

Appendix B

WPD's Schedule 9 Statement

**WESTERN POWER DISTRIBUTION
(South West) plc and (South Wales) plc**

SCHEDULE 9 STATEMENT

This statement is provided under Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989 as amended by the Utilities Act 2000

South Wales and the South West of England is renowned for its countryside, dramatic coastline and rugged terrain. Western Power Distribution (WPD) recognises that such an environment needs care and consideration and WPD aims to achieve this through its environmental policy.

Duties:- WPD is licenced to distribute electricity through its electricity systems in South West England and South Wales where the Company is the Distribution Licence holder. It is obliged, under its Licence, to offer least cost, compliant connections to persons seeking connections to the Distribution system within the Licence areas.

Under Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act, as amended, WPD must “have regard to the desirability” of preserving natural beauty and “seek to do what it reasonably can to mitigate” the effect of its activities on the countryside, geological and physiographical features, flora, fauna, and protect sites, buildings or structures or objects of historic or archaeological interest when WPD:-

- Plans to install electricity lines (overhead and underground) to supply an individual or community
- Carries out other works in connection with the operation and maintenance of the distribution system

WPD aims to: -

- Minimise the impact of its activities on communities and the historic and natural environment
- Site overhead lines with care and consider both the visual impact and the impact on nature conservation as far as possible
- Continue to work with partners to selectively underground lines in appropriate sensitive locations to improve the appearance of countryside, towns or villages, whilst taking account of sites of particular archaeological or nature conservation interest.

To do this, WPD : -

- Only seeks to build lines along new routes, or substations in new locations where the existing distribution system infrastructure cannot be economically upgraded to meet Distribution security standards, or where we foresee an increase in demand for electricity which will not be satisfied by other means, or where connections to customers are required.
- Will seek to avoid, where reasonably practicable, the installation of new infrastructure in areas which are nationally or internationally designated for their landscape, wildlife, historic or cultural significance: National Parks; Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Sites of Special Scientific Interest including Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Ramsar sites; National Nature Reserves; Heritage Coasts; World Heritage Sites; scheduled ancient monuments and designated sites of historic interest (“listed sites”) . If installation on such listed sites is necessary, WPD will seek to avoid significant impacts on regional and local sites, protected species and to biodiversity and geological interests within the wider environment, and take measures to safeguard historic sites. Where reasonably practicable, opportunities to enhance biodiversity and geological features of such sites will be exploited.
- Will maintain a geographic record of the locations of the above “listed sites”
- Will seek specialist advice if it is necessary to undertake work on sites of archaeological, historical, biodiversity or geological interest, working closely with suitably qualified and experienced specialists.
- Will consult with District Councils for all new overhead lines. Where these involve voltages at 33kV and above we will voluntarily consult with Parish Councils. For 132kV overhead lines, we will, in addition to consulting with Parish Councils consult with County Councils as well.
- Will consult with Local Authorities on the need to undertake an environmental impact assessment when it is proposed to build more than 1km of new overhead line of 33kV and above
- Will review and offer comment on Local Authority long term plans to draw early attention to the needs for plans to consider strategic WPD infrastructure
- Will consult with statutory bodies, local authorities and relevant landowners where planned new construction would have a high amenity impact, to help us identify, assess and carry out measures to mitigate the impact so far as is reasonably practicable. This may include the provision of resources to screen and landscape selected substations and other locations as needs change.
- Will, on completion of any work ensure the site is reinstated, as far as possible, to its original state

- Will promote environmental awareness and requirement to comply with WPD policies to its staff and contractors. Where WPD staff are undertaking noise testing, we will ensure those staff are trained by recognised external bodies. We will voluntarily liaise with Local Authority Environmental Health Officers to discuss noise complaints and share test results with them.
- Will expect similar environmental standards from our suppliers and contractors. Where works are being undertaken by third parties for later adoption by WPD under the Ofgem Competition in Connections regime, we have sought through Ofgem that appropriate requirements are in place.
- Pursues waste minimisation, and recycling. WPD recycle office materials like glass, paper, card and toners, as well as metal materials, oils, wood and electrical equipment. Where possible we donate computers, office furniture and telephones that are no longer required by WPD to charitable organisations.
- Undertakes research, invests in and reviews new technology relevant to the business and takes into consideration its impact on the environment. Seeks to use technology to reduce the amount and size of equipment needed on site
- Take special care and appropriate safety measures in the handling and disposal of potentially hazardous materials
- Use external consultants where “in-house” expertise is not available

Appendix C

Regional Landscape Character Areas

- 1.1.1 The Landscape character baseline has been established using information published at national and county levels, supported by field observations. Information from the following sources has been reviewed as part of the scoping process:
- Natural Resources Wales: Regional Landscape Character rLCA21 Cambrian Mountains
 - Natural Resources Wales: Regional Landscape Character rLCA33 Gwendraeth Vales
 - Natural Resources Wales: Regional Landscape Character rLCA41 Tywi Valley
 - Natural Resources Wales: Regional Landscape Character rLCA42 Pembroke and Carmarthen Foothills
 - Natural Resources Wales: Regional Landscape Character rLCA45 Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth Estuaries
 - Natural Resources Wales: LANDMAP
 - Carmarthenshire County Council Unitary Development Plan (2006)
 - Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan: Special Landscape Areas (June 2011)
- 1.1.2 The potential route alignment options pass through five regional landscape character areas (rLCA). Section A of the alignment passes through rLCA 45 Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth Estuaries and rLCA33 Gwendraeth Vales. Section B of the proposed route covers rLCA 41 Tywi Valley and rLCA 42 Pembroke and Carmarthen Foothills. Sections C, D and E of the proposed connection alignment pass through rLCA 42 Pembroke and Carmarthen Foothills and rLCA21 Cambrian

Mountains.

- 1.1.3 The rLCAs provide an overview of landscape character, suitable for large spatial studies. The key characteristics of each of the rLCAs covered by the route are summarised in the Table below.

Regional Landscape Character Areas Potentially Impacted by the proposed development

Regional Landscape Character Area	Key Characteristics
Cambrian Mountains (rLCA21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A band of resistant Silurian grits forming a vast upland, rolling, windswept plateau of moorland hills and incised valleys at the heart of Wales. ▪ Glaciation-gouged, deeply dissected, U-shaped valleys into the plateau, as well as corries (cymoedd), lakes and moraines. ▪ Thin soils support extensive tracts of sheep grazed grassy moorland – the smooth slopes are interspersed with bracken scrub, wind-blown oaks and angular blocks of coniferous forestry. ▪ Upland peat deposits give rise to large areas of blanket bog and pools of open water. ▪ Deep valleys on the edges of the moorland, with their distinctive pattern of hedgerow enclosures, lush pastures for stock grazing, and woodland. ▪ Major reservoirs, notably Nant-y-Moch, Llyn Clywedog, Craig Goch, Penygarreg, Garreg-ddu, Claerwen and Llyn Brianne are features of the valleys, contributing to the landscape's man-made features. ▪ Metal ores have been exploited from the prehistoric period with evidence for Bronze Age copper working at Copa Hill, however, most activity relates to extensive lead and silver mining, which occurred principally during the 19th and 20th centuries. ▪ Settlement is largely absent, being confined to the lower hillsides and valleys, however, a large number of deserted settlements indicate that settlement was once more widespread than today. ▪ Screes and cliffs, gritstone outcrops, stony summits, bracken scrub and wind-blown oaks provide texture in the landscape. ▪ Panoramic views from high summits over the moorlands and adjacent lowlands are a feature of the hills.

- The mountains engender a sense of remoteness because of their dark nighttime skies, low population density, relative inaccessibility, the impression of naturalness they impart and the relative lack of visible, built influences.
- The mountains contain a significant scattering of prehistoric monuments, including round barrows, cairns, stone circles and standing stones, Iron Age hillforts and settlements. The fort at Cae Gaer indicates a Roman presence, while the Cistercian abbey of Strata Florida was established on the west side of the mountains in the late 12th century. Its granges covered much of this area as well as part of lowland Ceredigion.

Gwendraeth Vales
(rLCA33)

- This area has a complex geology, with coal measures underlying the southern half of the area. A prominent ridge of Carboniferous limestone with a separate ridge of Quartzite forms the northern extent of the South Wales coalfield.
- The landscape was gouged by the south-west flowing Towy Glacier, which left behind large areas of deposition forming a hilly topography.
- Small valleys with minor streams cross the landscape, feeding the Gwendraeth, Lougher and Towy rivers.
- Exposed land on the limestone and quartzite ridges is common grazed, whilst hills and valleys contain a patchwork of medium sized pasture fields enclosed by hedges.
- Cernydd Carmel SSSI and SAC contains a seasonal glacial lake which is fringed by valued habitats such as native ravine forests.
- Prehistoric ritual monuments are found on the higher ground, whilst prominent medieval castles sit in defensive valley positions. The area's industrial past is visible in quarries, limekilns and 19th century coal mining settlements.
- Settlements are found within the valleys, linked by a network of roads. Modern suburban development is spreading along roads in places.
- The A48 and western extent of the M4 introduce constant noise and a feeling of a landscape that is travelled through by a large number of people.

Tywi (Towy) Valley
(rLCA41)

- The area's bedrock geology largely comprises grey and blue Ordovician shales from the Llanvirn Series, with a linear band of limestone and sandstones from the later Llandeilo Series.
- The low lying, flat nature of the landscape was smoothed out by the south-west flowing Towy Glacier at the end of the last Ice Age, leaving behind mounds of boulder clay and glacial till exposed alongside the river channel.
- The flat, floodplain landscape is defined by the westward flowing course of the river Towy, fed

by tributary streams from the surrounding uplands and slopes.

- Alluvium-rich soils have produced fertile pastures, grazed by dairy cattle and sheep with occasional cereal cropping. Broadleaved woodlands cover some slopes.
- A regular pattern of large rectilinear fields are enclosed by species rich hedgerows with frequent hedgerow oaks. Higher ground to the east is enclosed by hedgebanks.
- The River Towy and its shingle ridges are nationally important for a wide range of plant and animal species, including shingle grasses, fish and otter populations. Small river cliffs display geological evidence of the river's development.
- 17th and 18th century landscaped parks and gardens across the valley are valued both historically and biologically – with wood pasture habitats being particularly important for lichens and invertebrates.
- The valley is overlooked by strategically located defensive sites including Iron Age hillforts and medieval stone castles.
- The main town of Carmarthen lies to the west of the area, with the smaller settlements of Llandeilo, Llangadog and Llandovery located at river crossing points. Elsewhere, settlements are dispersed with individual whitewashed farmsteads being key features.
- Strategic road and rail routes follow the course of the river, adding urban infrastructure to an otherwise rural landscape. The outskirts of Carmarthen include modern commercial developments in contrast to the surrounding pastoral countryside.

Pembroke and Carmarthen Foothills (rLCA42)

- The underlying geology mainly comprises Ashgill grits, shales, sandstones and conglomerates from the Ordovician system.
- The movement of ice flows carved through the landscape leaving behind a varied topography of plateau tops and valleys. Moraine deposits left by the retreating ice are found in the east.
- Numerous tributary streams flow through the landscape to feed the adjacent Teifi and Towy rivers.
- Main land uses are improved pasture for sheep and dairy cattle, with rough grazing on the uplands. Conifer plantations are found on some plateau slopes, whilst valleys are clothed in mixed and broadleaved woodland.
- Medium sized, regular fields are enclosed by hawthorn hedges or banks topped with trees or gorse and heather in upland areas.
- Wetland habitats that have developed in hollows in the glacial deposits are valued for their

nature conservation interest, including for flowering plants and breeding wildfowl.

- Higher ground in the west is the location of numerous Bronze Age barrows and standing stones. Iron Age hillforts and medieval castles also occupy strategic valley locations. The 12th century Talley Abbey is a key historic feature from the Medieval period.
- Small settlements are located along streams connected by winding rural roads.
- Wind turbines and modern agricultural buildings are the main detractors from the overall peaceful and rural character of this area.

**Taf, Tywi and
Gwendraeth
Estuaries
(rLCA45)**

- The greater part of the area is underlain by Old Red Sandstone from the Lower Devonian period. Early Carboniferous period rocks lie below the southern coastal areas, with limestone cliffs exposed at the coast near Pendine.
- Glacial ice flows moved south through the area to meet Irish Sea ice in Carmarthen Bay. The lower courses and estuaries of the Taf, Towy and Gwendraeth now characterise the area.
- Extensive sand dune systems, alluvial and shingle deposits define the coastal areas. Sand dunes in the west developed on a glacial cobble-boulder ridge, formed through post-glacial sea level rise.
- Extensive coastal marshes are grazed by livestock, including horses and ponies. Inland, pasture is used for dairy or sheep rearing.
- Large areas of coastal marsh are used by the military. Pembrey Forest, a Country Park, occupies a large tract of land at Pembrey Burrows.
- Coastal marshes are divided by drainage ditches or fences in a rectilinear pattern. Medium, irregular fields inland are bounded by hedgerows, many of which are unmanaged.
- The coastal sand dune systems are nationally and internationally important for biodiversity. Dune alder dominated woodlands make up much of this habitat resource in southern Britain.
- The estuaries' strategic importance for trade and defence is reflected in a number of visible historic features, including Norman castles and quarrying remains.
- Scattered settlement is usually linear in form and located along the coast, roads or watercourses.
- This is a varied landscape with the open and exposed estuaries and coastline contrasting with the more intimate rolling pastures and woodlands of the river valleys.

Appendix D

Landmap Aspects Areas and their Evaluation

1.1.4 LANDMAP aspect areas from all five aspects have been considered as part of the scoping study. Aspect areas potentially impacted by the proposed development options are summarised in the tables below. Descriptive summaries and the overall evaluation have been provided in this Appendix for the relevant visual and sensory aspect areas. This information is not comprehensive and the assessment will in due course draw on all information provided in the Landmap datasets including the separate evaluations under all four visual and sensory criteria (scenic quality, integrity, character and rarity).

Visual and Sensory LANDMAP Aspect Areas Impacted by the Proposed Development

Visual and Sensory Aspect Area	Landmap Summary Description	Landmap Overall Evaluation and Justification
Brechfa Forest (Wooded Hill & Lower Plateau)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> area of plateau with plateau slopes and steep river valley sides dominated by coniferous and mixed forests with occasional agricultural holdings to the west the forest edge often stops abruptly, and gives way to grasslands and moorland of Mynydd Llanllwi and Mynydd Tre Bannau. to the east where it borders the Cothi Valley and the Gwili in Llanllawddog the transition is gentler, into well wooded river valleys plateau edge and slopes are considered to be of high scenic quality offering attractive views both within and out from the forest elevated plateau areas are visually less diverse, the conifers are more dormant and the landscape is one of a working forest, with tracks, cuttings, clear fells and crops of varying ages fewer long distant views and the internal views of the elevated plateau 	<p>High</p> <p><i>"The area contains both upland plateau and steep valleys and is dominated by forest cover that is relatively well mixed, including some areas of broadleaves woodland among the conifers. On the plateau there is a feeling of exposure, and in places distant views of the Brecon Beacons while in the valleys there is a greater sense of enclosure. The central plateau areas are included in this aspect area and while it is recognised that they have a lower scenic quality when compared to the plateau edge and slopes, they remain landscapes with a high degree of integrity and character."</i></p>

- tend to be less attractive when compared to the plateau edge and plateau slopes.
- Within the forest there is visual evidence of the previous agricultural landscape in field boundaries, old farms and track ways.

Carmarthen
(Urban)

- county and market town, on the Towy at the lowest bridging point on this river.
- set in and overlooking the Towy valley
- much of the town is elevated above the flood plain, with the Towy valley slopes rising to the north of the town
- the river is tidal at this point giving a dynamic quality to the setting of this settlement, in addition to the fairly regular flooding

Moderate

“Scenically attractive, but lacks integrity in places, distinct character but not rare at a national level. Score moderate overall.”

Dyffryn Tywi Flood Plain
(Flat Open Lowland Farmland)

- wide level agricultural valley floor and flood plain, part of a classic u-shaped valley
- river meanders across the flood plain with annual dramatic flooding
- valley interrupted by occasional small hills
- imposing ruined castles of Dryslwyn and Dinefwr
- roads run along the valley sides with few bridging points
- scattered farms and small villages with larger more intensely managed farms on the surrounding hills
- areas of parkland landscape on the valley floor at Gelli Aur
- little woodland
- mostly improved pasture with some arable cropping, hedgerows and a notable quantity of hedgerow trees
 - the Mid Wales Railway runs through much of the valley

Outstanding

“An outstandingly scenic area with castles, and hedgerow and field trees that make it stand out from other valleys, as does its scale”

Dyffryn Tywi Valley Sides North
(Mosaic Lowland Valleys)

- northern slopes to the flood plain and part of the lowland valley of the Dyffryn Tywi
- almost undulating topography with both small and larger rises
- agricultural grazing dominates
- strong field patterns with some hedgerow trees
- more woodland than with the floodplain tends to be largely deciduous, but some conifers
- scattered farms
- in general small lanes with the exception of the A40 which passes through most of this landscape
- some roadside development and

Outstanding

“On account of its scenic qualities and rarity. This area, the northern side of the Tywi valley is part of Dyffryn Tywi, an impressive u-shaped valley. It has spectacular views toward the Beacons and also across the Dyffryn Tywi. It also has a very attractive agricultural landscape, with fields, hedges, trees and woodland in a harmonious mosaic.”

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> small linear villages located along the A40 ▪ traditional buildings e.g. Aberglasney and other parkland landscapes ▪ scenic views over the Dyffryn Tywi and within the area 	
Dyffryn Tywi Valley Sides South (Mosaic Lowland Valleys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ southern slopes to the flood plain and part of the lowland valley of the Dyffryn Tywi ▪ steep, wooded slopes ▪ agricultural grazing dominates ▪ strong medium sized field pattern with more hedgerows and field trees than the north valley sides ▪ significant amounts of conifer and mixed woodland covering almost all the valley side ▪ scattered farms linked by small lanes ▪ B4300 passes through the landscape with little or no roadside development other than linear villages along the route ▪ traditional buildings and other more parkland type landscapes e.g. Gelli Aur ▪ scenic views possible over the Dyffryn Tywi, to the north and within the area 	<p>Outstanding</p> <p><i>"A harmonious, attractive, mosaic, wooded, valley landscape, with a mix of agricultural, wooded and planned landscapes. Stunning views are possible across Dyffryn Tywi towards the north. The area is a well managed and unspoilt rural area only partially disrupted by a few new agricultural buildings. This steep valley side has a strong sense of place, as it is a part of the u-shaped Dyffryn Tywi complex with a high proportion of hedgerow trees. The significant area of woodland adds diversity to this landscape, as do the parkland landscape including Gelli Aur. As part of the Dyffryn Tywi it is one of only a few valleys of this scale in Wales."</i></p>
Gwendraeth Fach (Mosaic Lowland Valleys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ gentle, shallow valley ▪ scenically attractive and rural in character ▪ dominant land use is agriculture ▪ some woodlands ▪ sparsely settled away from the B roads that cross the valley, with some settlements on these roads ▪ the southern side of the valley abuts the craggy limestone ridge with its quarries 	<p>Moderate</p> <p><i>"An attractive river-valley, agricultural landscape, not spoilt, but not remarkable in any way. Moderate towards high, but considered to be of local importance rather than regional."</i></p>
Gwernogle (Wooded Mosaic Upland Valleys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ steep sided wooded river valley, that breaks up the larger blocks of the Brechfa Forest ▪ mix of woodland and farmland, with some settlements such as Gwernogle which is rather spread out 	<p>High</p> <p><i>"The area scores high against all four criteria, particularly the first three. The area is scenically very attractive due to the topography and the variety of woodland/farmland mosaic. The views of the river at certain places within the valley add to this quality. There is little other than previous clear fells that interrupts the integrity of this area, and it has a strong sense of place, partly due to its seclusion."</i></p>
Llanllawddog Valley (Mosaic Lowland Valleys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ includes the upper reaches of three small rivers, where they leave the Brechfa Forest and enter the more agricultural landscapes ▪ usually small fields with large hedgerows and few hedgerow trees ▪ little unimproved land ▪ most buildings are traditional and the 	<p>High</p> <p><i>"High value because of integration of forest edge and farmland. Generally un-spoilt. Attractive views within area and into it from adjacent areas."</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> majority have been improved in recent years very little new building 	
Llanpumsaint Basin (Mosaic Lowland Valleys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> large valley in relation to the size of the river consists of the middle reaches of the Gwili and its tributaries including the confluence of these in Llanpumsaint broad and flat valley floor steep valley sides many of which are wooded small villages of Alltwalis and Pontarsais large settlement of Llanpumsaint 	High <i>"The scenic quality of the Gwili valley and the distinct sense of place in the main valley and in Llanpumsaint itself."</i>
Llanpumsaint Hills (Mosaic Rolling Lowland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rolling, enclosed hills, dominated by pasture bordered on three sides by the Afon Gwili linked to the higher plateau land to the east, but at a lower elevation and less exposed dominant land use is agriculture some areas of unimproved wetlands scattered farms hedged fields general feel of an open and elevated landscape well used roads cross the area but some areas remain fairly isolated 	Moderate <i>"While the area is attractive in terms of its landscape, with its mix of agricultural land and semi-natural habitats it is not considered to be of country importance."</i>
Llansaint Coastal Hills (Mosaic Rolling Lowland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rolling hills overlooking the coast and the Towy estuary dominated by improved agricultural land strong field boundaries relatively few trees compared to other parts of the county creating a feeling of exposure, some wind sculpted scattered rural farms fairly busy country roads red soils provide a distinctive feature Llansaint is an unusual old, hilltop settlement with a strong sense of place pylons cross a section of the area 	High <i>"An attractive, rhythmically rolling, rural landscape. Little interrupts it other than the pylons. Views towards the coast and estuary in places, as well as the hill top settlement of Llansaint give the area a distinct character."</i> <i>The area scores high due to its scenic qualities, integrity and its character ."</i>
Lower Cothi Valley (Mosaic Lowland Valleys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> narrower and more v-shaped than the mid-Cothi valley steep valley sides with a mixture of bracken, woodland and farmland farmland and woodland dominate the lower lying land smaller scale and more secluded than the Mid Cothi Valley and Dyffryn Tywi sparsely settled varied river course including open, shallow areas and cuttings through rock 	High <i>"The scenic quality of this area and its un-spoilt and uninterrupted character justify its evaluation as high."</i>

Lower Gwili Valley (Mosaic Lowland Valleys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ medium sized valley in the context of the county ▪ well wooded and well treed ▪ rural in character although contains the settlement of Bronwydd as well as more recent development along the main Cardigan Road ▪ the three corridors of the Cardigan Road, Bronwydd railway and line of the railway to Carmarthen run side by side through much of the area ▪ agricultural land is pasture ▪ field boundaries vary from managed hedges without trees to lines of trees ▪ rapid transition from rural to urban landscape at the edge of Carmarthen 	<p>High</p> <p><i>"On account of its scenic qualities, its character and its rarity.</i></p> <p><i>This is an attractive valley, close to the edge of Carmarthen and which supports a busy route way. It is the only valley of this scale, where there is a working railway in the county."</i></p>
Mid Cothi Valley (Mosaic Lowland Valleys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a river valley in its middle reaches ▪ high and steep wooded slopes in parts some of which are in adjoining aspect areas ▪ mosaic of woodland and grazed land with significant tree cover ▪ pockets of unimproved land adding variety to the landscape ▪ few views of the river due to its tree lined banks ▪ small settlements of Abergorlech and Brechfa 	<p>High</p> <p><i>"Justified because of the scenic quality of the area- a combination of its topography and mix of lands use- forestry and agriculture. The valley has a strong sense of place and this is widely recognise, there is not another valley of this scale or type in the count, possible the nearest is the Upper Cothi Valley above Pumsaint. Woodlands and forests are mixed and are moving towards continuous cover forestry systems."</i></p>
Middleton Hills (Open Rolling Lowland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ attractive rolling agricultural landscape ▪ relatively undeveloped ▪ varying agricultural quality ▪ areas of woodland ▪ fairly strong field boundaries on medium sized fields with some hedgerow trees ▪ well settled with mainly scattered settlement ▪ views of the National Botanic Garden and its dome ▪ the A48 is the main transport route providing views over the surrounding area and beyond ▪ majority of the area is unaffected by the noisy A48 and is tranquil 	<p>Moderate</p> <p><i>"Overall this is not considered to be an area of high scenic quality. However within the area there are some areas worthy of note such as the landscape that forms the setting for the National Botanic Garden. Views from the area are of high scenic quality, particularly those towards the Tywi valley. The area is disrupted by the A48 (T) corridor, but otherwise little disrupts this landscape. There are few distinguishing features, but extensive views from the area north towards the Tywi valley. There are several areas of rolling lowland in the county, all slightly different."</i></p>
Mynydd Figyn (Upland Grazing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ exposed, wind-swept, empty, upland plateau ▪ mostly enclosed grassland with several large areas of un-enclosed Common Land ▪ unimproved/semi-improved grassland with some areas of 	<p>High</p> <p><i>"While the area affords extensive views to the Beacons the area itself is not unique in the county, but it nonetheless differs from other plateau areas on account of the diverse habitat that it contains. These contribute to the upland</i></p>

	<p>heath-land that add texture to the landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> semi-natural habitats include gorse and scrub areas with willow extensive views in all directions remote from settlements and relatively uninhabited overall weak pattern of enclosure fields are regular in shape with boundaries including: earth and stone bank ; old hawthorn hedges with mature, bushy, wind-swept shrubs; and occasional lines of beech groups of conifers including Scots pine can be found near some farms roads are fairly straight with grassy verges and banks 	<p>and exposed feel of the area.”</p>
<p>Tywi Slopes Northern (Hillside and Scarp Slopes Grazing)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> scarp slopes between the higher plateau to the north and the Dyffryn/Tywi to the south dissected by several steep sided valleys such as Cloidach and valleys to the east of Peniel steep slopes with level high land that is managed for silage high land is mostly improved with steep slopes improved to a lesser extent hedgerow management varies across the area giving the impression of increased levels of woodland feelings of exposure at higher levels and more distant views steeper valleys create a sense of enclosure scattered farms few small settlements 	<p>Moderate</p> <p><i>“The area is not interrupted by any large scale development, so could score high against integrity. In general terms it is a landscape that is fairly common in Carmarthenshire, but this is not the reason to under value it. It abuts areas that score more highly.”</i></p>

Geological LANDMAP Aspect Areas Impacted by the Proposed Development

Geological Aspect Area	Aspect Area Classification	LANDMAP Overall Evaluation
AFON GORLECH CWMS	Other	Moderate
AFON GWILI - AFON DUAD	Active upland river or stream channel system	Moderate
AFON TWRCH - MORAIS – COTHI	Active lowland river-flood plain system	Moderate
ALLT LLYSTYN	Other	Moderate

BANC-Y-DARREN	Upland plateau	Moderate
BRECHFA FOREST CWMS	Other	Moderate
BRECHFA FOREST	Other	Moderate
BWLCH BYCHAN - PEN-HILL	Other	Moderate
BWLCHYMYNYDD	Other	High
CAPEL DEWI (1)	Other	Outstanding
COTHI CWMS (5)	Other	Moderate
CWMFFRWD	Other	Moderate
DARREN-FAWR	Other	Moderate
FFINNANT (2)	Other	Moderate
GILFACHGOCH	Other	Moderate
GRAIG-DDU	Other	Moderate
ISCOED – FERRYSIDE	Other	Moderate
LAN DDU CILWENAU	Upland Plateau	Moderate
LLANDDAROG – BANYCOED	Undulating lowland hill terrain	Moderate
LLANGUNNOR	Undulating lowland hill terrain	High
LLANPUMSAINT	Other	Outstanding
LOWER TOWY	Other	High
MAESYGroes-GWERNOGLE CWMS	Other	Moderate
MYNYDD RHOS-WEN - BANC MELEN	Upland escarpment	High
NANT HAFREN CWMS	Other	Moderate
NANT PENCNWC	Other	Moderate
NANT PIBR	Active lowland river-flood plain system	Outstanding
NANT-Y-BONCATH	Other	Moderate
PEN-SORN	Other	Moderate
PEN-Y-GARN	Upland plateau	Moderate
RHYDARGAEAU – PENIEL	Upland plateau	High
RIVER TOWY	Active lowland river-flood plain system	High

Upton Hall	Other	Moderate
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Landscape Habitat LANDMAP Aspect Areas Impacted by the Proposed Development

Landscape Habitat Aspect Area	Aspect Area Classification	LANDMAP Overall Evaluation
BRECHFA FOREST	Mosaic	Moderate
BRECHFA VALLEYS	Mosaic	Moderate
CARMARTHEN WEST	Improved Grassland	Moderate
COTHI SOUTH OF BRECHFA	Mosaic	High
CRMRTLH048	Improved Grassland	High
FRENNI FAWR-MOELFRE	Improved Grassland	Moderate
LLANFYNYDD COMMON	Mosaic	High
LLANFYNYDD NORTH	Improved Grassland	High
LLANPUMSAINT	Mosaic	High
LLANSAINT NORTH	Improved Grassland	Moderate
MYNYDD LLANLLWNI	Mosaic	Outstanding
NANTYCAWS	Mosaic	High
PEN Y GARN	Improved Grassland	Moderate

Historic Landscape LANDMAP Aspect Areas Impacted by the Proposed Development

Historic Landscape Aspect Area	Aspect Area Classification	LANDMAP Overall Evaluation
ABERGWILI-LLANEGWAD PARISH	Irregular Fieldsapes	High
AFON GWILI	Regular fieldsapes	High
ALLT BWLCH-Y-RHYD	Woodland	Low
BANC MAES-YR-HAIDD	Other fieldsapes	High
BANC-Y-DAREN	Other fieldsapes	High
BRECHFA	Irregular Fieldsapes	Outstanding
CROESYCEILOG-CWMFFRWD	Irregular Fieldsapes	High
FFOREST BRECHFA	Woodland	Moderate
LLANDYFAELOG, LLANGYNDEYRN	Irregular Fieldsapes	Outstanding
LLANFYNYDD	Irregular Fieldsapes	High
LLANGUNNOR	Irregular Fieldsapes	High
MORFA MELYN	Water & Wetland	Outstanding
MORLAIS VALLEY	Irregular Fieldsapes	High
MYNYDD CYFOR, PANT-Y-PARCHELL	Irregular Fieldsapes	High
MYNYDD TRE-BEDDAU	Woodland	Low
RHOS BLAEN-GORLECH	Irregular Fieldsapes	Outstanding
TRELECH	Regular fieldsapes	High
YSTRAD TYWI: CARMARTHEN-LLANDEILO	Regular fieldsapes	Outstanding

Cultural LANDMAP Aspect Areas Impacted by the Proposed Development

Cultural Aspect Area	Aspect Area Classification	LANDMAP Overall Evaluation
BRECHFA FOREST	Customs	High
RURAL CARMARTHENSHIRE	Rural	High
TYWI VALLEY RHL	Institutions	Outstanding

