

CLUMP FARM SOLAR LTD

**CLUMP FARM, LEICESTERSHIRE -
CONSENTED SOLAR FARM
DEVELOPMENT**

**PLANNING CONDITIONS -
LANDSCAPE & ECOLOGICAL
MANAGEMENT PLAN (LEMP)**

MARCH 2026



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PLANNING CONDITIONS – LANDSCAPE & ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT

PLAN (LEMP)

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- Appendix III Detailed Landscape Proposals (Land Use Consultants)**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Soltys Brewster Ecology (SBE) were commissioned by Clump Farm Solar Limited to devise a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) for the consented solar farm scheme at Clump Farm in Peckleton, Leicestershire (see Site Location Plan included in Appendix I). The scheme has received planning permission for the construction of a solar array, including the installation of access tracks, solar panels, transformer cabins and a substation, enclosed within a 2m perimeter 'deer' fence and associated landscaping, subject to a number of conditions (planning ref: 21/01242/FUL). Condition 24 of the planning approval requires the preparation of a LEMP as follows:

Condition 24 – Landscape & Ecological Management Plan

'Notwithstanding the approved details, a landscape and ecological management plan (LEMP) shall be submitted to, and be approved in writing by, the Local Authority prior to the commencement of the development. The content of the LEMP shall include the following.

- a) Description and evaluation of features to be managed.*
- b) Ecological trends and constraints on site that might influence management.*
- c) Aims and objectives of management.*
- d) Appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives.*
- e) Prescriptions for management actions.*
- f) Preparation of a work schedule (including an annual work plan capable of being rolled forward over a five-year period).*
- g) Details of the body or organisation responsible for implementation of the plan.*
- h) Ongoing monitoring and remedial measures.*

The LEMP shall also include details of the legal and funding mechanism(s) by which long-term implementation of the plan will be secured by the developer with the management body(ies) responsible for its delivery. The plan shall also set out (where results from monitoring show that conservation aims and objectives of the LEMP are not being met) how contingencies and/or remedial action will be identified, agreed and implemented so that the development still delivers the fully functioning biodiversity objectives of the originally approved scheme. The approved plan will be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure that protected species are not harmed by the development in accordance with SADMP policy DM6 and the advice contained in the NPPF together with the Habitats Directive.'

- 1.2. The current report is the central document for all management objectives and activities relevant to the strategic landscape and ecological value of the proposed development site, and is informed by ecological survey work undertaken at the site by SBE in January 2021 (SBE, 2021) and January 2026 (see 2026 walkover survey notes in Appendix II). The purpose of the current document is to provide detailed information on how the retained and newly created habitats and formal landscape features on site will be managed during and post-construction to maximise and maintain their biodiversity, landscape and amenity value.
- 1.3. In addition to the LEMP, SBE have been commissioned to produce a ‘Biodiversity Net Gain Plan’ (Condition 25), with LUC (Land Use Consultants) commissioned to produce detailed landscape proposals (Condition 20) – the measures set out in the current LEMP report are consistent with those described in the BNG Plan and detailed landscape plans mentioned above.
- 1.4. The specification of hedgerows, trees, shrubs and grassland, are detailed on the landscape proposals included in Appendix III (Drawing Refs: 16801-LUC-XX-XX-DR-L-0100 P01).

2.0 DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION OF FEATURES TO BE MANAGED

Site context

- 2.1. The site lies approximately 2 miles north-east of Earl Shilton town, immediately north of the A47 Leicester Road carriageway (central grid reference: SP 48126 99909), and predominantly comprises of large arable field parcels bordered by network of native hedgerows, wet and dry ditches and woodland parcels of varying descriptions. Beyond the site's boundaries, continuing agricultural land management (largely arable) is the dominant feature of surrounding landscape. The site is not located in close proximity to any European or nationally designated sites which are considered of ecological relevance for the scheme. However, ecological features such as the native hedgerows, mature broadleaved trees, wet/dry ditch networks and the boundary woodlands are considered to hold intrinsic ecological value within a local context.
- 2.2. Ecological survey work, including an Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey and targeted field surveys for Badger *Meles meles* and Great Crested Newt *Triturus cristatus* in 2021 (SBE, 2021), and an updated Ecological Walkover survey in 2026 (see Appendix II), concluded that the habitats found at/adjacent to the site are considered suitable of supporting a range of protected/priority listed species including foraging /commuting/roosting bats, both tree/shrub and ground-nesting bird species, common herpetofauna (reptiles and amphibians), Brown Hare *Lepus europaeus* and other small mammals. The presence of Badger has also been confirmed, with three setts identified within/directly adjacent to the site boundaries (see Target Notes 8, 20 and 21 in Appendix II), while the occasional use of the site by commuting Otter *Lutra lutra* could not be precluded. No invasive non-native species (INNS) listed under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended) have been identified at the site to date.

Habitats and features to be managed

- 2.3. In recognition of the site's value to wildlife, all of the existing native hedgerows, mature trees, ditch network and boundary woodlands are to be retained and protected within the development layout, with development utilising the existing junction off the A47 Leicester Road for access, and existing hedgerow gaps also utilised for internal access routes/pathways. The scheme also incorporates new habitat creation and the enhancement of existing features through new planting and beneficial management in order to improve habitat connectivity between the site and the wider landscape and to secure the site's value for protected species such as bats, nesting birds, common herpetofauna, Badger and other wildlife in the long-term. The creation of new boundary features and strengthening of existing boundary vegetation through new planting (see detailed landscape plans in Appendix III) will provide visual screening and a buffer to sound from the existing residential development to the north and west of the site.

- 2.4. The features to be managed under this plan are described in Table 1 below, with associated locations illustrated on the Landscape Plans in Appendix III and the 2026 UK Habitat Classification Plan in Figure 1.

Table 1: Description of landscape & habitat features

Feature ref	Type	Description
Existing features		
c1c – cereal crops	Arable field parcels	All four field parcels are used for arable purposes and had recently been ploughed and seeded at the time of the 2026 walkover survey. Very narrow arable field margins (typically <0.5m wide) containing typical hedgerow ground flora. All arable crops to be cleared prior to installation of solar panels.
h2a – hedgerow (priority habitat)	Retained native hedgerows (H1 – H8)	Contiguous native hedgerows including both intact and defunct examples (H1, H4 & H8 are species-rich, with H2, H3, H5, H6 & H7 all species-poor). All of the hedgerows support wet or dry ditches along their base, and with the exception of H4 and H8, are subject to intensive management regimes. Existing hedgerow numbers (H1 – H8) are illustrated on Figure 1 below.
R1g – other standing water	Slurry Pit/Lagoon	Large slurry pit in southern extent of site (see Target Note 5 in Appendix II). To be retained within development layout to allow for continued use/access by landowner.
U1c – artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	Dirt/bare earth track	Existing access path intersecting middle of site, used by existing residential development to the north. To be retained to allow continued access for nearby residents.
W1	Retained boundary woodland	A strip of broadleaved runs alongside much of the southern site boundary, comprising of both semi-natural and Beech plantation elements (see Target Note 2 – Appendix II). Tall and well-established canopy layer, with carpets of Bluebells present within ground-flora. Woodland supports several small ponds and is bordered by a wet ditch to the north.
W2	Retained boundary woodland	Parcel of mixed plantation woodland (w1h6 Other Woodland – Mixed – Mainly Conifer) adjacent to eastern boundary (see Target Note 7 – Appendix II). This comprises largely of Larch and Norway Spruce of uniform age/size, with examples of Oak, Holly, Birch, Hawthorn, Elder, Willow and Blackthorn also present – broadleaved trees are mainly found around the woodland's outer periphery. Little to no understory present other than scattered thickets of Bramble, with a bare/sparse and species-poor ground flora. Badger sett 1 is located within this wood (Target Note 8 – Appendix II).
W3	Retained boundary woodland	Parcel Of broadleaved plantation woodland found adjacent to northern boundary (Target Note 19 – Appendix II). Woodland canopy dominated by lines of mature Beech, while understory comprises mostly of Holly and Bramble thickets. Ground flora supports several ancient woodland indicators including Bluebells and Wood Sedge. Some disturbance to

Feature ref	Type	Description
		vegetation, with horses allowed access to the eastern extent of the wood. Badger sett 2 is located within this woodland (Target Note 20 – Appendix II).
W4	Retained boundary woodland	Parcel of broadleaved plantation woodland adjacent to western boundary (Target Note 24 – Appendix II). Canopy contains mature Beech and Ash, with an understory of Holly and Bramble. Carpets of Bluebells present in areas. Several Owl boxes noted on mature trees.
New features		
g4 – modified grassland	Grassland seeding	Previous arable land (within security fencing) to be re-seeded with Special General Purpose Meadow Mixture EM3 (Emorsgate Seeds) following installation of the solar panels.
g3c – other neutral grassland	Grassland seeding	Retained field margins (outside the security fencing) to be re-seeded with EM10 Tussock Grass Mixture (Emorsgate).
H9	New native hedgerow planting	New species-rich native hedgerow (species-mix detailed on the landscape plans in Appendix III) to be provided near northern boundary to strengthen local GI network and to enhance screening from adjacent residential development further to the north.
Refer to LUC landscape proposals plan key in Appendix III	New standard rural tree planting	New native tree planting (79no.) provided within three areas within/along field margins (between security fencing and site boundaries) to provide additional screening/enclosure from nearby residential properties. Species lists detailed on the landscape plans in Appendix III.
Refer to LUC landscape proposals plan key in Appendix III	New bat, bird and herpetofauna provisions within retained/newly created habitats	Ecological enhancement features to be provided within rank tussocky field margins and on retained mature broadleaved trees. To include 2no. bat boxes, 6no. bird boxes and 5no. wildlife refuge (stone/brush/log) piles – proposed location for features illustrated on the detailed landscape proposals in Appendix III.

Ecological Trends

- 2.5. The site currently supports large arable fields bordered by several distinct woodland parcels and a network of hedgerows of varying quality and structure, with associated wet/dry ditches. Whilst the boundary features currently provide refuge and foraging opportunities for birds, bats and other wildlife, if left unmanaged the hedgerows will eventually develop into gappy lines of trees and shrubs, reducing their value for a variety of species. The arable field margins also provide important habitats for common herpetofauna and small mammals such as Hedgehog and Brown Hare, although over time these spaces will likely become subject to succession and ‘scrubbing up’ through the encroachment of Bramble and saplings from boundary hedgerows/woodlands, reducing basking opportunities etc.

- 2.6. The change in land use for the open fields from arable to a solar scheme is likely to improve ecological trends if managed correctly. However, there may be some noise disturbance (limited to the construction period) to the boundary hedgerows/woodlands, although this would not be a factor during the operational phase. Nonetheless, it is important to ensure appropriate management to maintain dense contiguous hedgerow structures to provide protection and a continuity of good quality habitat in the long-term.
- 2.7. Post construction, and without any management, the proposed areas of open grassland are likely to be colonised by existing nearby grasses and ephemeral/ruderal vegetation initially, succeeded by encroaching scrub vegetation in the mid-term, before maturing into young woodland in the long term. There are numerous benefits of maintaining open grassland areas to local wildlife in the context of the site and the field parcels should be promoted as open grassland and maintained as such.

Site constraints

Public access

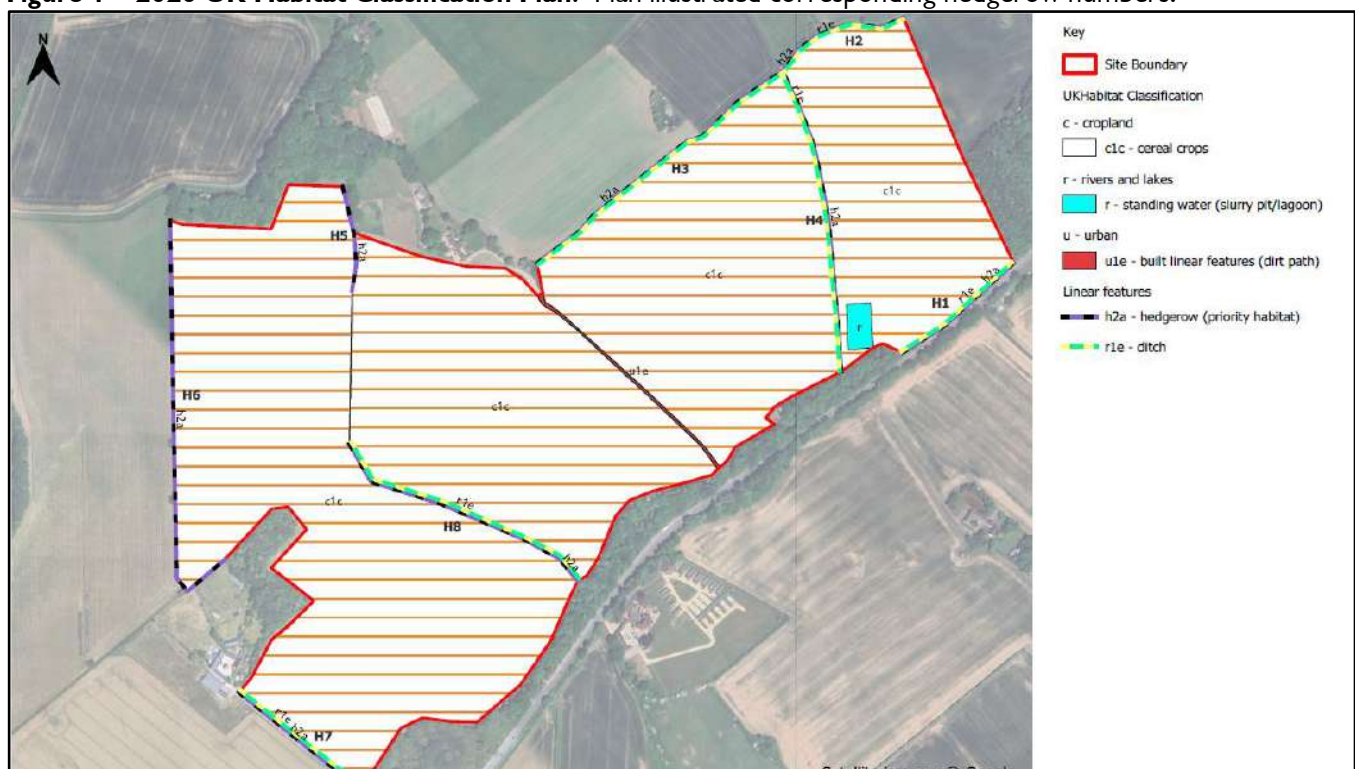
- 2.8. Some landscape and habitat features to be managed are publicly accessible. An existing road/access track and a separate Public Right of Way both intersect the middle of the site (from north to south – see detailed landscape plans in Appendix III). The boundary woodlands also contain a number of informal footpaths which have presumably been made by local residents, dog-walkers etc. All management activities should therefore have due regard for public health and safety.

Protected species

- 2.9. The site has been found to support, or is considered suitable of supporting, a number of protected species including Badger, bats, reptiles, Otters and breeding birds. The following legislation is therefore applicable to management activities undertaken at the site.
- Badgers and their setts are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992;
 - All bat species within the UK and their breeding and resting places are afforded legal protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended);
 - All wild birds are protected against killing and injury under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and their nests against damage or destruction whilst in use or being built; and
 - Reptiles are protected from intentionally injury or death under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and;
 - Otters and their resting places are fully protected in the UK under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010.

- 2.10. Certain operations and timings have the potential to cause harm to one or more of these species and their presence is therefore an important consideration in terms of future site management. This management plan incorporates best practice guidance for each of these species groups in order to minimise the risk of committing an offence under the above legislation during habitat management activities.
- 2.11. Operations outside of those detailed within this plan e.g. pruning or felling of trees containing Potential Bat Roost Features (PRFs) such as holes, cracked limbs etc. for health and safety reasons or use of heavy machinery within 30m of a badger sett may require licensing by Natural England and the advice of an ecologist should be sought before commencing.

Figure 1 – 2026 UK Habitat Classification Plan. Plan illustrated corresponding hedgerow numbers.



3.0 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

3.1 The overall aim of this plan is to maximise and maintain the biodiversity, landscape and amenity value of retained and newly created habitats and formal landscape elements post-development. This will be achieved by implementing management actions to:

- a) **Maintain** an interconnected network of habitats across the site to support a range of species including bats, badger and birds whilst offering ease of access for appropriate maintenance works; and
- b) **Enhance** existing habitats to provide attractive ecological opportunities, improve structural diversity and connectivity to the wider landscape, increase species richness and ensure a continuity of habitat resource for a range of species over the long-term.

3.2 Specific management requirements for each of the habitat and landscape features are set out in Table 2.

Table 2. Objectives for habitat & landscape features

Feature ref	Type	Objective	Actions
Existing features			
c1c – cereal crops	Arable field parcels	N/A	Arable land to be cleared ahead of installation of panels, to allow creation of new open grassland habitats.
h2a – hedgerow (priority habitat)	Retained native hedgerows (H1 – H8)	Maintain or improve hedge density/structure to strengthen local green infrastructure (GI) network. Improve species diversity and encourage flowering and nut/berry production. Increase hedgerow heights to minimum of 3m to enhance screening from nearby residential properties. Provide continuous dispersal corridors for bats, birds and other wildlife.	Ongoing hedgerow management regime to be ‘relaxed’, with retained hedges cut/trimmed once every 2/3 years as required to allow increase in height/structural diversity. Hedges to then be maintained at a minimum height of 3m. Hedgerows management to be staggered across the site (i.e. only one third of hedgerows cut in any one year) to allow retention of flowering/fruited shrubs for wildlife. Gappy hedgerow sections to be infilled with new native shrub/tree planting (see detailed landscape proposals in Appendix III). No vegetation management works (e.g. vegetation removal or associated ground

Feature ref	Type	Objective	Actions
			works) are to be undertaken within 10m of the known Badger sett (Sett 3) found in H6. Retention of mature boundary trees within hedgerow corridors. Annual inspection of mature trees to remove dead/dying branches (following ecological scoping works for bat roosting features/active nests).
R1g – other standing water	Slurry Pit/Lagoon	N/A	No proposed management actions – allow for continued use/access by landowner.
U1c – artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	Dirt/bare earth track	N/A	No proposed management actions – allow for continued use/access by landowner and nearby residents.
W1	Retained boundary woodland	N/A	No proposed management actions – area falls outside of site boundaries/client ownership.
W2	Retained boundary woodland	N/A	No proposed management actions – area falls outside of site boundaries/client ownership. No management works and/or vegetation removal/ground works are to be undertaken within 10m of the known Badger sett (Sett 1) found in northern extent of woodland.
W3	Retained boundary woodland	N/A	No proposed management actions – area falls outside of site boundaries/client ownership. No management works and/or vegetation removal/ground works are to be undertaken within 10m of the known Badger sett (Sett 2) found in southern extent of woodland.
W4	Retained boundary woodland	N/A	No proposed management actions – area falls outside of site boundaries/client ownership.
New features			
g4 – modified grassland	New grassland seeding within existing arable land	Creation of new open grassland habitat to increase botanical diversity.	The open field parcels (land within the security fence - previously cereal crops) will be reseeded with 'Special General Purpose

Feature ref	Type	Objective	Actions
			Meadow Mixture' EM3 by Emorsgate Seeds, following installation of panels. Once established, grassland to be managed via traditional hay meadow regime i.e. cut twice a year (a summer hay cut and a late autumn cut). Each cut should be to a height of approx. 150mm with all arisings removed.
g3c – other neutral grassland	New grassland seeding within existing arable land/arable field margins	Creation of new rough/tussocky grassland habitat, which will provide new habitat for a range of wildlife.	The field margins (areas between security fencing and site boundaries) and any other open areas set back from panel locations are to be reseeded with EM10 Tussock Grass Mixture (Emorsgate). These areas will be protected from development and managed less intensively – i.e. cut once every 2/3 years, with no cutting/mowing to take place between 1st April and 1st September to allow tall/tussocky swards to naturally develop. Each cut should be to a height of approx. 150mm with all arisings removed.
H9	New native hedgerow planting	Create new natural habitat providing opportunities for bats, birds and other wildlife. Provide enhanced screening from nearby residential properties. Strengthen local GI network.	Planting to be undertaken in first planting season post completion of construction and before first connection to the grid). Once established implement relaxed hedgerow management regime (as set out for retained/existing hedgerows H1 – H8).
Refer to detailed landscape proposals in Appendix III	New standard rural tree planting	Create new habitat providing additional foraging and refuge opportunities for bats, birds, inverts etc. Enhanced screening.	Planting to be undertaken in first planting season post completion of construction and before first connection to the grid.
Refer to detailed landscape proposals in Appendix III	New bat, bird and herpetofauna provisions within retained/newly created habitats	Ecology enhancement features to be provided in rough grassland buffers and on retained mature trees to offer additional shelter/resource for bats, birds, herpetofauna, inverts and other small mammals.	2no bat boxes and 6no. bird boxes to be installed on retained boundary trees. 5no. wildlife refuge piles to be installed within rough grassland buffers - stones/brush/logs placed loosely on ground surface with grasses, nettles etc allowed to colonise

Feature ref	Type	Objective	Actions
			naturally. Any arisings from hedgerow management works could be used to supplement these piles (or create new ones) as part of on-going management.

4.0 MANAGEMENT SCHEDULES

- 4.1 Table A sets out species specific management operations required for each soft landscape element, with regular landscape maintenance operations and frequency set out in Table B.

Plant replacement

- 4.2 Plants that fail should be replaced with stock of the original specified size in general circumstances. However, as planting establishes some natural failures are normal as shrubs mass into groups. Gaps should generally be replanted, however if failing shrubs can be removed without replacement, (i.e. if the natural expanding growth will fill gaps) replacement is not required.

Disturbance of wildlife

- 4.3 Operations must avoid disturbance of wild birds and animals¹ using the site for shelter, nesting, breeding, foraging and protection. Maintenance operatives should be aware of statutory obligations in this regard; in particular the legal protection afforded to roosting bats, nesting birds, Badger and reptiles (see section 2.9), and should comply with the timing and specification of operations detailed in this document to avoid committing an offence. Operatives should notify the client management team if any risk of disturbance arises during maintenance operations and adjust their works programme and methods as advised.

Nesting Birds

- 4.4 To avoid disturbance to nesting birds, any hedgerow management works or felling/ heavy pruning of trees and shrubs should be undertaken outside the bird nesting season (works possible between November and February inclusive). Any such works undertaken during the nesting bird season will need to be preceded by a thorough check for nesting birds by an ecologist.

Roosting Bats

- 4.5 Several mature broadleaved trees associated with the hedgerow corridors and woodland boundaries are considered to have potential to support roosting bats (See Target Notes 6, 10, 12 & 13 in Appendix II). Whilst the intention is to retain and protect all mature broadleaved trees, including those considered to hold roosting bat potential, the following measures will be implemented in the event that any works were required to these trees e.g. pruning of dead branches for health and safety reasons.
- 4.6 No works to any tree assessed as holding PRF-M roosting potential will be undertaken until a bat survey (i.e. climbing inspection/potential roost feature inspection and/or dusk emergence survey) has taken place

¹ With the exception of pest species such as rats.

confirming the presence or absence of bat roosts. Should a bat roost be discovered a licence from NE and appropriate mitigation will be required before any work is carried out to the tree. If no roosts are identified within the tree during the survey, the tree may be downgraded to low potential (PRF-I), and work carried out as detailed in section 4.7 below.

- 4.7 In accordance with best practice guidance (Collins, 2023), if any of trees assessed as holding PRF-I roosting potential are to be felled/heavily pruned, then these shall require no further survey work although a precautionary approach to felling/pruning should be adopted. Trees/branches will be section felled by a suitably qualified arborist in April or October, with sections lowered to the ground by rope and retained *in-situ* for 24- 48hrs to allow any bats present to escape. In the event roosting bats are found, all works will immediately cease, and Natural England will be contacted for advice on how to proceed. Work to any trees in April will be preceded by a thorough check for nesting birds as described in section 4.4.
- 4.8 As trees mature, they can develop/acquire new potential roosting features (e.g. woodpecker holes, lifted/cracked bark, knot holes or split limbs). The felling/management of any other mature trees found within/directly adjacent to the site will also first require further scoping works for roosting bats by a suitably qualified ecologist (prior to felling). This will involve an initial assessment from the ground to identify any new Potential Roost Features (PRF) with supplementary climbing inspection and/or emergence checks undertaken where PRF-M roosting potential is identified.

Common Herpetofauna (Reptiles and Amphibians)

- 4.9 Where the management of rough/tussocky grassland is required (e.g. grassland between security fencing and site boundaries), sensitive habitat manipulation will be used to encourage displacement and avoid risking injury or death to common reptile species. Such areas will be strimmed in a one-directional manor towards retained field boundaries and down to a minimum height of 150mm. Such works will be undertaken using hand tools (e.g. strimmers and brush cutters) or a low-pressure mower capable of cutting at a set height. All arisings will be removed immediately from the works area – these could be added to the dedicated wildlife refuge piles.

Badgers

- 4.10 Survey work has established the presence of Badger at the site, with three Badger setts identified within or immediately adjacent to the site boundaries (see Target Notes 8, 20 & 21 in Appendix II – the locations of the Badger setts are considered confidential and should not be released into the public domain). Badgers and their setts are afforded legal protection under the Protection of Badgers Act (1992), and certain works that can disturb Badgers are illegal without a licence. Best practice guidance (Badger Trust, 2023; English Nature 2002 & NRW, 2018) identifies that light work such as hand digging or scrub clearance can result in disturbance to

Badgers, and so no vegetation management works (e.g. of boundary hedgerows or woodlands) will be able to take place within a 10m radius of any sett/sett entrance tunnel identified at the site. In order to further limit any potential for disturbance to these setts (and subsequent licensing requirements), the layout has been designed so that no solar panels are to be installed within a 30m buffer surrounding each sett, with no use of heavy machinery to occur within the same 30m exclusion buffer. To facilitate the continued use of the site by Badger and other small fauna, the security/perimeter fencing around the site will incorporate a continuous gap of approximately 200mm along its base.

- 4.11 As part of the regular maintenance work, operatives should be advised on the potential of finding further setts at/around the site. In the event that any other setts are found during on-going management works then the project ecologist will be contacted for advice.

Use of pesticides and herbicides

- 4.12 In the interests of best practise for biodiversity, the use of pesticides and herbicides should be minimised wherever possible. Weeds should typically be removed by hand and pests should only be treated when they are affecting the continued health and establishment of plants. The advice of a suitably experienced pest control operative will be sought alongside consultation with the project ecologist prior to the use of pesticides or herbicides.
- 4.13 Should an invasive plant species be discovered on site, the stand should be eradicated by the most efficient means possible, by removal, or suitable approved chemical treatment to eradicate it as soon as possible, with treatment limited to the specific area contaminated by the invasive species. Indiscriminate herbicide will not be used. The advice of a suitably experienced invasive weeds specialist will be sought prior to undertaking any treatment or removal.

Table A: Landscape Management Operation Requirements

NEW GRASSLAND SEEDING WITHIN OPEN FIELD PARCELS	MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS
EM3 Special General Purpose Meadow Mixture (Emorsgate Seeds)	In all general areas within the security fence a 'Special General Purpose Meadow Mixture' EM3 by Emorsgate Seeds will be sown @4g/m² to promote biodiversity, following completion of construction activities, to create a continuous sward. All new grass seeding to take place in March-May or August-September, no later than the first seeding season following the completion of the works onto a prepared weed free seed bed. Weeds removed through repeated cultivation or a suitable herbicide. Ploughing is recommended to bury surface vegetation, followed by harrowing to produce a medium tilth and rolling to produce a firm sward. Seed to be surface broadcast, not drilled. To get an even distribution and avoid running out, the seed should be divided into two or more parts and sown in overlapping sections. Seed should be firmed in with a roller once sown. Following the first seeding, there may be a flush of annual weeds in the spring. This weed growth will be controlled by topping at the end of the first summer in the first year (hay-cut in late July/mid-August). Grassland then maintained by a traditional meadow management regime based on 2 cuts per year (a summer hay cut and a later Autumn cut). Grass cut/mown to a minimum height of 150mm to safeguard common reptiles, amphibians etc.
NEW GRASSLAND SEEDING ALONG FIELD MARGINS	MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS
EM1 Tussock Grass Mixture (Emorsgate Seeds)	In the rough grassland buffers/biodiversity corridors (between the security fence and site boundary) a 'Tussock Grass Mixture' EM10 by Emorsgate Seeds will be sown @ 5g/m² to promote biodiversity. All new grass seeding to take place in March-May or August-September, no later than the first seeding season following the completion of the works onto a prepared weed free seed bed.

	Weeds removed through repeated cultivation or a suitable herbicide. Ploughing is recommended to bury surface vegetation, followed by harrowing to produce a medium tilth and rolling to produce a firm surface. Seed to be surface broadcast, not drilled. To get an even distribution and avoid running out, the seed should be divided into two or more parts and sown in overlapping sections. Seed should be firmed in with a roller once sown. Following the first seeding, there may be a flush of annual weeds in the spring. This weed growth will be controlled by topping at the end of the first summer in the first year (hay-cut in late July/mid-August). Grassy buffers/biodiversity corridors on the margins of the site will be allowed to develop through a sympathetic mowing regime (only cut every 2-3 years). This will allow tussocks and tufts to develop. The margins will be retained uncut between 1st April and 1st September, to allow flowers and grasses to flower and set seed. If undesirable plants set seed spot treatment may be required. Grass cut/mown to a minimum height of 150mm to safeguard common reptiles, amphibians etc.
RETAINED BOUNDARY HEDGEROWS	MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS
Existing Hedgerows H1 – H8	Existing hedgerows Existing hedgerows to be managed as dense and robust hedges. Vegetation to be trimmed when needed approximately every 2-3 years, avoiding the bird nesting season (i.e. works possible from September – February). Hedges maintained at a minimum height of 3m. Hedgerow management staggered across site, so only one third of hedgerows cut in any one year to maintain fruit/flower resource for local wildlife. Mature broadleaved trees within hedgerow corridors maintained, with annual inspection of these to remove any dead/dying limbs which impact on safety of solar development. No removal/heavy pruning of mature trees to take place without prior ecological scoping works for roosting bats and nesting birds. New planting/ 'gapped up' sections

	All new planting in 'gapped up' hedgerow sections to be carried out no later than the first planting season following completion of the works and before the first connection to the grid. Species composition as per detailed landscape proposals in Appendix III. Any newly planted trees/hedgerow plants which, within a period of 5 years from completion of planting, fail, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species. Stretches of infill planting to have side branches trimmed by half in the spring after the first growing season and then cut lightly in year 3 (between September and February to avoid nesting bird season), until desired height (minimum 3m) is reached. Leader stems should not be cut until desired height is reached. All new planting to be maintained for 40 year operational period (or for the operating life of the solar farm).
NEWLY PLANTED HEDGEROW	MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS
Newly planted species-rich native hedgerows (H9) (specification as per detailed landscape proposals in Appendix III).	Newly hedgerow planting to be carried out no later than the first planting season following completion of the works and before the first connection to the grid. Ensure all new planting is firmly bedded in ground following strong winds, frosts or other disturbances. Regularly inspect new hedge planting (e.g. once a month) for the first year, for any pest damage, vandalism or other forms of damage, and to maintain planted areas in a weed/litter free condition. Prune out any damaged, dying or dead branches and suckers to promote healthy growth and shape. Weed control measures to continue until canopy of plants is closed (hand weeding). Any new hedgerow plants which, within a period of 5 years from completion of planting, fail, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species. Once established, new hedgerow to be managed as a dense and robust hedge, as per management operations for existing hedgerows (see Table A1).

	New hedgerow to have side branches trimmed by half in the spring after the first growing season and then cut lightly in year 3 (between September and February to avoid nesting bird season), until desired height (minimum 3m) is reached. Leader stems should not be cut until desired height is reached. After approximately 5 years, the previous seasons growth to be cut back by one third (or more if required) to maintain a minimum height of 3m. Subsequently to be trimmed when needed in winter months to avoid nesting bird season, approximately every 2-3 years and staggered across the site. All new planting to be maintained for 40 year operational period (or for the operating life of the solar farm).
NEWLY PLANTED TREES	MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS
	Ensure that all new trees are firmly bedded in the ground after strong winds and frosts or other disturbances. Regularly inspect all new tree planting (e.g. once a month) for the first five years (after which they will be fully established) for any pest damage or vandalism/damage caused by others, and to maintain all planted areas in a weed free and litter free condition. Prune out any damaged, dead or dying branches and suckers to promote healthy growth and shape. Check s guards, stakes and ties of the trees and adjust if necessary in summer and winter. Remove stakes when no longer required, i.e. after 3 years. Maintain the trees in a straight and upright position Tree species have been chosen so watering is not necessary under normal climatic conditions. Watering is only necessary in exception conditions, typically droughts. When the health or survival of trees requires watering, water to field capacity (preferably in the evening or very early morning) and repeat operations as necessary to ensure plant survival in a good condition. Trees

	which require watering will demonstrate limp leaves which become crispy and die. In these cases, water with immediate effect if there has been a drought. Beyond the first 3 years no watering should be required and is not encouraged unless there is extended major drought. Weed free ring (1 m diameter) to be maintained around each tree for three years after planting (either with herbicide or hand weeding). Weeds growing within shelters will be cleared by hand in April, July and September (as appropriate). If excessive growth occurs between planting stations it may be necessary to strim or mow between plants. Any tree which forms part of the approved landscaping scheme that fails to become established, becomes seriously damaged or diseased, dies or for any reason or is removed, will be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and same species. All new planting to be maintained for 40 year operational period (or for the operational life of the solar farm).
MAINTENANCE OF SITE DITCHES, FENCING, PATHS AND FOOTPATH ROUTES	MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS
As above	Twice annual litter pick along footpath routes – litter picks to be undertaken in March and September annually. Wear and tear to site fencing and access routes will be repaired as required – this to be informed by annual check on fences and paths in March/April.

	Annual walkover of ditch network in early autumn (September) to identify any requirement for litter picking, treatment of invasive weeds or removal of other debris (e.g. large logs which could obstruct flow of water).
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Table B: Regular Landscape Maintenance Operations Frequency Table (post first 12-month period)

Annual Operations / Months	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
Spot weeding and pest control						As necessary 						
Watering	As necessary to maintain healthy growth in drought conditions, subject to restrictions											
Cut/mow open grassland (within security fencing)									Late summer meadow cut after main flowering period from mid-June.			Late autumn cut
Cut/mow grassland margins (between security fencing and site boundaries)												Single meadow cut
Check Tree Ties	Every 3 weeks and immediately after high winds and frost-heave. Replace broken or missing items. 											
Remove dead and diseased plant material	When required											
Replace defective plants	Replace using container grown stock as required. Avoid June to September replacements.											
Coppicing/thinning/native hedgerow management.		Nov-Feb (outside nesting bird season)										

5.0 MONITORING & REMEDIAL MEASURES

- 5.1 Monitoring is required in order to assess the efficacy of the management set out above. A review of all habitats and landscape features at the site will be undertaken by a suitably qualified Ecologist and Landscape Architect in summer of years 2, 4, 5, 10 and 27 following commencement of management (in accordance with habitat target conditions as discussed in the Biodiversity Net Gain Plan (BNG) and Habitat Management & Monitoring Plan produced to discharge Condition 25). This will allow a review of the soft landscape elements against the intended outcomes and an informed assessment of the quality of maintenance operatives services on site.
- 5.2 Monitoring visits will include a combination of UK Habitat Classification surveys and site inspections. The conditions of the retained, created and enhanced habitats will be compared to the relevant statutory metric condition assessment sheets, as well as the corresponding habitat descriptions within the UK Habitat Classification Guidelines (V2.0) to monitor the progress of the habitat management prescriptions. Site inspections will also identify any remedial measures required in accordance with the risk register below – these measures are also addressed in the BNG and Habitat Management & Monitoring Plan (Condition 25).

Table 3 – Habitat creation/management Risk Register & Remedial Measures

Habitat Type	Risk Factor	Trigger for Action	Remedial Measures
Grassland seeding beneath solar panels – EM3 Special General Purpose Meadow Mixture (Emorsgate Seeds) Grassland seeding along field margins - EM1 Tussock Grass Mixture (Emorsgate Seeds)	Scrub/Bracken Encroachment	If cover of Bramble scrub exceeds >5% of total area, if cover of Bracken exceeds >20% of total area	Trimming of bramble scrub/bracken and removal of roots from ground using hand-tools. Removal of self-sown blackthorn and hawthorn from spreading hedgerows.
	Diverse sward fails to establish	If monitoring identified <6 vascular plant species per m ² at target condition for EM3 grass mix areas. If monitoring identified lack of characteristic indicator species for EM1 grass mix areas.	Review cutting regime. Assess possibility of re-seeding or introduction of Yellow-rattle.
	Physical damage to grassy areas	Evidence of damage to grassland in >5% of total area (e.g. excessive damage from machinery, inappropriate use of storage or any other detrimental management activities).	Review current land use. Prevent/restrict damaging activities e.g. machinery/vehicle/plant access to problematic areas.

Hedgerow Individual trees	Newly planted shrubs/trees failing to establish	10% of targeted number of newly planted shrubs/trees found to be dead during years 1-5.	Undertake second round of planting, replacing failed specimens on a like-for-like basis.
	Herbivore damage to shrubs/trees	As above	The new saplings will be planted with stakes and tree guards to enable establishment and prevent herbivore damage, with guards removed only once the saplings transition into young shrubs. Replace any failed specimens on a like-for-like basis.
All habitats	Presence of invasive non-native species	Identification of any non-native species listed on schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended)	Contact specialist invasive species contractor for advice on appropriate control and removal of invasive plant species.

- 5.3 Following each monitoring check (in summer months of years 2, 4, 5, 10 and 27), a report detailing the survey findings shall be shared with Clump Farm Solar Limited (or their appointed contractor), with this including an assessment of the condition of each habitat type, positive and negative trends and recommendations for amendments to the LEMP where considered appropriate. Clump Farm Solar Ltd (or their appointed contractor) will thereafter be responsible for addressing any management objectives that are not being achieved, and for submitting the monitoring reports to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (the local planning authority), who in turn hold the responsibility for reviewing the reports.

6.0 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 A Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) & Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) has been produced for the site, as required under Condition 25 of the planning approval, as this sets out the legal and funding mechanisms which will secure the long-term implementation of the management plan. The current LEMP report and the BNG/HMMP plan are consistent with one another and contain the same management prescriptions for all retained, created and enhanced habitats. Clump Farm Solar Limited represent the management organisation and will therefore hold the responsibility for the implementation of the LEMP.
- 6.2 There will be two principal stages of management responsibility:
- a) **Construction Stage** management and maintenance will be the responsibility of Clump Farm Solar Limited.
 - b) **Operational Stage** management and maintenance will be the responsibility of the appointed Management Company.
- 6.3 Transfer from construction to operational responsibility may be undertaken in stages in accordance with construction phasing. This is to be reviewed by Clump Farm Solar Limited and carried out in accordance with the planning agreement.
- 6.4 During the Construction Phase, the principal management will be the protection and enhancement of retained habitats and the creation of new landscape elements as defined by the Detailed Landscape Proposals (Appendix III).
- 6.5 During the operational stage, the management and maintenance of the soft landscape will be carried out by the Maintenance Company, appointed by Clump Farm Solar Limited, with four main purposes:
- 1. The day-to-day maintenance of landscape concept;
 - 2. The continued protection of existing grasslands, hedgerows, ditches, boundary woodlands and scrub;
 - 3. The establishment of new landscape elements and habitat enhancements; an
 - 4. The long-term management of all elements to maximise their biodiversity and landscape value

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Edgar, P., Foster, J. and Baker, J. (2010). *Reptile Habitat Management Handbook*. Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, Bournemouth.

English Nature (2002). *Badgers and Development*. English Nature 2002

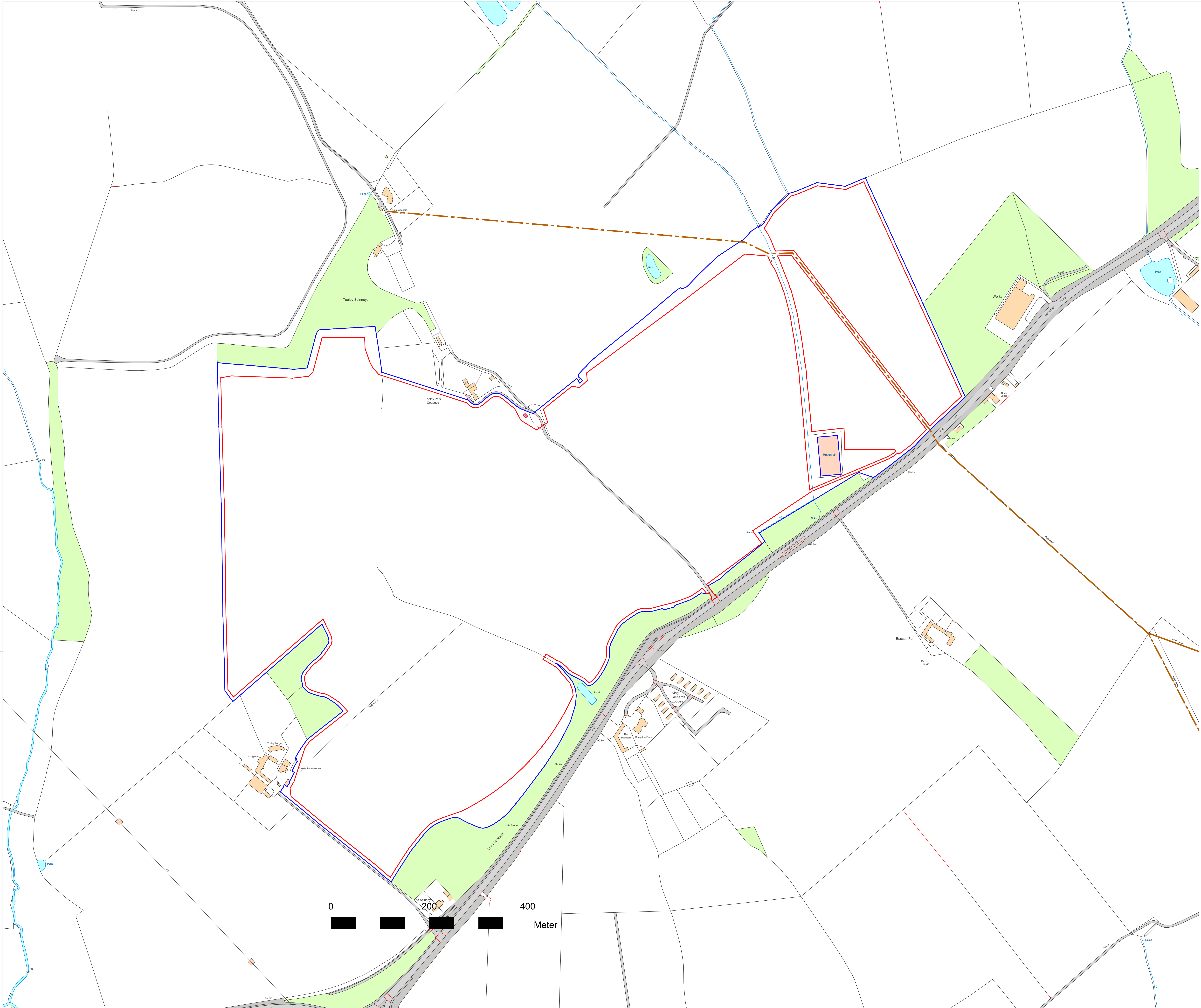
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APPENDIX I SITE LOCATION PLAN



Area within control of applicant : 66,2ha
Planning application area : 60,8ha
Coordinates : 52.596N, -1.286W
Altitude : 90-105m

- Legend:
- Area within control of applicant
 - Planning application area
 - Public right of way

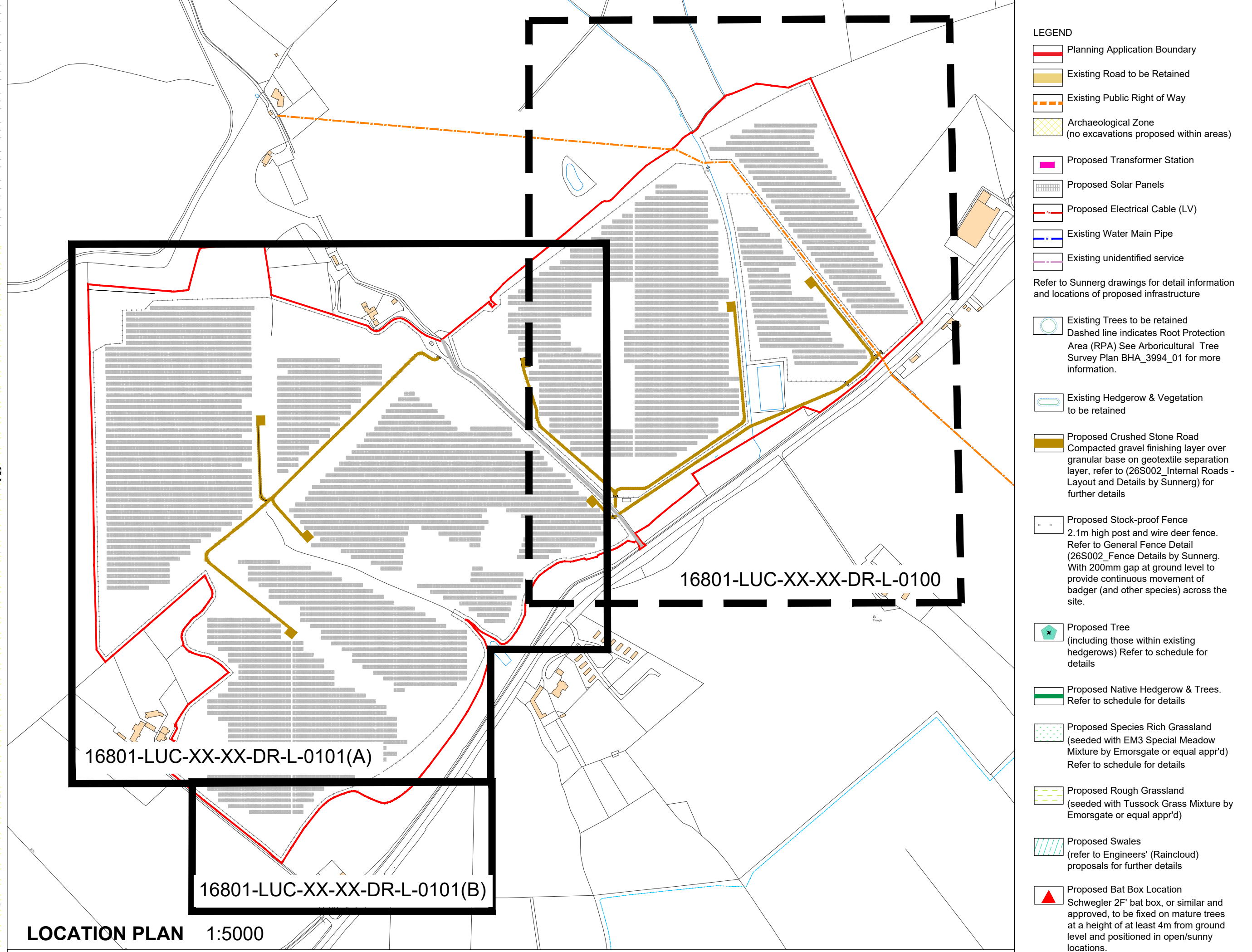
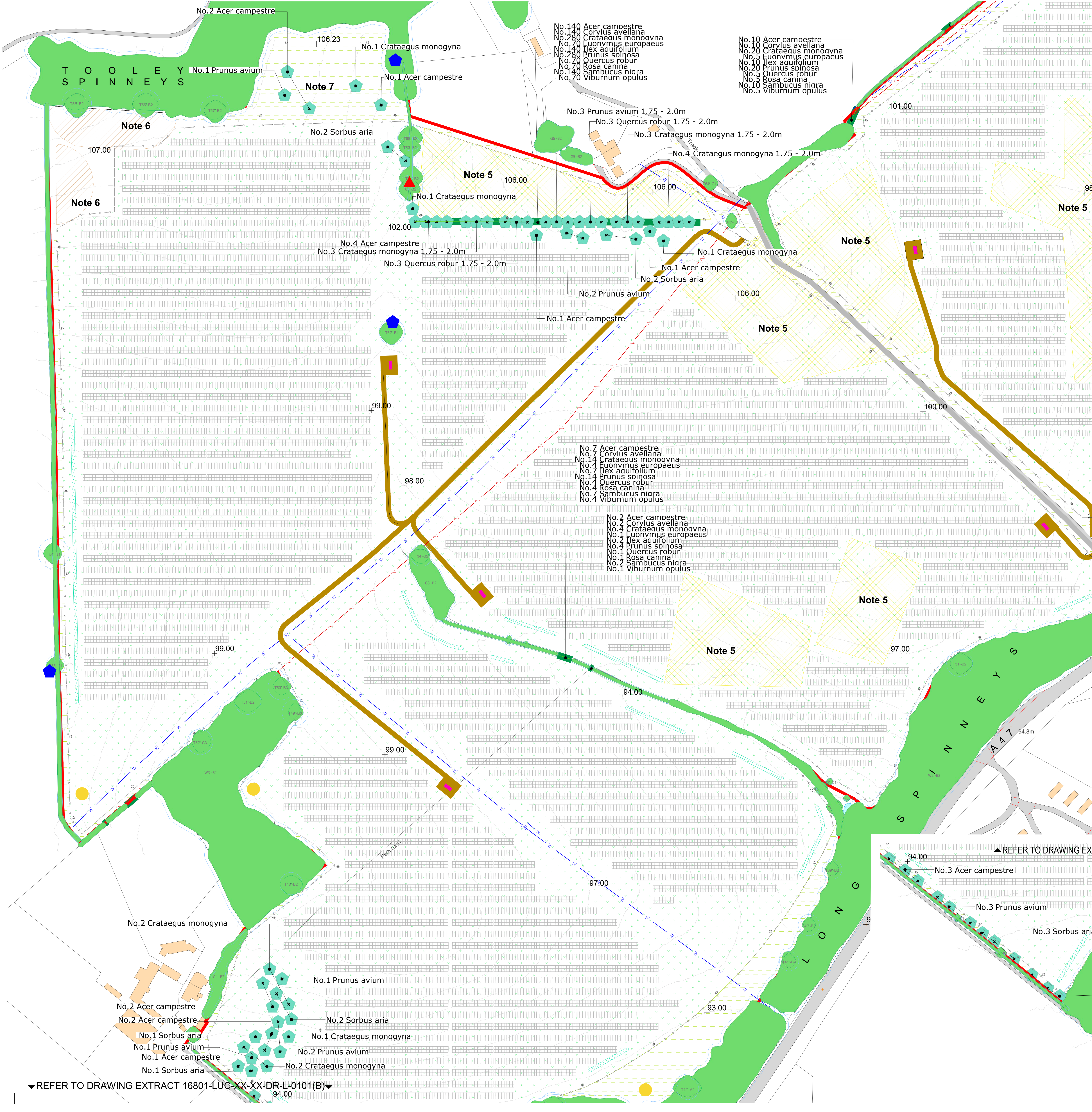
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			Client:	Clump Farm Solar Limited	
			Date	Name	Scale
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Drawing Title:			01_Site location plan		
File Name:			BWre21-CLP_PD_V3.dwg		

APPENDIX II 2026 WALOVER SURVEY NOTES & ANNOTATED PLAN

Confidential – Not to be released into the public domain

APPENDIX III DETAILED LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS (LAND USE CONSULTANS)

[illegible]



LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

MANAGEMENT OF EXISTING VEGETATION

- Existing hedgerow vegetation to be trimmed when needed approximately every 2-3 years avoiding the bird nesting season (March to July), in the winter months (between September and February inclusive), staggered across the site thereby retaining and encouraging flowerfruit for wildlife;
- Only one third of hedgerows on site to be cut in any one year so that at least some heavily fruiting hedgerows are always present;
- Approximately one third of hedgerows on site will be cut on rotation so as to avoid shadowing;
- The previous hedgerows seasons growth cut back by one third, or more if required to maintain a maximum height of 3.0m for both the internal and boundary hedges;
- Mature trees on the boundary of the site are to be retained. Annual inspection of mature trees undertaken to remove any dead or dying branches (which may impact on safety and the viability of the solar development). No removal of trees/branches to take place without an appropriate ecological survey to ascertain any breeding bird or bat presence;
- Any new tree or hedgerow plants which, within a period of five years from the completion of the planting, die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species; and
- Any existing hedgerow that is removed, uprooted, severely damaged, destroyed or dies throughout the duration of the operation of the solar farm, will be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species and be maintained thereafter.

MANAGEMENT OF NEW NATIVE TREE PLANTING

General

- Ensure that all new trees are firmly bedded in the ground after strong winds and frosts or other disturbances. Regularly inspect all new tree planting e.g. once a month, for the first five years (after which they will be fully established) for any pest damage or vandalism/damage caused by others and to maintain all planted areas in a weed free and litter free condition;
- Prune out any damaged, dead or dying branches and suckers to promote healthy growth and shape;
- Check s guards, stakes and ties of the trees and adjust if necessary in summer and winter. Remove stakes when no longer required, i.e. after 3 years;
- Weed free ring (1 m diameter) to be maintained around each tree for three years after planting (either with herbicide or hand weeding);
- Weeds growing within shelters will be cleared by hand in April, July and September (as appropriate);
- If excessive growth occurs between planting stations it may be necessary to trim or mow between plants;
- Any tree which forms part of the approved landscaping scheme that fails to become established, becomes seriously damaged or diseased, dies or for any reason or is removed, will be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and same species;
- Regularly inspect all new trees e.g. once a month, for the first five years (after which they will be fully established) for any pest damage or vandalism/damage caused by others and to maintain all planted areas in a weed free and litter free condition; and
- All new planting to be maintained for 40 year operational period (or for the life of the proposed solar farm).

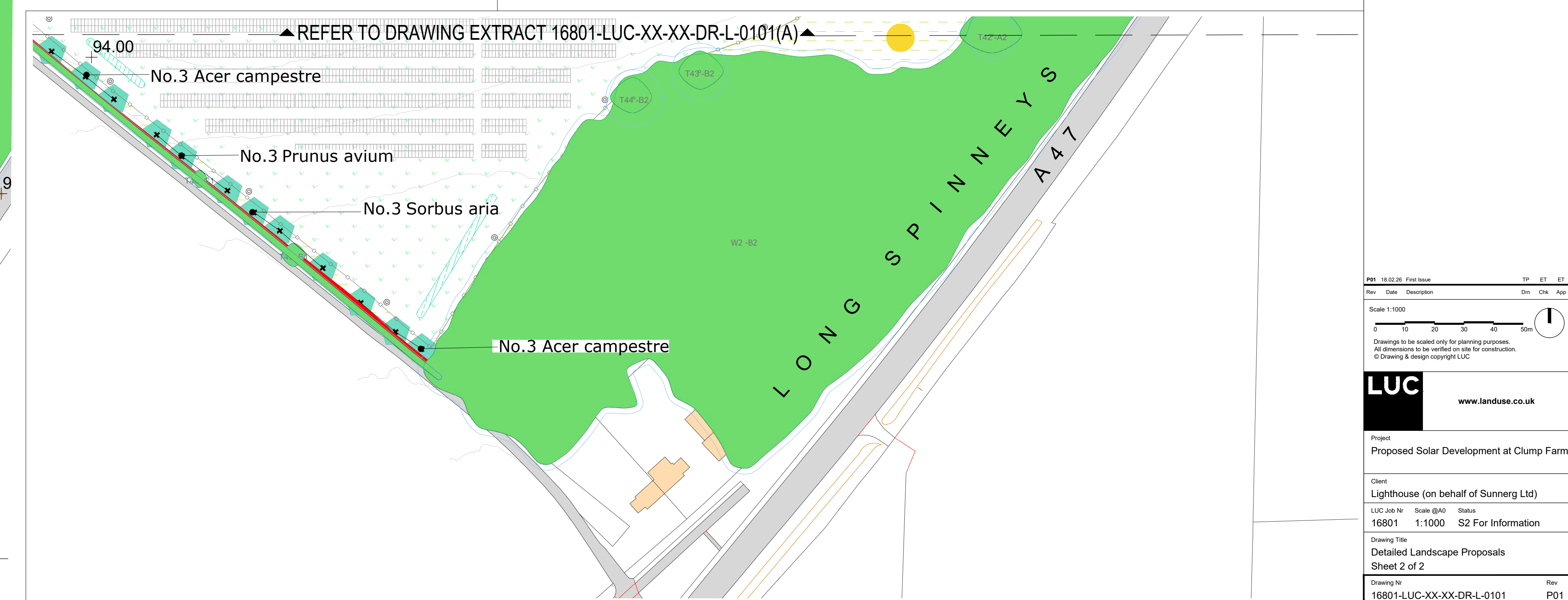
MANAGEMENT OF NEW SPECIES-RICH NATIVE HEDGEROW AND HEDGEROW INFILL PLANTING

- Ensure that all new planting is firmly bedded in the ground after strong winds and frosts or other disturbances;
- Regularly inspect all new shrub planting e.g. once a month, for the first year, for any pest damage or vandalism/damage caused by others and to maintain all planted areas in a weed free and litter free condition;
- Prune out any damaged, dead or dying branches and suckers to promote healthy growth and shape;
- Weed control measures to continue until canopy of plants is closed (either with herbicide or hand weeding);
- Check guards and protectors and replace/remove when required;
- New species-rich native hedgerows and areas of infill planting to have the side branches of the transplants trimmed by half in the spring after the first growing season and then cut lightly in year 3, (between September and February inclusive), avoiding the bird nesting season (March to July), but also retaining fruit during the winter months for wildlife, until the desired height of the hedgerow is reached. Leader stems should not be cut until the desired height of the hedgerow is reached; and
- After 5 years approximately - the previous seasons growth to be cut back by one-third, or more if required, to maintain a minimum height of 3m. Subsequently, to be trimmed when needed in winter avoiding the bird nesting season, approximately every 2-3 years, staggered across the site thereby retaining and encouraging flowerfruit during winter months for wildlife; and
- All new planting to be maintained for 40 year operational period (or for the life of the proposed solar farm).

MANAGEMENT OF GRASSED AREAS

- Following the first seeding, there may be a flush of annual weeds in the spring. This weed growth will be controlled by topping at the end of the first summer in the first year (hay-cut in late July/mid-August);
- In all general areas within the security fence the Special General Purpose Meadow Mixture EM3 will be maintained by a traditional meadow management regime based on 2 cuts per year (a summer hay cut and a later Autumn cut);
- The rough grassland buffers/biodiversity corridors on the margins of the site (between the security fence and site boundary) will be allowed to develop through a sympathetic mowing regime (only cut every 2-3 years). This will allow tussocks and tufts to develop; and
- Both grass types will provide suitable habitat for nesting bumble bees and ground nesting birds, through the summer and invertebrate habitat through the winter. This will also be beneficial to local bird and bat populations. The wild flower margins will be retained uncut between 1st April and 1st September, to allow flowers and grasses to flower and set seed and if undesirable plants seed spot treatment may be required.

REFER TO DETAIL LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS SHEET 1 OF 2 16801-LUC-XX-XX-DR-L-0100 FOR LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS, PLANT SPECIFICATION AND LANDSCAPE DETAILS



APPENDIX II 2026 WALOVER SURVEY NOTES & ANNOTATED PLAN

Purpose of survey: In order to inform the content of this CEMP, a site walkover survey was undertaken to verify existing habitat types/extents and to identify any changes since the baseline survey was completed in 2021 with respect to protected species (e.g. check on known Badger setts).

Birds heard/seen: Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*, Great Tit *Parus major*, Robin *Erithacus rubecula*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*, Greater Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*, Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*, Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*, Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*, Magpie *Pica pica*, Pheasant *Phasianus Colchicus*, Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*, Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*, Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Starling *Sturnus Vulgaris*, Jackdaw *Corvus Monedula*, Mallard *Anas Platyrhynchos*, Eurasian Coot *Fulica Atra* & Goldfinch *Carduelis Carduelis*.

Other Sightings: Brown Hare *Lepus europaeus*.

Target Note	Description
1	All of the field parcels found at the site remain as described/mapped in 2021, i.e. cropland (c1d Non-cereal Crops). The central and eastern field parcels had recently been sown at the time of the survey, with the western fields recently ploughed. These fields are still considered to hold limited ecological value, although may support ground-nesting and wintering bird species (although no such species were noted during the survey). 
2	Much of the site's southern boundary is defined by a narrow belt of broadleaved woodland (w1f Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland) which comprises both semi-natural and plantation elements. This woodland contains frequent mature Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>, with Birch <i>Betula sp.</i>, Oak <i>Quercus sp.</i>, Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>, Hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>, Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>, Sweet Chestnut <i>Castanea sativa</i>, Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>, Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>, Blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> and Elder <i>Sambucus nigra</i> also common throughout. Structurally diverse understory and ground flora layers, with carpets of Bluebells <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> noted in several areas. Other species noted include Common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i>, Cleavers <i>Galium aparine</i>, Red Campion <i>Silene dioica</i>, Male Fern <i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>, Lesser Celandine <i>Ficaria verna</i>, Ivy <i>Hedera helix</i>, Dog's Mercury <i>Mercurialis perennis</i>, Wood Sedge <i>Carex sylvatica</i>, Greater Stitchwort <i>Stellaria holostea</i>, Garlic Mustard <i>Alliaria petiolata</i>, Common Foxglove <i>Digitalis purpurea</i>, Herb Robert <i>Geranium robertianum</i>, Lords-and-ladies <i>Arum maculatum</i>. A wet drainage

	ditch runs alongside several sections of the woodland edge and intersects it in several places – this contained fast-flowing water at the time of the survey. This woodland is expected to be retained with an appropriate buffer of rough grassland under the indicative masterplan plan. 
3	A small offsite pond remains in the southern belt of woodland at approx. grid reference: SP 48345 99835. This was found to be as described in 2021, measuring approx. 50-100m² in size and up to 50cm in depth. The pond is completely shaded from the surrounding woodland canopy and is choked with leaf litter. Water quality appears to be poor, with little to no macrophyte cover or any other notable emergent/marginal vegetation – the adjacent arable fields to the north and Leicester Road to the south likely drain into this pond to some extent. No waterfowl present at the time of the survey, with the pond considered unlikely to contain fish. The previous (2021) HSI score for this pond was 0.4681 (Poor Suitability for Great Crested Newt), with the pond also testing negative for Great Crested Newt eDNA in 2021. 
4	A second small pond was discovered in the same southern woodland belt in close proximity to the first pond mentioned above (approx. grid reference: SP 48278 99791) – this was not identified during the 2021 survey. This measured <50m² in size and <20cm in depth. Similarly to TN3, this pond was completely shaded; contained poor water quality, was choked with leaf litter; and supported no macrophyte cover or other emergent/aquatic/marginal vegetation. This pond is likely to quickly dry out in warmer/drier months. Considered of very poor suitability for GCN.
5	A slurry pit remains present in the southern extent of the site.

	
6	Native hedgerow marking southern boundary of arable field with mature Oak standards (h2a Native Hedgerow). Defunct with a gappy base that supports a wet drainage ditch. Species-rich with numerous woody species present including Oak, Hazel, Holly, Hawthorn, Blackthorn and Beech. The mature Oaks were collectively assessed as holding low potential to support roosting bats (PRF-I), based on the presence of dense Ivy cover and other small potential roosting features like cracked bark and knot holes – this hedgerow atrees are to be retained within the development layout. 
7	Parcel of mixed plantation woodland (w1h6 Other Woodland – Mixed – Mainly Conifer). This comprises largely of Larch <i>Larix sp.</i> and Norway Spruce <i>Picea abies</i> of uniform age/size, with examples of Oak <i>Quercus sp.</i>, Holly, Birch, Hawthorn, Elder <i>Sambucus nigra</i>, Willow <i>Salix sp.</i>, Blackthorn also present – broadleaved trees are mainly found around the woodland's outer periphery. Little to no understory present other than scattered thickets of Bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i>, with a bare/sparse and species-poor ground flora, although a small number of indicator species were noted including Wood Sedge and Dog's Mercury. This woodland is expected to be retained under the current proposed layout plan.

	
8	<u>Badger Sett 1</u> As identified in 2021, a Badger sett remains in the northern extent of the mixed plantation woodland (TN7). This now contains over 30no. separate entrance tunnels, of which at least 19no. appear to be active. Two entrance tunnels lie on and directly adjacent to the woodland/field boundary, at approx. grid references SK 48581 00236 and SK 48586 00234 (+/- 10m). The remaining tunnels are set back from the woodland edge at varying distances of between 15 and 40m. The sett exhibits clear signs of current use, with freshly excavated soil/spoil present outside several of the entrances; well-maintained tunnels with smoothed walls; and entrances that have been kept clear of leaf litter/debris. Claw marks and footprints were also noted in the mud surrounding some of the larger tunnels. Given the evidence found, this was considered to represent a main Badger sett. This sett and surrounding woodland is to be retained within the development layout, with a grassy buffer provided between the woodland edge and solar panels. 
9	Pond found in eastern extent of the mixed plantation woodland (approx. grid reference: SK 48788 00268). This measured approx. 100-150m² in size and was of unknown depth. Turbid water which appears to be of poor quality (likely impacted by agricultural run-off). Completely shaded from surrounding canopy layer and choked with leaf litter. Small amount of macrophyte cover, with some Common Reed present in centre of pond, although no other marginal/aquatic vegetation noted. Previous (2021) HSI score was 0.3052 (Poor Suitability for Great Crested Newt) and pond tested negative for Great Crested Newt eDNA in 2021.

	
10	Native hedgerow with mature Oak standards (h2a Native Hedgerow) marking southern boundary of arable field – this now lies outside the planning boundary. Largely intact with a continuous understory supporting a wet drainage ditch. Species rich with woody species present including Ash, Holly, Oak, Blackthorn and Hawthorn. The mature Oaks were collectively assessed as holding low potential to support roosting bats (PRF-I) – these are to be retained within the development layout. 
11	Parcel of offsite broadleaved woodland (w1f Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland) to the east of the application site. Woodland appears to contain both semi-natural and plantation elements. This woodland is of similar description/species assemblage to the broadleaved woodland found along the southern site boundary (see Target Note 1), with a mature canopy layer and a structurally diverse understory and ground flora. Carpets of Bluebells were again present in places. A wet drainage ditch runs alongside field/wood boundary, and much of the woodland was found to be waterlogged or very wet underfoot (likely unsuitable for sett building). 

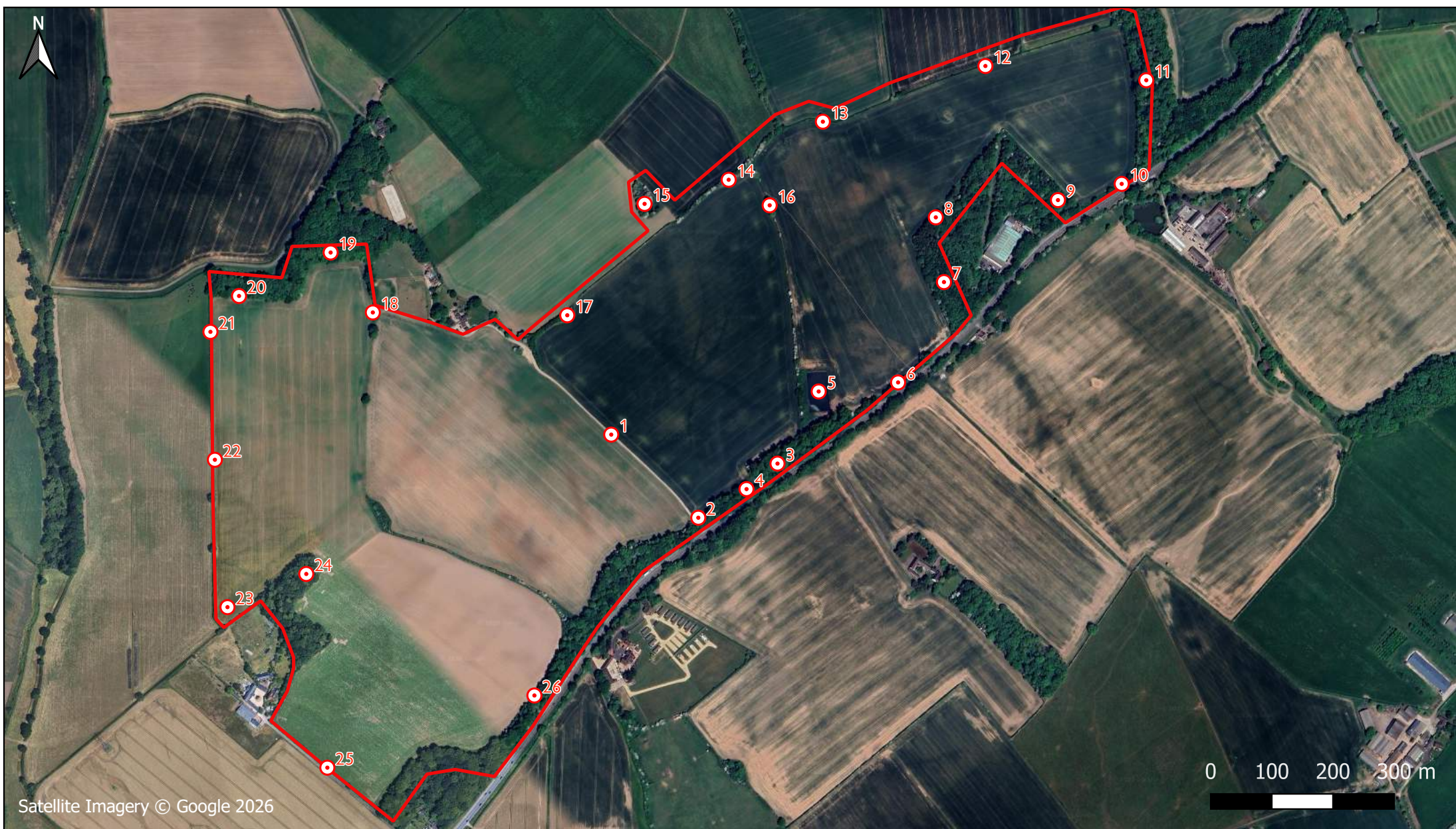
12	Intact native hedgerow (h2a Native Hedgerow) along northern boundary of arable field with wet ditch present along its base. Largely species-poor, comprising mostly of thorny species such as Hawthorn, Rose <i>Rosa sp.</i>, and Blackthorn, with occasional Holly and Field Maple. Mature Oak standards hold low roosting potential (PRF-I) due to dense Ivy cover. 
13	Mature Ash tree found in boundary hedgerow (as described in Target Note 12). The tree contains numerous potential roostin features including knot holes, woodpecker holes, cracked bark and limb tear outs, several of which appear to lead to cavities within the trunk and limbs. Tree assessed as holding moderate/high roosting potential (PRF-M). Several major branches are in poor condition (likely unsuitable for climbing). Tree expected to be retained within development layout. 
14	Section of species-rich native hedgerow with young trees along northern boundary of field parcel. Wet drainage fitch along base of hedge. Hedge becomes more defunct/gappy to the west. Large number of rabbit burrows present throughout hedgerow corridor.

		
15	Moderate sized pond (approx. 500-700m²) located approx. 50m north of the northern site boundary in an offsite arable field parcel. Turbid water with little to no macrophyte cover or other notable emergent/aquatic vegetation. Banks of pond support scrub and ruderal vegetation, resulting in 25% shading. Waterfowl present at pond during survey including Mallard and Coot. Pond is also believed to be stocked with fish, with evidence of fishing present along its banks. Likely to never dry out completely. Previous HSI score of 0.3908 (Poor Suitability for GCN), with pond returning negative result for GCN in 2021. 	
16	Northern extent of field boundary intersecting two arable fields is defined by a wet ditch only (no hedgerow), which contained fast flowing water at the time of the survey. Strips of marginal vegetation approximately 3m wide border either side of the ditch, although these had recently been cut/mown at the time of the survey. 	
17	Derelict structure found adjacent to northern site boundary. Brick walls (mostly single skin although wider in places) covered in dense Ivy. The roof has collapsed so the internal room space is flooded with natural light, drafty and exposed to the elements. Several sheltered cracks	

	may provide roosting opportunities to individual/small numbers of crevice dwelling bats – Low roost potential (PRF-I). Rabbit warren found within footprint of building. Structure is to be retained in development layout. 
18	Defunct species-poor native hedgerow with mature Oak standards. Wet ditch at base of hedgerow.
19	Parcel of broadleaved plantation woodland found adjacent to northern boundary. Woodland canopy dominated by Beech, while understory comprises mostly of Holly and Bramble thickets. Ground flora supports several ancient woodland indicators including Bluebells and Wood Sedge. Some disturbance to vegetation, with horses allowed access to the eastern extent of the wood, and the central area supporting a bike/quadbike track. 
20	<u>Badger Sett 2</u> A second very large sett was found in the parcel of broadleaved plantation woodland bordering to the north. This contained over 40no. separate entrances/tunnels, many of which appeared to active with freshly excavated spoil heaps, well-worn pathways, smoothed tunnel walls and entrances kept clear of leaf litter/debris. Latrines containing fresh dung were also found near the sett, further demonstrating current activity. Based on the size of the sett, and abundance of evidence found, this was considered to be another main sett belonging to a second Badger social group/clan – this sett lies over 1.1km from the first main sett described at target note 8. Several of the sett entrances are found along the periphery of the woodland edge/adjacent field parcel (i.e. within the site boundaries). This sett is to be retained within the development layout, with a rough grassy buffer provided between the adjacent woodland and solar array.

	
21	<u>Badger Sett 3</u> Single-hole Badger outlier sett found at base of hedgerow marking western boundary at approx. grid reference: SK 47408 00038. Freshly excavated soil around entrance tunnel, with claw marks noted in the mud. A well-worn pathway leads along the base of the adjacent hedgerow towards the main sett to the north. 
22	Intact species-poor thorny hedgerow defines this section of the western boundary. Gappy along its base.
23	Badger latrine containing fresh dung found on field margin in this location.
24	Parcel of broadleaved plantation woodland (offsite). Canopy contains mature Beech and Ash, with an understory of Holly and Bramble. Carpets of Bluebells present in areas. Pathways intersect the woodland, and several Owl boxes noted on mature trees.

		
25	Defunct species-poor thorny hedgerow with gappy base and wet drainage ditch.	
		
26	Badger latrine on field margin comprising at least 6 separate dung-pits, several of which contain fresh dung.	



Key

- Target Notes
- Survey Area

Clump Farm Solar Ltd

Clump Farm, Leicestershire – Planning Conditions

2026 Walkover
Survey Plan

E25139001 / DR01

BS

MW

30 January 2026

PRELIMINARY **PLANNING** DESIGN TENDER CONSTRUCTION

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