SENSITIVITY AND CAPACITY STUDY FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

BLAENAU GWENT CBC AND TORFAEN CBC

October 2021

TACP



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
Blaenau Gwent
County Borough Council

TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH
BWRDEISTREF SIROL TORFAEN

BLAENAU GWENT CBC AND TORFAEN CBC

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10 PARK GROVE

CARDIFF

CF10 3BN

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GLOSSARY

BBNP	Brecon Beacons National Park
BGCBC	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
GIS	Geographical information system
GW	Gigawatt
ha	Hectare
HL	Historic Landscape (with reference to the LANDMAP assessment process)
LANDMAP	A Wales -wide landscape assessment process adopted for national planning and assessment purposes
LAUs	Landscape Assessment Units
LDP	Local Development Plan
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LSAs	Local search areas
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
MW	Megawatt
NCN	National Cycle Network
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
OS	Ordnance Survey (mapping system)
PAA	Pre-Assessed Area (for Wind Energy)
PPW11	Planning Policy Wales (11th Edition Feb 2021)
PRoW	Public Right of Way
PV	photovoltaic
RLDP	Replacement Local Development Plan
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SINC	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
SM	Scheduled Monument
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
TCBC	Torfaen County Borough Council
VS	Visual and Sensory (with reference to the LANDMAP assessment process)
WHS	World Heritage Site (with reference to Blaenavon WHS)

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1 INTRODUCTION

TACP has been commissioned by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council (BGCBC) and Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) to assess the sensitivity of their landscapes to wind and solar development, and from this identify the capacity of the landscape to absorb these types of development. This assessment will form part of the evidence base for the development of renewable energy policies in the respective Replacement Local Development Plans and will also function as a Development Management tool to assist in the determination of planning applications going forward.

The assessment has been developed with reference to a range of potential development scenarios throughout the region as identified in the Carbon Trust Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Assessments carried out for each Local Authority. The Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development, however, includes the entirety of the County Boroughs of Blaenau Gwent and Torfaen, including and not restricted to areas that have been identified as suitable for renewables development. This is to provide a broader long-term view, as criteria for renewable development have changed considerably over recent years and may be expected to change over the life of the Local Development Plan (LDP).

LANDMAP visual assessment units are used as the baseline units of the assessment. Sensitivity may vary within these units, which at the strategic level of this assessment may not be fully identified. However, the further Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) required as part of planning control for individual developments, will identify the finer grain visual and landscape impacts, with scheme specific mitigation recommended.

The purpose of this report is to provide strategic spatial planning guidance for the two County Borough Councils. This will help to inform the identification of Local Search Areas (LSAs), broad, geographical areas for development of solar photovoltaic (PV) and onshore wind within which there is a presumption of such development (subject to detailed policy criteria). In this way renewables development can progress in a managed way, reducing impacts on the most sensitive landscapes.

This is a strategic level planning tool providing landscape and visual baseline sensitivity and capacity guidance for the development of future planning policy and to provide context for use in consideration of further renewable energy development. It is not the intention of this study to identify areas that cannot accommodate renewable energy development due solely to the areas' landscape sensitivity value. Rather the final decision will be dependent on a wide variety of factors that should be considered in addition to the landscape sensitivity. Further aspects for consideration should include, but not be limited by, ecology and biodiversity, sustainability, scheme specific visual impacts, land quality and cultural heritage and the historic environment and the need for the development in contributing towards Welsh Government targets.



1.1 NATIONAL POLICY BACKGROUND

Under the Environment (Wales) Act (2016) (Amendment of 2050 Emissions Target) Regulations 2021, Wales is required to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 100% by 2050 (against a 1990 baseline) with interim targets and carbon budgets to assist with meeting this target.

In March 2019, Welsh Government published a plan, Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales, which sets out how the first carbon budget (2016-2020) will be met (Welsh Government, 2019). This plan pulls together 76 existing pieces of policy from across Welsh Government, UK Government, and the EU and sets out 100 policies and proposals to accelerate the transition to a low carbon economy (Welsh Government, 2019). Within this plan, local authorities are identified as having a significant role to play in achieving this transition.

An update on achieving reduced emissions was provided in the Progress Report: Reducing emissions in Wales (December 2020). This identified an ambitious 78% reduction target compared to 1990 levels across the Sixth Carbon Budget period (2033 - 2037) to bring emission reduction in line with the newly legislated Net Zero target for Wales and the UK by 2050.

The 2016 Environment Act also places an obligation on Welsh Ministers to set carbon budgets for Welsh emissions covering five-year periods to 2050. So far, Wales has legislated for the first two carbon budgets, which require emissions to be 23% below the baseline over the period 2016-2020 and 33% below the baseline for 2021-2026.

In addition to requirements set out in the Environment (Wales) Act (2016), Welsh Government has introduced the following targets specifically related to local energy generation and ownership:

- Wales to generate electricity equal to 70 per cent of its consumption from renewable sources by 2030.
- 1 gigawatt (GW) of renewable electricity and heat capacity in Wales to be locally owned by 2030.
- New energy projects to have at least an element of local ownership from 2020.

The Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015) places an obligation on all public bodies in Wales to consider the long-term impact of the decisions made, with respect to all elements of sustainable development to ensure that the well-being of future generations is safeguarded.

Future Wales: The National Plan, is a new spatial development plan for addressing key national priorities (including decarbonisation) through the planning system (Welsh Government, 2021). It is the highest tier of development plan, to be built on at a regional level by Strategic Development Plans, and at a local level by Local Development Plans (Welsh Government, 2021). One of the 11 outcomes of Future Wales is to develop "a Wales where people live […] in places which are decarbonised."

Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (Welsh Government, Feb 2021) identifies **Pre-Assessed Areas** (PAAs) for large-scale (over 10 MW) wind energy developments and key urban areas that should prioritise the development of district heat networks, as shown in **Figure 2:** Landscape Constraints. Both this and the eleventh edition of Planning Policy Wales (PPW11, 2021) provide significant policy support for renewable energy projects and strengthen the Welsh Government's commitment to tackling the climate emergency.

With respect to the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP), the Planning Authority should adhere to the policies in Future Wales and the guidance provided within PPW11. PPW11 requires Local Authorities to,

"…facilitate all forms of renewable and low carbon energy development and should seek cross-department co-operation to achieve this. In doing so, planning authorities should seek to ensure their area's full potential for renewable and low carbon energy generation is maximised and renewable energy targets are achieved. Planning authorities should seek to maximise the potential of renewable energy by linking the development plan with other local authority strategies, including Local Well-being plans and Economic/ Regeneration strategies." (5.9.1) (Welsh Government (2021) PPW Edition 11, and;

"To assist in the achievement of energy and decarbonisation targets, local and regional authorities must take an active, leadership approach at the local and/ or regional level by setting out their vision for decarbonisation and energy for their areas." (5.9. 2) (Welsh Government (2021) PPW Edition 11,

It further emphasises that Planning Authorities should,

"…support and guide renewable and low carbon energy development to ensure their area's potential is maximised. Planning authorities should assess the opportunities for renewable and low carbon energy in the area and use this evidence to establish spatial policies in their development plan which identify the most appropriate locations for development of energy developments below 10MW. There should be a presumption in favour of development in identified areas, including an acceptance of landscape change, with clear criteria-based policies setting out detailed locational issues to be considered at the planning application stage." (5.9.14) (Welsh Government (2021) PPW Edition 11.

Available at: https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11_0.pdf Section 5.9.

Both Councils have undertaken preliminary work to identify Local Search Areas (LSAs). The draft areas will take into account the results of this sensitivity and capacity assessment as well as being subject to stakeholder engagement before being included in their respective Deposit RLDPs for formal consultation.

1.2 SCOPE

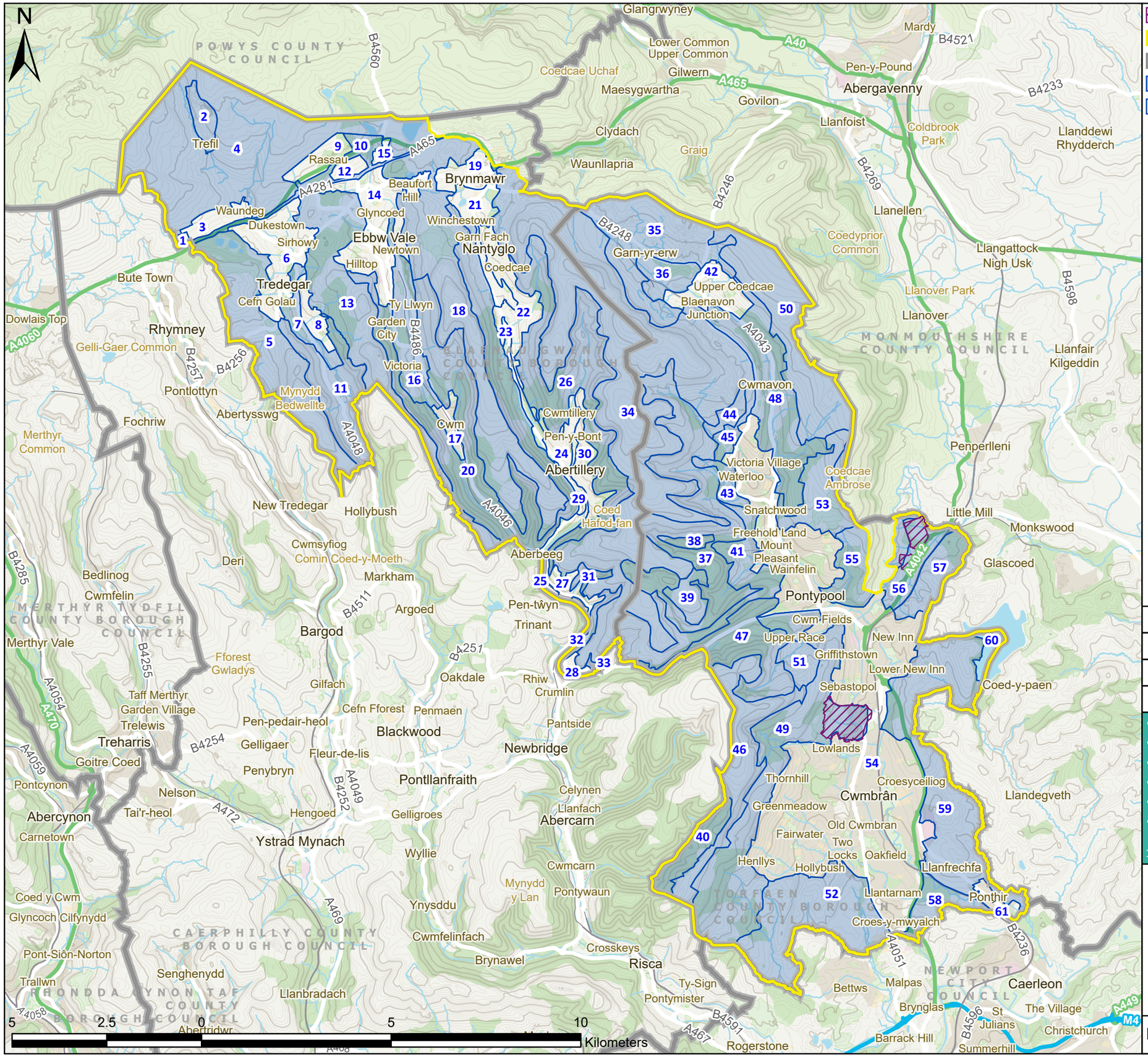
The scope of this study is to provide a strategic assessment of landscape sensitivity to, and capacity for, wind and solar renewables development within the two County Boroughs. This includes identification of specific sensitive receptors within landscape units, and general advice on options for avoidance or mitigation of impacts on these.



The study area has been identified as the County Boroughs of Blaenau Gwent and Torfaen, excluding land which falls under the National Parks Authority, with an additional 10km buffer which will enable potential cumulative visual impacts from development in neighbouring Counties, or visual impacts on Brecon Beacons National Park (BBNP) to be identified. The study area is indicated on **Figure 1.0**

The main aims of this assessment are:

- To provide an assessment of the joint County Boroughs' landscape resource, the Study Area, to accommodate wind turbine and solar Photovoltaic (PV) development;
- To provide guidance on siting for renewable energy development within the study area; and
- To identify where particular landscapes may have a greater or lesser capacity for renewable energy development.



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

- Environmental Consultants
- Planners
- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
- Urban Designers
- Ecologists

TACP

10 Park Grove, Cardiff, CF10 3BN • 02920 228966 • admin@tacp.co.uk

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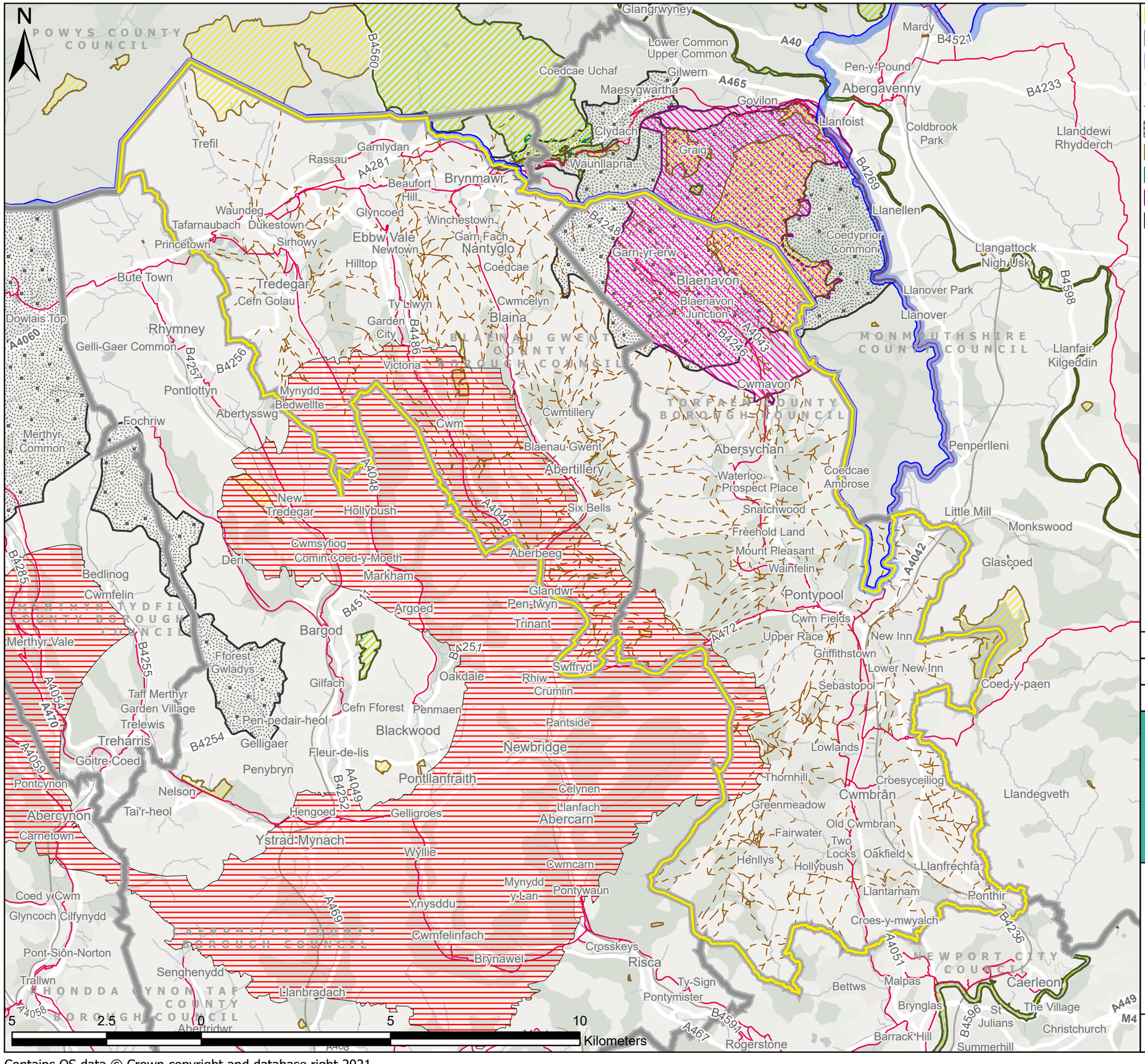
Figure 1

Study Area and Landscape Assessment Units

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F1StudyArea

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- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
- Blaenavon World Heritage Site
- Historic Landscapes

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Figure 2

Regional Landscape Constraints

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The LANDMAP landscape aspect areas have been applied to the Study Area for individual assessment. There are 41 of these Landscape Assessment Units (LAU) in total. Areas of existing built development as identified within LANDMAP are excluded. This has been further updated through field survey and in consultation with the local planning authorities to exclude additional areas of development built since the initial LANDMAP assessments were made. Although areas of built development may have potential for roof mounted solar or other renewable technologies, that is beyond the scope of this assessment. Areas of inland water have also been excluded. The use of LANDMAP visual and sensory data to identify units with consistent landscape type is explained in the Methodology section below.

1.3 CONSULTATION

The current assessment has been developed in conjunction with Planning and Landscape officers from both Blaenau Gwent and Torfaen County Borough Councils. They have been involved in a liaison process to agree methodology, development scenarios and to bring their specialist local and planning knowledge to the assessment process. The developing assessment process has been made available via Arc GIS online enabling live comment and consideration of the study to be carried out at all stages of the project.

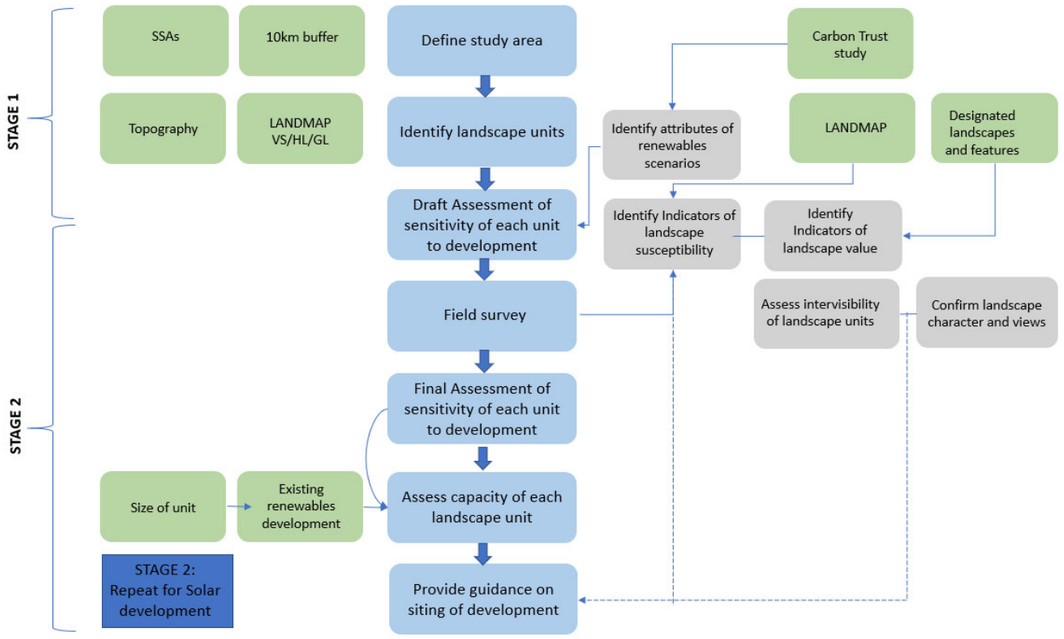


2 METHODOLOGY

The methodology approach was based on the Natural England Sensitivity Assessment guidance, modified in line with Gillespies' Heads of the Valleys smaller scale wind turbine development report[1]. Gillespies study further refined the method to utilise LANDMAP data and extends it to describe indicative capacity. The methodology applied in this study is aligned to this example, which has proved successful in this area in the past. The most significant change made is to the selection of landscape units, which are at a smaller scale for this study. The planning context has also changed significantly since 2015, and this report has adapted the method to acknowledge that and to include solar PV and larger scale wind turbine development.

Stage 1: ***Initial Assessment Framework*** has been carried out with an analysis and desk study of available GIS data mapping and satellite views. This resulted in the development of a refined methodology based on that developed for the previous study undertaken by Gillespies that includes additional susceptibility criteria assessment for solar development. It should be noted that this assessment has used the publicly available data current at the time of assessment. Whilst the conclusions and guidance outline in this assessment will remain broadly relevant any final assessment decision should always be checked against the latest currently available baseline data.

Stage 2: ***Evaluation of Sensitivity and Fieldwork*** will confirm landscape characteristics and baseline development information, assess extent of sensitive views and identify any additional indicators of susceptibility that should be taken into account.



Stage 3: ***Mapping of Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Reporting.***

[1] Gillespies LLP (2015) Heads of the Valleys Smaller Scale Wind Turbine Development: Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study Final Report. BGCBC.

The results of the initial assessment and fieldwork have been reported in the form of digital proformas and captured onsite through the use of the Arc GIS collector app. A full baseline description and analysis of each landscape assessment unit accompanied with mapping for sensitivity and capacity for each area is included within the Landscape Assessment Unit Statements in Section 3.0. This has been repeated in the same format for both wind/turbine development and solar PV development.

2.1 LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT UNITS

LANDMAP Visual and Sensory classification level 2, which identifies landform, was used to divide the study area into landscape units of similar type, termed Landscape Assessment Units (LAU). This was considered an appropriate scale to provide an overview of sensitivity, where susceptible landscape features are likely to be relatively consistent.

Adjustments were made where an anomaly in the LANDMAP Visual and Sensory assessment was identified for the central ridge of Mynydd Carn y Cefn in Blaenau Gwent, where the existing aspect area was recategorised from Upland Valley to Exposed Upland plateau. This is subject to confirmation and agreement by NRW.

The eight different types of landscape in the study area:

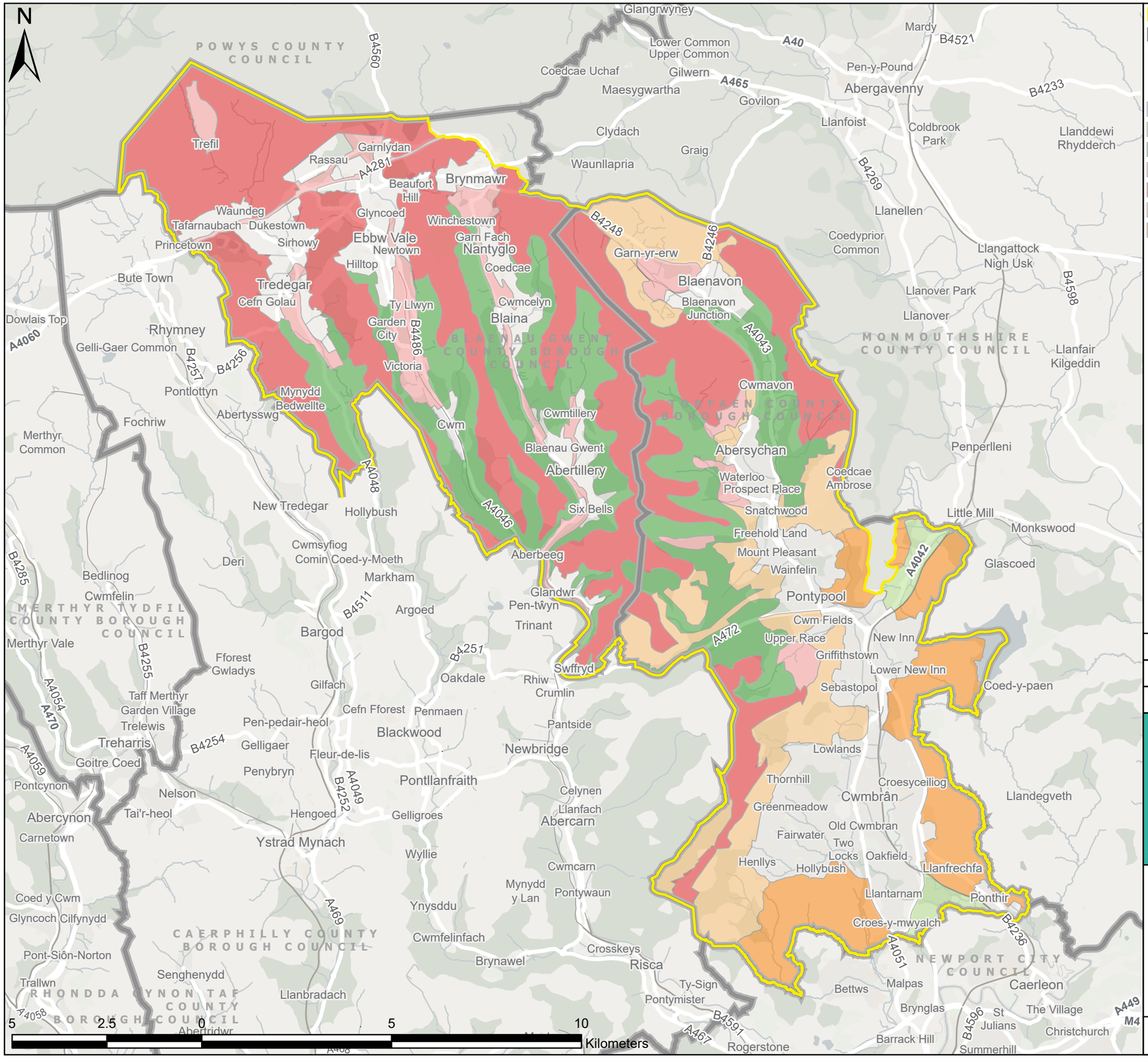
- Exposed Upland Plateau
- Upland Valleys
- Hills, Lower Plateau and Scarp Slopes
- Rolling Lowland
- Lowland Valleys
- Inland Water
- Built Development
- Developed Unbuilt Land

LANDMAP Visual and Sensory Classification Level 2 for the Study area is shown on **Figure 3.0**. Their division into the 38 LAUs is shown in the table below and on **Figure 1.0.** Regional landscape constraints are illustrated on **Figure 2.0** with more local constraints shown on the figures accompanying the LAU statements in **Section 3.**

Missing LAU numbers relate to areas of built development or inland water that have been excluded from the assessment.

Table 2.1.1 Landscape Assessment Units

LAU Ref.	LAU Name	LAU Ref.	LAU Name
LAU 2	Trefil Quarry	LAU 32	Craig Swffryd
LAU 4	Trefil and Carno	LAU 33	Swffryd Wood
LAU 5	Rhymney Hill and Mynydd Bedwellte	LAU 34	Mynydd Coity Upland Ridge
LAU 7	Tredegar Open Space	LAU 35	Hills North of Blaenavon
LAU 10	Rassau A465 Corridor	LAU 36	Blaenavon
LAU 11	Sirhowy Valley	LAU 37	Mynydd Coity Eastern Valley Sides
LAU 13	Briery Hill and Cefn Manmoel	LAU 38	Cwm Du
LAU 16	Ebbw Vale	LAU 39	Hilltop above Gelli-Deg
LAU 18	Mynydd Carn y Cefn	LAU 40	Western Slopes of Mynydd Henllys
LAU 20	Ebbw Valley Sides and East of Carn-y-Cefn	LAU 41	Pantygasseg Valley & edge of Pontnewynydd
LAU 26	Cwm Celyn, Cwmtillery and Waun Wen Valley side	LAU 43	British Works West of Talywain
LAU 31	Cwm Cyffin	LAU 44	British Works on Mynydd Farteg Fawr



Study Area

Local Authorities

Landscape Area Units

LANDMAP Visual and Sensory Classification Level 2

- Flat Lowland/Levels
- Lowland Valleys
- Upland Valleys
- Developed Unbuilt Land
- Exposed Upland/Plateau
- Hills, Lower Plateau & Scarp Slopes
- Rolling Lowland

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Figure 3

LANDMAP Visual and Sensory Classification Level 2

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LAU Ref.	LAU Name	LAU Ref.	LAU Name
LAU 45	Lower Slopes of Varteg Hill	LAU 52	Henllys Vale, Castell-y-Bwlch & Hollybush
LAU 46	Mynydd Twyn-Glas, Mynydd Maen, Mynydd Henllys Ridge	LAU 53	Lasgarn Farmland
LAU 47	Cwm-Y-Glyn and Cwm Lleucu, Twyn Calch Hillsides	LAU 55	Pontypool Park and environs
LAU 48	Cwmavon	LAU 56	A4042 Usk Road Corridor
LAU 49	Mynydd Maen, Mynydd Henllys sides above Cwmbran	LAU 57	Llnafihangel Pont-y-Mael east of railway
LAU 50	Mynydd y Garn-Fawr, Mynydd Garnclochdy	LAU 58	Llantarnam Abbey & environs
LAU 51	Upper Race	LAU 59	Countryside east of Cwmbran

2.2 DEVELOPMENT TYPOLOGIES

A separate assessment has been made for wind and solar PV as two different development types. Not only are the attributes of the developments different, but the features of the landscape that are susceptible to each type of development differ as well.

BGCBC and TCBC have undertaken consultation with developers, as well as reviewing Government guidance, to provide the following development typologies:

2.2.1 WIND TURBINES

- Very Large: Tip height 181m to 250 metres at spacing of 0.9 km2 per turbine (most likely in PAA)
- Large: Tip height 151m to 180 metres at spacing of 0.24 km2 per turbine
- Medium: Tip height 121m to 150 metres at spacing of 0.24 km2 per turbine
- Small: Tip height less than or equal to 120 metres at spacing of 0.2 km2 per turbine

The height, number and density of turbines are all key attributes of the development in terms of landscape sensitivity and therefore the capacity assessment considers this.

It should be noted that in the 2015 study, very large was defined as turbines of 109m height or greater, or any development of more than five turbines. It concluded that all landscapes in the current study area were of high sensitivity to this scale of development. The landscape assessment units were, however, of a larger scale, reflecting the broader scope of the original study.

A 120m high feature has a potential viewshed between 3-7km, depending on local topography and intervening vegetation and built form. If placed on exposed upland it would be visible from surrounding upland locations, but not necessarily from intervening valleys. When considering turbine heights of 120m plus, it can be assumed that they will all have similar visual impact, as the potential zone of visibility is greater than the range of normal vision, even on a clear day.

A single turbine, although visible, would have less of a visual impact than several turbines in a group, which would appear as a mass rather than a point. There would also be a smaller landscape impact due to the footprint of the development. This assessment, therefore, considers group size as defining the scale of development, as follows:

Table 2.2.1 Wind turbine typologies

Single	1 turbine up to 180m height
Small group	1-3 turbines
Medium group	4-6 turbines
Large group	7-10 turbines

At planning stage, the capacity recommendations would need to be reviewed for cumulative effects with renewables development in neighbouring LAUs, where intervisibility between developments is likely. Included as an illustration of potential viewshed/visual impact of a single wind turbine considered by height rather than grouping. Figure A and B show the approximate viewshed of a 180m tall feature (calculated with Google maps viewshed tool, based on topographic data), located either on upland ridge or on upland valley side – both within areas identified in the Carbon Trust analysis of suitable sites.



Figure A 10km Viewshed generated by large scale turbine on Coity Mountain (550m AOD) exposed upland/plateau



Figure B 10km Viewshed from large turbine on upland valley side above Festival Drive (450m AOD)

2.2.2 SOLAR PV PANELS

- 1m x 2m size panels set in aluminium frames
- Arranged in parallel rows in an east-west direction approximately 5-8m wide
- Overall height above ground level 2-3m
- Tilted to the south at fixed or tracking angle of 20-40^{o}
- Additional infrastructure including small scale buildings to house invertors and power,
- 2.5m high Security fencing and CCTV cameras mounted on 4.5m poles
- Minimum land area between 2 and 5 Ha

The height, massing and pattern of solar panels and associated infrastructure are key attributes of this type of development. Reflectiveness also needs to be considered as glare from reflective surfaces can travel long distances and prove very eye catching for visual receptors.

In assessing landscape capacity, the following scales of development have been assessed based on the underlying landscape topography and form and consistent with the most recent development schemes considered within the study area and surrounding authorities:

Table 2.2.2 Solar PV typologies

Small array	< 10Ha
Medium array	11-20Ha
Large array	21-30Ha
Very large array	31+Ha

It is considered to be unlikely that solar development beyond this size would be practicable within the study area.

2.3 LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY CRITERIA

Landscape susceptibility is the degree to which a defined landscape and its associated visual qualities and attributes might respond to a specific development type / development scenario without undue negative effects on landscape character and the visual resource.

The assessment also needs to reflect the values society places on our landscapes in addition to their intrinsic characteristics. This is established from existing designations, recreational use, and cultural and historic associations.

Sensitivity to different types of development is then evaluated by combining susceptibility and value indicators for each landscape unit.

Susceptibility and value criteria are broadly similar for both wind and solar development. However, some variations between the two development types have been applied due to their different attributes, scale size massing and height etc, having different effects on the landscape. Values of Low, Medium and High susceptibility are provided. A number of these criteria are interdependent with subtle variations that can be influenced by other factors such as intervisibility between LAUs. In these situations, further comment has been brought out in the Landscape Assessment Units Statements to highlight variations within the LAUs such as the significance of skylines and ridges and importance of consideration for siting to avoid breaks in skylines.

The criteria were assessed using a combination of LANDMAP data, fieldwork, satellite imagery and OS mapping information. These are set out in the following tables.

A glossary of terms used as a part of the LANDMAP assessment is also given to provide clarity for the landscape and visual criteria used within the Landscape Assessment Unit Statements.

Table 2.3.1 Landscape and visual criteria with susceptibility to wind energy development

Criteria (LANDMAP category)	Susceptibility indicators:		
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Landscape			
Scale VS8: Scale	Vast or large-scale landscapes	Medium scale landscapes	Small scale landscapes
Landform VS4: Topographic form	Levels, plateaux, disturbed	High hills/ mountains	Hills/valleys, rolling land, undulating
Landcover pattern			
VS Classification level 3	Excavation, urban, upland moorland, upland grazing, Hillside and scarp slopes grazing, Lake,	Wooded upland and plateau, hillside and scarp slopes, village, mosaic upland and plateau, Hillside and scarp slopes mosaic, Mosaic rolling lowland	Open upland valleys, open/wooded mosaic, upland valleys, amenity land, informal open space, mosaic lowland valleys,
VS5: Landcover pattern	Development, open land, water	Mixture, woodland	Field pattern/mosaic
VS16: Pattern	Formal , Organised	Regular	Random
HL Classification level 3	Reclaimed land, extractive, processing manufacturing, communications, military	Marginal, woodland, recreational	Various fieldscapes, settlements, nucleated settlements, designed
Built Environment			
VS6: Settlement pattern	Urban, linear	Village, mixture, clustered	None, scattered rural/farm
Built form and infrastructure: Maps and fieldwork	Large / concentrated urban / modern settlements, industrial development and large sheds, pylons, masts, trunk roads, railways	Residential and smaller scale commercial development and structures	Unpopulated areas, presence of historic buildings / structures or settlement

Criteria (LANDMAP category)	Susceptibility indicators:		
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Visual			
Skylines and settings: Topographic data and fieldwork	Less prominent skylines Existing vertical features (modern development) Smooth, flat landscapes	Undulating landscapes	Prominent or distinctive skylines, Uninterrupted / undeveloped skylines, Distinctive / sensitive landscape features such as historic landmarks
Movement VS18: Level of human access; observation during fieldwork	Constant, frequent	Infrequent	Rare, occasional
Visibility, intervisibility between units			
VS9: Enclosure	Enclosed, confined	Open	Exposed
VS22: Attractive views	Neither in or out	Out	Both in and out, within, into
VS23: Detractive views	Both in and out, within, into	Out	Neither in or out
Views into the area Field observation and mapping	Contributes little to wider landscape, limited views in	Some views, framed views in	Extensive views in from surrounding countryside
Views out of the area Field observation and mapping	Sparsely populated or inaccessible, limited views out	Some views, framed views out of the area	Landscapes with far reaching views, densely populated areas.
Typical Receptors: Desk study	Commercial, transport routes	Sports fields and other recreation not dependent on setting, workplaces	Residential, leisure, tourists
Scenic quality and character			
VS46: Scenic quality	Low	Moderate	Outstanding, High
VS47: Integrity	Low	Moderate	Outstanding, High
VS48: Character	Low	Moderate	Outstanding, High

Table 1.3.2 **Landscape and visual criteria with susceptibility to solar farm development**

Criteria (LANDMAP category)	Susceptibility indicators:		
Landscape	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Scale VS8:Scale	Vast or large-scale landscapes	Medium scale landscapes	Small scale landscapes
Landform VS4: Topographic form	Levels, plateaux, disturbed	High hills/ mountains	Hills/valleys, rolling land, undulating
Landcover pattern			
VS7: Boundary type	Overgrown hedges, hedge with trees, fences with trees	Managed hedge, Clawdd	Fences, stone walls, slate fences, none
VS5: Landcover pattern	Development, open land, water	Mixture, woodland	Field pattern/mosaic
VS16:Pattern	Formal	Regular	Random
HL Classification level 3	Regular fieldscape, reclaimed land, extractive, processing manufacturing, communications, military, organised	Marginal, woodland, recreational, settlements, horticulture	Irregular fieldscape, designed
Built Environment			
VS6: Settlement pattern	Urban, linear	Village, mixture, clustered	None, scattered rural/farm
VS20: Use of construction materials	Inappropriate	Generally inappropriate	Appropriate, generally appropriate
Built form and infrastructure: Maps and fieldwork	Large / concentrated urban / modern settlements, major infrastructure (transport / communications / utility infrastructure / industrial elements)	Residential and smaller scale commercial development and structures	Unpopulated areas, presence of historic buildings / structures or settlement
Visual			
Visibility, intervisibility between units			
VS9: Enclosure	Enclosed, confined	Open	Exposed
VS22: Attractive views	Neither in or out	Out	Both in and out, within, into
VS23: Detractive views	Both in and out, within, into	Out	Neither in or out
Views into the area Field observation and mapping	Contributes little to wider landscape, limited views in	Some views, framed views in	Extensive views in from surrounding countryside

Criteria (LANDMAP category)	Susceptibility indicators:		
Landscape	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Views out of the area Field observation and mapping	Sparsely populated or inaccessible, limited views out	Some views, framed views out of the area	Landscapes with far reaching views, densely populated areas.
Typical Receptors: Desk study	Commercial, transport routes	Sports fields and other recreation not dependent on setting, workplaces	Residential, leisure, tourists
Scenic quality and character			
VS46: Scenic quality	Low	Moderate	Outstanding, High
VS47: Integrity	Low	Moderate	Outstanding, High
VS48: Character	Low	Moderate	Outstanding, High

Table 2.3.3 **Criteria for assessing landscape value.**

Type of value	Indicators of value		
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Landscape Value			
Designations	None	Local designations, Registered Landscape of Historic Interest, Ancient woodland	National Park, World Heritage Site,
VS50: Overall visual sensory evaluation	Low	Moderate	High, Outstanding
VS49: Rarity	Low	Moderate	High, Outstanding
LH45: Overall habitats evaluation	Low	Moderate	High, Outstanding
GL31: Rarity	Low	Moderate	High, Outstanding
GL33: Overall geological evaluation	Low	Moderate	High, Outstanding
HL38: Rarity	Low	Moderate	High, Outstanding
HL35: Integrity	Low	Moderate	High, Outstanding
HL40: Overall historic evaluation	Low	Moderate	High, Outstanding

Type of value	Indicators of value		
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Visual Value			
Key views, vistas.			
Views to and from Important Landscape and Cultural Heritage Features (both within and outside of each assessment unit): Mapping and field survey with local knowledge	None or few, with little intervisibility between sites	Intermittent intervisibility from designated areas/national trails	Presence of and close views from National Trails, intervisibility with WHS or National Park
Aesthetic, perceptual and experiential			
Sense of place VS25	Weak, none	Moderate	Strong
Remoteness and tranquillity VS24: Perceptual and other sensory qualities	Noisy, unattractive, Threatening.	Sheltered, safe, settled	Attractive, remote, tranquil, wild

Table 2.3.4 **Glossary of LANDMAP terminology.**

Term	Definition
Character	The distinct and recognisable pattern of elements, features and qualities that occur within a particular landscape area.
Remoteness	Physical isolation and removal from the presence of people, infrastructure (roads and railways) and settlement.
Sense of Place	The character of a place that makes it locally distinctive i.e. different from other places. The essential character and spirit of an area (derived from genius loci- literally 'spirit of the place'
Threatening	Perceived danger posed by terrain and/or weather or other threat
Tranquillity	Sense of peace without disruptive noise or movement.
Wildness	The quality of an area which appears to be uninhabited and is often relatively inaccessible where the influence of human activity on the character and quality of the environment appears to have been minimal.

2.4 LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

Landscape sensitivity is the measure of resilience to change of the landscape to the type of development being assessed. Sensitivity was established by assigning each susceptibility and value criteria a score based

on its position in the overall range for each County Borough. The range was divided into low, medium and high scores. The total score for susceptibility was then combined with the total score for value as in the matrix below. The combined scores for each landscape unit represent the overall sensitivity to either wind or solar development of that area.

Table 2.4.1 Sensitivity matrix

Overall sensitivity	Value		
Susceptibility	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
LOW	VERY LOW	LOW	MEDIUM
MEDIUM	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
HIGH	MEDIUM	HIGH	VERY HIGH

The scores were checked against the following sensitivity criteria, using professional judgement and fieldwork records to confirm or adjust the score for each landscape unit accordingly.

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbine Development is illustrated on **Figure 4**, whilst Landscape Sensitivity to Solar PV Development is illustrated on **Figure 5**.

Table 2.4.2 Typical sensitivity criteria for landscape units

Sensitivity	Assessment based on Susceptibility X Value to development type
VERY HIGH	Landscape and / or visual characteristics of the assessment unit are very susceptible to change and / or its values are high or high / medium and it is unable to accommodate the relevant type of development without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are very low.
HIGH	Landscape and /or visual characteristics of the assessment unit are susceptible to change and / or its values are medium through to high. It may be able to accommodate the relevant type of development but only in limited situations without significant character change or adverse effects if defined in the relevant land parcel summary. Thresholds for significant change are low.
MEDIUM	Landscape and / or visual characteristics of the assessment unit are susceptible to change and / or its values are medium / low through to high / medium and / or it may have some potential to accommodate the relevant type of development in some defined situations without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are intermediate
LOW	Landscape and / or visual characteristics of the assessment unit are resilient and of low susceptibility to change and / or its values are medium / low or low and it can accommodate the relevant type of development in many situations without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are high.
VERY LOW	Landscape and / or visual characteristics of the assessment unit are robust or degraded and are not susceptible to change and / or its values are low and it can accommodate the relevant type of development without significant character change or adverse effects. Thresholds for significant change are very high.

2.5 LANDSCAPE CAPACITY

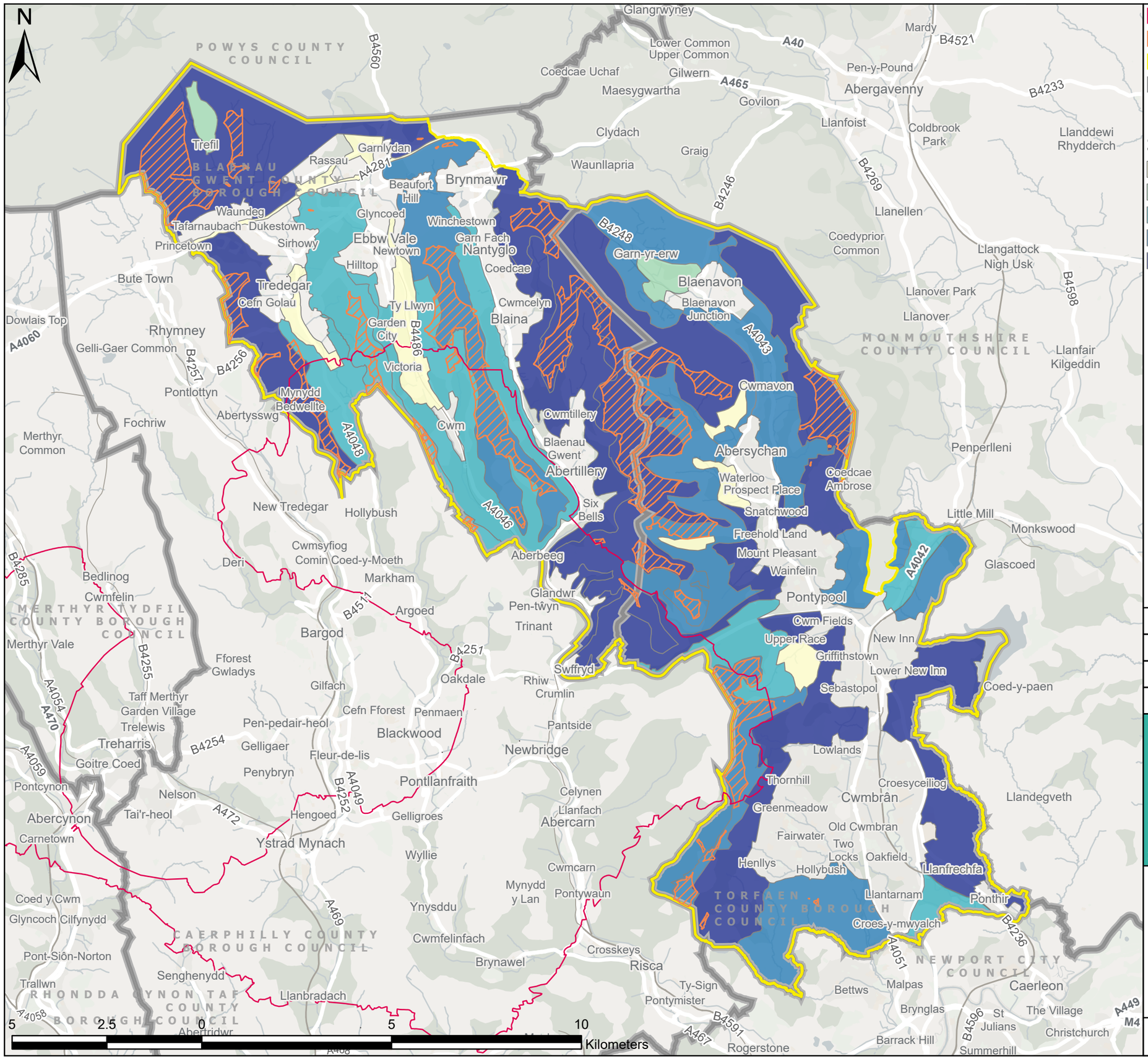
The landscape capacity assessment identifies the quantity and type of development that can be accommodated within a given LAU.

The assessment was based upon the following information and assessment sources:

- The overall sensitivity to renewable energy development derived from the landscape and visual sensitivity assessments.
- Operational and consented renewable energy development within and adjacent to each LAU (**Figure 6.0**). This also includes consideration of the PAA;
- The size of each LAU i.e., there may be scope for a larger number of developments within larger LAUs before a capacity threshold is reached. This will however depend on current land use, aspect and topography all of which may be limiting factors to accommodating further development.
- The agreed development typologies

This includes specific guidance for siting and potential mitigation within each area to aid planning officers in identifying suitable sites for renewables development and assessing submitted proposals.

This is intended to aid planning officers in identifying appropriate sites for renewables development, and potential mitigation strategies. It only provides strategic level guidance as it is anticipated that any proposed development will go through further detailed LVIA and other environmental assessments as part of the planning process.



Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Carbon Trust Area for Wind
Study Area
Local Authorities

Landscape Area Units

Sensitivity (Wind)

- Very Low
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very High

V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
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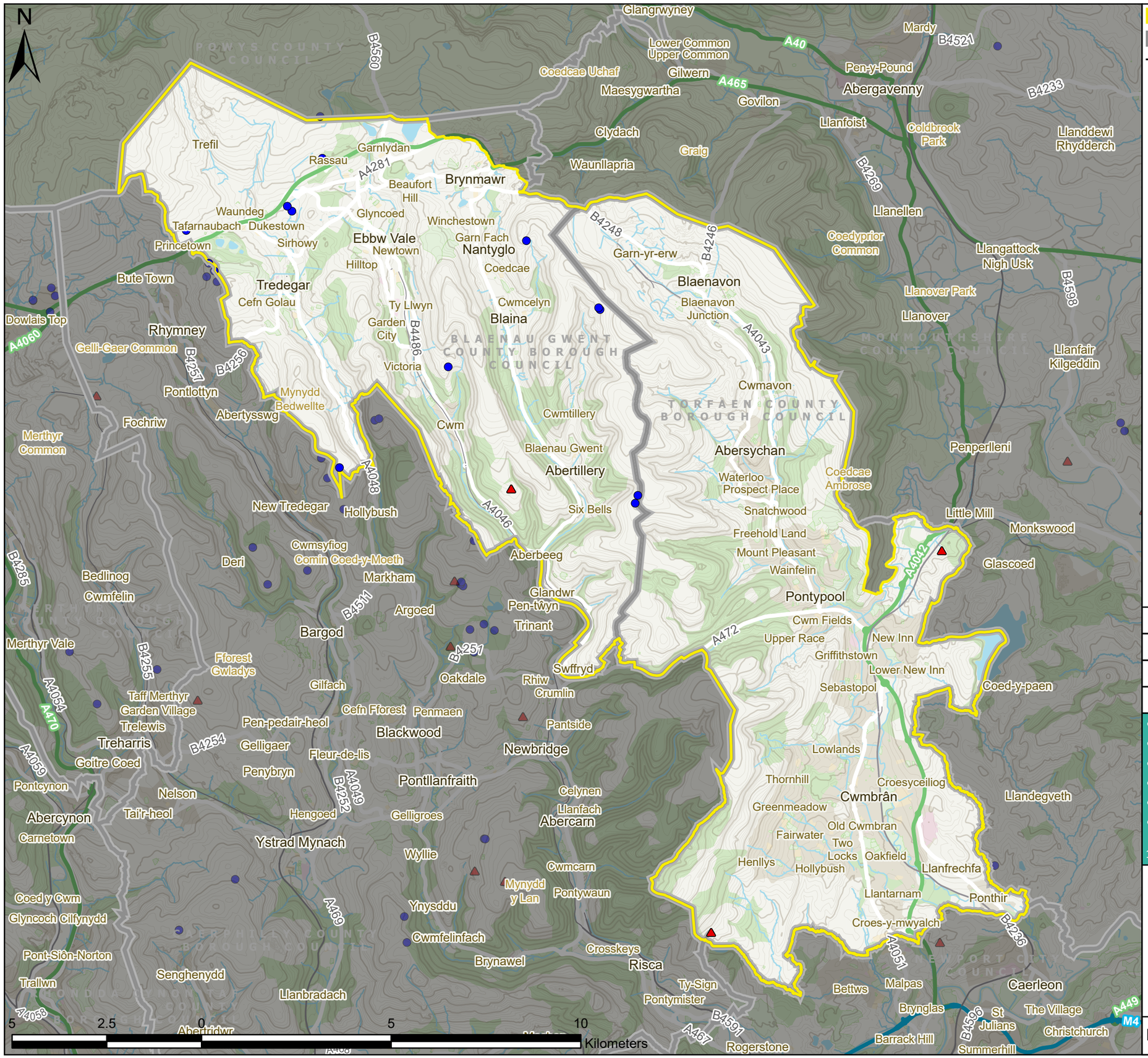
Figure 4

Landscape Sensitivity to Wind Turbine Development

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F4SensWind

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V.	**S.**	**Date**	**Description**	**B.**	**C.**	**A.**

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Figure 6

Existing Wind Turbines and Solar Farms

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F6Existing

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N

Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Carbon Trust Area for Solar
Study Area
Local Authorities

Landscape Area Units

Sensitivity (Solar)

Very Low
Low
Moderate
High
Very High

5 2.5 0 5 10 Kilometers

V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 5

Landscape Sensitivity to Solar Farm Development

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F5SensSolar

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3 LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT UNIT STATEMENTS

The assessment process is summarised in a Landscape Assessment Unit Statement for each LAU. These provide a summary of the GIS analysis refined by field analysis and professional judgment. This is followed by a section providing guidance on siting of new renewable energy development within the LAU and a description of the current renewable development in the area with an expectation of current and future capacity.

An indicative landscape capacity has been provided for each LAU. Each LAU statement is also accompanied by a figure or figures detailing the landscape constraints for each area with an overlap onto adjacent LAUs providing a clear initial understanding of the landscape context.

It should be noted that this study provides an assessment based on the current publicly available data and data provided by the client body at the time of writing (June 2021). Any future assessment for scheme specific developments should refer to the latest available data. Site specific landscape and visual issues and interrelated aspects such as ecology, historic and cultural heritage and developments impacts on other environmental factors are beyond the scope of this assessment and will need to be addressed on a site-specific basis through the planning process.



LAU 2: TREFIL QUARRY

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Valley floor with varied land use in contrast to wider landscape		■	
Landform	Valley with undulating topography.			■
Landcover	Primarily quarried site, with residential settlement to south.	■		
Built environment	Village of Trefil to south, interspersed with small fields. Includes historic quarry site to north listed as Scheduled Monument. (SM)			■
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landform, no prominent skylines within the area		■	
Movement	Infrequent activity – although quarry trucks very intrusive		■	
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with extensive views available			■
Views in/out	Primarily detractive views in, attractive views out.		■	
Typical receptors	Residential receptors in village, recreational receptors using route to BBNP and historic sites, workplace receptors in quarry.			■
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality and landscape character with moderate integrity.			■

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Includes Trefil quarry SM to north and grassland SINCS associated with village.		■	
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			■
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			■
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			■
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Limited intervisibility with BBNP. Setting of industrial archaeological features including SM.		■	
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place due to the association of the settlement and the quarry in an isolated location. However, dust, noise and disturbance from the quarry traffic leads to a perception of threat.		■	

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area would be resilient to change. The already disturbed character and low numbers of visual receptors mean that new wind development could be accommodated within this landscape.			■		

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape has medium sensitivity to solar development, meaning that it could accommodate this type of change without significant adverse effects if it is carefully sited.			■		

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Respect the setting and avoid direct disturbance of the section of the quarry designated as a scheduled monument.
- Avoid siting turbines where they will be visually intrusive from the settlement of Trefil.

Solar PV

- Respect the setting and avoid direct disturbance of the section of the quarry designated as a scheduled monument.
- Avoid siting solar farms where they will be visually intrusive from the settlement of Trefil.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 80.5 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is currently no wind turbine development in this landscape unit. The unit is comparatively small and existing constraints around the scheduled monument site and the sensitivity of residential receptors in the village limit the area available for development significantly while the quarry is still in operation.

The area is considered to be of medium sensitivity to this type of development, but it is likely that only small scale development would be possible.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is medium. Given the constraints outlined above it is likely that only small-scale development would be possible, and operational issues with dust generated by the quarry may be a further limitation to successful development during its operation.

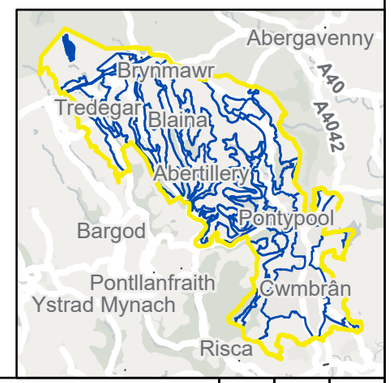
For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.2.1

N

Tyr-Hanbury
Glasgwm-Isaf
Bryniau Gleision
Coed Craig Ty-bach
Pyrgad
Cefn-Crug
Cwm Pyrgad
Nant Ddu
Nant Pyrgad
Nant Cleister
Blaen Onneu
Mynydd Llangynidr
Cwm Odyn-ty
Nant Trefil
Llangynidr Reservoir
Cefn yr Ystrad
Twyn Ceilog / Twyn Ceiliog
Trefil
Twyn Bryn-march
Nant y Llechau
Nant Milgatw
Cwm Milgatw
Rassau
Afon Rhymni / Rhymney River
Cefn Pyllauduon
Afon Sirhywi / Sirhowy River
Dros-y-Llyn
Trefil Road
Alan Davies Way
A4281
Rassau Road
Garnddu Farm
Penrhyn Farm
Tynewydd
Waundeg
Nant-y-Bwch
A465
A4046
Nant Pitwellt
Blaen-Rhymney Farm
Tafarnaubach
Dukestown
Nant Melyn
A44047
Merthyr Road
Ashvale
Scwrfa
A4048
Sirhowy
Man-Moel Road

1 0.5 0 1 2
Kilometers

- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Scheduled Monuments
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



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Figure 7.2.1

LAU 2 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-2-1LAU2

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 4: TREFIL AND CARNO

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale open landscape – exposed upland.			
Landform	Undulating landscape with multiple small river valleys. Includes artificial landform relating to A465			
Landcover	Development focused on A465 corridor, beyond this largely pastoral open moorland, includes several reservoirs.			
Built environment	Away from the A465 corridor the area is largely unpopulated. Also includes the SM Afon Sirhowy hut circle, Trefil tramway and 16th Century Listed farmhouse, Milgatw, evidence of historic settlement.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	An undulating landscape without distinctive skylines, although these are undeveloped.			
Movement	Away from the A465 corridor human activity is occasional			
Visibility, quality of views	An unenclosed landscape with extensive attractive views available, but to a low number of receptors.			
Views in/out	Limited views in and out of the area.			
Typical receptors	Limited numbers of residential receptors and recreational visitors on footpaths and open access land. Workers in quarries and industrial estates. Frequent views from A465			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality with strong landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Mynydd Llangynidr Geological SSSI to north east of Trefil, Trefil quarries SM and associated tramway. Borders BBNP to north and east (partially within County borough boundary). The area includes multiple SINCs, largely related to waterbodies.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Open views north to Brecon Beacons to west of area.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	Attractive, tranquil, exposed, remote, wild. Sheltered near forestry and in lower lying land to south of area.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
A large landscape unit assessed as high sensitivity in relation to the open and unsettled landscape pattern, with multiple designated sites. It may be considered that land adjacent to existing industrial development/infrastructure is of lower sensitivity.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
A large landscape unit of high landscape integrity. The open landscape pattern and lack of screening vegetation, with the exception of Carno forest, would make it hard to integrate or absorb large areas of solar development away from existing industrial areas.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered when planning renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Identify opportunities to site wind turbines in proximity to A465 road corridor and industrial development at Rassau and Tafarnaubach, to reduce disturbance of the tranquility and undeveloped nature of the remaining area.
- Consider potential intervisibility with the Brecon Beacons National Park, particularly settlements, summits and popular walking routes.
- Respect the setting of scheduled monuments and historic buildings.
- Avoid direct impacts on Mynydd Llangynidr SSSI.
- Site turbines away from Trefil village to avoid detrimental effects on residents.
- Assess potential effects on Mynydd Llangatwg SAC to northeast.

Solar PV

- Identify opportunities to site solar development in proximity to A465 road corridor and industrial development at Rassau and Tafarnaubach, to reduce disturbance of the tranquility and undeveloped nature of the remaining area.
- Consider siting where woodland at Carno would screen wider views.
- Respect the setting of scheduled monuments and historic buildings.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 1520 Ha.

Wind turbines

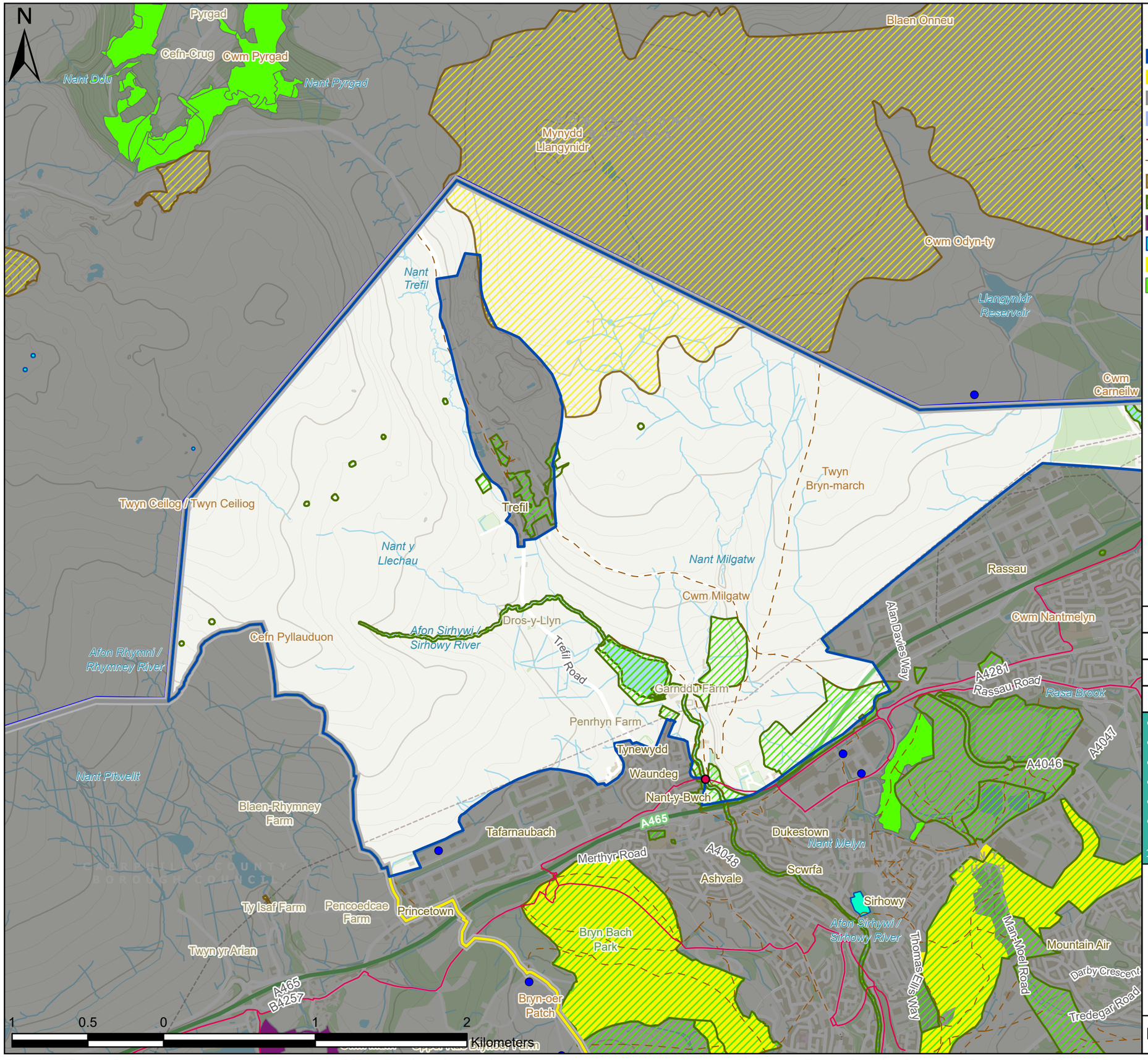
There is currently no wind farm development within this landscape unit. However, there are four turbine sites in close proximity to the boundaries at Tafarnaubach and Crown Business Park to the south and near Llangynidr reservoir to the north. Cumulative effects with this existing development should be considered. Where development is sited along the A465 corridor, the coalescence of multiple wind farm sites creating a continuous turbine corridor should be avoided.

The landscape sensitivity is very high, indicating that it would be unable to accommodate wind development without significant character change. It is therefore recommended that development should be limited to a low number of single or small groups of turbines, with very careful consideration given to siting them in accordance with the guidance above and avoiding cumulative effects.

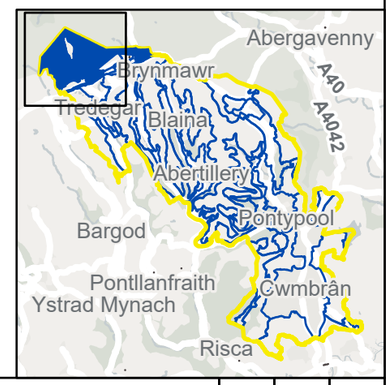
Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high, with little opportunity to provide screening with locally appropriate boundaries or planting. Due to the south facing topography, intervisibility with the BBNP is less likely were solar panels to be sited further north, away from settlements and well used areas. Again, due to the sensitivity of the landscape, development should be limited to a very low number of small (<10Ha) development.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.4.1 and 7.4.2



- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Local Nature Reserves
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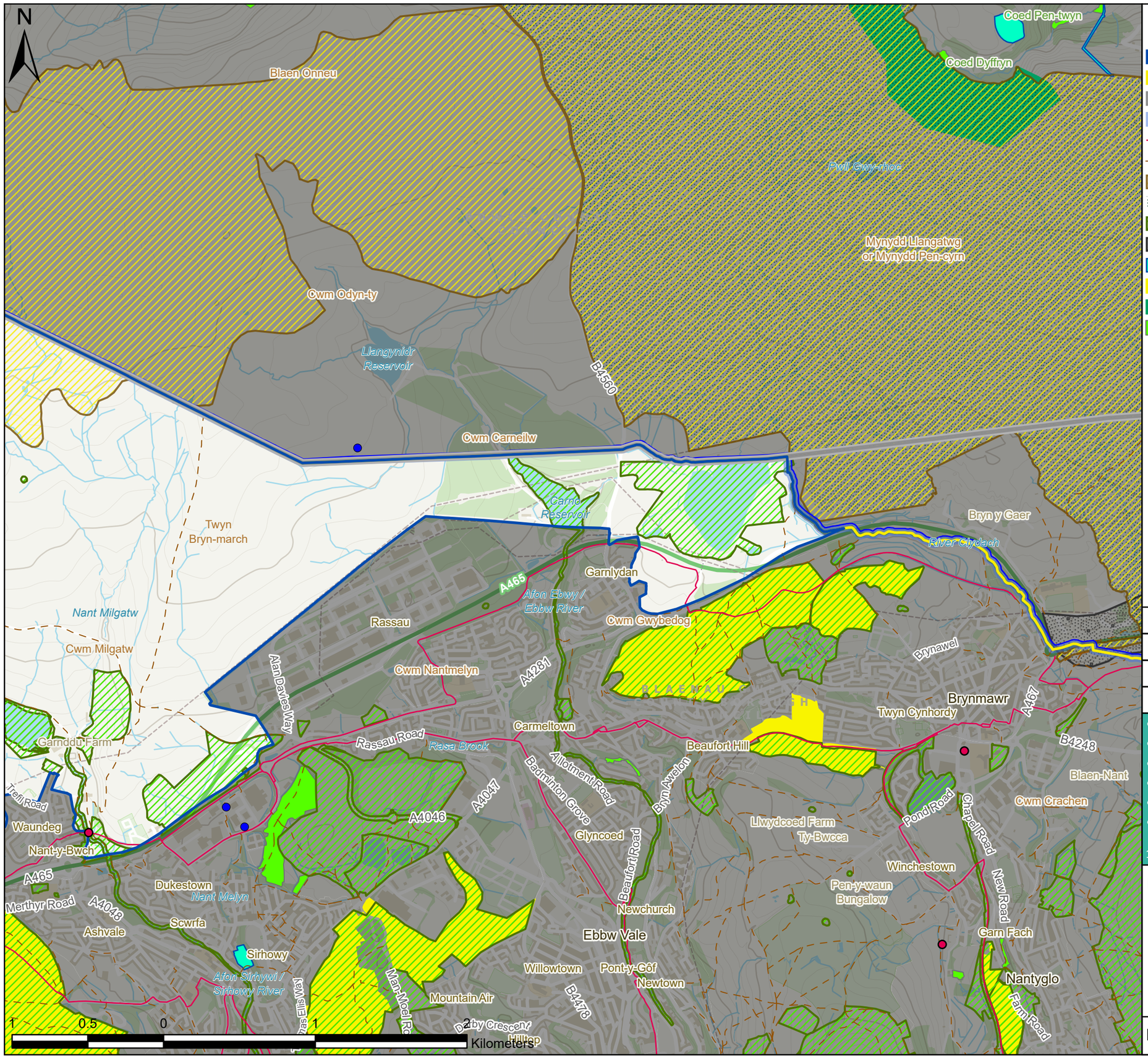
Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

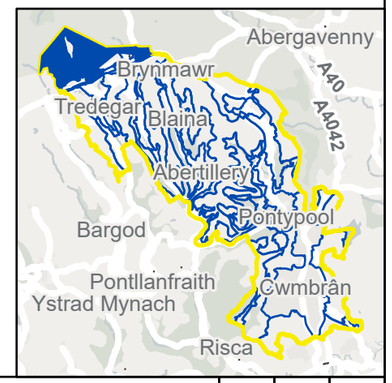
Figure 7.4.1

LAU 4 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

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- Existing Wind Turbines
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- Study Area
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- Special Areas of Conservation
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Historic Landscapes
- Scheduled Monuments
- Local Nature Reserves
- National Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

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Figure 7.4.2

LAU 4 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

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LAU 5: RHYMNEY HILL AND MYNYDD BEDWELLTE

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale primarily upland character with simple form			
Landform	Elevated undulating topography.			
Landcover	Open upland moorland under grazing less susceptible. Recreational open land and Bryn Bach Park more susceptible.			
Built environment	Very low numbers of scattered settlement. Includes SM at Cefn Golau. Crossed by B4256 and three minor roads.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undeveloped skyline prominent from valleys either side and other ridges.			
Movement	Low levels of human activity			
Visibility, quality of views	A very exposed landscape with little formal enclosure and far reaching views out from some locations. Views into ridge limited by landform but are available from other ridges. Bryn Bach Park includes substantial woodland planting which creates enclosure and limits views around the lake.			
Views in/out	Both attractive and detractive views, with extensive views out.			
Typical receptors	Recreational users of Bryn Bach Park and to upland open access areas, PRoW. Residential and workplace receptors in Tredegar immediately to east of northern section.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Local Nature Reserve in Bryn Bach Park, SINC covers majority of grazed upland areas. Cefn Golau Cholera cemetery Scheduled Monument on eastern flank of area and varied archaeological sites throughout.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Intervisibility with BBNP north of B4256. Setting of Cefn Golau cemetery.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	Uncluttered wild character of upland, contrasting with settled valleys. Bryn Bach Park as natural feeling public open space.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area would be highly susceptible to change. There would be a very low threshold of development before causing significant adverse effects to both visual and landscape character.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
Similarly, the very high sensitivity of this Landscape Unit indicates that it would be unlikely to accommodate solar development without negative effects. This is particularly due to the lack of strong field boundaries or other enclosure that might screen the development.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Avoid placing turbines on narrow sections of ridge where they will appear on the skyline.
- Respect the setting of the scheduled monument at Cefn Golau
- Consider siting turbines in the southern part of the area, at Mynydd Bedwellte where there are fewer sensitive receptors.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities to use the undulating topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid placing solar on north facing slopes where these will be visible from the BBNP
- Respect the setting of the scheduled monument at Cefn Golau.
- Consider siting solar farms in the southern part of the area, at Mynydd Bedwellte where there are fewer sensitive receptors.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 694 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is currently a single turbine sited in the southern tip of this landscape unit. There are also three groups of turbines sited immediately to the west of the Mynydd Bedwellte ridge and two to the west of Park Bryn Bach within Caerphilly. Mynydd Bedwellte falls within the Pre-Assessed Areas for wind development. Cumulative effects with this existing and proposed development should be considered, especially given the very high sensitivity of the landscape.

It is therefore recommended that no further development should be undertaken within this area, beyond that included within the PAA. This is to preserve, in part, the wild and undeveloped character of the area.

Solar PV

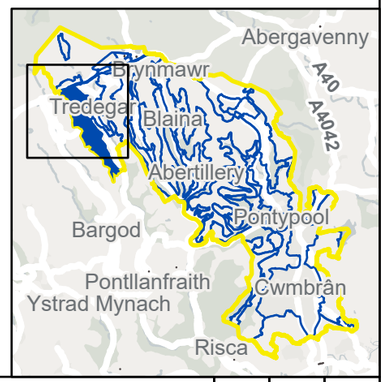
There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. However, a very large scale Solar pv development has been granted permission at Wauntysswg Farm (30MW) and is due to start construction during 2022. The landscape sensitivity is very high. However, with careful layout to avoid visibility from residential and recreational receptors, there may be potential to site small (<10Ha) developments within the area. Meaning considerations may be required in terms of the scale of future development, extent and form of landscape mitigation and avoidance of development infill. This would be subject to the guidance set out above and following further environmental assessment.

Further development, however, should take into account the cumulative impacts including the proposed large scale solar development and may result in the conclusion that no further solar development is recommended for this area.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.5.1 and 7.5.2

N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
Brecon Beacons National Park
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Historic Landscapes
Conservation Areas
Scheduled Monuments
Historic Parks and Gardens
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



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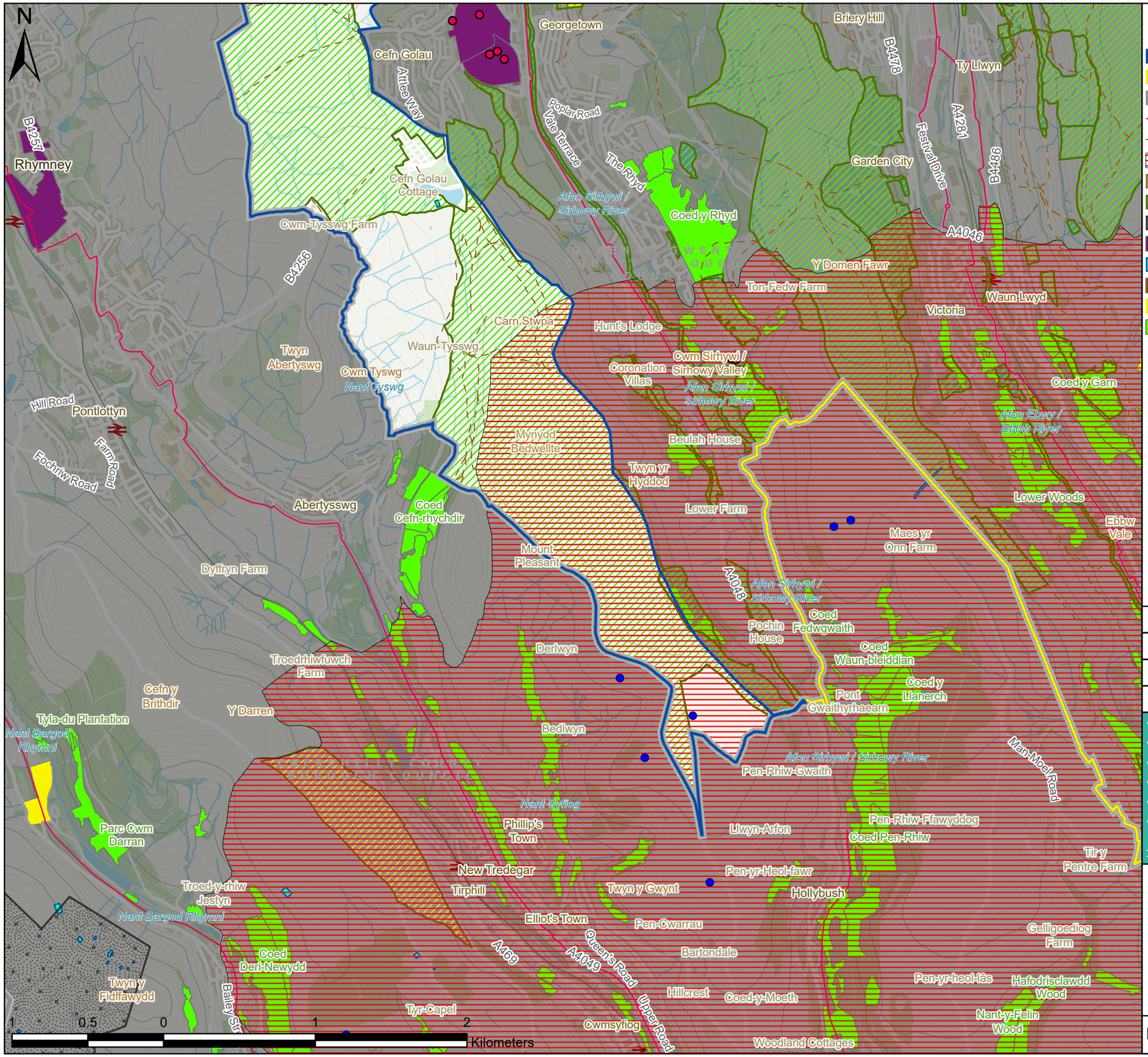
Figure 7.5.1

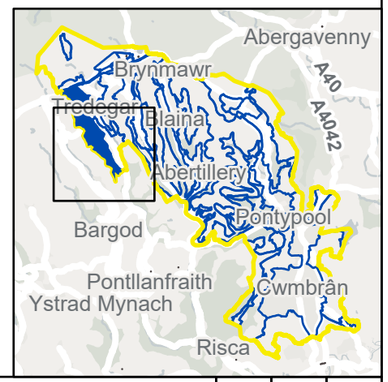
LAU 5 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-5-1LAU5

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- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

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Figure 7.5.2

LAU 5 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-5-2LAU5

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LAU 7: TREDEGAR OPEN SPACE

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale horizontal and geometric forms relating to industrial development and sports recreation.			
Landform	Follows valley bottom with distinctive, steep sided topography			
Landcover	Organised, partially developed brownfield land. Sensitive in the wider historic context of Tredegar as a nucleated settlement.			
Built environment	Includes A4048 road corridor and industrial development, but new residential development to the south and adjacent area to east includes dense residential settlement. Historic buildings and landscape of Bedwellty Park.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Existing vertical development in the form of large-scale industrial sheds. No prominent skylines within this area.			
Movement	Constant movement associated with road corridor and dense population.			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with some attractive views available, but also detractive elements.			
Views in/out	Views available both in and out of the area.			
Typical receptors	Residential receptors to the north and east, receptors in workplaces, recreation and road travellers throughout.			
Scenic quality and character	Of moderate scenic quality, but low integrity and overall character.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Bedwellty Park includes ancient woodland, listed buildings and forms part of a Conservation Area.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Continuous open space linked to valley bottom/river corridor, in contrast to built up areas. Backdrop of undeveloped valley sides.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	Noisy, includes both attractive and unattractive features and areas.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
A disturbed semi urban landscape of previously developed land, with mixed but un-coordinated new infrastructure, light industrial and amenity uses contributing to low landscape integrity. This landscape can accommodate new wind development, appropriately sited, should operational considerations allow.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
A disturbed semi urban landscape of previously developed land, with mixed but un-coordinated new infrastructure, light industrial and amenity uses contributing to low landscape integrity. This landscape can accommodate new solar development, particularly if new boundary features and management contribute to the enhancement of currently degraded landscape character, biodiversity and amenity.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered when planning renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Identify opportunities to site wind turbines in proximity to existing industrial development or infrastructure of a similar scale.
- Avoid siting turbines in proximity to residential areas.
- Respect the setting of Bedwellty Park by siting turbines where they would not interfere with key views to or from this landscape.

Solar PV

- Identify opportunities for solar development in areas not currently in public use, for example between industrial units.
- Respect the setting of Bedwellty Park by siting solar PV where they would not be visible from this landscape or from upper floors of Bedwellty House.
- Respect the setting of Tredegar Cefn Golau Cemetery and the associated SM cholera cemetery by considering views from this location.
- Consider opportunities to site solar PV where it will be screened by existing woodland belts, or where there is potential to plant new woodland or hedgerow boundaries.
- Avoid siting solar PV where there is existing public amenity in the form of sports pitches and recreation grounds.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 100 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is currently no wind farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very low with the southernmost section falling within the PAA.

It is recommended that development should be limited to the southern extent of the LAU and to a low number of single or small groups of turbines given the extent of industrial and residential development already existing within the area. Consideration should be given to siting them in accordance with the guidance above.

Solar PV

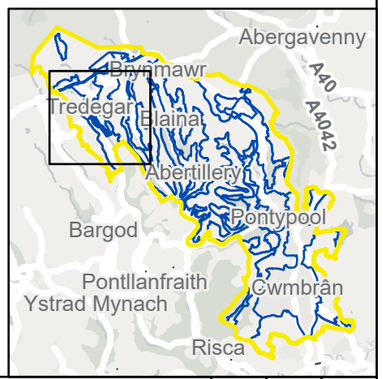
There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit.

The landscape sensitivity is very low, indicating that it would be able to accommodate solar development without significant character change. However, existing industrial and residential development, recreation grounds and road infrastructure occupy a large proportion of the available land, and other land uses may be a priority for future development of this area. There may be opportunities for roof mounted solar in association with existing or new development, but that is outside the scope of this report. Solar farm development will be limited to the space available, and therefore will be small in scale, but may include multiple small developments where the guidance on siting above is followed.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.7.1

N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Conservation Areas
Scheduled Monuments
Historic Parks and Gardens
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



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Figure 7.7.1

LAU 7 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-7-1LAU7

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 10: RASSAU A465 CORRIDOR

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Small scale landscape of varied development and informal open space.			■
Landform	Heads of the valleys.			■
Landcover	Varied reclaimed and natural grassland and woodland, settlement edge.	■		
Built environment	Dominated by A465 road corridor, large scale infrastructure and industrial development. Interspersed with informal green space, small areas of residential properties.	■		
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Existing vertical features, road bridges, embankments and retaining walls	■		
Movement	Frequent traffic and other activity	■		
Visibility, quality of views	Close views are restricted by built development and vegetation, but some long-distance views are available both in and out.		■	
Views in/out	Primarily detractive views in, attractive views out.		■	
Typical receptors	Road users, workplace receptors, recreational users of open space and wider landscape, occasional residential receptors.			■
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality with moderate landscape character and integrity.		■	

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	SINCs cover some areas of grassland, including Hirgan field in middle of area, and the Ebbw River.		■	
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			■
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation	■		
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Intermittent intervisibility with BBNP. Views from adjacent parks and open spaces including Bryn Bach and Beaufort Hill, both Local Nature Reserves.		■	
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place but associated perceived noise, threat and smell and unattractive setting of road corridor.	■		

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area would be resilient to change. The already disturbed and industrial character mean that new wind development could be accommodated within this landscape.	■				

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape has very low sensitivity to solar development, meaning that it could accommodate this type of change without significant adverse effects.		■			

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind Turbines

- Identify opportunities to site wind turbines in proximity to A465 road corridor and industrial development at Rassau and Tafarnaubach.
- Consider potential intervisibility with the BBNP, particularly summits and popular walking routes.
- Site turbines away from settlement edges to avoid detrimental effects on residents.
- Assess potential effects on Mynydd Llangatwg SAC to northeast.

Solar PV

- Identify opportunities to site solar development in proximity to A465 road corridor and industrial development at Rassau and Tafarnaubach.
- Consider siting where areas of scrub and woodland would screen wider views.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 143 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is currently no wind farm development within this landscape unit. However, there are turbine sites adjacent at Tafarnaubach to the north and Crown Business Park to the south. Cumulative effects with this existing development should be considered. Should development be sited along the A465 corridor, the coalescence of multiple wind farm sites creating a continuous turbine corridor should be avoided.

The unit is largely defined by the road corridor through the centre of it. The areas available for development are limited by this but are of very low sensitivity. It is recommended that several small groups of turbines could be accommodated along this corridor, with careful consideration of avoiding cumulative effects as noted above.

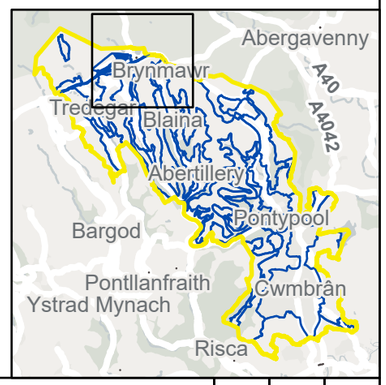
Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very low. Given the limited contiguous land available it is likely that only small-scale development would be possible, but this could occur in at least two locations, if not on the road embankments themselves.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.10.1 and 7.10.2

N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
Brecon Beacons National Park
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
Special Areas of Conservation
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Historic Landscapes
Conservation Areas
Scheduled Monuments
Local Nature Reserves
National Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



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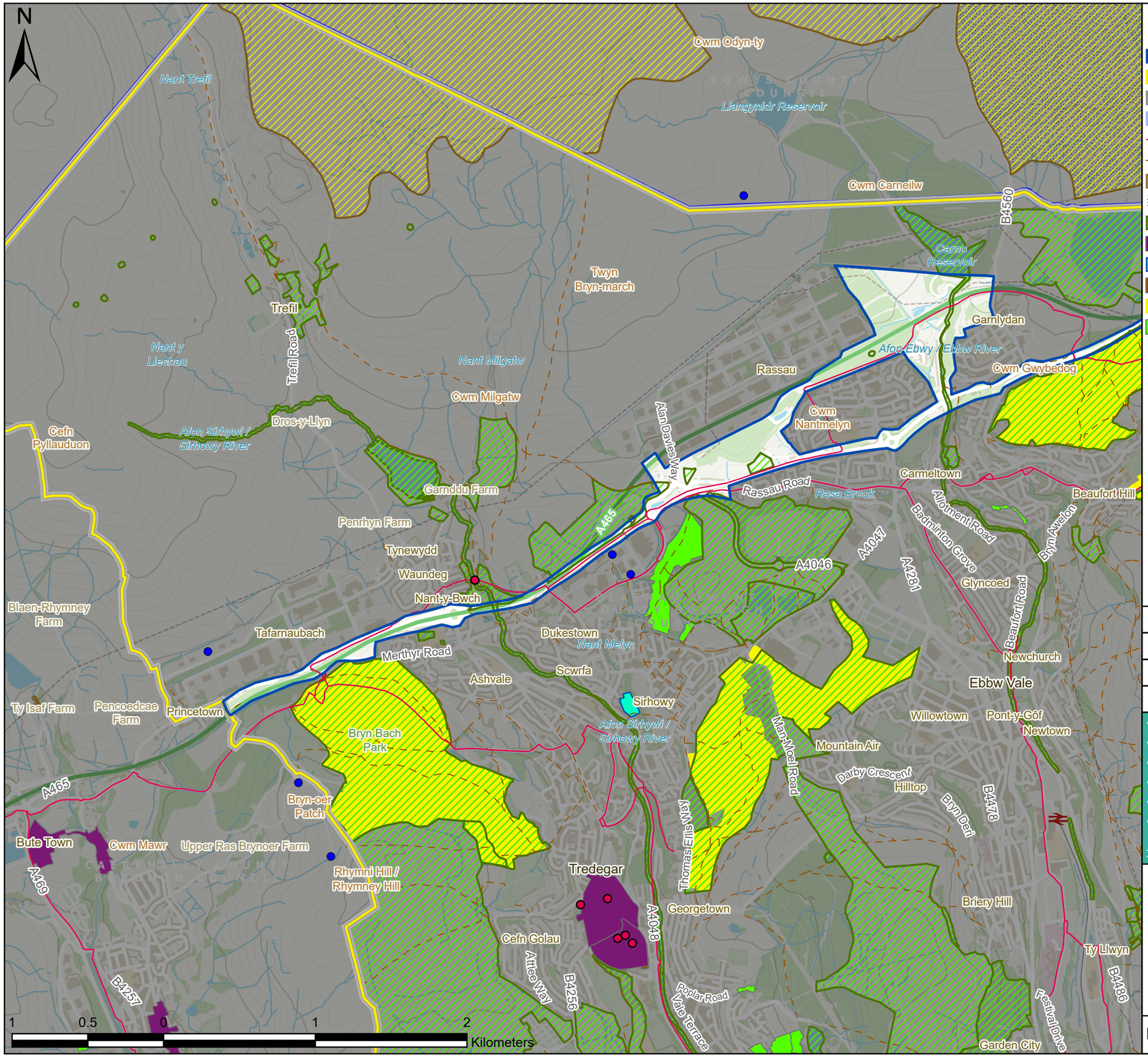
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Figure 7.10.1

LAU 10 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-10-1LAU10

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Figure 7.10.2

LAU 10 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 11: SIRHOWY VALLEY

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale valley sides and pasture.			
Landform	Valley			
Landcover	Mosaic of hedged and open fields and woodland, with regenerating scrub on reclaimed land.			
Built environment	A4048 Newport Rd follows valley floor, scattered, small rural settlements and farms			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating valley landscape, ridge forms western boundary of area.			
Movement	Infrequent traffic and other activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Relatively open but much of the landscape is inaccessible and landform and vegetation restricts views in.			
Views in/out	Attractive and detractive views are available both in and out of the area.			
Typical receptors	Mostly road users, occasional residential receptors.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality and landscape character with moderate integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	SM for an incline winding haulage engine on the valley side above Bedwellty Pits. Multiple ancient woodland sites, SINCs covering both woodland and grassland areas as well as Sirhowy River. Listed buildings at The Fountain Inn.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Limited views available.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place but also perceived as threatening although sheltered.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area may have some potential to accommodate wind development.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape has medium sensitivity to solar development, meaning that it has some potential to accommodate this type of change.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind Turbines

- Site turbines away from settlement edges to avoid detrimental effects on residents.
- Consider the setting of Scheduled Monuments and listed property.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Consider siting where areas of scrub and woodland would screen wider views.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 346 Ha.

Wind turbines

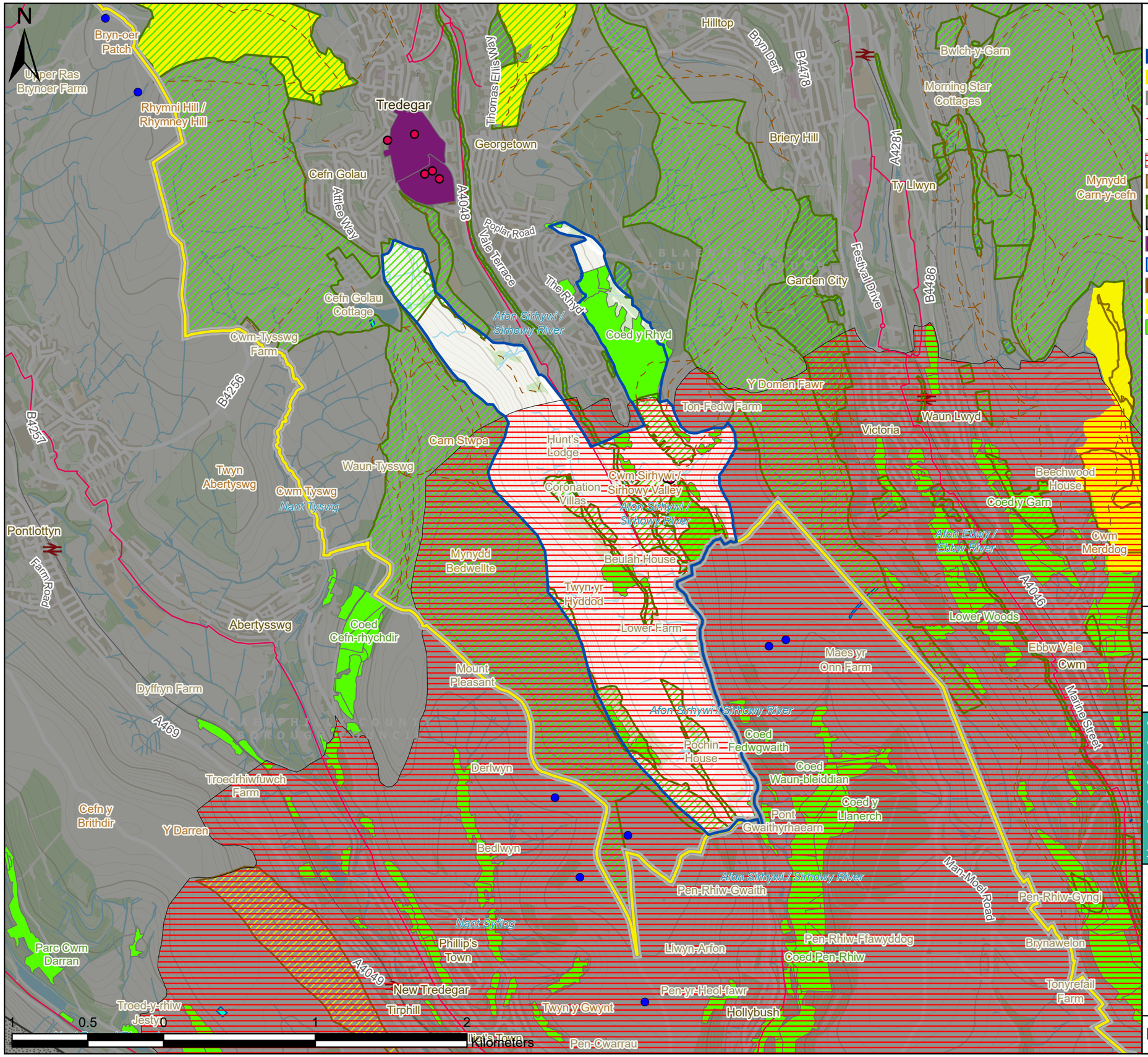
There is currently no wind farm development within this landscape unit. However, there are turbine sites on the tops of Mynydd Bedwellte to the west and north of Manmoel to the east. Cumulative effects with this existing development should be considered. The majority of the area falls within the Pre-Assessed Area for wind.

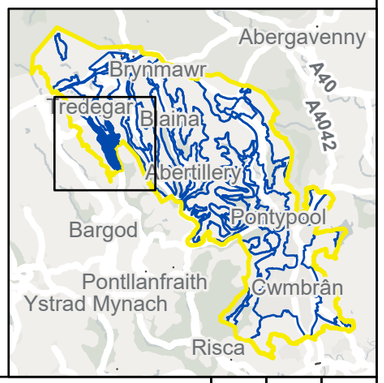
The area is of high sensitivity to wind turbine development. However, operational constraints may preclude development of this type within the valley. Single turbines or small-scale development would be acceptable with careful consideration of cumulative effects, especially with the PAA.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is medium. Medium scale solar development would be acceptable if it can be arranged to sit within the existing field pattern and suitable screening could be created or enhanced.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.11.1





- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.11.1

LAU 11 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-11-1LAU11

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LAU 13: BRIERY HILL AND CEFN MANMOEL

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale primarily upland character with simple form			
Landform	Elevated rounded ridge, undulating topography.			
Landcover	Open upland moorland, reclaimed land and forestry			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads, industrial estate in northern section			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undeveloped ridgeline partially visible from valleys either side and other high points. Undulating land less prominent to the north.			
Movement	Frequent activity in north, occasional to south			
Visibility, quality of views	Generally open landscape with forestry blocks and topography framing and controlling views in and out.			
Views in/out	Attractive views out, with detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Recreational receptors of open access land, including Sirhowy Valley Walk which follows ridge. Concentrated to north at Sirhowy Hill woodlands. Also, workplace receptors in industrial estate. Residential receptors in adjacent settlements Tredegar and Ebbw Vale.			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Local Nature Reserves, Sirhowy Valley Woods and Cardiff pond on northern slopes. Also, SINC in northern section north of A4047, within nature reserve and along eastern flank of Cefn ManMoel. Ancient woodland site forms northern boundary with Crown industrial estate. Y Domen Fawr prehistoric cairn near top of Cefn Manmoel and Cefn Man Moel cross ridge dyke, which extends into Caerphilly in the southern section, are scheduled as Ancient Monuments. Aneurin Bevan memorial as a focus point.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Intermittent intervisibility with BBNP from northern slopes, largely screened by trees.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	Varied experience, either exposed or sheltered, tranquil and remote, but unattractive in more disturbed sections.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area would be able to accommodate a certain amount of change. There is a strong contrast between the northern section, which is likely to be less sensitive than the less disturbed southern section.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
Similarly, the medium sensitivity of this Landscape Unit indicate that it would be able to accommodate solar development, if carefully sited, without significant negative effects.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Avoid placing turbines on narrow sections of ridge where they will appear on the skyline.
- Respect the setting of Scheduled Monuments.
- Consider opportunities for siting turbines in the northern part of the area, within the setting of existing development and infrastructure.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms in the northern part of the area, within the setting of existing development and infrastructure.
- Avoid placing solar on north facing slopes where these will be visible from the National Park.
- Consider using existing woodland and forestry to screen solar development from wider views.
- Respect the setting of the Scheduled Monuments.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.
- Avoid siting solar farms adjacent to existing settlements.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 727 Ha.

Wind turbines

There are no turbines currently within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is medium. There are two groups of turbines sited to the west in Crown Industrial estate and three to the north west on Manmoel within Caerphilly. The southern ridge of Cefn Manmoel falls within the Pre-Assessed Areas for wind development. Cumulative effects with this existing and proposed development should be considered.

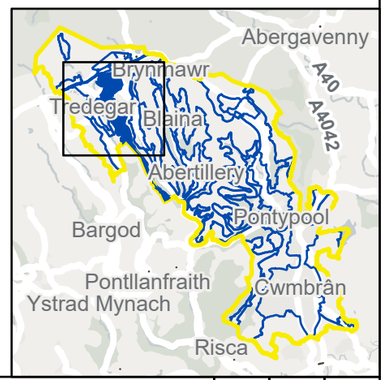
Small to medium scale wind development should be considered within this area, following the guidance on siting described above and with care to avoid cumulative effects with the PAA development and existing wind turbines.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is medium. With careful layout to avoid significant effects on residential and recreational receptors there may be potential to site small to medium scale developments within the area, following the guidance set out above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.13.1 and 7.13.2

- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC
V.	**S.**	**Date**	**Description**	**B.**	**C.**	**A.**

- Environmental Consultants
- Planners
- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
- Urban Designers
- Ecologists

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.13.1

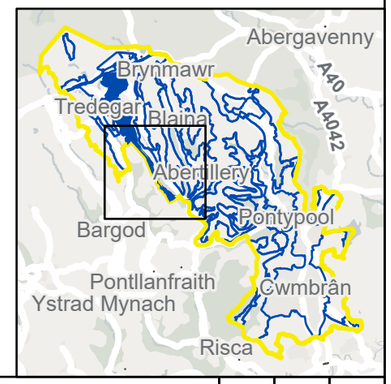
LAU 13 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-13-1LAU13

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N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Scheduled Monuments
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
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Figure 7.13.2

LAU 13 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-13-2LAU13

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LAU 16: EBBW VALE

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Disturbed land including reclamation and infrastructure			
Landcover	Mixed urban and industrial use interspersed with open areas of amenity and informal woodland and open space.			
Built environment	Linear primarily industrial and modern development along valley corridor, infrastructure including railway and A4046.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Existing vertical large-scale development and infrastructure.			
Movement	Constant activity of vehicles and workplaces.			
Visibility, quality of views	Open linear landscape with views in available from neighbouring ridges. Topography, development and vegetation constrains views out.			
Views in/out	Attractive views out to valley sides, with detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Residential receptors throughout, recreational receptors particularly in Eugene Cross Park, sports pitches to south and adjacent valley sides. Workplace receptors and road users throughout.			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality, strong landscape character and moderate integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	A small number of listed buildings within Ebbw Vale town to the north. Ancient woodland sites around Festival Park.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	No intervisibility with important cultural features or national trails			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place derived from settled industrial character and valley context. But discordant development creates some negative perceived unattractive qualities such as threat.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area would be able to accommodate a significant amount of change without affecting landscape character.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of very low sensitivity with a high tolerance of change of this nature.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities for siting turbines alongside existing linear infrastructure but avoid the cumulative effect of a turbine corridor.
- Avoid development within existing recreational sites such as Eugene Cross Park.
- Consider opportunities for siting turbines in land adjacent to existing industrial development, where this may partially screen it and be an appropriate context.
- Avoid negative effects the setting of listed buildings and residential areas.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms within the setting of existing development and infrastructure.
- Consider using existing woodland to screen solar development from wider views.
- Respect the setting of listed buildings.
- Avoid siting solar farms adjacent to existing settlements.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 266 Ha.

It should be recognised that although this area is recorded in LANDMAP as developed unbuilt land, there is extensive existing development, including residential areas. The assessment was undertaken with a view that there may still be opportunities for renewables development in remaining areas of unused open space. This should be considered in the context of other local planning priorities.

Wind turbines

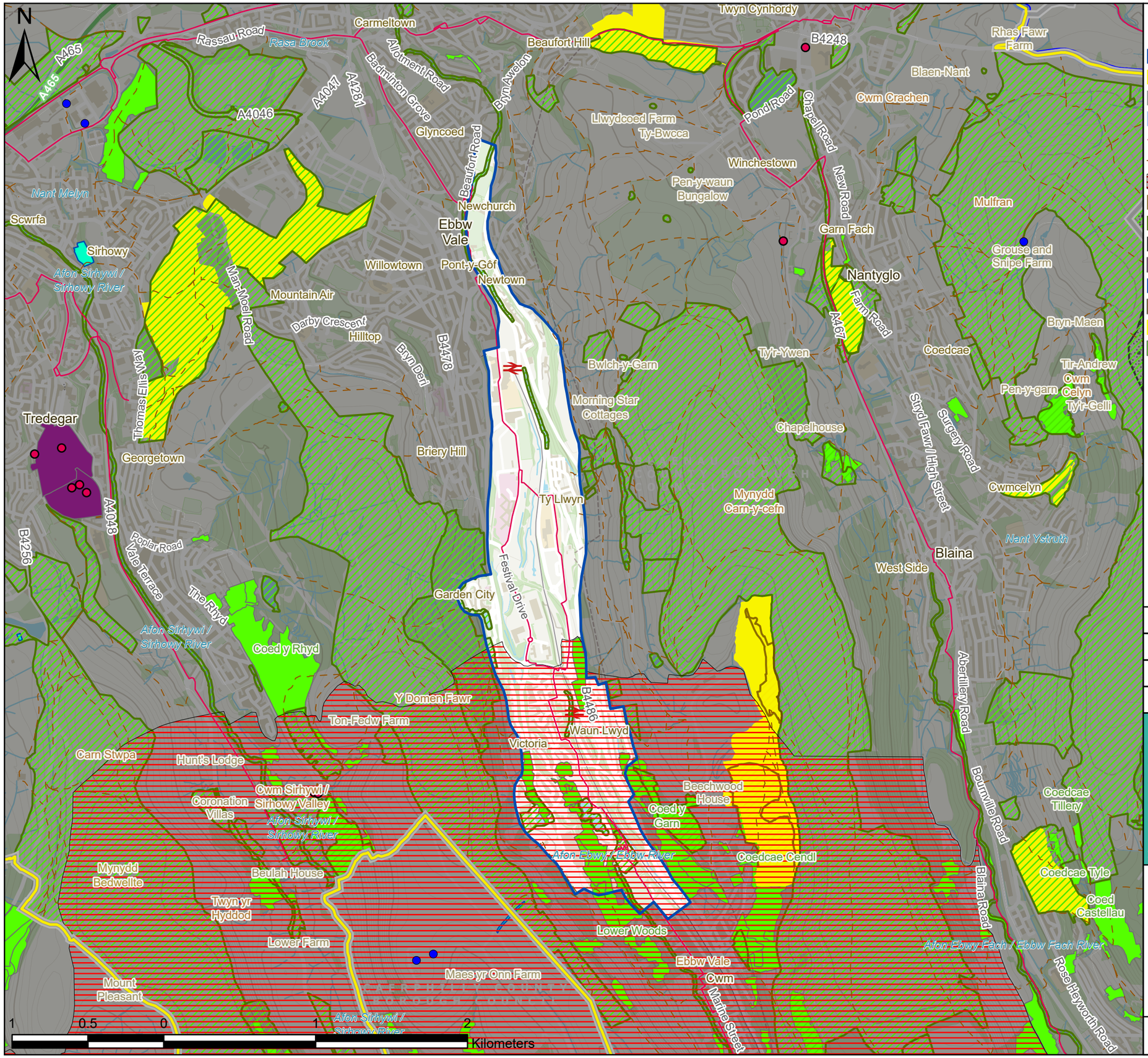
There are no turbines currently within this landscape unit. The southern part of the area falls within the Pre-Assessed Areas for wind development. The landscape sensitivity is very low.

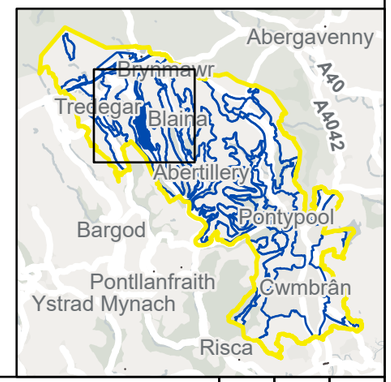
Individual and small groups of turbines may be considered within this area, where practical constraints and existing use allow. This should follow the guidance on siting described above with care to avoid cumulative effects with the PAA development.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very low. With careful layout to avoid significant effects on residential and recreational receptors there may be potential to site small scale developments within the area, following the guidance set out above. It may be more appropriate to review opportunities for roof mounted solar in this area.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.16.1





- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.16.1

LAU 16 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-16-1LAU16

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LAU 18: MYNYDD CARN-Y-CEFN

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Undulating broad hilltop ridge			
Landcover	Golf course to north mosaic of grass and scrub, heath upland, small field parcels with overgrown hedgerows to south. Also includes Beaufort Hill, a mosaic of natural and amenity vegetation.			
Built environment	Largely undeveloped, with the exception of golf course.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undeveloped skyline partially visible from adjacent valleys and ridges.			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Enclosed by historic stone and hedge field boundaries and woodland to south. Extensive views out.			
Views in/out	Attractive and detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Recreational receptors, workers on the land.			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	SINC across central grass and heathland on ridge. Parc Nant-Y-Waun and Beaufort Hill Local Nature Reserves and SINCs on far northern end.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Intermittent intervisibility with BBNP in northern sections. NCN Route 46 crosses north of Golf club.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place. However, the area can feel noisy and exposed in places			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the area is of high sensitivity. Meaning the landform and visual qualities of the area would only be able to accommodate this type of development in limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with a low tolerance of change of this nature.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Avoid placing turbines on narrow sections of ridge where they will appear on the skyline.
- Consider siting turbines in the southern part of the area, where existing woodland may provide some screening and there are fewer sensitive receptors.
- Avoid siting turbines within nature reserves or where they may impact on wildlife routes to them.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities to use the undulating topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid placing solar on north facing slopes where these will be visible from the National Park.
- Consider siting solar farms in the southern part of the area, within existing field boundaries which may be enhanced to screen the development.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 1,059 Ha.

This is one of the larger areas, but also highly sensitive due to its undeveloped condition.

Wind turbines

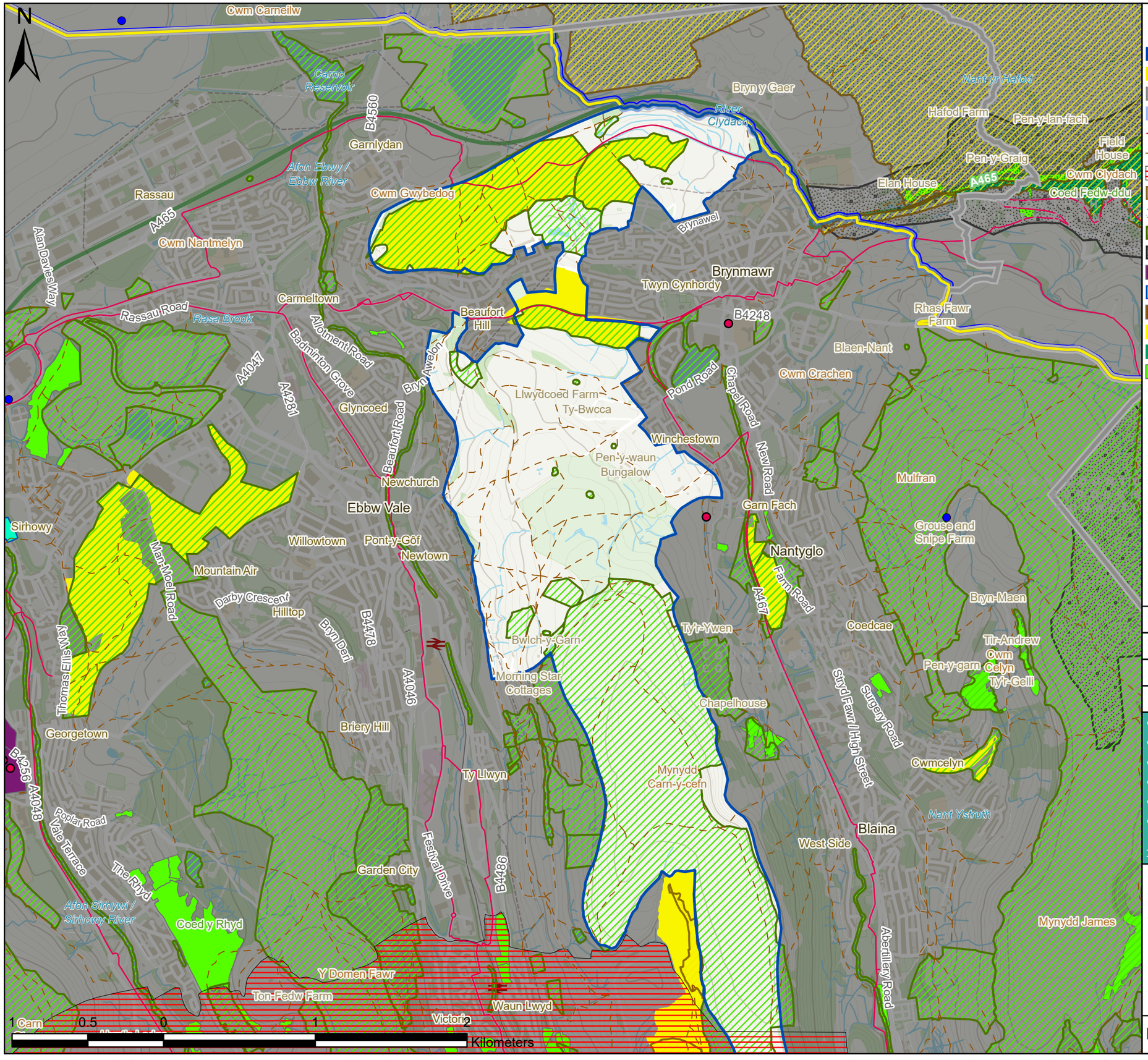
There are no turbines currently within this landscape unit. The southern part of the area falls within the Pre-Assessed Areas for wind development. The landscape sensitivity is high.

Individual and small groups of turbines may be considered within this area. This should follow the guidance on siting described above with care to avoid cumulative effects with the PAA development.

Solar PV

There is currently a medium scale solar farm in the southwestern section of this landscape unit. The area is well enclosed by existing woodland and forestry blocks and the development has been sited in existing field parcels, thereby reducing its effect on landscape character. The landscape sensitivity is high and cumulative effects with the existing solar development should be considered. A low number of medium scale solar developments could be considered, sited in accordance with the guidance above to minimise effects on landscape character.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.18.1 and 7.18.2



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
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Figure 7.18.1

LAU 18 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-18-1LAU18

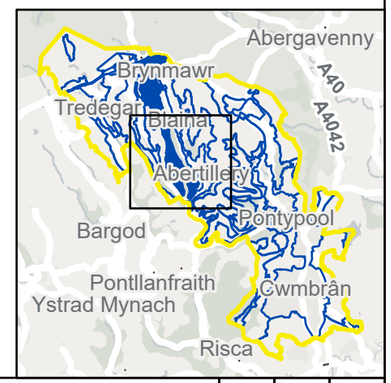
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N

Garden City
Festival Drive
A4281
B4486
Victoria
Waun Lwyd
Beechwood House
Coed y Garn
Afon Ebwy / Ebbw River
Coedcae Cendl
A4046
Lower Woods
Maes yr Onn Farm
Ebbw Vale
Cwm
Marine Street
Coed Waun-bleiddian
Coed y Llanerch
Marine Bungalow
Man-Moel Road
Pen-Rhiw-Gyngi
Pen-Rhiw-Ffawyddog
Coed Pen-Rhiw
Brynawelon
Tir y Pentre Farm
Tonyrefail Farm
Gelligoediog Farm
Pen-yr-heol-Las
Hafodrisclawdd Wood
Nant-yr-Yehen
Twyn y Bleiddiaid
Nant-y-Felin Wood
Pen y Fan Ganol Farm
Mynydd Pen-y-fan
Twyn-Gwyn
Hafodrisclawdd Fawr Barn
Afon Sirhowi / Sirhowy River
Pen-y-fan-Isaf
Blaina
West Side
Nant Ystruth
Abertillery Road
Bournville Road
Blaina Road
Afon Ebwy Fach / Ebbw Fach River
Coedcae Tillery
Coedcae Tyle
Coed Castellau
Rose Heyworth Road
A467
Old Blaina Road
Oak Street
Tillery Street
Cefn Bach
Abertillery
Castle Street
Hafod-y-dafal
The Plantation
Coetgae
Arail
Nant Big
Cwm Big
Ysgubor Arail
Blaenau Gwent
Blaentillery Farm
Afon Tyleri
Mynydd Coety / Coety Mountain
Mynydd James
Cwmtillery Reservoir
Reservoir House
Cwm Tyleri
Cwmtillery
Tillery Road
Pen-y-Bont
Rhiw-Park Road
Penrhiwgarreg
Cwm Farm Road
Alexandra Road
Six Bells
Nant y Groes
Coed y Gilfach
Nant Cwmllwydrew
Coed Cwm-llwydrew
The Gilfach-Wen Farm
Ty-Dafydd
Victoria Road
Cemetery Road
Coed Argoed
Argoed Farm
Aberbeeg
B4471
Ty-Llwyd
Blaen-Y-Cwm Road
Waun Wen
Gwastad
Byrgwm

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Blaenavon World Heritage Site
Historic Landscapes
Scheduled Monuments
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.18.2

LAU 18 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-18-2LAU18

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 20: EBBW VALLEY SIDES INCLUDING EAST OF CARN-Y-CEFN

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Steep and undulating valley sides			
Landcover	Mosaic of woodland, heath, grass, scrub and bracken and historic workings.			
Built environment	Largely undeveloped, with the exception of Silent Valley Landfill site. Includes settlement edge (Winchestown) of Brynmawr.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Less prominent skyline, ridge forms boundary with next area.			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with views restricted and framed by woodland and topography.			
Views in/out	Attractive and detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Recreational receptors, especially at Silent Valley Local Nature Reserve, workers on the land. Residential receptors in adjacent valley settlements.			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Multiple ancient woodland sites, especially in southern half of area. Includes Silent Valley Local Nature Reserve. Also, multiple SINCs throughout. Listed furnace at Llandafal and small group of listed farm buildings near Nantyglo.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	No intervisibility with important cultural features or national trails			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place, however, can feel exposed and threatening in places, sheltered in others.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the area is of medium sensitivity. Meaning the landform and visual qualities of the area would have some potential to accommodate this type of development in particular areas					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of medium sensitivity with some tolerance of change of this nature without significant effects on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider siting turbines in the southern part of the area, where existing woodland may provide some screening and there are fewer sensitive receptors.
- Avoid siting turbines within nature reserves or where they may impact on wildlife routes to them.
- Avoid siting turbines in the northeast section adjacent to settlement and listed buildings.

Solar PV

- Consider siting solar farms in the southern part of the area, where existing woodland may provide screening for the development.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.
- Consider using existing field patterns and seek opportunities to enhance boundaries.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage, and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 1,290 Ha.

This is one of the larger areas, but also includes many steep slopes which may constrain access and development.

Wind turbines

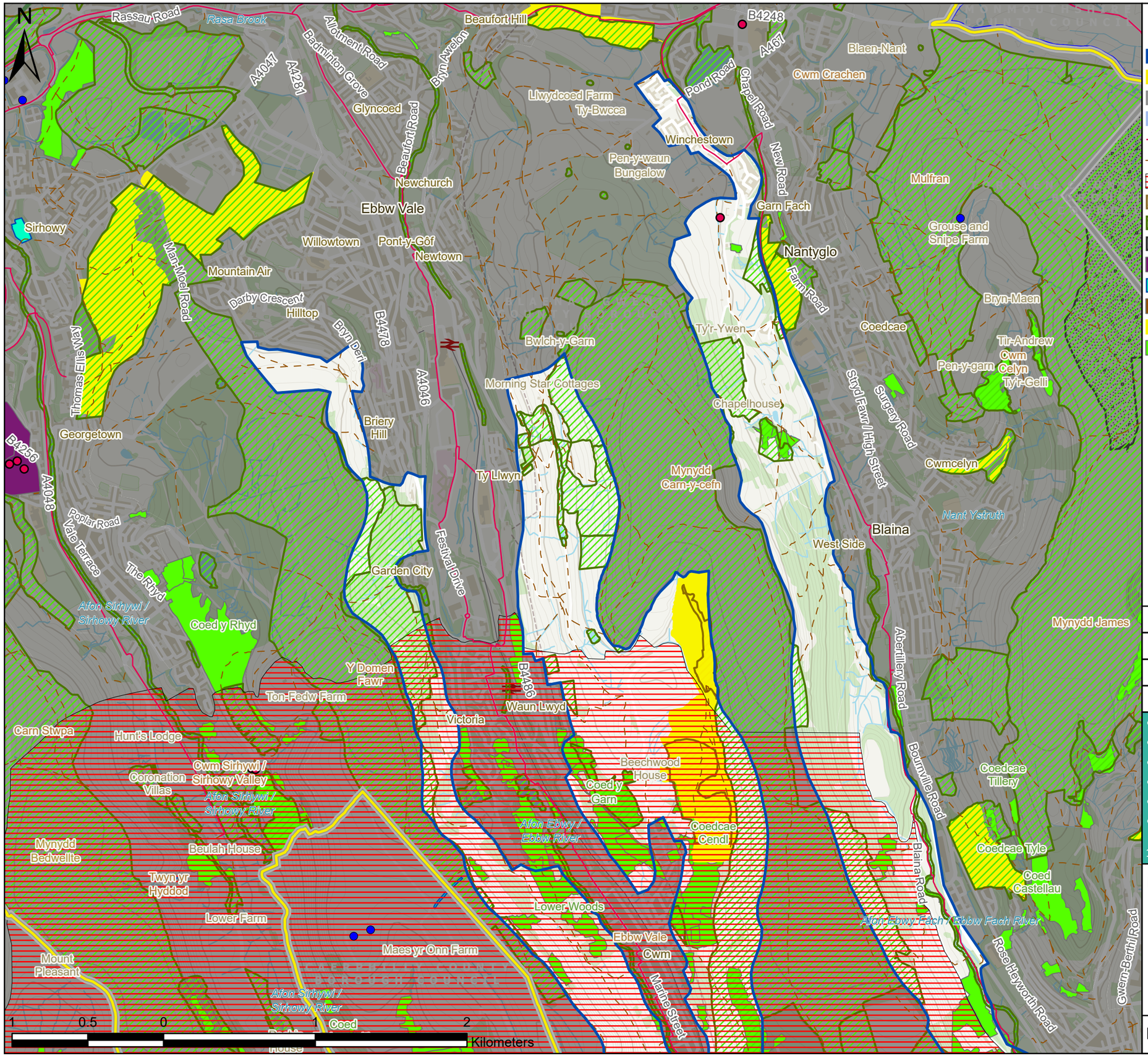
There are no turbines currently within this landscape unit. The southern part of the area falls within the Pre-Assessed Areas for wind development. The landscape sensitivity is medium.

Individual and small groups of turbines may be considered within this area. This should follow the guidance on siting described above with care to avoid cumulative effects with the PAA development.

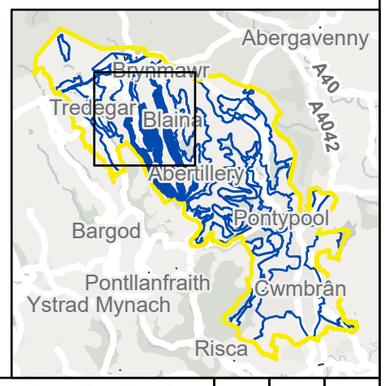
Solar PV

There is currently no solar development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is medium. A low number of medium scale solar developments could be considered, sited in accordance with the guidance above to minimise effects on landscape character.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.20.1 and 7.20.2



- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.20.1

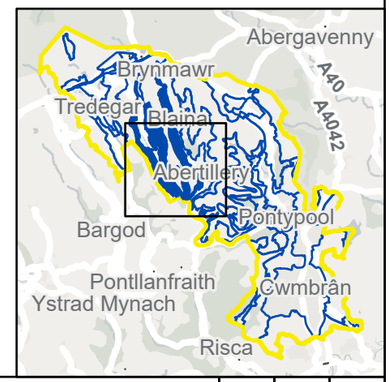
LAU 20 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-20-1LAU20

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N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Blaenavon World Heritage Site
Historic Landscapes
Scheduled Monuments
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

- Environmental Consultants
- Planners
- Landscape Architects
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- Urban Designers
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.20.2

LAU 20 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-20-2LAU20

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 26: CWM-CELYN, CWMTILLERY & WAUN WEN VALLEY SIDE

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Steep and varied enclosed small valleys and valley sides			
Landcover	A mix of woodland and fields with scattered settlement, forestry and scrub/heath mosaic on more elevated sections.			
Built environment	Largely unpopulated with traditional farming, forestry and some historic restored excavation and tips.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Few prominent skylines.			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Largely enclosed by the landform, these valleys have limited views in or out of the area.			
Views in/out	Predominantly attractive views in and out with few detractive elements			
Typical receptors	Occasional residential receptors, workers on the land and recreational visitors.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Cwmtillery Lakes and Rosheyworth Local Nature Reserves. Frequent SINCs, especially on upland areas but also including Bourneville slip and Cwmtillery reservoir and lakes. Multiple ancient woodland sites both in the valleys and covering nearly the full extent of the southern part of the area, above Six Bells.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Due to the enclosed nature of the landscape, there is little intervisibility with important cultural sites. The woodland above Six Bells could be considered part of the setting of the St Ilityd landscape, including SM of castle mound nest to the listed parish church.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place, due to inaccessibility and wooded character perceived as tranquil and sheltered.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of very high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change and limited ability to accommodate this type of development.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities for siting turbines in land adjacent to existing forestry sites which may partially screen it from wider views.
- Avoid negative effects from proximity to residential areas.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms where topography will limit wider views.
- Consider using existing woodland to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to utilise previously disturbed sites, where the development could contribute to strengthening boundaries and landscape character.
- Avoid siting solar farms adjacent to existing settlements.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 781 Ha.

Wind turbines

There are existing small scale wind turbines at the heads of both Cwm-Celin and Cwmtillery valley. There are also wind turbines immediately to the east of the area on the upland near Nant-y-Groes. The southern part of the area near Six Bells lies within the Pre-Assessed Area for wind. Siting any further development of this type would likely contribute to cumulative effects with this existing development.

Therefore, given the very high sensitivity of the landscape, no further wind development is recommended for this area.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. There may be opportunities to sensitively site small-scale developments within the area, following the guidance set out above.

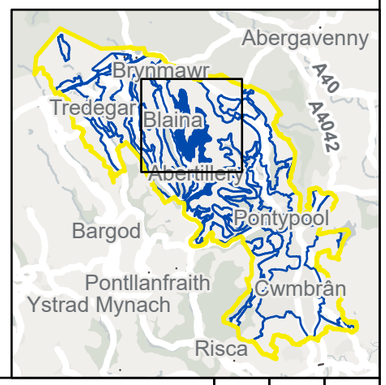
For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.26.1 and 7.26.2

N

Ty-Bwcca
Winchestown
Pen-y-waun Bungalow
Chapel Road
New Road
Garn Fach
Mulfran
Grouse and Snipe Farm
Nantyglo
Farm Road
A467
Bryn-Maen
Coedcae
Ty'r-Ywen
Tir-Andrew
Cwm Celyn
Pen-y-garn
Ty'r-Gelli
Cefn Coch
Styd Fawr / High Street
Surgery Road
Chapelhouse
Cwmcelyn
Mynydd Carn-y-cefn
Nant Ystruth
Blaina
West Side
Blaentillery Farm
Afon Tyleri
Mynydd Coety / Coety Mountain
Pen-rhiw-Ifor
Whistle Road
B4248
Garn Lakes
Garn-yr-erw
Waun-Mary-Gunter Farm
Coity Farm
Coity Pond
Afon Lwyd
Estate Road
B4246
Forge Side
Forge Side Road
Mynydd James
Cwmtillery Reservoir
Reservoir House
Abertillery Road
Bournville Road
Coedcae Tillery
Cwm Tyleri
Beechwood House
Coed y Garn
Coedcae Cendl
Blaina Road
Coedcae Tyle
Coed Castellau
Afon Tyleri
Cwmtillery
Afon Ebwy Fach / Ebbw Fach River
Lower Woods
A4046
Ebbw Vale
Cwm
Maine Street
Rose Heyworth Road
Tillery Road
Pen-y-Bont
Blaenau Gwent
Gladstone Street
Tillery Street
Old Blaina Road
Rhiw-Parc Road
Blaen-Melyn
Nant Ffrwd
Graig-ddu Wood
Gwastad
Waun Wen
Tyr-beili Wood

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Blaenavon World Heritage Site
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.26.1

LAU 26 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

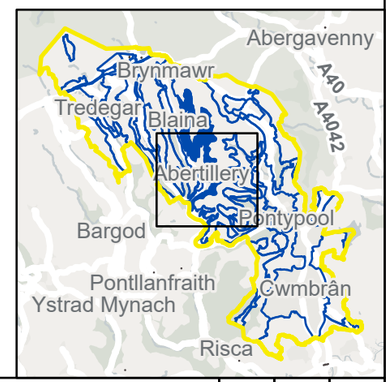
Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-26-1LAU26

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Blaenavon World Heritage Site
Historic Landscapes
Scheduled Monuments
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.26.2

LAU 26 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-26-2LAU26

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 31: CWM CYFFIN

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Small scale			
Landform	Enclosed small valley			
Landcover	A mosaic of woodland and fields.			
Built environment	Unpopulated.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	No prominent skylines.			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Largely enclosed by the landform, there are occasional views in and few views out.			
Views in/out	Predominantly attractive views in and out with few detractive elements			
Typical receptors	Primarily recreational visitors (open access and PRoW), brief views from Blaencuffin road and residential receptors in adjacent Mount Pleasant Estate.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Ancient woodland site extends to most of south and east of area.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Due to the enclosed nature of the landscape, there is little intervisibility with important cultural sites.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place, due to inaccessibility and wooded character perceived as tranquil and sheltered.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of very high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Avoid negative effects from proximity to residential areas.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms where topography will limit wider views.
- Consider using existing woodland to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting solar farms adjacent to existing settlements.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 32 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. It also lies within the Pre-Assessed Area for wind. This is a very small area with very high landscape sensitivity to development of this type.

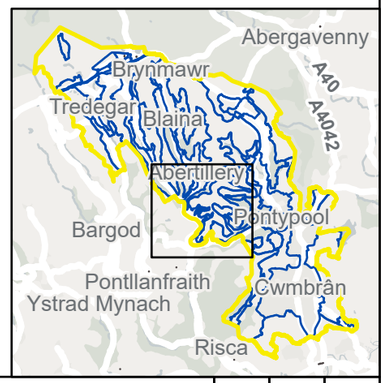
Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. Should solar development be considered for this area it is recommended that the southern facing side of the hill be utilised, where this would not affect residents or ancient woodland and recreational sites.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.31.1

N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Conservation Areas
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Ancient Woodland



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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.31.1

LAU 31 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-31-1LAU31

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 32: CRAIG SWFFRYD

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Small scale			
Landform	Steep valley sides			
Landcover	A mosaic of woodland and fields.			
Built environment	Unpopulated. Includes B4471 in southern half.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	No prominent skylines.			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Largely enclosed by the landform and vegetation, there are few views in and out.			
Views in/out	Predominantly attractive views both in and out with few detractive elements			
Typical receptors	Primarily recreational visitors (open access to north and PRoW), residential receptors at northern edge of Crumlin. Road and rail users in valley.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Scattered ancient woodland sites, in centre and to north. SINC covering Craig Swyffrd in centre of area.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Due to the enclosed nature of the landscape, there is little intervisibility with important cultural sites.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place, due to inaccessibility and wooded character perceived as tranquil and sheltered.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of borderline very high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change and limited ability to accommodate this type of development.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Avoid negative effects from proximity to residential areas.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms where topography will limit wider views.
- Consider using existing woodland to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.
- Consider using existing field patterns and seek opportunities to enhance boundaries.
- Avoid siting solar farms adjacent to existing settlements.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 46 Ha.

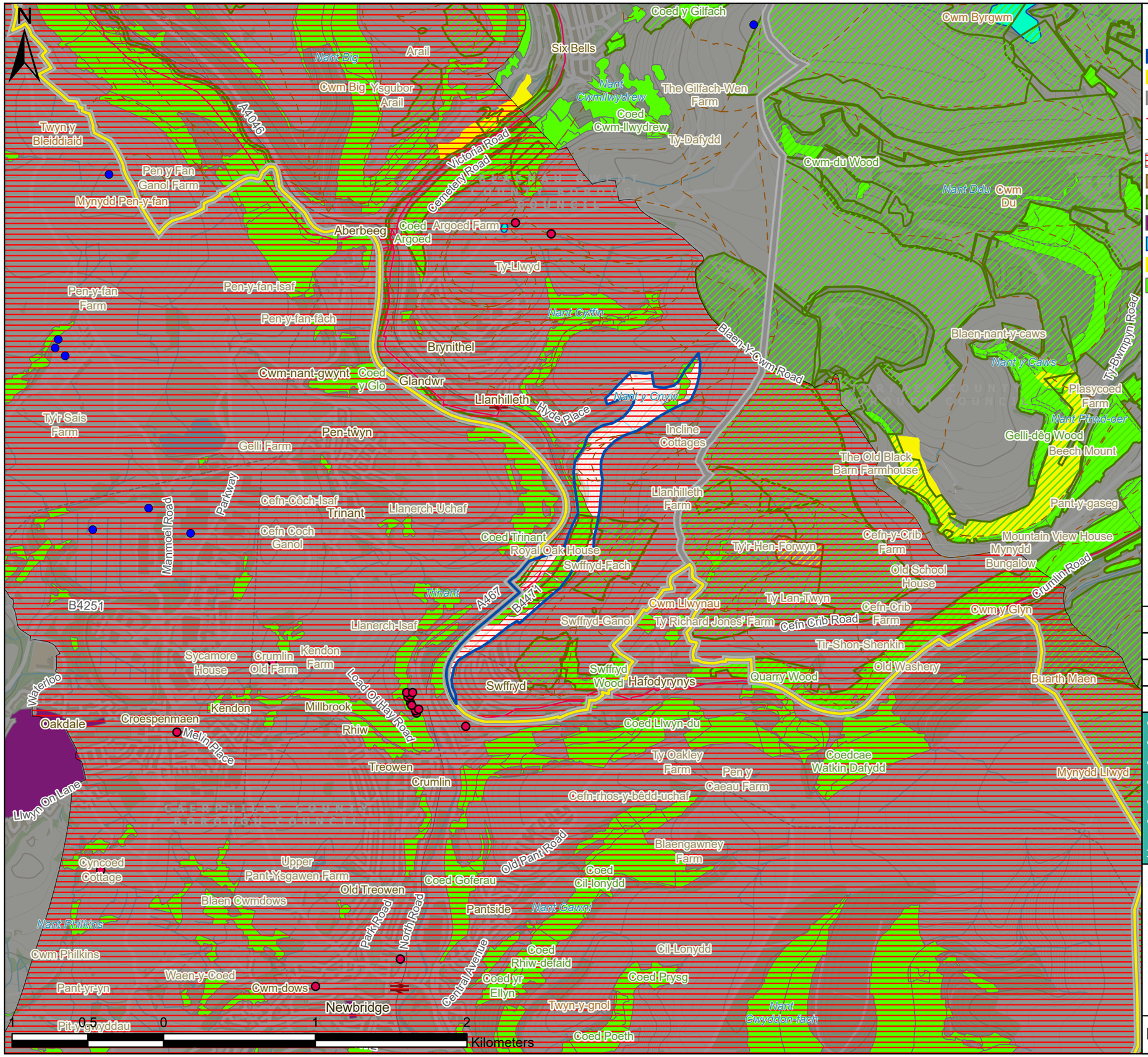
Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. It also lies within the Pre-Assessed Area for wind. This is a very small area with very high landscape sensitivity to development of this type.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. Should solar be considered for this area it is recommended the northern section of open land could accommodate a small-scale development, where sufficient screening can be provided for local residential receptors, and in accordance with the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.32.1



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.32.1

LAU 32 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-32-1LAU32

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 33: SWFFRYD WOOD

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Small scale			
Landform	Upland valley side			
Landcover	A mosaic of woodland and grassland			
Built environment	Unpopulated.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	No prominent skylines due to wooded character			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Largely enclosed by the landform and vegetation, there are few views in and out.			
Views in/out	Predominantly attractive views both in and out with few detractive elements			
Typical receptors	Primarily recreational visitors (open access to north and PRoW), residential receptors at northern edge of Crumlin. Road and rail users in valley.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Largely covered by restored ancient woodland and associated SINC			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	There is little intervisibility with important cultural sites. The Swfrydd-ganol Farm 100m to the north includes two listed buildings. The hillside forms an important backdrop to the settlement in the valley.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place, due to inaccessibility and wooded character perceived as tranquil and sheltered.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of very high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider using existing woodland to partially screen wind turbines from wider views.
- Respect the setting of Swyffryd-ganol Farm.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms where topography will limit wider views.
- Consider using existing woodland to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting within SINC unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.
- Respect the setting of Swyffryd-ganol Farm.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 10 Ha.

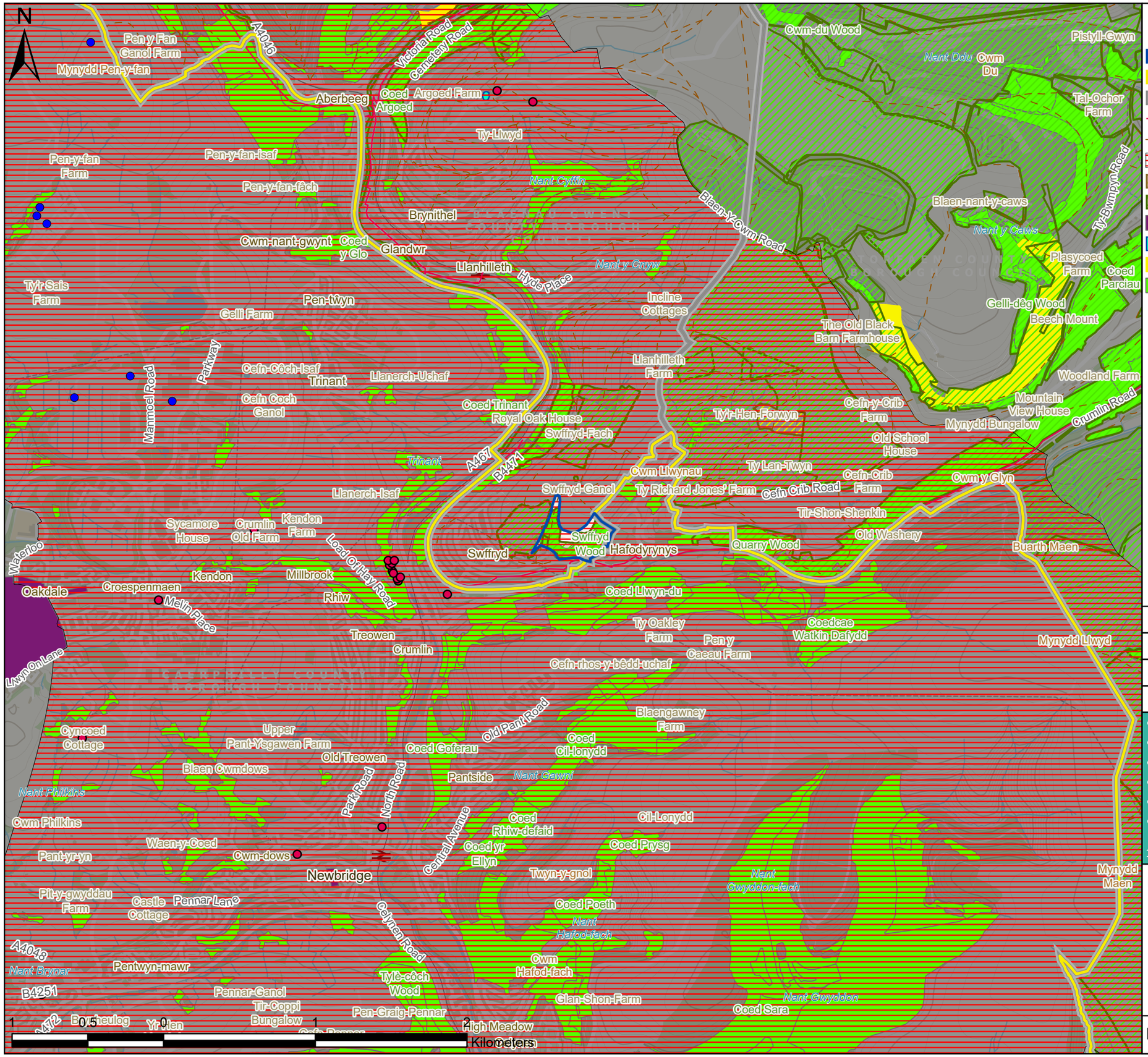
Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. It also lies within the Pre-Assessed Area for wind. This is a very small area with very high landscape sensitivity to development of this type.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. There may be potential for small scale development in the open upland section of the site, or extending from the neighbouring landscape area (LAU 34)

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.33.1



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.33.1

LAU 33 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-33-1LAU33

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LAU 34: MYNYDD COITY UPLAND RIDGE

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Undulating upland			
Landcover	Primarily open grass and heathland to the north, contrasting with more intimate historic field pattern to south.			
Built environment	Unpopulated to north, with scattered settlement to south.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landscape			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	A very exposed landscape with extensive views, including to other upland areas.			
Views in/out	Predominantly attractive views both in and out with occasional external detractive views.			
Typical receptors	Primarily recreational visitors and land workers.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Blaenavon World Heritage Site extends to county boundary on Torfaen side of east facing slopes. Blaenavon outstanding historic landscape extends further into Blaenau Gwent along ridgeline. Coity Sandstone Quarry Scheduled Monument above Blaenavon and the listed dog stone memorial on Mynydd Varteg. SINC covers western half of Mynydd Coity upland area. Listed buildings and SINC at St Illytid			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Intervisibility with Blaenavon WHS from the eastern side of the ridge. Intervisibility with BBNP from northern slopes above Brynmawr.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place, due to panoramic views and simple upland character, sense of exposure.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of very high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.					

Guidance on Siting

A very large undeveloped upland area spanning both County Boroughs. There is a distinct character difference between the northern and southern sections. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Respect the setting of Blaenavon WHS and associated historic landscape and SM.
- Avoid placing turbines on narrow sections of ridge where they will appear on the skyline.
- Consider opportunities to use existing forestry to partially screen wind development.
- Respect the setting of St Illytid, Swyffrd-ganol Farm and their historic landscape character.

Solar PV

- Respect the setting of Blaenavon WHS and associated historic landscape and SM.
- Consider opportunities to use the undulating topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid placing solar on north facing slopes where these will be visible from the National Park.
- Consider siting solar farms within existing field boundaries which may be enhanced to screen the development in the southern part of the area.
- Avoid siting within SINCs unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 2,641 Ha.

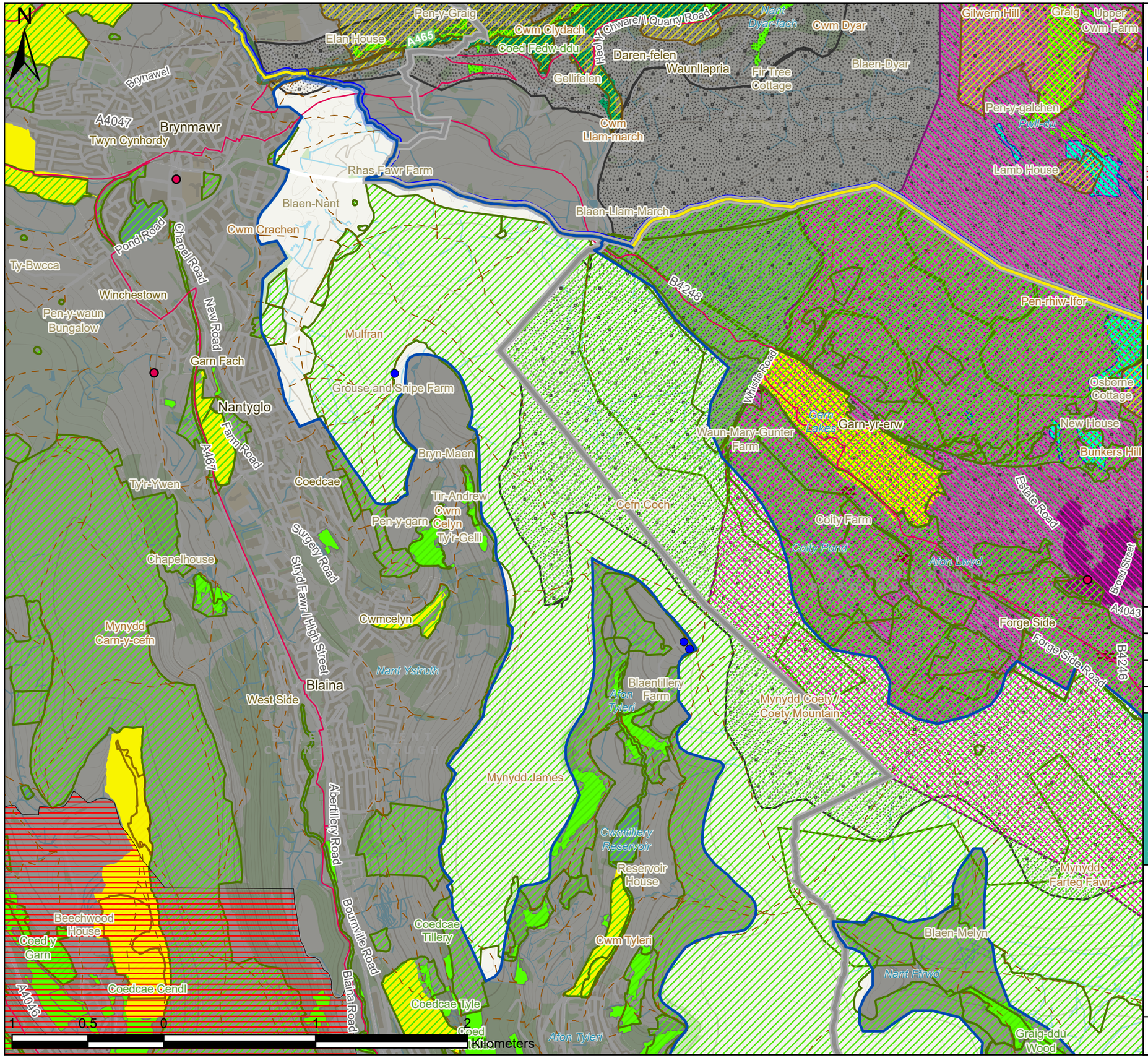
Wind turbines

There is small scale existing wind turbine development near Gilfach-Wen Farm in the south, on the southern slopes of Mulfran in the north and immediately adjacent at the head of Cwmtillery. The southern part of the area lies within the Pre-Assessed Area for wind. This area has a very high sensitivity to wind development, however due to its scale, where designated landscapes can be avoided, there may still be opportunities to site several small to medium scale wind farms, following the guidance above and with care to avoid cumulative effects.

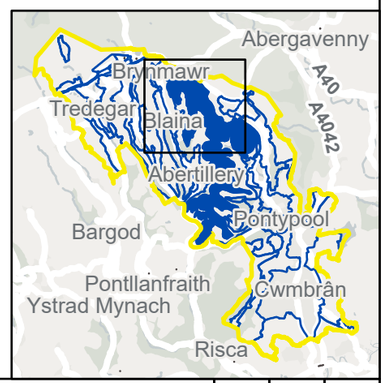
Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. There may be potential for low numbers of medium scale development within the area if carefully sited and screened from sensitive landscapes and visual receptors.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.34.1, 7.34.2 and 7.34.3



- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Blaenavon World Heritage Site
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Local Nature Reserves
- National Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

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• Planners
• Landscape Architects
• Landscape Managers
• Urban Designers
• Ecologists

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Blaenau Gwent and Torfaen County Borough Councils

Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.34.1

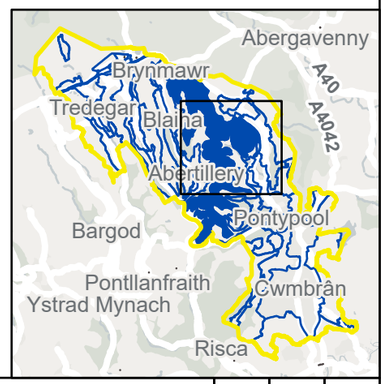
LAU 34 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 3)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-34-1LAU34

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N

- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
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V.	**S.**	**Date**	**Description**	**B.**	**C.**	**A.**

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.34.2

LAU 34 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 3)

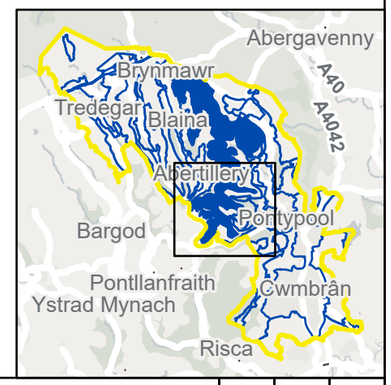
Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-34-2LAU34

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Scheduled Monuments
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.34.3

LAU 34 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 3 of 3)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-34-3LAU34

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

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LAU 35: HILLS NORTH OF BLAENAVON

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

1: Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale broad valley with simple landcover.			
Landform	Head of valley, rolling topography.			
Landcover	Slopes with mixture of historic extraction and restoration and grazing. Remnant field pattern on valley floor. Stone walls form low level enclosure.			
Built environment	World Heritage Site including important buildings and structures relating to industrial past. Very limited other development. B4248 Garn Road passes along south western boundary, cutting across lower 'leg' of area.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Landscape of extraction forms the context of industrial museum and part of WHS. Northwest corner of this Landscape unit is outside WHS but is on the CADW register of landscapes of outstanding historic interest, considered to contribute to the setting of the WHS.			
Movement	Frequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	A relatively open landscape, with little vegetative cover, broadly enclosed by the surrounding hills which contribute to the quality of views and visual interest.			
Views in/out	Both attractive and detractive views, with extensive views in.			
Typical receptors	Visitors to museum and WHS, Garn Lakes site. Residential and workplace receptors in Blaenavon to south. Recreational users of BBNP to north and east. Road users.			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality with moderate landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	World Heritage Site covers majority of area with outstanding historic landscape in remaining northwest corner. Adjacent to National Park to northeast. Multiple SMs comprising industrial archaeology primarily on northern side. One listed feature, also to north. Part of Blorenge SSSI included in eastern edge. The whole area is covered by a SINC, and Garn Lakes LNR lies in the centre of area.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Views to BBNP restricted by enclosing landform. Within the valley the majority of views take in the WHS and its context, including SMs.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	Unique landscape setting recognised by World Heritage Site designation. Moderate sense of place with scattered distribution of key features interspersed with other uses.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area taken alone, would have low susceptibility to change of this type. However, when considered alongside the value placed on the landscape as a World Heritage Site with all the associated designations, it can be seen that this landscape would be highly sensitive to turbine development of the scales being considered.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
Similarly, the designations associated with this Landscape Unit indicate that it would be highly sensitive to solar development.					

Guidance on Siting

There is a conflict between the assessment method and the specific local cultural and historical context. In general, a large-scale extractive landscape, with moderate landscape scores would be considered able to accommodate a certain level of renewables development. In the context of a World Heritage Site designated for these very features however, it may be appropriate to override the assessment outcomes. The following advice should be considered should renewables development be considered within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Avoid placing turbines on top of hills where they will appear on the skyline.
- Respect the setting of WHS, Scheduled Monuments and historic buildings and landscapes.
- Avoid direct impacts on Blorenge SSSI.
- Site turbines away from settlements and visitor hotspots.
- Potential opportunity to the northwest outside the WHS, but a risk of turbines sited here becoming a focal point as one moves up the valley.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundary patterns on the valley floor.
- Consider opportunities to use topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Respect the setting of scheduled monuments and historic buildings.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 587 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is currently no wind farm development within this landscape unit. There are wind turbines sited on the ridge of Mynydd Coity to the west. Cumulative effects with this existing development should be considered.

The landscape sensitivity is high, indicating that it would be able to accommodate wind development only in very limited situations. This would include any development that had an impact on the special qualities of the WHS. It is therefore recommended that development should be limited to a single or small group of turbines, with very careful consideration given to siting them in accordance with the guidance above and avoiding cumulative effects.

Solar PV

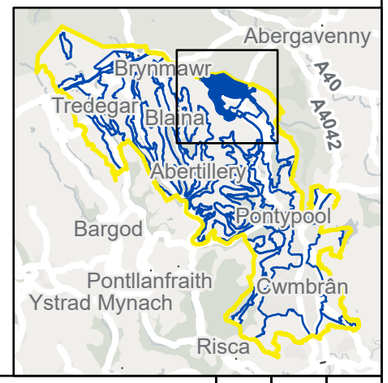
There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high, although with careful layout there may be potential to site small (<10Ha) development with suitable screening where it will not impact on the setting of SM or the visual integrity of the WHS.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.35.1

N

Nant yr Hafod
Hafod Farm
Pen-y-lan-fach
Clydach
Main Road
Nant Dyar
Field House
Coed Fyddlwn
Heo/Y Chwarel/Quarry Road
Nant Dyar-fach
Pen-y-Graig
A465
Cwm Clydach
Coed Fedw-ddu
Cwm Dyar
Daren-felen
Waunllapria
Fir Tree Cottage
Blaen-Dyar
Gellifelen
Cwm Llam-march
Rhas Fawr Farm
Blaen-Llam-March
Llwyn-y-Fedw Farm
Cwm Llanwenarth
Cwm Farm
Pen-Doy-Cae Farm
Gilwern Hill
Graig
Upper Cwm Farm
Garn-Ddyrys Farm
Yew Tree Cottage
Pen-y-galchen
Pwll-du
Blorenge or Blorens
Lamb House
Cwm Ifor
Cefn y Galchen
Pen-rhiw-Ifor
Pen-fforddgoch Pond
B4248
Whistle Road
Osborne Cottage
Cwm Darrenfelen
New House
Garn-yr-erw
Garn Lakes
Waun-Mary-Gunter-Farm
Bunkers Hill
Nant Llechan
Estate Road
Grouse and Snipe Farm
Bryn-Maen
Tir-Andrew
Cwm Celyn
Pen-y-garn
Tyr-Celli
Cefn Coch
Coity Farm
Coity Pond
Blaenavon
Broad Street
B4246
Afon Lwyd
Upper Coedcae
Middle Coedcae
Forge Side
Forge Side Road
Blaenavon Junction
A4043
Beech Tree Cottage
Coffee Tavern House
Cwmcelyn
Nant Ystruth
Blaentillery Farm
Afon Tyleri
Mynydd Coety / Coety Mountain
Mynydd James
Glebeland Farm
Blaenavon Community Woodland
Ty Michael Farm
Furlong Wood
Cwmtillery Reservoir
Reservoir House
Mynydd Farteg Fawr
Cwmavon House
Cwmavon
Coedcae Tillery
Cwm Tyleri
Blaen-Melyn
Nant Firwd

0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers



- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
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- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
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V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.35.1

LAU 35 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-35-1LAU35

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 36: BLAENAVON

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Valley bottom			
Landcover	Partially developed, mosaic of reclaimed grassland, woodland, open water, playing fields to northeast.			
Built environment	Medium scale industrial estates with connecting roads, small number of terraced residential properties. Railway depot. Includes key designated structures related to World Heritage Site.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landscape but includes distinctive historic landmark structures.			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with views in from surrounding uplands.			
Views in/out	Attractive views out, but detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Recreational visitors to Big Pit and other visitor attractions, cyclists using offroad NCN Route 492. Workers in industrial estates. Residential receptors from town of Blaenavon to south, including Conservation Area.			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality, moderate landscape character and low integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Core area of Blaenavon World Heritage Site, includes multiple listed buildings, SMs at the Engine Pit, Ironworks and old coal pits, part of the Blaenavon Conservation Area. Falls within outstanding historic landscape. Also, the southern half of the Garn Lakes Local Nature Reserve and SINCs across southern and western parts of the area.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Views out across wider WHS and historic landscape support interpretation of industrial history at this site.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	Moderate sense of place, with perceptual qualities including discordant and unattractive.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of low sensitivity and resilient to change of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of low sensitivity and likely to accept this type of development without adverse effects on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

There is a conflict between the assessment method and the specific local cultural and historical context for this LAU. In general, a large-scale industrial extractive landscape with moderate landscape scores would be considered able to accommodate a certain level of renewables development. In the context of the World Heritage Site designated for these very features however, it may be appropriate to override the assessment outcomes. The following advice should be considered if renewables development is to be considered within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Respect the setting of Blaenavon WHS and associated historic landscape, SM, listed buildings and Conservation Area.
- Consider opportunities to use existing woodland to partially screen wind development.
- Consider opportunities to place turbines within the setting of modern industrial areas or road corridors.

Solar PV

- Respect the setting of Blaenavon WHS and associated historic landscape, SM, listed buildings and Conservation Area.
- Consider siting solar farms where they will be screened by woodland or local topography.
- Avoid siting within SINCS unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 127 Ha.

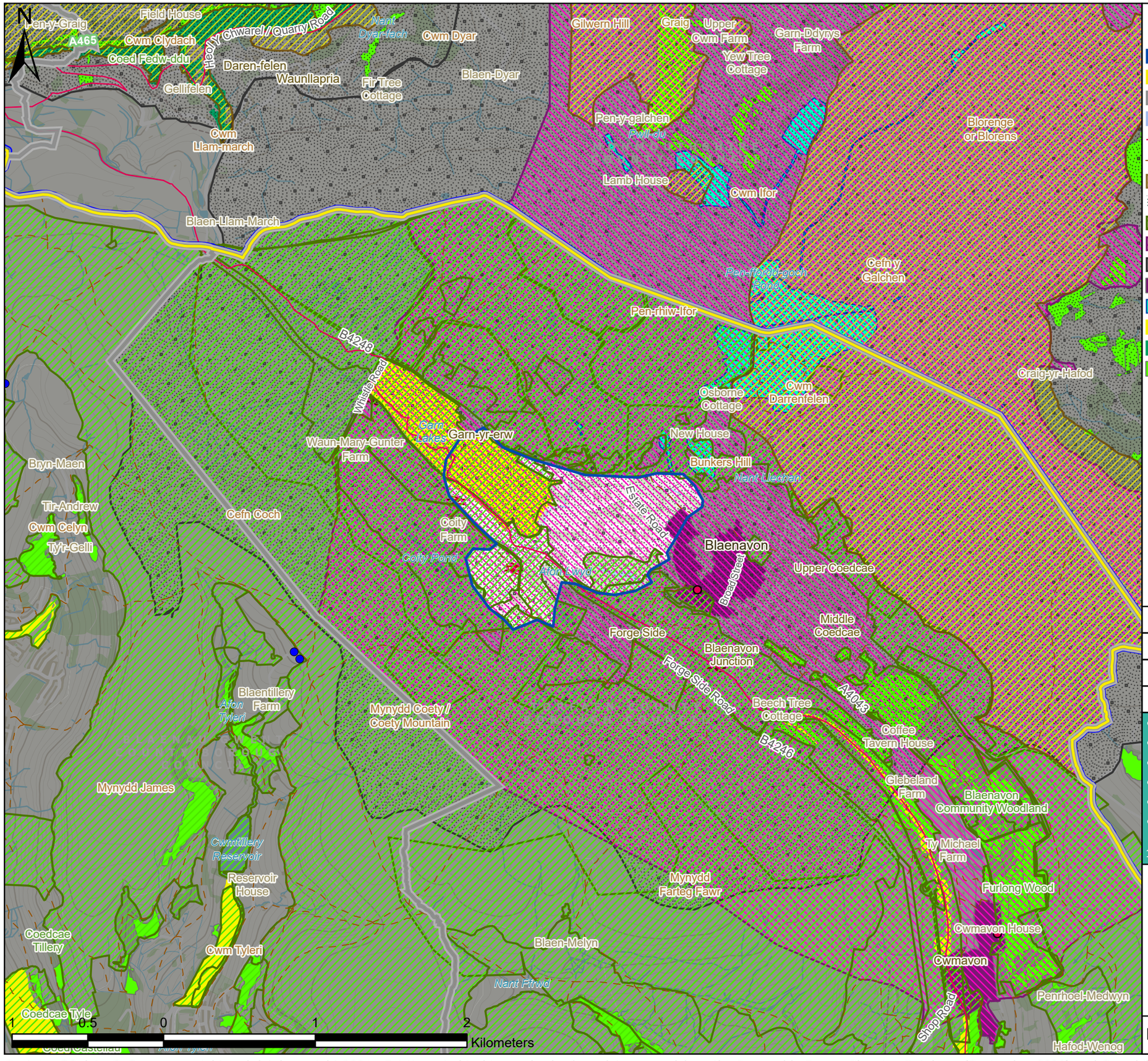
Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in this area. The small size of the area and the density of historic and cultural designations and destinations suggests that this area, despite its apparent low sensitivity, may not accommodate wind development where it would interfere with interpretation of the local features and wider landscape in terms of historical industrial development.

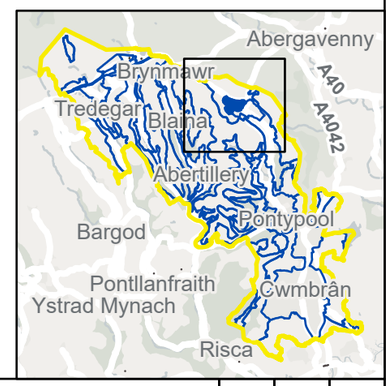
Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low. Even so there seems little potential for siting solar development where it will be viewed, even from a distance, in the context of an important historic landscape as set out above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.36.1



- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.36.1

LAU 36 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-36-1LAU36

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LAU 37: MYNYDD COITY EASTERN VALLEY SIDES

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Upland valley side			
Landcover	Upland valley with a mosaic of woodland and grassland with deteriorating outgrown hedgerow field boundaries, forestry blocks in southern section.			
Built environment	Scattered settlement and minor access roads			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landscape with few prominent skylines.			
Movement	Rare human activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Largely enclosed by the landform and vegetation, there are framed views out and occasional views in to and from upland areas and the settled valley floor.			
Views in/out	Attractive views both in and out with detractive views mainly out of the area.			
Typical receptors	Primarily recreational visitors (open access and PRoW), land workers. Residential receptors in adjacent settlements at Cwmavon and Pontnewynydd, for which the valleys sides provide a backdrop.			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score				
Value		Low	Med	High		
Landscape value (designations)	Cwmbyrgwm Colliery site designated as Scheduled Monument with a listed chimney and a listed engine house nearby. Tir Pentwys Local Nature Reserve in the southern section, with ancient woodland sites around it and scattered throughout the area. SINC covers majority of area.					
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation					
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation					
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation					
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation					
Visual value (key views/vistas)	The Blaenavon WHS is to the north but the intervening hillside and valley topography interrupts direct views.					
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, perceptual qualities not recorded.					

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would be able to accommodate development of this type in limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider using existing forestry to partially screen wind turbines from wider views.
- Consider using the valley topography to screen turbines from wider views.
- Respect the setting of Cwmbyrgwm Colliery SM and listed buildings.
- Avoiding siting turbines where their height will make them visible from Blaenavon WHS.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms where topography will limit wider views.
- Consider using existing forestry to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting within SINC unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.
- Consider opportunities to utilise and enhance existing field pattern and boundaries to screen development.
- Respect the setting of Cwmbyrgwm Colliery SM and listed buildings.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 829 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. There is small scale wind development near the top of the ridge at Nant-y-Groes. The area has high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to reduce cumulative effects by siting multiple small to medium scale development in the separate folds of valleys with limited intervisibility, following the guidance above. Impact on views from the adjacent urban areas must be considered in this case.

Solar PV

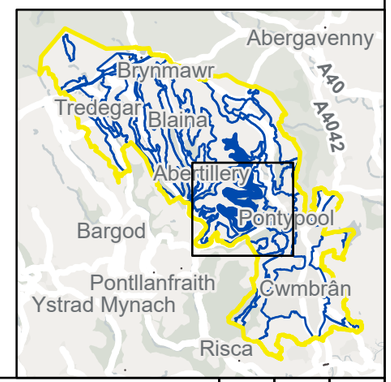
There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. Given the size of the area there may be potential for small to medium scale development within existing field parcels, where this can be achieved following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.37.1 and 7.37.2

N

Blaenau Gwent
Tillery Street
Oak Street
Rhiw Park Road
Abertillery
Castle Street
Penrhiwgarreg
Alexandra Road
Cwm Farm Road
A467
Nant y Groes
Coed y Gilfach
Byrgwm
Six Bells
Nant Cwmllwydrew
Coed Cwm-llwydrew
The Gilfach-Wen Farm
Victoria Road
Cemetery Road
Ty-Dafydd
Cwm-du Wood
Nant Ddu
Cwm Du
Argoed Farm
Ty-Llwyd
Nant Cyffin
Brynithel
Llanhilleth
Hyde Place
Nant y Cnyw
Incline Cottages
Llanhilleth Farm
Coed Trinant
Royal Oak House
Swffryd-Fach
B4471
Trinant
Swffryd-Canol
Cwm Llwynau
Ty Richard Jones' Farm
Cefn Crib Road
Ty Lan-Twyn
Cefn-Crib Farm
Old School House
Tŷr-Hen-Forwyn
Cefn-y-Crib Farm
Mynydd Bungalow
Mountain View House
Crumlin Road
Woodland Farm
High Path
Tir-Shon-Shenkin
Swffryd Wood
Hafodynynys
Swffryd
Quarry Wood
Old Washery
A472
Cwm-y Glyn
Coed Llwyn-du
B4251
Ty Oakley Farm
Pen y Caeau Farm
Coedcae Watkin Dafydd
Cefn-rhos-y-bedd-uchaf
Mynydd Llwyd
Buarth Maen
Twyn Calch
Cwm Lleucu / Cwm Lickey
Mountain Road
Cefn-Llwyd Farm
White House
Coed Golynos
Cwm Ffrwd-Oer Farm
Blaen-nant-y-caws
Nant y Caws
Plasycoed Road
Plasycoed Farm
Coed Parciau
Gelli-dêg Wood
Beech Mount
Coch-Y-North Road
Pen-Tranch Cottage
Tranch Wood
Plas-y-Coed
Ty Shon Jacob Farm
Tranch
Parke's Lane
Sowhill
Trosnant Brook
Coed Alice
Cwm Fields
Blaendare Road
Nant Dar
Cwmynyscoy
Upper Race
The Mount
Riverside
Broadway
Pontypool
Penygarn Road
Church Wood
Herbert's Wood
Wainfelin
Hospital Road
Leigh Road
Trevethin
Church Avenue
Woodside Road
Charlesville
Mount Pleasant
Pentrepiod
Greenland Farm
Pistyll-Gwyn
Pentwyn Road
B4246
Ty-Rhiw Frank
Pen-twyn
Brook Cottage
The Barracks
Cwm Byrgwm
Prospect Place
High Street
A4043
Snatchwood
Freehold Wood
Penlasgarn-Isaf
Company's Wood
Lasgarn Wood
Penlasgarn House
Lasgarn Farm
Hollybush Cottage
Tal-Ochor Farm
Oaktree Farm
Cwm Pontnewynydd Ffrwd-oer
Golynos
Victoria Village
Talywain Waterloo
Cwm Sychan
Cwmsychan Brook
The Bungalow
Tŷr-beili Wood
Cwm Ffrwd
Abersychan
Cwm Afon
Pen-yr-heol
Nant y Maelor
The Woodlands

Kilometers
0 0.5 1 2



- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

- Environmental Consultants
- Planners
- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
- Urban Designers
- Ecologists

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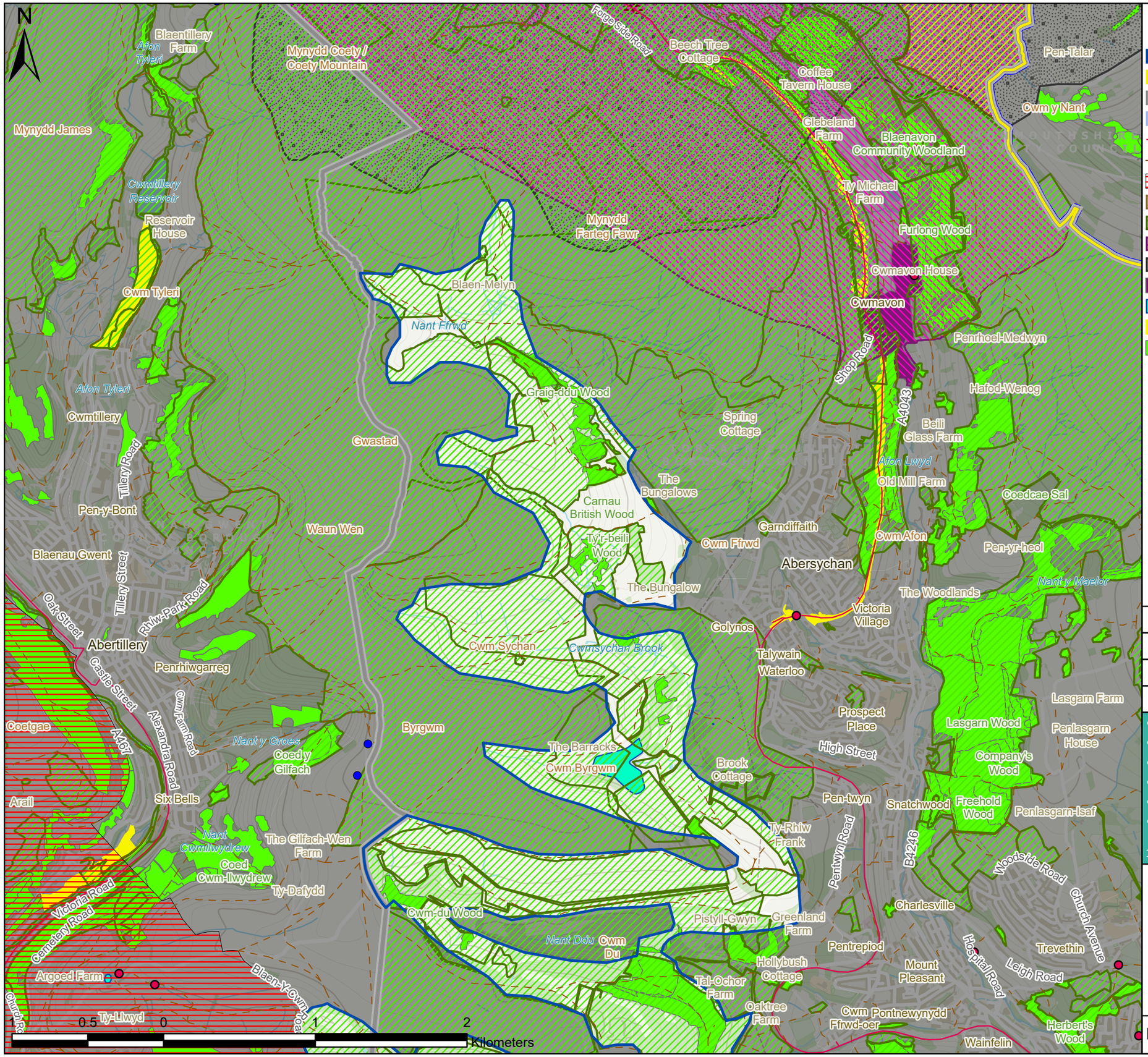
Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.37.1

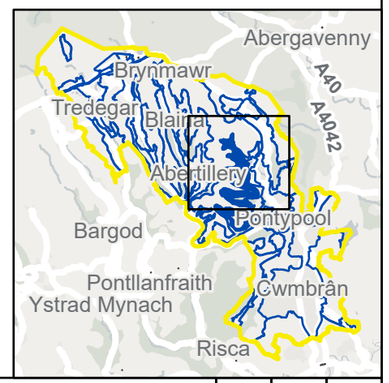
LAU 37 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-37-1LAU37

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- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Blaenavon World Heritage Site
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.37.2

LAU 37 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-37-2LAU37

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LAU 38: CWM DU

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Disturbed land			
Landcover	Regenerating woodland and scrub with some exposed tip faces			
Built environment	No settlement			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landscape			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	An open but self-contained landscape with limited views in and out			
Views in/out	Attractive views out but detractive views both in and out			
Typical receptors	Recreational receptors (open access and PRoW), land workers			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality, moderate landscape character and low integrity			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Includes a small section of ancient woodland at the eastern end. Covered by SINC			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Limited intervisibility with other landscapes			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with discordant and unattractive perceptual qualities.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area would be able to accommodate a significant amount of change without affecting landscape character.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of low sensitivity with some resilience to change of this nature without significant effects on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider using the valley topography to screen turbines from wider views.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms where topography will limit wider views.
- Avoid siting within SINC and potential Local Nature Reserve unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.
- Consider opportunities to utilise and enhance existing field pattern and boundaries to screen development.
- Consider setting of the Llanerch Memorial, ensuring essential setting and views are not compromised by development

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 35 Ha.

Wind turbines

There are no turbines currently within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low. However, the small size of the area suggests that only a single medium scale development could be accommodated, following the guidance on siting above.

Solar PV

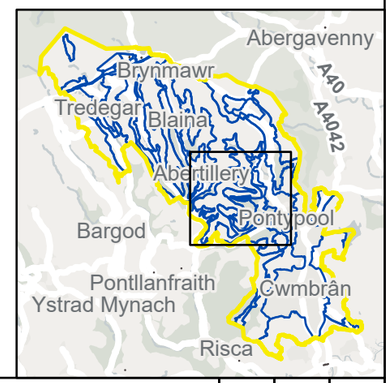
There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low. Again, due to the small size of the area it is likely that a single medium to large scale development is all that can be accommodated, although this may extend into the neighbouring landscape area.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.38.1

N

Cwmtillery
Tillery Road
Gwastad
Spring Cottage
Beili Glass Farm
Afon Lwyd
Old Mill Farm
Coedcae Sal
The Bungalows
Carnau British Wood
Pen-y-Bont
Waun Wen
Garndiffaith
Tyr-beili Wood
Cwm Ffrwd
Cwm Afon
Pen-yr-heol
Abersychan
Blaenau Gwent
Tillery Street
The Bungalow
Nant y Maelor
The Woodlands
Old Blaina Road
Oak Street
Rhiw Park Road
Victoria Village
Golynos
Abertillery
Cwm Sychan
Cwmsychan Brook
Talywain Waterloo
Penrhiwgarreg
Castle Street
Lasgarn Farm
Prospect Place
Byrgwm
Coetgae
A4467
Alexandra Road
Cwm Farm Road
Nant y Groes
Lasgarn Wood
Penlasgarn House
The Barracks
Coed y Gilfach
Cwm Byrgwm
High Street
A4043
Company's Wood
Brook Cottage
Arail
Six Bells
Pen-twyn
Snatchwood
Freehold Wood
Penlasgarn-Isaf
Nant Cwmillwydrew
The Gilfach-Wen Farm
Ty-Rhiw Frank
Pentwyn Road
B4246
Woodside Road
Coed Cwm-llwydrew
Victoria Road
Ty-Dafydd
Church Avenue
Cwm-du Wood
Charlesville
Cemetery Road
Pistyll-Gwyn
Greenland Farm
Nant Ddu Cwm Du
Pentrepiod
Trevethin
Hollybush Cottage
Mount Pleasant
Hospital Road
Leigh Road
Coed Argoed
Argoed Farm
Tal-Ochor Farm
Oaktree Farm
Cwm Pontnewynydd Ffrwd-oer
Herbert's Wood
Wainfelin
Church Wood
Ty-Llwyd
Nant Cyffin
Tranch Wood
Riverside
Blaen-nant-y-caws
Cwm Ffrwd-Oer Farm
Plasycoed Road
Pen-Tranch Cottage
Broadway
Brynithel
Blaen-y-Cwm Road
Nant y Caws
Plas-y-Coed
Ty Shon Jacob Farm
Glandwr
Plasycoed Farm
Coed Parciau
Pontypool
Llanhilleth
Nant y Cnyw
Hyde Place
Tranch
Incline Cottages
Gelli-dêg Wood
Beech Mount
The Old Black Barn Farmhouse
Coch-Y-North Road
Parke's Lane
Sowhill
Trosnant Brook
Coed Alice
Cwm Fields
Llanhilleth Farm
Woodland Farm
High Path
Coed Trinant
Royal Oak House
Mountain View House
Crumlin Road
Cefn-y-Crib Farm
Tyr-Hen-Forwyn
Mynydd Bungalow
Blaendare Road
Nant Dar
Swffryd-Fach
Old School House
Upper Race
Trinant
Ty Lan-Tiwyn
Coed Golynos
The Mount
Cwm Llwynau
Cefn-Crib
Swffryd-Canol
Ty Richard Jones' Farm
Cefn Crib Road
Cwm y Glyn
Tir-Shon-Shenkin
Old Washery
Swffryd Wood
Hafodynynys
A472
Quarry Wood
Twyn Calch
Buarth Maen
Mount Pleasant Road
Swffryd

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers



- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

- Environmental Consultants
- Planners
- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
- Urban Designers
- Ecologists

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.38.1

LAU 38 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-38-1LAU38

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LAU 39: HILLTOP ABOVE GELLI-DEG

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Undulating plateau at top of hill			
Landcover	Upland grazing with well-maintained hedgerow boundaries			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landscape enclosed by woodland with few prominent skylines.			
Movement	Rare human activity			
Visibility, quality of views	An exposed landscape but with limited public access, meaning views in are more common than views out.			
Views in/out	Attractive and detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Land workers and farm residents. Recreational users of the surrounding uplands.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, moderate landscape character and high integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Small area of SINC relating to heathland extending in from northern boundary.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	None			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, perceptual qualities not recorded.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would be able to accommodate development of this type in limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider using existing woodland to partially screen wind turbines from wider views.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland and field boundaries to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting within SINC unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 95 Ha.

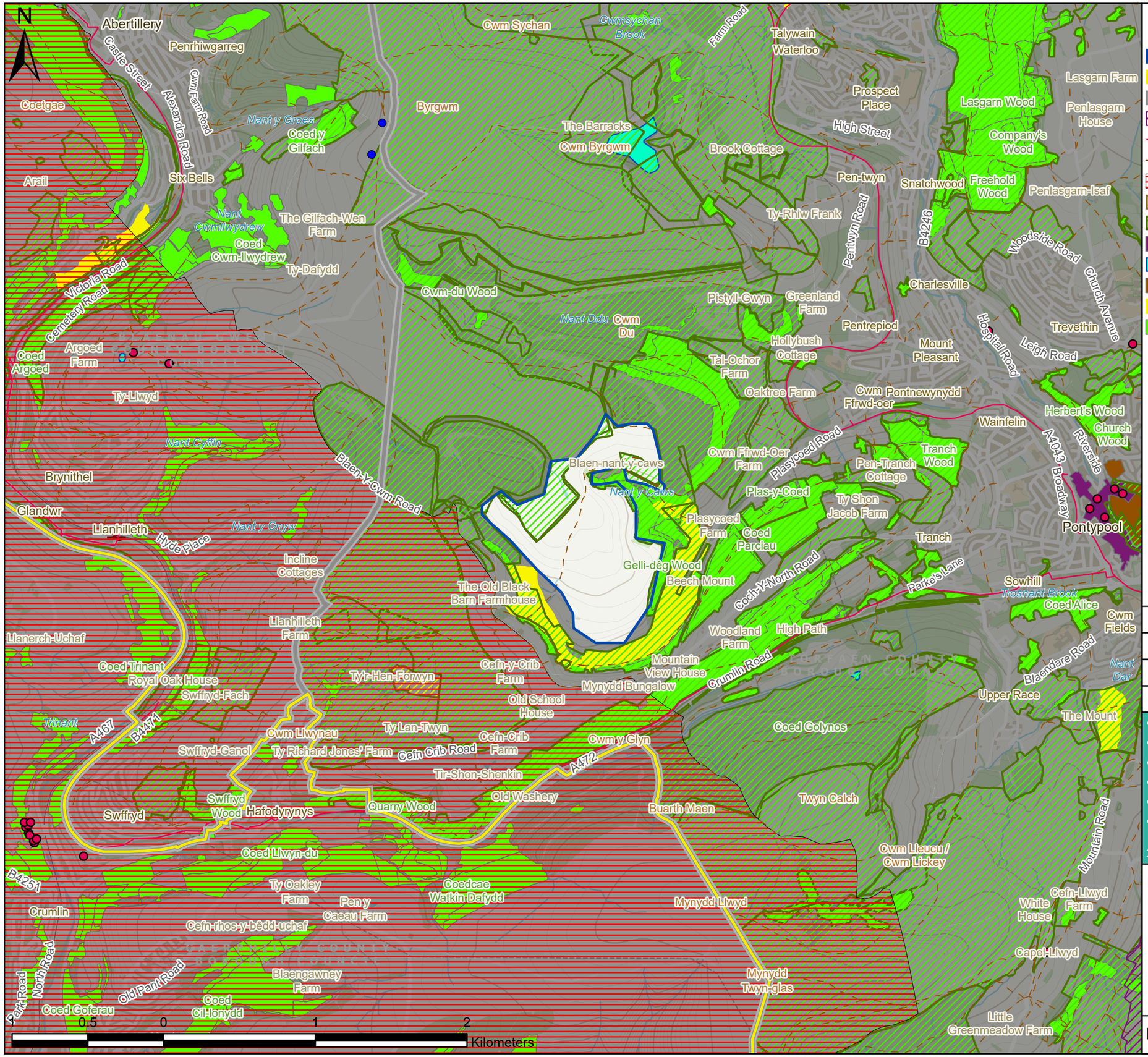
Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. The area has high sensitivity to wind development. When proposing turbine development consideration should be given to existing relatively intensive productive land use and how the two uses can be combined to maintain the existing landscape character. No more than a single turbine could be accommodated in this area, and consideration given to any cumulative effects with surrounding landscape units.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. Given the small size and relatively contained character of the area, medium scale solar development may be possible, where there is not a conflict with the existing land use and following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.39.1



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.39.1

LAU 39 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-39-1LAU39

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 40: WESTERN SLOPES OF MYNYDD HENLLYS

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale		■	
Landform	Undulating hillside		■	
Landcover	Upland forestry and pasture with outgrown hedgerows.		■	
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads, Cwmcarn forest drive along western boundary.			■
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landscape enclosed by woodland with ridge forming skylines in neighbouring landscape area.		■	
Movement	Frequent human activity	■		
Visibility, quality of views	An open publicly accessible landscape largely enclosed by forestry, limiting views in and out depending on state of rotation/direction of view.	■		
Views in/out	Occasional attractive and detractive views both in and out.		■	
Typical receptors	Recreational users (open access land, roads and PRoW), land workers.			■
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, moderate landscape character and high integrity.			■

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Ancient woodland (PAWS) sites all along western boundary.		■	
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			■
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			■
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Potential intervisibility with Twm-Barlwm Mound SM on hilltop to south	■		
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, perceptual qualities not recorded.		■	

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would be able to accommodate development of this type in limited situations.				■	

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.				■	

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider using existing woodland to partially screen wind turbines from wider views.
- Consider aligning windfarms with existing access roads to minimise additional infrastructure.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland and field boundaries to screen solar development from wider views and seek opportunities to enhance these.
- Consider using topography to site solar development where views will be minimised.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 156 Ha.

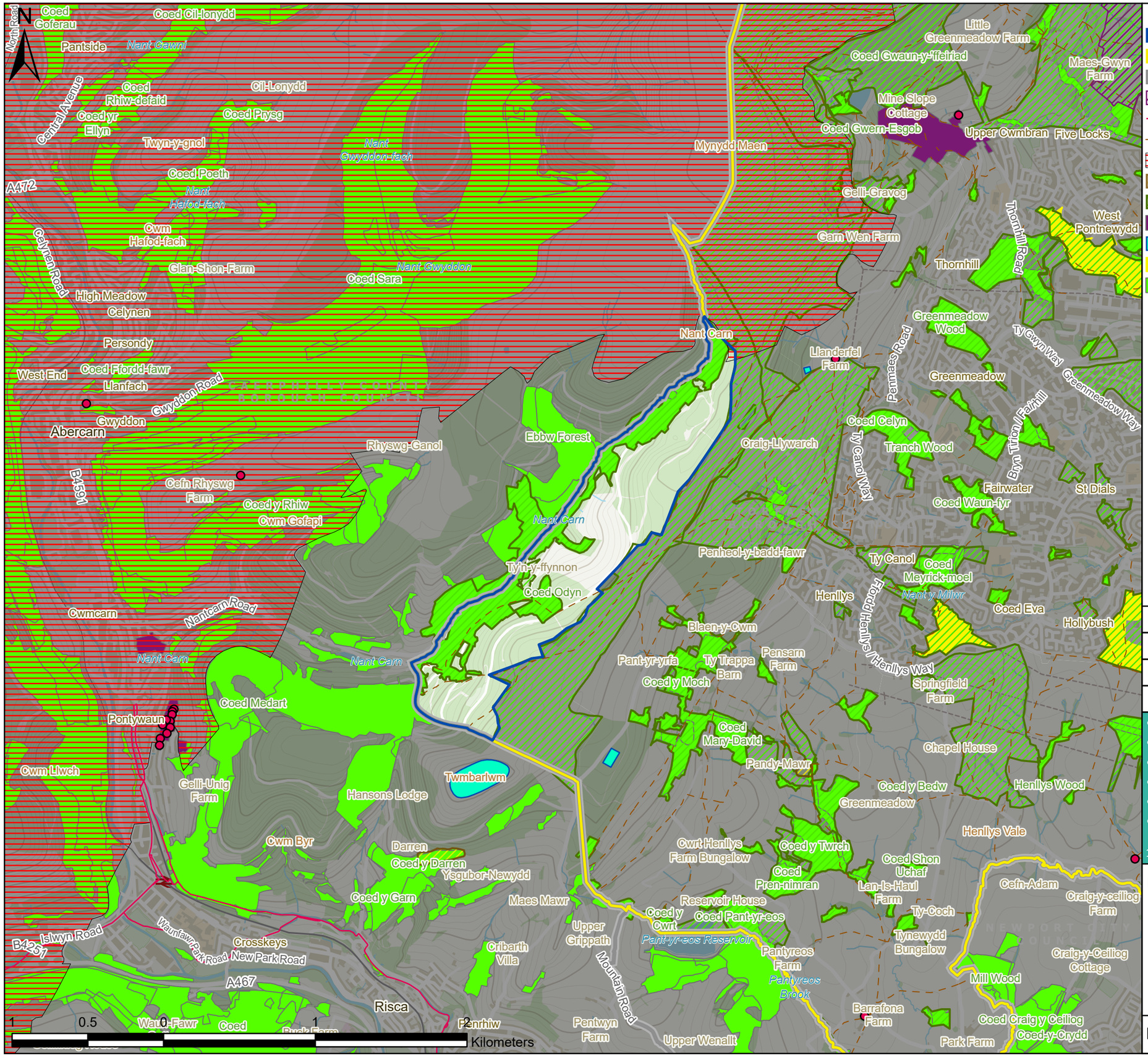
Wind turbines

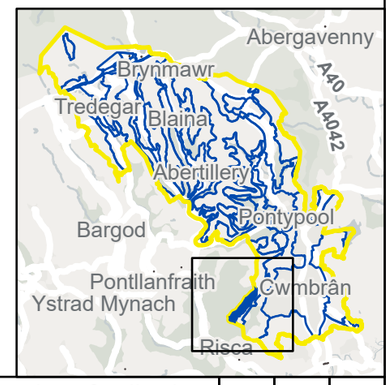
There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. The area has high sensitivity to wind development. Potentially this area could accommodate a single small-scale development, where this doesn't conflict with public amenity and other land use.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. Small scale solar development could potentially be accommodated, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.40.1





- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
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Figure 7.40.1

LAU 40 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

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LAU 41: PANTYGASSEG VALLEY & EDGE OF PONTNEWYNYDD

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Small scale			
Landform	Undulating valley side			
Landcover	Mosaic of small fields with hedgerow boundaries and woodland			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small settlements. Cefn-Crib Road/ Coch-y-North Road			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating lower slopes			
Movement	Infrequent human activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Enclosure formed by frequent boundary vegetation and topography. Views available from settlement edge of Pontnewynydd and roads on elevated ground.			
Views in/out	Attractive views both in and out with few detractive elements.			
Typical receptors	Recreational users (PRoW), land workers. Residential receptors.			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality, moderate landscape character and high integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Ty'r Hen Forwyn wetland SSSI in southern section, with SINC covering wider area. Large blocks of ancient woodland sites in northern section and along both boundaries. Listed railway viaduct crossing Nant Ddu in northern section, with SINC covering the area to the west of this.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	None			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, perceptual qualities not recorded.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of very high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider aligning wind turbines with existing road corridor where the landscape is well enclosed.
- Consider using existing woodland to partially screen wind turbines from wider views.
- Respect the setting of listed viaduct.
- Avoid development in close proximity to residential areas.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms where topography will limit wider views.
- Consider using existing forestry and woodland to screen solar development from wider views. Avoid direct impacts on Ty'r Hen Forwyn SSSI.
- Avoid siting within SINC unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.
- Consider opportunities to utilise and enhance existing field pattern and boundaries to integrate development.
- Respect the setting of listed viaduct.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 405 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. Wind development is not recommended within this area.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. Up to 1-2 small scale solar developments could potentially be accommodated, on separate sites to avoid cumulative effects, following the guidance above.

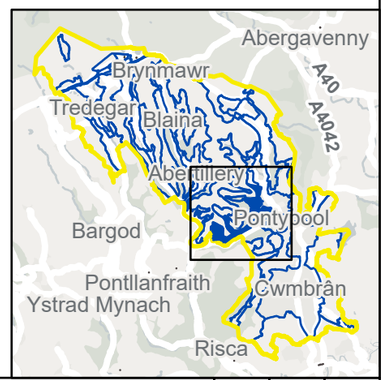
For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.41.1

N

Abertillery
Penrhiwgarreg
Rhiw Park Road
Castle Street
Alexandra Road
Cwm Farm Road
A467
Six Bells
Nant y Groes
Coed y Gilfach
Byrgwm
Cwm Sychan
Cwmsychan Brook
The Bungalow
Golynos
Victoria Village
The Woodlands
Garn-Wen
Talywain
Waterloo
B4246
Prospect Place
Lasgarn Farm
Lasgarn Wood
Penlasgarn House
High Street
Company's Wood
The Barracks
Cwm Byrgwm
Brook Cottage
Pen-twyn
Snatchwood
Freehold Wood
Penlasgarn-Isaf
Ty-Rhiw Frank
Penwyn Road
Woodside Road
Nant Cwmillwydrew
Coed Cwm-llwydrew
The Gilfach-Wen Farm
Ty-Dafydd
Victoria Road
Cemetery Road
Cwm-du Wood
Charlesville
Pistyll-Gwyn
Greenland Farm
Nant Ddu
Cwm Du
Pentrepiod
Hollybush Cottage
Tal-Ochor Farm
Oaktree Farm
Mount Pleasant
Hospital Road
Leigh Road
Trevethin
Folly Road
Cwm Pontnewynydd
Ffrwd-oer
Herbert's Wood
Penygarn
Church Wood
Wainfelin
Ty-Llwyd
Nant Cyffin
Blaen-nant-y-caws
Cwm Ffrwd-Oer Farm
Pen-Tranch Cottage
Tranch Wood
A4043 Broadway
Riverside
Pontypool
Blaen-Y-Cwm Road
Nant y Caws
Plas-y-Coed
Ty Shon Jacob Farm
Llanhilleth
Nant y Cnyw
Hyde Place
Incline Cottages
Plasycoed Farm
Coed Parciau
Tranch
Gelli-dêg Wood
Beech Mount
Coch-y-North Road
Parke's Lane
Sowhill
Trosnant Brook
Trosnant
Coed Alice
Cwm Fields
The Old Black-Barn Farmhouse
Llanhilleth Farm
Woodland Farm
High Path
Mountain View House
Crumlin Road
Blaendare Road
Nant Dar
Cwmynyscoy
Coed Trinant
Royal Oak House
Swffryd-Fach
Cefn-y-Crib Farm
Tyr-Hen-Forwyn
Mynydd Bungalow
Upper Race
The Mount
Firtree Cottage
B4471
Old School House
Ty-Lan-Twyn
Cefn-Crib Farm
Cwm Llwynau
Swffryd-Ganol
Ty Richard Jones Farm
Cwm-y-Glyn
A472
Coed Golynos
New Farm
Tir-Shon-Shenkin
Old Washery
Swffryd
Swffryd Wood
Hafodynynys
Quarry Wood
Twyn Calch
Buarth Maen
Coed Llwyn-du
Cwm Lleucu / Cwm Lickey
Mountain Road
Cwrdy Wood
Ty Oakley Farm
Coedcae Watkin Dafydd
Penyy Caeau Farm
Mynydd Llwyd
Cefn-Llwyd Farm
White House
Cefn-rhos-y-bedd-uchaf
Capel Llwyd
Mynydd Twyn-glas
Uplands Farm
Blaengawney
Nant Road

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
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- Environmental Consultants
- Planners
- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
- Urban Designers
- Ecologists

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Blaenau Gwent and Torfaen County Borough Councils

Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.41.1

LAU 41 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-41-1LAU41

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LAU 43: BRITISH WORKS WEST OF TALYWAIN

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Disturbed low lying land			
Landcover	Historic extractive landscape with exposed surfaces in places, regenerating grassland scrub woodland mosaic			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small roads at urban fringe. Overhead power lines. Bounded to the east by railway line, now cycle path, on embankment.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landform			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with views into the valley from higher elevations, where not restricted by vegetation.			
Views in/out	Attractive and detractive views out, with detractive views in.			
Typical receptors	Residential receptors, from settlement edges of Abersychan and Talywain. Recreational users of NCN Route 492 and PRoW.			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality, moderate landscape character and low integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Three listed structures and two Scheduled Monuments in the southern central part of the area relating to the historic British Ironworks. Entire site with exception of extreme northwest corner covered by SINC.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Overlooked by the Cwmbyrgwm Colliery SM to the west.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place but considered unattractive.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area would be able to accommodate a significant amount of change without affecting landscape character.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The area has low sensitivity to solar development, meaning it can accommodate this type of development in many situations without significant impact on landscape character					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to use local topography to partially screen turbines from wider views.
- Respect the setting of the SM and listed buildings from the British Ironworks.
- Avoid negative effects from proximity to residential areas.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities to use local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Respect the setting of the SM and listed buildings from the British Ironworks.
- Avoid siting solar farms adjacent to existing settlements.

A Cabinet approved Development Plan is in place for this LAU developed in conjunction with local resident groups – any future development should take account of its recommendations. Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 70 Ha.

This area includes landscape well used as a recreational resource by the local communities. Development proposals should consider local sensibilities. The cultural importance of this site locally alongside conservation and recreational value suggests that development would need to respect these qualities. Utilising the western spur of the area beyond Farm Road could enable development while minimising impacts on the core area of the British works and local residents.

Wind turbines

There are no turbines currently within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low.

A small to medium group of turbines may be considered within this area. This should follow the guidance on siting described above.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low. Given the relatively small size of the area, a single small-medium sized development could be accommodated by following the guidance set out above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.43.1

N

Reservoir House
Cwm Tyleri
Blaen-Melyn
Nant Ffrwd
Mynydd Farteg Fawr
Ty Michael Farm
Furlong Wood
Cwmavon House
Cwmavon
Garn-Llêch
Penrhoel-Medwyn
Shop Road
Graig-ddu Wood
Hafod-Wenog
Pwll Cefn-y-llaw
Spring Cottage
Beili Glass Farm
Gwastad
Afon Lwyd
Old Mill Farm
The Bungalows
Coedcae Sal
Carnau British Wood
Waun Wen
Garndiffaith
Pen-y-ddoyga
Tyr-beili Wood
Cwm Ffrwd
Cwm Afon
Pen-yr-heol
Abersychan
Nant y Maelor
The Bungalow
The Woodlands
Victoria Village
Mynydd Garn-wen or Garn Wen
Golynos
Garn-Wen
Rhiw-park
Cwm Sychan
Cwmsychan Brook
Talywain
Waterloo
Coedcae Ambrose
Penrhiwgarreg
Lasgarn Farm
Prospect Place
Lasgarn Wood
Penlasgarn House
Byrgwm
High Street
Company's Wood
Nant y Groes
Coed y Gilfach
The Barracks
Cwm Byrgwm
Brook Cottage
Coed-Lthel Little Mountain
Six Bells
Pen-twyn
Snatchwood
Freehold Wood
Penlasgarn-Isaf
Nant Cwmillwydrew
The Gilfach-Wen Farm
Coed Cwm-llwydrew
Ty-Rhiw Frank
Pentwyn Road
B4246
Woodside Road
Ty-Dafydd
Charlesville
Nant-y-gollen Cottage
Nant y Gollen
Cwm-du Wood
Pistyll-Gwyn
Greenland Farm
Trevethin
Folly Road
Nant Ddu
Cwm Du
Pentrepiod
Hollybush Cottage
Mount Pleasant
Hospital Road
Leigh Road
Rustic Lodge
Tal-Ochor Farm
Oaktree Farm
Cwm Pontnewynydd Ffrwd-oer
Herbert's Wood
Wainfelin
Penygarn
Church Wood
Nant Cyfrin
Cwm Ffrwd-Oer Farm
Plasycoed Road
Tranch Wood
Twyn-gwyn Wood
Blaen-nant-y-caws
Pen-Tranch Cottage
Riverside
Broadway
Ski Lodge
Blaen-y-Cwm Road
Nant y Caws
Plas-y-Coed
Ty Shon Jacob Farm
Pontypool
Nant y Cnyw
Plasycoed Farm
Coed Parciau
Tranch
Coch-Y-North Road
Gelli-dêg Wood
Beech Mount
Incline Cottages
Sowhill
Crumlin Road
Trosnant Brook
Trosnant
A472
Usk Road
B4471
Alexandra Road
Cwm Farm Road
A4043
A40
A4042
Abergavenny
Brynmawr
Tredegar
Blaina
Abertillery
Bargod
Pontllanfraith
Ystrad Mynach
Cwmbrân
Risca
MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers

- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Blaenavon World Heritage Site
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.43.1

LAU 43 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-43-1LAU43

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 44: BRITISH WORKS ON MYNYDD FARTEG FAWR

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale valley side with fields on flatter land.			
Landform	Steep, rolling but disturbed land.			
Landcover	An upland landscape with mosaic of woodland, farmland and partially reclaimed extraction.			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small rural settlement. Small access roads.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undeveloped skyline, WHS in northern section			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	A relatively open landscape, with regenerating scrub and some hedgerow and woodland cover, particularly to west and on steeper northern slopes. Detractive views of spoil tips.			
Views in/out	Good views out of area, views in from valley floor and ridges			
Typical receptors	Residential properties within landscape unit, residents of Abersychan to south-east. Drivers on B4246 Varteg Road.			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality and integrity, with moderate landscape character.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Northern section beyond Salisbury Terrace lies within Blaenavon WHS. Majority, with exception of slope at southern end, covered by SINC. This slope includes a small ancient woodland site.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Northern section within WHS, views from wider WHS restricted by landform.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	Considered discordant and unattractive in LANDMAP visual and sensory assessment.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
Due to the degraded nature of this area and its low scenic quality, the assessment concludes that it has a low sensitivity to wind development.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The area has low sensitivity to solar development, meaning it can accommodate this type of development in many situations without significant impact on landscape character					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered when planning renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Avoid placing turbines within WHS or where there would be intervisibility with that area.
- Site turbines away from individual residences.
- Site turbines where blade tips will not appear above the ridgeline.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Avoid steeper slopes where solar development will be more widely visible.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 56.4 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is currently no wind farm development within this landscape unit.

The landscape sensitivity is low, indicating that it would be able to accommodate wind development with minimum disruption to existing character. However, the area is small, especially considering that part of it falls within the WHS where development should be avoided. It is therefore recommended that development should be limited to a single medium group, or two small groups of turbines, with careful consideration given impacts on residential receptors.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low. Due to the limited size of the area and practical constraints, there may only be potential to site small (<10Ha) development with suitable screening within this landscape.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.44.1

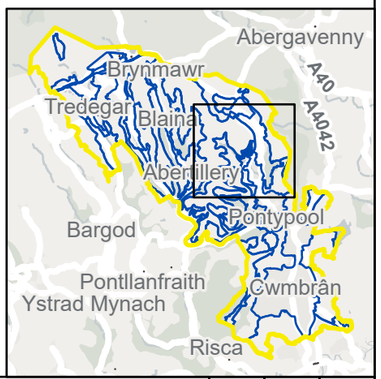
N

Colly Pond
Afon Lwyd
Broad Street
Upper Coedcae
Middle Coedcae
Forge Side
Forge Side Road
Blaenavon Junction
Blaentillery Farm
Mynydd Coety / Coety Mountain
Beech Tree Cottage
Coffee Tavern House
Glebeland Farm
Blaenavon Community Woodland
Ty Michael Farm
Furlong Wood
Mynydd Farteg Fawr
Blaen-Melyn
Nant Pfrwd
Cwmavon House
Cwmavon
Penrhoel-Medwyn
Shop Road
A4043
Graig-ddu Wood
Spring Cottage
Hafod-Wenog
Beili Glass Farm
Pwll Cefn-y-llaw
Gwastad
The Bungalows
Carnau British Wood
Afon Lwyd
Old Mill Farm
Coedcae Sal
Waun Wen
Tyr-beili Wood
Garndiffaith
Cwm Ffrwd
Cwm Afon
Pen-y-ddoyga
Abersychan
Pen-yr-heol
Nant y Maelor
The Bungalow
The Woodlands
Victoria Village
Mynydd Garn-wen or Garn Wen
Rhiw-ParkRoad
Golynos
Garn-Wen
Cwm Sychan
Cwmsychan Brook
Talywain Waterloo
Coedcae Ambrose
Penrhiwgarreg
Lasgarn Farm
Prospect Place
Lasgarn Wood
Penlasgarn House
Byrgwm
Nant y Groes
Coed y Gilfach
The Barracks
Cwm Byrgwm
High Street
Company's Wood
Brook Cottage
Coed-Lthel
Six Bells
Pen-twyn
Snatchwood
Freehold Wood
Penlasgarn-Isaf
Little Mountain
Nant Cwmillwydrew
The Gilfach-Wen Farm
Coed Cwm-llwydrew
Ty-Dafydd
Ty-Rhiw Frank
Pentwyn Road
B4246
Woodside Road
Newman Road
Charlesville
Nant-y-gollen Cottage
Nant y Gollen
Greenland Farm
Blaen Ochron
Yewtree Farm
Rock Cottage
Hill Farm
Pen-Talar
Bwthyn yr Ywen
Ty Parson
Cwm y Nant
Hendre-Glyn Farm
Cuckoo Cottage
Garn-Llêch

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
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- Blaenavon World Heritage Site
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
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- Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

- Environmental Consultants
- Planners
- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
- Urban Designers
- Ecologists

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.44.1

LAU 44 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-44-1LAU44

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LAU 45: LOWER SLOPES OF VARTEG HILL

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Undulating valley slopes			
Landcover	Pasture with hedge field boundaries, small woodlands, reclaimed tips, amenity use at urban edge including playing fields.			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small-scale residential terraces, B4246 Varteg road forms eastern boundary. Pylons through southern section.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Low lying land without prominent skylines			
Movement	Frequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Enclosure formed by low lying landform and intervening field boundaries and woodland limits views out, with little public access. However, the area is occasionally visible from elevated land within the valley.			
Views in/out	Attractive and detractive views out of the area			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and in Garndiffaith, immediately adjacent. Recreational users (open access land and PRoW concentrated in north of area).			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Northern section beyond Salisbury Terrace falls within Blaenavon World Heritage Site. SINC covers northern section beyond Cwm Ffrwd.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Northern section lies within Blaenavon WHS with views across valley and to north.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, perceptions not recorded.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would only be able to accommodate development of this type in limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to partially screen turbines with local topography or existing woodland.
- Avoid placing turbines within WHS or where there would be intervisibility with that area.
- Site turbines away from individual residences.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Avoid placing development within WHS or where there would be intervisibility with that area.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 66 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. The area has high sensitivity to wind development. It is not recommended to site wind development in this area, given the proximity to residential settlement and the WHS status.

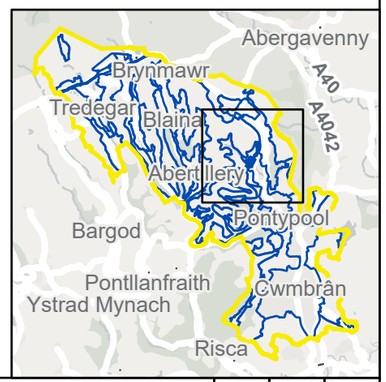
Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. Small scale solar development could potentially be accommodated in the south of the area, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.45.1

N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
Brecon Beacons National Park
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Blaenavon World Heritage Site
Historic Landscapes
Conservation Areas
Scheduled Monuments
Historic Parks and Gardens
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.45.1

LAU 45 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-45-1LAU45

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 46: MYNYDD TWYN-GLAS, MYNYDD MAEN, MYNYDD HENLLYS RIDGE

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Mountain plateau			
Landcover	Upland heath/grassland.			
Built environment	No settlement, Pylons along southern ridge.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Elevated ridge forms distinctive skyline			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	An exposed landscape offering panoramic views to ridge tops and across neighbouring counties and to Bristol Channel.			
Views in/out	Extensive attractive views in and out with some detractive views out to nearby urban edge.			
Typical receptors	Recreational users (open access land and PRoW). Residents in Cwmbran to the east.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Includes part of Upper Race iron ore scours Scheduled Monument to northeast. Entire area covered by SINC.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Intervisibility with Twm-Barlwm Mound SM on hilltop to south			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place, perceived as exposed and tranquil.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would only be able to accommodate development of this type in limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Avoid placing turbines on narrow sections of ridge where they will appear on the skyline.
- Consider opportunities to use existing forestry to partially screen wind development.
- Respect the setting of Twm-Barlwm Mound SM which provides a viewpoint to the south.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities to use local topography or existing woodland to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting within SINCs unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.
- Respect the setting of Twm-Barlwm Mound SM which provides a viewpoint to the south.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 426 Ha.

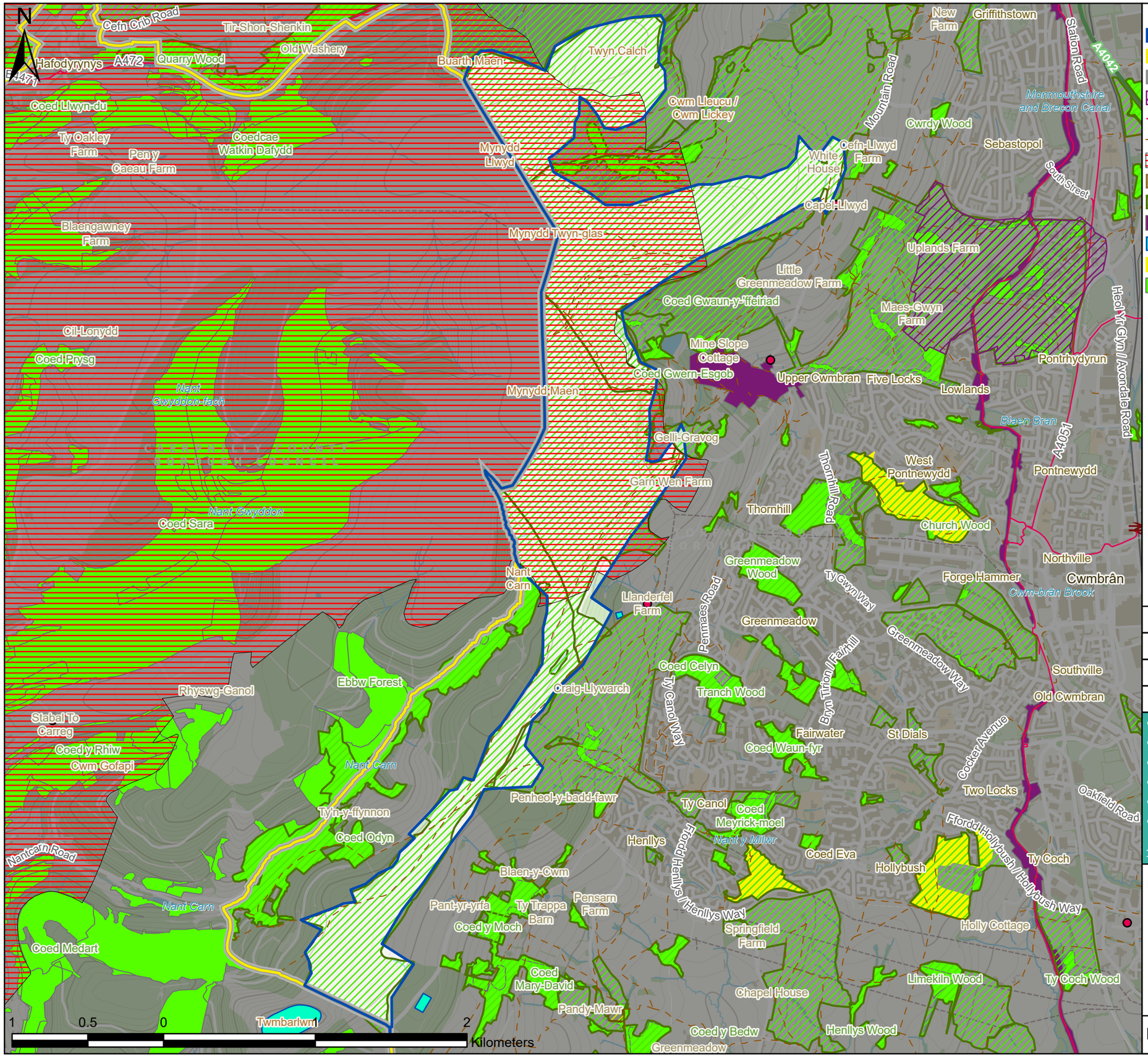
Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. The area has high sensitivity to wind development. Potentially this area could accommodate a single small-scale development, with care taken to avoid cumulative effects due to the high levels of intervisibility with other ridges. The majority of the central part of the area lies within the PAA.

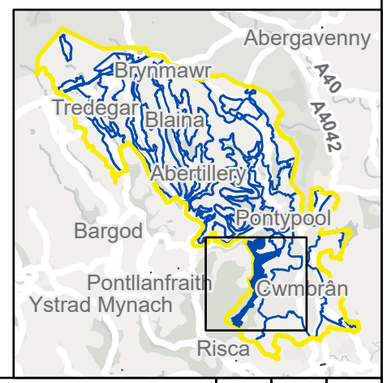
Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. Small scale solar development could potentially be accommodated, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.46.1



- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
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- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.46.1

LAU 46 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-46-1LAU46

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LAU 47: CWM-Y-GLYN & CWM LLEUCU, TWYN CALCH HILLSIDES

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Hill/valley sides			
Landcover	Predominantly forestry on steep slopes on northern side (Cwm-Y-Glyn), with open grassland and woodland at base of slopes. Pasture with remnant treed boundaries and woodland to the southern side (Cwm Lleucu).			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small-scale residential. A472 crosses SW-NE along Cwm-y-Glyn valley. Otherwise largely undeveloped.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Hillside below distinctive ridgeline.			
Movement	Occasional activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Forestry and steep valley sides restrict views in Cwm-Y-Glyn, with wider, sometimes panoramic views from the more open southern side.			
Views in/out	Predominantly detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and the southern fringes of Pontypool, recreational users of occasional PRoW, land workers and road users.			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality, moderate landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Scheduled Monument on the Iron Ore Scours at Upper Race to the south, also of Glyn Pits Pump and winding engine on northern slope. Ancient woodland sites throughout area north of A472 road corridor, and another substantial site on southern slope. Listed farm and outbuilding Gellipistyll, in the north adjacent to edge of Pontypool. SINC covers northern slope of hill and sides of Cwm Lleucu to south.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Potential intervisibility from eastern slopes across developed valley floor to southern extent of BBNP.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, perceptions not recorded.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of medium sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would be able to accommodate development of this type in in some defined situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of medium sensitivity with an intermediate threshold of resilience to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

This landscape has two distinct areas: the narrow, enclosed, forested valley of Cwm-Y-Glyn to the north and the more open setting of Cwm Lleucu to the south. It is not considered feasible to site any development of this kind north of the A472 corridor. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to partially screen turbines with local topography or existing woodland.
- Respect the setting of the Upper Race Scheduled Monument.
- Site turbines away from individual residences.
- Avoid siting turbines on northeast slope of hill where they will be widely visible, including from Pontypool and BBNP.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing forestry and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Respect the setting of the Upper Race Scheduled Monument.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 381 Ha.

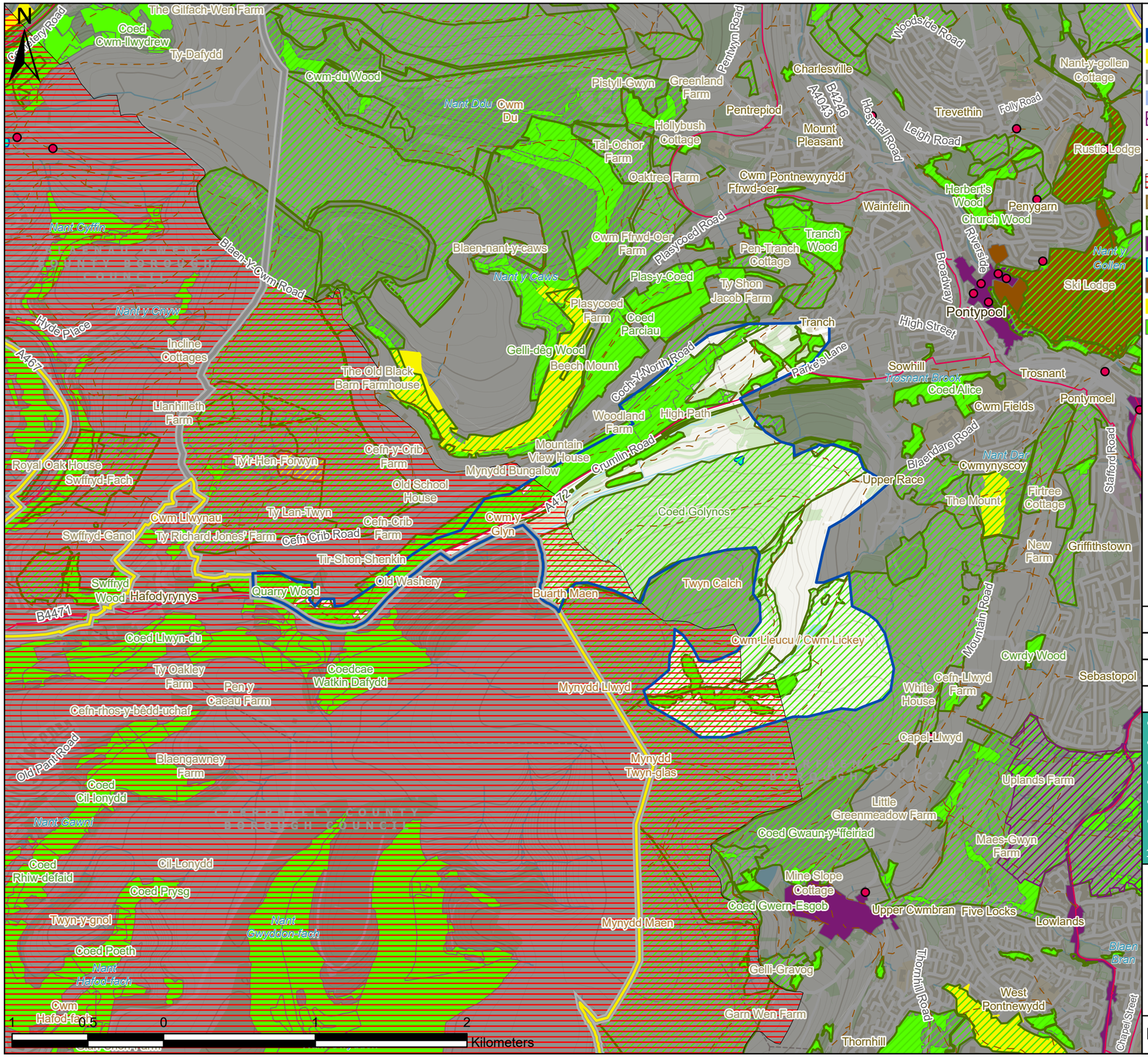
Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has medium sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual and small-scale wind development in this area, following the guidance above. A small portion of the western part of the area lies within the PAA.

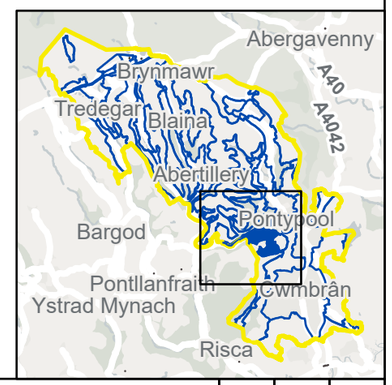
Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is medium. Should operational constraints allow, there would be potential to site 1-2 medium-large scale solar developments in this area, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.47.1



- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

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- Planners
- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
- Urban Designers
- Ecologists

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.47.1

LAU 47 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-47-1LAU47

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LAU 48: CWMAVON

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Small scale			■
Landform	Valley			■
Landcover	Mosaic of open grassland on higher slopes and enclosed small-scale fields with scattered woodland including dense woodland blocks in south of area. Amenity lands and cemetery/burial grounds near settlements.		■	
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small-scale settlements. Cwmavon Conservation Area. A4043 Cwmavon Road runs N-S through valley.			■
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Enclosed valley floor.	■		
Movement	Frequent activity.	■		
Visibility, quality of views	The valley landform contains views within the landscape, and large areas of woodland and treed field boundaries limit many views. Occasional views in from surrounding open elevated ground.		■	
Views in/out	Attractive views in and out with few detractors.			■
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and the southern edge of Blaenavon, northern fringes of Abersychan and Talywain. Recreational users of frequent PRoW, NCN Route 492, land workers and road users.			■
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality and landscape character, high integrity.		■	

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Northern third of the area lies within Blaenavon WHS, CADW outstanding historical landscape, also lower slopes of Blorenge SSSI. Cwmavon Corridor LNR, follows the route of NCN Route 492 along an old railway line. This is bracketed by ancient woodland sites, of which there are extensive tracts throughout the area, with near total cover around Lasgarn, to the south. This area also includes the Abersychan Railway Scheduled Monument and a listed bridge and cottage. The Cwmavon Conservation Area covers the village in the centre of the valley and includes eight listed buildings. Multiple SINCs on upland areas and covering Lasgam woodland.			■
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			■
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Visual value (key views/vistas)	The northern part of the area lies within the Blaenavon WHS, although intervisibility is restricted south of Cwmavon village by the topography as the valley turns towards the southwest. Intervisibility with BBNP unlikely due to intervening ridge.			■
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with a perception of shelter and unity.		■	

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of a very high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would only be able to accommodate development of this type in very limited situations.					■

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of very high sensitivity with low tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					■

Guidance on Siting

Development within the Blaenavon WHS should be avoided where possible. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Respect the setting of the Blaenavon WHS.
- Consider opportunities to partially screen turbines with local topography or existing woodland and forestry.
- Respect the setting of the Cwmavon Conservation Area and associated listed buildings.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.
- Avoid siting turbines where they may interfere with wildlife using the Cwmavon Corridor LNR.
- Avoid direct impacts on the Blorenge SSSI.

Solar PV

- Respect the setting of the Blaenavon WHS.
- Consider using existing woodland, forestry and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Respect the setting of the Cwmavon Conservation Area and associated listed buildings.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 593 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual and small-scale wind development in this area, avoiding intervisibility with the WHS and following the guidance above.

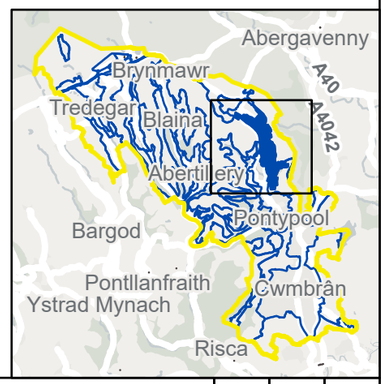
Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. There may be potential to site 1-2 small scale solar developments in this area, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.48.1

N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
Brecon Beacons National Park
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Blaenavon World Heritage Site
Historic Landscapes
Conservation Areas
Scheduled Monuments
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

• Environmental Consultants
• Planners
• Landscape Architects
• Landscape Managers
• Urban Designers
• Ecologists

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.48.1

LAU 48 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-48-1LAU48

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 49: MYNYDD MAEN, MYNYDD HENLLYS SIDES ABOVE CWMBRAN

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Hill/Valley sides			
Landcover	Predominantly small fields with hedge and tree boundaries, deteriorating further south in the area. More open rough pasture and developing scrub at higher elevations. Some large forestry blocks at northern and southern ends, scattered small woodlands.			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small nucleated settlements. Larger development at northern end near A472, including Coleg Gwent and caravan park. Upper Cwmbran Conservation Area between the town and Blaen Bran Reservoir. New housing development to east of area below Monmouth & Brecon Canal. Solar farm to far south.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating hillside.			
Movement	Frequent activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with extensive views out, visible as backdrop to valley settlement and from elevated ridges to west.			
Views in/out	Attractive views to upland areas and detractive views to urban area.			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and the western fringes of Cwmbran. Recreational users of frequent PRoW, NCN Route 49, land workers.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, moderate landscape character and high integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Conservation Areas at Upper Cwmbran and covering the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal, both incorporating several listed features. Cairns West of Craig-Y-Dyffryn and Llanderfel Church, both in the south, recorded as Scheduled Monuments. Henllys Bog SSSI, also in the south. 13 Listed farm properties scattered throughout. Cwmynyscoy Quarry LNR to the north outside Cwmynyscoy. Small to medium ancient woodland sites scattered throughout. SINCs in areas north of Upper Cwmbran and to the south of Llanderfel farm, Coed Alice in north.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	None identified.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with no perceptual qualities recorded.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with low tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

A very large area with a tranquil rural character contrasting with the nearby urban settlement. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to site turbines along the A472 corridor alongside other large scale development.
- Respect the setting of the SM Cairns and Llanderfel Church.
- Respect the setting of the Upper Cwmbran Conservation Area and associated listed buildings.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland, forestry and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Respect the setting of the SM Cairns and Llanderfel Church.
- Respect the setting of the Upper Cwmbran Conservation Area and associated listed buildings.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 1034 Ha.

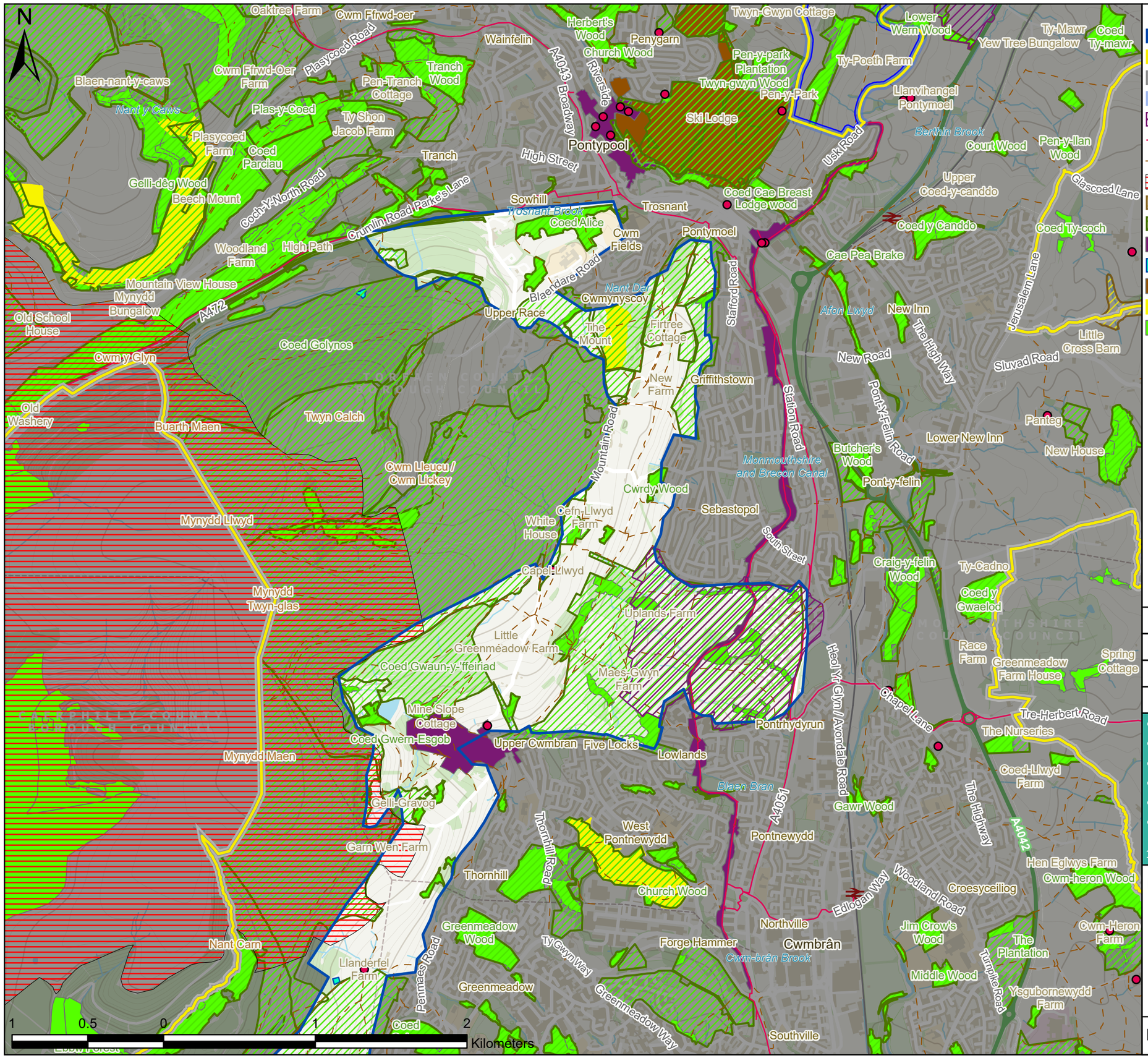
Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual turbines in this area, with care to avoid cumulative effects, following the guidelines above. A very small portion of the western part of the area above Thornhill lies within the PAA.

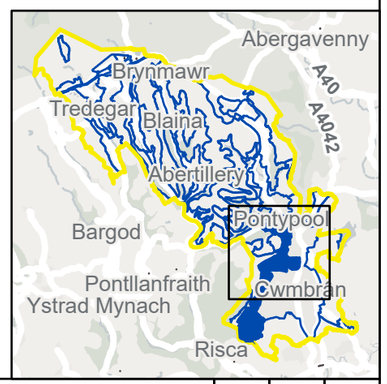
Solar PV

There is currently a single small scale solar farm in the south of this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. There may be potential to site several further small-scale solar developments in this area, taking care to avoid cumulative effects and following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.49.1 and 7.49.2



- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC
V.	**S.**	**Date**	**Description**	**B.**	**C.**	**A.**

- Environmental Consultants
- Planners
- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
- Urban Designers
- Ecologists

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.49.1

LAU 49 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

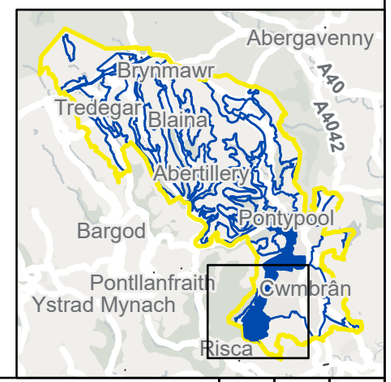
Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-49-1LAU49

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N

Cil-Lonydd
Coed Prysg
Nant Gwyddon-fach
Coed Poeth
Mynydd Maen
Mine Slope
Cottage
Coed Gwern-Esgob
Upper Cwmbran
Five Locks
Lowlands
Pontrhydyrun
Blaen Bran
A4051
Gelli-Gravog
Garn Wen Farm
West Pontnewydd
Pontnewydd
Thornhill Road
Thornhill
Church Wood
Nant Gwyddon
Coed Sara
Greenmeadow Wood
Ty Gwyn Way
Forge Hammer
Northville
Cwmbrân
Cwm-brân Brook
Nant Carn
Llanderfel Farm
Penmaes Road
Greenmeadow
Greenmeadow Way
Coed Celyn
Ty Canol Way
Tranch Wood
Bryn Tirion / Fairhill
Southville
Old Cwmbran
Ebbw Forest
Craig-Llywarch
Rhyswg-Ganol
Stabal To Carreg
Coed y Rhiw
Cwm Gofapi
Nant Carn
Fairwater
St Dials
Coed Waun-fyr
Cocker Avenue
Two Locks
Oakfield Road
Penheol-y-badd-fawr
Tyn-y-ffynnon
Coed Odyn
Ty Canol
Coed Meyrick-moel
Nant y Milwr
Henllys
Coed Eva
Hollybush
Ty Coch
Fiordd Hollybush / Hollybush Way
Nantcarn Road
Blaen-y-Cwm
Pant-yr-yrfa
Ty Trappa Barn
Pensarn Farm
Coed y Moch
Fiordd Henllys / Henllys Way
Springfield Farm
Holly Cottage
Nant Carn
Coed Medart
Coed Mary-David
Pandy-Mawr
Limekiln Wood
Ty Coch Wood
Chapel House
Twmbarlwm
Coed Mam-gu
Hansons Lodge
Coed y Bedw
Greenmeadow
Henllys Wood
Cidermill Farm
Cwm Byr
Darren
Coed y Darren
Ysgubor-Newydd
Cwrt-Henllys Farm Bungalow
Coed y Twrch
Henllys Vale
Coed Shon Uchaf
Pentre Cottage
Coed y Garn
Maes Mawr
Coed Pren-nimran
Lan-Is-Haul Farm
Cefn-Adam
Craig-y-ceiliog Farm
Trawsmawr Farm
Reservoir House
Coed y Cwrt
Coed Pant-yr-eos
Ty-Coch
Traws Mawr House
Upper Grippath
Tynewydd Bungalow
Crosskeys
New Park Road
Cribarth Villa
Pant-yr-eos Reservoir
Craig-y-Ceiliog Cottage
Tyn y Pwll Barn
Pantyreos Farm
Mountain Road
B4591
A467
Risca
Pantyreos Brook
Mill Wood
Leach Road
Barrafona Farm
Coed Craig y Ceiliog
Coed-y-Crydd
Monnow Way
Pentwyn Lane
Coed Waun-fawr
Buck Farm
Penrhiw
Holly Road
Pentwyn Farm
Upper Wenallt
Park Farm
Elm Drive
Ty-Sign
Coed Bedw
Lower Wenallt Farm
Maes-y-coed
Coed Bald
Golynos Fach Farm
Bettws

1 0.5 0 1 2 Kilometers



- Listed Buildings
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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.49.2

LAU 49 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-49-2LAU49

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 50: MYNYDD Y GARN-FAWR, MYNYDD GARNCLOCHDY

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Mountain upland			
Landcover	Primarily open grassland and heath, with one small forestry block, areas of historic extraction to north.			
Built environment	Unpopulated area, partially within Blaenavon WHS			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undeveloped high ridge forms boundary with BBNP			
Movement	Infrequent activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	Very exposed landscape with panoramic views available.			
Views in/out	Attractive views to upland areas, not available to valley floor. Some detractive views out.			
Typical receptors	Recreational users (PRoW, Open access land), land workers.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, moderate landscape character and high integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Blaenavon World Heritage Site covers area north of Cwmavon, Blorenge SSSI and CADW outstanding historical landscape covers area from approx. 1km north of this. Remainder of area to the south covered by SINC. Large Scheduled Monument over the Iron and coal patches at Pen-Ffordd-Goch at the northernmost point, and a smaller one on the site of Capel Newydd near the western upland edge			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Lies part within Blaenavon WHS and adjoins BBNP as an elevated ridge.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with a perception of exposure.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of very high sensitivity with little tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

Development within the Blaenavon WHS should be avoided where possible, especially given the multiple designations that apply within this area. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Respect the Setting of the Blaenavon WHS.
- Avoid direct impacts on the Blorenge SSSI.
- Respect the setting of the Capel Newydd SM.
- Respect the setting of Brecon Beacons National Park.
- Avoid siting turbines on narrow sections of ridge where they will be more widely visible.

Solar PV

- Respect the Setting of the Blaenavon WHS.
- Avoid direct impacts on the Blorenge SSSI.
- Respect the setting of the Capel Newydd SM.
- Respect the setting of Brecon Beacons National Park.
- Consider using existing woodland or forestry to screen solar development from views to the west.
- Consider siting solar development on less elevated sections of the ridge where the local topography will screen views from BBNP.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 651 Ha.

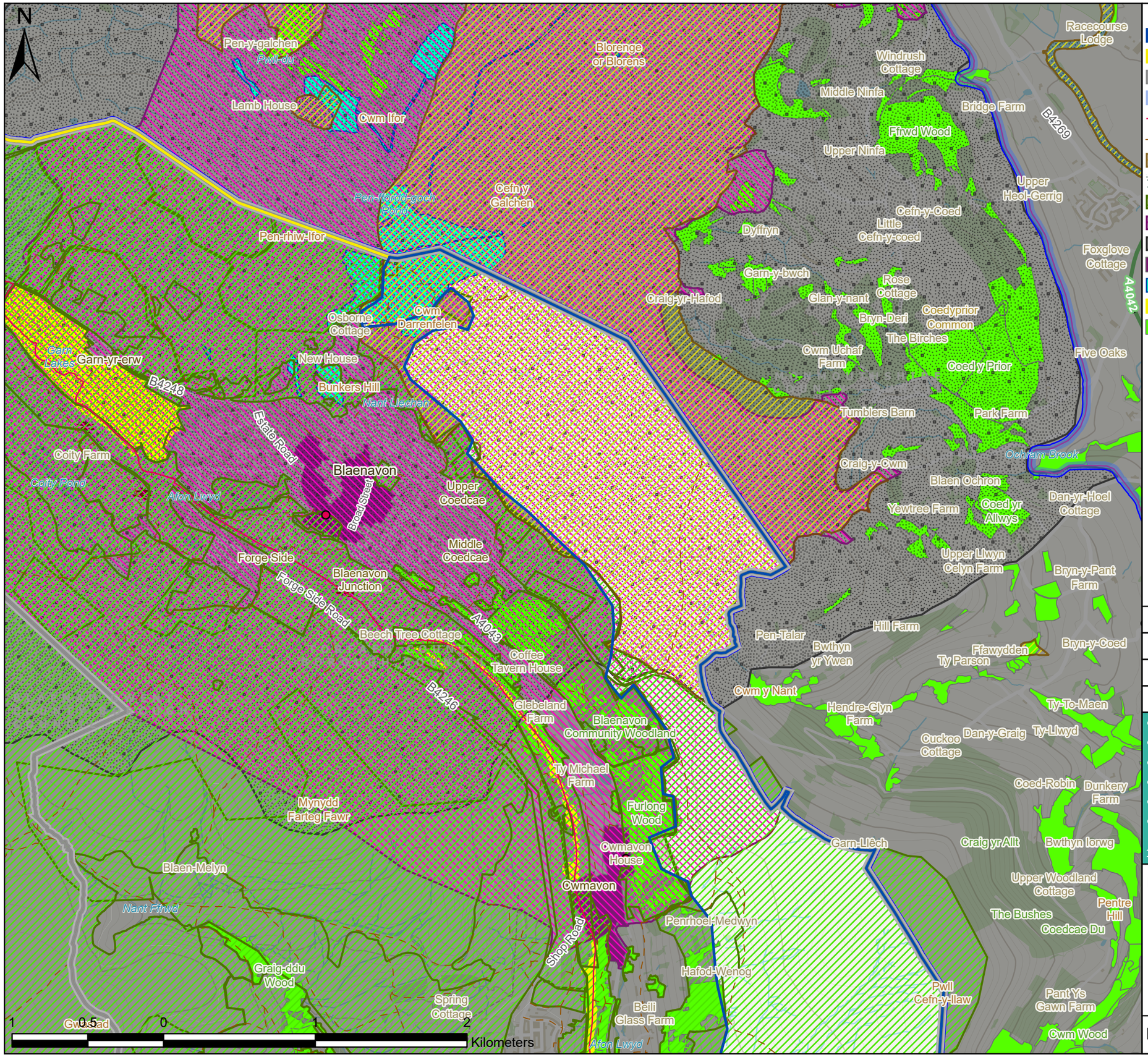
Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. It is not recommended to site wind turbines in this area, given the proximity to both the WHS and BBNP.

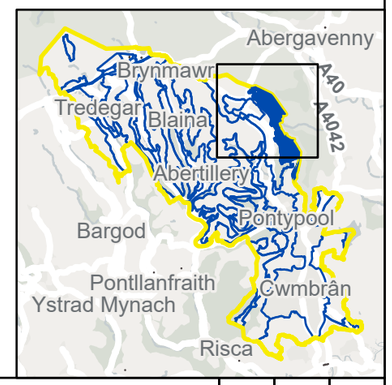
Solar PV

There is no existing solar development in this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. There may be potential to site a single small scale solar development in this area, in the southern part of the area where the ridge widens around Garn Clochdy. Should this be the case, development should be sited very carefully, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.50.1 and 7.50.2



- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Blaenavon World Heritage Site
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

- Environmental Consultants
- Planners
- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
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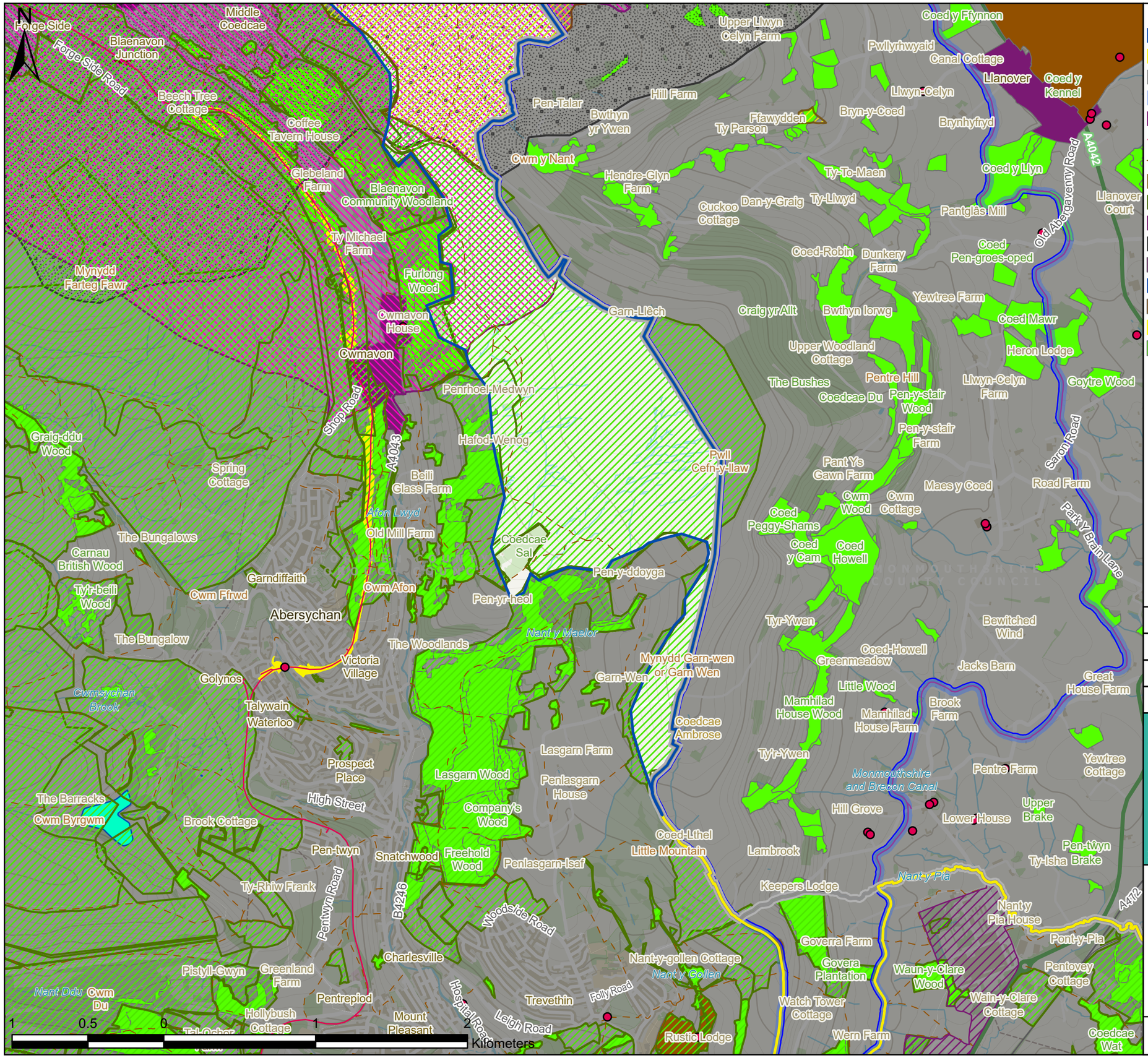
Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

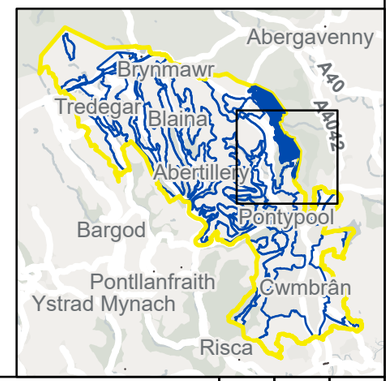
Figure 7.50.1

LAU 50 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-50-1LAU50

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- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Blaenavon World Heritage Site
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.50.2

LAU 50 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-50-2LAU50

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LAU 51: UPPER RACE

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Undulating valley			
Landcover	Mixture of rough grazing grass and gorse with developing scrub and low trees to north. Tips and old pond from derelict workings.			
Built environment	Small settlement to north and farm to east of area.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating valley dropping down to northern more enclosed area.			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with good views north onto facing ridge with settlement of Trevethin and ridges beyond. Topography restricts views into some extent.			
Views in/out	Attractive views out, with detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Residential receptors within the area and the southern fringes of Pontypool. Recreational users (Open access land and PRoW).			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality, moderate landscape character and low integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Scheduled Monument in the southern part of the area for Iron Ore Scours at Upper Race. SINC covers majority of site except settled areas and associated improved grassland to north.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	None identified			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, perceptions not recorded.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area would be able to accommodate a significant amount of change without affecting landscape character.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of very low sensitivity with a high tolerance of change of this nature without significant effects on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Respect the setting of the Iron Ore Scours SM
- Consider opportunities to use local topography to partially screen wind turbines from wider views.
- Avoid siting wind development in close proximity to residential properties.

Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms where local topography may screen the development from wider views.
- Respect the setting of the Iron Ore Scours SM
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Avoid siting solar farms adjacent to residential properties.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 94 Ha.

Wind turbines

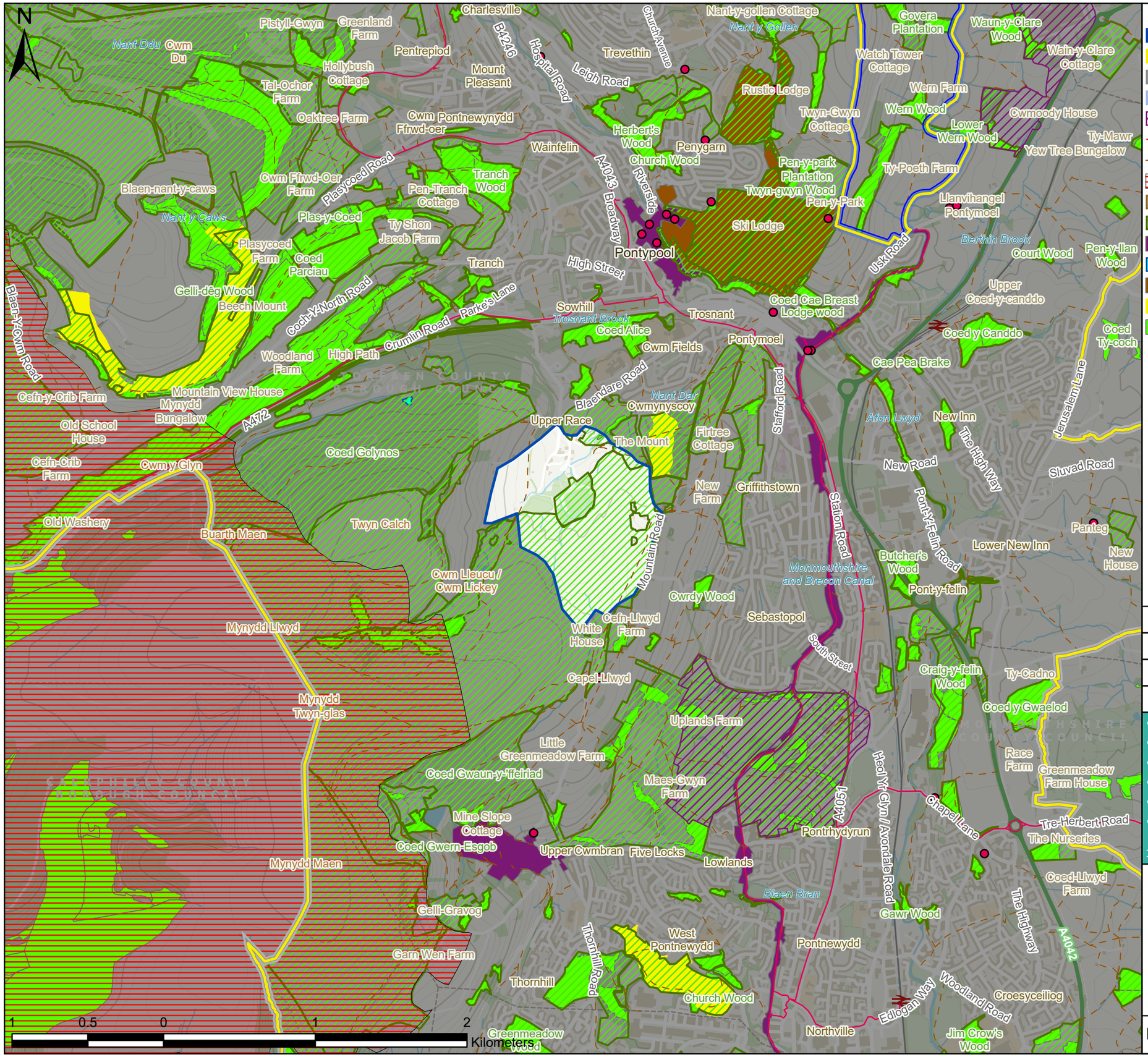
There are no turbines currently within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low, but it is a relatively small area.

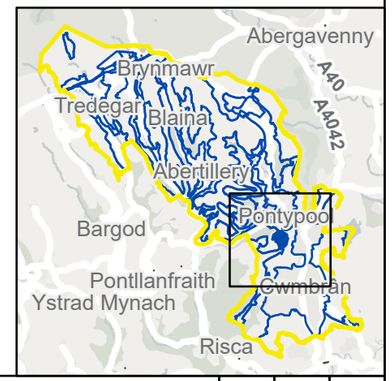
A small group of turbines may be considered within this area, where practical constraints allow. This should follow the guidance on siting described above.

Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low. A medium scale development could be sited within this area, or potentially across this and LAU 47, adjacent. Subject to the guidance set out above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.51.1





- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.51.1

LAU 51 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-51-1LAU51

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 52: HENLLYS VALE, CASTELL-Y-BWCH & HOLLYBUSH

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Rolling lowland			
Landcover	Agricultural fields bounded by hedgerows and trees, occasional woodland.			
Built environment	Scattered rural farms and settlements with local road network. Some overhead powerlines. Includes Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal, a Conservation Area. Rougemont School in southeast corner, edge of Malpas.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landscape.			
Movement	Infrequent activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	Strong field boundaries and rolling topography create enclosure, views in and out are framed by these features but available to Cwmbran and other surrounding settlements.			
Views in/out	Attractive views both in and out with some detractive views out to hard urban edge.			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and the southern fringes of Cwmbran, northern edge of Malpas and Bettws. Recreational users of PRoW, and Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal, which includes NCN Route 49, land workers.			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Conservation Area on Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal, travelling north to south, which includes 5 listed structures. A further 5 listed features across the area include places of worship and farm buildings. Llwyn Celyn LNR on fields around the cemetery in the northern boundary of the area. Scattered small scale ancient woodland sites. SINCs covering LNR, ancient woodland sites and large areas around Springfield Farm, Ty Cody Wood and Limekiln Wood.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Views to and from Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with settled, pleasant perceived qualities.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would only be able to accommodate development of this type in limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with low tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

A fairly large area with a tranquil rural character contrasting with the nearby urban settlement. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to use local topography and woodlands to partially screen turbines from wider views.
- Respect the setting of the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal, Conservation Area and listed structures.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Respect the setting of the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal, Conservation Area and listed structures.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 679 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual or small groups of turbines in this area, with care to avoid cumulative effects, following the guidelines above.

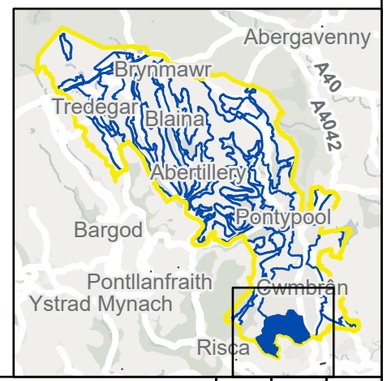
Solar PV

There is no existing solar development in this landscape unit. There is a single small scale solar development at Cwrt Henllys Farm to the southwest. The landscape sensitivity is high. There may be potential to site several small-scale solar developments in this area, taking care to avoid cumulative effects and following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.52.1

N

Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
Special Areas of Conservation
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Conservation Areas
Scheduled Monuments
Historic Parks and Gardens
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



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V.	**S.**	**Date**	**Description**	**B.**	**C.**	**A.**

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.52.1

LAU 52 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-52-1LAU52

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 53: LASGARN FARMLAND

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Gently rolling hillside			
Landcover	Agricultural fields bounded by hedgerows and trees, occasional small woodlands. Southeast corner of area managed as golf course.			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads, local roads.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landscape.			
Movement	Infrequent activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	Generally open landscape with strong field boundaries and woodland forming some enclosure. Good views to the west across valley to uplands. Views in limited by intervening topography and woodland.			
Views in/out	Attractive views both in and out with some detractive views out.			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and northern edge of Trevethin, recreational use (PRoW, golf course). Land workers.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, moderate landscape character and high integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Listed Penlasgarn farmhouse in centre of the area. Small scattered ancient woodland sites. SINCs on small farm to southwest and open grassland to southeast corner of area.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Shared boundary to east with BBNP Park. Views across only available from ridgeline.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with settled perceived qualities.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with low tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to use local topography and woodlands to partially screen turbines from wider views.
- Respect the setting of Penlasgarn Farm listed building.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Respect the setting of Penlasgarn Farm listed building.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 261 Ha.

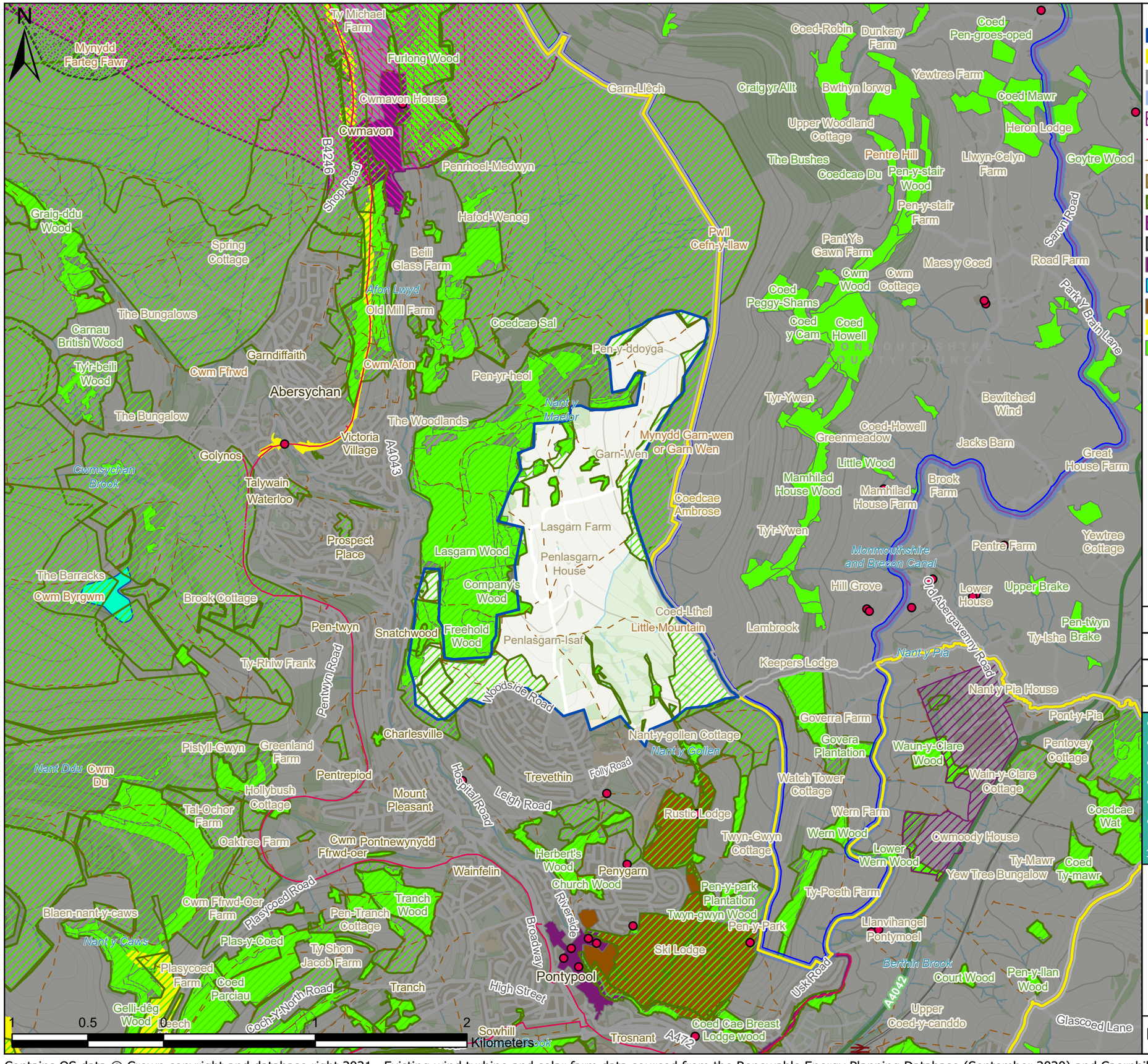
Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual or a single small group of turbines in this area, for example on lower slopes near the golf course, with care to avoid cumulative effects or visual impacts on BBNP, following the guidelines above.

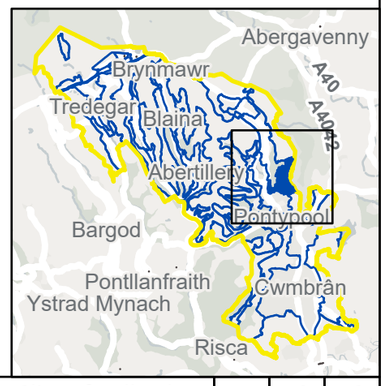
Solar PV

There is no existing solar development in this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. There may be potential to site 1-2 small-scale solar developments in this area, taking care to avoid cumulative effects and following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.53.1



- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Blaenavon World Heritage Site
- Historic Landscapes
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.53.1

LAU 53 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-53-1LAU53

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LAU 55: PONTYPOOL PARK & ENVIRONS

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Rolling lowlands			
Landcover	Agricultural fields with deteriorating hedgerow boundaries. Extensive open woodlands and individual trees, particularly within Pontypool Park which includes amenity grassland as well as open meadows and woodland.			
Built environment	Public amenity space and buildings associated with Pontypool Park. Scattered farmsteads, local roads.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Historic parkland with folly and other buildings in the landscape.			
Movement	Infrequent activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	Open landscape pattern, with some enclosure offered by woodland and valley landform of western part. Eastern part more open and widely visible.			
Views in/out	Attractive views both in and out with some detractive views out.			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and north-eastern fringes of Pontypool. Recreational users of the park and PRoW in the wider countryside. Canal users and Cyclists using NCN Route 49, Land workers. Vehicle travellers on A4042 Usk road in adjacent landscape to the east.			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality and landscape character and high integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Pontypool Park is a Registered Historic Park, including five listed structures and covered by SINC. Two listed buildings at Twyn-Gwyn Farm. Large tracts of ancient woodland – particularly to west. Further SINCs on woodlands and open grassland in north. Pontypool Conservation Area is adjacent to the southwest of the area, and BBNP includes the central north-south shallow valley which divides it in two.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Brecon Beacons National Park enters the centre of the area, with Monmouthshire & Brecon canal forming its eastern boundary. Intermittent intervisibility with this eastern side and from the lane along the top of the ridge forming the western boundary.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with settled perceived qualities.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would only be able to accommodate development of this type in limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with low tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

The historic parkland character and public amenity value of Pontypool Park in the southwest of this landscape unit suggest that it would be inappropriate to site commercial renewables within that site. The following advice should be considered for renewables development elsewhere within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to use local topography and woodlands to partially screen turbines from wider views.
- Avoid siting wind turbines where they will be visually intrusive from BBNP.
- Respect the setting of listed buildings and the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal.
- Respect the setting of Pontypool Park and Conservation Area.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting solar panels where they will be visually intrusive, through reflection or glare, from BBNP.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Respect the setting of listed buildings and the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal.
- Respect the setting of Pontypool Park and Conservation Area.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 228 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual or a single small group of turbines in this area, perhaps in the valley to the north of the park, with care to avoid cumulative effects or visual impacts on BBNP or Pontypool Park, following the guidelines above.

Solar PV

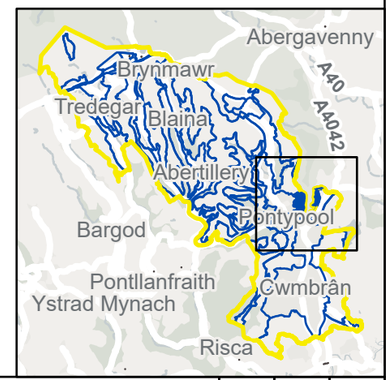
There is no existing solar development in this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. There may be potential to site 1-2 small-scale solar developments in this area, taking care to avoid cumulative effects and following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.55.1

N

Kilometers

- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
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- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
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- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



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Figure 7.55.1

LAU 55 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

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LAU 56: A4042 USK ROAD CORRIDOR

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale		■	
Landform	Shallow valley			■
Landcover	Pasture with hedge and tree boundaries, some deteriorating. Small blocks of woodland screening.			■
Built environment	Medium and large scale industrial estates, derelict sites, A4042 Usk Road, railway line (eastern boundary)	■		
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Existing large scale development	■		
Movement	Constant activity.	■		
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with views in from surrounding areas. Some enclosure formed by treed hedgerows and woodlands.		■	
Views in/out	Attractive views out but detractive views both in and out.	■		
Typical receptors	Recreational users of PRoW. Canal users and Cyclists using NCN Route 49, Land workers and those working in industrial estates. Road users on A4042, rail passengers. Residential receptors from north-eastern fringes of Pontypool and New Inn.	■		
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality, low landscape character and moderate integrity.		■	

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Clusters of listed features at Court Farm and Church of St Michael and All Angels, both to the south of the area. Also former nylon spinners factory at the Mamhilad Park Industrial Estate and Monachty Farmhouse in the north of the area. Small patches of ancient woodland sites, covered by SINC designation. Another SINC to east of road currently has Industrial Estate under construction on it.		■	
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			■
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation	■		
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation		■	
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Brecon Beacons National Park shares a boundary (the Mon & Brecon Canal) with the southwest of the area, near Ty-Poeth Farm. The National Park is elevated above the area at this point and likely to enjoy good intervisibility.			■
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A weak sense of place. No perceptual qualities recorded	■		

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of medium sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would be able to accommodate development of this type in in some defined situations.			■		

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of medium sensitivity with some resilience to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.			■		

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to site turbines adjacent to existing industrial estates.
- Consider opportunities to arrange wind turbines along the road or railway corridor but avoid the cumulative effect of a 'tunnel' of turbines.
- Avoid siting wind turbines where they will be visually intrusive from BBNP.
- Respect the setting of listed buildings and the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting solar panels where they will be visually intrusive, through reflection or glare, from BBNP.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Respect the setting of listed buildings and the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 172 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has medium sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site small-medium sized groups of turbines in this area, with care to avoid cumulative effects or visual impacts on BBNP, following the guidelines above.

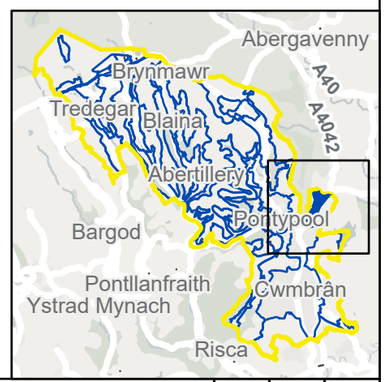
Solar PV

There is no existing solar development in this landscape unit. There is a small-scale solar farm immediately to the east, in two fields beyond the railway line. The landscape sensitivity is medium. There may be potential to site 1-2 similar small-scale solar developments in this area, taking care to avoid cumulative effects and following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.56.1

N

- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



V.	S.	Date	Description	B.	C.	A.
P3	FI	28/10/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P2	FI	06/07/2021	Client feedback	TW	ZS	LC
P1	S3	10/06/2021	First issue	TW	ZS	LC

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• Landscape Architects
• Landscape Managers
• Urban Designers
• Ecologists

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.56.1

LAU 56 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.:	61007_DWG_F7-56-1LAU56

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Scale: 1:25,000 (Printed at A3)

LAU 57: LLANFIHANGEL PONT-Y-MOEL EAST OF RAILWAY

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Rolling lowlands			
Landcover	Agricultural fields with deteriorating hedgerow boundaries. Scattered woodland with large, wooded area to north			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads. Go Karting centre, solar farm, railway line forms western boundary.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undeveloped ridge forms boundary with Monmouthshire			
Movement	Infrequent activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape, contained by the shallow valley topography, but with views available from nearby settlements and transport routes.			
Views in/out	Attractive views both in and out with some detractive views out.			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and northern fringes of New Inn. Recreational receptors (PRoW) Land workers. Drivers on A4042 in adjacent area to west, and railway passengers.			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality and landscape character and high integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Ty-Mawr Farmhouse listed building in centre of area. Multiple ancient woodland sites, with larger areas in north, also covered by SINCs.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Occasional intervisibility with Brecon Beacons National Park on other side of valley – across road corridor.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with settled perceived qualities.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of high/borderline very high, sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would only be able to accommodate development of this type in limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with low tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to use local topography and woodlands to partially screen turbines from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to align turbines with the railway corridor but avoid creating a cumulative 'tunnel' effect.
- Avoid siting wind turbines where they will be visually intrusive from BBNP.
- Respect the setting of the listed Ty-Mawr Farmhouse
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting solar panels where they will be visually intrusive, through reflection or glare, from BBNP.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Respect the setting of the listed Ty-Mawr Farmhouse

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 183 Ha.

Wind turbines

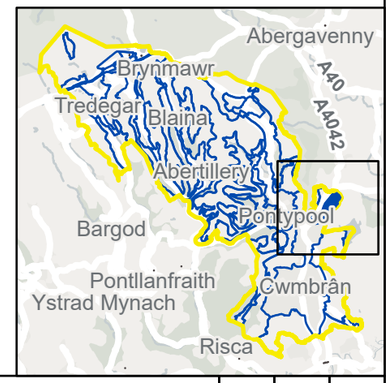
There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual or a single small group of turbines in this area, most likely in the northern section in the context of other large-scale development and furthest from BBNP, following the guidelines above.

Solar PV

There is one existing small scale solar farm in this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. There may be potential to site 1 more small-scale solar development in this area, taking care to avoid cumulative effects and following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.57.1

- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland



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- Landscape Architects
- Landscape Managers
- Urban Designers
- Ecologists

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.57.1

LAU 57 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-57-1LAU57

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LAU 58: LLANTARNAM ABBEY & ENVIRONS

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Lowland valley			
Landcover	Large, predominantly grassed fields with deteriorating hedgerow boundaries. Strong woodland corridors, particularly along Afon Llwyd near northern boundary. Scattered parkland trees and formal gardens around abbey.			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads. Historic abbey within Conservation Area. Railway with associated infrastructure along northern boundary. Local and access roads. Pylons, A4042 crosses area in southwest corner.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landscape		X	
Movement	Occasional activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape, largely contained by the shallow valley topography and large blocks of woodland. More open south of Malthouse Road.			
Views in/out	Few attractive views in or out, with some detractive features in outward views			
Typical receptors	Residents of Llantarnam Abbey and grounds. Farm residents and workers. Few PRoW, largely not publicly accessible. Road users.			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality and landscape character and moderate integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Llantarnam Abbey is a registered historic park and garden. Llantarnam Conservation Area covers abbey and historic settlement to the west. Eight listed features around abbey building, also tithe barn is a Scheduled Monument. Large SINC over park grounds and one to the south of A4042. Several large ancient woodland sites.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Potential intervisibility with a Scheduled Monument to the south, Castle Mound east of Graig wood.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A weak sense of place, with perceptual qualities not recorded.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of medium sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would be able to accommodate development of this type in in some defined situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of medium sensitivity with some resilience to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

The Registered Landscape Park of Special Historic Interest at Llantarnam Abbey is unlikely to accommodate renewable energy development without seriously compromising its historic character. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within other parts of this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to use local topography and woodlands to partially screen turbines from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to align turbines with the A4042 road corridor but avoid creating a cumulative 'tunnel' effect.
- Respect the setting of Llantarnam Abbey and associated landscape.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Respect the setting of Llantarnam Abbey and associated landscape.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 145 Ha.

Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has medium sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual or a single small-medium scale group of turbines in this area, potentially to the south where the landscape is already under the influence of the A4042, following the guidelines above.

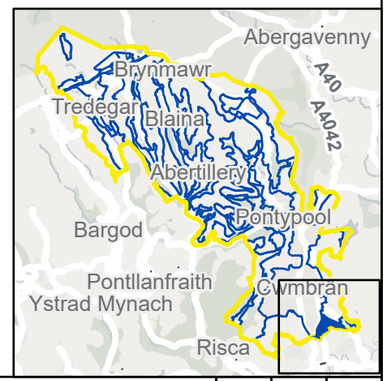
Solar PV

There is no existing solar development in this landscape unit. There is a small-scale solar farm to the south of the area within Newport. Although this is unlikely to contribute to cumulative effects due to intervening landform. The landscape sensitivity is medium. There may be potential to site 1-2 small-scale solar developments in this area, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.58.1

N

Existing Wind Turbines
Listed Buildings
Landscape Area Unit
Study Area
Local Authorities
National Cycle Network
BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
Sites of Special Scientific Interest
Special Areas of Conservation
BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
Conservation Areas
Scheduled Monuments
Historic Parks and Gardens
Local Nature Reserves
Ancient Woodland



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V.	**S.**	**Date**	**Description**	**B.**	**C.**	**A.**

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Sensitivity and Capacity Study for Renewable Energy Development

Figure 7.58.1

LAU 58 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 1)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-58-1LAU58

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LAU 59: COUNTRYSIDE EAST OF CWMBRAN

Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susceptibility		Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Rolling lowlands			
Landcover	Agricultural fields with largely intact boundaries of hedgerows and trees. Scattered woodland, occasional scrub.			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small, nucleated settlements. A4042 passes along western boundary and through northern section of area north to south. Garden centre and crematorium near Treherbert junction. Overhead lines. Large water treatment works near Sluvad in the north. The Grange Hospital site on western edge of area.			
Visual susceptibility				
Skylines and settings	Undulating landform.			
Movement	Occasional activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with views available from the urban edge of Cwmbran as well as surrounding hilltops which enclose it from the east.			
Views in/out	Attractive views both in and out with some detractive views out towards the A4042 and urban edge.			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and eastern fringes of Cwmbran. Recreational receptors (frequent PRoW), Land workers. Drivers on A4042 to west, and railway passengers on southern boundary.			
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality with high landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Listed buildings related to farms and places of worship scattered throughout. Small and medium ancient woodland sites also throughout, all with SINC status. The Llandegfedd reservoir forms the northeast boundary of the area and is a SSSI.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Potential intervisibility with Llantarnam Abbey to the south, also Candwr camp Scheduled Monument to the east.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with settled and secluded perceived qualities.			

Landscape Sensitivity

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with low tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.					

Guidance on Siting

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to use local topography and woodlands to partially screen turbines from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to align turbines with the A4042 and surrounding development but avoid creating a cumulative 'tunnel' effect.
- Respect the setting of listed buildings.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.

Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Respect the setting of listed buildings.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

Landscape capacity

Total area of LAU: 893 Ha.

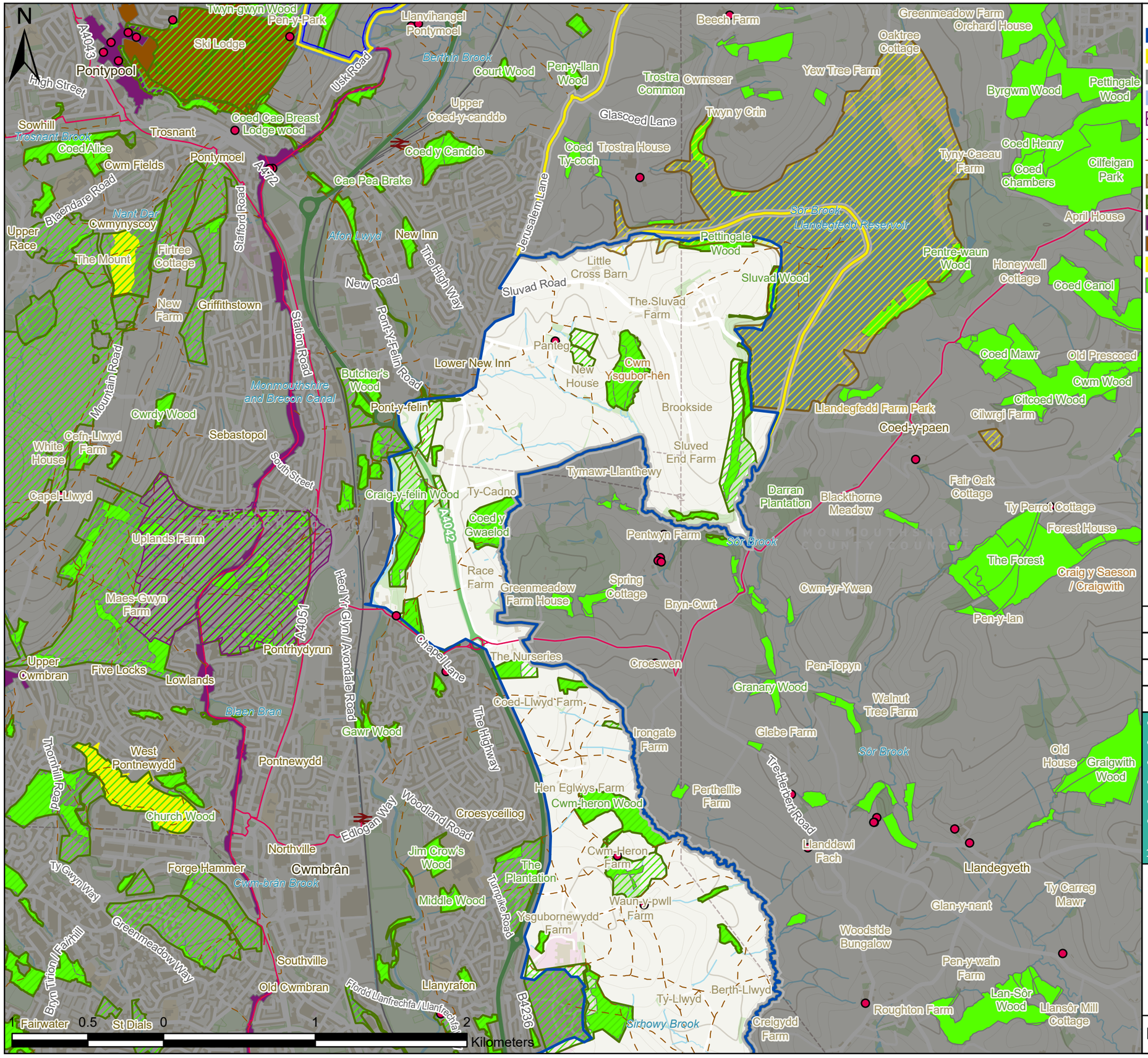
Wind turbines

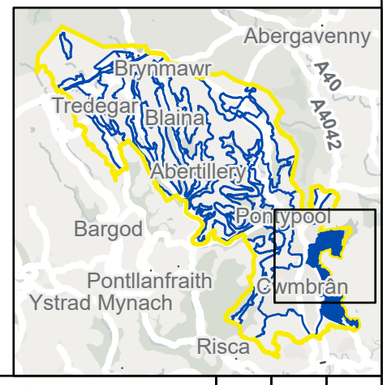
There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site a low number of individual or small groups of turbines in this area, given its large size. But sited carefully following the guidelines above and avoiding cumulative effects.

Solar PV

There is no existing solar development in this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. There may be potential to site several small-scale solar developments in this area, given its large size and sometimes substantial boundary vegetation. Great care should be taken to avoid cumulative effects, for example when travelling along the A4042, and siting should follow the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.59.1 and 7.59.2





- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- BGCBC and TCBC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

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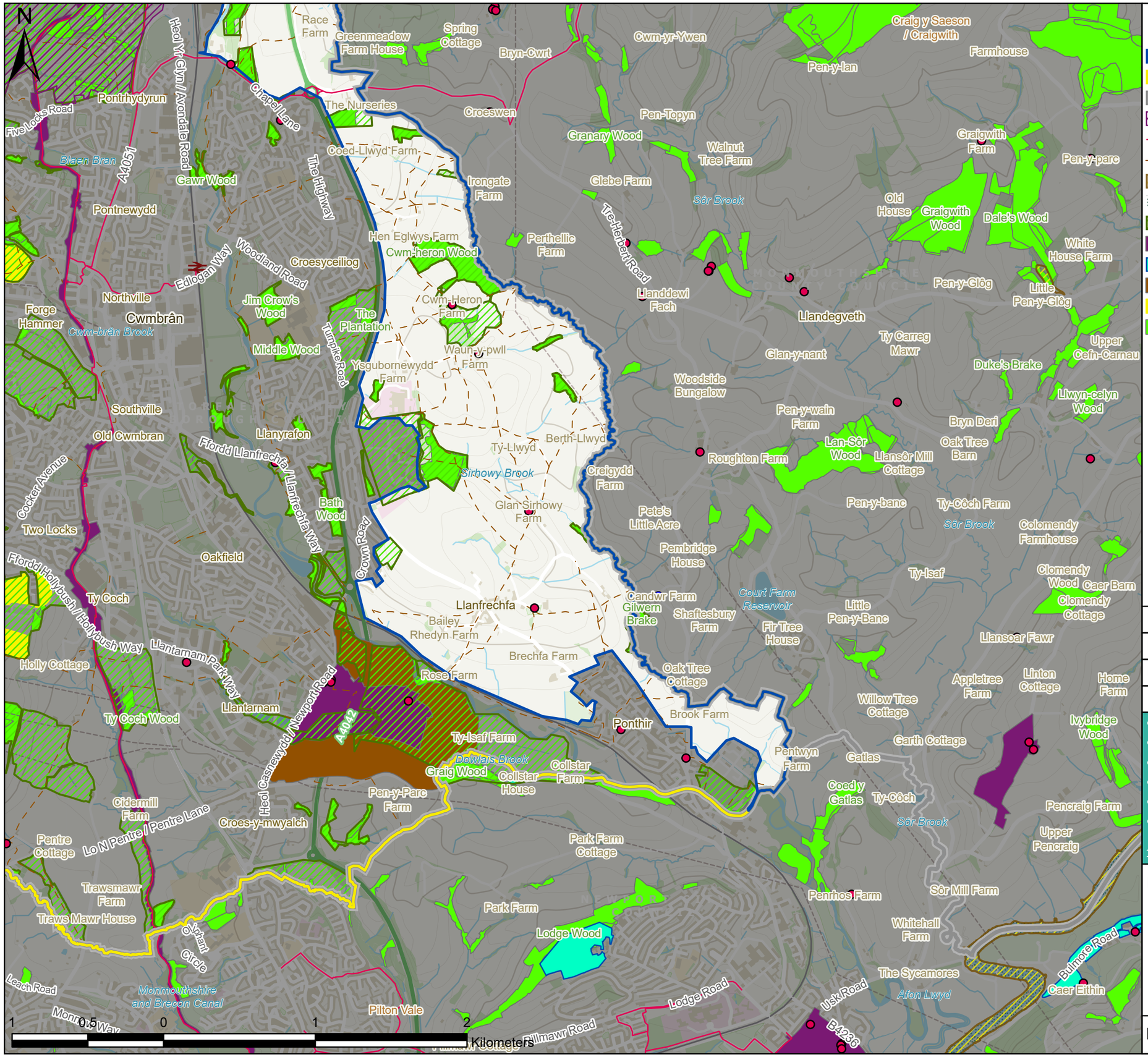
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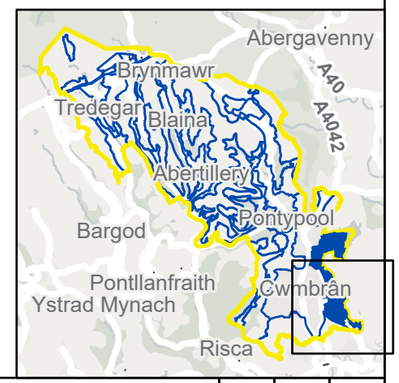
Figure 7.59.1

LAU 59 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 1 of 2)

Drawing no.: 61007_DWG_F7-59-1LAU59

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- Existing Wind Turbines
- Listed Buildings
- Landscape Area Unit
- Study Area
- Local Authorities
- Known built development since LANDMAP assessment
- National Cycle Network
- BGCBC and TCBC Public Rights of Way
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
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- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Monuments
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland

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Figure 7.59.2

LAU 59 Landscape Constraints (Sheet 2 of 2)

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