

Light Valley Solar

Notification of Intention to Submit a Change Application

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Light Valley
Solar

Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Light Valley Solar

Examination

Notification of Intention to Submit a Change Application

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Contents

1	Notification of Intention to Submit a Change Application	1
1.1	Notification	1
2	Intended changes	2
2.2	Changes to the Order Limits	2
2.3	Changes within the Order Limits	4
3	Consultation	8
4	Information on Environmental Impacts	10
5	Examination Procedure and Timing	11
5.1	Proposed timetable	11
5.2	Supporting documents	13
6	Conclusion	14
7	References	15
Annex A	Plan of Proposed Changes	16

List of tables

Table 5-1: Proposed Timetable	11
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List of Plates

No table of figures entries found.

1 Notification of Intention to Submit a Change Application

1.1 Notification

- 1.1.1 This submission is to notify the Examining Authority (ExA) that, following feedback from, and discussions with, various Interested Parties during the course of the Examination process, and design development following the initial hearings¹, Light Valley Solar Limited (the Applicant) is intending to make a request for changes to the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for Light Valley Solar Farm (the Proposed Development). The changes proposed are set out in section 2 of this Notification.
- 1.1.2 The proposed Change Application will be prepared having regard to the Planning Inspectorate Advice Page on 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Changes to an application after it has been accepted for examination', last updated 18th August 2026 (Ref 1) ('the Advice Page'). Additionally, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) document 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance on Changes to Development Consent Orders' (Ref 2) has been considered. The Applicant considers that Changes 2, 4 and 9 engage the provisions of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (the 'CA Regulations') (Ref 3) and the Applicant has set out its approach to how the requirements of these Regulations can be accounted for within the remaining Examination timetable.
- 1.1.3 The Applicant considers that the proposed changes, which are set out below, are not so substantial as to constitute a materially different project.
- 1.1.4 The Applicant would welcome the ExA's comments on the Applicant's proposed approach to the Change Application and accompanying consultation arrangements set out below.

¹ Where the Applicant acknowledges that it stated that at that time, it was not contemplating a Change Application, but events have now moved on since then following that engagement and wider project development.

2 Intended changes

- 2.1.1 It is expected that the Change Application will comprise the following changes set out in this section.
- 2.1.2 The locations and anticipated extents of the changes are shown in Annex A: Plan of Proposed Changes.
- 2.1.3 The Applicant notes that Changes 2, 4 and 9 engage the procedure for “additional land” set out in the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (the CA Regulations) (Ref 3) as they involve either the proposed provision of land not currently within the Order limits where powers of compulsory acquisition of rights would be sought, or involve the ‘upgrade’ of powers within the Order limits from temporary possession to compulsory acquisition of rights.
- 2.1.4 Before the Change Application is submitted the Applicant will assess each proposed change to demonstrate that the changes do not lead to any new or materially different environmental effects from those assessed in the ES.

2.2 Changes to the Order Limits

Change 1: Alternative Access Routes for Access CA2

- 2.2.1 Change 1 comprises the potential alteration to the construction access route to access the land within the Cable Route Corridor to the south of Solar Development Site 1. Additional construction access routes are being considered due to concerns raised by Mrs Tomlinson in respect of impacts to the Field House Farm business.
- 2.2.2 Two of the potential routes being considered are route options 1 and 3 included within Appendix A: Technical Note on Access to Cable Route Corridor in the Vicinity of Field House Farm within the Written Summary of Applicant’s Oral Submissions (Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1) **[REP1-005]** which was submitted at Deadline 1 (and they have therefore been numbered as such on the plan in Appendix A). Given the matters raised in that submission in respect of these options, the Applicant is undertaking relevant ecological surveys, discussions with NYC in respect of traffic considerations and discussions with Escrick Park Estate (the landowners with whom the Applicant has agreed an option with in relation to Solar Development Site 1), to inform if one of these alternative solutions is able to be taken forward.
- 2.2.3 If either of these options were taken forward, this would involve an extension to the Order limits. However, the CA Regulations would not be invoked, as the additional land would be temporary only (as per the changes to the current access route made to the Land Plans at Deadline 2), and temporary land does not fall within the definition of ‘additional land’ in the CA Regulations.
- 2.2.4 A further alternative route being considered would be to utilise construction route access CA1 (as shown on **Figure 14.4 [APP-113]**) but this approach would require the addition of a temporary culvert over Dam Dike. This option would not

require any additions to the Order limits. The Applicant has already begun to undertake specific engagement with the Environment Agency (EA) and the Ouse and Derwent Internal Drainage Board (IDB) to ascertain their views as to whether this approach could be supported.

- 2.2.5 The access route to be taken forward will be confirmed in the upcoming Change Application, reflecting the implications arising from the surveys and engagement undertaken. If any of the alternative routes are chosen, then the Change Application may also provide for the current access route to be removed.
- 2.2.6 However, it is also possible that ultimately any alternative route would lead to effects that can be managed but that would need to be weighed up against the effects of the current route that the Applicant believes can be managed through the engagement it has committed to undertaking through the oCEMP and oCTMP. In such a scenario, the Applicant may choose to bring forward an alternative option as an **option** that **could** be provided in the alternative, with appropriate drafting of the DCO and other relevant application documents to allow the ExA and Secretary of State to determine which option is appropriate.
- 2.2.7 The Change Application will set out the Applicant's analysis in respect of all of the above in bringing forward the proposed strategy for access to this part of the Cable Route Corridor.
- 2.2.8 The maximum area of the land to be added to the Order Limits will be confirmed in the Change Application.

Change 2: Abnormal Indivisible Loads Access to CA19 via Harry Moor Lane

- 2.2.9 Following on-going discussions with Network Rail Infrastructure Limited in respect of the access requirements for the Proposed Development, analysis of access CA19 (shown on Sheet 10 of the **Access to Works Plans [AS-0036]**) following the application for development consent has identified that an over sail of Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs) beyond the Order Limits would be required at Harry Moor Lane.
- 2.2.10 Change 2 is therefore proposed to extend the Order Limits in this location to ensure that AIL deliveries can be taken. This change will invoke the CA Regulations as it involves land outside of the Order limits in which compulsory acquisition of rights powers would be required (as it involves land outside of the highway boundary, or involves land adjacent to existing rights plots).
- 2.2.11 The area of the land to be added to the Order Limits is approximately 0.03 ha.

Change 3: Field 6.9 – Solar Development Site 6 Reduction

- 2.2.12 Change 3 would comprise a reduction in the Order Limits within the northern section of Solar Development Site 6 in Field 6.9 (as identified in [APP-061]). The area of land required within Field 6.9 has been reduced following on-going discussions with the landowner as to the usage and layout of this site.

- 2.2.13 The area of the land to be removed from the Order Limits is approximately 0.24 ha.

Change 4: Visibility Splays for Accesses 1 and 3 of Solar Development Site 4

- 2.2.14 Change 4 would comprise a change to the Order Limits to include additional land required to provide and maintain the sightlines to ensure strict DMRB CD109 and 123 compliance at access points 1 and 3 of Solar Development Site 4 (as shown on **Figure 14.4** and Sheets 12 and 18 of the **Access to Works Plans** (labelled as points 10 and 8 respectively)).
- 2.2.15 This would invoke the Change Regulations as it will involve land outside of the Order limits in which compulsory acquisition of permanent rights will be required to enable access into SDS 4 for the lifetime of the Proposed Development.
- 2.2.16 The area of the land to be added to the Order Limits is approximately 0.11 ha.

2.3 Changes within the Order Limits

Change 5: Extension of 275 kV On-Site Substation Compound in Solar Development Site 1

- 2.3.1 The Applicant's parent company, Island Green Power UK Limited is currently preparing to commence construction of another solar scheme that was granted consent in 2025 and continues to review, and where necessary, apply any relevant learnings from this process into other projects being developed. As such the Applicant has identified that an additional 0.2 ha for the 275KV Onsite Substation at SDS1 would allow an optimum layout to be developed. The Applicant can confirm that this change is **not** needed to ensure that its various environmental drainage and safety commitments at the substation can be met.
- 2.3.2 No change to the Order Limits is proposed to facilitate this change. Change 5 would simply comprise a change to the limits of deviation at this location.
- 2.3.3 An indication of the change to the area for the substation is shown below (red hatching to the west of the dark grey box):

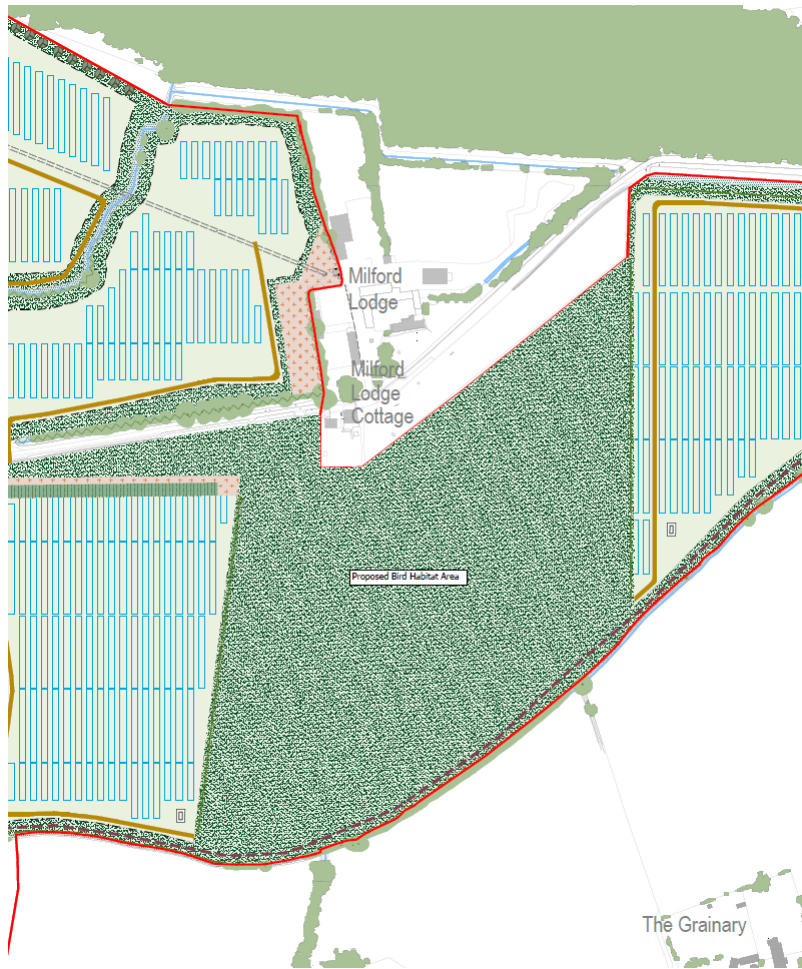


Change 6: Cable Route Corridor East of Garman Carr Lane

- 2.3.4 As set out within the Applicant Technical Note Plot Size [REP2-115], this section on the Cable Route Corridor is constrained by an Internal Drainage Borad Ditch (IDB) ditch (refer to Volume 2, Figure 15.1 Surface Water Features [APP-115]) which the Applicant has committed to cross using a trenchless solution (refer to Volume 2, Figure 2.5 - Avoidance Areas [APP-062]). The breadth of the Cable Route Corridor in this location allows for micro siting of the cable and trenchless works during the detailed engineering design work. The Order Limits also captures an existing culverted crossing in the west of the Cable Route Corridor which would be used for access where practicable, rather than introducing temporary new temporary culverts.
- 2.3.5 Subsequent analysis has identified that full width if the Cable Route Corridor north of the IDB ditch is not required for laying of Interconnecting Cables , but this area is still required to facilitate construction vehicle access. Change 7 therefore would comprise a reduction in the area Works No.5 and an increase in Works No.8a to reflect this, whilst also facilitating a reduction in the amount of permanent rights required (and thus downgrading to temporary possession only powers to be sought).
- 2.3.6 No change to the Order Limits is proposed to facilitate this change.

Change 7: Solar Development 6 Bird Habitat Area

- 2.3.7 Change 5 comprises the removal of an area of solar PV at Solar Development Site 6 from the Works Plans to the south of Milford Lodge and Milford Lodge Cottage to create a Bird Habitat Area. This change has been made following the on-going discussions with NYC as to the provision of bird habitat within the Order limits following the 'data corruption' issue. The Applicant confirms that its position is that this habitat is not required to mitigate the Proposed Development's impacts, but has been put in place nonetheless to proactively respond to NYC's concerns.
- 2.3.8 The Bird Habitat Area will comprise of grassland managed for ground nesting birds to be developed in accordance with the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [REP2-095].
- 2.3.9 In addition, engagement has been ongoing with Sherburn Aero Club alongside consideration of their Relevant and Written Representations. There is agreement that the removal of solar PV panels adjacent to the proposed emergency landing strip in Site 6 would be beneficial for emergency landings as required.
- 2.3.10 A snip of how the Outline Environmental Masterplan would change as a result of this proposed change is shown below (this does not show the change to the boundary north of Milford Lodge described in Change 3):



Change 8: National Grid Monk Fryston Substation Accesses

- 2.3.11 Change 8 would comprise the addition of two new access points from Rawfield Lane into the Monk Fryston Substation, following on-going discussions with NGET in respect of connection works at the substation. This is to ensure that access to the Site can be taken while navigating the existing and proposed substation infrastructure within the National Grid Monk Fryston Substation, regardless of where the 275 kV feeder bay is ultimately located, along with associated works to connect the Grid Connection Cables for the Proposed Development.
- 2.3.12 No change to the Order Limits is proposed to facilitate this change.

Change 9: Abnormal Indivisible Loads Access to Access 3 of Development Site Solar 4

- 2.3.13 Following on-going discussions with North Yorkshire Council (NYC) in respect of the access requirements for the Proposed Development, Change 9 is proposed to ensure that, following swept path analysis, AILs delivering transformers would be able to access SDS4 at the location of Access 3 (as shown on **Figure 14.4 [APP-113]** and labelled as point 9 on the **Access to Works Plans [AS-006]**).

-
- 2.3.14 As transformers may need to be replaced during the lifetime of the Proposed Development, such access needs to be supported by permanent rights. This Change would therefore invoke the CA Regulations, as it will require an 'upgrade' of powers sought from temporary possession, to compulsory acquisition of permanent rights, to facilitate this.
- 2.3.15 The Applicant notes that to facilitate AIL access at this location, the existing culvert over Roe Lane Drain will need be widened during the construction period to allow for transformers to be delivered to Site. The culvert would be returned to its current dimension following construction and this process may then need to be repeated at any replacement stage and decommissioning. The environmental implications of this, further to engagement with Selby area IDB, the EA and Natural England will be set out in the Change Application.

3 Consultation

- 3.1.1 The Applicant's suggested approach to engagement and consultation in respect of the proposed Change Application is cognisant of the fact that the CA Regulations are invoked in respect of Changes 2, 4 and 9.
- 3.1.2 As the Applicant considers it unlikely that it will obtain the consent of all land interests that have an interest in the 'additional land' as defined by the CA Regulations that falls within those changes prior to making the Change Application in good time within the context of the Examination timetable, the full process set out in Regulations 5 to 19 of those Regulations will apply.
- 3.1.3 In this regard, the Applicant notes that these Regulations require a period of publication and consultation after an application for a 'proposed provision' of additional land is made. Having regard also to the recommendations of the Advice Page, this would potentially lead to a position of consultation taking place both before and after the Change Application is made.
- 3.1.4 The Applicant considers that there is no benefit to this and its proposed approach is therefore that consultation on all of the changes within the proposed Change Application happens after the Change Application is submitted.
- 3.1.5 The Applicant considers that there is no prejudice arising from this proposal for the following reasons:
- in respect of Change 1, the Applicant acknowledges that this will be of interest to certain Interested Parties, but that those parties will be better placed to make comment on the Applicant's position once the Change Application is presented which the Applicant proposes will set out (a) the environmental position in respect of potential alternatives to the current position and (b) the views of stakeholders that the Applicant will continue engaging with prior to making the Change Application, rather than doing so whilst that work is on-going during a pre-change application period;
 - in respect of Change 7, the Applicant acknowledges that this change would mean that solar panels would be further away from Milford Lodge Cottage, which has been a subject of submissions by Mr and Mrs Billingham, but again considers that putting a Change Application in sooner, to allow those parties to then pass comment on what is proposed and the detail of the proposed change, will allow for an efficient Examination process;
 - the changes in question are small in scale and involve very minor changes to the Proposed Development that will be of limited interest to the wider community;
 - the Changes Application will include fuller information on environmental matters which will allow comment to be made as part of the Examination process (and noting that there is no statutory or Advice Page requirement

to separately consult on environmental information in a Change Application context); and

- as noted in section 2, the Applicant has and will continue to engage with the key stakeholders that will influence Changes 1, 2, 4 and 9 prior to making the Changes Application.

3.1.6 Furthermore, whilst all land interests affected by the CA Regulations-invoked changes will be consulted pursuant to the CA Regulations post submission of the Changes Application, the Applicant will update all land interests affected by every change of its proposals prior to submitting the Changes Application (and commits to writing to each of them for all changes once the Changes Application is submitted).

3.1.7 For context, the Applicant notes that having undertaken an initial review of the proposed changes against the Applicant's existing land referencing data, 103 parties have been identified as having a legal right or interest over the land within the proposed Change Application. Of those 103 parties, 97 are currently included within the Book of Reference. There are 4 newly identified interests who are not currently in the Book of Reference but have previously received s.42 notification and as such will have an awareness of the project. There are 2 interests who are entirely new to the Project and have not previously been part of any land referencing exercise. The Applicant would note that the 2 new interests are ad medium filum interests who are assumed to own subsoil interests under land an area of highway that is proposed to be included as part of this Change Application and so are not 'directly' impacted, from a land perspective, by the proposed changes.

3.1.8 The Applicant will continue with ongoing title interrogation and diligent inquiry to identify all parties with legal rights or interests over land within the proposed changes noted above and, as noted above will consult will all interests in respect of all of these proposed changes, ensuring compliance with the CA Regulations and beyond.

3.1.9 The Applicant notes that this approach (i.e. where CA Regulations are invoked, allowing for consultation to happen post-change application) was considered acceptable on other solar projects such as West Burton, Green Hill and Lime Down.

3.1.10 Post-submission of the Changes Application, the Applicant proposes a consultation/engagement process as follows:

- notifying NYC and all the parties listed in Schedule 2 of the CA Regulations about the Change Application in full (not just the changes which invoke the CA Regulations and so going beyond the requirements in Regulation 7), noting this includes key statutory bodies such as the EA, IDBs and NYC;
- for the avoidance of doubt, this:
 - includes all Parish Councils affected by the Proposed Development; and
 - in respect of land interests, will involve writing just to those parties whose land interests are affected by the changes, but that this will include all the changes, not just those that would invoke the CA Regulations; and
- publicising the Change Application in full in line with the requirements of Regulation 8 of the CA Regulations but ensuring that the notice references the Change Application as a whole not just the CA Regulations invoked changes.

3.1.11 The Applicant considers that no public consultation steps are required above and beyond this given the limited nature of the changes. This is in line with the decision of the ExA on change applications made during the Examination of other solar DCOs such as the Green Hill Solar Farm and the West Burton Solar Project. If the ExA considered any further steps were necessary, then these could be delivered alongside the other measures described above.

4 Information on Environmental Impacts

4.1.1 Assessments are currently being undertaken to determine how the proposed changes may affect the conclusions of the Environmental Statement.

4.1.2 Based on these assessments, the Applicant will submit supporting environmental information relating to the changes proposed as part of the Change Application, setting out for each relevant topic how the proposed changes do or do not impact on the conclusions of the ES. In addition, revised versions of the documents listed in Section 5 below incorporating the proposed changes, will be submitted with the Change Application.

4.1.3 It is not currently anticipated that the changes brought forward in the Change Application will lead to materially new or different adverse environmental effects from those reported in the ES.

5 Examination Procedure and Timing

5.1 Proposed timetable

5.1.1 Having had regard to the Advice Page, the CA Regulations and previous DCO experience, a Proposed Timetable for the examination of this Change Application is set out in Table 5-1 below.

Table 5-1: Proposed Timetable

Stage	Proposed Date and Commentary	Source
Submission of Change Notification	25 September 2026	Planning Inspectorate Change Guidance
Submission of Change Application	13 October 2026 This allows the ExA at least two weeks to make a Procedural Decision in respect of the Changes Notification and gives time for the Applicant to complete the assessment and engagements referred to above, whilst also being three weeks prior to the November hearings.	CA Reg 5
Acceptance by ExA of Change Application	23 October The Applicant acknowledges that the CA Regulations allow 28 days for acceptance of a CA Regulations request, but in light of the small nature of the changes and the remaining Examination timetable, this proposed date allows for a decision by 23 October to be made and newspaper bookings to be confirmed for the dates given below. As part of the Procedural Decision in respect of accepting the Change Application, the ExA could also indicate that in responding to the Applicant's consultation, respondents should submit a full representation that could be both a relevant and also a written representation (such timing of which is allowed for by Regulation 13(2)). This could then be appropriately reflected in the Applicant's notices.	CA Regs 6 and 13
First press notice / Start of consultation period	29 October 2026	CA Regs 7 and 8

Stage	Proposed Date and Commentary	Source
Second press notice	5 November 2026	CA Reg 8
Closing date for consultation on Change Application. Submission of CA Regulations Relevant and Written Representations and representations on Change Application more broadly	3 December 2026	CA Regs 7 and 8
Submission of Certificate of Compliance	4 December 2026	CA Regs 9
ExA issues notices of hearings, deadline to request to speak and Initial Assessment of Principle Issues	11 December 2026. The Applicant acknowledges this period is less than allowed for by the CA Regulations, but respectfully suggests this, to enable the full process to be carried out within the statutory Examination timescales.	CA Regs 11, 14, 15 and 16
Comments on responses, Relevant Representations and Written Representations on Change Application	15 December – this aligns with Deadline 5, and gives Interested Parties/Affected Persons good time to consider submissions before Christmas and before further hearings.	CA Regs 12
Hearings (if required)	12-14 January 2027 The Applicant suggests this week as it would allow any Hearings required to take account of non-Change Application matters, taking account of documentation submitted at Deadlines 5 and 6 (7 January) and Christmas.	CA Regs 14, 15 and 16
Post-Hearing Submissions	22 January 2027 The Applicant appreciates that this date goes beyond the current Examination timetable, but this date would still allow the Examination to complete within the 6 month statutory timeframe.	CA Regs 12 and 13

5.2 Supporting documents

5.2.1 It is expected that the following additional and updated documents will be provided in support of the Change Request.

Additional Documents

- a) Change Request Application which will include supporting environmental information and in respect of Change 1, information on what hasn't been brought forward, and why, as well as what is proposed.
- b) Updated Statement of Reasons so as to comply with Regulation 5 of the CA Regulations
- c) Updated Funding Statement so as to comply with Regulation 5 of the CA Regulations

Revised Documents – with tracked change versions where required

- a) Guide to the Application
- b) Works Plans
- c) Outline Environmental Masterplan
- d) Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan
- e) Appendix 10.4 Photography and Photomontages in respect of Change 7 only.
- f) Land and Rights Negotiations Tracker
- g) Land, Crown Land and Special Category Land Plans Access to Works Plans
- h) Streets Plans
- i) Book of Reference – this will be colour coded such that it is clear which changes to the Book of Reference are CA Regulations related.
- j) Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan

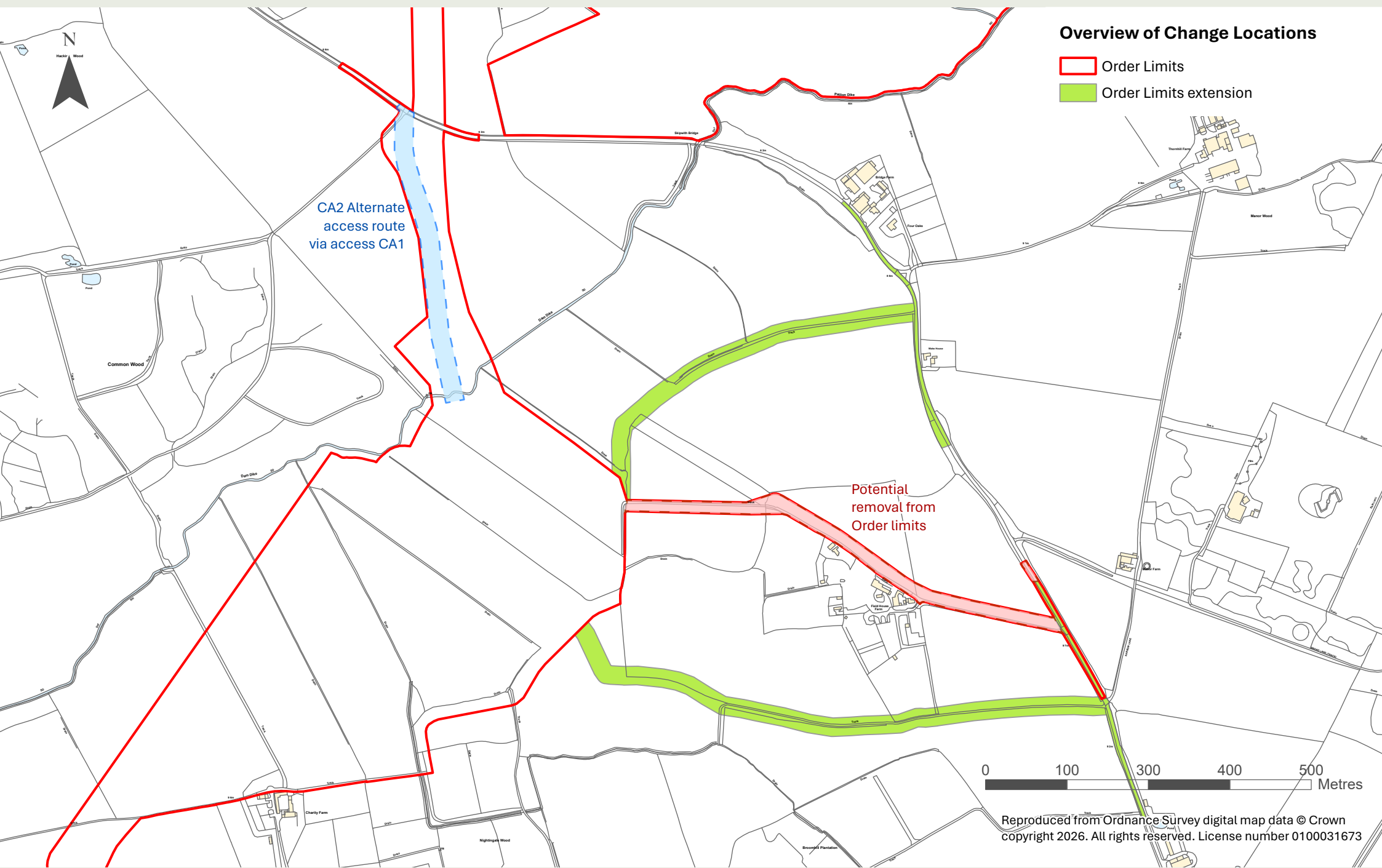
6 Conclusion

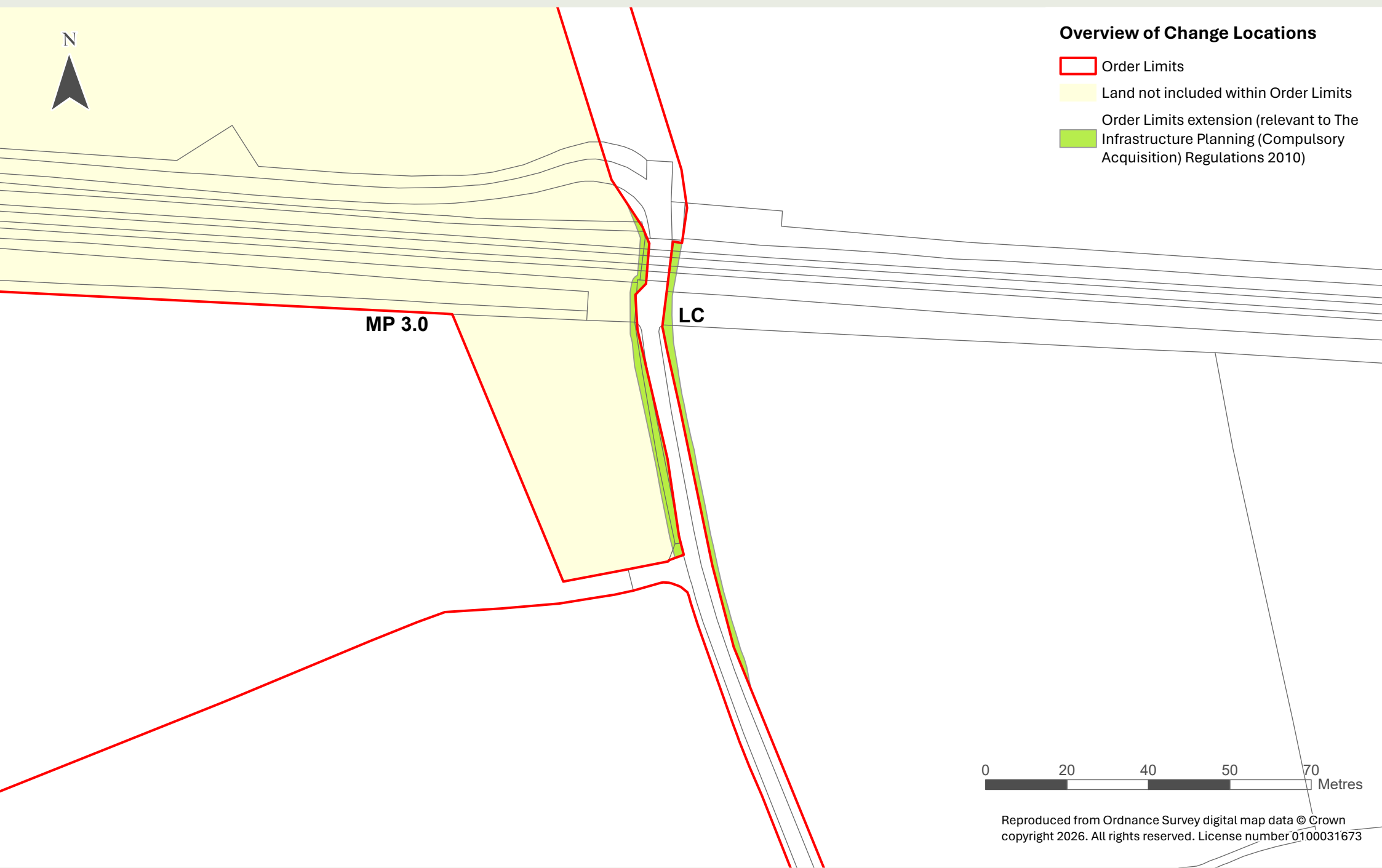
- 6.1.1 The proposed Change Application enables the Applicant to respond to feedback from key stakeholders, and the proposed timetable and procedure ensures the Examination of the DCO application and Change Application remains inclusive and efficient and statutory compliant, with all parties having the opportunity to participate, and Examination completed within the time remaining.
- 6.1.2 The Applicant would welcome the ExA's comments on the Proposed Timetable, on the proposed consultation arrangements and on any other matter relating to this proposed Change Application.

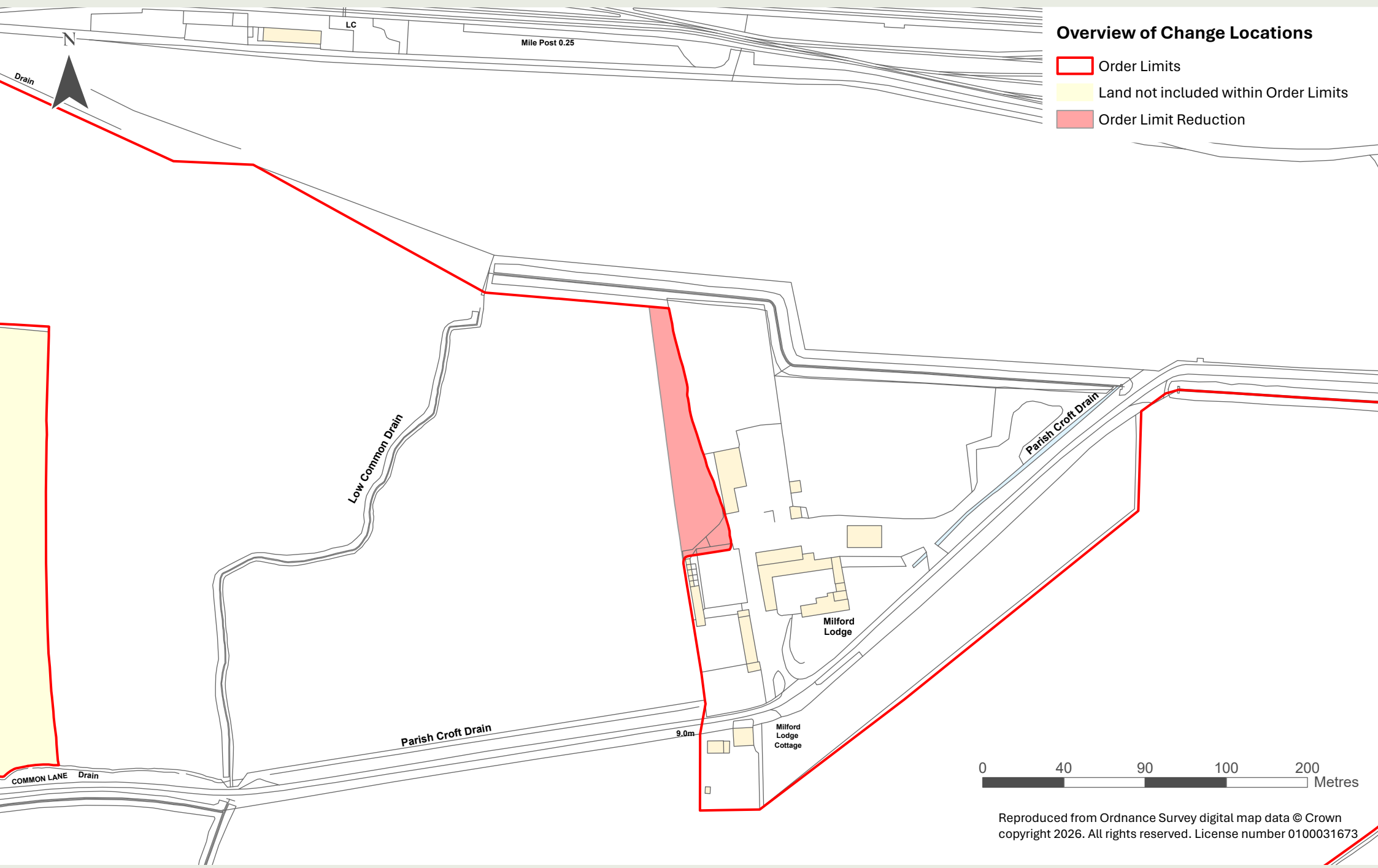
7 References

- Ref 1 Planning Inspectorate (2026) Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Changes to an application after it has been accepted for examination [Online]. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-changes-to-an-application-after-it-has-been-accepted-for-examination>. [Accessed September 2026].
- Ref 2 Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (2015) Planning Act 2008: changes to Development Consent Orders [Online]. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a8037b4ed915d74e33f9248/Making_changes_guidance_to_Development_Consent_Orders.pdf [Accessed September 2026].
- Ref 3 UK Government (2010) The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 [Online]. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/104/contents/made> [Accessed September 2026].

Annex A Plan of Proposed Changes

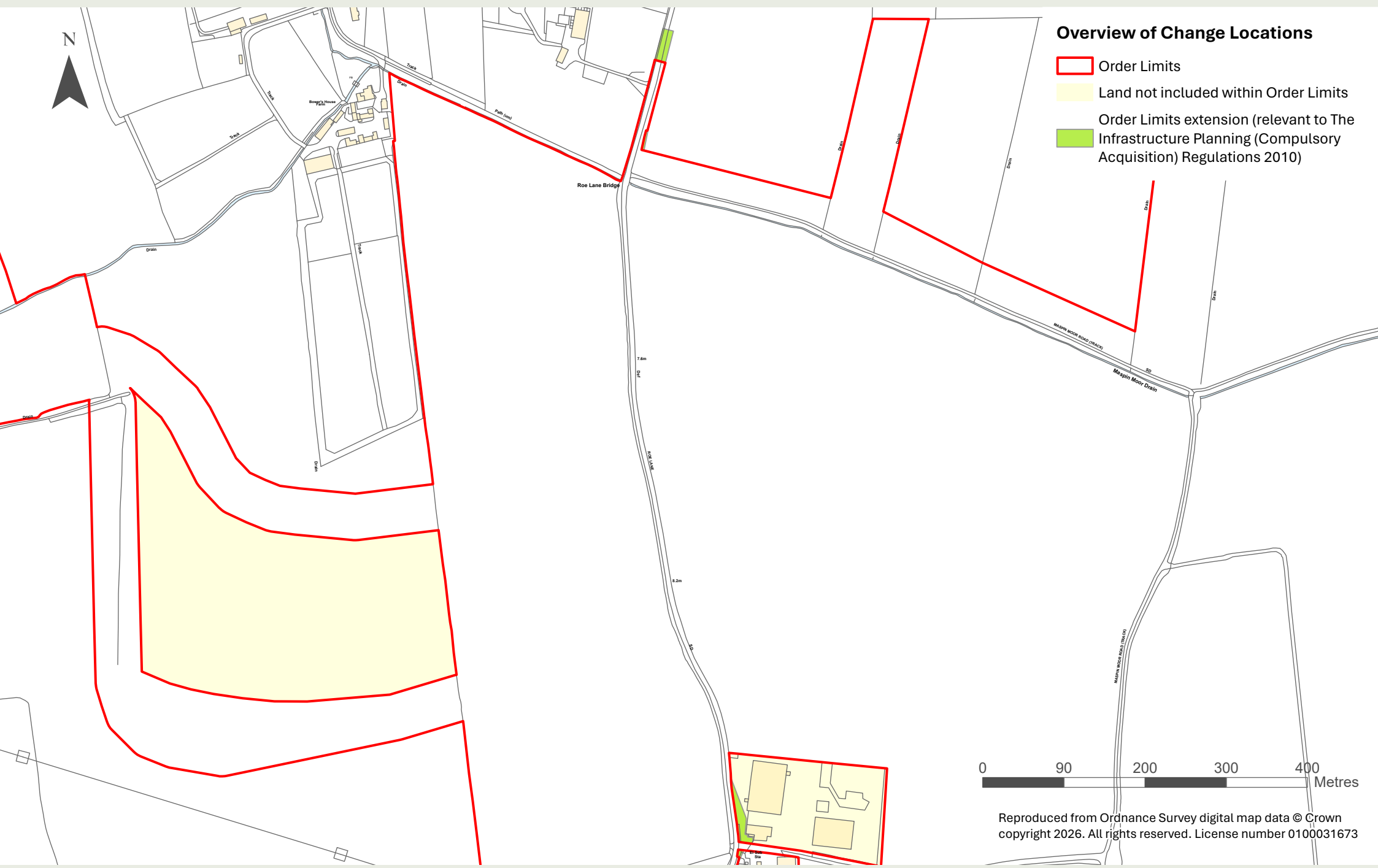






Overview of Change Locations

- Order Limits
- Land not included within Order Limits
- Order Limit Reduction

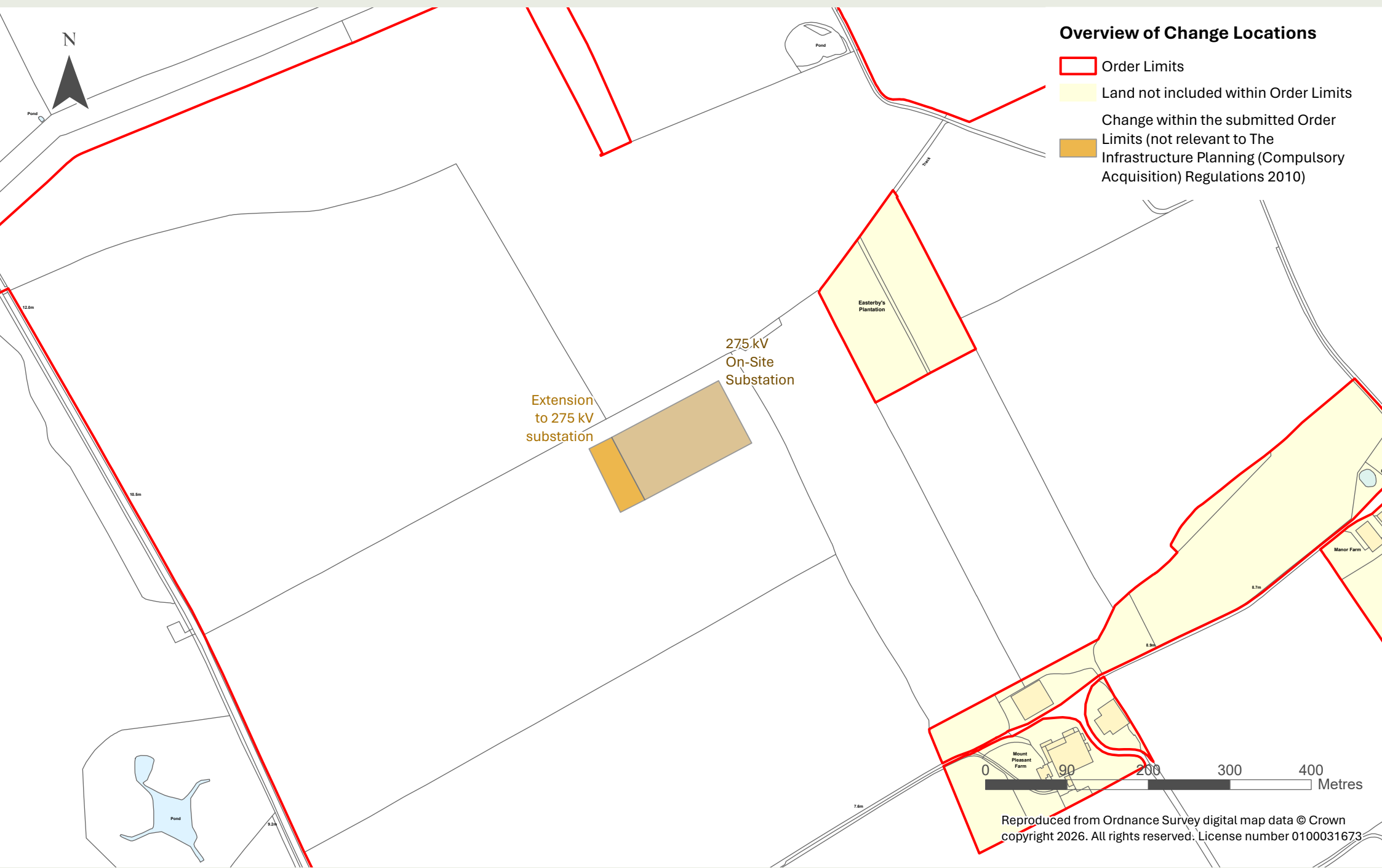


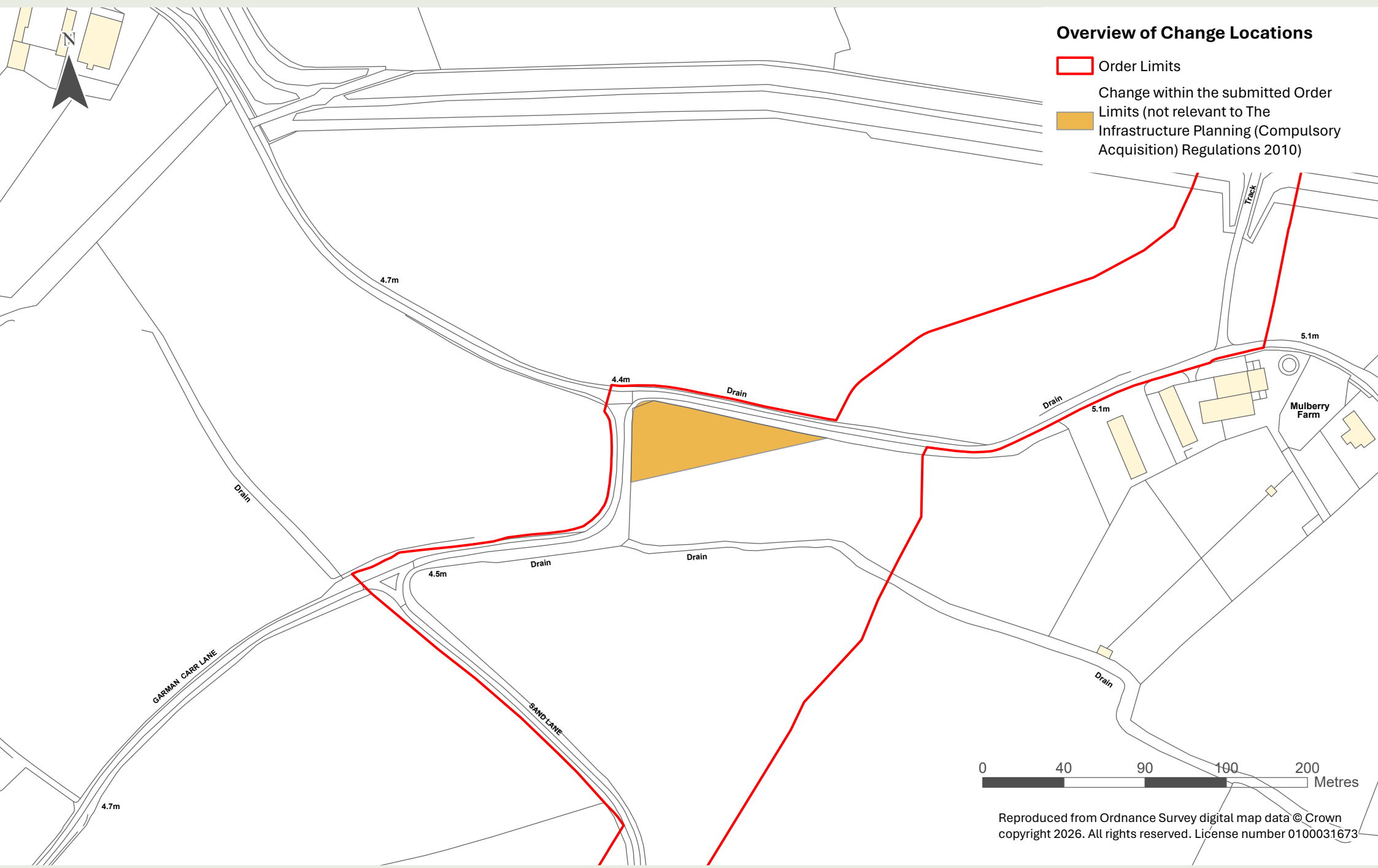
Overview of Change Locations

- Order Limits
- Land not included within Order Limits
- Order Limits extension (relevant to The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010)

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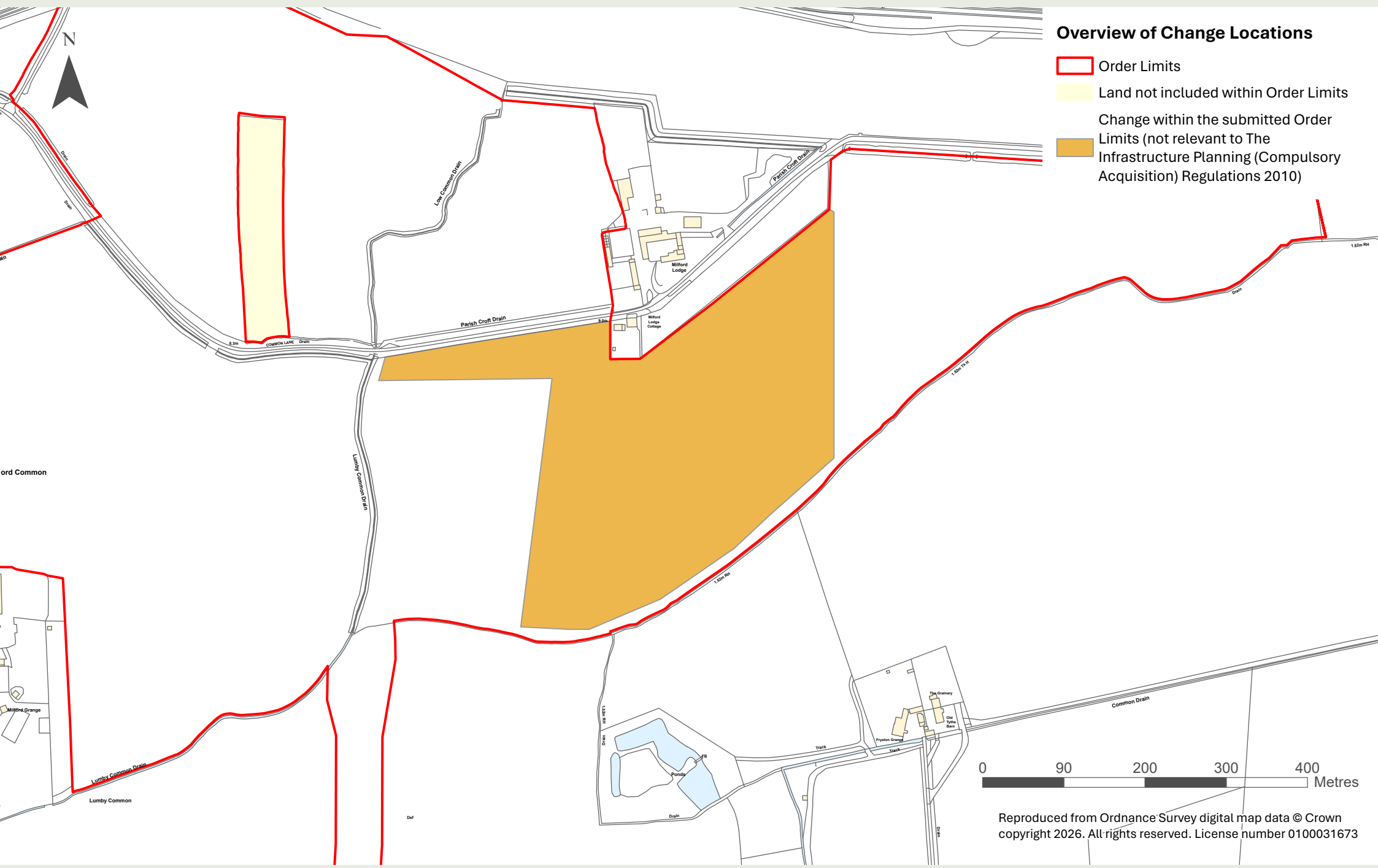


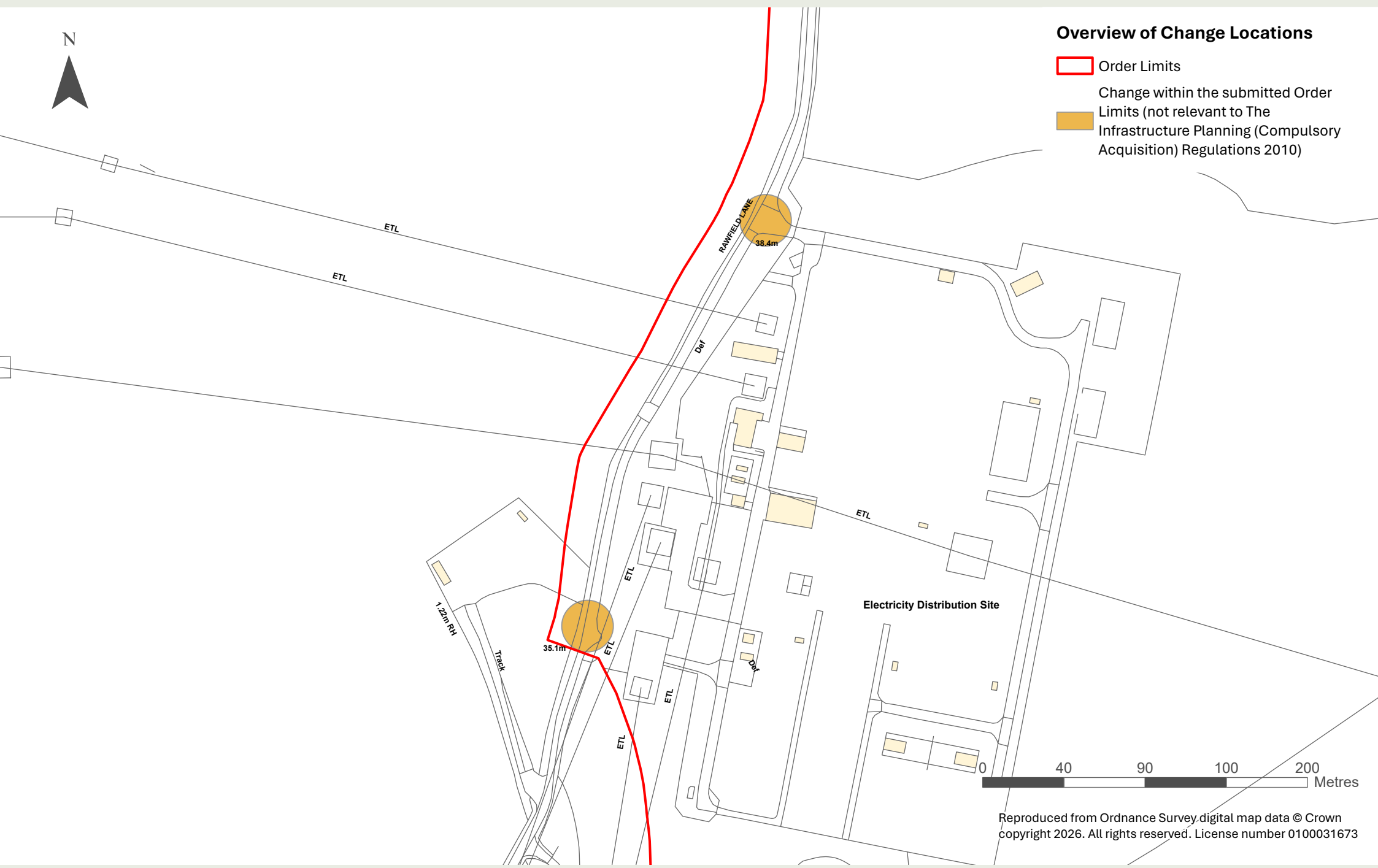
Overview of Change Locations

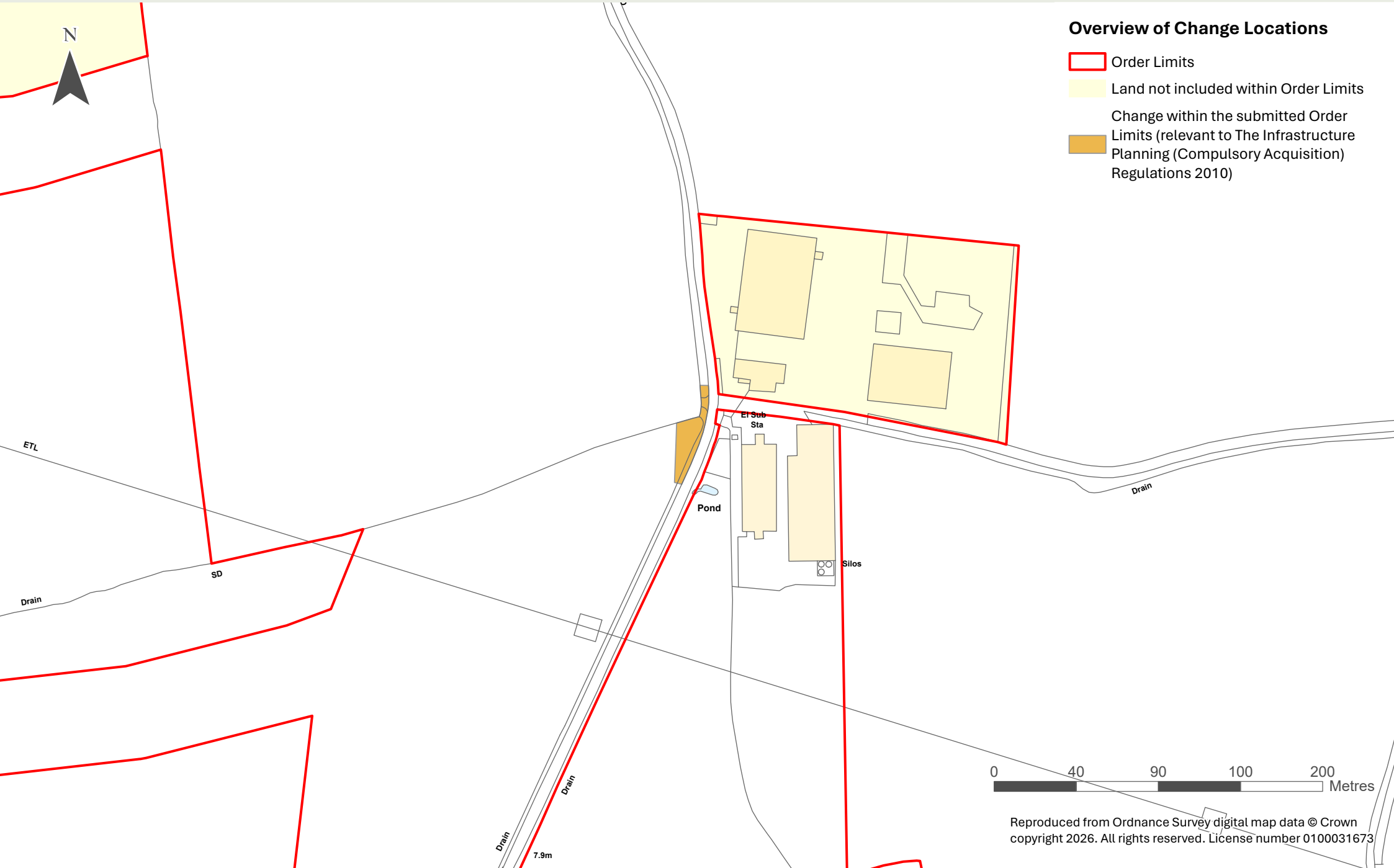
- Order Limits
- Change within the submitted Order Limits (not relevant to The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010)

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Overview of Change Locations

- Order Limits
- Land not included within Order Limits
- Change within the submitted Order Limits (relevant to The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010)
- Limits (relevant to The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010)

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Light Valley
Solar

W: Lightvalleysolar.co.uk
E: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk