

## **Great North Road Solar And Biodiversity Park**

Environmental Statement

Volume 4 – Technical Appendices

Technical Appendix A11.8: Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy

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## **A11.8.1 INTRODUCTION**

### **A11.8.1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND**

- 1 Wessex Archaeology has been commissioned by Elements Green Trent Ltd (hereafter 'the Client'), to prepare an Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (Outline AMS). This document sets out the scope and mitigation principles for the planning and implementation of further archaeological investigations to be completed prior to the completion the Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park project (the Development).
- 2 This report forms a technical appendix to the Environmental Statement (ES) which will accompany the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for a proposed solar farm and associated infrastructure across an area of approximately 1,765 hectares (the 'Order Limits').
- 3 The Development will comprise the installation of a series of ground-mounted solar PV panels within the Order Limits. Associated works will include a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), inverter housings, switch gear, access tracks, compounds, underground cabling, security measures and other ancillary equipment and landscaping (ES Chapter 5, Development Description [EN010162/APP/6.2.5]).

### **A11.8.1.2 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF DOCUMENT**

- 4 The Outline AMS is the principal document setting out the proposed post-consent approach to archaeology. The purpose of the Outline AMS is to set out the scope and methods proposed to mitigate the effects of the Development on below ground archaeological remains within the Order Limits, secure compliance with relevant legislation and national and local planning policy and agree on the approach with statutory consultees.
- 5 This document describes the principles to be applied in undertaking archaeological mitigation works, including strategies for protecting archaeological remains (where practicable and feasible) and investigation, recording and analysing archaeological remains that will be impacted by construction activities.
- 6 The baseline assessments and ES identified that archaeological remains exist within the Order Limits, and that there is potential for further remains to be present. This document identifies further assessment and mitigation measures to be undertaken to evaluate and/or mitigate potential effects of the Development on the archaeological resource.

#### **A11.8.1.2.1 Aims and Objectives**

- 7 The overarching aim of this Outline AMS details the archaeological mitigation proposed to reduce the impact of the Project on archaeological resources and record archaeological features. This will be achieved through an iterative programme of archaeological works, to include evaluation, safeguarding measures and/or excavation, watching brief, reporting prior to the commencement of construction of each relevant Phase of the Development. The Outline AMS sets out the approach to engagement, field work and

project management that will be carried out pre-construction, during construction and in the post-excavation analysis and publication stages.

- 8 Once the archaeological mitigation works have been completed a post excavation assessment providing the detail on the analysis to be carried out and research aims to identify and enhance knowledge following national and regional guidance will be provided to NCC by the Archaeological Contractor with a reasonable time period. This will enable to construction works to continue as programmed and provide assurance that the correct amount of post excavation analysis will be undertaken. It is considered that this will ensure any archaeological potential is fully mitigated and ensure the final design of the Project mitigates any residual risk.
- 9 This Outline AMS also summarises, where applicable, the extent of previous investigations and describes the proposed mitigation works and methods that will be implemented.
- 10 The measures set out in this AMS are derived from the mitigation proposals presented in **ES Volume 2, Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology [EN010162/APP/6.2.11] [APP-054]**.
- 11 The objectives of this Outline AMS are to:
  - Secure the understanding of archaeological assets that may be affected by the development.
  - Where archaeological assets of high archaeological significance are encountered, and where possible and proportionate to the significance of the asset, the preservation of the asset in-situ will be considered, following discussion with NCC (as outlined within Section A11.8.1.3.4 of this Outline AMS);
  - Ensure preservation through recording and documentation of the archaeological resources uncovered during pre- and post-consent evaluation; the level of mitigation being dependent upon the significance of the archaeology and the extent of harm on the archaeological resource in question; and
  - Conduct a programme of post excavation assessment, analysis and publication on the results adhering to Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment ('MORPHE') and Historic England guidance on projects. This would record and provide an advanced understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible".
- 12 This AMS sets out the scope, guiding principles and methods for the planning and implementation of an iterative programme of archaeological mitigation which is likely to comprise evaluation; excavation; watching brief (monitoring and record); post excavation assessment and analysis and publication. Each phase of the Development, including enabling works, will require one or more standalone Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI) following the grant of DCO, as secured by a Requirement in the Draft Development Consent Order.

## Relationship of the Outline AMS and Phase Specific Written Schemes of Investigation

- 13 The Outline AMS sets out the approach that will be applied for each Phase of the Development, including enabling works. The Development will be delivered in Phases, and one or more Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI) will be prepared for each Phase of the Development. The Outline AMS sets out a staged approach to archaeological investigation within the Order Limits. The stages are set out below:
  - Stage 1: Pre-determination: The archaeological investigations carried out during the pre-application stage;
  - Stage 2: Post-consent archaeological investigations;
  - Stage 3: Mitigation measures; and
  - Stage 4: Post-excavation assessment and reporting.
- 14 The results of each stage of archaeological work have and will inform both design decisions (as appropriate) and the needs for, scope and extent of subsequent phases of work, whether that be further evaluation or sampling, or implementation of agreed mitigation.
- 15 The approach is iterative, and collaborative, with regular consultation and engagement with the Nottinghamshire County Council throughout the process.
- 16 The detail of subsequent proposed works referred to in this document will be set out in the WSI(s) prepared for each Phase of the Development. These WSIs will be prepared in substantial accordance with this Outline AMS.

### A11.8.1.3 Roles and Responsibilities

- 17 The Archaeological Contractor will be appointed by the undertaker who will be made responsible for the delivery of the archaeological mitigation programme as set out in this Outline AMS. The undertaker will aim to appoint a single contractor, however given the size and as yet unconfirmed work programme, additional contractors may be required to assist in the delivery of this programme. This responsibility will include all on-site and off-site works, including preparation of the WSI, post-fieldwork reporting and publication.

#### A11.8.1.3.1 The Undertaker

- 18 The Undertaker is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the AMS is carried out as required and this is secured via a DCO Requirement.

#### A11.8.1.3.2 Principal Contractor

- 19 The Principal Contractor (once appointed) is responsible for implementing the AMS and ensuring that any subcontractors undertaking work on the Site are made fully aware of the AMS and the archaeological requirements as set out therewithin, before work commences.
- 20 The principal contractor and/or their appointed representatives will adhere to the AMS and works agreed to in Stage 2 and Stage 3 WSI/s. They will seek curatorial advice as appropriate and administer interactions with the Archaeological Curator. Should archaeological deposits be discovered, the Archaeological Curator will be contacted.

- 21 In advance of the Principal Contractor being appointed, the Client would undertake this role.

#### **A11.8.1.3.3 Project Archaeologist (Archaeological Clerk of Works)**

- 22 A Project Archaeologist (ACoW) will be appointed by the Principal Contractor (or client if a Principal Contractor has not been appointed) who will be responsible for monitoring the work undertaken by the Archaeological Contractor to ensure compliance with the AMS. The Project Archaeologist will also organise and attend regular site meetings with the Archaeological Curator, to keep them fully informed of progress and significant discoveries.
- 23 The Project Archaeologist in collaboration with the Archaeological Curator will also monitor and sign off any archaeological works prior to those areas being released for construction.
- 24 The Project Archaeologist will in collaboration with the Archaeological Curator ensure that reporting and post-excavation assessment and analysis are carried out in line with the provision of the AMS and relevant WSIs.

#### **A11.8.1.3.4 Archaeological Curator**

- 25 The Archaeological Curator will have ultimate responsibility for confirming that the measures set out in the Outline AMS and approved WSIs relating to archaeology are complied with.
- 26 The Archaeological Curator will review archaeological works including, but not limited to, completion of phases of fieldwork, reporting and agreeing post-excavation assessment and reporting. While considered unlikely for this Development, Historic England may also be involved in the above or provide advice to the planning authority's archaeological advisor, if appropriate.
- 27 No works should commence until approval of a WSI for each phase or aspect of archaeological investigation has been approved by the County Council.
- 28 During any fieldwork, the Archaeological Curator will be afforded access to the site for monitoring visits as required. After construction has been completed, the final archaeological reports or publication(s) for this project will be submitted to the Archaeological Curator.

#### **A11.8.1.3.5 Archaeological Contractor(s)**

- 29 The Archaeological Contractor/s will be responsible for delivering the archaeological mitigation programme, as set out in this AMS. Their responsibilities will include all on-site and off-site works, including preparation of the WSI/s, post-fieldwork reporting, and publication of the works they have completed.
- 30 The Project/Fieldwork Manager of the Archaeological Contractor/s will be responsible for ensuring that the archaeological works assigned to them are delivered in accordance with the parameters outlined in the WSI/s.
- 31 The Archaeological Contractor will be appointed by the Undertaker.

## **A11.8.2 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE**

### **A11.8.2.1 LEGISLATIVE AND PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 32 There is national legislation and guidance relating to the protection of, and proposed development on or near, important archaeological sites or historical buildings within planning regulations as defined under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. In addition, local authorities are responsible for the protection of the historic environment within the planning system.
- 33 The Planning Background is provided within the ES Chapter (11: Cultural Heritage and Archaeology [EN010162/APP/6.2.11] and the Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (ES Technical Appendix A11.1 [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.1]).

### **A11.8.2.2 RELEVANT GUIDANCE**

- 34 The following general guidance will be used to guide the work undertaken:
- ALGAO 2015. Advice Note for Post-Excavation Assessment;
  - Brown, D. H. 2011. Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (revised edition);
  - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014a (revised 2022) Code of Conduct;
  - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014b (revised 2023) Standard and Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation;
  - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014d (revised 2023) Standard and Universal Guidance for Archaeological Excavation;
  - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014e (revised 2023) Standard and Universal Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief;
  - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014g (revised 2020) Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives;
  - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014h (revised 2020) Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials;
  - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014i (revised 2020) Standard and Guidance for archaeological geophysical survey;
  - Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, National Planning Practice Guidance: Historic Environment, 2014 (last updated 2019);
  - Campbell, G, Moffett, L and O'Meara, D 2025 'Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (third edition)'. Portsmouth: Historic England;
  - English Heritage 2008. Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance: For the sustainable management of the historic environment;
  - Historic England, 2004 (revised 2015) Geoarchaeology: Using Earth sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record;
  - Historic England, 2015. Geoarchaeology: Using Earth Sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record;

- Historic England, 2015b. Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide;
- Historic England, 2016. Preserving Archaeological Remains: Decision-taking for Sites under Development;
- Historic England, 2016b. Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording Practice.
- Historic England 2025. Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (3rd edition); and
- MOLA 2004. Mitigation of Construction Impact on Archaeological Remains. English Heritage.

### A11.8.3 STAGE 1: PRE-CONSENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

#### A11.8.3.1 PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT

35 The Order Limits has been subject to a series of geophysical surveys and archaeological evaluations (illustrated on **Figures A11.8.1a-d**). Investigations undertaken as part of Stage 1 are listed in **Table 1** and summarised below.

**Table A11.8.1 Investigations Undertaken to date**

Report Type	Title	Technical Appendix
Archaeological Evaluation 2022	<i>Land south of Staythorpe Road Staythorpe, Newark, Nottinghamshire.</i> Unpublished Client Report	N/A – undertaken for a separate application
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire.</i> Unpublished report	<b>ES Volume 4, Appendix A11.4: Phase 1 Geophysics Results [EN010162/APP /6.4.11.4A] [REP2-060] [REP2-061] [REP2-062] [REP2-063]</b>
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Brown Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Burnett Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Carlton Land).</i> Unpublished report	

Report Type	Title	Technical Appendix
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Chase Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Dakin Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Germany Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Garage Farm Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Garage Hewson Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Jackson Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Stainiforth Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys ERM 2023	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire (Ward Land).</i> Unpublished report	
Geophysical Surveys 2024	<i>Land To The West of A1, North of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire. (East Of Eakring, Maplebeck Estate,</i>	

Report Type	Title	Technical Appendix
	<i>South Of Ollerton Road).</i> Unpublished Report	<b>/6.4.11.4A]</b> [ <a href="#">REP2-060</a> ] [ <a href="#">REP2-061</a> ] [ <a href="#">REP2-062</a> ] [ <a href="#">REP2-063</a> ]
Geophysical Surveys Magnitude Surveys 2024	<i>Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report Land To The West Of A1, North Of Staythorpe, Nottinghamshire.</i> Unpublished Report	<b>ES Volume 4, Appendix A11.4: Phase 1 Geophysics Results [EN010162/APP /6.4.11.4A]</b> [ <a href="#">REP2-060</a> ] [ <a href="#">REP2-061</a> ] [ <a href="#">REP2-062</a> ] [ <a href="#">REP2-063</a> ]
Geophysical Survey (Phase 2) Magnitude Surveys 2024	<i>Interim Geophysical Survey Report Great North Road Solar Farm, Staythorpe</i>	<b>ES Volume 4, Appendix A11.5: Phase 2 Geophysics Results [EN010162/APP /6.4.11.5]</b> [ <a href="#">APP-258</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-259</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-260</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-261</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-262</a> ]
Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment 2024	<i>GNR Solar Farm Newark, Nottinghamshire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment.</i> Unpublished Report	<b>ES Volume 4, Appendix A11.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.1]</b> [ <a href="#">APP-251</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-252</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-253</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-254</a> ]
Archaeological Evaluation (Phase 1) 2024	<i>Great North Road Solar Park. Archaeological Evaluation.</i> Unpublished Client Report	<b>ES Volume 4, Appendix A11.6: Phase 1 Trial Trenching Results [EN 0101/APP/6.4.11.6]</b> [ <a href="#">APP-263</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-264</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-265</a> ]
Archaeological Evaluation (Phase 2) 2025	<i>GNR Solar Farm Phase 2. Interim Report for Archaeological Evaluation (forthcoming)</i> Unpublished Client Report	<b>ES Volume 4, Appendix A11.7: Phase 2 Trial Trenching Interim Results [EN0101/APP/6.4.11.7]</b> [ <a href="#">APP-266</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-267</a> ] [ <a href="#">APP-268</a> ]
Geoarchaeological Desk-based Assessment & Landscape Characterisation 2025	GNR Solar and Biodiversity Park, Nottinghamshire. Geoarchaeological Desk-based Assessment and Landscape Characterisation	<b>ES Volume 4, Appendix A11.3: Geoarchaeological Desk-Based Assessment [EN0101/APP/6.4.11.3]</b> [ <a href="#">APP-256</a> ]

### **A11.8.3.1.1 Archaeological Evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2022)**

- 36 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Arcus Consultancy Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land located to the south of Staythorpe Road, Nottinghamshire, within the southern part of the Order Limits.
- 37 The earliest feature uncovered was a north-east–south-west aligned Late Neolithic ditch, which was noted in three trenches in the central south-east part of the Order Limits. Sherds of Grooved Ware and Beaker pottery were recovered from one of the ditch fills, as well as worked flint typical of Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic forms. Evidence of post-medieval/modern boundary ditches was also recorded in the north and western parts of the Order Limits and correspond well with boundaries shown on the 1884 Ordnance Survey (OS) map.
- 38 Additionally, a palaeochannel was identified at the northern edge of the Order Limits that was potentially a continuation of a river channel, from which a human thigh bone carbon dated to the Mesolithic period was recovered from, 1.3 km to the east of Order Limits. The bulk sediment samples from the upper fills of the palaeochannel contained plant remains indicative of medieval/post-medieval settlement.

### **A11.8.3.1.2 Geophysical Surveys (Wessex Archaeology, AOC and Magnitude Surveys) (TA A11.4 [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.4])**

- 39 A series of geophysical surveys were commissioned by Environmental Resources Management (ERM) (formerly Arcus Consultancy Services Ltd) with the aim of establishing the presence, or otherwise, and nature of detectable archaeological features to assess the archaeological potential of land parcels and their suitability for development. The geophysical surveys were conducted by various contractors in 2023 and 2024.
- 40 The results of the surveys highlighted areas of geophysical anomalies within the Order Limits. Concentrations of geophysical anomalies were noted in the following locations; south-west of Cromwell, west of Carlton-on-Trent, between Bathley and North Muskham, south of Little Carlton, and South Muskham. These areas lie close to the River Trent and the Great North Road and would have been favourable for occupation and settlement.
- 41 The results of the surveys were used to inform the design of the Development. Where geophysical survey has been undertaken and areas of significant archaeological concentration have been identified, these areas have been taken into consideration within design and excluded from the Development on the basis that archaeological remains in these areas will be preserved in situ. Therefore, these areas were excluded from subsequent archaeological evaluations. Should this change through the evolution of the design, these areas could be evaluated as part of a subsequent phase of trial trenching.

### **A11.8.3.1.3 Geophysical Surveys (Magnitude Surveys 2024) (TA A11.5 [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.5])**

- 42 A further phase of fluxgate gradiometer survey was successfully completed on a 515 ha area of land (out of a planned total of c. 635 ha) within the Order Limits. The remainder of the area (120 ha) was unable to be surveyed due to unsuitable ground conditions, overgrown vegetation and lack of access. A number of possible and probable archaeological anomalies were identified, within three areas of archaeological activity. The majority of these areas appear to form isolated Iron Age/Romano-British enclosures in close proximity to the River Trent, Kersall and North Muskham. Anomalies relating to the historical and modern agricultural use of the landscape are evident across this survey area in the form of ridge and furrow cultivation regimes, modern ploughing trends, mapped and unmapped former field boundaries and drainage systems.

### **A11.8.3.1.4 Phase 1 Trial Trenching (York Archaeological Trust 2024) (TA A11.6 [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.6])**

- 43 York Archaeological Trust (YAT) were commissioned to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) on several land parcels located to the north-west of Newark-on-Trent, across an area of c. 307 ha, during May-June 2024. Through the geophysical survey, areas of archaeological interest that could not be avoided by design were identified. The Phase 1 trench layout focussed upon these remaining areas, to assess and characterise potential archaeological remains which may be subject to physical effects as part of the Development.
- 44 Of a planned 444 trenches, 231 were excavated as part of this phase. Of these 125 trenches were found to contain features or deposits of archaeological interest, and a further 28 trenches produced artefactual material.
- 45 The evaluation area at Maplebeck consisted of 89 trenches of which 37 contained archaeological features. The features broadly comprised pits, gullies, and enclosure ditches, dating to the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods. Later ridge and furrow systems and former field boundaries identifiable on historic mapping were also recorded.
- 46 The area at Castle Hill consisted of the excavation of 12 trenches. A probable Romano-British ditch was recorded, suggested to be a boundary ditch and a post-medieval pond were recorded as well as former field boundary ditches.
- 47 At Cromwell archaeological features consisted of ditches, pits and ridge and furrow field systems as well as former field boundaries. Many of the features did not contain any dating evidence but were suspected to date from the prehistoric to Romano-British period and medieval to modern periods. Undated and naturally formed features such as evidence for palaeochannels were also identified.
- 48 At Cromwell north, archaeological features included ditches, pits and postholes of medieval and post-medieval date, as well as associated agricultural activity such as ridge and furrow and former field boundaries.

### **A11.8.3.1.5 Phase 2 Trial Trenching (York Archaeological Trust 2025) (TA11.7 [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.7])**

- 49 The second phase of archaeological evaluation was undertaken between January and March 2025. An interim report on the results has been issued. The trench layout for this phase focussed on areas with little to no anomalies identified by the geophysical survey, in order to test the accuracy of the survey results, and to distinguish any as-yet unknown archaeological features. The interim report details a small number of truncated ditches of likely Romano-British date at Kelham West, with all other trenches being blank (with the exception of post-medieval or later field boundaries) generally confirming the geophysical survey results.

### **A11.8.3.1.6 Geoarchaeological Desk-based Assessment & Landscape Characterisation (ES TA A11.3 [EN010162/APP/6.4.11.3])**

- 50 A Geoarchaeological Landscape Characterisation based on British Geological Society archive boreholes, mapping of superficial deposits and analysis of LiDAR data was used to define nine preliminary Geoarchaeological Character Zones within the Order Limits, based on variations in the geological characteristics of the deposits present. This identified five areas within the Order Limit where Quaternary deposits may be present, which could contain archaeological evidence and/or deposits with palaeo-environmental interest.

### **A11.8.3.2 RESULTS**

- 51 The results of the Stage 1 archaeological investigations have allowed for embedded development design mitigation to be included within the design of the Development. This comprises the careful routing of the cable route and siting of the solar array areas, compounds, substations and BESS to avoid or minimise impacts to key areas of archaeological sensitivity, based upon the results of the investigations completed to date. Areas where archaeological remains have been avoided as part of the design will be preserved in situ.

## **A11.8.4 STAGE 2: POST-CONSENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION**

### **A11.8.4.1 INTRODUCTION**

- 52 The following section sets out the approach to the post-consent investigation.
- 53 Areas within the Order Limit that would be subject to Stage 2 archaeological investigation are illustrated on **Figures A11.8.2a-d**.

### **A11.8.4.2 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY**

- 54 Geophysical survey is required for all areas of the Order Limits that could not be surveyed at Stage 1.
- 55 The geophysical surveys will then help inform the approach taken to any further trial trench evaluation needed for each part of the Order limits. This

will ensure that the results of the survey are taken into account ahead of trenching.

- 56 The geophysical survey will be carried out in accordance with the approved WSI for each relevant Phase.

#### **A11.8.4.3 GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION**

- 57 Informed by the Stage 1 Desk-based Assessment, Stage 2 evaluation of selected areas of high potential and in consideration of the anticipated development impacts (i.e. that the deposits are of depth they will be impacted by construction activities, for example in Work Areas 4, Intermediate Substations, and 5a, BESS), geoarchaeological may be required at Stage 2. Techniques for geoarchaeological sampling could include test pits for controlled recovery of artefacts and/or palaeo-environmental and dating samples. Another alternative method could be targeted borehole sampling. The type of geoarchaeological sampling technique and analysis are usually subject to a staged program of investigation, with detailed requirements determined at each stage.
- 58 The scope of any further geoarchaeological works will be set out within the WSI for each relevant Phase and will conform to Historic England Guidance, 'Geoarchaeology: Using Earth Sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record' (2015b) and 'Curating the Palaeolithic' (2023).

#### **A11.8.4.4 TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY**

- 59 The Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (**ES Volume 4, Appendix A11.1: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment** [[EN010162/APP/6.4.11.1](#)] [[APP-251](#)] [[APP-252](#)] [[APP-253](#)] [[APP-254](#)]) identified limited extant remains at RAF Ossington. Subsequent research has highlighted the possibility that more extensive remains may be present in and adjacent to the Order Limits at this location.
- 60 A topographical survey will be conducted to confirm the presence, location and condition of any structures associated with the airbase.

#### **A11.8.4.5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

- 61 The general aim of the evaluation is to 'ground-truth' the geophysical survey results and other areas of high potential to confirm the presence or absence of archaeologically significant remains, allowing the mitigation measures set out to be applied appropriately. The evaluation will be located within parts of the Order Limits that have not yet been subject to intrusive investigation (with the exception of areas of preservation in situ). This will draw on the results of the Stage 1 and Stage 2 work undertaken.
- 62 If archaeological remains are present, field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, reports on them and enables an assessment of their significance in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (ClfA 2023a<sup>i</sup>). Archaeological excavation involves a programme of intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other

remains within a specified area or site on land, in an inter-tidal zone or under water (2023b17).

- 63 The number and location of any further trial trenches will be informed by the Stage 1 and initial Stage 2 work and will be set out in the relevant WSI for a Phase of the Development. The number of trial trenches in any given Phase will respond to the potential for damage to archaeology. Trial trenches will be focused in areas where archaeology is more significant or less certain (based on desk-based data and geophysical survey) and in areas of higher ground disturbance, such as Work Areas 4, 5a, 5b (substations/BESS) and at construction compounds and access tracks.
- 64 In the other Work Areas, trenching densities would be much lower in response to lower risk arising from lesser archaeological significance/greater certainty and lesser proposed ground disturbance.
- 65 The location of any trial trenches (generally between 25 m and 30 m in length, and up to 1.8 m wide) will be dependent on ecological, utilities and ground condition constraints.
- 66 Following the backfilling of the trenches, any records (written, drawn, photographic, digital etc, as well as environmental samples and artefacts) generated during the evaluation will be subject to a programme of assessment, followed by appropriate analysis and reporting.
- 67 An archive suitable for long-term storage will be prepared and placed within an appropriate repository. The results will be made available to the public and be submitted on the Online Access to the OASIS and ADS database. A final report of the evaluation will be sent to Nottinghamshire County Council and Historic England.
- 68 The archaeological evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the approved WSI/s.

## **A11.8.5 STAGE 3: MITIGATION MEASURES**

### **A11.8.5.1 INTRODUCTION**

- 69 Once the Stage 2 works have been completed, the extent of the archaeological resource across the Order Limits will be reviewed. Implementing the principles set out within this section, mitigation measures which remove any potential further impact (preservation *in situ*), where practicable, will always be preferred. Where this is not possible, mitigating the loss of the archaeological resource through preservation by record will be proposed. However, there may be areas where no archaeology is present or the remains of which warrant no further investigation.

### **A11.8.5.2 REVIEW AND DECISION-MAKING**

- 70 On the completion of the Stage 2 investigations, the results will be considered together with those from the Stage 1 archaeological work to establish an overall picture of the archaeological resources within the Order Limits. Significance scores in line with the table below will be assigned to any remains/groups of features identified considering both regional and national research frameworks.

**Table A11.8.2 Heritage Significance**

Heritage Significance	Description/ Reason
Very High	Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research agendas
High	Scheduled monuments and undesignated assets of Schedulable quality and importance Archaeological assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives
Medium	Archaeological assets of regional importance, contribution to regional research objectives.
Low	Archaeological assets of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives
Negligible	Sites/features that are so badly damaged that too little now remains to justify their inclusion at a higher grade and with no surviving historic content.
Unknown	The importance of the resource cannot be ascertained due to limited existing information; therefore, the value of the resource is classified as ranging from high to low sensitivity.

- 71 Following this review, consultation will be undertaken with the Archaeological Curator with a view to agreeing levels of heritage significance and appropriate measures required. The results of the review will be incorporated into the WSI for each relevant Phase of the Development.
- 72 Where archaeological remains of “high” or “very high” significance are identified, preservation in situ will be the preferred option. Where remains of less significance (Medium, Low and Negligible) are identified, archaeological measures will be presented, ranging from implementing a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording (Watching Brief), additional or specific sampling strategies and/or other site-specific investigations, up to and including detailed area archaeological investigation as appropriate. These are presented in **Table A11.8.3 below**.

**Table A11.8.3 Heritage significance and appropriate mitigation**

Heritage Significance	Appropriate Mitigation
Very High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation in situ where feasible and practicable</li> <li>• Implementation of appropriate program of archaeological works to provide mitigation through preservation by record.</li> </ul>
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation in situ where feasible and practicable</li> <li>• Implementation of appropriate program of archaeological works to provide mitigation through preservation by record.</li> </ul>

Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of appropriate program of archaeological works to provide mitigation through preservation by record.</li> </ul>
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of appropriate program of archaeological works to provide mitigation through preservation by record.</li> </ul>
Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No further work.</li> </ul>

### A11.8.5.3 MITIGATION THROUGH PRESERVATION IN SITU

- 73 The implementation of preservation *in situ* will be completed through strategies and construction techniques to avoid physical impact on the archaeology (beyond those that may have been caused as part of the initial evaluation works). This will be achieved by removing areas from development or designating them as greenspaces. Any specific measures or areas will be identified and presented in appropriate documentation to the Archaeological Curator.
- 74 Decisions on arrangements to secure preservation *in situ* will have regard to the principles outlined in the *Preserving Archaeological Remains* documentation to ensure that any strategy is right for the site and archaeology in question<sup>1</sup>.
- 75 Some areas of preservation in situ were established during Stage 1 (**Figures A11.8.2a-d**).

### A11.8.5.4 WATCHING BRIEF

- 76 Watching briefs represent a continuous procedure aimed at the proactive identification, examination, and documentation of archaeological remnants during the construction phase of the Development. These briefs are executed concurrently with groundwork operations, during the implementation of construction works requiring excavation of foundation trenches and utility trenching.
- 77 Typically, this method is used for locations that have displayed certain archaeological potential based on prior examinations, background research, and other factors, yet without sufficient justification for extensive procedures like strip, map, and sample excavations, or detailed excavations.
- 78 Watching briefs would generally entail the presence of a single certified archaeologist who monitors all intrusive groundwork activities until either the work is finished or the possibility of uncovering archaeological remains has been thoroughly explored within the agreed remit of a WSI.
- 79 If an archaeological discovery is made during the process, it would necessitate discussions with both the undertaker and the Archaeological advisor. Adequate time and resources would need to be allocated to facilitate the appropriate excavation and documentation of this discovery before construction activities can resume.

<sup>1</sup> <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/preserving-archaeological-remains/>

- 80 Subsequent to discussions with the Archaeological Curator, the watching brief would cease in cases where no archaeological features and /or deposits have been identified through monitoring and the area would be handed over directly to the construction teams responsible for the development.
- 81 The Outline CEMP in the event that specific recording and/or preservation in situ works are required, details will be provided in a Written Scheme of Investigation for agreement, in accordance with the processes outlined in the AMS. Any finds/sites that are identified under the Protocol will be incorporated into the Stage 3 Mitigation programme (depending at what stage the in the construction programme the find is made) and the Stage 4 Post-excavation and publication programme set out in the approved WSI for each relevant phase.
- 82 The Outline CEMP sets out an **Unexpected Discoveries Protocol** in the event that archaeological remains are subsequently encountered. The Protocol will set out how unexpected discoveries will be treated by the Contractors, and then agreed with the Archaeological Curators(s).

#### **A11.8.5.5 MITIGATION THROUGH PRESERVATION BY RECORD**

- 83 Where preservation by record is the practicable or feasible approach for archaeology, the exact scope and extent of any works will be determined. Methodologies that may be implemented following the results of the post-consent evaluation are presented below. The ordering of each method does not imply that there is a preference in technique.

##### **A11.8.5.5.1 Additional Non-Intrusive Surveys**

- 84 It may be possible to implement alternative forms of non-intrusive surveys (e.g. metal detecting, building recording and fieldwalking/surface artefact collection), in areas of the Order Limit with specific archaeological potential and appropriate surveying conditions. Areas that have already been subject to trenching as part of Stage 1 would be excluded from metal detecting and fieldwalking survey techniques.
- 85 It would be necessary to complete metal detecting and fieldwalking survey in advance of evaluations, or any other form of intrusive archaeological investigation. This includes Stage 2 trial trenching.
- 86 Fieldwalking is a non-intrusive form of investigation that can highlight areas of archaeological activity. Within the Order Limit, this could be particularly appropriate for locating Mesolithic artefacts scatters beyond the river flood plain, which would not be picked up through geophysical survey or evaluation trenches.
- 87 Areas under trackways and in pastoral use would be excluded from fieldwalking due to unsuitable conditions, whilst arable areas would only be accessible in autumn and winter months, to avoid tall crops.
- 88 Where buildings are present within the Order Limits (for example at the former RAF Ossington) building recording may be a suitable mitigation response. The level of recording will be agreed with the Curator and will reflect the advice in Historic England 2016b.

#### **A11.8.5.5.2 Geoarchaeological Investigation**

- 89 Depending on the results of any Stage 2 geoarchaeological evaluation further mitigation works may be required. The scope of any further geoarchaeological works will be set out within a specified WSI, conforming to Historic England Guidance, 'Geoarchaeology: Using Earth Sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record' (2015b) and 'Curating the Palaeolithic' (2023).

#### **A11.8.5.5.3 Targeted Strip, Map and Record or Archaeological Excavation**

- 90 Targeted strip, map and record or detailed archaeological excavation will be undertaken on archaeological remains of medium heritage significance or where preservation in situ is not a viable mitigation method for remains of the Very High/High levels of heritage significance (national and international), as appropriate.
- 91 The scope of the archaeological works will be set out within a WSI.
- 92 Areas selected for targeted strip, map, and record or detailed archaeological excavation may be temporarily fenced to demarcate the excavation area to ensure no physical impacts are caused prior to the programme's implementation.
- 93 Open area excavation may be used for detailed excavation of areas with significant, complex and /or dense archaeological remains. Whilst these areas should ideally be defined and excavated prior to construction, where this is not possible, agreed areas will be fenced off whilst archaeological work is completed.

#### **A11.8.5.5.4 Archaeological Monitoring and Recording**

- 94 Dependant on the results of the Stage 2 investigations, a programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording (Watching Brief) may be required on areas with archaeological remains which are of "Low" heritage significance as set out in **Table A11.8.3**. Note that this is part of the watching brief referred to in section a11,8,5,4 above. The terms "watching brief " and "Archaeological Monitoring and Recording" are synonymous for purposes of this document,
- 95 However, should significant archaeological remains be identified within an area of archaeological monitoring, then specific appropriate intervention may be required, such as the implementation of a targeted strip, map and recording exercise or other detailed excavation programme.
- 96 The scope of the archaeological works will be set out within a location or activity specific WSI.

#### **A11.8.5.6 NO MITIGATION**

- 97 In areas where there have been no known heritage assets noted within the Desk-based Assessment, no anomalies identified during the geophysical survey and/or no features uncovered during the Stage 1 or 2 evaluations, no mitigation may be proposed. These areas will be formally identified at the conclusion of Stage 2, noting this may be staged depending on the programme.

## **A11.8.6 APPLICATION OF MITIGATION**

### **A11.8.6.1 General**

- 98 Based on the information to date, there is no indication that any archaeological remains within the Order Limits would be of the highest significance. Archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric to 18th century have been identified within the Order Limits, ranging from negligible to high heritage significance (high value assets are only found in the vicinity of Cromwell where ecological mitigation works are scheduled as part of Work Area 3).

### **A11.8.6.2 CONSULTATION**

- 99 Consultation with the Archaeological Curator will be undertaken throughout the post-consent process, with specific consultation points at the following milestones:
- Following consent to proceed, the Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI) for the Stage 2 investigations will be submitted to the discharging authority (Nottinghamshire County Council) for approval;
  - Upon completion of the Stage 2 investigations, discussions will be held to determine the significance of findings and agree on appropriate mitigation measures. These may include preservation in situ, further phases of fieldwork, or confirmation of areas where no further investigation is required;
  - Establishing methodologies to achieve preservation in situ;
  - During the preparation of the Stage 3 Mitigation Measures WSI(s), which will also be submitted to the discharging authority for approval;
  - During the implementation of mitigation measures through preservation by record;
  - Agreeing on the sign-off of areas to allow construction activities to proceed;
  - Following the completion of all on-site fieldwork, reviewing the post-excavation assessment and any necessary updates to the project design; and
  - Upon conclusion of the post-excavation assessment phase, finalising an updated project design that sets out the required post-excavation analysis, publication, and archiving requirements.
- 100 Consultation will also be undertaken should there be a requirement to deviate from this strategy.

### **A11.8.6.3 Monitoring and review**

- 101 Agreed fieldwork for all phases will be monitored by the Project Archaeologist on a regular basis. The Archaeological Curator will be invited to attend on-site monitoring, and such visits will be facilitated by the Archaeological Contractor.
- 102 It is envisaged that these monitoring visits will form part of a process by which formal sign-off on areas of evaluation and specific mitigation works can be discussed and agreed. A specific process for recording discussions

and agreements, as well as identifying signed-off areas, will be developed and set out in the relevant detailed WSIs.

103 Where regular monitoring cannot be undertaken, or where archaeologically “blank” trenches are excavated, an appropriate photographic record will be submitted, before backfilling to expedite the work.

104 Reporting will be undertaken at intervals agreed with the Archaeological Curator, with content and format subject to approval, depending on the anticipated programme.

105 Results will be reviewed regularly with the Archaeological Curator to assess the suitability of proposed techniques and to evaluate whether the density and locations of trenches (Stage 2) can be reduced or amended as necessary.

106 Where specific measures to achieve preservation *in situ* have been agreed and implemented, an appropriate record will be submitted to the Archaeological Curator upon completion.

## **A11.8.7 STAGE 4: POST-EXCAVATION**

### **A11.8.7.1 Introduction**

107 After the on-site fieldwork has taken place, post-excavation assessment is required. Set out below is a general process for the post-excavation assessment. Due to the varied nature of the archaeological fieldwork outlined above, the below will need to be tailored to each investigation type. This would be set out in the individual WSIs for separate pieces of work.

### **A11.8.7.2 FINDS**

#### **A11.8.7.2.1 General**

108 All archaeological finds from excavated contexts will be retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) may be recorded on site and not retained, depending on the research objectives set out in the WSI. Where appropriate soil samples may be taken and sieved to aid in finds recovery. Any finds requiring conservation or specific storage conditions will be dealt with immediately in line with First Aid for Finds (Watkinson and Neal 1998).

#### **A11.8.7.2.2 Human Remains**

109 In the event of the discovery of any human remains (articulated or disarticulated, cremated or unburnt), all excavation of the deposit(s) will cease pending the Principal Contractor obtaining a Ministry of Justice Licence (this includes cases where remains are to be left in situ).

110 Should human remains require removal, all excavation and post-excavation will be in accordance with the Principal Contractors protocols and current guidance documents (McKinley 2013) and ClfA Technical Paper 13 Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed remains. Appropriate specialist guidance/site visits will be undertaken if required.

- 111 The final deposition of human remains subsequent to the appropriate level of osteological analysis and other specialist sampling examinations will follow the requirements set out in the Ministry of Justice licence.

#### **A11.8.7.2.3 Treasure**

- 112 The Principal Contractor will immediately notify the Client and the Archaeological Curator on discovery of any material covered, or potentially covered, by the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended by The Coroners and Justice Act 2009). All information required by the Treasure Act (i.e. finder, location, material, date, associated items etc.) will be reported to the Coroner within 14 days.

#### **A11.8.7.2.4 Finds Processing**

- 113 All retained finds will, as a minimum be washed, weighed, counted and identified. They will then be recorded to a level appropriate to the aims and objectives of the Development. The report will include a table of finds by period and/or feature group.
- 114 Metalwork from stratified contexts will be X-rayed and along with other fragile and delicate materials, stored in a stable environment. The X-raying of objects and other conservation needs will be undertaken by an appropriately qualified and approved conservation centre.
- 115 Artefacts and other finds will be suitably bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidance given by the relevant museum and generally in accordance with the standards of the ClfA (2014).

### **A11.8.7.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING**

#### **A11.8.7.3.1 Introduction**

- 116 All sampling will adhere to the principles outlined in Historic England's Guidance (English Heritage 2011 and Historic England 2015c).

#### **A11.8.7.3.2 Sampling Strategy**

- 117 Depending on the size, complexity and duration of the work, the formulation of a site-specific sampling strategy will be considered at an early stage. Initially informed by prior works or predicted conditions, the strategy will be developed and adapted as the excavation continues, with support provided by specialist site visits and/or phone advice as appropriate. The aim of the strategy will be to effectively target the identified archaeology in order to address the aims and objectives of the Development, if appropriate with reference to local or regional research agendas.

#### **A11.8.7.3.3 Sampling Methods**

- 118 Bulk environmental soil samples, for the recovery of plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, small animal bones and other small artefacts, will be taken as appropriate from well-sealed and dateable contexts or features. In general, features directly associated with particular activities (e.g. pits, latrines, cesspits, hearths, ovens, kilns, and corn driers) should be prioritised

for sampling over features such as ditches or postholes which are likely to contain reworked and residual material.

- 119 If waterlogged or mineralised deposits are encountered an environmental sampling strategy will be devised. Specialist guidance will be provided by a geoarchaeologist, with site visits undertaken as required.
- 120 Any sample will be of an appropriate size- typically 40 litres for the recovery of environmental evidence from dry contexts, and 10 litres from waterlogged deposits
- 121 Following specialist advice, other sampling methods such as monolith, Kubiena or contiguous small bulk (column) samples may be employed to enable investigation of deposits with regard to microfossils (e.g. pollen, diatoms) and macrofossils (e.g. molluscs, insects), soil micromorphological and soil chemical analyses.

#### **A11.8.7.3.4 Environmental Processing**

- 122 Bulk environmental soil samples will be processed by standard flotation methods and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits. The flot will be retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, with residues fractionated into 5.6/4 mm, 2 mm, 1 mm and 0.5 mm and dried if necessary. Coarse fraction (>5.6/4mm) will be sorted, weighed and discarded, with any finds recovered given to the appropriate specialist. Finer residues will be retained until after any analyses and discarded following final reporting.
- 123 In the case of samples from cremation related deposits the flots will be retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, with residues fractionated into 4 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm. In the case of samples from inhumation deposits, the sample will be artefact sieved through 9.5mm and 1mm mesh sizes. The coarse fractions (9.5mm) will be sorted with any finds recovered given to the appropriate specialist together with finer residues.
- 124 Any waterlogged or mineralised samples will be processed by standard waterlogged flotation methods.

#### **A11.8.7.4 POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT**

- 125 The Post-Excavation Assessment will assess the results of the fieldwork against the aims, objectives and research questions identified in the WSI(s) and identify opportunities for analysis, publication and community engagement.
- 126 A fieldwork archive will be created, involving the processing and packaging of finds and samples and entering these into a database. The object of the initial processing is to create a checked and ordered corpus of data, with supporting stratigraphic matrices, and digitised feature plans.
- 127 The post-excavation assessment allows a review of the findings and identifies the need for further analytical work or where less significant remains are found- no further work. The assessment will inform the analysis and publication stage by creating a revised framework of priorities following the completion of the fieldwork. The post-excavation assessment will be submitted to the relevant stakeholders for approval.

#### **A11.8.7.4.1 Reporting**

- 128 Following each stage of archaeological fieldwork, a draft post-excavation assessment report will be submitted to the Archaeological Curator.
- 129 Each report should include, as a minimum, the following elements:
- A non-technical summary;
  - Archaeological and historical context;
  - Aims and objectives;
  - Methods;
  - Results – stratigraphic, finds and environmental;
  - Archive preparation and deposition arrangements;
  - Appendices;
  - Illustrations; and
  - References.
- 130 Full details of the requirements for each report will be discussed within the WSI.
- 131 Should remains of sufficient significance be encountered which warrant further post-excavation analysis, an updated project design should be included with the relevant report, the amendments to which should be made in consultation with the Archaeological Curator.

#### **A11.8.7.5 PUBLICATION, DISSEMINATION AND HERITAGE INTERPRETATION**

- 132 Where the post-excavation assessment has identified that further analysis should be carried out this will be undertaken in accordance with the updated project design. The post-excavation assessment will make recommendations for appropriate publication and dissemination of the results based on the significance of the findings. This could include journal publication, booklet, exhibitions or web-based initiatives.

##### **A11.8.7.5.1 Heritage Interpretation and Community Engagement**

- 133 Public benefit and engagement with the community could help to offset some of the physical effects of the Development. This would enhance the public value and engagement with the historic environment, contribute to place-making and provide information to the public on the special archaeological and historic interest of the area. The form of the community engagement will be dependent upon the findings of the investigations.
- 134 A potential location for a community archaeological project has been identified at the site of the proposed community orchard south of Vicarage Lane, North Muskam. This would be subject to a WSI under this AMS. Similar opportunities may exist in relation to heritage assets at the former RAF Ossington.

#### **A11.8.7.6 ARCHIVE PREPARATION AND DEPOSITION**

- 135 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with a suitable museum. Newark and Sherwood District Council Museum Service are currently accepting archives dependant on space. In

the absence of a museum in the area actively collecting archaeological archives at the time of deposition, the archive will be stored by the Principal Contractor until such time as the situation is resolved.

#### **A11.8.7.6.1 Preparation of Archive**

- 136 The complete archive which may include paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the accepting museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CIFA 2014c, Brown 2011; ADS 2013). The archive will usually be deposited within one year of the completion of the Development, with the agreement of the Client.

### **A11.8.8 LONG TERM MANAGEMENT**

#### **A11.8.8.1 Archaeological Management Plan**

- 137 Should any remains of national or international importance be identified in Stage 2 or 3 investigations which require preservation in situ, an Archaeological Management Plan will be required.
- 138 An Archaeological Management Plan (AMP) is a document prepared to aid the effective management of a monument for the future, as well as to provide a framework for standard maintenance ensuring the longevity of the monument within the landscape. An AMP would set out the long-term objectives for the management of nationally significant archaeology and outline specific proposals for appropriate management and maintenance operations, where such remains to be identified.
- 139 The key principles of the AMP would be to;
- Propose and undertake measures designed to minimise degradation of archaeological remains;
  - Promote understanding of the archaeological resource;
  - Remove features/vegetation which detract from the character or affect the below ground survival of archaeological remains; and
  - Reinstate/repair or stabilise areas which have been previously lost or damaged.
- 140 The AMP would set out the vulnerabilities and potential threats to the archaeological remains as well as identifying opportunities for improving enhancing their significance and ensuring their ongoing conservation. Opportunities for positive change will be outlined for the short and long term, and it will be necessary to review and update the AMP on a regular basis as issues are addressed to ensure that the remains are continuously managed for future generations and enjoyment of the monument.

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## APPENDIX A: WSI SPECIFICATION

A WSI is a document that relates to elements of archaeological fieldwork and details specific measures to be applied or adopted as part of the programme of archaeological mitigation works. The WSI will:

- Identify the aims and objectives for each element of the archaeological works;
- Summarise the archaeological and historical background, including the results of the work undertaken to date;
- Detail the proposed methodologies that will be implemented and form the central basis by which the investigation can be measured;
- Provide details on the provision of site welfare and plant equipment, in accordance with archaeological requirements and relevant Health and Safety legislation as appropriate;
- Include details of a proposed timetable/programme for archaeological works, post excavation and reporting following completion of works;
- Detail proposed archiving;
- Provide details of company Health and Safety Policy, evidence of insurance and a risk assessment for the Project; and
- Provide details of any external specialists and other third parties to be used in the preparation of the fieldwork reports.

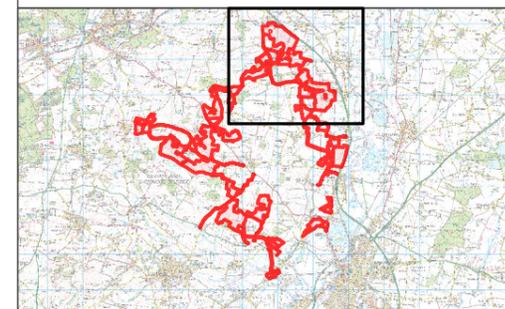
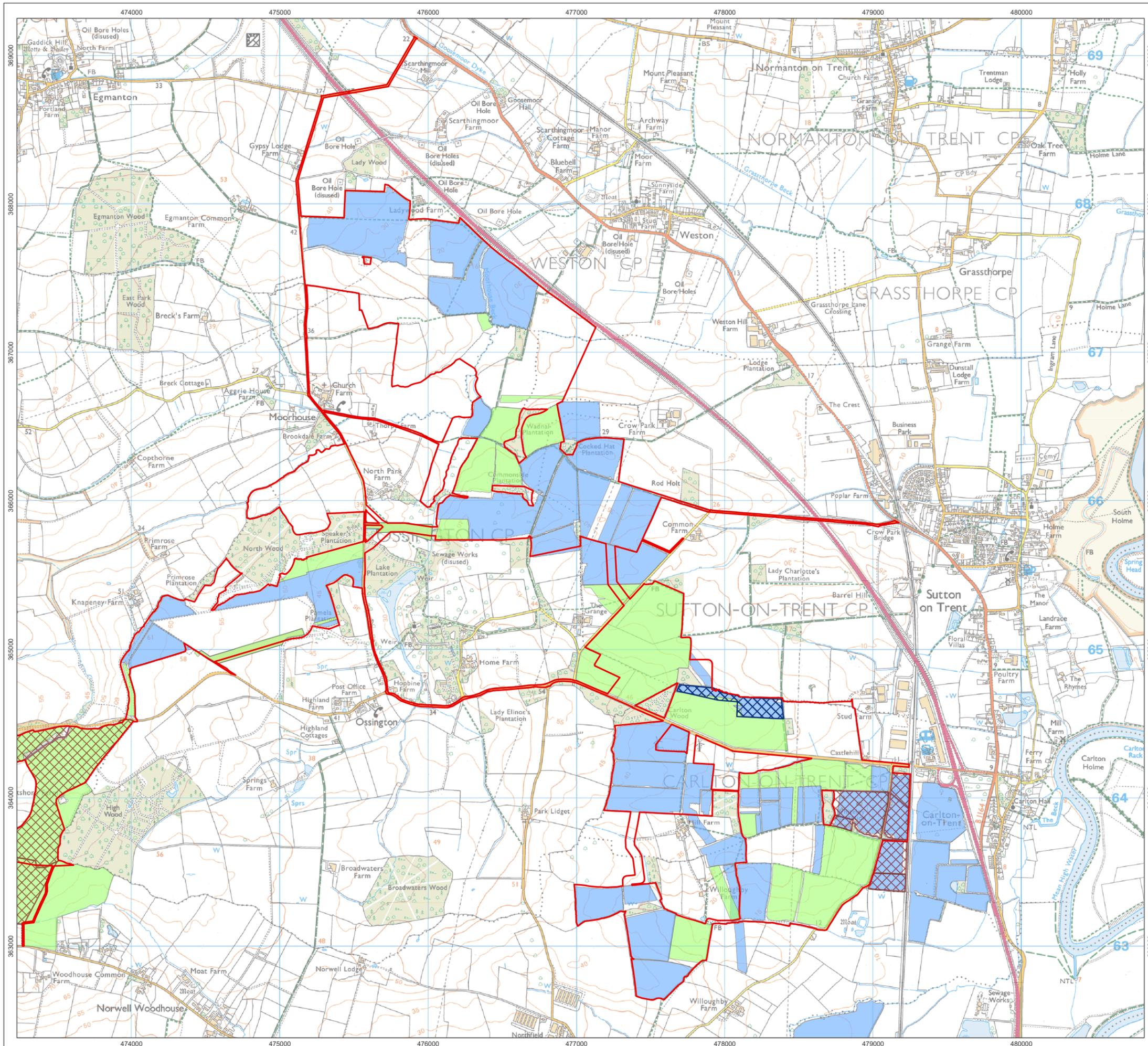
The WSI will conform to guidelines and standards set out in the following documents, or such equivalent applicable standards as may be in place at the time of the works being carried out:

- Standard for archaeological field evaluation, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIfA 2023a) ;
- Standards and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIfA 2020a) ;
- Code of conduct: professional ethics in archaeology, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIfA 2022) ;
- Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIfA 2020b) ;
- Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIfA 2023b) ;
- Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIfA 2023c) ; and,
- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide, Historic England: London (HE 2015) .

In addition, NCC specifications that may be relevant will be adhered to, or such equivalent specifications as may be in place at the time of the works being carried out.

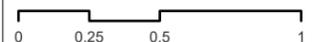
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<sup>i</sup> CIfA 2023a. Standard for archaeological field evaluation. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. Reading. Accessed April 2024: <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa>



-  Order Limits
-  AOC Geophysics
-  Wessex Archaeology Geophysics
-  Magnitude Geophysics
-  Phase 1 Evaluation Area
-  Phase 2 Evaluation Area

1:25,000 Scale @ A3



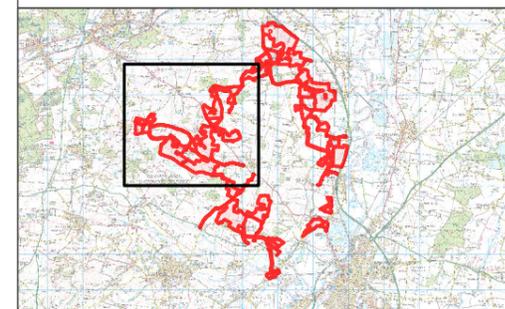
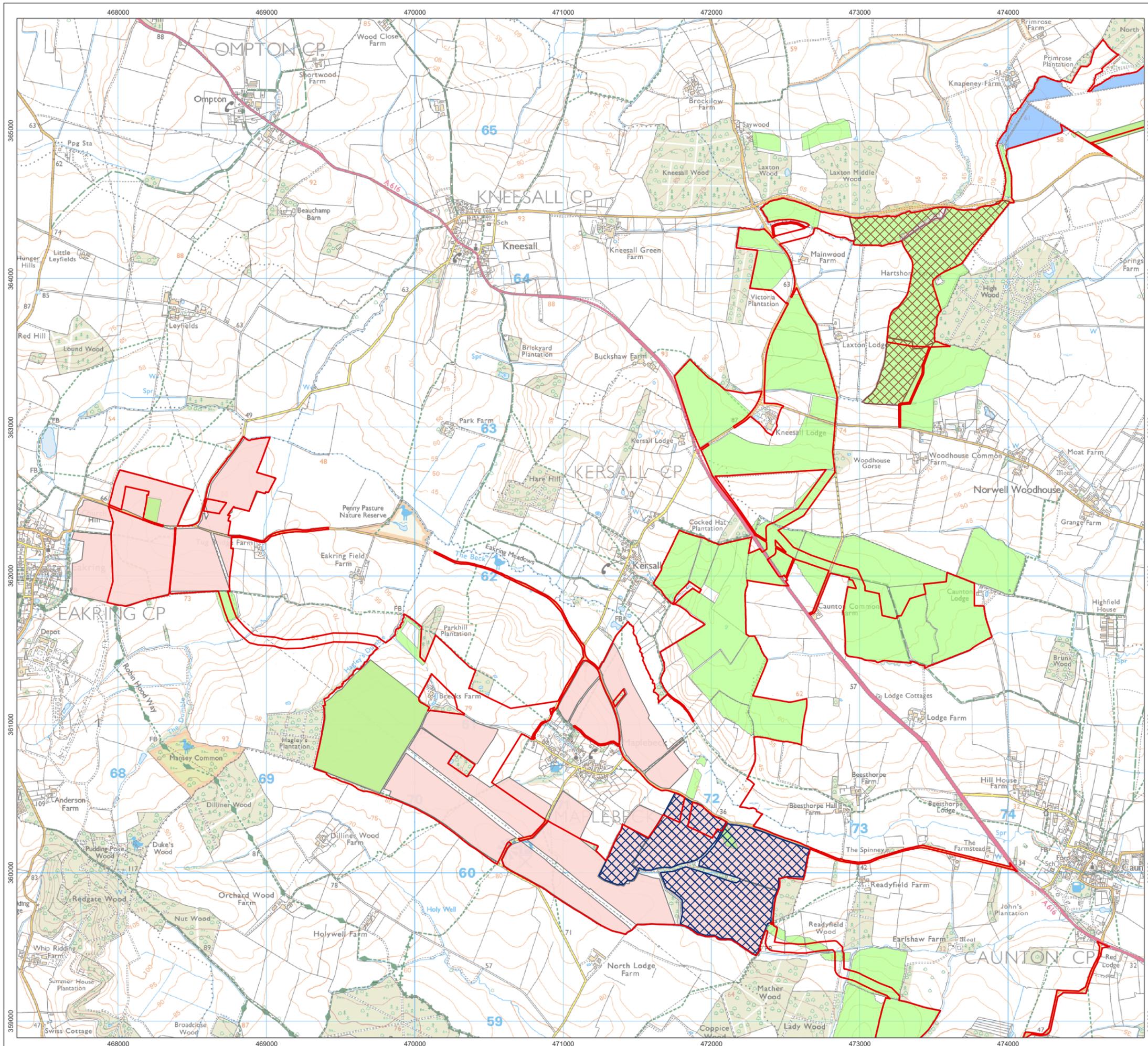
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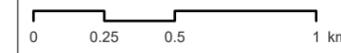
**Stage 1 Geophysical Survey and Trenching:  
Figure A11.8.1A**

**Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park  
Environmental Statement**



- Order Limits
- AOC Geophysics
- Wessex Archaeology Geophysics
- Magnitude Geophysics
- Phase 1 Evaluation Area
- Phase 2 Evaluation Area

1:25,000 Scale @ A3

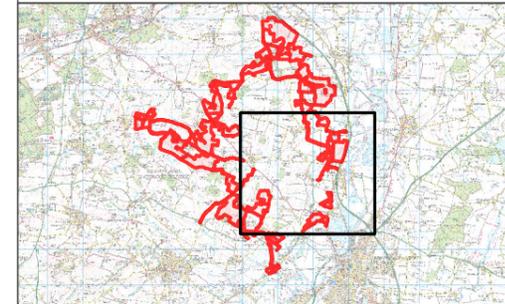
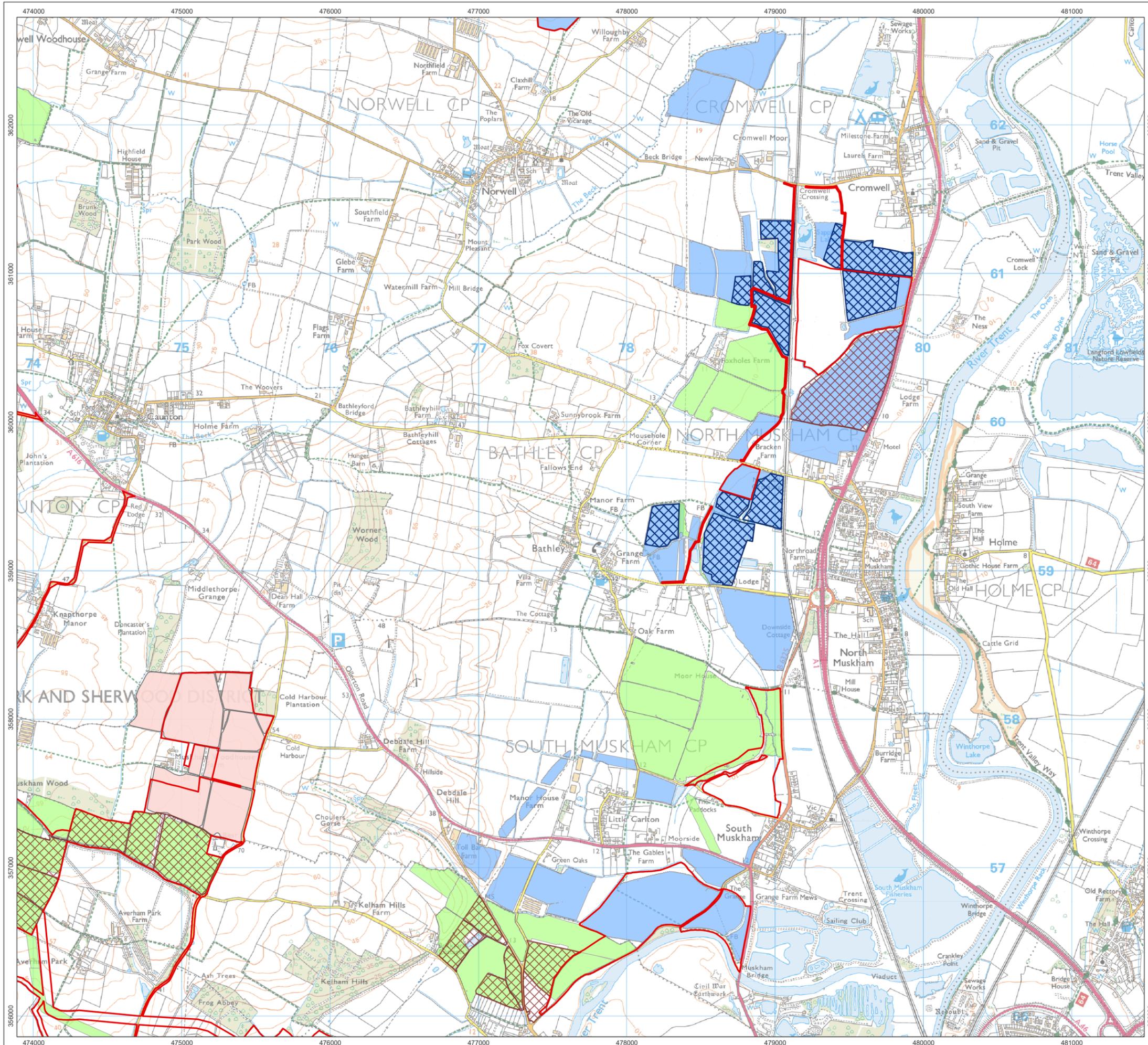


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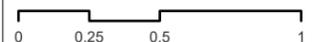
**Stage 1 Geophysical Survey and Trenching:  
Figure A11.8.1B**

**Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park  
Environmental Statement**



- Order Limits
- AOC Geophysics
- Wessex Archaeology Geophysics
- Magnitude Geophysics
- Phase 1 Evaluation Area
- Phase 2 Evaluation Area

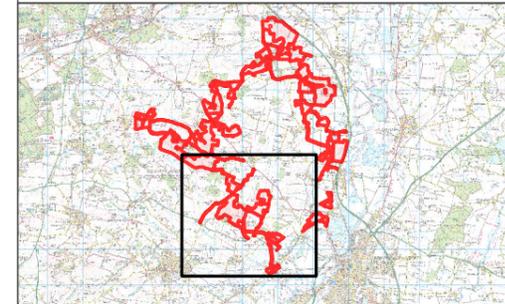
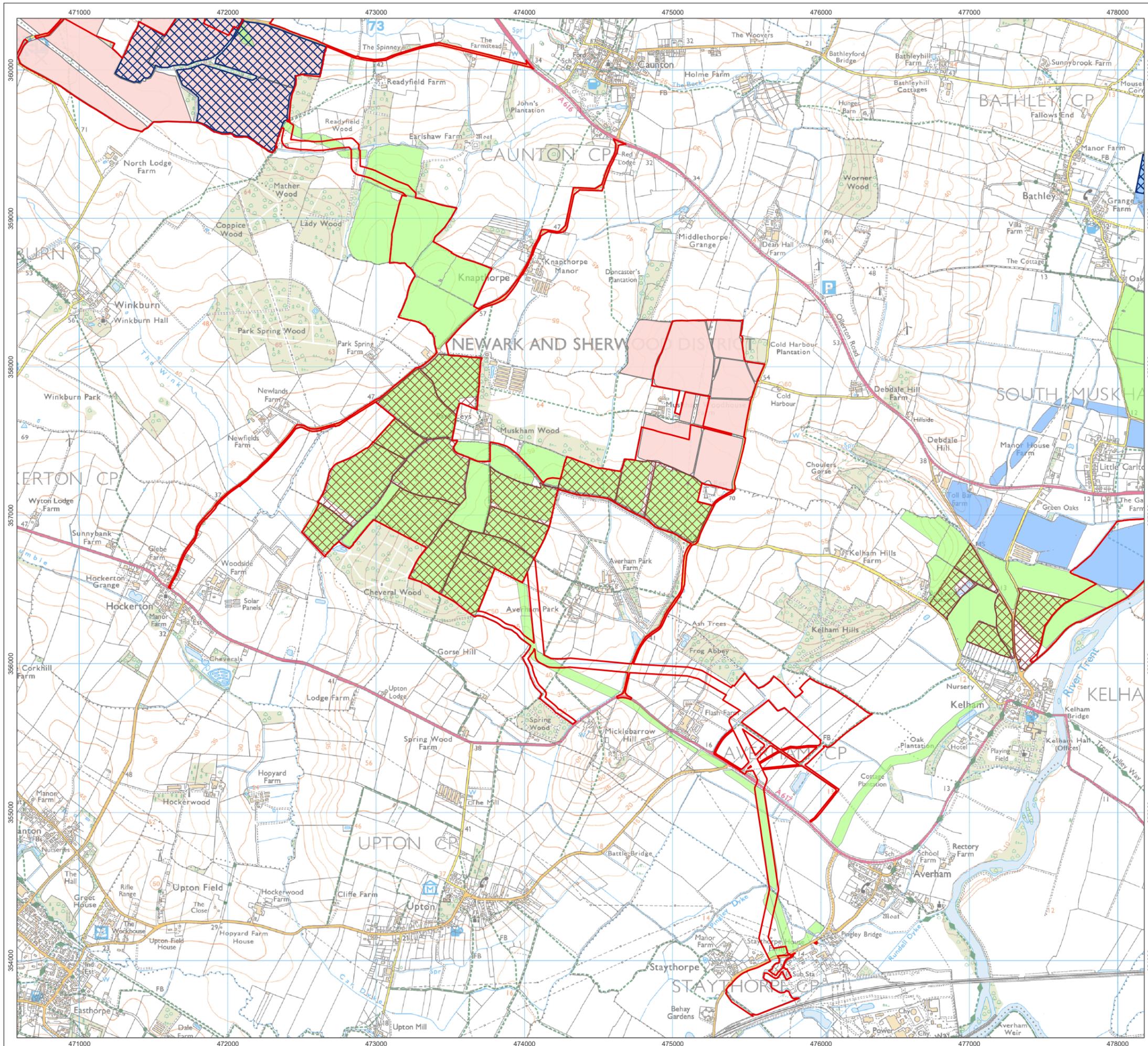
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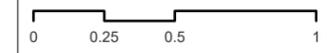
**Stage 1 Geophysical Survey and Trenching:  
Figure A11.8.1C**

**Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park  
Environmental Statement**



- Order Limits
- AOC Geophysics
- Wessex Archaeology Geophysics
- Magnitude Geophysics
- Phase 1 Evaluation Area
- Phase 2 Evaluation Area

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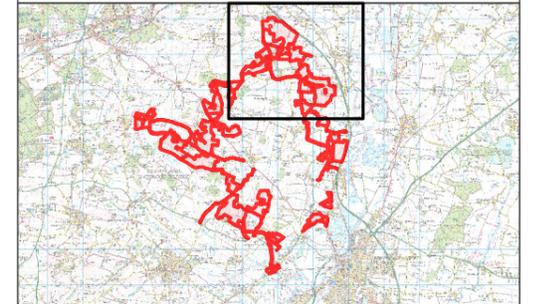
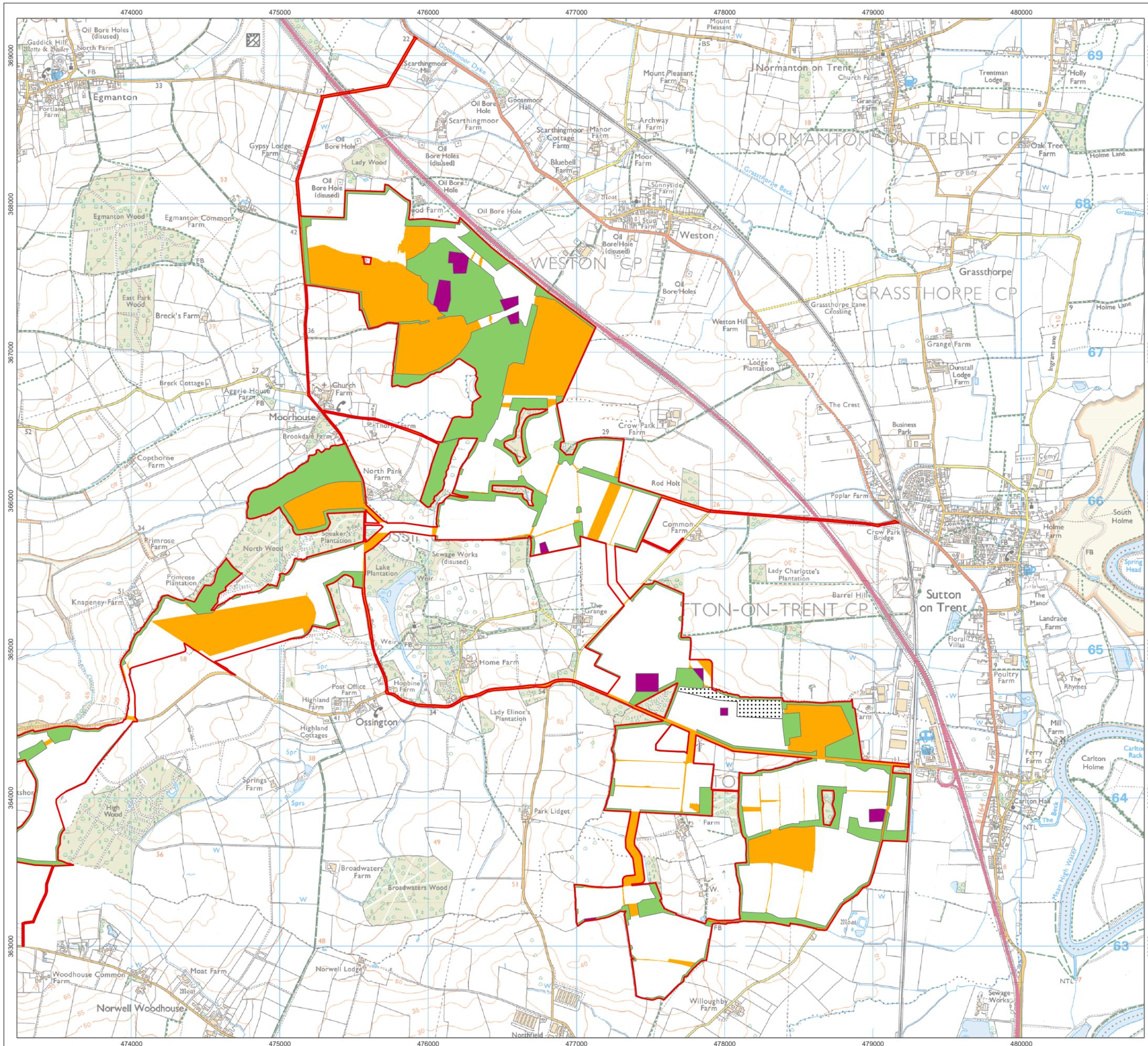


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**Stage 1 Geophysical Survey and Trenching:  
Figure A11.8.1D**

**Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park  
Environmental Statement**



- Order Limits
- Areas excluded from development (mitigation)
- Archaeological preservation in situ (mitigation)
- Trial Trenching Completed at Stage 1
- Areas not subject to any Stage 1 investigation

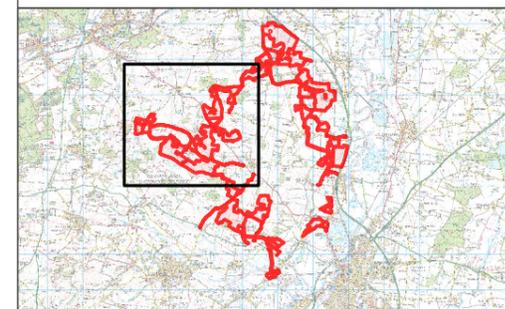
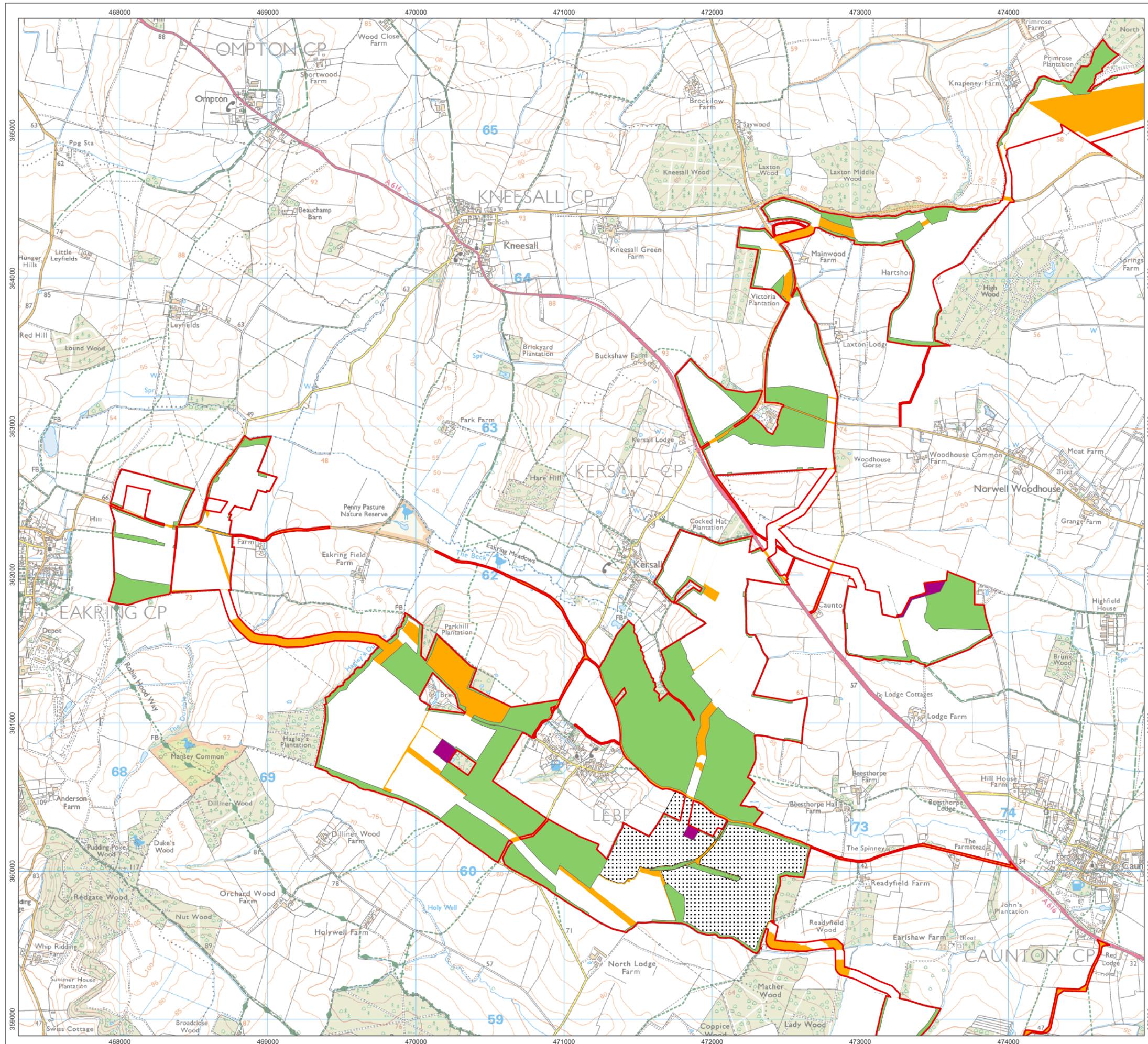


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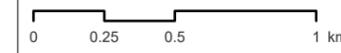
**Information for Stage 2 Investigations: Figure A11.8.2A**

**Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park Environmental Statement**



-  Order Limits
-  Areas excluded from development (mitigation)
-  Archaeological preservation in situ (mitigation)
-  Trial Trenching Completed at Stage 1
-  Areas not subject to any Stage 1 investigation

1:25,000 Scale @ A3

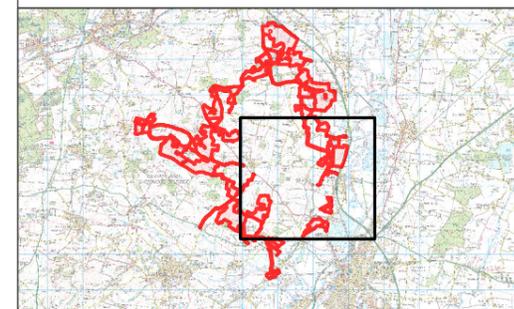
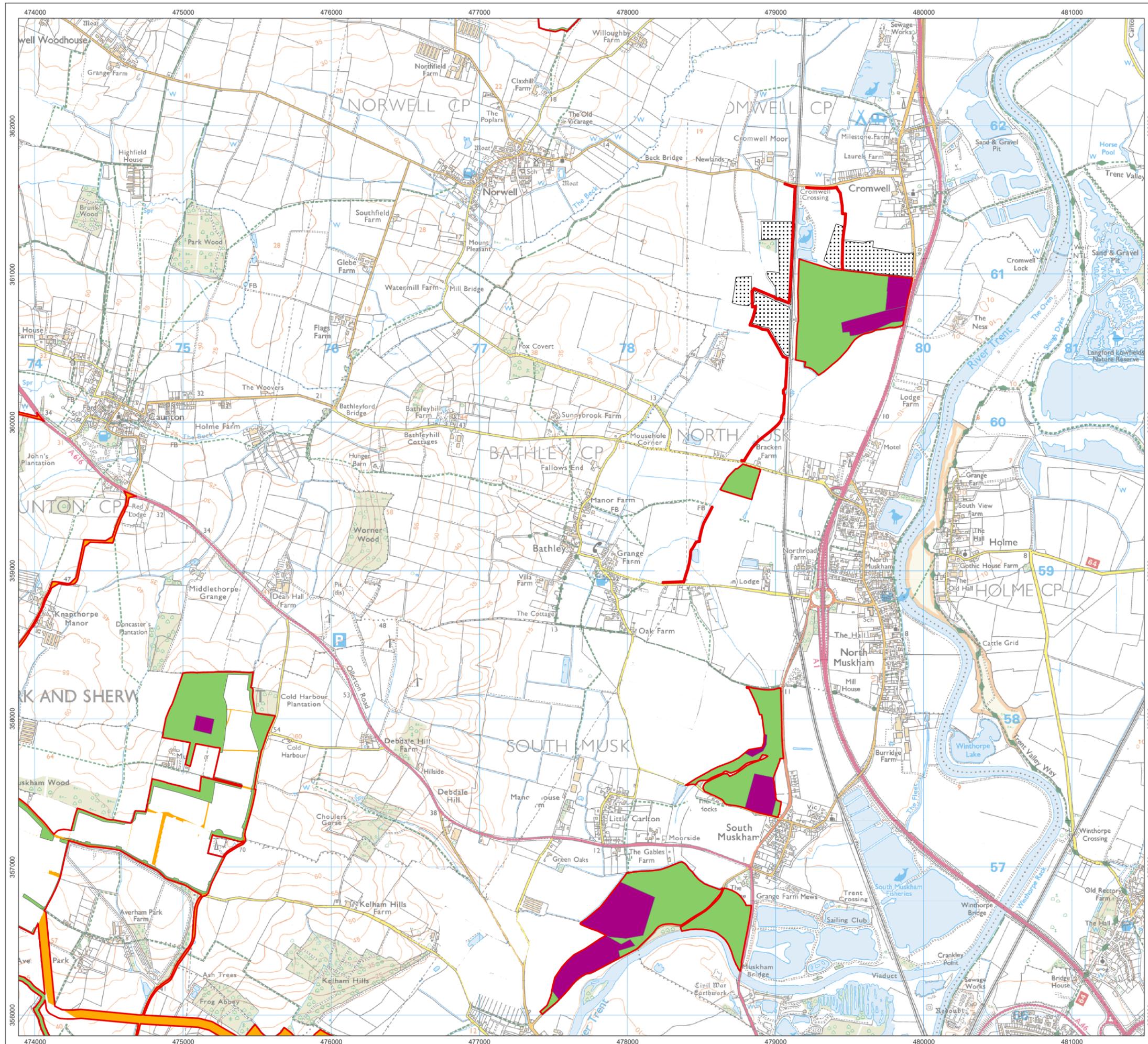


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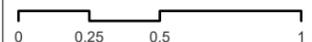
**Information for Stage 2  
Investigations: Figure A11.8.2B**

**Great North Road Solar and  
Biodiversity Park  
Environmental Statement**



- Order Limits
- Areas excluded from development (mitigation)
- Archaeological preservation in situ (mitigation)
- Trial Trenching Completed at Stage 1
- Areas not subject to any Stage 1 investigation

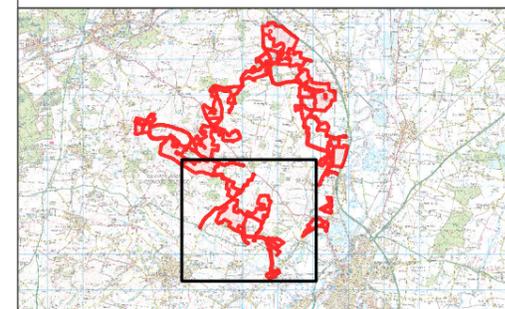
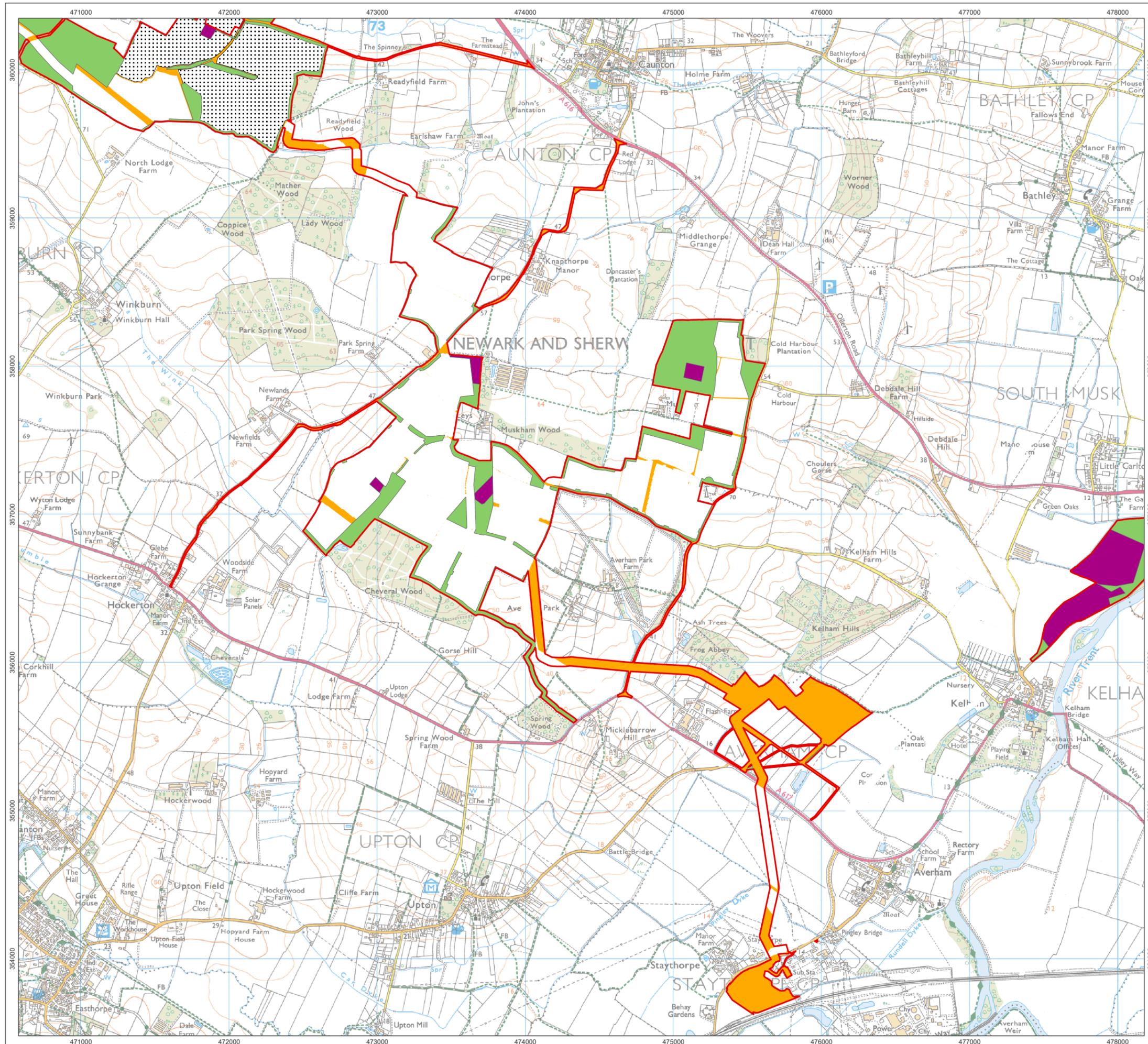
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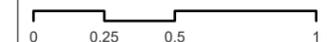
**Information for Stage 2 Investigations: Figure A11.8.2C**

**Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park Environmental Statement**



- Order Limits
- Areas excluded from development (mitigation)
- Archaeological preservation in situ (mitigation)
- Trial Trenching Completed at Stage 1
- Areas not subject to any Stage 1 investigation

1:25,000 Scale @ A3



Ref: 276500-AMS

Date: 26/06/2025



**Information for Stage 2  
Investigations: Figure A11.8.2D**

**Great North Road Solar and  
Biodiversity Park  
Environmental Statement**