

	NPTCL044	High
Visual and Sensory	CRMRTVS008	Moderate
	CRMRTVS005	Low
	NPTVS149	Low
	NPTVS215	Low

Waterfall Country and Southern Valleys

Aspect	Aspect Area No.	Value
Geological Landscapes	BRCKNGL773	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL955	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL670	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL151	Moderate
	BRCKNGL672	High
	BRCKNGL436	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL383	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL200	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL852	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL884	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL149	Moderate
Landscape Habitats	BRCKNLH567	Moderate
	BRCKNLH456	High
	BRCKNLH808	Low
	CRMRTLH039	High
	BRCKNLH101	Low
	BRCKNLH777	High
	BRCKNLH254	High
	BRCKNLH479	Outstanding
	BRCKNLH520	High
	BRCKNLH128	Outstanding
	BRCKNLH584	High
	BRCKNLH779	Moderate
	BRCKNLH335	High
	BRCKNLH330	High
	BRCKNLH797	Outstanding
	BRCKNLH776	High
	BRCKNLH156	Outstanding
	BRCKNLH929	Moderate
	BRCKNLH338	High
	BRCKNLH745	Outstanding
Historic Landscape	BRCKNHL735	High
	BRCKNHL124	High
	BRCKNHL753	Low
	BRCKNHL132	Low
	BRCKNHL622	Low
	BRCKNHL852	Low
	BRCKNHL595	High
	BRCKNHL105	Low
	BRCKNHL433	Outstanding
	BRCKNHL825	Outstanding
	BRCKNHL766	High
	BRCKNHL314	Low
	BRCKNHL202	Moderate
	BRCKNHL461	Moderate
	BRCKNHL798	High

	BRCKNHL830	Outstanding
	BRCKNHL271	Moderate
	CYNONHL150	Outstanding
Cultural Landscape	BRCKNCL847	Outstanding
	BRCKNCL957	Outstanding
	BRCKNCL501	High
	BRCKNCL113	Outstanding
	BRCKNCL839	Outstanding
Visual and Sensory	BRCKNVS436	Moderate
	BRCKNVS811	High
	BRCKNVS597	Moderate
	BRCKNVS876	Outstanding

Wooded Tawe Valley

Aspect	Aspect Area No.	Value
Geological Landscapes	BRCKNGL670	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL151	Moderate
	BRCKNGL149	Moderate
Landscape Habitats	BRCKNLH808	Low
	BRCKNLH456	High
	BRCKNLH975	High
	BRCKNLH567	Moderate
	BRCKNLH335	High
Historic Landscape	BRCKNHL002	Moderate
	BRCKNHL397	Low
	BRCKNHL124	High
	BRCKNHL248	High
	BRCKNHL761	Low
	BRCKNHL735	High
	BRCKNHL826	Low
Cultural Landscape	BRCKNCL847	Outstanding
	BRCKNCL965	High
	BRCKNCL501	High
Visual and Sensory	BRCKNVS436	Moderate

Y Mynydd Du

Aspect	Aspect Area No.	Value
Geological Landscapes	CRMRTGL293	Moderate
	CRMRTGL296	High
	CRMRTGL292	Outstanding
	CRMRTGL300	High
	CRMRTGL272	High
	BRCKNGL773	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL447	High
	BRCKNGL955	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL672	High
	BRCKNGL149	Moderate
	BRCKNGL200	Outstanding
	BRCKNGL852	Outstanding
Landscape Habitats	CRMRTLH029	Outstanding
	CRMRTLH039	High
	BRCKNLH456	High

	BRCKNLH777	High
	BRCKNLH693	High
	BRCKNLH479	Outstanding
	BRCKNLH254	High
Historic Landscape	CRMRTLH40294	Outstanding
	BRCKNHL540	Moderate
	CRMRTLH39602	Outstanding
	CRMRTLH39601	High
	CRMRTLH39600	Outstanding
	CRMRTLH40293	Outstanding
	BRCKNHL735	High
	BRCKNHL595	High
	BRCKNHL623	Outstanding
Cultural Landscape	CRMRTCL586	Outstanding
	BRCKNCL957	Outstanding
	BRCKNCL113	Outstanding
	BRCKNCL839	Outstanding
	BRCKNCL501	High
Visual and Sensory	CRMRTVS008	Moderate
	CRMRTVS016	Outstanding
	BRCKNVS118	Outstanding
	BRCKNVS363	Outstanding
	CRMRTVS015	Outstanding

Appendix 9C

Baseline Environment

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9C1 Baseline Environment - Landscape

Banwen Uplands LCA

A landscape defined by its broad upland valley landform and including areas of woodland, open upland and pastoral fields divided by hedgerows and linear woodlands.

The Inter Valley Road dissects the character area running north-west to south-east. Views outwards from the road are confined to the northern extent of the character area which results in stronger ties with the contextual landscape to the north which includes the Brecon Beacons National Park.

Settlement is limited to scattered houses focused along the A4109 Inter Valley Road and Roman Road / Camnant Road. A large solar farm is situated to the South of the character area.

Past mining operation is evident to the west of the character area where the pastoral field pattern is less complex, and boundaries clearly differ to the overgrown and well treed boundaries north-east of the Inter Valley Road.

The character area extends to the edge of the national park boundary to the north where the Afon Pyrddin lies. This is an important upland river and woodland system designated as the Caeau Ton-Y-Fildre biological SSSI. The area also contains BAP priority habitats.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Inter Valley Road
- Important habitats towards the northern boundary of the character area. Caeau Ton-Y-Fildre SSSI

The Banwen Uplands LCA's value is a result of its complex landscape pattern and important habitats to the north of the character area. Evidence of a landscape in a state of repair exists to the south of the Inter Valley Road but is not at the detriment to its overall character. The Inter Valley Road provides open, long-distance views to the north.

Value: **High**

Black Mountain Southern Fringe LCA

A landscape defined by the sloping hillside running down from the Black Mountains. The area is characterised by a mix of open upland and small-scale pasture with dense, treed hedgerow boundaries lying between the Afon Twrch valley and the settlements around Cwmllynfell. The character area comprises the transition between the flatter lower lying landform near the settled areas in the valley and the mountainous Brecon Beacons to the north. The landscape pattern of small-medium scale pasture fields located nearest to the settlements on lower-lying ground directly contrasts with the open moorland to the north.

The wooded Afon Twrch valley lies to the south-east.

Past mining activity is evident within the LCA resulting in incongruous areas and the evident loss of landscape complexity.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Pattern formed by small-medium scale fields
- Transition landform

The Black Mountain Southern Fringe LCA's value is a result of its lack of complexity and evidence of previous mining activity.

Value: **Medium**

Bryn Henllys Reclaimed Open Cast LCA

A landscape defined by its past use as an open cast mining site and current land use as grazed pasture.

A large number of public right of ways (PRoWs) cross the site and provide access to the adjacent national park from settlements on the valley floor.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Open character
- Public access due to large number of PRoWs
- Long-distance panoramic views available from higher ground

The Bryn Henllys Reclaimed Open Cast Site LCA's value is a result of its recreational access and access to the adjacent national park. Past mining activity is evident across the LCA and has resulted in areas that are distinguishable from the surrounding landscape comprising more complex field patterns and mature vegetation.

Value: **Low**

Coelbren Settlement LCA

A settlement developed around the historic mining industry evident by the defunct railway junction of the Neath and Brecon Railway and Swansea Vale Railway.

The historic core of the settlement is along Station Road and The Prices Arms pub, which stood adjacent Coelbren Station, stands as a relic of the former industry. The village has expanded as linear development predominantly along Cefnbyrle Road and Heol Eglwys.

The LCA includes small-scale fields between Cefnbyrle Road and the disused Neath and Brecon Railway and Swansea Vale Railway junction.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Prices Arms pub, Coelbren Church

- Disused Neath and Brecon Railway and Swansea Vale Railway

The Coelbren Settlement LCA's value is a result of the historic and cultural associations. Beyond this it is a settlement typology that occurs frequently within the wider landscape.

Value: **Low**

Cwm Twrch LCA

A landscape defined by its upland valley landform and land use for grazing.

Fields are contained by overgrown hedgerows and deciduous tree cover. A belt of woodland runs along the north-eastern edge of the character area which contains Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland and creates a buffer between the adjacent built form. There is evidence of previous mining activity where the enclosed agricultural pattern becomes more open and larger in scale with significantly less vegetation along boundaries.

Views within the character area are confined by tree cover and topography.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Enclosed fields with overgrown hedges
- Valley landform
- Woodland belt along north-eastern edge including Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland

The Cwm Twrch LCA's value is a result of its importance as a buffer to the adjacent built form. Past mining activity is evident across the LCA and has scarred the landscape resulting in it being clearly distinguishable from the surrounding landscape.

Value: Medium

Dulais Valley LCA

A landscape defined by the River Dulais and associated wooded valley landform. The land-use comprises predominantly post-medieval enclosed pastoral fields with treed field boundaries. The linear settlement of Crynant which stretches along the A4109 is situated on the valley floor at the centre of the character area. The Neath and Brecon railway runs along elevated topography on the eastern side of the valley.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Valley landform
- River Dulais
- Enclosed pastoral land with treed field boundaries.
- A4109

- Neath and Brecon Railway
- Crynant

The Dulais Valley LCA's value is a result of its recognition within Neath Port Talbot 'LDP Policy EN2: Special Landscape Areas' as 'SLA2 (EN2/2) Dulais Valley'. The SLA is identified as a high-quality landscape that comprises:

- wide, rolling, pastoral valley with significantly treed field boundaries;
- tranquillity as a key feature due to the undeveloped upper ridge areas;
- prehistory evidence such as: important Roman remains, open cast and forestry;
- examples of the importance of the mining industry in the area such as the Cefn Coed Colliery Museum.

Value: **High**

Fforest Fawr LCA

A landscape defined by its upland open moorland used for grazing. The LCA contains some coniferous forestry blocks to the south.

Very few settlements contribute to the overall remoteness and tranquillity which is experienced away from the main roads that provide direct access to the LCA.

The LCA is largely covered by open access land allowing opportunities for recreational use and the Beacons Way runs through the south-western extent of the area.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Remoteness and tranquillity
- Dark skies
- The Beacons Way
- High proportion of open access land

The Fforest Fawr LCA's value is a result of its designated status as it falls within the Brecon Beacons National Park boundary, its remoteness, tranquillity and recreational value.

Value: **High**

Head of Dulais Valley LCA

Landscape defined by the linear mining settlements associated with mining industry of the Dulais Valley. The settlements include Seven Sisters, Onllwyn, Dyffryn Cellwen and Banwen following the A4109 along the Dulais river valley. Seven Sisters Miners Welfare and Onllwyn Welfare Hall are indicators of communities with strong connections to the mining industry.

The Neath and Brecon rail corridor also follows the valley and terminates at the coal washery at the north-eastern extent of the LCA. The low level of the railway line, sitting below the A4109, makes it barely perceptible.

The southern valley slope comprises restored surface coal mining which is now sparsely vegetated, open grasslands and narrow woodland belts associated with tributaries of the Dulais river. The river itself is perceptible only by its associated linear woodland.

Perception of the LCA is influenced by the views towards the surrounding landscapes of the Nant Helen opencast site, Brecon Beacons National Park and Hirfynydd.

Key Features/Characteristics

- A4109 along the Dulais river valley
- Sparsely vegetated, restored coal mine valley slope to the south
- Linear settlements typical of mining industry
- Neath and Brecon Railway corridor and washery
- Seven Sisters Miners Welfare and Onllwyn Welfare Hall

The Head of Dulais Valley LCA's value is a result of its strong connection to its industrial past and present.

Value: Medium

Hirfynydd LCA

A landscape is defined by the landform of Hirfynydd and the dominant land cover of coniferous woodland plantation. The area has a remote character due to the absence of dwellings or settlements. A Roman Road crosses the ridgeline that runs north-east to south-east and offers public access and long-distance views to the north and north-west by way of Byway 28/39.N.Hi/1. Wind turbines on the north-eastern edge are a notable feature of the landscape.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Roman Road that follows the ridgeline from north-east to south-west
- Wind Turbines on north-eastern edge.
- Large proportion of coniferous woodland plantation
- Elevated topography (Hirfynydd hill)

The Hirfynydd LCA's value is a result of its tranquillity and remoteness. Past and present human activity through mining is evident though not widely visible throughout the LCA. The western extent of the character area is formed by the Dulais Valley side which is recognised within Neath Port Talbot 'LDP Policy EN2: Special Landscape Areas' as 'SLA2 (EN2/2) Dulais Valley' as it reinforces the visual context of the SLA.

Value: Medium

Mynydd Allt y Grug LCA

A landscape defined by its significant landform which rises above the Tawe valley, comprising exposed rock and scree, and heathland. The elevated landform forms a dominant feature from the surrounding landscape and is accessible by path to designated common land. The character area provides views across the Tawe Valley.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Exposed rock and scree cover
- Heathland
- Views across Tawe Valley

The Mynydd Allt y Grug LCA's value is a result of its prominence within the surrounding landscape and internationally important dry heath habitats.

Value: Medium

Mynydd Marchywel LCA

A landscape defined by a high proportion of coniferous plantation on elevated topography. Much of the woodland along the eastern and western boundary of the character area is designated as Restored Ancient Woodland, Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland or Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site. A ridgeline runs north to south and forms the partitioning higher ground between the Dulais valley to the east and Swansea valley to the west.

There are a number of PROWs that cross the character area and allow recreational users to take advantage of long-distance views. The character area also comprises large areas of open access land to the north and south.

The northern extent of the character area is formed by Varteg Hill which rises above the Swansea Valley forming a dominant feature within the surrounding landscape, pylons that cross the landform and a wireless mast that stands atop are highly visible due to their elevated position.

A lack of developments and roads gives the character area a remote and tranquil character.

Key Features/Characteristics

- High proportion of coniferous plantation
- Remoteness and tranquillity
- Elevated landform and distinctive Varteg Hill
- Pylons and wireless mast that are highly visible

Mynydd Marchywel LCA's value is a result of its dominance within the surrounding landscape and valued recreational routes with long distance views, and its remoteness and tranquillity.

Value: Medium

Mynydd Uchaf, Mynydd Garth & Cefn Gwrhyd LCA

A landscape defined by its plateau landform and land cover of rough grasses, which are managed by sheep grazing.

The area contains no settlements and is accessible by minor roads and tracks which contribute to its overall sense of remoteness. PRowS provide recreational access to the common land which offers panoramic views across the surrounding landscape.

The Gwrhyd Welsh Independent Church built in 1856 is a significant local landmark and cultural feature within the LCA.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Open character
- Common Land
- Panoramic views
- Grazed landcover
- Gwrhyd Welsh Independent Church

The Mynydd Uchaf, Mynydd garth & Cefn Gwrhyd LCAs value is a result of its important habitats and sense of remoteness as well as its opportunity for recreational and scenic qualities including panoramic views of the surrounding landscape.

Value: **High**

Nant Helen Reclaimed Uplands LCA

A landscape defined by past and present mining activity. Present mining activity dominates the north and eastern extents of the character area and there is evidence of previous mining activity to the south.

Areas of upland moorland with predominantly rough grassland and bracken landcover and further areas of marsh and grassland. Large areas are used for grazing.

The overburden mound associated with the mining activity stands as a prominent and evidently man-made feature visible from the wider landscape.

A number of PRowS cross the character area, many of which are temporarily suspended through the mining site. Mining activity within the character area is a detractor from its use for recreational purposes.

Pylons run from east to west along the southern extent of the character area and contribute to the overall large-scale industrial character.

The Ystradgynlais Scheduled Monument Tramroad is further evidence of the industrial history of the character area and the importance of mining in the historical development of the wider landscape.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Past and present mining activity
- Overburden mound
- Open character
- Marsh and grassland landcover
- Tramroad at Ystradgynlais Scheduled Monument

The Nant Helen Reclaimed Uplands LCA's value is a result of detractors due to the current mining activity. Recreational opportunities are limited due to mining activity and routes that remain open are at the detriment of noise, and unattractive nature of the current mining activity. Features of this activity such as the overburden mound are incongruous with the surrounding landscape. The mining industry has been crucial to the development of the surrounding landscape and the Tramroad at Ystradgynlais stands as a relic of the local history of the area.

Value: **Low**

Slopes of Cefn Gwrhyd & Cwm Egel LCA

A landscape defined by grazed pasture and deciduous tree cover along riparian corridors within the sheltered confines of the valley landform.

Grazed pasture fields boundaries are formed by hedgerows on lower ground and stone walls on higher ground.

The character area contains extensive areas of SSSI including Gwrhyd Meadows and Coed Cwm Du. The wooded valley of Cwm Du contains Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland with the largest areas to the south of the character area.

There is only one minor road which passes through the area providing access to the scattered farmsteads across the landscape. Limited access contributes to the sense of remoteness and tranquillity within this settled landscape.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Grazed pasture
- Field boundaries formed by hedgerow and stone walls
- Scattered farmsteads
- Remoteness and tranquillity
- SSSIs
- Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland

The Slopes of Cefn Gwrhyd & Cwm Egel LCAs value is a result of its important habitats, scenic rural character and its sense of remoteness and tranquillity.

Value: **Medium**

Swansea Valley LCA

A landscape defined by the Swansea Valley landform and the meandering River Tawe that runs through a mosaic of pasture and woodland. The southern valley side is predominantly covered with deciduous woodland. North of the river the area comprises pasture fields with well treed boundaries.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Meandering River Tawe.
- Deciduous woodland
- Mosaic of pasture fields

The Swansea Valley LCAs value is a result of its picturesque valley landform and function as a habitat corridor.

Value: **Medium**

Swansea Valley Settlements LCA

An area defined by the Swansea Valley and linear settlements that have established along the valley, coinciding with the transport corridors of A4068, A4067 and B4599. The character area comprises the settlements of Ystalyfera, Gurnos, Ystradgynlais, Penrhos, Cwm-twrch Isaf, Cwmgiedd and Glan-rhyd. The boundaries of these settlements are difficult to define due to their linear integrated nature which is driven primarily by landform but also the transport corridors that have established over time. The older cores of these settlements are located above the floodplain while newer development spreads across the valley floor. Newer developments are generally built of materials that do not reflect the vernacular.

The settlements are nestled within the valley landform, with valley sides forming the backdrop and extent of available views outwards. There is a range of housing types across the settlements, but housing density is generally quite high and consist of many examples of rows of terraces.

The housing density and enclosed nature of the character area changes where the valley widens at the Afon Twch and River Tawe confluence. A culmination of sports centres, a rugby club and employment land use results in a more open, larger-scale character with more green space.

The Swansea canal provides a recreational route through the character area and persist as a relic of the industrial history of the area.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Linear settlements of Ystalyfera, Gurnos, Ystradgynlais, Penrhos, Cwm-twrch Isaf, Cwmgiedd and Glan-rhyd
- Transport corridors of A4067, A4068 and B4599
- Enclosed, relatively high density urban character

- Historic relics of the industrial history of the area such as Swansea Canal that is now used for recreation

Swansea Valley Settlements LCA's value is a result of its sense of place and community built around the industrial history of the area.

Value: Medium

Upland Settlements LCA

A landscape defined by the settlements of Ystradowen and Cwmllynfell that are situated on the uplands above the Afon Cwch valley.

Settlements are linear in nature and strung out along the A4068. The key defining feature that defines these settlements as a separate character area from Swansea Valley Settlements is the more exposed character due to the location on elevated topography and views that are afforded as a result.

Key Features/Characteristics

- A4068
- Exposed character and views of surrounding landscape
- Linear settlements

The Upland Settlement LCA's value is a result of its sense of place and community that is a continuation of that within the Swansea Valley Settlements LCA. The LCA has a more exposed nature with residents afforded long-distance views.

Value: **Medium**

Waterfall Country and Southern Valleys LCA

A landscape defined by its enclosed character comprising streams, spectacular waterfalls and ancient woodland.

The LCA includes the villages of Ystradfellte, Penderyn and Glyntawe which are located on the valley floor. Land use is predominantly pastoral agriculture with extensive areas of forestry to the south-east. Higher areas are more open and less complex in composition.

Southern part of the LCA have inter-visibility with land beyond the National Park boundary. Recreational opportunities include caving, canoeing cycling and walking and are mostly related to the rivers streams and waterfalls within the area. A number of PRoWs are located on higher ground and offer views out from the LCA.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Recreational opportunities
- Complex geology

- Complex pastoral field patterns
- Rivers and multiple waterfalls

The Waterfall and Southern Valleys LCA's value is a result of its designated status as it falls within the Brecon Beacons National Park boundary and its combination of rivers, waterfalls, woodland and complex textures due to historic pastoral field patterns and geology. The LCA also contains important natural heritage features and a strong sense of time-depth. The LCA is susceptible to indirect changes that would result in the loss of sense of remoteness or tranquillity.

Value: **High**

Wooded Tawe Valley LCA

A landscape defined by the wooded River Tawe valley. The landscape comprises a high proportion of woodland cover and enclosed pastoral fields with dense, treed boundaries. Areas of Restored Ancient Woodland, Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland and Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites are scattered across the character area and contribute to the overall enclosed character of the LCA. A4067 and A4221 road corridors are also lined by woodland, reducing their influence on the LCA.

Settlements are predominantly associated with the road corridors and include Abercraf, Caehopkin and Caerbont. Abercraf is situated on the northern valley slope with views across the wooded valley. It is the largest settlement, containing multiple community resources. Caehopkin is situated on the opposite, southern valley slope and has a small-scale, enclosed character due to the surrounding topography and woodland cover which limits the distance of available views. Caerbont lies on the valley floor, alongside the River Tawe, with residential development to the west of the A4067 and Caerbont Enterprise Park to the east.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Ancient woodlands
- River Tawe
- A4067 and A4221
- Settlements of Caerbont, Abercraf and Caehopkin
- Listed buildings at Gwaunclawdd

Wooded Tawe Valley LCA's value is a result of its distinctive, heavily wooded, valley landform. Development is relatively small-scale and surrounded by woodland that reduces its influence on the wider LCA. The River Tawe is well vegetated throughout the character area and the dense vegetation alongside transport corridors compliments this.

Value: **Medium**

Y Mynydd Du LCA

A landscape defined by its open, exposed character with few trees or settlements. The character areas openness and lack of development contribute to its overall sense of remoteness and tranquillity.

The LCA is prominent in views from roads and settlements to the south of the national park. The edges of the LCA accommodate spectacular long-distance views across the surrounding lowlands.

Key Features/Characteristics

- Openness and tranquillity
- Spectacular long-distance views to the south
- Recreational value and accessibility

The Y Mynydd Du LCA's value is a result of its designated status as it falls within the Brecon Beacons National Park boundary, its remoteness and tranquillity, ample opportunities for recreation for all and its scenic qualities and spectacular views outwards.

Value: **High**

9C2 Baseline Environment – Visual

Viewpoint 1

View south-east from Ystradgynlais Bridleway 61 within the Brecon Beacons National Park. This viewpoint represents views experienced by recreational receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground is open grassland on the lower slopes of Cefn Mawr. Scrub and overgrown hedgerow boundaries filter the view of Cae-Mawr, beyond which is the linear woodland that follows the Afon Giedd.

In the middle ground to the north is the open, upper slopes of Dorwen ar Giedd. The Swansea valley is not visible to the south due to the topography but is visible to the north-east. The Nant Helen opencast mine site and Mynydd y Drum fills the middle ground, with the overburden mound breaking the horizon. The broadleaf and plantation woodland of the southern valley side blend with the foreground woodland, and contrasts with the open grassland above. The active opencast site is clearly visible, with steep terraces and wide access tracks highlighted by the movement of multiple excavation vehicles. The wide access track to the summit is also visible.

The ridge line of Hirfynydd, c.8km away, forms the horizon, with a wind turbine near Nant Hir Colliery visible beyond the overburden mound.

The value of the view is a result of the presence of the opencast mine which is a large-scale detractor despite its distance from the viewpoint.

Value: **Medium**

Viewpoint 2

View south from Ystradgynlais Footpath 64 within the Brecon Beacons National Park. This viewpoint represents views experienced by recreational receptors near the local high point, at c. 295m A.O.D.

Baseline Description

The foreground is open, rough, grazed land that drops steeply down the Swansea Valley side to the south. Small woodland copses c.200-350m away filter views east and west.

The floor of the Swansea Valley is visible to the south-east and south-west, the foreground topography slightly restricting the view directly south. Caehopkin and the A4221 lie to the east, with Caerbont and Ystradgynlais to the south-west. The surrounding mature woodlands screen the road and reduce the influence of the settlements, providing an overall semi-rural view.

The northern Swansea Valley slopes are a mix of pastoral fields with strongly wooded boundaries and broadleaf and plantation woodland.

Above the woodland, a restored area of former opencast mining forms a distinctive near horizon, crossed by a wide operational site access track near the summit. The upper terraces of the active opencast mine are visible just below this horizon, with plantation coniferous woodland screening part of the area.

Very long-distance views are available to the Brecon Beacons National Park to the east, Hirfynydd and Maesgwyn Wind Farm to the south, and along the Swansea Valley to the west. The densely wooded valley contrasts with the open hilltops on either side.

The value of the view is a result of its location within the national park which is recognised for its recreational value. In addition, despite the presence of the opencast mining site, the availability of very long-distance views across different landscape types (wooded valleys, national park, mountain ranges) contributes to the value of this viewpoint.

Value: **High**

Viewpoint 3

View south from the Trig Point on Cribarth. This viewpoint represents views experienced by recreational receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises open grassland and exposed rock on the southern slopes of Cribarth, that drop steeply down to the Swansea Valley to the east and south.

The middle ground comprises the heavily wooded Swansea Valley and properties within Caehopkin and Coelbren are visible on the southern valley side, surrounded by mature woodlands. The valley side comprises a mix of small scale pasture fields with well treed boundaries, and broadleaf and plantation woodland.

The distinctive, engineered form of the overburden mound from the opencast mining forms the backdrop to the plantation woodland to the south-west, and the area of active opencast mining is also visible.

Long-distance views are available to the south, with Hirfynydd and Mynydd Marchywel forming notable, well-wooded landforms.

The value of the view is a result of its location at the trig point that marks the highest point of the Cribarth ridge, within the national park which is recognised for its recreational value.

Value: **High**

Viewpoint 4

View south-west from dismantled Neath & Brecon Railway line (Open Country), within Ogof Ffynnon Ddu National Nature Reserve. This viewpoint represents views experienced by recreational receptors. The Beacons Way is located to the north-east from this viewpoint however views are largely screened by topography.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises the undulating rocky moorland within the nature reserve. Views south-west are slightly restricted by the adjacent topography. The view south includes woodland near Penycae.

The hillside slopes to the west and the middle ground comprises the north-eastern extent of the Nant Helen opencast site, lying between the Swansea Valley and the Nant Llech valley. Coelbren is visible to the south and Caehopkin to the south-west. Visible Site features include the broadleaf and plantation woodlands, and the open fields above Caehopkin on the northern edge, pastoral fields with mature hedgerow and tree boundaries above Coelbren, and the track from the main site access to the Site's main compound, visible on the horizon, passing behind properties along Heol Y Gwydde and Cefnbyrle Road. The western end of the washery site is also visible. The distinctive engineered gradient of the overburden mound is visible on the horizon.

Long distance views include Hirfynydd and turbines within Maesgwyn Wind Farm to the south, Mynydd Marchwel, Cribarth and Mynydd Allt-y-grug to the south-west.

The value of the view is a result of its multiple levels of recreational value, including being within Ogof Ffynnon Ddu National Nature Reserve and the national park, and being a popular recreational destination for caving.

Value: **High**

Viewpoint 5

View south from western edge of Ynswen. This viewpoint represents views experienced by residential receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises the property boundaries of bungalows along Cribarth in Ynswen, and two-storey properties off the A4067 on lower ground to the south-west. St David's Church Abercraf is visible above the roofline.

The topography falls to the south, to the wooded Swansea Valley. The valley is filtered by mature trees along the A4067 and associated street lighting is visible in front of this. The southern valley slope comprises small-scale pasture with mature field boundaries, and farmsteads on and below Heol Y Gwydde are scattered across the valley side. To the south-west, the open field and coniferous plantation and broadleaf woodlands above Caehopkin are visible on the southern Swansea Valley side.

The horizon is formed by restored opencast mining land, including the distinctive engineered gradient of the overburden mound. Active opencast mining activity is only perceptible at the top of the plantation woodland.

The value of the view is a result of detracting, modern features in the foreground. However, the viewpoint is within the Brecon Beacons National Park and predominantly attractive landscape features are visible from the Cribarth properties.

Value: **Medium**

Viewpoint 6

View south from Tanygarth, Abercraf. This viewpoint represents views experienced by residential receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises two-storey and bungalow properties within an estate development in Abercraf.

The middle ground comprises dense woodland along the River Tawe and small-scale pasture fields with well treed mature field boundaries on the southern slope of the Swansea Valley. The valley side above this is covered by coniferous woodland plantation on the northern edge of the Nant Helen opencast site and breaks the horizon to the south-east.

To the south, the horizon is formed by the restored opencast mine landform. The engineered gradient of the overburden mound is visible to the south-east.

The value of the view is a result of its frequency within the surrounding landscape and visibility of housing and street lighting to which the elevated topography forms the backdrop.

Value: **Low**

Viewpoint 7

View east from Gwrhyd Road, Pen-Rhiwfawr, on the north-eastern lower slopes of Mynydd Uchaf. This viewpoint represents views experienced by residential receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises the junction of Gwrhyd Road and Pen-Y-Rhiw. The landform rises steeply to the west and falls away to the east. A stone wall and a stone barn are attractive, rural features. To the south-east, some of the residential properties within Pen-Rhiwfawr are visible, some of which face south-east.

In the middle ground to the east, the view is across the densely wooded Afon Twrch and Nant Gwys valleys and small-scale fields with treed boundaries that lie between the valleys. The Celtic Minor Golf Club house is a recognisable feature but the course itself blends well with the surrounding landscape due to the mature trees. Properties on higher ground within Ystradgynlais and Penrhos are visible, whilst the majority of the settlements are screened due to the valley landform and intervening woodland belts.

In longer distance views, the distinctive engineered slopes of the overburden mound within Nant Helen Opencast Mining Site is visible directly east and breaks the horizon. The active opencast mine is clearly visible directly below this, with its terraced sides and excavation vehicle movements. The slopes of Mynydd y Drum lie to the south-east, crossed by a pylon line. To the north-east, the densely wooded lower slopes of the southern Swansea Valley side blends with woodland further along the valley. Cribarth forms the northern valley side. To the south-east, Hirfynydd and its transmitter, pylons and wind turbines, breaks the horizon, with the Brecon Beacons beyond.

Long distance views to the moorlands and large areas of forestry plantation within the Brecon Beacons National Park to the north-east.

The value is a result of the elevated, panoramic and long-distance views towards the national park that will be available to the residential receptors without the detracting roadside elements from the viewpoint location.

Value: **Medium**

Viewpoint 8

View east from Ystradgynlais Footpath 4. This viewpoint represents views experienced by recreational receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises grazed grassland on the lower Swansea Valley slopes that falls away from the viewpoint towards the valley floor. Mature trees on the edges of woodland to the east and south-east partially screen the valley floor.

The middle ground comprises the settlement of Ystradgynlais on the valley floor. The River Tawe is distinguishable by the dense woodland along its corridor that

partially screens the housing. The wooded valley is visible to the north-east, with views south-east blocked by foreground boundary vegetation.

Long-distance views to the north-east include Cefn-garth and the distinctive Cribarth, the wooded Nant Cyw valley and extend beyond the coniferous Giedd Forest to the upland moorland within the Brecon Beacons National Park. To the east, Mynydd y Drum forms the horizon beyond Ystradgynlais, within wooded lower slopes and open moorland above, and pylons crossing near the summit. The terraces and excavation vehicle movements within Nant Helen Opencast mine are clearly visible to the east, partially screened by coniferous plantation woodland on the lower valley slopes, and the distinctive restored overburden mound forms the near horizon. Longer-distance views are available beyond Mynydd Drum towards Hirfynydd to the south-east.

The view's value is a result of the concentration of dense, modern development of Ystradgynlais along with the opencast mine and overburden mound at the centre of the view. While there are long, panoramic views towards the national park, these are commonplace within the surrounding landscape.

Value: **Low**

Viewpoint 9

View south from National Cycle Network Route 43 which largely follows the historic line of the Neath & Brecon Railway. This viewpoint represents views experienced by recreational receptors.

Views from NCR43 are predominantly enclosed by dense, semi-mature vegetation along its route, south of Caehopkin. The view is from an open section of the NCR.

Baseline Description

The NCR runs north-south in the foreground, through a gated access. To the east and west, views are filtered by tall vegetation.

The bend in the cycleway route provides a gap in the vegetation that allows a view towards an area of restored opencast mine. in the middle ground. The land cover is open grassland with scattered scrub, with the edge of coniferous plantation woodland visible to the south-west. A watercourse that runs down the hillside is distinguishable by the dip in the land to the south.

The rising topography foreshortens the view to c. 600m, with the horizon at c.245m A.O.D. A large area of scrub including scattered coniferous trees covers the higher ground to the horizon.

The view is recognisably that of a restored landscape but reflects the character of the surrounding moorland landscapes.

The value of the view is a result of being on National Cycle Route 43 and being one of few locations on the route from which there are views to the surrounding landscape.

Value: **Medium**

Viewpoint 10

View south-west from Station Road, Coelbren and western end of Tawe-Uchaf Footpath 1. This viewpoint represents views experienced by residential receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises residential properties and The Prices Arms Pub on Station Road which have south facing windows. Pasture fields on the southern side of Station Road are bounded by post and wire fences. The Neath & Brecon Railway had a junction immediately south of the viewpoint (known as Coelbren Junction) and mature trees mark the boundaries of the northernmost line in the foreground, and the other branch is distinguishable by the curved fence line on the ground below.

In the middle ground to the south-east, properties at Dyffryn Cellwen are visible. The Coal Washery is visible, partially screened by trees and woodland that follows the A4221, with the house at Blaen-Y-Waun, on the edge of the disused railway line, visible beyond the roadside trees. Coniferous woodland alongside the A4221 screens long distance views across a section of the view to the south-west.

Hirfynydd forms the backdrop to the settlements and Coal Washery to the south and south-east. To the south-west, Mynydd Marchyw is visible, and pylons break the horizon. The distinctive engineered gradient of the overburden mound at the Nant Helen opencast site forms the horizon to the east, along with the restored eastern slopes of the site including hedgerow boundaries.

Despite the presence of heritage features and some long-distance views, the value of the view is a result of its frequency within the surrounding landscape and visibility of industrial scale features.

Value: **Low**

Viewpoint 11

View south-west from Tawe-Uchaf Footpath 5. This viewpoint is representative of views experienced by recreational receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises fenced, grazed grassland and moorland. Mature field boundary trees partially filter views to the south-west and west.

The middle ground comprises coniferous plantation woodland south of Nant y Bryn to the south. Further away, the settlements of Banwen and Dyffryn Cellwen are visible, to the south, on the lower slopes of Hirfynydd, west of Roman Road. The coal washery, with large-scale buildings sitting on terraces, is visible to the south-west. These developed areas sit below open grassland and areas of predominantly coniferous plantation woodland on Hirfynydd, the ridgeline of which forms a near horizon and includes the Maesgwyn Wind Farm, with turbines breaking the horizon. Also to the south-west, closer properties within Coelbren, and Dol Henrhyd road, are visible below the level of the viewpoint and partially

filtered by mature trees in the foreground. To the west, the landform falls away from the viewpoint towards mature woodland alongside Nant Llech.

To the west, a near horizon is formed by the Site and the distinctive landform of the overburden mound. Hedgerow enclosed pastures are visible below this, and buildings within the Site compound. An area of active opencast mining is perceptible, specifically the wide access tracks to the summit. A pylon line crosses the view between Hirfynydd and the Site, breaking the horizon to the south and south-west.

Long-distance views are available beyond the lower slopes of Hirfynydd to the south, to Mynydd Marchywel to the south-west, and to the Brecon Beacons to the west.

The value of the view is a result of its location within the national park which is recognised for its recreational value.

Value: **High**

Viewpoint 12

View from Ystradfellte Restricted Byway 74. This viewpoint represents views experienced by recreational receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises the byway that follows the Sarn Helen Roman Road and runs through grazed grassland and scrub.

The settlement of Banwen is visible to the south and Dyffyn Cellwen and the coal washery site are visible to the south-west across grazed pasture land. Coniferous woodland plantation limits the distance of available view to the west and north-west.

To the south, the view comprises Hirfynydd which is covered by woodland plantation and wind turbines that break the horizon. Long-distance views towards Mynydd Marchywel are available, with pylons breaking the horizon and overhead lines crossing the view. To the west, pylons break the horizon and the overburden mound at Nant Helen forms a prominent feature within the view due to its steep engineered form. Mining activity to the north of the overburden mound is perceptible, though mostly screened by coniferous woodland plantation within the middle ground.

The value of the view is a result of its location within the national park which is recognised for its recreational value.

Value: **High**

Viewpoint 13

View north-east from School Road, Ystalyfera. This viewpoint is representative of views experienced by residential receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises the entrance to Ysgol Gynradd Y Wern Primary School on School Road and properties with east facing windows.

Beyond the gated entrance to a property off School Road, roofs of further properties with east facing windows are visible. To the south-east, Wernwood Road follows the landform to towards further properties within Ystalyfera, situated on the valley floor.

To the south-east, Varteg Hill forms the backdrop to the view. To the north-east, the overburden mound at the opencast mining site stands as a prominent feature that forms the horizon. Mining activity is perceptible, though partially filtered by intervening vegetation and woodland at the perimeter of the mining site.

The value of the view is a result of its frequency within the surrounding landscape and perceptibility of mining activity.

Value: **Low**

Viewpoint 14

View north-east from Ystradgynlais Footpath 10. This viewpoint is representative of views experienced by recreational receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises upland grazed grassland with a track that runs east to west.

The middle ground is dominated by the engineered form of the overburden mound from the opencast mining site which forms the horizon to the north-east. Opencast mining activity is visible within the void to the north. To the east, pylons and overhead lines are visible and break the horizon.

In the long distance to the north, the northern Dulais valley slope is formed by pasture fields with well treed boundaries, and the Black Mountain forms the backdrop. Long distance views are available to the east, beyond the pylons, towards large areas of woodland plantation. The wooded slopes of Hirfynydd are located to the south-west and limits the distance of the available view, with wind turbines breaking the horizon.

The value of the view is a result of its proximity to large-scale mining activity and features such as pylons. The viewpoint does provide long-distance panoramic views.

Value: **Medium**

Viewpoint 15

View south-east from Tawe-Uchaf Footpath 49. This viewpoint is representative of views experienced by recreational receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises restored upland grassland. A post and wire fence forms the boundary, and the landform rises to the west with evidence of mining activity and buildings visible.

In the middle ground, the grazed grassland falls gently away from the viewpoint towards the coal washery visible in the east. To the south-west, a small block of coniferous woodland is visible. Small areas of scrub vegetation are visible beyond. Pylons cross the views from east to west before chasing the elevated landform to the south-east.

To the north-east, the horizon is formed by upland moorland within the Brecon Beacons and long-distance views are available to the east. To the south-east, views of the wooded slopes of Hirfynydd are available and wind turbines break the horizon. The distinctive profile of Mynydd Marchywel forms the horizon to the south-west. The rising topography limits the distance of available view to the west and the distinctive overburden mound form the horizon.

The value of the view is a result of its proximity to large-scale mining activity and features such as pylons. The viewpoint does provide long-distance panoramic view.

Value: **Medium**

Viewpoint 16

View north / north-west from properties on the A1049. This viewpoint is representative of views experienced by residential receptors.

Baseline Description

The foreground is dominated by the road but a gap in roadside vegetation allows a clear view across the minor valley.

The middle ground comprises the northern valley slope of a minor watercourse that runs alongside the road. Residential properties of Tynewydd, surrounded by predominantly coniferous garden trees that partially screen the landscape beyond. Elsewhere, the landscape is open, rough grazing land, typical of the surrounding landscape, crossed east to west by two pylon lines that break the horizon.

The background is dominated by an overburden mound within the partially restored open cast mining landscape. Its engineered gradient landform contrasts with the surrounding, gentler slopes. The topography results in the horizon being relatively close to the viewpoint but there are much longer views towards hilltops within the Brecon Beacons National Park to the north-east and Mynydd Marchywel to the south-west. A small area of open cast mining spoil is visible beyond the overburden mound to the north.

The value of the view is a result of its frequency within the surrounding landscape for residential receptors. The view contains large-scale industrial activity and smaller scale enclosed features.

Value: **Low**

Viewpoint 17

View west from Onllwyn, Cemetery. This viewpoint is representative of visitors to the cemetery.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises the entrance road to the cemetery and grass verges with a bench located near the bus stop and commemorative stone to the north.

The A4109 Onllwyn Road runs east to west and is lined by vegetation on either side. Mature vegetation on the southern side of the road forms the boundary to the cemetery. Views to the south-west are filtered by mature vegetation. Pylons cross the view from south-east to north-west and break the horizon.

Longer-distance views are available to the east and comprise rising landform with grazed grassland cover. The distinctive tiered overburden mound forms a prominent landform within the view.

The value of the view is a result of its relatively enclosed nature due to overgrown vegetation.

Value: **Low**

Viewpoint 18

View north from Sarn Helen Roman Road and Byway 28/39.N.Hi/1, along the ridge of Hirfynydd. This viewpoint is representative of recreational users of the footpath.

Baseline Description

The foreground comprises the Sarn Helen Roman Road and coniferous woodland plantation on the slopes of Hirfynydd.

The landform falls away from the viewpoint to the Dulais Valley floor where properties at Seven Sisters are visible along the A4109. The Dulais Valley slope rises beyond Seven Sisters towards the prominent opencast overburden mound. Pylons are visible running east to west along the southern boundary of the mound and grassland with small areas of scrub forms the main land cover in this direction. Opencast mining works are visible at the northern edge of the overburden mound. To the north, the access track to the mining site compound buildings is visible. Coelbren is visible to the north-east across views of coniferous woodland plantation.

The viewpoint offers panoramic, long distance views to a horizon formed by the Brecon Beacons National Park.

The value of the view is a result of its location on the Sarn Helen Roman Road which follows a ridgeline, with panoramic, long distance views.

Value: **High**

Appendix 9D

Assessment Tables

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9D1 Assessment Table – Effects from Construction (Landscape)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
Banwen Uplands LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. There would be a slight increased perception of large-scale operations within the contextual landscape to the north-west of the character area. In combination with Nant Helen Earthworks this perception would be further increased. Indirect impacts are limited to a small section of the overall character area.	Medium	Negligible	Negligible	Low (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)
Black Mountain Southern Fringe LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	No direct impacts. There will be slightly increased perception of large-scale activity within the wider contextual landscape. The LCA lies in close proximity to mining activity and urban settlement. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.					
Bryn Henllys Reclaimed Open Cast LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. Large-scale mining operations are characteristic of the existing contextual landscape. The Project construction works will result in a slightly increased perception of activity. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration works the perception of earth moving operations will be increased due to their location on a prominent landform.	Low	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Low (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
Coelbren Settlement LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. A settlement with strong historical connections to the local mining industry. Earth moving operations within the contextual landscape will not significantly impact the character of the area. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.	Low	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)
Cwm Twrch LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The contextual landscape comprises urban settlements, main roads and mining activity in close proximity. There will be slightly increased perception of activity within the wider landscape.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.					
Dulais Valley LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The northern extent of the character area already possesses lower levels of tranquillity due to proximity to mining activity and urban settlement. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)
Fforest Fawr LCA	The LCA is susceptible to indirect changes that would affect its sense of remoteness and tranquillity or introduce incongruous features into the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Medium. No direct impacts. The minimal increased perception of large-scale industrial activity will impact on the sense of remoteness and tranquillity at the south-western edge of the character area. Impacts to tranquillity are limited to a small	High	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	geographical extent at some distance from the character area. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.					
Head of Dulais Valley LCA	The LCA is able to accommodate the Project without effects upon its overall integrity. The character of the area and development of the settlement is a direct result of the local coal mining industry which by its very nature results in the frequent transformation of the surrounding landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. Minimal direct impacts due to the construction of retaining walls and embankments where The Project branches off towards the coal washery. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)
Hirfynydd LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Low (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	No direct impacts. Mining activity within the surrounding landscape is a pre-existing characteristic of the contextual landscape of the LCA. Mining activity is also present within the LCA. The Project would increase the prominence of industrial scale activity within the contextual landscape. In combination with Nant Helen Restoration the perception of large-scale activity within the contextual landscape will be increased due to earth movements and transportation of material from a prominent feature however, due to geographical extent of the character area affected and distance from The Project, the magnitude of change will not increase.					
Mynydd Allt y grug LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The character area's varied contextual landscape comprises urban settlements, main roads, mountainous regions and mining activity. The Project would not significantly change this contextual landscape.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.					
Mynydd Marchywel LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The contextual landscape of the LCA comprises urban settlement, main roads and existing mining activity. Additional earth moving operation will not affect the sense of tranquillity or remoteness. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)
Mynydd Uchaf, Mynydd Garth & Cefn Gwrhyd LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The landscape character area has a varied contextual landscape that comprises; mining in close proximity; valley landforms; mountainous regions; urban	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	settlements; infrastructure corridors. The slightly increased perception of activity due to earth moving operations will have minimal impact on the character of the area. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.					
Nant Helen Reclaimed Uplands LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project without affecting its overall integrity across much of the LCA, however it is susceptible to the loss of its key features. The susceptibility to change is therefore Medium. Construction of the Project earthworks will result in the loss of legibility of key features of the landscape character area such as the Tramroad at Ystradgynlais (see Cultural Heritage assessment, Chapter 8). Previously restored landcover will also be removed. In combination with Nant Helen Restoration there will be limited further direct impacts to the LCA. However, the Project earthworks will limit the feasibility of the Nant Helen Restoration including proposed ponds, acid grassland and broadleaf woodland.	Medium	Medium (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)	Medium (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)
Slopes of Cefn Gwrhyd &	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
Cwm Egel LCA	localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. Due to the distance of The Project from the LCA and existing mining activity within the contextual landscape of the LCA. There will be slightly increased perception of activity within the contextual landscape. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.					
Swansea Valley LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct or indirect impacts.	Medium	No Change	Neutral	No Change	Neutral
Swansea Valley Settlements LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The urban character of the area and history of mining activity within the surrounding landscape means it	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	can accommodate indirect changes within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. Large-scale operations such as mining have been common place within the surrounding landscape and urban settlement has developed due to industry. The LCA has an enclosed character that will not be affected by The Project. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.					
Upland Settlements	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. Large-scale mining operations are characteristic of the existing contextual landscape. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, there will be a slightly increased perception of large-scale operation within the contextual landscape.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Low	Minor (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
Waterfall Country and Southern Valleys LCA	The LCA is susceptible to indirect changes that would affect its sense of remoteness and tranquillity or introduce incongruous features into the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Medium. There are no direct impacts to the LCA. Construction activity across the northern extent of the Project will be visible from elevated areas within the character area. The removal of woodland plantation within the Tawe Wooded Valley LCA which forms part of the closely interrelated contextual landscape of this LCA will result in the increased perception of large-scale industrial activity and encroachment of activities into the surrounding valley landform. Impacts to tranquillity are limited to the western extent of the character area. In combination with Nant Helen Restoration, there will be a slight increased perception of activity due to the earth moving operation on a prominent feature within the wider landscape however, there will not be further loss of features within the valley landform.	High	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)
Wooded Tawe Valley LCA	The character area is highly susceptible to direct changes that would change the topography or the complex and	High	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	enclosed wooded character of the area. The susceptibility to change is therefore High. Construction of the northern embankments of the Project will result in the removal of woodland plantation from the character area. The woodland plantation is distinct from the woodland cover throughout the rest of the character area, however, it acts as a buffer between the mining activity to the south and blends well with woodland on the lower reaches of the valley slopes. In combination with Nant Helen Restoration there will be no further direct impacts to the LCA.					
Y Mynydd Du LCA	The LCA is susceptible to indirect changes that would affect its sense of remoteness and tranquillity or introduce incongruous features into the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Medium. No direct impacts. The minimal increased perception of large-scale industrial activity will impact on the sense of tranquillity within the southern extent of the LCA. Due to the short-term nature of the impacts and distance of the character area from The Project there will be minimal change to the character of the area.	High	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	In combination with Nant Helen Restoration there will be minimal additional impacts, again due to the geographical extent of the character area that is affected, and distance of The Project from the character area.					

9D2 Assessment Table – Effects from Operation (Landscape)

Landscape Character Area	Assessment	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
Banwen Uplands LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. Introducing engineered earthworks to the contextual landscape within the geographical extent of pre-existing engineered landforms will not significantly impact the LCA. The Nant Helen Restoration will result in the loss of mining activity and reinstatement of naturalistic landform within the contextual landscape.	Medium	Negligible (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)
Black Mountain Southern Fringe LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. Engineered landforms are a pre-existing feature of the contextual landscape. The introduction of further engineered earthworks within the same geographical extent will not impact on the character of the	Medium	Negligible (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)

	LCA. The Nant Helen Restoration will result in the loss of mining activity and reinstatement of naturalistic landform within the contextual landscape.			
Bryn Henllys Reclaimed Open Cast LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. Engineered landforms are a pre-existing feature of the contextual landscape. The introduction of further engineered earthworks within the same geographical extent will not impact on the character of the LCA. The Nant Helen Restoration will result in the loss of mining activity and reinstatement of naturalistic landform within the contextual landscape.	Low	Negligible (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)
Coelbren Settlement LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. A settlement with strong historical connections to the local mining industry. Additional engineered landforms within the contextual landscape at the same location as pre-existing engineered landforms will not significantly impact the character of the area. The Nant Helen Restoration will result in the loss of mining activity and reinstatement of naturalistic landform within the contextual landscape.	Low	Negligible (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)
Cwm Twrch LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is	Medium	No Change	Neutral

	geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The character area's varied contextual landscape comprises, urban settlements, main roads, mountainous regions and mining activity. The Project would not significantly change this contextual landscape. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.			
Dulais Valley LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. There are no direct impacts to the LCA The introduction of engineered earthworks will not impact on tranquillity or sense of remoteness and engineered landform is a pre-existing feature of the contextual landscape. In combination with Nant Helen Restoration, there will be a loss of mining activity from the contextual landscape and reinstatement of a more naturalistic landform.	High	Negligible (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)
Fforest Fawr LCA	The LCA is susceptible to indirect changes that would affect its sense of remoteness and tranquillity or introduce incongruous features into the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Medium. No direct impacts. The introduction of earthworks will create a minimal increased perception of engineered landforms within the contextual landscape.	High	Low (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)

	The Nant Helen Restoration will remove mining activity from the contextual landscape and contribute to the reinstatement of naturalistic landscape.			
Head of Dulais Valley LCA	The LCA is able to accommodate the Project without effects upon its overall integrity. The character of the area and development of the settlement is a direct result of the local coal mining industry which by its very nature results in the frequent transformation of the surrounding landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. The introduction of engineered earthworks to a small area to the north of the LCA will not result in the loss of key features of the LCA or be at the detriment to the overall character of the area. The introduction of engineered earthworks within the contextual landscape will be perceptible, however changes within the contextual landscape are characteristic of the LCA due to its industrial past and present. In combination with the Nant Helen restoration, adverse effects will be offset by the reduced prominence and more naturalistic form of the overburden mound.	Medium	Low (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)
Hirfynydd LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The introduction of earthworks will create a minimal increased perception of engineered landforms within the contextual landscape. The Nant Helen Restoration will remove mining activity from the contextual landscape and contribute to the reinstatement of naturalistic landscape.	Medium	Low (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)

Mynydd Allt y grug LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The character area's varied contextual landscape comprises, urban settlements, main roads, mountainous regions and mining activity. The Project would not significantly change this contextual landscape. No additional impacts due to Nant Helen Restoration.	Medium	No Change	Neutral
Mynydd Marchywel LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. Mining activity and engineered landforms are features of the pre-existing contextual landscape. The introduction of further engineered earthworks within the same geographical extent will not alter the character of the LCA. The Nant Helen Restoration will remove the mining activity from the contextual landscape, this will have minor benefits to the overall sense of tranquillity and remoteness.	Medium	Low (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)
Mynydd Uchaf, Mynydd Garth & Cefn Gwrhyd LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The character areas varied contextual landscape comprises, urban settlements, main roads, mountainous regions, mining activity and engineered landforms. The Project would not significantly change this	Medium	Negligible (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)

	contextual landscape. The Nant Helen Restoration will result in the loss of mining activity and reinstatement of naturalistic landform within the contextual landscape.			
Nant Helen Reclaimed Uplands LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project without affecting its overall integrity across much of the LCA, however it is susceptible to the loss of its key features. The susceptibility to change is therefore Medium. The introduction of engineered earthworks will result in the loss of key features of the landscape character area such as the Tramroad at Ystradgynlais and landcover that has already been restored. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the loss of restored landcover will be offset by the filling of the opencast void, and loss of mining activity and the reduced prominence of the overburden mound and increased naturalistic character of the landform.	Medium	Low (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)
Slopes of Cefn Gwrhyd & Cwm Egel LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The introduction of engineered earthworks would not impact on the characteristics of the LCA. The Nant Helen Restoration would result in the loss of mining activity and reinstatement of naturalistic landform which would contribute to the sense of tranquillity within the LCA. The distance of the LCA from the Project makes these benefits minimal.	Medium	Negligible	Negligible (Beneficial)
Swansea Valley LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is	Medium	No Change	Neutral

	geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct or indirect impacts.			
Swansea Valley Settlements LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The urban character of the area and history of mining activity within the surrounding landscape means it can accommodate indirect changes within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The LCA has an enclosed character that will not be affected by The Project. No additional impacts due to the Nant Helen Restoration.	Medium	No Change	Neutral
Upland Settlements LCA	The LCA has the capacity to accommodate the Project within its contextual landscape without effects to its overall integrity. The area of development is geographically localised to the area of existing industrial activity within the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Low. No direct impacts. The pre-existing contextual landscape contains large-scale engineered landforms. The introduction of further engineered forms within the same geographical extent will not impact the character of the LCA. The Nant Helen Restoration will result in the loss of mining activity from the contextual landscape and the reinstatement of naturalistic landform.	Medium	Low (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)
Waterfall Country and	The LCA is susceptible to indirect changes that would affect its sense of remoteness and tranquillity or introduce incongruous features into the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Medium.	High	Negligible (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)

Southern Valleys LCA	There are no direct impacts to the LCA. The loss of woodland plantation within the Tawe Valley LCA which forms part of the closely interrelated contextual landscape of this LCA will result in the increased perception of engineered landforms and encroachment of earth moving activities into the surrounding valley topography. Impacts to tranquillity are limited to the western extent of the character area. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the effects due to the Project will be offset by the loss of mining activity and reduction of the prominent overburden landform.			
Wooded Tawe Valley LCA	The loss of woodland plantation from the character area which provided a buffer between the mining activity to the south will result in the encroachment of engineered landforms into the natural valley topography. The woodland lost will be replaced with grassed engineered earthworks that are incongruous with the enclosed wooded character of the area. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration the effects due to the loss of woodland and introduction of engineered form into the LCA will be offset by the loss of mining activity within the contextual landscape.	High	Low (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)
Y Mynydd Du LCA	The LCA is susceptible to indirect changes that would affect its sense of remoteness and tranquillity or introduce incongruous features into the contextual landscape. The susceptibility to change is therefore Medium. There are no direct impacts to the LCA.	High	Negligible (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)

	The introduction of engineered form to the contextual landscape at the same geographical location as pre-existing engineered landform will have minimal impacts. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the loss of mining activity within the contextual landscape will contribute to an increased sense of tranquillity and the reinstatement of naturalistic landform of the surrounding landscape.			
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9D3 Assessment Table – Effects from Construction (Visual)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
1	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. Construction activity will be visible within 2km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the removal of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the opencast mining site and overburden mound. The transportation and placement of material for the formation of the embankment will be visible to the east. To the south-east, direct views of the excavation works for the cutting will be visible, this includes the removal of material from the south-eastern corner of the overburden mound. Due to the existing industrial scale activity within the view the magnitude of change will be Negligible (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Minor (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse) due to the visibility of the excavation and movement of material from the prominent overburden mound on the horizon.	High	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)	Low (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	Overall significance of Effect: Moderate (Adverse)					
2	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. Construction activity will be visible within 1.7km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the removal of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the opencast mining site and overburden mound. Further vegetation removal will be required for the construction of the embankment to the east including mature field boundaries on the valley slope to the south of the A4221. The excavation and transportation of material for the cutting that follows the edge of the overburden mound will be visible to the south and the placement of material for the formation of embankments that chase the valley slope gradient will be visible to the south-east. Due to the removal of vegetation and encroachment of industrial scale operations down into the valley, the magnitude of change will be Medium (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Moderate (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) due to	High	Medium (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	the visibility of excavation and movement of material across the site and from the prominent high points. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)					
3	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. Construction activity will be visible within 2km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the removal of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the opencast mining site and overburden mound. Further vegetation removal will be required for the construction of the embankment to the east including mature field boundaries on the valley slope to the south of the A4221. It is anticipated that receptors will have views of the excavation of material for the cutting at the eastern extent of the scheme including the perception of works for the inner loop due to the elevated nature of the view. Due to the removal of vegetation, the encroachment of industrial scale operations down into the valley and the visibility of most of the works due to the elevation, the magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Major (Adverse).	High	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) due to the visibility of excavation and movement of material across a prominent feature within the view. The period of construction activity will also be increased. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)					
4	Construction activity will be visible within 4km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the removal of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the opencast mining site and further vegetation removal including mature field boundaries to the south of the A4221. The transportation and placement of material for the construction of the northern embankments will be visible with the embankment slopes chasing the gradient of the existing topography. Existing mining activity is well screened in views from this location and the Project will result in the loss of vegetation and field patterns that contribute to the scenic quality and complexity of the rural view. The magnitude of change will therefore be High (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Major (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) due to	High	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	the visibility of excavation and movement of material from the overburden mound. The period of construction activity will also be increased. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)					
5	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views. Construction activity will be visible within 1km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the removal of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the opencast mining site and overburden mound. Further vegetation removal will be required for the construction of the embankment to the east including mature field boundaries on the valley slope to the south of the A4221. The transportation and placement of material for the formation of embankments that chase the valley slope gradient will be visible to the south. Construction works on the southern side of the ridge will not be visible. Due to the removal of vegetation, the encroachment of industrial scale operations down into the valley and the visibility of earthworks formation the magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Major (Adverse).	High	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) due to the visibility of excavation and movement of material across a prominent feature within the view. The period of construction activity will also be increased. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)					
6	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views. Construction activity will be visible within 1km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the removal of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the opencast mining site and overburden mound. The excavation and transportation of material for the construction of the cutting at the western extent of the Project will be visible. It is anticipated that existing coniferous woodland plantation will provide some screening of construction activity to the south-east. Due to the removal of woodland and views of construction activity on a prominent elevated feature within the existing view, the magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse) for these Medium sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Minor (Adverse).	Medium	Low (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) due to the visibility of excavation and movement of material across a prominent feature within the view. The period of construction activity will also be increased. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)					
7	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views. Construction activity will be visible within 7km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the excavation and transportation of material for the construction of the cutting at the western extent of the Project. Due to the existing direct views of open cast mining operations, the magnitude of change will be Negligible (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Minor (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse). Construction activity will be visible across a larger area within the view and on elevated topography, however, there are existing direct views of open cast mining operations and	High	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)	Low (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	impacts are reduced by the distance of the receptor from the Project. Overall significance of effect: Minor (Adverse)					
8	Recreational receptors have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. Construction activity will be visible within 3.1km of the viewpoint. The removal of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the opencast mining site and overburden mound will be perceptible. Receptors will have views of the excavation and transportation of material for the construction of the cutting at the western extent of the Project. Due to the existing direct view of open cast mining operations, the magnitude of change will be Negligible (Adverse) for these Medium sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Negligible (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse). Construction activity will be visible across a larger section of the view and on elevated topography that forms a dominant feature within the view however there are existing direct views of open cast mining operations.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Low (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	Overall significance of effect: Minor (Adverse)					
9	Recreational receptors have a High susceptibility to change as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. Receptors will have foreground views of the formation of the embankment at the northern extent of the Project. This viewpoint represents a rare, open view along the cycle route. The magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will be Major (Adverse). In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration the overall magnitude of change will remain High (Adverse) due to the restoration works not being visible. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)	High	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)
10	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views. Construction will be visible within 1km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the removal of small areas of scrubby vegetation at the Nant Helen site. Receptors will have views of the excavation and transportation of material for the construction of cuttings for the inner and outer loop	Medium	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	at the eastern extent of the Project. Due to views of the construction works including direct views for properties on Station Road with west facing windows the magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) for these Medium sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Major (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will remain High (Adverse). Construction activity will be visible across a small additional section of the view on elevated ground and the overall construction period will be longer. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)					
11	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. Construction activity will be visible within 2km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the removal of hedgerow field boundaries on the rising topography to the west. Excavation and transportation of material for the construction of cuttings for the inner and outer loop of the Project will be visible in the same direction. Views of	High	Low (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)	Medium (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	further excavations for cuttings at the south-eastern extent of the Project will be heavily filtered by intervening mature trees. Due to the increased perceptibility of industrial activity within the view, the magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Moderate (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be Medium (Adverse). This is due to the increased visibility of the movement of material on top of the prominent overburden mound landform. Construction activity will break the horizon. Overall significance of effect: Moderate (Adverse).					
12	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. Construction will be visible within 3km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the removal of small areas of scrubby vegetation to the east of the overburden mound. The excavation and transportation of material for the construction of the inner and outer loop at the eastern extent of the Project will be visible. Views to the south-west will comprise the formation of the embankments that tie into the	High	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)	Low (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	coal washery. Construction at the northern extent of the Project will be screened by existing coniferous woodland planation. Due to the introduction of construction activity that will be visible to the west and south-west of the view and the removal of existing vegetation the magnitude of change will be Negligible (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Minor Adverse. In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse). This is due to the increased visibility of construction activity that will, at times, be visible on the horizon. Overall significance of effect: Minor (Adverse)					
13	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views. Construction activity will be visible within 5.5km of the viewpoint. Receptors will have views of the excavation and transportation of material for the construction of the north-western extent of the outer loop cutting. Mining activity is visible within the existing view and the increased perception of activity due to excavations will result in a Negligible (Adverse) magnitude of change for these Medium sensitivity	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)	Low (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Negligible (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse). This is due to the increased visibility of construction activity that will, at times, be visible on the horizon. Overall significance of effect: Minor (Adverse)					
14	Recreational receptors have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. Construction activity will be visible within 400m of the viewpoint. The excavation and transportation of material for the cutting at the south-western extent of the Project will be the closest construction activity. The formation of the embankment to the south of the overburden mound will also be visible, along with construction of the cuttings further into the distance to the north-west. To the north, views will comprise further excavation and transportation required for the construction of the cutting at the edge of current opencast mining. The overburden mound will screen construction activity to the north-east. Due to the close proximity, the magnitude of change will be Medium	High	Medium (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	(Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Moderate Adverse. In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be High (Adverse). Excavation and transportation of material from the overburden mound will also be visible, this will not result in a greater magnitude of change due to the close proximity of the receptor. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)					
15	Recreational receptors have a high susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. It is assumed that the viewpoint will not be accessible during construction.	High	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
16	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views. Construction will be visible within 500m of the viewpoint. Receptors will have direct views of construction activity. To the north-west views of the formation of the embankment and excavation of cutting at the western edge of the overburden mound will be visible. To the north and north-	Medium	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	east, views of the excavation and transportation of material for the construction of the outer and inner loop cutting will be visible. Due to the direct views of construction activity that will be visible across a wide section of the view the magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) for these Medium sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Major (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be High (Adverse). Excavation and transportation of material from the overburden mound will also be visible, and the period of construction will be increased. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)					
17	Visitors to the cemetery have a High susceptibility to change. Construction activity will be visible within 250m of the viewpoint. The closest construction activity will be the construction of the retaining wall to the north. Intervening vegetation including roadside vegetation on the northern side of the A4109 will filter views of this construction however it is anticipated that activity will be perceptible. The formation of the embankment at the south-western	Medium	Low (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)	Low (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	extent of the Project will be visible in views toward the overburden mound. To the north-west, the excavation and transportation of material for the construction of the inner loop cutting will be visible. The magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse) for these Medium sensitivity receptors due to the introduction of construction activity within close proximity to receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Moderate (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse). Excavation and transportation of material from the prominent overburden mound will also be visible, and the period of construction will be increased. Overall significance of effect: Moderate (Adverse)					
18	Recreational receptors have a high susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. Construction will be visible within 2.7km of the viewpoint. Due to the elevation of the viewpoint, receptors will have views of the eastern, southern and western extents of construction of the Project. This includes the excavation and transportation of material for the construction of the inner and outer loop cuttings and the formation of the	High	Medium (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Assessment	Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change	Significance of Effect	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	embankment at the south-western extent of the Project. The construction activity visible within the view forms a small section of the wide panoramic view however due to its central location and the prominence of the overburden mound landform, views are concentrated in this direction and therefore the magnitude of change will be Medium (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. The significance of effect will therefore be Major (Adverse). In combination with Nant Helen Restoration works, the overall magnitude of change will be High (Adverse). Excavation and transportation of material from the prominent overburden mound will also be visible, and the period of construction will be increased. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse).					

9D4 Assessment Table – Effects from Operation (Visual)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
1	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. The loss of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the open cast mining site and overburden mound will be visible. Views to the east will comprise the grassed embankment slopes that chase the gradient of the valley. To the south-east the Project will be in cutting, before becoming screened by the overburden mound as it passes around its south-western edge. The earthworks will be visible, but grass cover will help them integrate with surrounding grassed landcover. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be offset by the loss of mining activity from the view and reinstatement of a more naturalistic landform. The overall magnitude of change will therefore be Medium (Beneficial) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Moderate (Beneficial)	High	Medium (Beneficial)	Moderate (Beneficial)
2	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography.	High	Low (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	The loss of coniferous woodland plantation will be visible on the northern side of the open cast mining site and overburden mound as well as the loss of field boundaries on the valley slope to the south of the A4221. The grassed embankment slopes will be visible, chasing the valley slope between the overburden mound and the A4221 to the crest of the landform. Views of the cutting to the west of the overburden mound will also be available. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be partially offset by the loss of mining activity from the view and reinstatement of a more naturalistic landform. The overall magnitude of change will therefore be Low (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Moderate (Adverse)			
3	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. The loss of coniferous woodland plantation will be visible on the northern side of the overburden mound as well as the loss of field boundaries on the valley slope to the south of the A4221. Views of the grassed embankment on the northern side of the Project will be available including users of the footpath. It is anticipated that the inner loop cutting will also be perceptible due to the elevation of the viewpoint. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be partially offset by the loss of mining activity from the view	High	Medium (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	however the loss of scenic quality and complexity of the landscape within the view and introduction of engineered form will result in a Medium (Adverse) magnitude of change for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Moderate (Adverse)			
4	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. The loss of woodland plantation and mature vegetation / field boundaries to the south of the A4221 will be visible. The view will instead comprise the grassed slope of the northern embankment of the Project that chases the gradient of the topography. There will be a noticeable difference in the scenic quality of the view due to the loss of complexity and the introduction of engineered form. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, there will be minimal additional changes due to the lack of visibility of the restoration. The magnitude of change will therefore be Medium (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Moderate (Adverse)	High	Medium (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)
5	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views.	High	High (Adverse)	Major (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	The loss of coniferous woodland plantation will be visible on the northern side of the open cast mining site and overburden mound as well as the loss of field boundaries on the valley slope to the south of the A4221. Receptors will have views of the northern grassed embankment of the Project including users of the footpath. Receptors have limited views of existing mining activity and will not benefit from the Nant Helen Restoration. Therefore, in combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the overall magnitude of change will be High (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Major (Adverse)			
6	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views. The loss of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the open cast mining site and overburden mound will be perceptible. Oblique views of the northern embankment of the Project will be available. It is anticipated that the cutting will be perceptible to the south, though well integrated due to the establishment of grass on its slopes.	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	Receptors will not benefit from the Nant Helen Restoration. Therefore, in combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the overall magnitude of change will be Negligible (Adverse) for these Medium sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Minor (Adverse)			
7	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views. Receptors will have long-distance views of the cutting at the western extent of the outer loop of the Project. This will be barely perceptible due to the distance from the receptor, the sunken nature of the path and the grassed slopes that will aid integration. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be offset by the loss of mining activity from the view and the reinstatement of a naturalistic landform. The overall magnitude of change will therefore be Negligible (Beneficial) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Negligible (Beneficial)	High	Negligible (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)
8	Recreational receptors have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. The loss of coniferous woodland plantation on the northern side of the opencast mining site and overburden mound will be perceptible. Receptors will have views of the cutting at the western extent of the Project. Due to the	Medium	Low (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	cuttings being on elevated ground above the receptor they will not be clearly visible though it is anticipated that the inner cutting slope will be perceptible. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be offset by the loss of mining activity from the view and the reinstatement of a naturalistic landform. The overall magnitude of change will therefore be Low (Beneficial) for these Medium sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Minor (Beneficial)			
9	Recreational receptors have a High susceptibility to change as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. Receptors will have foreground views of the engineered form of the grassed embankment slope that runs along the northern side of the Project. The loss of existing foreground vegetation will result in a less naturalistic view. Receptors will not benefit from the Nant Helen Restoration. Therefore, in combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the overall magnitude of change will be Medium (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Moderate (Adverse)	High	Medium (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)
10	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views.	Medium	Low (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	The loss of scrubby vegetation will be visible in views to the west. It is anticipated that the inner and outer loop cuttings of the Project will be perceptible, though grassed slopes will help to integrate them. The Nant Helen Restoration will partially offset the adverse effects of the Project due to the loss of the minimal mining activity that was characteristic of the pre-existing view. The reshaping of the engineered overburden mound will also provide minimal benefits to the overall character of the view. Therefore, in combination with Nant Helen Restoration, the magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse) for these Medium sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Minor (Adverse)			
11	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. The loss of hedgerow boundaries will be visible on the rising topography to the west. Instead, the outer and inner loop cuttings of the Project will be perceptible, though the grassed slopes will integrate with the surrounding landcover. The Nant Helen Restoration will partially offset the adverse effects of the Project due to the loss of the minimal mining activity that was characteristic of the pre-existing view. The reshaping of the engineered overburden mound will also provide minimal benefits to the overall character of the view.	High	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	Therefore, in combination with Nant Helen Restoration, the magnitude of change will be Negligible (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Minor (Adverse)			
12	Recreational receptors within the national park have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on available views outwards from elevated topography. The loss of small areas of scrub vegetation towards the opencast site will be perceptible in long-distance views. The grassed embankments that tie into the coal washery site will be visible to the south-west as well as the eastern extent of the cuttings for the inner and outer loop of the Project. The grassed earthwork slopes will integrate with the surrounding landcover and combined with the distance from the receptor will be barely perceptible. The Nant Helen Restoration will partially offset the adverse effects of the Project due to the loss of the minimal mining activity that was characteristic of the pre-existing view. The reshaping of the engineered overburden mound will also provide minimal benefits to the overall character of the view. Therefore, in combination with Nant Helen Restoration, the magnitude of change will be Negligible (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors.	High	Negligible (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)
13	Residential receptors have a High susceptibility to change due to the permanence and static nature of views.	Medium	Low (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	It is anticipated that the outer loop cutting on the western side of the Project will be barely perceptible due to its location on elevated topography above the receptor and the distance of the receptor from the Project. It is anticipated that the grassed cutting slopes will integrate with the surrounding landcover. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be offset by the loss of mining activity from the view. The overall magnitude of change will therefore be Low (Beneficial) for these Medium sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Minor (Beneficial)			
14	Recreational receptors have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. The Project will be in cutting around the south-western edge of the overburden mound. Receptors will have clear views of the Project as it passes the southern edge of the overburden mound on embankment. Users of the footpath will be visible. In combination with Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be partially offset by the loss of mining activity from the view and reinstatement of a more naturalistic landform. The overall magnitude of change will therefore be Medium (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors.	High	Low (Adverse)	Minor (Adverse)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	Overall significance of effect: Minor (Adverse)			
15	Recreational receptors have a High susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. There will be views of the Project in cutting in all directions, approximately 250m from the viewpoint. The loss of restored marshy grassland land cover and small areas of coniferous woodland and the engineered form of the earthworks will make the Project discernible from the surrounding establishing restored landscape. Receptors will not benefit from the Nant Helen Restoration. Therefore, in combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the overall magnitude of change will be Low (Adverse) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Moderate (Adverse)	High	Low (Adverse)	Moderate (Adverse)
16	Receptors will have views of the grassed earthworks of the Project on embankment to the north-west with users of the path being visible. To the north, the inner and outer loop cuttings will be visible, however it is anticipated that the grassed slopes will largely blend in with the surrounding landcover. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be offset by the reduction of the overburden and reshaping into a	Medium	Negligible (Beneficial)	Negligible (Beneficial)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	more naturalistic form. The overall magnitude of change will be Negligible (Beneficial) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Negligible (Beneficial)			
17	Visitors to the cemetery have a High susceptibility to change. The majority of the engineered earthworks of the Project will be screened by roadside vegetation to the north. In the views towards the overburden mound, the grassed embankment at the south-western edge of the site will be visible, as will users of the path. It is anticipated that the inner loop cutting slopes will be perceptible due to their engineered form. Engineered landforms are a feature of the existing view. In combination with Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be partially offset by the reprofiling of the overburden mound. The overall magnitude of change will be Negligible (Adverse) for these Medium sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Negligible (Adverse)	Medium	Negligible (Adverse)	Negligible (Adverse)
18	Recreational receptors have a high susceptibility as their attention is concentrated on surrounding views. Receptors will have views of the inner and outer loop cuttings and the embankment at the south-western extent of the Project. The grassed slopes	High	Low (Beneficial)	Minor (Beneficial)

Viewpoint No.	Comments	Sensitivity	Cumulative Magnitude of Change	Overall Significance of effect
	will integrate with the surrounding landcover and will not stand out due to the distance of the receptor from the Project. In combination with the Nant Helen Restoration, the adverse effects of the Project will be offset by the reprofiling of the prominent overburden mound within the view. This will result in a more naturalistic landform that better integrates with the surrounding topography. The overall magnitude of change will be Medium (Beneficial) for these High sensitivity receptors. Overall significance of effect: Moderate (Beneficial)			