

[REDACTED]

Book of reference 09-012, 09-013, 09-015, 09-016, 08-001,08-002,08-003. acquisition of rights imposition of restrictions

09-014 Temporary use of land

04-028, 09-015 - Rented

In respond to the questions raised regarding the proposed cable route and its impact on my farming business.

Whilst the latest plans show a more detailed route, and has provided some welcome clarification, significant uncertainty still remains regarding the extent of land required both during construction and permanently following completion of the works.

Based on the information currently available, I estimate that approximately 55–70 acres of land farmed by my business may be affected. One rented block at Happy Lands, Hill Hayes Lane, comprising approximately 15 acres, appears to become entirely unusable during the construction period at least. For the remaining land, it is difficult to assess the practical impact as the route crosses the centre of a number of fields, potentially restricting access for farm machinery and my normal farming operations.

The loss or disruption of any land would have a direct effect on my farming business. Every available acre is required to support forage and feed production for my livestock. Should these areas become unavailable, alternative cropping land may need to be secured, although locating replacement land within a practical distance of the farm is both limited and uncertain. Consequently, there is likely to be a financial impact on the business. I am unable to be more specific based on the limited information available.

I am also concerned about the long-term effects of excavation and cable installation on soil quality and agricultural productivity. We have recently undertaken extensive soil sampling across the farm, which demonstrates that the soils are currently in very good condition. Although no formal Agricultural Land Classification assessment has been undertaken, both my agronomist and I believe that parts of the affected land are likely to fall within Grades 2 and 3a.

I have direct experience of both a new water main and new sewerage line being installed across my land – with a construction strips of 20 metres maximum. Land

reinstatement following this type of major groundworks, results in significant reduction in soil performance and crop yields which persists for many, many years.

The fields are currently being used for grass, cereal and maize production as part of a rotational farming system that also incorporates livestock grazing.

The route affects two environmental scheme areas and appears to remove mature hedgerows and trees. On location 3 the Flower rich margins and plots have been established over a 16-year period. I would need further clarification regarding the actual area affected, measures proposed to mitigate the impact and details on restoration of affected habitats before I can approach Defra to establish how they will penalise me for losses under my current environmental schemes.

Negotiations to date with the Applicant are very limited – despite what is recorded on the Land negotiation tracker. We received unsolicited correspondence including Heads of Terms dated 8th September which referred to draft Head of Terms sent to our Agent on 2nd June. I have no agent and I did not receive any draft Heads of Terms. However, the ones I did receive were, in my opinion, threatening, bullying and bordered on bribery. 2 sets of revisions have since been received but the survey and access options are long and I am concerned about the depth of cable. 1.2 meters 'save where impracticable due to engineering reasons. Land is to be used for livestock and I would want assurance that there is a minimum of this depth. There is no detail regarding any above-ground or permanent infrastructure, including whether inspection chambers or similar structures are proposed within my productive agricultural fields. I also question how cabling will be removed during decommissioning should the scheme proceed.

I have not been inclined to engage any further until a decision on the DCO is actually reached.

Location 1



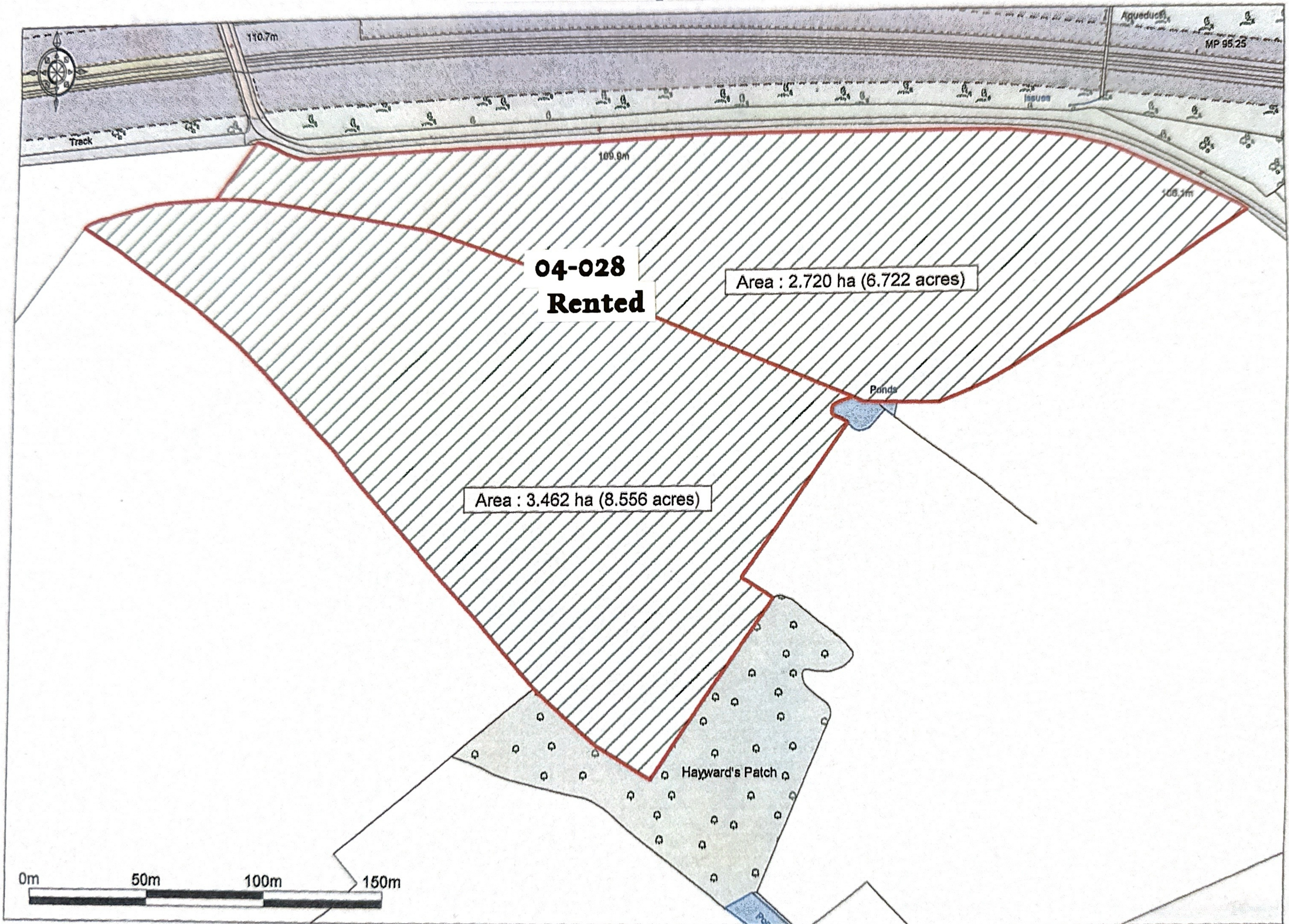
08-001

08-002

08-003

Land off Hill Hayes Lanes, Hullavington, Wiltshire

Location 2



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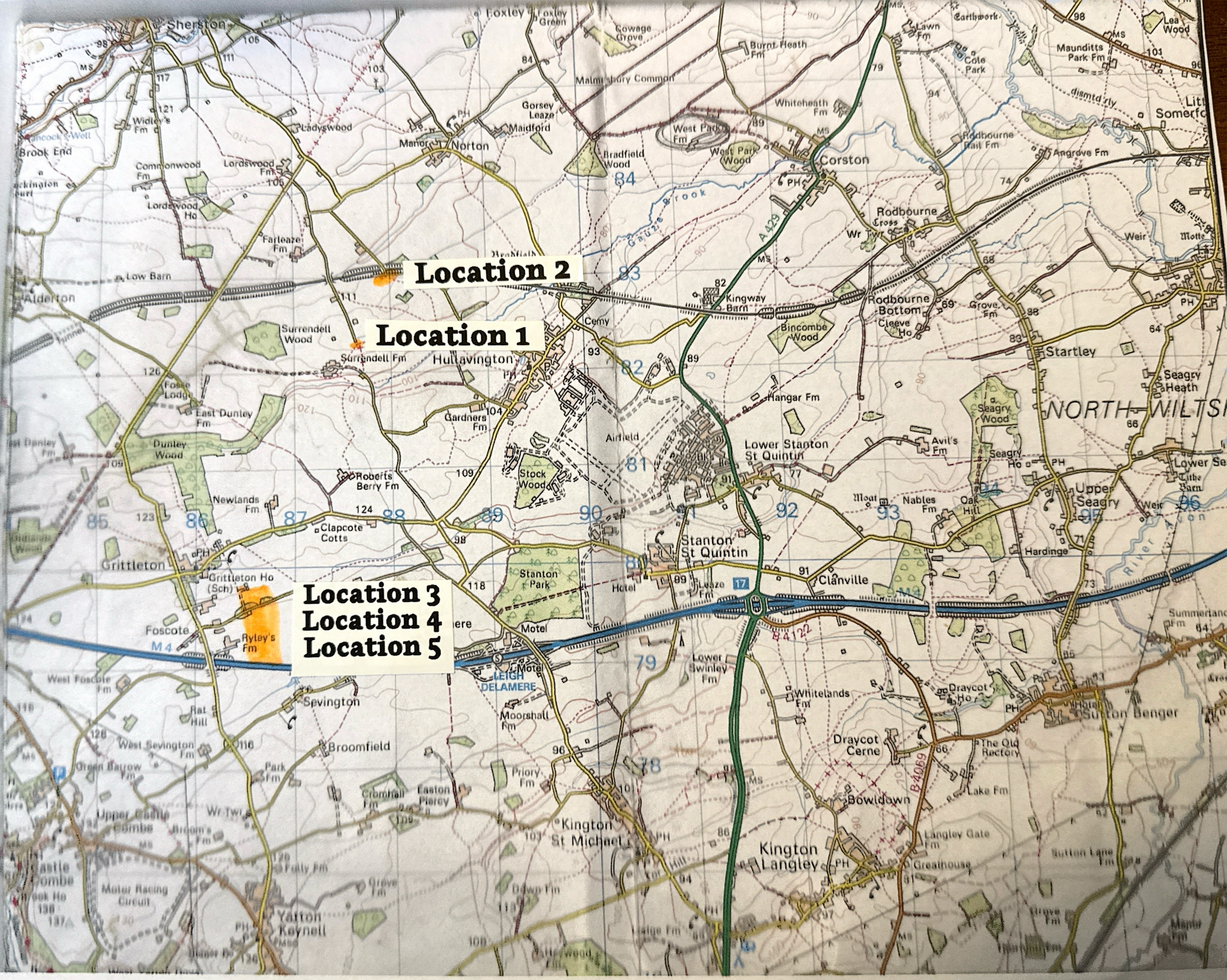


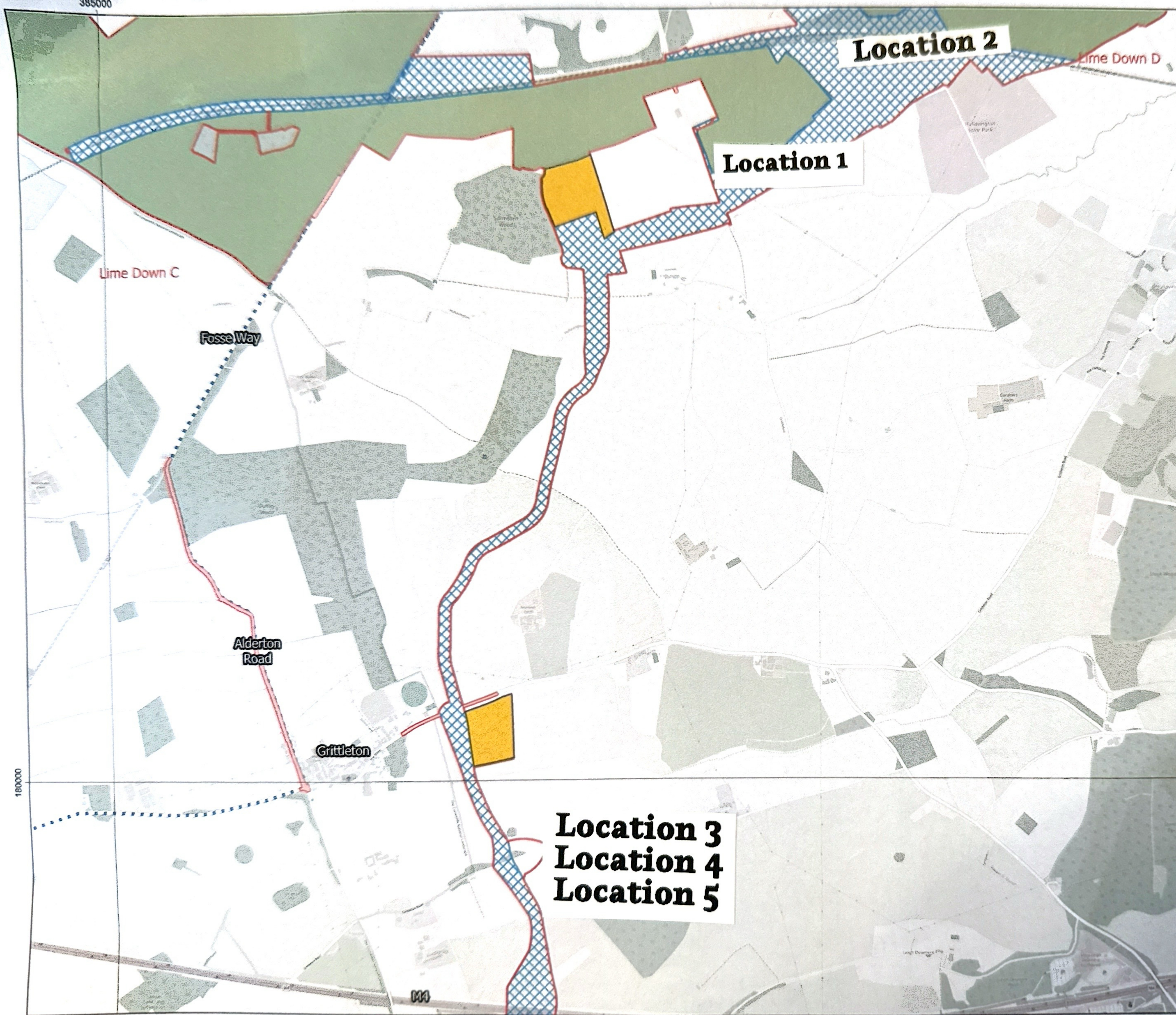
The plan is published for convenience only. Although thought to be correct its accuracy cannot be guaranteed and it does not form part of the contract.

Location 2

Location 1

Location 3
Location 4
Location 5



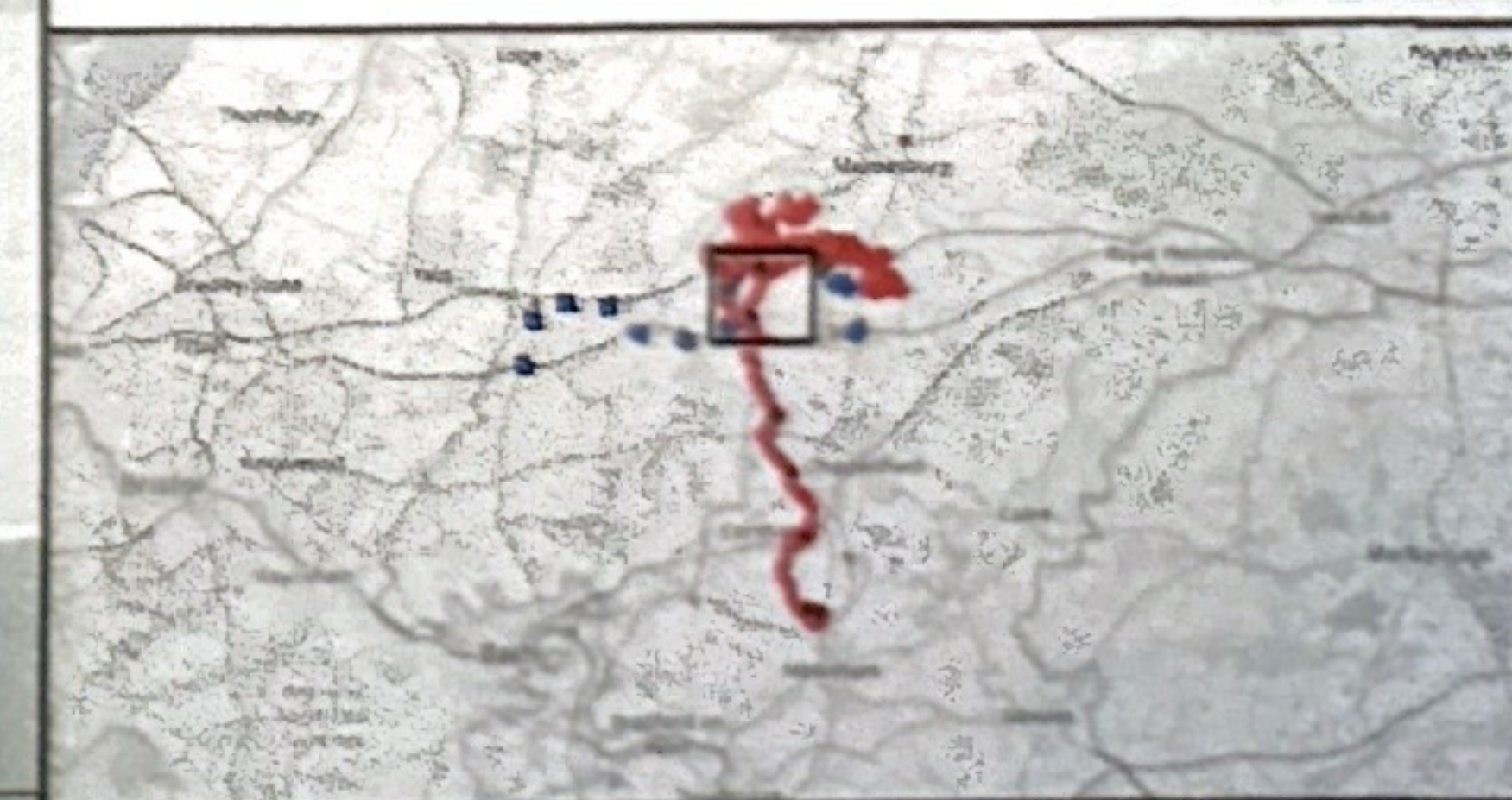


Title:
Figure 13-2-1 Study Area: Cable Route Corridor

Document:
Volume 2
Transport and Access
Environmental Statement

- Legend:
- Highway Improvement Areas
 - Order Limits
 - Solar PV Sites
 - Cable Route Corridor
 - Construction Route
 - Cable Corridor Construction Compounds

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OSM Standard 0100031673



APFP Regulation: 5(2)(a)
Application Doc no.: APP / 6.2
Drawing no.: Figure 13-2-1

Co-ordinate system: British National Grid
Scale: 1:24141 @ A3
INDICATIVE

Location 3
Location 4
Location 5



