

M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley interchange TR010030 2.11 Nature conservation sites and features plans

Regulation 5(2)(I) Planning Act 2008

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





Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

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

M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley interchange Development Consent Order 202[x]

2.11 NATURE CONSERVATION SITES AND FEATURES PLANS

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Author:		M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley interchange project team, Highways England
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1. Introduction

1.1 Introduction and purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 Highways England ('the Applicant') is applying to the Secretary of State for a development consent order ('DCO') to authorise a scheme for the improvement of the M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley interchange ('the Scheme'). The Application is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (as the responsible agency) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008. The draft DCO is referred to as the M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley interchange Development Consent Order 202[x]. The DCO application is seeking powers to upgrade the existing M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley interchange, including powers to compulsorily acquire land and other rights and interests as necessary to facilitate the construction, operation and maintenance of the Scheme.
- 1.1.2 This document comprises part of the suite of Application documents and is included within the Application as information to comply with Regulation 5(2)(I) of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 (as amended), which states that an application for development consent must be accompanied by:
 - '5(2)(I) 'where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying-
 - (i) any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation such as sites of geological or landscape importance;
 - (ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and
 - (iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan,

together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the proposed development'.'

- 1.1.3 As this document is part of the Application documentation, it should be read alongside and is informed by the other Application documents. In particular, these plans should be read in conjunction with:
 - Chapter 7 (Biodiversity) and Chapter 8 (Road Drainage and the Water Environment) of the Environmental Statement (application document reference number TR010030/APP/6.3) and associated figures (application document reference TR010030/APP/6.4) and appendices (application document reference TR010030/APP/6.5);
 - the Habitats Regulations Assessment (application document reference TR010030/APP/5.3); and
 - the Water Framework Directive Assessment (application document TR010030/APP/5.4).



1.1.4 A list of the DCO application documents and a detailed description of the Scheme are provided in the Introduction to the Application and Scheme Description document (application document TR010030/APP/1.2).

1.2 Scope and format of the Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans

- 1.2.1 The Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans show the location and extent of statutory and non-statutory nature conservation sites and features within and adjoining the DCO boundary, as follows:
 - The boundary of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA), which is an area identified as being of international importance for supporting important breeding bird populations and designated under The Conservation of Wild Birds Directive 2009/147/EC and transposed in to UK legislation by The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. The area of SPA shown on the Plans is part of a much larger composite site, encompassing more than 8,000 hectares of heathland habitat across the counties of Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire;
 - The boundary of the Ockham and Wisley Commons Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), an area of heathland habitat notified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) as being of special interest due to its rich community of heathland plants and animals, including rare and local insects;
 - Ancient woodland, indicating an area that has been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD and which is recorded in the National Inventory of ancient woodland maintained by Natural England;
 - Trees and woodland subject to Tree Preservation Orders made by the relevant local planning authorities under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990:
 - Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) designated in local plans and by Local Nature Partnerships (Wisley Field, Elm Corner Woods and Hunts Copse SNCIs);
 - The boundary of the Ockham and Wisley Local Nature Reserve, declared by Surrey County Council in 2005, under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 for the purposes of nature conservation and public recreation; and
 - Water bodies within a river basin management plan and their associated flood zones either with a medium probability of flooding (zone 2) or with a high probability of flooding or forming part of a functional floodplain (zone 3).
- 1.2.2 The Plans also show registered common land and other land comprising special category land, notably open space and a village green. Although these areas are not strictly nature conservation designations, they are shown on the Plans for context because these features both constrain and inform options for securing environmental mitigation and other biodiversity compensatory measures for the Scheme and need to be taken into account in future environmental management arrangements and requirements as referred to in Schedule 2 of the draft DCO (application document TR010030/APP/3.1). The Special Category Land Plans (application document TR010030/APP/2.5) show the location and extent of



- special category land required by the Scheme and the replacement land to be offered in exchange.
- 1.2.3 The Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans have been prepared at a scale of 1:2,500. This scale allows for the information to be shown to a sufficient level of detail and clarity. In accordance with Regulation 5(4) of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 (as amended), a Key Plan (at a scale of 1:12,500) has been provided to aid navigation of the Plans and to show how the different sheets are inter-related. The sheet layout is consistent with other 1:2,500 scale plans submitted as part of the DCO applications, including the Historic Environment Sites and Features Plans (application document TR010030/APP/2.12).
- 1.2.4 The Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans should be read in conjunction with the assessment of effects on nature conservation contained in Chapter 7 (Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement (application document TR010030/APP/6.3) and the associated figures and appendices for Chapter 7 (contained in application documents TR010030/APP/6.4 and TR010030/APP/6.5).
- 1.2.5 The figures for Chapter 7 (Biodiversity) of the Environmental Statement (application document TR010030/APP.6.4) include figures both at a smaller scale to provide information on the wider environmental context (to the extent of the study areas considered for the different features assessed) and at a larger scale where necessary to support the assessment findings and conclusions in more detail. The figures for Chapter 7 present a range of further information on nature conservation features. Figure 7.8 shows the location and extent of Habitats of Principal Importance, Figure 7.9 shows the water features that will be potentially affected by the Scheme and Figures 7.10 to 7.30 show the distribution of protected species, as indicated by the site surveys carried out for those species. Veteran trees are important diversity features and are shown on Figure 7.7.
- 1.2.6 The Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans should also be read in conjunction with the Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (application document reference TR010030/APP/5.3) and associated figures and appendices and the Water Framework Directive (WFD) Assessment Report (application document TR010030/APP/5.4). Figure 4.1 of the WFD Report identifies the relevant water bodies in a river basin management plan and the Report presents the full assessment of any effects on those features.
- 1.2.7 Reference should also be made to Chapter 8 of the Environmental Statement which addresses effects relating to Road Drainage and the Water Environment, and associated figures and appendices. (Refer to application documents TR010030/APP/6.3, TR010030/APP/6.4 and TR010030/APP/6.5).
- 1.2.8 In preparing these Plans, the Applicant has had regard to the Advice Notes published by the Planning Inspectorate and to the advice provided by the Planning Inspectorate under Section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 relating to the format, presentation and clarity of information shown on these plans.
- 1.2.9 It is also noted that Regulation 5(2)(I) of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 (as amended) requires that an application for development consent must be accompanied by an assessment of any effects on nature conservation sites, features, important habitats and water bodies. Whilst the purpose of the



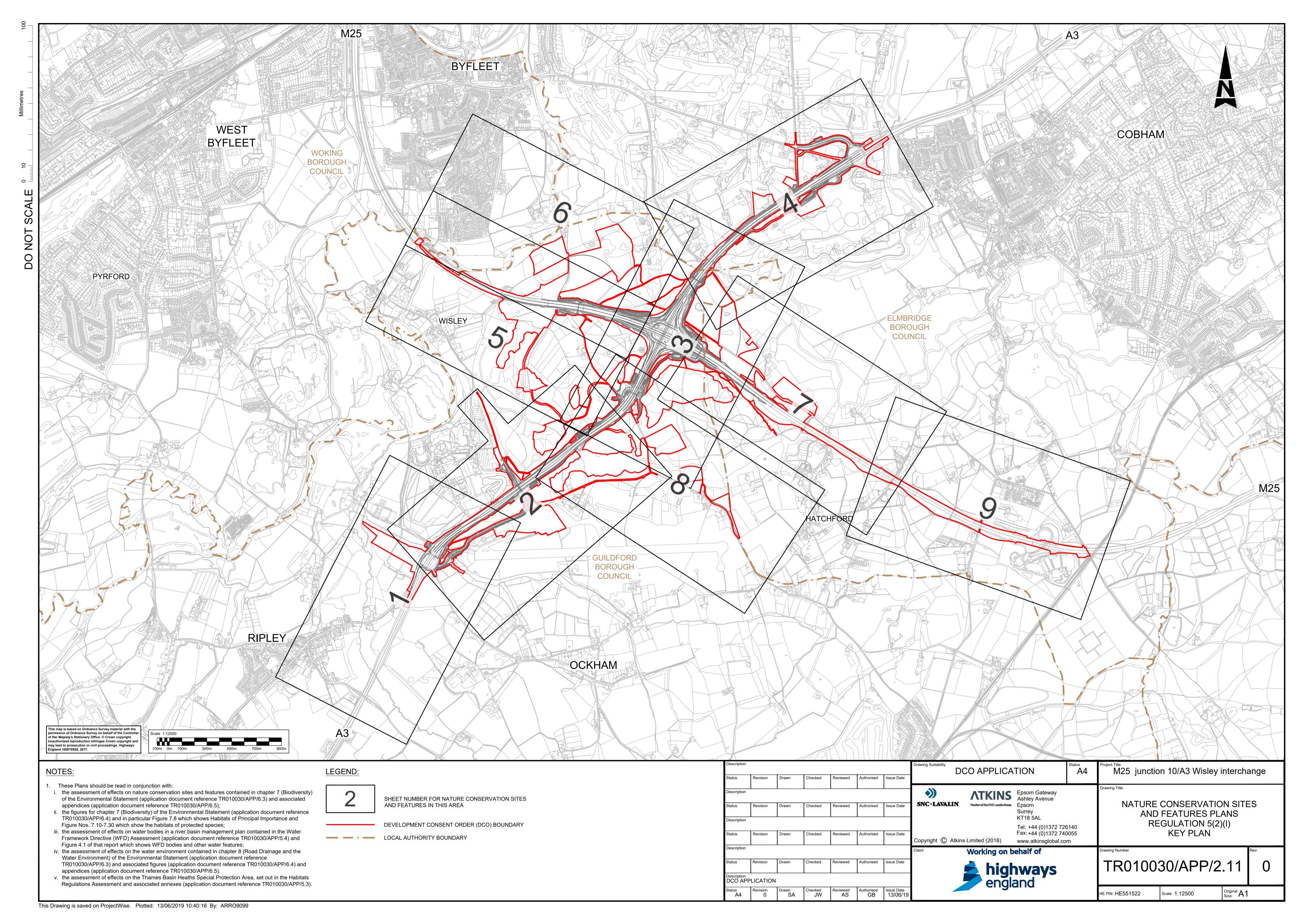
Environmental Statement is to identify and assess the likely significant environmental effects in line with The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, it is confirmed that the assessment contained in Chapter 7 (Biodiversity) and Chapter 8 (Road Drainage and the Water Environment) of the Environmental Statement address non-significant as well as significant potential effects, to ensure compliance with Regulation 5(2)(I).

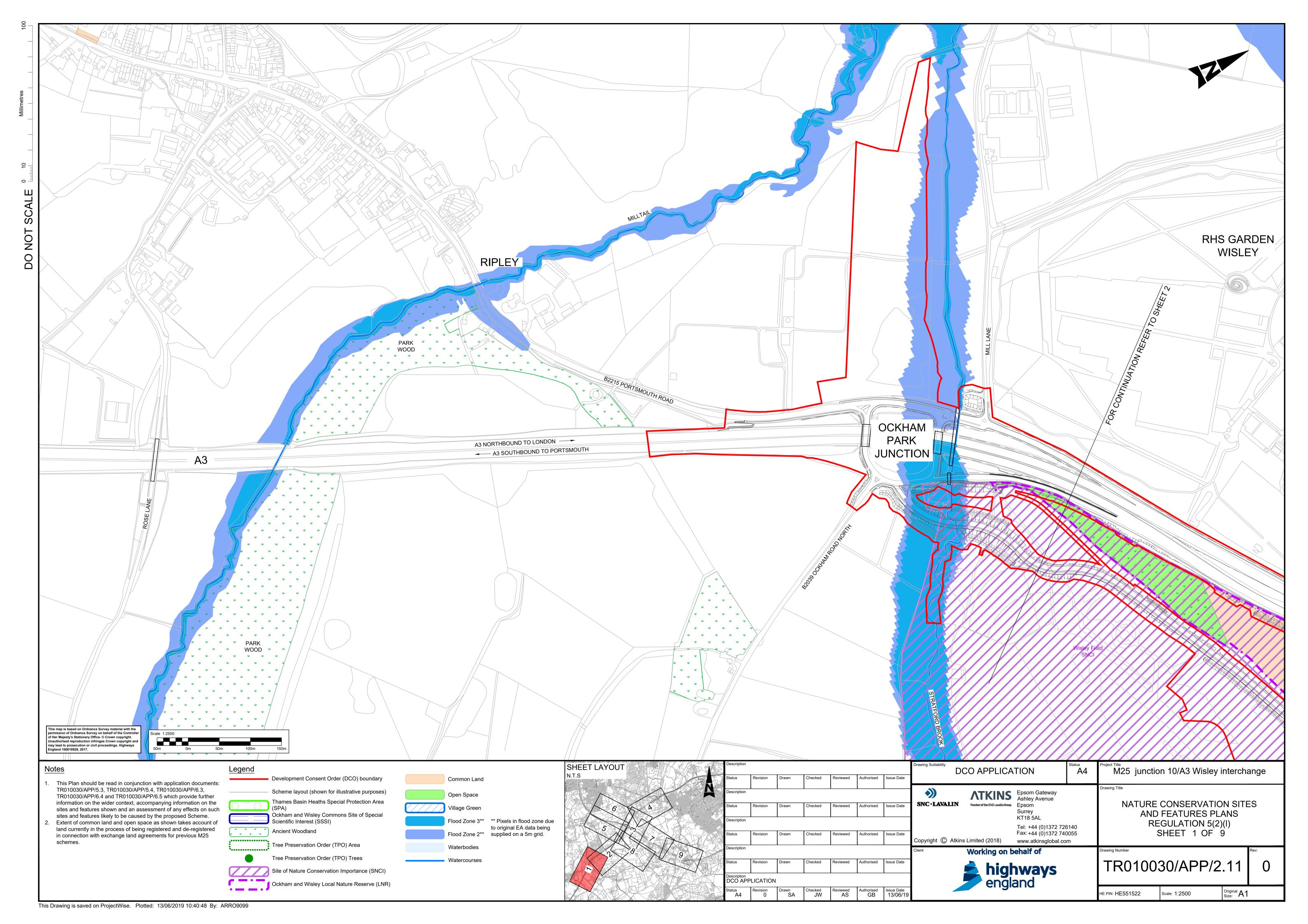
1.2.10 Further detailed assessment with regard to the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area is provided in the Habitats Regulations Assessment (application document TR010030/APP/5.3). The WFD Assessment (application document TR010030/APP/5.4) also addresses both significant and non-significant likely effects.

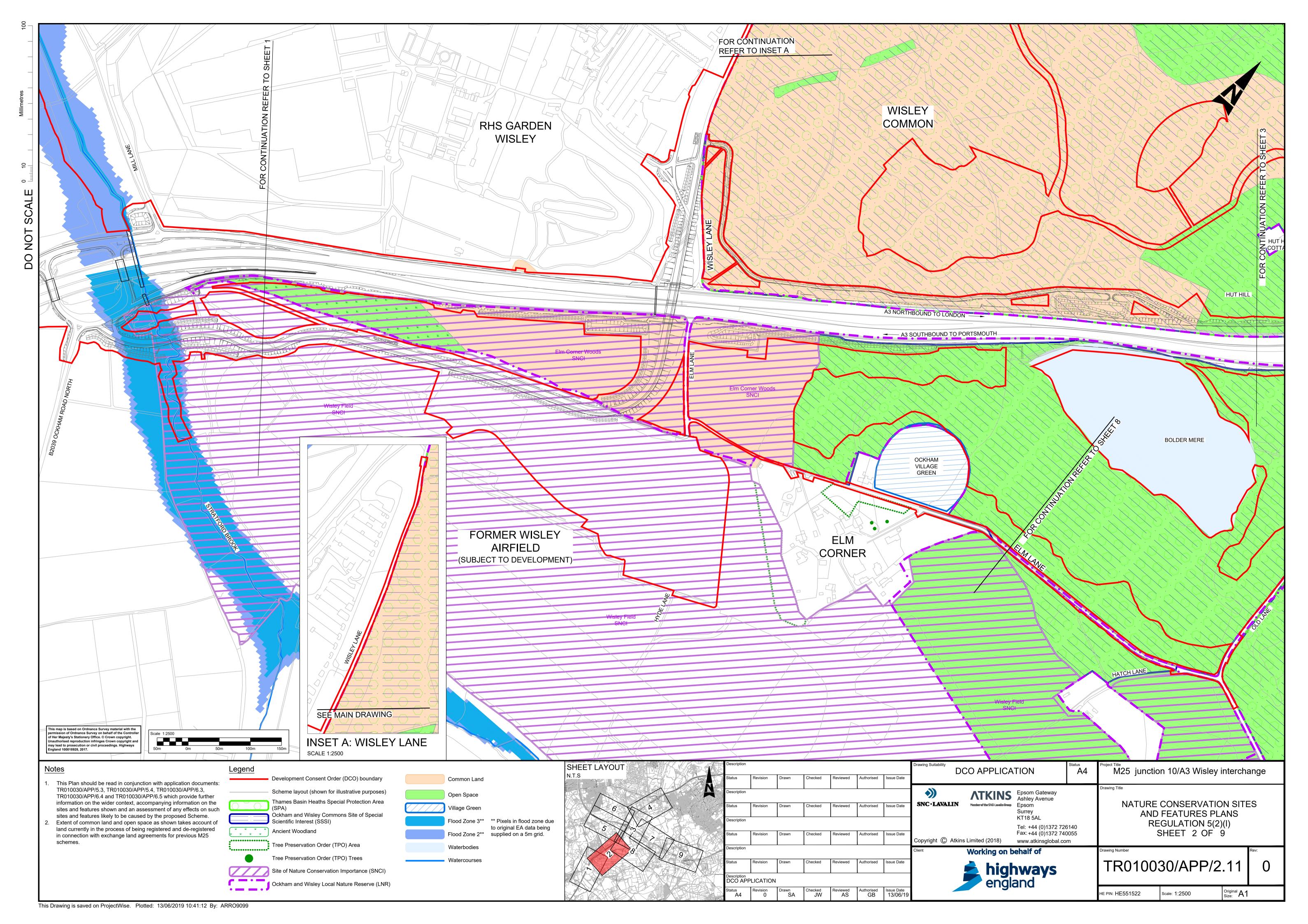


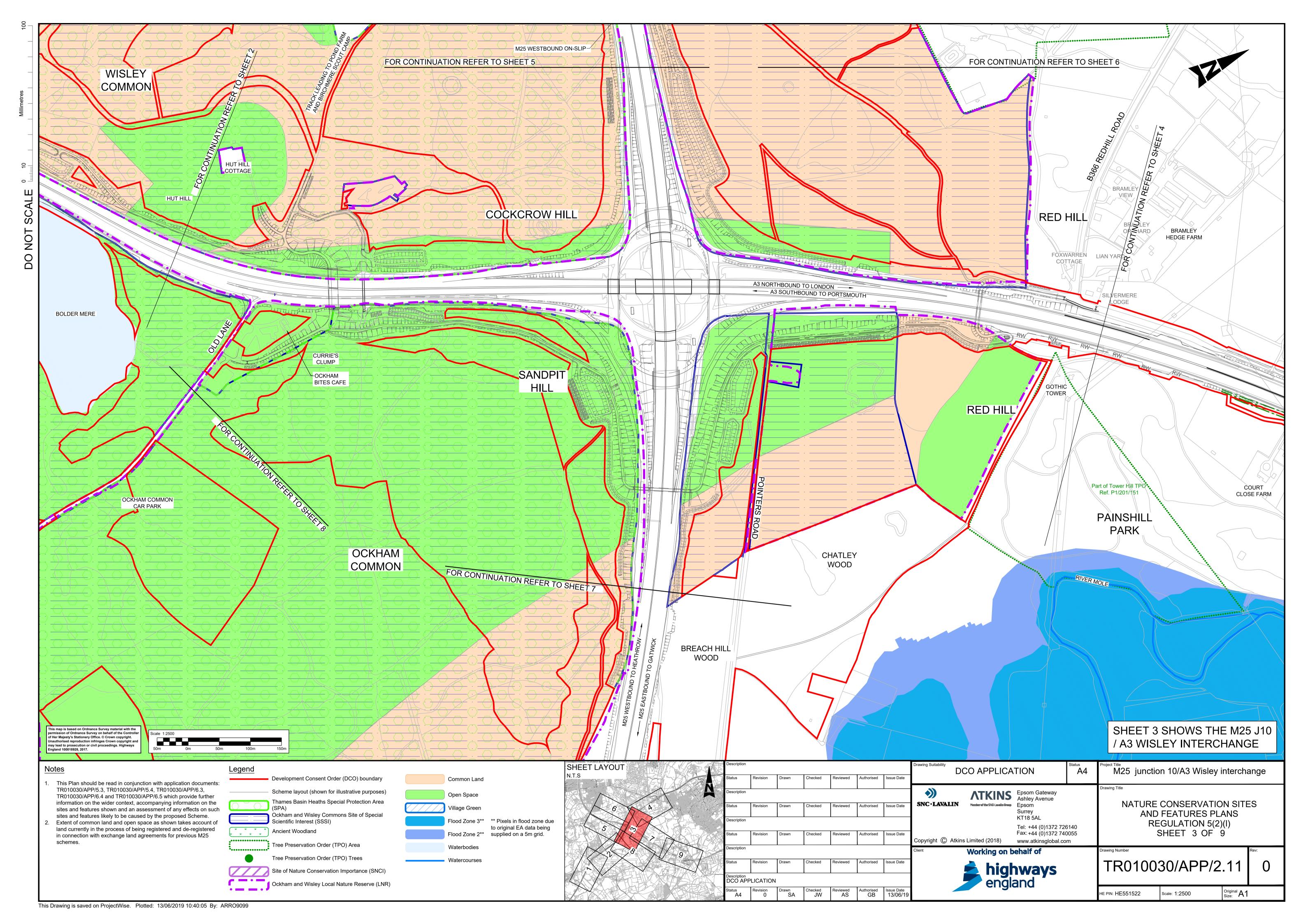
2. Schedule of Plans included in this application document

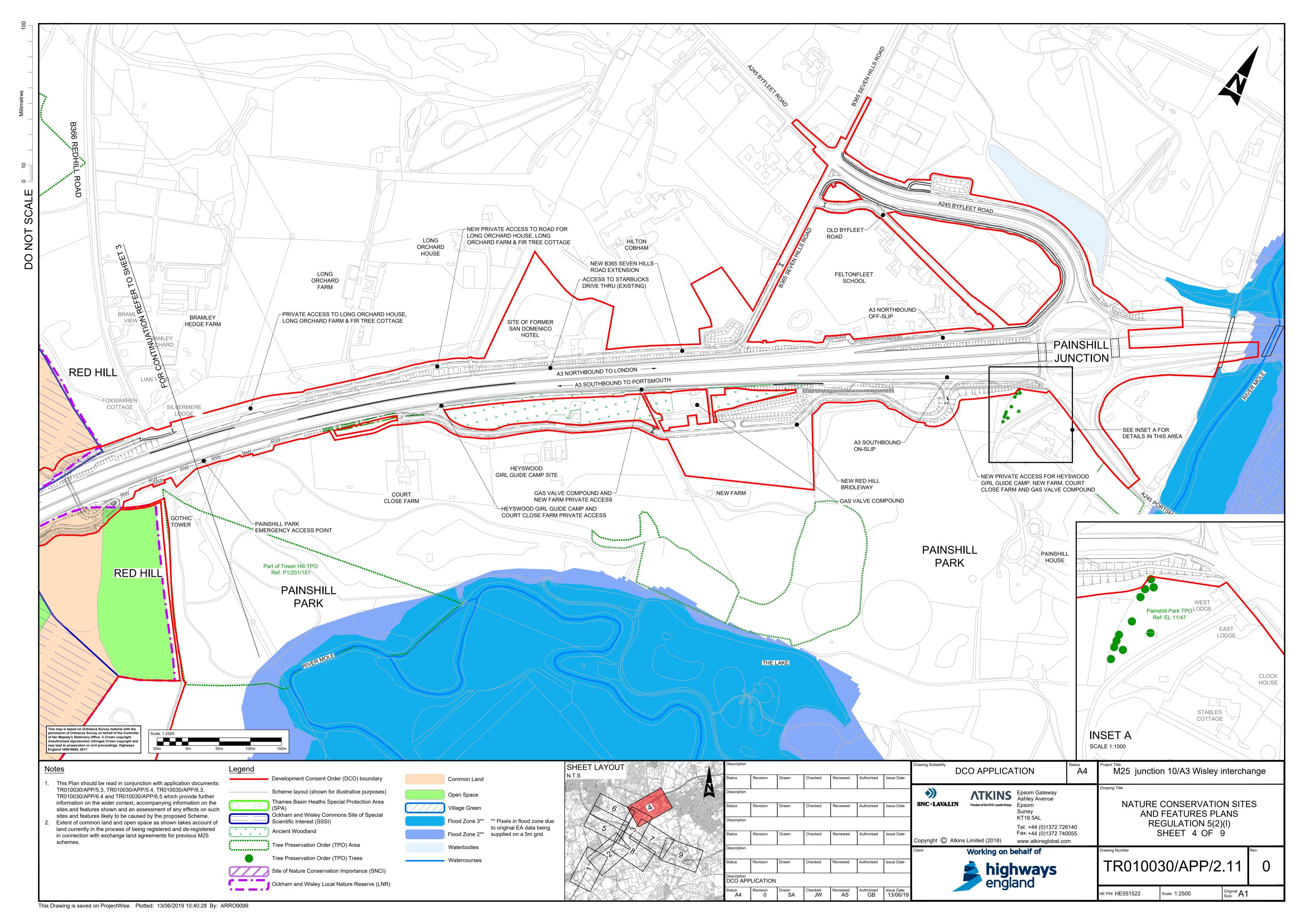
Document title	Document number	Revision
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Key Plan	TR010030/APP/2.11	0
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Sheet 1 of 9	TR010030/APP/2.11	0
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Sheet 2 of 9	TR010030/APP/2.11	0
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Sheet 3 of 9	TR010030/APP/2.11	0
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Sheet 4 of 9	TR010030/APP/2.11	0
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Sheet 5 of 9	TR010030/APP/2.11	0
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Sheet 6 of 9	TR010030/APP/2.11	0
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Sheet 7 of 9	TR010030/APP/2.11	0
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Sheet 8 of 9	TR010030/APP/2.11	0
Nature Conservation Sites and Features Plans – Regulation 5(2)(I) Sheet 9 of 9	TR010030/APP/2.11	0

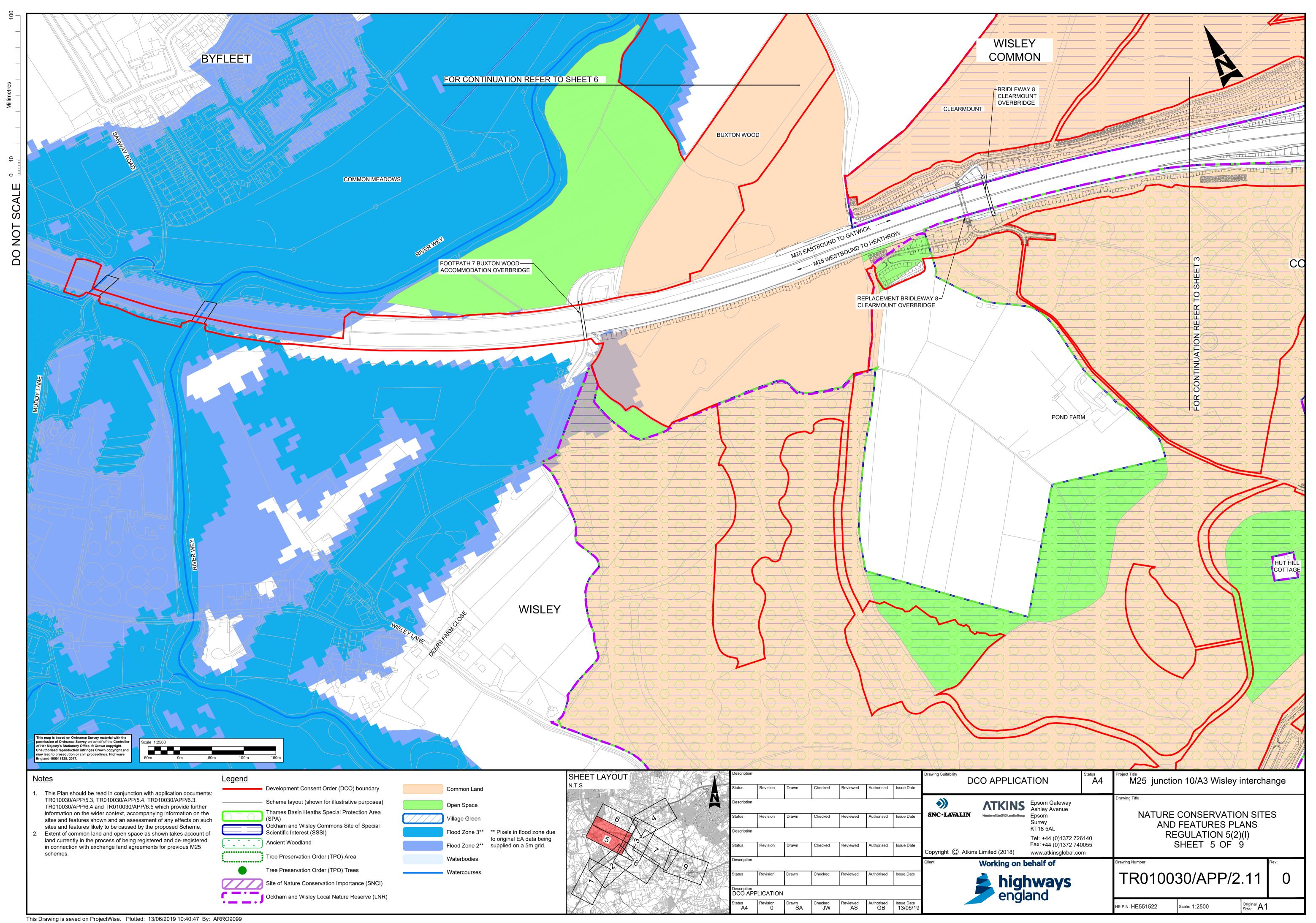


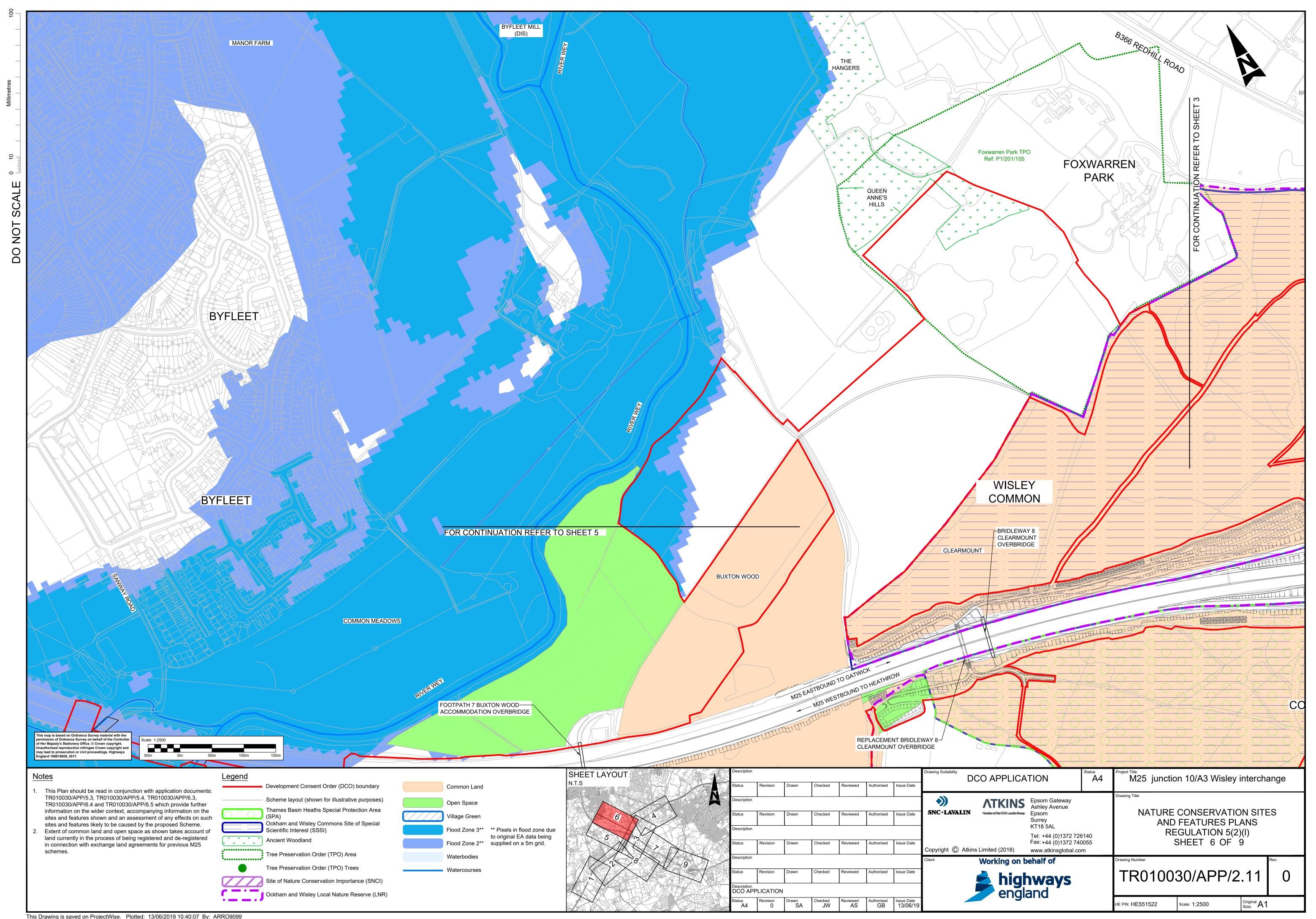


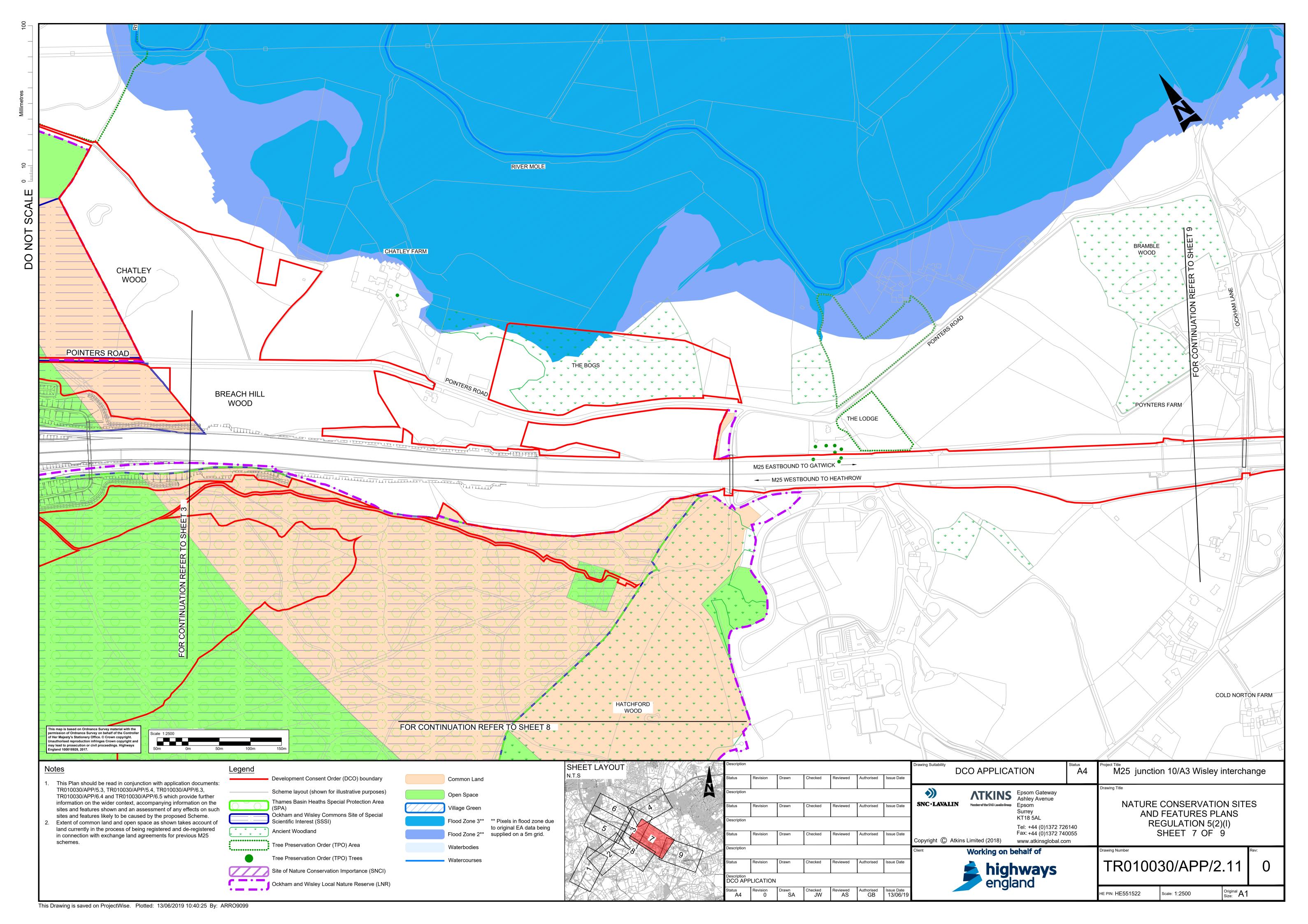


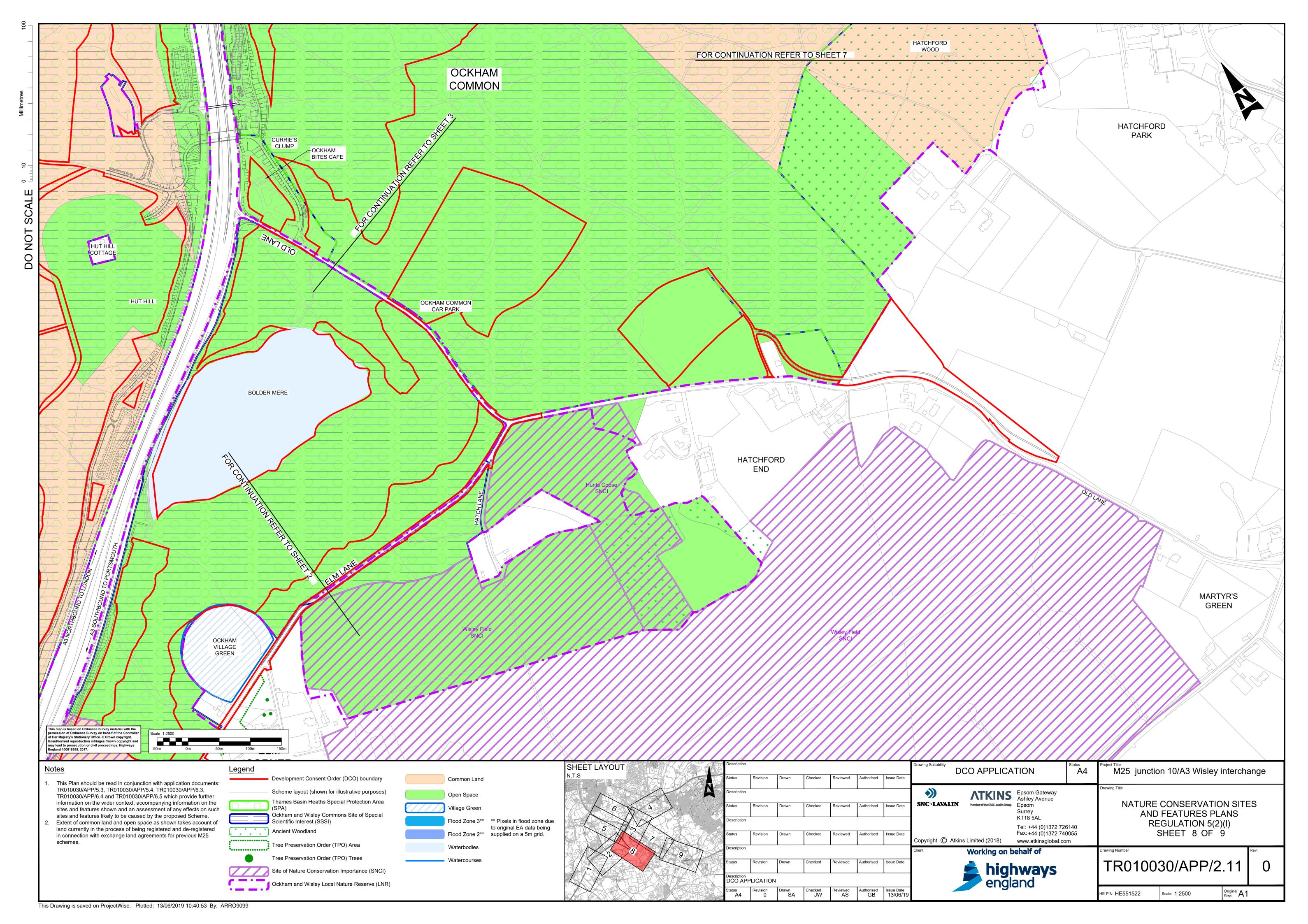


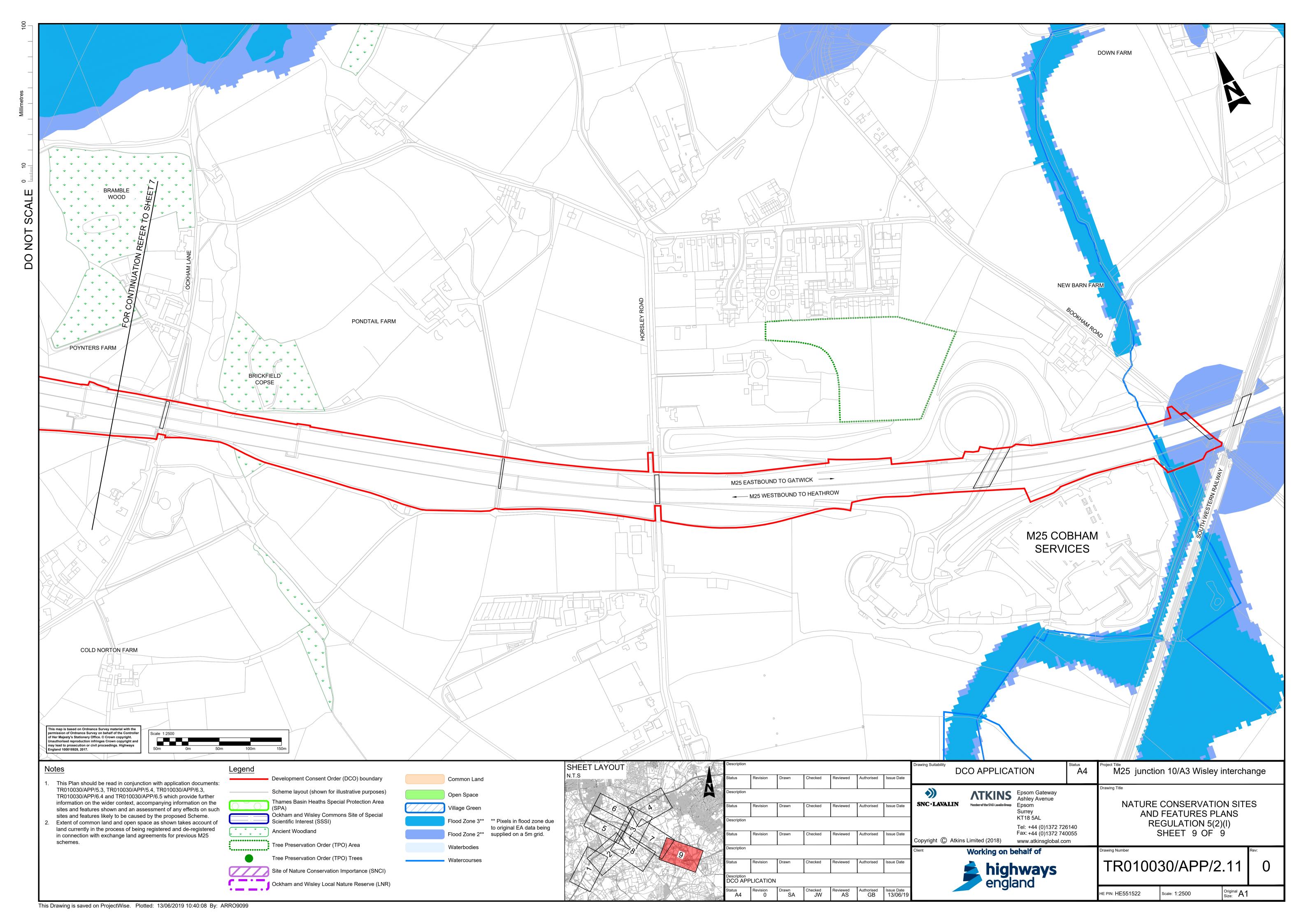












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