

Parc Pelenna Holiday Resort

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

**TECHNICAL APPENDIX 6.3
SCHEDULE OF LANDSCAPE EFFECTS**

Landscape Receptor	Sensitivity	Description of Current View/Resource	Change to View/Resource	Construction Effects	Operational Effects	
					Year 1	Year 15
The Site	High	The site is large scale and on a north-facing slope. The landscape fabric of the site and wider area of control comprises a varied mosaic of habitats and together with natural features found on-site such as the woodland blocks, exposed rock faces and areas of wet woodland and meadow grassland, the site's existing use, as well as the local landscape designation within which the site lies, indicates that it is of high sensitivity to development. The condition of most features is relatively good; however, the main and most prominent landscape component which is characteristic of the site and the broader hillside, is the woodland blocks and these appear to be suffering from lack of management in parts. There are also some man-made features on-site which desensitise it slightly to development.	The landscape character and land use on-site will change distinctly as a result of the conversion from a farm, which is largely wooded and in a greenfield state, to that of newly developed holiday lodge development. However, the landscape features proposed to be retained are likely to deteriorate further without intervention. Proposed sustainable drainage features will be naturalistic in appearance and slow the run-off of water down the hillside, which will help with soil stabilisation, nutrient run-off and pressure on water courses in the valley bottom. All proposed Green and Blue Infrastructure would have a multifunctional role on-site. Wherever possible, landscape features such as boundary vegetation and woodland in good condition have been identified for retention and enhancement within proposals. Woodland within the wider area of control would be enhanced and brought into management to futureproof the character of the wider site area and enable recreational use, and deliver wildlife benefits as part of the scheme. The landscape strategy will be implemented at Year 1 but the larger-scale features such as the new swathes of tree planting amongst the lodges will take time to establish and their impact would not be felt until 5-7 years of growth. At Year 15 the proposals would have embedded themselves into the landscape, and tree planting would be established and would break up the quantum of built form on-site.	The magnitude of change would be very high and the overall effect direct, adverse, temporary, major and significant .	The magnitude of change would be high and the overall effect direct, adverse overall, permanent, major/moderate and significant .	The magnitude of change would be low and the overall effect direct, beneficial, moderate/minor and not significant.
NLCA 37 South Wales Valleys	Medium	Vast area known for its industrial character, settled valley bottoms and lower slopes set against the dramatic upland slopes with steep hillsides, open heathland and woodland. While it contains numerous sensitive receptors, it has very low susceptibility to the development proposed due to its scale, which contrasts starkly to the scale of the NLCA.	A nominal geographical extent of the NLCA would be affected by the proposals, at the construction stage and at operation.	The magnitude of change would be very low and the overall effect direct, adverse, temporary, negligible and not significant.	The magnitude of change would be very low and the overall effect direct, adverse, permanent, negligible and not significant.	The magnitude of change would be very low and the overall effect direct, adverse, permanent, negligible and not significant.
Vale of Neath Special Landscape Area	High	A large scenic area comprising a large-scale landscape. An important tourist destination with amenities (Neath Canal, Aberdulais National Trust, cycleways and promoted routes). Characteristics include water courses, mosaic of habitats, woodland	The scheme is within the SLA, therefore direct effects are ascribed. The wider SLA would not experience significant effects during construction or at operation. The development proposed is contained to a very small extent of the overall SLA designation.	The magnitude of change would be low and the overall effect direct, adverse, temporary, moderate/minor and not significant.	The magnitude of change would be low and the overall effect direct and indirect adverse, permanent,	The magnitude of change would be very low and the overall direct and indirect effect minor ,

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		plantations, dramatic changes in levels and prominent ridgelines. Landscape receptors of high value and medium/high susceptibility to the proposed development.	The visual and sensory character of the wider SLA would not experience widespread effects. The presence of built form is not uncharacteristic on-site and already gives the site and land beyond the designation a rural but occupied (rather than strictly remote) character. At Year 15 the proposals would have embedded themselves into the landscape, and tree planting would be established and would break up the quantum of built form on-site.		moderate/minor and not significant.	neutral and not significant.
Neath Canal and National Cycle Route 46	High	Two aligned recreational routes in the valley bottom forming a strong character and connection with their surroundings, but heavily enclosed by vegetation as they near the site. Both are considered to have a low susceptibility to the development proposed.	Unlikely to experience any notable effects after construction, as the entrance point to the site is closest to the landscape receptors, there may be some rural effects; however, the routes are separated from the site road and railway routes which are flanked by vegetated embankments. The routes progress north-east further away from the site. Due to the vegetated nature of the routes, which are set in the lowest parts of the valley, it is unlikely that recreational users of these routes would perceive the proposals at operation given the vast change in elevation and the obliqueness of views likely to be available when travelling south-west.	The magnitude of change would be very low and the overall effect indirect adverse, temporary, downgraded to minor/negligible and not significant.	Imperceptible	Imperceptible
National Cycle Route 47	High	The 121.4 mile route passes through the site for approximately 200m along the most southerly point of the site. It's flanked by Pelenna Forest and Pen-Rhiw-Angharad Round Cairns Scheduled Monument (SM), the latter is on 3 rd party land adjoining the site area.	The main changes for users of this route would be the introduction of an interpretation board on 3rd party land, which would be in place at Year 1 of operation. Users of the route will have an opportunity to stop and learn about the site's heritage as well as its connection to the wider landscape which contained related heritage assets of interest. A site connection to this route is permitted over 3rd party land. The lodges proposed on-site are unlikely to be visible from this location as it is set back from the SM and the southern edge of the site that contains the cycle route.	The magnitude of change would be very low and the overall effect indirect adverse, temporary, downgraded to negligible and not significant.	The magnitude of change would be very low and the overall effect indirect beneficial, permanent, minor and not significant.	The magnitude of change would be very low and the overall effect indirect beneficial, permanent, minor and not significant.
Open Access Land	High	The majority of OAL in the study area is wooded and located south of the site – the majority of OAL users in the study area would remain completely unaffected by the proposals as a result of vegetation and landform. More open elevated areas to the north of the site would have a perceptual connection to the site, but at a clear distance, and in a vast landscape.	Only one aspect 'visual and sensory' of the OAL likely to have a visual connection to the site would experience indirect effects, as a result of the proposals. The receiving landscape is large in scale and the proposals would only form a nominal part of any available view due to the nature of the scheme proposed.	The magnitude of change would be very low and the overall effect indirect, adverse, temporary, negligible and not significant.	The magnitude of change would be low and the overall effect indirect, adverse, permanent, negligible and not significant.	The magnitude of change would be low and the overall effect indirect, adverse, permanent, negligible and not significant.

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On-site PRow 53/7.Ton/3 and 53/8.Ton/3	High	Worst case assumed as PRow are currently accessible. These routes are connected on-site, PRow 53/7.Ton/3 and 53/8.Ton/3 intersect the western edge of the site and the northern edge respectively. Access to PRow was not possible from New Road (B4434) at the time of the site surveys as the path was overgrown and impassable.	Rights of way have been considered in the design and their reinstatement and long-term management could be secured if the scheme was brought forward. The effects reported have been considered as follows: - Routes would need to be redirected or restricted for some or all of the construction phase for health and safety reasons – the effects of this would be considered adverse if the paths were in a usable state at present; - At Year 1, the routes would be open and vegetation cut back to ensure suitability for all users. The routes, however, would be seen progressing through part of a newly built holiday resort, and the initial effects due to the change in use considered adverse; and - At Year 15, the paths would be well embedded into the scheme which would no longer be considered a new feature in the landscape - use of the routes for the general public, as well as future users of the site, is considered beneficial as it promotes access to the countryside and increases accessibility across a vast and largely inaccessible landscape.	The magnitude of change would be high and the overall effect direct, adverse, temporary, major and significant .	The magnitude of change would be medium and the overall effect direct, adverse, permanent, moderate and significant .	The magnitude of change would be low and the overall effect neutral, permanent, moderate/minor and not significant.