

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

Appendix 6F: LANDMAP Landscape Habitats Aspect Area Assessment of Effects edp6367_r025c_FINAL DRAFT

LANDMAP LHAA Filtering Process

- 1.1 In accordance with best practice guidance, the following filtering process has been applied to Landscape Habitats Aspect Areas (LHAA) set out herein. The filtering process in **Table EDP 1.1** below has been informed by Natural Resource Wales's (NRW) guidance *Using LANDMAP in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments TGN46*¹ in combination professional judgement to make the assessment proportionate.

Table EDP 1.1: LHAA filtering process.

Filtering Steps
Filter 1: Identify aspect areas that overlap fully, partially or are adjacent to the development Site boundary;
Filter 2: Identify Landscape Habitat Landscape aspect areas from filter 1 that record a special relationship with other aspect areas in the (LANDMAP survey question Q2);
Filter 3: Refine aspect areas and retain those that are within the ZTV; and
Filter 4: Retain Aspect Areas irrespective of their evaluation and identify those with High or Outstanding Value with respect to LANDMAP question 42 and/or 45.

LHAA Assessment Overview

- 1.2 The filtering process resulted in 14no. LHAA to be assessed. LHAA classifications and overall evaluations are shown respectively on **Figures 6.28** and **6.29**, and summarised in **Table EDP 1.2** below:

Table EDP 1.2: LHAA to be assessed.

(14) LHAA within or Adjoining Site	LHAA ID
1	BLNGWLH058
2	BLNGWLH059
3	BLNGWLH061
4	BLNGWLH062
5	BLNGWLH063
6	TRFNLH005
7	TRFNLH010
8	TRFNLH015
9	TRFNLH017
10	TRFNLH036
11	TRFNLH042

¹ Natural Resources Wales. (2021). Using LANDMAP in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments TGN46

(14) LHAA within or Adjoining Site	LHAA ID
12	TRFNLH044
13	TRFNLH050
14	TRFNLH056

- 1.3 LHAA within or adjacent to the Site are assessed in detail as these ‘host’ aspect areas are the only ones with potential for direct landscape effects.
- 1.4 As well as assigning overall evaluation to a given aspect area, LANDMAP also ascribes a value (LANDMAP Q25). The ‘value’ findings set out for each aspect area have been interpreted and overall sensitivity ascribed to a given aspect area or group herein follows the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) methodology contained at **Appendix 6A** of the Environmental Statement.
- 1.5 The criteria set out in published LANDMAP Aspect Area Assessments which has been interpreted to determine value and susceptibility to change in this study are as follows:

Table EDP 1.3: LANDMAP LHAA key criteria.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics
CI_3/Q5	Level 3 Classification
Q5	5 dominant Phase 1 habitat types present (%)
Q7	Habitats of international importance?
Q9	BAP habitats present
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?
Q13	Does the area support important species?
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?
Q19	main land management activities
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character
Q25	Value
Q26	Condition
Q27	Trend
Q37	Priority Habitats
Q38	Significance
Q41	Sensitivity
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion
Q43	Habitat Evaluation
Q44	Importance for key species
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species

LHAA Assessment of Effects

(1) BLNGWLH058

Table EDP 1.4: BLNGWLH058 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH058
CI_3/Q5	Level 3 Classification	Mosaic
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Improved Grassland 18% Bracken 9% Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland 30% Unimproved Acid Grassland 13% Semi-improved Acid Grassland 30%
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	N/A
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	N/A
Q13	Does the area support important species?	Yes
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	N/A
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	N/A
Q25	Value	High An aspect area supporting a mosaic of bracken and acid grassland with fragments of dry heath. Water movement through the Site has created isolated areas of marshy grassland and flushes. The area has been subject to past mining activity and vegetated spoil heaps are present. Towards the east a loose collection of Beech trees adds further diversity.
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	High Locally, the aspect area supports a mosaic of acid grassland and dry heath.
Q38	Significance	High The area is one of the last remaining agriculturally unimproved fragments on the eastern slopes of the Ebbw. It also helps provide connectivity with other acid grassland/heath fragments associated with the ffridd slopes of the Ebbw.
Q41	Sensitivity	Moderate

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH058
		Increased grazing pressure, nutrient enrichment or encroachment by bracken all have the potential to adversely affect habitat quality.
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Moderate The aspect area helps provide some local landscape connectivity with similar habitat on the eastern slopes of the Ebbw.
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	High An aspect area supporting a mosaic of bracken and acid grassland with fragments of dry heath in addition to marshy grassland, flushes, vegetated spoil heaps and tree cover dominated by beech.
Q44	Importance for key species	Unassessed
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	High An aspect area supporting a mosaic of bracken and acid grassland with fragments of dry heath. Water movement through the Site has created isolated areas of marshy grassland and flushes. The area has been subject to past mining activity and vegetated spoil heaps are present. Towards the east a loose collection of Beech trees adds further diversity.

Table EDP 1.5: BLNGWLH058 Assessment of effects.

(1) BLNGWLH058 summary description: <i>“An aspect area supporting a mosaic of bracken and acid grassland with fragments of dry heath. Water movement through the Site has created isolated areas of marshy grassland and flushes. The area has been subject to past mining activity and vegetated spoil heaps are present. Towards the east a loose collection of Beech trees adds further diversity..”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	Low	Medium
Justification:		
<p>Priority habitats of high significance present including mosaic acid grassland with fragments of dry heath and marshy grassland. The area has been subject to past mining activity and vegetated spoil heaps are present. Condition is given as unassessed within LANDMAP, but it notes presence of past mining activity and spoil heaps which represent areas of degradation.</p> <p>The north-eastern extent of the LHAA extends into the south-west corner of the Site, but no built development is proposed in this area. The woodland along the eastern edge of the LHAA providing the interface with the Proposed Development would remain. Moderate habitat connectivity/cohesion is identified within LANDMAP for the LHAA and the siting of the nearest turbine and associated access and cabling routes outside of this LHAA within a wide area of poor semi-improved grassland would not</p>		

<p>affect its local landscape connectivity with similar habitat on the eastern slopes of the Ebbw. It's susceptibility to the Proposed Development is considered low, and overall sensitivity would be medium at worst.</p>
<p>Magnitude of Change:</p> <p>A small extent of the Site crosses into this LHAA. However, no development is proposed within this area of the Site and the scrubby woodland habitat comprising this area would be retained.</p> <p>Given that no development is proposed within this LHAA, construction and operational effects on the character of the landscape habitats within this LHAA would be minimal and the magnitude of change would be very low at most. Indirect effects on hydrology may arise but are unlikely given the location of construction activities away from this LHAA.</p>
<p>Overall Effect:</p> <p>Minor/Negligible and Not Significant. The nature of the effects would be long-term (reversible), and adverse.</p>

(2) BLNGWLH059

Table EDP 1.6: BLNGWLH059 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH059
CI_3/Q5	Level 3 Classification	Improved Grassland
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Dense Scrub 1% Unimproved Acid Grassland 3% Semi-improved Neutral Grassland 19% Improved Grassland 65% Arable 2%
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	Lowland Meadows
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site (0.33ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	N/A
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	Hedgerows
Q19	Main land management activities	Stock grazing Mowing
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Enclosed pastures and meadows including MG5. Remnant beech hedges
Q25	Value	Moderate An aspect area dominated by enclosed improved grassland fields. Hedgerows support frequent mature trees and form the focus of biodiversity interest.
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH059
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	Moderate Hedgerows with mature trees form the focus of biodiversity interest in addition to any surviving semi-improved neutral grassland habitat.
Q38	Significance	Moderate Tree cover provides habitat connectivity with woodland associated with steep valley sides.
Q41	Sensitivity	Low In the longer term, loss of mature trees would reduce the overall value of the aspect area to wildlife.
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Moderate Hedgerow trees provide an element of connectivity within the aspect area and in addition, with neighbouring areas of woodland.
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Moderate An aspect area dominated by enclosed improved grassland fields. Hedgerows support frequent mature trees and form the focus of biodiversity interest in addition to any surviving semi-improved neutral grassland habitat.
Q44	Importance for key species	Low No significant species are known to be linked with habitat associated with the aspect area.
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	Moderate An aspect area dominated by enclosed improved grassland fields. Hedgerows support frequent mature trees and form the focus of biodiversity interest. Phase 1 habitat mapping dating from the 1990s identified fields of semi-improved neutral grassland within the aspect area but it is unclear whether or not these have survived.

Table EDP 1.7: BLNGWLH059 assessment of effects.

(2) BLNGWLH059 summary description: <i>“An aspect area dominated by enclosed improved grassland fields. Hedgerows support frequent mature trees and form the focus of biodiversity interest. Phase 1 habitat mapping dating from the 1990s identified fields of semi-improved neutral grassland within the aspect area but it is unclear whether or not these have survived.”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Medium	Medium	Medium
Justification:		
<p>LANDMAP’s Q24 identifies the key features that define this LHAA’s biodiversity character as enclosed pastures, meadows and remnant beech hedges and it notes that the priority habitat of hedgerows with mature trees form the focus of biodiversity interest in addition to any surviving semi-improved neutral grassland habitat. Lesser value improved grassland however forms its largest habitat type within the LHAA, and it evaluates the sensitivity of the landscape as low.</p> <p>The eastern extent of the LHAA extends into the western edge of the Site, and would include the location of 1 turbine, access road enhancements, and below ground grid connection cabling. Nominal loss of unimproved grassland and poor semi-improved grassland areas may be incurred as a result of widening Blaen Y Cwm Road, which forms the eastern boundary of the LHAA to facilitate construction of the wind farm, and cabling trenches which would be subsequently infilled and grassed over. There would be further minor and permanent loss of semi-improved grassland where a new access route and foundations for the crane pads would be located. It is considered the large scale of the open grassland where the turbine would be located renders this landscape habitat less susceptible to the Proposed Development than a more enclosed character in addition to its lower value as improved grassland. Overall sensitivity is considered medium.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>A moderate amount of this LHAA extends into the Site. However, only a very small amount of it would be developed and experience direct impacts as a result of the Proposed Development. There would therefore be minor physical changes on this LHAA whereby 1 turbine (Turbine 8) and associated ancillary development is proposed within a small area of poor semi-improved grassland. Additionally, works would be located in an elevated location above the more intimate enclosed pastures and meadows with hedgerows that provide the main determining habitats within this LHAA. There would also be nominal loss of unimproved acid grassland on the boundary of the LHAA resulting from road widening activity to facilitate the development.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would have a minor physical change on a very small area of the LHAA and would be limited to construction of concrete pad foundations for the turbine and access road widening. Cable routing would be infilled following construction. The magnitude of change on the character of the LHAA as a whole would be medium at worst.</p>		
Overall Effect:		
Moderate/Minor and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse.		

(3) BLNGWLH061

Table EDP 1.8: BLNGWLH061 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH061
CI_3	Level 3 Classification	Acid Grassland
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland 14% Unimproved Acid Grassland 21% Improved Grassland 26% Bracken 12% Buildings 6%
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	Blanket Bog
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site(0.33ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	N/A
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	N/A
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Bracken with Oak and Beech Woodland, vaccinium dominated heath and blanket bog
Q25	Value	High An aspect area centred on steep slopes supporting a mosaic of bracken, acid grassland, fragments of heath and developing scrub and woodland.
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Declining Decrease in high value habitat such as heath
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	High Fragments of dry heath are present within an acid grassland mosaic. However, bracken as well as gorse scrub and woodland appear to be encroaching.
Q38	Significance	High The ffridd slopes provide a mosaic of semi-natural habitats that provide habitat connectivity and refuges for wildlife.
Q41	Sensitivity	Moderate Higher value habitat within the aspect area, such as heath, may be lost through lack of management.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH061
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	High Habitat connectivity is provided both along the valley and between valley floor and ridge top.
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	High An aspect area centred on steep slopes supporting a mosaic of bracken, acid grassland, fragments of heath and developing scrub and woodland.
Q44	Importance for key species	Moderate No significant species are known to be linked with habitat associated with the aspect area. However, the mosaic of habitats present are considered likely to support a wide range of plant and animal species.
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	High An aspect area centred on steep slopes supporting a mosaic of bracken, acid grassland, fragments of heath and developing scrub and woodland. The mosaic of habitats present are considered likely to support a wide range of plant and animal species.

Table EDP 1.9: BLNGWLH061 assessment of effects.

(3) BLNGWLH061 summary description: <i>“An aspect area centred on steep slopes supporting a mosaic of bracken, acid grassland, fragments of heath and developing scrub and woodland. The mosaic of habitats present are considered likely to support a wide range of plant and animal species.”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	low	Medium
Justification:		
<p>A habitat mosaic of bracken, acid grassland, fragments of heath and developing scrub and woodland considered likely to support a wide range of plant and animal species, and includes BAP habitat, priority habitat, habitat refuges and connectivity.</p> <p>No significant species are reported. Its condition is unassessed within LANDMAP but the trend is reported as declining with a decrease in high value habitat such as heath lost through lack of management leading to reduced (moderate) sensitivity.</p> <p>The LHAA is outside the main Site boundary, however an access route along the length of Blaen-Y-Cwm Road that bisects the north-eastern extent of this LHAA may be upgraded (widened) to allow for construction of the development and would lead to nominal loss of semi-improved acid grassland with scattered scrub along its southern side and/or improved grassland to its north.</p> <p>The main components of the Proposed Development are outside of the LHAA, and minor works associated with access road widening (of an existing route) would be the only element potentially affecting the character of this LHAA. As a result, the susceptibility to the Proposed Development is</p>		



considered to be low, leading to an overall assessment of medium sensitivity on the landscape character of this LHAA.
Magnitude of Change:
There would be direct changes to a nominal area of this LHAA, adjacent to and along the existing Blaen-Y-Cwm Road, leading to a very small loss of semi-improved acid grassland with scattered scrub along its southern side and/or improved grassland to its north.
The Proposed Development would lead to a minor physical change on a very small area of the LHAA. The magnitude of change would be low at worst.
Overall Effect:
Minor and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse.

(4) BLNGWLH062

Table EDP 1.10: BLNGWLH062 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH062
CI_3	Level 3 Classification	Acid Grassland
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Improved Grassland 6% Dry Acid Heath 9% Valley Mire 10% Buildings 1% Unimproved Acid Grassland 79%
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	N/A
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site(12.63ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	N/A
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	N/A
Q19	Main land management activities	Stock grazing
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Acid grassland with Soft rush (<i>Juncus effusus</i>)
Q25	Value	Moderate Urban areas are low value but the presence of Broadleaved woodland and semi-improved grassland adds to value.
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	Low None present
Q38	Significance	Moderate



LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH062
		Urban habitat is of little significance, but the presence of other habitats gives the area some significance.
Q41	Sensitivity	Moderate Urban area could possibly expand and some areas of habitat might be lost.
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Unassessed
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Moderate Urban area is low value, areas of semi-improved grassland and particularly the broadleaved woodland are of more value.
Q44	Importance for key species	Moderate A couple of key species are present.
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	Moderate Low value urban habitat but some areas of Broadleaved woodland add value, Kingfisher and RDB species Cuckoo bee are present to increase value.

Table EDP 1.11: BLNGWLH062 assessment of effects.

(4) BLNGWLH062 summary description: <i>“Low value urban habitat but some areas of Broadleaved woodland add value, Kingfisher and RDB species Cuckoo bee are present to increase value....”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Medium	Medium	Medium
Justification:		
<p>The LHAA contains a local wildlife Site but otherwise is considered moderate value in LANDMAP with areas of semi-improved grassland and broadleaved woodland raising the value from the low value urban areas, and importance for key species.</p> <p>Site visits have shown that this LHAA contains no urban area or broadleaf woodland, but a mixture of dwarf scrub, marshy grassland and semi-improved acid grassland, and some scattered scrub (ref to Ecology report and plan edp6367_d002) similar to that described in LANDMAP’s Q5 for this LHAA. This LHAA is located within the west of the Site. 1 turbine and associated infrastructure including access road improvements and underground cabling would be located within the LHAA. Direct effects upon the LHAA are likely as a result of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Within this LHAA proposals are likely to include areas of upgrading (regrading and widening) of existing access roads, creation of new access tracks, underground cable connections and construction of a crane pad and turbine. Despite approximately half of this LHAA being located within the Site, only a small area of the LHAA would be developed. The wide expansive grasslands habitats are less susceptible to large development features such as the tall turbines. Overall sensitivity of this LHAA to the Proposed Development is considered medium.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>There would be a direct physical changes to this LHAA whereby 1 turbine (Turbine 3) and associated ancillary is proposed within the aspect area. The turbine is located towards the top of Mynydd Llanhilleth at the eastern edge of this LHAA. Direct effects of turbine foundations and road widening /</p>		

construction activities including minor areas of land regrading would be incurred and would be permanent. Cabling would be underground with permanent effects resulting from soil disturbance albeit that it would be infilled and not visible following construction.

The Proposed Development would have a minor physical effect on a very small area of the LHAA and would be limited to construction of concrete pad foundations for the turbine and crane, access road widening, and creation of short lengths of new access roads to the turbines. Cable routing would be infilled following construction. There would be minor loss of grassland and scrub habitats as a consequence, and the magnitude of change to this LHAA as a whole would be **medium** at worst (addition of elements that are evident but do not necessarily conflict with the key characteristics of the existing landscape).

Overall Effect:

Moderate/Minor and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse. The indirect effects would be long-term (reversible), and adverse.

(5) BLNGWLH063

Table EDP 1.12: BLNGWLH063 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH063
Cl_3	Level 3 Classification	Acid Grassland
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Unimproved Acid Grassland 4% Semi-improved Acid Grassland 17% Improved Grassland 69% Arable 1% Buildings 2%
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	N/A
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site(0.36ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	N/A
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	N/A
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	N/A
Q25	Value	Moderate An aspect area dominated by enclosed improved grassland fields. Towards the south, hedgerows support frequent mature trees and form the focus of biodiversity interest.
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	Low



LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	BLNGWLH063
		Some very minor fragments of dry heath may be associated with acid grassland within the aspect area. However, the dominant habitat is improved grassland.
Q38	Significance	Low Improved grassland is a common and widespread habitat resource.
Q41	Sensitivity	Low In the longer term, loss of mature trees from the south of the aspect area would reduce the overall value of the aspect area to wildlife.
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Moderate Hedgerow trees provide an element of connectivity within the landscape.
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Moderate An aspect area dominated by enclosed improved grassland fields with some acid grassland and possibly very minor fragments of dry heath. Towards the south, hedgerows support frequent mature trees and form the focus of biodiversity interest.
Q44	Importance for key species	Low No significant species are known to be linked with habitat associated with the aspect area.
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	Moderate An aspect area dominated by enclosed improved grassland fields. Towards the south, hedgerows support frequent mature trees and form the focus of biodiversity interest. No significant species are known to be linked with habitat associated with the aspect area.

Table EDP 1.13: BLNGWLH063 assessment of effects.

(5) BLNGWLH063 summary description: “An aspect area dominated by enclosed improved grassland fields. Towards the south, hedgerows support frequent mature trees and form the focus of biodiversity interest. No significant species are known to be linked with habitat associated with the aspect area.”		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Medium	Low	Low
Justification:		
LHAA dominated by enclosed improved grassland fields. The LANDMAP identified focus of biodiversity interest is to the south where hedgerows support frequent mature trees.		
This LHAA is located to the west and outside of the main Site area. Blaen-y-Cwm Road is an existing road within the eastern extent of the LHAA that may require widening in parts to allow for construction of the Proposed Development. The road passes south of a small coniferous woodland plantation stand and adjacent to fenced improved grassland fields, flanked by overhead cables. Due to the minimal works likely affecting a very small area of the LHAA restricted to widening of an existing access track flanked by low value improved grassland the susceptibility of the LHAA to the Proposed Development is considered to be low and sensitivity is also considered low as the main landscape habitat areas of value within the LHAA are located to the south of the LHAA away from proposed interventions.		
Magnitude of Change:		
There would be minimal direct landscape effects on this LHAA restricted to widening of an existing road route adjacent to low value, large scale (open) improved grassland habitat.		
Changes would comprise a barely discernible loss of improved grassland due to the widening/alteration of Blaen-y-Cwm Road, where roads are not uncharacteristic within the existing landscape. Overall, the magnitude of change to this LHAA would be very low .		
Overall Effect:		
Negligible and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse.		

(6) TRFNLH005

Table EDP 1.14: TRFNLH005 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH005
CI_3	Level 3 Classification	Residential/Green Space
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland 3 Improved Grassland 8 Amenity Grassland 5 Buildings 55 Not Accessed Land 3
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	Upland Oakwood Ancient and/or Species Rich Hedgerows
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes LNR(2.6ha) Local Wildlife Site(29.04ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	Yes



LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH005
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	Ponds Walls Hedgerows Other Parkland and road verges
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Heavily urbanised in mid valley towns, valley sides less so with pockets of grassland, woodland and relict hedgerows
Q25	Value	Moderate Urban valley floor, with areas of local important habitats demonstrated by LNR, with areas of small broadleaved woodland
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	Moderate Urban areas, with areas of local important habitats demonstrated by LNR, with areas of small broadleaved woodland
Q38	Significance	Moderate There are several areas of woodland and one LNR present within the area
Q41	Sensitivity	Low Already low value, can only be enhanced
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Low Some connectivity through wooded gardens and grassland woodlands within the urban area needs to be maintained
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Moderate Built up area has a generally low value, acid heathland and trees add value.
Q44	Importance for key species	Moderate Some species of high importance
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	Moderate Highly urbanised low values area, but the presence of LNR and trees and green spaces raises the evaluation to moderate.

Table EDP 1.15: TRFNLH005 assessment of effects.

(5) TRFNLH005 summary description: <i>“Urban valley floor, with areas of local important habitats demonstrated by LNR, with areas of small broadleaved woodland.”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Medium	Low	Low
Justification:		
A LHAA containing locally designated Sites (LNR and LWS), BAP and priority habitats within an urban built form context.		
A negligible area of this LHAA covers the access route to the Proposed Development where Pisgah Road connects with the B4246 Heol Albert/Commercial Road at Talywaun. This area is not within a LNR but is within a locally designated SINC. The access junction adjacent to existing urban context would require re-alignment as part of the Proposed Development.		
Magnitude of Change:		
There would be a direct landscape effect on a very minor area of this LHAA. Due to the size of the turbines to be installed, despite using the alignment of an existing track some tree loss and potential works to existing telegraph cabling would be required to allow for road widening and construction of the Proposed Development. This would constitute direct physical effects to a very small area of the LHAA and would be similar to the baseline situation and as such would comprise a very low magnitude change.		
Overall Effect:		
Negligible and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and Neutral.		

(7) TRFNLH010

Table EDP 1.16: LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH005
CI_3	Level 3 Classification	Coniferous Woodland
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland 2 Planted Coniferous Woodland 71 Unimproved Acid Grassland 4 Improved Grassland 1 Spoil 20
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	N/A
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site (60.38ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	N/A
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	Ponds
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Large upland block of conifers around disused quarry with pond
Q25	Value	Low

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH005
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	Low Coniferous plantations are common habitat
Q38	Significance	Low Non-native coniferous plantation
Q41	Sensitivity	Low Acid rain and other airborne pollutants can affect coniferous plantations adversely
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Moderate Coniferous plantation is partially fragmented by bare ground
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Unassessed
Q44	Importance for key species	Unassessed
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	Low

Table EDP 1.17: TRFNLH010 assessment of effects.

(6) TRFNLH010 summary description: "Coniferous plantation is partially fragmented by bare ground."		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
N/A	N/A	Low
Justification:		
This coniferous plantation has been felled in recent times, and the LANDMAP survey assessment is therefore invalid.		
The Proposed Development would comprise use (and potential upgrading) of an existing access track that traverses this LHAA. It is likely that some surface betterment would be required. As a working plantation landscape having just been felled, the sensitivity of the LHAA is considered low .		
Magnitude of Change:		
There would be a direct landscape effect on a very minor area of this LHAA. An existing track would be utilised for construction works, and the area it crosses no longer is bordered by trees due to the plantation management regime in place. The magnitude of change to the character of the LHAA is negligible .		
Overall Effect:		
Negligible and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and Neutral.		

(8) TRFNLH015

Table EDP 1.18: TRFNLH015 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH015
CI_3	Level 3 Classification	Marsh/Marshy Grassland
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Planted Coniferous Woodland 2 Acid/Neutral Flush 97



LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH015
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	Blanket Bog
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site(150.04ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	Yes
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	N/A
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Semi natural upland habitat of bog, acid grassland and dwarf shrub heath with some reclamation
Q25	Value	Moderate Typical upland habitats with large area of acid grassland, with small area of blanket bog also present
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Declining Upland mosaic shows sings of drying from air photos and at risk of losing diversity
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	Moderate A mosaic of acid habitats, including acid heath and small area of blanket bog
Q38	Significance	Moderate Heath and acid grassland habitats are relatively scarce.
Q41	Sensitivity	Low Significant threat for the on-going decline of important species
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Moderate Most habitats are not fragmented
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Moderate Overall moderate with key habitats however some low features
Q44	Importance for key species	Low Non present
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	Moderate

Table EDP 1.19: TRFNLH015 assessment of effects.

(8) TRFNLH015 summary description: “Semi natural upland habitat of bog, acid grassland and dwarf shrub heath with some reclamation.”		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Medium	Low	Medium
Justification:		
<p>The LHAA is located centrally within the Site at Mynydd Llanhilleth. It contains a local wildlife Site and is considered within LANDMAP as “Typical upland habitats with large area of acid grassland, with small area of blanket bog also present”. Its condition is unassessed, but it is identified as declining with “sings of drying” and “risk of losing diversity”, and has been ascribed low sensitivity. The predominance of open grassland creates a large open habitat character which is of low susceptibility to windfarm development given the vast scale involved.</p> <p>Within this LHAA proposals are likely to include areas of upgrading (regrading and widening) of existing access roads, creation of new access tracks, underground cable connections and construction of a crane pad and turbine. Given the nature of wind farm development only a small area of the LHAA would be developed. Overall sensitivity of this LHAA to the Proposed Development is considered medium.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>There would be a direct change to this LHAA whereby 1 turbine (Turbine 4) and associated infrastructure is proposed within the aspect area. The turbine is located towards the top of Mynydd Llanhilleth within the west of the LHAA. Direct physical effects of turbine and crane foundations and road widening/ construction activities including minor areas of land regrading would be incurred and would be permanent. Cabling would be underground with permanent effects resulting from soil disturbance albeit that it would be infilled, grassed over and not visible following construction.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would have a minor physical effect on a small area of the LHAA and would be limited to construction of concrete pad foundations for the turbine, access road widening, and creation of short lengths of new access roads to the turbines. Cable routing would be infilled following construction. There would be minor loss of marshy grassland and unimproved acid grassland as a result of the Proposed Development which would be permanent. The magnitude of change to the character of this LHAA as a whole would be medium at worst (partial loss/alteration to one or more key characteristics and addition of elements that are evident but do not necessarily conflict with the key characteristics of the existing landscape).</p>		
Overall Effect:		
Moderate/Minor and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse.		

(9) TRFNLH017

Table EDP 1.20: TRFNLH017 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH017
Cl_3	Level 3 Classification	Acid Grassland
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Unimproved Acid Grassland 99 Improved Grassland 1
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	N/A

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH017
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site(183.62ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	Yes
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	Hedgerows
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Predominantly acid grassland with flushes. Upland BAP bird species are present
Q25	Value	Moderate Large area of unimproved upland grassland with flushes
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	Moderate Large area of upland grassland with flushes
Q38	Significance	Moderate Contains some unimproved upland habitats
Q41	Sensitivity	Moderate Signs of acid grassland becoming wetter
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Moderate Most habitats are not fragmented
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Moderate Dry heath an important habitat with some important species
Q44	Importance for key species	Moderate
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	Moderate Predominantly acid grassland with flushes. Upland BAP bird species are present

Table EDP 1.21: TRFNLH017 assessment of effects.

(9) TRFNLH017 summary description: <i>“Predominantly acid grassland with flushes. Upland BAP bird species are present.”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Medium	Low	Low
Justification:		
<p>Predominantly unimproved acid grassland with some hedgerow features and BAP bird species this LHAA comprises a LWS and is evaluated as moderate for its priority habitat. Its expansive nature means there is little habitat fragmentation within it.</p> <p>This LHAA crosses into the southern extent of the Site, but no turbines are proposed within it. Some road widening works for access may be required along the existing Blaen-y-Cwm Road which forms its boundary to the north-east. In this instance minor loss of existing unimproved acid grassland (very minor in respect of overall area) flanking the existing track would be incurred, but as works to existing roads the enlargement would not be uncharacteristic of the area. Susceptibility and sensitivity to the</p>		

Proposed Development is considered low due to the limited likely direct impacts and large scale of the habitat type.
Magnitude of Change:
There would be a potential direct change to this LHAA with the widening of Blaen-y-Cwm Road at its north-eastern boundary. Any direct effects of road widening construction activities including minor areas of land regrading and would be permanent.
The Proposed Development would have a minor physical effect on a very small area of the LHAA limited to access road widening and the equivalent loss of acid grassland habitat which would lead to very low magnitude changes with 'barely discernible loss or alteration to key components; addition of elements not uncharacteristic within the existing landscape' at most.
Overall Effect:
Negligible and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse. The indirect effects would be long-term (reversible), and adverse.

(10) TRFNLH036

Table EDP 1.22: TRFNLH036 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH036
Cl_3	Level 3 Classification	Mosaic
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Unimproved Acid Grassland 8 Semi-improved Neutral Grassland 5 Improved Grassland 33 Bracken 8 Spoil 13
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	Upland Oakwood Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pastures Upland Heathland
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site(242.61ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	Yes
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	Ponds Walls Hedgerows Other scree
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Valley side farmland mosaic, including beech woodland, regenerating colliery spoil, bracken slopes and dwarf shrub heath..... BAP species
Q25	Value	High
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH036
Q37	Priority Habitats	High Moderate/High - Areas of acid grassland in priority habitat, possibly some areas of Broadleaved woodland are priority habitat.
Q38	Significance	Moderate Moderate - Acid grassland habitats are relatively scarce, and broadleaved relatively scarce
Q41	Sensitivity	Moderate Urban area could possibly expand and some areas of habitat might be lost
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Low Habitats are well fragmented
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Moderate Acid grassland and areas of broadleaved woodlands provide some important habitat
Q44	Importance for key species	Moderate
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	High

Table EDP 1.23: TRFNLH036 assessment of effects.

(10) TRFNLH036 summary description: <i>“Valley side farmland mosaic, including beech woodland, regenerating colliery spoil, bracken slopes and dwarf shrub heath..... BAP species.”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	Medium	High
Justification:		
<p>Mosaic habitat type containing BAP Priority habitats and LWS designation. It is considered of high value with a ‘constant’ trend. It is considered of moderate sensitivity due to risk of urban expansion and habitat loss and low in cohesion/connectivity due to high habitat fragmentation.</p> <p>This is a large ‘valley side’ LHAA that skirts around the tops of upland hills in this area. Generally located east of the Site, a narrow ‘finger’ of the LHAA extends west into the north of the Site where two turbines (Turbines 1 and 2) and associated infrastructure is proposed, including the construction compound, substation, new access roads and below ground cabling is proposed.</p> <p>Within the LHAA area that overlaps with the Site, habitats are predominantly farmland mosaic of improved grassland fields contained by fences and scattered trees and copses of broadleaved semi natural woodland. Due to the more medium scale field pattern of low value improved grassland and mosaic land use type in the vicinity the susceptibility to the Proposed Development is considered medium, with sensitivity high overall.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>There would be a direct landscape effect on this LHAA whereby 2 turbines (Turbine 1 and 2), the construction compound, substation, new access roads and below ground cabling are proposed within the aspect area. The construction compound is located within pre-existing Sheep Pens area with remnant walls, whilst the turbines, access tracks, substation and cabling are situated within areas identified as improved grassland and lesser landscape habitat value. Due to the size of the overall LHAA, and the nature of the Proposed Development, the Proposed Development would lead to direct</p>		

effects on a small area of the LHAA as a whole. This would culminate in a small loss of improved grassland habitat which would be compensated for elsewhere on Site. As such the magnitude of change to the LHAA is considered to be low with a 'partial loss/alteration to one or more key characteristics; and addition of elements that are evident but do not necessarily conflict with the key characteristics of the existing landscape'.
Overall Effect:
Moderate/Minor and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be temporary, and adverse. Mitigation planting would compensate for any habitat loss elsewhere on Site. The indirect effects would be long-term (reversible), and adverse.

(11) TRFNLH042

Table EDP 1.24: TRFNLH042 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH042
Cl_3	Level 3 Classification	Mosaic
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Unimproved Acid Grassland 15 Bracken 30 Dry Acid Heath 36 Dry Heath/Acid Grassland Mosaic 16 Acid/Neutral Flush 1
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	Upland Heathland
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site (637.55ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	Yes
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	N/A
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Upland grassland with dwarf shrub heath, bracken encroachment
Q25	Value	Moderate
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	High The Aspect Area supports BAP habitats and important species
Q38	Significance	High The Aspect Area supports Upland Heathland and Skylark
Q41	Sensitivity	Moderate The Aspect Area may be vulnerable to further encroachment by bracken
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	High There is strong connectivity and cohesiveness within the Aspect Area.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH042
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	High An area of important heaths and acid grassland interspersed with Bracken which is of limited value, also noted is important species crowberry
Q44	Importance for key species	High
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	Moderate

Table EDP 1.25: TRFNLH042 assessment of effects.

(11) TRFNLH042 summary description: <i>“Upland grassland with dwarf shrub heath, bracken encroachment.”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	Low	Medium
Justification:		
<p>A mosaic of upland grassland and acid heath, it contains protected LWS, BAP priority habitats (upland heathland) with strong connectivity and supports important species. The LHAA is therefore elevated to high value for landscape character.</p> <p>The LHAA is predominantly located north of the Site, however the main Site area extends very slightly north into this LHAA. Approximately 1.5km of the access route connecting Talywain and the top of Mynydd Llanhilleth runs through this LHAA and potential re-alignment/widening works along its length to allow for construction of the Proposed Development are the only works that would potentially affect this LHAA. Given this is an existing route, its widening is unlikely to have notable impacts on the character of the LHAA and its susceptibility to the Proposed Development is considered to be low and its sensitivity overall would be medium at worst.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>There would be direct changes to this LHAA for up to c. 1.5km of access road that may require regrading and widening to allow for construction at the Site. The road works would be short term and permanent and lead to a minor loss of habitat including dwarf scrub and acid grassland flanking the existing route. There are also stretches of the route with notable hardstanding (gravel) alongside it already, and although this would change to hard surface there would be no loss of important vegetation in these areas.</p> <p>Overall, a small linear length of habitat (and very minor area compared to a the LHAA as a whole) adjacent to existing built road would be lost in an open exposed landscape. Once complete there would be a 'barely discernible loss of habitat and alteration to the road; and comprise addition of elements not uncharacteristic within the existing landscape' and as such the magnitude of change would not exceed very low.</p>		
Overall Effect:		
Minor/Negligible and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse.		

(12) TRFNLH044

Table EDP 1.26: TRFNLH044 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH044
CI_3	Level 3 Classification	Mosaic
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland 4 Unimproved Acid Grassland 17 Improved Grassland 54 Bracken 4 Refuse-tip 7
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	Upland Oakwood Upland Heathland
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes LNR (30.29ha) SSSI(4.72ha) Local Wildlife Site(181.67ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	Yes
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	Walls Hedgerows
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Upland mosaic with semi-improved grassland, woodland, scattered trees and heathland
Q25	Value	Moderate
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	Moderate Well managed hedgerows and occasional areas of native woodland
Q38	Significance	High Species natural rich grassland within the SSI, and local nature Reserve
Q41	Sensitivity	Moderate Acid grassland and heathland habitats may be sensitive to encroachment by bracken and trees as well as nutrient enrichment or high stocking densities.
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	Low Well fragmented
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Moderate Small areas of priority habitus, with SSSI and LNR is aspect, no reported important species.
Q44	Importance for key species	Moderate

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH044
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	Moderate

Table EDP 1.27: TRFNLH044 assessment of effects.

(12) TRFNLH044 summary description: <i>“Upland mosaic with semi-improved grassland, woodland, scattered trees and heathland”.</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Medium	Medium	Medium
Justification:		
<p>A predominantly upland grassland mosaic containing both LNR and LWS, priority BAP habitats (including Upland Oakwood and Upland Heathland) listed as moderate value.</p> <p>This LHAA is a large aspect area situated south of the Site. A small proportion of the Site extends south into the northern extent of the LHAA, where two turbines (T6 and T7) and associated new access tracks along with upgraded existing tracks and buried cable routes are proposed. The turbines would be set on areas of semi-improved or improved grassland limiting loss to valued habitats in medium to large scale fields and susceptibility, and sensitivity of the LHAA is therefore considered medium.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>There would be direct changes to small areas of this large LHAA resulting in minor loss of semi-improved and improved grassland. Direct effects of turbine foundations and road widening construction activities including minor areas of land regrading would be incurred and would be permanent. Cabling would be underground with permanent effects resulting from soil disturbance albeit that it would be infilled and not visible following construction. Overall effects on this LHAA would not exceed medium (partial loss/alteration to one or more key characteristic; addition of elements that are evident but do not necessarily conflict with the key characteristics of the existing landscape).</p>		
Overall Effect:		
Moderate/Minor and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse.		

(13) TRFNLH050

Table EDP 1.28: TRFNLH050 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH050
CI_3	Level 3 Classification	Mixed Woodland
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Semi-natural Broadleaved Woodland 25 Planted Coniferous Woodland 20 Improved Grassland 9 Bracken 19 Spoil 7
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	Upland Oakwood Upland Heathland
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes LNR(3.57ha) Local Wildlife Site(203.91ha)

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	TRFNLH050
Q13	Does the area support important species?	Yes
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	Ponds Walls
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Mixed woodland mainly of beech with some conifer including areas of regenerating colliery spoil
Q25	Value	High
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Constant
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	High The Aspect Area supports BAP habitats and important species
Q38	Significance	High The Aspect Area supports Upland Oakwood - Upland Heathland with Linnet, Song thrush, Bullfinch (Source: Ecologist TCBC)
Q41	Sensitivity	High There do not appear to be any immediate threats
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	High There is strong connectivity and cohesiveness within the Aspect Area
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Unassessed
Q44	Importance for key species	Unassessed
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	High

Table EDP 1.29: TRFNLH050 assessment of effects.

(13) TRFNLH050 summary description: <i>“Mixed woodland mainly of beech with some conifer including areas of regenerating colliery spoil”</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
High	Medium	Medium
Justification:		
Predominantly mixed woodland containing both LNR and LWS, priority BAP habitats (including Upland Oakwood and Upland Heathland) listed as high value and constant, with strong connectivity across it.		
This LHAA generally borders the east of the Site which extends slightly into the western fringes of the LHAA. Direct beneficial effects upon the LHAA are likely as a result of the mitigation and compensation planting proposed in this part of the Site. Susceptibility and sensitivity to the Proposed Development is judged to be medium .		
Magnitude of Change:		
Overall the magnitude of change to this LHAA would not exceed low (partial alteration to one or more key characteristic; addition of elements that are evident but do not necessarily conflict with the key characteristics of the existing landscape).		

Overall Effect:
Minor beneficial and Not Significant.

(14) TRFNLH056

Table EDP 1.30: TRFNLH056 LANDMAP summary.

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	(13) TRFNLH056
CI_3	Level 3 Classification	Mosaic
Q5	Dominant phase 1 habitats	Unimproved Acid Grassland 18 Improved Grassland 21 Bracken 15 Dry Acid Heath 9 Dry Heath/Acid Grassland Mosaic 5
Q7	Habitats of international importance?	N/A
Q9	BAP habitats present	Upland Heathland Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pastures
Q10	Does the area contain protected Sites?	Yes Local Wildlife Site(268.22ha)
Q13	Does the area support important species?	Yes
Q16	What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?	Walls
Q19	Main land management activities	N/A
Q24	key features that define this area's biodiversity character	Upland mosaic of bracken, dwarf shrub heath, acid grassland and purple moor grass
Q25	Value	Moderate
Q26	Condition	Unassessed
Q27	Trend	Improving Reclaimed works
Evaluation Matrix		
Q37	Priority Habitats	Moderate Although dominated by improved grassland and bracken, the presence of acid grassland raises the value.
Q38	Significance	Moderate Contains acid grassland one of the priority habitats in Wales.
Q41	Sensitivity	Moderate Overgrazing and bracken may be an issue
Q42	Connectivity/Cohesion	High Larger blocks of habitat
Q43	Habitat Evaluation	Moderate Dominant low value habitats with some high features
Q44	Importance for key species	Moderate

LANDMAP Question	Key Characteristics	(13) TRFNLH056
		One species identified of value
Q45	Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species	High

Table EDP 1.31: TRFNLH056 assessment of effects.

(14) TRFNLH056 summary description: <i>“Upland mosaic of bracken, dwarf shrub heath, acid grassland and purple moor grass”.</i>		
Value:	Susceptibility:	Overall Sensitivity:
Medium	Low	Medium
Justification:		
<p>An upland mosaic of grassland bracken and heath it includes BAP priority habitats, and LWS designations supporting important species, with high connectivity through larger habitat blocks. It is assessed as medium value and improving in direction of trend. Overgrazing and bracken encroachment are noted as potential issues to habitats summarised as <i>“Dominant low value habitats with some high features”.</i></p> <p>The proposed access route servicing the Proposed Development crosses through this LHAA towards its southern edge. The upgrading of which including the widening and reconfiguration of corners of an existing road where necessary represents the only development with potential direct effects upon this LHAA from the Proposed Development. With minimal loss of habitat adjacent to an existing built element the susceptibility of the LHAA to the Proposed Development is considered low albeit some habitats crossed including unimproved acid grassland and heath are of greater value and thus medium sensitivity is attributed to this LHAA.</p>		
Magnitude of Change:		
<p>There would be direct changes to this LHAA as a result of upgrading of an existing surfaced track to facilitate construction of the Proposed Development. This would include loss of relatively small areas of habitat adjacent to the existing route including mosaic acid grassland and heath, unimproved grassland, semi-improved grassland, and continuous bracken and bare ground.</p> <p>The changes would result in ‘barely discernible loss or alteration to key components; addition of elements not uncharacteristic within the existing landscape’ and as such the magnitude of change on the character of the LHAA as a whole would be very low.</p>		
Overall Effect:		
Minor/Negligible and Not Significant. The nature of the direct effects would be permanent, and adverse.		

LHAA Summary of Effects

- 1.6 The LHAA study finds that of the LHAA appraised, six would have **Moderate/Minor** at most and these are **Not Significant**. No significant effects on LHAA assessed herein were found as a result of the proposals overall and any habitat loss would be mitigated for elsewhere on Site. LHAA summary of effects listed in **Table EDP 1.32** below:

Table EDP 1.32: LHAA Summary of Effects

LHAA ID	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Assessed Level of Effect	Significance
BLNGWLH058	Medium	Very low	Minor/Negligible	Not Significant
BLNGWLH059	Medium	Medium	Moderate/Minor	Not Significant
BLNGWLH061	Medium	low	Minor	Not Significant
BLNGWLH062	Medium	Medium	Moderate/Minor	Not Significant
BLNGWLH063	Low	Very low	Negligible	Not Significant
TRFNLH005	Low	Very low	Negligible	Not Significant
TRFNLH010	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Not Significant
TRFNLH015	Medium	Medium	Moderate Minor	Not Significant
TRFNLH017	Low	Very low	Negligible	Not Significant
TRFNLH036	High	Low	Moderate/Minor	Not Significant
TRFNLH042	Medium	Very low	Minor/Negligible	Not Significant
TRFNLH044	Medium	Medium	Moderate/Minor	Not Significant
TRFNLH050	Medium	Low	Minor (beneficial)	Not Significant
TRFNLH056	Medium	Very low	Minor/Negligible	Not Significant