Appendix 2: Detailed Methodology

1. LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

1.1 The Analysis is based on this methodology which has been undertaken with regards to best practice as outlined within the following publications:

- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (3rd Edition, 2013) - Landscape Institute / Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment;
- Visual Representation of Development Proposals (2019) - Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 06/19;
- An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment (2014) - Natural England;
- An Approach to Landscape Sensitivity Assessment - To Inform Spatial Planning and Land Management (2019) - Natural England.
- Reviewing Landscape Visual Impact Assessments (LVIAs and Landscape and Visual appraisals (LVAs) Technical Guidance Note 1/20 Landscape Institute.
- Assessing Landscape Value Outside National Designations, Technical Guidance Note 02/21 - Landscape Institute (2021).

1.2 GLVIA3 states within paragraph 1.1 that "Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) is a tool used to identify and assess the significance of and the effects of change resulting from development on both the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right and on people's views and visual amenity."[1]

1.3 GLVIA3 also states within paragraph 1.17 that when identifying landscape and visual effects there is a "need for an approach that is in proportion to the scale of the project that is being assessed and the nature of the likely effects. Judgement needs to be exercised at all stages in terms of the scale of investigation that is appropriate and proportional."[2]

1.4 GLVIA3 recognises within paragraph 2.23 that "professional judgement is a very important part of LVIA. While there is some scope for quantitative measurement of some relatively objective matters much of the assessment must rely on qualitative judgements"[3] undertaken by a landscape consultant or a Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute (CMLI).

1.5 GLVIA3 notes in paragraph 1.3 that "LVIA may be carried out either formally, as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), or informally, as a contribution to the 'appraisal' of development proposals and planning applications."[4] Although the proposed development is not subject to an EIA requiring an assessment of the

[1] Para 1.1, Page 4, GLVIA, 3rd Edition
[2] Para 1.17, Page 9, GLVIA, 3rd Edition
[3] Para 2.23, Page 21, GLVIA, 3rd Edition
[4] Para 1.3, Page 4, GLVIA, 3rd Edition

likely significance of effects, this assessment is also titled as an LVIA rather than an 'appraisal' in the interests of common understanding with other planning consultants.

1.6 The effects on cultural heritage and ecology are not considered within this LVIA.

Study Area

1.7 The study area for this LVIA covers a 2km radius from the site. However, the main focus of the assessment was taken as a radius of 1km from the site as it is considered that even with clear visibility the proposals would not be perceptible in the landscape beyond this distance.

Effects Assessed

1.8 Landscape and visual effects are assessed through professional judgements on the sensitivity of landscape elements, character and visual receptors combined with the predicted magnitude of change arising from the proposals. The landscape and visual effects have been assessed in the following sections:

- Effects on landscape elements;
- Effects on landscape character; and
- Effects on visual amenity.

1.9 Sensitivity is defined in GLVIA3 as "a term applied to specific receptors, combining judgments of susceptibility of the receptor to a specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor."[5] Various factors in relation to the value and susceptibility of landscape elements, character, visual receptors or representative viewpoints are considered below and cross referenced to determine the overall sensitivity as shown in Table 1:

Table 1, Overall sensitivity of landscape and visual receptors

	VALUE			
SUSCEPTIBILITY		**HIGH**	**MEDIUM**	**LOW**
	HIGH	High	High	Medium
	MEDIUM	High	Medium	Medium
	LOW	Medium	Medium	Low

[5] Glossary, Page 158, GLVIA, 3rd Edition

1.10 Magnitude of change is defined in GLVIA3 as "a term that combines judgements about the size and scale of the effect, the extent over which it occurs, whether it is reversible or irreversible and whether it is short or long term in duration."[6] Various factors contribute to the magnitude of change on landscape elements, character, visual receptors and representative viewpoints.

1.11 The sensitivity of the landscape and visual receptor and the magnitude of change arising from the proposals are cross referenced in Table 11 to determine the overall degree of landscape and visual effects.

2. EFFECTS ON LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS

2.1 The effects on landscape elements includes the direct physical change to the fabric of the land, such as the removal of woodland, hedgerows or grassland to allow for the proposals.

Sensitivity of Landscape Elements

2.2 Sensitivity is determined by a combination of the value that is attached to a landscape element and the susceptibility of the landscape element to changes that would arise as a result of the proposals – see pages 88-90 of GLVIA3. Both value and susceptibility are assessed on a scale of high, medium or low.

2.3 The criteria for assessing the value of landscape elements and landscape character is shown in Table 2:

Table 2, Criteria for assessing the value of landscape elements and landscape character

HIGH	Designated landscape including but not limited to World Heritage Sites, National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty considered to be an important component of the country's character or non-designated landscape of a similar character and quality. Landscape condition is good and components are generally maintained to a high standard. In terms of seclusion, enclosure by land use, traffic and movement, light pollution and absence of major built infrastructure, the landscape has an elevated level of tranquillity. Rare or distinctive landscape elements and features are key components that contribute to the landscape character of the area.

[6] Glossary, Page 158, GLVIA, 3rd Edition

MEDIUM	Undesignated landscape including urban fringe and rural countryside considered to be a distinctive component of the national or local landscape character. Landscape condition is fair and components are generally well maintained. In terms of seclusion, enclosure by land use, traffic and movement, light pollution and some major built infrastructure, the landscape has a moderate level of tranquillity. Rare or distinctive landscape elements and features are notable components that contribute to the character of the area.
LOW	Undesignated landscape including urban fringe and rural countryside considered to be of unremarkable character. Landscape condition may be poor and components poorly maintained or damaged. In terms of seclusion, enclosure by land use, traffic and movement, light pollution and significant major built infrastructure, the landscape has limited levels of tranquillity. Rare or distinctive elements and features are not notable components that contribute to the landscape character of the area.

2.4 The criteria for assessing the susceptibility of landscape elements and landscape character is shown in Table 3:

Table 3, Criteria for assessing landscape susceptibility	
HIGH	Scale of enclosure – landscapes with a low capacity to accommodate the type of development being proposed owing to the interactions of topography, vegetation cover, built form, etc. Nature of land use – landscapes with no or little existing reference or context to the type of development being proposed. Nature of existing elements – landscapes with components that are not easily replaced or substituted (e.g. ancient woodland, mature trees, historic parkland, etc). Nature of existing features – landscapes where detracting features, major infrastructure or industry is not present or where present has a limited influence on landscape character.
MEDIUM	Scale of enclosure – landscapes with a medium capacity to accommodate the type of development being proposed owing to the interactions of topography, vegetation cover, built form, etc. Nature of land use – landscapes with some existing reference or context to the type of development being proposed.

	Nature of existing elements – landscapes with components that are easily replaced or substituted. Nature of existing features – landscapes where detracting features, major infrastructure or industry is present and has a noticeable influence on landscape character.
LOW	Scale of enclosure – landscapes with a high capacity to accommodate the type of development being proposed owing to the interactions of topography, vegetation cover, built form, etc. Nature of land use – landscapes with extensive existing reference or context to the type of development being proposed. Nature of existing features – landscapes where detracting features or major infrastructure is present and has a dominating influence on the landscape.

2.5 Various factors in relation to the value and susceptibility of landscape elements are assessed and cross referenced to determine the overall sensitivity as shown in Table 1.

2.6 Sensitivity is defined in GLVIA3 as "a term applied to specific receptors, combining judgments of susceptibility of the receptor to a specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor."[7] The definitions for high, medium, low landscape sensitivity are shown in Table 4:

Table 4, Criteria for assessing landscape sensitivity	
HIGH	Landscape element or character area defined as being of high value combined with a high or medium susceptibility to change. Landscape element or character area defined as being of medium value combined with a high susceptibility to change.
MEDIUM	Landscape element or character area defined as being of high value combined with a low susceptibility to change. Landscape element or character area defined as being of medium value combined with a medium or low susceptibility to change. Landscape element or character area defined as being of low value combined with a high or medium susceptibility to change.

[7] Glossary, Page 158, GLVIA, 3rd Edition

LOW	Landscape element or character area defined as being of low value combined with a low susceptibility to change.

Magnitude of Change on Landscape Elements

2.7 Professional judgement has been used to determine the magnitude of change on individual landscape elements within the site as shown in Table 5:

Table 5, Criteria for assessing magnitude of change for landscape elements	
HIGH	Substantial loss/gain of a landscape element.
MEDIUM	Partial loss/gain or alteration to part of a landscape element.
LOW	Minor loss/gain or alteration to part of a landscape element.
NEGLIGIBLE	No loss/gain or very limited alteration to part of a landscape element.

3. EFFECTS ON LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

3.1 Landscape character is defined as the "distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse."[8]

3.2 The assessment of effects on landscape character considers how the introduction of new landscape elements physically alters the landform, landcover, landscape pattern and perceptual attributes of the site or how visibility of the proposals changes the way in which the landscape character is perceived.

Sensitivity of Landscape Character

3.3 Sensitivity is determined by a combination of the value that is attached to a landscape and the susceptibility of the landscape to changes that would arise as a result of the proposals – see pages 88-90 of GLVIA3. Both value and susceptibility are assessed on a scale of high, medium or low.

3.4 The criteria for assessing the value of landscape character is shown in Table 2.

[8] Glossary, Page 157, GLVIA, 3rd Edition

3.5 The criteria for assessing the susceptibility of landscape character is shown in Table 3.

3.6 The overall sensitivity is determined through cross referencing the value and susceptibility of landscape character as shown in Table 1.

Magnitude of Change on Landscape Character

3.7 Professional judgement has been used to determine the magnitude of change on landscape character as shown in Table 6:

Table 6, Criteria for assessing magnitude of change on landscape character	
HIGH	Introduction of major new elements into the landscape or some major change to the scale, landform, landcover or pattern of the landscape.
MEDIUM	Introduction of some notable new elements into the landscape or some notable change to the scale, landform, landcover or pattern of the landscape.
LOW	Introduction of minor new elements into the landscape or some minor change to the scale, landform, landcover or pattern of the landscape.
NEGLIGIBLE	No notable or appreciable introduction of new elements into the landscape or change to the scale, landform, landcover or pattern of the landscape.

4. EFFECTS ON VISUAL AMENITY

4.1 Visual amenity is defined within GLVIA3 as the "overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating, visiting or travelling through an area."[9]

4.2 The effects on visual amenity considers the changes in views arising from the proposals in relation to visual receptors including settlements, residential properties, transport routes, recreational facilities and attractions; and

[9] Page 158, Glossary, GLVIA3

representative viewpoints or specific locations within the study area as agreed with the Local Planning Authority.

Sensitivity of Visual Receptors

4.3 Sensitivity is determined by a combination of the value that is attached to a view and the susceptibility of the visual receptor to changes in that view that would arise as a result of the proposals – see pages 113-114 of GLVIA3. Both value and susceptibility are assessed on a scale of high, medium or low.

4.4 The criteria for assessing the value of views are shown in Table 7:

Table 7, Criteria for assessing the value of views	
HIGH	Views with high scenic value within designated landscapes including but not limited to World Heritage Sites, National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, etc. Likely to include key viewpoints on OS maps or reference within guidebooks, provision of facilities, presence of interpretation boards, etc.
MEDIUM	Views with moderate scenic value within undesignated landscape including urban fringe and rural countryside.
LOW	Views with unremarkable scenic value within undesignated landscape with partly degraded visual quality and detractors.

4.5 The criteria for assessing the susceptibility of views are shown in Table 8:

Table 8, Criteria for assessing visual susceptibility	
HIGH	Includes occupiers of residential properties and people engaged in recreational activities in the countryside using public rights of way (PROW).
MEDIUM	Includes people engaged in outdoor sporting activities and people travelling through the landscape on minor roads and trains.
LOW	Includes people at places of work e.g. industrial and commercial premises and people travelling through the landscape on major roads and motorways.

4.6 Sensitivity is defined in GLVIA3 as "a term applied to specific receptors, combining judgments of susceptibility of the receptor to a specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor."[10] The definitions for high, medium, low visual sensitivity are shown in Table 9:

Table 9, Criteria for assessing visual sensitivity	
HIGH	Visual receptor defined as being of high value combined with a high or medium susceptibility to change. Visual receptor defined as being of medium value combined with a high susceptibility to change.
MEDIUM	Visual receptor defined as being of high value combined with a low susceptibility to change. Visual receptor defined as being of medium value combined with a medium or low susceptibility to change. Visual receptor defined as being of low value combined with a high or medium susceptibility to change.
LOW	Visual receptor defined as being of low value combined with a low susceptibility to change.

Magnitude of Change on Visual Receptors

4.7 Professional judgement has been used to determine the magnitude of change on visual receptors as shown in Table 10:

Table 10, Criteria for assessing magnitude of change for visual receptors	
HIGH	Major change in the view that has a substantial influence on the overall view.
MEDIUM	Some change in the view that is clearly visible and forms an important but not defining element in the view.
LOW	Some change in the view that is appreciable with few visual receptors affected.
NEGLIGIBLE	No notable change in the view.

[10] Glossary, Page 158, GLVIA, 3rd Edition

5. SIGNIFICANCE OF LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL EFFECTS

5.1 The likely significance of effects is dependent on all of the factors considered in the sensitivity and the magnitude of change upon the relevant landscape and visual receptors. These factors are assimilated to assess whether or not the proposed development will have a likely significant or not significant effect. The variables considered in the evaluation of the sensitivity and the magnitude of change is reviewed holistically to inform the professional judgement of significance.

5.2 Within Table 11 below, the major effects highlighted in grey are considered to be significant in terms of the EIA Regulations. It should be noted that whilst an individual effect may be significant, it does not necessarily follow that the proposed development would be unacceptable in the planning balance. The cross referencing of the sensitivity and magnitude of change on the landscape and visual receptor determines the significance of effect as shown in Table 11:

Table 11, Significance of landscape and visual effects

		Sensitivity		
		HIGH	**MEDIUM**	**LOW**
Magnitude of Change	**HIGH**	Major	Major	Moderate
	MEDIUM	Major	Moderate	Minor
	LOW	Moderate	Minor	Minor
	NEGLIGIBLE	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

6. TYPICAL DESCRIPTORS OF LANDSCAPE EFFECTS

6.1 The typical descriptors of the landscape effects are detailed within Table 12:

Table 12, Typical Descriptors of Landscape Effects

MAJOR BENEFICIAL	Substantially: - enhance the character (including value) of the landscape; - enhance the restoration of characteristic features and elements lost as a result of changes from inappropriate management or development; - enable a sense of place to be enhanced.
MODERATE BENEFICIAL	Moderately: - enhance the character (including value) of the landscape; - enable the restoration of characteristic features and elements partially lost or diminished as a result of changes from inappropriate management or development; - enable a sense of place to be restored.
MINOR BENEFICIAL	Slightly: - complement the character (including value) of the landscape; - maintain or enhance characteristic features or elements; - enable some sense of place to be restored.
NEGLIGIBLE	The proposed changes would (on balance) maintain the character (including value) of the landscape and would: - be in keeping with landscape character and blend in with characteristic features and elements; - Enable a sense of place to be maintained.
NO CHANGE	The proposed changes would not be visible and there would be no change to landscape character.
MINOR ADVERSE	Slightly: - not quite fit the character (including value) of the landscape; - be a variance with characteristic features and elements; - detract from sense of place.
MODERATE ADVERSE	Moderately: - conflict with the character (including value) of the landscape; - have an adverse effect on characteristic features or elements; - diminish a sense of place.
MAJOR ADVERSE	Substantially: - be at variance with the character (including value) of the landscape; - degrade or diminish the integrity of a range of characteristic features and elements or cause them to be lost; - change a sense of place.

7. TYPICAL DESCRIPTORS OF VISUAL EFFECTS

7.1 The typical descriptors of the visual effects are detailed within Table 13:

Table 13, Typical Descriptors of Visual Effects	
MAJOR BENEFICIAL	Proposals would result in a major improvement in the view.
MODERATE BENEFICIAL	Proposals would result in a clear improvement in the view.
MINOR BENEFICIAL	Proposals would result in a slight improvement in the view.
NEGLIGIBLE	The proposed changes would be in keeping with, and would maintain, the existing view or where (on balance) the proposed changes would maintain the general appearance of the view (which may include adverse effects which are offset by beneficial effects for the same receptor) or due to distance from the receptor, the proposed change would be barely perceptible to the naked eye.
NO CHANGE	The proposed changes would not be visible and there would be no change to the view.
MINOR ADVERSE	Proposals would result in a slight deterioration in the view.
MODERATE ADVERSE	Proposals would result in a clear deterioration in the view.
MAJOR ADVERSE	Proposals would result in a major deterioration in the view.

8. NATURE OF EFFECTS

8.1 GLVIA3 includes an entry that states *"effects can be described as positive or negative (or in some cases neutral) in their consequences for views and visual amenity."*[11] GLVIA3 does not, however, state how negative or positive effects should be assessed, and this therefore becomes a matter of professional judgement supported by site specific justification within the LVIA.

[11] Para 6.29, Page 113, GLVIA 3rd Edition

Appendix 3: Landscape Masterplan

Issue: FINAL

5m minimum width of woodland planting within 10m wide landscape buffer. Area to include a mixture of understorey shrub planting and standard trees, with areas of native shrub planting and long-mown grass meadow, and scattered larger-stature extra heavy standard trees around the boundary.

Existing trees to be retained within the site layout, with development offset from the site boundary and existing boundary vegetation.

Semi-formal / Village Green style central LAP with informal play features such as logs, boulders and mounds. Single-species native hedgerows frame the area of public open space and provides a defensible boundary to the streetscape. Ornamental shrub and herbaceous planting with focal trees to the periphery provides an attractive outlook for adjacent residents.

10m minimum width of woodland planting within 15m wide landscape buffer, to include a mixture of understorey shrub planting and standard trees. Flowering lawn and wet meadow grass planting to drainage swales and scattered extra heavy standard trees.

Community orchard set within flowering lawn meadow grass, to include fruit tree species of local provenance to enhance sence of place, create opportunities for informal recreation, social cohesion and education.

Naturalistic style LEAP with timber play equipment and seating, and natural play features such as logs and boulders. Ornamental shrub and herbaceous planting with focal trees to the periphery provides an attractive setting to the play space, and gateway into the development from the new footpath.

Replacement native hedgerow planting adjacent to Tilstock road, reinforced with scattered native tree planting will replicate the existing view from along the road and soften views of new built form.

Flowering lawn verges with regular street trees create a strong streetscene, whilst providing seasonal interest and biodiversity value

Native shrub and tree planting to bolster the existing vegetation to the southern boundary.

Marginal and aquatic planting to the banks of permanent water body will provide an attractive outlook for residents and create wetland habitats for biodiversity. Wet meadow grassland suitable for seasonally-wet soils seeded to the wider attenuation basin, creating habitat opportunities and seasonal interest to the area of open space.

TILSTOCK ROAD

CRABMILL MEADOW

T1(A) T2(C) T3(C) T4(C) G1(C) G2(B) G3(C) H1(C) H2(C) LAP LEAP

SHARED SURFACE PRIMARY STREET PRIVATE DRIVE

KEY

- Application boundary
- Existing vegetation
  - Pink dashed line indicates root protection area
  - As per Tree Survey Plan by FPCR (ref 12501-T-01_A)
- Existing vegetation to be removed
  - As per Tree Retention Plan by FPCR (12501-T-02 Rev A)
- Internal visibility splay
  - As per Access Proposals by DLP Planning Ltd (SH5037-10PD-002 Proposed Site Layout)
- Visibility splay to access road
  - As per Access Proposals by DLP Planning Ltd (SH5037-10PD-001 Site Access)
- Banks to attenuation basin
  - As per Drainage Proposals by Eastwood Consulting Engineers (48888-ECE-XX-XX-DR-C-0002_P01 - Drainage Layout)
- Proposed native woodland with native shrub understorey
- Proposed feature tree
- Proposed native tree
- Proposed street tree
- Proposed orchard tree
- Proposed native hedgerow
- Proposed single-species hedgerow
- Proposed native shrub
- Proposed ornamental shrub, herbaceous and grass planting
- Proposed marginal / aquatic planting
- Proposed amenity grass / mown verges
- Proposed long mown grass meadow
- Proposed flowering lawn
- Proposed wet meadow grassland to SuDS basins
- Proposed pond edge mixture to banks of permanent water edge
- Proposed amenity grass to play areas / village green
- Proposed amenity grass to rear gardens
- Proposed amenity grass to front gardens
  - See P24-1425_EN_010 Detailed Soft On-plot Landscape Proposals
- Proposed planting to front gardens
  - See P24-1425_EN_010 Detailed Soft On-plot Landscape Proposals
- Proposed bulb planting
- Proposed 2m width gravel footpath
- Proposed 2-2.5m width macadam footpath
- Proposed wet pour play safety surfacing
- Proposed earth mounding
  - Gradient to be max 1:3 with smooth flowing contours
- Proposed play equipment with impact attenuating play surfacing to fall zone
- Proposed timber picnic benches and seating
- Proposed litter and dog waste bins
- Proposed timber knee rails
- Proposed anti-trap bow-top fencing to play areas
- Proposed bow-top fencing SUDs basin - subject to engineer review

- See P24-1425_EN_010 Detailed Soft On-plot Landscape Proposals for planting to frontages.
- See P24-1425_EN_07A Detailed POS Hard and Soft Landscape Proposals for details of planting proposals to POS, play equipment, boundary treatments, street furniture and surfacing specifications.

LAND AT TILSTOCK ROAD, TILSTOCK - LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

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