

Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located with Sandwell and Walsall Districts and lies to the south of the Yew Tree estate. The southern boundary is marked by the M6, the northern and western boundaries by the settlement boundary, and the eastern boundary by the Rushall canal.

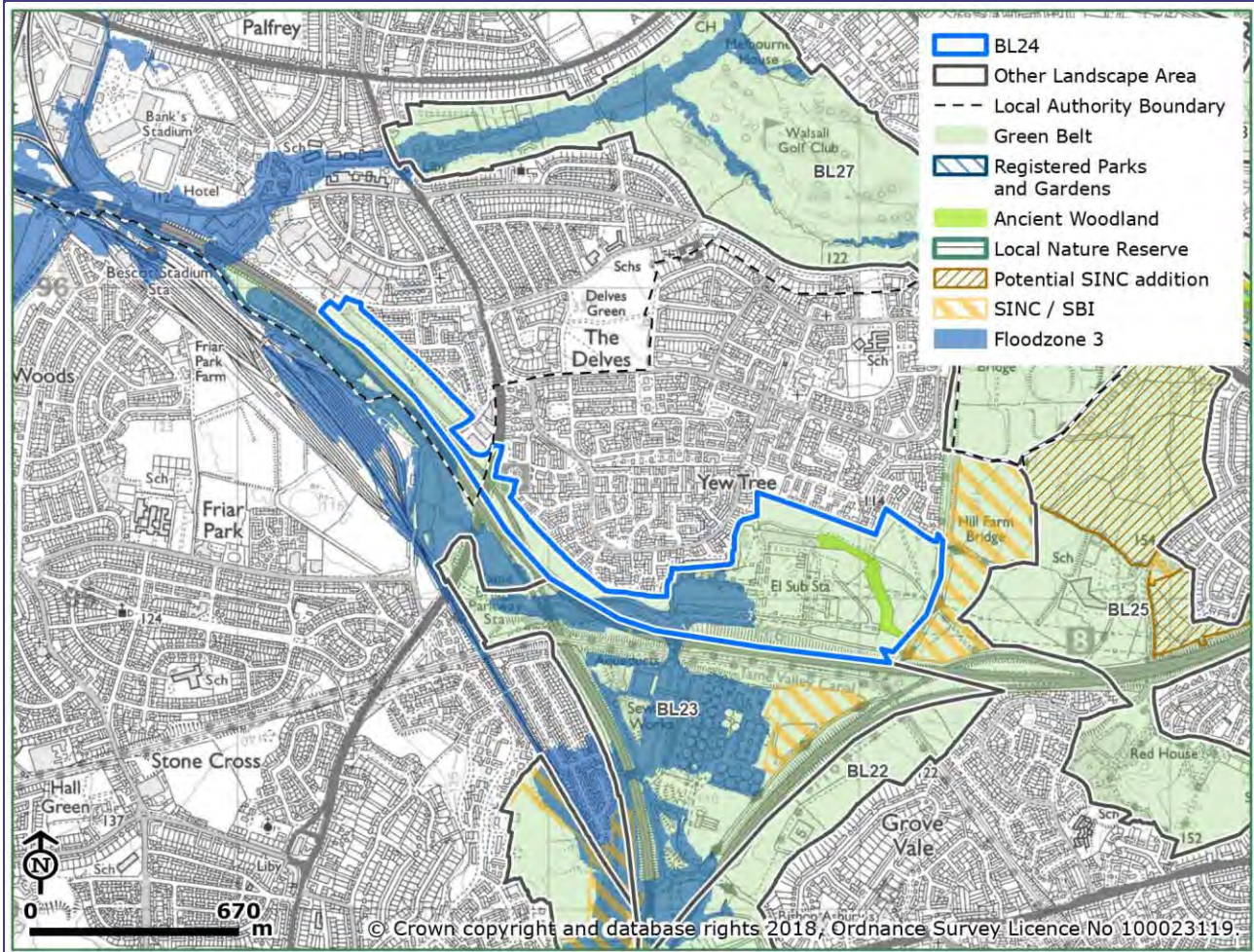
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



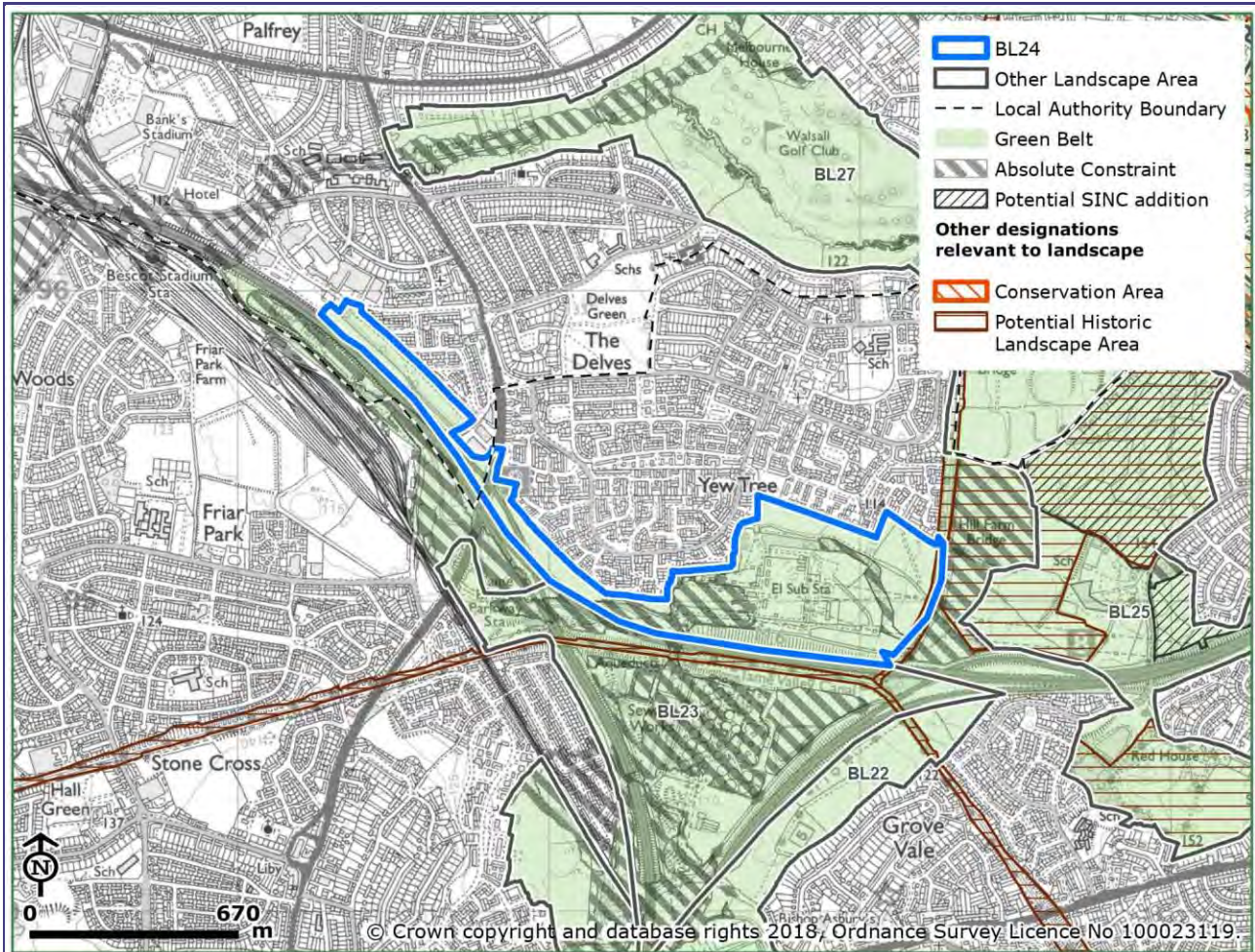
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale	Land divisions are provided by land use. There are no discernable field boundaries.		
Landform	A generally flat landscape ranging from 110m to 120m AOD along the eastern boundary.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	Modern development including the electricity substation has eroded any time depth or evidence of landscape pattern in this area.		
'Natural' character	Priority habitat deciduous woodland lines the M6 along much of the west and southern boundaries. Priority habitat floodplain grazing marsh is present in the south and centre of the area, around tributaries of the River Tame. There is deciduous woodland and ancient replanted woodland north east of the electricity substation.		
Built character	The electricity substation is the only built development within the area. The M6 forms the southern boundary of the area, and the A4031 runs in the west. The Yew Tree estate of modern houses is to the north.	Hill Farm Bridge in the far north of the area is a Grade II listed building.	
Recreational character	The Rushall Canal towpath is a traffic-free cycle route. There is a small park between the housing estate and M6 in the far west of the area.		
Perceptual aspects	The area is impacted by proximity to the M6 and A4031. There are two electricity pylon routes running to the electricity substation in the centre of the area.		
Settlement setting	The area provides little contribution as a setting to the Yew Tree estate as views into the area are largely screened by vegetation. There are occasional gaps in vegetation which allow views across to the M6.		

Visual prominence

The area is relatively flat and does not form a prominent skyline, except for the M6 sliproad which can occasionally be seen above the tree line.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted viewpoints

There is no inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted viewpoints on the OS 1:25k.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL24s1	44.96	Low

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape is considered to have an overall low sensitivity to residential development, as the majority of the criteria score low.

The landscape is considered to have a low sensitivity to employment development, as large scale modern development including the M6, trunk roads and an electricity substation have eroded the existing scale and pattern of the landscape. In addition the flat landform and screening vegetation enclose the landscape.

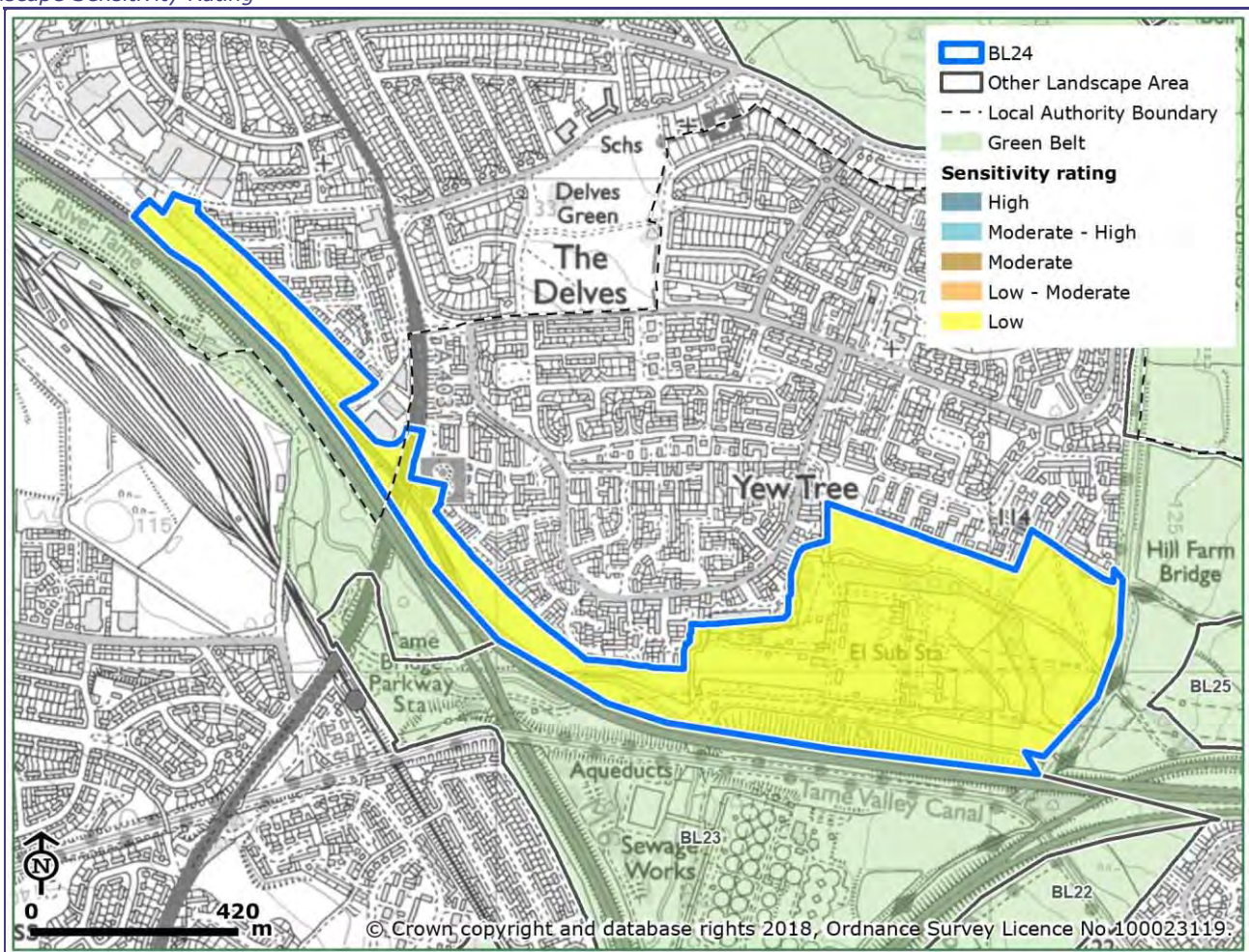
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

The woodland, park in the north west and Rushall Canal in the east are of higher sensitivity due to their natural and recreational importance.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Landscape Area Reference BL26

Area Size (ha): 7.7ha

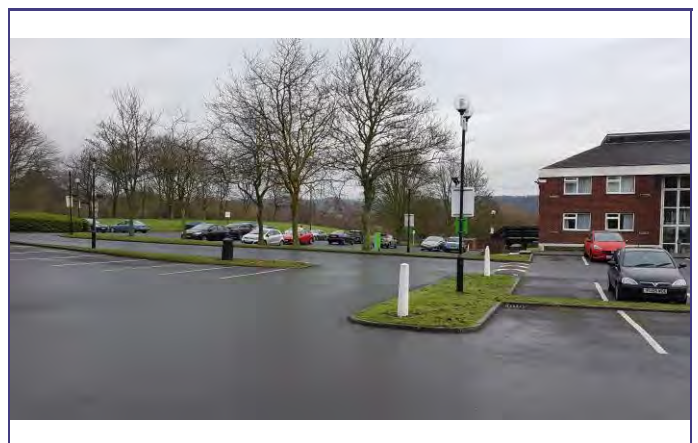
Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located within both Sandwell and Walsall Districts, and is bound by the M6 motorway slip road to the south, A34 Birmingham Road to the west and Chapel Lane to the north. The eastern boundary is the edge of the Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Garden.

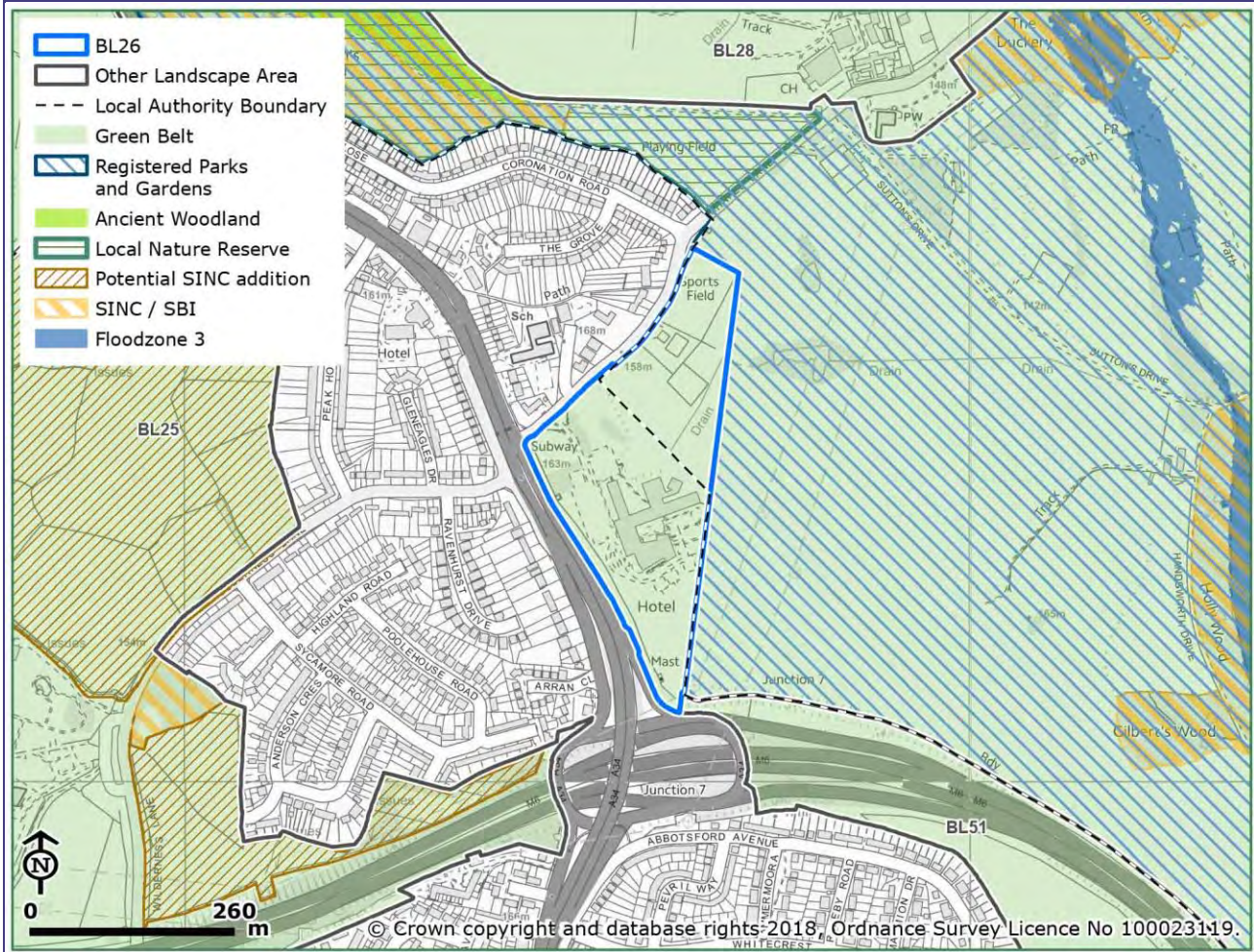
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



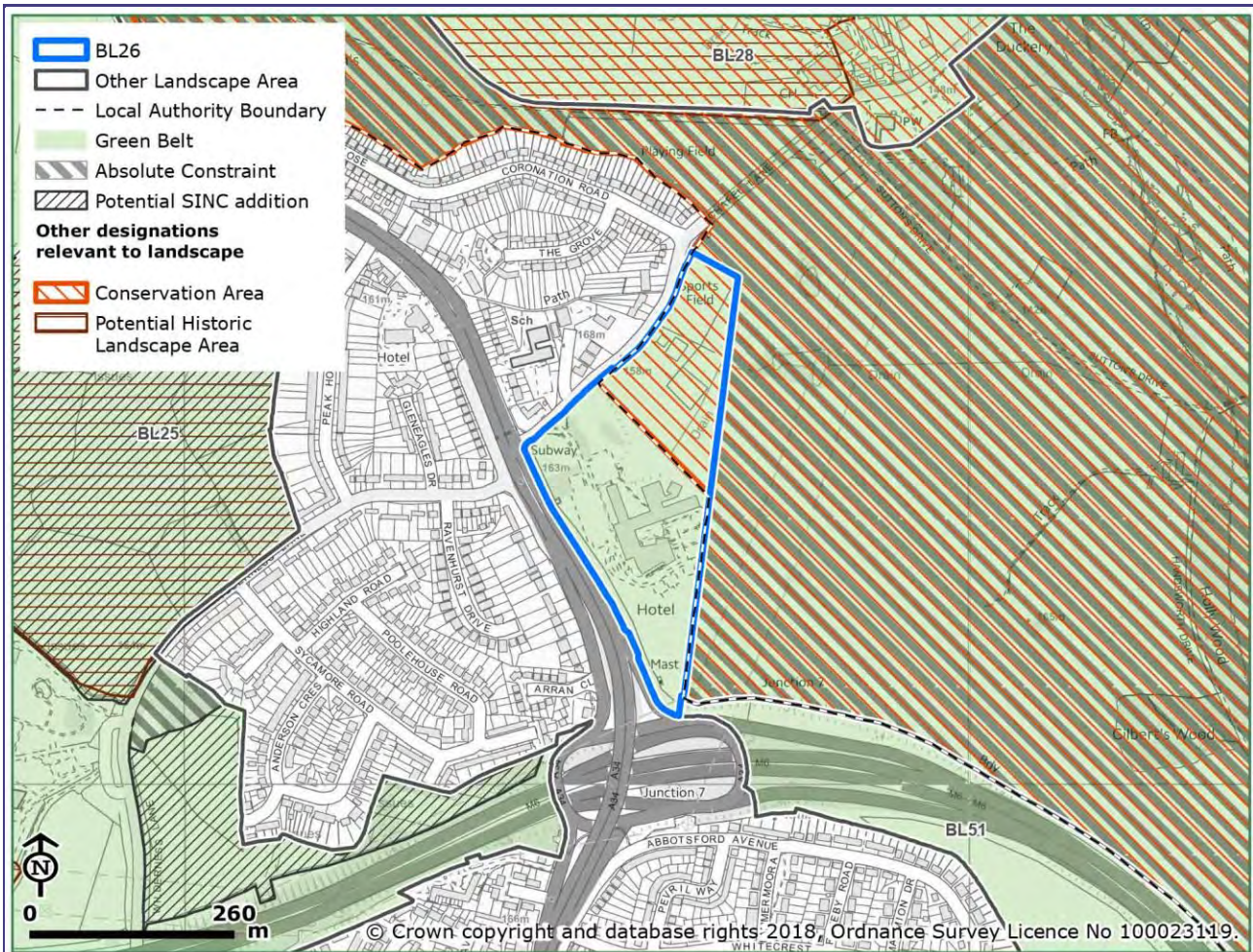
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale	Land divisions are based on land use. There are no obvious field boundaries.		
Landform	A generally flat landform sloping from 165m to 150m AOD. The western boundary has artificial embankments associated with the A34 Birmingham Road.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	The area was formerly part of the Great Barr Hall estate linked to the adjacent Grade II listed Registered Park and Garden, however it has subsequently been developed eroding any time depth.		
'Natural' character	There is no priority habitat listed within this area. The north of the area is covered by deciduous woodland and scrub. Tree and shrub buffer planting screen the A34 Birmingham Road and M6 motorway slip road.		
Built character	The A34 and M6 motorway slip road form the southern and western boundaries. The Holiday Inn hotel occupies over half of the site.		
Recreational character	There are no PROWs through this area.		
Perceptual aspects	The area has infrastructure and development to its south, west and north west. The Great Barr Hall RPG to the east of the area lends a slightly more tranquil character to the north and east of the area. The woodland in the north of the area has an unmanaged and neglected character.		
Settlement setting	The A34 and M6 provide strong barriers along the settlement edge, with houses along Chapel Lane and the A34 Birmingham Road are set back from the road, and the area contributes little to the setting of the surrounding settlement.	The north of the area provides some contribution as a visual continuation of the Grade II listed Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Garden to the north and east, separating the parkland from the settlement boundary.	

Visual prominence	Roadside vegetation and vegetation within the area largely screens views.
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Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points	There is limited inter-visibility with the Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Garden as there is no public access within the area.
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Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL26s1	4.98	Low

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

This landscape is considered to have an overall low sensitivity to residential or employment development as the majority of the criteria score low, however consideration should be given to the proximity to the Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Garden to the east.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL26s2	2.73	Low - Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The northern part of the area, north of the hotel has a low-moderate sensitivity to residential or employment development due to the woodland and relationship with the Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Garden.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Landscape Area Reference BL27

Area Size (ha): 118.2ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located within the urban conurbation between the settlements of The Delves, Fullbrook and Daisy Brook (Walsall). The boundaries are all formed by the settlement edge or borough boundary.

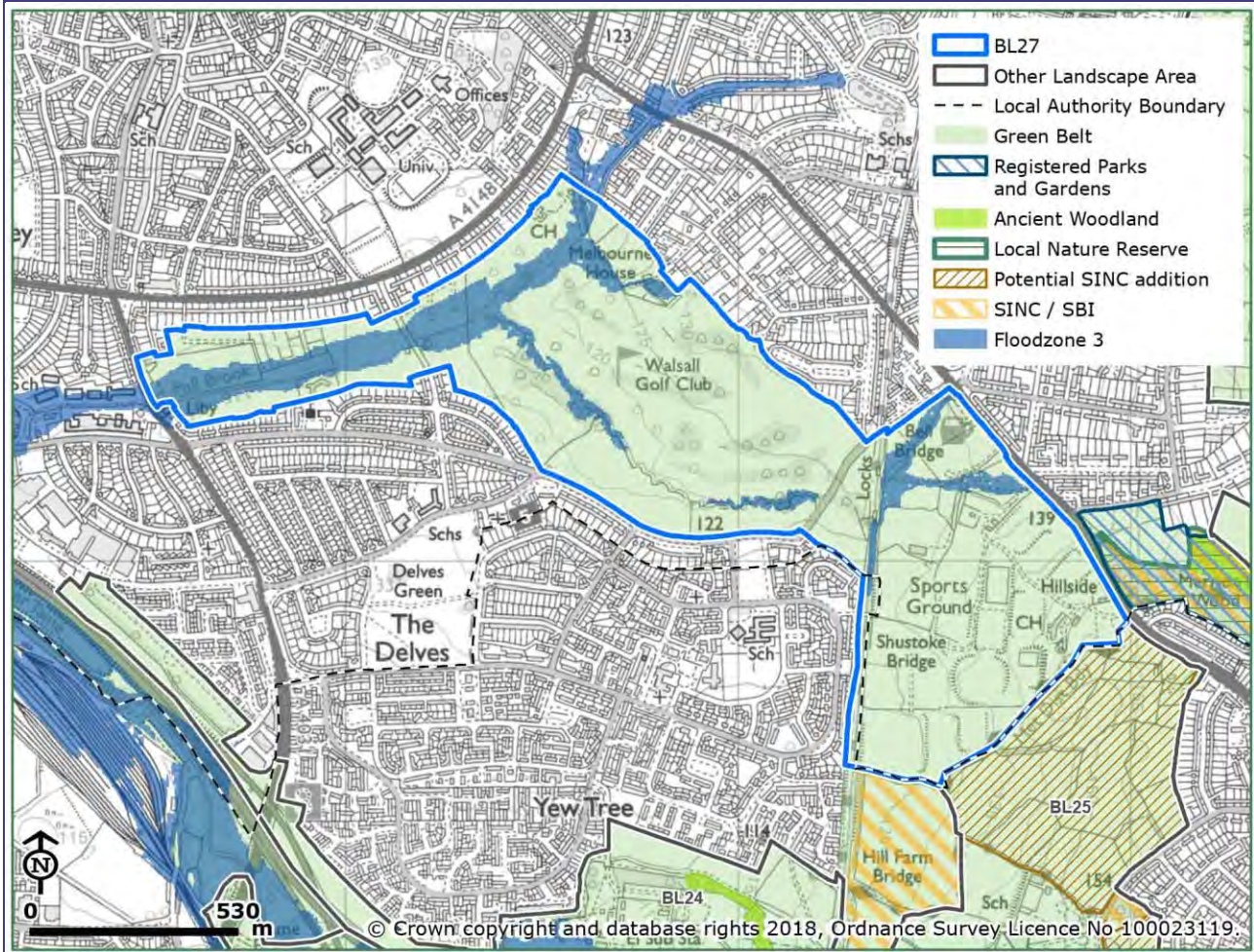
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



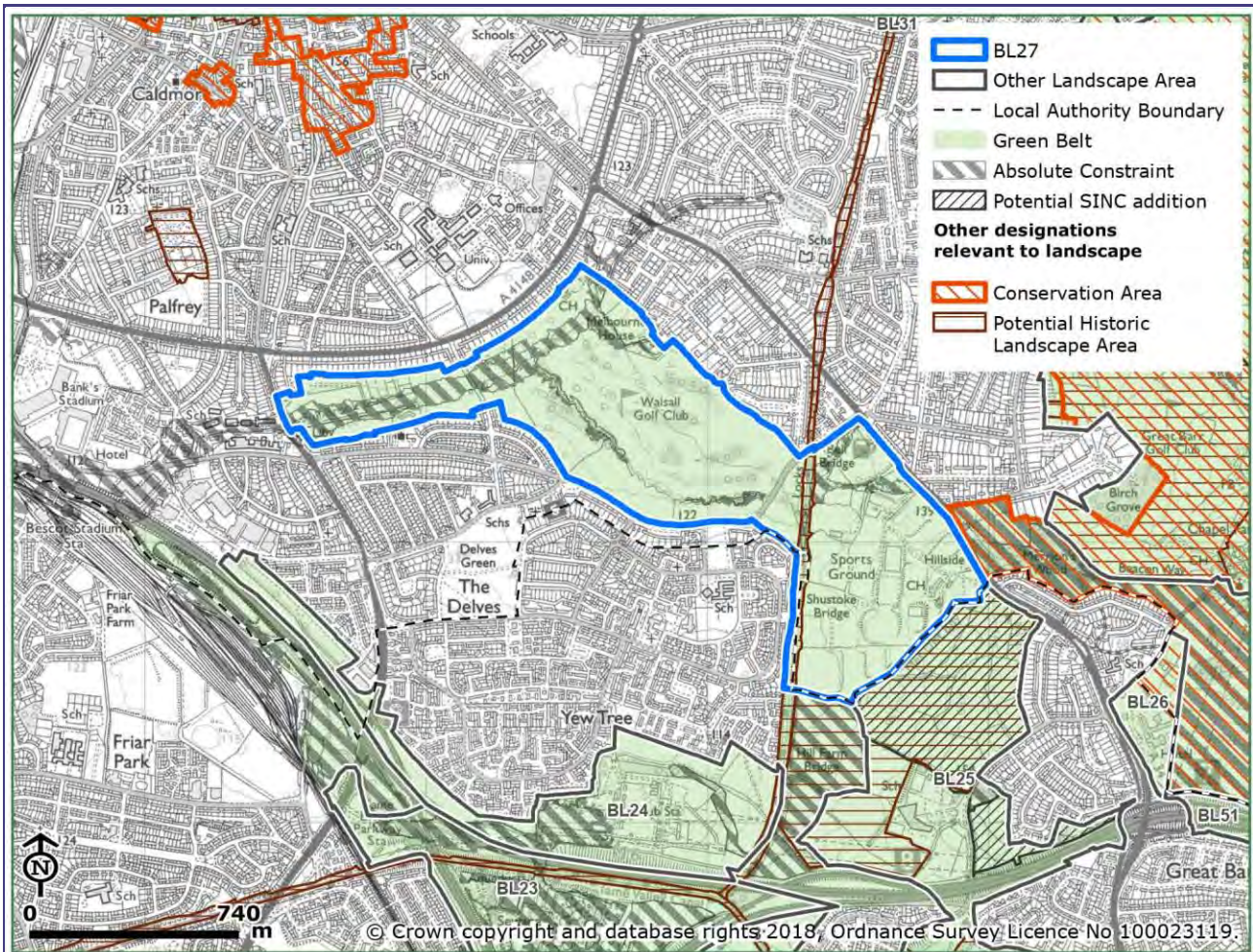
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		A medium scale landscape, predominantly divided into recreational fields, allotments or landscaped as part of the golf course at Walsall Golf Club .	
Landform	The landscape area is largely flat, although the topography slopes upwards in the easternmost extent of the areas from 115m to 150m AOD.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	Multiple sports grounds, allotments and a golf course have eroded any historic landscape pattern.		
'Natural' character		The area incorporates priority habitat deciduous woodland within the Walsall Golf Club, good quality semi-improved grassland and floodplain grazing marsh along Full Brook.	
Built character	Built features are largely limited to clubhouses associated with recreational grounds which make no contribution to landscape character.	Historic assets include the HER identified Shustoke Farm Moat and Rushall Canal.	
Recreational character		The long distance Beacon Way and a traffic free cycle route along the Rushall Canal pass through the east of the landscape area. Most of the land is dedicated to recreational grounds, including the Aston University Recreation Centre, Walsall Golf Club, Silverdale Football Club and Handsworth Rugby Union Football Club, although public access is restricted.	
Perceptual aspects	The high number of sports fields and other recreational uses of this landscape area has an urbanising effect and reduces the rural landscape qualities of the area. Parts of the area, notably the southern sports fields, are affected by significant road noise from the nearby M6 motorway to the south, as well as the busy trunk roads to the north and south (A34 Birmingham Road and Walstead Road) resulting in limited tranquillity.		

Settlement setting The area does not contribute as a backdrop to surrounding settlements.

Visual prominence The area is not visually prominent on the wider landscape, enclosed with many mature trees and surrounding development.

More elevated areas to the east along the A34 Birmingham Road are widely visible from large areas of the Black Country.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points The area is not visible from any designated landscapes or viewpoints, despite being adjacent to the Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Garden.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL27s1	118.2	Low - Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The area is considered to have low-moderate overall sensitivity to residential development, as there are no key sensitive landscape features.

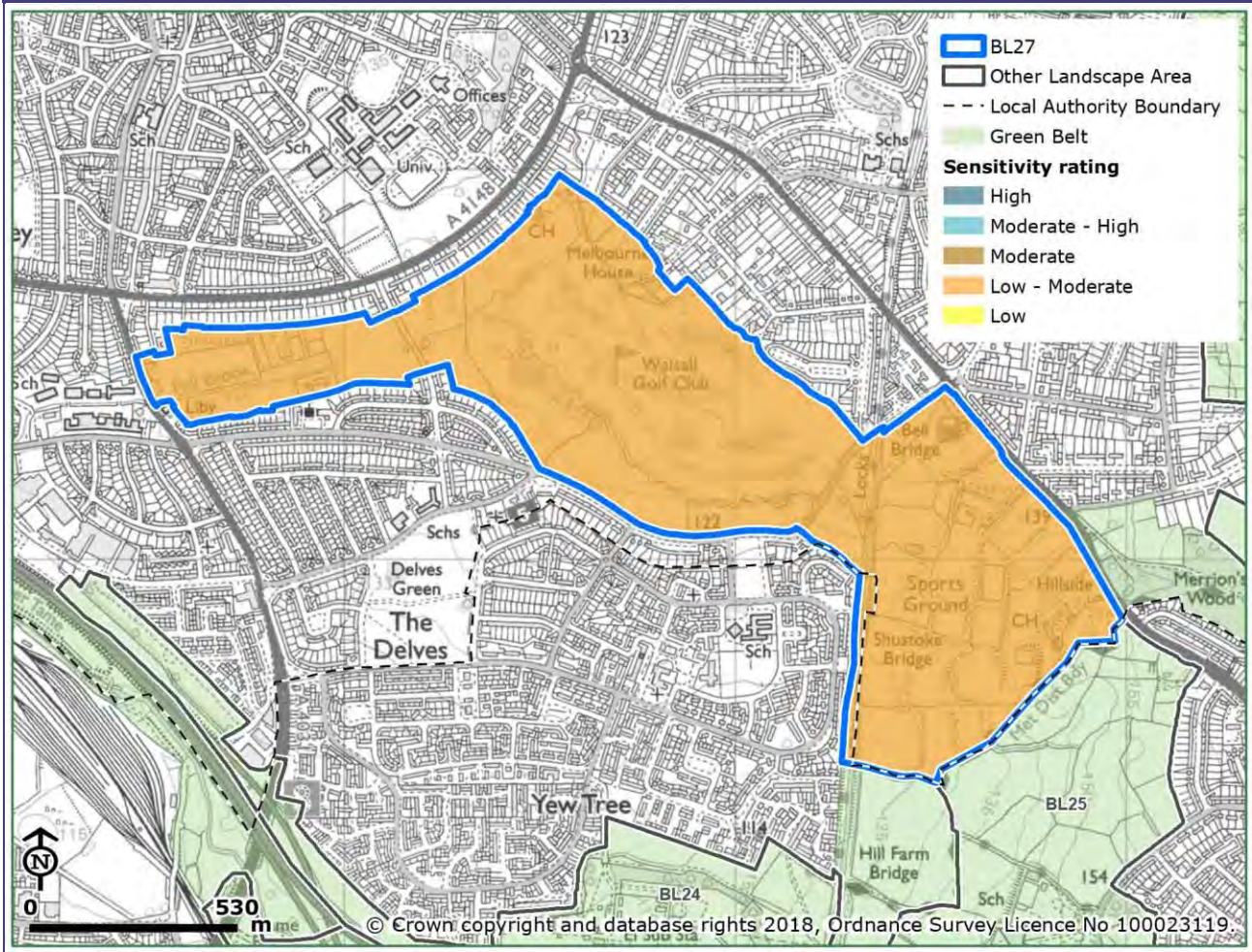
The area is considered to have moderate sensitivity to employment development, as large scale development would disrupt the open character of the existing landscape, be a step change from the closer grain of residential development in the surrounding area, and be more prominent in views, particularly to the east along the A34.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located directly east of Daisy Bank and north west of Pheasey. The western boundary is formed by the settlement edge of Daisy Bank, the northern boundary by the B4151 and the eastern boundary by the B4154, Pinfold Lane and field boundaries. The southern boundary is formed by Chapel Lane, the Beacon Way and field boundaries.

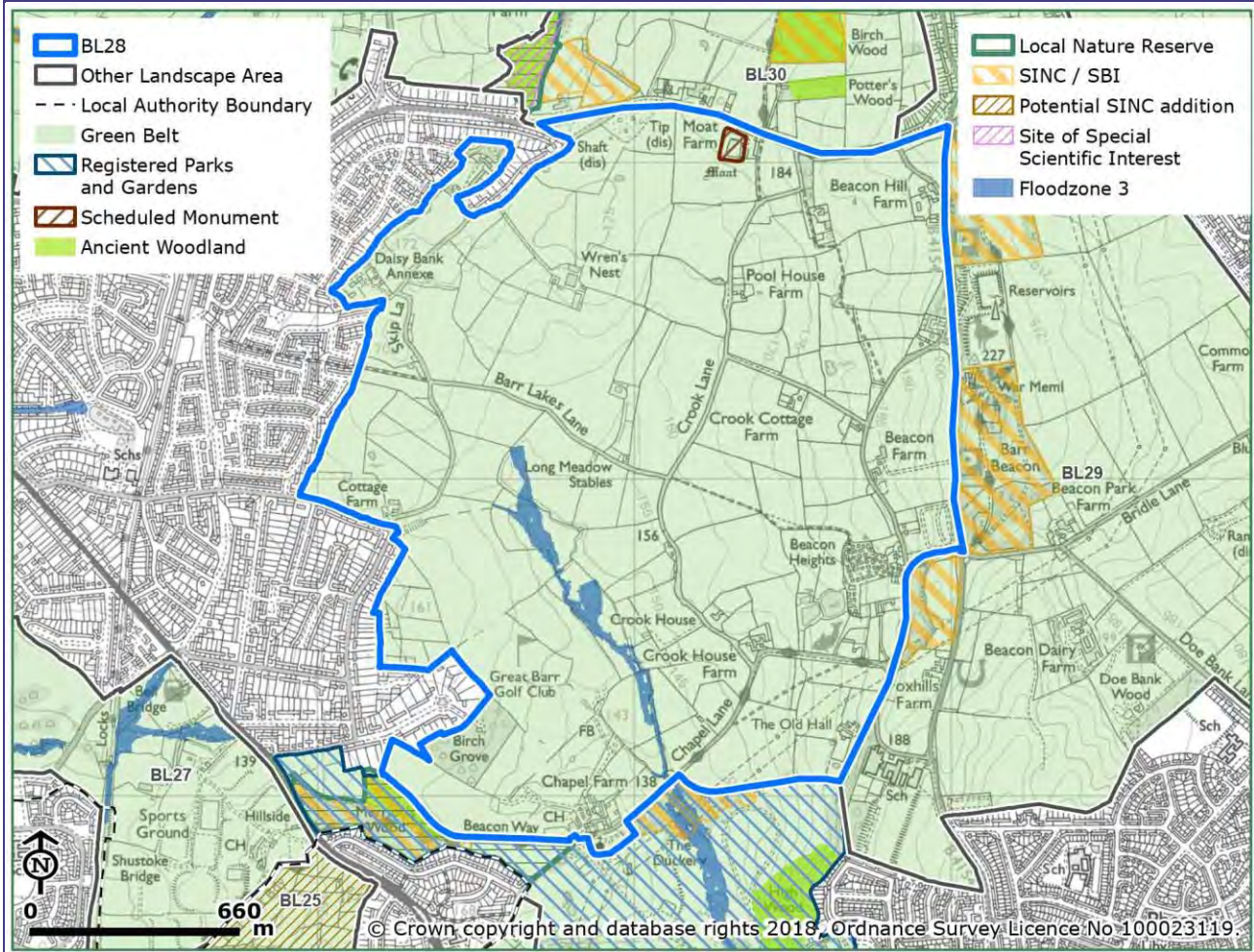
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



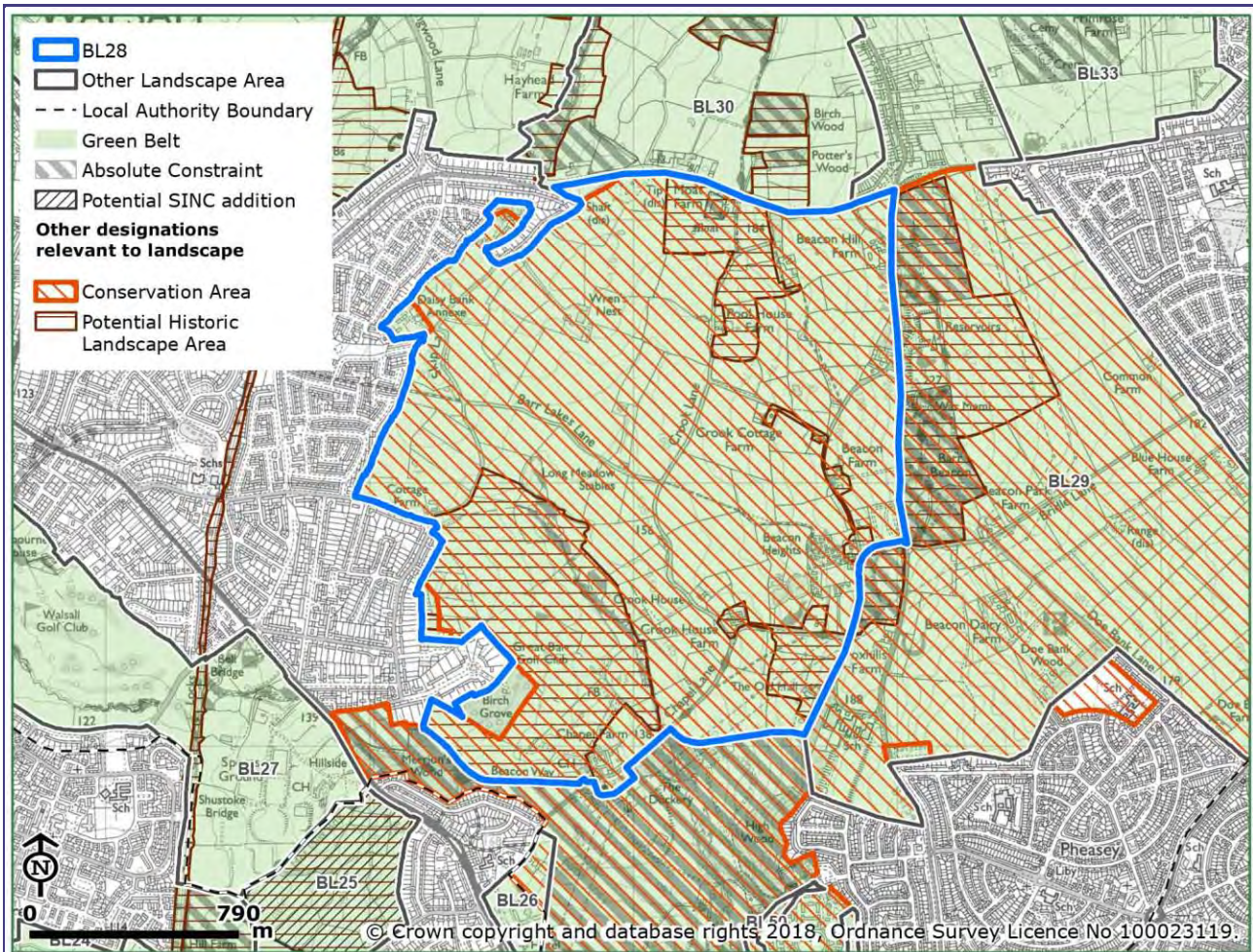
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		Medium to small scale fields, crossed by rural lanes enclosed by hedgerows, which add to the small scale character of the area.	
Landform		Landform is undulating across the area, rising more sharply towards the ridge at Barr Beacon to 200m AOD.	
Landscape pattern and time depth	Great Barr Golf Club (covering much of the south west of the area) has erased the underlying landscape pattern.	The field pattern is largely irregular, with fields of mixed origins including those likely to be of late medieval or early post-Medieval origin and planned enclosure. However there has been amalgamation since the 1st edition OS. Barr Lakes Lane is identified as one of the oldest roads in the area due to the number of species in its boundary hedges indicating great time depth.	Much of the south of the area contains the remains of a deer park with a surviving park pale in places and areas of ridge and furrow, and is a potential historic landscape area AHHLV10 Great Barr Deer Park. Potter's Wood contains surviving earthwork ridge and furrow centred around a medieval moated site, and is also a potential historic landscape area AHHLV7. The series of farms in the east are potential historic townscape areas AHHTV1.
'Natural' character		There are small patches of priority habitats including deciduous woodland, floodplain grazing marsh and traditional orchards.	
Built character		Built character includes regularly scattered farms, Beacon Heights mobile home park in the east of the area. An electricity pylon route runs through the south-east of the area.	Historic features that contribute to landscape character include a Scheduled Monument moated site and six Grade II listed buildings including the Church of St Margaret. The whole area lies within the Great Barr Conservation Area associated with Great Barr Park RPG immediately to the south of the landscape area. There are also two sites of archaeological importance including Great Barr in the south and Moat Cottage Moat in the north.
Recreational character		Public rights of way are limited; however the promoted recreational route Beacon Way passes through the east. Other areas with public access include; Beacon Quarry semi-natural green space, Pool House Farm Pool semi-natural green space, Skip Lane semi-natural green space, St Margaret's Church & Cemetery, and Great Barr Golf Course (with restricted access).	

Perceptual aspects	The pylon route climbing up the slope in the south east is visually prominent within the landscape. Fields throughout the area, but particularly along Bodens Lane and Crooks Lane have been sectioned off into horse paddocks which also has an urbanising effect on the landscape.	The majority of the area has a strongly rural, undeveloped and tranquil character, especially along the rural lanes. The adjoining large scale settlement in the west is low density and low rise in character, and is not prominent in views from within the landscape area.
Settlement setting	Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Garden is immediately adjacent to the south, however there is little inter-visibility from publicly accessible areas.	The area plays some role in providing part of the wider rural gap between Walsall and the suburbs of Sutton Coldfield and provides a rural backdrop to Daisy Bank (Walsall) although much of the settlement edge is screened by mature hedgerows trees and woodland.
Visual prominence		The area is visually prominent from elevated areas to the east. This area is prominent in views from the OS map marked 360 viewpoint, located at the war memorial, adjacent to the eastern boundary of the area.
Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points		This area is prominent from the Barr Beacon viewpoint at the war memorial, outside the eastern edge of the area. The area also includes the Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Gardens, although there is little inter-visibility from publicly accessible areas.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL28s1	361.98	Moderate - High

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

Landscape here is considered to have an overall moderate-high sensitivity to residential development, based on its combination of prominence in views from the Barr Beacon viewpoint, intact historic field patterns, strongly rural character and sensitive historic landscape features.

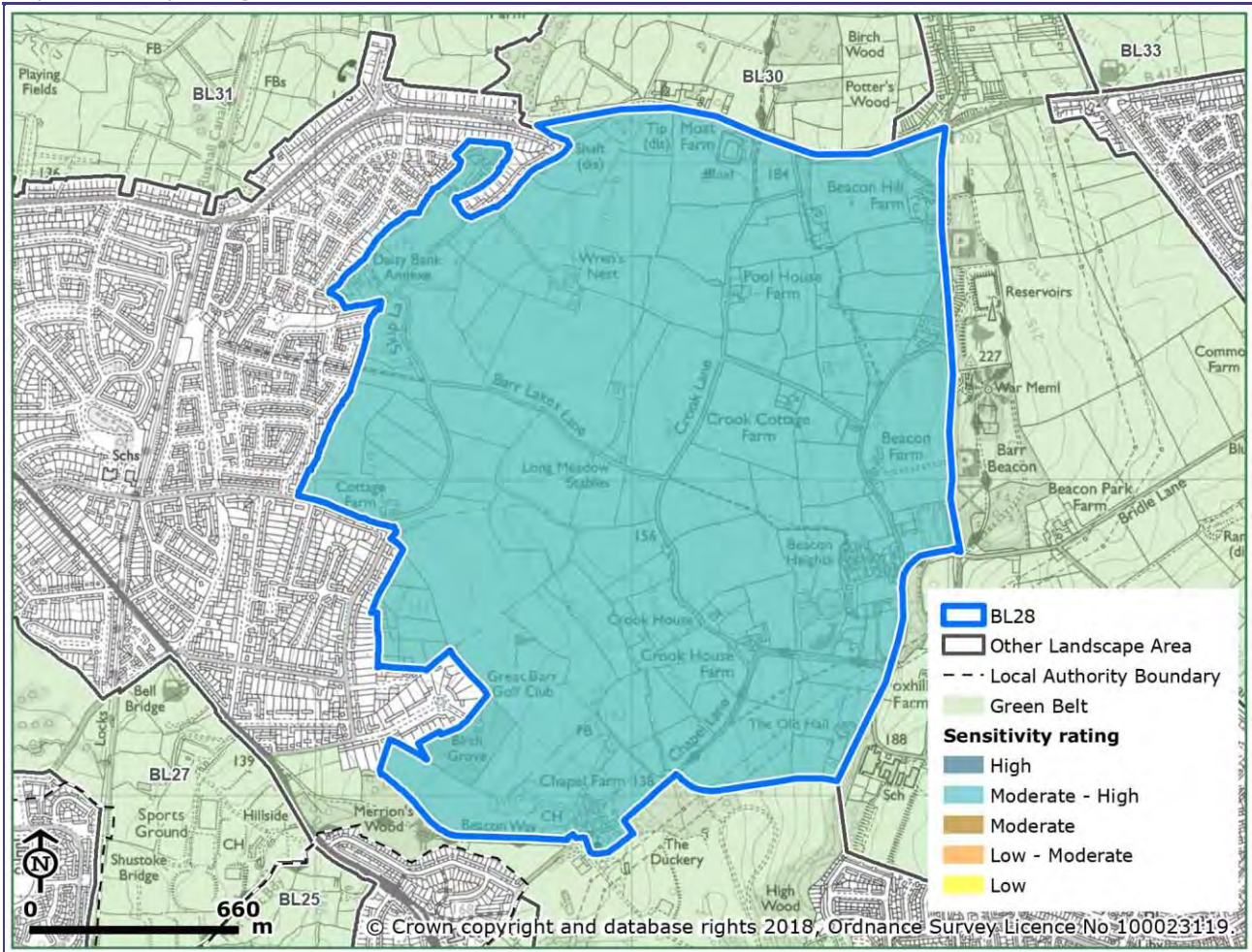
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

Anomalies to this sensitivity rating include areas that are significantly influenced by urbanising features such as the pylon route in the southeast or horse paddocks across the area, particularly concentrated along Bodens Lane and Crooks Lane in the centre of the area.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 129 (Housing); Ref: 163 (Housing); Ref: 164 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located south of Aldridge, west of Streetly and north of Pheasey. The northern boundary is the Aldridge settlement edge, the eastern boundary is marked by the B4154 Erdington Road and the settlement edge of Streetly. The southern boundary is marked by the Walsall Borough boundary and settlement edge of Pheasey and the western boundary is marked by the B4154 Beacon Road.

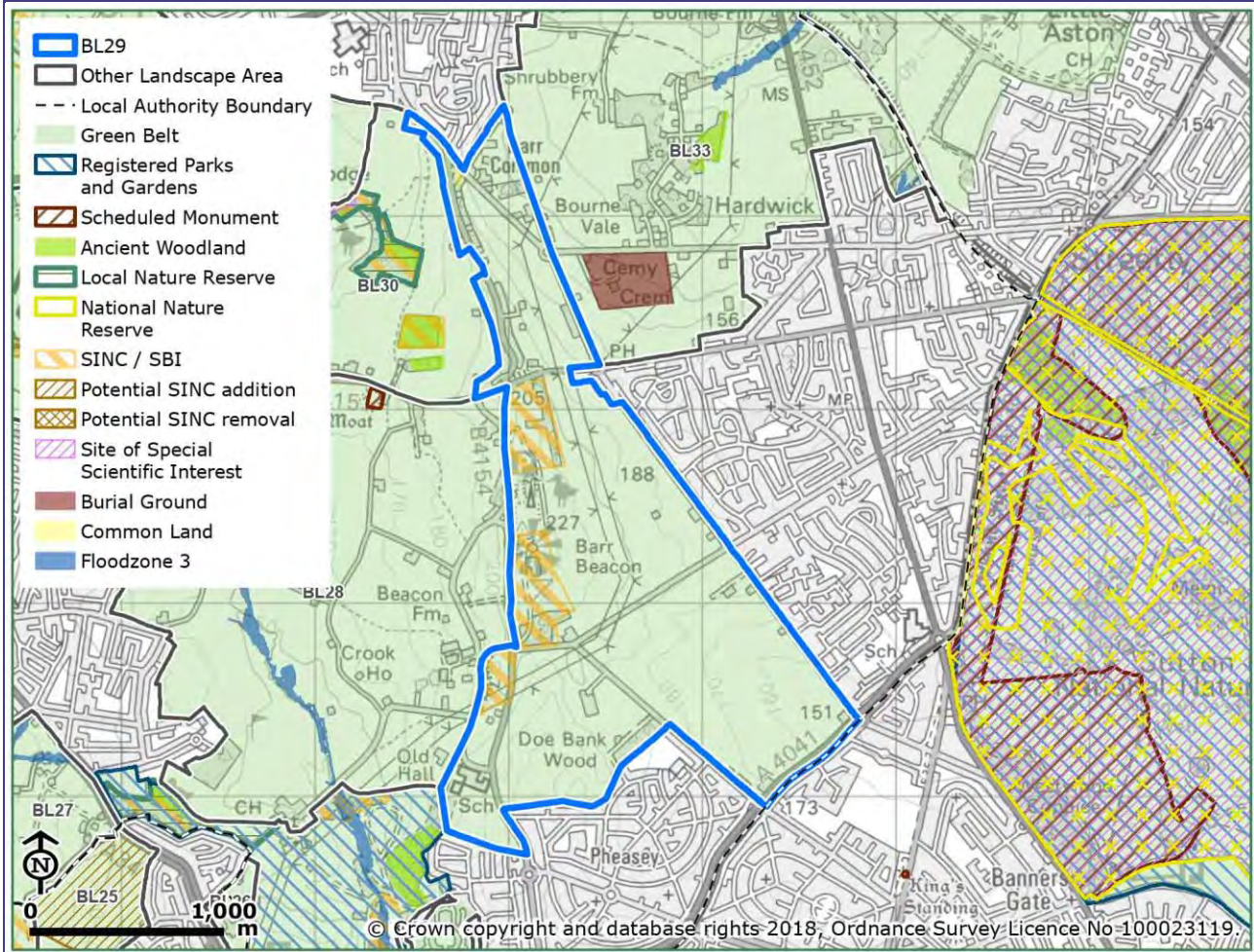
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



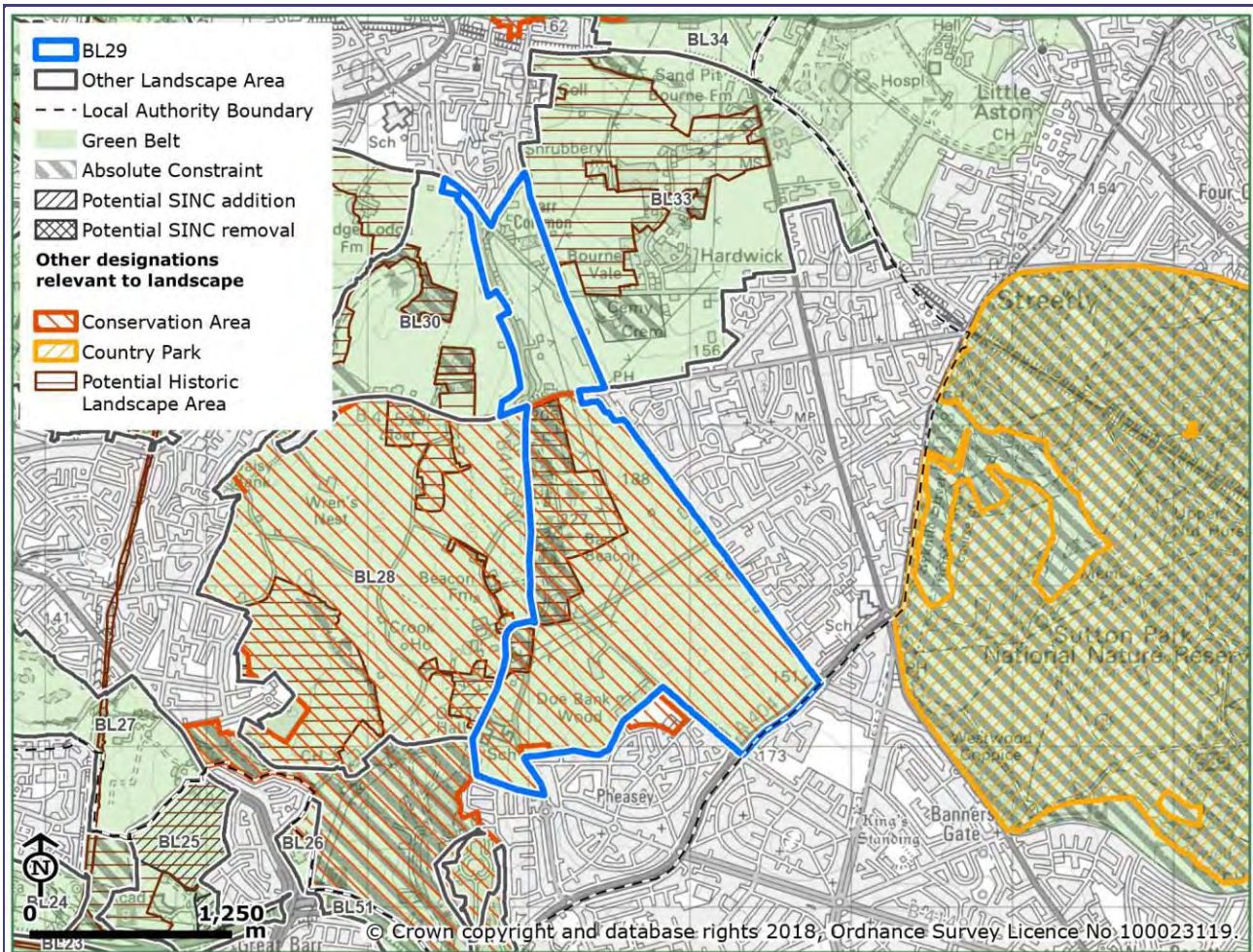
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		There are medium scale fields between Bridle Lane and B4151 Beacon Hill. Relatively robust hedgerows contribute to the human scale of the landscape.	There are small scale fields in southeast, between Bridle Lane and Doe Bank Lane, and north of B4151 Beacon Hill.
Landform			An undulating to strongly undulating landscape rising towards Barr Beacon, from 150m in the northeast and 155m AOD in the southwest. A prominent ridge runs north-south along the western boundary, culminating in Barr Beacon, the highest point in Walsall Borough at 227m AOD.
Landscape pattern and time depth		Late 18th/early 19th century intact planned field enclosures with characteristic straight boundaries west of Erdington Road and east of Doe Bank Lane in the southeast of the area.	Barr Beacon is recorded as the site of an Anglo-Saxon Beacon, and is a potential historic landscape area AHHLV11.
'Natural' character		There is priority habitat deciduous woodland at Doe Bank Wood in the south, east of Pinfold Lane, between Barr Common Road and Erdington Road. Valued natural features include mature trees around and among the ribbon development along Longwood Road, which marks the wooded skyline when seen from the east.	Barr Beacon is a surviving area of ancient heath, containing priority habitat semi-improved grassland, dry acid grassland and lowland heathland. Pinfold Lane Quarry is a former quarry colonised by priority habitat deciduous woodland and grassland. Both areas are designated as SINCS for their wildlife habitats, and Pinfold Quarry also for its geology.
Built character	19th and 20th century houses line the ridgeline on Longwood Road and Barr Common Road, with some late 20th century infill in the north. Two prominent electricity pylon routes run through this area.		The majority of the area (south of the B4151 Sutton Road) is designated as part of the Great Barr Conservation Area, related to the setting of Great Barr Hall and RPG to the south west of the landscape area. Doe Bank Farmhouse and barn are Grade II listed buildings, and the war memorial at Barr Beacon is locally listed.
Recreational character		Pheasey Allotments in the southwest and Doe Bank Wood are valued in the local context.	The promoted recreational route Beacon Way runs north-south along the ridge, and is named for Barr Beacon. Barr Beacon is Open Access Land, with a dedicated parking and picnic area giving further access to this trail.
Perceptual aspects	Two prominent electricity pylon lines run through this area, and have an urbansing influence.	A rural landscape whose tranquility is affected by close proximity to Streetly, Aldridge and Pheasey.	

Settlement setting At Pheasey the settlement edge becomes more open, forming a hard edge.

The area provides a rural setting to the settlement edges, particularly of Streetley and Pheasey and contributes to the wider rural gap between these settlements and the urban edge of Walsall. The open rising land from the settlement edge reads as part of the wider countryside extending up to the Barr Beacon and extending to the south east from Pheasey to Great Barr. The straight settlement edge of Streetley is strongly defined by a large verge and a tree belt along Aldridge Road.

Visual prominence

Barr Beacon is a prominent skyline feature and the ridge forms a distinctive skyline. The landform rises towards Barr Beacon and although there are some low intact hedgerows, these do not impede the openness and visual prominence of this area, which is visible across the wider countryside to the west south and east.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Garden is immediately adjacent to the southwest, however there is little inter-visibility from publicly accessible areas.

Barr Beacon memorial is a marked viewpoint with panoramic views to the Wrekin, Cannock Chase, and Birmingham City Centre.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL29s1	335.96	Moderate - High

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

This is a largely open and visually prominent area, culminating in a prominent and generally undeveloped skyline feature along the Barr Beacon ridge, which forms a scenic backdrop to surrounding settlement. While the presence of prominent electricity pylon routes provides an urbanising influence and detracts from the rural and natural character and perceptual attributes of the area, overall the landscape is considered to have a moderate-high sensitivity to residential development.

The area is considered to have a high sensitivity to employment development. Large scale development would disrupt the small scale field pattern, particularly to the east of Doe Bank Lane, which provides rural and open backdrop to Steetly and Pheasey.

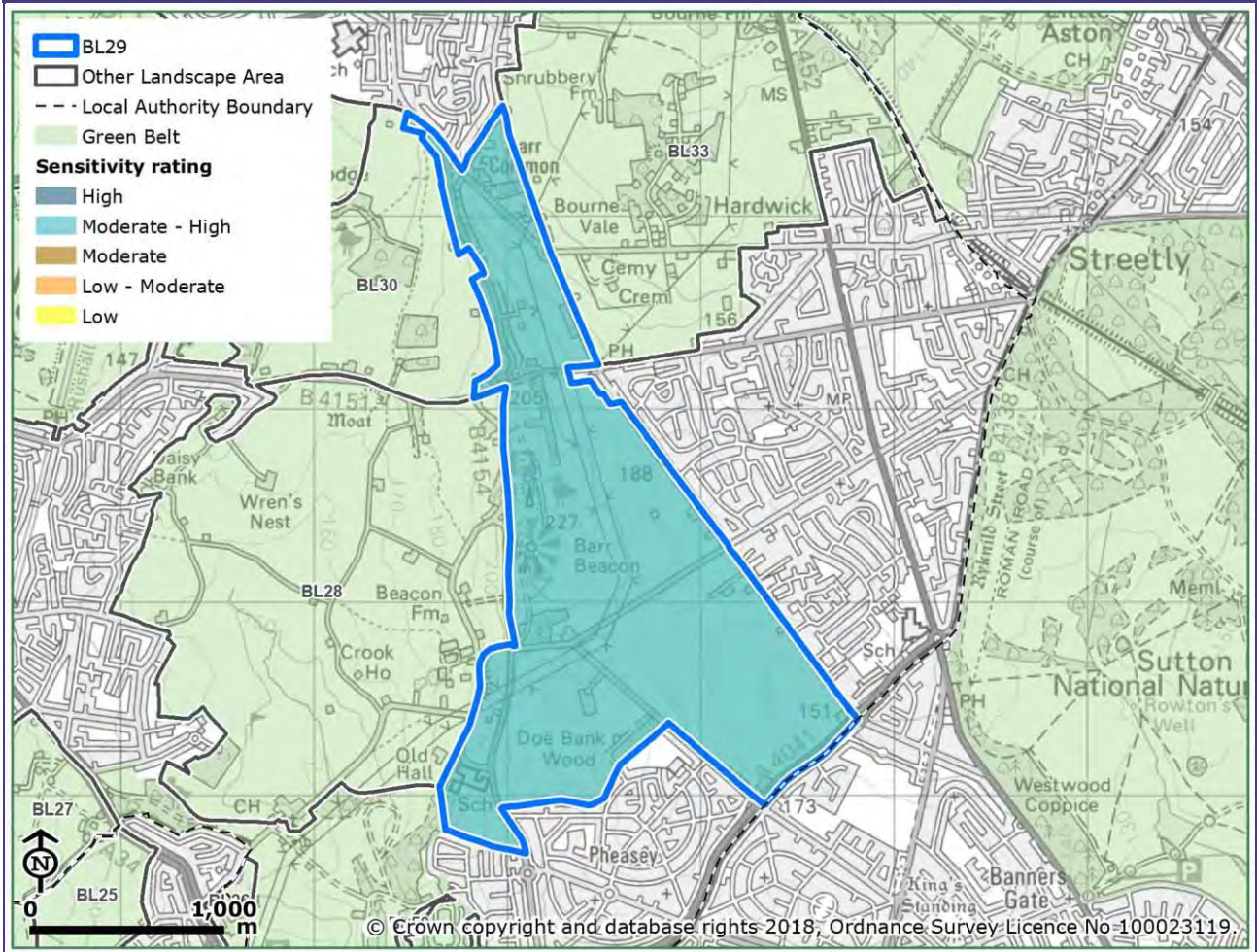
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

The Barr Beacon ridge is considered to have high sensitivity to development, as its distinctive topography, strong natural and historic character provides a scenic backdrop to the surrounding settlements and it also provides recreational opportunities and wide-ranging panoramic views.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 116 (Housing); Ref: 185 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located south of Aldridge and east of Daisy Bank/Walsall. The eastern boundary is limited by housing along the B4154 Longwood Road and the southern boundary by the B4151 Sutton Road. The western boundary is marked by woodland on the outer edge of Hay Head Quarry SSSI and field boundaries. The short northern boundary is formed by the settlement edge of Aldridge.

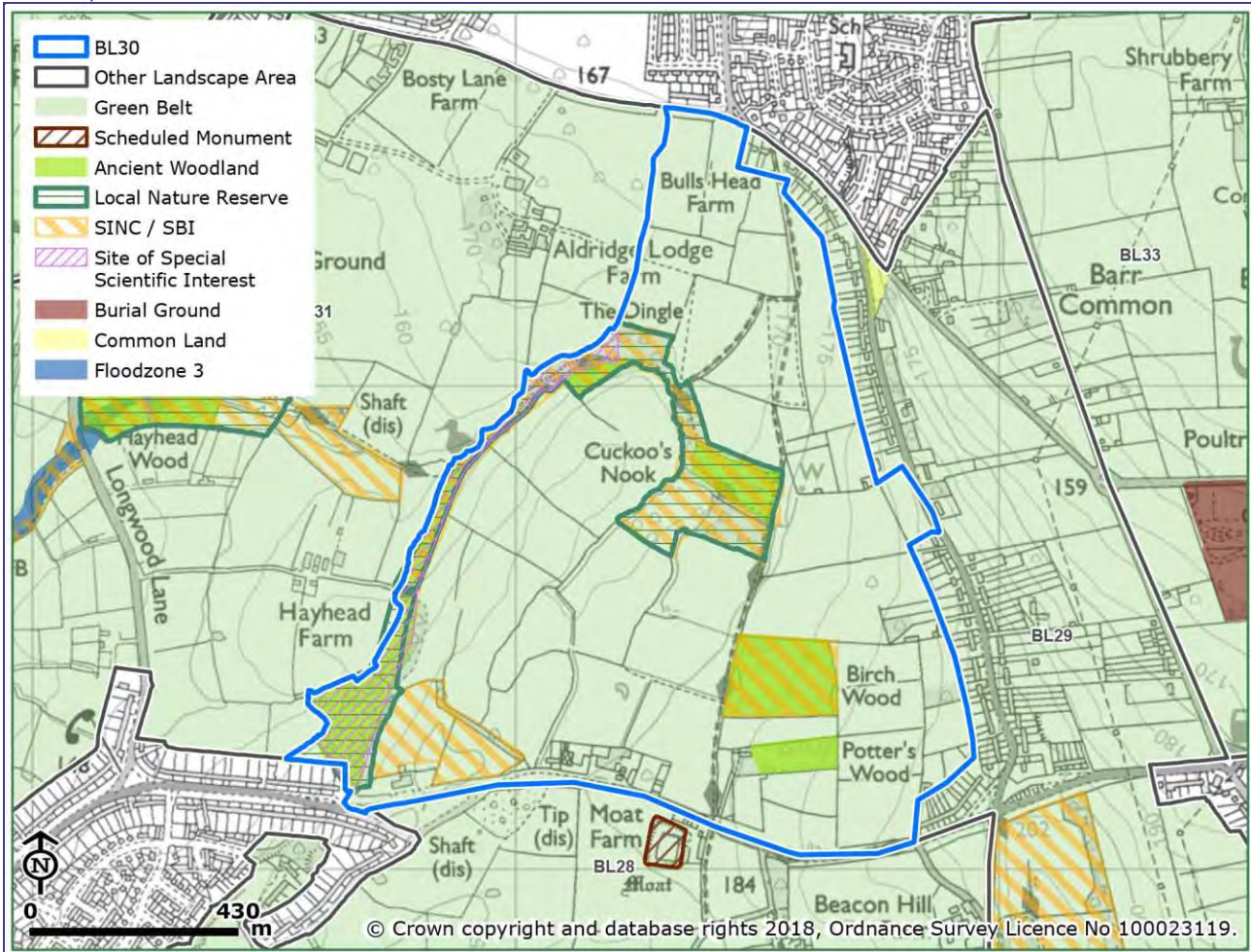
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



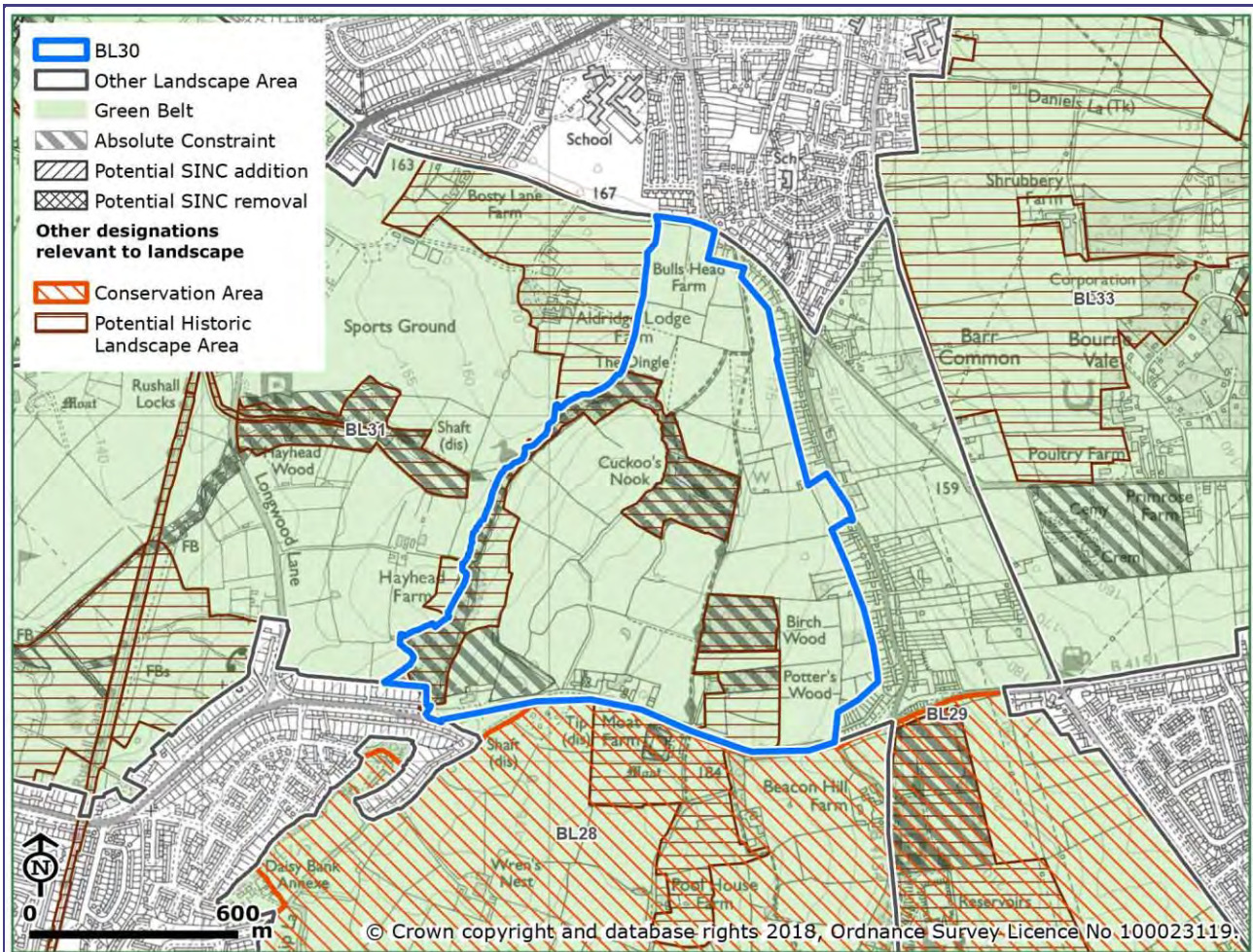
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale			Predominantly small scale fields, bounded by a mature hedgerow network and areas of woodland, which increase the sense of intimacy.
Landform		An undulating landscape which rises from 150m AOD in the west to 200m AOD in the east towards the Barr Beacon ridge.	
Landscape pattern and time depth	The Dingle on the western boundary has grown on the site of disused quarry, which has eroded any previous time-depth.		A predominance of largely intact field enclosures, including some historic field patterns probably of post-medieval origin, defined by mature hedgerows with some surviving earthwork ridge and furrow. These are potential historic landscape areas: AHHLV4 Cuckoo's Nook and Hay Head Lime works, AHHLV6 Birch Wood and AHHLV7 Pooter's Wood and Moat Farm Ridge and Furrow.
'Natural' character			Frequent occurrence of valued natural features, including a strong network of mature hedgerows and trees as well as priority habitat deciduous woodland, much of which is ancient. Woodland along the western boundary is designated as The Cuckoo's Nook and The Dingle Local Nature Reserve and also as a SINC. Three Crowns Pasture SINC lies in the south, and contains grassland and hedgerows. The Hay Head Quarry is an SSSI, designated for its geological importance.
Built character	Few heritage assets or historic features important to landscape characters. The presence of modern residential development on the northern and eastern boundaries and isolated commercial inter-war development (including a car hire business and nursery) along the B4151 Sutton Road influence landscape character.		
Recreational character		PRoWs run north-south including the promoted Beacon Way recreational route. Other areas are not publicly accessible.	

Perceptual aspects

A relatively tranquil landscape with a strong sense of rural character, particularly in the centre around Cuckoo's Nook, despite the presence of housing along the edges of the area in some views.

Settlement setting

The area is largely separated from the Aldridge settlement edge by mature vegetation, however it provides some contribution as a rural backdrop to both Aldridge and residential properties on higher ground along Longwood Road on the eastern boundary. The area provides some contribution as part of the wider rural gap between Walsall and Aldridge.

Visual prominence

Mature vegetation along roads and woodland within the area provides visual containment.

There are some open views into the wider area along the B4154 Longwood Road, although these are curtailed by woodland and mature trees.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

Little inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

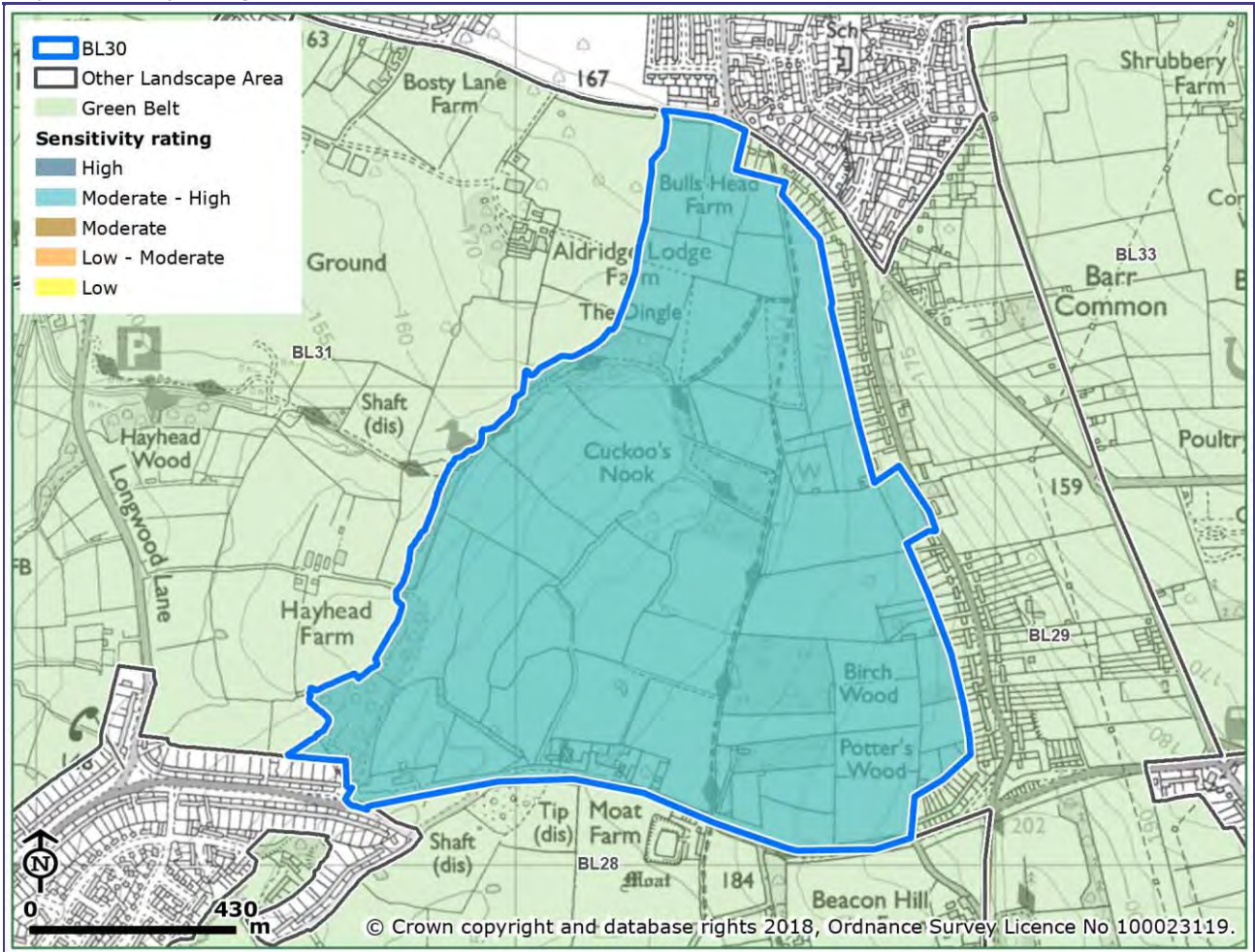
Landscape Assessment Area**Size (ha)****Rating****BL30s1****117.8****Moderate - High****Landscape Sensitivity Judgement**

The area has a relatively unspoilt rural character and strong sense of tranquillity, with a network of valued deciduous woodland (including ancient woodland) and mature, intact hedgerows. It is also accessible via the Beacon Way. Therefore, the landscape is considered to have a moderate-high sensitivity to residential development as the majority of criteria are moderate or high/greater and no criteria override that judgement.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating**List of Promoted Sites within Scenario**

Ref: 212 (Housing); Ref: 281 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Landscape Area Reference BL31

Area Size (ha): 299.8ha

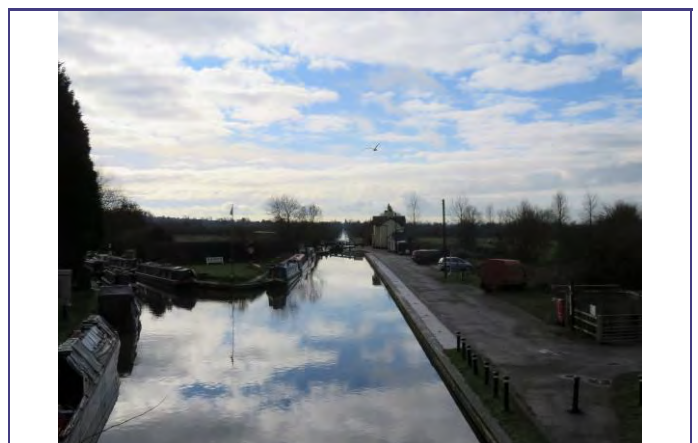
Location and Landscape Character Context

The area comprises open land in predominantly agricultural and recreational uses, located broadly to the south of the A454 Aldridge/Walsall Road and the southern settlement boundary of Aldridge, and to the north-east of the settlement boundary of Walsall. It is bisected by the Rushall Canal (running north-south).

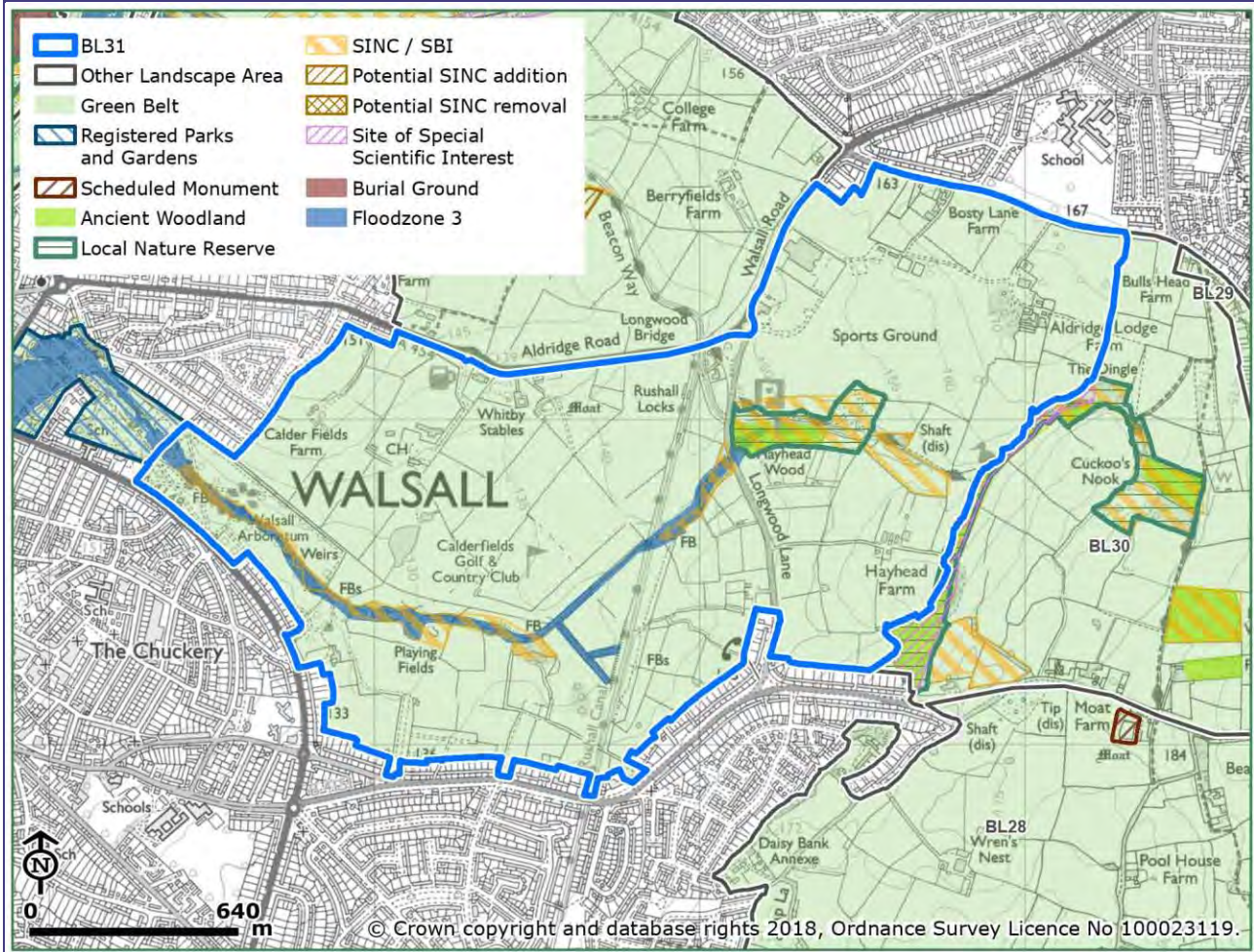
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



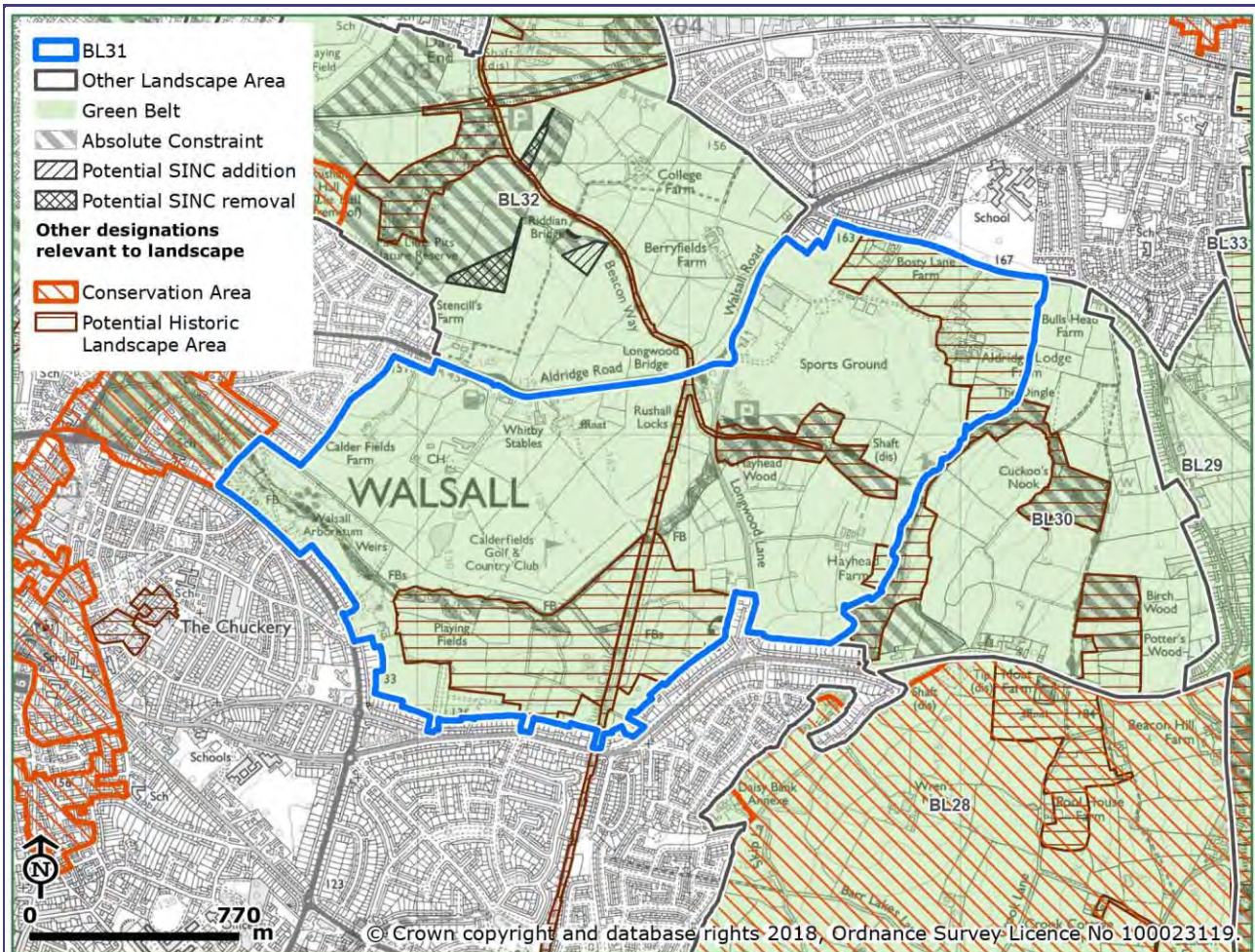
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale			The majority of the area comprises small scale fields with strong enclosure provided by mature hedgerows and some woodland. The former Aldridge Airport site is of a larger scale, but this is an exception.
Landform	The landform is gently undulating, generally falling from 170m in the east to 130m AOD in the west, with no distinct topographical features. Along the stream corridors (e.g. Hayhead Wood and Walsall Arboretum) the landform is characterised by gently sloping minor valleys.		
Landscape pattern and time depth		A mixture of complex, late medieval and post medieval enclosed field systems and much later, more simple landscape patterns including part of a 19th century public park (Walsall Arboretum) and 20th century golf course and former airfield.	There are surviving earthwork ridge and furrow and remnants of the open field system within the Arboretum, and of parkland in the north. There are a number of potential historic landscape areas: AHHLV13 Grange Country Park; AHHLV4 Cuckko's Nook and Hay Head Lime works; AHHLV5 Hay Head Branch Canal and Hay Head Wood; AHHLV14 Ridge and Furrow and Settlement, Bosty Lane and AHHTV14 Daw End Branch Canal.
'Natural' character			Frequent occurrence of valued semi-natural habitats including deciduous woodland e.g. Hayhead Wood, which contains ancient woodland and is a designated Local Nature Reserve and SINC, and Walsall Arboretum Extension SINC, lowland fen and good quality semi-improved grassland; a relatively strong hedgerow network and the presence of ponds and streams.
Built character		The canal and associated bridges and locks (some Grade II listed / locally listed) are historic features important to landscape character. There are also historic farmsteads scattered throughout the area, together with modern 20th century development, e.g. large-scale commercial buildings and agricultural storage sheds.	
Recreational character			The area has significant recreational value by virtue of the network of PROWs, including the canal towpath, cycle route and Beacon Way Recreational Route, Hayhead Wood Local Nature Reserve, part of Walsall Arboretum (which is a Registered Park and Garden outside the area to the west), and Aldridge Airport

Outdoor Centre, which is owned by the council.

Perceptual aspects

Some sense of rural character but with frequent signs of human activity and modern development, such as the busy A454 Aldridge / Walsall Road, housing on the surrounding settlement edges and commercial / industrial buildings e.g. car dealership on Walsall Road. The sense of tranquillity increases further east towards the boundary with landscape area BL30.

Settlement setting

Whilst the surrounding settlement edges are neither distinctive or historic, the area provides an attractive backdrop and positive contribution to their settings by virtue of its scenic, predominantly undeveloped character. The area also provides some contribution as part of the wider rural gap between Walsall and Aldridge.

Visual prominence

A mixture of prominent and non-prominent areas influenced by enclosure provided by landform and vegetation. Aldridge Airport is a prominent, elevated open area, whereas the neighbouring Hayhead Woods occupy a more enclosed valley location.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

Little inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL31s1	299.75	Moderate - High

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape is considered to have moderate-high overall sensitivity to residential development as the majority of criteria are assessed as having either moderate or greater/high sensitivity, and no criteria override that judgement.

The landscape is considered to also have moderate-high sensitivity to employment development as large-scale built form would impact the small-scale historic field pattern and reduce the role of the area in providing a rural gap between Walsall and Aldridge. However, modern 20th century development, e.g. large-scale commercial buildings and agricultural storage sheds are scattered throughout the area, reducing sensitivity.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

The immediate area surrounding the cluster of large-scale commercial/industrial buildings bounded by the A454 and Airfield Drive has a moderate overall sensitivity to residential and employment development. This is due to the combination of the urbanising visual influence of this prominent modern development, reduced tranquillity from the busy A454 and larger scale of the landscape characterised by the former Aldridge Airport land (which still has sensitivities relating to its recreational value, openness/visual prominence and proximity to valued natural features).

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 102 (Housing); Ref: 176 (Housing); Ref: 212 (Housing); Ref: 215 (Housing); Ref: 281 (Housing)

Location and Landscape Character Context

The area comprises open land located broadly between the northern settlement boundary of Walsall and the southern settlement boundary of Rushall and Aldridge. Its boundaries are formed by the aforementioned settlement edges, together with the A461 Lichfield Road in the west, and the A452 Aldridge/Walsall Road in the south. It is bisected by a railway line running east-west.

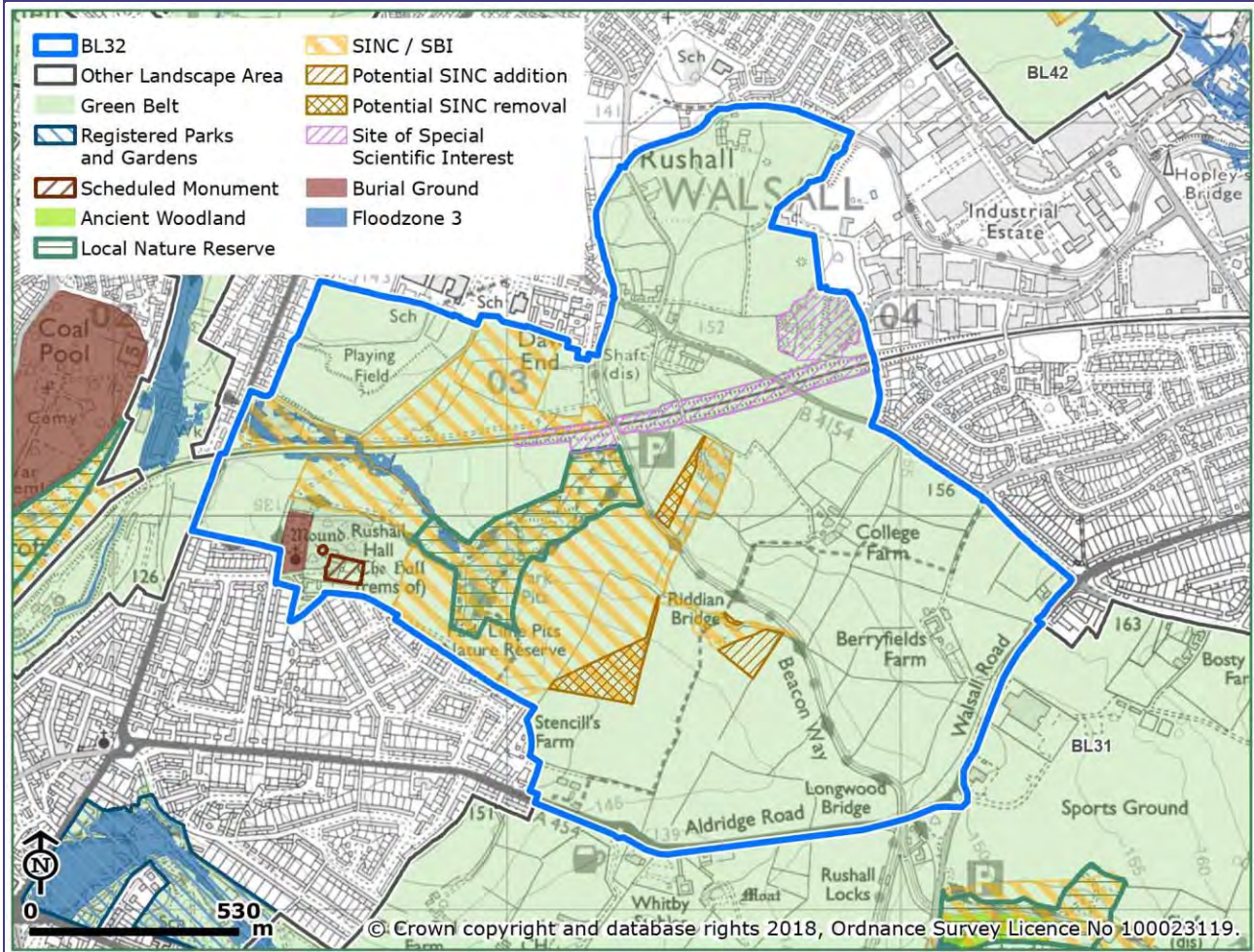
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



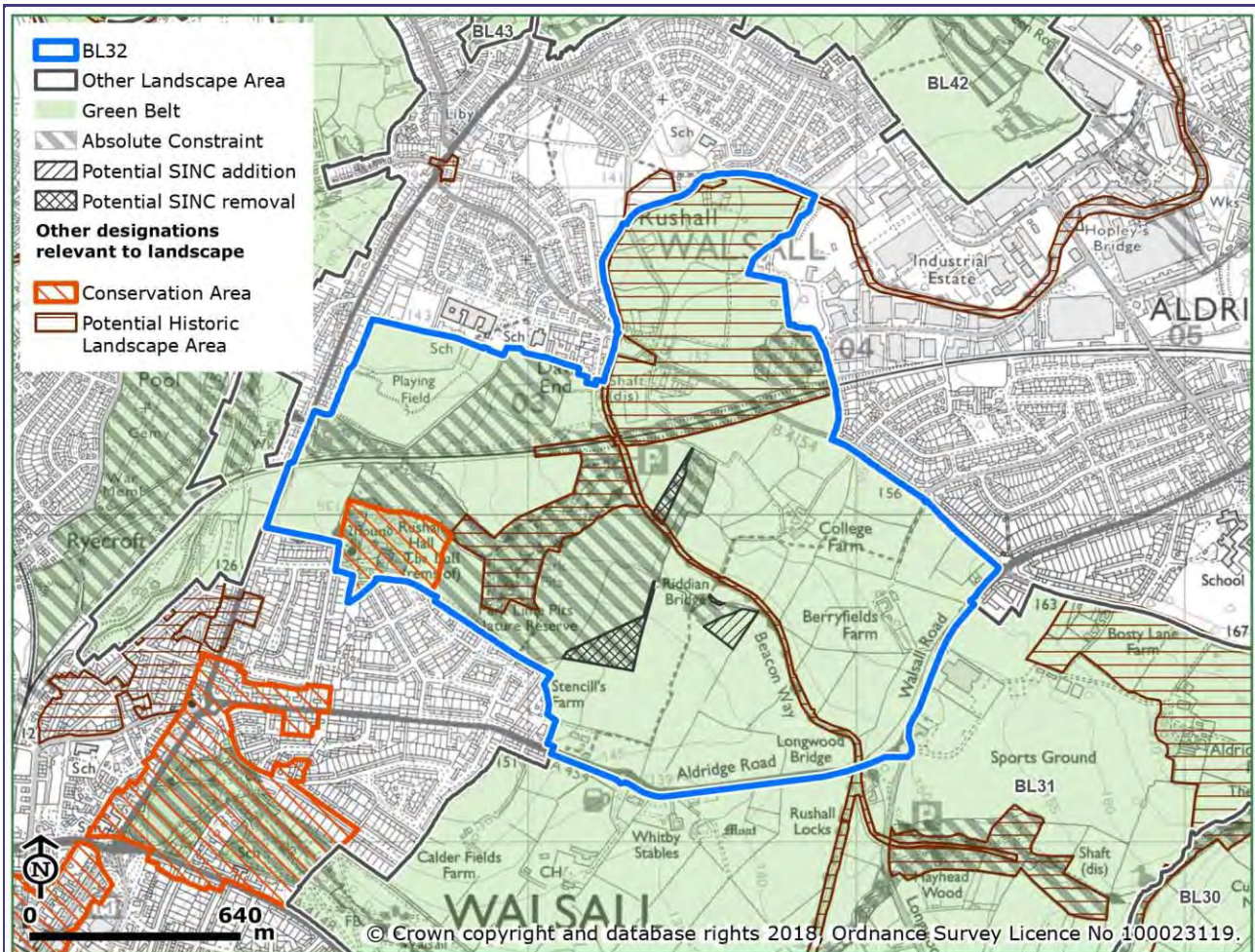
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale			Predominantly small scale fields and land divisions, with some isolated moderate scale arable fields in the south in proximity to the A454.
Landform		Landform is gently undulating, incised by a minor watercourse. Elevation ranges from 156m AOD in the north east to 135m AOD in the west.	
Landscape pattern and time depth		A mixture of regular and irregular fields and semi-natural areas. The hedgerow network appears to be relatively intact, with a strong presence of hedgerow trees. The area contains the remains of a limestone quarry and associated limeworks, which are potential historic landscape areas: AHHLV16 Daw End Lime Works and AHHLV17 Park Lime Pits. The canal is also a potential historic townscape area AHHTV14 Daw End Branch Canal.	
'Natural' character			Frequent occurrence of valued natural features and priority habitats deciduous woodland, semi-improved grassland, lowland fens and a traditional orchard. Park Lime Pits is a Local Nature Reserve and much of the land area is designated as a SINC for its calcareous grassland, open water and conservation arable farmland. Daw End Railway Cutting is a geological SSSI.
Built character			There is little built development within the area. The exception is the site of Rushall Hall, designated as the Old Rushall Conservation Area, which contains two Scheduled Monuments, a number of listed buildings including St Michael's church, a local landmark, medieval curtain walls and a gatehouse. The surrounding graveyard is identified as a medieval moated manor site. Despite the limited size of the site, these features make a positive contribution to landscape character.
Recreational character		Other parts of the parcel are not publicly accessible, except for a single PRoW in the south of the area.	The Beacon Way Recreational Route runs through the area, along with a traffic free cycle route on the towpath of the Rushall Canal. The Park Lime Pits Local Nature Reserve is well used for recreation.

Perceptual aspects

Some sense of rural character and tranquillity, but also some signs of human activity and modern development around the site boundaries, including main roads, railway and modern housing.

Settlement setting

The area provides an attractive, although not particularly prominent, backdrop to adjacent settlement by virtue of its scenic, predominantly undeveloped character. With the exception of the small Old Rushall Conservation Area, the surrounding settlement edge is not distinctive or historic. The area also provides some contribution as part of the rural gap between Walsall and Aldridge.

Visual prominence

A mixture of prominent and non-prominent areas. Significant enclosure is provided throughout parts of the area by the network of hedgerows and woodland, interspersed with some more open fields. The undulating topography helps to screen views between Aldridge and Walsall.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

Little inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area**Size (ha)****Rating****BL32s1****228.83****Moderate - High****Landscape Sensitivity Judgement**

The landscape is considered to have moderate-high overall sensitivity to residential development as the majority of criteria are assessed as having either moderate or greater/high sensitivity, and no criteria override that judgement.

The landscape is considered to have moderate-high sensitivity to employment development. Large scale development would disrupt the small scale field pattern which contributes to the settlement setting of Walsall, Aldridge and Rushall. The area north of the B4154 Bosty Lane, lies adjacent to an existing industrial estate which has the potential to reduce sensitivity to further development, however, a strong woodland boundary, reduces connectivity between the areas and the area is designated for its natural and heritage qualities.

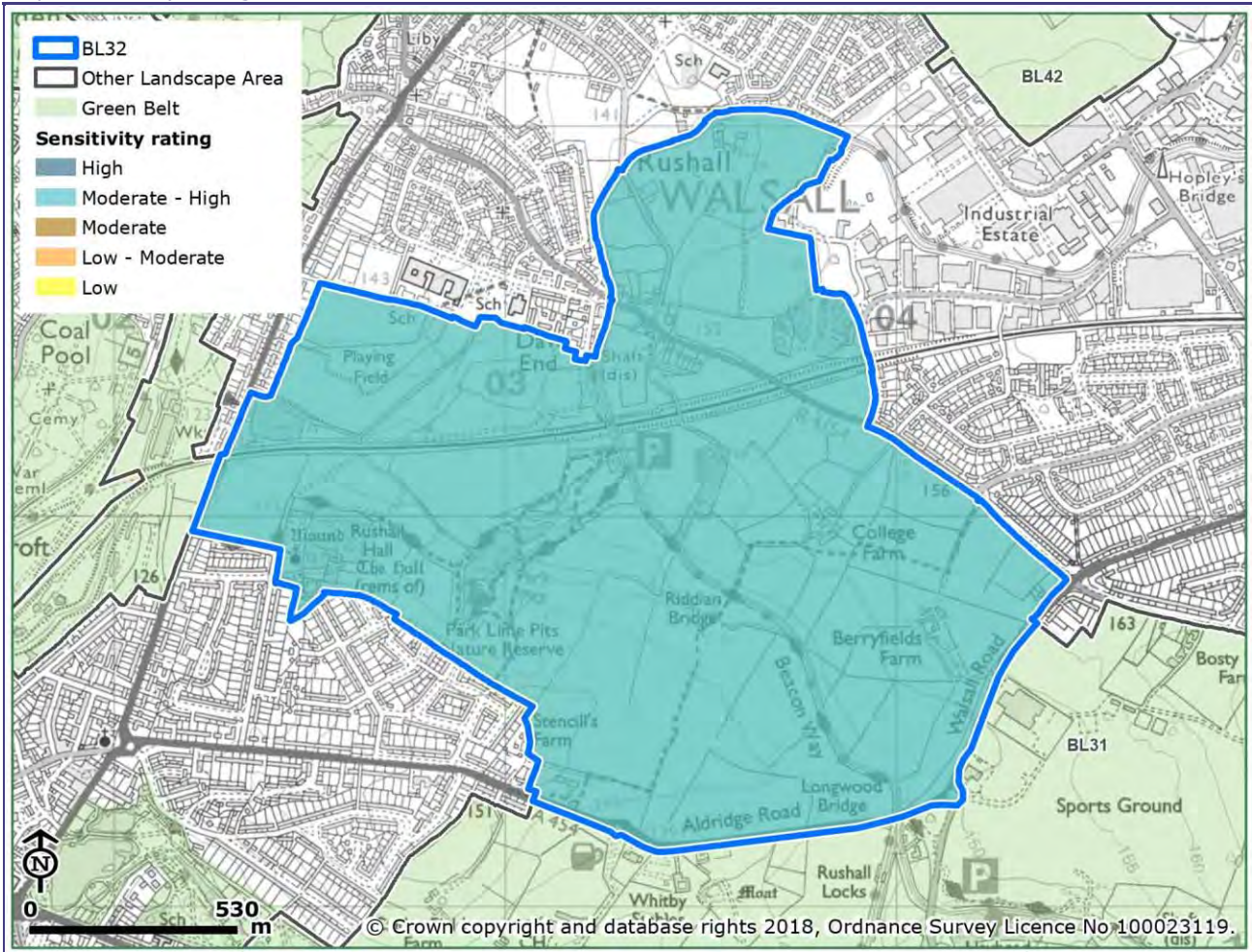
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

The Old Rushall Conservation Area, which contains a concentration of designated heritage assets and valued landscape features, is of high sensitivity to residential or employment development.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 112 (Housing); Ref: 118 (Housing); Ref: 125 (Housing); Ref: 290 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



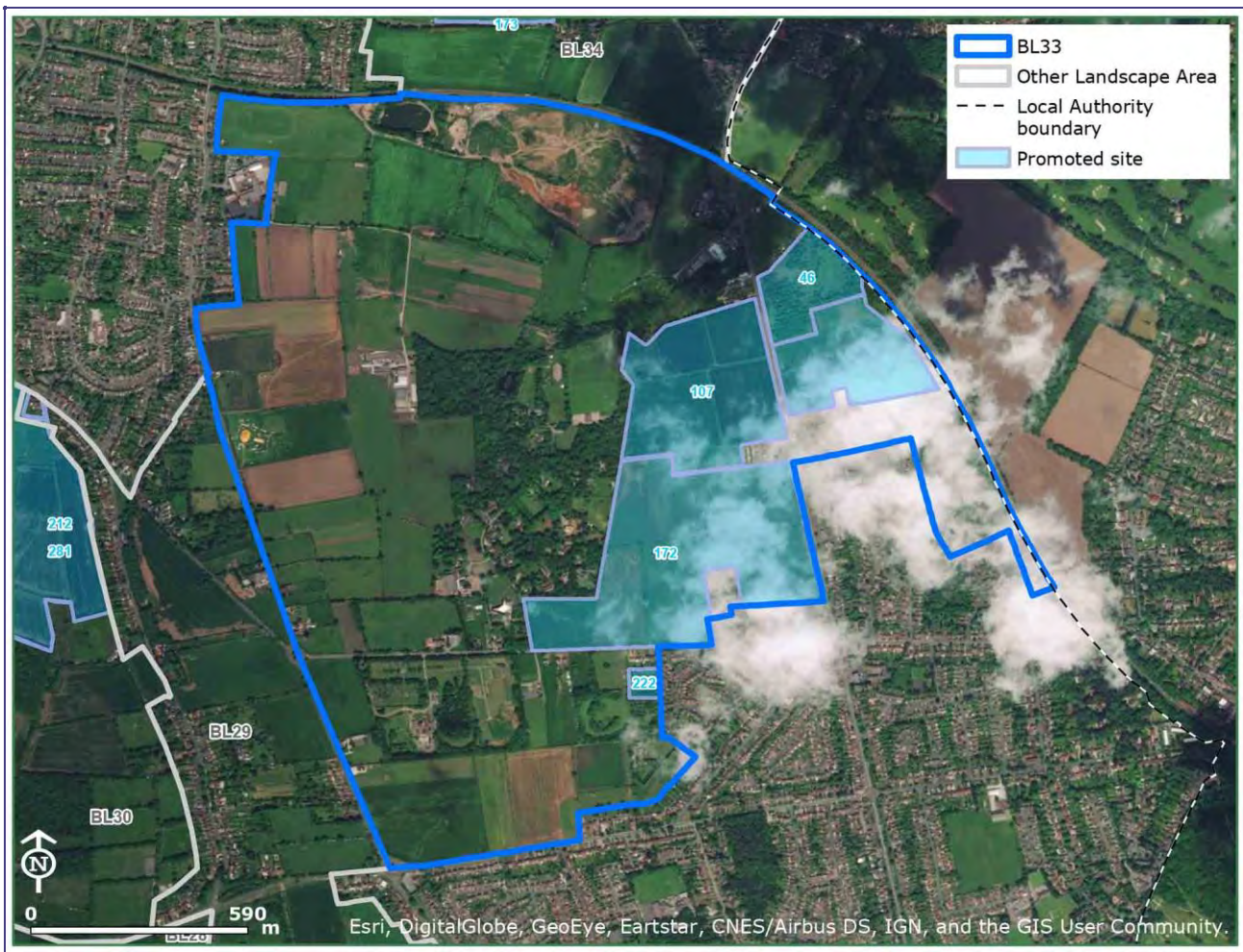
Landscape Area Reference BL33

Area Size (ha): 286.5ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located southeast of Aldridge and north of Streetly. The railway line marks the north and east boundaries. The north eastern boundary is also the borough boundary. The south east boundary is formed by the Streetly settlement boundary and the western boundary by the B4154 Erdington Road and Aldridge settlement boundary.

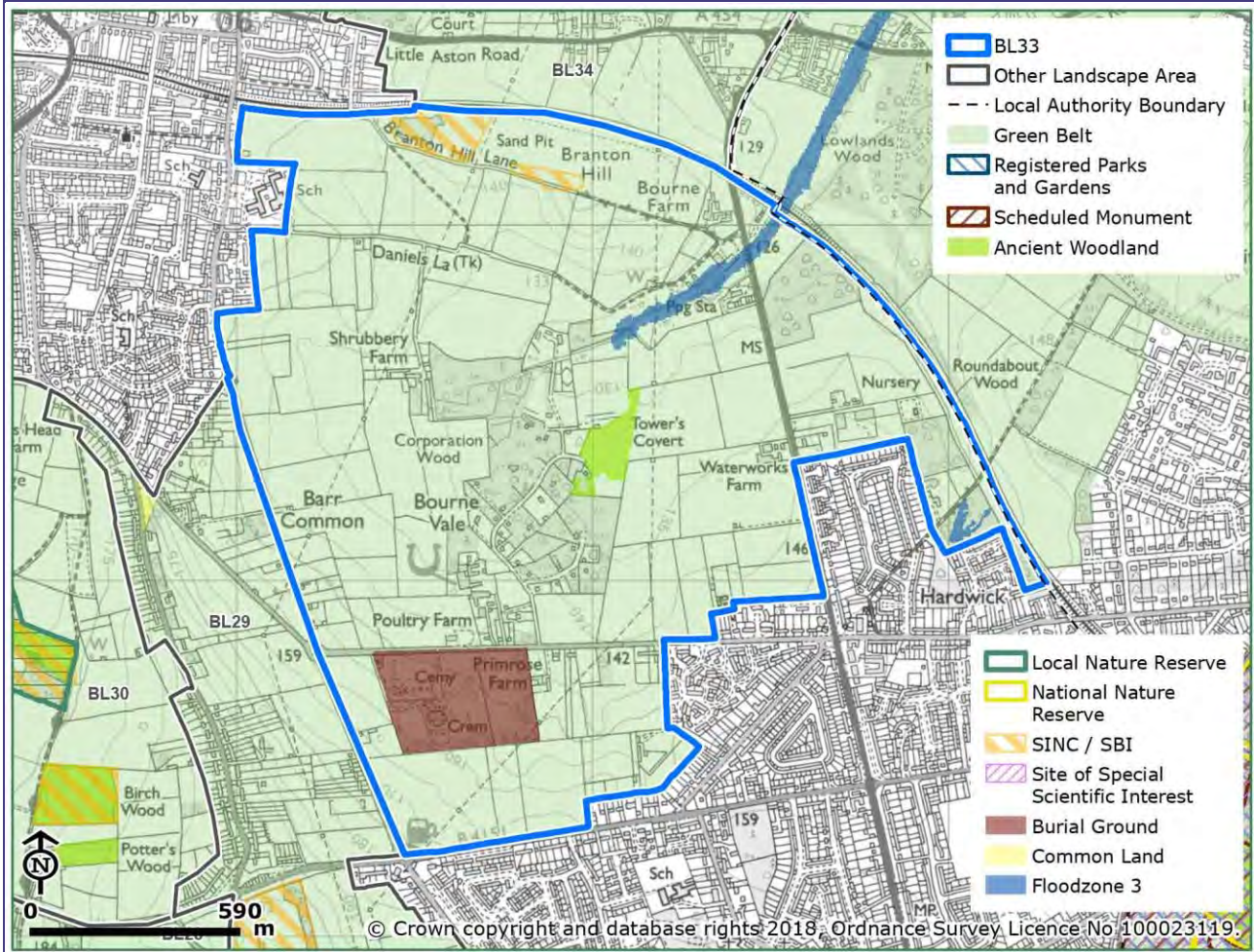
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



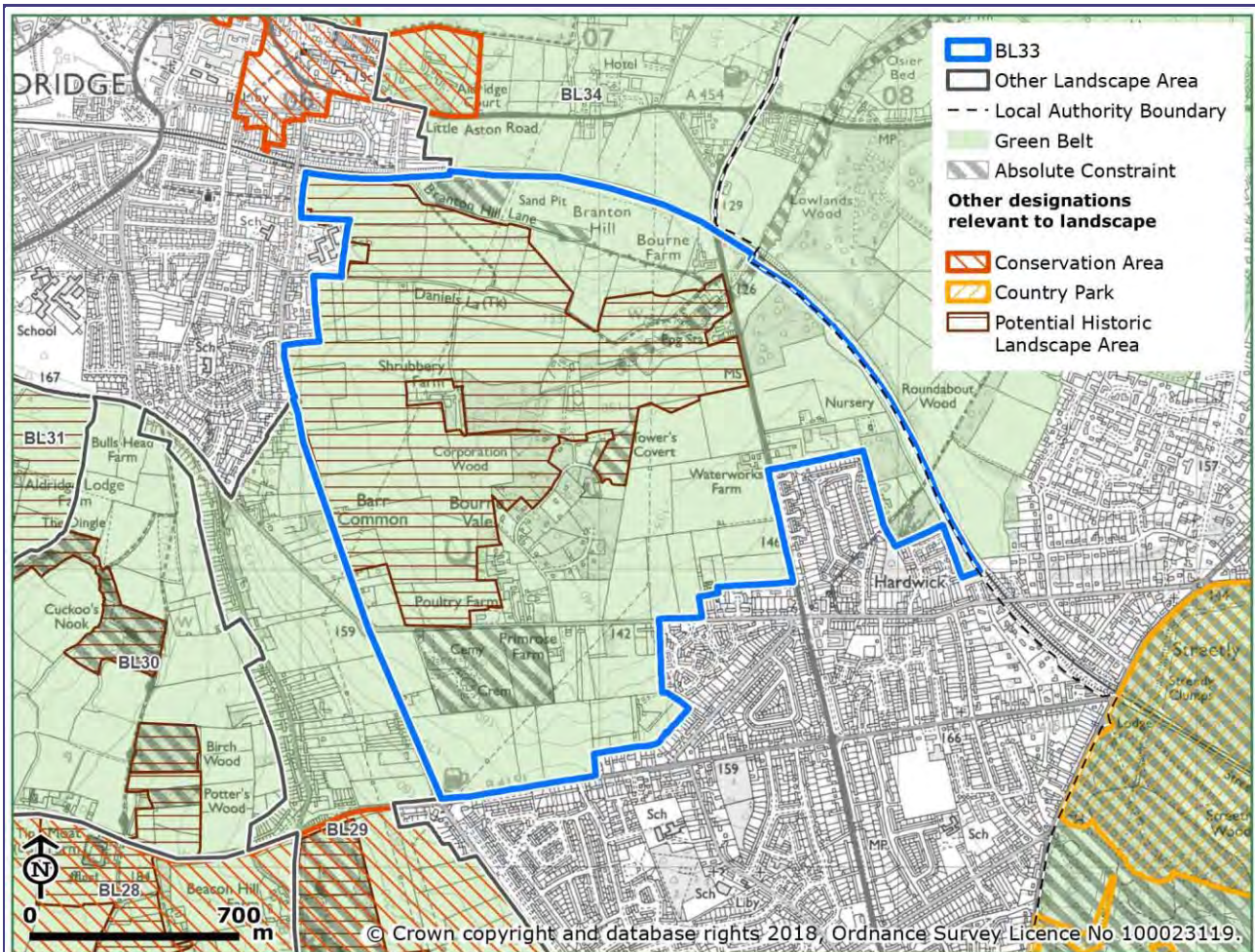
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		The landscape is characterised by regular shaped small to medium scale fields. Hedgerows contribute to the human scale of the landscape, although these are occasionally gappy.	
Landform		An undulating landform, sloping from 130m AOD at Bourne Vale in the centre of the area up to 175m AOD in the south west, towards the Barr Beacon ridge.	
Landscape pattern and time depth		A predominance of intact field patterns including, planned 18th and 19th century enclosure east and west of Bourne Vale, with straight boundaries and piecemeal late/post-Medieval enclosure north of Daniels Lane.	Bourne Vale was part of the open fields associated with Aldridge during the Medieval period and contains an area of ancient woodland and eroded ridge and furrow. It is a potential historic landscape area AHHLV3 Bourne Vale.
'Natural' character		Areas of semi-natural habitats including priority habitat deciduous woodland (Corporation Wood and Tower's Covert some of which is ancient). Natural features of value include areas of deciduous woodland at Bourne Farm in the northwest, east of the A452 and south of Little Hardwick Road.	Branton Hill Quarry is a SINC recognised for its geological importance.
Built character	Small modern estates at Bourne Farm and Waterworks Farm, west of A452. Estate of large detached houses in woodland at Bourne Vale dating to the inter/post war period, built on site of Bourne Vale House landscaped park. The A452 Chester Road runs north-south in the east of the area. Two electricity pylon lines are present within the area.	Locally listed railway bridge in north, pumping station and houses at Bourne Farm and Bourne Vale House.	
Recreational character		PRoW linking Branton Hill Lane and Daniels Lane in the north, and another in the east through the wood at Hardwick. Old Veseyan sports grounds north of Little Hardwick Road and the Woodlands Adventure site in Bourne Vale are well used for recreation.	
Perceptual aspects	Two prominent electricity pylon routes run through this area, providing a significant urbanising influence.	Largely rural area affected by proximity to Aldridge and Streetly settlements, the railway line and the A452.	

Settlement setting

The 20th century residential development along the settlement edge of Aldridge and Sutton Coldfield is exposed and forms a hard edge which could be improved. However, the open landscape provides some contribution as a rural gap between these two settlements.

Visual prominence

The extensive blocks of mature woodland and tree belts in the centre and south of the area provide significant screening and enclosure. Mature vegetation along roads also provides some visual containment.

More elevated open fields in the south and west of the area are visually prominent.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

No inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes.

Limited inter-visibility with marked viewpoint at Barr Beacon.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL33s1	286.51	Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

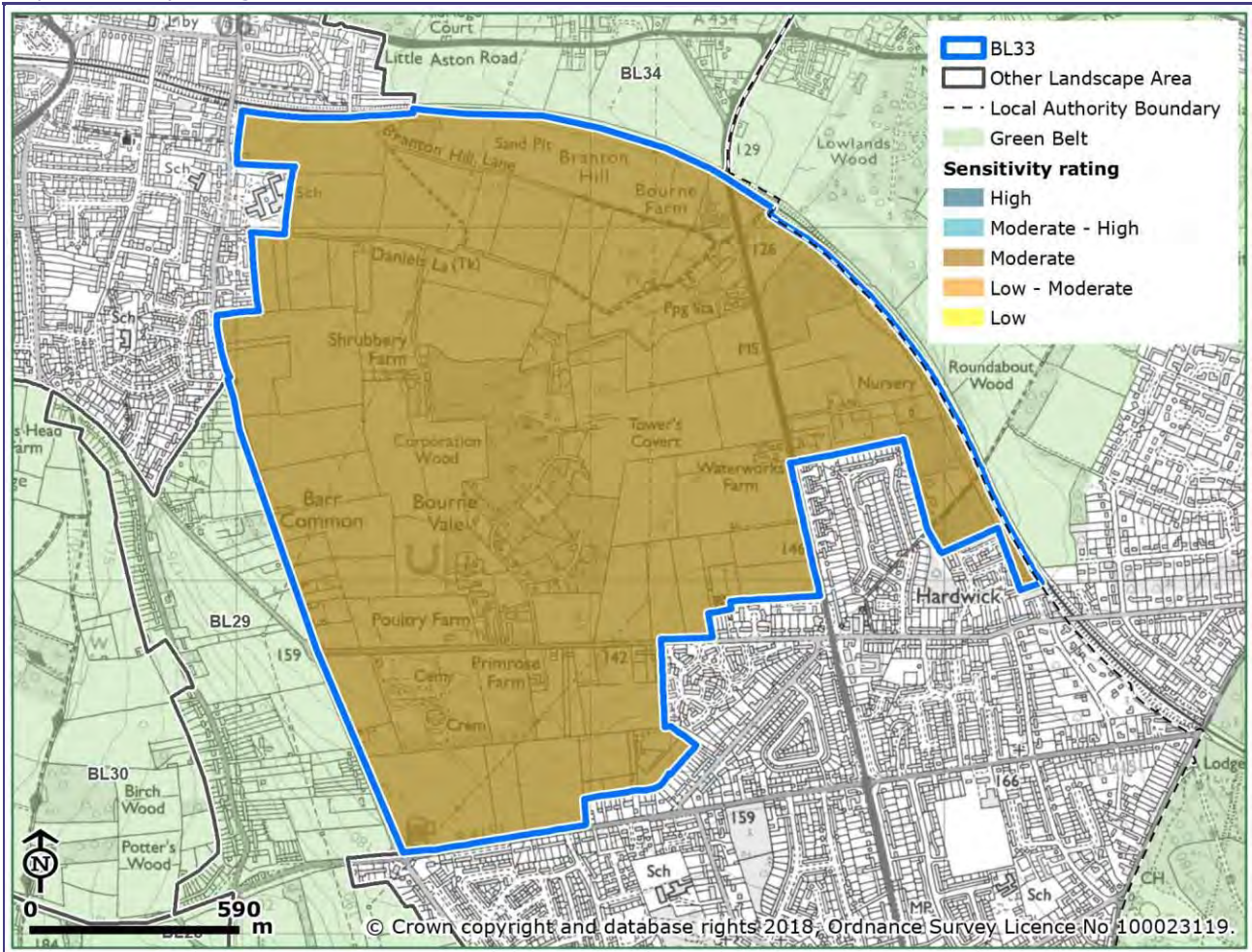
The landscape is considered to have an overall moderate sensitivity to residential development, based on the absence of pronounced landform features, some degree of rural character with regular field patterns, the combination of open and enclosed areas and the presence of prominent pylon routes.

The landscape is considered to have an overall moderate sensitivity to employment development. The area has a degree of rural character, with some natural features of value and a historic field pattern west of the A452 which would be disrupted by large scale development. There are some existing small scale industrial/employment areas and large agricultural buildings, which are set back from the roads and low in height. There is the potential for small scale expansion these areas without impacting existing landscape features of value.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating**List of Promoted Sites within Scenario**

Ref: 107 (Housing); Ref: 172 (Housing); Ref: 222 (Housing); Ref: 46 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located east of Aldridge, and is bound by the Borough boundary and A452 Chester Road in the east and the railway line in the south. The western boundary is marked by the settlement edge, and the northern boundary by Lazy Hill.

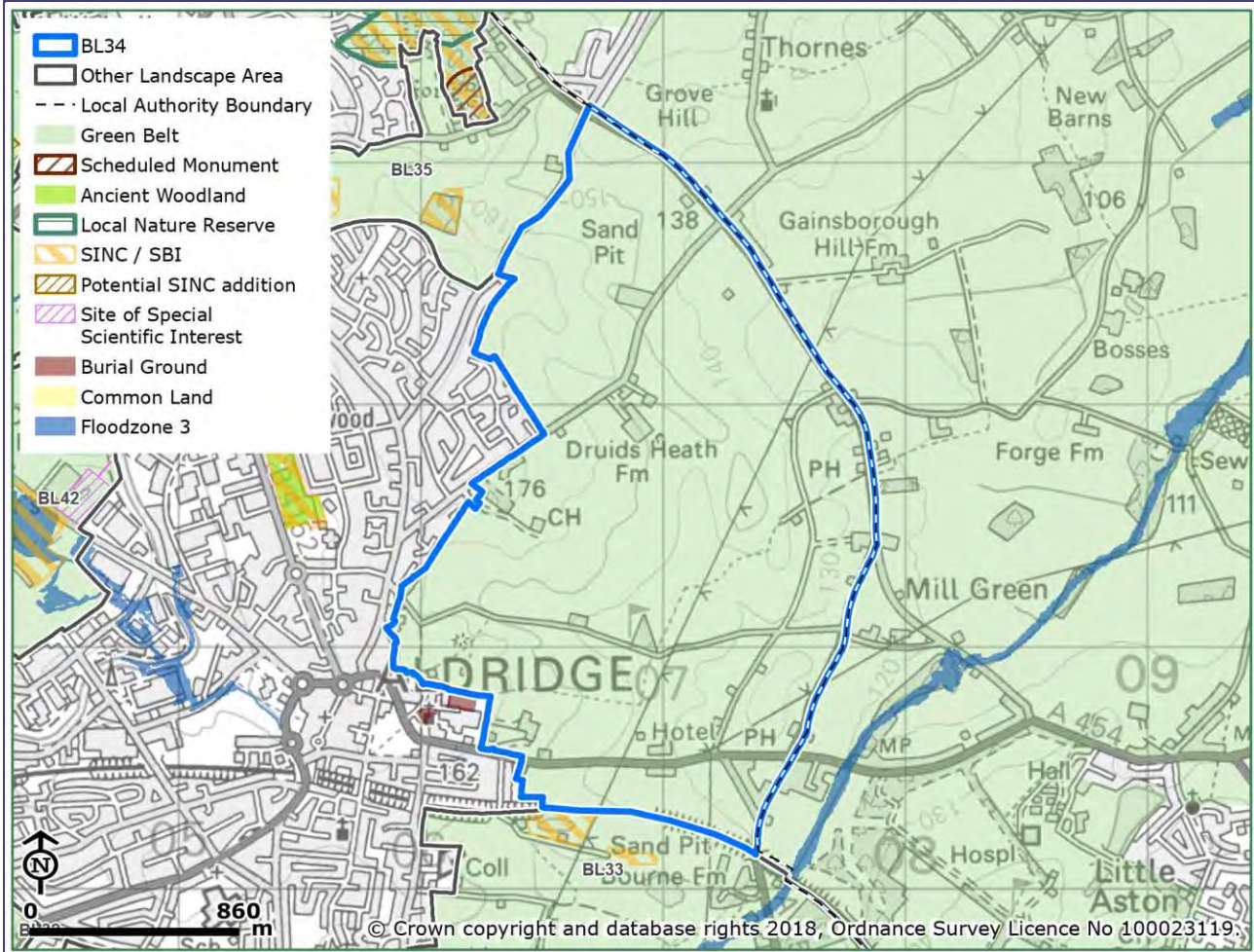
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



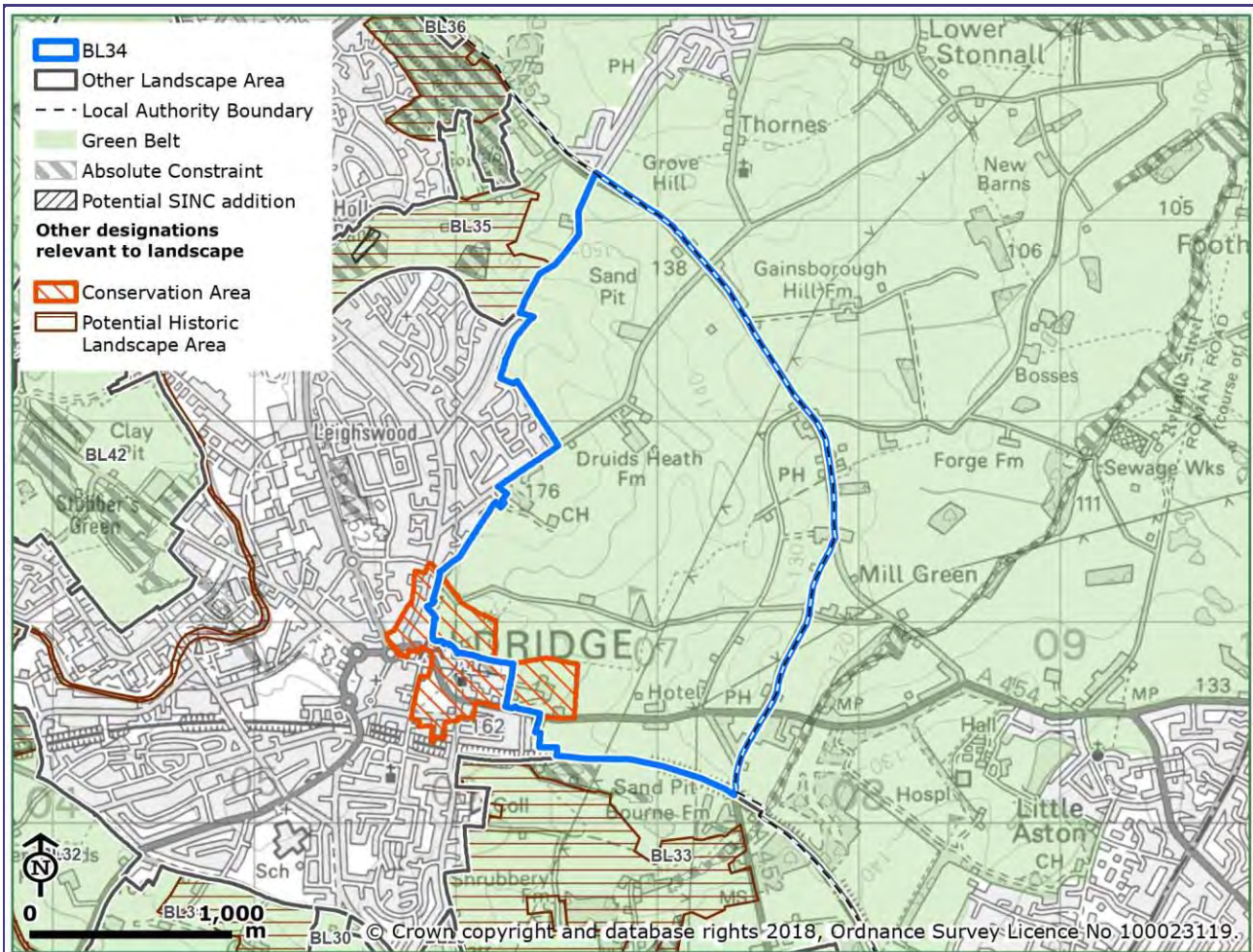
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		The landscape is characterised by predominantly medium scale fields, with some small field divisions particularly around Aldridge Court in the south and between Hobs Hole Lane and Lazy Hill.	
Landform			An undulating to strongly undulating landscape, with a fall from 175m in the north west around Lazy Hill to 125m AOD in the east by the Aldridge & Wyevale garden centre.
Landscape pattern and time depth	Druids Heath Golf Club and cricket field south of Hobs Hole Lane have removed any evidence of time depth.	Mixture of planned and piecemeal enclosure of original Druid's Heath, dating from post-medieval to 18th century Parliamentary enclosure.	
'Natural' character	Some scattered trees and limited hedgerows within the area.	Small areas of priority habitat deciduous woodland scattered through the area, particularly around the Druids Heath Golf Club.	
Built character	Some mid-20th century residential and employment development along the A454 Little Aston Road and A452 Chester Road. The railway line runs along the southern boundary, and the A452 along the eastern boundary. There are 2 electricity transmission lines with large pylons crossing the area.		The Old Irish Harp pub on the A452 is Grade II listed, and Aldridge Court and villa along the A454 are locally listed. Aldridge Conservation Area extends into the southwest of the area.
Recreational character		PRoWs run north and south of Hobs Hole Lane leading to Back Lane. Druids Heath Golf Club and Aldridge Cricket and Hockey ground well used.	
Perceptual aspects			A rural landscape crossed by quiet rural lanes, with some scenic long range views out to the north and east, e.g. from the edge of Aldridge cricket ground. Tranquillity is reduced in proximity to the A452 forming the eastern boundary and around the edge of Aldridge.
Settlement setting		The area reads as part of the wider countryside and therefore contributes as a rural setting to the edge of Aldridge, and is particularly important as the backdrop to the Aldridge Conservation Area which is located in the south west.	

Visual prominence

Some areas enclosed by mature roadside vegetation. Some open views along Chester Road, Lazy Hill, Birch Lane and Hobs Hole Lane.

The northern end of the area marks the edge of the Midland plateau and so is visible from across the flat lower-lying land to the east.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

There is no inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints on OS 1:25k.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL34s1	373.52	Moderate - High

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape is considered to have an overall moderate-high sensitivity to residential and employment development, based on its combination of pronounced slopes (in parts) and its strongly rural, undeveloped character.

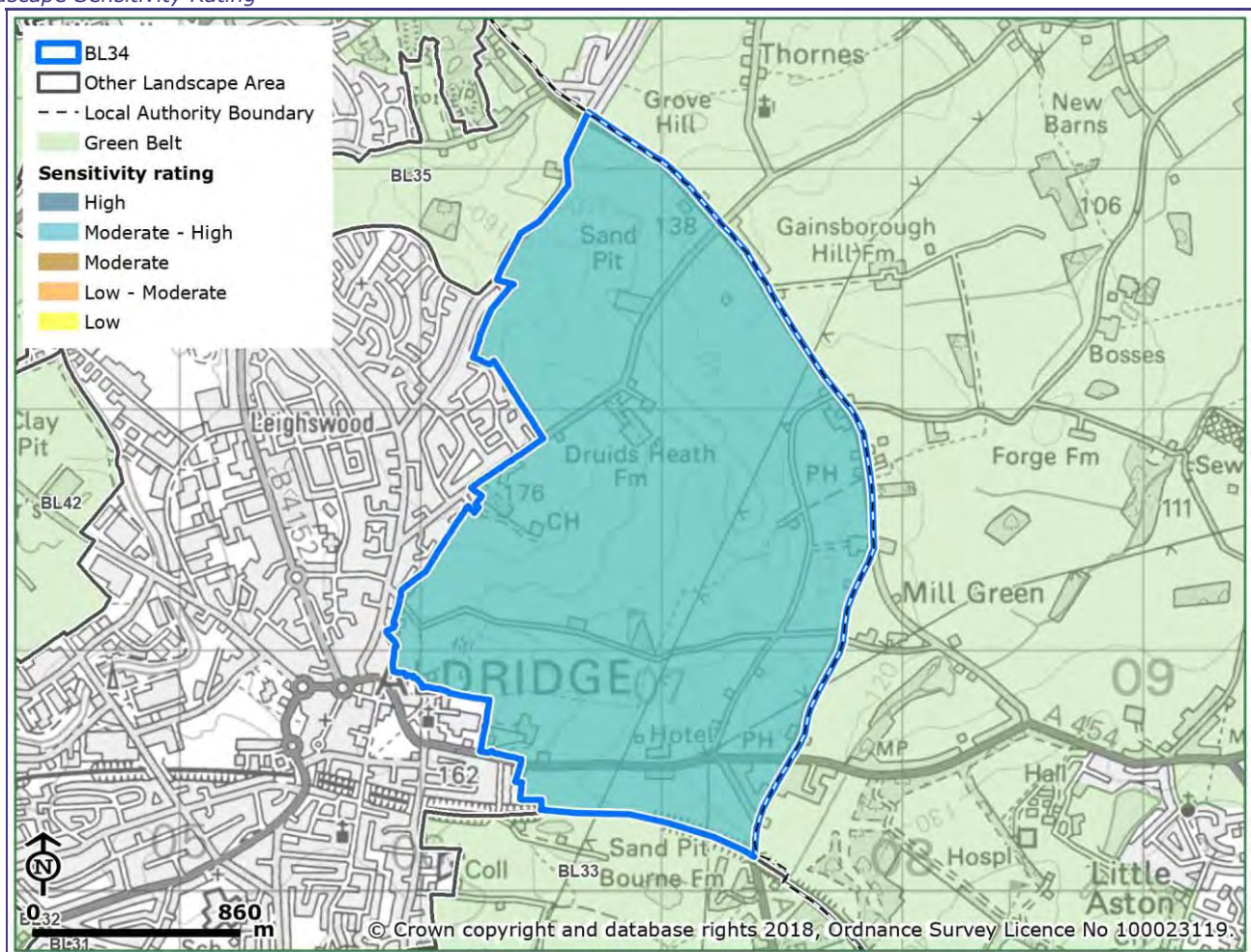
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

The area north of Holly Lane and the golf club is considered to have a slightly higher sensitivity to employment and residential development.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 162 (Housing); Ref: 173 (Housing); Ref: 182 (Housing); Ref: 239 (Employment and housing); Ref: 286 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



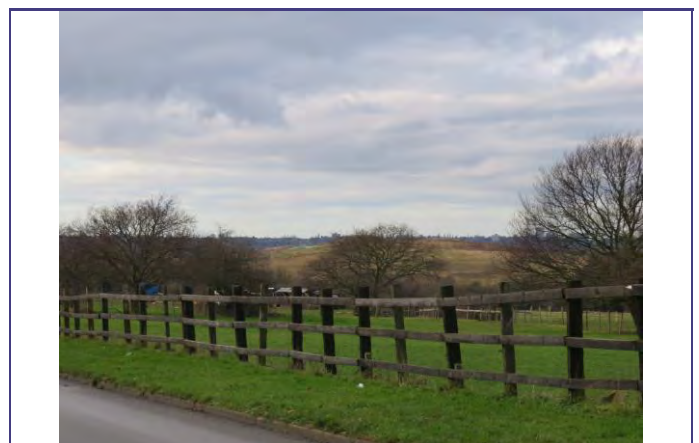
Location and Landscape Character Context

The area comprises a wedge of open, predominantly agricultural land between the southern settlement fringe of Walsall Wood and the northern settlement fringe of Aldridge. The western boundary is delineated by the Wyrley and Essington Canal (Daw End Branch), and its eastern boundary by the A452 Chester Road and Lazy Hill.

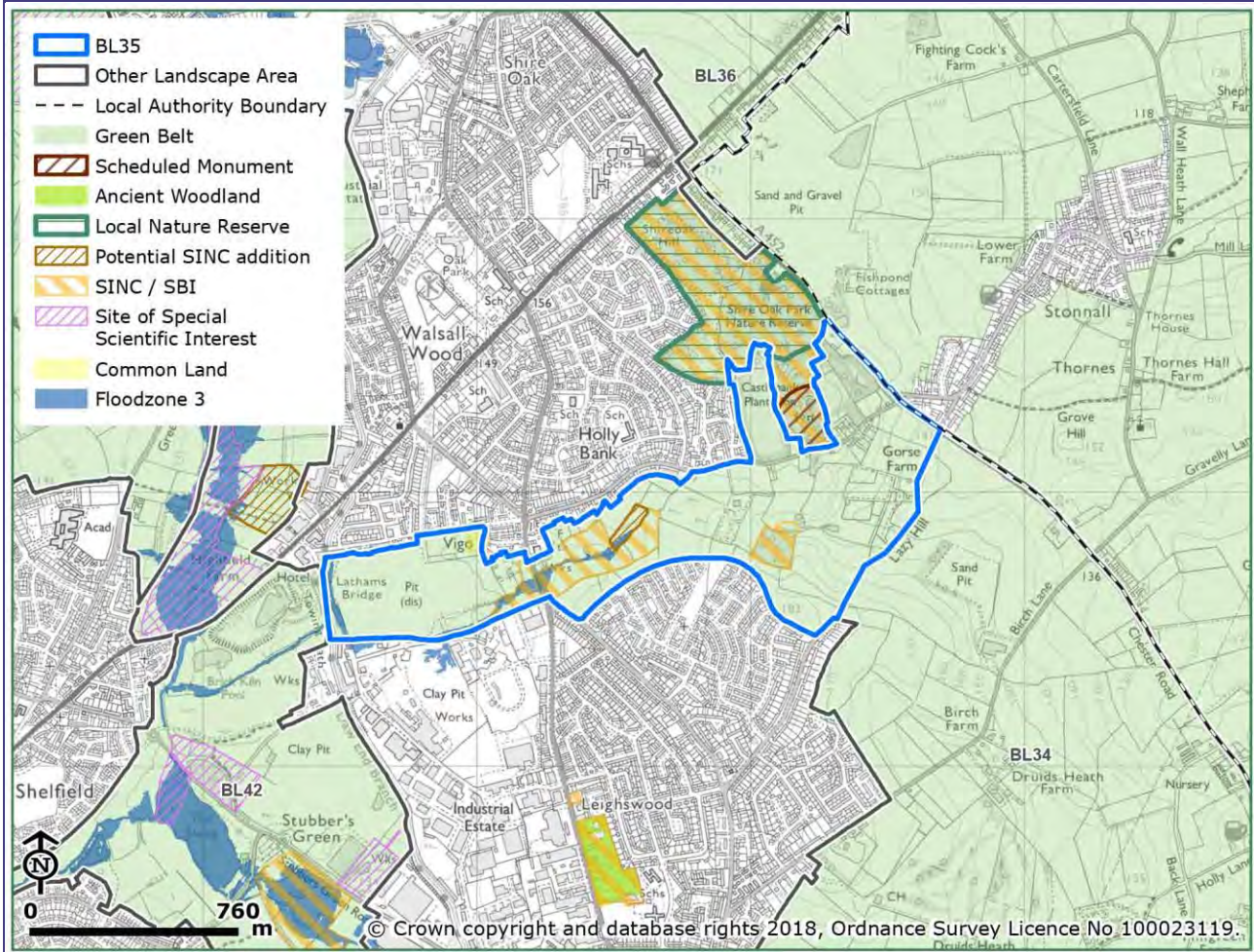
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



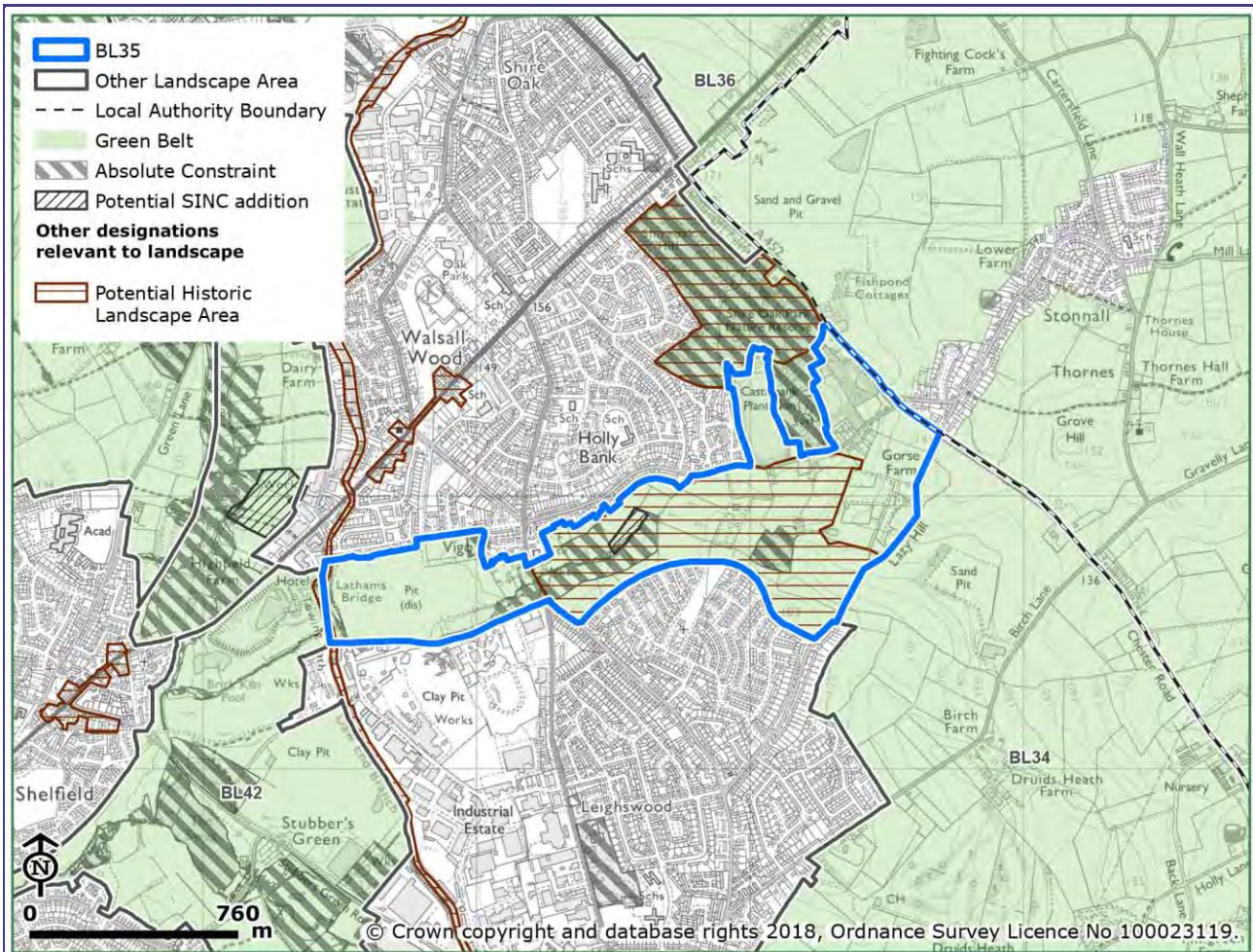
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale	In the far west of the landscape area, beyond the B4152 Northgate, is a large scale disused mineral working site.		To the east of the B4152 Northgate, the landscape is characterised by a mixture of predominantly small scale fields, woodland and common land.
Landform			With the exception of the man-made landform of the former mineral working site in the far west, there is strong topographical variety in the area, based around a sloping valley landform including some pronounced slopes and undulation in the east. Elevation varies from 183m AOD at the top of Lazy Hill down to 141m AOD at the bottom of Lazy Hill.
Landscape pattern and time depth			A predominance of complex and largely intact field patterns, including well preserved historic field patterns, with evidence of medieval strip fields and ridge and furrow. This is a potential historic landscape area AHHLV15 Kings Hayes Historic Field System.
'Natural' character			Frequent occurrence of valued natural features, including a strong network of mature hedgerows, and priority habitat woodland and semi-natural grassland across the centre and east of the area. The partly restored mineral working site also has (increasing) natural features of value, such as grassland and scrub.
Built character	The area contain few historic features important to landscape character and the presence or proximity of modern development e.g. along Coppice Lane detracts from landscape character.	Heritage assets important to landscape character include Castlefort, an Iron Age hillfort and earthworks (designated as a Scheduled Monument) at Castlebank Plantation adjacent to (but outside) area and two Grade II listed buildings on Castlehill Road.	
Recreational character	The area has limited recreational value, by virtue of the discrete open access land around the Castlebank Plantation and the common land at Vigo Road. However, the majority of the area is not publicly accessible.		
Perceptual aspects	The western part of the area beyond the B4152 is largely contained by visible modern development and human activity, including industrial land uses.		The sense of rural character increases further east beyond the B4152, with the easternmost area contained by the heavily wooded hillside at Castlebank Plantation to the north and open countryside to the south which extends across the borough boundary. The area has a

relatively strong sense of rurality and tranquillity, although road noise remains audible to a degree.

Settlement setting

With the exception of the disused mineral working site in the west, the area contributes positively as an attractive backdrop to adjacent settlement, by virtue of the combination of its scenic rural and semi-natural character, woodland and distinctive undulating topography. The area also plays an important role in providing the perception of a rural gap between Walsall Wood and Aldridge.

Visual prominence

A mixture of prominent and non-prominent areas. The valley landform, mature hedgerows and woodland provide enclosure. Skylines are predominantly undeveloped except the prominent former mineral working site which rises above the surrounding land in the west.

The area is visible from the flat lower lying land of the Midland plateau to the east.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

No or very limited inter-visibility with surrounding sensitive landscapes or viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area

Size (ha)

Rating

BL35s1

73.01

Moderate - High

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape is considered to have moderate-high overall sensitivity to residential development as the majority of criteria are assessed as having either moderate or greater/high sensitivity, and no criteria override that judgement.

The area is considered to have high sensitivity to employment development. Large scale development would disrupt the valley landform, historic field pattern and reduce the role of the area in providing a rural gap between Walsall Wood and Aldridge. The area immediately west of the B4152 has less sensitivity to employment development due the presence of an existing industrial estate.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 148 (Housing); Ref: 210 (Housing or mixed use); Ref: 277 (Housing); Ref: 285 (Housing)

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL35s2	23.86	Low - Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The large, disused mineral working site in the west of the area, has a low-moderate overall landscape sensitivity, distinct from the larger part of the area to the east of the B4152. However, it displays its own unique sensitivities in terms of evolving semi-natural habitats in the restored parts of the site, together with a visual prominence due to the artificially raised ground.

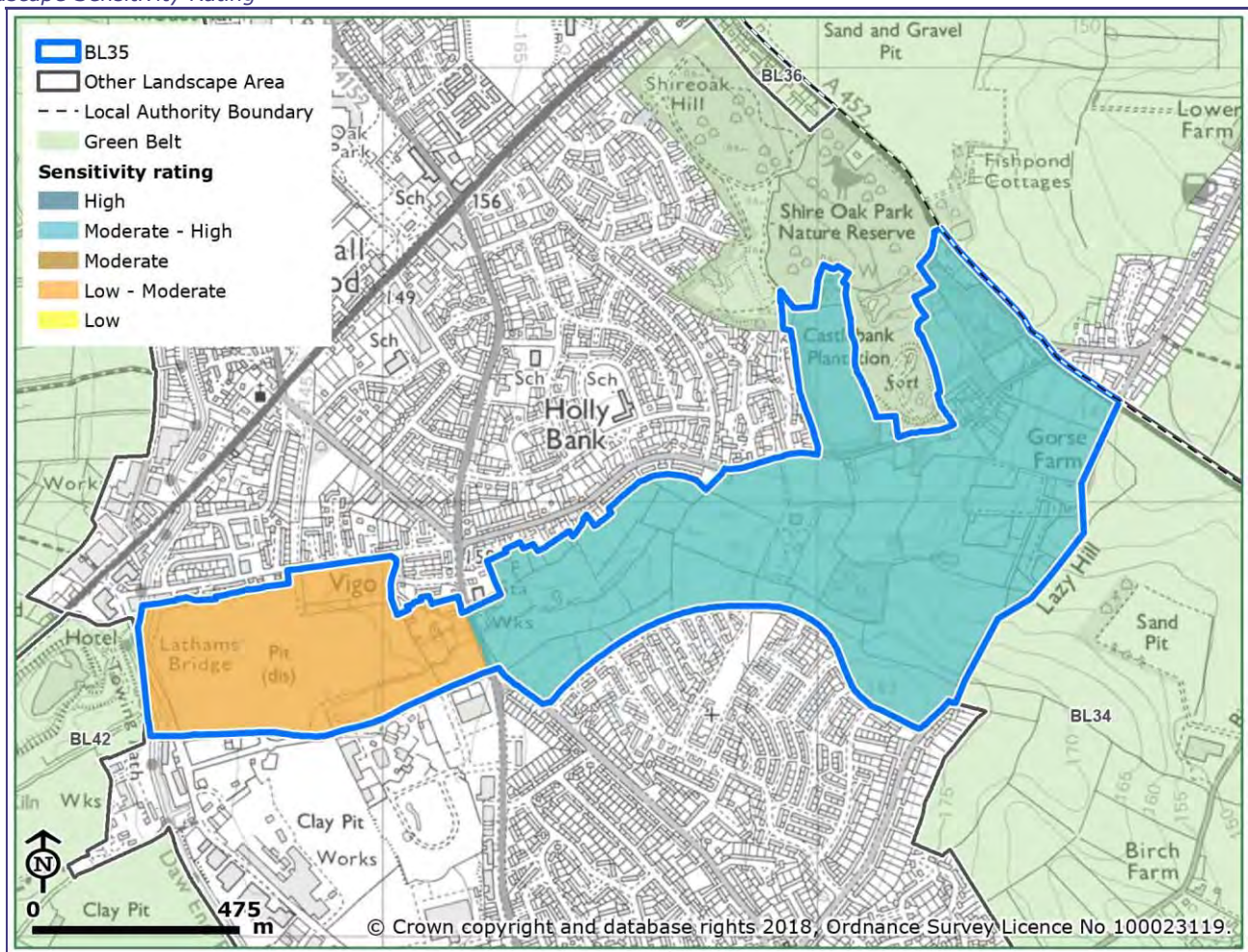
Sensitivity to employment uses would be moderate.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Landscape Area Reference BL36

Area Size (ha): 100.1ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located to the east of the settlement fringe of Brownhills; delineated by the A461 Lichfield Road to the south east, the A452 Chester Road to the south west, the Wyrley and Essington Canal to the north west, and the Walsall Borough boundary to the north east.

Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



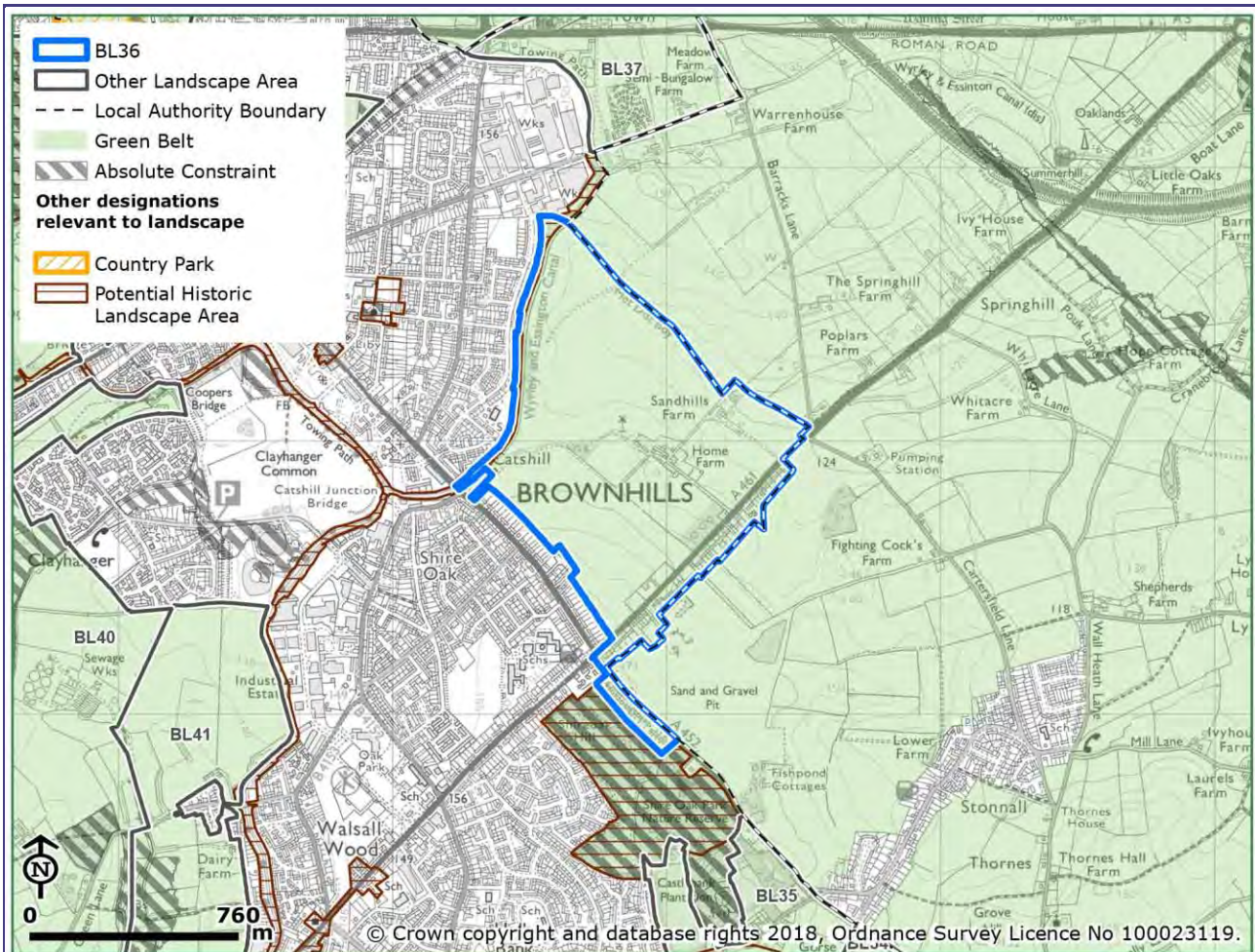
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale	Medium to large scale open arable fields with limited enclosure provided by occasional hedgerows and tree belts.		
Landform	Gently undulating landform which generally slopes down from south west (171m AOD) to north east (140m AOD). It is elevated above the low-lying plateau to the east, in Lichfield district.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	A combination of 19th and 20th century regular enclosures. The canal is a potential historic townscape area AHHTV3 Wyrley and Essington Canal Extension.		
'Natural' character	Semi-natural habitats largely absent, apart from two small, discrete blocks of predominantly deciduous woodland, and mature deciduous avenue and hedgerow trees. Sparse, managed hedgerows provide limited habitat connectivity.		
Built character	Buildings are largely absent from this area dominated by arable farmland. The exceptions are Home Farm and Sandhills Farm, comprising a combination of modern agricultural sheds and 19th century farmhouses and outbuildings. Sandhills House is a substantial property located at the end of a tree-lined avenue leading from Lichfield Road, with a red brick entrance lodge. The Wyrley and Essington Canal is in the west.		
Recreational character	There is no public access to the private farmland. The Wyrley and Essington Canal along the north-western boundary has a public towpath.		
Perceptual aspects	Despite its location adjacent to the settlement fringe of Brownhills, this agricultural area has a sense of rurality, particularly in views to the north-east. Road noise from the A461 and A452 is noticeable throughout much of the area, limiting the sense of tranquillity.		

Settlement setting

Whilst the settlement edge of Brownhills is not historic, comprising linear 20th century housing along the route of the canal and the Chester Road, the area nevertheless contributes positively to the setting of Brownhills by providing a rural backdrop, albeit of moderate scenic quality, with prominent mature trees on higher points. The Wyrley and Essington Canal provides a strong boundary feature along the settlement edge to the north.

Visual prominence

The area contains a combination of visually prominent and less prominent areas, due to the generally open character of the arable landscape with some screening provided by gentle rises in landform and mature blocks of woodland and avenue trees.

The area marks the edge of the Midland plateau and so is visible across a wide area of the flat lower lying land to the east across the borough boundary, particularly on higher slopes at Shire Oak.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

There is little to no inter-visibility between the area and designated landscapes or promoted viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area**Size (ha)****Rating****BL36s1****100.11****Moderate****Landscape Sensitivity Judgement**

The landscape is considered to have moderate overall sensitivity to residential development as the majority of the criteria score moderate and no criteria override that judgement.

The landscape is considered to have a moderate-high sensitivity to employment development. Large scale development on this open gently undulating rural landscape would be prominent in the wider area to the east due to its location on the edge of the Midland plateau, particularly on higher slopes at Shire Oak. The Wyrley and Essington Canal and canal side vegetation provides a strong boundary feature along the industrial estate to the north of the area.

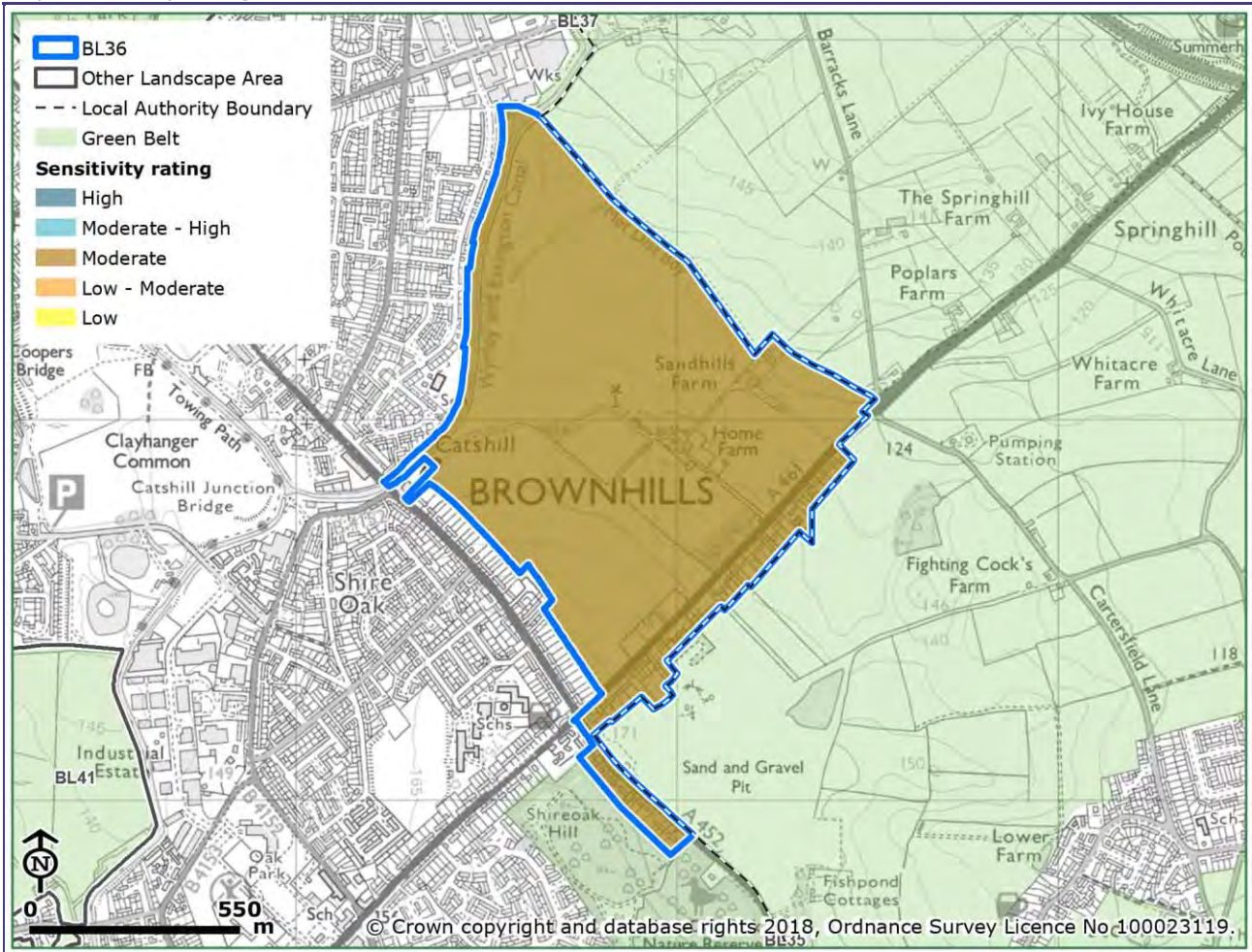
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

Sensitivity to residential development will increase to moderate-high on higher slopes at Shire Oak, where development would appear on the skyline and be visible over a wider area.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 131 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Landscape Area Reference BL37

Area Size (ha): 32.1ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

The area comprises farmland and isolated housing bordering the north eastern settlement fringe of Brownhills. It is bisected by the A5 Watling Street and is in close proximity to the M6 Toll, to the north and east. The boundaries of the parcel are formed by the Wyrley and Essington Canal (west), a disused railway line (north), Hanney Hay Road / Barracks Lane (east) and Lichfield Road (south).

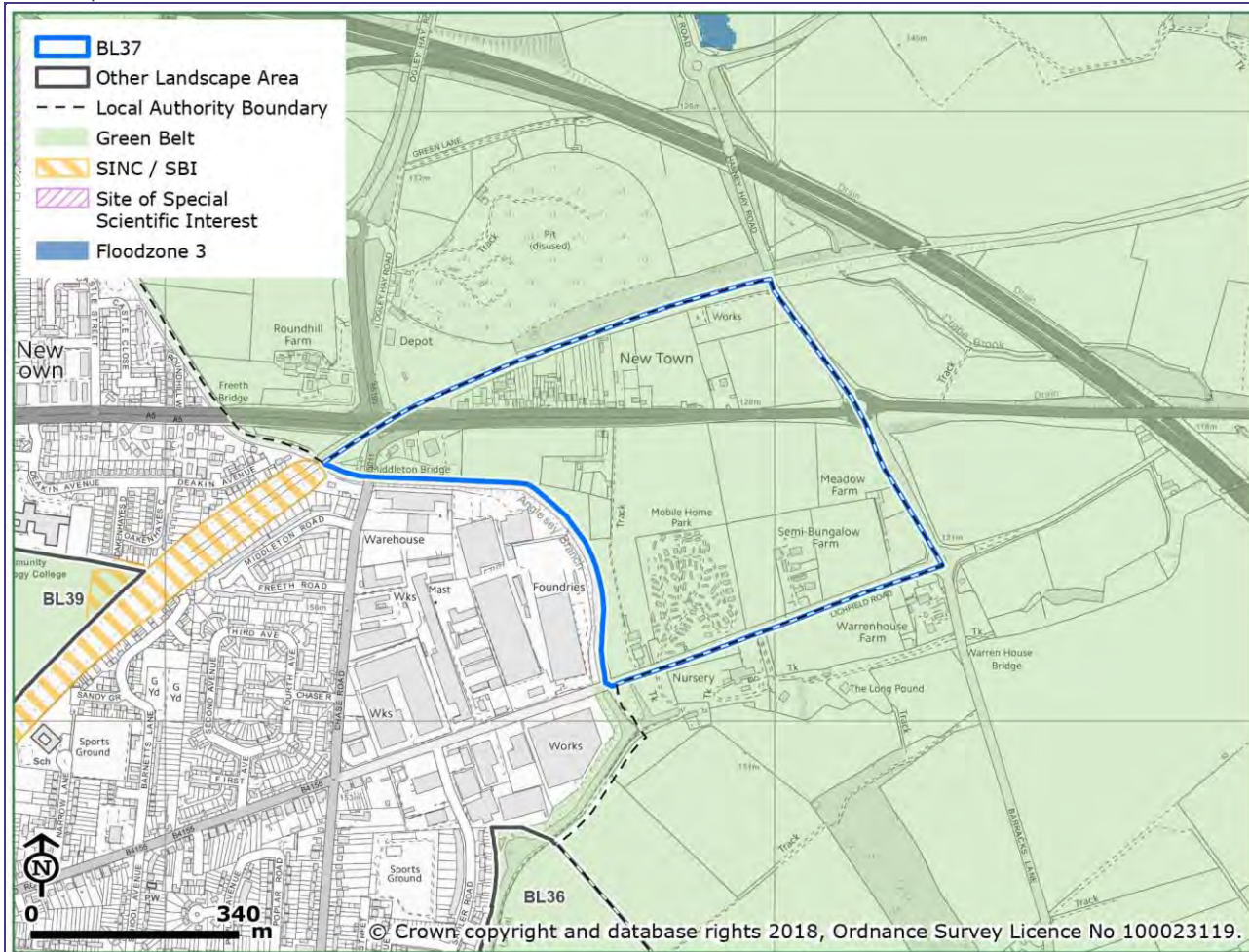
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



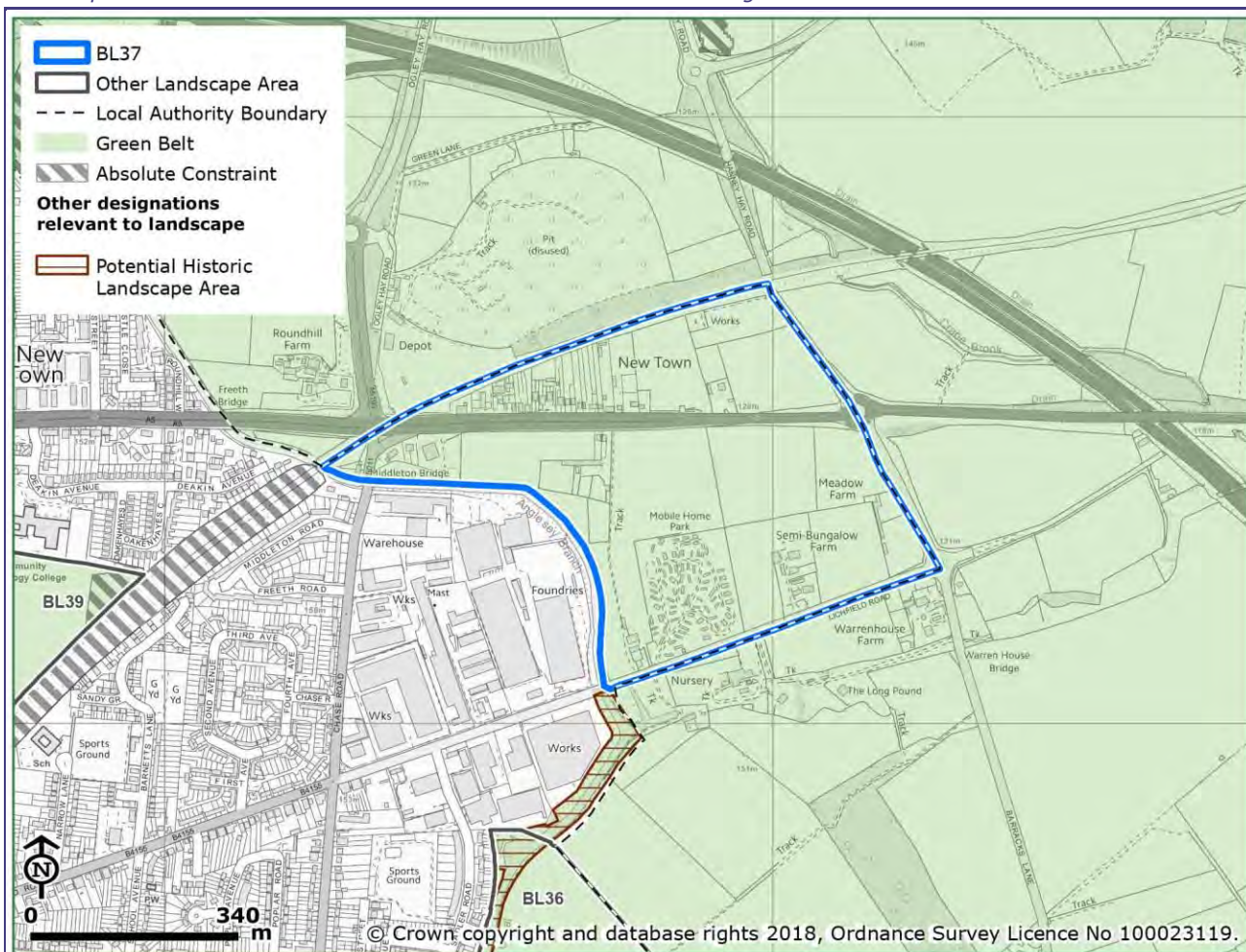
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale			A predominance of small scale fields and land divisions (generally under 5ha).
Landform	The landform falls gently from 145m AOD in the west to 135m AOD in the east and is predominantly gently undulating, with some isolated more pronounced undulations e.g. in the south-west where the land dips around Sandfield Park Mobile Home Park.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	Predominantly regular, rectilinear field patterns likely to date from 19th century enclosures.		
'Natural' character	A general absence of semi-natural habitat or valued natural features. A fragmented hedgerow network and isolated groups of trees (including within residential gardens) form the main habitat features. No priority habitats identified within the site.		
Built character	There is a variety of 19th and 20th century built form within the site, including farmsteads, a mobile home park and a linear housing along the route of the A5 (Watling Street). However, these are not features considered to make a positive contribution to landscape character. There are no designated heritage assets within the site. Watling Street is a Roman Road, although it has a modern appearance which does not contribute to landscape character.		
Recreational character	There are no PRowS and the area is not publicly accessible.		
Perceptual aspects	Some sense of rural character due to the farmed nature of most of the landscape, and also views out to the east towards more scenic neighbouring rural areas. The parcel is affected by significant road noise from the network of motorways and main roads in the immediate area.		

Settlement setting

The area provides some contribution as a rural backdrop/setting to adjacent settlement. There is a relatively prominent contrast between the large scale warehouse buildings on higher ground to the immediate west of the area and the predominant farmland and scattered housing within the landscape area.

Visual prominence

The area is relatively prominent due to the limited enclosure/screening and the fact that elevated views over the majority of the site are possible from surrounding roads.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

Little inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

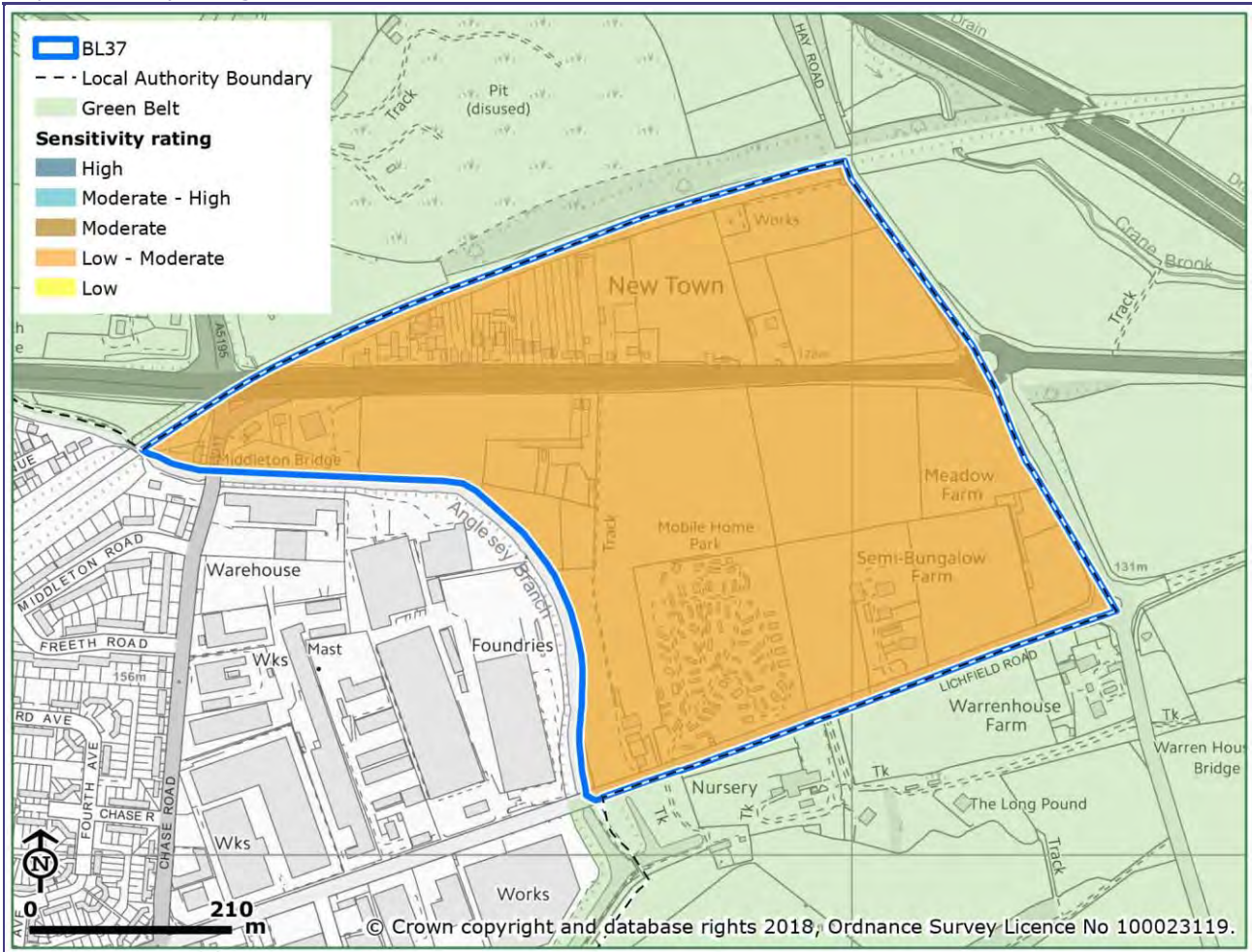
Landscape Assessment Area**Size (ha)****Rating****BL37s1****32.09****Low - Moderate****Landscape Sensitivity Judgement**

The majority of criteria score low/reduced sensitivity, however this is counterbalanced by the fact that this landscape is relatively open and visually prominent, and contains a predominance of small-scale fields, with some sense of rural character. Therefore, the overall sensitivity is considered to be low-moderate to residential and employment development.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating**List of Promoted Sites within Scenario**

Ref: 237 Watling Street (Employment and housing)

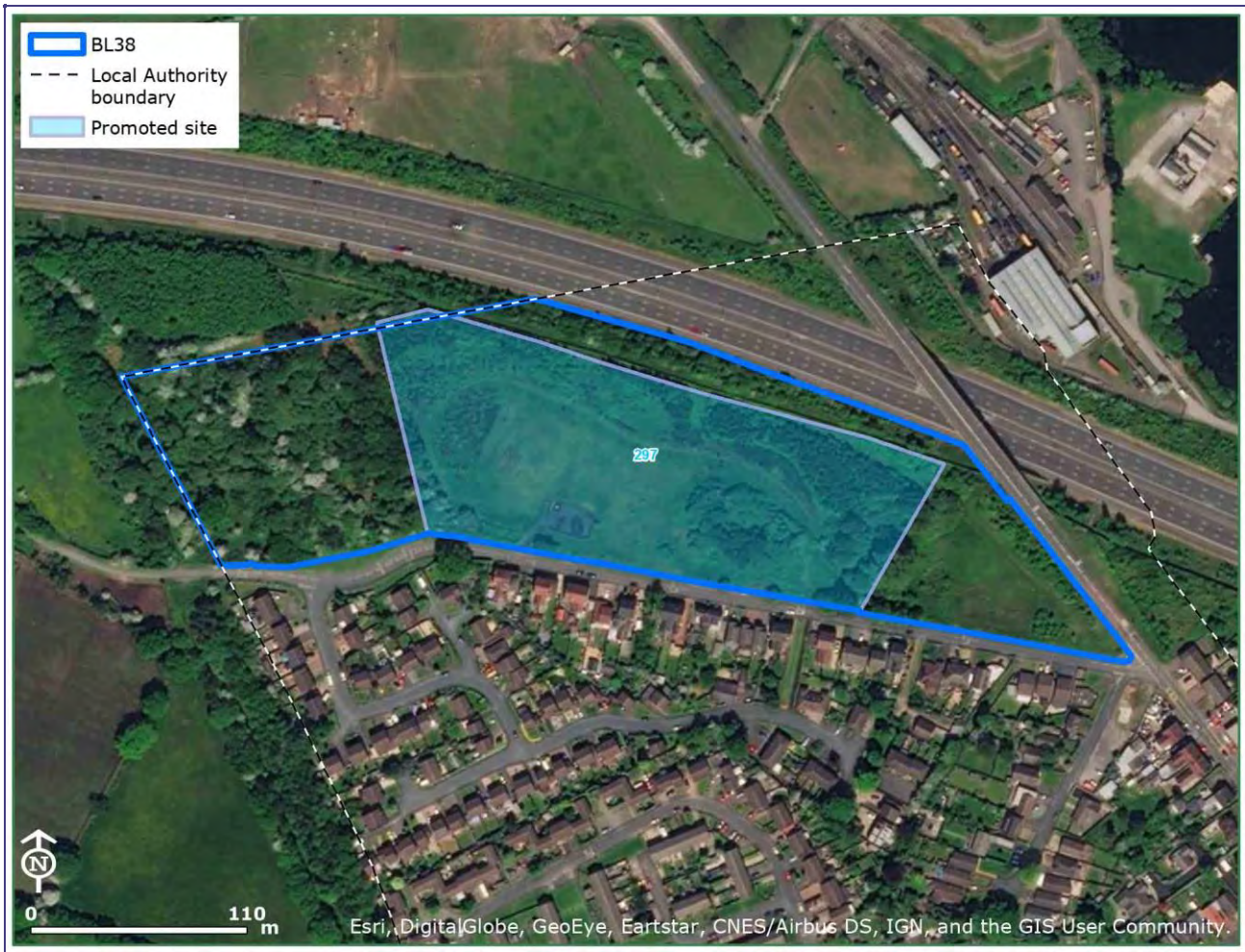
Landscape Sensitivity Rating



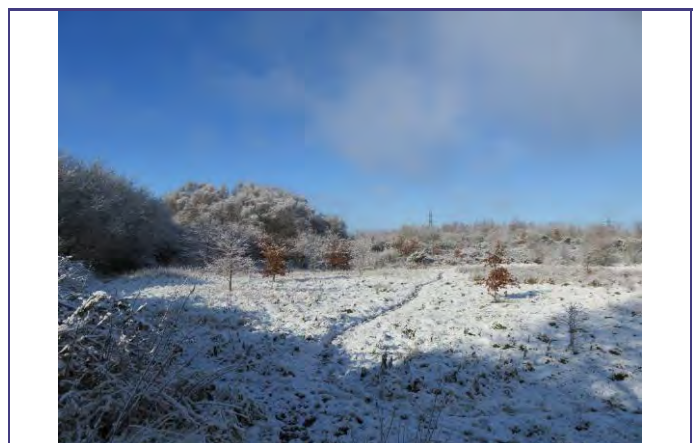
Location and Landscape Character Context

A small area of open land located between the northern edge of the Brownhills West settlement and the M6 toll motorway. The western boundary follows the borough boundary, the north the borough boundary and M6 toll, the southern boundary is formed by Albutts Road and the eastern boundary by Hednesford Road.

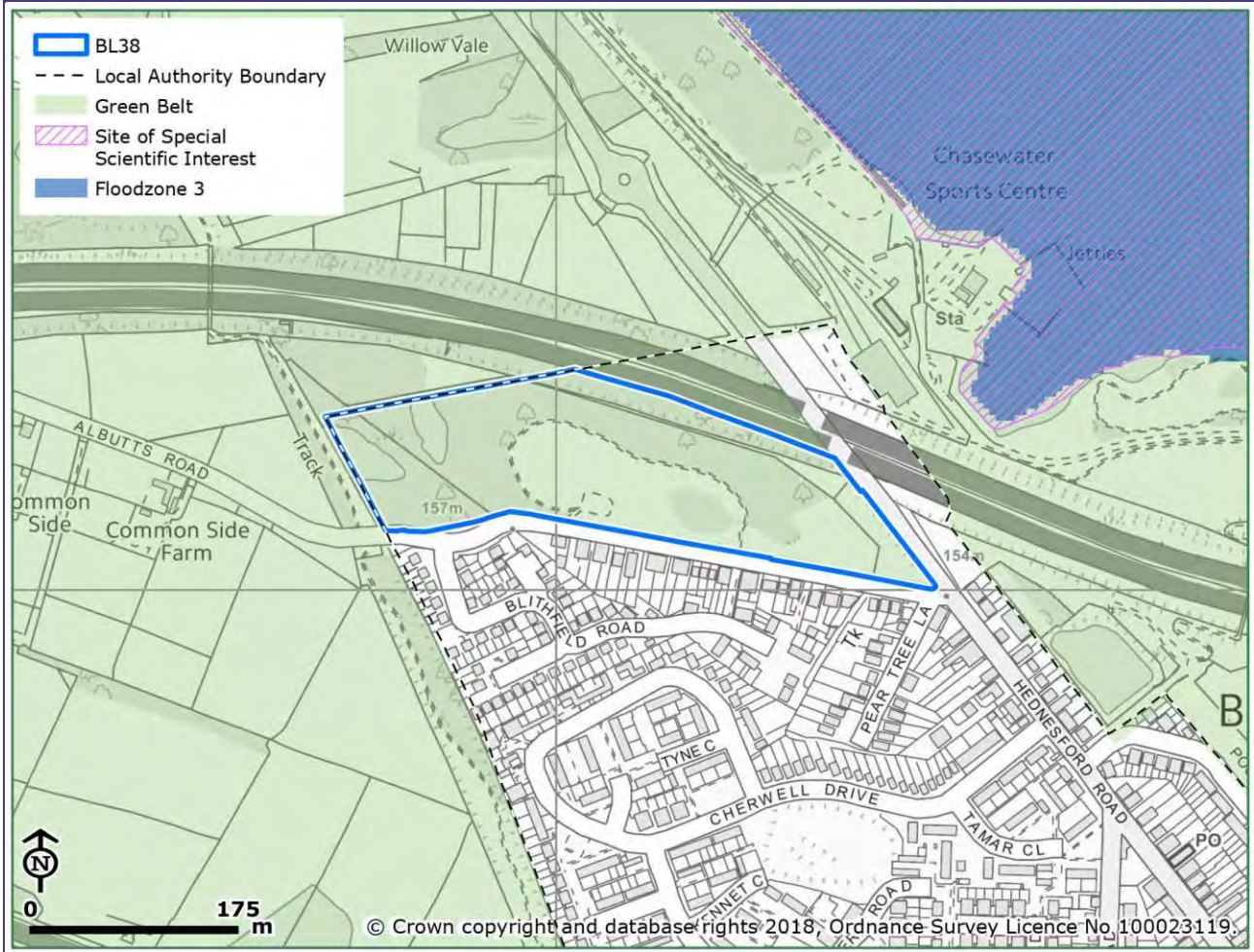
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



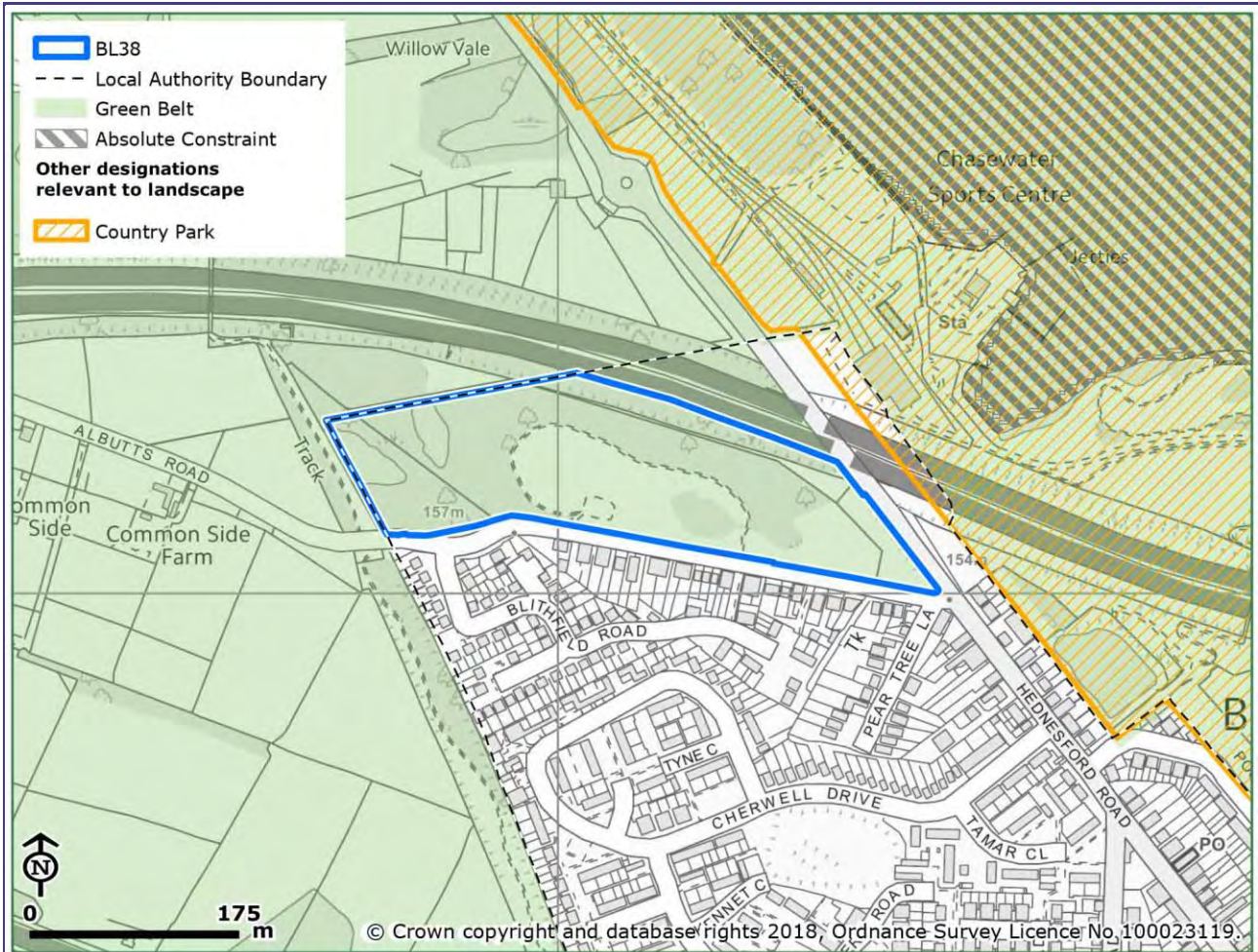
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale			The area comprises relatively small scale areas of woodland, amenity space and landscape buffer planting to the boundary with the M6 toll motorway.
Landform	The area is broadly flat, with artificial embankments associated with the M6 toll on the northern boundary and Hednesford Road on the eastern boundary.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	An area of mature deciduous woodland exists within the western part of the parcel, contributing to time depth. Other areas comprise immature landscape buffer planting on the motorway embankment and some open amenity land, with little time depth or landscape complexity.		
'Natural' character		The area of mature deciduous woodland is a valued natural feature and priority habitat. The remainder of the area also has a relatively natural character, comprising open land, mature tree groups and landscape buffer planting to the motorway embankment.	
Built character	The area contains no buildings and acts as a buffer of open space between existing housing on the edge of Brownhills West and the M6 toll. There is no built character to contribute to overall landscape character within the parcel however the presence of the motorway along the northern boundary is a detracting feature.		
Recreational character		No PROWs are present although the whole area appears to have informal recreational use, with a small central playground feature. A bridleway runs parallel to (but outside) the western boundary of the area.	
Perceptual aspects	Situated adjacent to the M6 toll and with consequent high levels of associated road noise and no particular rural character.		
Settlement setting		The area acts as a buffer of open space between existing housing on the edge of Brownhills West and the M6 toll. The planted embankments and more established woodland and other vegetation within the site provide	

screening to the motorway. As such it provides a degree of backdrop and setting to the edge of existing housing along Albutts Road.

Visual prominence The area is non-prominent, with significant enclosure by landform (artificial road embankments) and land cover, and does not have a visually distinctive skyline.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points Little or no inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL38s1	4.98	Low - Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape is considered to have overall low-moderate sensitivity to both residential and employment development, as the majority of the criteria score either low / reduced or moderate and no criteria override that judgement.

The landscape character and sensitivities continue across the borough boundary.

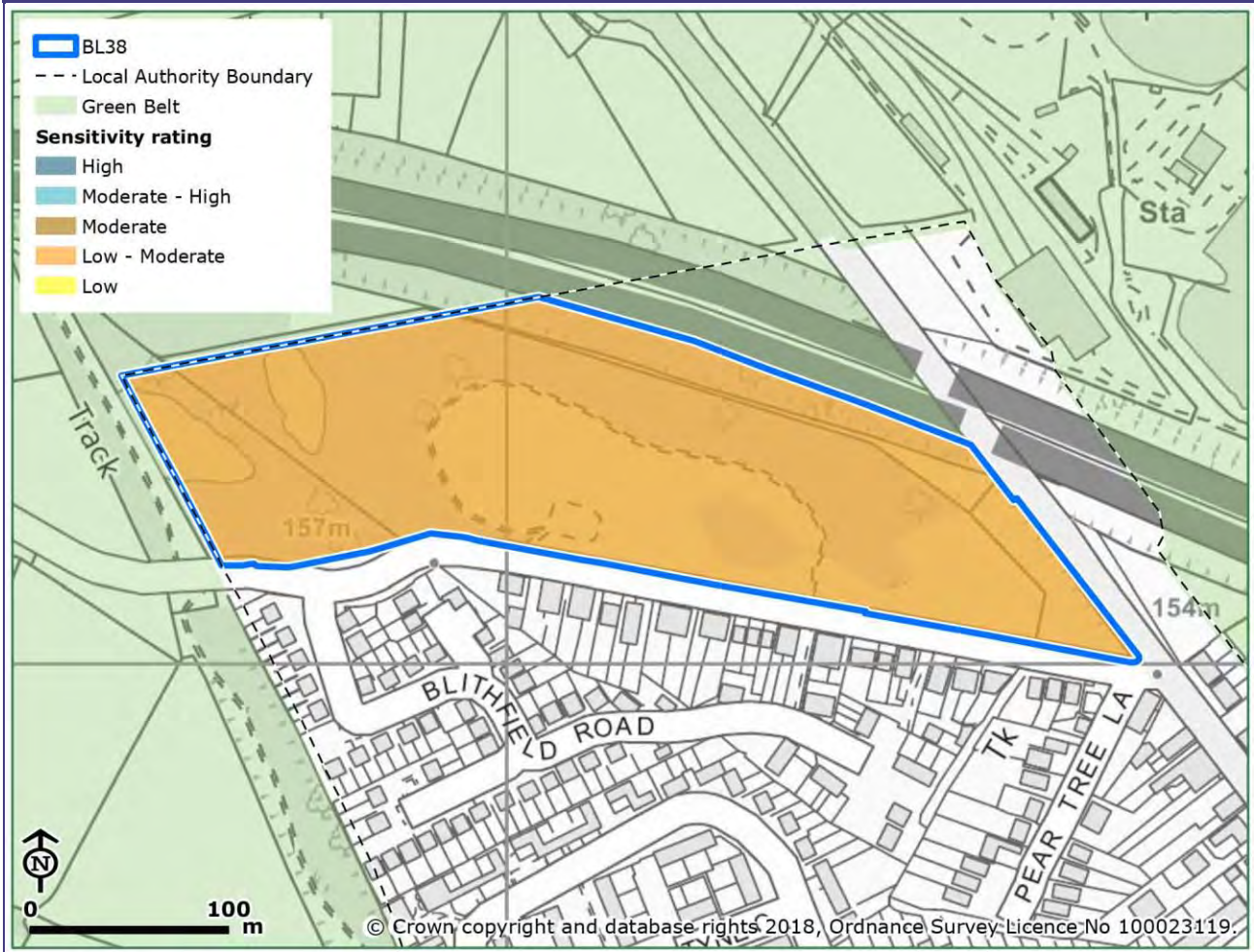
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

The area of mature deciduous woodland in the west of the parcel has a higher overall sensitivity due to its natural character and value as a priority habitat.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 297 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Location and Landscape Character Context

The area comprises a large area between the northern settlement fringes of Pelsall and Brownhills. It is bisected by the A452 Chester Road and contains extensive tracts of common land (Brownhills Common), with some arable farmland, horse paddocks and pasture. The northern and eastern boundaries are formed by the borough boundary. Other boundaries are formed by the settlement edge of Brownhills and Pelsall.

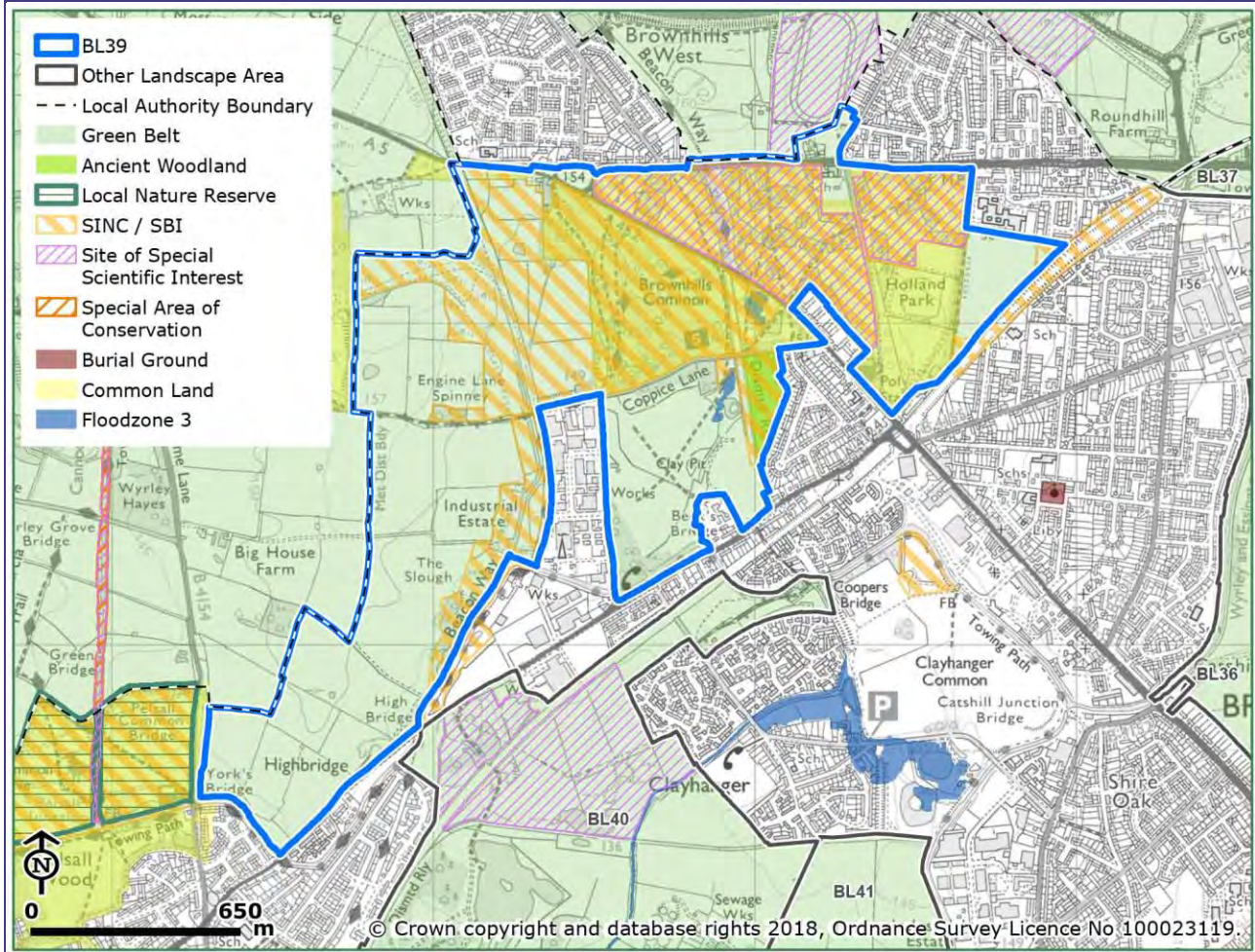
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



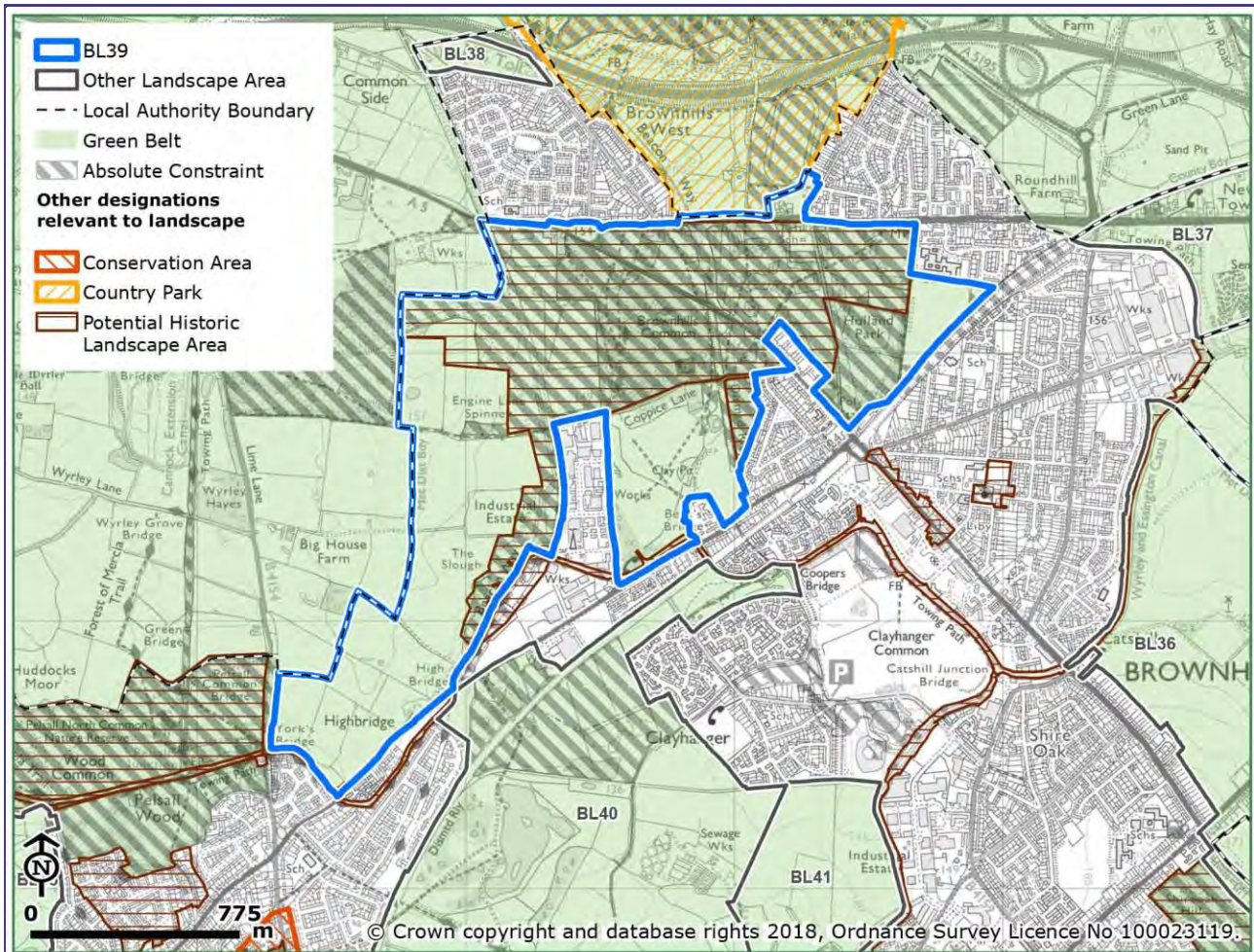
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		The agricultural fields in the west of the area are predominantly moderate scale, open arable fields enclosed by largely intact hedgerows.	The predominant lowland heath with scrub and woodland results in relatively small scale, intimate areas screened from one another.
Landform	The area is predominantly flat or gently undulating, with relatively little variation in topography.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	A relatively complex landscape pattern, with a range of semi-natural habitats adjoining one another and, in the west of the area, agricultural land defined by a largely intact field pattern. There is significant time depth to the landscape given the presence of ancient common land and the largely intact field pattern. There are two potential historic landscape areas: AHHLV2 Birch Grove Coppice and AHHLV8 Brownhills Common.		
'Natural' character	The area comprises extensive and intact areas of priority habitats including lowland heath, deciduous woodland, good quality semi-natural grassland and lowland fens. The area contains the Chasewater and the Southern Staffordshire Coalfield Heaths SSSI, notified for its wet and dry lowland heath, fens and standing open water. The area is also designated as Brownhills Common SINC, and a small part of the Walsall to Lichfield Railway Line SINC.		
Built character	Buildings are largely absent from this area, which is located adjacent to some modern development including the Coppice Side Industrial Estate and a range of 20th century housing; none of which make a significant contribution to landscape character.		
Recreational character	The area has high recreational value due to the presence of a large area of Open Access / Common Land at Brownhills Common, Holland Park and cricket ground, and a network of PRoWs including the Beacon Way Recreational Route.		

Perceptual aspects

Extensive parts of the area, including the heathland and woodland, together with the farmland, have a degree of natural and/or rural character and a sense of relative tranquillity (particularly in the west). However, signs of human activity and modern development are present around the fringes of the area, typically in the form of road noise and/or views of modern buildings, such as housing and the Coppice Side Industrial Estate.

Settlement setting

Brownhills Common contributes positively to the setting of surrounding 20th century housing, providing an attractive backdrop and, by its nature as ancient common land, a sense of place. Other areas within the parcel also provide an attractive backdrop to settlement by virtue of their undeveloped and intact rural character. The Wyrley & Essington Canal provides a strong boundary feature along the settlement edge to the south.

Visual prominence

A combination of prominent (open) and less prominent (semi-enclosed) areas. Given the relatively flat landform, visual enclosure is predominantly defined by landcover (extensive areas of scrub and woodland).

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

There is little or no inter-visibility with designated landscapes or promoted viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL39s1	191.36	Moderate - High

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape is considered to have moderate-high overall sensitivity to residential development as the majority of the criteria score either moderate or greater and no criteria override that judgement. The landscape character of the farmed landscape to the west with its intact field pattern and mature boundary hedgerows and trees extends across the borough boundary into Cannock Chase District.

The landscape is considered to have a moderate-high sensitivity to employment development. Large scale development would disrupt the complex pattern of natural and historic features, and the contribution of the area to the setting of Pelsall and Brownhills. However, modern development around the fringes of the area, including the Coppice Side Industrial Estate reduces sensitivity locally.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating**List of Promoted Sites within Scenario**

Ref: 152 (Housing); Ref: 220 (Housing)

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL39s2	29.03	Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

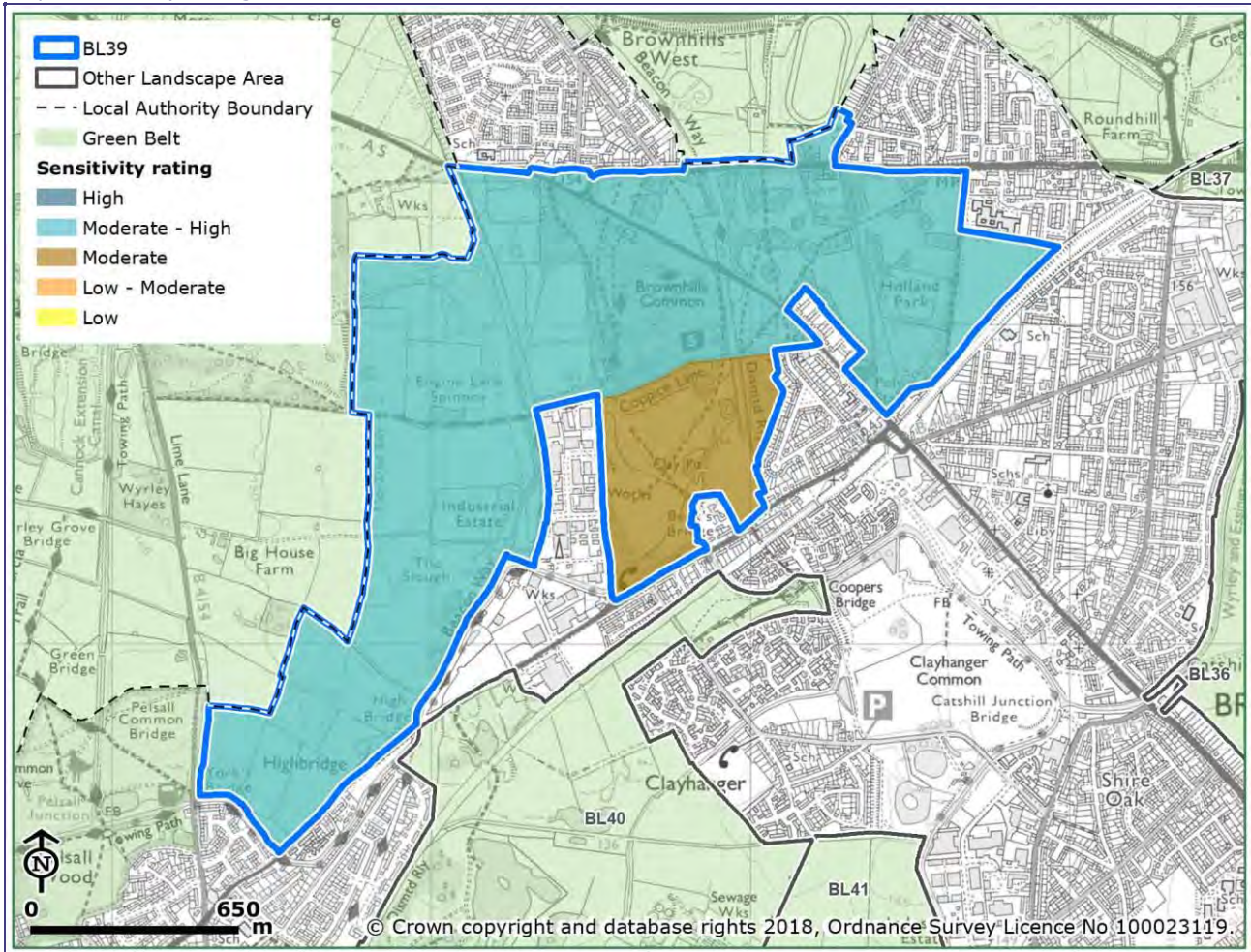
Due to its visual enclosure and former landuse which has eroded time depth, and loss of access routes, the land within the former Birch Coppice minerals site have moderate sensitivity to residential development, outside those areas of priority habitat deciduous woodland that surround the perimeter of the site.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Location and Landscape Character Context

The area comprises open land in predominantly agricultural use, situated between the eastern settlement boundary of Pelsall (delineated by the South Staffordshire disused railway line, now a cycle route) and the northern settlement boundary of Shelfield and High Heath. It is bisected north to south by the course of the Ford Brook.

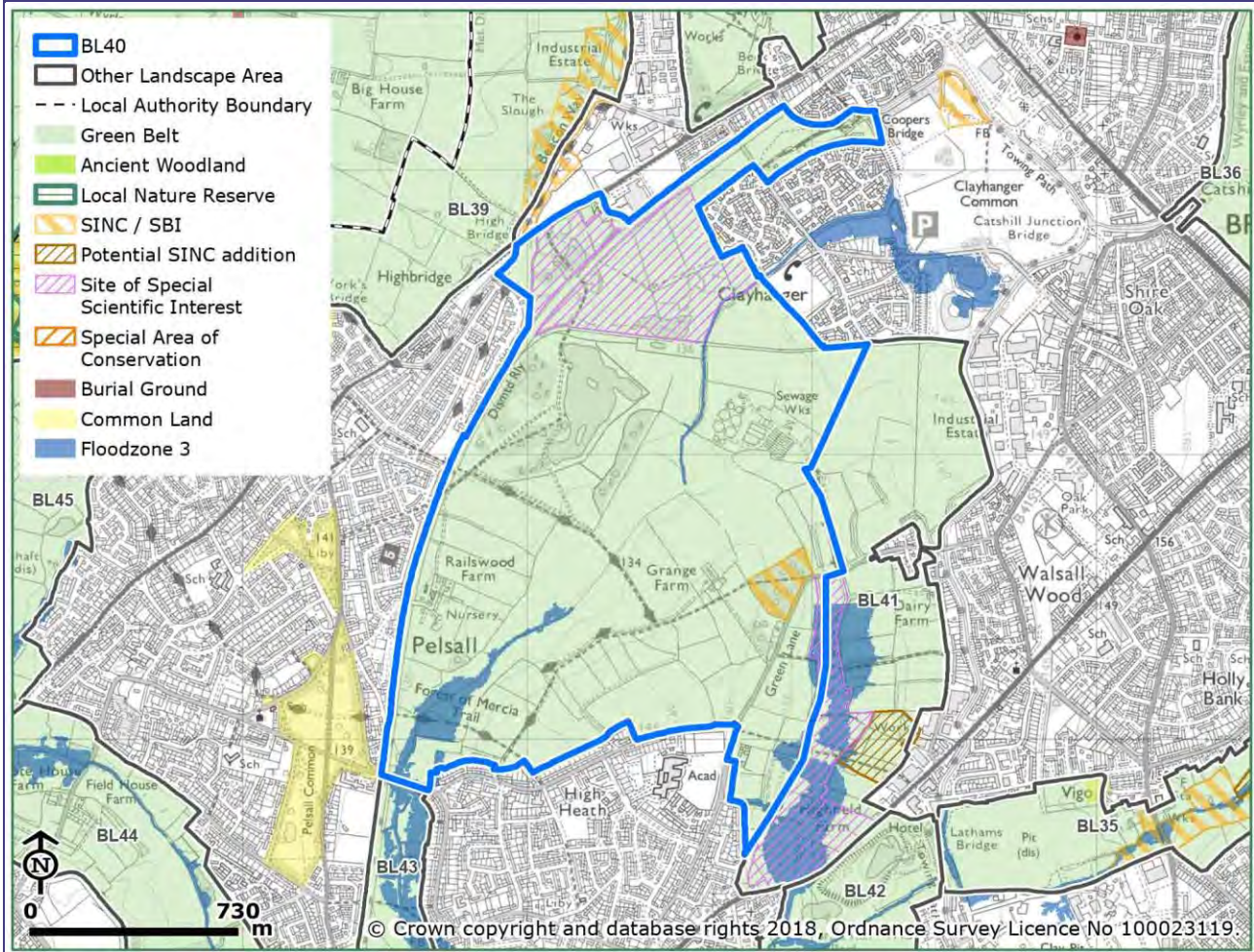
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



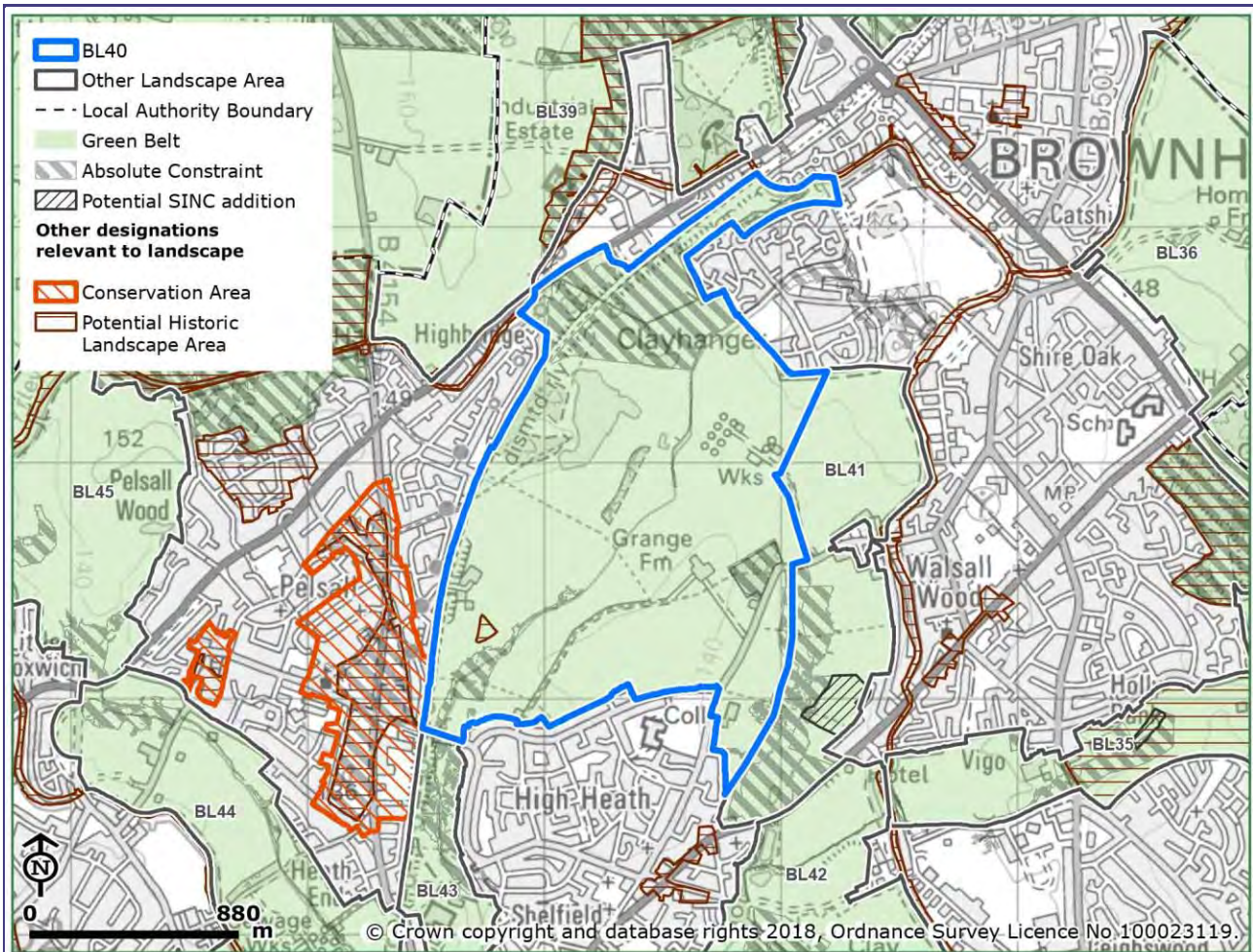
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		A mixture of smaller-scale fields and larger scale fields and land divisions.	
Landform	This is a gently undulating area with little distinct topographical variety, except the gently sloping valley sides of the Ford Brook.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	A predominance of 19th century (and possibly earlier) field systems, uncultivated open land and recently restored mineral workings (in the north) provide a mixed sense of time depth to the landscape. Regular and irregular field boundaries, comprising a mixture of intact and partially intact (gappy) hedgerows and hedgerow trees. Rails Wood is a potential historic landscape area AHHLV12.		
'Natural' character	Areas of valued semi-natural habitats including priority habitat deciduous woodland, lowland fens, lowland meadows, traditional orchard, floodplain grazing marsh and purple moor grass and rush pastures. The area contains the Clayhanger SSSI, one of the best wetland sites in the West Midlands, and a small part of Jockey Fields SSSI, which is important for its wetland flora and avian fauna. Grange Farm Wood SINC is designated for its deciduous woodland, and the area also contains the Ford Brook.		
Built character	There is little built form in the area, with the exception of dispersed farmsteads (Grange Farm and Railswood Farm) and a modern sewage works. The only designated heritage asset within the area is the locally listed Railswood Drive Bridge over the South Staffs disused railway line, on the western site boundary with Pelsall. The eastern boundary of Pelsall Common Conservation Area abuts the south western edge of the area however the disused railway line forms a barrier between the area and the Conservation Area.		

Recreational character	Some PROWs cross the site, including the Forest of Mercia Trail (recreational route). There are also allotments in the south-eastern corner of the area, accessed from Greenfields Road.
Perceptual aspects	The area has a relatively strong sense of rural character and tranquillity, particularly where the settlement boundaries to the south and west are not prominent. Green Lane in the south east is the only road within the area.
Settlement setting	The area provides some positive contribution as a rural gap between and backdrop to the adjacent settlements of Pesall, Shelfield and Walsall Wood. Although the majority of the surrounding settlement is not historic, its edges are generally strongly defined, and new development within this parcel may have a poor relationship with the existing settlement edges. This is particularly evident along the western boundary of the area due to the disused railway line.
Visual prominence	A mixture of prominent and non-prominent areas, with some significant enclosure provided by vegetation and the gentle valley landform, with no visually distinctive skylines. The presence of larger fields increases the openness of the landscape.
Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points	Little or no inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL40s1	253.93	Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape is considered to have an overall moderate sensitivity to residential and employment development, as the majority of the criteria score moderate and the low score criteria have a limited influence on the overall judgement. The relatively strong sense of rurality and tranquillity in extensive parts of the area are aspects of greater/ high sensitivity.

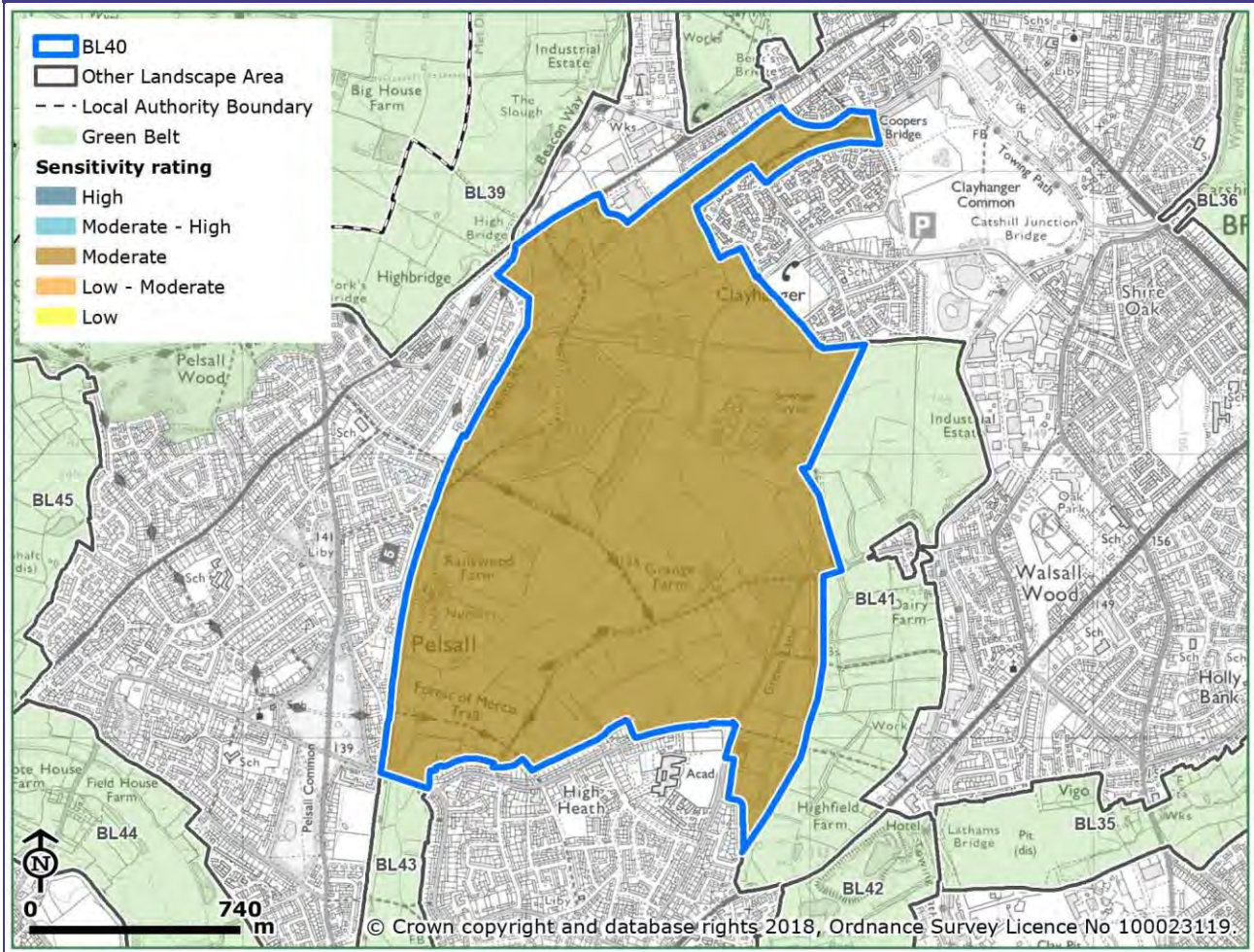
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

The SSSIs and SINC have a moderate-high overall sensitivity.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 213 (Housing); Ref: 221 (Housing); Ref: 266 (Housing); Ref: 279 (Employment and housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Landscape Area Reference BL41

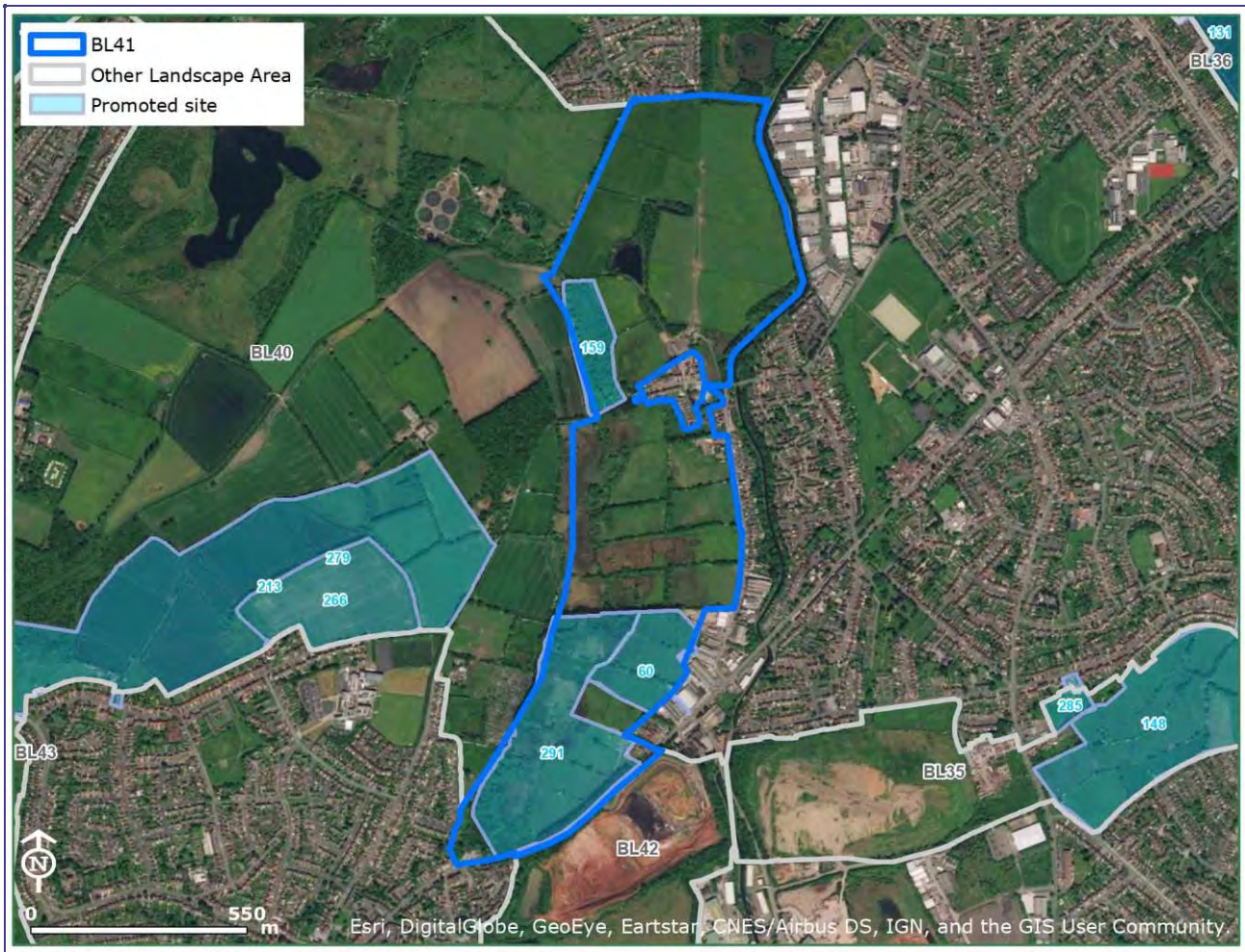
Area Size (ha): 77.4ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

This area falls within the following Landscape Character Type: Coalfield Farmlands.

This is a narrow site bounded to the east by housing and industrial development on the edge of Walsall Wood, and the Rushall Canal (Daw End Branch). The western boundary is formed by adjacent farmland stretching westwards towards Pelsall.

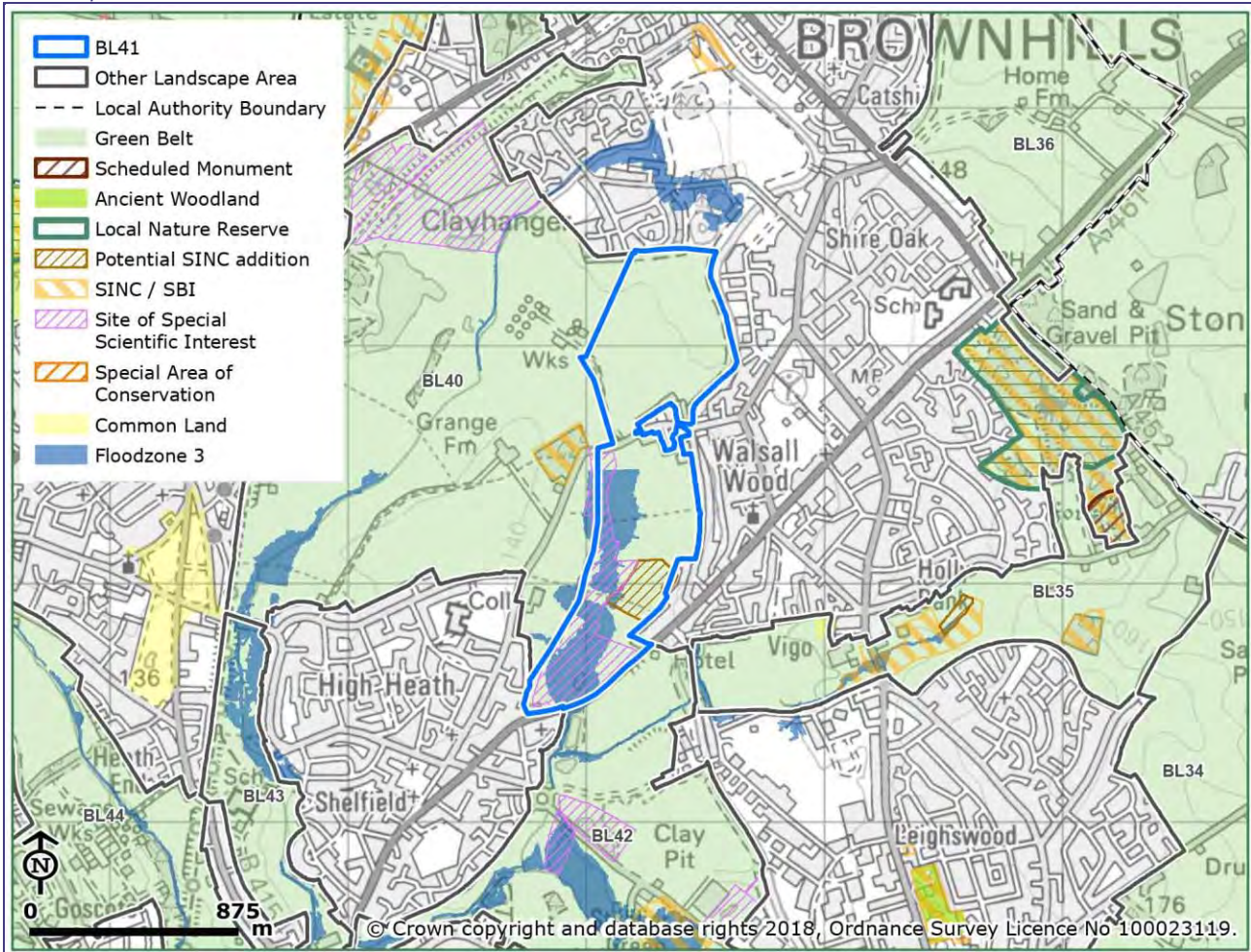
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



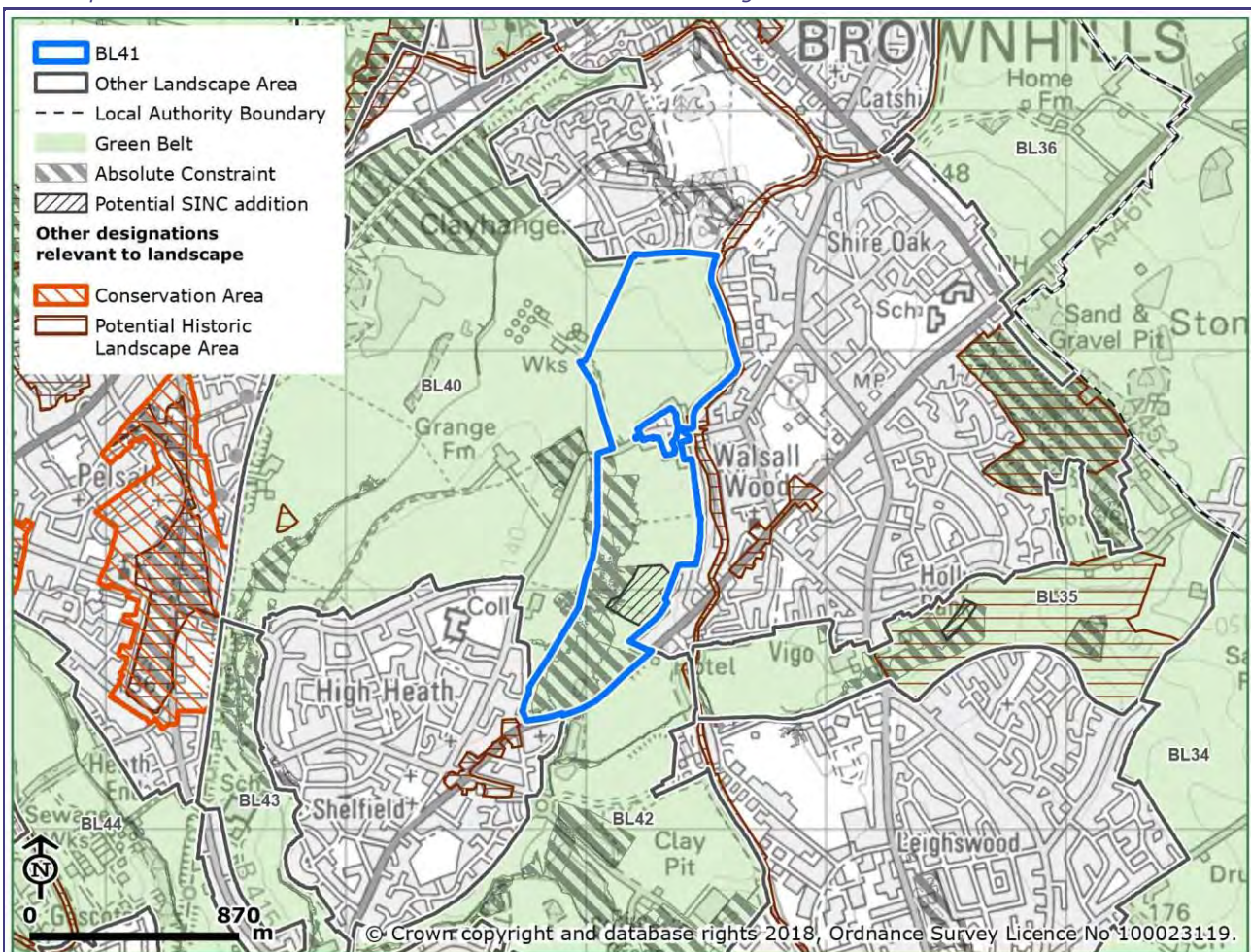
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale			A predominance of small scale field systems.
Landform		Gently sloping valley topography, with a ridge of slightly higher land visible to the east (edge of Walsall Wood) viewed from Green Lane.	
Landscape pattern and time depth			Predominantly regular field patterns, characterised by some substantial, mature hedgerow boundaries providing time depth. The small scale fields, enclosure and typically pastoral land cover also provides significant time depth to the landscape.
'Natural' character			A substantial part of the south of the area falls within the Jockey's Fields SSSI, which is important for its wetland flora and avian fauna populations. The rest of Jockey's Fields is a potential SINCC. Priority habitats present include purple moor grass and rush pastures, lowland fens and deciduous woodland. The mature hedgerow network is another valued natural feature.
Built character	There is little built form within the area, except some dispersed farmsteads along its eastern edge. The area contains no designated heritage assets. Built residential and industrial form of Walsall Wood influences the eastern edge of the area.		
Recreational character		Two footpaths cross the site east to west, and the boundary in the north west is formed by a byway. Other areas are not publicly accessible.	
Perceptual aspects		There is some sense of rural character and relatively strong tranquillity, but with some signs of human activity and modern development (e.g. views to industrial estate development on the edge of Walsall Wood).	
Settlement setting		The area provides some positive contribution as a backdrop to the adjacent settlement and part of the rural gap between Walsall Wood, High Heath and Pelsall. Although this surrounding settlement is not historic, its	

edges are generally strongly defined, and new development within this parcel may have a poor relationship with this existing settlement edge.

Visual prominence

A mixture of prominent and non-prominent areas, with significant enclosure provided by vegetation (hedgerows and woodland) in the south of the area and the gentle valley landform, with no visually distinctive skylines.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

Little or no inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL41s1	77.37	Moderate - High

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape is considered to have overall moderate-high sensitivity to both residential and employment development. The majority of the criteria score is moderate, with the natural character and scale criteria scoring high sensitivity, based on the predominance of small-scale pasture fields with mature hedgerow boundaries and the presence of the Jockey's Fields SSSI.

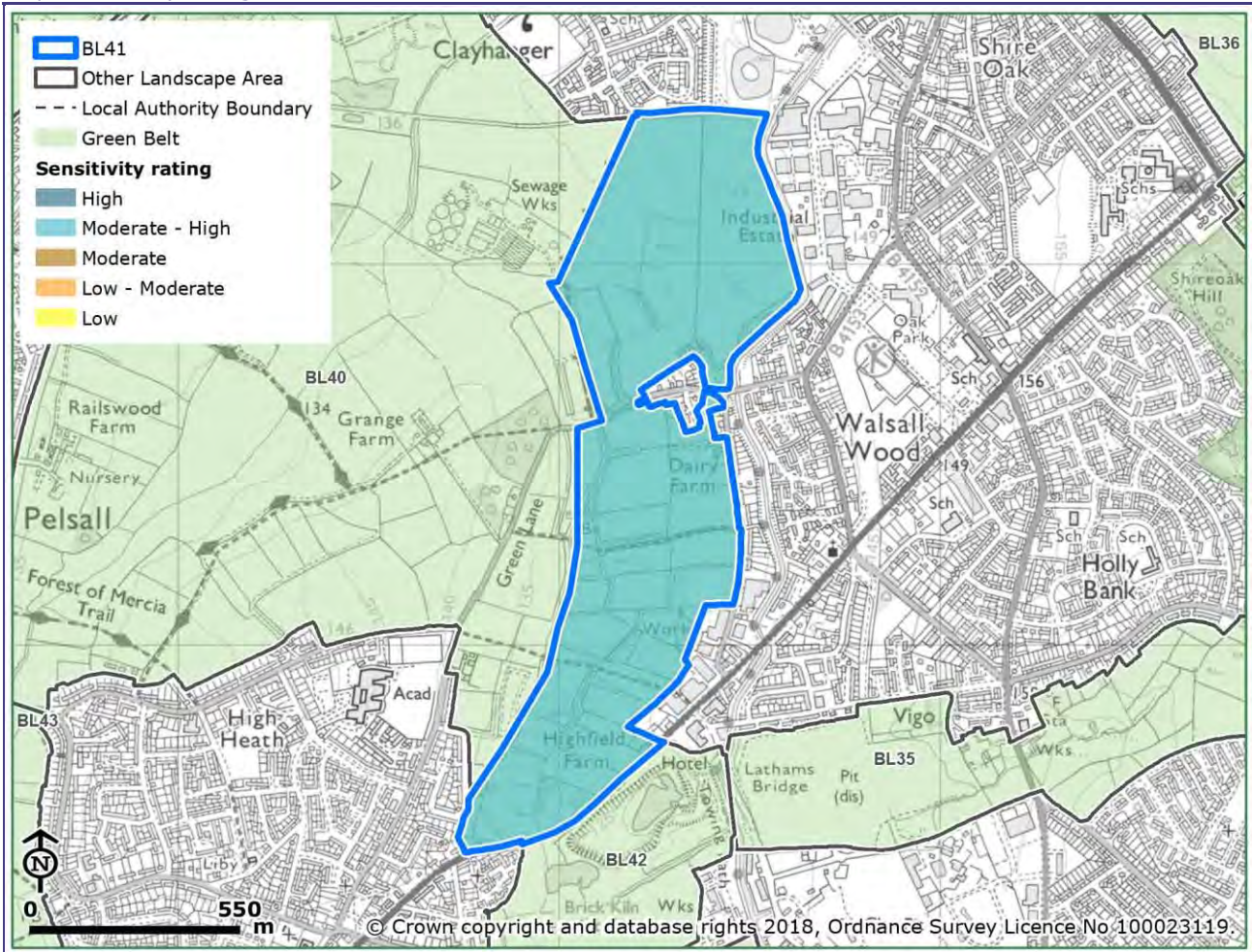
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

Some of the fields in the northern part of the area (north of Green Lane) are considered to have a moderate overall sensitivity due to their larger scale and fewer valued natural features.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 60 (Housing); Ref: 159 (Housing); Ref: 291 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



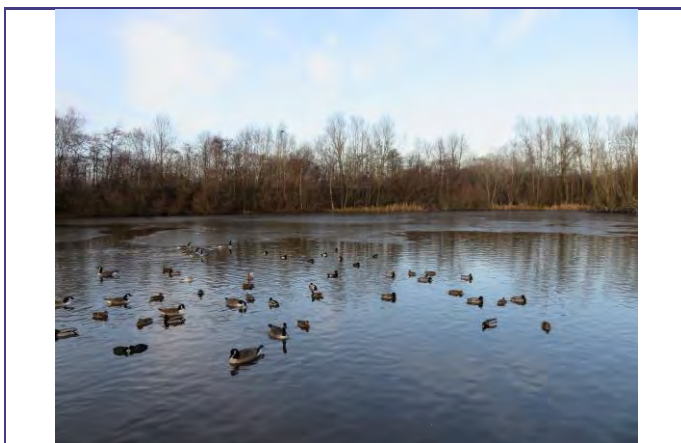
Location and Landscape Character Context

The area comprises open land, including active mineral extraction sites, between the settlement edges of Walsall Wood, Aldridge, Rushall and Shelfield. Part of the eastern boundary is formed by the route of the Rushall Canal (Daw End branch). Streams and pools (flooded extraction pits) characterise parts of this landscape, which is bisected by Stubber's Green Road, running north west / south east between Aldridge and Shelfield.

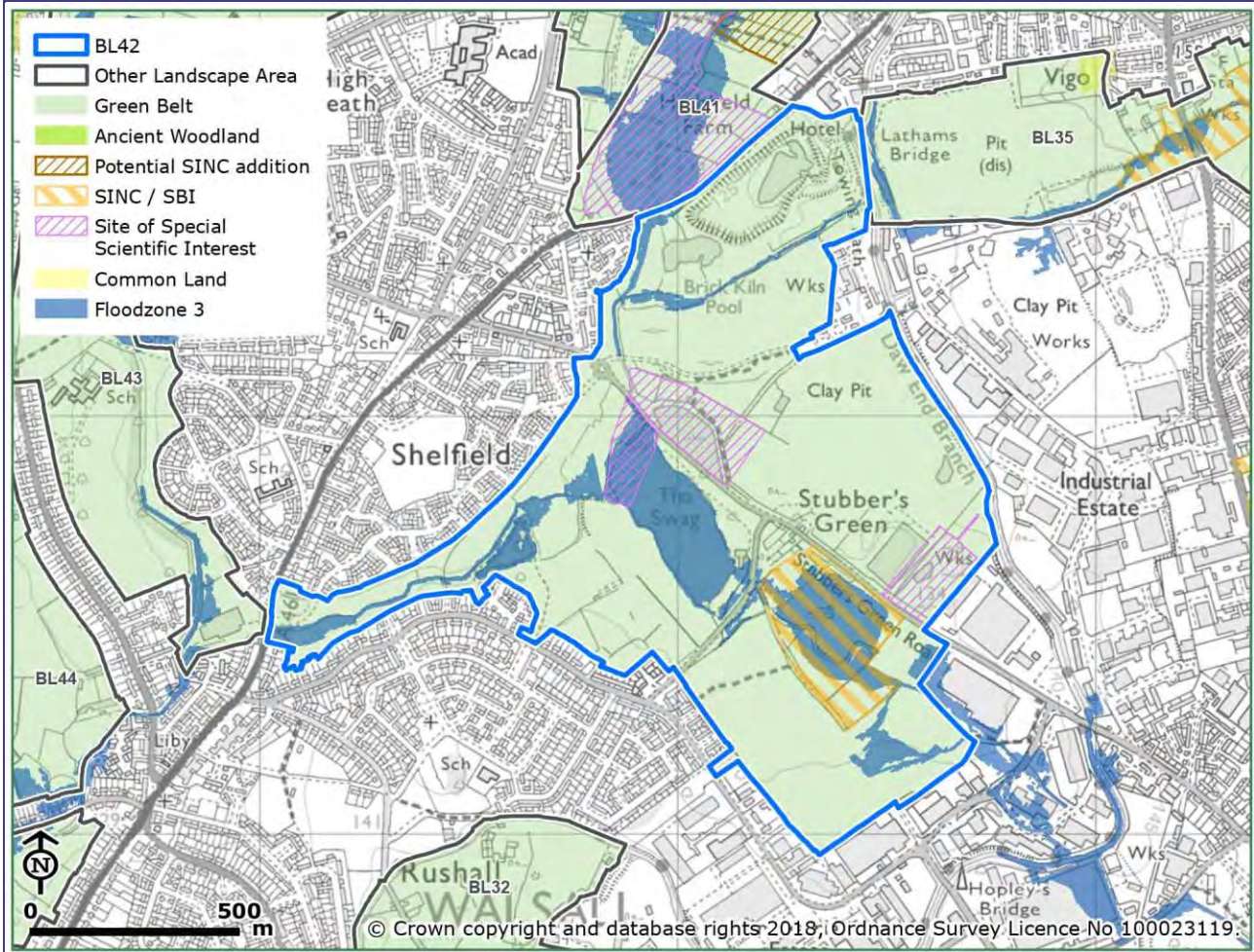
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



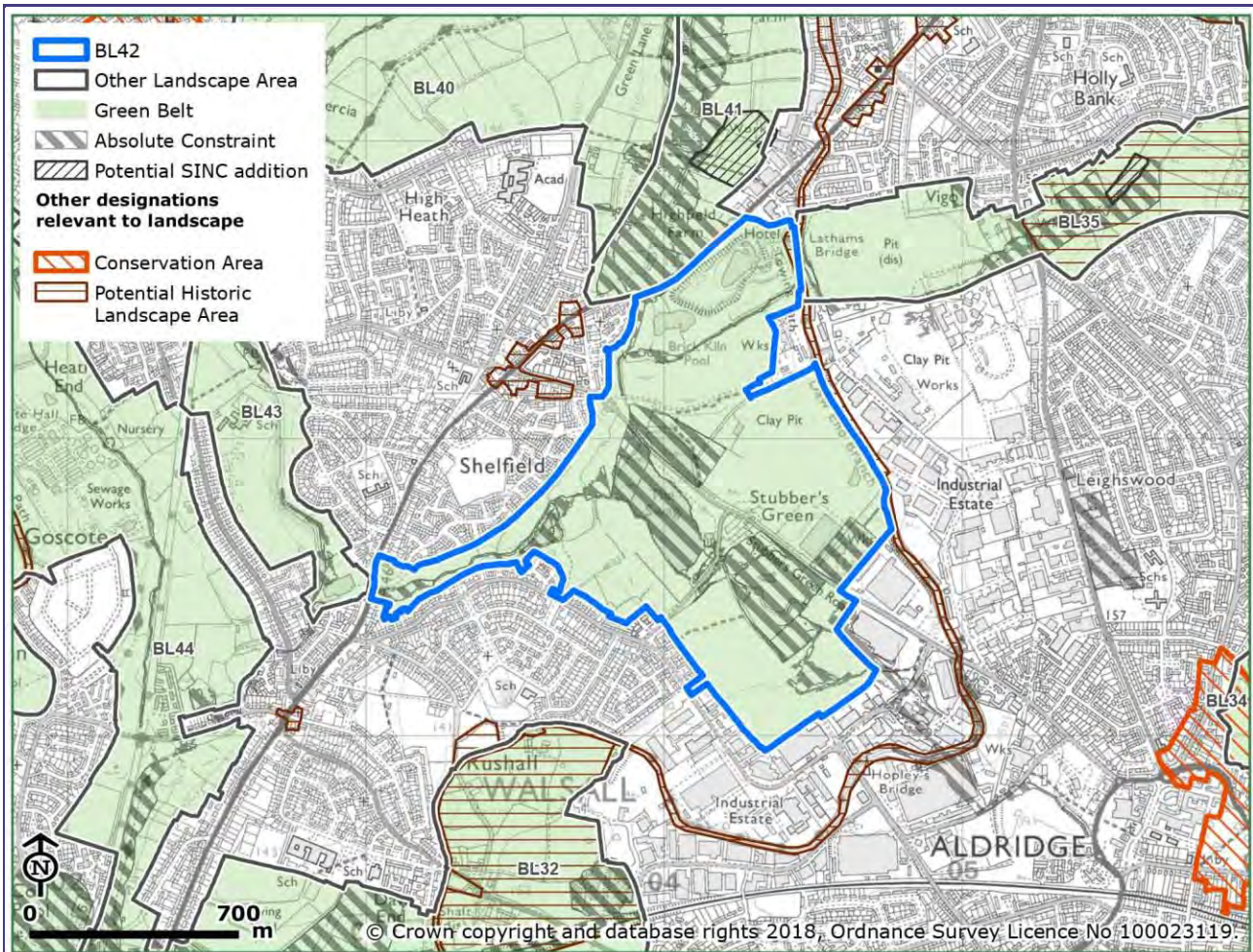
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		A mixture of smaller scale fields and land divisions, and larger scale areas such as the active clay extraction pits.	
Landform	Broadly flat landform, with little variety except the stream corridor in the south west of the area. The landform is disrupted by the substantial clay extraction pits.		
Landscape pattern and time depth		Mixture of field systems and scrub/ pasture/ open land associated with flood plain and 19th/ 20th century mineral extraction industry. This continuity of land use, including brick making industry, since 19th century provides a degree of time depth to the landscape.	
'Natural' character			The area contains two designated SSSIs: Swan Pool and The Swag, and Stubbers Green Bog, which are important for their flora and avian fauna populations. There is also a separate Stubber's Green SINC, and relatively extensive areas of priority habitats, including floodplain grazing marsh, lowland fen, semi-improved grassland and deciduous woodland.
Built character	This is little built form within the area, and no designated heritage assets. Buildings are restricted to large modern industrial/ warehouse structures and 19th/20th century housing along Stubber's Green Road, and at Aldridge Sailing Club on The Swag. Surrounding development is predominantly modern housing and industry.		
Recreational character		There are few PRoWs within the area, although it appears there is informal recreational use of the stream corridor area in the west, and the area around The Swag SSSI. The remainder of the area is private land which is not publicly accessible private land (extraction sites/ SSSIs/ farmland).	
Perceptual aspects	Clay working pits form visible and audible signs of human activity within the eastern parts of the area as well as modern development from the adjacent settlements.	Some more tranquil areas result from the natural features of the area.	

Settlement setting

The area provides some contribution as a backdrop/setting to the adjacent settlement; particularly the relatively scenic stream corridor which separates edge of settlement housing at Shelfield and Rushall. The extensive extraction sites (some still in operation), although forming part of the gap between Shelfield and Aldridge, are an unattractive backdrop, primarily due to industrial development to the south and east.

Visual prominence

The area is characterised by a mixture of enclosed, semi-enclosed and more open areas. Enclosure is provided by the belts and blocks of trees scattered throughout the area, in combination with the broadly flat landform. More open areas include those around the large expanse of water known as The Swag, and the working clay pits.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

Little inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area**Size (ha)****Rating****BL42s1****128.4****Moderate****Landscape Sensitivity Judgement**

The landscape is considered to have overall moderate sensitivity to residential and employment development. Whilst there are some criteria indicating a low-moderate sensitivity, this is counter balanced by the higher sensitivity of natural character, with semi-natural habitats and statutory sites extending across large parts of the area.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

The two statutory SSSIs have a high overall sensitivity, and would be likely to require a buffer to any new development. The large scale working clay pits are of low overall sensitivity, as they have none of the positive characteristics or designations which apply to the remainder of the landscape area.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

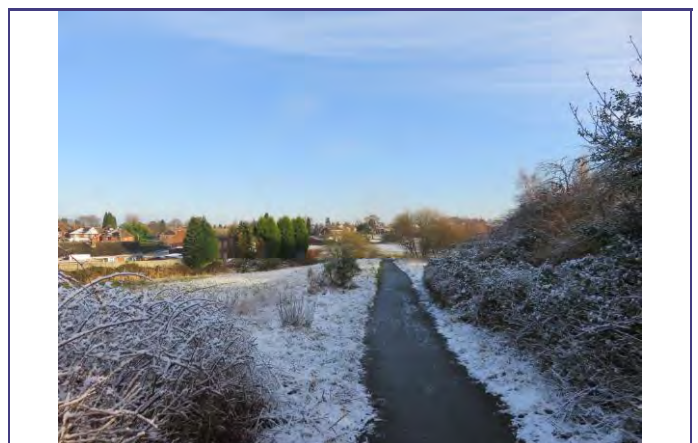
Location and Landscape Character Context

The site comprises a narrow area of open land characterised by the channel of the Ford Brook (running broadly north-south), between the south eastern settlement edge of Pelsall and the western settlement edge of Shelfield. The site boundaries are defined by these edges, and in the north west, by the route of a former railway line (now a cycle route).

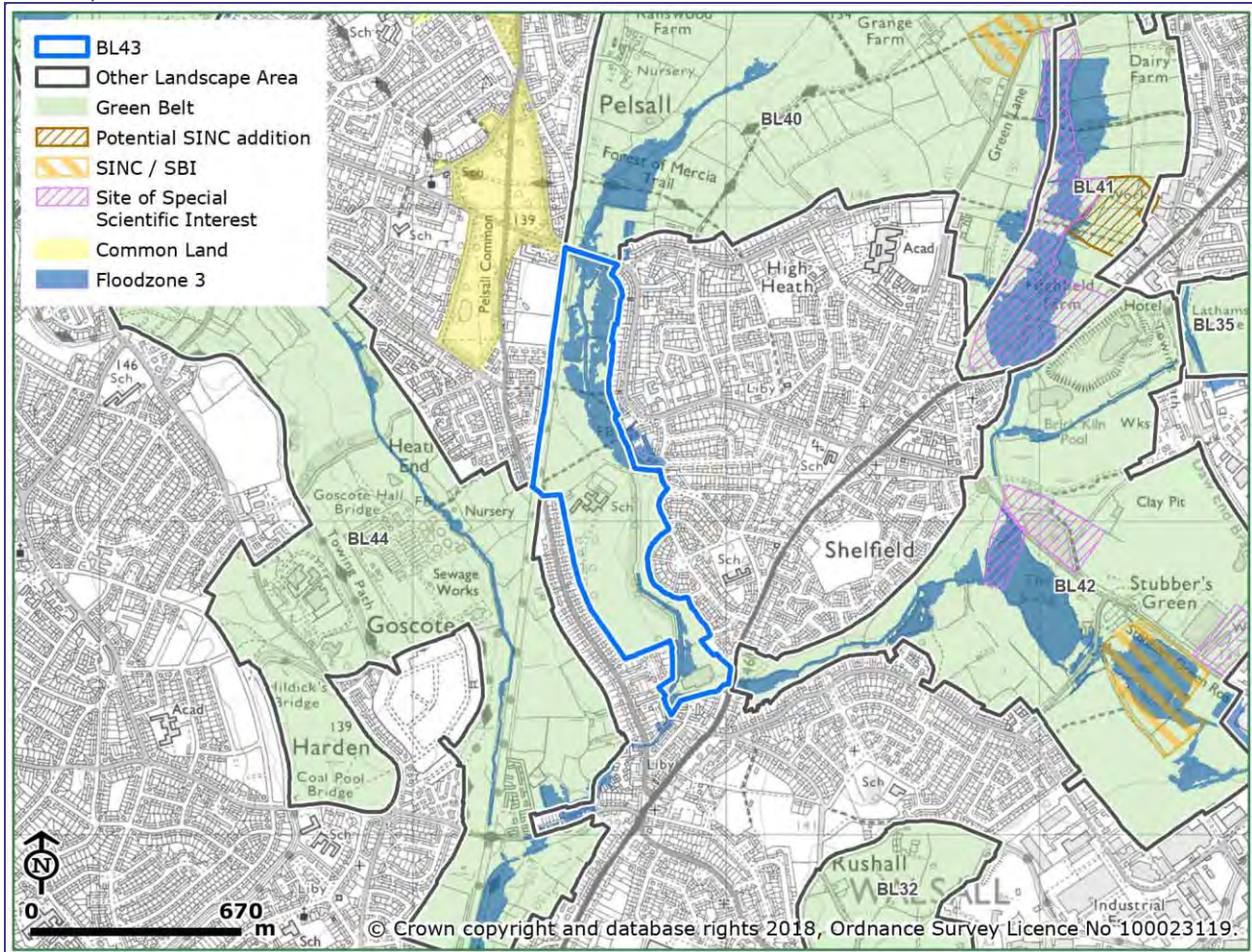
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



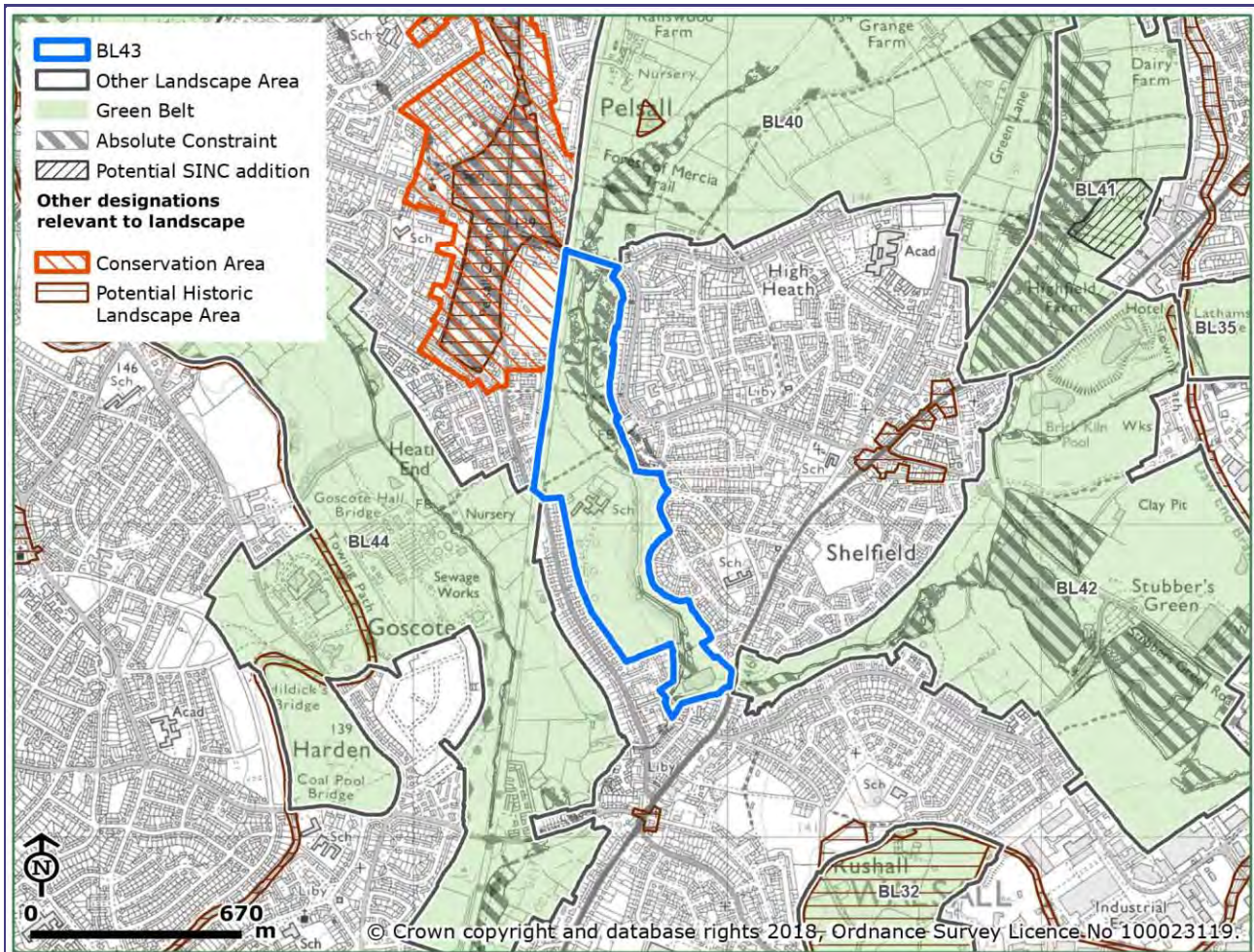
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale			Small scale fields or land divisions, generally under 5ha.
Landform		Gently sloping valley landform associated with Ford Brook.	
Landscape pattern and time depth		Mixture of simple and more complex landscape field patterns. The area appears to have historically comprised field systems within the floodplain. The southern area is dominated by a modern school and playing fields, with a partly wooded stream corridor. In the north, small fields exist, some of which are used for horse paddocks, with straight post and wire fencing.	
'Natural' character		The area contains some valued semi-natural habitats, notably floodplain grazing marsh following the Ford Brook and deciduous woodland. Other areas, including the school playing field, have limited natural character and value.	
Built character	Built form within the area is restricted to a large, modern school building in the centre of the site, and a modern warehouse in the south. There are no designated heritage assets within the site. Although it adjoins the Pelsall Common Conservation Area, beyond the former railway line to the west, the two areas do not have a strong visual/physical relationship.		
Recreational character	School playing grounds are located in the centre of the area.	Some PRowS cross the area, affording some recreational value. Other areas e.g. within the school site, are not publicly accessible. The disused railway line is a traffic-free cycle route, running north-south along the western boundary of the area.	
Perceptual aspects	Close to visible signs of human activity and modern development due to the proximity of the settlement edges and disused railway line.		

Settlement setting

The area provides some contribution as a backdrop to adjacent settlements. The settlement edges are generally well-defined with the wooded route of the disused railway line providing a strong boundary feature along the edge of Pelsall and the partly wooded stream corridor enclosing the settlement edge of Shelfield in the south.

The area forms an important part in the perception of a gap between Shelfield (including High Heath) and Pelsall, as well as the ribbon development which extends from the settlement along Pelsall Lane.

Visual prominence

Semi-enclosed by boundary trees/hedgerows, with some more open areas.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

Little or no inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area**Size (ha)****Rating****BL43s1****35****Moderate****Landscape Sensitivity Judgement**

The landscape is considered to have overall moderate sensitivity to residential and employment development, as the majority of the criteria score moderate and no criteria override that judgement.

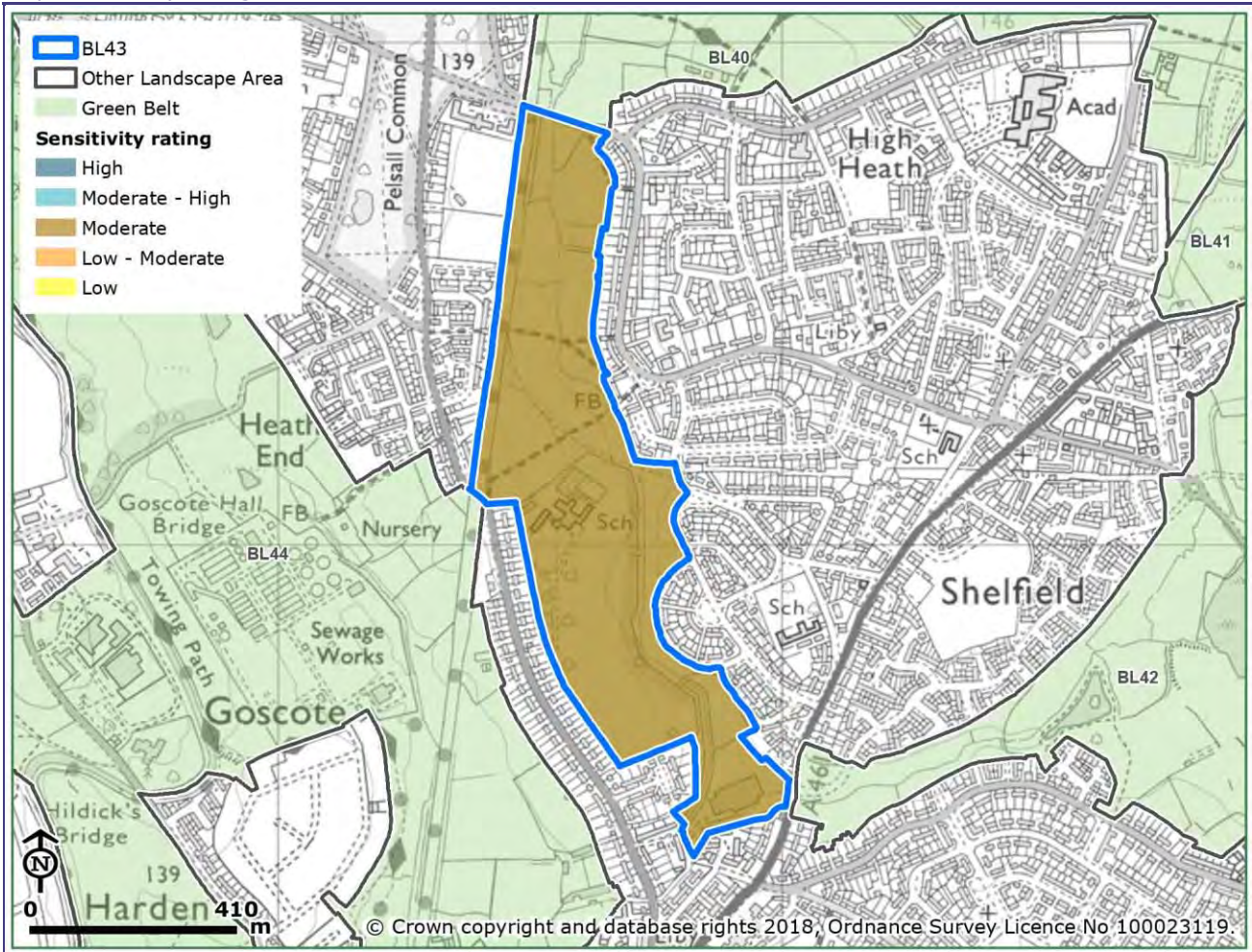
Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

Despite the prevalence of the urban influences on this landscape and its time-depth, it plays an important role in preventing coalescence between the adjacent settlements.

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

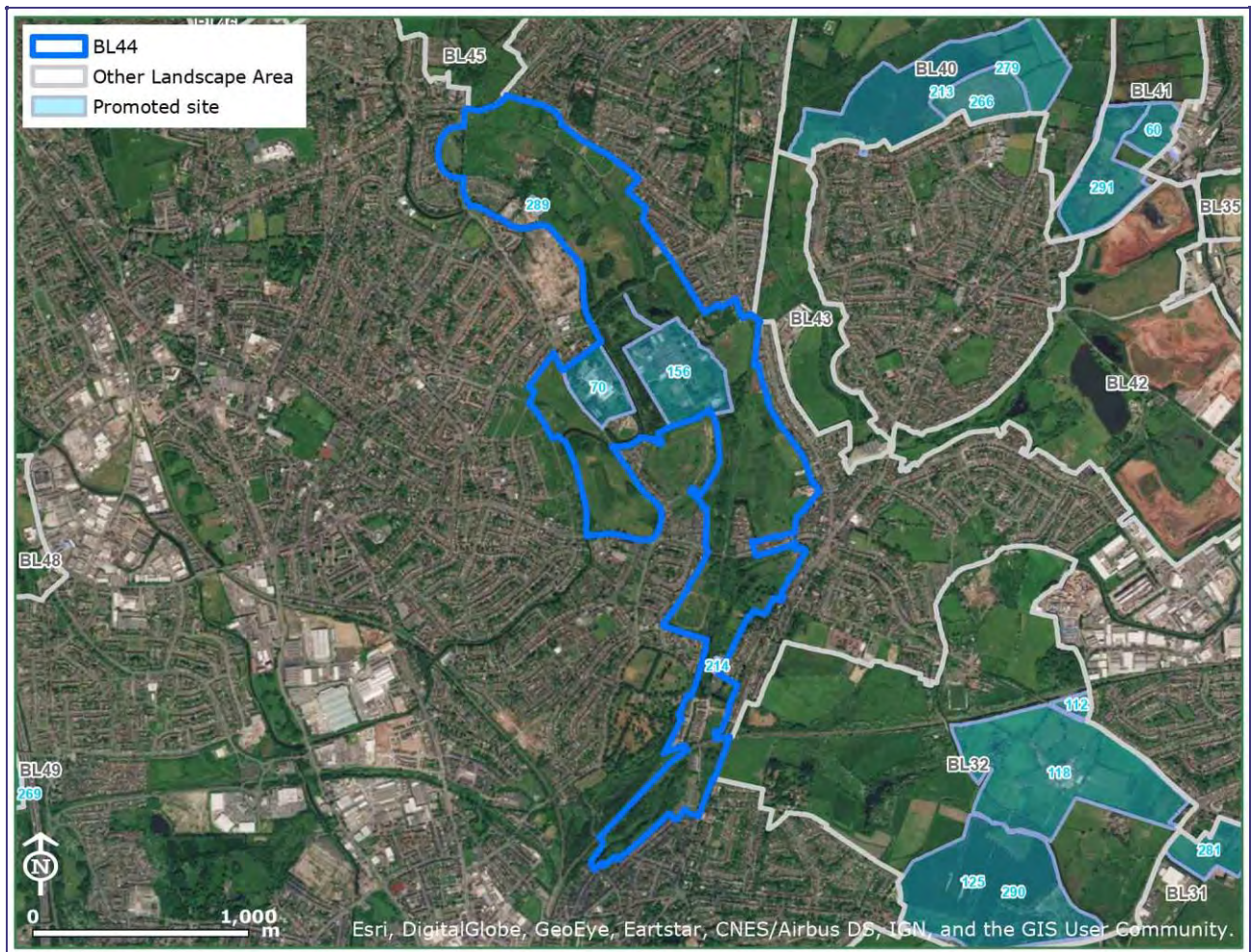
Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Location and Landscape Character Context

A narrow stream valley located within the Walsall conurbation, between Bloxwich to the west and Pelsall/Rushall to the east. The boundaries are formed by the settlement edges of Pelsall and Rushall in the east, Ryecroft in the south and Bloxwich/Goscote to the west. The short northern boundary is formed by the A4124 Wolverhampton Road.

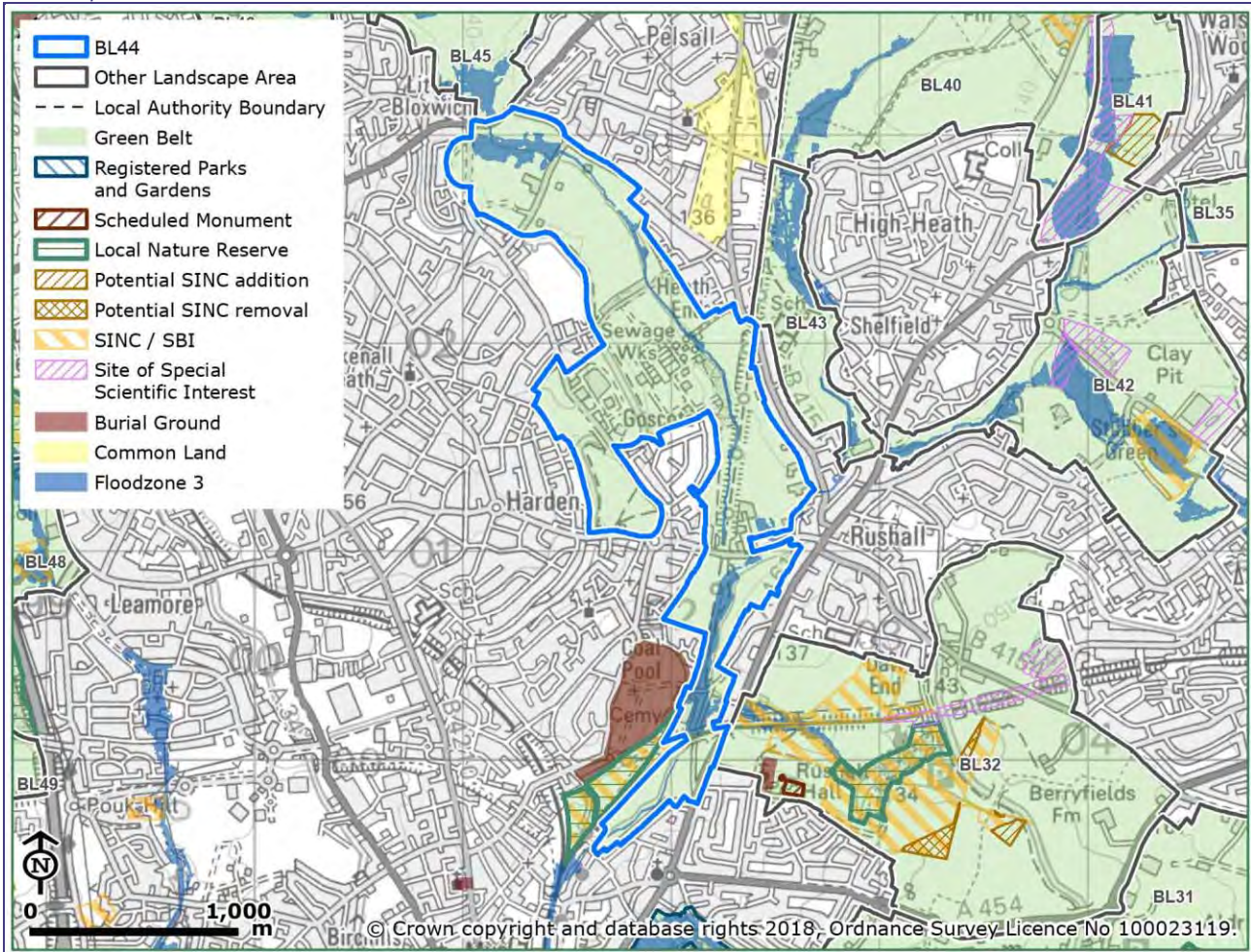
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



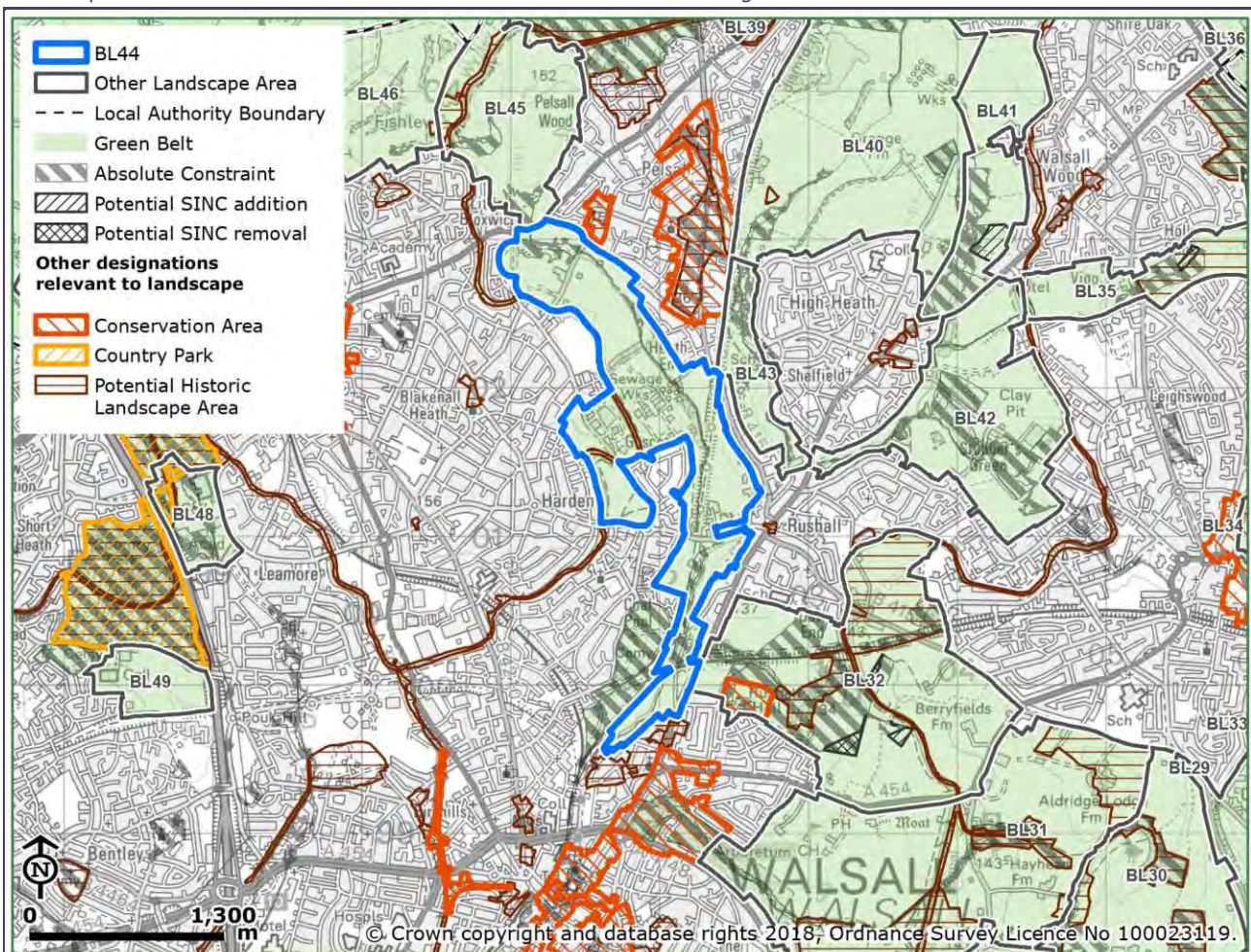
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale	Large-scale land divisions in the central and southern parts of the area.	Small-scale pasture fields to the north of the area around Goscote House Farm, and along the settlement edge mostly used for horse grazing.	
Landform	A low-lying shallow stream valley with very gently sloping landform rising from the stream which runs north-south through the area, with elevations from 137 m AOD in the northwest to 123 m AOD in the southeast.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	The former hospital site, sewage works and transport links have eroded much of the landscape pattern. There is some evidence of late medieval or early post-medieval enclosure, however this field pattern has deteriorated considerably and field boundaries are largely marked by post and wire fencing.		
'Natural' character	The area contains semi-natural habitats scattered throughout the area, including priority habitat deciduous woodland and floodplain grazing marsh along the network of streams and ditches, with an area of lowland fens north of Goscote Bridge.		
Built character	Development already exists in the area, including a small modern housing estates along Station Road and Cartbridge Lane South on the former tram depot and works sites, a caravan park at Goscote, the Walsall Hospice and a sewage works. Water Orton and Walsall railway line runs across the south of the area.	The Wyrley & Essington Canal runs along the western boundary, and is a potential historic townscape area AHHTV3.	
Recreational character	Allotments, recreation grounds and playing fields are of local community importance.		There is open access across much of the semi-natural open space north of Slacky Lane. The promoted Beacon Way runs along the towing path of the Wyrley and Essington Canal and then joins National Cycle Route 5 which runs along the disused South Staffordshire railway line. The canal also has a traffic-free cycle route.
Perceptual aspects	The area is impacted by its close proximity to built up areas which surrounds it on all sides, development within the area and the railway line in the south which impacts on rural character.	The Wyrley and Essington Canal is less impacted by the proximity to the settlement edge as it is screened by vegetation along its route.	

Settlement setting

The area provides an open rural backdrop to the surrounding settlements, including Old Pelsall Conservation Area particularly when ascending Mouse Hill. It plays an important role in providing the perception of a gap between Bloxwich to the west and Pelsall and Rushall to the east.

Visual prominence

The low-lying landscape with mature vegetation along lanes and roads providing some visual containment. However, the rising topography of the surrounding settlements, allow views across this corridor of open land to settlement on the other side.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

No inter-visibility with adjacent sensitive landscapes or marked viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area**Size (ha)****Rating****BL44s1****165.26****Moderate - High****Landscape Sensitivity Judgement**

The landscape within the Goscote Valley is considered to have a moderate-high overall sensitivity to residential development. Although the rural character of the area is impacted by its close proximity to the surrounding conurbation and existing development within it, sensitivity is increased due to its ecological and recreational value and by its role in providing a gap between settlements which override other criteria.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating**List of Promoted Sites within Scenario**

Ref: 70 (Housing); Ref: 156 (Housing); Ref: 214 (Gypsy and traveller site); Ref: 289 (Travelling show people site)

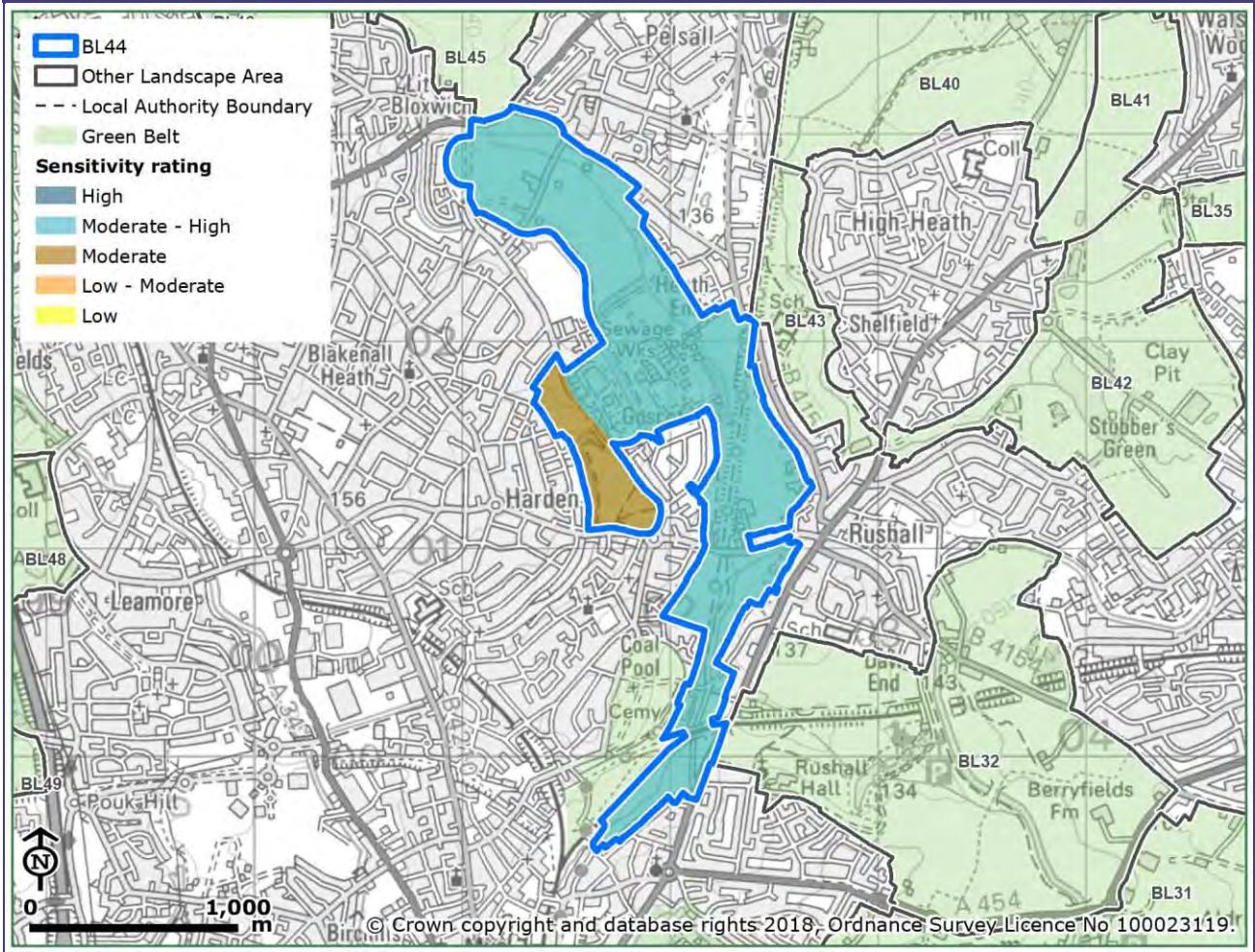
Landscape Assessment Area**Size (ha)****Rating****BL44s2****19.14****Moderate****Landscape Sensitivity Judgement**

Land to the west of Goscote Lane is open recreational space in an urban setting. It is separated from the linear form of the Goscote Valley by rising landform, significant tree cover and existing development at the Goscote Hospital site. It is considered to have moderate sensitivity to residential development.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating**List of Promoted Sites within Scenario**

None

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Landscape Area Reference BL45

Area Size (ha): 96.9ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

The area falls within the following Landscape Character Type: Coalfield Farmlands (west of the Wyrley & Essington Canal). The area is located north of Bloxwich and west of Pelsall. The eastern boundary is marked by the edge of Pelsall North Common and the Pelsall settlement boundary. The A4124 Wolverhampton Road marks the short southern boundary, and the western boundary is marked by Fishley Lane and Walsall Borough boundary.

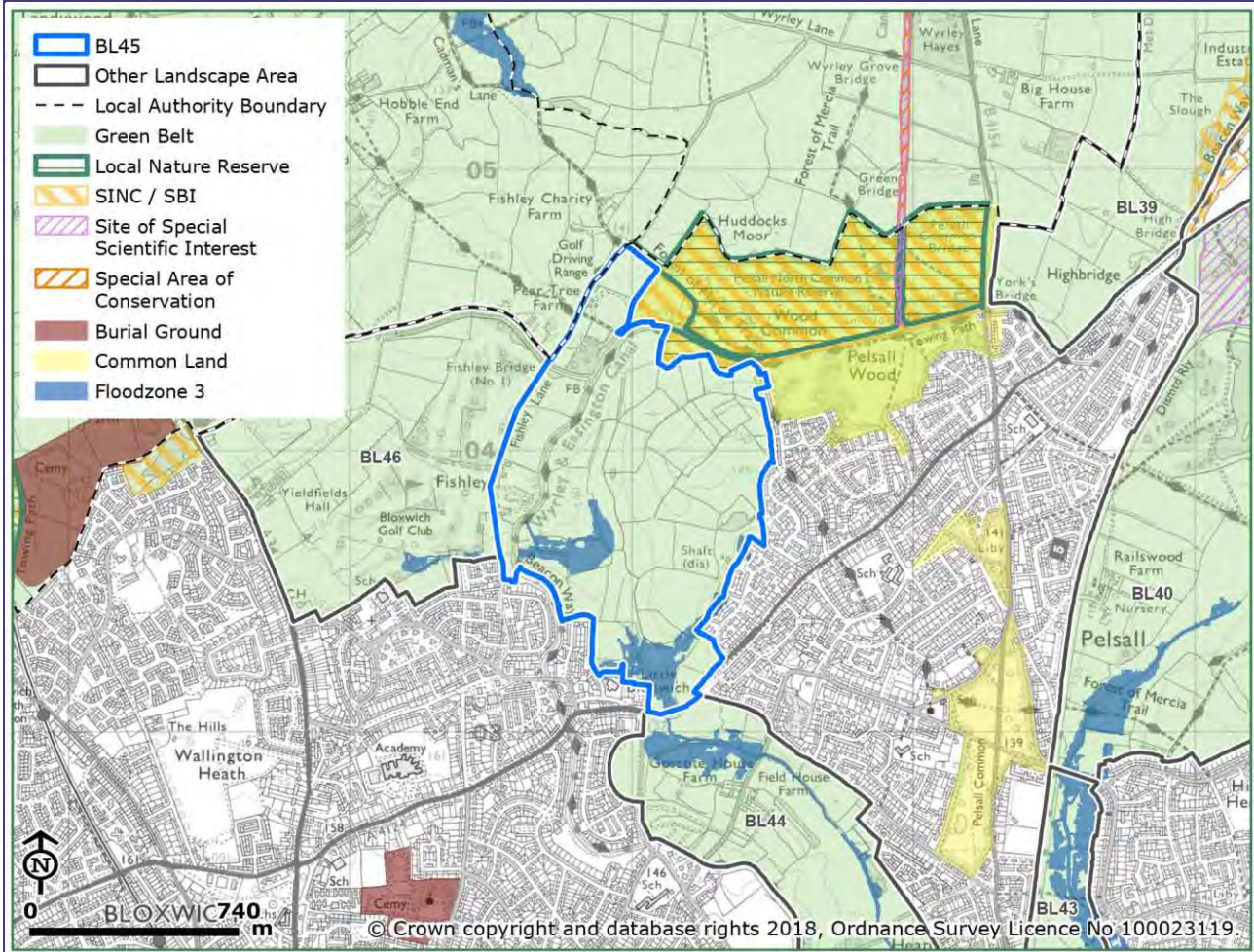
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



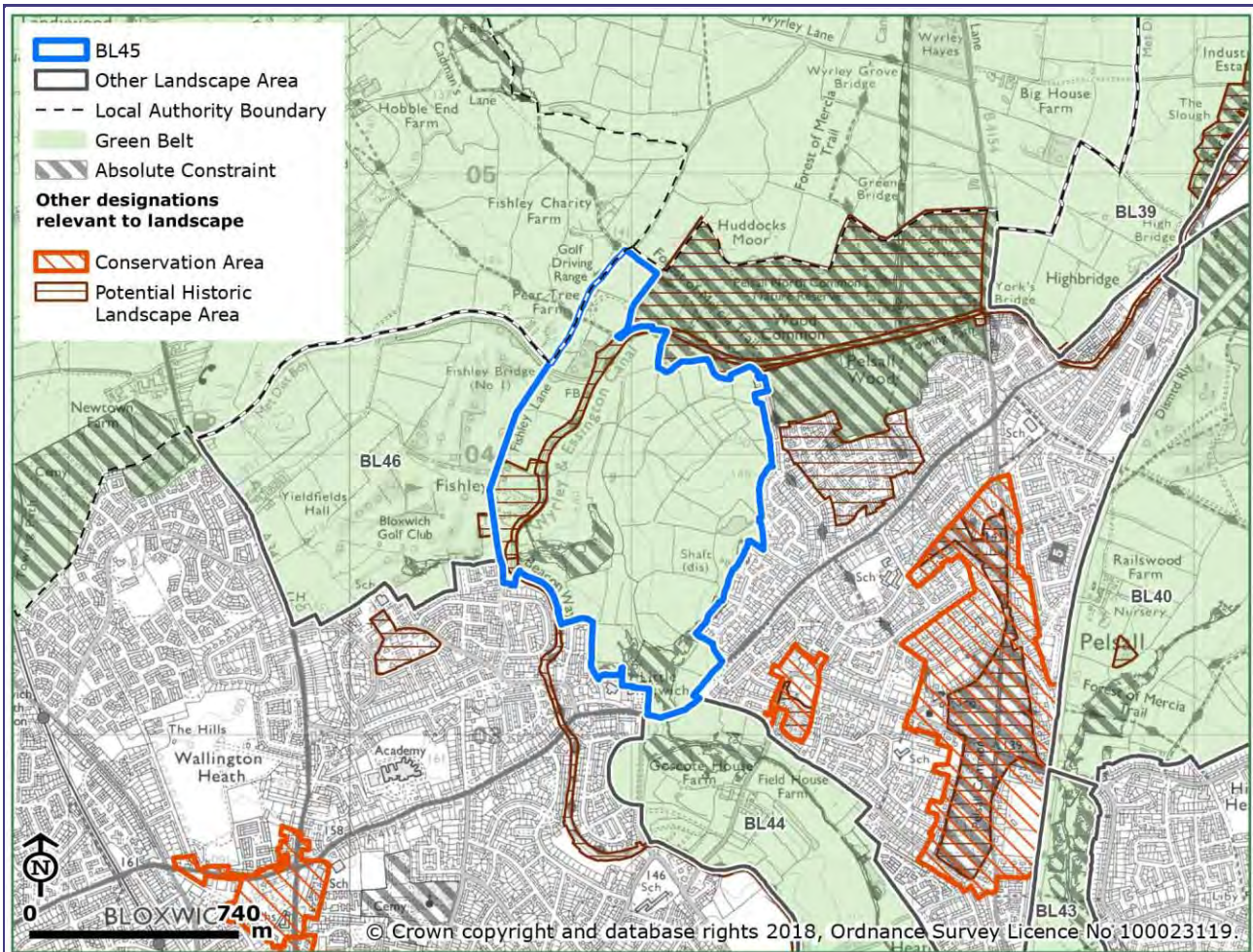
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		A mixture of medium-scale and small-scale pastoral fields with intact mature hedgerows and hedgerow trees (reinforced in places by post and rail fencing) which increase the sense of intimacy.	
Landform	A very gently undulating landform, between 140-150m AOD.		
Landscape pattern and time depth		The field pattern has been disturbed in the south and west of the Wyrley & Essington Canal by 19th century collieries and allotments at Grenfell Road.	There is an irregular field pattern suggesting late medieval or early post-medieval enclosure with the pastoral landscape pattern unchanged from the first edition OS map. An area of industrial buildings in the south west, associated with Fishley Colliery, is a potential historic landscape area AHHLV18.
'Natural' character		Valued natural features include the hedgerows and mature hedgerow trees. There are small areas of deciduous woodland priority habitat at Little Bloxwich Wood and around a former coal shaft in the east. The Wyrley & Essington Canal connects to Wood Common LNR to the north.	
Built character		Development is limited to two farms, along Fishley Lane in the west. The area lies adjacent to the settlement edge of Bloxwich and Pelsall. The Wyrley and Essington Canal is a potential historic townscape area AHHTV3.	
Recreational character	Grenfell Road allotments in the southwest are of community importance.	The towpath along the Wyrley & Essington Canal is a traffic-free cycle route and a promoted long distance route, Beacon Way. There is also a path through next to the settlement edge in the east.	
Perceptual aspects		An intact rural farmed landscape with some influence from the surrounding settlement in the south, although the area retains a sense of tranquility.	The north of the area has little influence from modern development, particularly where it is adjacent to the Pelsall North Common.

Settlement setting

The area provides a scenic rural backdrop to Pelsall and Bloxwich. Development would have a poor relationship with the existing settlement as it would cross the existing boundary provided by the Wyrley & Essington Canal to the south west and the wooded settlement edge to the east. The area provides an important rural gap between these two settlements.

Visual prominence

The area is very open in views from the wider landscape, particularly from the higher ground to the north at Wood Common and Pelsall Wood. There are wide views across the area from the settlement edge in the south of the area and from Beacon Way along the canal.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

No inter-visibility with designated landscapes or promoted viewpoints.

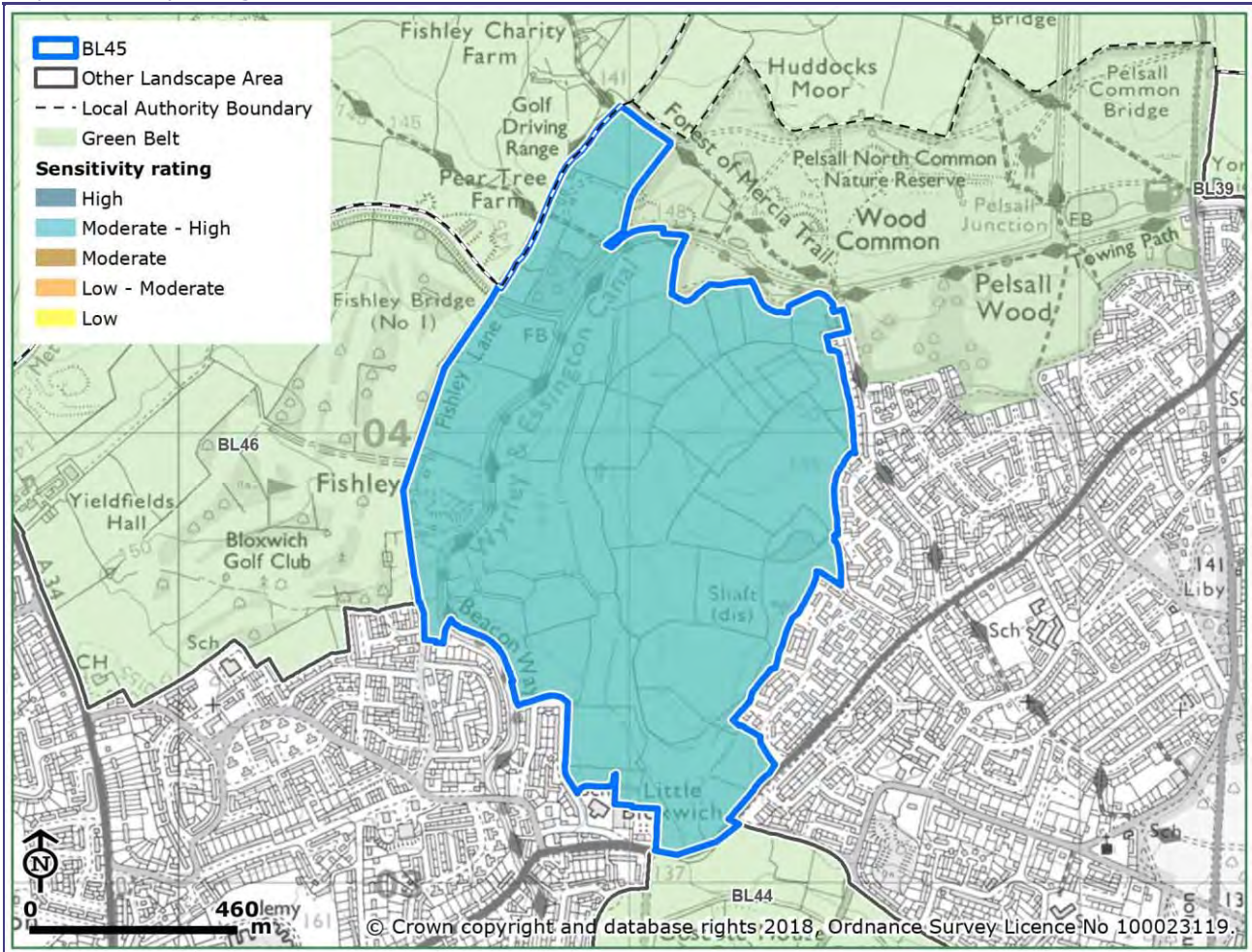
Landscape Assessment Area**Size (ha)****Rating****BL45s1****96.91****Moderate - High****Landscape Sensitivity Judgement**

The landscape is considered to have moderate-high overall sensitivity to residential and employment development as the majority of the criteria score moderate or high and no criteria override that judgement.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating**List of Promoted Sites within Scenario**

None

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Landscape Area Reference BL46

Area Size (ha): 86.9ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

The area falls within the following Landscape Character Type: Coalfield Farmlands. The area is located north of Bloxwich, and the settlement boundary forms the southern boundary. The A34 Stafford Road forms the western boundary, Fishley Lane forms the eastern boundary and the northern boundary is along a former canal which provides the Walsall Borough boundary.

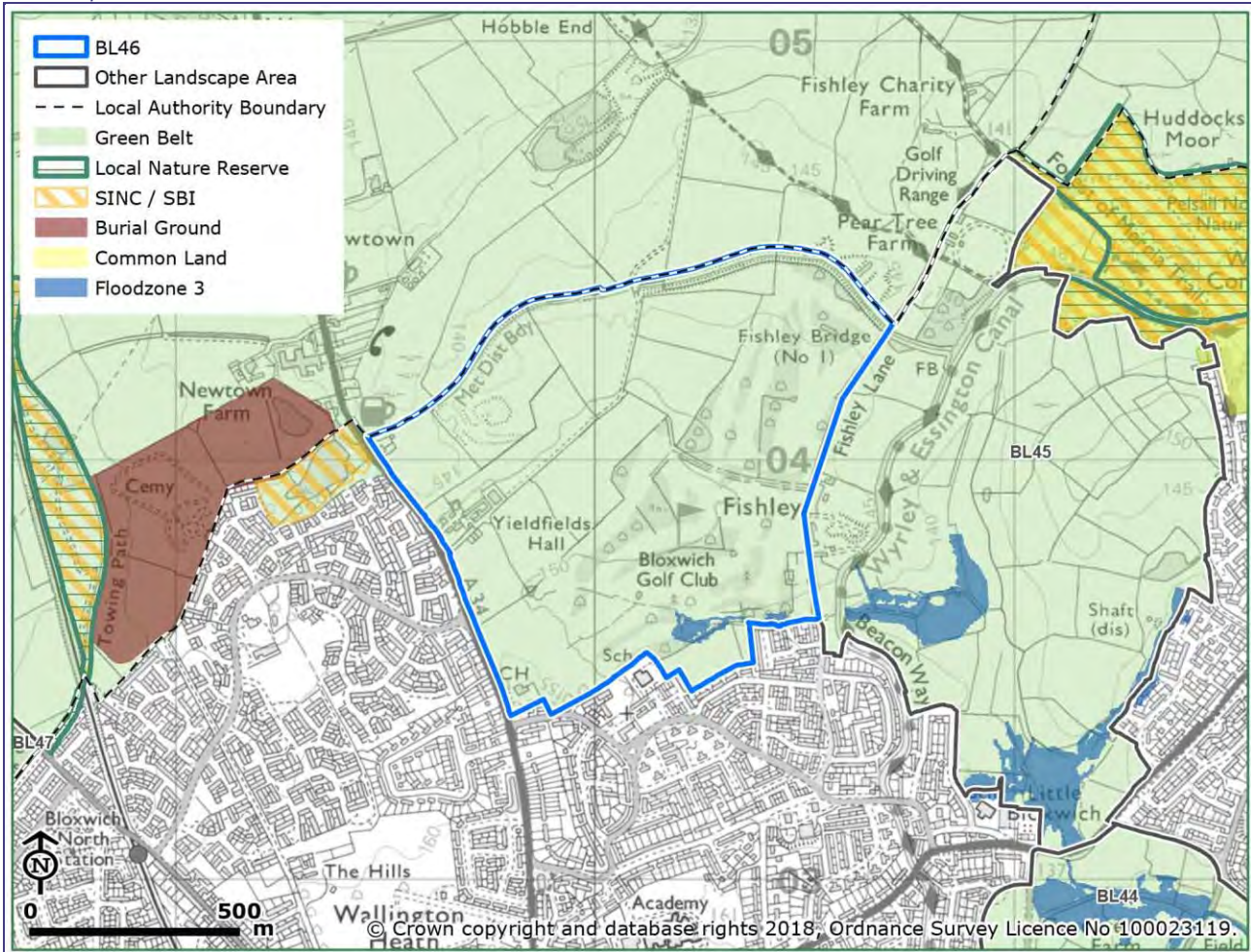
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



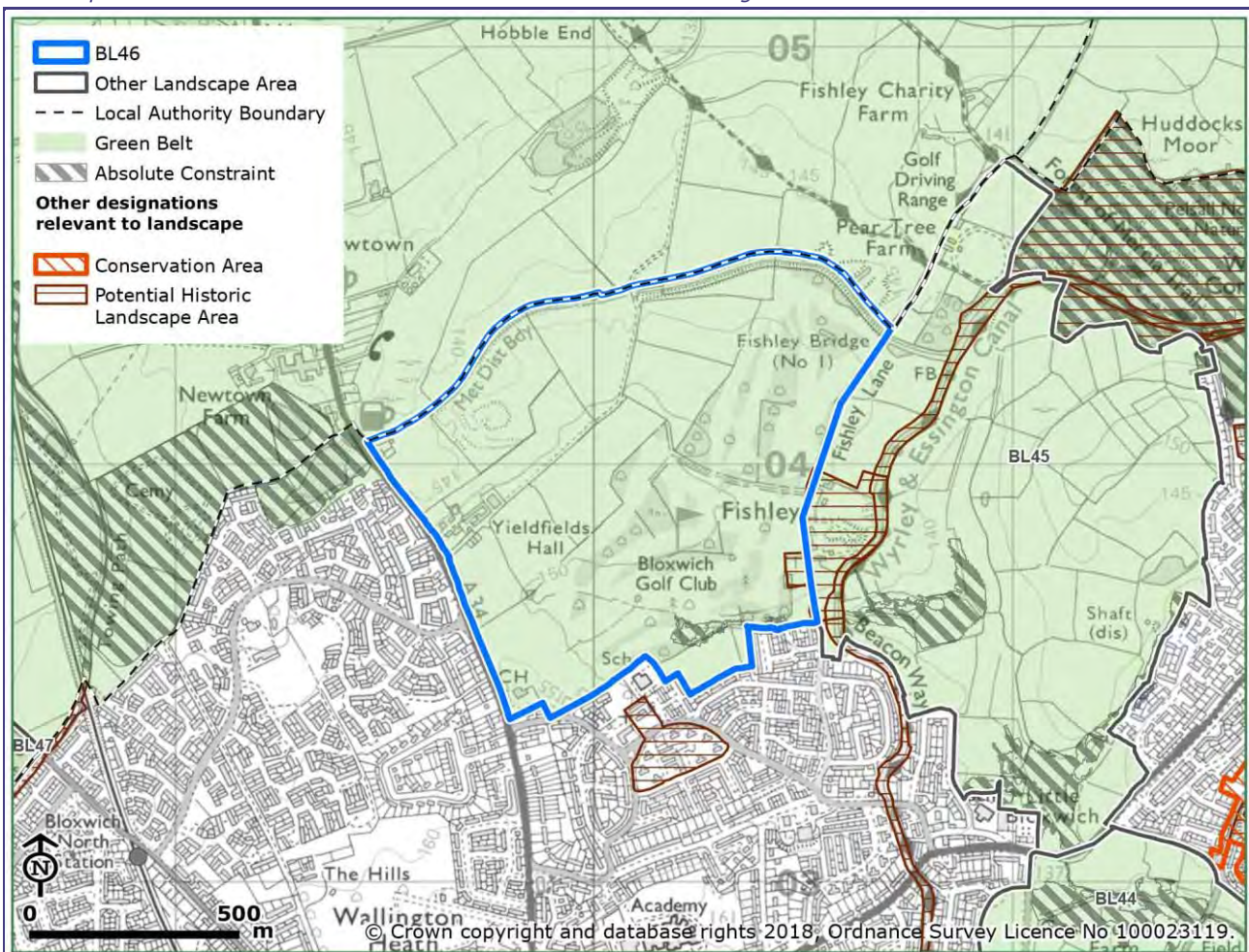
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		There is a mixture of small-scale and medium-scale fields with gappy overgrown hedgerows along roads and on field boundaries.	
Landform	A very gently rolling landscape, rising from 145m to 150m AOD in the southwest.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	Bloxwich Golf Club has removed field boundaries and the historic landscape pattern from the eastern half of the area.		Some straight and some sinuous field boundaries in the north west indicate early enclosure, although some field boundary loss has occurred since the 1st edition OS. A small area in the south east was part of the Fishley Colliery and is part of a potential historic landscape area AHHLV18 Fishley Farm.
'Natural' character		There are areas of deciduous woodland priority habitat within Bloxwich Golf Club. Valued natural features include mature trees and hedgerows along field boundaries.	
Built character	The A34 on the western boundary and the presence of modern residential development immediately to the west of the area influence landscape character.	Historic built character includes Yieldfields Hall Farmhouse and Bloxwich Golf Club Clubhouse which are both Grade II listed buildings.	
Recreational character	There are no PRowS in the area. The Golf Club, school playing fields and community open space in south of the area are of local community value.	Cycle Route CL1 runs along the A34 on the western boundary.	
Perceptual aspects	Recreational uses of the this landscape area along the settlement edge at Bloxwich Golf Club, has an urbanising effect and significant road noise from the A34 disturbs tranquility.	A relatively tranquil rural landscape, particularly in the north and east, away from the A34.	
Settlement setting	The area does not strongly contribute as a rural backdrop to Bloxwich which consists of housing estates that are generally inward looking.	The area to the north west provides a rural approach Bloxwich and development here would not relate well to the existing settlement edge, where tree cover within the Bloxwich Golf Club to the south and east separates the settlement from the wider countryside.	

Landscape Area Reference BL47

Area Size (ha): 66.8ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

The area falls within the following Landscape Character Type: Coalfield Farmlands. The area is located directly west of Bloxwich and north east of New Invention (Willenhall). The M6 runs along the western edge of the landscape area. The north boundary follows field boundaries and then a footpath to join the B4210.

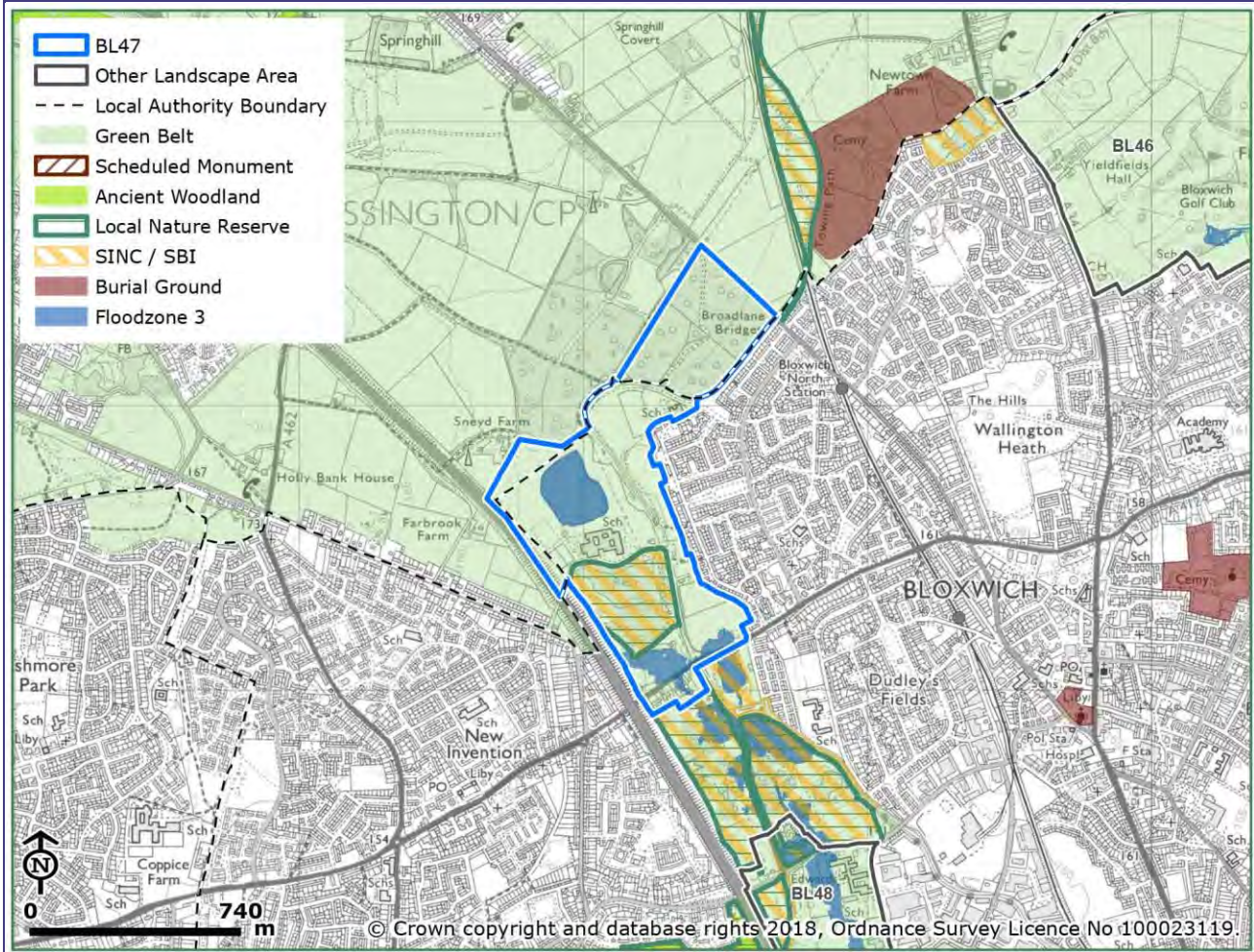
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



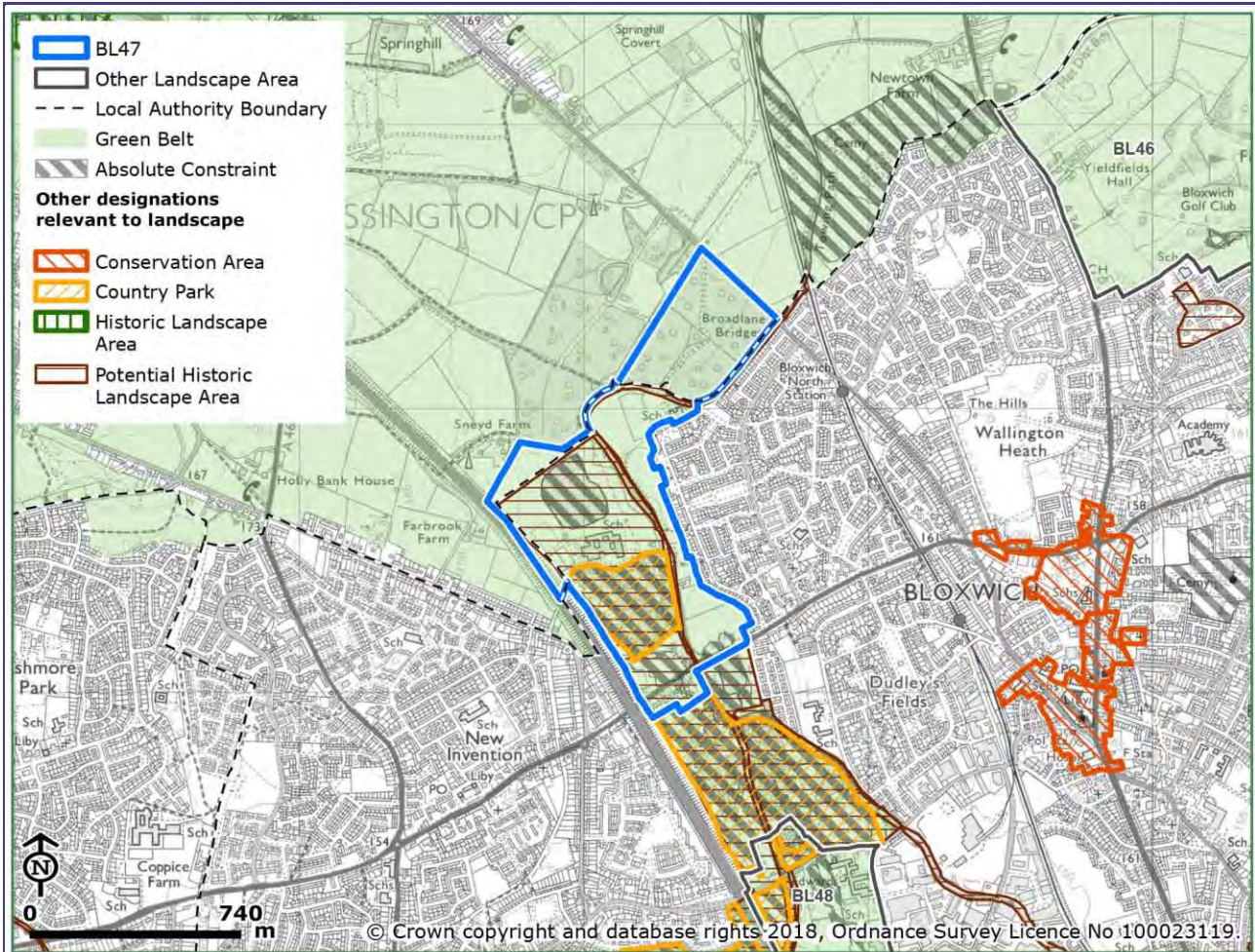
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale	Large scale sports grounds associated with the two schools dominate the centre of the area and the north east corner.	Medium scale land division around open access land, enclosed by thick hedges or woodland belts.	
Landform	The area is relatively flat with elevations ranging from 140m to 155m AOD.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	The centre of the area and the north east corner is dominated by modern schools and associated playing fields.	Most landscape features within this area date to the mid-20th century as the historic field system was disrupted by 19th century industrial activity including the Wyrley and Essington Canal (now disused), local collieries and associated mineral railways. These are potential historic landscape areas: AHHLV9 Rough Wood Country Park and AHHTV127 Wyrley and Essington Canal.	
'Natural' character	Fields on the urban edge and the school playing fields, have limited natural character and value.	Priority habitat deciduous woodland extends along the route of the disused canal.	The area around the Sneyd Reservoir within the Rough Wood Chase Country Park comprises areas of valued semi-natural habitats, predominantly deciduous woodland and is locally designated as Rough Chase Woods Local Nature Reserve and is also a SINC.
Built character	Built form is restricted to residential properties along Lichfield Road (extending for the settlement edge at Bloxwich) and large modern school in the centre of the site and a smaller school to the north east. These do not make a significant contribution to landscape character. A overhead electricity route with large pylons cuts north-south across the area and adds an urbanising element.	The canal and reservoirs are man-made features which contribute to landscape character.	
Recreational character		Footpaths connect the reservoir to Bloxwich, and run along the northern boundary. The area between the disused canal and the B4210 is publicly-accessible open space.	The area around the Sneyd Reservoir has high recreational value due to the open access in the Country Park and circular walks around it.
Perceptual aspects	Signs of human activity and modern development are frequently present, typically in the form of views of modern buildings and from road noise which is considerable due to the proximity of the M6.		

Settlement setting

The woodland, particularly within Rough Wood Country Park, contributes positively to the setting of the 20th century housing on the settlement edge of Bloxwich to the east.

The area also plays an important role in providing a perceived gap between Bloxwich and Willenhall, although the M6 provide a strong barrier to further expansion of Willenhall.

Visual prominence

The area is visually enclosed. Given the relatively flat landform, visual enclosure is defined by landcover (extensive areas of scrub and woodland) including along the settlement edge. However, the area is visible from some residential properties in Bloxwich.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

There is no inter-visibility with surrounding designated landscapes or promoted viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL47s1	66.76	Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The area has an overall moderate sensitivity to residential development. The flat landform, lack of time depth and visual enclosure are of low sensitivity but this is counterbalanced by the recreational and natural character around the Sneyd Reservoir and the role of the area in providing a gap between settlements. The qualities of the landscape character and consequent sensitivities continue across the borough boundary to the north.

The area is considered to have a moderate sensitivity to employment development, due to the flat landform, lack of time depth and visual enclosure, balanced by the recreational and natural character of Sneyd Reservoir. Large scale development would disrupt the contribution of this wooded area as a backdrop to Bloxwich.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

Landscape Area Reference BL48

Area Size (ha): 28.5ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

The landscape area is located directly east of Short Heath (Willenhall) and west of the industrial estate at Leamore (Walsall), with the M6 cutting through its eastern extent. Almost the whole area is within Rough Wood Country Park.

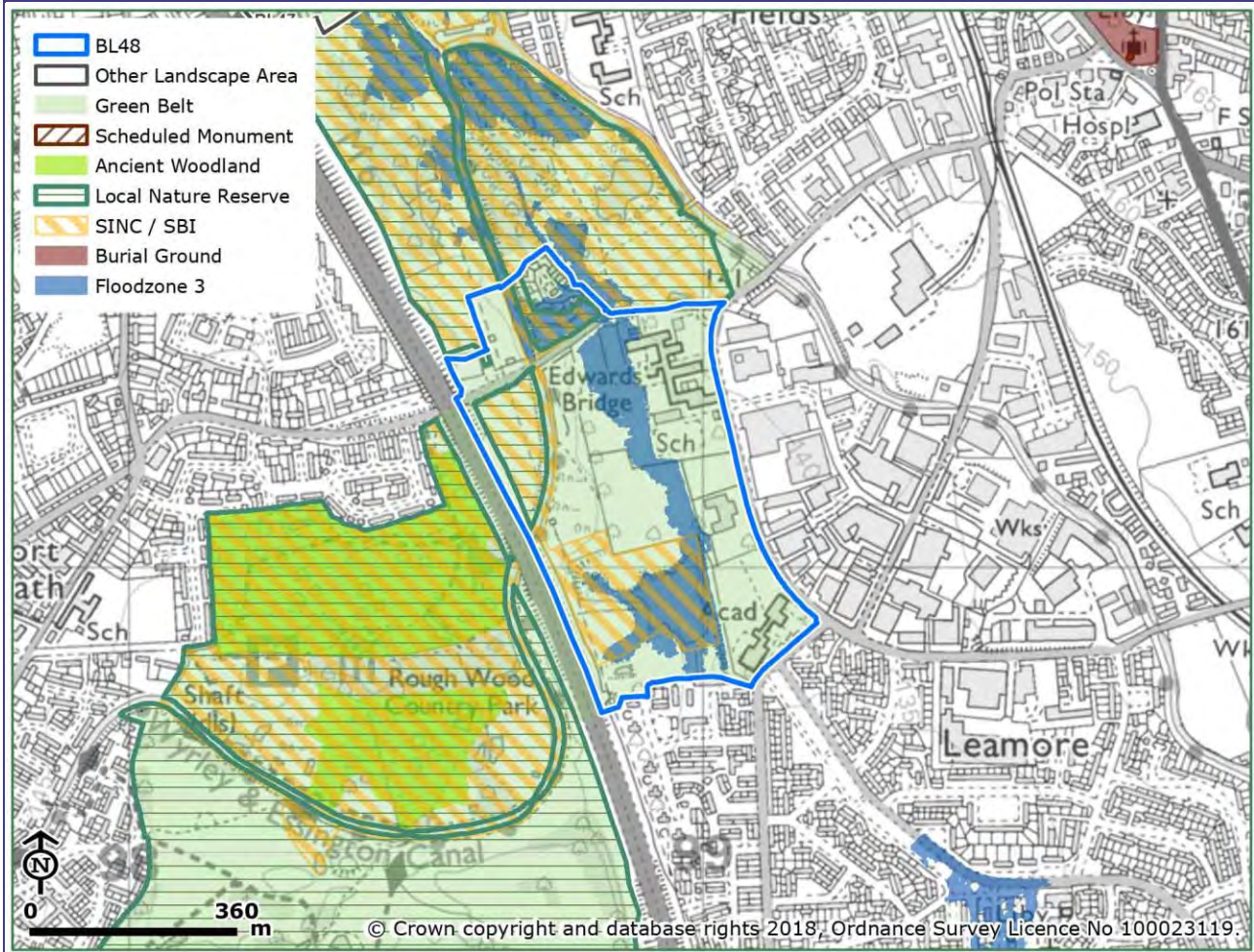
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



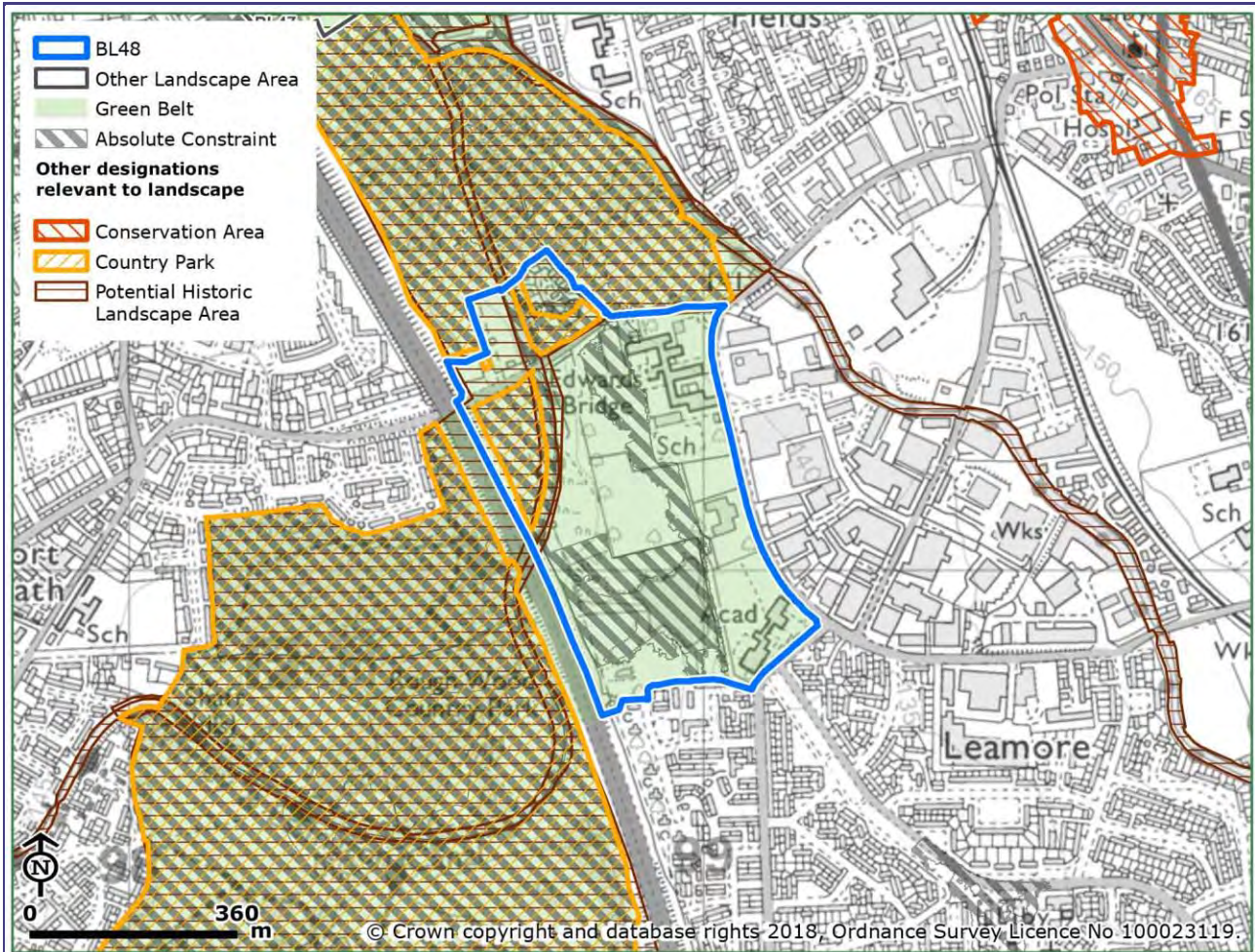
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		The area along the M6 is wooded with irregular areas of open ground which are enclosed and generally moderate in scale. The remaining areas are used as sports grounds.	
Landform	Landform is relatively flat ranging from 140m to 145m AOD.		
Landscape pattern and time depth		The area is on the site of the Rough Wood Colliery, and in the west is a potential historic landscape area AHHLV9 Rough Wood Country Park. The disused canal is a potential historic townscape area AHHTV127 Wyrley and Essington Canal.	
'Natural' character			Rough Wood LNR (which includes Rough Wood SINC) extends along the M6 and includes areas of priority habitat deciduous woodland and lowland heathland around an area of open water.
Built character	The M6 and an overhead electricity route with large pylons runs through the area.	Built features in the area are limited to a cemetery in the southwest of the area and two schools and some residential properties. The Wyrley and Essington Canal built in 1790 winds through the area.	
Recreational character	The school playing fields have restricted access.		The areas along the M6 have open access and are valuable for recreation. The long distance Monarch's Way and Forest of Mercia Way run through the area. The Wyrley and Essington Canal is an important recreational resource and a traffic-free cycle route runs along the canal towpath.
Perceptual aspects	Despite some naturalistic qualities, the area is heavily disrupted by the traffic noise associated with the M6.		
Settlement setting		The area provides a wooded setting to residential areas directly to the south and a buffer between the M6 and the schools to the east.	

Visual prominence Well-wooded areas are enclosed in character and shielded from views from the surrounding settlements.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points There is no inter-visibility with designated landscapes or promoted viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL48s1	28.49	Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape area has an overall moderate sensitivity to residential development. Although this area to the east of the M6 is largely outside the Country Park, the Wood Chase SINC extends across much of the area and there is priority habitat deciduous woodland and lowland heathland. However, this is counterbalanced by its weak perceptual qualities, lack of time-depth and lack of visual prominence.

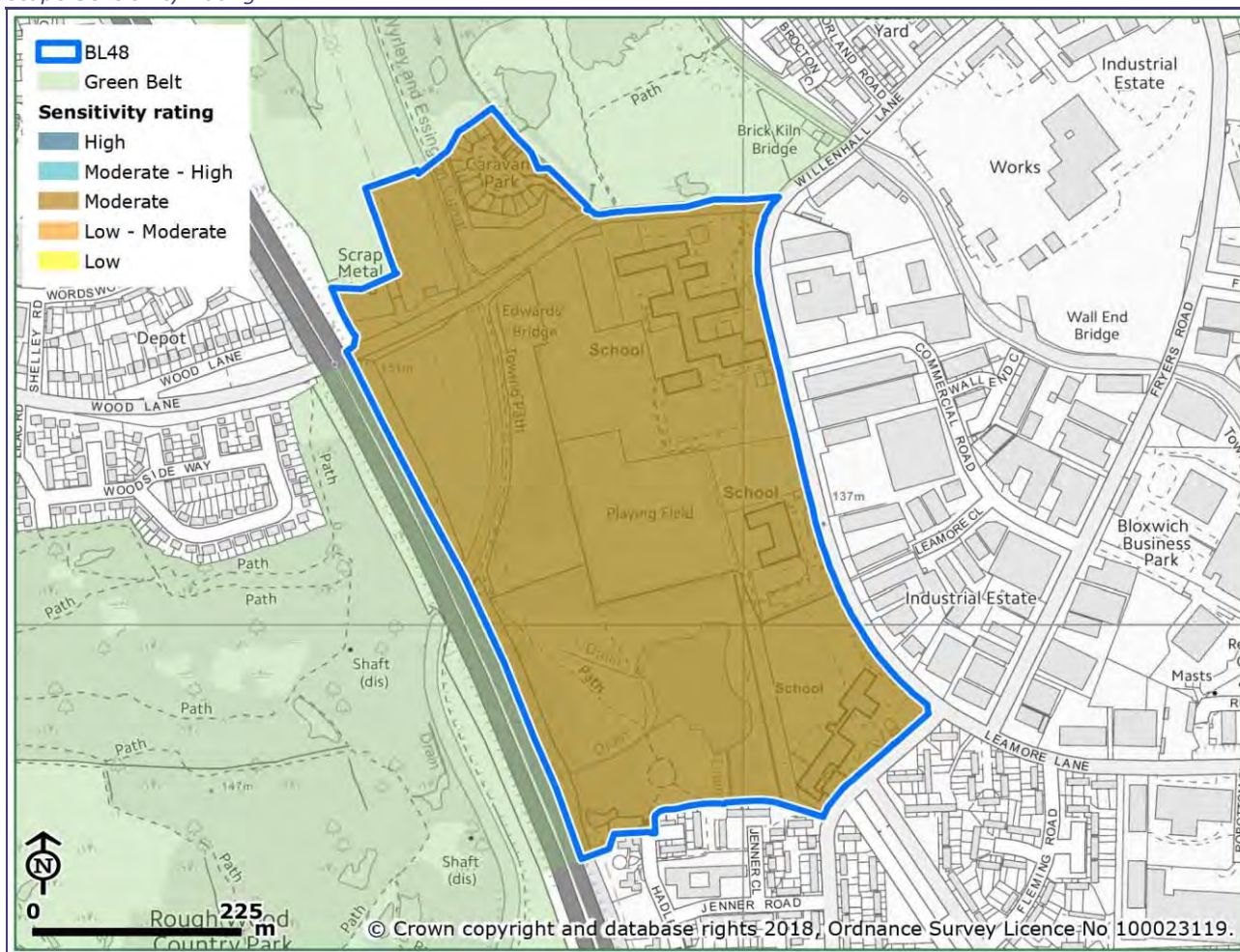
The area is considered to have moderate-high sensitivity to employment development.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

None

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Landscape Area Reference BL49

Area Size (ha): 28.7ha

Location and Landscape Character Context

The landscape area is located within the West Midlands conurbation, north of Bentley (Willenhall) and west of Leamore (Walsall). The M6 runs outside of the eastern edge of the area and Bentley Lane forms the northern boundary.

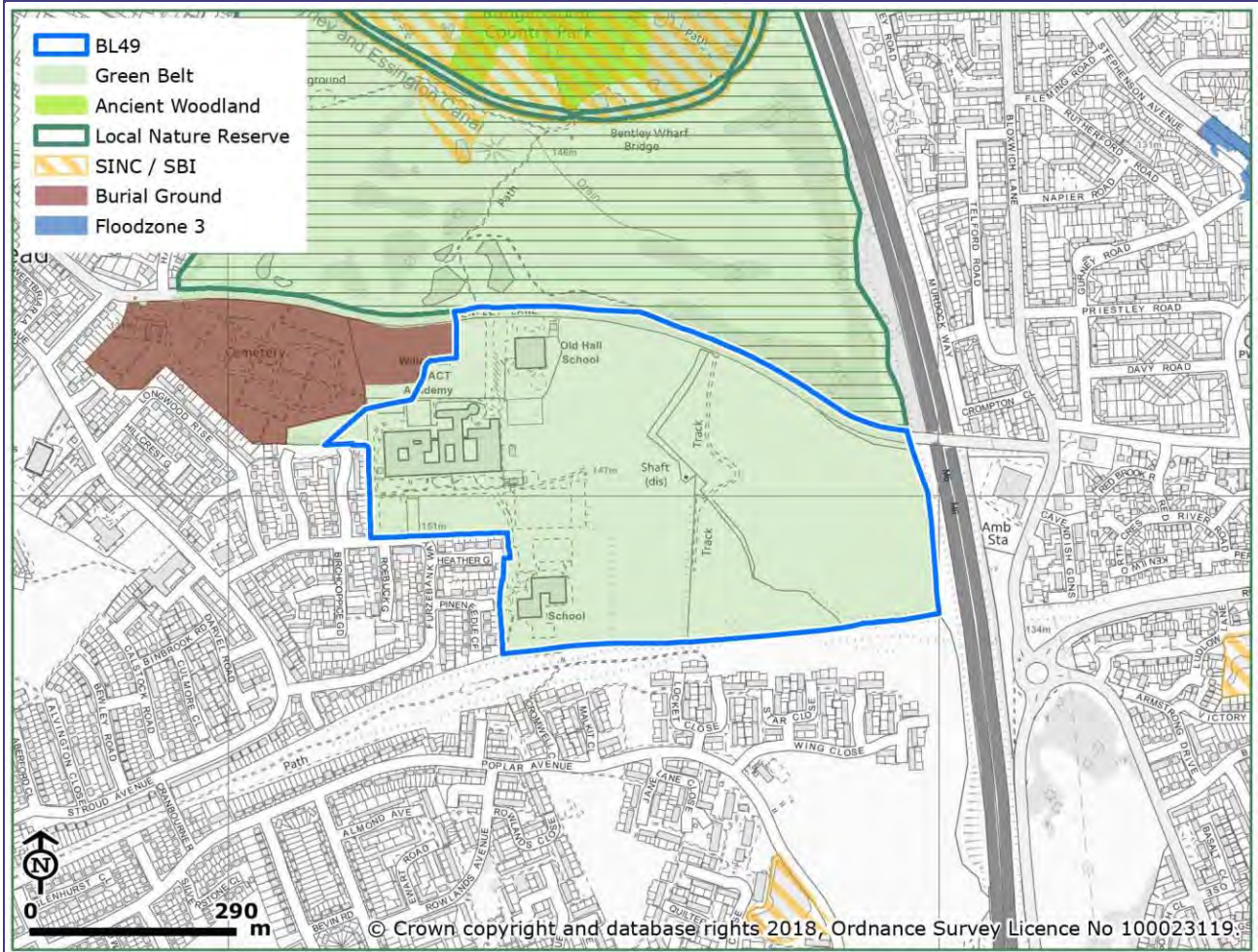
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



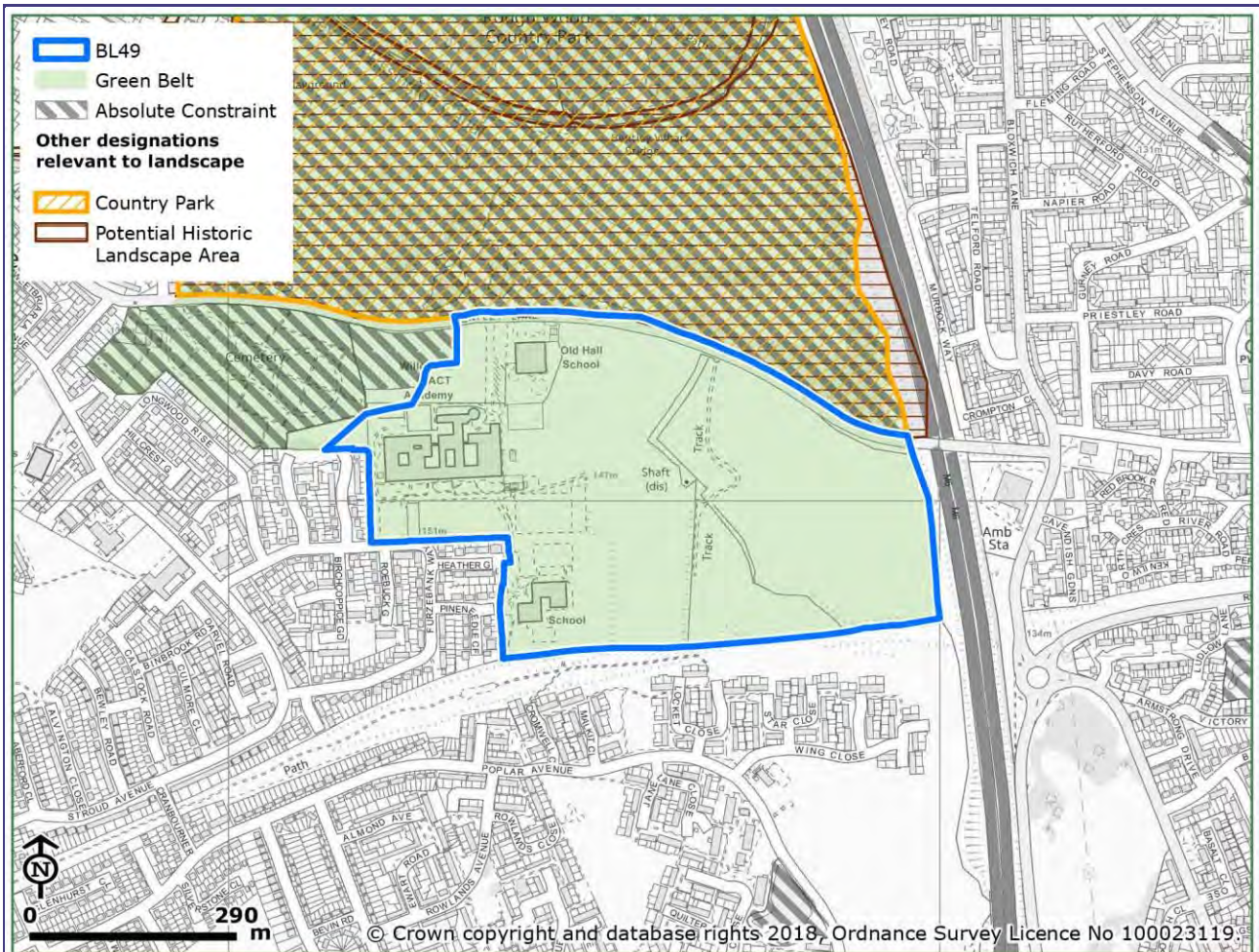
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		A medium scale landscape of playing fields and rough horse grazing enclosed by tree belts.	
Landform	Generally flat landform between 140m and 150m AOD with a sloped embankment to the man-made landform of a former mineral working site to the west.		
Landscape pattern and time depth	Former industrial uses of the area have erased the historic landscape pattern. A disused quarry excavated in the mid-late 19th century and since infilled is now in use for rough horse grazing is located in the east. The schools to the west were built in the mid-late 20th century on the site of a 19th century colliery and squatter cottages.		
'Natural' character		Valued semi-natural features include the woodland belt along the M6 corridor, and a small amount of priority habitat deciduous woodland around Willenhall School.	
Built character	Built features include two schools and associated sports pitches which make no contribution to landscape character.		
Recreational character	The long distance recreational route Monarch's Way runs along the road outside the northern boundary of the area and a footpath crosses into the landscape area for a short length in the north western corner. There are community sports pitches in the centre of the site which are of local interest.		
Perceptual aspects	The area is a restored brownfield site within the urban conurbation. Road noise from the M6 and busy Bentley Lane negatively affects the tranquility of the area.		
Settlement setting		The area provides a open green setting to the surrounding residential areas.	

Visual prominence

Tree belts around and within the area provide enclosure, although the restored mineral working site to the west may be locally visible as it rises above the surrounding land to the west.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

There is no inter-visibility with surrounding designated landscapes or promoted viewpoints.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL49s1	28.69	Low - Moderate

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

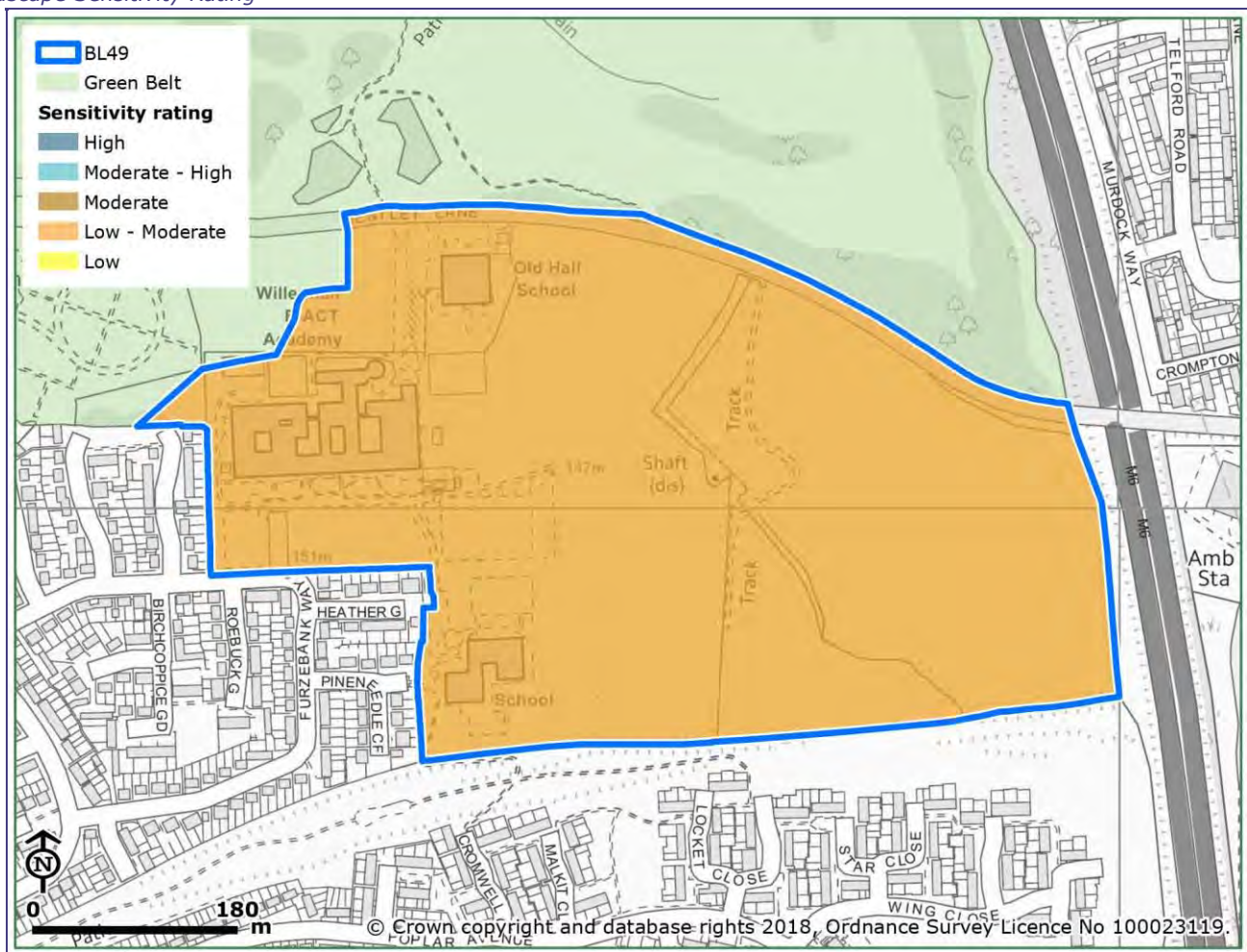
The landscape area has low-moderate sensitivity to both residential and employment development, with no key sensitive landscape sensitivities, aside from its potential visibility from the surrounding area due to rising landform.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 269 (Employment)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating



Location and Landscape Character Context

The area is located on the edge of Pheasey, to the east of the M6, on the site of the former St Margaret’s Hospital. The settlement edge forms the northern and eastern boundaries and the A4041 the southern boundary. The western boundary is formed by the St Margaret’s Hospital Grounds SINC and edge of the lakes.

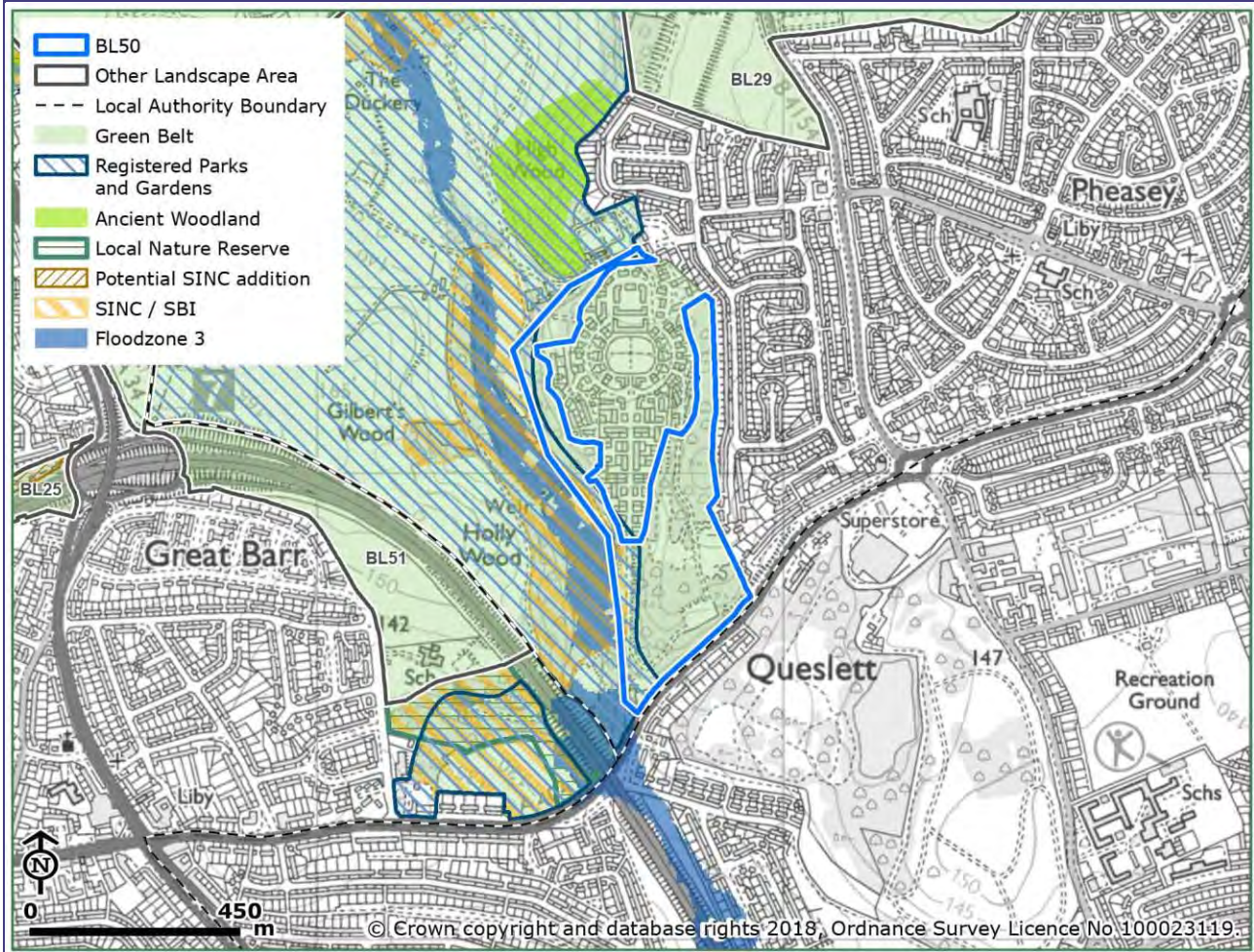
Aerial View of Landscape Area with Promoted Sites



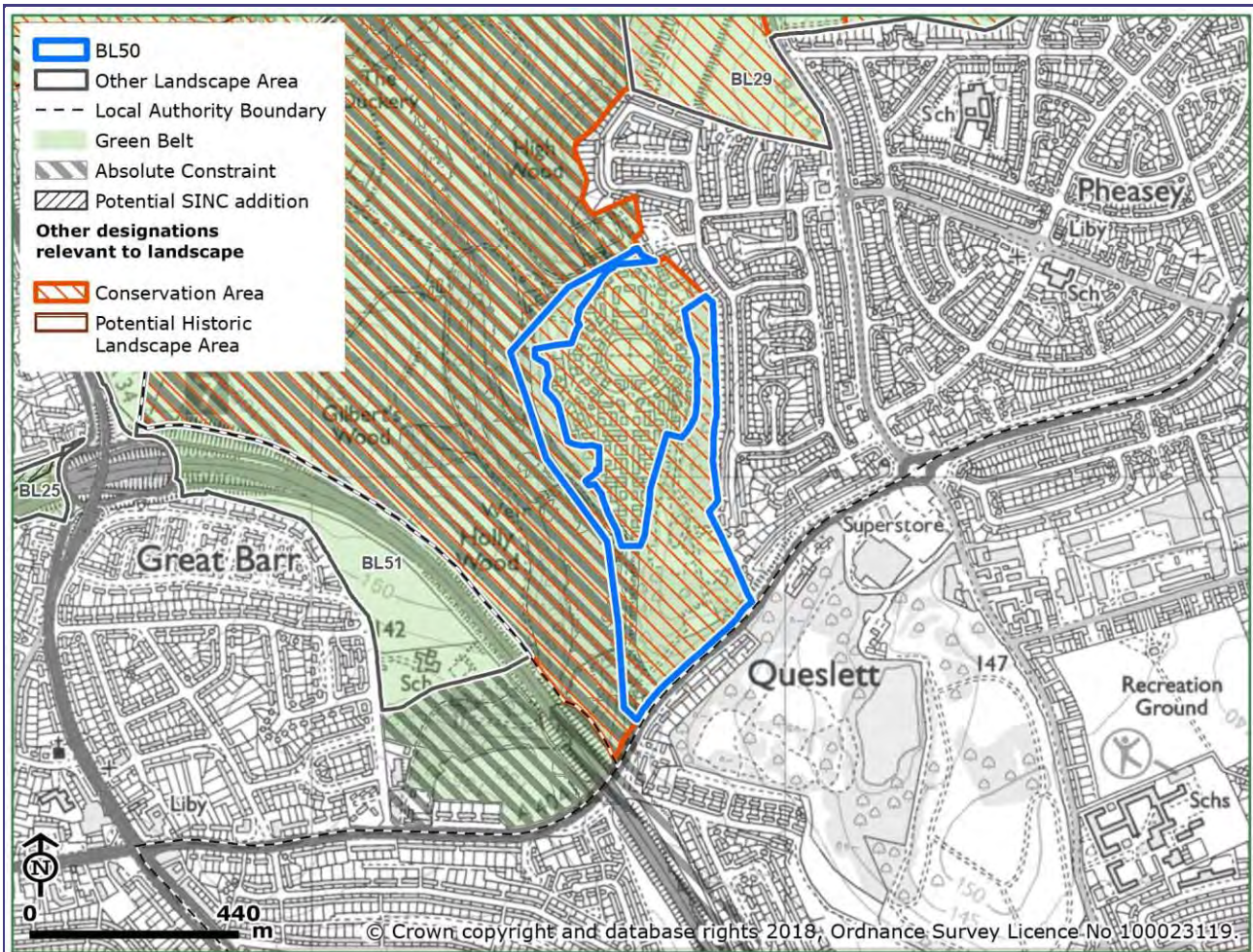
Representative Views



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints



Landscape Assessment Area with Absolute Constraints and Other Designations



Appraisal of Landscape Sensitivity

Characteristic / Attribute	Lower Sensitivity to Development	Moderate Sensitivity to Development	Higher Sensitivity to Development
Scale		A largely wooded area, where a few paths provide some divisions within the landscape.	
Landform		The land rises to the east, from 135m AOD on the edge of the lakes to 150m AOD in the east.	
Landscape pattern and time depth		The area previously formed part of St Margaret's Hospital, built in the inter-war period on the site of an 18th century designed landscape at Great Barr Park.	The area forms part of the Great Barr Conservation Area and the Grade II listed Great Barr Hall Registered Park and Garden extends into this area in the west.
'Natural' character			Dominated by priority habitat deciduous woodland which is linked to the St Margaret's Hospital Grounds SINC to the west and south west.
Built character		The area contains little development, beyond a lodge cottage in the south, and some ruins of former NHS housing in the south east. The area is surrounded by settlement at Netherhall Park and Pheasey.	
Recreational character	There are no formal PROWs within the area, although there are some informal tracks which may be publicly accessible.		
Perceptual aspects	Proximity to modern settlement and audible disturbance from the M6 detracts from perceptual qualities although woodland cover reduces this impact somewhat.		
Settlement setting			The area provides a wooded setting to the Netherhall Park development, and to the western edge of Pheasey.

Visual prominence

The area is heavily wooded, and this wooded character extends beyond the boundaries of the area, which reinforces the visually enclosed character.

Inter-visibility with adjacent designated landscapes or promoted view points

The area is partially within, and adjacent to, the Great Barr Park Registered Park and Garden.

Landscape Assessment Area	Size (ha)	Rating
BL50s1	15.24	Moderate - High

Landscape Sensitivity Judgement

The landscape sensitivity of this area to residential development is considered to be moderate-high as although the woodland cover and links with the historic landscape of Great Barr Park are of higher sensitivity, the proximity to modern development and major infrastructure decreases the sensitivity of this area.

Anomalies to the Overall Landscape Sensitivity Rating

List of Promoted Sites within Scenario

Ref: 288 (Housing)

Landscape Sensitivity Rating

