Viewpoint is a prominent and well-known location with obvious recognised recreational value.</p> <p>Value is high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b>.</p>   |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent  |
| <p><b>Scale of Change in view:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would add an additional element of built infrastructure, which would be clearly visible in the middle ground of the view.</li> <li>Views of undeveloped fields within the Solar Array Development Area would be replaced by views of solar panels and ancillary infrastructure.</li> <li>The presence of the Solar Array Development would result in an incremental increase in the well-established influence of industry/infrastructure in views across the Mersey Estuary.</li> <li>The underlying nature and qualities of the expansive, panoramic view strongly</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Angle:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <p><b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>920m to Order Limits</li> <li>1.32km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Viewpoint and adjacent hill top only.</li> </ul> |

| <p>influenced by numerous land uses, including the Estuary itself, agriculture, prominent industry and infrastructure development would remain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The presence of the Proposed Development would not affect the commemorative qualities of the Memorial or the ability of people to experience these.</li> </ul> <p><b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built development, including industry and infrastructure is a well-established presence.</li> </ul> <p><b>Nature of the View:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul>   |   |
|---|---|
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul> |
| Magnitude   |   |
| <p><b>Small to Medium</b></p> <p>The Proposed Development would be clearly visible in the middle ground of the view. Its introduction would replace views of undeveloped fields within the Solar Array Development Area with views of new solar panels and ancillary infrastructure. The presence of the Solar Array Development would result in an increase in the influence of industry/infrastructure in views across the Mersey Estuary. However, the expansive, diverse and panoramic nature of a baseline view strongly influenced by industry and infrastructure development would remain essentially the same. The commemorative function of the War Memorial and the ability of people to experience this would be unaffected.</p> |   |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |   |
| <p>A <b>moderate</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The presence of the Proposed Development would result in an incremental increase in the influence of industrial and infrastructure development in views looking out across the Mersey Estuary from the War Memorial. Whilst there would be clear change, the view would nevertheless remain an expansive panoramic one looking out from an elevated location across lower-lying areas where built development including industry and infrastructure is a well-established presence. Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>   |   |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |   |
| <p>The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b>.</p>   |   |

| Viewpoint 10: Public footpath, north of Foxhill House   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 350655,375668  |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north from public footpath on hillside east of Helsby. The footpath forms part of the North Cheshire Way long-distance path. The view is restricted by the rising landform of the field immediately to the north and by tree cover in the middle ground. Frodsham Wind Farm and industrial development at Runcorn are visible in the background. Glimpses of the Solar Array Development Area are also available.  |  |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Walkers<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Helsby &amp; Frodsham Hills ASCV.</li> <li>Long-distance path.</li> <li>Public right of way</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity   |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to walkers on the footpath. The availability of such views will be the main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high<br>The Viewpoint is located within a local landscape designation. It is located along a promoted long-distance path which is also a public right of way. As such, there is a clear and recognised recreational function. Value is high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .  |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be partially visible, with the majority of new structures screened by intervening buildings and vegetation.</li> <li>Solar panels located in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be visible towards the rear of the view.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is present in the background.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partial screening by landform and vegetation.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.97km to Order Limits</li> <li>2.45km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 250m stretch of footpath running down the hillside</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude   |  |
| <b>Small</b><br>The Proposed Development would be largely screened from view by intervening vegetation cover located between the Viewpoint and the Solar Array Development Area. Some areas of solar panels located in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be partially visible through this vegetation cover. There would be an incremental increase in the influence of industrial and infrastructure development upon the background of the view.   |  |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |  |
| A <b>minor</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be a limited addition to the background of a view where other more prominent industrial and infrastructure development is already present. The nature of the view would remain similar to baseline.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .  |  |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |  |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .   |  |

| Viewpoint 11: Plovers Lane, Helsby  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 349940,376006  |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north-east from the edge of Helsby. The view is across the adjacent fields, with a foreground tree belt providing a degree of screening. Traffic on the M56 is visible in the middle ground. Frodsham Wind Farm, electricity pylons and industrial development at Runcorn is visible toward the rear of the view. Similar views are available from properties to the rear of the Viewpoint (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figure).  |  |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct views from main windows.</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Road users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically have a medium susceptibility.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Similar views available from the edge of Helsby</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |  |
| <p>The Viewpoint reflect direct views from main windows at nearby properties. Susceptibility to change is high. The Viewpoint also reflects the views available to road users, who typically have a medium susceptibility to change, and there is nothing at the Viewpoint that would justify raising or lowering this.</p> <p>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designation. Similar views are available from the majority of nearby properties, and as such, the Viewpoint does reflect a typical view from this part of Frodsham. Value is medium to high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b>.</p> |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be very well screened by intervening vegetation over.</li> <li>Potential glimpses of some new structures in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry and infrastructure is a well-established albeit relatively minor presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partial screening by vegetation. Transient view from the road</li> </ul>                | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct from properties. Perpendicular to the direction of road travel</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.79km to Order Limits</li> <li>2.33km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Viewpoint and adjacent properties.</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude   |  |
| <b>Small</b><br>The Proposed Development would be well screened by intervening vegetation, notably by the tree belt in the adjacent field. There would be potential glimpses of some new structures located within the western part of the Solar Array Development Area, but these would not stand out.   |  |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |  |
| A <b>minor</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be a limited addition into the background of a view where the presence of large-scale industrial and infrastructure development along the Mersey Estuary is a well-established existing influence. In this context, the Proposed Development would not stand out.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .  |  |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |  |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .   |  |



| Viewpoint 12: Bates Lane   |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 350091,375019   |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north-north-east from a minor road south of Helsby. The view is through roadside vegetation cover across the adjacent field to a wooded middle ground. Frodsham Wind Farm and industrial development at Runcorn are visible towards the rear of the view. Glimpses of the Solar Array Development Area are also available.  |   |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Road users<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically have a medium susceptibility to change.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Helsby &amp; Frodsham Hills ASCV.</li> <li>Not a route with any promoted scenic interest</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity  |   |
| <p>The Viewpoint reflects the views available to road users. These typically have a medium susceptibility to change, and there is nothing at the Viewpoint that would justify raising or lowering this.</p> <p>The Viewpoint is located within a local landscape designation. The road is not a route that is promoted for any scenic interest, and it is unlikely that people would congregate at the Viewpoint for the views available. Value is medium.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium</b>.</p>   |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be partially visible, with the majority of new structures screened by intervening buildings and vegetation.</li> <li>Solar panels located in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be visible towards the rear of the view, in the same field of view as far more prominent wind turbines</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is an established albeit limited background presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transient views from the road, filtered through adjacent vegetation cover.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oblique to the direction of north-west road travel.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.68km to Order Limits</li> <li>3.16km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 250m length of Bates Lane</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude  |   |
| <b>Small</b><br>The Proposed Development would be largely screened from view by intervening vegetation cover located between the Viewpoint and the Solar Array Development Area. Some areas of solar panels located in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would be partially visible through this vegetation cover. there would be an incremental increase in the influence of industrial and infrastructure development upon the background of the view.  |   |
| Level and Significance of Effect   |   |
| A <b>minor</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be a limited addition to the background of a view where other more prominent industrial and infrastructure development is already present, and where views are transient and filtered through roadside tree cover. Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .   |   |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial   |   |

The effects of the Proposed Development would be **adverse**.

| Viewpoint 13: Helsby Hill   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 349195,375435  |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View north-east from prominent hill top location accessible via a series of public rights of way, and which is located along the North Cheshire Way and Longster Trail long-distance paths. The view is an expansive panoramic vista across the low-lying Mersey Estuary below the Viewpoint. The M56 (and associated traffic), Frodsham Wind Farm, electricity pylons and industrial development at Runcorn are all clearly visible. Industrial development further to the west is more prominent (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figure). The Viewpoint is a well-known location locally, and is marked as a beauty spot on Ordnance Survey mapping   |   |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Visitors to Helsby Hill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any visit.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Helsby &amp; Frodsham Hills ASCV.</li> <li>Scheduled Monument.</li> <li>North Cheshire Way and Longster Trail long-distance paths.</li> <li>Public rights of way lead to the Viewpoint.</li> <li>Prominent and well-known location.</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to visitors to Helsby Hill. The availability of the views looking out to the north will be the main reason for any visit. Susceptibility to change is high. The Viewpoint is located within a local landscape designation, and is located at a designated heritage asset (Scheduled Monument). The Viewpoint is located along two promoted long-distance paths (and along a public footpath), with other public rights of way close by. It is also located within an area of public open space. The Viewpoint is a prominent and well-known location with obvious recognised recreational value. Value is high. Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .  |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be visible towards the rear of the view.</li> <li>The presence of the Solar Array Development would result in an incremental increase in the influence of industry/infrastructure in views across the Mersey Estuary.</li> <li>The expansive, panoramic nature of a baseline view strongly influenced by industry and infrastructure development would remain</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is a well established presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.03km to Order Limits</li> <li>2.93km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Viewpoint and adjacent hill top</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude   |   |
| <b>Small to Medium.</b><br>The Proposed Development would be visible towards the rear of the view. The presence of the Solar Array Development would result in an incremental increase in the influence of industry/infrastructure in views across the Mersey Estuary. However, this would not result in any change of note to the nature of a view that is expansive, panoramic and already influenced by industry and infrastructure development.   |   |

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| Viewpoint 14: M56, Weaver Lane overbridge  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 352005,378595   |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north from M56 overbridge at the northern edge of Frodsham. A public footpath crosses over the bridge. Vegetation cover on the bridge embankments screens views north (and south). However, views looking north-east and north-west towards the Solar Array Development Area are available over the safety fencing on the bridge and over highway vegetation. The motorway is a very prominent presence both physically and due to fast-moving traffic. Electricity pylons, Frodsham Wind Farm and industrial development at Runcorn are clearly visible. The footpath forms a loop which runs through the Order Limits and around the southern side of the Weaver Navigation and is relatively well used   |   |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Walkers<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The M56 is a significant visual detractor.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Public right of way.</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity  |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects views available to walkers on the footpath. The M56 is a significant visual detractor at short range, and hence the presence of highly visible development would be anticipated by the majority if not all users. As such, susceptibility to change is medium to high. The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a well used public right of way. There is therefore clear and recognised recreational value. Value is medium to high. Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b> .  |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solar Array Development initially clearly visible to the north-east.</li> <li>Views to the west heavily filtered by existing vegetation.</li> <li>As proposed planting at the south-eastern boundary of the Order Limits establishes, this would provide increasingly effective screening of solar panels to the north-east and reinforce existing screening to the west</li> <li>Glimpses of panels to the north-east are likely to remain</li> <li>The M56 would remain a very strong influence upon the view, with the Proposed Development a limited addition in this context</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure and industry is a prominent foreground presence and also visible in the background.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>View interrupted by vegetation and fencing.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Order Limits</li> <li>103m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bridge only.</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude  |   |
| <b>Small to Medium</b> initially, reducing to <b>small</b> in the medium and long-term.<br>The proposed Solar Array Development would initially be clearly visible in views to the north-east. Views of solar panels and associated structures to the west of the bridge would be heavily filtered by existing vegetation north of the motorway. As proposed planting at the south-eastern boundary of the Order Limits establishes, this would provide increasingly effective screening of solar panels to the north-east and reinforce existing screening to the west. Glimpses of solar panels are likely to remain in views looking north-east above the new planting. The M56 would remain a very   |   |

|  |
|--|
| prominent feature, and the Proposed Development would comprise only a limited addition to the view in this context.  |
| Level and Significance of Effect   |
| A <b>moderate</b> level of effect would occur initially, reducing to <b>minor to moderate</b> in the medium and longer-term.<br>The Proposed Development would be visible from the Viewpoint and the influence of built development upon the views from the footpath would increase. Over time, the degree to which the Proposed Development would be visible would reduce, as proposed new planting at the edge of the Order Limits establishes. The M56 would remain the most prominent feature in the view irrespective of the presence/absence of the Proposed Development.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> . |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial   |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .  |



| Viewpoint 15: M56, Brook Furlong overbridge  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 350200,377334   |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north-east from M56 overbridge between Frodsham and Helsby. A restricted byway crosses the bridge. Views looking north-east towards the Solar Array Development Area are available over the safety fencing on the bridge. The motorway is a very prominent presence both physically and due to fast-moving traffic. Electricity pylons, Frodsham Wind Farm and industrial development at Runcorn are clearly visible.   |   |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Byway users (inc. cyclists)<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The M56 is a significant visual detractor.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>National Cycle Route.</li> <li>Public right of way.</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity  |   |
| <p>The Viewpoint reflects views available to users of the byway, including (cyclists). The M56 is a significant visual detractor at short range, and hence the presence of highly visible development would be anticipated by the majority if not all users. As such, susceptibility to change is medium to high.</p> <p>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a public right of way, and also along a National Cycle Route. There is therefore clear and recognised recreational value. Value is medium to high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b>.</p>  |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Solar Array Development would be clearly visible in views to the north-east, but would be separated from the Viewpoint by an area of undeveloped field outside the Order Limits.</li> <li>Proposed tree planting would provide partially screening and visibility would reduce by Year 10.</li> <li>Views looking north-west from the bridge would be very well screened by existing features and only glimpses of the solar panels and associated structures would be available in this direction.</li> <li>The M56 would remain a very strong influence upon the view, with the Proposed Development a limited addition in this context</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure and industry is a prominent foreground presence and also visible in the background.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>View interrupted by vegetation and fencing.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At boundary of Order Limits</li> <li>295m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bridge only.</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude  |   |
| <p><b>Small to Medium</b> initially, reducing to <b>small</b> in the longer-term</p> <p>The proposed Solar Array Development would be clearly visible to the north-east from the bridge in the middle ground of the view, but it would be separated from the Viewpoint by an area of undeveloped field on the northern side of the motorway and lying outside of the Order Limits. As proposed tree planting establishes, this would provide screening of views, and the visibility of the</p>   |   |

| solar panels would reduce by Year 10. Views looking north-west from the bridge would be very well screened by existing features including the wooded edge of the land associated within former canal dredgings, and only glimpses of the solar panels and associated structures would be available in this direction. The M56 would remain a very strong influence upon the view, with the Proposed Development a limited addition in this context.  |
|--|
| Level and Significance of Effect   |
| A <b>moderate</b> level of effect would occur initially, reducing to <b>minor to moderate</b> in the longer-term. The Proposed Development would be visible from the Viewpoint and the influence of built development upon the views from the bridge would increase to a limited degree. The M56 would remain the most prominent feature in the view irrespective of the presence/absence of the Proposed Development. Proposed new tree planting to the north-east of the Viewpoint, would increase the degree to which new structures are screened in the longer-term. Effects would <b>not be significant</b> . |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial   |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .  |

| Viewpoint 16: M56, Straight Length overbridge   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 350200,377334  |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north-east from M56 overbridge between Frodsham and Helsby. A restricted byway crosses the bridge. Views looking north-east towards the Solar Array Development Area are available over the safety fencing on the bridge. The motorway is a very prominent presence both physically and due to fast-moving traffic. Electricity pylons are prominent at short range. Frodsham Wind Farm and industrial development at Runcorn are clearly visible.   |  |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Byway users (inc. cyclists)<br>• The M56 is a significant visual detractor.  | • No landscape designations.<br>• Public right of way.   |
| Sensitivity   |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects views available to users of the byway. The M56 is a significant visual detractor at short range, and hence the presence of highly visible development would be anticipated by the majority if not all users. As such, susceptibility to change is medium to high. The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a public right of way, and also along a National Cycle Route. There is therefore clear and recognised recreational value. Value is medium to high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b> .  |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed BESS/Substation (Option 1) and the south-western part of the proposed Solar Array Development would be visible to the north-west.</li> <li>BESS/Substation Option 2 would further from the Viewpoint and would be less visible</li> <li>The new structures would be located in the middle ground of the view, on the raised land associated with former canal dredgings.</li> <li>Pylons and wind turbines would remain notably more prominent than the Proposed Development.</li> <li>The M56 would remain a very strong influence upon the view, with the Proposed Development a limited addition in this context.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure and industry is a prominent foreground presence and also visible in the background.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>View interrupted by fencing.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>590m to Order Limits</li> <li>880m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bridge only.</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude   |  |
| <b>Small</b><br>The proposed BESS/Substation (Option 1) and the south-western part of the proposed Solar Array Development would be visible to the north-west. BESS/Substation Option 2 would further from the Viewpoint and would be less visible. The new structures would be located in the middle ground of the view, on the raised land associated with former canal dredgings, and would be seen in the same field of view as the Eastern Cluster of Frodsham Wind Farm. Pylons and wind turbines would remain notably more prominent than the Proposed Development. The M56 would remain a   |  |

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| Viewpoint 17: Public footpath within Order Limits  |  |
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| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 351372,379197   |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View from public footpath at the boundary of the Order Limits. The footpath is elevated above the levels of the Solar Array Development Area along a bank running around the western edge of the INEOS Inovyn Deposit Ground. A small waterbody called The Lum is visible immediately to the south-west. The Solar Array Development Area is visible to the south and west of the Viewpoint. Views to the east are well screened by the rising landform, with only glimpses of development at Runcorn beyond this. Views looking west and north-west along the River Weaver are clear and industry at the edge of Runcorn is also clearly visible in this direction. Electricity pylons and Frodsham Wind Farm are prominent to the south and west. Urban development at Frodsham is visible to the south and the distinctive landforms of Frodsham Hill and Helsby Hill define much of the southern skyline. The footpath forms a loop which runs through the Order Limits and around the southern side of the Weaver and is relatively well used.  |  |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Walkers<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations;</li> <li>Public footpath.</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity  |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to walkers on the footpath. The views available will be the main reason for any visit. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a well used public right of way. There is therefore clear and recognised recreational value. Value is medium to high. Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed Solar Array Development would be visible to the south of The Lum.</li> <li>An undeveloped buffer of retained vegetation would be located north of the solar panels.</li> <li>More distant solar panels in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would also be visible as a very limited presence on the western skyline.</li> <li>The influence of development upon the view would increase, and there would be an associated loss of visibility of existing grassland vegetation within the Solar Array Development Area</li> <li>Proposed planting would provide some degree of screening once established.</li> <li>Views to Frodsham and Helsby Hills would be maintained</li> <li>Wind turbines and pylons would remain prominent structures</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure and industry is a well-established presence in the view.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At boundary of Order Limits</li> <li>162m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The adjacent stretch of footpath.</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude  |  |

|   |
|---|
| <b>Medium</b>   |
| View of the proposed Solar Array Development would be available to the rear of The Lum, south-west of the Viewpoint. A development-free buffer would be maintained to the north of the solar panels. More distant solar panels in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would also be visible as a very limited presence on the western skyline. The influence of development upon the view would increase, and there would be an associated loss of visibility of existing grassland vegetation within the Solar Array Development Area. Over time, proposed tree and shrub planting to the south of the Viewpoint would provide a degree of screening, and the visibility of the solar panels would reduce by Year 10. Views to Frodsham Hill and Helsby Hill would be maintained. Wind turbines and pylons would remain prominent structures.                         |
| <b>Level and Significance of Effect</b>   |
| A <b>moderate</b> level of effect would occur initially, reducing to <b>minor to moderate</b> in the medium and longer-term.<br>The Proposed Development would be an obvious addition to the view, with some new elements clearly visible at short range. The well-established influence of development upon the view would increase, with new structures introduced into a presently undeveloped area close to the Viewpoint. Once proposed planting south of the Viewpoint established, this would reduce the visibility of the proposed solar panels. The underlying nature of the view, namely an expansive view across Frodsham Marshes to the Frodsham and Helsby Hills with a range of different types of built development including prominent electricity generating and supply infrastructure present, would not change greatly.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> . |
| <b>Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial</b>   |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .   |



| Viewpoint 18: Restricted byway leading to Frodsham Marsh Farm  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 350098,378881   |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>360 degree panoramic view from restricted byway located within the Order Limits. The Viewpoint is located close to a section of above ground pipeline. The view is an open one across the western half of the Solar Array Development Area (which is predominantly close mown grassland). The wind turbines and anemometry mast at Frodsham Wind Farm are prominent to the east. Industrial development at the edge of Runcorn is clearly visible to the north-east. Industrial development further west on the southern side of the Mersey Estuary is a minor background presence. The distinctive landforms of Frodsham Hill and Helsby Hill define much of the southern skyline. Overhead transmission lines on timber poles run along the side of the byway. Fencing (with gates) gates also runs along both sides of the byway and adds visual clutter. The byway itself is the access to Frodsham Marsh Farm (non-residential) and is a one-way route. |  |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Byway users<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any visit.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Public right of way, but not one that leads to other routes</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity  |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of the byway. The views available will be the main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a public right of way, but this is not a route that leads to any other route. As such, recreational value is limited. Value is medium.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>medium to high</b> .  |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solar Array Development prominent at short range.</li> <li>Existing foreground views of grassland with various elements of 'clutter' would be replaced by views of a solar farm, with panels and associated structures.</li> <li>Proposed new planting would provide some degree of screening, but the surrounding solar farm would remain prominent.</li> <li>Longer views to Helsby Hill and Frodsham hill would remain</li> <li>A notable increase in the influence of built development.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is a well-established presence in the view.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear view, with limited foreground clutter.</li> </ul>  | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Order Limits</li> <li>Within Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 250m length of byway</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude  |  |
| <b>Large</b><br>The Proposed Development would be clearly visible at short range. New solar panels and associated structures would be a prominent addition to the view, and would replace the existing views across the fields that surround the Viewpoint, albeit these include elements of visual 'clutter'. Proposed planting along the route of the byway would provide partial screening of views. However the surrounding solar farm would remain a prominent new presence. Long views south to Helsby   |  |

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| Hill and Frodsham Hill would remain. There would be a notable increase in the influence of built development upon the view.  |
| <b>Level and Significance of Effect</b>  |
| A <b>moderate to major</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The experience of users of the byway would change from one of travelling through an area of large scale pasture grassland to one of travelling through a solar farm (with an increased level of vegetation cover along the byway in the longer term). Whilst built structures, including industry and infrastructure development are already clearly visible from the Viewpoint, the influence of such structures upon the view would increase very obviously.<br>Effects would be <b>significant</b> . |
| <b>Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial</b>  |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .  |

| Viewpoint 19: Restricted byway, Lordship Lane   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 347762,376871  |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north-east along restricted byway within the Order Limits (along the route of the proposed Access Road). National Cycle Route 5 follows the byway. Frodsham Wind Farm is prominent to the north-east. Industrial development to the west (Protos/CF Fertilisers) is prominent at short-range (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figure). Land to the north within the extent of the Wind Farm is elevated above the level of the surrounding land. There are glimpses of the Solar Array Development Area available to the east. The Viewpoint is located at a point where travellers transition for an area of prominent industry to the west into a more open area to the east.   |  |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Byway users (inc. cyclists)<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>National Cycle Route.</li> <li>Public right of way.</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of the byway, including cyclists. The view available will be the main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high. The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a public right of way and also along a National Cycle Route. There is clear and recognised recreational value. Value is medium to high. Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Glimpses of solar panels and associated structures at the south-western boundary of the Solar Array Development Area.</li> <li>The new structures would not be prominent due to their low height.</li> <li>The Access Road would not differ in appearance to any appreciable degree from baseline.</li> <li>Very intermittent and infrequent maintenance traffic on the Access Road.</li> <li>The well-established influence of industry and infrastructure development would not appreciably change</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry and infrastructure is prominent.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Order Limits</li> <li>2.41km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 750m stretch of Lordship Lane</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude   |  |
| <b>Negligible</b><br>The proposed Solar Array Development would be theoretically visible in views looking eastwards. Given the low height of the new structures, these would not be prominent, especially given the existing context of much larger existing structures. The appearance of the Access Road would not differ to any appreciable degree from baseline. Traffic using the Access Road would be present on a very infrequent and intermittent basis. The well-established influence of industrial and infrastructure development would not change appreciably from baseline.  |  |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |  |
| A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.  |  |

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| Viewpoint 20: Restricted byway, Cross Lane  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 348667,377909  |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north-east along restricted byway within the Order Limits (along the route of the proposed Access Road). The Western Cluster of Frodsham Wind Farm is prominent to west (out of shot of the Viewpoint Figure), and the Eastern Cluster of the Wind Farm is visible to the east. Industrial development at the edge of Runcorn is also visible to the east. There are glimpses of the Solar Array Development Area available to the east.   |   |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Byway users<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will by the main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Public right of way.</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of the byway. The view available will be the main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a public right of way. There is clear and recognised recreational value. Value is medium to high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed solar panels and associated structures at the western boundary of the Solar Array Development Area would be a very limited addition to the view.</li> <li>The new structures would not be prominent due to their low height.</li> <li>The Access Road would not differ in appearance to any appreciable degree from baseline.</li> <li>Very intermittent and infrequent maintenance traffic on the Access Road.</li> <li>The well-established influence of industry and infrastructure development would not appreciably change</li> <li>Changes associated with the Cell 3 mitigation area would be apparent in the middle ground.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry and infrastructure is prominent.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Order Limits</li> <li>1.1km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 500m length of Cross Lane</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude   |   |
| <b>Small</b><br>The proposed solar panels and associated structures (chiefly fencing) would be visible at the western boundary of the Solar Array Development Area. These would comprise a very limited addition to the view due to their low height. The new structures would not be prominent, especially in a context where much larger structures are already visible. The Access Road would not change in appearance to any appreciable degree from baseline. Traffic using the Access Road would be present on a very infrequent and intermittent basis. The well-established influence of industry and infrastructure development would not appreciably change. In addition, the changes in vegetation cover associated with the Cell 3 mitigation area would also be visible in the middle ground of the view.  |   |

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| Viewpoint 21: Restricted byway, Straight Length   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 349937,377623  |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking north-east from intersection of series of restricted byways to the south of the Order Limits. National Cycle Route 5 follows the route of two of the byways. The two clusters of Frodsham Wind Farm are prominent to the east and to the west (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figure). Electricity pylons are also prominent to the south. Land to the north is elevated above the levels of the surrounding area due to historic spreading of canal dredgings. Frodsham Hill and Helsby Hill are distinctive skyline features to the south (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figure). Industry to the west is also visible (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figure).   |  |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Byway users (inc. cyclists)<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>National Cycle Route.</li> <li>Public right of way.</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of the byway, including cyclists. The view available will be the main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a public right of way and also along a National Cycle Route. There is clear and recognised recreational value. Value is medium to high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed BESS/Substation (Option 1) and the south-western part of the proposed Solar Array Development would be partially visible to the north-west.</li> <li>The new structures would be located in the middle ground of the view, on the raised land associated with former canal dredgings, and vegetation cover at the edge of this area would provide screening</li> <li>BESS/Substation Option 2 would further from the Viewpoint and would be less visible</li> <li>Pylons and wind turbines would remain notably more prominent than the Proposed Development.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure development is a well-established presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>610m to Order Limits</li> <li>688m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 250m stretches of the rights of way that converge on the Viewpoint</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude   |  |
| <b>Small</b><br>The proposed BESS/Substation (Option 1) and the south-western part of the proposed Solar Array Development would be partially visible to the north-west. The new structures would be located in the middle ground of the view, on the raised land associated with former canal dredgings, and vegetation cover at the edge of this area would provide screening. BESS/Substation Option 2 would be further from the Viewpoint and would be better screened less visible. Pylons and wind turbines would remain notably more prominent than the Proposed Development. The M56 would remain a very strong influence upon the view, with the Proposed Development a limited addition in  |  |

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| this context. Limited and incremental change in a view where the influence of industry and infrastructure is well established.   |
| Level and Significance of Effect   |
| A <b>minor</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be a limited addition to the middle ground of a view where industry and infrastructure development is well-established. Existing built features would remain far more prominent than any element of the Proposed Development.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> . |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial   |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .  |



| Viewpoint 22: Public footpath, Ince   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 345227,377026  |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking east-north-east from public footpath to the north of Ince. The view is across farmland on the southern side of the Mersey Estuary. Holme Farm is a prominent presence in the foreground. Industry at Protos and CF Fertilisers and the Western Cluster of Frodsham Wind Farm is also clearly visible. The Eastern Cluster of the Wind Farm, and industrial development at Runcorn are minor features in the background. Tree belts screen views to the south and south-east. Helsby Hill and Frodsham Hill form part of the south-eastern skyline. |  |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Walkers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Public right of way.</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity   |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to walkers on the footpath. The view available will be the main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high. The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a public right of way. There is clear recreational value. Value is medium to high. Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be barely visible.</li> <li>Intervening features would provide very effective screening, and only glimpses of the new structures would be available in the distance.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure is a well-established presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul>  | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>682m to Order Limits</li> <li>4.63km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjacent footpath.</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude   |  |
| <b>Negligible</b><br>The Proposed Development would be barely visible from the Viewpoint. Intervening features including buildings and vegetation cover would provide very effective screening. Only glimpses of the new structures would be available towards the rear of the view, and the Proposed Development is unlikely to be clearly visible.  |  |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |  |
| A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be barely visible from the Viewpoint, and its presence would have no influence upon the nature of the existing views looking eastwards across the southern side of the Mersey Estuary.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .  |  |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |  |
| The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance nor detract from the view. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b> .  |  |

| Viewpoint 23: Public footpath adj. to River Weaver   |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 351196,379061   |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>360 degree panoramic view from public footpath within the Order Limits. The footpath is elevated above the levels of the Solar Array Development Area along a flood bank on the southern side of the River Weaver. The Solar Array Development Area is visible to the south and west of the Viewpoint. Frodsham Wind Farm and electricity pylons are also prominent in the same field of view. Industrial development at Runcorn is clearly visible to the north-east. The Weaver Navigation is a prominent feature to the north. Urban development at Frodsham is visible to the south and the distinctive landforms of Frodsham Hill and Helsby Hill define much of the southern skyline. The footpath forms a loop which runs through the Order Limits and around the southern side of the Weaver and is relatively well used   |  |
| Susceptibility to Change   | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Walkers<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations;</li> <li>Public footpath.</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity  |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to walkers on the footpath. The views available will be the main reason for any visit. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a well used public right of way. There is therefore clear and recognised recreational value. Value is medium to high. Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect   | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed Solar Array Development would be visible to the south of the Viewpoint.</li> <li>An undeveloped buffer of retained vegetation would be located north of the solar panels.</li> <li>More distant solar panels in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would also be visible as a very limited presence on the western skyline.</li> <li>The influence of development upon the view would increase, and there would be an associated loss of visibility of existing grassland vegetation within the Solar Array Development Area.</li> <li>Proposed planting would provide some degree of screening once established.</li> <li>Views to Frodsham and Helsby Hills would be maintained</li> <li>Wind turbines and pylons would remain prominent structures.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure is prominent.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Order Limits</li> <li>49m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 500m long footpath running along the flood embankment.</li> </ul> |
| Duration   | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude  |  |
| <b>Medium</b><br>View of the proposed Solar Array Development would be available to the rear of The Lum, south-west of the Viewpoint. A development-free buffer would be maintained to the north of the solar  |  |

| panels. More distant solar panels in the western part of the Solar Array Development Area would also be visible as a very limited presence on the western skyline. The influence of development upon the view would increase, and there would be an associated loss of visibility of existing grassland vegetation within the Solar Array Development Area. Over time, proposed tree and shrub planting to the south of the Viewpoint would provide a degree of screening, and the visibility of the solar panels would reduce by Year 10. Views to Frodsham Hill and Helsby Hill would be maintained. Wind turbines and pylons would remain prominent structures.  |
|---|
| Level and Significance of Effect  |
| A <b>moderate</b> level of effect would occur initially, reducing to <b>minor to moderate</b> in the longer-term. The Proposed Development would be an obvious addition to the view, with some new elements clearly visible at short range. The well-established influence of development upon the view would increase, with new structures introduced into a presently undeveloped area close to the Viewpoint. Once proposed planting south of the Viewpoint established, this would reduce the visibility of the proposed solar panels. The underlying nature of the view, namely an expansive view across Frodsham Marshes to the Frodsham and Helsby Hills with a range of different types of built development including prominent electricity generating and supply infrastructure present, would not change greatly.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> . |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .   |

| Viewpoint 24: The Willows   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 352253,377781  |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>A view looking north-west along a side street (The Willows) in central Frodsham. The Viewpoint is at the junction of The Willows with Fluin Lane (a main road). The view is a narrow one framed by the properties to the north-west. Residential development dominates the foreground of the view. The Frodsham Wind Farm and glimpses of the Solar Array Development Area are visible towards the rear of the view. Properties located to the north-west of the Viewpoint along The Willows are oriented perpendicular to the direction of the Proposed Development. However, those at the eastern end of the road close to the Viewpoint (c. 22 no three-storey properties) are oriented with rear views in the direction of the Solar Array Development Area, and given the nature of the landform (relatively steep hillside) some of these are likely to have clearer views than that illustrated on the Viewpoint Figure. |   |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct views from rear windows of the nearest properties.</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Road users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically have a medium susceptibility to change.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Similar (ground floor) views from nearby properties</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity   |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects direct views from the rear windows of nearby properties. Susceptibility to change is high. The Viewpoint reflects the views available to road users. These typically have a medium susceptibility to change, and there is nothing at the Viewpoint that would justify raising or lowering this.<br><br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. Similar views are available from the ground floor windows of nearby properties, and views from upper windows are likely to be clearer. As such, the view is a typical one from this part of Frodsham. Value is medium to high<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .  |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ground level views towards the Proposed Development well screened by intervening buildings.</li> <li>The western part of the Solar Array Development would be visible as a very limited addition to a view where wind turbines would remain far more prominent.</li> <li>Views from the third floor windows of the adjacent properties are likely to be clearer, and the proposed Solar Array Development and both the BESS Substation options are likely to be more clearly visible.</li> <li>A limited increase in the well-established influence of industry and infrastructure in the background of the view</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure a limited background presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Narrow view framed by development.</li> </ul>      | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct from nearby properties and from the roadside.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>700m to Order Limits</li> <li>878m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Viewpoint and adjacent properties.</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |

| Magnitude   |
|---|
| <p><b>Small</b></p> <p>Ground level views in the direction of the Proposed Development would be well screened by intervening buildings. The western part of the Solar Array Development as a very limited addition to a view where the Frodsham Wind Farm is a far more prominent presence. Views from the third floor windows of the adjacent properties are likely to be clearer, and the proposed Solar Array Development and both the BESS Substation options are likely to be more clearly visible in these views. There would be a limited increase in the well-established influence of industry and infrastructure in the background of the view. Foreground features would continue to be the most prominent features.</p> |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |
| <p>A <b>minor to moderate</b> level of effect would occur.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be a limited addition to a view that is largely defined by foreground development, and where industry and infrastructure is a well-established background presence. The nature of the view looking outwards from this part of Frodsham over the Mersey Estuary would not change notably.</p> <p>Effects would <b>not be significant</b>.</p>   |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |
| <p>The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b>.</p>   |

| Viewpoint 25: Public footpath adj. to River Weaver  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 352174,379271  |  |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking west from public footpath running along the western bank of the River Weaver, at the boundary of the Order Limits. The footpath is elevated above the levels of the Solar Array Development Area along a flood bank. The Solar Array Development Area is visible to the south-west and west of the Viewpoint. Electricity pylons are prominent at close range to the west and north. Structures at the Frodsham Substation are partially visible through vegetation cover to the east (on the opposite side of the River). Frodsham Wind Farm is clearly visible to the west. Industrial development at Runcorn is visible to the north. Helsby Hill is a distinctive skyline feature to the west (Frodsham Hill is screened from the Viewpoint by the adjacent hedgerow). The bridge carrying the M56 across the River Weaver can be seen to the south-east, along with associated traffic. The footpath forms a loop which runs through the Order Limits and around the southern side of the Weaver and is relatively well used. |  |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value  |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Walkers<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be the main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations;</li> <li>Public footpath.</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity   |  |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to walkers on the footpath. The views available will be the main reason for any visit. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a well used public right of way. There is therefore clear and recognised recreational value. Value is medium to high. Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .  |  |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent  |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Views of proposed solar panels and fencing at short range.</li> <li>Obvious increase in the influence of development in the fields immediately west and south-west of the Viewpoint.</li> <li>Associated loss of visibility of existing grassland vegetation and arable land within the Solar Array Development Area.</li> <li>Proposed tree and hedgerow planting along the boundary of the Solar Array Development Area would reduce the visibility of the solar panels over time.</li> <li>The new overhead connection across the River Weaver to the Frodsham Substation would also be visible</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure is prominent.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view.</li> </ul>   | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within Order Limits</li> <li>27m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 800m stretch of footpath</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>  |
| Magnitude   |  |
| <b>Medium to Large</b> initially, reducing to <b>medium</b> in the medium and longer-term<br>The introduction of the Proposed Development would result in views of new solar panels and fencing at short range to the south and west of the Viewpoint. There would therefore be an obvious increase in the influence of built development within the adjacent fields, and an associated loss of the visibility of existing grassland and arable land within the same fields. Proposed tree and  |  |

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| hedgerow planting along the perimeter of the Solar Array Development Area would provide partial screening, and the visibility of the proposed solar panels would reduce over time. The new overhead connection across the River Weaver to the Frodsham Substation would also be visible.   |
| <b>Level and Significance of Effect</b>  |
| <p>A <b>moderate to major</b> level of effect would occur initially, reducing to <b>moderate</b> in the medium and long-term.</p> <p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would result in an obvious increase in the influence of built development upon views from the riverside footpath. The experience of footpath users would change from one where infrastructure is a clearly visible presence set within the surrounding landscape, to one where infrastructure is the predominant land use to the south and west.</p> <p>Effects would initially be <b>significant</b>.</p> <p>As proposed planting establishes, this would provide partial screening of views, retain longer vistas toward Helsby and Frodsham Hills, and would help enclose the solar panels with vegetation, in a similar fashion to the Substation on the opposite side of the Weaver. By Year 10, visual effects would have reduced and would <b>not be significant</b>.</p> |
| <b>Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial</b>  |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .  |

| Viewpoint 26: Public footpath, adj. to St Laurence's Church   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 352073,377316  |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View north from public footpath that runs through Churchfields public open space, located adjacent to the boundary wall of St. Laurence's Church The view is looking northward over Churchfields, with residential development located on the opposite side of the open space. The Mersey Estuary is clearly visible in the background of the view. across the Mersey estuary. The Solar Array Development Area, industrial development at Runcorn and Frodsham Wind Farm are all clearly visible. Churchfields includes a play area and several benches.   |   |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Open space users<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available will be a major reason for many visits.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Public open space.</li> <li>Public right of way.</li> <li>Conservation Area.</li> <li>Close to Grade I Listed Building (Church)</li> </ul>   |
| Sensitivity   |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of Churchfields. The views available will be a major reason for many visits. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>the Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located within a Conservation Area and close to the Grade I Listed Church and hence there is designated heritage interest. It is located on a public right of way running through an area of public open space. There is recognised amenity/recreational value. Value is high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There would be some limited screening by foreground features, but the majority of the Solar Array Development and both BESS/Substation options would be clearly visible in the middle ground</li> <li>A limited but clearly perceptible increase in the well-established influence of industry and infrastructure development upon views across the Mersey Estuary</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial/infrastructure development is a well-established background presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear and unencumbered view</li> </ul> | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>990m to Order Limits</li> <li>1.18km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eastern edge of Churchfields.</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude   |   |
| <b>Small to Medium</b><br>The majority of the Proposed Development would be clearly visible in the middle ground of the view. There would be some limited screened by foreground buildings and vegetation, but the majority of the Solar Array Development and both BESS/Substation options would be visible above these features. There would be a limited but clearly perceptible increase in the well-established influence of industry and infrastructure development upon views across the Mersey Estuary.   |   |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |   |
| A <b>moderate</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be introduced into the middle ground of a view where the influence of industrial and infrastructure development is already well-established. This influence  |   |



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| would increase as a result of the Proposed Development, but not to such a degree that there would be any fundamental change in the nature of the views available looking out from Churchfields across the Mersey Estuary.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> . |
| <b>Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial</b>  |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .  |

| Viewpoint 27: Public footpath, near Rocksavage Moorings   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 352541,379610  |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking south-west across the Weaver Navigation from the end of a public footpath close to moorings. The canal corridor is lined by deciduous vegetation which restricts the extent of visibility to the west, including into the Order Limits. Electricity pylons are visible above this tree cover, and are more clearly visible to the north. Multiple lines of associated overhead wires cross the Canal. Industrial development at Runcorn is visible in views north-west along the Canal. The bridge carrying the M56 across the River Weaver is clearly visible to the south-west, along with associated traffic (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figure). |   |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Canal users (inc. walkers on the footpath)<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available are likely to be a main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Public footpath.</li> <li>Canal accessible to the public (by boat)</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of the Weaver Navigation, including users of the Canal itself and walkers on the footpath. The views available are likely to be a main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high.<br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It is located along a public footpath and also reflects views from the Weaver Navigation (a publicly accessible stretch of water). Value is medium to high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .  |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Development very well screened by intervening vegetation cover.</li> <li>At worst glimpses of the new connection within the Frodsham Substation</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure is an established presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Views restricted by vegetation at short-range.</li> <li>Transient (but slow-moving) from canal boats.</li> </ul>  | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct from the footpath.</li> <li>Perpendicular to the direction of boat travel</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>53m to Order Limits</li> <li>518m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>300m length of footpath between the Viewpoint and the M56 overbridge.</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude   |   |
| <b>Negligible.</b><br>The Proposed Development would be very well screened by intervening vegetation cover on the western side of the canal, and is unlikely to be visible. At worst, there would be glimpses of the new connection within the existing Frodsham Substation, in the context of the existing structures at the Substation  |   |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |   |
| A <b>negligible</b> level of effect would occur.<br>The Proposed Development would be barely if at all visible from the Viewpoint. The nature of views across and along the Canal, with industry/infrastructure development a well-established presence, would not change.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> .   |   |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |   |
| The presence of the Proposed Development would neither enhance nor detract from the view. As such, effects would be <b>neutral</b> .  |   |



| Viewpoint 28: Marsh Lock  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 350501,379805  |   |
| <p><b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br/>View from Marsh Lock, at the junction of the Weaver Navigation and the Manchester Ship Canal. The view is looking west across the Ship Canal, with the embankment at the edge of the Solar Array Development Area visible on the opposite side. The Eastern Cluster of Frodsham Wind Farm is very prominent in the same field of view, and the Western Cluster of the Wind Farm is also visible. Industry at the edge of Runcorn is visible to the north-east, partially screened by dense vegetation cover to the north of the Lock. Frodsham Hill and Helsby Hill are notable skyline features. Open water is the predominant foreground influence.</p> <p>The Viewpoint itself is not publicly accessible and was visited with the permission of the Canal and River Trust. The Weaver Navigation itself is located to the north of the Viewpoint and views from the canal are screened by the dense vegetation cover between it and the Lock.</p> <p>The Viewpoint was selected as a proxy to illustrate potential worst case views for users of the Weaver Navigation.</p> |   |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value   |
| <p><b>Receptor:</b> Canal users</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available are likely to be a main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Canal accessible to the public (by boat)</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |   |
| <p>The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of the Weaver Navigation. The views available are likely to be a main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high.</p> <p>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It reflects views from the Weaver Navigation (a publicly accessible stretch of water). Value is medium to high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b>.</p>   |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent   |
| <p><b>Scale of Change in view:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Development would be partially visible above the flood embankment at the edge of the Order Limits.</li> <li>The tops of solar panels and associated fencing at the edge of the Solar Array Development Area would be apparent above the flood embankment.</li> <li>Views from the Weaver Navigation itself would be very well screened by vegetation, and it unlikely that users would experience any change in view.</li> <li>Very limited increase in the well-established influence of infrastructure/industry.</li> </ul> <p><b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure is an established presence.</li> </ul> <p><b>Nature of the View:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Views restricted by vegetation at short-range.</li> <li>Transient (but slow-moving) from canal boats.</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Angle:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perpendicular to the direction of boat travel</li> </ul> <p><b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>265m to Order Limits</li> <li>292m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The vicinity of Marsh Lock only.</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude   |   |
| <p><b>Small</b> (at worst)</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be partially visible above the flood embankment at the edge of the Order Limits. The tops of solar panels and associated fencing at the edge of the Solar Array Development Area would be visible. Views from the Weaver Navigation itself would be very well</p>  |   |

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| screened by vegetation, and it is unlikely that canal users would experience any change in view. There would be a very limited increase in the well-established influence of infrastructure/industry.   |
| Level and Significance of Effect  |
| A <b>minor</b> level of effect would occur at worst<br>The Proposed Development would be a small scale addition to an expansive view where prominent industry/infrastructure is a well-established influence. Views from boats using the Weaver Navigation would be very well screened by vegetation cover, and the Proposed Development is unlikely to be visible from these.<br>Effects would <b>not be significant</b> . |
| Adverse/Neutral/Beneficial  |
| The effects of the Proposed Development would be <b>adverse</b> .   |

| Viewpoint 29: Weaver Navigation Access Track  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 351379,379741  |   |
| <p><b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br/>View looking south-west from a point along the private access track leading to Marsh Lock. The view is defined largely by the dense vegetation cover along either side of the track. Views towards the Solar Array Development Area are available over a localised low point in this vegetation cover, which allows views toward the Eastern Cluster of Frodsham Wind Farm, with Helsby Hill and Frodsham Hill on the skyline. Pylons are prominent at short range. The flood embankment at the edge of the Solar Array is a very minor presence. Industry at the edge of Runcorn is visible on the opposite side of the canal, to the north.</p> <p>The Viewpoint itself is not publicly accessible and was visited with the permission of the Canal and River Trust. The Weaver Navigation itself is located to the north of the Viewpoint and at a lower elevation to it. Views from the canal are screened by the vegetated embankment between it and the Viewpoint.</p> <p>The Viewpoint was selected as a proxy to illustrate potential worst case views for users of the Weaver Navigation</p> |   |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value   |
| <p><b>Receptor:</b> Canal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The views available are likely to be a main reason for any journey.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Canal accessible to the public (by boat)</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |   |
| <p>The Viewpoint reflects the views available to users of the Weaver Navigation, including users of the Canal itself. The views available are likely to be a main reason for any journey. Susceptibility to change is high.</p> <p>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. It reflects views from the Weaver Navigation (a publicly accessible stretch of water). Value is medium to high.</p> <p>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b>.</p>  |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent   |
| <p><b>Scale of Change in view:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Development would be very well screened by intervening vegetation cover.</li> <li>Potential glimpses of new panels and fencing at the edge of the Solar Array Development Area.</li> <li>Views from the Weaver Navigation itself would be very well screened by vegetation, and it unlikely that users would experience any change in view.</li> <li>Very limited increase in the well-established influence of infrastructure/industry</li> </ul> <p><b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure is an established presence.</li> </ul> <p><b>Nature of the View:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Views restricted by vegetation at short-range.</li> <li>Transient (but slow-moving) from canal boats.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Angle:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perpendicular to the direction of boat travel</li> </ul> <p><b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>555m to Order Limits</li> <li>603m to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 250m stretch of access track (and adjacent stretch of canal)</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude   |   |
| <p><b>Small</b> (at worst)</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be very well screened in views from the access track by intervening vegetation cover. Potential glimpses of new panels and fencing located at the northern edge of the Solar Array Development Area would be available. Views from the Weaver Navigation</p>   |   |

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| Viewpoint 30: Weston Road, Runcorn  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Grid Reference:</b> 350713, 380702   |   |
| <b>Description of Baseline View:</b><br>View looking south across the Mersey Estuary from road running through a residential area at the southern edge of Runcorn. The view is over Frodsham Marshes towards Helsby Hill. The Eastern Cluster of the Wind Farm intrudes upon this view. The Western Cluster of the Wind Farm and development at Protos and at Stanlow Oil Refinery is visible further to the west. The foreground of the view is defined by the adjacent field which extends down a sloping landform, with industry at the edge of Runcorn (set at a much lower elevation) partially visible beyond the lip of the landform. The Mersey itself is a prominent feature, with development on the northern side of the river also visible (out of shot on the Viewpoint Figure). A series of residential properties are located to the rear of the Viewpoint and have similar views. |   |
| Susceptibility to Change  | Value   |
| <b>Receptor:</b> Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct views from main windows of the nearest properties.</li> </ul> <b>Receptor:</b> Road users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically have a medium susceptibility to change.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No landscape designations.</li> <li>Similar views available from the majority of nearby properties</li> </ul>  |
| Sensitivity   |   |
| The Viewpoint reflects direct views from the main windows of nearby properties. Susceptibility to change is high. The Viewpoint reflects the views available to road users. These typically have a medium susceptibility to change, and there is nothing at the Viewpoint that would justify raising or lowering this.<br>The Viewpoint is not subject to any landscape designations. Similar views are available from nearby properties, and the view is also familiar to people passing through Weston. Value is medium to high.<br>Overall, sensitivity is <b>high</b> .   |   |
| Size/Scale of Effect  | Geographical Extent   |
| <b>Scale of Change in view:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Much of the Proposed Development would be screened from view by foreground features.</li> <li>New panels and associated features in the western part of the Solar Array Development Array would be visible in the context of more prominent wind turbines and foreground industrial structures</li> <li>A limited and incremental increase in the well-established influence of industry and infrastructure development upon views across the Mersey Estuary.</li> </ul> <b>Degree of contrast/integration:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry/infrastructure is an established presence.</li> </ul> <b>Nature of the View:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear from properties. Transient from road.</li> </ul>   | <b>Angle:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct from properties.</li> <li>Oblique to the direction of southbound road travel.</li> </ul> <b>Distance to Proposed Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.08km to Order Limits</li> <li>1.1km to Solar Array Development Area.</li> </ul> <b>Extent of area over which changes would be visible:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 400m length of road and adjacent properties</li> </ul> |
| Duration  | Reversibility   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term (40-year lifespan).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reversible following decommissioning.</li> </ul>   |
| Magnitude   |   |
| <b>Small to Medium</b><br>Much of the Proposed Development would be screened from view by foreground features. New panels and associated features in the western part of the Solar Array Development Array would be visible in the context of more prominent wind turbines and foreground industrial structures. There  |   |



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