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4.01.7b	7.2	Landmap Aspect Area

# OAKLANDS SOLAR FARM AND BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM LVIA APPENDIX 7.2 – LANDMAP ASPECT AREAS

LAND OFF FIVE MILE LANE | NEAR BONVILSTON | VALE OF GLAMORGAN



**PREPARED BY**



**PREPARED FOR**



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## 1.1 LANDMAP

- 1.1.1 LANDMAP (Natural Resources Wales) details the Welsh national level approach to landscape assessment. It is a GIS (Geographical Information System) based landscape resource where landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape are recorded and evaluated into a nationally consistent data set.
- 1.1.2 LANDMAP is formally recognised in Planning Policy Wales (PPW) (2012) as the starting point for landscape assessments in Wales. LANDMAP provides information for all of Wales’ landscapes apart from the built-up areas of Cardiff and Swansea. LANDMAP GN 46 discusses the use of LANDMAP in LVIA, Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (6.3.20) also advocates the use of LANDMAP assessments to inform development management decisions, landscape character assessment, design and landscape sensitivity studies. LANDMAP is used to inform a thorough understanding of the landscape baseline from nationally mapped set of datasets.
- 1.1.3 LANDMAP Information is defined by five methodological chapters: Cultural Landscape, Geological Landscape, Historic Landscape, Landscape Habitats and Visual & Sensory. These chapters are considered the key national level landscape guidance for Wales. LANDMAP, as the most comprehensive landscape resource, will be utilised in this assessment.
- 1.1.4 LANDMAP does not specifically discuss solar farm development however Guidance Note 3 discusses the scale of the study area and Aspect Areas to be considered when assessing wind turbine development. Whilst solar is a large-scale renewable development, the vertical scale of the development types, and surface area required, is substantially different. As such the approach to the assessment of Aspect Areas is used as a guide only, the following is considered appropriate for this assessment, with regard to Table A7.1 within LANDMAP Guidance Note 3 the following aspect area study area radius have been considered.

**Table A71.1: Approach to Aspect Areas**

Aspect	Search area defined by aspects which:	Typical study area radius dependent on wind farm and turbine size and location	Evaluation of aspect areas which should be main focus of study	Useful thematic maps to inform study (can be overlaid with ZTV)
<b>Geological Landscape</b>	Contain site boundary and those adjacent	Site and immediately adjoining areas	Outstanding and high overall evaluation	Overall evaluation and rarity / uniqueness evaluation criteria
<b>Landscape Habitats</b>	Contain site boundary and those adjacent	Site and immediately adjoining areas	Outstanding and high overall evaluation	Overall evaluation and connectivity / cohesion criteria

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<b>Visual and Sensory</b>	Area intervisible with development	2.5 km	Outstanding and high overall evaluation. Plus, moderate evaluation (where scenic quality and/or character criteria are outstanding or high).	Overall evaluation and scenic quality and character evaluation criteria
<b>Historic Landscape</b>	Are intervisible with development	1 km	Outstanding and high overall evaluation	Overall evaluation
<b>Cultural Landscape Services</b>	Are intervisible with development	Site and immediately adjoining areas	Outstanding and high in rarity and group value evaluation criteria	Overall evaluation and rarity and group value evaluation criteria

1.1.5 The referenced Aspect Areas are considered in detail in the following section including reference tables containing the additional LANDMAP Aspect Areas within the study area and commentary notes.

**LANDMAP – Visual and Sensory**

1.1.6 With regard to Visual and Sensory aspect, the following Aspect Areas are contained within the 2.5km study area:

**Table A72.2: Visual and Sensory Aspect Areas within 2.5km of Development Areas (DA's)**

<b>Aspect Area</b>	<b>Area name</b>	<b>Potential for theoretical inter visibility (ZTV with Barriers)</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
<b>VLFGGLVS146</b>	Central Vale Ridges and Slopes	Host area- Yes	<b>Moderate</b>
<b>VLFGGLVS271</b>	St Nicholas and Bonvilston Ridge Crest	North of DA 1, DA2 & DA3 - Yes partial	<b>High</b>
<b>VLFGGLVS453</b>	Llancarfan and Waycock Valleys	South and Southwest- Yes- glimpsed/partial	<b>High</b>
<b>VLFGGLVS608</b>	Upper Waycock Valley / Dyffryn Area	East side of DA2 and Eastern Study Area- Limited	<b>High</b>
<b>VLFGGLVS614</b>	St Nicholas and Bonvilston Ridge Slopes	Far Northeast- Very limited	<b>High</b>

1.1.7 The Aspect Areas with a 'High' or 'Outstanding' evaluation and those covering (or immediately adjoining) the proposed development are discussed below (Visual and

sensory characteristics) with potential effects upon the areas considered in the following landscape assessment section.

## 1.2 VISUAL AND SENSORY

### VLFGGLVS146 - Central Vale Ridges and Slopes

*Description: The area is a rolling lowland, which may be described as a plateau, that is dissected by the Thaw and Nant Llancarfan valleys. The plateau landform offers wide views towards the Bristol Channel and Somerset and feels exposed to the wind and elements. The land slopes southwards with the highest point at approximately 115m AOD to the north east around Pentre Farm and the lowest point at approximately 25m AOD near East Aberthaw. The landcover is dominated by a medium to large field pattern, mainly pasture set in managed hedgerows. The area is mainly open but there are some clumps of woodland both coniferous and deciduous. These are concentrated towards the west and north east, generally situated on hill tops or steeper slopes where they can be seen from long distances. Settlements consist of farms and hamlets scattered evenly throughout the area. Several minor roads cross the area and the **A4226 (which bisects the DAs)** runs close to the eastern boundary affecting tranquillity in this vicinity*

*Value: **Moderate**. Plateaux with scattered rural farms (mosaic field pattern with managed hedgerows*

*Guidelines: Medium Term: Agree woodland and hedgerow management strategy with landowners. Immediate: Restrict development to maintain rural character of area*

*Overall Evaluation – **Moderate***

*'The aspect area offers many views to hedgerows, fields, and treed areas in harmonious composition. However the flat nature of the aspect area's landscape (level plateau) makes for a less pleasing composition of elements than the more undulating or hilly areas. The integrity of the area has been affected by erosion of hedgerows in places. The area has a sense of place defined in part by its visual relationship with the sea although intrinsically the area does not have a strong character. The area contains may elements typical and representative of the Vale.'*

### VLFGGLVS271- St Nicholas and Bonvilston Ridge Crest

*Description: 'The area forms an important ridgeline. Much of the Vale can be seen from this ridgeline, and much of the ridgeline seen from the rest of the Vale. The highest point of the areas is approximately 137m AOD near Pantylladron, the lowest 45m AOD towards the south. The landcover is dominated by a small to medium sized field pattern of pastoral and arable fields set within hedgerows, often containing trees. There are a few woodlands and tree belts which form important elements on the skyline to the north and also form larger blocks to the south. The busy A48, the old Roman road, runs just to the south of the ridgeline land and most settlement lies along the road, particularly at Bonvilston and St. Nicholas. Hence the tranquillity of the corridor is affected. Several minor roads also criss-cross the area linking smaller local settlements. Generally, the rural landscape appears well managed over large parts of the area. However, suburban detailing and development along the A48 and nearby settlements is modifying the rural landscape through the use of urban fencing, driveways, gates, and*

*some inappropriately designed house extensions as well as street signage and kerb detailing. Cottrell golf course also significantly modifies the landscape character. There are also a number of detractors in the area including the two TV masts at St Lythans Down and Pantylladron, powerlines and the quarry at Pant y Ffynnon.'*

*Value: **High** rolling undulating mosaic of hedge and treelined fields.*

*Guidelines: Principle: Maintain tree cover on ridge line to integrate development,*

*Medium term: Encourage woodland management to maintain tree cover*

*Immediate: Restrict development so it does not impinge on ridgeline and create linear development on A48*

*Overall Evaluation: **High***

*'The aspect area offers many long views to other aspect areas, indeed much of the vale can be seen from here. This is unusual within the study area. The aspect area also offer pleasing views within its own boundaries to hedgerows and pastoral farming often set against woodland edges. The area's integrity has been affected by the A48 and several settlements, plus ongoing, often inappropriate expansion, to existing settlements and at more rural locations. The area is a clear ridgetop but is broad backed and the subtle landform merges with the slopes blurring a local distinctiveness. The area exhibits several qualities and features that are representative of the study area. Importantly the aspect area is the only one from where most of the vale landscape can be viewed.'*

#### VLFGGLVS453- Llancarfan and Waycock Valleys

*Description: 'The area is a steep sided narrow and enclosed lowland valley, which contains a tranquil landscape of streams, woodlands and small farms. The highest point of the valley is approximately 85m AOD in the north west, the lowest approximately 5m AOD near the village of Llancadle. The landcover of the valley is a mosaic pattern of pastoral fields and hedgerows, the latter often containing trees and there are substantial areas of woodland. The woodland areas are generally situated on the steeper upper slopes of the valley sides and assist in creating a confined sense of enclosure to the valley. The settlements of the area consist of a number of scattered farms and the village of Llancarfan. There is evidence of historic fortifications on the plateau edge and further lines provided by soil slip patterns on steep slopes. Several minor roads cross the area, which tend to be centred on Llancarfan. However, the area remains tranquil. The Llancarfan and Waycock Valleys are a well-maintained landscape of unspoilt hedgerows and fields, conservation area villages and steep wooded valley sides. The power lines in the Waycock valleys are a detractor.'*

*Value: **High**, Hills and valleys with a mosaic pattern of pastoral fields and hedgerows*

*Guidelines: Principle: Retain and enhance intrinsic character through woodland and hedgerow management and development restriction*

*Medium term: Agree woodland and hedgerow management strategy with landowners*

*Conserve historical features and character of the landscape*

*Immediate: Restrict development to maintain rural character of area*



Overall Evaluation: **High**

*‘The aspect area possesses a high-quality scenic landscape with many picturesque views to fields, hedgerows and steeply wooded valley sides in an aesthetic composition. The integrity of the area is intact with consistent character and no inappropriate development within the settlements. The power lines in the Waycock do not mask the areas intrinsic qualities. The integrity of the area is also maintained within the rural landscape where hedgerows are maintained. The aspect area possesses a distinctive character defined by the strong enclosing topography, historic settlement pattern and features, woodland cover all creating a strong sense of place. The narrow enclosure and continuity of historic character are relatively rare. ‘*

**VLFGGLVS608- Upper Waycock Valley / Dyffryn Area**

*Description: ‘The upper Waycock Valley is a broad gently sloping valley traversed by several minor watercourses. The highest point of the area is approximately 103m AOD in the north at the head of the Waycock Valley. The lowest point is approximately 25m AOD in the south west. The landcover is a mosaic of mostly pastoral fields with some arable enclosed by trimmed hedgerows with trees. Woodlands are dispersed throughout the area, generally on upper valley slopes and spurs. Settlement is centred on Duffryn, which is an attractive village of stone dwellings, stone walls and a stream running alongside the road. Dyffryn Gardens are a formal designed gardens nearby, with an improved access to the road to the A48 to the north. Farms and occasional dwellings are scattered across the area. These are linked by quiet minor roads and a network of public footpaths and generally the area is tranquil. However, the area borders Barry to the south east as well as the A4226, hence tranquillity is affected here. In general, the rural landscape is well maintained and the farms and settlements maintain their character. Detractors are pylons which cross the area to the south and the prominent edge of Barry on the hilltop to the south. The adjacent golf course also significantly modifies the landscape character.’*

*Value: **High** Rolling undulating mosaic of fields bound by trees and hedgerows with scattered farms*

*Guidelines: Current agricultural regime positive land use. Principal: Maintain rural character*

*Medium Term: Encourage woodland management to maintain tree cover, maintain hedgerows and encourage laid hedgerows*

Overall Evaluation: **High**

*‘The aspect area has broad, pleasing views to well managed countryside with a coherent field pattern and woodlands with settlements well integrated with the landscape and surrounding vegetation. . The settlements have stone walls and streams also add to the picturesque quality of this area. The area is unspoilt, well managed and is in good and consistent condition throughout. ‘*

**VLFGGLVS614- St Nicholas and Bonvilston Ridge Slopes**

*Description: ‘Prominent steep slopes running north and east from limestone ridge crest. The highest point is approximately 130m AOD, close to the ridge top at the*

*extreme east of the area. The lowest point is approximately 50m AOD at the extreme south of the area. Generally, the slopes offer broad views over Cardiff and the Ely Valley to the north and give a sense of openness to the observer and separation from Cardiff below. Likewise, the area is also visibly prominent from the edge of Cardiff at Culverhouse Cross and from the north. The area consists of a mosaic landcover dominated by pastoral fields set with hedgerows with a few large blocks of deciduous and mixed woodland. The latter are generally situated on steeply sloping spurs and valleys. Settlement is scattered and consists of mostly small farms and occasional linear strips of dwellings. These are prominent in places e.g. Twyn-yr-Odyn. The A48 climbs up the slope and the A4050 borders the area to the east. These noise sources reduce the tranquillity as does the presence of Culverhouse Cross and Wenvoe to the east. To the west smaller local roads cross the area connecting smaller settlements. The area becomes more tranquil further west. Generally, the rural landscape of the ridge slopes appears well maintained however, there is suburbanising pressure...'*

*Value: **High** Hills and valleys with scattered rural farms within a mosaic of hedge and tree lined fields*

*Guidelines: Develop woodland cover and hedgerows to better integrate settlement*

*Immediate: Restrict development strict*

*Medium: Replenish tree cover and hedgerows over time and improve countryside access*

*Overall Evaluation: **High***

*'The aspect area offers views into picturesque fields of hedgerows, hillsides and wooded areas with long views to north and east. The integrity of the area is reasonably intact and in reasonable condition. However, this has been affected by variable landscape management of hedgerows, limited housing development, old quarries and farm conversions. Despite this, the area maintains a strong character through its topography, essentially rural character and large woodland blocks. This gives the area a distinct sense of place.'*

#### LANDMAP – Geological Landscape

- 1.2.1 With regard to the Geological Landscape, the following Aspect Areas are contained within the focused 1km study area.

**Table A73.3: Geological Landscape Aspect Areas within 1km**

Aspect Area	Area name	Potential for theoretical inter visibility (ZTV with Barriers)	Evaluation
<b>VLFGGLGL170</b>	Moulton	Host area to DAs 1 and 2	<b>Moderate</b>
<b>VLFGGLGL282</b>	St. Hilary	DA 2 and western edge of DA 1	<b>High</b>
<b>VLFGGLGL749</b>	Wenvoe	Area to immediate east of DA 3	<b>High</b>

<b>VLFGGL532</b>	Pendoylan	North of 3 DA's	<b>High</b>
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1.2.2 The Aspect Areas with a 'High' or 'Outstanding' evaluation and those covering (or immediately adjoining) the proposed development are discussed in the following section (see highlighted rows).

### 1.3 GEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE

#### VLFGGL170- Moulton

*Description: 'Segment of broad Blue Lias' plateau (Lower Jurassic) including well developed internal scarps where softer Lavernock Shales between limestone-shale St Mary's Well Bay and Portkerry members have been eroded back to form steep slope above platform of former and below plateau of latter member. Steep sided cwms also typical'*

**Value: Moderate**

*Guidelines: 'Ensure that no significant and potentially conservable features of geological or geomorphological significance are lost/damaged due to development, etc, by implementing a RIGS survey to identify key sites to be protected through local plan policies, etc.'*

**Overall Evaluation: Moderate** Blue Lias plateaux

*Forms section of broader 'Blue Lias' plateau, but significant sites not recorded.*

#### VLFGGL282- St. Hilary

*Description: 'Continuation of Carboniferous massif within Cowbridge Anticline, with 'Old Red Sandstone' (Devonian) core and flanking Triassic-Jurassic marginal deposits. Includes relatively high ridge cut by deep, steep sided Nant Aberthin valley.'*

**Value: High**

*Guidelines: Ensure that no significant and potentially conservable features of geological or geomorphological significance are lost/damaged due to development, etc, by implementing a RIGS survey to identify key sites and protect through local plan policies.*

**Overall Evaluation: High** 'The Aspect Area forms a key part of the Carboniferous-marginal Triassic-Jurassic massif within the Vale and includes key exposures of limestone in a working quarry at Pant y Ffynon and landforms of possible geomorphological significance associated with the Nant Aberthin valley.'

#### VLFGGL749- Wenvoe

*Description: 'Forms eastern most limits of Carboniferous limestone-marginal Triassic-Jurassic massif, and is dominated by two distinct outcrops of limestone, each with a north-west/south-east scarp and a south-west inclined dip-slope, separated by a lower valley of softer 'normal' facies Mercia Mudstone Group within which Wenvoe is sited. Marginal facies only well-developed west of the western limestone mass, south-east of the eastern and around a smaller limestone outcrop in north-eastern Barry.'*

**Value: High**

Overall Evaluation: **High**

*‘Eastern limits of Carboniferous-marginal Triassic massif with distinct scarp and dip topography. Working and other quarries potentially include significant exposures of Carboniferous succession and marginal Triassic facies.’*

**VLFGGL532-Pendoylan**

*Description: ‘Relatively high and very irregular terrain, even hummocky in places, underlain by thick deposit of glacial clays with some sand, interpreted as a Devensian (i.e. last Glaciation) end moraine. local small areas of bedrock protrude through the cover, including ‘Old Red Sandstone’ (Devonian), Carboniferous limestone and Blue Lias Formation (Lower Jurassic).’*

Value: **High**

Overall Evaluation: **High**

*‘The area includes potentially regionally important sites showing glacio-deposition features such as kettle holes (e.g. at Mynydd y forest) and ground survey is now needed to confirm potential status.’*

**LANDMAP - Landscape Habitats**

- 1.3.1 With regard to Landscape Habitats aspect, the following Aspect Areas are contained within the 1km study area:

**Table A74.4: Landscape Habitat Aspect Areas within 1km**

Aspect Area	Area name	Potential for theoretical inter visibility (ZTV with Barriers)	Evaluation
<b>VLFGLLH582</b>	Ogmore-Llantwit Arable Belt	Yes- Host area DA’s 1 and 3	<b>Moderate (Improved grassland and arable)</b>
<b>VLFGLLH958</b>	Barry North	Yes – Host area DA 2	<b>Moderate (Improved grassland and arable with occasional woodlands)</b>
<b>VLFGLLH840</b>	Rhoose-Moulton	Yes- small glimpsed/partial	<b>Moderate (Improved grassland and arable)</b>
<b>VLFGLLH786</b>	Aberthaw River Valleys	Yes- very limited from publicly accessible areas	<b>High- Semi- Natural broadleaved woodland and improved grassland</b>

- 1.3.2 The Aspect Areas with a ‘High’ or ‘Outstanding’ evaluation and those covering (or immediately adjoining) the proposed development are discussed in the following section (see highlighted rows).

## 1.4 LANDSCAPE HABITATS

### VLFGLLH582 Ogmored-Llantwit Arable Belt

Open landscape of improved grassland and arable

Description: *‘Gently undulating landscape of the south-western Vale characterised by intensive agricultural management supporting large fields of improved grassland and arable crops... Field boundaries, occasional ponds and minor watercourses largely provide the focus of biodiversity interest... Field ponds dug to supply water for stock are a particular feature of this part of the Vale and frequently support Great Crested Newts...’*

Value: **Moderate**. *‘The focus of biodiversity interest within the aspect area is the occurrence of occasional meadows, ponds and small woodland copses as well as field boundaries and arable crop margins...’*

Guidelines: *‘The provision of set aside buffer strips at the edges of the arable fields and sympathetic management of field boundaries would increase biodiversity interest...’*

Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species: **Moderate**

*‘Generally improved agricultural landscape of limited biodiversity interest...’*

### VLFGLLH958-Barry North

Predominantly open landscape of Improved grassland and arable with occasional woodlands

Description: *‘An undulating agricultural landscape north of Barry punctuated with occasional semi-natural and planted woodlands and crossed by minor watercourses. These feature together with field boundaries, which are often regularly clipped, form the focus of biodiversity interest. The woodlands are generally Ash dominated but a variety of other broadleaved tree species are also present, and some have a diverse ground flora supporting species such as Herb Paris, Goldilocks Buttercup, Thin-spiked Wood-sedge, Wood Millet and Greater Butterfly Orchid.’*

Value: **Moderate** *‘Improved agricultural landscape interspersed by woodlands.’*

Guidelines: *N/A*

Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species: **Moderate** *‘Improved agricultural landscape interspersed by woodlands which provide the focus of biodiversity interest.’*

### VLFGLLH840-Rhose-Moulton

Improved grassland and arable

Description: *‘A landscape of undulating topography largely dominated by agriculturally improved ground. Field boundaries, minor watercourses and occasional semi-improved grasslands form the focus of biodiversity interest.’*

Value: **Moderate** *‘Improved agricultural landscape interspersed by woodlands.’*

Guidelines: *‘Sympathetic management of hedgerows in particular may help to increase connectivity within and between local aspect areas.’*

*Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species: **Moderate** ‘Agriculturally improved land of limited value for wildlife, the focus of interest being field boundaries and occasional semi-improved grassland communities.’*

**VLFGLLH786 Aberthaw River Valleys**

Semi- Natural broadleaved woodland and improved grassland

*Description: ‘A mosaic of habitats centred on dissected river valleys that harbour floodplain grasslands of poorly-draining character and steep valley slopes supporting semi-natural broadleaved woodland and occasional species-rich semi-improved neutral grasslands.’*

*Value: **High** ‘The aspect area supports a concentration of semi-natural habitat.’*

*Guidelines: N/A*

*Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species: **High***

*‘The aspect area defines a concentration of semi-natural broadleaved woodland and semi-improved neutral grasslands considered of significant biodiversity interest.’*

**LANDMAP – Historic Landscape**

- 1.4.1 With regard to the Historic Landscape aspect, the following aspect areas are contained within the 1km study area.

**Table A75.5: Historic Landscape Aspect Areas within 1km**

Aspect Area	Area name	Potential for theoretical inter visibility (ZTV with Barriers)	Evaluation
<b>VLFGHL032</b>	Llancarfan	Host DA’s 1 and 3	<b>Outstanding</b>
<b>VLFGHL050</b>	Dyffryn	Host DA 2	<b>Outstanding</b>
<b>VLFGHL027</b>	Dyffryn Gardens	500m+ to south east No intervisibility with DA’s	<b>Outstanding</b>
<b>VLFGHL022</b>	A48 Lougher to Chepstow communication co	North of the 3 DA’s – Limited by roadside screening	<b>Outstanding</b>

- 1.4.2 The Aspect Areas with a ‘High’ or ‘Outstanding’ evaluation and those covering (or immediately adjoining) the proposed development are discussed in the following section (see highlighted rows).

**1.5 HISTORIC LANDSCAPE**

**VLFGHL032-Llancarfan**

*Description: ...’The ancient settlement and secluded valley of Llancarfan (HLW(SGI)1), situated in the central plateau of the Vale, is one of the best surviving examples of the historic landscape of the Vale*

*Value: **Outstanding***



**Overall Evaluation: Outstanding**

*'This area, which roughly represents the extent of the medieval parish of Llancarfan, has been characterised as 'one of the best surviving, most typical historic sections of the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan' characterised by a well-preserved irregular fieldscape and a pattern of small, nucleated villages with diverse evidence of land use dating from the Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods. The focal point of this area is represented by the ancient settlement of Llancarfan, an historically important Early Christian monastic centre associated with the famous 6th century Welsh saint St Cadog, a contemporary of St David.'*

**VLFGHL050-Dyffryn**

*Description: ...'The character of this aspect area is generally undulating with several substantial streams and a fairly regular fieldscape of large fields. The present landscape is primarily post-medieval in character but has an extensive history of human activity from the Neolithic through to the present. A significant number of important Neolithic megalithic monuments are distributed across this area and fall into the Cotswold Severn group of chambered tombs. Tinkinswood Long Cairn (SAM Gm09) to the north of Dyffryn is the most impressive monument of its type in the Vale...'*

**Value: Outstanding**

**Overall Evaluation: Outstanding**

*'This area may be justifiably characterised as an outstandingly rich multi-period landscape, with evidence of occupation and funerary activity ranging from the Neolithic period through to the present day, with an exceptionally well-preserved group of Neolithic megalithic burial monuments at Tinkinswood, Maes-y-felin and Coed-y-Cwm which may be regarded as being of national significance.'*

**VLFGHL027- Dyffryn Gardens**

*Description: 'The house and gardens of Dyffryn (PGW(Gm)32) are the grandest and most outstanding Edwardian gardens in Wales. They are comparable to some of the most extravagant gardens of the period in Britain...'*

**Value: Outstanding**

**Overall Evaluation: Outstanding**

**VLFGHL022- A48 Lougher to Chepstow communication co**

*Description: 'The transport corridor follows the course of the Cardiff to Neath Roman road, on an east-west alignment dividing the Vale in two. Historically, probably the most significant aspect area within the Vale, since the road and the north-south division it created, has been geographically respected since Roman times, most notably during the medieval period when it represented the divide between the Welsh held lands to the north and the Norman held lands to the south. The aspect area includes the historic settlements of St Nicholas, Bonvilston, Ewenny, Llanblethian and Cowbridge'*

**Value: Outstanding**

*'An ancient communications route following the line of the Roman road running W from*

*Cardiff toward Neath, its primary focus being the historic town of Cowbridge, where archaeological excavations have revealed well-preserved remains of a Roman 'small town' underlying the later medieval planned urban settlement established in 1254. Roman and medieval findspots and features predominate within the archaeological record.*

**Overall Evaluation: Outstanding**

**LANDMAP – Cultural Landscape Services**

- 1.5.1 With regard to the Cultural Landscape Services, the following aspect areas are contained within the 1km study area:

**Table A76.6: Cultural Landscape Services Aspect Areas within 1km**

Aspect Area	Area name	Potential for theoretical inter visibility (ZTV with Barriers)	Habitat Type
VLFGCLCLS008	Central Vale Ridges and Slopes	Yes- Host area DA 1, 3 and west half of DA 2	Open Rolling Lowland
VLFGCLCLS027	Llancarfan and Waycock Valleys	Yes- partial outside of woodland areas	Mosaic Lowland Valleys
VLFGCLCLS036	Upper Waycock Valley/Dyffryn Area	Yes- Host to east half of DA 2 and land to immediate east	Lowland Valleys

- 1.5.2 The Aspect Areas do not have specific evaluations and descriptions however the assessment classifications covering the proposed DA and immediate context (up to 1km) are considered in the assessment of effects section. Key elements area highlighted below, which tend to encompass a combination of stated elements from the other LANDMAP layers.

**VLFGCLCLS008 Central Vale Ridges and Slopes**

*Sense of place/ local distinctiveness: Weak, Visual and sensory landscape evaluation: Moderate. Scenic quality: High. Character: High. Landscape Habitats Evaluation: Over 75% High or Outstanding, Historic Landscape evaluation: Over 75% High or outstanding*

**VLFGCLCLS027 Llancarfan and Waycock Valleys**

*Sense of place/ local distinctiveness: Strong, Visual and sensory landscape evaluation: High Scenic quality: High. Character: High. Landscape Habitats Evaluation: Over 75% High or outstanding, Historic Landscape evaluation: Over 75% High or outstanding*

**VLFGCLCLS036 Upper Waycock Valley/Dyffryn Area**

*Sense of place/ local distinctiveness: Moderate, Visual and sensory landscape evaluation: High Scenic quality: Moderate. Character: High. Landscape Habitats*



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*Evaluation: Over 75% Moderate, Historic Landscape evaluation: Over 75% High or outstanding.*

