



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL

**ST HELENS BOROUGH
LOCAL PLAN 2020-2035**

**HERITAGE BACKGROUND
PAPER**

APRIL 2020

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1. LOCAL CONTEXT

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This background paper is one of several that have been prepared by St Helens Council. It will provide evidence for the forthcoming Examination in Public of the St. Helens Borough Local Plan 2020-2035 (the SHBLP), and as such should be read in conjunction with other background papers.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of this background paper is to set out the positive strategic approach towards the protection and enhancement of heritage across the Borough of St Helens that the Council will take forward through the SHBLP. The paper includes details of how the strategic approach on heritage has developed from the Scoping stage (January 2016) to the Submission Draft version of the Local Plan (2019).
- 1.1.3 The paper includes a number of Heritage Impact assessments (HIAs) that were prepared following the consultation on the LPPO, specifically in regard to comments received by statutory consultee Historic England. It also sets out how St Helens have engaged with relevant statutory consultees such as Historic England throughout the plan making process.
- 1.1.4 It also sets out relevant international, national and local policies, strategies and guidance documents.
- 1.1.5 Government guidance states that local authorities should:
- “ ... set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. This strategy should take into account:*
- a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*
 - b) the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;*
 - c) the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and,*
 - d) opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.”*
- 1.1.6 The historic environment is a significant component of land use planning as it has shaped and influenced the physical and human connections to and within the Borough. It is also an important part of sustainable development: the past should be preserved for future generations. The Borough contains several rich and diverse heritage assets. These assets help to make St Helens unique, locally distinct and assist in shaping its local character.

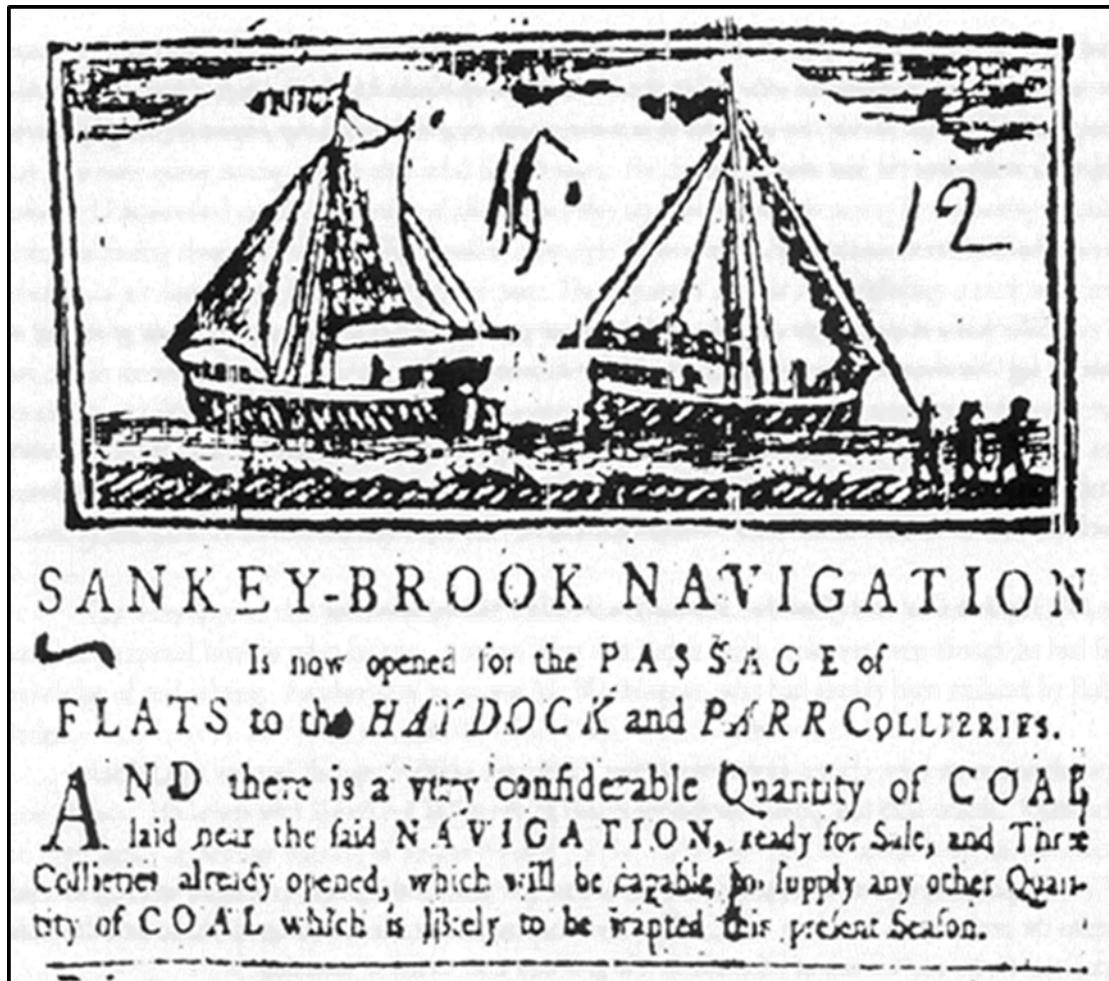
2. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF ST HELENS

- 2.1.1 St Helens is a product of the exploitation of its natural resources of coal, sand and fireclay from the 18th century. Prior to the industrial age, the area was comprised of the four townships of Parr, Windle, Eccleston and Sutton; which coalesced around the church of St.Elyn to form St Helens as a distinct town.
- 2.1.2 Until the mid-18th century, industry was small scale and predominantly home-based, for example; linen making. Much of the surrounding landscape was both arable and pastoral farmland interrupted by areas of mossland, with its origins in the medieval estates such as Bold, Haydock, Eccleston, Eltonhead and Garswood. Small-scale excavation of coal, clay and peat dotted the landscape.
- 2.1.3 Increased demand for coal from the salt industry of Cheshire and the industrial and domestic markets of Liverpool, coupled with poor road transport, led to increased coal prices. Liverpool Common Council recognised the need for a better transport system and commissioned a survey of the Sankey Brook with a view to creating a navigable waterway. The favourable survey led to an Act of Parliament being granted Royal Assent in 1755.
- 2.1.4 Liverpool Common Council appointed Henry Berry to create the navigation. However, Berry, who came from Parr and had a great knowledge of the Sankey Brook, knew it was unsuitable to be adapted for navigation and created a parallel canal, which opened for business in 1757. Effectively, the Sankey Canal was England's first industrial canal, although the nearby Bridgewater Canal is often cited as such, however, there is *"little or no excuse for this tendency to ignore the Sankey Navigation"*¹ which is barely acknowledged despite it having been considered *"incontestable that the Sankey Brook Canal both started the Canal Era and formed the connecting link between the river improvement schemes of the preceding years and the canal schemes which, themselves a great advance thereon, were to be substituted for them"*².

¹ The Sankey Navigation - The Historic Society of Lancashire & Cheshire Vol.100, Barker, December 1948

² A History of Inland Transport and Communication in England (pages 166-167) - Pratt, 1912

Figure 1: Opening of the Sankey Canal – Liverpool Chronicle, November 1757 (source *The Sankey Navigation* (page 140) - Barker, December 1948)



- 2.1.5 Often, the availability of coal determined the locations of businesses rather than the accessibility of raw materials such as sand and copper ore. The Sankey Canal not only opened up the Lancashire coalfield around Haydock and Parr to the markets of Cheshire and Liverpool but this new and efficient transport route was the catalyst for businesses such as copper smelting, glass making and chemical production, to be established near to the coal source. Raw materials were imported and goods exported.

Figure 2: Sankey Viaduct

(source: Coloured lithograph of the Sankey Viaduct - Thomas Bury, 1831)



- 2.1.6 Whilst small-scale glass production had been carried out around St Helens since at least 1724, the first major glass factory (St Helens Crown Glass Company) was established at Ravenhead in 1826 financed by local magnates including William Pilkington. The Pilkington name became synonymous with glass production, with their factories in St Helens from the early 1800s taking advantage of the high grade Sherdley Hill sand deposits located in close proximity to the coal deposits. In the 1950s, Pilkington's pioneered the float glass method, the basis for modern glass production.
- 2.1.7 The advent of the railways in 1830 saw the long decline and diversification of canal trade, which eventually came to an end in 1959 when the last cargo of sugar cane was delivered to the Sankey Sugar Works at Earlestown. The canal officially closed in 1963. Crossing the Sankey Canal on the magnificent Grade I listed Sankey Viaduct, the Liverpool to Manchester railway line, the world's first inter-city double track locomotive powered railway, opened in 1830; the prototype for railways globally.
- 2.1.8 The previous year, to the south-west of St Helens, the historic Rainhill Trials were held to test locomotive designs to power the railway. George Stephenson's Rocket proved to be successful and shaped locomotive design.
- 2.1.9 The Town was incorporated in 1868 to administer the four townships that it was comprised of. In 1887 the role was expanded to a County Borough and

by 1974 the Metropolitan Borough of St Helens encompassed Newton le Willows, parts of Billinge, Rainford, Haydock, Eccleston and Rainhill. With the abolition of Metropolitan County Councils in 1985, St Helens Borough became a Unitary Authority.

Figure 3: Derbyshire Hill Colliery Workers Housing Adj. Bold Colliery circa 1970s



- 2.1.10 The coal industry was a key employer in the Borough but a steady decline set in from the 1950s, which saw all the collieries closed down by 1992. Local glass production also declined as Pilkington's developed into a multi-national company and trade patterns moved the focus of the business away from St Helens.
- 2.1.11 Amidst the ongoing regeneration of St Helens, the industrial heritage of the town and wider Borough provides the area with a clear sense of place and culture.

3. POLICY CONTEXT, EVIDENCE BASE AND HERITAGE ASSETS IN ST HELENS

3.1 Policy Guidance

International Guidance

- 3.1.1 The European Landscape Convention 2007 (ELC) highlights the importance of all landscapes and requires landscape to be integrated into regional and town planning policies and in cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as any other policies with possible direct or indirect impacts on landscape.
- 3.1.2 The ELC defines landscape as *“an area perceived by people whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and /or human factors”*. It established the need to develop landscape policies dedicated to the protection, management and planning of urban landscapes. Historic England (previously known as English Heritage) published an action plan³ for the implementation of the ELC setting out principles for integrating the ELC into plan making:
- Ensure clarity in the use of terms and definitions;
 - Recognise landscape in the holistic sense;
 - Apply to all landscape;
 - Understand the landscape baseline;
 - Involve people;
 - Integrate landscape; and
 - Raise awareness of the importance of landscape.

European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (The Valletta Treaty) 1992

- 3.1.3 The aim of the Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage *“as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.”*
- 3.1.4 Article 1 of the Convention states that *“archaeological heritage shall include structures, constructions, groups of buildings, developed sites, moveable objects, monuments of other kinds as well as their context, whether situated on land or under water.”*
- 3.1.5 Whilst there remains some uncertainty about the status of and weight to be attached to international conventions agreed whilst the UK has been a member of the European Union, presently it appears unlikely that there will be

³ European Landscape Convention Guidance Part 2: Integrating the Intent of the ELC into Plans, Policies and Strategies. English Heritage, Land Use Consultants 2009

any immediate impact on the degree of compliance with (or for that matter, the UK's obligations in respect of) either the ELC or the Valletta Treaty as a result of the government's present course of action with regard to EU membership. Until such time as further guidance is made available, the ELC and the Valletta Treaty remain extant and offer the best available framework.

3.2 National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 3.2.1 The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced and describes heritage assets as *"an irreplaceable resource"* that should be *"conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations."* It notes that the policies set out in chapter 16 of the guidance (conserving and enhancing the historic environment) relate, as applicable, to the heritage-related consent regimes for which local planning authorities are responsible under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, as well as to plan-making and decision-making.
- 3.2.2 Paragraph 185 of the NPPF requires Plans to have a *"positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats."*
- 3.2.3 Paragraph 20 of the NPPF states that in plan making local planning authorities should set out the strategic priorities for the area in the Local Plan to deliver conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment including landscape.
- 3.2.4 Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) sets out guidance as to what a positive strategy should encompass including the recognition that conservation is not a passive exercise and that Local Planning Authorities should identify specific opportunities within there are for the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets.
- 3.2.5 Historic England's guide⁴ to local authorities on how to achieve the objectives of the NPPF – although it presently references the previous NPPF (2012) - for the historic environment states that a Local Plan may be considered unsound if:
- There has been no proper assessment of the significance of heritage assets in the area, including their settings, and of the potential for finding new sites of archaeological or historic interest, or, there has been no

⁴ Heritage in Local Plans: how to create a sound plan under the NPPF, English Heritage, 2012

proper assessment to identify land where development would be inappropriate because of its historic significance.

- The plan does not contain a positive strategy for the conservation, enhancement and enjoyment of the historic environment and policies that are clearly identified as strategic.

3.3 The SHBLP and NPPF Historic Environment requirements for Local Plans

3.3.1 Chapter 16 of the NPPF sets out how local planning authorities should achieve sustainable development through conservation and enhancement of the historic environment. For further information please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework>

3.3.2 Table 1 sets out how the SHBLP has met with the NPPF policy and objectives within its strategic and local policies.

Table 1: SHBLP and NPPF policies		
NPPF Para	Local Planning Authorities should:	SHBLP Policy ref
8	Pursue sustainable development, in mutually supportive ways to secure net gains, to contribute to protecting and enhancing the historic environment.	LPA01
20	Develop strategic policies that make sufficient provision for the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment including landscapes and green infrastructure.	LPA02 LPA03 LPC09 LPC10
28	Use non-strategic policies to conserve and enhance the natural and historic environment.	LPC11
61	Address the connections between people and places and the integration of new development into the historic environment.	LPA02
134	Within areas of Green Belt preserve the setting and special character of historic towns.	LPD05
185	Set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk.	LPA02 LPC05 LPC11
185	Recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource. Conserving them in a manner appropriate to their significance.	LPC11
185	Take into account the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation.	LPA02 LPC11

Table 1: SHBLP and NPPF policies		
NPPF Para	Local Planning Authorities should:	SHBLP Policy ref
185	Take into account the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring.	LPA02 LPC11
185	Take into account the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.	LPD04
185	Take into account opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.	LPA03 LPA05
186	Ensure that Conservation Areas are designated for their special architectural or historical interest.	LPC11
187	Have up-to-date evidence about the historic environment in their area and use it to assess the significance of heritage assets and the contribution they make to their environment: a) assess the significance of heritage assets and the contribution they make to their environment; and, b) predict the likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets, particularly sites of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future.	Various evidence background documents & Council website
188	Make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible.	LPC11 & Council Website
189	In determining applications, require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.	LPC11 LPD01
190	Identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal. This assessment should be taken into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset.	LPA05 LPA05.1 LPC11
191	Not take into account the state of a heritage asset where there is evidence of deliberate neglect of or damage to.	LPC11
192	In determining planning applications, take account of the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation.	LPA03 LPC11

Table 1: SHBLP and NPPF policies		
NPPF Para	Local Planning Authorities should:	SHBLP Policy ref
192	In determining planning applications, take account of the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality.	LPA01 LPC11
192	In determining planning applications, take account of the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.	LPA02 LPC11
193	Give great weight to an assets conservation, irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.	LPC11
194	Consider potential impacts, any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset, requires clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional; b) assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional. 	LPC11
195	Refuse consent where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and • no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and • conservation by grant-funding or some form of charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and • the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use. 	LPA05 LPC11
196	Weigh the harm against the public benefits of the proposal where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm, including securing its optimum viable use.	LPA05 LPA05.1 LPC11
197	Take account of the effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset, giving a balanced judgement in	LPC11

Table 1: SHBLP and NPPF policies		
NPPF Para	Local Planning Authorities should:	SHBLP Policy ref
	regards to the scale of harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.	
198	Not permit loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred.	LPC11
199	Look for opportunities for new development within Conservation Areas and World Heritage Sites and within the setting of heritage assets to enhance or better reveal their significance.	LPC11
202	Assess whether the benefits of a proposal for enabling development, which would otherwise conflict with planning policies but which would secure the future conservation of a heritage asset, outweigh the disbenefits of departing from those policies.	LPC11 LPA01

3.4 THE SHBLP AND PPG HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL PLANS

- 3.4.1 Planning Policy Guidance (PPG), provides further guidance for local planning authorities on conserving and enhancing the historic environment. For further information please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment#World-Heritage-Sites-important>
- 3.4.2 Table 2 sets out how the SHBLP has met and addresses planning guidance within its strategic and local policies.

Table 2: SHBLP and Planning Policy Guidance		
Section	Guidance to Local Planning Authorities (taken from the 23 July 2019 update version):	SHBLP Policy ref
Paragraph: 002 Reference ID: 18a-002-20190723	Ensure that heritage assets remain in active use that is consistent with their conservation.	LPA01 LPC11
Paragraph: 002 Reference ID: 18a-002-20190723	Ensure such heritage assets remain used and valued, which may require sympathetic changes to be made from time to time.	LPA02
Paragraph: 002 Reference ID: 18a-002-20190723	Where the complete or partial loss of a heritage asset is justified, the aim then is to capture and record the evidence of the asset's significance which is to be lost, interpret its contribution to the understanding of our past, and make that publicly available.	LPA02 LPA03 LPC11

Table 2: SHBLP and Planning Policy Guidance		
Section	Guidance to Local Planning Authorities (taken from the 23 July 2019 update version):	SHBLP Policy ref
Paragraph: 003 Reference ID: 18a-003-20190723	LPAs should set out their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.	LPA02 LPC11
Paragraph: 003 Reference ID: 18a-003-20190723	Identify specific opportunities within their area for the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets.	LPA02 LPA05 LPC11
Paragraph: 003 Reference ID: 18a-003-20190723	Delivery of development within their settings should make a positive contribution to, or better reveal the significance of, the heritage asset.	LPA05 LPC11
Paragraph: 005 Reference ID: 18a-005-20190723	Although there is no requirement to identify non-designated heritage assets in a Local Plan, it is beneficial to consider making clear and up to date information on their identified non-designated heritage assets to assist those involve in making Neighbourhood Plans.	LPA05.1 LPC11 Qualified stall
Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 18a-007-20190723	Heritage assets may be affected by physical change or change in their setting. Being able to properly assess the significance of a heritage asset, and the contribution of its setting, is very important to understanding the potential impact and acceptability of development proposals.	Qualified staff, Historic England, Government Advice
Paragraph: 012 Reference ID: 18a-012-20190723	A requirement to provide a Design and Access Statement for applications for listed building consent.	LPC11
Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 18a-013-20190723	When assessing any application for development which may affect the setting of a heritage asset, LPAs may need to consider the implications of cumulative change, and possibly consider the fact that developments which materially detract from the asset's significance may also damage its economic viability now, or in the future, thereby threatening its ongoing conservation.	LPA01 LPA02 LPA05 LPC11
Paragraph: 014 Reference ID: 18a-014-20190723	Where there is evidence of deliberate damage to or neglect of a heritage asset in the hope of making consent or permission easier to gain the LPA should disregard the deteriorated state of the asset.	LPC11

Table 2: SHBLP and Planning Policy Guidance		
Section	Guidance to Local Planning Authorities (taken from the 23 July 2019 update version):	SHBLP Policy ref
Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 18a-015-20190723	<p>Putting heritage assets to a viable use is likely to lead to the investment in their maintenance necessary for their long-term conservation. It is important that any use is viable, not just for the owner, but also the future conservation of the asset. If there is only one viable use, that use is the optimum viable use.</p> <p>Appropriate marketing is required to demonstrate the redundancy of a heritage asset.</p>	LPA01 LPA02 LPC11
Paragraph: 016 Reference ID: 18a-016-20190723		
Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 18a-017-20190723		
Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 18a-018-20190723	<p>LPAs need to assess whether a proposal causes substantial harm, having regard to the circumstances of the case and policy contained in the NPPF. In assessing if a proposal causes substantial harm is the impact on the significance of the heritage asset. It is the degree of harm to the asset's significance rather than the scale of the development that is to be assessed. The harm may arise from works to the asset or from development within its setting.</p> <p>In relation to harm and conservation areas if the building is important or integral to the character or appearance of the conservation area then its demolition is more likely to amount to substantial harm to the conservation area.</p>	LPA05.1 LPC11
Paragraph: 019 Reference ID: 18a-019-20190723		
Paragraph: 040 Reference ID: 18a-040-20190723	<p>Ideally, local lists should be incorporated into Local Plans, as this can be a positive way for the LPA to identify non-designated heritage assets against consistent criteria so as to improve the predictability of the potential for sustainable development.</p> <p>Local Plans should note areas of potential for the discovery of non-designated heritage assets with archaeological interest. The historic environment record will be a useful indicator of archaeological potential in the area.</p>	LPC11

National Character Area Profiles

3.4.3 The National Character Areas (NCA) map shows St Helens falls within 3 National Character Areas.⁵

3.4.4 St Helens is surrounded and somewhat defined by the Lancashire Coal Measures, which extend to the Mersey Valley around Bold Heath and to the Lancashire and Amounderness Plain around the Rainford area. Each NCA area profile identifies environmental opportunities:

NCA 56 Lancashire Coal Measures

- **SEO1:** Safeguard, manage and expand the mosaic of wetland habitats including lowland raised bog, reedbeds, wet pasture, watercourses, subsidence flashes and ponds to protect and enhance their ecological value, to increase their contribution to landscape, to manage flood risk, to improve water quality, and to increase the resilience to climate change of habitats and associated species.
- **SEO2:** Conserve and manage the Lancashire Coal Measures' geological features and historic environment, to safeguard the strong cultural identity and mining heritage of the area, with its distinctive sense of place and history. Engage local communities with their past, through the restoration and enhancement of key features and sites, by improving understanding and interpretation and access.
- **SEO3:** Manage and support the agricultural landscape through conserving, enhancing, linking and expanding the habitat network (including grasslands, woodlands, ponds, hedges and field margins) - to increase connectivity and resilience to climate change, and reduce soil erosion and diffuse pollution, whilst conserving the qualities of the farmed landscape and improving opportunities for enjoyment of the open countryside.
- **SEO4:** Expand and link green infrastructure through restoring and enhancing post-industrial sites and creating new habitat mosaics that raise the overall quality, design and location of new development, bringing multiple environmental benefits including functioning networks for wildlife and access and recreational amenities for people to enjoy.

NCA 32 Lancashire and Amounderness Plain

- **SEO1:** Conserve, manage and enhance the river systems and wetlands including the Ribble Estuary and the rivers Wyre and Douglas with their many associated drains, dykes and streams. This will improve water quality and supply, sustainably address flood risk management, and

⁵ These can be viewed via the following website

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles>

enhance biodiversity and the historic environment through a strategic, landscape-scale approach.

- **SEO2:** Work with landowners and land managers to protect, enhance and strengthen the network of farmland features in this agricultural plain landscape. Create and expand farmland habitats to enhance biodiversity, improve soil and water quality, strengthen the resilience of habitats to climate change and enhance landscape character.
- **SEO3:** Promote the sense of place of the coastal and inland settlements and protect the remaining rural character of the wider landscape from further loss and change from development pressures. Manage urban fringe development to ensure that it does not negatively impact the rural character of the area and ensure that all development is of an appropriate type and scale. Provide good green infrastructure links to enhance people's enjoyment of and access to the varied landscapes and valuable recreational assets that the area provides.
- **SEO4:** Promote and manage recreational and access opportunities, at the same time as conserving the natural and cultural heritage. Conserve and enhance the historic environment, geodiversity, areas of tranquillity, nature conservation sites, long, open views and landscape character. In recognition of the importance of tourism to the local economy, provide interpretation and educational facilities, which will bring health and wellbeing benefits for both residents and visitors.

NCA 60 Mersey Valley

- **SEO1:** Conserve and enhance the Mersey Valley's rivers, tributaries and estuary, improving the ability of the fluvial and estuarine systems to adapt to climate change and mitigate flood risk while also enhancing habitats for wildlife and for people's enjoyment of the landscape.
- **SEO 2:** Promote the Mersey Valley's historic environment and landscape character and positively integrate the environmental resource with industry and development, providing greenspace within existing and new development, to further the benefits provided by a healthy natural environment, as a framework for habitat restoration and for public amenity.
- **SEO3:** Manage the arable and mixed farmland along the broad linear Mersey Valley, and create semi-natural habitats, woodlands and ecological networks, to protect soils and water, enhance biodiversity, increase connectivity and improve the character of the landscape, while enabling sustainable food production.
- **SEO4:** Manage and enhance the mossland landscape in the east, safeguarding wetlands including the internationally important lowland

raised bogs, to conserve peat soils, protect and enhance biodiversity, conserve archaeological deposits, contribute to landscape character and store carbon.

3.5 Local Guidance

- 3.5.1 **Liverpool City Region Historic Environment Record (HER)** is a record of monuments, historic buildings, find spots, archaeological events and historic landscapes within Wirral, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton and St Helens. The HER is managed by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS) on behalf of the local authorities and underpins the protection and enhancement of the historic environment on Merseyside.
- 3.5.2 **Merseyside Urban Characterisation Study** was undertaken by the National Museums Liverpool between 2003 and 2011. The study across Wirral, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton and St Helens documented changes over time to see where earlier landscapes exist in the present day. The study seeks to describe the evolution of the present day landscape to aid the understanding of the scale of change and as to what gives the areas their distinctiveness. A detailed historic settlement study for St Helens was produced in 2011 and sets out information on the settlements across St Helens Borough including Billinge, Bold, Eccleston, Haydock, Newton le Willows, Parr, Rainford, Rainhill, St Helens, Sutton and Windle.
- 3.5.3 **St Helens Landscape Character Assessment** compliments the Merseyside Urban Characterisation Study by describing the component parts of the landscape within landscape types and character areas. The study identifies trends and relationships between settlements and adjoining countryside, where development could be accommodated and a broad landscape management approach to each character area.
- 3.5.4 **St Helens Rural Fringes Survey Report** provides a comprehensive account of the settlement of the rural and semi-rural areas of open land within St Helens through archaeological fieldwork. This was coupled with research covering the entire district to provide a context to the historical development of the area.
- 3.5.5 **St Helens List of Locally Important Buildings Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)** sets out the criteria for the selection buildings and structures to be included on the Local List. However, the St Helens Local List has not yet been finalised.

Scheduled Monuments

- 3.5.6 Historic England's Heritage List identifies the following Scheduled Monuments in the Borough. Their locations are shown in Figures 6 and 7.

Table 3: Scheduled Monuments in St Helens Borough

Table 3: Scheduled Monuments in St Helens Borough		
Sites	Status	O/S Grid Reference
Rainhill Hall Farm Moated Site and Twelve Fishponds in the Rough;	Scheduled Monument (at Risk)	SJ 491 900
Heavy Anti-aircraft Gunsite 380m east of South Lane Farm	Scheduled Monument	SJ 541 880
Old Bold Hall Moated Site	Scheduled Monument	SJ 541 903
Micklehead Green Moated Site	Scheduled Monument	SJ 510 912
Old Moat House, Medieval Moat	Scheduled Monument	SJ 552 922
Number Nine Tank House, The Jubilee Glassworks	Scheduled Monument	SJ 512 949
Cannington Shaw Bottle Shop, Sherdley Works	Scheduled Monument (at Risk)	SJ 515 947
Mossborough Hall Moated Site	Scheduled Monument	SJ 465 989
Castle Hill Motte and Bailey and Bowl Barrow	Scheduled Monument	SJ 596 961
St Anne's Well	Scheduled (at Risk) Monument	SJ 496 914
Ruins of Chapel of St Thomas of Canterbury, Windlehurst Roman Catholic Cemetery	Scheduled (at Risk) Monument	SJ 535 958
Standing Cross south of the Chapel of St Thomas of Canterbury in the cemetery at Windlehurst	Scheduled Monument	SJ 499 969

Listed Buildings

- 3.5.7 St Helens has 148 Listed Buildings across the Borough with Earlestown railway viaduct (the Sankey Viaduct) being the only Grade I structure. There are 12 Grade II* structures including Scholes Hall and the Statue of Queen Victoria in Victoria Square, all are listed in Appendix 1.

Listed Parks and Gardens

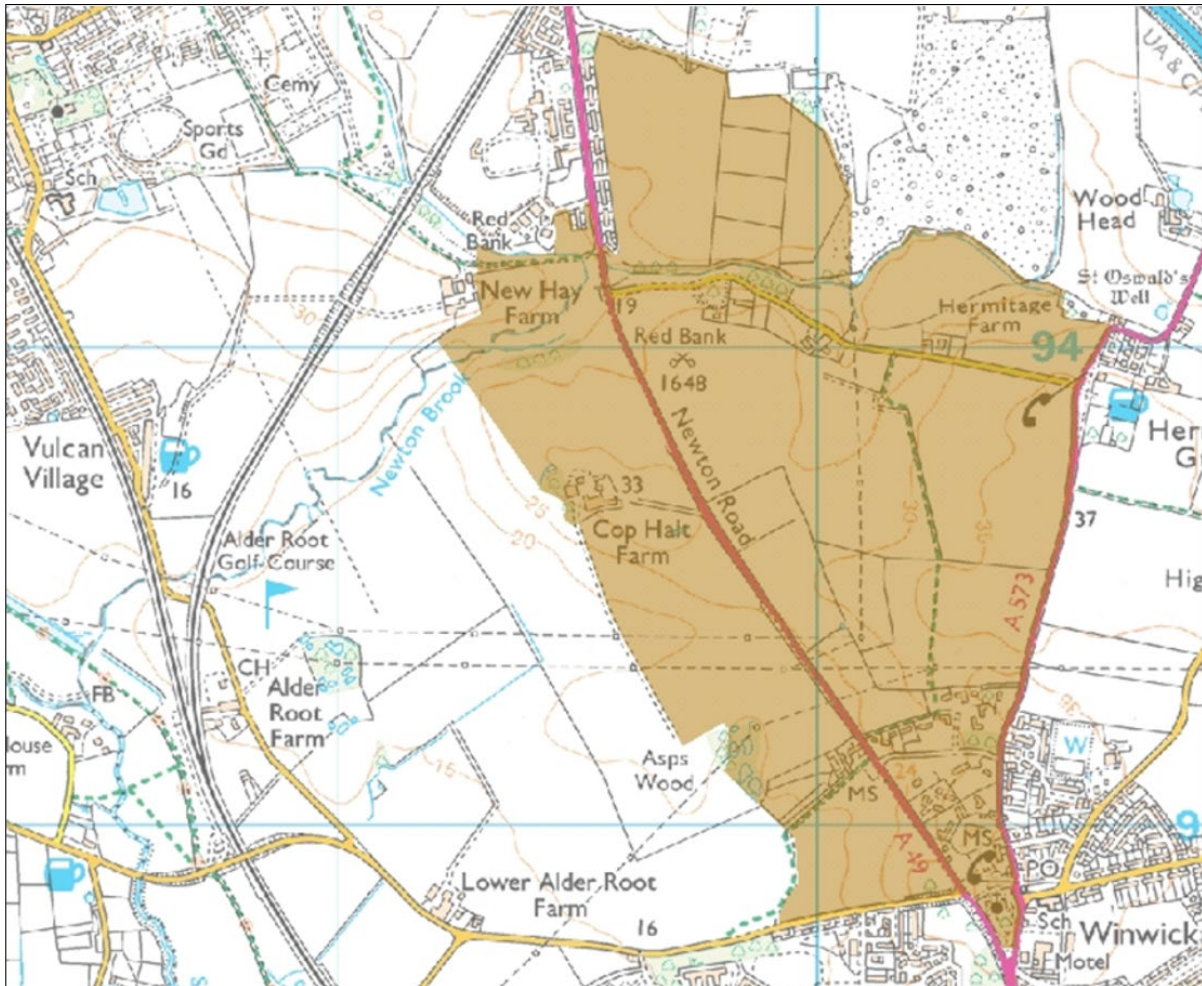
- 3.5.8 There are three Registered Parks and Gardens in St Helens. Taylor Park in West Park Ward which was part of the former Eccleston Estate, St Helens Cemetery in Windle, and landscape associated with the former Pilkington Headquarters Complex, all locations are shown in Figure 6.

Registered Battlefield

- 3.5.9 Historic England's Register of Historic Battlefields identifies important English battlefields. Its purpose is to offer them protection through the planning

system, and to promote a better understanding of their significance and public enjoyment.

Figure 4: Location and Extent of Registered Battlefield - Battle of Winwick 1648



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3.5.10 If the site of a battle is to merit registration it has to have been an engagement of national significance, and to be capable of close definition on the ground.

“The most important factor will be the battle's historic significance. Battlefields have frequently been the setting for crucial turning-points in English history. For example, the Battle of Hastings in 1066 led to the Norman Conquest, while the Civil Wars in the mid-17th century changed the roles of monarchy and parliament.”

3.5.11 If Battlefields are to be added to the Register, they must:

- have been of clear historical significance;
- be securely established; and,

- retain topographical integrity (that is, the locations and features must still be recognisable today).

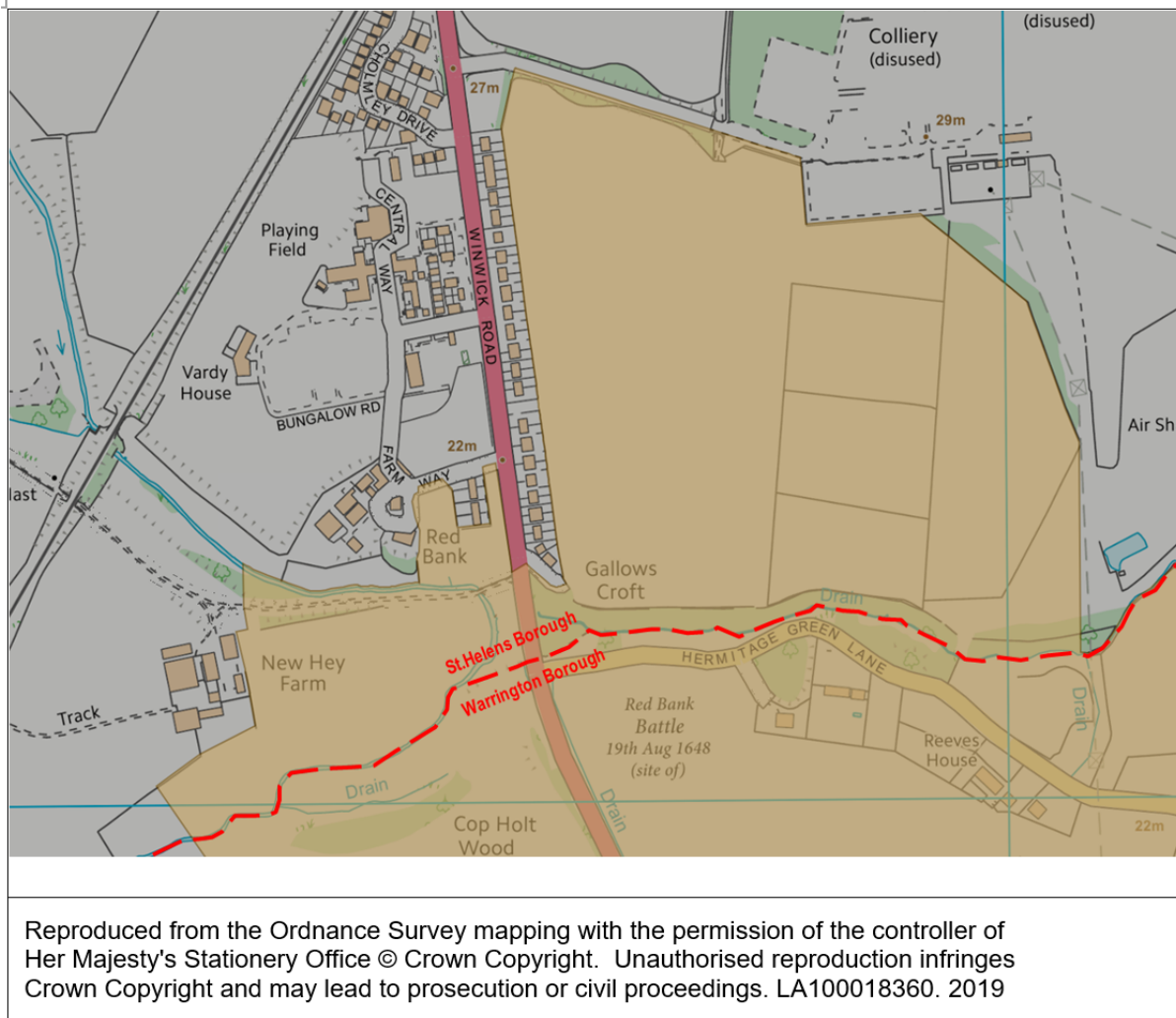
Other factors may add to the likelihood that a battlefield merits registration, or give particular parts of a battlefield enhanced significance, including:

- Archaeological potential;
- Documentation;
- Military innovations;
- Biographic associations; and,
- Commemoration.

3.5.12 One of the 46 Registered Battlefields in England straddles the boundary of St Helens and Warrington boroughs at Winwick. The Battle of Winwick (also known as Battle of Red Bank), fought in 1648, is included on the Register of Historic Battlefields for the following principal reasons:

- **Historic importance:** for its national historical significance as the last battle of the Second English Civil War, securing the advantages gained at Preston two days previously and resulting in the complete disbanding of the royalist infantry;
- **Topographical integrity:** retaining substantial integrity despite some later development, with the defensive and attacking positions of the opposing armies and the majority of the topographical character pertinent to the course of the battle still clearly legible in the landscape; and
- **Archaeological potential:** possessing substantial overall archaeological potential as the only English battlefield of the Second Civil War that remains in a good state of preservation.

Figure 5: Extent of Registered Battlefield within St Helens Borough



Conservation Areas

3.5.13 The Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 places statutory duties on Local Planning Authorities for designation an ongoing review of Conservation Areas and adopting policies for the conservation and enhancement of them. There are currently, eight Conservation Areas in St Helens Borough (and associated Article 4 Directions).

- Rainford Conservation Area
- Victoria Square Conservation Area
- George Street Conservation Area
- Earlestown Conservation Area
- Newton-le-Willows Conservation Area
- Vulcan Village Conservation Area
- Rainhill Central Conservation Area
- Rainhill Residential Conservation Area

Figure 6: Conservation Areas, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens (north west of Borough)

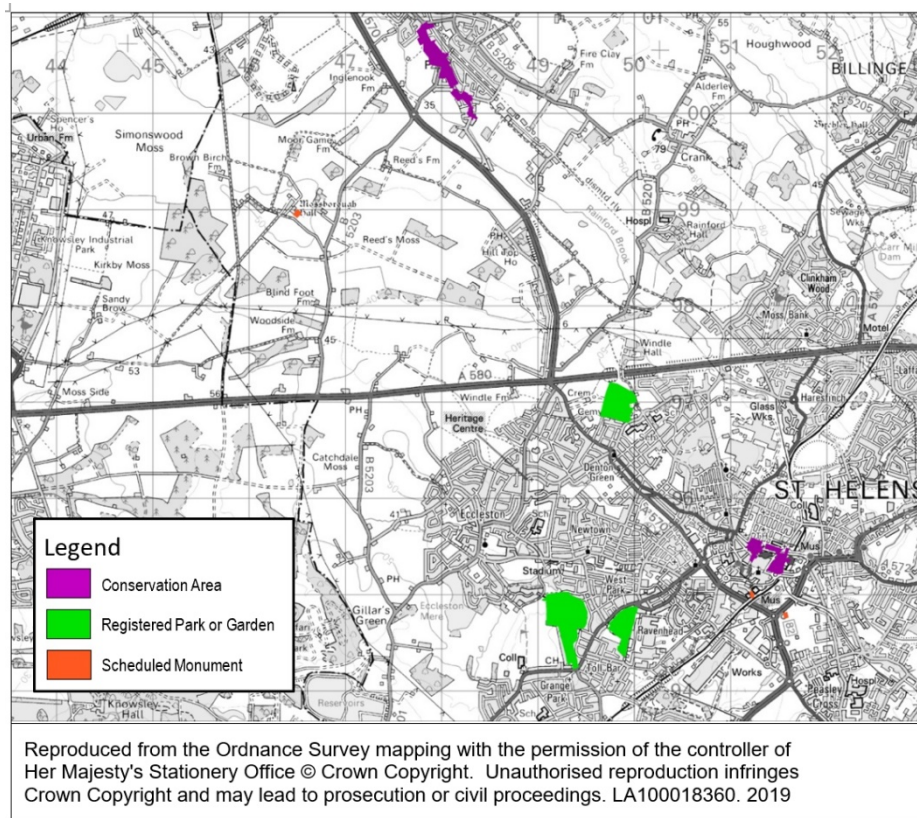


Figure 7: Conservation Areas, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens (south of Borough)

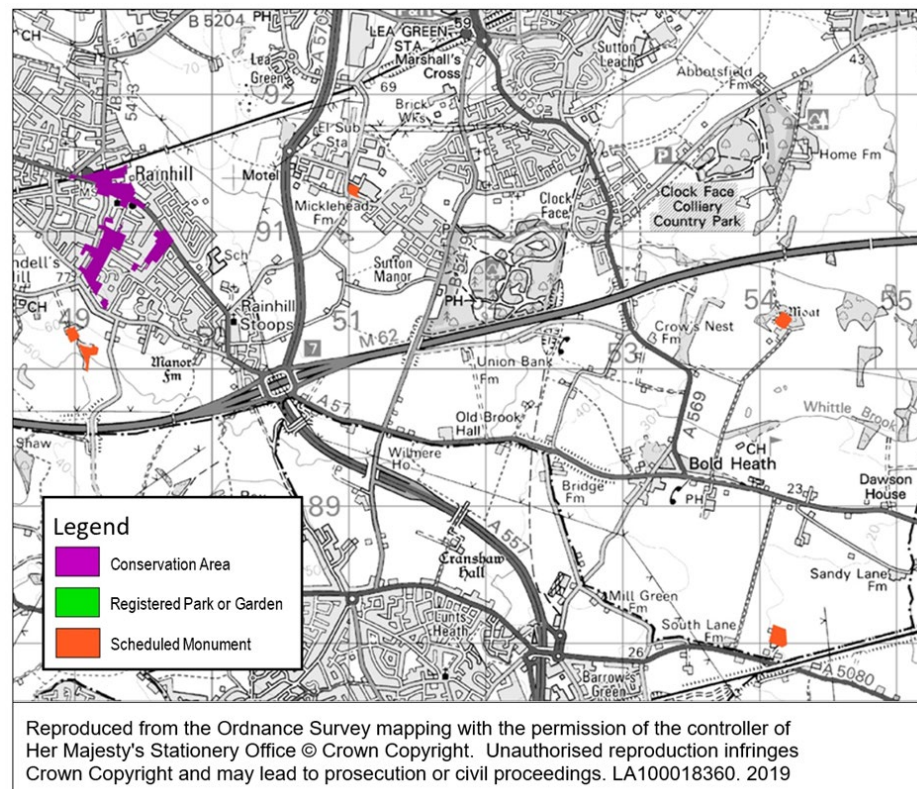
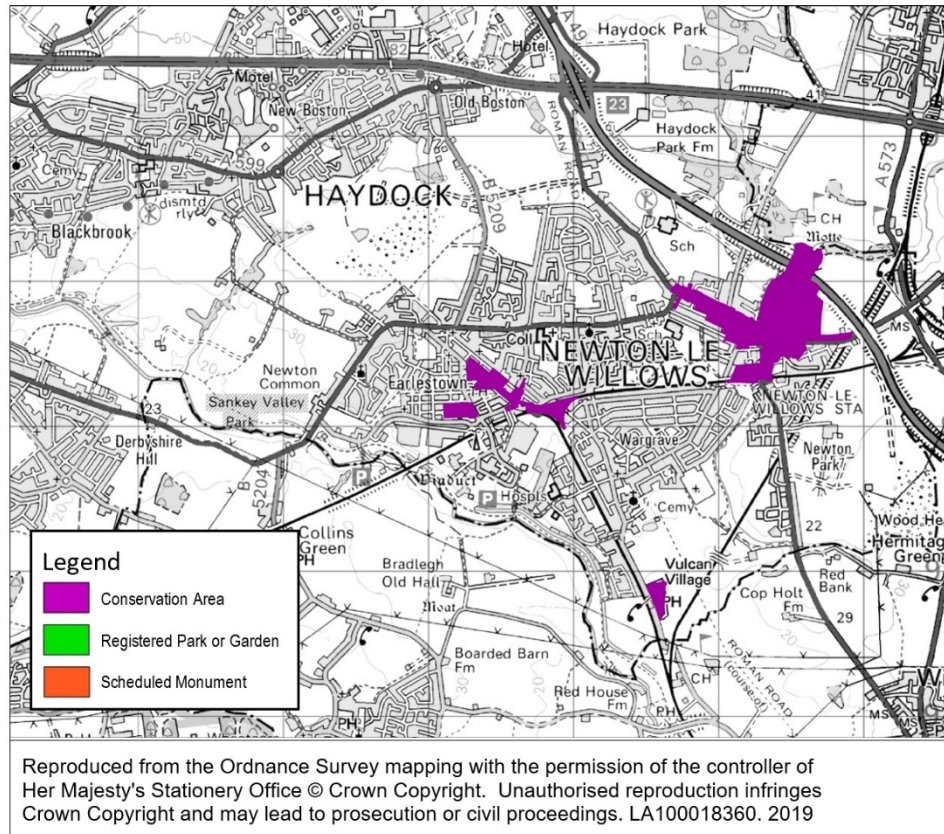


Figure 8: Conservation Areas, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens (east of Borough)



3.5.14 Historic England's Advice Note 3 sets out the process of evidence gathering, site selection and site allocation policies with regards to how the allocations process should be carried out in order to a safeguard heritage from inappropriate development and ensure compliance with the NPPF.

4. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT: A POSITIVE STRATEGY

4.1 Guiding Principles

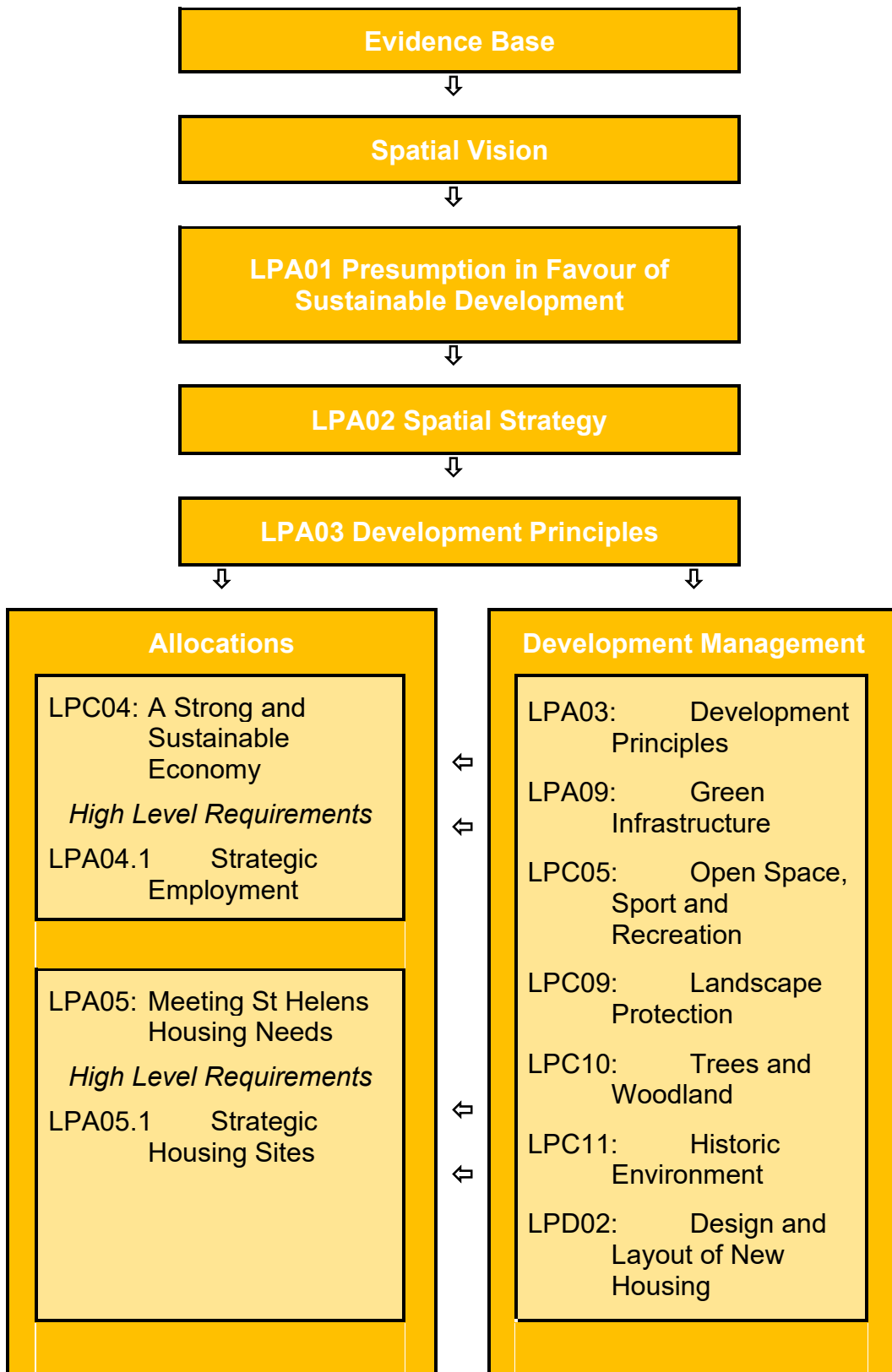
4.1.1 Many local authorities and their communities claim to have a unique built heritage and have developed strategies, policies and plans to protect and enhance this element of the environment. St Helens Borough is no exception, as indicated in Chapter 2. The historic development of the Borough is the result of a blend of economic, social and environmental factors that have left a legacy unique to the area. Within the Borough, there are significant numbers of designated Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Parks and Gardens, archaeological sites and many other features with a heritage value, including non-historical assets.

4.1.2 This chapter outlines how the SHBLP has been developed to provide a positive strategy for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment. The Council have sought to embrace fully, the historic environment through the following principles, as illustrated at Figure 9:

- Acknowledging that the historic environment is an irreplaceable resource that contributes to the quality of life in St Helens;
- Setting a positive tone on how the heritage of St Helens should be used as an aid to regeneration that helps to reinforce local distinctiveness and a sense of place, as a setting for economic growth and a place where people want to live and work;
- Ensuring the site identification process is fully informed by the Landscape Character Assessment, Merseyside Urban Characterisation Study, Merseyside Historic Environment Record, Heritage Impact Assessments and where appropriate, archaeological investigations for allocated sites;
- Advocating the industrial legacy of the Borough and ensuring this is recognised and valued;
- Encouraging development to areas and allocated sites where heritage is known to be 'at Risk';
- Seeking opportunities for the community to understand and enjoy the heritage of St Helens;
- Seeking investment into the historic environment; and
- Ensuring protection and enhancement of the historic environment is enshrined in development principles and policies set out in the Local Plan.

4.2 Policy Flow

Figure 9: Policy Flow Chart



4.3 Local Plan Scoping Stage January 2016

- 4.3.1 The initial scoping report prepared in January 2016, considered what issues the Local Plan should address. This included the maintaining and improvement of both ecological and historic assets. It identified that the Plan would need to contain core policies that outlined how the Council will seek to protect and enhance the Borough's historic assets including archaeological assets, locally important buildings and conservation areas, similar to the existing Core Strategy Policy CQL 4J.
- 4.3.2 A summary of responses to the scoping consultation included those from local residents who suggested that policies relating to development of the Parkside site should ensure that policies include the need for evaluation of heritage assets of archaeological interest. Further representations advised that any emerging plan would be expected to include a proper description, identification and assessment of the historic environment and the supporting evidence base should also include information on the heritage environment.

4.4 Local Plan Preferred Options December 2016

- 4.4.1 The draft Local Plan Preferred Options (LPPO) document included references to the historic environment throughout the document and its policies, including the overall vision for St Helens and Policy LPC11 'Historic Environment'. The document recognised that the Borough has a number of heritage assets which contribute to its uniqueness and special character, and that national policy required local planning authorities to set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.

4.5 Draft Vision and Policies

Spatial Vision and Preferred Options (Heritage Relevant) Policy Review

- 4.5.1 The LPPO policies were reviewed against the guiding principles outlined in paragraphs 4.1.1 to 4.1.4, together with responses received as part of the LPPO consultation process, and the following amendments (shown in Table 2) were included in the subsequent stage of the emerging LPSP.

Table 4: Amendments to emerging Local Plan following LPPO Consultation

Table 4: Amendments to emerging Local Plan following LPPO Consultation		
Section	Text added	Reasoned Justification for Modification
Chapter 2: St Helens Borough Profile	A new paragraph has been added in this Chapter, specifically on Heritage Assets: <i>The Borough boasts a varied and unique built environment, based upon its history connected with</i>	The previous Borough Profile in the LPPO made no reference to the historic environment. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), states

Table 4: Amendments to emerging Local Plan following LPPO Consultation

Section	Text added	Reasoned Justification for Modification
	<i>the railways, mining, glass and other industries. Existing heritage assets make a valuable contribution to economic and social wellbeing and a focus for heritage led regeneration and tourism development. They include: 148 Listed Buildings (Grade I, Grade II* and Grade II), 12 Scheduled Monuments (four of which are identified on Historic England's "at risk" register), one Registered Battlefield, eight Conservation Areas and two Registered Parks and Gardens. There are also a number of areas of known or potential sites of archaeological interest and above-ground assets of local interest that may not meet the criteria for statutory designation but which merit local protection.</i>	that the planning system should be genuinely plan-led, providing a positive vision for the future of each area, including a framework for social and environmental priorities.
Chapter 3: Spatial Vision	A new paragraph has been added to the vision as follows: <i>The Borough's unique heritage, linking to its historic role in the glass, rail, coal mining and other industries, and its wide range of important natural environmental assets will be both recognised and valued. Its network of green spaces and wider cultural and leisure offer, epitomised by features such as the Sankey Valley, Bold Forest Park, 'The Dream', St Helens Rugby League Stadium, World of Glass and Haydock Racecourse, will be retained and strengthened.</i>	The previous Spatial Vision in the LPPO remained silent on how the historic environment could assist in the delivery of the vision for the Borough. As such HE were not satisfied that the Plan as whole amounted to a positive strategy for the conservation, enhancement and enjoyment of the historic environment in a consistent approach with the NPPF. The NPPF requires local authorities to assist positively with safeguarding the historic environment. The proposed amendments help further develop a positive vision for the protection of such buildings that contribute to the historic value of the

Table 4: Amendments to emerging Local Plan following LPPO Consultation

Section	Text added	Reasoned Justification for Modification
		Borough within the Local Plan.
Chapter 3: Strategic Aims and Objectives	A new objective has been added to Aim 6: 6.2 To safeguard the quality of the environment, protecting and enhancing local character and distinctiveness, the historic environment, biodiversity and geodiversity.	Heritage assets are part of the fabric of both urban and rural environments, ranging from churches, factories with workers housing, canal and railways to farmhouses, field patterns and ancient woodland, they are fundamental to the quality of life in St Helens.
Policy LPA02: Spatial Strategy	Reference has now been added to the Reasoned Justification to historic towns in the Borough.	Paragraph 20 of the NPPF requires Local Plans to contain a policy or policies for the conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment that is/are clearly identified as strategic.
Policy LPA03: Development Principles	Additional wording has now been added to the policy, as follows: 5. Contribute to a high quality built and natural environment by: c) Protecting, conserving, and / or enhancing the Borough's natural, built and historic environments; 8. Lower St Helens' carbon footprint and adapt to the effects of climate change by: f) Making best use of existing building materials (including historic features and materials) in order to reduce waste and lower energy consumption.	In line with comments received from Historic England: by re-using existing building materials including historic materials, the costs of any new development can be lowered. The recycling of existing materials can also help with building repair; adaption and reuse can reduce the amount of material to be taken to landfill and reduce the energy costs associated with the manufacture of new building materials and their transportation to site.

Table 4: Amendments to emerging Local Plan following LPPO Consultation

Section	Text added	Reasoned Justification for Modification
Policy LPA09: Green Infrastructure	<p>Reference to heritage and heritage value has now been added to the Reasoned Justification.</p> <p>Specific reference is now made to the Sankey Canal Corridor in the Key Delivery Mechanisms.</p>	<p>The NPPF requires local authorities to take a strategic approach in Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of green infrastructure.</p> <p>As a product of the industrial revolution, in St Helens, heritage is intrinsically linked to the local landscape and elements of Green Infrastructure such as the Sankey Valley, numerous reservoirs and former spoil heaps which have either been reclaimed as community woodland or have developed distinctive flora such as Mucky Mountains, soda ash waste that has been colonised by species such as quaking grass and pyramidal orchids.</p>
LPC09: Landscape Protection	<p>Reference has now been made to the Merseyside Historic Character Study, both in the policy wording and Reasoned justification. The Merseyside Historic Landscape Character Study provides further context for how development should reflect, safeguard and enhance landscape heritage and local distinctiveness.</p>	<p>Paragraph 170 of the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes.</p> <p>The European Landscape Convention was ratified by the UK Government and entered into force in 2007. The Convention acknowledges that the landscape is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere. The Convention's definition of landscape protection is 'to</p>

Table 4: Amendments to emerging Local Plan following LPPO Consultation

Section	Text added	Reasoned Justification for Modification
		<p>conserve and maintain the significance or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value derived from its natural configuration and /or form human activity'</p> <p>Merseyside Urban Characterisation Study provides further context for how development should reflect, safeguard and enhance landscape heritage.</p>
Policy LPC10: Trees and Woodland	<p>The Policy has been amended to include reference to the historic environment within the policy as follows:</p> <p>6. Development proposals must be designed and laid out in a manner that would not damage or destroy any tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order, any other protected tree, any other tree of value including any veteran tree, trees of value as a group, any tree of substantive heritage value or any length of hedgerow, unless it can be justified for good arboricultural reasons or there is a clearly demonstrated public benefit that would outweigh the value of the tree(s) and or hedgerow(s).</p> <p>7. Proposals that would enhance the value and / or contribution of woodland in respect of: recreational or educational needs; health; the landscape or townscape; heritage; biodiversity;</p>	<p>Many trees and woodlands are of substantive heritage value. The woodlands around Bold Hall, for example, still reflect the historic landscape and are intrinsically linked to the Scheduled Monument.</p> <p>The St Helens Urban Characterisation study identifies many woodlands that have been in existence since at least 1850 and are integral to the landscape history of the Borough providing essential continuity and conveying a sense of place.</p>

Table 4: Amendments to emerging Local Plan following LPPO Consultation

Section	Text added	Reasoned Justification for Modification
	<p><i>tourism; and / or economic regeneration will be supported.</i></p> <p>Reference is also made in the Reasoned Justification to the contribution trees make to the heritage of an area.</p>	
Policy LPC11: Historic Environment	<p>This policy has now been significantly amended to ensure that it is in-line with National Policy by acknowledgement of the need for an Assessment of Significance as part of a Design and Access Statement and/or a Heritage Impact Assessment.</p> <p>The Policy also makes reference to: implementation measures the Council will carry out, including updating Heritage Asset Appraisals and Management Plans; and, a requirement that development causing less than substantial harm be weighed against public benefits.</p>	<p>Paragraph 185 of the NPPF requires Local Plans to set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.</p> <p>Paragraph 189 of the NPPF states that in determining applications local planning authorities should: <i>“require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including and contribution made by their setting ... where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.”</i></p> <p>The policy assists the historic environment and provides additional protection to the historic and archaeological resources and assets St Helens has to offer, thus bringing wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits to the Borough.</p>

Table 4: Amendments to emerging Local Plan following LPPO Consultation

Section	Text added	Reasoned Justification for Modification
LPC13: Renewable and Low Carbon Development	<p>Reference to the historic environment has now been included within this policy:</p> <p>Paragraph 1c states that development should comply with Policy LPC11: Historic Environment.</p> <p>Paragraph 3 refers to assessing proposals in line with existing evidence including the Merseyside Historic Landscape Characterisation Study.</p> <p>The Reasoned Justification also now references heritage assets and how the Council will weigh up any proposals with the impact on these etc.</p>	<p>Paragraph 193 of the NPPF states that when considering the impact of a proposal on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation, with the more important assets having greater weight.</p>

4.6 LPPO Site Selection

4.6.1 The LPPO designated sites for development were primarily selected via the findings of the Draft Green Belt Review 2016. Green Belt in the Borough of St Helens covers most of the countryside around the main towns and villages. St Helens has by far the greatest proportion of Green Belt within Merseyside. 65% of the total land area in the Borough is made up of Green Belt land. All other sites within the urban areas expected to meet the housing need have previously been reviewed and assessed in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2016.

4.6.2 In order to inform the site selection process an up to date evidence base must be in place. The Merseyside Historic Environment Record (HER) provides the basis for this, helping both to identify assets and to identify gaps in the evidence base. Local expertise via the St Helens Heritage Network may also inform the selection process particularly relating to non-designated assets. Other evidence includes Merseyside Historic Characterisation Study and St Helens Landscape Character Assessment.

Assessing Above-Ground Heritage Impacts

4.6.3 In total, 20 sites were brought forward (from the Draft Green Belt Review 2016) for consideration for inclusion in the LPPO were screened to assess the need for a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA). Six of these sites were excluded from that process as they were not being promoted in the LPPO.

The remaining 14 sites comprised the substantive parts of 13 Allocated / Safeguarded sites that were identified as having to be subject to a HIA as follows (the Draft Green Belt Review 2016 site references are in parentheses following the site descriptions):

Table 5: LPPO Proposed Development Sites Subject to HIAs

Table 5: LPPO Proposed Development Sites Subject to HIAs	
Site Ref.	Description (from LPPO)
HA1	Land adjoining Ash Grove Farm, Beacon Road, Billinge. (GBS_089)
HA3	Land at Florida Farm (south of A580), Slag Lane, Blackbrook. (GBS_006)
EA1	Omega South Western Extension Phase 1, Land north of Finches Plantation, Bold. (GBS_145)
EA7	Land to the west of Haydock Industrial Estate, Haydock (GBS_005)
EA8 & EA9	Parkside East, Newton-le-Willows; and, Parkside West, Newton-le-Willows. (GBS_028)
HS09	Land south of Howards Lane/east of Gillars Lane, Eccleston. (GBS_104)
HS13	Land at Old Hey Farm, south of Tyrer Road, Newton-le-Willows. (GBS_129)
HS14	Land east of Newlands Grange, Newton-le-Willows. (GBS_067)
HS15	Land east of Rob Lane and rear of Castle Hill, Newton-le-Willows. (GBS_034)
HS18	Land east of Higher Lane/South of Muncaster Drive/at White House Lane, Rainford. (GBS_058 and GBS_059*)
HS21	Land south of Rookery Lane and east of Pasture Lane, Rainford. (GBS_069 and GBS_080)
HS23	Land south of Mill Lane, east of Hall Lane, west of Norlands Lane and north of M62, Rainhill. (GBS_136 and GBS_160)

* GBS_058 and GBS_059 are not immediately adjacent, so each has a similar but separate HIA (see Appendix 2)

Assessing Below-Ground Heritage Impacts

- 4.6.4 Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS) manages the Merseyside HER and provides archaeological advice to planning authorities.

- 4.6.5 A review of the LPPO sites concluded that the following sites have no known archaeological interest or potential and could be Allocated or Safeguarded with no archaeological investigation considered necessary:

Table 6: LPPO Sites with no known archaeological interest or potential

Table 6: LPPO Sites with no known archaeological interest or potential	
Site Ref.	Description
HA2	Land south of Billinge Road, east of Garswood Road and west of Smock Lane, Garswood
HA5	Land south of Gartons Lane and former St Theresa's Social Club, Gartons Lane, Bold
HA11	Land at Moss Bank Farm, Moss Bank Road, Moss Bank
HA12	Former Newton Community Hospital (Simms Ward), Bradlegh Road, Newton-le-Willows
HA13	Former Red Bank Community Home, Winwick Road, Newton-le-Willows
HA14	Land south east of Lords Fold, Rainford
HS01	Land north of Strange Road and west of Camp Road, Garswood
HS04	Land north of Bell Lane and south-west of Milton Street (individual plots), Bold
HS06	Land off Common Road/Swan Road, Newton-le-Willows
HS10	Land south of former Central Works, Ballerophon Way, Haydock
HS12	Land at Martindale Road, Carr Mill, Moss Bank
HS13	Land at Old Hey Farm, south of Tyrer Road, Newton-le-Willows
HS15	Land east of Rob Lane and rear of Castle Hill, Newton-le-Willows
HS16	Land to rear of 6 Ashton Road and Elms Farm and west of Rob Lane, Newton-le-Willows
HS20	Land south of Higher Lane and west of Mill Lane, Rainford
EA03	Land north of Penny Lane, Haydock
EA05	Land south of Penny Lane

Table 6: LPPO Sites with no known archaeological interest or potential

Site Ref.	Description
EA06	Land to the west of Haydock Industrial Estate
EA10	Land off Sandwash Close, Rainford
EA11	Land at Lea Green Farm West, Thatto Heath
EA12	Gerard's Park Phase 3, College Street, St Helens Town Centre

- 4.6.6 The following LPPO designated sites have a known or potential archaeological interest of a local or regional significance. MEAS advises that archaeological mitigation including pre-commencement archaeological work should be secured via a planning condition and that no further work is needed for the following sites should they be designated for development:

Table 7: Proposed Development Sites with Local or Regional archaeological interest or potential

Table 7: Proposed Development Sites with Local or Regional archaeological interest or potential

Site Ref.	Description
HA1	Land adjoining Ash Grove Farm, Beacon Road, Billinge
HA3	Land at Florida Farm (south of A580), Slag Lane, Blackbrook
HA6	Land south of Reginald Road/Bold Road - Northern Section (Phase 1), Bold
HA7	Land between Vista Road and Ashton Road, Newton -le-Willows
HA8	Eccleston Park Golf Club, Rainhill Road, Eccleston
HA9	Higher Barrowfield Farm, Houghton's Lane, Eccleston
HA10	Land south west of M6 J23 between Vista Road and Lodge Lane, Haydock
HA15	Land south of Higher Lane and east of Rookery Lane, Rainford
HA16	Land south of A580 between Houghtons Lane and Crantock Grove, Windle

Table 7: Proposed Development Sites with Local or Regional archaeological interest or potential	
Site Ref.	Description
HS02	Land south of Leyland Green Road, North of Billinge Road and East of Garswood Road, Garswood
HS03	Bold Forest Garden Suburb: land south of Reginald Road/Bold Road/Traver's Entry, west of Neil's Road, north of Gorsey Lane and east of Crawford Street, Bold
HS05	Land to west of Bridge Road and Sweet Brier Court, off Clock Face Road, Bold
HS07	Parcel B (Housing), Land between Ashton Road and M6, Earlestown, Newton-le-Willows
HS08	Land south of Burrows Lane, Eccleston
HS09	Land south of Howards Lane/east of Gillars Lane, Eccleston
HS11	Land south of Station Road, Haydock
HS14	Land east of Newlands Grange, Newton-le-Willows
HS17	Land west of Winwick Road and south of Wayfarers Drive, Newton-le-Willows
HS19	Land south of Bushey Lane/Red Delph Farm, Red Delph Lane, Rainford
HS22	Land at Hanging Bridge Farm, Elton Head Road, Rainhill
HS24	Land south of Elton Head Road (from Nutgrove Road to St. John Vianney Primary School), Thatto Heath
EA1	Omega South - Western Extension Phase 1, Land north of Finches Plantation, Bold
EA2	Land at Florida Farm North, Florida Farm, Slag Lane, Haydock
EA4	Land north-east of M6 J23 & south of Haydock Racecourse, Haydock
EA9	Parkside West
ES01	Omega North Western Extension
ES02	Omega South - Western Extension Phase 2, Land north of Booth's Wood

- 4.6.7 The following LPPO designated sites have a known or potential archaeological interest of regional and/or national significance. MEAS advises that these sites require assessment of their archaeological potential and should not be allocated until such assessment works have been carried out.

Table 8: Development Sites with Regional and/or National archaeological interest or potential

Table 8: Development Sites with Regional and/or National archaeological interest or potential	
Site Ref.	Description
HA4	Land east of Chapel Lane and south of Walkers Lane, Sutton Manor, Bold
HS18	Land east of Higher Lane/South of Muncaster Drive/at White House Lane, Rainford
HS21	Land south of Rookery Lane and east of Pasture Lane, Rainford
HS23	Land south of Mill Lane, west of Hall Lane, east of Norlands Lane and north of M62, Rainhill
EA7	Land west of Millfield Lane, south of Liverpool Road and north of Clipsley Brook, Haydock
EA8	Parkside East, Newton-le-Willows

- 4.6.8 The proposed assessments were carried out as follows:

Stage 1 Assessment:

For the six sites identified in Table 8 the first stage of any assessment would be a desk-based assessment and walkover of the site.

Stage 2 Assessment:

Dependent on the outcome of Stage 1, further stages of work may include the use of non-intrusive techniques such as geophysical survey, followed by trial trenching and further open-area archaeological excavation, where significant remains have been found but preservation in situ is not merited or feasible.

- 4.6.9 For sites that require intrusive investigation techniques prior to allocation and/or determination of a planning application it is important that an integrated approach is taken when preparing to undertake the archaeological investigation because of other known sensitive archaeological receptors.

- 4.6.10 All sites designated for development will have to adhere to all policies in the Local Plan, which will require developers to address relevant issues such as flood management, biodiversity, landscape mitigation and heritage protection and enhancement.
- 4.6.11 Following the Scoping Stage, St Helens Council undertook further public consultation on the LPPO document between 5 December 2016 and 30 January 2017. The Canals and Rivers Trust wished to see the Sankey Canal corridor protected from development and suggested a specific reference should be made in Policy LPA09 (Green Infrastructure) to the community and environmental benefits that the canal corridor could provide. However, the Council considered the wording of Policy LPA09 is sufficiently flexible to deal with specific cases. The reasoned justification reiterates that water bodies are included within the Green Infrastructure network.
- 4.6.12 Historic England (HE) provided views on the LPPO as whole and detailed comments on draft policies including specific comments on draft allocations. HE's comments provided extensive guidance as to how the Local Plan might deal with the protection and enhancement of heritage in St Helens.
- 4.6.13 Overall, HE considered that the LPPO was potentially deficient in meeting the requirements of paragraph 126 of the then extant NPPF (2012), commenting that rather than proposing that the historical legacy of the industrial past is celebrated and used as a "force for constructive conservation", the LPPO focused on the problems resultant from the decline of the foundation industries of coal and glass. HE also commented that the LPPO conveyed no real sense that heritage was regarded by the Council as a strategic priority for the purposes of paragraph 156 of the NPPF (2012).
- 4.6.14 Therefore, moving forward the Council undertook further work to ensure that HE's comments and concerns were addressed and that the emerging Plan conformed with National policy. Working closely with the Council's Conservation Officer further analysis and assessment work was carried out.

4.7 Heritage Impact Assessments

- 4.7.1 Policy specific comments made by HE suggested a review of both the draft policy structure and the draft policy wording. The specific comments on individual allocations led to the need for Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) to be carried out for appropriate proposed allocations (and land to be safeguarded for future development) to guide viability.
- 4.7.2 Working with HE, the Council's Conservation Officer completed thirteen HIAs for sites identified in the Draft Green Belt Review 2016 that were taken forward in the LPPO consultation as locations proposed for allocation for employment or housing development, or to be safeguarded for consideration of such development beyond 2035. These sites were of specific concern to HE (they are included in Appendix 3).

4.8 Other Community Engagement

- 4.8.1 St Helens Heritage Network is the umbrella group for the numerous community based heritage interest groups across the Borough providing a platform for consultation on Local Plan development.
- 4.8.2 Sankey Canal Restoration Society (SCARS), in liaison with the Council, runs regular community workdays aimed at maintaining parts of the Sankey Canal infrastructure.
- 4.8.3 SCARS, along with Merseyside Industrial Heritage Society, has worked with the Council to develop heritage grant applications. Community interest groups are an essential ingredient to the safeguarding and enhancement of local heritage.
- 4.8.4 The Museum of Liverpool's Field Archaeology Unit (LFAU) has provided archaeological expertise for a number of community-focused activities within St Helens. In partnership with the Council, LFAU ran a Community Archaeological project at Stanley Bank over ten years. The Museum also established a community project at Rainford, called Rainford Roots.
- 4.8.5 There is potential to continue the Stanley Bank Project, particularly focusing on the site of Stanley Copper Works, which could be of major archaeological significance.

4.9 Enhancing the Historic Environment through Policy Implementation

- 4.9.1 As part of the wider environment and countryside management agenda, the Council's Environmental Planning team pursues heritage enhancement including Community Archaeology projects, developing heritage trails, landscape enhancement, and woodland.
- 4.9.2 Much of this is carried out in partnership with organisations such as Liverpool Museum and the Mersey Forest.
- 4.9.3 Appendix 2 provides two case studies to show as examples of this work, Case 1 is a key project in the enhancement of the Sankey Canal Corridor and wider Sankey catchment. The industrial heritage of the town is central to this project, which is currently being developed with a wide range of partner organisations including Halton and Warrington Councils. The corridor landscape is rich in the industrial heritage of the coal, glass and chemical industries and is England's first industrial canal (and crossed by the world's first intercity railway). Following the closure of the canal in 1963, neglect and infilling led to a disjointed hydrology, with remnant sections of canal in a scarred valley landscape. As part of sustainable transport improvements along the corridor, the opportunity was taken to solve a drainage problem and to excavate Engine canal lock to enhance the heritage interest of the corridor route.

- 4.9.4 In addition, case study 2, sets out how the Council is currently preparing a wider regeneration package for Earlestown, which will include the regeneration of the historic built environment within the Earlestown Conservation Area, through various funding schemes. The Council is keen to work with businesses and the community to develop grant funding applications that will enable the Council to regenerate Earlestown, including its historic environment.

4.10 Local Plan Submission Draft January 2019

- 4.10.1 Due to the re-appraisal of sites in the Green Belt Review (2018) and as a result of the reduced housing requirement a number of sites that were proposed to be allocated or safeguarded within the LPPO, were removed as proposed development sites within the LPSD.
- 4.10.2 With regards to those sites the Council's Conservation Officer carried out HIA's on, the following were not carried over to the LPSD as designations for development:

Table 9: Sites to remain in the Green Belt and not developed

Table 9: Sites to remain in the Green Belt and not developed		
LPPO Site Ref. No.:	Site Name	Ward(s)
Previous Allocated Housing Sites at LPPO stage but no-longer going forward i.e. to remain in Green Belt		
HA1	Land adjoining Ash Grove Farm, Beacon Road, Billinge	Billinge and Seneley Green
Previous Safeguarded Housing Sites at LPPO stage but no-longer going forward, i.e. to remain in Green Belt		
HS09	Land south of Howards Lane / east of Gillars Lane, Eccleston	Eccleston
HS15	Land east of Rob Lane and rear of Castle Hill, Newton-le-Willows	Newton
HS18	Land east of Higher Lane / South of Muncaster Drive / at White House Lane, Rainford	Rainford
HS21	Land south of Rookery Land and east of Pasture Lane, Rainford	Rainford

Table 9: Sites to remain in the Green Belt and not developed

LPPO Site Ref. No.:	Site Name	Ward(s)
HS23	Land south of Mill Lane, east of Hall Lane, west of Norlands Lane and north of M62, Rainhill	Rainhill

- 4.10.3 As a result of the HIA findings for LPPO site HS14's (now referenced 4HS in the LPSD) boundary for development was reduced in order to limit the mitigated impact on the Vulcan Village Conservation Area.
- 4.10.4 Each of the HIAs indicates whether the site was subsequently included as a proposed development location in the 2019 Local Plan Submission Draft (LPSD). HE, in its consultation response to the LPSD has stated that their previous comments had been addressed *"through improvements to the policy relating to the historic environment (LPC11) as well as other policies that could potentially impact upon heritage assets."* HE added that it had *"no further comments to make."*
- 4.10.5 As outlined above, a number of changes were made to the LPSD from the LPPO stage, to ensure that the LPSD contained a positive heritage strategy. As demonstrated by the comments made by HE following its comments submitted on the LPSD above.

4.11 Priority Actions for Heritage Enhancement in the SHBLP

Table 10: Action 1 – Safeguarding and Enhancing Landscape Character

Table 10: Action 1 – Safeguarding and Enhancing Landscape Character	
Action Ref.	Description
1a	Local Plan Policies LPC09: Landscape Protection and Enhancement, LPC10: Trees and Woodland;
1b	Bold Forest Park Area Action Plan (AAP) Policy BFP1: A Sustainable Forest Park;
1c	Bold Forest Park AAP Policy ENV1: Enhancing Landscape Character;
1d	Implement the Sankey Catchment Action Plan;

Table 11: Action 2 – Preserving the Landscape and Industrial Heritage of the Borough

Table 11: Action 2 – Preserving the Landscape and Industrial Heritage of the Borough	
Action Ref.	Description
2a	Develop Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF) bid focusing on the 15 mile Sankey Canal Corridor and the wider catchment (jointly with Halton BC, Warrington BC and the Canal and River Trust);

Table 12: Action 3 – Safeguarding Built Heritage

Table 12: Action 3 – Safeguarding Built Heritage	
Action Ref.	Description
3a	Local Plan Policy LPC11: Historic Environment;
3b	Bold Forest Park AAP Policy: ENV3 Heritage;
3c	Adopt and manage a Local List of Buildings of Local Heritage Importance;
3d	Develop HLF bid for Earlestown Conservation Area;
3e	Work with landowners, Historic England to safeguard buildings at Risk;

Table 13: Action 4 – Engaging with the Community

Table 13: Action 4 – Engaging with the Community	
Action Ref.	Description
4a	Resume Community Archaeology Project at Stanley Bank in partnership with Liverpool Museum and Liverpool University;
4b	Work in partnership with the St Helens Community Network to identify buildings of local importance;
4c	Develop the Bold Forest Park Heritage Trail;
4d	Work with Sankey Canal Restoration Society to enhance the Sankey (St Helens) Canal Corridor.

5. SUMMARY

5.1 Moving forward

- 5.1.1 St Helens has a varied heritage that is largely focussed around its role as an industrial town in the 18th and 19th centuries; a heritage that needs and warrants acknowledgement, embracement and celebration.
- 5.1.2 Therefore, as set out in Table 2, between Local Plan Preferred Options stage and Local Plan Submission Draft stage document a number of policies were amended in line with comments made by HE, and through in-house consultation with the Council's Conservation Officer, to better reflect the requirement that local authorities should "*set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets at most risk through neglect, decay or other threats.*"

5.2 Conclusion

- 5.2.1 Following evolution of the Local Plan policies through the plan-making process including input from consultees such as Historic England, the SHBLP contains a positive strategy for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment in the Borough.

Appendix 1: Listed Assets

Easting	Northing	Site	Grade
354 374	391 497	Farm outbuilding, former stables at former Bold Hall Estate	2
354 351	391 484	Farmhouse at former Bold Hall Estate	2
353 600	398 545	Hollin Hey House	2
351 259	395 510	Pair of K6 telephone kiosks flanking steps to Town Hall	2
360 517	395 509	Huskisson memorial on south side of railway, 60m from road	2
347 803	400 739	Golden Lion Public House	2
348 007	400 517	Village Stocks at Corner of Mossborough Road	2
350 127	399 564	Heysome House	2
348 782	400 320	Dial House	2
348 590	402 727	Maggots Nook Farmhouse	2
346 465	399 008	Cow Houses to NW of Mossborough Hall	2
349 983	396 947	Cross to south of Windleshaw Abbey	2
353 553	395 479	Church of St Peter	2
351 482	395 256	Friends Meeting House	2
350 870	396 337	Lodge to Victoria Park	2
351 478	395 463	Church of Holy Cross and Saint Helen	2
349 979	394 320	Offices of Pilkington's Ravenhead Works	2
353 604	393 188	No name for this entry	2
351 938	392 467	Bridge over railway	2
352 243	392 612	Bridge over railway	2
349 096	395 272	Home Farmhouse and Attached Barn	2
352 478	399 593	Church of St Mary and Presbytery	2
352 194	399 448	Lime Vale	2

Easting	Northing	Site	Grade
352 992	399 714	Nugent House Special School	2
352 423	398 802	Otters Swift Farm Building to East of Barn	2
353 317	400 680	Tomb of George and Kitty Smith on South Side of Church of St Aiden	2
351 954	400 808	Great Houghwood Farmhouse	2
357 341	394 435	Bradley Lock	2
358 539	395 727	United Reform Church	2
358 612	395 795	Fairbrother's Farmhouse	2
358 752	395 932	No name for this entry	2
359 782	394 985	Barn to east of Newton Park Farmhouse	2
350 210	394 247	Part of numbers 96 and 98 Former Windmill Tower, Ravenhead	2
352 608	400 343	Barn to south east of Crookhurst Farm	2
351 965	400 800	Great Houghwood Cottage	2
355 631	396 002	The Grange	2
357 610	394 425	Bradley Swing Bridge	2
358 518	395 743	Memorial to NW of Burial Ground of United Reform Church	2
357 475	395 323	Obelisk	2
359 752	394 984	Newton Park Farmhouse	2
350 110	399 601	Stable to NW of Heysome House	2
348 511	400 863	Duck Houses to north of Buildings at White House Farm	2
348 796	400 330	Barn to north of Dial House	
346 495	398 954	Mossborough Hall	2
346 432	399 015	Building to NW of Cowhouses at Mossborough Hall	2
353 374	396 623	Church of St May Immaculate	2

Easting	Northing	Site	Grade
351 290	395 236	Church of St Helen	2
350 720	396 488	The Mansion House	2
351 259	395 384	Former National Westminster Bank at Corner of Cloughton Street	2
352 187	392 629	Church of St Nicolas	2
349 636	392 987	Nutgrove Hall	2
351 568	394 785	Bottle shop at former Ravenhead Glass Bottle Works	2
352 220	395 412	Manor House	2
355 273	399 213	Hollin Hey Farm House	2
353 740	398 533	Holy Trinity Church	2
355 769	399 282	Garswood Branch Library	2
351 164	401 401	Derbyshire House	2
351 269	401 404	Former Mill west of Crow's Nest	2
350 532	350 532	Maddocks Farm House	2
351 307	401 373	Barn SW of Crow's Nest	2
350 640	401 252	Gazebo, approx. 80m to NE of Number 52482,001	2
348 227	400 185	Two Statues, The Images, at Number 133 and 135	2
350 559	396 077	Cowley High School, south block	2
351 164	390 322	Gate Piers at Bold Old Hall	2
354 192	390 331	Bridge at Bold Old Hall	2
349 452	390 340	Cross	2
350 117	390 608	Loyola Hall	2
349 327	391 253	Church of St Ann with Lych Gate and Churchyard Wall	2
350 184	390 354	Roman Catholic Church of St Bartholomew	2
350 353	389 946	Rainhill Cottage	2

Easting	Northing	Site	Grade
349 390	396 793	No name for this entry	2
348 538	390 370	Dean's Farmhouse	2
350 968	390 703	Wood's House Farm	2
349 065	391 399	Skew Bridge	2
349 387	396 794	Cockleshell Cottage	2
350 132	390 079	Smithy Cottage and that part of the same house incorporated within Smithy Cottage	2
349 891	394 486	St Helens South Lake Surrounds and Bridge at Pilkington's Glassworks	2
349 946	394 787	Head Offices Steps to Lake and Canteen at Pilkington's Glassworks	2
350 856	395 405	Beechams Clock Tower and Offices	2
353 375	393 621	Church of All Saints	2
349 382	396 796	No Name for this entry	2
349 076	391 396	Milestone on Skew Bridge	2
347 061	395 390	Clay Lane Farmhouse Rainford	2
348 503	390 347	Range of adjoining buildings in L plan (rear of Dean's farmhouse)	2
349 454	396 822	The Malt House	2
351 607	401 686	Shaley Brow Farm Barn	2
348 761	393 964	Seddon's Cottage	2
351 984	396 195	New Double Lock on the Sankey Canal	2
350 705	396 540	Grotto by Lake to the Victoria Park House	2
349 865	394 089	Church of St John the Evangelist	2
350 894	395 082	Reflection Court, the Former Pilkington HQ Offices, Grove Street, Canal Street	2
351 162	400 177	Barn to East of Guildhall Farmhouse, alongside the Lane	2

Easting	Northing	Site	Grade
359 303	395 320	Newton Viaduct to west of Station	2
358 116	395 667	Church of Mary and John	2
359 277	395 640	Parish Stocks	2
351 262	401 555	Billinge Hall	2
350 579	401 292	Fir Tree House	2
352 596	400 375	Crookhurst Farm	2
354 449	397 060	Pear Tree Farmhouse	2
359 301	395 644	Church of St Peter	2
357 390	395 328	South African War Memorial	2
359 342	395 335	Newton Le Willows Station	2
359 195	396 604	Dean School Cottage	2
357 757	395 119	Earlestown Station Building to South of Railway	2
347 865	400 669	Church of All Saints	2
350 144	399 602	Barn to north of Heysome House	2
348 525	400 818	Farm Building at White House Farm	2
348 363	402 182	Scythe Stone Delph Farmhouse	2
346 397	399 007	Smithy to west of Barn at Mossborough Hall	2
353 583	396 097	Old Double Lock	2
350 938	395 846	Church of St Mary Lowe House	2
351 148	393 281	Sherdley Hall Farmhouse	2
352 399	398 807	Otters Swift Farm	2
353 296	400 699	Walls and Piers on South and West Side of Church of St Aiden	2
353 044	393 955	Sutton Oak Welsh Chapel	2
356 121	398 514	Le Chateau	2

Easting	Northing	Site	Grade
355 792	355 792	The Old Rectory	2
347 373	393 313	West Derby War Memorial at Eccleston Park	2
354 352	391 640	Walled Garden Adjoining Site of Former Bold Hall	2
349 528	390 268	Briars Hey	2
349 278	391 294	Former St Anne's Church School	2
349 278	391 294	Rainhill Station	2
357 371	395 338	Earlestown Town Hall	2
348 445	395 558	Christ Church	2
348 728	395 031	Eccleston Hall	2
348 477	392 202	Green's Farm House	2
348 484	392 171	Range of Barns, Stables and Buildings, Greenshouse Farm, Longton Lane, Rainhill	2
356 045	398 675	Gate Piers, Gates and Flanking Walls at Ashton Cross	2
350 337	391 813	Bourne's Tunnel at SJ5033491804	2
349 300	390 563	Water tower at Turris Heah, Mill Lane	2
348 398	393 176	130-132 Portico Lane , Eccleston Park, Prescott	2
351 201	395 522	Statue of Queen Victoria, centre of Square, Victoria Square	2*
351 216	395 015	Tank House, Beside Canal at Crown Glass Works	2*
351 141	400 210	Guildhall Farm	2*
353 325	400 698	Church of St.Aiden	2*
358 818	395 897	Entrance Archway at Randall's Nursery	2*
349 967	396 960	Ruins of Windleshaw Abbey in Roman Catholic Cemetery (Chapel of Saint Thomas)	2*
348 971	393 394	Scholes House	2*
348 890	393 455	Effigy Pedestal in Garden of Scholes House	2*

Easting	Northing	Site	Grade
348 978	390 250	Old Hall Farmhouse	2*
349 978	390 120	Manor Farmhouse	2*
348 970	393 378	Ancient Ruins at Scholes House	2*
358 194	395 687	No Name for this entry	2*
352 420	399 816	Birchley Hall	2*
356 909	394 732	Sankey Viaduct over Sankey Brook (that part in St Helens District)	1

Appendix 2: Case Studies

Case Study 1: Sankey Canal Corridor and Catchment Project

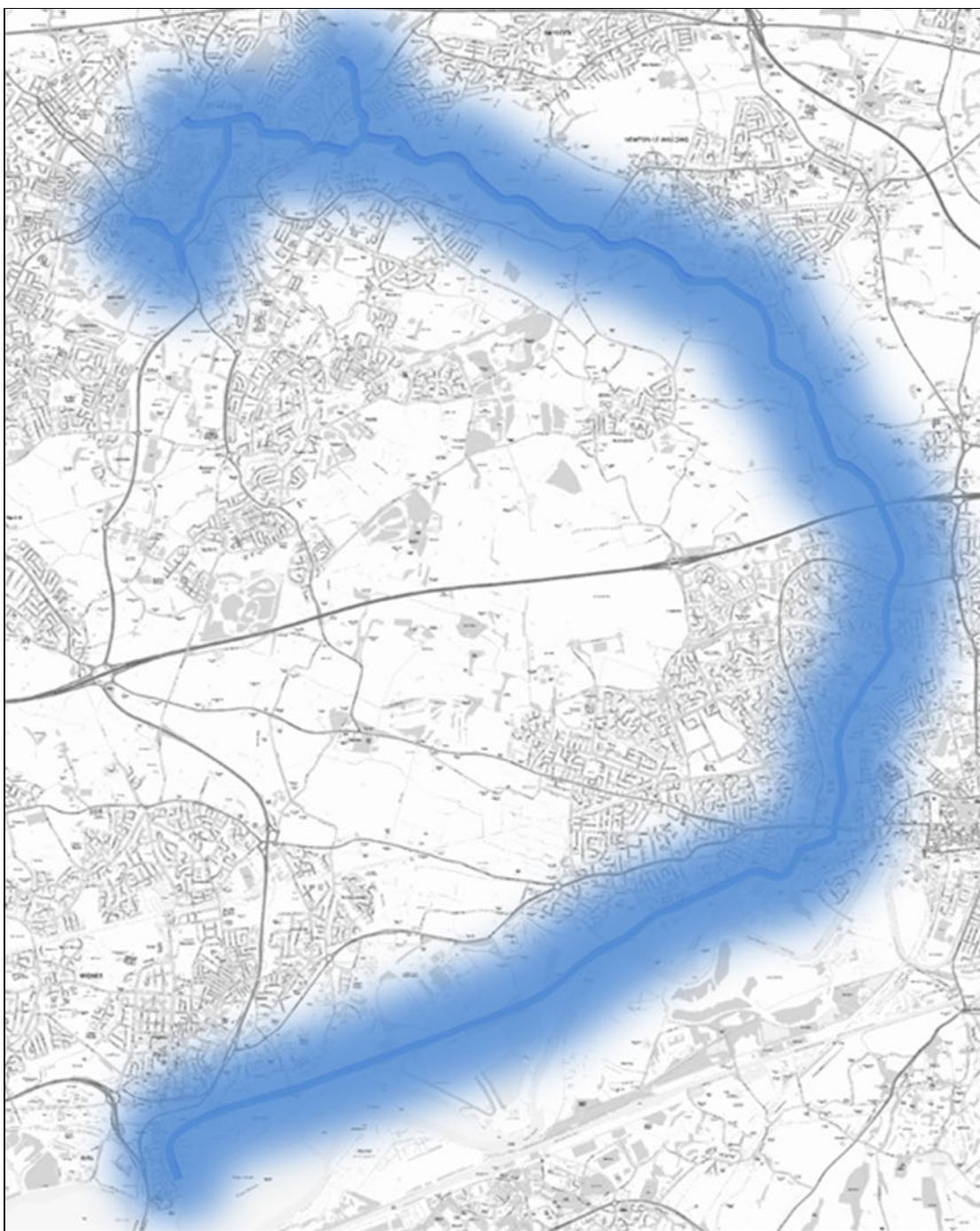
The 15-mile long Sankey (St Helens) Canal corridor runs from Carr Mill Dam in St Helens through west Warrington to Spike Island at Widnes. The corridor landscape is rich in the industrial heritage of the coal, glass and chemical industries and is England's first industrial canal (and crossed by the world's first intercity railway). Following the closure of the canal in 1963, neglect and infilling led to a disjointed hydrology, with remnant sections of canal in a scarred valley landscape.

Nature has healed the scars and today the corridor is a rich tapestry of industrial heritage, nationally important ecology, coupled with pleasant recreation space managed as three separate country parks by Halton, Warrington and St Helens Councils. The project has the following aims in order to create multifunctional green corridor with heritage at its heart:

- To safeguard, enrich and promote the Cultural Heritage of the Sankey Valley and the Sankey Canal Corridor;
- To develop an improved hydrological catchment that minimises the frequency and intensity of flooding within the Sankey Catchment, assists in improving the quality of the water environment and canal heritage and maximises the water resource for biodiversity needs;
- To improve the quality of the valley as a functioning ecological corridor through appropriate habitat management and creation;
- To increase the connectivity of the valley for sustainable commuting and recreational purposes;
- To maximise the potential of the Sankey Valley as a visitor destination and economic asset; and
- To promote the use of the Sankey Valley for health and wellbeing.

Recent work at Engine Lock at Broad Oak illustrates the multi-functional approach being taken. As part of sustainable transport improvements along the corridor, the opportunity was taken to solve a drainage problem and to excavate Engine canal lock to enhance the heritage interest of the corridor route.

Figure 10: Approximate extent of Sankey Canal Corridor



[For illustrative purposes only – the Corridor has not been formally identified as being defined by a specific area or boundary]

Figure 11: Engine Lock excavated in 2017 by St Helens Council



Case Study 2: Earlestown Conservation Area – Heritage Led Regeneration

Earlestown owes its existence and character to the Manchester to Liverpool railway, which opened in 1830. Prior to the second half of the 19th century it was a tiny hamlet, but by the end of that century had overtaken its medieval neighbour, Newton-le-Willows, becoming the seat of the town hall and market for both communities.

The Earlestown Conservation Area (CA) was first designated in 2016 acknowledging the importance of the town, which, along with Newton-le-Willows, is the largest distinct Key Settlement after the Core Area of St Helens. The designation is a first step in developing heritage led approach to regeneration of the town.

The CA is important locally and nationally as it provides a valuable source of evidence of one of the most iconic developments of the industrial revolution, the passenger railway. The town is steeped in historical interest, being involved with two of the world's 'great firsts.' The railway was engineered by George Stephenson and opened on 15 September 1830; it was the first in the world to rely exclusively on steam power; the first to be entirely double-tracked

throughout its length; the first to have a signalling system; the first to be fully timetabled; and the first to carry mail.

Figure 12: Earlestown Market Square



Nearby, towards Liverpool, the line crosses the Sankey Canal over the world's oldest mainline railway viaduct still in use today. John B. Jervis of the Delaware and Hudson Railway some years later wrote: *"It must be regarded ... as opening the epoch of railways which has revolutionised the social and commercial intercourse of the civilized world."* In July 1831, the Warrington and Newton railway was opened, less than 6 months after the Liverpool and

Manchester railway began service. It was the first commercial railway line designed to carry paying passengers as well as cargo.

The Council is keen to work with businesses and the community to develop grant funding applications that will enable the Council to regenerate Earlestown, including its historic environment. Economically, the town has suffered from a lack of investment in recent decades. The 2015 indices of multiple deprivation places the town within the top 10% of most deprived areas in England. This is something that is reflected in built form.

The multifaceted economic benefits that conservation and heritage can provide to an area are something that has, historically, been under-exploited in Earlestown. It is envisaged that local residents and business owners will engage in the process and be inspired to undertake more of an active role in the protection and conservation of their local area, thus allowing the CA to benefit from a new breath of life; which is achieved when a broad range of stakeholders share the responsibility of improving the quality of an area, and at the same time rediscovering its unique sense of place.

Appendix 3: Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs)

Index:

	LPSD Ref.	LPPO Ref.	GBR 2016 Ref.	GBR 2018 Ref.	Location
1.	2HA_A 2HA_B	HA3	GBS_006	GBP_060	Land at Florida Farm (south of A580), Slag Lane, Blackbrook
2.	1EA	EA1 ES-02	GBS_145	GBP_076c	Omega South Western Extension Phase 1, Land north of Finches Plantation, Bold
3.	-	HS18	GBS_058	GBP_20e	Land east of Higher Lane, Rainford
4.	-	HS18	GBS_059	GBP_20d	Land South of Muncaster Drive, Rainford
5.	-	HA1	GBS_089	GBP_23	Land adjoining Ash Grove Farm, Beacon Road, Billinge
6.	7EA & 8EA	EA8 EA9	GBS_028	GBP_039 GBP_041	Parkside East and, Parkside West, Newton-le-Willows
7.	-	HS15	GBS_034	GBP_051d	Land east of Rob Lane and rear of Castle Hill, Newton-le-Willows
8.	-	HS21	GBS_069 GBS_080	GBP_011c	Land south of Rookery Lane and east of Pasture Lane, Rainford
9.	-	HS13	GBS_129	GPB_046	Land at Old Hey Farm, south of Tyrer Road, Newton-le-Willows
10.	-	HS23	GBS_136 GBS_160	GBP_089	Land south of Mill lane, east of Hall Lane, west of Norlands Lane and north of M62, Rainhill
11.	-	HS09	GBS_104	GBP_097b	Land south of Howards Lane/east of Gillars Lane, Eccleston
12.	4HS	HS14	GBS_067	GBP_044	Land east of Newlands Grange, Newton-le-Willows
13.	6EA	EA7	GBS_005	GBP_031b	Land to the West of Haydock Industrial Estate, Haydock

1. Land at Florida Farm, Slag Lane, Haydock

Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_060 (previously GBS_006)
LPPO Ref	HA3
LPSP Ref	2HA_A, 2HA_B
Postcode	WA11 0UZ
Ward	Blackbrook
LPSP Size	23.19ha

A. Description

The site comprises mainly of agricultural fields with some trees along the northern and southern boundaries. The parcel wraps around the existing farmhouse and outbuildings, with Clipsey Brook crossing the site. The majority of the site is screened from public viewpoints by well-established tree belts.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

"... listed buildings lie close to the site. Effects are considered likely, but we are given no information as to wherein lies the significance of those assets, how that significance might be harmed or enhanced by development of the site, or what mitigation if any might be necessary, nor is there any summary findings outlining why any harm would be outweigh by public."

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s):

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Pear Tree Farmhouse - SJ5444797057

The Grade II listed Pear Tree Farmhouse lies within 145m of the site boundary.

List Entry Number: 1343244

D. Current site requirements of relevance:

Setting of a Listed Building: Where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.:

SJ 59 SW Haydock Clipsley Lane

4/21 Pear Tree – Farmhouse – Grade II Listed

House. Probably C17 with later alterations. Brick with stone slate roof. 2 storeys, 2 bays. Windows have 6-pane sashes and rock-faced stone sills. Entrance has panelled pilasters, frieze and cornice. Wooden gutter on curved brackets. Brick end stacks. Rear has wing and some horizontally sliding sashes. Interior has ground floor ovolo-moulded beam; 1st floor has one wide-boarded door.

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s):

Historically, the setting of Pear Tree Farmhouse was rural in nature however since the late 19th century and the development of the historic Haydock Turnpike, the surrounding area had gradually been developed.

Consequently, its original agricultural setting is no longer legible as it has been subsumed by the surrounding settlement of Blackbrook. An extensive belt of established trees provide an additional visual buffer between housing site HA3 and the Blackbrook settlement.

G. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s):

The loss of this site and its subsequent development will have no impact on the significance of the heritage asset.

H. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

Not applicable.

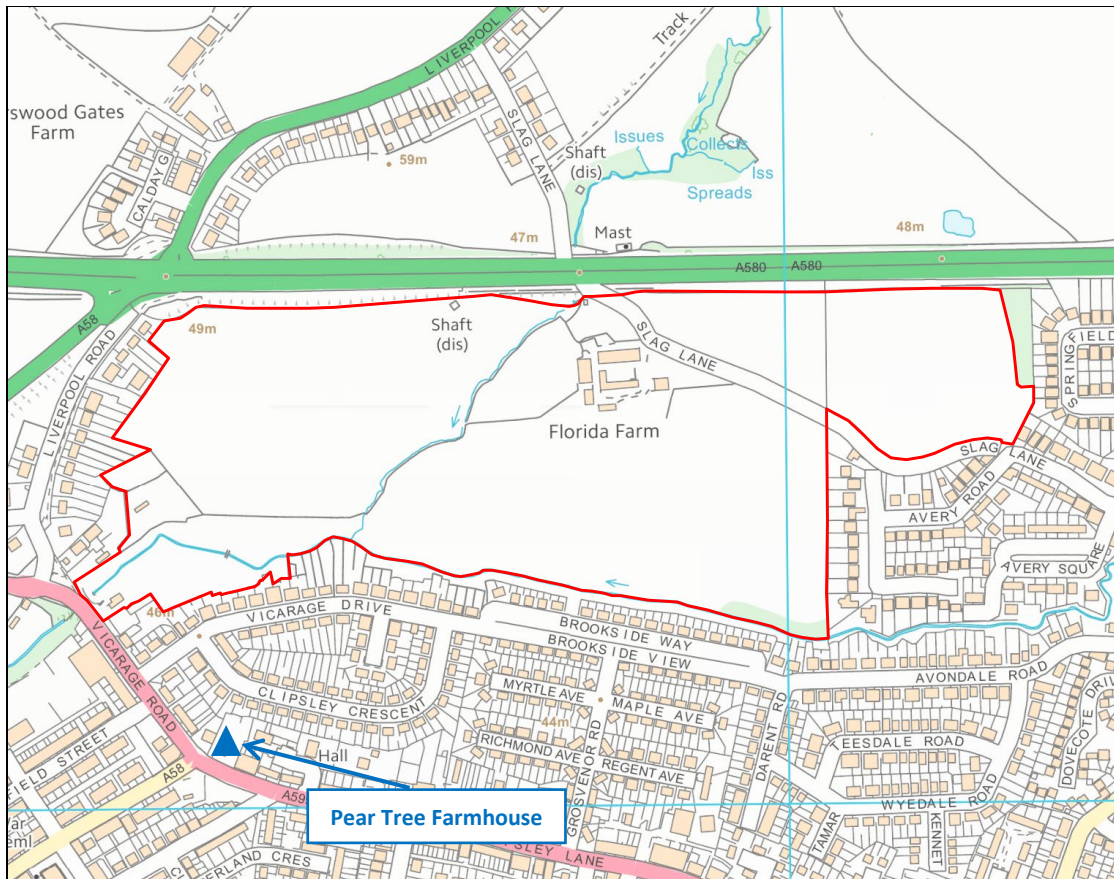
I. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

Not applicable.

J. Conclusion

National Planning Policies and relevant policies in relation to heritage, design and landscaping will ensure that any development of this site can be delivered in a manner that avoids or minimises harm to the setting of the listed building.

Proposed housing land allocation at LPP0 stage



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1. Land south of M62 (west of Omega South (HCA))	
Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_076c (previously GBS_145)
LPPO Ref	EA1
LPSP Ref	1EA
Postcode	WA5 3AD
Ward	Bold
LPSP Size	31.22ha

A. Description

Very large site which contains multiple agricultural fields, ponds and woodlands along the east and west boundaries. Adjacent to M62 and large warehouses, but still makes a moderate to high contribution to the landscape.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“... listed buildings lie close to the site. Effects are considered likely, but we are given no information as to wherein lies the significance of those assets, how that significance might be harmed or enhanced by development of the site, or what mitigation if any might be necessary, nor is there any summary findings outlining why any harm would be outweighed by public benefits which cannot be met in any other way.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s):

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Gate piers at Bold Old Hall - SJ5419090334

Gate piers to the former Old Bold Hall (rebuilt early eighteenth century)

List Entry Number: 1253233

Status: Scheduled

Old Bold Hall moated site, Bold - SJ5417390353

One of a group of five moated sites in the former township of Bold, documentary evidence indicates that it was the most significant.

List Entry Number: 1010703

Status: Scheduled

Barrow Old Hall moated site, Great Sankey SJ5617789586

One of a group of six moated sites in the former township of Bold and is of importance because it represents a rare and unusual example in NW England of a large number of moated sites in one township.

List Entry Number: 1013363

D. Current site requirements of relevance:

Around 6,000 moated sites are known in England. They consist of wide ditches, often or seasonally water-filled, partly or completely enclosing one or more islands of dry ground on which stood domestic or religious buildings. In some cases the islands were used for horticulture. The majority of moated sites served as prestigious aristocratic and seigneurial residences with the provision of a moat intended as a status symbol rather than a practical military defence. The peak period during which moated sites were built was between about 1250 and 1350 and by far the greatest concentration lies in central and eastern parts of England. However, moated sites were built throughout the medieval period, are widely scattered throughout England and exhibit a high level of diversity in their forms and sizes. They form a significant class of medieval monument and are important for the understanding of the distribution of wealth and status in the countryside. Many examples provide conditions favourable to the survival of organic remains.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.:

Gate piers at Bold Old Hall, Bold

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Designed by Leoni, the Italian architect, and built early C18. The capital of one pier is a restoration. Heavy, massive style, stone. The house was Palladian, now rebuilt in modern times, re-using a 1616 datestone.

Old Bold Hall moated site, Bold

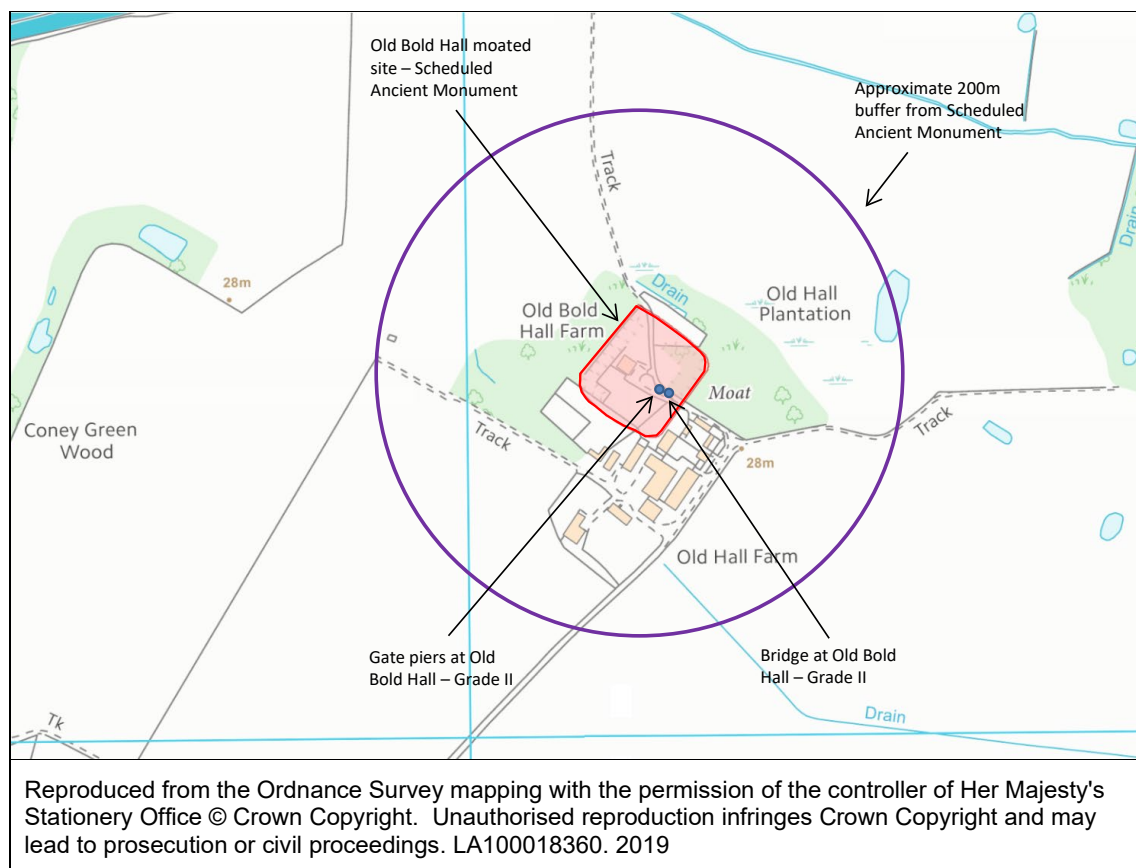
Scheduled Monument

The moated site at Old Bold Hall was one of a group of moated sites in the former township of Bold, documentary evidence indicates that of these it was the most significant. The moat survives well despite its modern tree and shrub growth. Evidence of the original buildings will be preserved on the island.

The monument comprises a moated site, the island of which is now partially occupied by a 20th century farmhouse and garden but which was formerly occupied by Old Bold Hall. The moat is dry and has been partially in-filled but the site retains an early 18th century bridge and flanking gate piers which are Listed Grade II. The manor of Bold was known to be in existence in 1212 and Old Bold Hall is known to have been rebuilt at least 3 times,

with access being by a drawbridge in the 16th century. The moat is 20-24m wide at its E corner and is steep-sided in its NW and SW arms and up to 1.5m deep. It is heavily overgrown with trees and shrubbery throughout. The island measures c.60m x 70m and possesses two access drives, one continuing across the island as a public footpath. Old Bold Hall farmhouse, the bridge and gate piers, a timber shed, all hedges and a public footpath signpost are excluded from the scheduling. The ground beneath all these features, however, is included.

Heritage assets at Old Bold Hall



Barrow Old Hall moated site, Great Sankey

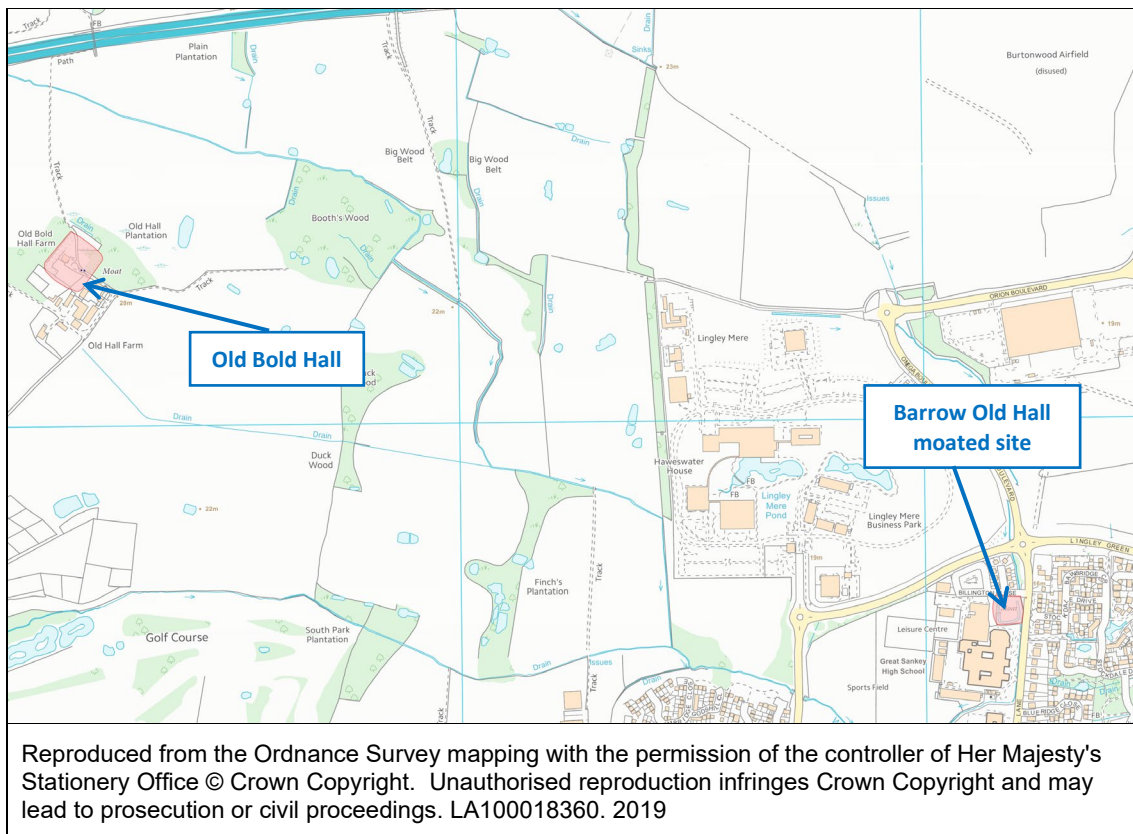
Scheduled Monument

The moated site at Barrow Old Hall was one of a group of moated sites in the former township of Bold and is of importance because it represents a rare and unusual example in NW England of a large number of moated sites in one township. In addition the monument retains considerable archaeological potential for the recovery of evidence of building foundations within its interior and for the recovery of organic material from the waterlogged moat.

The monument comprises a moated site the island of which was formerly occupied by Barrow Old Hall. The hall was completely rebuilt on at least

one occasion and towards the end of the 19th century was converted into a country cottage, finally being demolished in the 1960s. Limited excavation in 1986-7 found remains of a 17th century structure and evidence for earlier buildings. The moat is 12m max. width, waterlogged on three sides but has been infilled on the N. A short length of inlet/outlet channel links the moat with a tributary of Whittle Brook. The island is grassed over and measures c.40m x 50m. It is approached on the W by a restored bridge originally of early 19th century date. Most moats were constructed between 1250-1350 and are generally seen as the prestigious residences of the Lords of the manor. Barrow Old Hall is one of six moated sites in the medieval township of Bold. The earliest dated reference to an estate at Barrow is 1330. Its medieval associations with the principal manor of Bold Old Hall and its position on the edge of the township suggest that its development as a moated site may have occurred late in the medieval period. All fences and the concrete setting for the information board are excluded from the scheduling; however, the ground beneath these features is included.

Location of Barrow Old Hall moated site



F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s):

The original setting of all three heritage assets was rural in nature. Therefore, the retention of a rural setting where in existence is an important consideration when assessing the contribution that this site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage assets.

G. *Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s):*

Both scheduled moats are associated with landed old halls which no longer exist. While the parkland setting of Old Bold Hall moated site remains, the immediate setting of Barrow Old Hall moat has already been significantly compromised which nullifies the contribution that GBS_145 makes to the significance of Barrow Old Hall moat.

The vast majority of GBS_145 is outside of the medieval deer park associated with Old Bold Hall however it does include a silver of land from the medieval park which can be found in the upper North-West corner. The intactness of the park forms an important part of the setting of both the gate piers and the associated Old Bold Hall moated site. Moreover, the intactness of the park itself is integral to the significance of this undesignated heritage landscape. Therefore, any erosion of the parkland will negatively impact on the setting of these heritage assets.

The open views across the remainder of the site do reaffirm the original rural setting of the Old Bold Hall particularly when considered from the immediate boundary of the undesignated medieval park. However, when GBS_145 is considered strictly in terms of its contribution to the setting of the gate piers and old moat associated with Old Bold Hall which are located c841 meters away, GBS_145 contributes little to their setting. There is sufficient retention of open views within the park itself which protect their rural setting.

H. *If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?*

No, not at present.

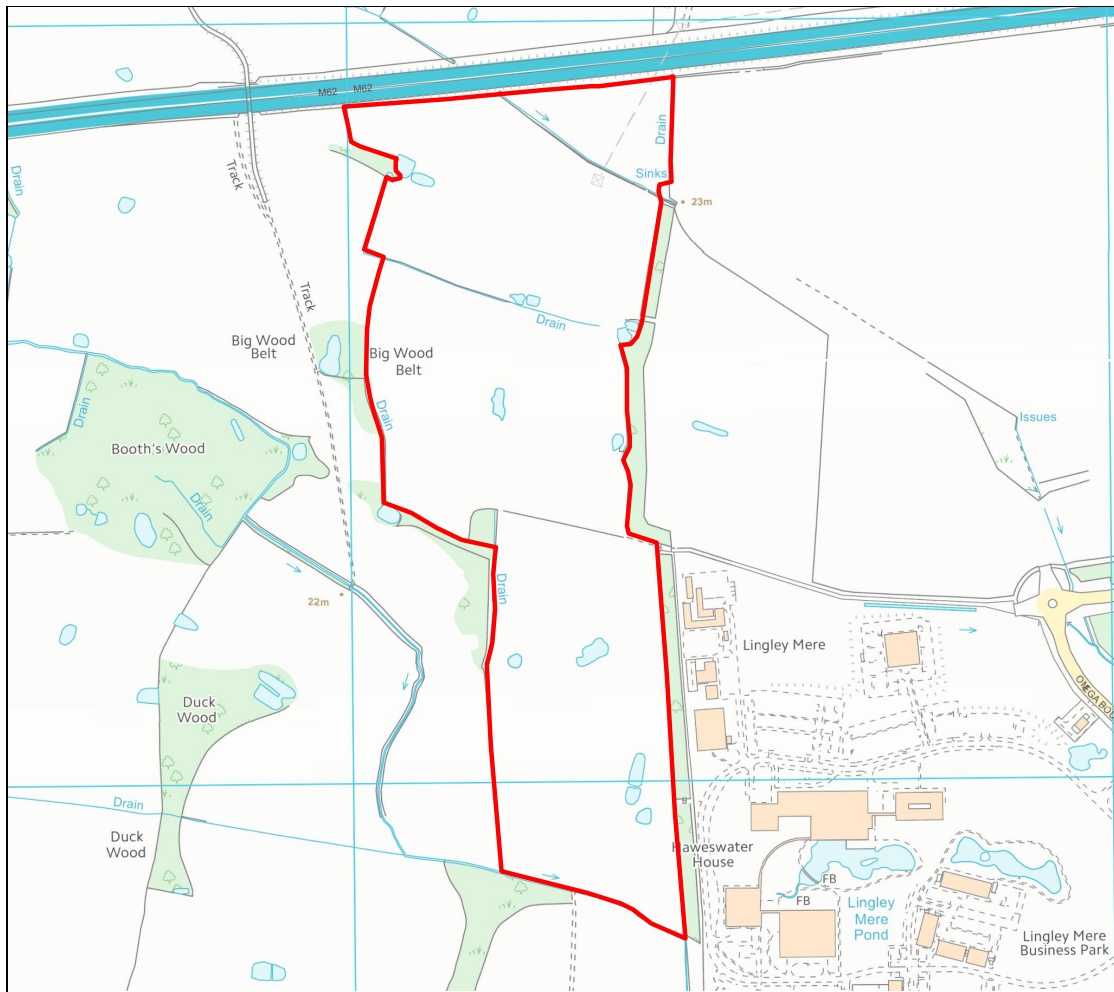
I. *If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?*

The amendment of the site boundary to exclude the sliver of land associated with the Old Bold Hall deer park would address any outstanding concerns from a conservation concerns.

J. *Conclusion*

It is recommended that the boundary is amended in-line with the above comments.

Proposed employment land allocation at LPPO stage



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3. Land to the rear of Higher Lane, Rainford

Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_020d (previously GBS_059)
LPPO Ref	HS18
LPSP Ref	Land South of Muncaster Drive
Postcode	WA11 8NL
Ward	Rainford
LPSP Size	0.87ha

A. Description

The site comprises of a small flat agricultural field accessed off Muncaster Drive, Rainford. The western part of site is within the 50m buffer of 2no. listed buildings.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“... listed buildings lie close to the site. Effects are considered likely, but we are given no information as to wherein lies the significance of those assets, how that significance might be harmed or enhanced by development of the site, or what mitigation if any might be necessary, nor is there any summary findings outlining why any harm would be outweighed by public benefits which cannot be met in any other way.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s)

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Farm building at Whitehouse Farm - SD4851500819

The western part of site is within the 50m buffer of the Grade II listed former farm that were associated with Muncaster Hall home farm.

List Entry Number: 1343267

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Duck houses to north of buildings at White House Farm - SD4851300864

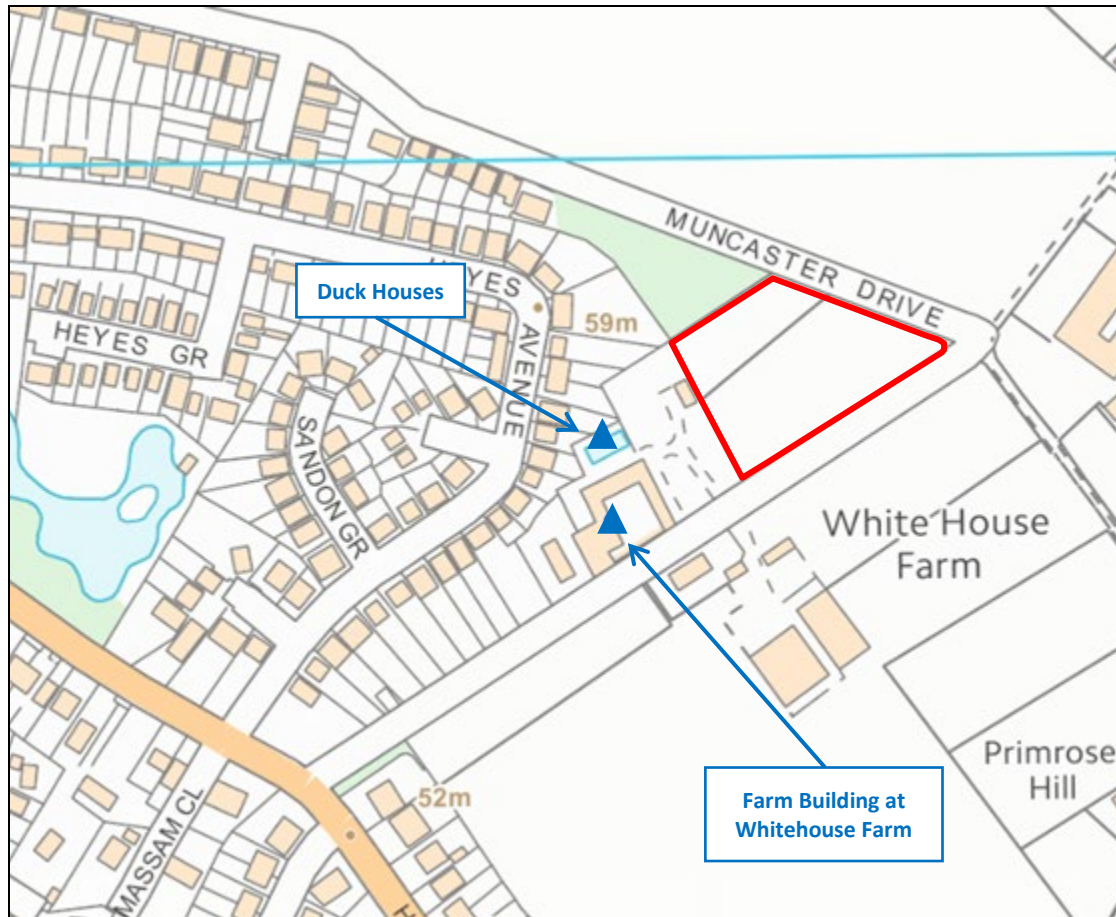
The western part of site is within the 50m buffer of the Grade II listed duck houses that were associated with Muncaster Hall home farm.

List Entry Number: 1199067

D. Current site requirements of relevance:

Setting of a Listed Building: Where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

Location of heritage assets close to Muncaster Drive (GBS_059)



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E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.

SD 40 SE Rainford, Higher Lane (north side)

1/55 Farm Building at Whitehouse Farm – Grade II Listed

Farmbuilding for Muncaster Hall home farm, now part of White House Farm. 1860s. Rock-faced stone with slate roof. U- plan, mostly of 2 storeys. East range has central gabled through passage with elliptical archways. 2 storeys and 4 bays to left; windows with plain lintels and 2 lateral stacks, one to end is octagonal and tapering. To right of entrance, a segmental cart entrance and external stairs leading to 1st floor gabled entrance. Right return has stable doors, windows and pitching holes. Courtyard facade 2 large altered entrances to left and entrances to right. Left return has stable

doors with pitching eyes above and projecting barn with opposed entrances and ventilation slits. Right return has several round-arched openings to shelter sheds, most now with C20 infill.

SD 40 SE Rainford, Higher Lane (north side)

1/56 Duck houses to north of buildings at White House Farm – Grade II Listed

3 duck houses to north of duck pond, originally part of Muncaster Hall home farm. 1860s. stone with slate roofs. Each is a rectangular building with a shallow stone coped gable. Central round-arched entrance with large key stone and flanking blocked windows.

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s)

The prevailing openness surrounding the listed farm buildings and the separately listed duck houses contributes to their significance, both in respect of their setting and their historic interest. The views across open fields give an important sense of place.

G. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s)

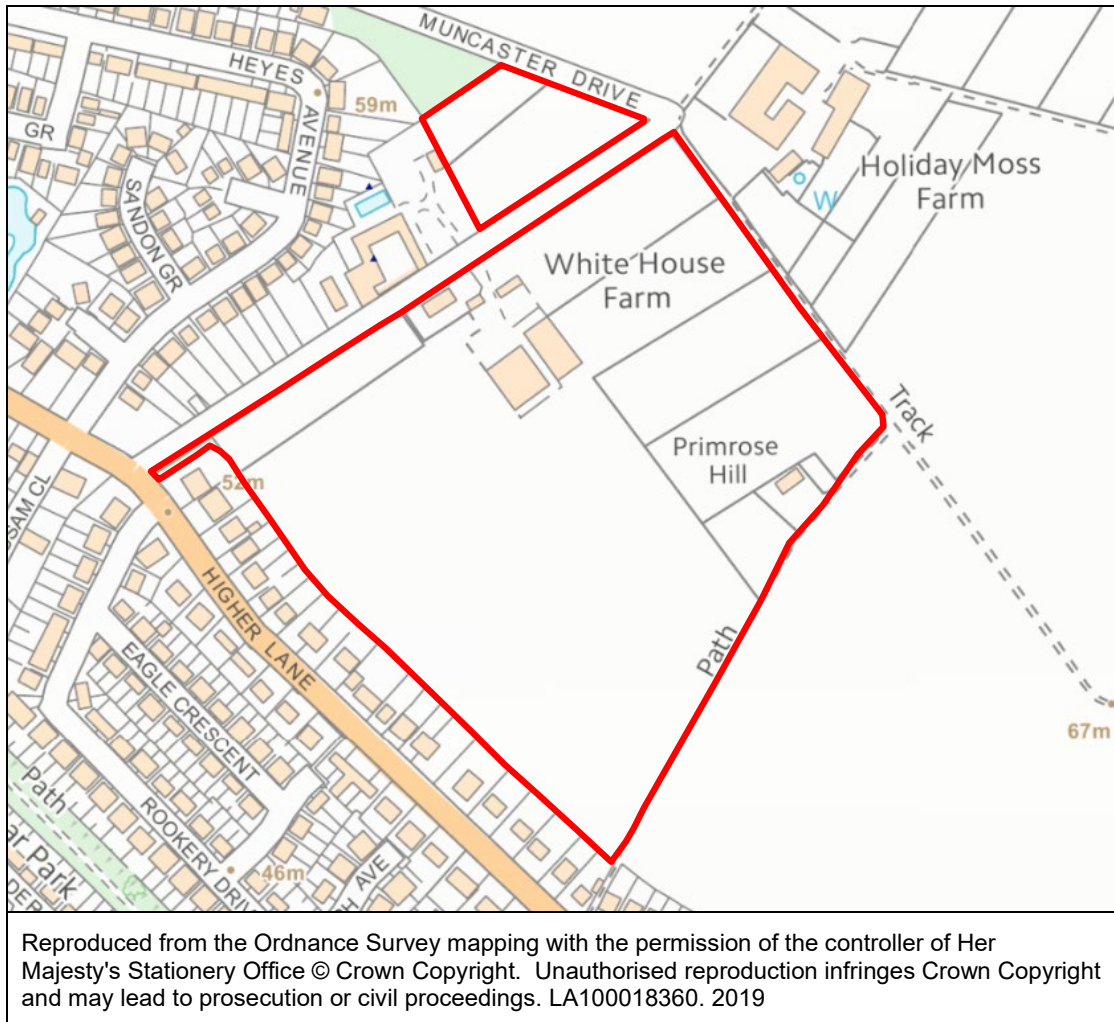
Development on this site will impact upon the setting of the listed buildings. The openness of the site plays a part in the contextual understanding of the listed buildings and their significance. This is a particularly relevant consideration given that this is a single parcel of land within a larger site allocation. The release of HS18 would result in the entire setting of these listed buildings being compromised in a harmful manner. The rural and agricultural setting is integral to the significance of these listed buildings and effectively surrounding them with residential development will have an adverse impact.

The level of harm would be that of less than substantial. Consequently any proposed development on GBS_059, would need to address the requirements of para 134 of the NPPF which states that '*where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.*'

H. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

No, not at present.

Proposed Site designation in LPPO (Ref: HS18)



I. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

The proximity of this site to the listed buildings and the manner in which it bounds it means that it would be impossible to address the above concern.

J. Conclusion

Site GBS_059 should not be released from the Green Belt and designated for potential development.

4. Land to the rear of Higher Lane, Rainford

Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_020e (previously GBS_058)
LPPO Ref	HS18
LPSP Ref	-
Postcode	WA11 8BQ
Ward	Rainford
LPSP Size	5.1ha

A. Description

The site is a flat rectangular shaped single large agricultural field.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“... listed buildings lie close to the site. Effects are considered likely, but we are given no information as to wherein lies the significance of those assets, how that significance might be harmed or enhanced by development of the site, or what mitigation if any might be necessary, nor is there any summary findings outlining why any harm would be outweighed by public benefits which cannot be met in any other way.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s)

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Farm building at Whitehouse Farm - SD4851500819

The western part of site is within the 50m buffer of the Grade II listed former farm that were associated with Muncaster Hall home farm.

List Entry Number: 1343267

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Duck houses to north of buildings at White House Farm - SD4851300864

The western part of site is within the 50m buffer of the Grade II listed duck houses that were associated with Muncaster Hall home farm.

List Entry Number: 1199067

Status: Site of archaeological interest (Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service)

Site of Clay Tobacco Pipe Workshop, Orrets Nook - SD4940000668

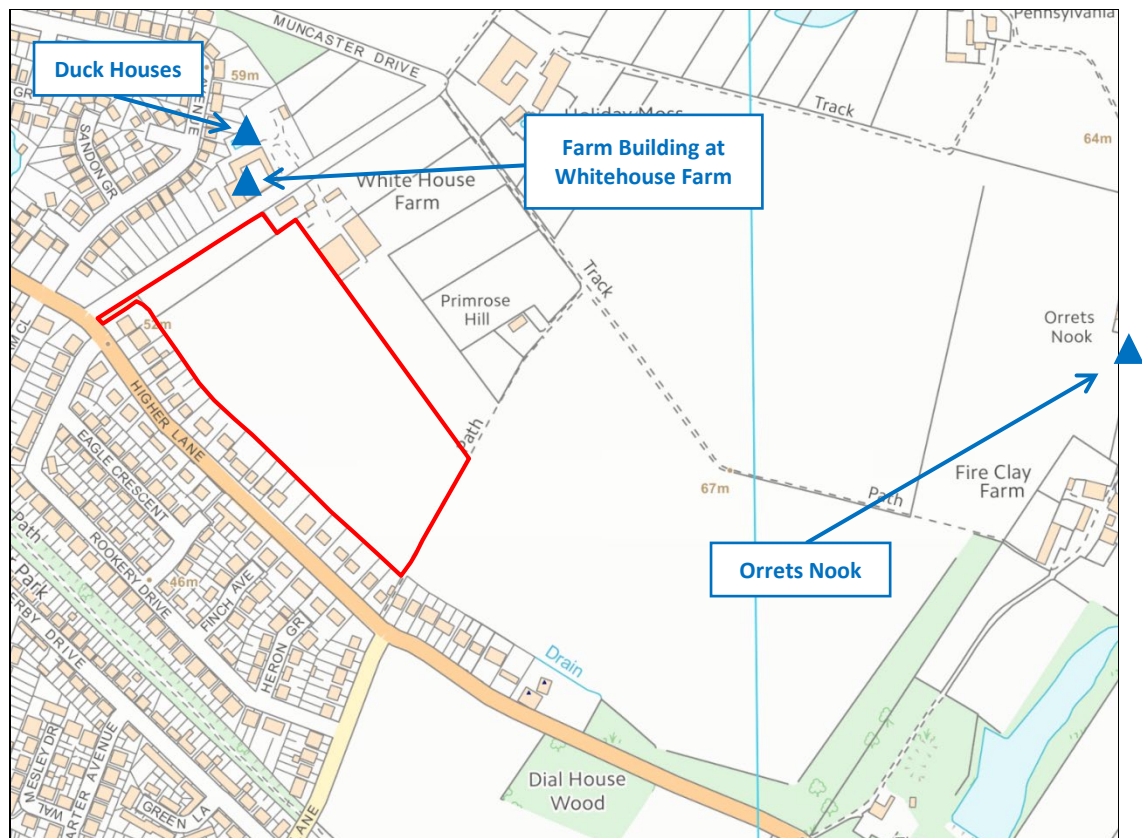
A field to the east of Orrets Nook farm was systematically surveyed and sampled in 10m squares, and clay tobacco pipe fragments, pottery, and a substantial amount of kiln material was recovered.

MEAS Record Identifier: MME14823

D. Current site requirements of relevance:

Setting of a Listed Building: Where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

Location of heritage assets close to land at Higher Lane



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Setting of a Listed Building: Where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.

SD 40 SE Rainford, Higher Lane (north side)

1/55 Farm Building at Whitehouse Farm – Grade II Listed

Farm building for Muncaster Hall home farm, now part of White House Farm. 1860s. Rock-faced stone with slate roof. U- plan, mostly of 2 storeys. East range has central gabled through passage with elliptical archways. 2 storeys and 4 bays to left; windows with plain lintels and 2 lateral stacks, one to end is octagonal and tapering. To right of entrance, a segmental cart entrance and external stairs leading to 1st floor gabled entrance. Right return has stable doors, windows and pitching holes. Courtyard facade two large altered entrances to left and entrances to right. Left return has stable doors with pitching eyes above and projecting barn with opposed entrances and ventilation slits. Right return has several round-arched openings to shelter sheds, most now with C20 infill.

SD 40 SE Rainford, Higher Lane (north side)
1/56 **Duck houses to north of buildings at White House – Farm – Grade II Listed**

Three duck houses to north of duck pond, originally part of Muncaster Hall home farm. 1860s. stone with slate roofs. Each is a rectangular building with a shallow stone coped gable. Central round-arched entrance with large key stone and flanking blocked windows.

MEAS would need to advice on the potential impact of the proposals on
POST MEDIEVAL - CLAY TOBACCO PIPE FACTORY.

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s)

The prevailing openness surrounding the listed farm buildings and the separately listed duck houses contributes to their significance, both in respect of their setting and their historic interest. The views across open fields give an important sense of place.

G. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s)

Development on this site will impact upon the setting of the listed buildings. The openness of the site plays a part in the contextual understanding of the listed buildings and their significance. This is a particularly relevant consideration given that this substantial parcel of land within the larger site allocation - HS18. Equally important is that the release of GBS_058 would result in the incorporation of the immediate area into Rainford village as there would no longer be any break in development. Essentially, the rural and

agricultural setting is integral to the significance of these listed buildings and effectively surrounding them with residential development will have an adverse impact.

The level of harm associated with the release of GBS_058 would be that of less than substantial. Consequently any proposed development on GBS_058 would need to address the requirements of para 134 of the NPPF which states that *'where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.'*

H. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

No, not at present.

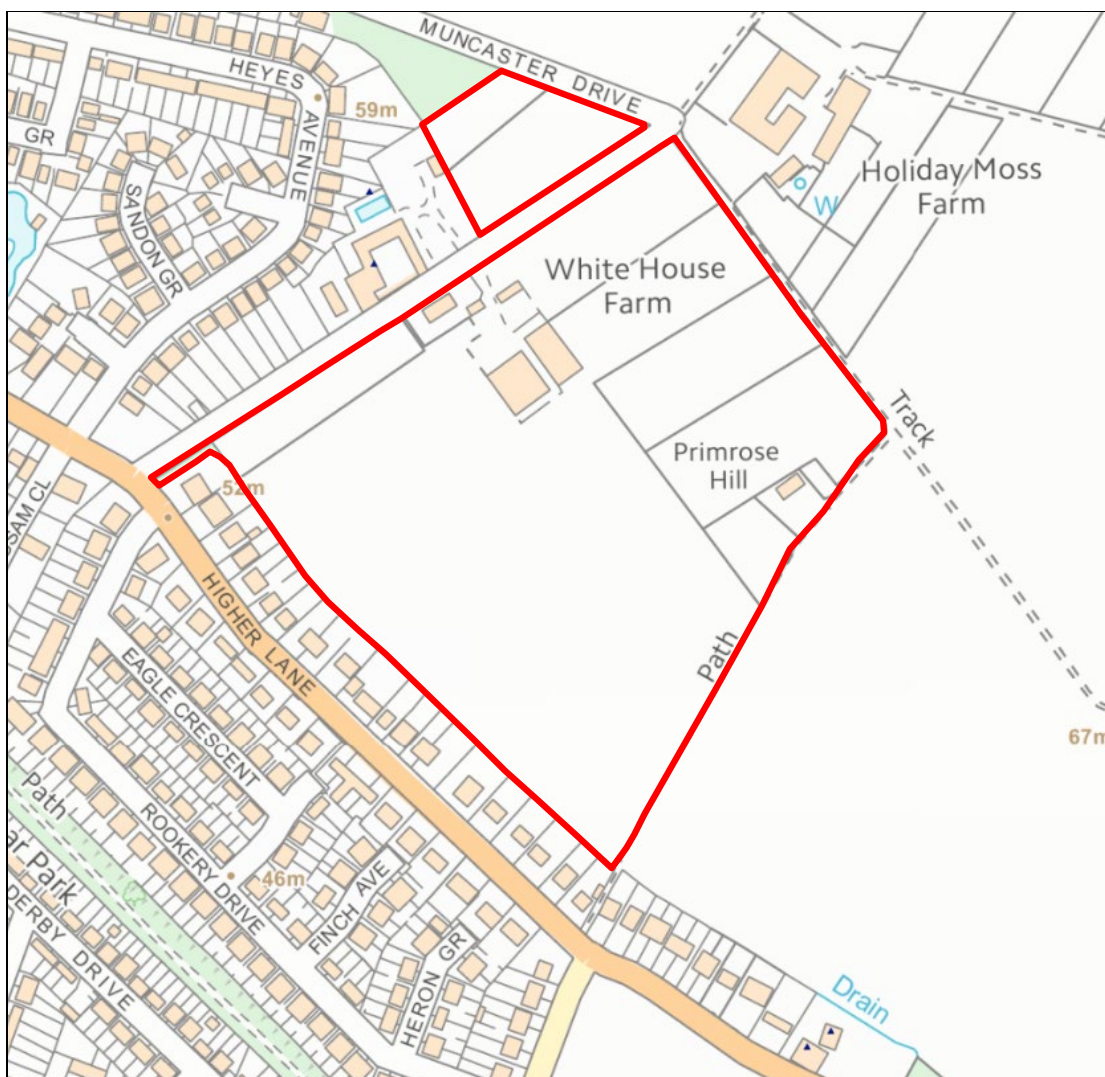
I. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

The proximity of this site to the listed buildings and the manner in which it bounds it means that it would be impossible to address the above concern.

J. Conclusion

Site GBS_058 should not be released from the Green Belt and designated for potential development.

Proposed Site designation in LPP0 (Ref: HS18)



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5. Land adjoining Ash Grove Farm, Beacon Road, Billinge

Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_023 (previously GBS_089)
LPPO Ref	HA1
LPSP Ref	-
Postcode	WN5 7HE
Ward	Billinge & Seneley Green
LPSP Size	20.97ha

A. Description

The site comprises of a large undulating triangular site of agricultural fields, with a woodland belt and pond at the centre and watercourse to the west. The site is undulating with high landscape value, especially to the north-west.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“... listed buildings lie close to the site. Effects are considered likely, but we are given no information as to wherein lies the significance of those assets, how that significance might be harmed or enhanced by development of the site, or what mitigation if any might be necessary, nor is there any summary findings outlining why any harm would be outweighed by public benefits which cannot be met in any other way.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s):

Status: Listed Buildings (Grade II* and Grade II)

St.Aidans Church - SD5332600697/SD5329800683

Church (Grade II*), wall and piers (Grade II) – which have a village setting

List Entry Numbers: 1075923/1343275

Status: Listed Buildings (Grade II)

Crookhurst Farmhouse and barn* - SD5260000377/SD5260900342

**not within historic curtilage*

Stone farmhouse dated 1753 and stone barn with cowhouses and stable

List Entry Numbers: 1343243/1198841

D. Current site requirements of relevance:

Development possible; however, amendments to the proposed boundary are recommended.

All designated heritage assets are within, or close to, an existing built up area, as such the altered setting of the assets has is long established.

No indications or records of archaeological finds.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.:

Wall And Piers On South And West Side Of Church Of Saint Aidan - Grade II Listed

Wall extending approximately 33.5m along west side churchyard and 40m along south side, with canted angle, and 23m to east side, with gates and gate piers to west and south sides. Early C18 with C20 gates. Stone. Wall has weathered coping with top roll moulding. West gate piers have fielded panels with recessed 1/4 columns to angles, Doric entablatures and urn finials. South gate has square piers and ball finials. Inscription on inner side of west wall records grave of J. Liptrot (C18).

Church of St Aidan - Grade II* Listed

Church. Dated 1718 over entrance West gallery on slender iron columns, the church originally had side galleries, removed c.1907 Painted board in nave commemorates rebuilding of 1717-1718. Some stained glass windows. A good example of an early Georgian church.

Crookhurst Farmhouse - Grade II Listed

Farmhouse. Dated "JHA 1753" on lintel, attic storey probably later. Stone with stone slate roof. 3 storeys, 3 bays. Windows have plain lintels and C20 casements. Central entrance has flat architrave and C20 door. C19 brick gable- end stacks. Low wall and gateposts with ball finials to front of house. Later low outbuildings adjoin left return. Interior has staircase with turned balusters.

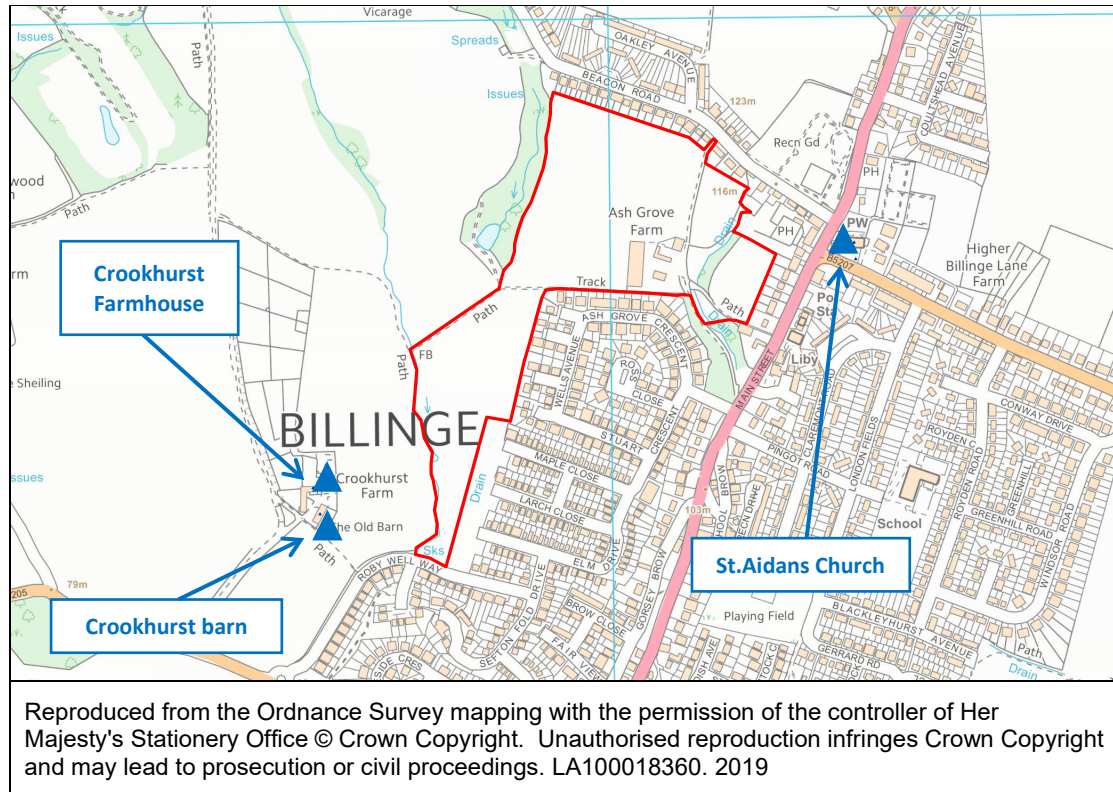
Barn to south east of Crookhurst Farmhouse - Grade II Listed

Barn with cowhouses and stable. Probably C18. Stone with stone slate roof. Barn has 3-bay cow house to left and one bay cow house to right of entrance with barn doors. Rear facade has blocked barn entrance with timber lintel and segmental relieving arch, battered buttress and C20 open shed.

All of the designated heritage assets lie within 300m of the proposed site boundary. The proposed development has the potential to impact and alter the setting of the heritage assets.

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s):

Location of heritage assets close to land at Ash Grove



The site contributes to the setting of the designated heritage assets.

Setting - NPPF Glossary: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral. (NPPF, Annex 2: Glossary).

G. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s):

Church of St Aidan (Grade II*) & Wall and Piers on south and west side of church of St Aidan (Grade II) - It is thought that there are parts of the proposed Green Belt release that would cause harm to the setting of the church of St Aidan and its listed wall and piers. This harm would be largely caused by the alteration and loss of long views which help retain the semi-rural character in which the building would have originally set.

Crookhurst Farmhouse (Grade II) & Barn to south east of Crookhurst Farmhouse (Grade II) - it is acknowledged that the setting of the above

designed heritage assets has been much altered for some time, as the housing stock of Billinge has developed.

What mitigation if any might be necessary? The proposed Green Belt release in this location would facilitate a marginal increase in the continuous urban fabric towards the heritage assets; this is not thought to compromise their setting to the point of causing substantial harm or severing the last link that the assets have with their original rural setting, which can still be interpreted from many viewpoints.

It is thought that the buildings will still be separated from the continuous urban fabric of Billinge by an adequate buffer of greenspace.

H. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

No, not at present

I. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

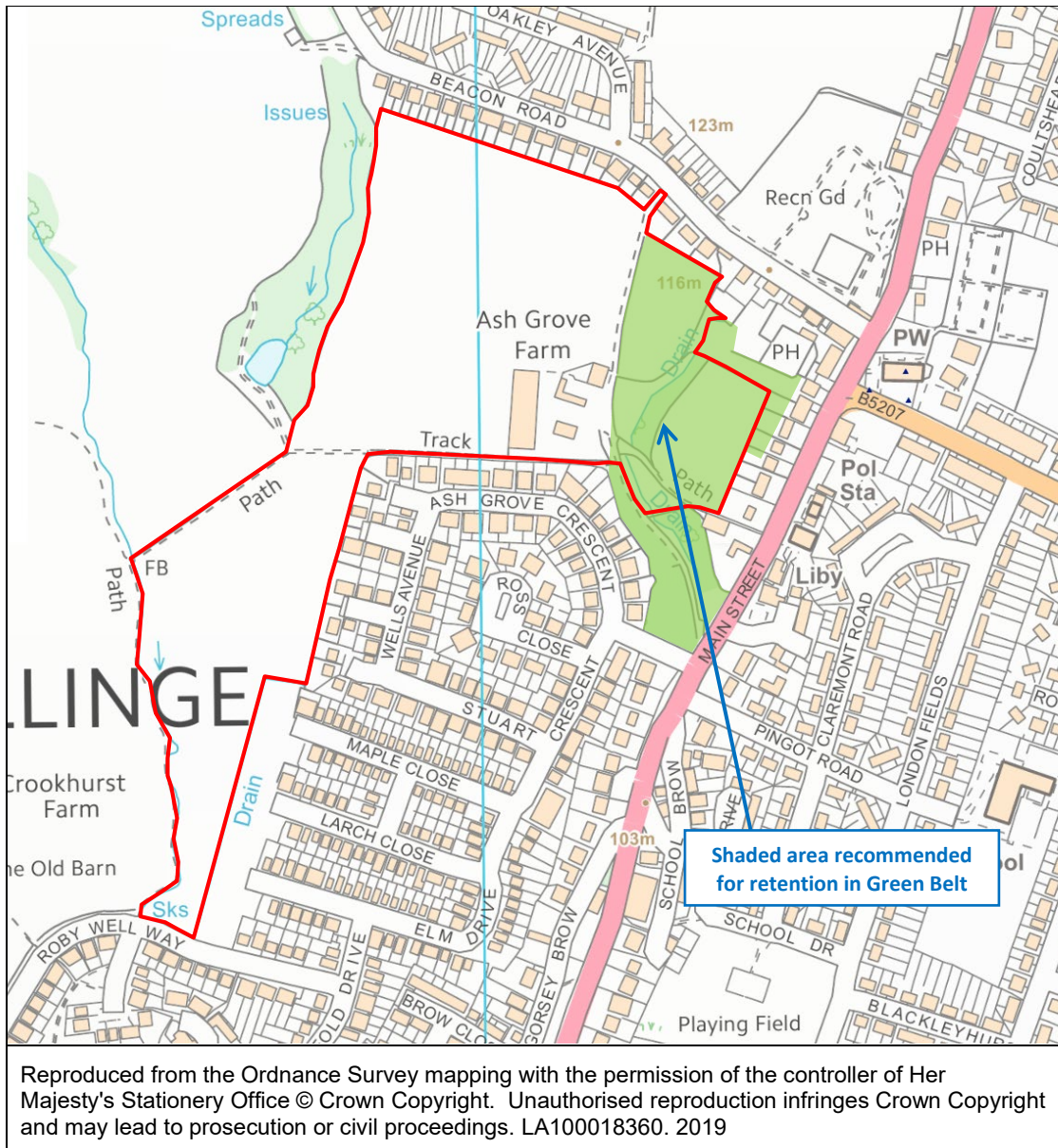
From a heritage perspective, ways in which this harm could be minimised is by creating a buffer zone between the proposed Green Belt release and Main Street (A571).

This would minimise the impact on the Church of St Aidan (Grade II*) & its Grade II listed wall and piers.

J. Conclusion

Overall, the Green Belt release will have some impact on the setting of the nearby designated heritage assets. This harm is considered to be less than substantial. This said, it is recommended that the boundary of the land release is amended to exclude the parcel of land detailed in the plan below. This would go some way to preserve the existing character and setting of the Grade II* listed St Aidan's Church and its Grade II listed walls and piers.

Proposed Site designation in LPP0 (Ref: HA1)



6. Land at Former Parkside Colliery (west side)

Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_039 & GBP_041 (previously GBS_028 and GBS_028.1)
LPPO Ref	EA8, EA9
LPSP Ref	7EA, 8EA
Postcode	WA2 8ST
Ward	Newton
LPSP Size	GBP_039: 126.7ha, GBP_041: 100.5ha

A. Description

These are two major sites, which straddle the M6. Parcel GBS_028.1 lies to the west of the M6, and parcel GPS_028 lies to the east of the M6. The land to the east (GBS_028) comprises of a combination of former colliery site, a large mound made up of slag from the colliery side and self-seeded trees and grassland. Land west of M6 (GBS_028.1) is very well screened and makes little contribution to wider landscape.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“... both sites contain listed buildings, and (effects) are considered likely but could, it is argued, be mitigated. Given the proposed use to which these sites could be put it is perhaps possible that demolition would be required, but nowhere (...) is this taken into account or articulated.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s):

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Newton Park Farmhouse -SJ5975294984

Brick built farmhouse, dated 1774

List Entry Number: 1198973

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Barn to east of Newton Park Farmhouse - SJ5980394983

Sixteenth to early seventeenth century timber box frame barn with brick cladding

List Entry Number: 1075931

Status: Battlefield

The site of the Battle of Winwick - SJ5991193705

The site of the Battle of Winwick (also known as the Battle of Winwick Pass and the Battle of Red Bank), fought in 1648

List Entry Number: 1412878

D. Current site requirements of relevance:

Setting of a designated heritage asset: Where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

Designated Heritage Assets: In determining planning applications, account should be taken of the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.:

The site (EA8) includes the northern section of a Registered Battlefield and 2no. listed buildings.

The descriptions of the designated assets are as follows:

SJ 59 SE Newton-Le-Willows, Mill Lane (east side)

9/37 Newton Park 10.9.82 **Farmhouse** – Grade II Listed

Farmhouse. Dated 1774 on metal plate to rear. C19 extension to left and C20 extension to right. Brick with stone dressings, slate roof. 3 storeys, 5 bays, extension to left of 2 storeys and 6-bay return, that to right of one storey and 3 bays. C18 part has rusticated stone base, 1st and 2nd floor sill bands, top cornice. 3-bay centre breaks forward under pediment. Windows have rusticated wedge lintels and are sashed with glazing bars. Central round-headed entrance has architrave, 4-panel door and complete fanlight; window above is round-headed with architrave; 2nd floor window has architrave. Original stair and 6-panel doors. Extensions not of special interest.

9/38 **Barn** East of Newton Park 10.9.82 Farmhouse – Grade II Listed

Barn. C16 to early C17. Timber box frame with brick cladding of C18 and C19, west end rebuilt in brick, corrugated iron roof. 7 bays with central threshing floor with entrances in gabled porches. North side has outshuts for cow houses. Interior has queen-post roof trusses with struts; through purlins. North porch has loft. East end has inserted floor and cow house added at this end. The only so far known (1982) extant example in the Historic County of Lancashire of this type of timber-framed structure (according to description on spotlisting).

Battle of Winwick (also known as Battle of Red Bank) 1648

Summary Of Battlefield

The site of the Battle of Winwick on 19 August 1648, which ended the Second English Civil War as a military contest.

Reasons For Designation

The Battle of Winwick (also known as the Battle of Winwick Pass and the Battle of Red Bank), fought in 1648, is included on the Register of Historic Battlefields for the following principal reasons:

* Historic importance: for its national historical significance as the last battle of the Second English Civil War, securing the advantages gained at Preston two days previously and resulting in the complete disbanding of the royalist infantry; * Topographical integrity: retaining substantial integrity despite some later development, with the defensive and attacking positions of the opposing armies and the majority of the topographical character pertinent to the course of the battle still clearly legible in the landscape; * Archaeological potential: possessing substantial overall archaeological potential as the only English battlefield of the Second Civil War which remains in a good state of preservation.

History Sources

Three accounts of the battle itself are known from men who were present. Two were written almost immediately; by Major John Sanderson (a parliamentary officer) and the parliamentary commander Oliver Cromwell, whose letters to Parliament just a few days later were published by George Ormerod in 1844. Captain John Hodgson was a parliamentarian soldier whose memoirs were written in 1683 and published in 1806 with the memoirs of Sir Henry Slingsby. Major Edward Robinson (a parliamentarian soldier) was not at Winwick but was ordered to stay at Preston after the battle there, and can be assumed to have had good accounts soon afterwards, although his account of the Civil Wars in Lancashire was probably transcribed after the Restoration, and published in 1864. James Heath (a royalist author whose account was first written in 1661), identified the 'place called Red-bank' between Wigan and Warrington (Heath, 1676). The Ordnance Survey has, since the 1849 1:10,560 map, named Red Bank and marked the battle in the fields to the south of Hermitage Green Lane and the east of the A49. This corresponds with the field names in the Tithe survey for Winwick, which include several 'Scotch fields' and 'butch crow'.

Historical Context

The Civil Wars of the mid-C17 were a reflection of profound political, constitutional, religious and social conflict that was expressed in a struggle for control between King and Parliament. During the Second Civil War, royalist forces had been recruited in the north of England and they, along with a substantial Scottish force commanded by the Duke of Hamilton, marched south with the ultimate aim of restoring Charles I to the throne.

Elements of these forces were defeated at Preston on 17 August 1648, but perhaps 7,000 infantry and 4,000 mounted troops marched southwards in retreat. They were pursued from Preston by elements of the parliamentary New Model Army, under the command of Oliver Cromwell, numbering around 6,000 infantry and 2,500 mounted troops. However, having marched far and fast to get to Preston, Cromwell did not begin the pursuit until the day after the battle. With ground made boggy and streams swollen by a miserably wet summer, his progress was slow, with only his advance guard able to harry the royalists. Just north of Wigan they made as if to stand and fight, before retiring to the town where they spent the night of 18 August and plundered the town despite its normally royalist sympathies. The march and skirmishing led to casualties, capture and desertion, and the royalist foot (mainly Scots under General Baillie) probably numbered between 4,000 and 6,000 when they retired from Wigan, and made a stand at Winwick on 19 August.

The royalist horse continued to Warrington, three miles to the south, which at the time was the only crossing of the Mersey for ten miles in either direction suitable for an army. It was intended for the foot to follow after a holding action, and then to cross the bridge with the protection of the horse and hold Cromwell's army at the bridge. This would allow the main force to continue south out of Cromwell's reach and unite with comrades raised in north Wales. However, the horse crossed the river on arrival. This splitting of the force left the fate of the whole invasion in the hands of the Scottish infantry at Winwick, for without them, and with less recruiting success in Wales than envisaged, the royalists had no hope of further gains.

Description Of The Military Action

The battle comprised an initial stand by several regiments of royalists followed by a fighting retreat/pursuit. The Scots chose for their stand a place called Red Bank, where the road from Wigan to Warrington crossed the marshy valley of a tributary of the Newton brook, and passed through a high sandstone bank along part of the southern edge of the valley. The spot lies approximately half a mile to the north-west of the centre of Winwick. The denouement took place to the north of St Oswald's church, where the Scots, having retreated across the intervening ground, were surrounded.

Cannon balls now in Warrington museum are said to have come from the battlefield, and are probably from easily-transportable frame guns as Cromwell is not thought to have had any heavy artillery. No doubt musket shots were also exchanged across the valley, where each army spread out, probably mainly on the higher ground to the east of the road, while close-quarter fighting took place along the road itself, close to the narrow pass. Heath records that, 'in a narrow lane, they made a stand with a Body of Pikes, and lined the hedges with muskets, who so rudely entertained the pursuing enemy, that they were compelled to stop (having lost abundance of men, and Col Thornhill himself) until the coming up of Col Pride's regiment of foot, who after a sharp dispute put those brave fellows to the run: they were commanded by a little spark in a blew bonnet, that performed the part of an excellent commander, and was killed on the place. After this,

they never turned head, but ran, crying, mercy, mercy, (so that the noise thereof was heard at 5 miles distance) until they came to Warrington-Bridge, where Baily made conditions for quarter, and rendred himself and 4,000 of them prisoners.' (Heath, 1676)

Hodgson records that as Cromwell's vanguard (forlorn hope) approached the pass, the Scots, 'snaffled our forlorn and put them to retreat' (Slingsby, 1806). Cromwell's own account reads, 'the enemy made a stand at a passe near Winwicke. We held them in some dispute till our army came up, they maintaining the passe with great resolution for many hours, ours and theirs coming to push of pike and very close charges, and forced us to give ground, but our men, by the blessing of God, quickly recovered it, and charging very home upon them, beat them from their standing, where we killed about a thousand of them, and tooke (as we believe) about two thousand prisoners, and prosecuted them home to Warrington town.....As soon as we came thither I received a message from Lieutenant-General Baily, desiring some capitulation to which I yielded.....and the commissioners deputed by me have received, and are receiving...about foure thousand compleat Armes, and as many prisoners, and thus you have their infantry totally ruined.' (Ormerod, 1844). Hodgson claims that 4,000 to 5,000 prisoners were put under guard in Winwick church, although Sanderson estimates it as closer to 1,500.

The initial engagement (Cromwell's 'some dispute') lasted around three to four hours, while his main army caught up with the vanguard. Maj Robinson states that local information assisted Cromwell (probably headquartered at the Lodge where Newton Park farm now stands) in discovering a route around the right flank of the Scots. This would have bypassed the Coppice Wood brook which ran southwards from Newton Park and constrained Cromwell's eastern flank. When the main army arrived, Col Pride's regiment of foot was ordered forward, while Hodgson says that the parliamentarians were 'drawn up, horse and foot, to give them a charge', presumably a frontal assault. He also says that a body of royalist horse appeared, 'on the muir [moor], from Warrington bridge' (Slingsby, 1806), but that the Scots' retreat began before they became engaged. However, by this time all of the royalist horse is thought to have crossed the Mersey. It may be that he actually saw his own side's cavalry, who may have used the route mentioned by Robinson, and whose appearance would better explain the capitulation which ensued. Maj Sanderson says that the Scots ran and that four cavalry troops (approximately 320 horses) careered up to Winwick and got in front of the fleeing Scots, resulting in hundreds of deaths in the fields and town. The Scots' flight south led to, 'that little Greene place of ground short of Winwick Church and there they [the New Model Army] made a great slaughter of them' (Robinson, 1864). Those who made it to Warrington found no reinforcements. The surrender of the entire infantry force later that day effectively ended the invasion and decided the military outcome of the Second Civil War by rendering impossible any relief of the besieged royalist strongholds. Sanderson records that all the highways, corn fields, meadows, woods and ditches were strewn with the dead all the way from Wigan to Warrington (as well as further north as a result of earlier battles).

Those prisoners who had served voluntarily were transported as slaves to the New World, and when there was no more demand from there, to Venice, where they probably served in galleys.

The battle established the military supremacy of the parliamentary cause, but also increased the power of the army over Parliament itself, eventually leading to Pride's purge, which tipped the balance of power in favour of those who supported putting the King on trial. Effectively a defeat of Scotland by England, it also dispensed with the King's major objection to the terms presented to him by parliament in 1647; that he could not agree terms with one half of the union, to which the other half objected. Further objection appeared intransigent.

Subsequent Development

Although Hodgson calls the surroundings moorland, there was probably some rough grazing, and the land was enclosed with hedges at the roadside at least, but it has been improved since the C17. Sanderson says that the battle took place at a wood, probably referring to the trees found in the brook valleys. New Hey farm is named on Yates's map of 1786 but probably post-dates the battle. C19 maps show a cotton mill and mill race to the west of the A49, north of the Newton brook, and this area was later developed for Red Bank farm. The railway has been built here and various modern housing built between it and the road. Ogilby's map of 1675 shows a more-or-less straight road from Winwick to Newton, and the modern A49 probably follows the same route as the road in 1648, although minor changes were made to the north of the site of the battle in the early C19. The road has also been raised on a bank through which St Oswald's (Hermitage) brook is now culverted. The ground to the north of the church, which in 1648 probably comprised small town fields, was occupied by 1847 by schools and a house called Winwick Cottage, and now hosts nearly 40 houses and a cemetery. The site of Winwick Hall has also been developed, initially for a county mental hospital, and more recently as a housing estate, and has been excluded from the registration.

In the late C18, the brook to the east of the A49 sprang from close to Newton Park farm (which probably served as Cromwell's headquarters, and where there is still a barn which may have been standing at the time), running southwards as Coppice Wood brook before turning west towards the road; this was probably its line at the time of the battle. By the late C19 however, probably as a result of drainage and land improvement, the northern stretch was visible on Ordnance Survey maps only as a line of trees, the east-west section now fed from further east near St Oswald's well. In the second half of the C20, colliery sidings were laid along the former line of the Coppice Wood brook, colliery buildings were erected between Newton Park farm and the battlefield, and tipping of coal waste raised the ground level to the east, steepening the northern bank of St Oswald's brook, which was widened. The fields nearer the A49 may have been scarped, with new soil later brought in to reinstate them.

Details

Topography

The battlefield is located three miles north of Warrington on the A49 between Winwick and Newton-le-Willows. The majority of the battlefield is still agricultural land with gently-sloping fields now under plough and pasture to either side of the A49.

To the north of the Newton brook and to the west of the A49 there remains some undeveloped land from which the fall towards the Newton brook, the promontory formed by the loop in the brook, and the barrier posed by the Red Bank itself can be appreciated as the stone bank remains clearly visible on the south side of Hermitage Green Lane and of the track to New Hey farm. This would have presented a formidable obstacle to the attacking parliamentarians and partly suggests why this spot was chosen as the place for a holding fight, especially when combined with the marshy ground and full watercourses to the west and east of the road.

To the east, the probable parliamentarian headquarters at Newton Park farm are now separated from the battlefield by former colliery development, but the relatively flat, reinstated south-western parts of the former colliery offer views across the valley of St Oswald's brook to the rising southern slope of the valley, Hermitage Green Lane and the stone bank. This area would be the natural choice for mustering the parliamentarian troops out of range of enemy fire, and deploying firearms along the valley to engage with the royalists. Further east, the colliery tip overlies the C17 landscape, but the flatter ground to the south of this may have been the route taken by cavalry to outflank the Scots and remains little-developed.

South of the line of the stone bank, the land rises slightly (to the west) from the A573, then falls gently before rising once more towards the A49 and onward towards Cop Holt farm. This would have screened any cavalry advance from the main royalist force deployed along the stone bank, and also funnelled the royalist retreat within a relatively narrow corridor to either side of the A49. The ground also rises slightly immediately behind the stone bank, giving the Scots an additional advantage at the time of initial engagement. From this slight ridge however, it falls gently towards Winwick, where the two roads meet just to the south of the church, making this the natural focus of the retreat.

To the west of the A49 here, the former park of Winwick Hall has been comprehensively redeveloped and is no longer legible, but the rising ground further north, between the road and Cop Holt farm, remains largely open. The way in which the land falls away to the west of the farm might have encouraged dispersed retreat by those who made it past this ridge, but the Newton brook would have formed a barrier to this, particularly in a notably wet summer. Areas of woodland and ponds, some of which can still be found here, would offer opportunities for concealment.

Features

The landscape in 2017 still holds some features of historical interest related to the battle. The Newton and St Oswald's brooks are the most obvious,

particularly the wooded valley of the latter. Although slightly altered to run on a more substantial bank, the A49 is the main built feature of the battlefield, as this was the route of the Scots' retreat from Preston and the fighting was focussed around it. Then as now, it was lined with hedges. Similarly, the A573 to the east of the battlefield forms a natural eastern boundary and might even have been used by cavalry to outflank the Scots, particularly after the retreat had begun. The spire of St Oswald's church, where the denouement of the battle and subsequent quartering of prisoners took place, is visible from several locations on the battlefield. The northern face of the tower bears impact scars, probably from musket balls, although it is possible that these relate to a skirmish in 1643. The modern electricity pylons are an intrusion. Cop Holt farm might be marked on Yates's map of 1786 although it is not named on a map until Greenwood's of 1818, and it is thought that this was the royalist headquarters. The current farmhouse might be that shown on the 1849 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map, and might retain older fabric, although if not replaced since the battle it has been substantially altered.

Archaeological Potential

Enough of the battlefield survives undeveloped to suggest that there is potential for archaeological evidence to contribute further to an understanding of the events of 1648, if analysed in conjunction with documentary evidence. Like others of the period the battlefield will certainly have surviving artefacts, in particular shot from the various firearms used. Despite some reported widening the marshy valleys also offer good potential survival of organic material.

Winwick is the only battlefield from the English Second Civil War which appears to survive in a good state of preservation. Thus the site should be understandable and have a high research potential as the battle archaeology is likely to be reasonably intact. Given the relatively straightforward nature of the action the battlefield might, for example, provide information about the character of the archaeological record created by the small arms and artillery then in use by the New Model Army, or the nature of any firefights and other tactical developments during the battle, such as the use of the streams and sandstone banks as defensive lines. There are reports of metal-detecting having taken place on the battlefield and it may be the case that local detectorists would be willing to offer the results of their surveys. The battlefield provides an exciting opportunity for research based on systematic metal-detecting surveys. In 2017 archaeological investigation of much of that part of the battlefield lying within the former colliery site found no battlefield archaeology, probably due to replacement of the soil.

Definition Of Areas

The registered area is set out on the attached plan. As is standard practice with the Battlefield Register, the area is drawn to follow modern boundaries wherever possible. The boundary has been drawn to exclude, as far as possible, areas of later development.

The northern part of the battlefield includes the location of the engagement between the two forces, and their probable lines along the northern and southern edge of the valleys of the Newton and St Oswald's brooks. Here the boundary mainly follows modern property boundaries and the boundary between St Helen's and Warrington.

The eastern boundary is formed by the western edge of the A573 (Golborne Road). This area includes the probable route of the parliamentary cavalry during its flanking manoeuvre.

The southern end of the battlefield is largely defined by the churchyard, which is included. On the west side, north of the churchyard, the A49 is once again included, with the north side of Hollins Lane forming the southern boundary as far as the footpath called Ladies' Walk. From there it follows the field boundaries in a roughly northerly direction, including Asps wood, the track to Cop Holt farm and the farmstead. This area includes the reputed royalist headquarters and is where the flight of the royalist forces took place towards the church, and many of their casualties occurred. From Cop Holt farm it follows field boundaries to exclude New Hey farm, before crossing the track to the farm and the Newton brook, to include the promontory formed by the easternmost meander of the brook. This area includes the probable left flank of the royalist army.

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s):

Listed Building: The prevailing openness surrounding the listed farm buildings contributes to their significance, both in respect of their setting and their historic interest. The views across open fields give an important sense of place. The belt of trees to the south of the listed buildings does screen the southern section of the site from view which reduces the contribution of that section of the site makes to the setting of the listed buildings. It should be noted that the farmhouse is in a dilapidated state and is considered at risk.

Registered Battlefield: There have been a number of minor landscape alterations to the land however the overall topography of the battlefield within the site including key areas of battle remains legible. The strategic advantages afforded by some areas of the landscape is particularly evident and therefore of high significance.

G. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s):

Listed Building: Some protection is afforded by the belt of trees found immediately to the south of the listed barn and farmhouse. Therefore, provided this landscape feature is retained along with a suitable buffer, development to the south is unlikely to harm the setting of the listed buildings.

Development to the north of the site will impact upon the setting of the listed buildings. The openness of the site plays a part in the contextual understanding of the listed buildings and their significance. Therefore, the release of north section of GBP041 (west) would result in the setting of the listed buildings been compromise in a harmful manner. The rural and agricultural setting is integral to the significance of these listed buildings and effectively surrounding them with employed development will have an adverse impact on their setting.

Registered Battlefield: While this is but a small section of the overall registered battlefield, any proposed development would harm its significance through the compromising of its open nature. Please see the registration description for further details.

Level of harm: para 132 is relevant in both these instances and carries significant weight. It advises that *“significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting.”* The level of harm would be that of less than substantial. Consequently, any proposed development on GBS_028.1 would need to address the requirements of para 134 of the NPPF which states that *“Weigh the harm against the public benefits of the proposal where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm, including securing its optimum viable use.”*

H. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

While the plan includes a policy which refers to public benefits which can include *“securing the long term viable use of designated heritage assets,”* this is reliant on the heritage assets been within the control of the developer. Ensuring the repair and long-term viable use of the listed buildings would be beneficial and could offset any harm which development within their setting could cause.

In respect of the battlefield, the area nearest the pass is the most sensitive, and any development should be suitability offset from the pass. This will not negate the harm to its significance but it will reduce the extent of harm

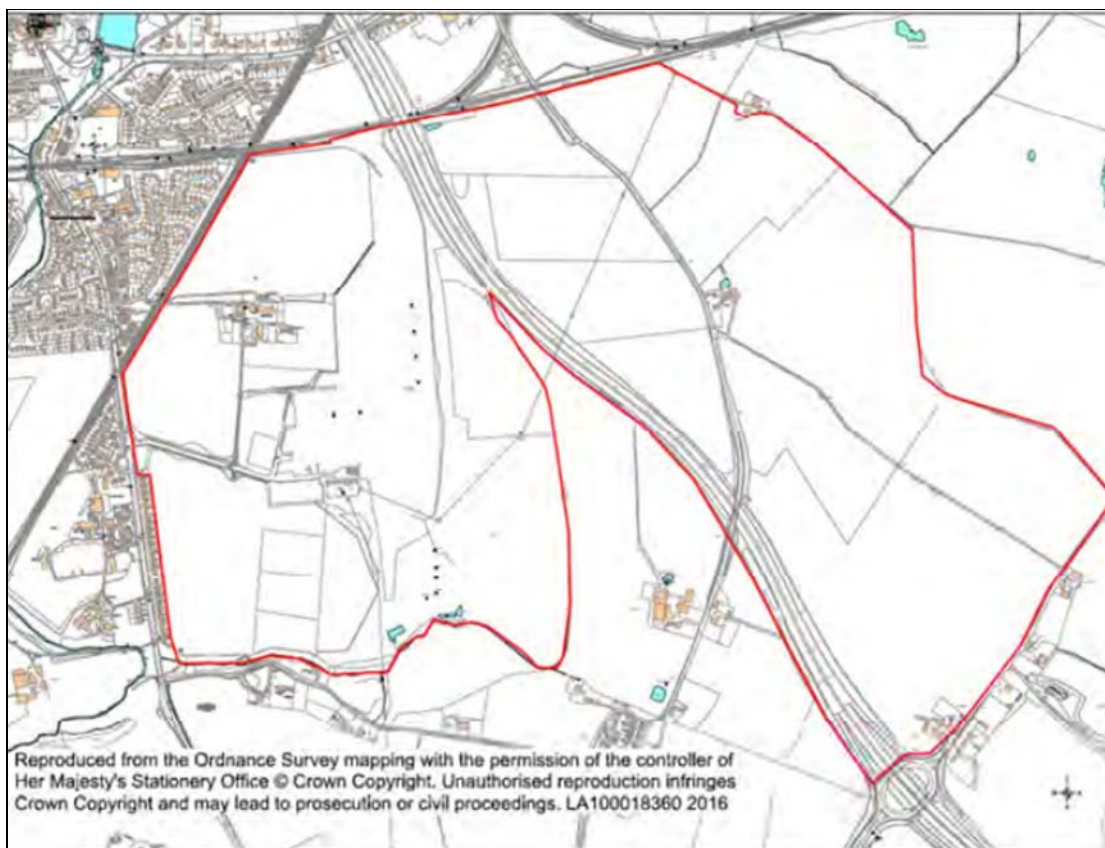
I. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

No

J. Conclusion

Site GBS_028.1 (west side only) should be omitted from the proposed Green Belt release.

Land for Proposed Development (LPPO sites EA8 and EA9)



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7. Land at Castle Hill and East of Rob Lane

Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_051d (previously GBS_034)
LPPO Ref	HS15
LPSP Ref	-
Postcode	WA12 0DU
Ward	Newton
LPPO Size	12.13ha

A. Description

The site refers to a parcel of land that consists of an agricultural field to the southern side bounded by Rob Lane and housing to the west, a public footpath to the east, agricultural land to the north and further housing to the south.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

"... this site adjoins a Conservation Area and is close to a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Effects are thought to be potentially negative. GBS_034 lies even closer to the monument and contains part of the same Conservation Area, yet here effects are not thought to be significant. The logic of this assessment is not explained in terms of recognisable in respect of the approach advocated by government in the NPPF and Historic England as set out in HEAN3."

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s)

Not applicable

D. Current site requirements of relevance:

Areas of concern are no longer proposed for release from the Green Belt in the LPPO. GBS_033 has been omitted in its entirety and only a section of GBS_34 is proposed for release. This parcel of land is over 200m from the Scheduled Ancient Monument and contains no known archaeology.

In respect of the setting of the Newton le Willows conservation area, there is an existing housing development between the conservation area and the proposed site GBS_034. The setting of Newton le Willows conservation area will not be harmed by further housing development on this site as it's a complementary use given its village character and appearance.

8. Land off Rookery Lane, Rainford

Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_011c (previously GBS_080)
LPPO Ref	HS21
LPSP Ref	-
Postcode	WA11 8EQ
Ward	Rainford
LPPO Size	19.49 hectares

A. Description

The site comprises of a large low lying agricultural field with Rainford Brook on the southwest boundary. The site retains openness to the west but with an industrial backdrop to east. A small part of the site is covered by a woodland area.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“... close to Conservation Areas. The (...) distances to them is considered relevant, which it is to a degree, but the assessment fails to articulate the extent to which these Conservation Areas rely if at all upon the proposed site allocations for their significance, or how it might be impacted upon.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s)

Status: Conservation Area

Rainford Conservation Area - the north western perimeter borders the Conservation Area.

D. Current site requirements of relevance

Setting of a conservation area: Where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

The setting of conservation areas is not a statutory duty set out in primary legislation. However, the NPPF states that the setting of a designated heritage asset can contribute to its significance.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.

“Located immediately north of St Helens town, Rainford is well known for its industrial past. It was the location of sand mining for the glass factories of St Helens and was a major manufacturer of clay smoking pipes, firebricks and earthenware crucibles.

Natural resources brought fame and prosperity to the village during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The resulting shops, light industries and subsequent dwelling houses contribute to Rainford’s distinct character.”

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s)

Rainford village expanded rapidly outwards from its historic core in the 20th century. Its historic village character remains legible as there is a clear demarcation in architectural detailing and set out between it and the surrounding later residential development. Areas of open views across countryside remain including the open view from Hopgood Crescent, Rockery Lane and Pasture Lane across the proposed site for allocation. These long rural views contribute positively to the setting of the conservation area with those from Rockery and Pasture Lane of particular importance as they are the main routes into the village from the south east.

The site also provides a much needed visual buffer between the village and the nearby industrial estate.

G. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s)

The historic core of Rainford village is buffered by the subsequent residential expansion of the village. There are areas where the rural origins of the village are more apparent, particularly in respects of views outward over rural landscape. Therefore, the development of the site will have an impact on the setting of the conservation area. This is a rural village and continues to read as such because of the retention of those opportunistic views over countryside. The development of this site for housing will harm the historic setting of the conservation area.

Moreover the merging of the village with the nearby industrial park will negatively impact on its setting.

H. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

No, not at present.

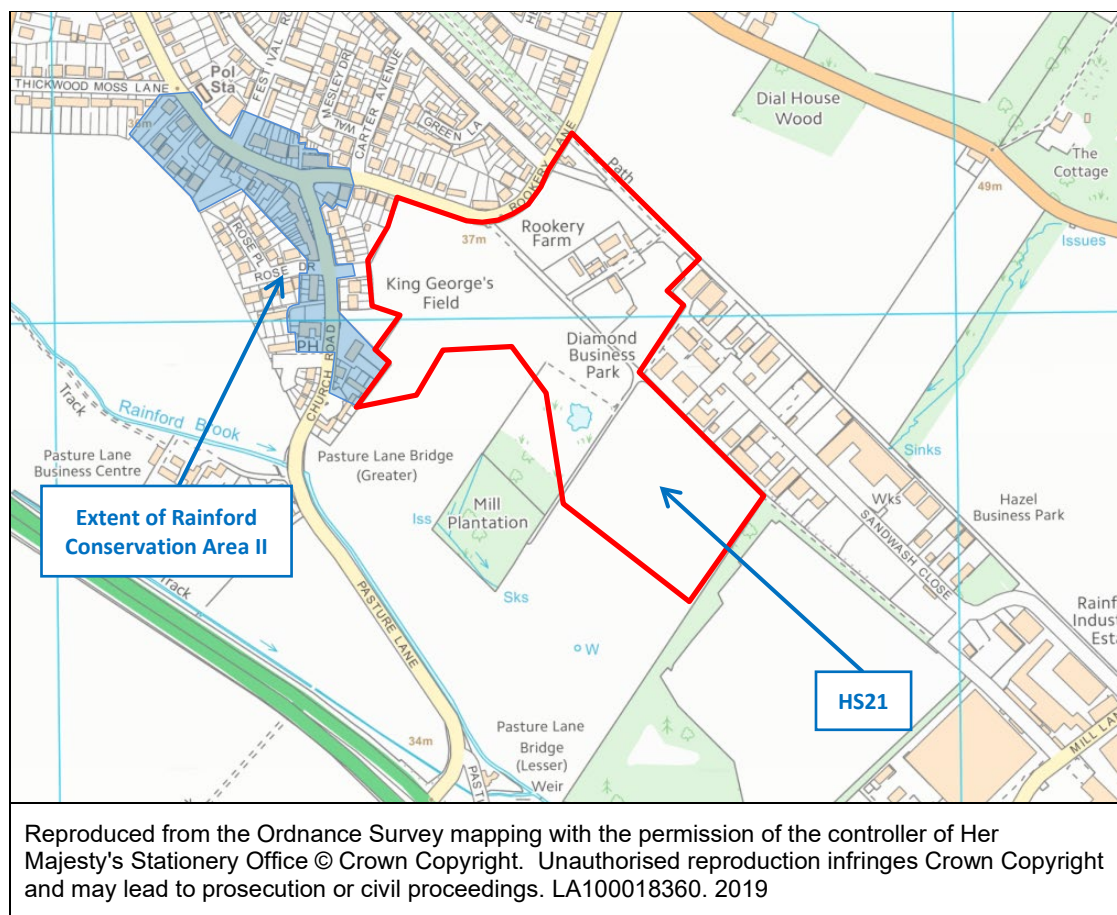
I. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

It is not possible to amend the site boundary in a manner which will retain sufficient open views of countryside to maintain the setting of the conservation area.

J. Conclusion

Site GBS_080 should not be released from the Green Belt and designated for potential development.

Proposed Site designation in LPP0 (Ref: HS21)



9. South of Tyer Road and west of the West Coast Mainline railway line (land at Old Hey Farm)

Green Belt Site Refs	GPB_046 (previously GBS_129)
LPPO Ref	HS13
LPSP Ref	-
Postcode	WA12 8SR
Ward	Newton
LPPO Size	12.01ha

A. Description

Single large flat agricultural field bounded by housing to the north, the Liverpool Manchester canal to the west, Walton Brook to the south and Warrington-Earlestown railway line and associated embankment to the east. Wargrave Road bounds the railway line. The site sits an estimated 2.4 meters higher than Wargrave Road.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“... close to Conservation Areas. The (...) distances to them is considered relevant, which it is to a degree, but the assessment fails to articulate the extent to which these Conservation Areas rely if at all upon the proposed site allocations for their significance, or how it might be impacted upon.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s)

Status: Conservation Area

Vulcan Village Conservation Area is located on the opposite side of Wargrave Road and approx. 2.4 meters lower than HS13.

D. Current site requirements of relevance

Setting of a Conservation Area: Where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

The setting of conservation areas is not a statutory duty set out in primary legislation. However, the NPPF states that the setting of a designated heritage asset can contribute to its significance.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc:

Vulcan Village Conservation Area Appraisal

Built in 1835 to accommodate the workers of the Vulcan Foundry, it is one of Britain's last privately owned villages of its kind and an excellent example of a small scale 'worker village'. The foundry has since been demolished; however the Village still retains its original triangular layout and setting, notably its isolation from the hustle and bustle of the nearby towns of Earlestown and Warrington. It has a special quietness that has come to be associated with since it was built by the foundry's owners over 170 years ago.

Vulcan Village is associated with the housing ideologies of the 19th Century. This time was marked by a number of attempts to set up communities in model towns and villages, the ideology being that new physical forms would serve as a basis for happier lives (Cleave, 1980). Such settlements were intended for different social groups: one for the middle class in search of Utopia, the other for workers, instigated by philanthropic industrialists.

In respect of its setting and location, the following is relevant:

"To the east of the village is an embankment with mature trees which together with the raised Earlestown-Warrington provide a sense of enclosure and containment to the Conservation Area, reinforcing the compactness. However beyond these physical edges, the village is surrounded by open countryside lending some rural setting and a sense of quietness that it has come to be associated with it since it was built. In this way it also acts as a transition between the quiet countryside to the south and the hustle and bustle of the nearby areas of Earlestown and Newton-le-Willows."

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s)

The significance of Vulcan Village conservation area is very much vested in its relation with the Vulcan foundry (now demolished) and the philanthropic ideals which inspired its development.

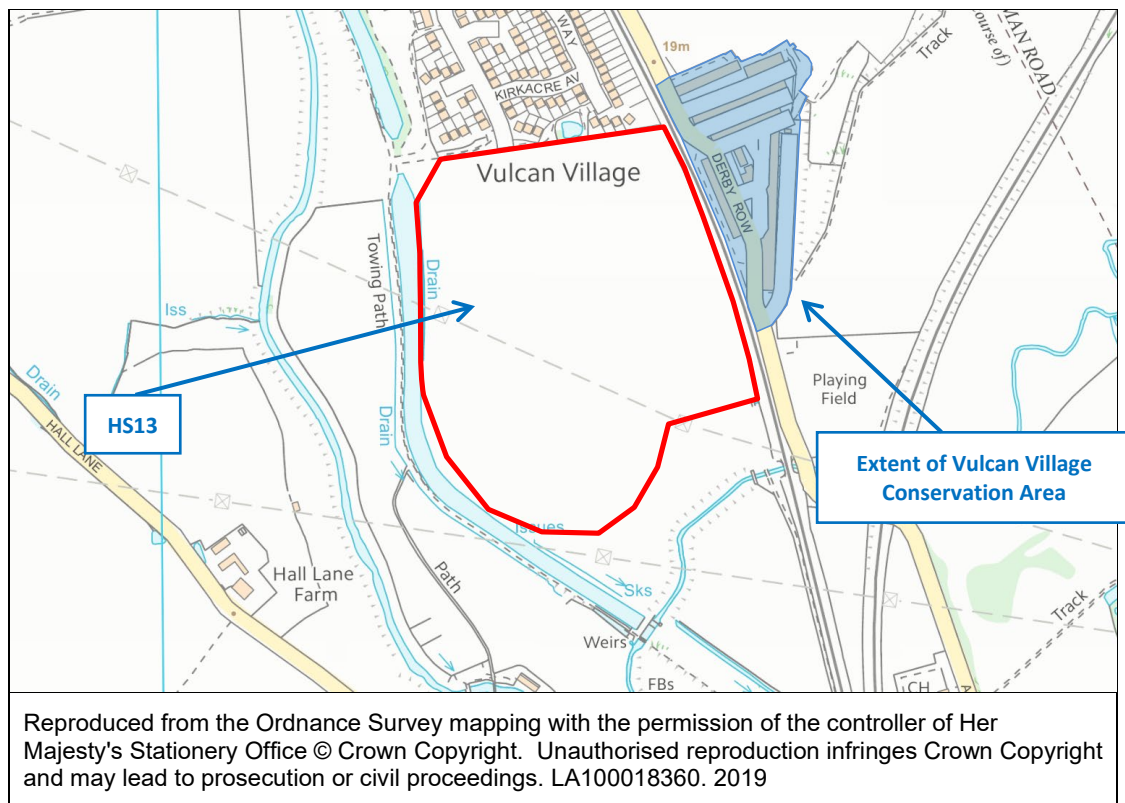
While its semi-rural location contributes to its setting, it does not define it as it is fortuitously rather than by design. That said, its historic separation from the suburban sprawl of Earlestown does contribute positively to its village character and allows it to read as a single set piece. In that respect, the visual separation provided by the surrounding open fields contributes positively to its setting.

G. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s)

Any proposed development on this site will have a negative impact on the setting of Vulcan Village conservation area. The elevated nature of this site in particular, will exacerbate the extent of this impact. The 15m easement required by National Rail will provide a degree of protection however this will not address the loss of the open views down Wargrave Road or those from the Derby, Sheffield and Liverpool Row, particularly if the required easement is incorporated into rear gardens.

But more importantly, the assimilation of the Vulcan Village conservation area into the suburban sprawl associated with Earlestown will constitute less than substantial harm to the significance of Vulcan Village conservation area as it will detract from and dilute the legibility of its model village character.

Proposed Site designation in LPPO (Ref: HS13)



H. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

No, not at present.

I. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

No

J. Conclusion

Site GBS_129 should not be released from the Green Belt and designated for potential development.

10. Land at Manor Farm, Mill Lane, Rainhill	
Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_089 (previously GBS_136/160)
LPPO Ref	HS23
LPSP Ref	-
Postcode	L35 6NE
Ward	Rainhill
LPPO Size	27.1ha

A. Description

The site is a large triangular shaped area, predominantly comprising of agricultural fields. The parcel is classed as medium landscape character area, sloping down to M62 in south.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“... listed buildings lie close to this (proposed) site allocation. Their setting is thought likely to be affected, thereby giving rise to negative effects. These effects are not explained in accord with advice in HEAN3.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s):

Northern tip of site falls within the 50m buffer of a number of listed buildings:

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Rainhill Cottage, Warrington Road - SJ5035689942

Stone and brick cottage dated 1676

List Entry Number: 1253247

Status: Listed Building (Grade II*)

Manor Farmhouse, Mill Lane - SJ4998090120

Red sandstone farmhouse dated 1662

List Entry Number: 1253349

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Briars Hey, Mill Lane - SJ4952890272

Nineteenth century detached villa with twentieth century alterations; latterly in use as a children's convalescent home and care home.

List Entry Number: 1391242

Status: Listed Building (Grade II*)

Old Hall Farmhouse - SJ4897690254

Former Great Hall, converted to farmhouse and now derelict

List Entry Number: 1253242

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Smithy Cottage and (part of) Smithy House - SJ5013390079

Mid to late seventeenth century red sandstone cottage (altered in nineteenth century) and that part of the same house now incorporated into adjacent property.

List Entry Number: 1253470

D. Current site requirements of relevance:

Setting of a Listed Building: Where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.:

Rainhill Cottage – Grade II Listed

2. 1676, altered. Stuccoed brick, stone roof, 2 storeys. Main block much altered. Older wing has gable end facing road, with a 3-light casement window on each floor with labels. Stair projection is in angle between wing and main block. Garden front of wing is built in stone, with a 4-light stone-mullioned window on each floor.

Manor Farmhouse, Mill Lane - Grade II* Listed

Farmhouse; said to have cellars of C14, but dated 1662 on carved lintel of a 4-centred doorway in porch, with an upper 3-light window and another in porch gable. Low single storeyed addition on right has one window of 5 lights, and 2 of 3 lights, with simple chamfered mullions. All red sandstone, with stone roof. Interior said to have water-clock, powder cupboards, oil paintings on the stone lintels of the chimney-breasts, and a cheese-press in the basement.

Mill Lane, Briars Hey - Grade II Listed

Briars Hey is of special architectural interest as the most important domestic design by the notable Manchester architect William Haywood Brakspear. This imposing and finely-detailed stone building is little-altered externally

and retains high quality interior elements despite later changes to facilitate institutional use.

Old Hall Farmhouse - Grade II* Listed

Former Great Hall, converted to farmhouse and now derelict. C14-C19: north wing has front of c1600 contains east end upper room of c1350 (formerly used as a chapel); south-east outshut block of c1600 links north wing to south-west C19 rectangular addition. C14 work coursed ashlar; C17 Flemish bond brick with stone quoins and details, C19 coursed ashlar. Stone slate and Welsh slate pitched roofs. Symmetrical C17 north front has central gabled entrance of 2 storeys breaking forward from 2 storey elevation. Massive stone quoins and moulded string course at first floor level separates Flemish bond brick from C14 coursed ashlar undercroft. Round-headed central entrance of dressed stone with altered 1st floor and attic storey windows above. Original C17 7-light mullioned and transomed window survives to upper floor of right bay, otherwise all fenestration scattered later insertions. East gable has C17 5-light mullioned and transomed window with C19 inserted door to upper storey, south elevation has 5-light transomed and mullioned window 1st storey, 4 light inserted C17 mullioned window to C14 undercroft. Moulded floor course rises one course to left of inserted door adjacent to junction with south-east C17 outshut which has catslide roof. Single storey south elevation has 4-light mullioned window. South-west C19 2-storey symmetrical front of 5 bays with central entrance. All windows 4-pane vertical sashes in flat-faced monolith surrounds with projecting cills and keystones paired to each storey bays 1,2,4,5. Rear eastern elevation plain with one C19 upper window and added porched entry. Interior of north wing contains C17 staircase to upper floor from entrance. The c1350 roof timbers survive in 5 bays of the interior. Raised crunk with curved and braced collars with short struts above. No ridge piece, rafters meet above upper purlin. Central purlin braced above and below principal rafters, with shaped braces forming quatrefoil panels containing three rafters per square. Moulded wall plate and collar braces. The manor, of which the Great Hall survives in part in this farmhouse, was originally an extensive sequence of buildings built round a courtyard on a moated site, none of which survives intact. Included in the listing are the C17 north front gate piers and wall. Archaeological Survey of Merseyside, Merseyside County Museums File ref 4890/1; VCH Lancashire IV,370.

Smithy Cottage and that part of the same house in corporation within Smithy House - Grade II Listed

2487 Rainhill Warrington Road, Rainhill (West Side) Rainhill Stoops SJ 59 SW Smithy Cottage and that part 12/49 of the same house incorporated within Smithy House 2. House and cottage now 1 dwelling and partly unoccupied. Mid-late C17 altered C19. Coursed red sandstone, Welsh slate and felted roof. 2 storeys, 3 bays. Door within late -C19 porch to right of

centre. To left is a boarded window and an old 3-light casement with glazing bars both in chamfered surrounds under continuous dripmould.

To right of porch the walling has a straight joist beyond which is a 3-light horizontally-sliding sash with glazing bars under short section of dripmould.

1st floor: gabled half-dormer on left has 5-light chamfered, mullioned window with 1 mullion removed. To right of porch is a bricked opening and window as that below. Overhanging eaves; brick ridge stack to right of porch. Rear: roughcast but with a straight joint as front; to right is an original, small stair-window with chamfered surround; further right are 2 double-chamfered, 2-light mullioned windows flanking a doorway. Right return: blocked original doorway on right. Left return: blocked, chamfered 1-light window to 1st floor (visible within Smithy House). Interior: right end room has incomplete bressumer beam supporting twin spine beams and some original joists. Centre room has original joists. 1st floor: the left end of room with dormer has tie-beam and studding visible, this may partition off a void since the ground floor of bay 1 is occupied by Smithy House, but there is no access above. The separate fireplace, straight joist and blocked end-gable door indicate that the right end formed a separate dwelling: Smithy House at left end is not of special interest other than that it occupies part of the original C17 house. Addition to rear of Smithy Cottage not of special interest.

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s):

The prevailing openness surrounding the listed farm buildings houses contributes to their significance, both in respect of their setting and their historic interest. The views across open fields give an important sense of place. Moreover the setting and associate views over open landscape is an important to the significance of the Briar Hey with its principle elevation orientated specifically to benefit from those views. The site makes a limit contribution to the setting of the smithy cottage.

G. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s):

Development on this site will impact upon the setting of the listed buildings particularly those with agriculture association such as Grade II* listed Rainhill Farm and Manor Farm. The openness of the site plays a part in the contextual understanding of the listed buildings and their significance. Equally, views over open landscape are an important part of the setting of Briar Hey.

Therefore, the release of GBS_136 would result in the entire setting of the listed buildings been compromise in a harmful manner. The rural and agricultural setting is integral to the significance of these listed buildings and effectively surrounding them with residential development will have an adverse impact.

Para 132 is relevant in this instant and carries significant weight. It advises that 'significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting.' The level of harm would be that of less than substantial. Consequently any proposed development on GBS_136 would need to address the requirements of para 134 of the NPPF which states that 'where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.'

H. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

No, not at present.

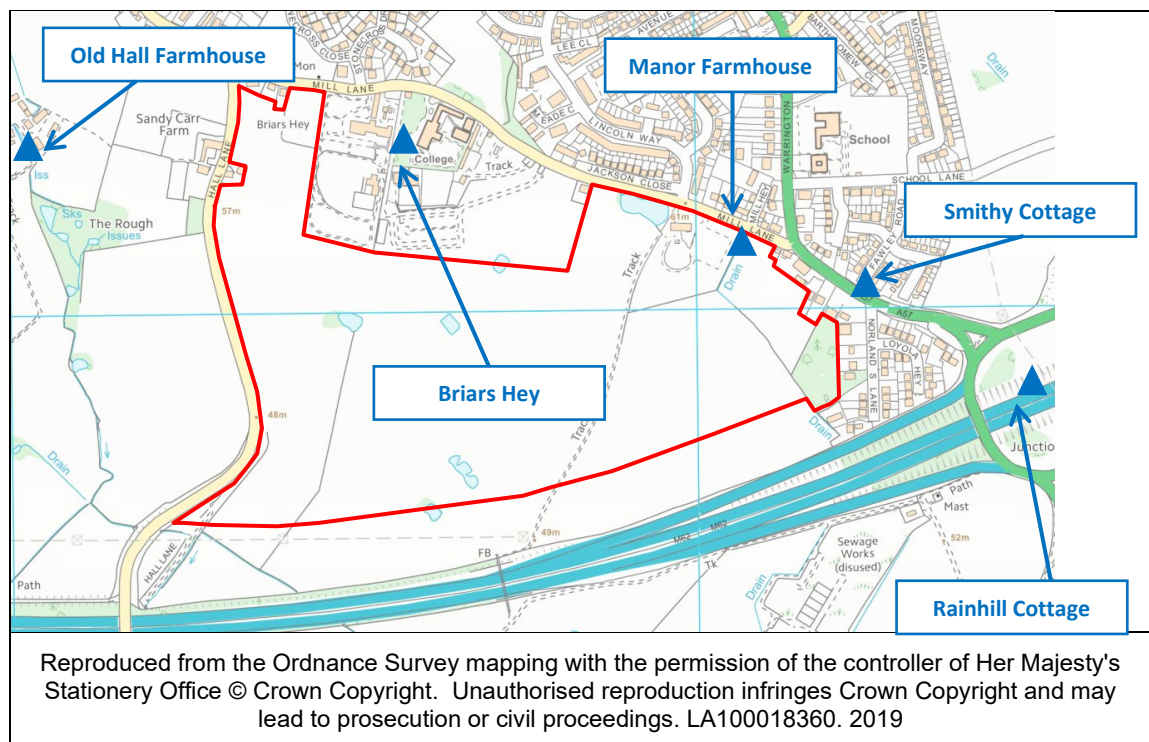
I. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

The number of listed buildings, their location and associated individual settings made it impossible to address the above concern in any meaningful manner.

J. Conclusion

Site GBP_089 should be omitted from the proposed Green Belt release and remain as Green Belt land.

Land safeguarded for possible future development in LPPO (HS23)



11. Land west of Eccleston	
Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_097b (previously GBS_104)
LPPO Ref	HS09
LPSP Ref	-
Postcode	WA10 5QB
Ward	Eccleston
LPSP Size	36.2ha

A. Description

The site is very large and lies in a depression, rising back up to the south with multiple agricultural fields. Open landscape interrupted with groupings of buildings along the edge of the site, which reduce open character. Site not as prominent as some of surrounding areas with raised levels.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“ ... a listed building is described as being 183m from the (proposed) site allocation. Its setting is thought vulnerable to harm, but there is no explanation of the nature of this harm, nor is there any summary findings outlining why any harm would be outweighed by public benefits.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s):

The site is within 183m of the Grade II listed Clay Farm Farmhouse.

The site contains old mine shafts.

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

Clay Lane Farmhouse - SJ4706095388

Stone house, dated 1690

List Entry Number: 1261889

D. Current site requirements of relevance:

Setting of a Listed Building: Where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.:

The list description for Clay Farm Farmhouse is a legacy description and summaries its special interest as follows:

ECCLESTON ECCLESTON Clay Lane Rainford Farmhouse (or Clay Lane Farmhouse) II

Dated 1690 over inner doorway, under modern brick porch. House of stone, larger blocks below graded smaller in upper courses. Roof of thick slates with two chimneys of old brick. Two low storeys. 3 windows on each floor, now mostly modern casements in horizontal proportions, all in heavy stone frames

The description is legacy descriptions which were primarily for identification purposes only. Legacy descriptions are not a comprehensive or exclusive record of the special interest of the building or site. Some entries make no reference to the interior however unless it is expressly excluded, the interior is also covered by the listing.

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s):

The listed farmhouse sits in a depressed area of land to the west of proposed safeguarded housing site HS09 and to the east of Knowsley Hall and Park. The openness around Rainford Farmhouse contributes to its setting and sense of place. The agricultural views from its principle elevation southwards are particularly important. The proposed site for development lies to the south east of the listed farmhouse and is of a sufficient distance so as to ensure that its agricultural context of the building is not harmed.

G. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s):

The openness around the farm contributes to its setting however the proposed site for development is of a sufficient distance so as to ensure that its agricultural context is not harmed. The ribbon of housing development to B503 acts as buffer.

Its principle elevation faces southwards and that open view will be retained. The heritage designations associated with Knowsley Hall will ensure that sense of openness will be protected in the long term.

H. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

Not applicable

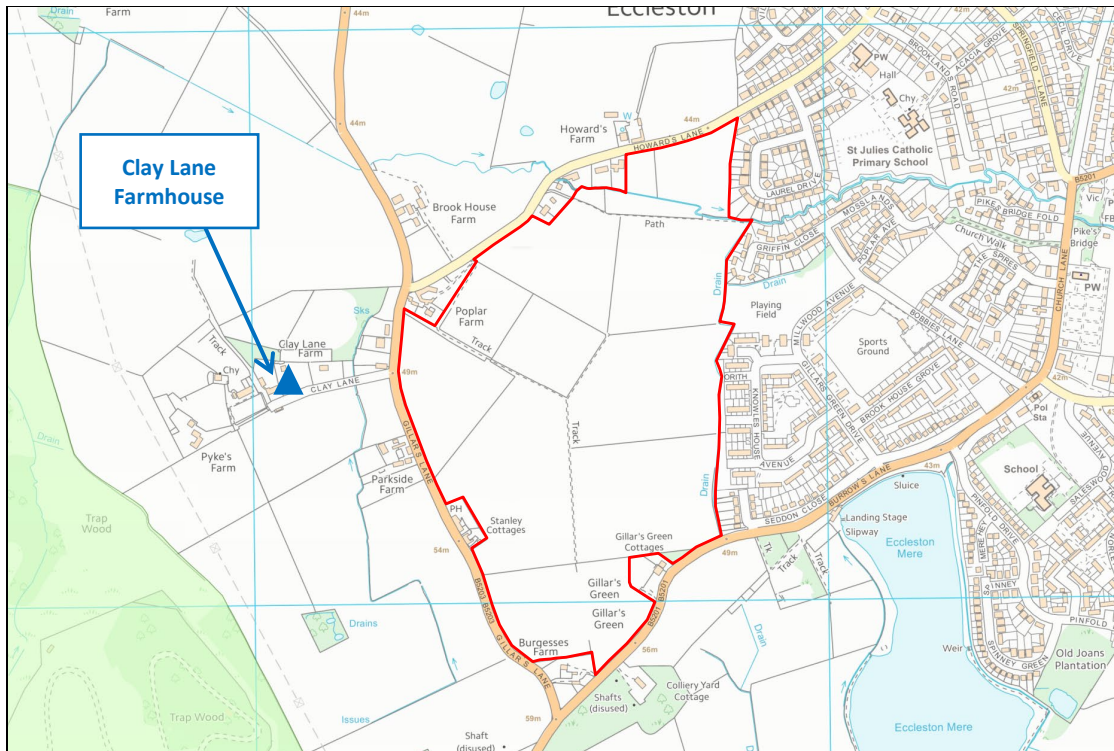
I. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

Not applicable

J. Conclusion

The release of this site from Green Belt will not harm the significance of the listed building.

Land safeguarded for possible future development in LPPO (HS9)



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12. Land East of Newlands Grange	
Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_044 (previously GBS_067)
LPPO Ref	HS14
LPSD Ref	4HS
Postcode	WA12 8NS
Ward	Newton
LPSD Size	15.56ha (Submission Draft Size 9.76ha)

A. Description

The site, in its original extent, comprises a single large flat agricultural field, bounded by Vulcan Village and Wargrave Road to the west, railway lines and embankment to the east and open fields to the north. To the east, a row of mature trees on an embankment separates the village from the existing open farmland. An ancient Roman road runs through the site.

B. Historic England comments following LPPO consultation

“... (this) sites lie(s) close to Conservation Areas. The (...) physical distances to them is considered relevant, which it is to a degree, but the assessment fails to articulate the extent to which these Conservation Areas rely, if at all, upon the proposed site allocations for their significance, or how it might be impacted upon.”

C. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s)

Status: Conservation Area

Vulcan Village Conservation Area abuts the site to the west.

D. Current site requirements of relevance

Setting of a Conservation Area: where a site incorporates or affects the setting of a designated heritage asset, any development should sustain and enhance the significance of the assets including the contribution made by their setting.

The setting of Conservation Areas is not a statutory duty set out in primary legislation. However, the NPPF states that the setting of a designated heritage asset can contribute to its significance.

E. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.

Vulcan Village Conservation Area Appraisal:

“Built in 1835 to accommodate the workers of the Vulcan Foundry, it is one of Britain’s last privately owned villages of its kind and an excellent example of a small scale ‘worker village’. The foundry has since been demolished; however the Village still retains its original triangular layout and setting, notably its isolation from the hustle and bustle of the nearby towns of Earlestown and Warrington. It has a special quietness that has come to be associated with since it was built by the foundry’s owners over 170 years ago.

Vulcan Village is associated with the housing ideologies of the 19th Century. This time was marked by a number of attempts to set up communities in model towns and villages, the ideology being that new physical forms would serve as a basis for happier lives.

Such settlements were intended for different social groups: one for the middle class in search of Utopia, the other for workers, instigated by philanthropic industrialists.

In respect of its setting and location, the following is relevant:

To the east of the village is an embankment with mature trees which together with the raised Earlestown-Warrington provide a sense of enclosure and containment to the Conservation Area, reinforcing the compactness. However beyond these physical edges, the village is surrounded by open countryside lending some rural setting and a sense of quietness that it has come to be associated with it since it was built. In this way it also acts as a transition between the quiet countryside to the south and the hustle and bustle of the nearby areas of Earlestown and Newton-le-Willows.”

F. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s)

The significance of Vulcan Village Conservation Area is vested, very much, in its relation with the Vulcan foundry (now demolished) and the philanthropic ideals that inspired its development.

Whilst not a defining attribute, its semi-rural location contributes to its setting fortuitously rather than by design. However, its historic separation from the suburban growth of Earlestown contributes positively to the village character and allows it to be read as a single ‘set piece’. In that respect, the visual separation provided by the surrounding open fields contributes positively to its setting.

Provided that visual separation is coupled with a robust landscaping buffer, which would screen any new development from view, the extent of visual separation from the existing urban development of Earlestown is sufficient to ensure that the perceived rural setting of the Conservation Area is not harmed.

G. *Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s)*

The openness surrounding the Vulcan Village Conservation Area contributes to its setting and history. It gives an important sense of place and the loss of this would have a harmful effect on the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

H. *If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?*

The Submission Draft of the St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 included the northern part of the site as Safeguarded land to be released from the Green Belt (site 4HS). As Safeguarded land the site could only become available for potential development following a review of the Plan, as indicated by the NPPF (para. 139).

Policy LPC11 of the Submission Draft sets out how the Council will seek to conserve the Borough's historic environment and promote awareness of its shared heritage. At paragraph 7.21.9, the reasoned justification to the Policy includes that proposals for development affecting a Conservation Area should *"preserve or enhance those elements that have been identified as making a positive contribution to the character and special architectural or historic interest of the area"* and that these elements *"may include buildings, boundary features, other structures, landscape features, open spaces and the setting."* Where proposals would lead to *"harm to a Conservation Area, then the harm will be identified as being either substantial or less than substantial based on the relative significance of the element affected and its contribution to the significance of the Conservation Area as a whole."* The principle is that development causing such harm will be subject to the tests set out in Policy LPC11 and that national policy and Heritage assets will thereby be protected from harm.

On this basis it is considered that the reduction in site size and appropriate application of the provisions of Policy LPC11 (or similar successor policy) would afford sufficient protection to the site.

I. *If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?*

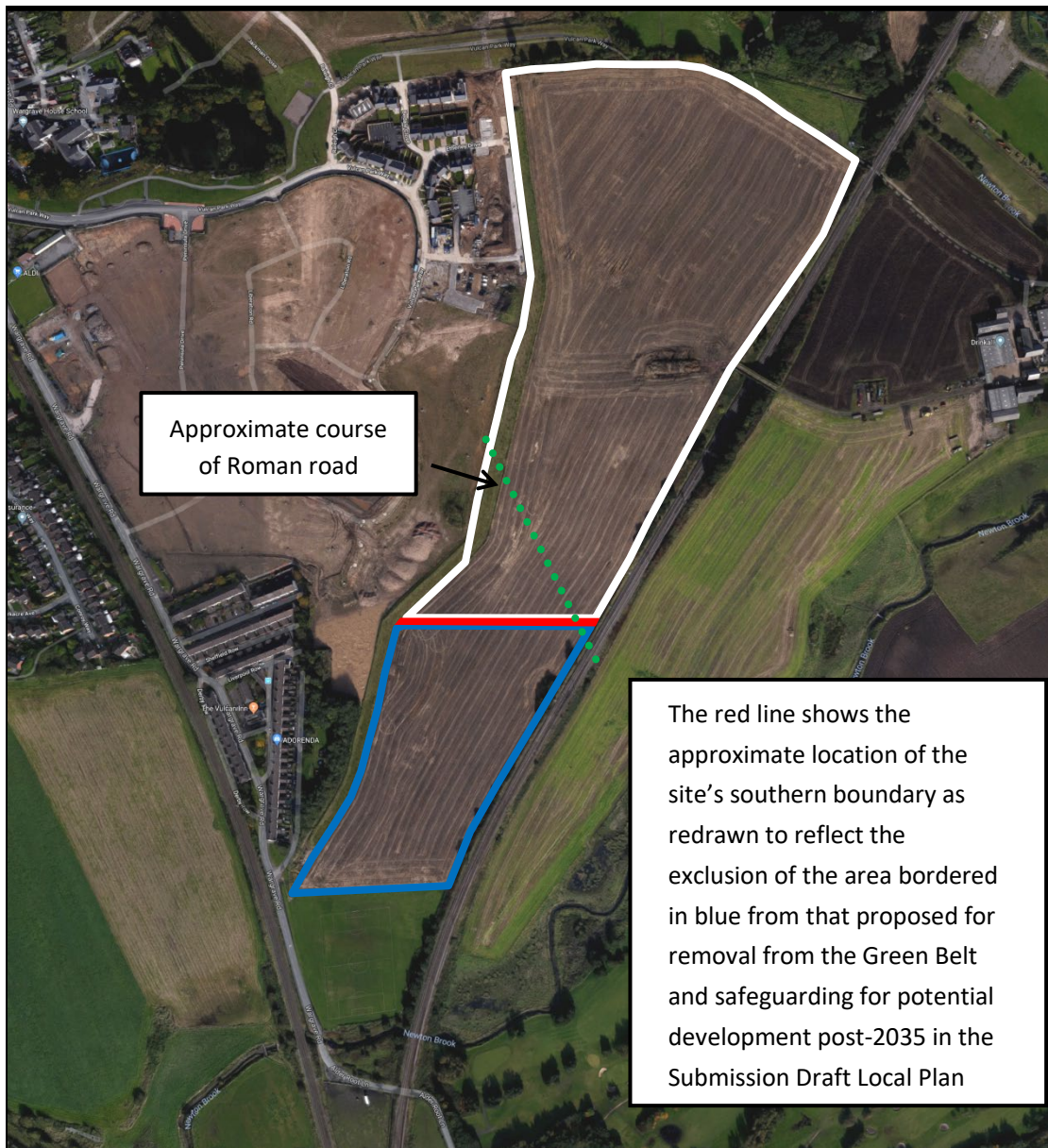
If, following a Plan review, the site is to be released for development it would be possible to develop it without harming the setting of the Conservation Area. The remaining open fields (in that part of the site that is not being proposed for release from the Green Belt) would be sufficient in volume to ensure that the character and appearance of the Vulcan Village Conservation Area is not harmed. A section of the site, to the south of the ancient Roman Road, may need to remain undeveloped to allow for an appropriate 'buffer' between the

Conservation Area and new development; although this would be a matter for deliberation through the planning application process at that time, and could be one aspect of a masterplan for the site (similar to those required for the Strategic Sites identified in Policy LPA05.1 of the Submission Draft Plan). Such measures should also mitigate potential harm to any 'below ground' archaeological features/assets.

J. Conclusion

The boundaries of the site have been amended during the Plan process and, alongside the provisions of Policy LPC11, that alteration will remove the potential for harm to both the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and its setting.

Boundary of Safeguarded Site 4HS (white)



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K. ADDENDUM

The site was considered in the Draft Green Belt Review 2016 as GBS_067 and extended down to Newton Brook at its southern tip. Site GBS_067 was included in the Local Plan Preferred Options (LPPO) consultation in 2016 as a site that it was proposed be removed from the Green Belt and safeguarded for housing development post 2033.

However, in response to the LPPO consultation, Historic England expressed concerns about the impact that the development of the parcel would have on

the setting of the Vulcan Village Conservation Area. Other constraints were also identified by consultees, including the location of a recreation ground within the site and the suitability of the surrounding highway network to accommodate additional traffic resulting from development.

The 2018 Sustainability Appraisal concluded that development of the parcel would have a mixed impact on the achievement of Sustainability Appraisal objectives, including many positive effects. However, none of these were deemed to be significant in scale.

As a consequence of these factors, the extent of the site was reduced by the redefinition of its southern boundary to exclude the area that, the development of which, Historic England considered would most harm the setting of the Conservation Area.

The resulting site – which in its former extent had been renumbered as GBS_044 in the Green Belt Review 2018 - was considered to be suitable for safeguarding in the Local Plan Submission Draft 2019 as site 4HS and proposed for release from the Green Belt and safeguarding for housing development post 2035, the development of which would be subject to the further investigation and resolution of highway issues when and if it came forward for development.

13. Land to the west of Haydock Industrial Estate, Haydock

Green Belt Site Refs	GBP_031b (previously GBS_005)
LPPO Ref	EA7
LPSP Ref	6EA
Postcode	WN4 0YT
Ward	Haydock
LPSP Size	20.58ha

A. Description

The site is located north of Haydock Lane Industrial Estate, bounded by Liverpool Road to the north-west, Millfield Lane to the north-east and open farmland to the south-west. The site consists of agricultural fields with some trees and ditches along the southern boundary. There is existing residential development at the junction of Liverpool Road and Millfield Lane, together with a number of farm buildings which occupy the north-east corner of the site. It is a medium to high landscape character area.

B. Heritage asset(s) of relevance and relationship between the site and heritage asset(s):

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

5/2 Le Chateau – II Listing NGR: SJ5612198515
SJ 59 NE SENELEY GREEN MILLFIELD LANE (east side)

Status: Listed Building (Grade II)

SENELEY GREEN MILLFIELD LANE Gate piers, gates and flanking walls at Ashton Cross 07-OCT-09 Listing NGR: SJ5612198515

C. Current site requirements of relevance:

Part of dower house to Garswood New Hall (rest now demolished). C.1822. Stucco with slate roof. One storey, 3 bays. 1st bay has quoins, mutilated cornice and parapet with cornice and blocking course. Other 2 bays are lower, with cornice and blocking course, and quoins at right hand end. Windows have architraves and round-headed lights with roll mouldings, that to 2nd bay of 4 lights with central king mullion, the others of 3 lights, that to 1st bay is larger than others and has a rectangular plaque above, bearing the initials

"J.G". Entrance between 2nd and 3rd bays has Tuscan aedicule and half-glazed door with architrave and rectangular plaque above. Curved screen wall to right with rusticated pier. Right return similarly treated. Weathervane to rear with lion crest.

D. Relevant or useful information from the Conservation Area appraisal or building listing etc.:

Status: Listed Building

SJ 59 NE SENELEY GREEN MILLFIELD LANE (east side)

5/2 Le Chateau - II

Part of dower house to Garswood New Hall (rest now demolished). C.1822. Stucco with slate roof. One storey, 3 bays. 1st bay has quoins, mutilated cornice and parapet with cornice and blocking course. Other 2 bays are lower, with cornice and blocking course, and quoins at right hand end. Windows have architraves and round-headed lights with roll mouldings, that to 2nd bay of 4 lights with central king mullion, the others of 3 lights, that to 1st bay is larger than others and has a rectangular plaque above, bearing the initials "J.G". Entrance between 2nd and 3rd bays has Tuscan aedicule and half-glazed door with architrave and rectangular plaque above. Curved screen wall to right with rusticated pier. Right return similarly treated. Weather vane to rear with lion crest.

Listing NGR: SJ5612198515

Status: Listed Building

SENELEY GREEN MILLFIELD LANE Gate piers, gates and flanking walls at Ashton Cross 07-OCT-09

II Former West entrance to Garswood Park estate, six 12 ft high sandstone gate piers, wrought-iron gates, low flanking sandstone walls with cast-iron railings, ashlar and vermiculated stonework, late C19/early C20, Baroque Revival style.

DESCRIPTION: Central vehicular entrance (gate removed) and pedestrian side gates flanked by four gate piers. Highly elaborate tall C18 French-style wrought-iron gates to side gateways, painted black with gilded decoration. Large iron gate fixing to inside face of gate pier to left of central entrance. Long, low curved flanking ashlar walls projecting from side gates lead to outer gate piers. Side facings of copings to walls incorporate slender moulded bands framing vermiculated decoration, inner edges of walls with curved step up to join side gate piers. Walls surmounted by cast-iron railings with simplified fleur-de-lys style design. Gate piers: Identically styled, set upon large square stone plinths with moulded relief panels to each face containing vermiculated decoration, lower body of each pier with columns to each corner with decorative composite capitals and projecting bands containing vermiculated decoration, entablature above. Deep

moulded entablature to upper part of each pier with dentil eaves cornice, tall square plinth above with paired supporting scrolls to each corner and panels to each face containing Greek cross-style designs, piers surmounted by large ornamental urns (that to right outer pier is removed).

HISTORY: The site of the Ashton-in-Makerfield Golf Club was originally part of the Garswood Park estate, which was the seat of the Gerard family. The main house, Garswood New Hall, was built in the C17 and was later extended and improved in the C18. The gates at Ashton Cross provided the West entrance into the estate. Two further principal gates and lodges existed to the north east corner of the estate and another to the east (now demolished). The house was demolished in 1921 along with its associated outbuildings, and the formal gardens were also lost, although most of the parkland designed by Humphry Repton including a large fish pond survived and still exists today. During WWII the estate was used as a POW camp and also as a training base for American troops preparing for the D-Day landings. After its demolition the area to the north of the house site was mined, and the M6 motorway was later constructed through part of the eastern section of the estate. In 1963 Ashton-in-Makerfield Golf Club were looking for a new home and an agreement was reached with Lord Gerard to purchase the south west section of the Garswood Park estate on which to construct a 9-hole golf course and clubhouse. A further portion of land was purchased in the 1970s and the course was increased to 18 holes.

The exact date of construction of the gate piers, gates and flanking walls at Ashton Cross is unknown but it is believed to have been in the late C19/early C20. The West driveway to the hall was realigned in the mid-late C19. The central gates were pulled off and heavily damaged in an act of vandalism in 1989 and were subsequently removed.

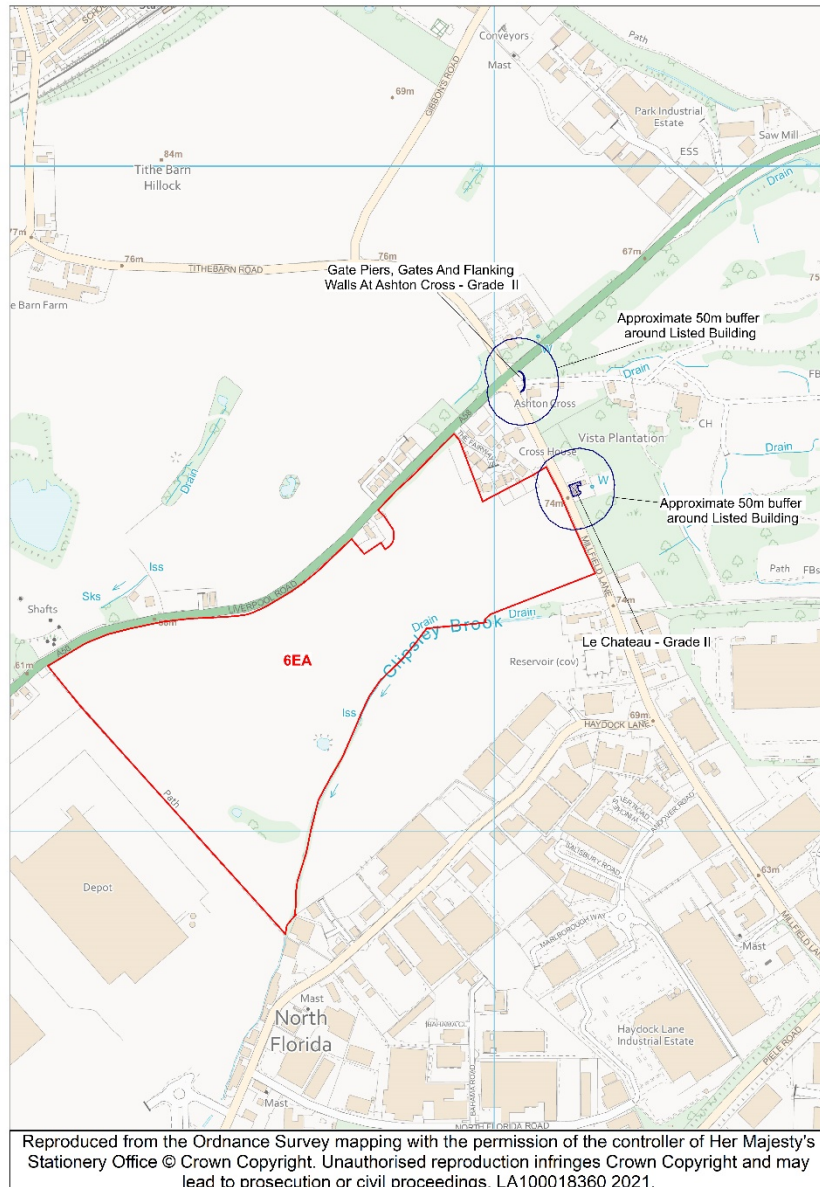
SOURCES: Pollard R & Pevsner N. 2006. The Buildings of England Series. Lancashire: Liverpool & the South-West.

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION: The gate piers, gates and flanking walls at Ashton Cross are designated at Grade II for the following principal reasons:

* They form a highly imposing and impressive West entrance to the former Garswood Park estate, where much of the original parkland designed by Humphry Repton survives as a golf course * They are a good and highly distinctive example of their type, and are highly detailed with elaborately carved stonework and ornate wrought-iron gates * They have group value with the nearby Grade II listed Le Chateau, which is believed to have formed part of a dower house to Garswood New Hall. Listing NGR: SJ5612198515

This list entry was subject to a Minor Amendment on 27/04/2017

Heritage assets



E. Assessment of the contribution that the site makes to those elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s):

The semi-rural nature of the former Garswood estate was an important part of its significances as a landed estate. The location of the principle entrance away from the village reflects the Sylvanian aspirations of the Garwood family and facilitated the extensive private driveway which allowed them to fully appreciate the drama of the Humphry Repton designed parkland. The location of the dower house would also have been chosen for similar reasons. Therefore, the perceived rural setting of the lodge and gates contributes positively to their significance. The long open views over open countryside from the lodge are particularly important.

F. Assessment of the impact that the loss of this site and its subsequent development might have upon the significance of the heritage asset(s):

Paragraph 193 of the NPPF, advises that “give great weight to an assets conservation, irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.” While the development of the parts of the site will not harm the setting of the listed buildings, any development which will result in the loss of views across open countryside will have a negative impact on the setting of the listed lodge. The extent of harm would however be minimal as the original parkland setting which is integral to the significance of the lodge will be retained.

Nevertheless, in policy terms, the level of harm associated with the release of GBS_005 would be assessed as ‘less than substantial’. Consequently any proposed development on GBS_005 would need to address the requirements of para 196 of the NPPF which states that “weigh the harm against the public benefits of the proposal where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm, including securing its optimum viable use.”

G. If the development of this site would harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset(s), does the Plan set out sufficient measures to remove or reduce this harm?

No, not at present.

H. If not, would additional / amended site requirements address this?

Retention of open views from the listed lodge along with careful screening of any perimeter development would address much of the conservation based concerns. Any development which would result in the loss of open views of countryside from the lodge would have to be carefully considered and have demonstrable wider public benefits.

I. Conclusion

The capacity of the site needs to be carefully considered given the above conservation concerns.

ST HELENS BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN 2020-2035
HERITAGE BACKGROUND PAPER (APRIL 2020)

