

Appendix 6K

Viewpoint Assessment

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purposed of this Appendix

- 1.1.1 The viewpoint assessment and subsequent analysis are used to assist the design development and further define the scope of the assessment process for the Proposed Development. In particular, the maximum distance from the Proposed Development at which significant effects are likely to be sustained has been identified. This has been used to focus the baseline information and detailed reporting of the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) in **Chapter 6** of the Draft ES.

1.2 Viewpoint and Cumulative Viewpoint Analysis

- 1.2.1 The viewpoint assessment has been conducted from 28 viewpoint locations agreed with consultees through the Scoping Direction, as described in **Table 6.4** of **Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual**.
- 1.2.2 Cumulative wind farm development that would be visible within the 27km cumulative study area has been illustrated in the wirelines and are illustrated in **Figure 6-7**. The cumulative assessment has been undertaken in relation to the following scenarios:
- Cumulative Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented); and
 - Cumulative Scenario 2: Other proposed wind turbines (Cumulative Scenario 1 + Planning Application + Scoping Opinion).

Geographical Extent of Likely Significant Visual Effects

- 1.2.3 The outer distance from the Proposed Development at which significant effects are likely to be sustained has been identified by the viewpoint analysis of the Proposed Development. Furthermore, the cumulative viewpoint analysis has identified a likely threshold for significant cumulative visual effects that would result from the Proposed Development, in addition to, or in combination with other operational and consented wind energy developments and applications.

Potential Threshold for Significant Effects: Proposed Development

- 1.2.4 The viewpoint analysis indicates that significant visual effects are likely to affect limited locations within approximately 7km distance from the Proposed Development (subject to a clear view of the proposed turbines and screening by landform and / or vegetation), as indicated by Viewpoints 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 26 and 27. The greatest magnitude of change (High magnitude) would be experienced at Viewpoints 1, 2 and 26, with a High-Medium magnitude concluded at Viewpoint 5 and receptors at all other viewpoints being assessed as experiencing a Medium magnitude of visual change or less.
- 1.2.5 As a precaution, the landscape and visual assessment in **Chapter 6** has considered all of those receptors within 10km of the Proposed Development and national level receptors (such as nationally designated landscapes and users of the Wales Coast Path) within 27km.
- 1.2.6 The effects on all viewpoints would also be cumulative, and further cumulative analysis is provided in **Table 6K.1** and all viewpoint assessment tables (**Tables 6K.2 to 6K.29**).

Interpretation of Viewpoint Analysis Summary Tables

- 1.2.7 The information set out in **Table 6K.1** provides a summary of the viewpoint analysis of the effects of the Proposed Development on a ‘solus’ or primary basis. This part of the assessment helps to define the contribution the Proposed Development would make to any subsequent cumulative assessments (in addition to or in combination with other wind farms). It is also relevant to the latter half of the operational period for the Proposed Development, when the consented periods of operation for other wind farms would expire and they would be decommissioned, assuming no extensions to the operating periods or re-powering schemes are granted.
- 1.2.8 **Table 6K.1** provides a summary of the cumulative viewpoint analysis of the effects of the Proposed Development. The cumulative analysis sets out the effects of Proposed Development ‘in addition’ to and ‘in combination’ with other operational and consented wind energy developments and applications, assessing two scenarios in accordance with the methodology in **Appendix 6A** as follows:
- **Proposed Development:** Assessed on an individual basis (the LVIA):

This part of the assessment takes account of other existing forms of wind farm development that may be present in the landscape, whilst recognising that their influence on landscape character is likely to be time limited. It does not consider the additional or combined cumulative effects and only reports on the effect of the Proposed Development alone.
 - **Scenario 1:** Operational + Consented + the Proposed Development:

The additional and combined cumulative effects of the baseline, including the operational and consented wind energy developments with the Proposed Development are reported.
 - **Scenario 2:** Operational + Consented + Applications + Scoping + the Proposed Development:

The additional and combined cumulative effects of the baseline, including operational and consented wind energy developments and applications (including scoping) with the Proposed Development are reported.
- 1.2.9 The summary tables list the names of the viewpoints and include the following information:
- Viewpoint Analysis:
 - ▶ Distance: Distance of the viewpoint location from the nearest turbine within the Proposed Development, **Table 6K.1** sets out the distance from the nearest proposed turbine;
 - ▶ Sensitivity: The sensitivity of the viewer at the viewpoint location is recorded (ranging from High, Medium, Low and Very Low) in accordance with the methodology in **Appendix 6A**;
 - ▶ Magnitude: The magnitude of change, taking account of the Proposed Development only, is recorded and ranges from Very High, High, Medium, Low, Very Low, and No View in accordance with the methodology; and
 - ▶ Level of Effect: The level of visual effect for the Proposed Development only is recorded and takes account of the sensitivity and magnitude in accordance with the methodology. Those levels of effect shown in **bold** relate to significant effects in accordance with the relevant EIA Regulations.

- Cumulative Viewpoint Analysis:
 - ▶ Magnitude (Operational and Consented wind turbines): The magnitude of change, taking account of other Operational and consented / under construction wind farms that may be visible is recorded (ranging from Very High, High, Medium, Low, Very Low, and Zero) in accordance with the methodology in **Appendix 6A**;
 - ▶ Additional Level of Effect: The additional effect of adding the Proposed Development to the operational and consented baseline in Cumulative Scenario 1 is provided;
 - ▶ Cumulative Scenario 1: The level of visual effect, taking account of the other operational, consented / under construction wind farms and the Proposed Development, is recorded (taking account of the sensitivity and magnitude in accordance with the methodology). Those levels of effect shown in **bold** relate to significant effects in accordance with the relevant EIA Regulations and the developments contributing most to the cumulative effects are recorded in brackets;
 - ▶ Cumulative Effect: The combined level of visual effect, taking account of the Proposed Development and the other developments included in Cumulative Scenarios 1 and 2, is recorded (taking account of the sensitivity and magnitude in accordance with the methodology). Those levels of effect shown in **bold** relate to significant effects;
 - ▶ Magnitude (Other Wind Farm Applications): The magnitude of change, taking account of other wind farm applications that may be visible on the wireline is recorded (ranging Very High, High, Medium, Low, Very Low, and Zero) in accordance with the methodology;
 - ▶ Additional Level of Effect: The additional effect of adding the Proposed Development to the operational and consented baseline and other wind farm applications in Cumulative Scenario 2 is provided; and
 - ▶ Cumulative Scenario 2: The level of visual effect, taking account of the other operational, consented / under construction, application wind farms and the Proposed Development, is recorded (taking account of the sensitivity and magnitude in accordance with the methodology). Those levels of effect shown in **bold** relate to significant effects in accordance with the relevant EIA Regulations and the developments contributing most to the cumulative effects are recorded in brackets.

1.3 Sunlight and Weather Conditions

- 1.3.1 Changing weather patterns and local climatic conditions would influence the visibility of the Proposed Development which would vary from periods of low visibility (fog, low cloud, and bright sunny conditions that are accompanied by haze generated by temperature inversions) as well as periods of high visibility in clear weather. In some instances, the Proposed Development may appear 'back-lit' (e.g., appearing darker in colour during sunset/sunrise and periods of pale or white blanket cloud) and in other circumstances may appear to be 'up-lit' (e.g., during stormy periods that combine dark clouds and bright sunshine).
- 1.3.2 The viewpoint analysis and assessment has been undertaken with an assumption of good weather conditions and clear visibility.

1.4 Summary of Viewpoint Analysis

- 1.4.1 A summary of the detailed viewpoint analysis undertaken at each of the 28 viewpoints is provided in **Table 6K.1**.

Table 6K. 1 Summary of Viewpoint Analysis

Viewpoint No. and Title	Field of View (FoV)*	Distance to nearest turbine (km)	Viewpoint Analysis: Proposed Development (PD)			Cumulative Viewpoint Analysis Proposed Development (PD) and other wind farms					
			Sensitivity	Magnitude	Level of Effect	Magnitude: Operational and Consented	Combined Effect: Scenario #1	Additional Effect: Scenario #1	Magnitude: Applications	Combined Effect: Scenario #2	Additional Effect: Scenario #2
1: Dan-Y-Rhiw Terrace, West End, Abercarn	16°	1.8km (T1)	High	High	Major	Zero	No cumulative effect		High	Major (Trecelyn and PD)	Major
2: Twmbarlwn Iron Age Fort summit	24°	1.9km (T3)	High	High	Major	Medium-Low	Major (PD)	Major	High	Major (Trecelyn, Mynydd Maen and PD)	Major
3: Open space on Old Pant Road, Panside	14°	3.3km (T2)	High	Very Low	Moderate/Minor	Zero	No cumulative effect		High	Major (Trecelyn)	Moderate/Minor
4: Trig point at the summit of Mynydd Maen/Mynydd Llwyd	12°	3.5km (T2)	High	Medium	Major/Moderate	Low	Major/Moderate (PD)	Major/Moderate	Very High	Major (Mynydd Maen)	Major/Moderate

Viewpoint No. and Title	Field of View (FoV)*	Distance to nearest turbine (km)	Viewpoint Analysis: Proposed Development (PD)			Cumulative Viewpoint Analysis Proposed Development (PD) and other wind farms					
			Sensitivity	Magnitude	Level of Effect	Magnitude: Operational and Consented	Combined Effect: Scenario #1	Additional Effect: Scenario #1	Magnitude: Applications	Combined Effect: Scenario #2	Additional Effect: Scenario #2
5: Open space on Fflorens Road, Treowen	13°	4.0km (T1)	High	High-Medium	Major to Major/Moderate	Low	Major to Major/Moderate (PD)	Major to Major/Moderate	High	Major (Trecelyn)	Major-Major/Moderate
6: Mynydd Machen	12°	4.6km (T1)	High	Medium	Major/Moderate	Medium	Major/Moderate (PD and Twyn Hywel)	Major/Moderate	Medium-Low	Major/Moderate (PD and Twyn Hywel)	Major/Moderate
7: Rhymney Valley, Ridgeway Walk	6°	6.2km (T1)	High	Medium	Major/Moderate	High	Major (Bryn Ysgawen Farm and Tyle Crwth)	Major/Moderate	Medium	Major (Bryn Ysgawen Farm and Tyle Crwth)	Major/Moderate
8: Monnow Way, Bettws	6°	6.4km (T3)	High	Low	Moderate	Zero	No cumulative effect		Medium	Major/Moderate (Mynydd Maen)	Moderate

Viewpoint No. and Title	Field of View (FoV)*	Distance to nearest turbine (km)	Viewpoint Analysis: Proposed Development (PD)			Cumulative Viewpoint Analysis Proposed Development (PD) and other wind farms					
			Sensitivity	Magnitude	Level of Effect	Magnitude: Operational and Consented	Combined Effect: Scenario #1	Additional Effect: Scenario #1	Magnitude: Applications	Combined Effect: Scenario #2	Additional Effect: Scenario #2
9: Pen-y-Fan Pond Country Park	8°	6.9km (T1)	High	Very Low	Moderate/Minor	High	Major (Oakdale Business Park and Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate)	Moderate/Minor	Low	Major (Oakdale Business Park and Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate)	Moderate/Minor
10: PRoW east of St. Illtyd	7°	7.0km (T1)	High	Medium	Major/Moderate	Medium	Major/Moderate (PD, Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate and Oakdale Business Park)	Major/Moderate	High	Major (Mynydd Llanhilleth)	Major/Moderate
11: Cefn Fforest/ Blackwood Show Fields	6°	7.1km (T1)	High	Medium	Major/Moderate	High-Medium	Major-Major/Moderate (Oakdale Business Park and Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate)	Major/Moderate	Medium	Major-Major/Moderate (Oakdale Business Park and Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate)	Major/Moderate

Viewpoint No. and Title	Field of View (FoV)*	Distance to nearest turbine (km)	Viewpoint Analysis: Proposed Development (PD)			Cumulative Viewpoint Analysis Proposed Development (PD) and other wind farms					
			Sensitivity	Magnitude	Level of Effect	Magnitude: Operational and Consented	Combined Effect: Scenario #1	Additional Effect: Scenario #1	Magnitude: Applications	Combined Effect: Scenario #2	Additional Effect: Scenario #2
12: B4236, Llanfrechfa	4°	7.7km (T3)	High	Low-Very Low	Moderate-Moderate/Minor	Zero	No cumulative effect		Medium	Major/Moderate (Mynydd Maen)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor
13: Northern edge of Gelligaer	4°	9.9km (T1)	High	Low	Moderate	Very Low	Moderate (PD)	Moderate	Low	Moderate (Trecelyn, Mynydd Maen and PD)	Moderate
14: Wellfield Close, west of Coed-y-paen	3°	10.0km (T2)	Medium	Very Low	Minor	Very Low	Minor (PD)	Minor	Medium	Moderate (Mynydd Maen)	Minor
15: Lasgarn Lane, BBNP	5°	10.4km (T2)	High	Very Low	Moderate/Minor	Low	Moderate (Twyn Hywel)	Moderate/Minor	High	Major (Mynydd Llanhilleth)	Moderate/Minor
16: Gelligaer Common and Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk	4°	11.3km (T1)	High	Low	Moderate	High-Medium	Major-Major/Moderate (Twyn Hywel)	Moderate	High-Medium	Major-Major/Moderate (Twyn Hywel and Mynydd Bedwellte)	Moderate

Viewpoint No. and Title	Field of View (FoV)*	Distance to nearest turbine (km)	Viewpoint Analysis: Proposed Development (PD)			Cumulative Viewpoint Analysis Proposed Development (PD) and other wind farms					
			Sensitivity	Magnitude	Level of Effect	Magnitude: Operational and Consented	Combined Effect: Scenario #1	Additional Effect: Scenario #1	Magnitude: Applications	Combined Effect: Scenario #2	Additional Effect: Scenario #2
17: Caerphilly Common	4°	11.9km (T1)	High	Low	Moderate	High-Medium	Major-Major/Moderate (Twyn Hywel)	Moderate	Low	Major-Major/Moderate (Twyn Hywel)	Moderate
18: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Mynydd Mieu	3°	13.2km (T1)	High	Low	Moderate	High	Major (Twyn Hywel)	Moderate	Medium	Major (Twyn Hywel)	Moderate
19: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Cefn y Brithdir	4°	12.5km (T1)	High	Low	Moderate	High-Medium	Major-Major/Moderate (Manmoel)	Moderate	High	Major (Mynydd Bedwellte)	Moderate
20: Wales Coast Path, Newport	4°	13.8km (T3)	High	Low-Very Low	Moderate-Moderate/Minor	High-Medium	Major-Major/Moderate (Solutia)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor	Low	Major-Major/Moderate (Solutia)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor
21: Summit of Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn	4°	14.3km (T2)	High	Low	Moderate	High	Major (Manmoel)	Moderate	High-Medium	Major (Manmoel)	Moderate

Viewpoint No. and Title	Field of View (FoV)*	Distance to nearest turbine (km)	Viewpoint Analysis: Proposed Development (PD)			Cumulative Viewpoint Analysis Proposed Development (PD) and other wind farms					
			Sensitivity	Magnitude	Level of Effect	Magnitude: Operational and Consented	Combined Effect: Scenario #1	Additional Effect: Scenario #1	Magnitude: Applications	Combined Effect: Scenario #2	Additional Effect: Scenario #2
22: Bertholey House, Newbridge on Usk	3°	15.7km (T3)	High	Low-Very Low	Moderate-Moderate/Minor	Very Low	Moderate-Moderate/Minor (PD)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor	Low	Moderate (Mynydd Maen and Mynydd Llanhilleth)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor
23: The Blorenge, BBNP	4°	17.1km (T2)	High	Low	Moderate	Very Low	Moderate (PD)	Moderate	High to Medium	Major/Moderate (Abertillery)	Moderate
24: Trig point at Mynydd Llangynidr, BBNP	3°	22.7km (T2)	High	Low-Very Low	Moderate-Moderate/Minor	Medium	Major/Moderate (Manmoel)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor	Medium	Major/Moderate (Manmoel and Mynydd Betwellte)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor
25: Trig Point at Cefn yr Ystrad, BBNP	3°	23.7km (T1)	High	Low-Very Low	Moderate-Moderate/Minor	Medium	Major/Moderate (Manmoel)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor	High-Medium	Major to Major/Moderate (Mynydd Betwellte and Convatec Green)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor

Viewpoint No. and Title	Field of View (FoV)*	Distance to nearest turbine (km)	Viewpoint Analysis: Proposed Development (PD)			Cumulative Viewpoint Analysis Proposed Development (PD) and other wind farms					
			Sensitivity	Magnitude	Level of Effect	Magnitude: Operational and Consented	Combined Effect: Scenario #1	Additional Effect: Scenario #1	Magnitude: Applications	Combined Effect: Scenario #2	Additional Effect: Scenario #2
26: Raven Walk within the Mynyddislwyn SLA	10°	3.1km (T1)	High	High	Major	Medium	Major (PD)	Major	High-Medium	Major (PD)	Major
27: B-Road and PRow within the Abercarn VILL	30°	1.6km (T2)	High	Medium	Major/Moderate	Low	Major/Moderate (PD)	Major/Moderate	Very High	Major (Trecelyn)	Major/Moderate
28: Llanishen, Wye Valley National Landscape	2°	24.9km (T2)	High	Very Low	Moderate/Minor	Very Low	Moderate/Minor (PD)	Moderate/Minor	Very Low	Moderate/Minor (PD, Mynydd Maen, Trecelyn, Mynydd Llanhilleth and Abertillery)	Moderate/Minor

* FoV relates to the angle subtended by rotor arcs visible in wireframe views. Does not take account of screening by vegetation or buildings

2. Visual assessment tables

Table 6K. 2 Viewpoint 1: Dan-Y-Rhiw Terrace, West End, Abercarn

Figure 6-18	Viewpoint 1: Dan-Y-Rhiw Terrace, West End, Abercarn	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located towards the western end of Dan-Y-Rhiw Terrace, a residential street lying to the north of the Ebbw River in the West End area of western Abercarn.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to residents on the western side of the Ebbw Valley including those passing through the residential area and comparable views attained from properties to the north and south.</p> <p>The view is orientated east, with the visible horizon defined by the mature mixed woodland on the north facing slopes of the Gwyddon Valley. The foreground of the view is occupied by terraced properties which line the southern side of Dan-Y-Rhiw Terrace as well as those along Ebbw Terrace. Glimpsed views of dwellings within the Gwyddon area of Abercarn including St Luke's Church are discernible in the middle distance, occupying the lower valley slopes and partially filtered by intervening deciduous trees.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>Viewpoint 1 is not within a locally or nationally designated landscape, however it is located within a settlement. The rural landscape to the east of the settlement, visible on the horizon, is located within the Abercarn Visually Important Local Landscape (VILL), defined by Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC). Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by residents within the settlement and from nearby residential properties. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 1.8km. All three of the proposed turbines, including two hubs (T1 and T2), would be visible as new structures on the skyline of the view, affecting approximately 16° of the horizontal FoV. The lower parts of the visible turbine towers would be screened by intervening vegetation which would also suppress visibility of the majority of the upper blade sweep of T3 with the hub and tower of T3 screened by the intervening landform and associated woodland vegetation, leaving only the blade tip of T3 visible amongst the tree cover. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would also be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction activities would generally not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation, although crane activity would be visible during the erection and subsequent decommissioning of the wind turbines (T1 and T2).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to High</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High

Figure 6-18	Viewpoint 1: Dan-Y-Rhiw Terrace, West End, Abercarn	
	Magnitude	High
	Level of Effect	Major and Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	<p>Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented): No operational or consented schemes would be visible from this location, as evidenced in the cumulative wirelines in Figure 6-19. As a consequence, the magnitude of change would be <i>Zero</i> and there would be no cumulative effects.</p> <p>Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion): The planning application scheme at Trecelyn would be visible on the horizon and above the intervening built form at a minimum distance of 1.8km (High). No scoping schemes would be visible. The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Zero	Additional Effect: (PD only):	N/A
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Zero	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	N/A
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	High	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed + PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed + PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse.			

Table 6K. 3 Viewpoint 2: Twmbarlwn Iron Age Fort summit

Figure 6-19	Viewpoint 2: Twmbarlwn Iron Age Fort summit
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located in open access land and is on the route of the Torfaen Trail, Cambrian Way and Celtic Way long distance footpath routes. The summit is identified as a panoramic viewpoint on the Ordnance Survey maps, is a well-known local landmark and has additional interest due to the Iron Age Fort Scheduled Monument.</p> <p>From the summit trig point, the view is orientated north, and commercial forestry extends across the middle ground slopes within long range views across an undulating ridge and valley landscape, with views extending to the mountains and hill tops of the Brecon Beacons on the distant horizon. The middle ground of the view includes Coety Mountain in the centre and other local ridgelines including Cefn Manmoel and Mynydd Bedwellte to the west. Lattice towers supporting the 132kv overhead electricity transmission in close proximity to the Proposed Development Site are visible to the northeast</p> <p>In the valleys to the west of centre in the view, extensive parts of the settlements of Newbridge, Croespenmaen, Oakdale and Blackwood are visible. An operational solar farm is visible west of Treowen with two further solar farms also seen north of Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate where two operational wind turbines (8.6km) are evident alongside the turbine at Oakdale Business Park (8.9km) as shown in Figure 6-19c. Other wind turbines visible between 10km and 15km distant include Pen Y Fan Ganol Farm (10.9km), Gelli-wen Farm (13.5km) and Cruglwyn (15.0km).</p>
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is not within a nationally designated landscape. However, it is located within the Abercarn VILL, defined by CCBC, at a readily accessible hill summit in close proximity to promoted routes and a viewpoint. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by hill walkers engaged in outdoor recreation where the focus of activity would be on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape of the Abercarn VILL. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T3 at 1.9km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures above the ridgeline of Mynydd Maen in northerly views from this location, affecting approximately 24° of the horizontal FoV. The hubs and majority of the rotator sweep of all three turbines would be visible above the horizon with the lower blade sweep and lower parts of the towers viewed against a landscape backdrop. There would be blade overlap between T2 and T3.</p> <p>The access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation sited to the east of T2, would be screened by intervening vegetation. Some tree loss from the field boundaries close to the base of T2 and T3 would also be discernible from this location.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Some ground based construction activities around T3 would be visible from this location with other low-level activity screened by intervening landform and vegetation. Crane activity would be visible during the erection and subsequent decommissioning of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to High</i>.</p>

Figure 6-19	Viewpoint 2: Twmbarlwn Iron Age Fort summit	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	High
	Level of Effect	Major and Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse.

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>To the north, in views towards the Proposed Development, operational wind turbines at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (8.6km), Oakdale Business Park (8.9km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (10.9km), Gelli-wen Farm (13.5km) and Cruglwyn (15.0km) are visible as well as the consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (11.0km) which overlaps the Proposed Development (Figure 6-19c).</p> <p>To the west the operational wind turbines at Tyle Crwth (6.9km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (6.9km), Llwyncelyn Farm (20.7km), Ferndale (25.1km), Mynydd Portref Extension (25.0km), Mynydd Portref (25.9km), Taff Ely (26.5km) and Fforch Nest (26.9km) are visible (Figure 6-19f). The consented schemes at Twyn Hywel (10.3km) and Mynydd y Glyn (20.3km) would also be visible.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Medium to Low</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>The planning application schemes at Trecelyn (3.6km), Mynydd Maen (4.0km) Mynydd Llanhilleth (8.1km), Manmoel (15.3km), Abertillery (12.3km), Manmoel (15.3km) and Convatec Green (20.8km) as well as the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (15.2km) would be visible to the north (Figure 6-19c), in views towards the Proposed Development.</p> <p>To the west, the scoping scheme at Llanwonno (19.1km) would be visible (Figure 6-19f). No planning application schemes would be visible to the west.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	High	Additional Effect: (PD only)	Major and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline and PD)	Major and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	High	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant

Figure 6-19	Viewpoint 2: Twmbarlwn Iron Age Fort summit
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse.

Table 6K. 4 Viewpoint 3: Open space on Old Pant Road, Panside

<p>Figure 6-20</p>	<p>Viewpoint 3: Open space on Old Pant Road, Panside</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>This viewpoint is located on the public footpath through the open space north of Old Pant Road in the residential area of Panside, 3.3km west of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to residents in elevated locations on the eastern side of the Ebbw Valley to the northwest of the Proposed Development, including those passing through the open space.</p> <p>The view is orientated southeast across the valley of the Nant Gawni towards the flanking ridgeline at Twyn-y-ganol, a remnant feature of previous quarrying activity in the area, to a visible horizon also defined by mature field boundary trees. The opposing hill slopes of the valley host a mix of mature vegetation including coniferous forestry, some of which has been recently felled, and deciduous woodland following the course of the Nant Gawni through the base of the valley.</p>	
<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>Viewpoint 3 is not within a locally or nationally designated landscape, however it is located within a settlement. The rural landscape to the east of the settlement, visible on the horizon, is located within the Abercarn VILL defined by CCBC. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by residents within the settlement and from nearby residential properties. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
<p>Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)</p>	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T2 at 3.3km. The blade tips of two of the turbines would theoretically be visible as new structures above the ridgeline in southeasterly views from this location, affecting approximately 14° of the horizontal FoV (Figure 6-20b). The absence of vegetation across this section of the ridgeline means that the of upper blade sweep of T1 and T2 would remain visible above the horizon with T3 completely obscured by the intervening landform. The hubs and towers of T2 and T3 would similarly be obscured by the landform as would the access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction activities and crane activity would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Zero</i>.</p>	
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>High</p>
	<p>Magnitude</p>	<p>Very Low</p>
	<p>Level of Effect</p>	<p>Moderate/Minor and Not Significant</p>
	<p>Type of Effect</p>	<p>Long term (reversible) and adverse</p>

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

<p>Figure 6-20</p>	<p>Viewpoint 3: Open space on Old Pant Road, Panside</p>			
<p>Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented): The operational wind turbines at Bryn Ysgawen Farm (7.2km), Tyle Crwth (7.7km), are theoretically visible to the southwest (Figure 6-20d), however, in reality views in this direction would be screened by the vegetation bordering Old Pant Road to the south and intervening settlement. To the northwest, the operational wind turbines at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (3.1km), Oakdale Business Park (3.3km), Llwyncelyn Farm (19.0km), Ferndale (22.7km) and Fforch Nest (25.3km) well as the consented turbines at Twyn Hywel (10.1km) and Mynydd y Glyn (19.7km) are theoretically visible (Figure 6-20d), however, in reality views in this direction would be screened by the settlement of Panside. The magnitude is judged to be <i>Zero</i>.</p> <p>Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion): To the southeast, the planning application schemes at Trecelyn (3.3km) and Mynydd Maen (2.8km) would overlap with the Proposed Development (Figures 6-20c and 6-20f). Visibility of the Mynydd Maen scheme is predicted to be largely restricted by mature intervening vegetation, including the field boundary trees occupying the horizon. The scoping scheme at Llanwonno (17.7km) is theoretically visible to the southwest (Figure 6-20d), however, in reality views in this direction would be screened by the vegetation bordering Old Pant Road to the south and intervening settlement. The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i>.</p>			
<p>Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Additional Magnitude: (PD only)</p>	<p>Zero</p>	<p>Additional Effect: (PD only):</p>	<p>N/A</p>
	<p>Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)</p>	<p>Zero</p>	<p>Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Additional Magnitude: (PD only)</p>	<p>Very Low</p>	<p>Additional Effect: (PD only):</p>	<p>Moderate/Minor and Not Significant</p>
	<p>Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed + PD)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed + PD)</p>	<p>Major and Significant</p>
<p>Type of Effect</p>	<p>Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse.</p>			

Table 6K. 5 Viewpoint 4: Trig point at the summit of Mynydd Maen/ Mynydd Llwyd

Figure 6-21	Viewpoint 4: Trig point at the summit of Mynydd Maen/ Mynydd Llwyd	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located at the summit of Mynydd Maen at an elevation of 472m AOD. From this location, broad westerly visibility is attained across the incised and heavily forested valleys of Nant Gwyddon towards the Proposed Development Site and onto the settled South Wales valleys beyond.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to users of the Taith Torfaen Anytime Challenge path, the local PRoW network and the open access land to the immediate east of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The view is orientated west across the valleys of Nant Gwyddon towards the westerly flanking hill slopes of the Ebbw Valley. The visible horizon from this location is dominated by the lattice towers supporting the 132kv overhead electricity transmission line which crosses the view traversing from Cwmbran in the south to the lower hill slopes of Mynydd Llwyd in the northwest. The communications mast on Mynydd Llwyd also forms a prominent vertical feature of the view. The foreground of the view comprises the upland heath vegetation cover of Mynydd Maen as well as a public footpath leading south to Cwmbran.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is not within a locally or nationally designated landscape, however it is located at a popular and readily accessible local hill summit in close proximity to the PRoW network. The viewpoint location also lies on the immediate eastern boundary of the Abercarn VILL, defined by CCBC. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by receptors engaged in outdoor recreation, principally hill walkers, where the focus of their activity is on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape bordering the Abercarn VILL. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The hubs, full rotator sweep and upper towers of all three turbines would be visible as new structures on the skyline of south-westerly views from this location, with the Proposed Development extending across approximately 12° of the horizontal FoV. The lower parts of turbine towers would be screened by intervening landform and the upland heath vegetation cover of Mynydd Maen.</p> <p>This introduction of new structures would be wholly located within a part of the baseline view that is already occupied by vertical, man-made infrastructure, comprising the lattice towers supporting the 132kv overhead electricity transmission line and the communications mast on Mynydd Llwyd. The Proposed Development appears smaller in scale and congruous in the context of these existing electricity transmission features of the view. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction:</p> <p>Ground based construction activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation, although crane activity would be visible during the erection of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Medium</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Medium

Figure 6-21	Viewpoint 4: Trig point at the summit of Mynydd Maen/ Mynydd Llwyd	
	Level of Effect	Major/ Moderate and Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), direct and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>To the southwest, in views towards the Proposed Development, operational wind turbines at Bryn Ysgawen Farm (10.3km), Tyle Crwth (10.6km), Llwyncelyn Farm (23.0km), Mynydd Portef Extension (28.5km), Fforch Nest (29.3km), Mynydd Portref (29.3km) and Taff Ely (29.8km) are visible (Figure 6-21c). The consented scheme at Twyn Hywel (13.8km) would also be visible in this direction.</p> <p>To the northwest the operational wind turbines at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (6.7km), Oakdale Business Park (7.0km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (8.2km), Gelli-wen Farm (11.6km), Cruglwyn (12.2km), Pen Bryn Oer (17.7km) and Ferndale (26.7km) are visible as well as the consented turbines at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (7.6km) (Figure 6-21d).</p> <p>To the southeast, the operational turbines at Solutia (14.6km) and Tesco/Newport (18.2km) would be visible (Figure 6-21f).</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Low</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>The planning application schemes at Mynydd Maen (0.2km) and Trecelyn (2.0km) and as well as the scoping request scheme at Llanwonno (21.5km) would be visible to the southwest (Figure 6-21c), in views towards the Proposed Development.</p> <p>To the northwest, the planning application schemes at Mynydd Maen (0.2km), Mynydd Llanhilleth (3.2km), Abertillery (7.4km) and Manmoel (12.2km) as well as the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (13.3km) would be visible.</p> <p>The Mynydd Maen planning application scheme would also be visible in views to the northeast and southeast (Figures 6-21e and 6-21f).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Very High</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major/ Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major/ Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major/Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Very High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse.			

Table 6K. 6 Viewpoint 5: Open space on Fflorens Road, Treowen

Figure 6-22	Viewpoint 5: Open space on Fflorens Road, Treowen	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located within the public open space between Royal Crescent/ Fflorens Road and Treowen Road in Treowen, west of Treowen Village Hall and north of Newbridge.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to residents in elevated locations on the western side of the Ebbw Valley in Treowen, including those passing through the residential area and comparable views attained from properties to the north and south.</p> <p>The view is orientated southeast, with the visible horizon defined by the eastern flanking ridgeline of the valley of the Nant Gawni at Twyn-y-ganol, a remnant feature of previous quarrying activity in the area. The well-wooded view looks across the Ebbw Valley and the valley of the Nant Gawni where a mix of mature vegetation is present including coniferous forestry at Coed-Cil-lonydd and Yr Ellyn, deciduous woodland following water courses and field boundary trees that occupy the visible horizon north of Panside.</p> <p>The settlement of Panside lies on the ridgeline in the middle-distance view while the foreground of the view comprises the residential area of Treowen, including Treowen Village Hall, residential properties, children’s play area and mature tree planting.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is not within a locally or nationally designated landscape, however it is located within a settlement. The rural landscape visible to the east of the is located within the Abercarn VILL, defined by CCBC. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by residents within the settlement and from nearby residential properties. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 4.0km. The hubs and upper blade sweep of T2 and T3 together with the tower, hub and full rotator sweep of T1 would be visible as new structures on the skyline of south-easterly views from this location, affecting approximately 13° of the horizontal FoV. The turbine towers of T2 and T3 would be screened by intervening vegetation and the ridge of landform at Twyn-y-ganol which would also suppress visibility of the lower part of the rotator sweep of T2 and T3. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction:</p> <p>Ground based construction activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation, although crane activity would be visible during the erection of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Medium</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	High-Medium
	Level of Effect	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant

Figure 6-22	Viewpoint 5: Open space on Fflorens Road, Treowen	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>To the northwest the operational wind turbine at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (2.3km) is theoretically visible (Figure 6-22e), although in reality views in this direction would be screened by the residential properties on Fflorens Road and Albertina Road.</p> <p>The consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (7.6km) is theoretically visible to the north (Figure 6-22e). In reality, a degree of screening would be afforded by the residential properties on Fflorens Road and Treowen Road reducing visibility towards Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Low</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>The planning application schemes Trecelyn (2.6km and would overlap with the Proposed Development) and Mynydd Maen (4.0km) would be visible in views to the east/southeast (Figures 6-22c and 6-22f). Visibility of the Mynydd Maen scheme is predicted to be partially screened by mature intervening vegetation, including the field boundary trees occupying the horizon. The planning application schemes at Mynydd Llanhilleth (3.8km) and Abertillery (7.4km) are theoretically visible to the northeast (Figure 6-22f). In reality, a degree of screening would be afforded to these schemes by the residential properties on Fflorens Road and Treowen Road so as to reduce visibility, particularly towards Abertillery.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	High-Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	High-Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse.			

Table 6K. 7 Viewpoint 6: Mynydd Machen

Figure 6-23	Viewpoint 6: Mynydd Machen	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located in open access land and is on path which forms a section of the Taith Torfaen Anytime Challenge, Cambrian Way, Raven Walk, Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk and Sirhowy Valley Walk long distance footpath routes. The viewpoint is located close to the summit of Mynydd Machen and just to the north-west of the transmitter station.</p> <p>The view is orientated northwest along the path towards the southern and east facing slopes of Mynydd y Lan, with the three transmitters on its summit visible above the coniferous forestry which covers the eastern flanks. In the foreground, the landform gently rises to the northeast. The middle ground of the view includes local ridgelines and summits whilst in the intervening valleys, parts of the settlements of Newbridge, Treowen Croespenmaen, Oakdale and Blackwood are visible. An operational solar farm is visible west of Treowen with where two operational wind turbines evident at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (10.2km) alongside the turbine at Oakdale Business Park (10.4km) as shown in Figure 6-24c. Other wind turbines visible include Pen Y Fan Ganol Farm (12.5km) and Cruglwyn (16.4km).</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is not within a nationally designated landscape. However, it is located within the North Caerphilly SLA, defined by CCBC, on the promoted routes of the Taith Torfaen Anytime Challenge, Cambrian Way, Raven Walk, Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk and Sirhowy Valley Walk. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by hill walkers engaged in outdoor recreation where the focus of activity would be on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape of the North Caerphilly SLA. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 4.6km. All three of the proposed turbines, including two hubs, would be visible as new structures beyond the rising topography of Mynydd Machen in northerly views from this location, affecting approximately 12° of the horizontal FoV. The tower, hub and lower rotator sweep of T3 together with the tower and lower rotator sweep of T2 would be screened by the landform, with the hub and upper rotator sweep of T2 theoretically visible above the local horizon. In reality the grassland and ruderal vegetation across Mynydd Machen would provide some partial screening of the hub of T2, leaving just the upper blade tip visible. The hub and full rotator sweep of T1 would be visible extending above the visible horizon.</p> <p>Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation, although the upper most crane activity at T1 would be visible during the erection of the wind turbines. The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Low</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Medium

Figure 6-23	Viewpoint 6: Mynydd Machen	
	Level of Effect	Major/Moderate and Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse.

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	<p>Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented): To the north, in views towards the Proposed Development, operational wind turbines at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (10.2km), Oakdale Business Park (10.4km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (12.5km), Gelli-wen Farm (14.6km) and Cruglwyn (16.4km) are visible as well as the consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (12.9km) (Figure 6-23c).</p> <p>To the west the operational wind turbines at Tyle Crwth (5.2km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (5.5km) and Ferndale (23.7km), Llwynceilyn Farm (19.0km), Fforch Nest (25.0km), Taff Ely (24.1km), Mynydd Portref Extension (22.6km) and Mynydd Portref (23.5km) as well as the consented turbine at Twyn Hywel (8.4km) and Mynydd y Glyn (18.1km) are visible (Figure 6.23c).</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Medium</i>.</p> <p>Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion): The planning application schemes at Trecelyn (5.9km), Mynydd Maen (7.1km), Mynydd Llanhilleth (10.9km), Abertillery (14.8km) and Manmoel (16.8km) as well as the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (16.9km) and would be visible to the north (Figure 6-23c), in views towards the Proposed Development.</p> <p>To the west, the scoping request scheme at Llanwonno would be visible (Figure 6-23f).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium-Low</i>.</p>			
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Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only)	Major/Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline and PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline and PD)	Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major/Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major/Moderate and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse.			

Table 6K. 8 Viewpoint 7: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk

Figure 6-24	Viewpoint 7: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located on the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk between Machen and Ystrad Mynach, on the eastern side of the Sirhowy Valley, east of Ynysddu, at Pant-y-ffawydden. The Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk is a long-distance path and PRoW that traverses the hills surrounding the Rhymney Valley.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location would be representative of views available to recreational users of the long-distance route, principally hill walkers.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the northeast across the Sirhowy Valley to the ridgeline of terrain at Mynyddislwyn to the visible horizon formed by the eastern side of the Ebbw Valley formed by Mynydd Maen, Mynydd Llwyd, Byrgwn and Gwastad. Land cover across hill summits and upper valley sides comprises a mixture of upland heath, semi-improved pasture, coniferous forestry and mature deciduous woodland. A geometric pattern of medium-large scale fields is reinforced within the view by mature, well-defined field boundaries of hedgerows and hedgerows with trees.</p> <p>On the opposing (eastern) hill slopes of the Sirhowy Valley, at Mynyddislwyn, scattered farmsteads and agricultural buildings are a common feature, with an operational solar farm and two communications masts also visible north of Mynydd y Lan. Some fields on the western side of the Sirhowy Valley are bound by stone walls, as demonstrated in the foreground of the view.</p> <p>The northern portion of the view encompasses the settled areas of Wyllie, Blackwood, Pontllanfraith, Oakdale and Swffryd while the operational wind turbines at Oakdale Business Park (7.5km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (7.7km) and Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (9.8km) are also visible.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the locally designated North Caerphilly SLA on the route of a promoted long-distance route. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by receptors engaged in outdoor recreation on the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk, principally hill walkers, where the focus of activity is on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape within the SLA. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 6.2km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures above the visible horizon of north-easterly views from this location, affecting approximately 6° of the horizontal FoV. The lower parts of the towers would be screened by intervening landform whilst the full rotator sweep of T1, T2 and T3 would be visible from this location. The three turbines would be visible alongside the existing vertical transmitters on Mynydd y Lan and would appear at a similar scale on the skyline.</p> <p>Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction activities would generally not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform. Crane activity would be visible during the erection of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Medium</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High

Figure 6-24	Viewpoint 7: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk	
	Magnitude	Medium
	Level of Effect	Major/ Moderate and Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational wind turbines at Oakdale Business Park (7.5km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (7.7km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (9.8km) are visible to the northeast as well as the consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (10.7km) (Figure 6-24f).</p> <p>The operational turbines at Gelli-wen Farm (10.5km), Cruglwyn (12.8km) and Pen Bryn Oer (17.1km) are theoretically visible to the northwest (Figure 6-24f). To the southeast, the operational wind turbines at Bryn Ysgawen Farm (0.3km) and Tyle Crwth (1.0km) are visible (Figure 6-24d). The southwest, the blade tips of the consented Twyn Hywel scheme are theoretically visible.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>High</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the northeast, the planning application schemes at Trecelyn (6.6km), Mynydd Maen (9.3km), Mynydd Llanhilleth (10.3km) and Abertillery (13.9km) would be visible (Figure 6-24c).</p> <p>The planning application schemes at Manmoel (13.4km) and Convatec (16.9km) would be visible to the northwest (Figure 6-24f) along with the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (12.9km).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major/ Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major/ Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 9 Viewpoint 8: Monnow Way, Bettws

<p>Figure 6-25</p>	<p>Viewpoint 8: Monnow Way, Bettws</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>This viewpoint is located close to an area of public open space which extends between Monnow Way and the Bettws Brook in Bettws. Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location would be representative of views available to residential receptors within the elevated, southern edge of the settlement.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the northwest across the valley of the Bettws Brook and lower lying areas of Bettws. Towards the left side of the view, Mynydd Y Lan forms a distant landform beyond the coniferous woodlands of Garth Fach, Garth Fawr and Coed Craig y Ceiliog. The visible horizon central to the view is formed by Mynydd Henllys with Twmbarlwm at its south-western end, which extends across the view above the settlement, woodland and solar farm at Cwrt Henllys, to the north of the Pant-yr-eos Reservoir.</p> <p>Land cover across Mynydd Henllys comprises a mixture of upland heath, semi-improved pasture, coniferous forestry and mature deciduous woodland. No operational wind turbines are currently visible in baseline views.</p>	
<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>The viewpoint is not within a locally or nationally designated landscape, however it is located within a settlement. The rural landscape visible to the north-west beyond Bettws is located within the North of Bettws SLA, defined by Newport Council with the Southern Lowlands and South West Uplands SLAs, as defined by Torfaen Council, Mynydd Henllys/Twmbarlwm and landscape to the south. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by residents within the settlement and from nearby residential properties. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
<p>Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)</p>	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T3 at 6.4km. The upper blade tip of T1 would theoretically be visible alongside the hub and upper rotator sweep of T3 and the upper rotator sweep of T2, extending above the visible horizon of north-easterly views from this location, affecting approximately 6° of the horizontal FoV. The towers and lower rotator sweep of all three turbines and the hubs of T1 and T2 would be screened by the intervening landform of Mynydd Henllys. Whilst the Proposed Development would appear on the skyline of views from this location, it would not become a prominent component of the view and would be perceived beyond the foreground and middle-ground built form, including vertical lighting columns and moving vehicles on the roads. It would also be apparent alongside the transmitter mast on Mynydd Twyn-glas and several of the steel lattice towers which cross Mynydd Maen, which form minor existing vertical elements on the skyline.</p> <p>Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening vegetation. The upper most crane activity would be visible as a minor feature above the horizon during the erection and subsequent removal of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Very Low</i>.</p>	
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>High</p>

Figure 6-25	Viewpoint 8: Monnow Way, Bettws	
	Magnitude	Low
	Level of Effect	Moderate and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented): No operational or consented schemes would be visible from this location, as evidenced in the cumulative wirelines in Figure 6-25 . As a consequence, the magnitude of change would be <i>Zero</i> and there would be no cumulative effects.			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion): To the northeast, the planning application scheme at Mynydd Maen (6.8km) would be visible above Mynydd Henllys. No other planning application or scoping request schemes would be visible from this viewpoint. The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i> .			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Zero	Additional Effect: (PD only):	N/A
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Zero	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	N/A
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major/Moderate and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 10 Viewpoint 9: Pen-y-Fan Pond Country Park

Figure 6-26	Viewpoint 9: Pen-y-Fan Pond Country Park	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located on a public footpath close to the northern edge of Pen-y-fan Pond Country Park that forms part of a surfaced perimeter route around the lake edge. The viewpoint is located approximately 170m to the west of the visitor car park.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to visitors and recreational users of the Country Park.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the southeast. The foreground comprises the lake, wetland habitat and vegetation. The Country Park and lake are bound to the southeast by deciduous woodland enclosing Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate, which can be partially seen through the vegetation. The woodland boundary restricts visibility to the broader landscape, in this direction, with a small portion of the visible horizon occupied by the eastern flanking hill slopes of the Ebbw Valley at Twyn-y-ganol.</p> <p>Lattice towers supporting a 132kv overhead electricity transmission line cross the centre of the view through Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is not within a locally or nationally designated landscape, however views towards the Proposed Development are within the main focal point of the park around the central pond. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by visitors to the park including walkers along the public footpath. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 6.9km. Figure 6-26b-c illustrates theoretical visibility of all three of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, affecting approximately 6° of the horizontal FoV. In reality the deciduous woodland bordering the southern boundary of the Country Park would screen visibility to T1 and the towers of T2 and T3 with the hub and upper rotator sweep of T3 and the upper rotator sweep of T2 visible through and above the trees.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new structures to a narrow extent of the horizontal field of view and would predominantly be screened by intervening vegetation, even during the winter months, as evidenced in Figure 6-26. The most evident change to the baseline view (T2 and T3) would be exerted within a portion of the field view already occupied by vertical, man-made infrastructure; comprising the lattice towers of the 132kv overhead electricity transmission line that crosses the industrial land-use at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate. The scale of the Proposed Development appears congruous in the context of these existing features of the view. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation. The upper most crane activity would be partially visible during the erection and subsequent removal of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Very Low</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High

Figure 6-26	Viewpoint 9: Pen-y-Fan Pond Country Park	
	Magnitude	Very Low
	Level of Effect	Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational wind turbines at Oakdale Business Park (0.7km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (0.8km), Bryn Ysgawen (8.7km), Tyle Crwth (9.3km), Llwynceilyn Farm (17.9km), Ferndale (20.9km), Fforch Nest (24.0km) and Mynydd Portref Extension (24.6km) as well as the consented turbines at Twyn Hywel (10.1km) and Mynydd y Glyn (19.2km) are theoretically visible to the southwest (Figure 6-26c-d). However, in reality, actual visibility of these schemes would be heavily filtered by intervening woodland with the exception of Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate and one of the turbines at Oakdale Business Park.</p> <p>To the northwest, the operational wind turbine at Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (1.6km) and Gelli-wen Farm (4.6km) are theoretically visible (Figure 6-26e). In reality, the turbine at Gelli-wen Farm would be screened by intervening vegetation. Visibility of the hub and rotator sweep of the turbine at Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm would be visible above the skyline in the same field of view as the operational solar farm to the west of the Country Park.</p> <p>To the northeast, the consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (2.3km) is shown as theoretically visible by Figure 6-26e, however, intervening woodland vegetation bordering the Country Park would reduce visibility to heavily filtered and intermittent glimpses of turbine blades.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>High</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major and Significant

Figure 6-26		Viewpoint 9: Pen-y-Fan Pond Country Park		
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 11 Viewpoint 10: PRow east of St. Illtyd

Figure 6-27	Viewpoint 10: PRow east of St. Illtyd	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located on footpath 337 35/1, southeast of Hafod-arthen and the small village of St. Illtyd at an elevation of 354m AOD.</p> <p>Visibility from this location is representative of the maximum effects of the Proposed Development in middle-distance views available to residents of elevated properties and users of the dense PRow network in the vicinity of St. Illtyd/ Llanhilledd north of the Proposed Development Site.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the south taking in long range visibility across an undulating ridge and valley landscape. Southerly views from this location look across the successive valleys of the Nant Cyffin and the Nant y Cnwy which form the ridgelines of terrain at Maes-y-cnyw Farm and Cefn-y-crib on the visible horizon. A geometric pattern of pastoral fields is present on valley sides and higher land and is reinforced by mature field boundary trees and hedgerows while denser areas of deciduous woodland are established on lower hill slopes and across valley floors. Scattered farmsteads and agricultural buildings are a minor feature of the middle distance view, often screened by intervening vegetation. The lattice towers of an existing overhead electricity transmission line are visible crossing the skyline of the view to the south.</p> <p>To the southwest, the Ebbw Valley and its western flanking hill slopes at Coed Trinant are visible in the distant view while the settlement at Llanhilleth forms part of the middle distance view.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the locally designated St. Illtyd Plateau and Ebbw Eastern Sides SLA and on the route of a local footpath. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by recreational receptors using footpath 337 35/1 including local residents from St. Illtyd. The susceptibility to change is therefore assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 7.0km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures on the visible horizon of southerly views from this location, affecting approximately 7° of the horizontal FoV. The bases of the turbine towers would be screened by intervening field boundary trees and hedgerows and deciduous woodland. The full rotator sweep of all turbines would be visible from this location and T2 and T3 would overlap, giving rise to an increased prominence in comparison to T1. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening vegetation.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would generally not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation, although crane activity would be visible during the erection and subsequent removal of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Medium</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Medium
	Level of Effect	Major/Moderate and Significant

Figure 6-27	Viewpoint 10: PRow east of St. Illtyd	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational wind turbines at Bryn Ysgawen Farm (10.6km) and Tyle Crwth (11.2km) are visible to the southwest, in views towards the Proposed Development (Figure 6-27c).</p> <p>To the west, the operational wind turbines at Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (3.0km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (3.2km), Oakdale Business Park (3.2km), Gelli-wen Farm (6.5km), Llwyncelyn Farm (20.6km), Ferndale (23.5km), Fforch Nest (26.7km), Mynydd Portref Extension (27.2km) and Mynydd Portref (27.9km) as well as the consented turbines at Twyn Hywel (12.6km) and Mynydd y Glyn (21.8km) are theoretically visible (Figure 6-27d). In reality views to the turbines at Ferndale, Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm and Gelli-wen Farm would be screened by intervening mature vegetation.</p> <p>A single turbine from the consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (2.0km) is theoretically visible to the north (Figure 6-27d), however, in reality this will be screened from view by intervening built form and vegetation</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Medium</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the south and southeast, the planning application schemes at Treceyln (4.2km) and Mynydd Maen (4.6km) would overlap with the Proposed Development on the visible horizon. The planning application scheme at Mynydd Llanhilleth (1.5km) would also be visible to the east (Figures 6-27c and 6-27f).</p> <p>The scoping request scheme at Llanwonno (19.4km) would be visible to the southwest (Figure 6-27d).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major/Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major/Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 12 Viewpoint 11: Cefn Fforest/ Blackwood Show Fields

Figure 6-28	Viewpoint 11: Cefn Fforest/ Blackwood Show Fields
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located on a public footpath on the western edge of Blackwood Show Fields, adjoining Greenwood Road, that forms part of a surfaced perimeter route around the public open space. The viewpoint is located close to the public car park on Sunnybank Road, Blackwood.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to visitors and recreational users of Blackwood Show Fields as well as residents in the eastern part of Blackwood, at Greenwood Road.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the east and extends to a visible horizon defined by the eastern and northern flanking slopes of the Ebbw Valley at Mynydd Llwyd and Mynydd Maen in the east and Mynydd Llanhilleth to the northeast. Visibility to the distant horizon is curtailed, somewhat, in the centre view by mature coniferous and deciduous woodland bordering Sunnybank Road, Blackwood and Blackwood Golf Club. The well-wooded nature of the middle distance view is reinforced by the mature deciduous woodland following the course of the Sirhowy River across the view.</p> <p>Built form is a visible feature among the mature vegetation with Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate and parts of the settlements of Penmaen and Oakdale evident. Residential areas of Blackwood also form part of the view, including Sunnybank Road (right) and Harlech Close (left). The operational turbine Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (3.4km) is also visible to the east. The foreground of the view comprises the sports pitches of Blackwood Show Fields which is borders to the east by part of Blackwood Golf Course and the adjoining car park, changing rooms, Bowling Club and Tennis Club accessed from Sunnybank Road.</p>
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is not within a locally or nationally designated landscape, however views towards the Proposed Development are within the main focal point of Blackwood Show Fields to the rural landscape of the eastern visible horizon, which is located within the Abercarn VILL, defined by CCBC. The footpath and associated seating are well used. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by visitors to the show fields including walkers along the public footpath and recreational users of the sports pitches as well as by residents from nearby residential properties. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 7.1km. Figures 6-28b-c and Figure 6-28g illustrate theoretical visibility of the three proposed turbines, including three hubs, affecting approximately 6° of the horizontal FoV. In reality, the deciduous tree cover between the Blackwood Show Fields car park and sports pitches would partially screen visibility of T1 as well as part of the tower and rotator sweep of T3. The tower, hub and full rotator sweep of T2 would however remain clearly visible above the horizon and intervening vegetation.</p> <p>Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform, vegetation and separation distance.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening vegetation and</p>

Figure 6-28	Viewpoint 11: Cefn Fforest/ Blackwood Show Fields	
	separation distance. Crane activity would be visible (T2 and T3) or partially visible (T1) during the erection and subsequent removal of the wind turbines. The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Medium</i> .	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Medium
	Level of Effect	Major/ Moderate and Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational wind turbines at Oakdale Business Park (3.0km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (3.4km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (4.8km) are visible to the northeast (Figure 6-28f) as the consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (6.1km) (Figure 6.26f)</p> <p>The operational turbines at Tyle Crwth (6.3km) and Bryn Ysgawen Farm (5.6km) are theoretically visible to the south (Figure 6-28d) with the operational turbines at Llwynceilyn Farm (14.2km) theoretically visible to the west. In reality visibility of these schemes would be screened by intervening mature vegetation and the built form of the settlement of Blackwood.</p> <p>To the north, the operational wind turbines, Gelli-wen Farm (5.3km) and Cruglwyn (7.5km) are theoretically visible. In reality views to the turbines would be screened by intervening mature vegetation. The consented schemes at Twyn Hywel (6.1km) and Mynydd y Glyn (15.2km) are theoretically visible to the south (Figure 6-28d) although in reality, visibility of these schemes would be screened by intervening mature vegetation and the built form of the settlement of Blackwood.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the east, the planning application schemes at Trecelyn (6.4km) and Mynydd Maen (8.0km) would overlap and extend along the visible horizon (Figure 6-28c). The planning application schemes at Mynydd Llanhilleth (7.2km) and Abertillery (9.8km) would also be visible to the northeast (Figure 6-28f).</p> <p>To the north, the planning application schemes at Manmoel (8.1km) is theoretically visible in conjunction with the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (7.6km) (Figure 6.26f). In reality, views to the turbines at these schemes would be screened by intervening mature vegetation and the built form of the settlement of Blackwood.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p>			
	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only)	Major/ Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major-Major/ Moderate and Significant

Figure 6-28		Viewpoint 11: Cefn Fforest/ Blackwood Show Fields		
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (Proposed Development):	Major/ Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major-Major/ Moderate and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 13 Viewpoint 12: B4236, Llanfrechfa

Figure 6-29	Viewpoint 12: B4236, Llanfrechfa	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located on the B4236 Caerleon Road to the northwest of the settlement of Llanfrechfa.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of middle-distance views available to residents and recreational users of the local PRow network which crosses the agricultural landscape to the southwest of Llanfrechfa.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the northwest with a foreground comprising the highway and highway footpath which is lined by regularly spaced lighting columns. A post and wire fence separates the highway from the pastoral fields to the southwest, the closets of which is bound by a gappy hedgerow. The horizon is formed by Mynydd Henllys with Twmbarlwm at its south-western end. Land cover across Mynydd Henllys comprises a mixture of upland heath, semi-improved pasture, coniferous forestry and mature deciduous woodland. The lower slopes feature the western suburbs of Cwmbran at Henllys, Ty Canol and Thornhill. The steel lattice towers of an overhead line which crosses the summit of Mynydd Henllys before descending its southeastern flank are visible as minor features across part of the skyline.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the locally designated South Eastern Farmlands SLA and extends across to the South West Uplands SLA, as defined by Torfaen Council, which encompasses Mynydd Henllys/Twmbarlwm. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by walkers on the local public footpath network, and residents of nearby residential properties within Llanfrechfa. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T3 at 7.7km. The blade tips of the three proposed turbines, are shown as being theoretically visible as new structures on the skyline of north-westerly views from this location, affecting approximately 4° of the horizontal FoV (Figure 6-29b-c and Figure 6-29g). In reality, visibility of T1 would be obscured by intervening coniferous forestry across the summit of Mynydd Henllys (Figure 6-29h-i).</p> <p>The upper rotator sweep of T2 and T3 would be observed in the same field of view as the steel lattice towers which extend above the horizon as they cross the ridgeline. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened from view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low-Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation. Elevated crane activity would similarly not be visible during the erection and subsequent removal of the three turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Zero</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Low-Very Low
	Level of Effect	Moderate-Moderate/ Minor and Not Significant

Figure 6-29	Viewpoint 12: B4236, Llanfrechfa	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented): No operational or consented schemes would be visible from this location, as evidenced in the cumulative wirelines (Figures 6-29d-g). As a consequence, the magnitude of change would be <i>Zero</i> and there would be no cumulative effects.			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion): To the northwest, the planning application schemes at Mynydd Maen (6.4km), Mynydd Llanhilleth (9.7km) and Abertillery (13.7km) are shown as being visible in this direction (Figure 6.32c), with Mynydd Maen appearing in the same field of view as the steel lattice towers which cross the ridgeline. In reality, the Mynydd Llanhilleth and Abertillery schemes would be partially screened by intervening deciduous trees. No scoping request schemes would be visible from this location. The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i> .			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Zero	Additional Effect: (PD only):	N/A
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Zero	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	N/A
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low-Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate-Moderate/ Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major/Moderate and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 14 Viewpoint 13: Northern edge of Gelligaer

<p>Figure 6-30</p>	<p>Viewpoint 13: Northern edge of Gelligaer</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>This viewpoint is located at the junction of Church Road and Rectory Road on the northern edge of Gelligaer, west of Gelligaer Cemetery.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of middle-distance views available to residents and recreational users of the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk and PRow network on the north edge of Gelligaer.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the east with a foreground comprising the pastoral field adjoining the northern margin of Church Road, mature field boundary vegetation and the stone wall abutting Rectory Road. A part of the residential property and associated outbuildings to the southeast, on the northern side of Church Road, are also visible. Easterly visibility from this location is heavily filtered by mature mixed field boundary vegetation as well as mixed woodland surrounding Gelligaer Cemetery and bordering Pengam Road. Where filtered glimpses to the east are available, the settlements at Pontllanfraith and Newbridge/ Trecelyn are partially seen beneath a visible horizon defined by the landform massif comprising Mynydd Llwyd, Mynydd Twyn Glas and Mynydd Maen.</p>	
<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>The viewpoint is located within the locally designated Gelligaer SLA on a PRow network link route to promoted long distance route. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by walkers on the public footpath network, including those engaged in outdoor recreation accessing the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk, and residents of nearby residential properties. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
<p>Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)</p>	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 9.9km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, are shown as being theoretically visible as new structures on the skyline of the view from this location, affecting approximately 4° of the horizontal FoV (Figure 6-30b-c and Figure 6-30g). In reality, the lower portions of the towers and lower rotator sweep of T2 and T3 would be restricted or filtered during winter months, when deciduous trees are in dormancy, with enhanced vegetative screening provided in summer months when intervening deciduous vegetation is full leaf (Figure 6.30h-i).</p> <p>Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened from view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation, although crane activity would be visible during the erection and subsequent removal of all three turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Low</i>.</p>	
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>High</p>
	<p>Magnitude</p>	<p>Low</p>
	<p>Level of Effect</p>	<p>Moderate and Not Significant</p>

Figure 6-30	Viewpoint 13: Northern edge of Gelligaer	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	<p>Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):</p> <p>The operational wind turbines at Oakdale Business Park (6.4km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (6.9km) and Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (7.7km) are theoretically visible to the east, in views towards the Proposed Development (Figure 6-30c). The consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (9.1km) is also shown as theoretically visible to the northeast (Figures 6.32c and 6.32df). In reality, views of these operational and consented schemes would be screened by intervening vegetation.</p> <p>To the southeast, the operational turbines at Tyle Crwth (6.7km) and Bryn Ysgawen Farm (7.9km) are filtered by field boundary vegetation adjoining Rectory Road (Figure 6-30c). The operational turbines at Gelli-wen Farm (6.5km) and Cruglwyn (9.0km), lying to the north (Figure 6.32f), and the operation turbines at Llwyncelyn Farm (10.7km) and Fforch Nest (16.8km), to the southwest (Figure 6-30e) are demonstrated as being theoretically visible but would be screened by the intervening built form of Gelligaer and mature vegetation.</p> <p>The consented schemes at Twyn Hywel (4.0km) and Mynydd y Glyn (12.0km) are shown as being theoretically visible to the south and southwest (Figure 6-30d) although in reality, these schemes would be screened by the built form of Gelligaer. To the north the consented scheme at Manmoel (9.7km) would theoretically be visible although in reality, would be screened by foreground vegetation and built form along Rectory Road.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):</p> <p>To the east, the planning application schemes at Trecelyn (9.6km) and Mynydd Maen (11.5km) would overlap and although subject to a similar screening influence, would result in a notable increase in the number of wind turbines visible on the skyline. The planning application schemes at Mynydd Llanhilleth (10.7km) and Abertillery (12.9km) are shown as being visible in this direction (Figures 6-30c and 6-30f). In reality, views of these schemes would be screened by intervening vegetation.</p> <p>To the north, the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Betwllite is shown as theoretically visible but would be screened by foreground vegetation and built form along Rectory Road. The scoping scheme at Llanwonno would theoretically be visible to the southwest although in reality would be screened by the built form of Gelligaer.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p>			
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Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Low	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Moderate and Not Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines	Additional Magnitude:	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant

Figure 6-30	Viewpoint 13: Northern edge of Gelligaer			
+ Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	(PD only)			
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Low	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Moderate and Not Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 15 Viewpoint 14: Wellfield Close, west of Coed-y-paen

Figure 6-31	Viewpoint 14: Wellfield Close, west of Coed-y-paen	
Description	<p>The baseline photography for this viewpoint will be presented as part of the Final ES (see Section 6.16 of Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual).</p> <p>This viewpoint is located on Wellfield Road to the west of the settlement of Coed-y-paen. Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of middle-distance views available to drivers and their passengers travelling along the road and those at the Llandegfedd Reservoir Car Park. Residents' outward views from Coed-y-paen would be obscured or heavily filtered by foreground vegetation, built form and the prevalence of tree cover within and around the settlement.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the southwest with a foreground comprising the pastoral field adjoining the southern edge of Wellfield Road. The view extends over the well wooded valley of the Sor Brook and settlement within Upper Cwmbran towards the ridgeline comprising Mynydd Henllys with Twmbarlwm at its southwestern end and the eastern flanks of Mynydd Maen and Mynydd Twyn glas to the northeast.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is not within a locally or nationally designated landscape. The rural landscape visible to the southwest beyond the is located within the South West Uplands SLA, as defined by Torfaen Council. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be Medium.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by drivers and their passengers using the local road network to access the Llandegfedd Reservoir Car Park. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as Medium. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be Medium.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T2 at 10.0km. Figure 6-31 indicates that the upper blade tips of T2 and T3 would be visible above the horizon, affecting approximately 3° of the horizontal FoV, with the intervening landform screening T1 in its entirety as well as the towers, hubs and majority of the rotator sweep of T2 and T3. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would similarly be screened from view by the landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>No construction or decommissioning activities would be visible from this location. The magnitude of change be <i>Zero</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	Medium
	Magnitude	Very Low
	Level of Effect	Minor and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse
<p>Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).</p>		
Cumulative Magnitude excluding the	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):	

<p>Figure 6-31</p>	<p>Viewpoint 14: Wellfield Close, west of Coed-y-paen</p>			
<p>Proposed Development</p>	<p>The operational wind turbines at Solutia (13.0km) are theoretically visible to the south (Figure 6-31f) although in reality, views of this operational scheme would be screened by intervening vegetation. The consented Mynydd Carn y Cefn (13.2km) would theoretically be visible to the northwest although roadside vegetation along the northern side of Wellfield Close would restrict views in this direction.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):</p> <p>To the west, the planning application schemes at Mynydd Maen (7.0km) and Mynydd Llanhilleth (8.6km) would result in a notable increase in the number of wind turbines visible on the skyline in views towards the Proposed Development. The planning application scheme at Abertillery (11.5km) is shown as being visible in views to the northwest (Figure 6-31d), although in reality, views of this scheme would be screened by roadside vegetation.</p> <p>No scoping schemes would be visible from this viewpoint.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p>			
<p>Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Additional Magnitude: (PD only)</p>	<p>Very Low</p>	<p>Additional Effect: (PD only):</p>	<p>Minor and Not Significant</p>
	<p>Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)</p>	<p>Very Low</p>	<p>Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)</p>	<p>Minor and Not Significant</p>
<p>Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Additional Magnitude: (PD only)</p>	<p>Very Low</p>	<p>Additional Effect: (PD only):</p>	<p>Minor and Not Significant</p>
	<p>Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)</p>	<p>Moderate and Significant</p>
<p>Type of Effect</p>	<p>Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse</p>			

Table 6K. 16 Viewpoint 15: Lasgarn Lane, BBNP

<p>Figure 6-32</p>	<p>Viewpoint 15: Lasgarn Lane, BBNP</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>This viewpoint is located on the Mynydd Garn-wen, which also forms the western boundary of the BBNP, on the route of the Cambrian Way, Monmouthshire Way and Taith Torfaen Anytime Challenge path.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of middle-distance views available to visitors to the BBNP and users of each of the promoted long-distance route lying to the north-east of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the southwest and encompasses a visible horizon defined by the northern slopes of Mynydd Maen, Mynydd Llwyd, Mynydd Twyn-Glas and Twyn Calch, to the south of the Glyn Valley, and the eastern forested hill slopes of Mynydd Llanhilleth and Byrgwm, at Graig Ddu and Pant-glas Slip respectively, which flank the southern edge of the Avon Llwyd Valley. To the southeast, distant visibility is achieved over Pontypool and Cwmbran to Newport and the Mouth of the Severn beyond. The mid-range view comprises the Trevethin area of northern Pontypool, above which the well-wooded summit of Coed Parciau rises within the centre view.</p> <p>The foreground of the view is occupied by semi-improved grassland bound by drystone walling. The transmitter masts on Mynydd Llwyd and steel lattice pylons which support an overhead line across Mynydd Maen and Mynydd Llwyd are visible as minor visual elements on the skyline above the horizon.</p>	
<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>The viewpoint is located within the BBNP on the route of three promoted long distance routes. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by hill walkers engaged in outdoor recreation where the focus of activity is on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape, albeit the landscape composition lies outside the boundary of BBNP. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
<p>Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)</p>	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T2 at 10.4km. The blade tips of all three of the proposed turbines, would be visible as new structures on the skyline of the view, affecting approximately 5° of the horizontal FoV. The upper-most part of the rotator sweep would be visible alongside the transmitter masts on Mynydd Llwyd and steel lattice pylons which support an overhead line and would not be incongruous vertical elements above the horizon. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform. Elevated crane activity would similarly not be visible during the erection and subsequent removal of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Zero</i>.</p>	
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>High</p>
	<p>Magnitude</p>	<p>Very Low</p>
	<p>Level of Effect</p>	<p>Moderate/Minor and Not Significant</p>

Figure 6-32	Viewpoint 15: Lasgarn Lane, BBNP	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational turbines at Bryn Ysgawen Farm (16.5km) and Tyle Crwth (17.0km) are theoretically visible to the southeast from this location although would be screened by intervening forestry.</p> <p>The operation schemes at Soluta (19.3km) and Tesco Distribution Centre, Newport (21.2km) are visible to the south and southwest respectively.</p> <p>The consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (7.9km) would be visible to the northwest as five blade tips on the visible horizon (Figure 6-32c) whilst the consented schemes at Twyn Hywel (19.3km) and Mynydd y Glyn (28.8km) would be visible to the southwest.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Low</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the southwest, the planning application schemes at Mynydd Maen (6.1km) and Trecelyn (7.7km) would overlap the Proposed Development on the visible horizon. The planning applications scheme at Mynydd Llanhilleth (4.5km) would also be visible to the east (Figure 6-32c-d).</p> <p>A single blade tip of the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Betwellte (13.9km) would also theoretically be visible to the northwest (Figure 6.28d).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Low	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Moderate and Not Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 17 Viewpoint 16: Gelligaer Common and Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk

Figure 6-33	Viewpoint 16: Gelligaer Common and Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located on the minor road crossing Gelligaer Common, 200m east of the Capel Gwladys historic landmark and on the route of the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk between Gelligaer and Bargoed.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to recreational users of the long distance route and broader PRow network, principally hill walkers.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the east and comprises expansive long-range visibility across Gelligaer Common and an undulating ridge and valley landscape to a visible horizon defined by the eastern flanking hill slopes of the Ebbw Valley at Byrgwn and Mynydd Llanhilleth, in the northeast, and the Mynydd Maen/ Mynydd Llwyd/ Mynydd Twyn Glas massif, in the southeast. The facing hill slopes are occupied by areas of semi-improved pasture bound by mature hedgerows and hedgerows with trees as well as areas of mature deciduous woodland, coniferous forestry and scattered farmsteads and agricultural buildings. The operational wind turbines at Oakdale Business Park (6.4km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (6.9km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (7.0km) and Bryn Ysgawen Farm (8.4km) are visible feature of the skyline profile in easterly views towards the Proposed Development Site.</p> <p>Within the mid-range view, partial visibility is attained of the settlements of Markham, to the northeast, and Hengoed and Pontllanfraith including the larger built form of Hawtin Park Industrial Estate, to the southeast. The foreground of the view encompasses the grassland and marsh habitat of Gelligaer Common which also includes some areas of semi-improved pasture bound by post and wire fencing and mature field boundary trees. The margins of the common are frequently defined by such areas of semi-improved pasture bound by mature vegetation, occupying the intervening land between Gelligaer Common and adjoining areas of settlement at Bargoed (east), Penpedairheol (southeast) and Gelligaer (south).</p>
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the locally designated Gelligaer SLA on a promoted long-distance route and the PRow network. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by walkers on the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk, the PRow network as well as users of the minor road between Gelligaer and Bargoed. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 11.3km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures on the visible horizon of easterly views from this location, affecting approximately 4° of the horizontal FoV. The bases and lower towers of all three turbines would be backclothed by landform with the full rotator sweep of all turbines visible against the sky.</p> <p>The spatial arrangement of the Proposed Development appears broadly consistent against the skyline when considered in the context of operational wind turbines within the view. The Proposed Development would be reasonably well balanced, with no rotator sweep overlap. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would form minor new features of the distant view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction activities and crane activity would be visible in long-range views during the erection and subsequent decommissioning of the wind turbines.</p>

Figure 6-33	Viewpoint 16: Gelligaer Common and Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk	
	The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Low</i> .	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Low
	Level of Effect	Moderate and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational wind turbines at Oakdale Business Park (6.4km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (6.9km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (7.0km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (8.4km) and Tyle Crwth (9.0km) are visible to the east and southeast, in views towards the Proposed Development (Figure 6-33c).</p> <p>The consented scheme at Twyn Hywel (6.2km) would be visible to the south (Figure 6-33d).</p> <p>To the north, the operational turbines at Gelli-wen Farm (4.8km) and Cruglwyn (7.2km) are visible (Figure 6-33f). The consented schemes at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (8.2km) and Manmoel (7.9km) are visible to the northeast (Figure 6-33f).</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the east, the planning application schemes at Trecelyn (10.7km), Mynydd Maen (12.1km) and Mynydd Llanhilleth (10.7km) would be visible, with the planning application schemes at Abertillery (12.3km) visible to the northeast (Figure 6-33c and 6-33f).</p> <p>The scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (6.4km) would be visible to the north (Figure 6-33f).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant

Figure 6-33	Viewpoint 16: Gelligaer Common and Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse

Table 6K. 18 Viewpoint 17: Caerphilly Common

<p>Figure 6-34</p>	<p>Viewpoint 17: Caerphilly Common</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>This viewpoint is located at the Trig Point on Caerphilly Common, an area of open access land to the south of Caerphilly. Car parking and refreshments are provided adjacent to the B4263 close to the Common. The Taff Ely Ridgeway Walk follows a route approximately 250m to the south of the viewpoint location although at a lower elevation than that of the viewpoint.</p> <p>Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to recreational users of open access land at a popular viewpoint.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the northwest over the southern end of the Rhymney Valley where the settlements of Caerphilly, Bedwas, Trethomas and Graig-y-Rhacca cover the valley floor, interspersed by large areas of mature deciduous woodland. This mature tree cover continues across the facing northern hill slopes of the valley where a mosaic of mature woodland, semi-improved pasture bound by mature hedgerows and hedgerows with trees, scattered farmsteads, agricultural buildings and individual residences populates the ridgeline from Mynydd Dimlaith to Mynydd Machen. The remnant spoil tip from Bedwas Colliery forms a prominent human influence on this side of the valley, where communications masts can also be seen on the horizon towards the Proposed Development Site.</p> <p>The foreground of the view comprises a ground cover of bracken and scattered deciduous and coniferous trees found across the summit of Caerphilly Common. To the northwest, more distant visibility is attained through the Rhymney Valley to the settlements at Llanbradach and Ystrad Mynch. The distant hill summits of Cruglwyn, Mynydd Pen-y-Fan and Mynydd Bedwellte are also visible on the horizon as well as the operational wind turbines at Tyle Crwth (6.5km) and Bryn Ysgawen Farm (7.1km).</p>	
<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>Whilst this viewpoint is not located within a nationally designated landscape, it is located within the locally designated Eastern Ridge and Mynydd James SLA. The value of the view is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by recreational receptors using the open access land of Caerphilly Common to the south of Caerphilly. The susceptibility to change is assessed as High and the overall sensitivity is assessed as <i>High</i>.</p>	
<p>Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)</p>	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 11.9km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures of north-easterly views from this location, affecting only approximately 4° of the horizontal FoV. The lower tower and lower rotator sweep of T1 would be screened by intervening landform with lower tower of T2 screened by intervening vegetation and the lower tower of T3 backclothed by terrain. The hubs and upper blade sweep of each of the three turbines would be visible on the skyline in the same FoV as the existing communications masts and operational wind turbine at Tyle Crwth (6.5km).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction activities would generally not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation, although crane activity would be a minor and distant feature of the horizon during the erection and subsequent decommissioning of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Very Low</i>.</p>	
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>High</p>
	<p>Magnitude</p>	<p>Low</p>

Figure 6-34	Viewpoint 17: Caerphilly Common	
	Level of Effect	Moderate and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational turbines at Tyle Crwth (6.5km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (7.1km), Oakdale Business Park (14.9km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (17.1km), Gelli-wen Farm (17.6km), Cruglwyn (19.9km) and Pen Bryn Oer (23.7km) as well as the consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (18.1km) and Manmoel (20.6km) are visible to the northeast, in views towards the Proposed Development (Figure 6-34c).</p> <p>To the northwest, the operational wind turbines at Llwyncelyn Farm (13.8km), Mynydd Portref Extension (15.1km), Mynydd Portref (16.0km), Taff Ely (16.7km), Fforch Nest (19.0km) and Ferndale (19.0km) would be visible (Figure 6-34f), as well as the consented schemes at Twyn Hywel (5.4km) and Mynydd y Glyn (11.8km), which would also be visible in this direction.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the northeast, the planning application schemes at Trecelyn (12.9km) and Mynydd Maen (15.0km) would overlap with the Proposed Development. The planning application schemes at Mynydd Llanhilleth (17.3km) and Abertillery (21.0km) would also be visible in this direction as well as the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (19.8km) (Figure 6-34f).</p> <p>The scoping request scheme at Llanwonno would be visible to the northwest (Figure 6-34f).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 19 Viewpoint 18: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Mynydd Meio

Figure 6-35	Viewpoint 18: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Mynydd Meio
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located at the summit of Mynydd Meio (320m AOD) on the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk – a promoted long-distance route crossing open access land.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the northeast with long range visibility attained across an undulating ridge and valley landscape encompassing the Aber, Rhymney, Sirhowy and Ebbw valleys. Distant views to the north extend to the mountains and hill tops of the Brecon Beacons on the distant horizon; including Pen Cerrig-calch and Crug Mawr. The visible horizon of the centre view is defined by the Mynydd Maen/ Mynydd Llwyd/ Mynydd Twyn Glas massif. Views to the east are along the southern part of the Rhymney Valley, over Caerphilly to the settlements at Bedwas and Trethomas. The northern extent of the Rhymney Valley is defined by the ridgeline from Mynydd Dimlaith to Mynydd Machen. The summit of Twmbarlwn is also a visible component of the skyline in this direction.</p> <p>The middle distance view comprises a rolling landscape of successive valleys and intervening ridgelines. Land cover comprises a mixture of large-scale pastoral fields bound by intermittent hedgerows and some hedgerows with trees. Scattered farmsteads and associated agricultural buildings are also evident alongside areas of coniferous forest including south of Llanbradach Colliery at The Bryn. The distinctive spoil heaps from Llanbradach Colliery, comprising two longer ‘finger’ tips and three conical tips, are a distinct human influence of views towards the Proposed Development Site. The foreground of the view comprises the grassland plateau of Mynydd Meio with the communications mast south of Abertridwr visible to the northeast.</p> <p>The operational wind turbines at Tyle Crwth (6.8km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (7.1km), Oakdale Business Park (13.8km), Gelli-wan Farm (15.3km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (15.8km) and Cruglwyn (17.8km) are visible towards the Proposed Development Site (Figure 6-35c). The operational schemes at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (14.1km), Pen Y Fan Ganol Farm (15.8km), Oakdale Business Park (13.8km), Solutia (22.3km) and Tesco Newport (28.6km) are shown as being theoretically visible in Figure 6-35c but would be screened intervening localised landform and vegetation.</p>
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the locally designated Mynydd Eglwysilan SLA on the route of a promoted long distance route. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by receptors engaged in outdoor recreation on the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk within open access land, principally hill walkers, where the focus of activity is on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape within the SLA in close proximity to Senhenydd Dyke. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 13.2km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures of north-easterly views from this location, affecting approximately 3° of the horizontal FoV. The lower portion of the tower of T3 would be screened by vegetation with the remaining extent of the tower, hub and full rotator sweep extending beyond the visible horizon. The lower towers of T1 and T2, together with the lower rotator sweep of T1 would be backclothed by landform with the remainder of the towers, hubs and rotating blades visible on the skyline. There would be an overlap between T1 and T2 from this direction. The Proposed Development would be apparent in the same field of view as the closer Tyle Crwth (6.8km) and Bryn Ysgawen Farm (7.1km) turbines although the</p>

Figure 6-35	Viewpoint 18: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Mynydd Mieu		
	<p>increased height of the proposed turbines and position on the skyline would emphasise their presence slightly when compared to the existing turbines which are predominantly backclothed by distant landform.</p> <p>Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening vegetation.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction activities would generally not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation, although crane activity would be a minor and distant feature of the horizon during the erection and subsequent decommissioning of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Low</i>.</p>		
Assessment	Sensitivity	High	
	Magnitude	Low	
	Level of Effect	Moderate and Not Significant	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse	

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented wind turbines and the Proposed Development
(The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational schemes at Tyle Crwth (6.8km), Bryn Ysgawen (7.1km), Oakdale Business Park (13.8km), Gelli-wan Farm (15.3km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (15.8km), Cruglwyn (17.8km) and Pen Bryn Oer (20.8km) as well as the consented scheme at Twyn Hywel (2.6km), Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (17.0km) and Manmoel (18.5km) are visible to the north and northeast in views towards the Proposed Development Site (Figure 6-35c). The operational schemes at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (14.1km), Solutia (22.3km) and Tesco Newport (28.6km) are shown as being theoretically visible to the southeast in Figure 6-35c but would be screened intervening localised landform and vegetation.</p> <p>To the west and northwest, the operational wind turbines at Llwynceilyn Farm (9.1km), Mynydd Portref Extension (11.6km), Mynydd Portref (12.4km), Taff Ely (13.1km), Ferndale (14.2km) and Fforch Nest (14.5km) are visible (Figure 6-35e-f) along with the consented scheme at Mynydd y Glyn (7.3km).</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>High</i>.</p> <p>Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):</p> <p>To the northeast, the planning application schemes at Trecelyn (13.7km), Mynydd Maen (16.3km), Mynydd Llanhilleth (17.3km), and Abertillery (21.0km) would be visible alongside the Proposed Development (Figure 6-35c and 6-35f).</p> <p>To the north, the planning application scheme at Convatec Green (19.7km) would be visible along with the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (17.4km). The scoping request scheme at Llanwonno (7.5km) would be visible to the northwest.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind	Additional Magnitude:	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant

Figure 6-35	Viewpoint 18: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Mynydd Mieu			
turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	(PD only)			
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 20 Viewpoint 19: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Cefn y Brithdir

Figure 6-36	Viewpoint 19: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Cefn y Brithdir
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located on the western flanking hills of the Rhymney Valley at Cefn y Brithdir, 250m southeast of the aviation beacon, on the route of the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk between Bargoed and Fochriw at an elevation of 549m AOD. Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to hill walkers using the long-distance route.</p> <p>The foreground of the view includes the grassland and marsh land cover exhibits across the open and unobstructed plateau of Cefn y Brithdir. The route of the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk follows a surfaced track in this location, assumed to provide maintenance access to the aviation beacon. The facing eastern slopes of the Rhymney Valley, south of Mynydd Bedwellte, comprise a mosaic of upland heath, semi-improved pasture bound by mature trees and woodland, scattered farmsteads and agricultural buildings. The settlement of New Tredegar is visible on the base of the Rhymney Valley to the east. Long range easterly visibility encompasses an undulating ridge and valley landscape, including the Ebbw and Sirhowy valleys, extending to a visible horizon defined by the eastern flanking hills of the Ebbw Valley at Darren Ddu and Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn. Within the central and southern parts of the view, the visible horizon is formed by Mynydd Lan, in the south, and the Mynydd Maen/ Mynydd Llwyd/ Mynydd Twyn Glas massif.</p> <p>The settlement of Oakdale, including the larger built form at Pen-Y-Fan Industrial Estate, is visible within the mid-range centre view alongside the operational turbines at Oakdale Business Park (7.0km) and Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (7.5km). The operational turbines at Bryn Ysgawen Farm (11.9km) and Tyle Crwth (12.7km) are distant features on the skyline of the southern view, while schemes at Gelli-wen Farm (2.7km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (6.1km) and Pen-yr-Hoel Farm (~2.2km) are visible to the east.</p> <p>Pen-yr-Hoel Farm has been scoped out of the CLVIA as a single turbine scheme lying more than 10km from the Proposed Development Site.</p>
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is not within a nationally designated landscape; however, it is located within the Northern Rhymney Way VILL, defined by CCBC, on a promoted long-distance route. Consequently, the value of views from this location is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by hill walkers on open access land or travelling along the Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk with the focus of activity being on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape within the VILL. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High.</p> <p>The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 12.5km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures of south-easterly views from this location, affecting approximately 4° of the horizontal FoV. The towers, hubs and full rotator sweep of all three turbines would extend beyond the visible horizon.</p> <p>The turbines would be sited within a developed portion of the view where operational wind turbines are already present. Parts of the proposed access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would form very minor new features of the distant view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p>

Figure 6-36	Viewpoint 19: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Cefn y Brithdir	
	Ground based construction activities and crane activity would be visible in long-range views during the erection and subsequent decommissioning of the wind turbines. The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Low</i> .	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Low
	Level of Effect	Moderate and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented): The operational turbines at Gelli-wen Farm (2.7km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (6.1km), Oakdale Business Park (7.0km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (7.5km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (11.9km) and Tyle Crwth (12.7km) as well as the consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (6.8km) are visible to the southeast, in views towards the Proposed Development (Figure 6-36c). To the south, the consented wind turbines at Twyn Hywel (10.5km) would be visible with a single blade tip at the consented Mynydd y Glyn (16.8km) theoretically visible (Figure 6-36d). The consented scheme at Manmoel (4.6km) and the operational turbines at Cruglwyn (3.9km) would be visible to the northeast (Figure 6-36f) whilst to the northwest, the operational Pen Bryn Oer (5.6km) would be visible. The magnitude is judged to be <i>High-Medium</i> .			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion): To the southeast, the planning application schemes at Mynydd Llanhilleth (10.3km), Trecelyn (12.1km) and Mynydd Maen (12.8km) would be visible alongside the Proposed Development. The planning application scheme at Abertillery (10.5km) would also be visible to the east (Figure 6-36f) along with the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (2.6km). The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i> .			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant

Figure 6-36	Viewpoint 19: Rhymney Valley Ridgeway Walk on Cefn y Brithdir			
wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 21 Viewpoint 20: Wales Coast Path, Newport

<p>Figure 6-37</p>	<p>Viewpoint 20: Wales Coast Path, Newport</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>This viewpoint is located on the route of the Wales Coast Path, within the Wentloog Levels SLA on the northern foreshore of the Mouth of the Severn, south of Newport. Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to recreational users of the long distance route, principally walkers.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the north across a foreground occupied by large fields of improved pasture bound by scrub vegetation and post-and-wire fencing. West Usk Lighthouse, associated outbuildings and access road along the top of the sea embankment is visible in the eastern foreground.</p> <p>The settlement of Newport can be seen across the mid-range view where overhead electricity transmission lines cross the view. The large built form of the Celtic Lakes Business Park is visible to the northwest where the visible horizon is defined by the northern flanking hill slopes of the Rhymney Valley between Mynydd Machen and Coed Mawr. The northern part of the settlement at Pontymister is visible on the northern hill slopes of the centre view. To the west, further overhead electricity transmission infrastructure breaks the skyline to the west at Mynydd y Grug where hill slopes are most commonly clothed in a mosaic of improved pasture bound by hedgerows and mature vegetation, scattered farmsteads and agricultural buildings.</p>	
<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>Whilst this viewpoint is not located within a nationally designated landscape, it is located within the locally designated Wentloog Levels SLA. The value of the view is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by receptors engaged in outdoor recreation on the Wales Coast Path where the focus of activity is on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape within the SLA. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
<p>Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)</p>	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T3 at 13.8km. Figure 6-37 illustrates that the hubs, upper portions of the towers and upper rotator sweep of T2 and T3 would be visible as new structures on the skyline of long-range northerly views from this location, affecting approximately 4° of the horizontal FoV. With the exception of the upper blade tip, T1 would be screened by the intervening landform, which would similarly restrict visibility of the lower parts of the towers of T2 and T3. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low-Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to separation distance and the screening effects of intervening landform. The uppermost crane activity would be visible during the erection and decommissioning of T2 and T3.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Very Low</i>.</p>	
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>High</p>
	<p>Magnitude</p>	<p>Low-Very Low</p>
	<p>Level of Effect</p>	<p>Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant</p>

Figure 6-37	Viewpoint 20: Wales Coast Path, Newport	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and neutral

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational wind turbines at Bryn Ysgawen Farm (16.8km) and Tyle Crwth (16.4km) are theoretically visible to the northwest (Figure 6-37c), however, in reality views of these two schemes would be limited by viewing distance. The consented scheme at Twyn Hywel (18.8km) would also be visible to the northwest.</p> <p>To the northeast, the operational turbines at Solutia (3.6km), together with those at Tesco Newport (9.5km) would be visible.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>The upper blade tips of the Trecelyn planning application scheme (15.5km) are theoretically visible in views to the northwest alongside the planning application schemes at Mynydd Maen (14.6km) and Abertillery (23.3km). No scoping request schemes would be visible from this location.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low-Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate-Moderate-Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low-Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate-Moderate-Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed + PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed + PD)	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 22 Viewpoint 21: Summit of Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn

Figure 6-38	Viewpoint 21: Summit of Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located within open access land at the summit of Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn. Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to recreational users (hill walkers) although is not located near any promoted routes such as long-distance footpaths.</p> <p>The view is orientated south across an open and unenclosed moorland plateau with panoramic views in all directions. The middle-ground of the view beyond the elevated landform of Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn comprises the elevated ridge of Cefn Manmoel, extending southeast to the summit of Mynydd Pen-y-fan. The horizon in the vicinity of the Proposed Development is formed by higher ground towards the Mynydd Maen/ Mynydd Llwyd/ Mynydd Twyn Glas massif.</p> <p>Built development is distant and not readily apparent, although communications masts and overhead electricity transmission lines are minor features of the centre view. The operational turbines at Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (6.3km), Oakdale Business Park (8.4km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (8.6km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (16.2km) and Tyle Crwth (16.9km) are visible components to the right of the centre view.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the locally designated Mynydd Carn Y Cefn and Cefn Yr Arail. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by hill walkers on open access land with the focus of activity being on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape within the SLA. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be High.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T2 at 14.3km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures above the visible horizon of southerly views from this location, affecting approximately 4° of the horizontal FoV. The towers, hubs and full rotator sweep of all turbines and the would be visible on the skyline with a degree of overlap between T2 and T3.</p> <p>View of access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be limited by the separation distance and presence of intervening vegetation.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would generally be restricted by intervening vegetation. Crane activity would be visible in long-range views during the erection and subsequent decommissioning of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Low</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Low
	Level of Effect	Moderate and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

<p>Figure 6-38</p>	<p>Viewpoint 21: Summit of Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn</p>			
<p>Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented): The operational turbines at Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (6.3km), Oakdale Business Park (8.4km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (8.6km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (16.2km) and Tyle Crwth (16.9km) as well as the consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (3.9km) are visible to the south, in views towards the Proposed Development (Figure 6-38c).</p> <p>To the west, the operational wind turbines at Cruglwyn (3.6km), Gelli-wen Farm (6.2km), Pen Bryn Oer (6.4km), Llwynceilyn Farm (21.7km), Ferndale (23.1km) Fforch Nest (23.1km), Mynydd Portref Extension (29.4km), Mynydd Portref (29.7km) and Taff Ely (29.9km) are theoretically visible although actual visibility of a number of these schemes would be limited by viewing distance. The consented turbines at Manmoel (2.4km), Twyn Hywel (16.4km) and Mynydd y Glyn (24.0km) would also be visible in views to the west (Figure 6-38c-d).</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>High</i>.</p> <p>Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion): To the south, the planning application schemes at Mynydd Llanhilleth (7.6km), Trecelyn (11.6km), Mynydd Maen (11.7km) and Abertillery (4.9km) would be visible in this direction (Figure 6-38c).</p> <p>The planning application schemes at Convatec Green (8.5km) as well as the scoping request schemes at Mynydd Bedwellte (4.6km) and Llanwonno (20.9km) would be visible to the west (Figure 6-38d).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p>			
<p>Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Additional Magnitude: (PD only)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Additional Effect: (PD only):</p>	<p>Moderate and Not Significant</p>
<p>Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Additional Magnitude: (PD only)</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Additional Effect: (PD only):</p>	<p>Moderate and Not Significant</p>
<p>Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)</p>	<p>Major and Significant</p>
<p>Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)</p>	<p>Major and Significant</p>
<p>Type of Effect</p>	<p>Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse</p>			

Table 6K. 23 Viewpoint 22: Bertholey House, Newbridge on Usk

<p>Figure 6-39</p>	<p>Viewpoint 22: Bertholey House, Newbridge on Usk</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>This viewpoint is located 190m west of Bertholey House, on the route of the Usk Valley Walk within the Bertholey House Registered Historic Park and Garden (RHPG), 1.1km east of Newbridge on Usk on the eastern side of the Usk Valley. Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of views available to recreational users of the promoted long-distance route within the Bertholey House RHPG.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the west over a broad and reasonably flats section of the Usk Valley comprising medium-sized pastoral and agricultural fields bound by mature hedgerows and hedgerows with trees. Larger areas of coniferous forestry are present across the western hill slopes of the valley at Coed-y-Franc, Croes-Llywarch and The Grove; while mature deciduous woodland is also evident at Bwllfa Cottages and Coed-y-Franc. An extensive area of mixed woodland contributes to the view, northwest of Llangibby at Llangibby Park. A number of scattered properties, farmsteads and agricultural buildings are distributed throughout the view with the villages of Newbridge on Usk, Tredunnoch and Llangibby lying 1.1km west, 1.6km west and 3.1km northwest, respectively.</p> <p>The foreground of the view is defined by the deciduous woodland bordering the Bertholey House RHPG and flanking the tributary water course to the Llwynau Brook north of Bertholau Graig. The distant western horizon viewed from this location comprises the Mynydd Maen/ Mynydd Llwyd/ Mynydd Twyn Glas massif east of the Proposed Development Site and the range of hills surrounding Coety Mountain including Byrgwm, Gwastad and Mynydd Farteg Fawr.</p>	
<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>The viewpoint is located within the nationally designated Bertholey House RHPG on the route of a promoted long distance route. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by receptors engaged in outdoor recreation, principally walkers, on a promoted long distance route within the RHPG. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
<p>Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)</p>	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T3 at 15.7km. Figure 6-39 illustrates that the hubs, upper portions of the towers and upper rotator sweep of T2 and T3 would be visible as new structures on the skyline of long-range westerly views from this location, affecting approximately 3° of the horizontal FoV. With the exception of the upper rotator sweep, T1 would be screened by the intervening landform, which would similarly restrict visibility of the lower parts of T2 and T3. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform. The magnitude of change would be <i>Low-Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to separation distance and the screening effects of intervening landform. The uppermost crane activity would be visible during the erection and decommissioning of T2 and T3. The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Very Low</i>.</p>	
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>High</p>
	<p>Magnitude</p>	<p>Low-Very Low</p>

Figure 6-39	Viewpoint 22: Bertholey House, Newbridge on Usk	
	Level of Effect	Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and neutral

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented): No operational schemes would be visible from this location, as evidenced in the cumulative wirelines in Figure 6-39 . The consented Mynydd Carn y Cefn (20.6km) and Manmoel (25.4km) would theoretically be visible (Figure 6-39c) although actual visibility may be limited by viewing distance. The magnitude is judged to be <i>Very Low</i> .			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion): The planning application schemes at Mynydd Maen (13.7km), Trecelyn (15.9km), Mynnydd Llanhilleth (16.0km) and Abertillery (18.9km) would be visible to the west from this location along with the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (26.8km) (Figure 6-39c). The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i> .			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low-Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Low-Very Low	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low-Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed + PD)	Low	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed + PD)	Moderate and Not Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 24 Viewpoint 23: The Blorenges, BBNP

Figure 6-40	Viewpoint 23: The Blorenges, BBNP	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located within open access land at the trig point of the Blorenges Summit within the BBNP. The view is representative of those available to hill walkers on several promoted long-distance routes including the Cambrian Way, the Taith Torfaen Anytime Challenge, the Iron Mountain Trail and the Bristol to Brecon Walk.</p> <p>The view is orientated southwest across an unenclosed moorland plateau with rocky outcrops encompassing panoramic views in all directions. Whilst the moorland is predominantly devoid of man-made features, notable structures include the weather transmitter lattice masts to the right of centre in the middle ground of the view where the B4246 between Blaenavon and Govilon cross the Blorenges to the southwest. The industrial heritage of the landscape is apparent with the Big Pit National Coal Museum visible to the right of the view. Extensive tips of mining waste in the centre view have become largely revegetated, although the steeper slopes and track ways can be identified by the presence of bare material.</p> <p>The landform of the Coety Mountain dominates the skyline outside the BBNP. The centre view towards the Proposed Development Site encompasses the summit of Mynydd Farteg Fawr towards a visible horizon defined by the Mynydd Maen/ Mynydd Llwyd massif. To the southeast, distant visibility is achieved over the Avon Llwyd Valley to Cwmbran, Newport and the Mouth of the Severn beyond.</p> <p>Figure 6-40c shows the operational turbines at Solutia (27.3km) and Tesco, Newport (28.8km) as being theoretically visible in views towards the Proposed Development to the southwest; however, actual visibility would be restricted by viewing distance.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the BBNP on the route of a number of promoted long distance routes. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by receptors engaged in outdoor recreation within open access land, principally hill walkers, where the focus of activity is on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T2 at 17.1km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures of the skyline in south-westerly views from this location, affecting approximately 4° of the horizontal FoV. The base of the towers would be screened by intervening terrain and vegetation whilst a portion of the lower towers would be backdropped by distant landform.</p> <p>Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform and vegetation.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation. Crane activity would be a minor and distant feature of the horizon during the erection and removal of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Low</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Low

Figure 6-40	Viewpoint 23: The Bloreng, BBNP	
	Level of Effect	Moderate and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented wind turbines and the Proposed Development
(The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational schemes at Solutia (27.3km) and Tesco, Newport (28.8km) are shown as being theoretically visible in views towards the Proposed Development to the southwest; however, actual visibility would be restricted by viewing distance. The consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (10.0km) would be visible as three blade tips in views in this direction (Figure 6-40c).</p> <p>To the northwest, the operational wind turbines at Pen Bryn Oer (14.9km) are visible (Figure 6-40d) together with the consented scheme at Manmoel (11.3km). The magnitude is judged to be <i>Very Low</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the southwest, in views towards the Proposed Development, the planning application schemes Mynydd Llanhilleth (9.5km), Mynydd Maen (13.0km) and Trecelyn (14.0km) would overlap with or adjoin the Proposed Development. The planning application scheme at Abertillery (6.4km) would also be visible in this direction (Figure 6-40c). In views to the northwest, the planning application schemes at Convatec Green would be visible along with the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (Figure 6-40d).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Low	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Moderate and Not Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major-Major/ Moderate and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 25 Viewpoint 24: Trig point at Mynydd Llangynidr, BBNP

Figure 6-41	Viewpoint 24: Trig point at Mynydd Llangynidr, BBNP
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located within open access land at the trig point on the Mynydd Llangynidr plateau within the BBNP. The view is available to recreational users of the Cambrian Way long-distance footpath and is located a short distance from a public footpath crossing open access land to connect with a parking area for walkers off a minor road to the north as well as the PRoW network on the edge of Rassau, to the south.</p> <p>The view is orientated southeast across an unenclosed moorland plateau with panoramic views in all directions. The boundary of the BBNP is ~2km away, in views towards the Proposed Development Site, hidden below the middle ground landform where the tops of forest trees around the Carno reservoir are visible together with the upper portions of several of the pylons that support the 400kV electricity transmission line to the south. Beyond the boundary of the BBNP, on the horizon, are three principal ridges comprising the central landform of Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn, with Cefn Manmoel to the right and Coety Mountain to the left. Settlements visible in the valleys include parts of Brynmawr to the left of centre and Ebbw Vale to the right of centre, below the telecommunications mast on Briery Hill.</p> <p>The operational turbines at Pen Bryn Oer (6.8km), Cruglwyn (10.5km), Gelli-wen Farm (12.9km) Pen-y-fan Ganol Farm (14.4km), Oakdale Business Park (16.5km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (16.7km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (23.7km) and Tyle Crwth (24.4km) are all shown as being theoretical visible by Figure 6-41c within south-easterly views towards the Proposed Development Site. Although distant features of the view, the operational turbines at Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm and Cruglwyn are most apparent within the viewshed, visible against the skyline of the centre view.</p> <p>The operational turbine at Rassau Industrial Estate is clearly visible, 3.4km southeast and is back-clothed by landform and partially screened by intervening overhead electricity transmission infrastructure. This turbine has been scoped out of the CLVIA as a single turbine scheme lying more than 10km from the Proposed Development Site.</p>
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the BBNP on the route of a promoted long-distance route. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by receptors engaged in outdoor recreation within open access land, principally hill walkers, where the focus of activity is on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High.</p> <p>The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T2 at 22.7km. All three of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures on the skyline of long-range south-easterly views from this location, affecting approximately 4° of the horizontal FoV. Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low-Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to separation distance and the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation. Elevated crane activity would be a minor and distant feature above the horizon during the erection and removal of the wind turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Very Low</i>.</p>

Figure 6-41	Viewpoint 24: Trig point at Mynydd Llangynidr, BBNP	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Low-Very Low
	Level of Effect	Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented wind turbines and the Proposed Development
 (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	<p>Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):</p> <p>The operational turbines at Pen Bryn Oer (6.8km), Cruglwyn (10.5km), Gelli-wen Farm (12.9km) Pen-y-fan Ganol farm (14.4km), Oakdale Business Park (16.5km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (16.7km) Bryn Ysgawen Farm (23.7km) and Tyle Crwth (24.4km) are all shown as being theoretical visible by Figure 6-41c within south-easterly views towards the Proposed Development Site. However, actual visibility of a number of these schemes is limited by viewing distance. Although distant features of the view, the operational turbines at Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm and Cruglwyn are most apparent within the viewshed, visible against the skyline of the centre view. The consented scheme at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (12.2km) would overlap with the Proposed Development with the consented scheme at Manmoel (8.2km) also visible.</p> <p>To the southwest, the operational turbines at Ferndale (25.0km), Llwyncelyn Farm (25.5km), Fforch Nest (29.8km), Taff Ely (33.5km), Mynydd Portref Extension (33.6km), Mynydd Portref (33.7) are theoretically visible but limited by distance (Figure 6-41d) with the consented schemes at Twyn Hywel (22.9km) and Mynydd y Glyn also visible.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Medium</i>.</p> <p>Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):</p> <p>To the southeast, in views towards the Proposed Development, the planning application schemes at Abertillery (12.6km), Mynydd Llanhilleth (15.9km), Trecelyn (20.0km) and Mynydd Maen (20.1km) would be visible (Figure 6-41c).</p> <p>To the southwest, the planning application scheme at Convatec Green (9.0km) and the scoping schemes at Mynydd Bedwellte (7.3km) and Llanwonno (25.0km) would be visible (Figure 6-41c-d).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Medium</i>.</p>			
	Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low-Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low-Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant

Figure 6-41	Viewpoint 24: Trig point at Mynydd Llangynidr, BBNP			
wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major/ Moderate and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 26 Viewpoint 25: Trig Point at Cefn yr Ystrad

Figure 6-42	Viewpoint 25: Trig Point at Cefn yr Ystrad	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located within open access land near the summit of Cefn yr Ystrad in the BBNP. The view is available to hill walkers.</p> <p>The view is orientated southeast towards the Site across an unenclosed undulating moorland plateau with frequent shake holes and long disused quarries to the west. The rocky features in close proximity to the viewpoint are the bronze age burial cairns of Carn y Bugail and Carn Felen. There are panoramic views in all directions and the closest edge of the BBNP is ~2km away, predominantly hidden below the middle ground landform. On the far horizon in the centre of the view, is the distant landform of Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn. Settlements visible include parts of Rassau and Beaufort to the left of centre in base of the valley.</p> <p>There are a number of operational wind turbines visible to varying degrees within the 90-degree view, with the majority barely perceptible as they are typically located more than ~15km distant and/or are partially screened by intervening landform. The turbines that are most apparent towards the centre in the view are at Pen Bryn Oer turbines where the three 77m high turbines are clearly visible at 5.2km distance and backclothed by landform.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within Open Access Land within the BBNP. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by receptors engaged in outdoor recreation within open access land, principally hill walkers, where the focus of activity is on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High.</p> <p>The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 23.7km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures on the southeastern skyline of the view from this location, affecting approximately 3° of the horizontal FoV. The lower portions of the towers of T2 and T3 would be backclothed by landform and vegetation with the hubs and full rotator sweep of both turbines visible above the distant horizon. A greater proportion of the tower of T1 and part of the lower rotator sweep would be backclothed by landform, with the hub and upper rotator sweep visible on the skyline. The three turbines would form a minor part of the wide panoramic views from this viewpoint.</p> <p>Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would not be visible due to separation distance.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Low-Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would generally not be visible from this location due to separation distance and the screening effects of intervening landform and vegetation, although crane activity would be visible during the erection and decommissioning of the turbines</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to Very Low</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Low-Very Low
	Level of Effect	Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant

Figure 6-42	Viewpoint 25: Trig Point at Cefn yr Ystrad	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational wind turbines at Pen Byn Oer (5.2km), Cruglwyn (11.1km), Gelliwen Farm (12.6km), Oakdale Business Park (17.1km), Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (17.5km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (15.4km), Bryn Ysgawen Farm (22.9km) and Tyle Crwth (23.6km) are theoretically visible to the southeast, in views towards the Proposed Development (Figure 6-42c). The consented schemes at Manmoel (9.5km) and Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (14.1km) would also be visible to the southeast.</p> <p>The consented turbines at Twyn Hywel (21.0km) would be visible to the south. To the southwest, the operational turbines at Ferndale (19.8km), Fforch Nest (24.7km), Llwyncelyn Farm (21.3km), Taff Ely (28.9km), Mynydd Portref Extension (29.3km) and Mynydd Portref (29.3km) are theoretically visible alongside the consented Mynydd y Glyn (24.5km) although actual visibility of a number of these schemes is limited by viewing distance.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Medium</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the southeast, the planning application schemes at Abertillery (16.0km), Mynydd Llanhilleth (18.5km), Trecelyn (21.7km), Mynydd Maen (22.1km)) would be visible. The scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (6.3km) would also be visible in the direction of the Proposed Development (Figure 6-42c). To the southwest, the planning application scheme at Covatec Green (5.5km) would be visible as would the scoping request scheme at Llanwonno (21.0km).</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low-Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Low-Very Low	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Moderate-Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High-Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major-Major/Moderate and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 27 Viewpoint 26: Raven Walk within the Mynyddislwyn SLA

<p>Figure 6-43</p>	<p>Viewpoint 26: Raven Walk within the Mynyddislwyn SLA</p>	
<p>Description</p>	<p>This viewpoint is located on the Raven Walk long distance footpath which crosses Mynyddislwyn to the west of the Site. The view is representative of those available to hill walkers on promoted long-distance routes including the Raven Walk and Taith Torfaen Anytime Challenge.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the east with a foreground comprising upland grassland within a field which is bound along its eastern edge by a stone wall. The woodland and forestry which covers the western valley side of the Ebbw River to the east of the viewpoint location does not play a visual role in the view as a consequence of the descending landform. The land masses of Medart, Cefn Rhyswg, Mynydd Maen and Mynydd Llwyd form the horizon to the view, separated by the valleys of the Nant Carn, Nant Gwyddon and the Nant Hafod-fach. Hafod Quarry is visible below the horizon alongside areas of forestry which cloak the valley sides, pockets of deciduous woodland and pastoral land with field boundary deciduous trees. The transmitter masts and overhead line which crosses Mynydd Maen and Mynydd Llwyd are visible as minor visual elements above the horizon.</p>	
<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>The viewpoint is located within the locally designated Mynyddislwyn SLA on a promoted long-distance route. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by receptors engaged in outdoor recreation on the Raven Walk and Taith Torfaen Anytime Challenge, principally hill walkers, where the focus of activity is on an enjoyment and appreciation of the landscape within the SLA. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High.</p> <p>The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
<p>Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)</p>	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T1 at 3.1km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, would be visible as new structures on the skyline of the view from this location, affecting approximately 10° of the horizontal FoV. The lower portion of the turbine towers would be backclothed by landform or vegetation leaving the upper turbine towers, hubs and rotator sweep of all three turbines visible as prominent vertical elements above the horizon but would not overwhelm the sense of scale within the open landscape.</p> <p>Whilst the access tracks around T3 would be visible, the substation sited to the east of T2, is likely to be screened by intervening layers of vegetation. Some tree loss from the field boundaries close to the bases of all three turbines would also be discernible from this location.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would be visible from this location, with elevated crane activity also clearly visible during the erection and decommissioning of the three turbines.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would range from <i>Zero to High</i>.</p>	
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Sensitivity</p>	<p>High</p>
	<p>Magnitude</p>	<p>High</p>
	<p>Level of Effect</p>	<p>Major and Significant</p>

Figure 6-43	Viewpoint 26: Raven Walk within the Mynyddislwyn SLA	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational wind turbines at Tyle Crwth (3.5km) and Bryn Ysgawen Farm (3.1km) would be visible to the southwest alongside the consented scheme at Twyn Hywel (6.8km) (Figure 6-43e). The operational schemes at Llwynceilyn Farm (16.6km), Ferndale (20.8km), Mynydd Portref Extension (21.5km), Mynydd Portref (22.3km) and Fforch Nest (22.8km) are also shown as theoretically visible to the west and southwest, although actual visibility of a number of these schemes is limited by viewing distance.</p> <p>To the northwest, the operational turbines at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (6.1km), Oakdale Business Park (6.2km), Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (8.4km), Gelli-wen Farm (10.2km), Pen Byn Oer (17.1km) and Cruglwyn (12.1km) would be visible. The consented schemes at Manmoel (12.6km) and Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (9.1km) would also be visible to the north/northwest.</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Medium</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the northeast, the planning application schemes at Trecelyn (3.5km), Mynydd Maen (6.1km) and Mynydd Llanhilleth (7.8km) would be visible along with Abertillery (11.6km) (Figures 6-43c and 6-43f). The scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (12.6km) would be visible to the northwest with the scoping request scheme at Llanwonno (15.0km) visible to the west.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>High-Medium</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	High	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	High	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 28 Viewpoint 27: B-Road and PRow within the Abercarn VILL

Figure 6-44	Viewpoint 27: B-Road and PRow within the Abercarn VILL	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located at the junction between local PRow comprising restricted byway RBW171/1, footpath FP388/1 and footpath FP181/1 to the east of Hafod Quarry. Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of close-distance views available to recreational users of the local PRow network to the northeast of Llanfach.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the south with a foreground comprising a pastoral field bound by post and wire fencing, remnants of a stone wall and mature field boundary vegetation. Extensive forestry restricts views further south. The Cwmcarn Forest Design Plan – Management Systems Map¹ indicates that this area of forestry would be managed under a Low Impact Silvicultural Scheme (LISS) and Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) which is likely to maintain a comparable level of visual screening in the long term.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the locally designated Abercarn VILL on the Taith Torfaen Anytime Challenge promoted long distance route. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by walkers on the public footpath network, including those engaged in outdoor recreation accessing the Taith Torfaen Anytime Challenge. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T2 at 1.6km. All of the proposed turbines, including three hubs, are shown as being theoretically visible as new structures on the skyline of the view from this location, affecting approximately 30° of the horizontal FoV (Figure 6-44 b-c and Figure 6-44 g). In reality, visibility of T3 would be ruled out due to the screening influence of intervening forestry. This screening influence would also heavily filter views to the towers and hubs of T2 and T1 during winter months, when deciduous trees are in dormancy, and further restrict visibility of T1 during the summer months when intervening deciduous vegetation is in full leaf (Figure 6-44h-i). The upper rotator sweep of T1 and T2 would remain visible above the forestry.</p> <p>Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened from view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be Medium.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities as well as elevated crane activity would not be visible from this location due to the screening effects of intervening forestry,</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be Zero.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Medium (winter months only)
	Level of Effect	Major/Moderate and Significant (winter months only)

¹ Natural Resources Wales (2015). Cwmcarn Forest Design Plan – Management Systems Map. Available at: <https://naturalresources.wales/about-us/what-we-do/strategies-plans-and-policies/forest-resource-plans/cwmcarn-forest-resource-plan/?lang=en>

Figure 6-44	Viewpoint 27: B-Road and PRow within the Abercarn VILL	
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development	Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented):			
	<p>The operational wind turbines at Bryn Ysgawen Farm (7.1km), Tyle Crwth (7.5km) Llwynceilyn Farm (19.9km), Ferndale (23.8km) and Fforch Nest (26.2km) are theoretically visible to the west (Figure 6-44d) along with the consented schemes at Twyn Hywel (10.6km) and Mynydd y Glyn (20.2km). In reality, views of these operational and consented schemes would be heavily filtered by intervening foreground vegetation.</p> <p>To the northwest, the operational turbines at Pen-y-Fan Industrial Estate (4.9km), Oakdale Business Park (5.1km) and Pen-y-Fan Ganol Farm (7.0km) are theoretically visible alongside the operational Gelli-wen Farm (9.9km), Cruglwyn (11.1km), Pen Bryn Oer (16.6km) and the consented schemes at Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn (9.1km) and Manmoel (11.3km) (Figure 6-44e). Views in this direction are also likely to be heavily filtered by layers of deciduous vegetation,</p> <p>The magnitude is judged to be <i>Low</i>.</p>			
	Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion):			
	<p>To the southwest extending round to the northeast, the planning application scheme at Trecelyn (0.2km) would be visible, overlapping with the Proposed Development (Figure 6-44c) as well as Mynydd Maen (2.5km) and Mynydd Llanhilleth (4.4km) (Figures 6-44e-f). The planning application scheme at Abertillery would also theoretically be visible to the north. Actual visibility of the Mynydd Maen, Mynydd Llanhilleth and Abertillery schemes would be restricted by intervening forestry and mature vegetation.</p> <p>The scoping request schemes at Mynydd Bedwellte (11.9km) and Llanwonno are theoretically visible to the northwest and west respectively although actual visibility would be restricted by intervening foreground vegetation.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Very High</i>.</p>			
Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major/Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)	Medium	Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)	Major/Moderate and Significant
Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)	Additional Magnitude: (PD only)	Medium	Additional Effect: (PD only):	Major/Moderate and Significant
	Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Very High	Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)	Major and Significant
Type of Effect	Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse			

Table 6K. 29 Viewpoint 28: Llanishen, Wye Valley National Landscape

Figure 6-45	Viewpoint 28: Llanishen, Wye Valley National Landscape	
Description	<p>This viewpoint is located at the junction of two minor roads on Llanishen Hill, close to the settlement of Llanishen. Visibility of the Proposed Development from this location is representative of long-distance views available to residents and recreational users of the PRow network on the western flank of Llanishen Hill.</p> <p>The view is orientated to the west with a foreground comprising the minor road network and associated signage beyond which the landform slopes steeply to the west. Small scale pastoral fields extend towards the middle distance bound by hedgerows with mature deciduous trees prevalent along the network of streams which cross the landscape. A number of large farmsteads and individual properties are also visible within the agricultural landscape.</p>	
Sensitivity	<p>The viewpoint is located within the nationally designated Wye Valley National Landscape. Consequently, the value of the viewpoint is considered to be High.</p> <p>The view would be experienced by walkers on the local public footpath network, and residents of nearby residential properties in Llanishen. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as High. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be <i>High</i>.</p>	
Magnitude of Change (Proposed Development only)	<p>Whilst in Operation:</p> <p>The closest turbine would be T2 at 24.9km. The upper rotator sweep of all three turbines together with the hubs of T2 and T3, are shown as being visible as new structures on the skyline of the view from this location, affecting approximately 2° of the horizontal FoV (Figures 6-45b-c and Figure 6-45g). The hub, tower and lower rotator sweep of T1 would be restricted by intervening landform, which would similarly restrict the visibility of the lower portion of the tower of T3 and the tower and lower rotator sweep of T2.</p> <p>Distant visibility of the turbines would be attained from this location forming a minor new feature of the view, likely to only be visible in optimal viewing conditions as evidenced in the baseline photography (Figure 6-45b). Access tracks and ancillary infrastructure, such as the substation, would be screened from view.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Whilst Under Construction and Decommissioning:</p> <p>Ground based construction and decommissioning activities would not be visible from this location due to separation distance. Visibility of the uppermost crane activity at T2 and T3 is also highly unlikely as a consequence of the separation distance with crane activity at T1 fully screened by intervening landform.</p> <p>The magnitude of change would be <i>Zero</i>.</p>	
Assessment	Sensitivity	High
	Magnitude	Very Low
	Level of Effect	Moderate/Minor and Not Significant
	Type of Effect	Long term (reversible) and adverse

Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented (Baseline) and Planning application + Scoping Opinion (Other proposed) wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD) (The assessment takes account of a 360° FoV from this location).

<p>Figure 6-45</p>	<p>Viewpoint 28: Llanishen, Wye Valley National Landscape</p>			
<p>Cumulative Magnitude excluding the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Baseline wind turbines (Operational + Consented): No operational schemes would be visible from this location, as evidenced in the cumulative wirelines in Figure 6-45. The consented Mynydd Carn y Cefn (26.1km) and Manmoel (30.3km) would theoretically be visible (Figure 6-45c) although actual visibility would be limited by viewing distance. The magnitude of change would be <i>Very Low</i>.</p> <p>Other proposed wind turbines (Planning application + Scoping Opinion): To the west, the planning application schemes at Mynydd Maen (21.7km), Trecelyn (23.7km), Mynydd Llanhilleth (22.4km) and Abertillery (23.0km) are shown as being theoretically visible alongside the scoping request scheme at Mynydd Bedwellte (32.2km). In reality, actual visibility of a number of these schemes would be limited by viewing distance. The magnitude of change would be <i>Very Low</i>.</p>			
<p>Scenario 1: Baseline wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Additional Magnitude: (PD only)</p>	<p>Very Low</p>	<p>Additional Effect: (PD only):</p>	<p>Moderate/Minor and Not Significant</p>
	<p>Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + PD)</p>	<p>Very Low</p>	<p>Combined Effect: (Baseline + PD)</p>	<p>Moderate/Minor and Not Significant</p>
<p>Scenario 2: Baseline turbines + Other proposed wind turbines and the Proposed Development (PD)</p>	<p>Additional Magnitude: (PD only)</p>	<p>Very Low</p>	<p>Additional Effect: (PD only):</p>	<p>Moderate/Minor and Not Significant</p>
	<p>Combined Magnitude: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)</p>	<p>Very Low</p>	<p>Combined Effect: (Baseline + Other proposed and PD)</p>	<p>Moderate/Minor and Not Significant</p>
<p>Type of Effect</p>	<p>Long term (reversible), cumulative and adverse</p>			