

## **Bosworth, Hayley**

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**From:** Hardiman, Ian  
**Sent:** 01 June 2018 18:44  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO  
**Attachments:** image001.png

Dear Joshua,

Thank you for prompting me on this.

Yes, I do wish to respond as follows:

I am unhappy with this proposal because the site (A449) is opposite the Lea Castle (former hospital) site where WFDC has recently approved outline permission for 600 homes to be built; it is also possible that further applications will be made in the future for this site!

In my opinion the presence of a quarry in such close proximity to an important New Homes development would have only a negative unreasonable effect on this area.

Thank you,

Kind regards,

Ian H.

---

From: Scholes, Joshua  
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 4:18 PM  
To: Hardiman, Ian  
Subject: FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Councillor Hardiman,

Regarding the consultation below, the deadline for comments was yesterday. If you are intending to comment, please could you let me know ASAP because this opinion can now be issued following the period of consultation.

Thank you,

Joshua Scholes

Planning Officer

Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure

Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

Tel: 01905 844485  
Mob: 07985 601739

Subject: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Councillor Hardiman,

I'm writing to make you aware of the attached consultation seeking comments on a Scoping Opinion Request received from Kedd Limited on behalf of NRS Aggregates.

The Scoping Opinion Request is being made to prepare an Environmental Statement to accompany a future planning application for the extraction of approximately 3 million tonnes of sand and gravel over a ten year period at Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire.

If you would like a briefing on this Scoping Opinion Request, please let me know and I will look to arrange a meeting or call as appropriate.

Thank you,

Joshua Scholes

Planning Officer

Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure

Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

Tel: 01905 844485  
Mob: 07985 601739

Email: [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)<<mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk>>

## **Bosworth, Hayley**

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**From:** Hardiman, Ian  
**Sent:** 14 June 2018 12:05  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO  
**Attachments:** image001.png

Dear Joshua,

Further to your kind assistance yesterday, I wish to clarify my comments for the consultation as follows:

I have some concerns regarding this proposal but will of course, as a member of the Planning Committee, consider any application on this matter with an open mind.

Thank you,

Kind regards,

Ian Hardiman Cllr. C&W Division.

---

From: Scholes, Joshua  
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 4:18 PM  
To: Hardiman, Ian  
Subject: FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Councillor Hardiman,

Regarding the consultation below, the deadline for comments was yesterday. If you are intending to comment, please could you let me know ASAP because this opinion can now be issued following the period of consultation.

Thank you,

Joshua Scholes

Planning Officer

Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure

Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

Tel: 01905 844485  
Mob: 07985 601739

Email: [jscholes@worcestershires.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershires.gov.uk)<<mailto:jscholes@worcestershires.gov.uk>>

[cid:image001.png@01D1ECC3.7FA32070]

From: Development Control team  
Sent: 10 May 2018 16:37  
To: Hardiman, Ian  
Subject: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Councillor Hardiman,

I'm writing to make you aware of the attached consultation seeking comments on a Scoping Opinion Request received from Kedd Limited on behalf of NRS Aggregates.

The Scoping Opinion Request is being made to prepare an Environmental Statement to accompany a future planning application for the extraction of approximately 3 million tonnes of sand and gravel over a ten year period at Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire.

If you would like a briefing on this Scoping Opinion Request, please let me know and I will look to arrange a meeting or call as appropriate.

Thank you,

Joshua Scholes

Planning Officer

Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure

Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

Tel: 01905 844485  
Mob: 07985 601739

Email: [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)<<mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk>>



## Bosworth, Hayley

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**From:** Smyth, Aidan <Aidan.Smyth@wychavon.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 01 June 2018 16:23  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Mr Scholes,

Apologies. The site will require archaeological evaluation. I will provide a full report next week.

Kind regards,

Aidan Smyth  
Archaeology And Planning Advisor

Wychavon and Malvern Hills District Councils

T: 01386 565397  
M: 07967 150375  
[www.wychavon.gov.uk](http://www.wychavon.gov.uk)  
[www.malvern hills.gov.uk](http://www.malvern hills.gov.uk)

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**From:** Scholes, Joshua [<mailto:JScholes@worcestershireshire.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 01 June 2018 16:12  
**To:** Smyth, Aidan  
**Subject:** FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Mr Smyth,

Regarding the consultation below, the deadline for comments was yesterday. I would really appreciate your comments on this scoping request. Therefore, please could you send me your comments by 8<sup>th</sup> June as an extension of time. Please let me know if you are not intending to comment.

Thank you,

**Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485  
**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershireshire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershireshire.gov.uk)



---

**From:** Development Control team  
**Sent:** 10 May 2018 16:21  
**To:** [aidan.smyth@wychavon.gov.uk](mailto:aidan.smyth@wychavon.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Mr Smyth,

Please read the attached consultation letter.

Thank you,

**Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485  
**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)

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## Bosworth, Hayley

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**From:** Hancox, Emma  
**Sent:** 12 June 2018 15:49  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Cc:** Mindykowski, Adam  
**Subject:** RE: Scoping Opinion - Quarry near Wolverley  
**Attachments:** 18000023 \_scoping.pdf

Dear Josh,  
Please find attached comments as requested.  
Regards,  
Emma

---

**From:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Sent:** 07 June 2018 17:06  
**To:** Hancox, Emma  
**Cc:** Mindykowski, Adam  
**Subject:** RE: Scoping Opinion - Quarry near Wolverley

Hi Emma,

Thanks for the quick response. Monday or Tuesday would be more than acceptable.

Regards,

Josh

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**From:** Hancox, Emma  
**Sent:** 07 June 2018 16:49  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Cc:** Mindykowski, Adam  
**Subject:** RE: Scoping Opinion - Quarry near Wolverley

Hi Josh,  
Adam is commenting on the landscape aspect as we speak, so has looked at the site. I can confirm that there are archaeological implications, so I will need to lay it out in a formal response. I could do this on Monday but not before.  
Regards,  
Emma

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**From:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Sent:** 07 June 2018 16:47  
**To:** Hancox, Emma  
**Subject:** Scoping Opinion - Quarry near Wolverley

Hi Emma,

As discussed, please see the consultation for Lea Castle Farm proposed sand and gravel quarry attached. A guesstimate of a response would be most appreciated.

Thank you,

Josh

**Joshua Scholes**

Planning Officer

Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure

Worcestershire County Council

County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

**Tel:** 01905 844485

**Mob:** 07985 601739

**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)



**Joshua Scholes**  
**Worcestershire County Council**  
**County Hall**  
**Spetchley Road**  
**WR5 2NP**

Worcestershire Archive &  
Archaeology Service  
The Hive  
Sawmill Walk  
The Butts  
Worcester  
WR1 3PD

Our ref: CWR12725  
Your ref: 18/000023/SCO

19<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Joshua,

**Ref: 18/000023/SCO Scoping Opinion Land at Lea Castle Farm, near Wolverley, Worcestershire**

**Proposal: Proposed sand and gravel quarry and restoration scheme**

A Scoping Opinion has been submitted to Worcestershire County Council in accordance with Section 15 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 for the development of a sand and gravel quarry on land at Lea Castle Farm, Worcestershire. In accordance with Schedule 1, Part 19, an Environmental Impact Assessment is automatically required as the proposed development site extends beyond 25 hectares.

There are no known/ recorded heritage assets of archaeological interest within the application area, with the exception of the former site of a World War II grass landing strip, although this has not been subject to any form of systematic archaeological assessment. However, the presence of unrecorded, as yet unknown, below-ground heritage assets (archaeological remains) cannot be discounted and stray finds of archaeological material including a silver denarius of Vitellius (AD 69-69) have been made in the application area.

On this basis, the Environmental Impact Assessment needs to fully investigate and understand these impacts. The applicant should be required to produce a heritage statement describing the significance of any heritage assets affected by the proposed development, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. The heritage statement should include an assessment of the impact of the development on the setting of any designated heritage assets in the vicinity of the application area including, but not limited to, the Grade II listed Sion Hill Court (NHLE 1100640) to the south and the Grade II Listed North Lodges (NHLE 1296589) to the northeast. The heritage statement should also incorporate the results of a geophysical survey and field evaluation (trial trenching at 4% of the application area), which will provide information on the presence or absence, extent, date and local, regional or national significance of any archaeological remains, including palaeoenvironmental deposits.

In the event that planning consent is granted then, in accordance with Paragraph 141 of the NPPF, where archaeological remains are found to be present within the application area that cannot be preserved in-situ then further archaeological works would be required to mitigate the impact of the development on the threatened remains. These works should

be secured by means of a suite of suitably worded conditions attached to any grant of permission for the scheme.

Any archaeological investigations should comply with specifications agreed in advance with Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service and conform to the Chartered Institute for Archaeology's Standards and Guidance.

Should you have any questions regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

**Emma Hancox**

Historic Environment Policy and Advisory Manager

## Bosworth, Hayley

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**From:** Tillsley, Deborah  
**Sent:** 04 June 2018 07:35  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Hi Joshua

I'll have a look at the application today and get back to you by the 8th  
Best wishes  
Deborah

---

**From:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Sent:** 01 June 2018 16:15  
**To:** Tillsley, Deborah  
**Subject:** FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Deborah,

Regarding the consultation below, the deadline for comments was yesterday. I would really appreciate your comments on this scoping request. Therefore, please could you send me your comments by 8<sup>th</sup> June as an extension of time. Please let me know if you are not intending to comment.

Thank you,

**Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485  
**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)



---

**From:** Development Control team  
**Sent:** 10 May 2018 16:22  
**To:** Tillsley, Deborah  
**Subject:** Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Deborah,

Please read the attached consultation letter.

Thank you,

**Joshua Scholes**

Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485  
**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)



## **Bosworth, Hayley**

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**From:** Tillsley, Deborah  
**Sent:** 06 June 2018 10:50  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Lea Castle Farm  
**Attachments:** Lea Castle Farm.docx

Dear Joshua

Please find attached the response from public health to the request for scoping opinion on application 18000023/SCO

Sand and gravel quarry and restoration scheme, Lea Castle Farm, near Wolverley Kidderminster.

Please contact me if you have any questions

*Best Wishes*  
*Debbie*

Deborah Tillsley  
Public Health Practitioner  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
WR5 2NP  
Tel: 01905 768233



# Worcestershire Directorate of Public Health

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## Planning application details

**Application Ref:** 18/000023/SCO **Grid Ref:** (E) 384095, (N) 279047  
**Applicant:** NRS Aggregates Ltd  
**Proposal:** Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme  
**Location:** Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire

Planning description: Sand and Gravel Quarry and restoration scheme for land at Lea Castle Farm near Wolverley, Kidderminster

## Public Health response

Public Health recommend the developer carries out an initial Health Impact Assessment screening on the proposals for mineral extraction at Lea Castle Farm. The developer should also consider carrying out a consultation exercise with local residents using a model/map of the proposed site which details measures the developer will put in place to protect the health and amenities of local residents.

The area where the site is proposed is on green belt land and Brown Westhead Park and Playing fields are located ~ 100 m to the west of the site. A caravan and camping site is also close to the playing fields. Consideration should be given to loss of public rights of way, access, recreation and open space.

It is suggested that the developer details what provision is in place for mitigating the health effects on people who use the playing areas and public rights of way, potentially creating new playing fields in an alternative location.

There are a number of residential properties in general proximity to the site, these may be adversely affected by site traffic, noise and dust as well as potential run off from dangerous substances extracted from the site. Consideration should also be given to mental health issues such as stress and anxiety which may affect those in the vicinity of the site or who are losing accessibility to green spaces for recreation.

The site borders a large housing estate at Sion Hill, Broadwaters, and housing at Cookley and Wolverley. There are 2 primary schools and a nursery close to the area of the proposed development (St Oswalds C of E Primary and Heathfield Knoll and First Steps Nursery). There are also a number of care homes in the vicinity. The developer should give added consideration to the impact on health on those who are vulnerable such as young children, elderly people and those with

pre-existing health conditions (especially respiratory). There should also be consideration given to safe routes (including walking) to schools which may be affected by extra site traffic.

Mineral extraction can have an impact on health due to the various chemicals used in the mining process as well as the potentially damaging compounds and metals removed from the ground. The developer should consider the health impacts on those directly employed in the minerals industry and the subsequent effects (not limited to health) that may be felt more widely (i.e. family and friends).

Noise and vibration will be generated by drilling and blasting operations, from excavation activities, loading and unloading of rock, crushing and conveying operations, and vehicle movements may reach levels that are hazardous to health. Noise pollution can have a direct impact on the local population and is likely to be a significant area of concern. There are both direct and indirect potential health impacts from this and thus this is considered to have the potential for an important negative impact on health.

Minerals can only be worked where they naturally occur and this will result in the mineral being transported off site to where it is needed by the market. The local highway network will experience additional traffic movements affecting the flow of traffic and air quality. Request the developer takes measures to limit the effects on the local traffic network of extra traffic.

Plans to restore the site following mineral extraction can be long term depending on the amount of minerals removed from the site, this will not mitigate the immediate effects on residents or employees.

Mr Joshua Scholes  
Development Control  
Worcestershire County Council  
Planning Policy  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
Worcestershire  
WR5 2NP

**Our ref:** SV/2018/109881/01-L01  
**Your ref:** 18/000023/SCO  
**Date:** 11 June 2018

Dear Mr Scholes

**PROPOSED SAND AND GRAVEL QUARRY AND RESTORATION SCHEME. LAND AT LEA CASTLE FARM, NEAR WOLVERLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.**

Thank you for referring the above Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping opinion. We have the following comments to make to assist you:

**Protection of Controlled Waters**

The site is located on a Principle Aquifer of the Wildmoor Sandstone Formation within Source Protection Zone 3 of the Cookley Public Water Supply. The hydrogeological setting at this location is sensitive and will need careful assessment in any resultant Environmental Statement (ES).

Quarrying is an activity which physically removes the aquifer and the usable groundwater resources contained within aquifers. In some instances this can lead to severe impacts on the water environment as groundwater flows can alter, especially if watercourses derive base flows from the same source of groundwater or wetlands rely on this water for their existence.

The natural baseline conditions can change significantly from quarrying activities, so assessments will need to be robust and where appropriate mitigation applied to reduce any risks to the water environment to a minimum. We have concerns where quarries are worked sub-water table to enable sand and gravels to be extracted as dewatering by pumping can lower the water table and impact surrounding water features such as watercourses, ponds, springs and wetlands which rely on the same source of groundwater.

There are several watercourses in the area which may also derive baseflows from groundwater in these deposits and these should also be considered as part of any ongoing appraisal. A detailed water features survey (WFS) should identify those sources on the ground within a designated radius of the proposed application site which could be at risk.

## **Hydrogeological Impact Assessment (HIA)**

We would recommend that a quantitative Hydrogeological Impact Assessment (HIA) should be undertaken considering all aspects to the water environment from this development which would include a WFS and quantitative assessment of any potential impacts to the water environment from this quarry proposal.

As part of the EIA process, we consider the quantitative assessment through a HIA assessment as a priority to the ongoing technical assessment of this proposal and should be considered. The role of the HIA is to assess the full potential of any quantitative impacts on the water environment which could take place from the activity of quarrying, notably from any dewatering activities in voids. We would recommend that an appropriately qualified hydrogeological consultant undertakes this HIA assessment work.

We would suggest the HIA should assess the following for completeness:

1. The proximity of this quarry to the Cookley Public Water Supply. The proposed development is within Source Protection Zone 3. Pollution prevention measures will be important in protecting this source.
2. Whilst the likelihood is that the quarry will not intercept the water table, groundwater levels may shallow significantly towards the River Stour. In addition, reductions in public water supply abstraction in this area has resulted in rising groundwater levels. There should be no dewatering or interruption of flows.
3. We have no records of licenced or de-regulated groundwater supplies in or near the development site. There is a record of a well on the BGS website but it appears disused. It will be prudent for the applicant to consult with the local authority for private supplies.
4. During the excavation of the soils, care should be taken how they are stored and restored to prevent release of nutrients (principally nitrate) stored in the soils.

## **Groundwater Quality Protection**

Certain activities which take place within and around a quarry environment which can give rise to water quality pollution issues include:

- The storage and use of fuels if not handled correctly can contaminate local groundwater supplies should a spill take place. Vehicle accidents are a common cause for the release of oils and fuels into the environment and management strategies should be put in place to manage such events.
- The location of onsite sewerage facilities can lead to pollution of water if harmful effluents are discharged into the environment without an appropriate discharge consent permit.
- In terms of site operations, we would like to know if the mineral product is to be washed onsite (using groundwater?) and where this water will be discharged to? Gravel workings may also affect the quality of the groundwater in the surrounding aquifer creating turbidity in the water. Further detail should be provided as to where/ how this water will be treated and discharged.

- The operator must demonstrate that there will not be any deterioration in the ecological value or physico-chemical quality of any watercourse as a result of the development.

Due regard should be given to all of these aspects regarding water quality issues as part of any resultant planning application.

### **Statement E1 – Landfill location**

*The Environment Agency will normally object to any proposed landfill site in groundwater SPZ1. For all other proposed landfill site locations, a risk assessment must be conducted based on the nature and quantity of the wastes and the natural setting and properties of the location.*

*Where this risk assessment demonstrates that active long-term site management is essential to prevent long-term groundwater pollution, the Environment Agency will object to sites:*

- *Below the water table in any strata where the groundwater provides an important contribution to river flow, or other sensitive receptors*
- *Within SPZ2 or 3 on or in a principal aquifer*

### **Water Quality/Water Framework Directive**

The EIA should assess opportunities to deliver Water Framework Directive (WFD) objectives. A WFD screening assessment should be carried out to inform the EIA. The development should seek opportunities to help maintain and improve WFD status. No development should be permitted if it will result in deterioration in the quality of the water-bodies.

Where existing watercourse channels within and near to the development site have been straightened, culverted and/or deepened by previous land use (primarily to aid agricultural activities), we would expect to see the watercourse naturalised and 'opened up' as part of the development.

To assist in preparation of a WFD screening assessment and the ES, WFD Waterbody information for this catchment is available from our area 'Customers and Engagement' team at: [Enquiries\\_Westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Enquiries_Westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk) and our Catchment Data Explorer tool at: <http://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/OperationalCatchment/3456>

Local level actions and decision making can help secure improvements to the water environment. This is widely known as the 'catchment-based approach' and has been adopted to deliver requirements under the WFD. It seeks to:

- deliver positive and sustained outcomes for the water environment by promoting a better understanding of the environment at a local level; and
- to encourage local collaboration and more transparent decision-making when both planning and delivering activities to improve the water environment.

The site falls within the Worcestershire Middle Severn sandstone groundwater body. Specifically it falls within groundwater body reference: GB40901G300800. This is currently at 'Poor Overall Status' with an ambition to reach 'Good' by 2027. The proposals should seek opportunities to provide betterment in this regard and highlights the importance of assessing WFD in the emerging ES.

### **Biodiversity/Habitat Creation**

We concur with the submitted scoping report that the site is of limited sensitivity but the opportunity for innovative restorative schemes should not be ignored. This site provides an opportunity to provide exemplar Green and Blue Infrastructure post extraction and provide for net habitat betterment that contributes towards greater landscape connectivity.

For example, this could include permanent and ephemeral wetland habitats that could provide wider connectivity with Stourvale and Puxton Marshes and Hurcot and Podmore Pools. We would welcome further discussion with your authority and the site operator to this end.

### **Flood Risk**

The site is located in Flood Zone 1 (low risk zone) and as such we would not intend making bespoke comment on the flood risks to and from the development. We would recommend early liaison with the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) to discuss the surface water management of the site during and post extraction.

Please note that climate change allowances were updated relatively recently. We attach an area climate change allowance guide for your information.

We would advocate opportunities are explored to provide net flood risk betterment.

### **Summary**

I trust that the above is clear and of use in preparing your Scoping Opinion. We would welcome an opportunity to discuss the site with yourselves and the site operator at an early stage. The issues to address are complex and the scope for betterment post extraction vast, so early collaborative discussions would be beneficial.

Yours sincerely

**Mr Carl Cording**

**Planning Specialist**

Direct dial 07775 020 020

Direct e-mail [carl.cording@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:carl.cording@environment-agency.gov.uk)

## Bosworth, Hayley

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**From:** Dabbs, Emma  
**Sent:** 01 June 2018 16:21  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Hi Josh,

They carry out the strategic consultee role for commenting on major planning applications in North Worcestershire on our behalf, although they are not actually the LLFA. We do always forward any of your emails onto them, but I believe in most cases they are usually consulted separately and may not always send you a copy of their responses.

Best Wishes,  
Emma

**Emma Dabbs** BSc (Hons)  
Flood Risk Management Officer  
Flood Risk Management Team  
Worcestershire County Council  
Worcester Woods Country Park, Wildwood Drive, Worcester, WR5 2LG  
**Tel:** 01905 846373  
**Email:** [edabbs@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:edabbs@worcestershire.gov.uk)



---

**From:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Sent:** 01 June 2018 16:06  
**To:** Dabbs, Emma; Blockley, Becky  
**Subject:** FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Becky and Emma,

Regarding this consultation, are NWWM's comments to be treated as on behalf of the LLFA?

Thank you,

Josh

**Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485  
**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)



## **Bosworth, Hayley**

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**From:** Bev Drew <beverleyjdrew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** 11 May 2018 14:04  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Many thanks Joshua,

I will send the Parish Council comments by e mail following the meeting 5th June.

Kind Regards Bev

Beverley Drew  
Wolverley & Cookley Parish Council Clerk  
[beverleyjdrew@gmail.com](mailto:beverleyjdrew@gmail.com)  
07702 521072

On 11 May 2018 at 11:53, Scholes, Joshua <[JScholes@worcestershires.gov.uk](mailto:JScholes@worcestershires.gov.uk)> wrote:

Dear Mrs Drew,

Further to our call this morning discussing the consultation for the Scoping Opinion request, I hope the following information will address your concerns about what this consultation is for.

This consultation is not seeking views for a planning application. The consultation is seeking views from a range of expert and non-expert consultees, including the public via the District and Parish Council for this area, to form Worcestershire County Council's Scoping Opinion for an Environmental Statement that will accompany a planning application for this proposed sand and gravel quarry development.

Scoping Opinions form a part of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The Government's Planning Practice Guidance provides information on what EIA is and its purpose below my text in this email. Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/environmental-impact-assessment>

A formal Scoping Opinion will essentially define the scope of topics relating to the environment for this proposal that should be addressed by the applicant in what is called an Environmental Statement (ES). An ES will then accompany a planning application for the sand and gravel quarry proposal at some point in the future, which is at the discretion of the applicant (NRS Aggregates).

Ultimately, EIA seeks to ensure that decision makers and the public have access to all relevant environmental information when determining planning applications for significant projects.

I hope this provides further information on what can understandably appear to be a complex area of planning. The Council would like to receive comments from the public on this Scoping Opinion. Please let me know if you require further information.

Regards,

Joshua Scholes

**Joshua Scholes**

Planning Officer

Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure

Worcestershire County Council

County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

**Tel:** 01905 844485

**Mob:** 07985 601739

**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)



## The purpose of Environmental Impact Assessment

### What is the purpose of Environmental Impact Assessment?

The aim of Environmental Impact Assessment is to protect the environment by ensuring that a local planning authority when deciding whether to grant planning permission for a project, which is likely to have significant effects on the environment, does so in the full knowledge of the likely significant effects, and takes this into account in the decision making process. The regulations set out a procedure for identifying those projects which should be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment, and for assessing, consulting and coming to a decision on those projects which are likely to have significant environmental effects.

The aim of Environmental Impact Assessment is also to ensure that the public are given early and effective opportunities to participate in the decision making procedures. See [Before submitting an application](#) and [Consultation and pre-decision matters](#).

Environmental Impact Assessment should not be a barrier to growth and will only apply to a small proportion of projects considered within the town and country planning regime. Local planning authorities have a well established general responsibility to consider the environmental implications of developments which are subject to planning control. The 2017 Regulations integrate Environmental Impact Assessment procedures into this framework and should only apply to those projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. Local planning authorities and developers should carefully consider if a project should be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment. If required, they should limit the scope of assessment to those aspects of the environment that are likely to be significantly affected. Pre-application engagement can also play a role in identifying when a proposal should be subject to environmental impact assessment. [Read more information](#).

Paragraph: 002 Reference ID: 4-002-20140306

Revision date: 06 03 2014

---

**From:** Development Control team  
**Sent:** 10 May 2018 16:05  
**To:** '[beverleyjdrew@gmail.com](mailto:beverleyjdrew@gmail.com)'  
**Subject:** Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Mrs Drew,

Please read the attached consultation letter.

Thank you,

**Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485

**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Bev Drew <beverleyjdrew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** 06 June 2018 12:04  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme - Land at Lea Castle Farm, Wolverley  
**Attachments:** Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry Response.docx; Historical Society Letter.docx; Wall.jpg

Dear Joshua

Please find attached comments from Wolverley and Cookley Parish Council on the above, also comments from Wolverley and Cookley historical Society.

Please confirm receipt.

Kind Regards Bev

Beverley Drew  
Wolverley & Cookley Parish Council Clerk  
[beverleyjdrew@gmail.com](mailto:beverleyjdrew@gmail.com)  
07702 521072

\*\*\*\*\*

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**Mr Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Development Control  
Department of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
WR5 2NP

6<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Dear Mr Scholes

**Application Ref: 18/00023/SCO**

**Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry, land at Lea Castle Farm, Wolverley**

Wolverley and Cookley Parish Council discussed the above at meeting 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

The Parish Council are very concerned that inadequate time has been given by yourselves for the Parish Council to fully examine the Scoping Opinion and relevant documents and complete lack of consultation with the Public. Your Letter was dated 10<sup>th</sup> May, with comments required by 31<sup>st</sup> May which you have, after request extended until today. Your e mail dated 11<sup>th</sup> May states that The Council would like to receive comments from the public on this Scoping Opinion but no public have been made aware of the application, not even residents that border the site.

The following are comments from the Parish Council, I also attach letter with comments from Wolverley & Cookley Historical Society.

**Traffic / Access**

- The application would result in increased heavy traffic on the already busy B4189 Wolverley Road.
- The new proposed site access off the B4189 into the site is on the brow of a hill in an unrestricted area and would be extremely dangerous.
- The proposal for new access would break through a historical 19<sup>th</sup> century wall.
- The application does not provide detail of the number and types of vehicles or equipment that will be used.
- Footpath 624b runs through Phase 1 and 2 of the site – what is the proposal for this?

**Environment**

- An ancient wall borders the site, this is a local landmark and will be greatly affected by the proposed development.
- This wall is already structurally unsafe (see attached photograph) and quarrying works could further damage its structural integrity.
- The documents include proposed bunds which may not hold together due to soil quality and will look unsightly.
- The proposed bunds are also limited and do not cover the whole site so do not protect residents on the Wolverley Road and Brown Westhead.
- There will also be a clear view of the Quarry from the A449 as there is no bund proposed.
- Item 4.2 Imported Inert Material, 60,000m<sup>2</sup> per year – there is no detail of what type of material this will be and how this will affect the environment.
- The Parish Council want to know the proposed operating times and any proposals for artificial lighting.
- The proposals for restoration of the landscape are unacceptable as they are not phased.

## Noise

- There are serious concerns over the level of noise that will result from the JCB diggers, dumper trucks, crusher, sorting machinery, lorry loading/unloading machinery inside the site.
- There is also serious concern over the noise from the trucks entering and exiting the site.
- Noise disturbance will be considerable, and it will need to be known if noise levels will be acceptable and if they affect properties close to the proposed development.
- An independent report should be undertaken on noise.

## Air

- The inert material used to infill could dramatically affect the air quality locally.
- The dust generated, and the nature of the particulates will represent a risk to the local air quality, particularly to lungs.
- The National Planning Policy Framework is clear that a planning authority must ensure there are no unacceptable adverse impacts on human health. This assurance would need to be provided.

## Wildlife

- The proposed area for the quarry covers a biodiverse area where many animals and fungi are likely to be affected. A full investigation would be required.
- The site also contains a number of trees which would need to be protected.
- The land on the site is described as “acid sand” which provides a unique habitat for various flora and fauna which would be lost forever.

## Local Schools

- There are 5 schools near the proposed quarry, many children walk along the path adjacent to the wall on Wolverley Road, these children will be affected by the noise, air quality and safety aspect.
- Also children from Heathfield School, opposite the proposed quarry will be affected with noise and air pollution whilst playing.

## Impact on Local Economy

- Wolverley and Cookley have many local businesses that will be affected.
- The Caravan Park could be affected by noise, dust and air pollution and visitor numbers reducing due to proximity.
- The Brown Westhead Football pitches would be affected as above.
- The Lea Castle Equestrian Centre, at the heart of the development would be most impacted.
- The proposed quarry will have an impact on local house prices and deter new residents onto the proposed housing developments at Sion Hill and Lea Castle.

The Parish Council are totally opposed to this proposed development and feel that it would have a devastating affect on the ancient Parish of Wolverley and Cookley.

Yours sincerely

Mrs B J Drew  
Clerk to Wolverley & Cookley Parish Council

# Wolverley and Cookley Historical Society

Chairman, Miss J. M. Oliver  
51 Fairfield Lane,  
Wolverley.

4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

The Clerk,  
Wolverley and Cookley Parish Council  
Mill Lane

Dear Mrs Drew,

We write in response to the County Council's request for opinions from the public via the Parish Council with regard to a possible sand and gravel quarry at Lea Castle, Wolverley and Cookley.

## History

The proposed sand and gravel extraction would create such a change in the landscape that it would not be recognized as the historic site that it is. We have observed the change in level and landscape of the all too recent extractions on the opposite side of the B4189.

- The neo-gothic castle was built by the Knights, an important family in the Parish during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was surrounded by parkland. It is suggested that the laying out of the grounds could have been in the picturesque taste (Survey of Parks and Gardens: Lockett 1997). The area defined as "former parkland" is included in part of phase 2 and 3 on the proposal plan.
- Although the mansion house was demolished about 1945 there remains a 19<sup>th</sup> C. wall that defines the boundary of the estate (and has even served as a focus for community races etc in the recent past) with lodges serving as entrances at the end of long straight driveways; at the North East, Grade II listed and at the South, on the Local List. We feel that these structures help to characterize the heritage of the two villages and should be viewed in context with the whole parkland.
- A drop in ground level during and post extraction could lead to destabilizing a long stretch of this wall.
- The narrow pavement (on the wall side of the road) is used by school children walking along the road from the Sion Hill area to the secondary school in Wolverley Village.
- We also note that the intention is to break through the wall to create the site access which would destroy a considerable length of this historic 19th C. wall.
- There are well used public footpaths along the driveways and between the areas marked phase 1 and 2 enjoyed by local people and walking groups. They are shown as early as on the tithe map of 1837.
- Medieval documents refer to a settlement at The Lea. Although its exact position is vague it was undoubtedly in the area of Lea Castle.

We feel that, if planning consent were to be given, an archaeological watching brief should be considered essential.

**Pressure on the infrastructure.**

Increased traffic on the B4189 would have a considerable impact on the environment, not only from the heavy vehicles from the quarry but in connection with the building activity on the Lea Castle Hospital and Sion Hill School sites and eventually the increased population. This on a road that is already very busy.

**Dust and noise.**

Development of the Sion Hill School site will increase the number of dwellings that could be affected by dust and noise and we should consider the school children at Heathfield School which would be very close to the proposed phases 1 and 2. Also the children walking from Sion Hill, previously mentioned, would also be exposed to the dust and noise.

We hope that we have provided some relevant points to add to what the Parish Council has already drawn up.

Yours sincerely,

Chairman,

Wolverley and Cookley Historical Society







Module PA Planning

Reference 18/000023/SCO Proposal Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme

Main Location Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire

## New Respondant

Role Interested Party  
Name Mark Weston  
Company The British Horse Society  
Address Abbey Park, Stareton, Kenilworth, CV82XZ  
E-Mail mark.weston@bhs.org.uk  
Telephone 02476840560 FAX  
Mobile

## Reply Details

Reply Type Comments

Response 2018-05-17

Comments As part of the restoration scheme bridleway access provision should be created around the periphery of the site to provide much needed safe off road access for horse riders which would link into the existing bridleway, thereby providing local riders with a choice of rides.

## Media

Accepted	Filename / URL	Attachment Type	Type	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	No Media Attached			

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Reject

## Bosworth, Hayley

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**From:** Development Control team  
**Sent:** 11 June 2018 09:05  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** FW: 18/000023/SCO

---

**From:** Mark Weston [<mailto:mark.weston@bhs.org.uk>]  
**Sent:** 08 June 2018 14:34  
**To:** Development Control team  
**Subject:** 18/000023/SCO

Dear Joshua,

I refer to the above application, and have the following comment: 'As part of the restoration scheme bridleway access provision should be created around the periphery of the site to provide much needed safe off road access for horse riders which would link into the existing bridleway, thereby providing local riders with a choice of rides.'

If you wish to discuss this any further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Mark Weston  
Director of Access  
The British Horse Society.

---

Mark Weston  
Director of Access

### **The British Horse Society**

Abbey Park, Stareton, Kenilworth  
Warwickshire CV8 2XZ

Telephone: 02476 840515

Email: [mark.weston@bhs.org.uk](mailto:mark.weston@bhs.org.uk)

Website: [www.bhs.org.uk](http://www.bhs.org.uk)

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## Bosworth, Hayley

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**From:** Karen Walsh <Karen.Walsh@wyreforestdc.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 20 June 2018 10:16  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Potential Quarry at Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire  
**Attachments:** 016 Scholes re Quarry 20180620.pdf

Dear Joshua,

Please find attached a letter from Cllrs Marcus Hart and Ian Hardiman regarding the above.

Kind regards

Karen

**Karen Walsh**

Executive Support Officer - Members

Wyre Forest District Council

01562 732708

Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY11 7WF

[Karen.Walsh@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:Karen.Walsh@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

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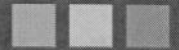


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Mr Joshua Scholes  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and  
Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road,  
Worcester, WR5 2NP

**Cllr Marcus Hart**  
tel: 01562 851769  
email: [marcus.hart@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:marcus.hart@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

**Cllr Ian Hardiman**  
01562 631139  
email: [ian.hardiman@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:ian.hardiman@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)  
Our ref: MJH/KW/016  
date: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Dear Joshua,

## **Potential Quarry at Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire**

It was a pleasure to meet you on 13<sup>th</sup> June and thank you for giving up your time to brief us both together with Mark.

Ian and I have a number of issues and concerns in respect of using this site as a quarry and as we move through the process will be articulating them in terms of the affects on the green belt and open countryside, highway infrastructure issues and noise and environmental issues which we know you will consider fully.

That said, you are aware that Marcus sits on the Wyre Forest District Council's (WFDC) planning committee and it will invariably be a statutory consultee given the scale of the application and Ian sits on WCC's planning committee and it is here that the matter will be formally determined of course as Worcestershire County Council is the statutory waste and minerals authority. Often Ian sits as a sub on WFDC's committee as well.

Both of us will ensure that whilst articulating for our communities in raising these concerns that neither of us have a pre-determined mind in respect of the application and will judge this application on its merits or otherwise at the appropriate time.

Yours sincerely

**Cllr Marcus Hart**

**Cllr Ian Hardiman**

**Wyre Forest Rural Ward Councillors**

## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Hayward, Rowena  
**Sent:** 15 May 2018 14:03  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO  
**Attachments:** 18000023SCO Illustrative Plan.pdf

Dear Joshua Scholes

Thank you for contacting us about the above proposal. I am happy to provide some general advice at this stage to inform the EIA and will be able to make more informed comment when and if a planning application is made.

The proposal appears to affect the following public rights of way as recorded on the Definitive Map: Wolverley and Cookley footpaths WC-622 and WC-624 and Bridleways WC-625 and WC-626. I have enclosed an illustrative plan for your information.

It appears from the plans submitted for the scoping opinion that there are some minor discrepancies between the plans and the definitive lines of the footpaths. The most significant of which is the missing link section between footpaths WC-624 and WC-623. If the applicant would like to obtain a full public rights of way search, they should contact this department.

It appears that vehicular access to / within the site will be in part via the public rights of way. It should be noted that under section 34 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 any person who, without lawful authority drives a motor vehicle on a footpath / bridleway / restricted byway commits an offence. The applicant should make themselves satisfied that they, and anyone else who may use the public rights of way for private vehicular access in connection with the development, has a right to do so. They may wish to seek legal advice on the matter. The County Council is responsible for maintaining the rights of way to a standard suitable for their usual public use as footpaths – we are not responsible for maintaining a surface to be suitable for private vehicular use.

Any application should include:

- Identification of all public rights of way on their definitive lines and how these will be protected and enhanced during the works and on restoration.
- details of any diversion temporary or permanent required.
- detail of how footpath WC-624 will be retained following the installation of screening bunds
- details of how public safety along the any public rights of way retained on their line during the quarrying works will be ensured.

The applicant should also be aware of the following obligations toward the public rights of way:

No disturbance of, or change to, the surface of the paths or part thereof should be carried out without our written consent.

No diminution in the width of the rights of way available for use by the public.

Buildings materials must not be stored on the rights of way.

Vehicle movements and parking to be arranged so as not to unreasonably interfere with the public's use of the rights of way.

No additional barriers are placed across the rights of way. No stile, gate, fence or other structure should be created on, or across, a public right of way without written consent of the Highway Authority.

The safety of the public using the rights of way is to be ensured at all times.

If the development cannot be carried out without temporarily closing the public rights of way for the safety of the public during construction, application should be made at least 6 weeks in advance to the Mapping Team of the Countryside Service at Worcestershire County Council.

For future reference, the applicant should note that all public rights of way crossing or adjoining the proposed development site must be marked on the plan to be submitted with the planning application. While the information supplied by an applicant should make clear how the potential development will impinge on any rights of way.

The applicant should note Policy RST3 of the Worcestershire County Structure Plan which aims to ensure that development does not reduce the utility, convenience, recreational value, attractiveness and historic significance of public rights of way.

The applicant should also be aware of the Department of Environment Circular 1/09 (part 7) which explains that the effect of development on a public right of way is a material consideration in the determination of applications for planning permission and that the grant of planning consent does not entitle developers to obstruct a public right of way.

The Definitive Map is a minimum record of public rights of way and does not preclude the possibility that unrecorded public rights may exist, nor that higher rights may exist than those shown.

I hope this information will help inform the EIA, but if you or the applicant requires any further clarification or information please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**Rowena Hayward**

Countryside Access Mapping Officer

Economy and Infrastructure

Worcestershire County Council

The Countryside Centre, Worcester Woods Country Park,

Wildwood Drive, Worcester, WR5 2LG

**Tel:** 01905 846288

**Email:** [Rhayward@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Rhayward@worcestershire.gov.uk)





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Indicative Scale: 1:7,500

Date Printed:15/5/2018

0 50 250 500 metres

18/000023/SCO Illustrative Plan



Countryside Service  
Worcester Woods Country Park  
Wildwood Drive  
Worcester  
WR5 2LG



## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Hawley, Stephen  
**Sent:** 06 June 2018 11:03  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Cc:** Hanchett, Karen  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Josh,

The consultation is where or not this development constitutes EIA development or not, in its function as the Highway Authority Worcestershire County Council has no opinion on this matter. I do note that applicant has referenced transport in their scoping paper and identify that a Transport Assessment (TA) will be needed, I agree with this approach.

The applicant should be encouraged to agree the scope of the TA with myself well in advance of an application being submitted to ensure that a suitable evidence base is provided to justify the proposal.

Steve

**Stephen Hawley, BSc (Hons) IEng FIHE MCIHT Certmgmt(Open)**

Development Control Engineer  
Development Management  
Transport Planning Unit  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 843466  
**Email:** [shawley@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:shawley@worcestershire.gov.uk)



---

**From:** Hanchett, Karen  
**Sent:** 05 June 2018 09:30  
**To:** Hawley, Stephen  
**Cc:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Hi Steve

Are you able to get comments back to Josh please?

Karen

---

**From:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Sent:** 01 June 2018 16:12  
**To:** Hanchett, Karen  
**Subject:** FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Karen,

Regarding the consultation below, the deadline for comments was yesterday. I would really appreciate your comments on this scoping request. Therefore, please could you send me your comments by 8<sup>th</sup> June as an extension of time. Please let me know if you are not intending to comment.

Thank you,

**Joshua Scholes**

Planning Officer

Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure

Worcestershire County Council

County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

**Tel:** 01905 844485

**Mob:** 07985 601739

**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)



**worcestershire**  
county council

---

**From:** Development Control team

**Sent:** 10 May 2018 16:06

**To:** Hanchett, Karen

**Subject:** Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Karen,

Please read the attached consultation letter.

Thank you,

**Joshua Scholes**

Planning Officer

Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure

Worcestershire County Council

County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

**Tel:** 01905 844485

**Mob:** 07985 601739

**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Minerals  
**Sent:** 01 June 2018 16:06  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Lea Castle / Wolverley

Hi Josh – please see below discussion on the Bow Farm scoping so that you can apply this in relation to Lea Castle/Wolverley scoping. The relevant Strategic Corridor policy for this site is draft policy MLP 5 "North West Worcestershire Strategic Corridor".

In addition, an updated Local Aggregates Assessment using 2016 data is due to be published very shortly, so it would be useful to refer the applicant to this.

Hope this is useful  
Marianne

---

**From:** Minerals  
**Sent:** 26 April 2018 15:43  
**To:** Aldridge, Steven  
**Subject:** RE: Bow Farm

Hi Steve,

I think it would be useful to refer to draft Policy MLP 2 "Avon and Carrant Brook Strategic Corridor" in the Third Stage Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan, as this sets out draft green infrastructure priorities for the relevant area which have been developed in partnership with stakeholders including Natural England, Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, Historic England, and WCC's ecology, rights of way, flooding and historic environment officers, and these priorities could influence how the site's layout, working and restoration schemes are designed. (For your info - this policy will be updated to some degree in the next iteration, but will be built upon rather than totally changed, so I think asking for them to think about the principles in it shouldn't cause you any problems later.)

Depending on the timing of the application, draft policies of the Fourth Stage Consultation may also need to be taken into account. (It's a shame we're not far enough along to point to the GI and prudent use policies).

Marianne

---

**From:** Aldridge, Steven  
**Sent:** 26 April 2018 14:06  
**To:** Minerals  
**Subject:** Bow Farm

Hi Minerals Policy,

With regard to Bow Farm Scoping Opinion I was intending to state the following in relation to planning policies, are there any key emerging Minerals Local Plan policies that you think I should draw the applicant's attention to?

### Planning Policy Context and Analysis

*The CPA considers that a Planning Statement should accompany the planning application submission and should assess the proposed development against the Development Plan and other material considerations. In this respect the current Development Plan consists of the adopted Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy, Saved Policies of the adopted County of Hereford and Worcester Mineral Local Plan and adopted South Worcestershire Development Plan. Consideration should also be given to the Emerging Minerals Local*

*Plan for Worcestershire, but at the time of writing this Scoping Opinion, limited weight should be attached to the Emerging Minerals Local Plan.*

*The CPA recommends that the ES should summarise the relevant planning policies and guidance, and that a supporting Planning Statement considers the relevant planning policies and guidance in detail. Many ES's contain an extensive analysis of planning policies and argue that a proposal is in compliance with the policies, however, it is considered that this advocacy role is in conflict with the impartiality that should characterise an ES. Such detailed analysis should, therefore, be confined to a separate Planning Statement, and the ES should deal with the planning policy issues that relate specifically to the environmental impact of the development proposals, for example where policy identifies an environmental receptor, such as ecological designation or requires the provision of a particular mitigation measure.*

*The CPA would like to draw your attention to the following planning policies:-*

- *Policy WCS 5: 'Landfill and disposal' of the Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy;*
- *Saved Policy 2: 'Other Sand and Gravel Deposits' of the County of Hereford and Worcester Mineral Local Plan;*

Many thanks

Steve

**Steven Aldridge**

Team Leader – Development Management

Worcestershire County Council

County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

**Tel:** 01905 843510

**Mob:** 07985334367

**Email:** [saldridge@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:saldridge@worcestershire.gov.uk)



## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** king peter <peterkingiron@blueyonder.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 16 May 2018 17:38  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO  
**Attachments:** WCC 18-000023 Wolverley sand gravel.docx

Objection attached

Peter King

On 15 May 2018 at 11:29 "Scholes, Joshua" <[JScholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:JScholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)> wrote:

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please note that reference to the A4189 Wolverley Road in the consultation is incorrect. This was made in error. The proposed access would be on to the **B4189** Wolverley Road.

Regards,

**Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485

**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)



16 May 2018

Attn. Joshua Scoles  
Director of Planning  
Worcestershire County Council

Dear Sir,

**18/000023 sand and gravel at Wolverley Road, Wolverley**

I object to this application. This objection is essentially the same as that submitted for the site to the last consultation for your mineral plan.

The site lies within the former park of Lea Castle, whose status as a gentleman's park is now largely only indicated by it being surrounded by a brick wall and having two lodges. I am not sure if these are listed buildings, but may deserve to be listed or at least treated as if locally listed.

The site is in the Green Belt, in a strategic gap between Kidderminster on the south and the villages of Cookley and Wolverley to the north. This area of Green Belt is quite a narrow strategic gap. This gap is already being eroded by permission being granted for the redevelopment of Lea Castle Hospital, which will result in sprawl that will join Kidderminster to Cookley, leaving a gap of a mere 200-300 metres at each end of that site. This may not be quite as serious as it sounds, as (so far) the developed status of the former hospital is not apparent from the surrounding countryside because when the hospital was developed belts of pine trees were planted around it to screen it. This means that the countryside along B4189 appears very open, despite the proximity of developed areas.

One of the options in the last consultation on Wyre Forest's Green Belt Review suggested taking a further area out of the Green Belt between Lea Castle and Kidderminster. This would be a significant encroachment into the open countryside just mentioned. This area of Green Belt is thus already being severely encroached upon by development of various kinds and is in danger of ceasing to be countryside at all.

I appreciate that mineral extraction is a special case to which the usual rules against development in the Green Belt do not apply in the same way as to other sorts of development, but several of the five purposes of Green Belt are impacted by any development in the Protected Area.

The site also comes very close to the back of houses in Brown-Westhead Park, Wolverley, whose residents ought to be protected from the noise inherent in mineral extraction. There are also public footpaths running across or near the site, whose settling will be impacted by such a development.

The site involves a hilltop, so that there will be a substantial landscape impact from the development.

Yours Sincerely,

## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Peter Bassett <Peter.Bassett@wyreforestdc.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 07 June 2018 10:38  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Cc:** Paul Round; Peter Bassett  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Joshua

Thank you for your email: I was away on holiday when it arrived.

For your information I have provided comments on this application to Paul Round Development Manager at Wyre Forest District Council on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018. I believe that he will forward all comments from Wyre Forest District Council to you directly. In case you need to speak to him Paul's telephone number is 01562 732516.

Regards

Peter

**Peter Bassett**  
Conservation Officer  
Wyre Forest District Council  
01562 732536 / +44 7815 296012  
Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY11 7WF  
[Peter.Bassett@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Bassett@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

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## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Levine, Cody  
**Sent:** 25 May 2018 15:50  
**To:** Development Control team  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Hi Josh,  
Apologies for the delay, here are my thoughts on the EIA Scoping request:

We concur that proposals constitute an EIA scheme under The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, specifically as per Schedule 2 Column 2(a).

We welcome the proposal to provide detailed consideration of Ecology as part of the Environmental Statement.

We support the proposal to undertake an Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) in line with current CIEEM guidance (Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland, 2nd Ed, January 2016) and advise that practice and reporting should be compliant with BS42020:2013 (Biodiversity: Code of Practice for Planning and Development).

Noting the proximity to sites of local (i.e. county) importance, including the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal and River Stour Local Wildlife Sites and Grassland Inventory sites including Cookley Rough, we ask that the application documents consider locally important sites in line with Worcestershire County Council's Planning Validation Document (please refer to Appendix 1).

We note the proximity of this site to the Wyre Forest Biodiversity Delivery Area and request that the application and detailed restoration strategy draw appropriate reference to both the Worcestershire Biodiversity Action Plan and Biodiversity Delivery Area priorities; it is widely recognised that mineral extraction poses significant opportunities to contribute toward BAP objectives and the County Planning Authority expects these objectives will be reflected in a meaningful way within the final restoration strategy; it is our preference that priority habitats to be created are established within manageable blocks as these will be more economically sustainable to manage over the longer-term. "Ribbons" of otherwise unconnected grassland habitats, unless designed specifically as an ecologically connective feature, will likely have greater maintenance costs with relatively lower ecological value.

With regards baseline information, we direct the applicant to Worcestershire County Council's Worcestershire Habitat Inventory website, particularly with reference to the spatial extent and distribution of priority habitat networks and the opportunities which mineral site restoration strategies can realise in order to contribute towards their coherence and resilience.

We note the Green Infrastructure requirements within the emerging Minerals Local Plan and direct the applicant to the Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Framework document 1 and particularly to the Hagley Hinterland Environmental Character Area where the GI objectives are to "restore environmental quality", specifically: Wyre Forest's acidic grassland and wooded habitats. With regards creation and maintenance of these habitats, the applicant's attention is drawn to the Technical Research Paper: Biodiversity and Mineral Sites in Worcestershire, Guidance for the Sustainable Management of Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats at Worcestershire Mineral Sites, specifically Appendix 2 "Habitat Creation Toolbox".

We recommend a Green Infrastructure Concept Plan is prepared for this site and submitted in support of the application so as to provide sufficiently detailed treatment demonstrating the cohesion between and long-term positive management of GI assets within each of the pertinent GI themes. Further information and advice is available on request.

An assessment of alternatives, including the 'no project' option, should be provided within the Environmental Statement.



Finally, a strategy to evaluate the viability and effectiveness of primary, secondary and tertiary mitigation measures for any forecast likely significant environmental effects is requested. An appropriately detailed environmental mitigation measure monitoring and reporting framework should be articulated within the Environmental Statement; the Framework should address frequency/duration/methodology/roles/reporting/intervention triggers and contingencies in the event that mitigation measures do not achieve set thresholds of 'success' over a reasonable aftercare period.

I hope the information is of assistance.

Kind regards.  
Cody

---

**From:** Development Control team  
**Sent:** 10 May 2018 16:17  
**To:** Barker, Emily  
**Cc:** Levine, Cody  
**Subject:** Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Emily/Cody,

Please read the attached consultation letter.

Thank you,

**Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485  
**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)



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Mr Joshua Scholes  
Worcestershire County Council  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
WR5 2NP

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6860

Our ref: PL00403142

31 May 2018

Dear Mr Scholes

**LAND AT LEA CASTLE FARM, NEAR WOLVERLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE**  
**Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry, and Restoration works**  
**18/000023/SCO**

Thank you for your letter of 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018 consulting Historic England on the scoping for the Environmental Impact Assessment for the above site.

This quarry development could, potentially, have an impact upon several designated heritage assets and their settings in the area around the site. In line with the advice in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), we would expect the Environmental Statement to contain a thorough assessment which identifies the heritage assets which could be effected, the elements which contribute to their significance (including setting), the likely impacts of the development upon the elements, and any resulting benefit, loss or harm to their significance. This should consider the impact from both the quarrying activities and any subsequent restoration works, including any restoration works which introduces a different land-use / management / landscape than the existing.

The designated heritage assets include, but are not limited to the Wolverley and Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Conservation Areas to the west and northwest as well as several grade II listed buildings.

The assessment should give full consideration to the potential impact associated activities (such as construction, maintenance, traffic, noise, and light) might have upon perceptions, understanding and appreciation of the heritage assets in the area. The assessment should also consider, where appropriate, the likelihood of alterations to drainage patterns that might lead to *in situ* decomposition or destruction of below ground archaeological remains and deposits, and can also lead to subsidence of buildings and monuments.

We would expect the Environmental Statement to also consider the potential impacts on non-designated features of historic, architectural, archaeological or



THE AXIS 10 HOLLIDAY STREET BIRMINGHAM B1 1TF

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artistic interest. These can be of national importance and make an important contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of an area and its sense of place. Of particular note we would highlight that any archaeological assessment should also consider the potential impact to Palaeolithic sediments and artefacts within this area, as well as organic deposits and palaeochannels. Should there be potential for waterlogged archaeology, the archaeological assessment would need to cross referenced with any hydrological studies being undertaken to ensure this is taken into account.

We would strongly recommend that consultation should be undertaken with the Worcestershire Historic Environment Record, the Historic Environment Advisor at Worcestershire County Council's Archive & Archaeology Service, and the Conservation Officer at Wyre Forest District Council. They are best placed to advise on: local historic environment issues and priorities; how the proposal can be tailored to avoid and minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of heritage assets.

If you have any queries about any of the above, or would like to discuss anything further, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Carter  
Inspector of Ancient Monuments  
[nick.carter@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:nick.carter@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

CC:  
Emma Hancox, Historic Environment Policy and Advisory Manager, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council

Adam Mindykowski Historic Environment Adviser, Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council



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To | Joshua Scholes

**M E M O**

Copy to

From

My ref

Adam Mindykowski

CWR12647

Date

11<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Your ref

18/000023/SCO

**Proposal:** Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme

**Location:** Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire

---

Dear Josh,

**Scoping Opinion for 18/000023/SCO: Landscape and Visual Impact**

Thank you for your consultation request concerning the above. I have considered the Scoping Report in the context of potential landscape and visual impact and offer the following comments for your consideration.

The Report states that a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment will be prepared in line with methods set out in GLVIA 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Some key points the Assessment will need to consider include:

The site is contained within the broad landscape character type Sandstone Estatelands (as identified in the Scoping Report). While this should inform the LVIA, it is important to note the setting of the site is located within a transitional landscape that moves from a more typical Sandstone Estatelands character, east of the site, toward a post-medieval historic landscape character of mixed irregular fields, meadows and woodland, influenced in part, by the Stour Valley.

In addition, the site is within an area of former post-medieval designed landscape, which adds another layer of inherited character and includes distinctive structural features and historic buildings the settings of which will be affected by the proposed quarry. The nuances in this landscape setting therefore will need to be addressed in the LVIA in order to accurately assess sensitivity, impact, mitigation and define restoration opportunities.

In support of the above, I request that Worcestershire County Council is consulted in advance of production of the LVIA in order to agree view points for the assessment.

Finally, the Stour and Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal corridor is a strategic Green Infrastructure link that should inform further refinements of the

restoration strategy for the site, which should include opportunities to create, enhance and connect with existing landscape assets that provide an east-west framework of connected habitats linked to the strategic corridor.

That concludes my comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Adam

Adam Mindykowski  
Acting Landscape Advisor  
01905 844873  
[amindykowski@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:amindykowski@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** noreply@linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk  
**Sent:** 04 June 2018 10:24  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** LSBUD-180604-12974673  
**Attachments:** LSBUD-180604-12974673.PDF

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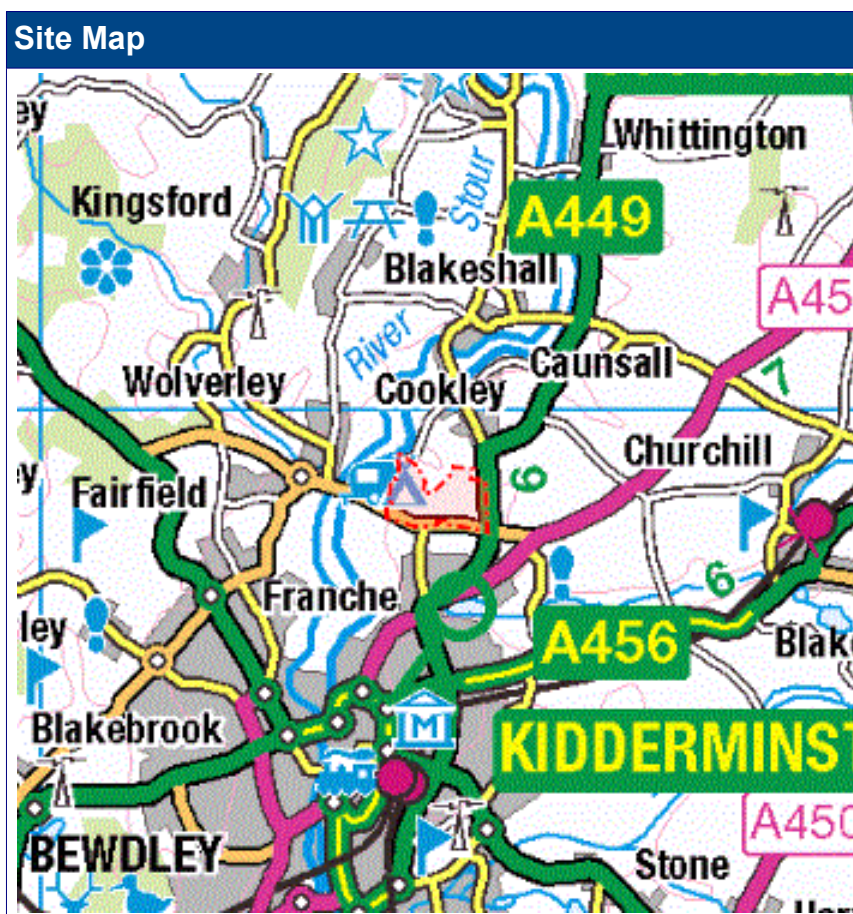
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#####

Enquirer			
Name	Mr Joshua Scholes	Phone	01905844485
Company	Worcestershire County Council	Mobile	07985601739
		Fax	Not Supplied
Address	Worcestershire County Council County Hall, Spetchley Road Worcester Worcestershire WR52NP		
Email	jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk		
Notes	Please ensure your contact details are correct and up to date on the system in case the LSBUD Members need to contact you.		

Enquiry Details			
Scheme/Reference	18/000023/SCO		
Enquiry type	Initial Enquiry	Work category	Mineral Extraction
Start date	01/11/2018	Work type	Sand & gravel
End date	01/01/2029	Site size	538643 metres square
Searched location	XY= 384095, 279047	Work type buffer*	300 metres
Confirmed location	384340 279129		

\* The WORK TYPE BUFFER is a distance added to your search area based on the Work type you have chosen.



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  - a. These LSBUD Members will either:
    - i. Ask for further information ("Email Additional Info" noted in status). The additional information includes: Site contact name and number, Location plan, Detailed plan (minimum scale 1:2500), Cross sectional drawings (if available), Work Specification.
    - ii. Respond directly to you ("Await Response"). In this response they may either send plans directly to you or ask for further information before being able to do so, particularly if any payments or authorisations are required.
2. **LSBUD Members who do not have assets registered within your search area. ("Not Affected")**
3. **Non LSBUD Members who may have assets within your search area.** Please note that this list is not exhaustive and all details are provided as a guide only. It is your responsibility to identify and consult with all asset owners before proceeding.

**National Grid.** Please note that the LSBUD service only contains information on National Grid's Gas above 7 bar asset, all National Grid Electricity Transmission assets and National Grid's Gas Distribution Limited above 2 bar asset.

For National Grid Gas Distribution Ltd below 2 bar asset information please go to [www.beforeyoudig.nationalgrid.com](http://www.beforeyoudig.nationalgrid.com)



**LSBUD Members who have assets registered on the LSBUD service within the vicinity of your search area.**

### List of affected LSBUD members

Asset Owner	Phone/Email	Emergency Only	Status
Western Power Distribution	08000963080	08006783105	Await response

**LSBUD Members who do not have assets registered on the LSBUD service within the vicinity of your search area. Please be aware that LSBUD Members make regular changes to their assets and this list may vary for new enquiries in the same area.**

### List of not affected LSBUD members

AWE Pipeline	Gateshead Energy Company	Prysmian Cables & Systems Ltd (c/o Western Link)
BOC Limited (A Member of the Linde Group)	Gigaclear PLC	Redundant Pipelines - LPDA
BP Exploration Operating Company Limited	Gtt	RWEnpower (Little Barford and South Haven)
BPA	Humbly Grove Energy	SABIC UK Petrochemicals
Carrington Gas Pipeline	IGas Energy	Scottish Power Generation
CATS Pipeline c/o Wood Group PSN	INEOS FPS Pipelines	Seabank Power Ltd
Cemex	INEOS Manufacturing (Scotland and TSEP)	SGN
Centrica Storage Ltd	INOVYN Enterprises Limited	Shell (St Fergus to Mossmorran)
CLH Pipeline System Ltd	Intergen (Coryton Energy or Spalding Energy)	Shell Pipelines
Concept Solutions People Ltd	Mainline Pipelines Limited	SSE (Peterhead Power Station)
ConocoPhillips (UK) Ltd	Manchester Jetline Limited	Tata Communications (c/o JSM Construction Ltd)
DIO (MOD Abandoned Pipelines)	Manx Cable Company	Total (Colnbrook & Colwick Pipelines)
E.ON UK CHP Limited	Marchwood Power Ltd (Gas Pipeline)	Total Finaline Pipelines
EirGrid	Melbourn Solar Limited	Transmission Capital
Electricity North West Limited	National Grid Gas (Above 7 bar), National Grid Gas Distribution Limited (Above 2 bar) and National Grid Electricity Transmission	UK Power Networks
ENI & Himor c/o Penspen Ltd	Northumbrian Water Group	Uniper UK Ltd
EnQuest NNS Limited	NPower CHP Pipelines	Vattenfall
EP Langage Limited	Oikos Storage Limited	Veolia ES SELCHP Limited
ESP Utilities Group	Ørsted	Westminster City Council
ESSAR	Perenco UK Limited (Purbeck Southampton Pipeline)	Wingas Storage UK Ltd
Esso Petroleum Company Limited	Petroineos	Zayo Group UK Ltd c/o JSM Group Ltd
Fulcrum Pipelines Limited	Phillips 66	
Gamma	Premier Transmission Ltd (SNIP)	

The following Non-LSBUD Members may have assets in your search area. It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to contact them before proceeding. Please be aware this list is not exhaustive and it is your responsibility to identify and contact all asset owners within your search area.

Non-LSBUD members (Asset owners not registered on LSBUD)			
Asset Owner	Preferred contact method	Phone	Status
BT	<a href="https://www.swns.bt.com/pls/mbe/welcome.home">https://www.swns.bt.com/pls/mbe/welcome.home</a>	08009173993	Not Notified
CenturyLink Communications UK Limited	<a href="mailto:plantenquiries@instalcom.co.uk">plantenquiries@instalcom.co.uk</a>	02087314613	Not Notified
CityFibre	<a href="mailto:asset.team@cityfibre.com">asset.team@cityfibre.com</a>	033 3150 7282	Not Notified
Colt	<a href="mailto:plantenquiries@catelecomuk.com">plantenquiries@catelecomuk.com</a>	01227768427	Not Notified
Energetics Electricity	<a href="mailto:plantenquiries@energetics-uk.com">plantenquiries@energetics-uk.com</a>	01698404646	Not Notified
ENGIE	<a href="mailto:nrswa@cofely-gdfsuez.com">nrswa@cofely-gdfsuez.com</a>	01293 549944	Not Notified
GTC	<a href="https://pe.gtc-uk.co.uk/PlantEnqMembership">https://pe.gtc-uk.co.uk/PlantEnqMembership</a>	01359240363	Not Notified
Interoute	<a href="mailto:interoute.enquiries@plancast.co.uk">interoute.enquiries@plancast.co.uk</a>	02070259000	Not Notified
KPN (c/-Instalcom)	<a href="mailto:kpn.plantenquiries@instalcom.co.uk">kpn.plantenquiries@instalcom.co.uk</a>	n/a	Not Notified
Mobile Broadband Network Limited	<a href="mailto:mbnl.plant.enquiries@turntown.com">mbnl.plant.enquiries@turntown.com</a>	01212 621 100	Not Notified
National Grid Gas Distribution (below 2 bar)	<a href="mailto:plantprotection@nationalgrid.com">plantprotection@nationalgrid.com</a>	0800688588	Not Notified
Severn Trent Water	<a href="https://www.stwater.co.uk/developers/request-a-water/sewer-map/">https://www.stwater.co.uk/developers/request-a-water/sewer-map/</a>	01214523306	Not Notified
Sky UK Limited	<a href="mailto:nrswa@sky.uk">nrswa@sky.uk</a>	02070323234	Not Notified
Sota	<a href="mailto:SOTA.plantenquiries@instalcom.co.uk">SOTA.plantenquiries@instalcom.co.uk</a>		Not Notified
Utility assets Ltd	<a href="mailto:assetrecords@utilityassets.co.uk">assetrecords@utilityassets.co.uk</a>		Not Notified
Verizon Business	<a href="mailto:osp-team@uk.verizonbusiness.com">osp-team@uk.verizonbusiness.com</a>	01293611736	Not Notified
Virgin Media	<a href="http://www.digdat.co.uk">http://www.digdat.co.uk</a>	08708883116	Not Notified
Vodafone	<a href="mailto:osm.enquiries@atkinsglobal.com">osm.enquiries@atkinsglobal.com</a>	01454662881	Not Notified
Vtesse Networks	<a href="https://plant.interoute.com/plant-enquiries/">https://plant.interoute.com/plant-enquiries/</a>	01992532100	Not Notified
Worcestershire County	<a href="mailto:customer&amp;community@worcestershire.gov.uk">customer&amp;community@worcestershire.gov.uk</a>	01905768210	Not Notified
Worcestershire County (Street Lighting)	<a href="mailto:streetlighting@worcestershire.gov.uk">streetlighting@worcestershire.gov.uk</a>	01905766823	Not Notified

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## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Muller, Antony (NE) <Antony.Muller@naturalengland.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 31 May 2018 13:03  
**To:** Development Control team  
**Cc:** Driver, Gillian (NE)  
**Subject:** FAO Joshua Scholes- Lea Castle EIA Scoping response  
**Attachments:** 246782\_EIA scoping\_Lea\_Castle\_Response\_31.5.18.pdf

Dear Joshua

I attach our response to your recent consultation:

Kind regards

Antony Muller

Lead Adviser

Planning for a Better Environment – West Midlands Area Team

Direct dial – 0208 026 0939

Mobile - 07971 294109

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/>

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Date: 31 May 2018  
Our ref: 246782  
Your ref: **18/000023/SCO**



Worcestershire County Council

FAO Joshua Scholes

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Customer Services  
Hornbeam House  
Crewe Business Park  
Electra Way  
Crewe  
Cheshire  
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Joshua

**Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping consultation (Regulation 15 (3) (i) of the EIA Regulations 2011): Proposed Sand & Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme  
Location: Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire**

Thank you for seeking our advice on the scope of the Environmental Statement (ES) in your consultation dated 10 May 2018 which we received on 10 May 2018.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Case law<sup>1</sup> and guidance<sup>2</sup> has stressed the need for a full set of environmental information to be available for consideration prior to a decision being taken on whether or not to grant planning permission.

We note and agree with the list of themes requiring assessment as described at section 5.5 of the submitted scoping report. Annex A to this letter provides Natural England's further, detailed advice on the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for this development.

Should the proposal be amended in a way which significantly affects its impact on the natural environment then, in accordance with Section 4 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, Natural England should be consulted again.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us. For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Gillian Driver on 020 802 60995. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Antony Muller  
Lead Adviser – Planning for a Better Environment Team – West Midlands

---

<sup>1</sup> Harrison, J in *R. v. Cornwall County Council ex parte Hardy* (2001)

<sup>2</sup> *Note on Environmental Impact Assessment Directive for Local Planning Authorities* Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (April 2004) available from <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/sustainability/environmental/environmentalimpactassessment/noteenvironmental/>

## **Annex A – Advice related to EIA Scoping Requirements**

### **1. General Principles**

Schedule 4 of the Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011, sets out the necessary information to assess impacts on the natural environment to be included in an ES, specifically:

- A description of the development – including physical characteristics and the full land use requirements of the site during construction and operational phases.
- Expected residues and emissions (water, air and soil pollution, noise, vibration, light, heat, radiation, etc.) resulting from the operation of the proposed development.
- An assessment of alternatives and clear reasoning as to why the preferred option has been chosen.
- A description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the development, including, in particular, population, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, including the architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.
- A description of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment – this should cover direct effects but also any indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects. Effects should relate to the existence of the development, the use of natural resources and the emissions from pollutants. This should also include a description of the forecasting methods to predict the likely effects on the environment.
- A description of the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and where possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment.
- A non-technical summary of the information.
- An indication of any difficulties (technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered by the applicant in compiling the required information.

It will be important for any assessment to consider the potential cumulative effects of this proposal, including all supporting infrastructure, with other similar proposals and a thorough assessment of the 'in combination' effects of the proposed development with any existing developments and current applications. A full consideration of the implications of the whole scheme should be included in the ES. All supporting infrastructure should be included within the assessment.

### **2. Biodiversity and Geology**

#### **2.1 Ecological Aspects of an Environmental Statement**

Natural England advises that the potential impact of the proposal upon features of nature conservation interest and opportunities for habitat creation/enhancement should be included within this assessment in accordance with appropriate guidance on such matters. Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) have been developed by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) and are available on their website.

EclA is the process of identifying, quantifying and evaluating the potential impacts of defined actions on ecosystems or their components. EclA may be carried out as part of the EIA process or to support other forms of environmental assessment or appraisal.

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out guidance in S.118 on how to take account of biodiversity interests in planning decisions and the framework that local authorities should provide to assist developers.

## 2.2 Internationally and Nationally Designated Sites

The ES should thoroughly assess the potential for the proposal to affect designated sites. European sites (e.g. designated Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas) fall within the scope of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. In addition paragraph 118 of the National Planning Policy Framework requires that potential Special Protection Areas, possible Special Areas of Conservation, listed or proposed Ramsar sites, and any site identified as being necessary to compensate for adverse impacts on classified, potential or possible SPAs, SACs and Ramsar sites be treated in the same way as classified sites.

Under Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 an appropriate assessment needs to be undertaken in respect of any plan or project which is (a) likely to have a significant effect on a European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) and (b) not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site.

Should a Likely Significant Effect on a European/Internationally designated site be identified or be uncertain, the competent authority (in this case the Local Planning Authority) may need to prepare an Appropriate Assessment, in addition to consideration of impacts through the EIA process.

### **Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and sites of European or international importance (Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and Ramsar sites)**

The development site is within the vicinity of the following designated nature conservation site(s):

- Stourvale Marsh SSSI and Puxton Marsh SSSI lie to the south west of the proposed site. Hurcott Pasture SSSI and Hurcott and Podmore Pools SSSI lie to the south-east. All are within 1km of the site. Wilden Marsh and Meadows SSSI lies 4km downstream on the River Stour.
- Further information on the SSSI and its special interest features can be found at [www.magic.gov](http://www.magic.gov). The Environmental Statement should include a full assessment of the direct and indirect effects of the development on the features of special interest within these sites and should identify such mitigation measures as may be required in order to avoid, minimise or reduce any adverse significant effects.
- Natura 2000 network site conservation objectives are available on our internet site <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/6490068894089216>

## 2.3 Regionally and Locally Important Sites

The EIA will need to consider any impacts upon local wildlife and geological sites. Local Sites are identified by the local wildlife trust, geoconservation group or a local forum established for the purposes of identifying and selecting local sites. They are of county importance for wildlife or geodiversity. The Environmental Statement should therefore include an assessment of the likely impacts on the wildlife and geodiversity interests of such sites. The assessment should include proposals for mitigation of any impacts and if appropriate, compensation measures. Contact the local wildlife trust, geoconservation group or local sites body in this area for further information.

Worcestershire Biological Records Centre - <http://www.wbrc.org.uk/wbrc/index.html>

## 2.4 Protected Species - Species protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

The ES should assess the impact of all phases of the proposal on protected species (including, for example, great crested newts, reptiles, birds, water voles, badgers and bats). Natural England does not hold comprehensive information regarding the locations of species protected by law, but advises on the procedures and legislation relevant to such species. Records of protected species should be sought from appropriate local biological record centres, nature conservation organisations, groups and individuals; and consideration should be given to the wider context of the site for example in terms of habitat linkages and protected species populations in the wider area, to assist in the impact assessment.

The conservation of species protected by law is explained in Part IV and Annex A of Government Circular 06/2005 *Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System*. The area likely to be affected by the proposal should be thoroughly surveyed by competent ecologists at appropriate times of year for relevant species and the survey results, impact assessments and appropriate accompanying mitigation strategies included as part of the ES.

In order to provide this information there may be a requirement for a survey at a particular time of year. Surveys should always be carried out in optimal survey time periods and to current guidance by suitably qualified and where necessary, licensed, consultants. Natural England has adopted [standing advice](#) for protected species which includes links to guidance on survey and mitigation.

## **2.5 Habitats and Species of Principal Importance**

The ES should thoroughly assess the impact of the proposals on habitats and/or species listed as 'Habitats and Species of Principal Importance' within the England Biodiversity List, published under the requirements of S41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006. Section 40 of the NERC Act 2006 places a general duty on all public authorities, including local planning authorities, to conserve and enhance biodiversity. Further information on this duty is available here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-duty-public-authority-duty-to-have-regard-to-conserving-biodiversity>.

Government Circular 06/2005 states that Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species and habitats, 'are capable of being a material consideration...in the making of planning decisions'. Natural England therefore advises that survey, impact assessment and mitigation proposals for Habitats and Species of Principal Importance should be included in the ES. Consideration should also be given to those species and habitats included in the relevant Local BAP.

Natural England advises that a habitat survey (equivalent to Phase 2) is carried out on the site, in order to identify any important habitats present. In addition, ornithological, botanical and invertebrate surveys should be carried out at appropriate times in the year, to establish whether any scarce or priority species are present. The Environmental Statement should include details of:

- Any historical data for the site affected by the proposal (e.g. from previous surveys);
- Additional surveys carried out as part of this proposal;
- The habitats and species present;
- The status of these habitats and species (e.g. whether priority species or habitat);
- The direct and indirect effects of the development upon those habitats and species;
- Full details of any mitigation or compensation that might be required.

The development should seek if possible to avoid adverse impact on sensitive areas for wildlife within the site, and if possible provide opportunities for overall wildlife gain.

The record centre for the relevant Local Authorities should be able to provide the relevant information on the location and type of priority habitat for the area under consideration.

## **2.6 Contacts for Local Records**

Natural England does not hold local information on local sites, local landscape character and local or national biodiversity priority habitats and species. We recommend that you seek further information from the appropriate bodies (which may include the local records centre, the local wildlife trust, local geoconservation group or other recording society and a local landscape characterisation document).

Worcestershire Biological Records Centre - <http://www.wbrc.org.uk/wbrc/index.html>



### **3. Designated Landscapes and Landscape Character**

#### **Landscape and visual impacts**

Natural England would wish to see details of local landscape character areas mapped at a scale appropriate to the development site as well as any relevant management plans or strategies pertaining to the area. The EIA should include assessments of visual effects on the surrounding area and landscape together with any physical effects of the development, such as changes in topography. The European Landscape Convention places a duty on Local Planning Authorities to consider the impacts of landscape when exercising their functions.

The EIA should include a full assessment of the potential impacts of the development on local landscape character using [landscape assessment methodologies](#). We encourage the use of Landscape Character Assessment (LCA), based on the good practice guidelines produced jointly by the Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Assessment in 2013. LCA provides a sound basis for guiding, informing and understanding the ability of any location to accommodate change and to make positive proposals for conserving, enhancing or regenerating character, as detailed proposals are developed.

Natural England supports the publication *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment*, produced by the Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Assessment and Management in 2013 (3rd edition). The methodology set out is almost universally used for landscape and visual impact assessment.

In order to foster high quality development that respects, maintains, or enhances, local landscape character and distinctiveness, Natural England encourages all new development to consider the character and distinctiveness of the area, with the siting and design of the proposed development reflecting local design characteristics and, wherever possible, using local materials. The Environmental Impact Assessment process should detail the measures to be taken to ensure the building design will be of a high standard, as well as detail of layout alternatives together with justification of the selected option in terms of landscape impact and benefit.

The assessment should also include the cumulative effect of the development with other relevant existing or proposed developments in the area. In this context Natural England advises that the cumulative impact assessment should include other proposals currently at Scoping stage. Due to the overlapping timescale of their progress through the planning system, cumulative impact of the proposed development with those proposals currently at Scoping stage would be likely to be a material consideration at the time of determination of the planning application.

The assessment should refer to the relevant [National Character Areas](#) which can be found on our website. Links for Landscape Character Assessment at a local level are also available on the same page.

#### **Heritage Landscapes**

You should consider whether there is land in the area affected by the development which qualifies for conditional exemption from capital taxes on the grounds of outstanding scenic, scientific or historic interest. An up-to-date list may be obtained at [www.hmrc.gov.uk/heritage/lbsearch.htm](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/heritage/lbsearch.htm).

### **4. Access and Recreation**

Natural England encourages any proposal to incorporate measures to help encourage people to



access the countryside for quiet enjoyment. Measures such as reinstating existing footpaths together with the creation of new footpaths and bridleways are to be encouraged. Links to other green networks and, where appropriate, urban fringe areas should also be explored to help promote the creation of wider green infrastructure. Relevant aspects of local authority green infrastructure strategies should be incorporated where appropriate.

### **Rights of Way, Access land, Coastal access and National Trails**

The EIA should consider potential impacts on access land, public open land, rights of way and coastal access routes in the vicinity of the development. Consideration should also be given to the potential impacts on the adjacent/nearby [Click here to enter text](#). National Trail. The National Trails website [www.nationaltrail.co.uk](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk) provides information including contact details for the National Trail Officer. Appropriate mitigation measures should be incorporated for any adverse impacts. We also recommend reference to the relevant Right of Way Improvement Plans (ROWIP) to identify public rights of way within or adjacent to the proposed site that should be maintained or enhanced.

### **5. Soil and Agricultural Land Quality**

Impacts from the development should be considered in light of the Government's policy for the protection of the best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land as set out in paragraph 112 of the NPPF. We also recommend that soils should be considered under a more general heading of sustainable use of land and the ecosystem services they provide as a natural resource in line with paragraph 109 of the NPPF.

Soil is a finite resource that fulfils many important functions and services (ecosystem services) for society, for example as a growing medium for food, timber and other crops, as a store for carbon and water, as a reservoir of biodiversity and as a buffer against pollution. It is therefore important that the soil resources are protected and used sustainably.

The following issues should therefore be considered in detail as part of the Environmental Statement:

1. The degree to which soils would be disturbed/harmed as part of this development and whether any 'best and most versatile' agricultural land would be affected.

If required, an agricultural land classification and soil survey of the land should be undertaken, normally at a detailed level (eg one auger boring per hectare supported by pits dug in each main soil type), to confirm the soil physical characteristics of the full depth of soil resource ie 1.2 metres.

For further information on the availability of existing agricultural land classification (ALC) information see [www.magic.gov.uk](http://www.magic.gov.uk) . Natural England Technical Information Note 049 - [Agricultural Land Classification: protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land](#) also contains useful explanatory information.

2. Proposals for handling different types of topsoil and subsoil and the storage of soils and their management whilst in store.

Reference could usefully be made to [MAFF's Good Practice Guide for Handling Soils](#) which comprises separate sections, describing the typical choice of machinery and method of their use for handling soils at various phases. The techniques described by Sheets 1-4 are recommended for the successful reinstatement of higher quality soils.

3. The method of assessing whether soils are in a suitably dry condition to be handled (ie dry and friable), and the avoidance of soil handling, trafficking and cultivation during the wetter winter period.

4. A description of the proposed depths and soil types of the restored soil profiles; normally to an overall depth of 1.2 m over an evenly graded overburden layer.
5. The effects on land drainage, agricultural access and water supplies, including other agricultural land in the vicinity.
6. The impacts of the development on farm structure and viability, and on other established rural land use and interests, both during the site working period and following its reclamation.
7. A detailed Restoration Plan illustrating the restored landform and the proposed afteruses, together with details of surface features, water bodies and the availability of outfalls to accommodate future drainage requirements.

Further relevant guidance is also contained in the [Defra Guidance for Successful Restoration of Mineral and Waste Sites](#).

As identified in the NPPF new sites or extensions to new sites for peat extraction should not be granted permission by Local Planning Authorities or proposed in development plans.

## **6. Air Quality**

Air quality in the UK has improved over recent decades but air pollution remains a significant issue; for example over 97% of sensitive habitat area in England is predicted to exceed the critical loads for ecosystem protection from atmospheric nitrogen deposition ([England Biodiversity Strategy](#), Defra 2011). A priority action in the England Biodiversity Strategy is to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity. The planning system plays a key role in determining the location of developments which may give rise to pollution, either directly or from traffic generation, and hence planning decisions can have a significant impact on the quality of air, water and land. The assessment should take account of the risks of air pollution and how these can be managed or reduced. Further information on air pollution impacts and the sensitivity of different habitats/designated sites can be found on the Air Pollution Information System ([www.apis.ac.uk](http://www.apis.ac.uk)). Further information on air pollution modelling and assessment can be found on the Environment Agency website.

## **7. Climate Change Adaptation**

The [England Biodiversity Strategy](#) published by Defra establishes principles for the consideration of biodiversity and the effects of climate change. The ES should reflect these principles and identify how the development's effects on the natural environment will be influenced by climate change, and how ecological networks will be maintained. The NPPF requires that the planning system should contribute to the enhancement of the natural environment 'by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures' ([NPPF](#) Para 109), which should be demonstrated through the ES.

## **8. Contribution to local environmental initiatives and priorities**

The EIA offers a valuable opportunity to identify how the design and implementation of this scheme can meet the policy requirements of both the emerging Minerals Local Plan (Third consultation)<sup>3</sup> and that for the Wyre Forest District (Preferred Options)<sup>4</sup>. The district level local plan provides information on proposed housing and employment sites that allows an understanding of the EIA site's relationship with these and how EIA consideration of the themes described in this annex can achieve multiple and interlinked benefits.

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/7615/minerals\\_local\\_plan\\_third\\_stage\\_consultation](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/7615/minerals_local_plan_third_stage_consultation)

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/media/3024571/-Preferred-Options-Document-June-2017-R.pdf>

## **9. Cumulative and in-combination effects**

A full consideration of the implications of the whole scheme should be included in the ES. All supporting infrastructure should be included within the assessment.

The ES should include an impact assessment to identify, describe and evaluate the effects that are likely to result from the project in combination with other projects and activities that are being, have been or will be carried out. The following types of projects should be included in such an assessment, (subject to available information):

- a. existing completed projects;
- b. approved but uncompleted projects;
- c. ongoing activities;
- d. plans or projects for which an application has been made and which are under consideration by the consenting authorities; and
- e. plans and projects which are reasonably foreseeable, i.e. projects for which an application has not yet been submitted, but which are likely to progress before completion of the development and for which sufficient information is available to assess the likelihood of cumulative and in-combination effects.

### **Ancient Woodland – addition to the S41 NERC Act paragraph**

The S41 list includes six priority woodland habitats, which will often be ancient woodland, with all ancient semi-natural woodland in the South East falling into one or more of the six types.

Information about ancient woodland can be found in Natural England's standing advice [http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/standing-advice-ancient-woodland\\_tcm6-32633.pdf](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/standing-advice-ancient-woodland_tcm6-32633.pdf).

Ancient woodland is an irreplaceable resource of great importance for its wildlife, its history and the contribution it makes to our diverse landscapes. Local authorities have a vital role in ensuring its conservation, in particular through the planning system. The ES should have regard to the requirements under the NPPF (Para. 118)<sup>2</sup> which states:

'Planning permission should be refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.'

## Bosworth, Hayley

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**From:** Kirsten Huizer <Kirsten.Huizer@nwwm.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 16 May 2018 14:15  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Cc:** Paul Round  
**Subject:** 18/000023/SCO - Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire

Hi Josh,

I have reviewed the scoping report submitted for application 18/000023/SCO - Scoping Opinion for Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme at Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire

I understand that the proposal is for the extraction for circa 3 million tonnes sand and gravel over a period of 10 years with the site restored progressively utilising both indigenous soils and overburden and approximately 600,000 tonnes of imported inert materials.

The site is located within the catchments of the Stour and the Blakedown Brook, which is a tributary of the Stour. The site does not contain an abundance of natural or manmade surface water drainage features, which suggests that the area is currently predominantly drained via infiltration. Infiltrated water slowly recharges the wetland SSSIs that are present in the valleys to the west (Stour: Puxton and Stourvale Marsh) and to the east (Blakedown Brook: Hurcott and Podmore Pools).

The scoping report includes the statement that the development lies about 30-40 metres above the local ground water table. This will presumably mean that no or only limited dewatering will be required.

The scoping report details that there is a limited potential for the works to have an impact upon water related issues but that in accordance with good practice a Hydrological, Hydrogeological and Flood Risk Assessment will be carried out. To ensure that all aspects will be covered, I would request that you set out that this assessment shall as a minimum cover the following:

- Hydrology and hydrogeology of the site and the interaction with the surrounding areas (including the water dependent SSSIs);
- Flood risk on the site itself and the effects of the development upon flood risk off the site;
- Effects of the proposed development both during operational phase (including dewatering) and following restoration (effect of imported inert materials); and
- Methods to safeguard ground and surface water.

We would request that the application will be accompanied by a surface water drainage strategy (standalone or incorporated into the Hydrological, Hydrogeological and Flood Risk Assessment) that sets out how surface water will be dealt with both during the operational phase and following restoration. We would seek compliance with the non statutory technical standards for SuDS (Defra, 2015).

Best wishes,

Kirsten



**Kirsten Huizer**

Senior Water Management Officer

North Worcestershire Water Management

A shared District Council service covering Bromsgrove, Redditch & Wyre Forest

01562 732570

Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, DY11 7WF

[Kirsten.Huizer@nwwm.org.uk](mailto:Kirsten.Huizer@nwwm.org.uk)



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*Our vision is to reduce flood risk while protecting and enhancing the water environment and encouraging sustainable water management*

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## Bosworth, Hayley

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**From:** Emma Wilkes <Emma.Wilkes@phe.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 31 May 2018 10:12  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Cc:** Howie, Frances; Kate James  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO  
**Attachments:** Response Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme.pdf

Dear Joshua,

Please find attached the response from PHE regarding the above application.

Kind regards

Emma Wilkes  
Public Health Support Officer,  
Public Health England, West Midlands  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Kidderminster Library  
Market Street  
Kidderminster  
DY10 1AB  
[emma.wilkes@phe.gov.uk](mailto:emma.wilkes@phe.gov.uk)  
Tel: 0344 225 3560 opt 2 Fax: 01562 820525  
[www.gov.uk/phe](http://www.gov.uk/phe) Follow us on Twitter @PHE\_uk  
**Protecting and improving the nation's health**

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**From:** Scholes, Joshua [<mailto:JScholes@worcestershires.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 15 May 2018 11:32  
**To:** DList - M&EE - WestMidlandsWest  
**Cc:** Howie, Frances  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please note that reference to the A4189 Wolverley Road in the consultation is incorrect. This was made in error. The proposed access would be on to the **B4189** Wolverley Road.

Regards,

**Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485  
**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershires.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershires.gov.uk)





# Public Health England

Joshua Scholes  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
WR5 2NP

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

Dear Mr Scholes,

**RE: Scoping Opinion Request**

**Application Ref: 18/000023/SCO Grid Ref: (E) 384095, (N) 279047**

**Applicant: NRS Aggregates Ltd**

**Proposal: Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme**

**Location: Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire**

Thank you for including Public Health England (PHE) in the scoping opinion request for the above application, sent to PHE on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Our response focuses on chemical and environmental related health protection issues. The applicant is seeking to extract approximately 3 million tonnes of sand and gravel over a ten year period. The application site extends to approximately 45 hectares of land, comprising approximately 30 hectares of land for mineral extraction. Access to the site is proposed to be gained via the B4189 Wolverley Road to the south eastern area of the site. This would provide direct access to the A449 Wolverhampton Road and on to Kidderminster and Stourbridge.

To ensure that health is fully and comprehensively considered the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) should provide sufficient information to allow the potential impact of the development on public health to be fully assessed. PHE recommends that the EIA should contain a dedicated section or appendix specifically considering Health.

We understand that the applicant will wish to avoid unnecessary duplication and that many issues including air quality, emissions to water, waste, contaminated land etc. will be covered elsewhere in the EIA. PHE however believes the summation of relevant issues into a specific section of the report provides a focus which ensures that public health is given adequate consideration. The section should summarise key information, risk assessments, proposed mitigation measures, conclusions and residual impacts, relating to human health. Compliance with the requirements of National Policy Statements and relevant guidance and standards should also be highlighted.

The attached appendix outlines generic areas that should be addressed when preparing the EIA. In terms of the level of detail to be included in an EIA, PHE recognises that the differing nature of projects is such that their impacts will vary. PHE's view is that any assessments undertaken to inform the EIA should be proportionate to the potential impacts of the proposal. PHE accepts that in some circumstances particular assessments may not be relevant to an application, or that an assessment may be adequately completed using a qualitative rather than quantitative methodology. In cases where this decision is made the applicant should fully explain and justify their rationale in the submitted documentation.

PHE will be a stakeholder in this process alongside others including public health colleagues in Local Authorities who will most likely be best placed to take the lead agency role. The advice offered by PHE is impartial and independent. PHE is happy to assist the promoter should wish to discuss their proposals further in the light of this advice.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Manjit Singh  
**Environmental Public Health Scientist**



## **Appendix: PHE recommendations regarding the scoping document**

### **General approach**

The EIA should give consideration to best practice guidance such as the Government's Good Practice Guide for EIA<sup>1</sup>. It is important that the EIA identifies and assesses the potential public health impacts of the activities at, and emissions from, the installation. Assessment should consider the development, operational, and decommissioning phases.

It is not PHE's role to undertake these assessments on behalf of operators as this would conflict with PHE's role as an impartial and independent body.

Consideration of alternatives (including alternative sites, choice of process, and the phasing of construction) is widely regarded as good practice. Ideally, the EIA should start at the stage of site and process selection, so that the environmental merits of practicable alternatives can be properly considered. Where this is undertaken, the main alternatives considered should be outlined in the Environmental Statement<sup>2</sup>.

The following text covers a range of issues that PHE would expect to be addressed by the operator. However, this list is not exhaustive and the onus is on the operator to ensure that the relevant public health issues are identified and addressed. PHE's advice and recommendations carry no statutory weight and constitute non-binding guidance.

### **Receptors**

The EIA should clearly identify the development's location and the location and distance of the development from off-site human receptors that may be affected by emissions from, or activities at, the development. Off-site human receptors may include people living in residential premises; people working in commercial, and industrial premises and people using transport infrastructure (such as roads and railways), recreational areas, and publicly-accessible land. Consideration should also be given to environmental receptors such as the surrounding land, watercourses, surface and groundwater, and drinking water supplies such as wells, boreholes and water abstraction points.

### **Impacts arising from construction and decommissioning**

Any assessment of impacts arising from emissions due to construction and decommissioning should consider potential impacts on all receptors and describe monitoring and mitigation during these phases. Construction and decommissioning will be associated with vehicle movements and cumulative impacts should be accounted for.

We would expect the operator to follow best practice guidance during all phases from construction to decommissioning to ensure appropriate measures are in place to mitigate any potential impact on health from emissions (point source, fugitive and traffic-related). An effective Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (and Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP)) will help provide reassurance that activities are well managed. The operator should ensure that there are robust mechanisms in place to

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<sup>1</sup> Environmental Impact Assessment: A guide to good practice and procedures - A consultation paper; 2006; Department for Communities and Local Government. Available from:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/archived/publications/planningandbuilding/environmentalimpactassessment>

<sup>2</sup> DCLG guidance, 1999 <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/155958.pdf>

respond to any complaints of traffic-related pollution, during construction, operation, and decommissioning of the facility.

## **Emissions to air and water**

Significant impacts are unlikely to arise from installations which employ Best Available Techniques (BAT) and which meet regulatory requirements concerning emission limits and design parameters.

When considering a baseline (of existing environmental quality) and in the assessment and future monitoring of impacts these:

- should include appropriate screening assessments and detailed dispersion modelling where this is screened as necessary
- should encompass all pollutants which may be emitted by the installation in combination with all pollutants arising from associated development and transport; ideally these should be considered in a single holistic assessment
- should consider the construction, operational, and decommissioning phases
- should consider the typical operational emissions and emissions from start-up, shut-down, abnormal operation and accidents when assessing potential impacts and include an assessment of worst-case impacts
- should include appropriate estimates of background levels
- should identify cumulative and incremental impacts (i.e. assess cumulative impacts from multiple sources), including those arising from associated development, other existing and proposed development in the local area (e.g. other sites), and new vehicle movements associated with the proposed development; associated transport emissions should include consideration of non-road impacts (i.e. rail, sea, and air, where relevant)
- should include consideration of local authority, Environment Agency, Defra national network, and any other local site-specific sources of monitoring data
- should compare predicted environmental concentrations to the applicable standard or guideline value for the affected medium (such as UK Air Quality Standards and Objectives and Environmental Assessment Levels)
  - If no standard or guideline value exists, the predicted exposure to humans should be estimated and compared to an appropriate health-based value (a Tolerable Daily Intake or equivalent). Further guidance is provided in Annex 1
  - This should consider all applicable routes of exposure e.g. include consideration of aspects such as the deposition of chemicals emitted to air and their uptake via ingestion
- should identify and consider impacts on residential areas and sensitive receptors (such as schools, nursing homes and healthcare facilities) in the area(s) which may be affected by emissions, this should include consideration of any new receptors arising from future development

Whilst screening of impacts using qualitative methodologies is common practice (e.g. for impacts arising from fugitive emissions such as dust), where it is possible to undertake a quantitative assessment of impacts then this should be undertaken.

PHE's view is that the EIA should appraise and describe the measures that will be used to control both point source and fugitive emissions and demonstrate that standards, guideline values or health-based values will not be exceeded due to emissions from the installation, as described above. This should include consideration of any emitted pollutants for which there are no set emission limits. When assessing the potential impact of a proposed installation on environmental quality, predicted environmental concentrations should be compared to the permitted concentrations in the affected media; this should include both standards for short and long-term exposure.

#### ***Additional points specific to emissions to air***

When considering a baseline (of existing air quality) and in the assessment and future monitoring of impacts these:

- should include consideration of impacts on existing areas of poor air quality e.g. existing or proposed local authority Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)
- should consider the contribution, combined with the contribution from other industrial and transport sources, on the background levels of these pollutants in the local area.
- should include modelling using appropriate meteorological data (i.e. from the nearest suitable meteorological station and include a range of years and worst case conditions)
- should include modelling taking into account local topography

#### ***Additional points specific to emissions to water***

When considering a baseline (of existing water quality) and in the assessment and future monitoring of impacts these:

- should include assessment of potential impacts on human health and not focus solely on ecological impacts
- should identify and consider all routes by which emissions may lead to population exposure (e.g. surface watercourses; recreational waters; sewers; geological routes etc.)
- should assess the potential off-site effects of emissions to groundwater (e.g. on aquifers used for drinking water) and surface water (used for drinking water abstraction) in terms of the potential for population exposure. It should be considered that controlled surface waters may be affected by surface activities or by lateral migration of contaminants in groundwater
- should include consideration of potential impacts on recreational users (e.g. from fishing, canoeing etc) alongside assessment of potential exposure via drinking water

#### **Land quality and contamination**

PHE would expect the operator to provide details of any hazardous contamination present on site as part of the site condition report. We would suggest that the EIA utilises the pre-development state as the basis for the assessment. This should include the identification of the detailed baseline site environmental conditions.

Emissions to and from the ground should be considered in terms of the previous history of the site and the potential of the site, once operational, to give rise to issues. Public health impacts associated with ground contamination and/or the migration of material off-site should be assessed<sup>3</sup> and the potential impact on nearby receptors and control and mitigation measures should be outlined.

Relevant areas outlined in the Government's Good Practice Guide for EIA include:

- effects associated with ground contamination that may already exist
- effects associated with the potential for polluting substances that are used (during construction / operation to cause new ground contamination issues on a site, for example introducing / changing the source of contamination
- impacts associated with re-use of soils and waste soils, for example, re-use of site-sourced materials on-site or offsite, disposal of site-sourced materials offsite, importation of materials to the site, etc.
- indicate any difficulties encountered in compiling current and predicted environmental baseline conditions

## **Waste**

The EIA should demonstrate compliance with the waste hierarchy (e.g. with respect to re-use, recycling or recovery and disposal).

For wastes arising from the installation the EIA should consider:

- the implications and wider environmental and public health impacts of different waste disposal options
- the local, regional and national policy context for the management of waste
- disposal route(s) and transport method(s) and how potential impacts on public health will be mitigated.

It is suggested that a detailed review of waste management plans be undertaken, including the proposed waste management options for the waste streams identified as well as alternative treatment measures in the event waste streams cannot be treated by the proposed methods.

## **Other aspects**

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<sup>3</sup> Following the approach outlined in the section above dealing with emissions to air and water i.e. comparing predicted environmental concentrations to the applicable standard or guideline value for the affected medium (such as Soil Guideline Values)

Within the EIA, PHE would expect to see information about how the operator would respond to accidents with potential off-site emissions e.g. flooding or fires, spills, leaks or releases off-site. Assessment of accidents should: identify all potential hazards in relation to construction, operation and decommissioning; include an assessment of the risks posed; and identify risk management measures and contingency actions that will be employed in the event of an accident in order to mitigate off-site effects.

The EIA should include consideration of the COMAH Regulations (Control of Major Accident Hazards) and the Major Accident Off-Site Emergency Plan (Management of Waste from Extractive Industries) (England and Wales) Regulations 2009: both in terms of their applicability to the installation itself, and the installation's potential to impact on, or be impacted by, any nearby installations themselves subject to the these Regulations.

There is evidence that, in some cases, perception of risk may have a greater impact on health than the hazard itself. A 2009 report<sup>4</sup>, jointly published by Liverpool John Moores University and PHE, examined health risk perception and environmental problems using a number of case studies. As a point to consider, the report suggested: "Estimation of community anxiety and stress should be included as part of every risk or impact assessment of proposed plans that involve a potential environmental hazard. This is true even when the physical health risks may be negligible." PHE supports the inclusion of this information within EIAs as good practice.

**Liaison with other stakeholders, comments should be sought from:**

- the local authority Public Health team for matters relating to wider public health issues
- the local authority Environmental Health team (or equivalent) for matters relating to noise, odour, vermin and dust nuisance
- the local authority regarding any site investigation and subsequent construction (and remediation) proposals to ensure that the site could not be determined as 'contaminated land' under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act
- the statutory Council regarding any impacts on existing or proposed Air Quality Management Areas.
- the Food Standards Agency for matters relating to the impact on human health of pollutants deposited on land used for growing food/ crops
- the Environment Agency for matters relating to flood risk and releases with the potential to impact on surface and groundwaters
- the Environment Agency for matters relating to waste characterisation and acceptance

**Environmental Permitting**

Amongst other permits and consents, the development may require an environmental permit from the Environment Agency to operate (under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010). Therefore the installation may need to comply with the

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<sup>4</sup> Available from: <http://www.cph.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2009/06/Health-Risk-Perception-Env-Probs.pdf>

requirements of best available techniques (BAT). PHE is a consultee for bespoke environmental permit applications and will respond separately to any such consultation.

## **Annex 1**

### **Human health risk assessment (chemical pollutants)**

The points below are cross-cutting and should be considered when undertaking a human health risk assessment:

- The operator should consider including Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) numbers alongside chemical names, where referenced in the ES
- Where available, the most recent United Kingdom standards for the appropriate media (e.g. air, water, and/or soil) and health-based guideline values should be used when quantifying the risk to human health from chemical pollutants. Where UK standards or guideline values are not available, those recommended by the European Union or World Health Organization can be used
- When assessing the human health risk of a chemical emitted from a facility or operation, the background exposure to the chemical from other sources should be taken into account
- When quantitatively assessing the health risk of genotoxic and carcinogenic chemical pollutants PHE does not favour the use of mathematical models to extrapolate from high dose levels used in animal carcinogenicity studies to well below the observed region of a dose-response relationship. When only animal data are available, we recommend that the 'Margin of Exposure' (MOE) approach<sup>5</sup> is used

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<sup>5</sup> Benford D et al. 2010. Application of the margin of exposure approach to substances in food that are genotoxic and carcinogenic. Food Chem Toxicol 48 Suppl 1: S2-24

## **Bosworth, Hayley**

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**From:** Douglas Castle <douglas.castle@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** 02 June 2018 06:46  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Application 18/000023/SCO - Scoping Opinion for Proposed Extraction of Sand and Gravel at Lea Castle Farm, Cookley  
**Attachments:** RA.Letter.935.doc

Dear Joshua

Attached is Ramblers' response to your request for comments on the above application.

Regards

Douglas





Douglas Castle.  
Ramblers Association, Worcestershire Area Footpath Secretary.  
Email: [douglas.castle@hotmail.com](mailto:douglas.castle@hotmail.com) Tel: (01684) 560602.  
Address: 11 Woodshears Drive, Malvern, Worcs. WR14 3EA

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018

Your Reference: 18/000023/SCO

Mr J Scholes  
Development Management Team  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
WR5 2NP

Dear Mr Scholes

**Scoping Opinion, Proposed Extraction of Sand and Gravel, Lea Castle Farm,  
Cookley**

Thank you for inviting Ramblers' comments on the scope of the proposed Environment Statement to accompany the application for the above development.

Lea Farm is located in the gap between Cookley and Kidderminster which is of limited width. Whilst it is not a spectacular landscape it is attractive with blocks of woodland surrounding the site and a pleasant rolling, somewhat hilly nature. It is used for quiet informal leisure purposes with a number of public rights of way across and around it. These are well used by people from the local communities. It is also highly productive agricultural land which does not seem to manifest the problems often associated with the urban fringe. From higher ground to the north east, the site is highly visible but from the Wolverley Road it is not particularly prominent. From the west and north west the site is screened by woodland. The site is also with the West Midlands Green Belt.

For all of the above reasons it is essential that the Environmental Statement must address the short and long term impacts on the landscape and on the leisure uses that are carried out upon it. We are concerned to know how the extraction work will damage the curving slopes of the land and whether the restoration afterwards will provide for a new landscape compatible with the old. We are also concerned that it should be demonstrated how the extraction will affect the surrounding blocks of woodland which must be protected from any reductions in the level of the water table and dust. It is of concern that the table relating to Potential Effects avoids making an assessment in the case of landscape. Our expectation is that it could be very damaging in both the short or long term.

Regarding the public rights of way network, we wish to see an analysis of how these will be affected. Will the method of working require the closure of Bridleways WC-625 and WC-

626 and Footpath WC-624? If this is thought to be necessary can temporary diversions be introduced? What will be the impact of lost riding routes on local horse riders and nearby riding establishments? Can restoration be utilised as an opportunity to enhance walking and riding in the area?

Detailed restoration proposals should be provided which are respectful of the existing landscape character and of the Green Belt status of the land.

We hope that our thoughts on this matter will be of help in advising the applicants concerning the issues to be considered in the Environment Statement.

Yours Sincerely

G.D.Castle

Area Footpath Secretary

## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** wpdwebmap@westernpower.co.uk  
**Sent:** 04 June 2018 10:25  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Plant Enquiry Ref Job No. 12974673  
**Attachments:** 12974673\_WPD - West Midlands.pdf; WPD Webmap Letter and Guidance Notes.pdf; Avoidance of Danger-Sept2014.pdf; Lookout Look Up 8th Edition 2016.pdf; WPD Charging Structure.pdf

The electricity network can change at any time. Never work from old plans

With reference to your WPDWebMap request for electricity network information plans please find attached: -

1. Plans (always print in colour)
2. Letter which includes safe digging and contact information.
3. Avoidance of Danger safety booklet
4. Look out look up safety booklet

Please ensure that you request a current plan before commencing any on site works. The mapping can change at any time. For your safety you should always work with the latest information available. Always refer to the key on the plan. **If in doubt, ask!**

The attached files are in PDF format, to view them you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader(R). You can download it free of charge from

<http://get.adobe.com/reader>

In order to ensure that the attached plans are printed to scale please ensure that you remove all page scaling options when printing. This option is usually found on the print menu. For example, in Adobe Reader ensure that the "Page Scaling" option is set to "none". Also ensure that you print on a paper size that matches the requested paper size.

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Fax 0121 623 9223

Email [WPDMapResponse@westernpower.co.uk](mailto:WPDMapResponse@westernpower.co.uk)

General Enquiries

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All areas 0800 096 3080

To request a quotation for a new or increased electricity supply or a cable diversion, please call our General Enquiries number or visit : -

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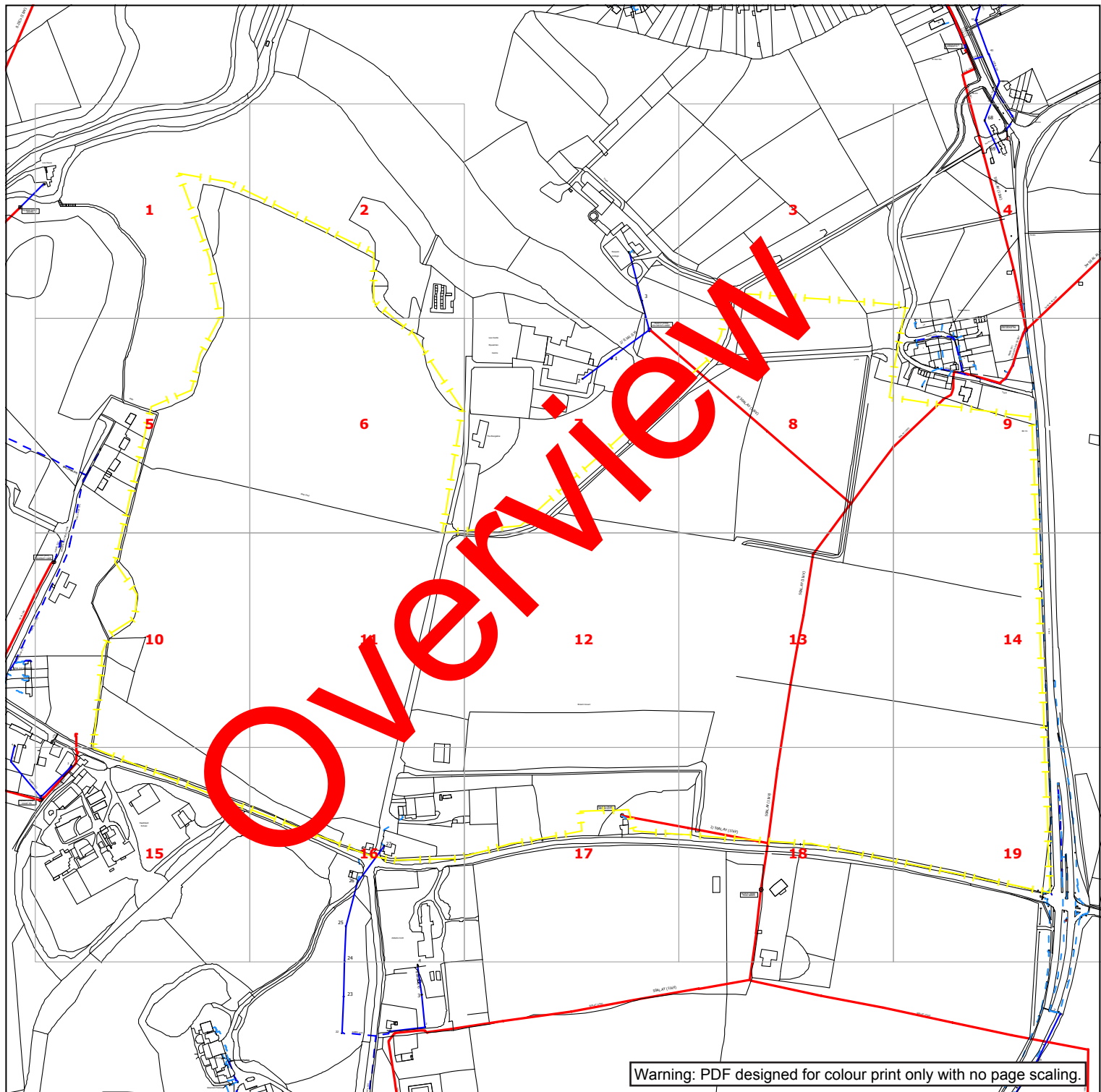
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Telephone 0845 437 7365

Email [enquiries@linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk)

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Date Requested: 04/06/2018  
Job Reference: 12974673  
Site Location: 384133 279126  
Requested by:  
Mr Joshua Scholes  
Your Scheme/Reference:  
18/000023/SCO

**Link Box**  
●  
**Site Location**  
**Line/Area**  
| |

**Overhead Line**  
—○— PL  
—○— Service  
—○— LV  
—○— HV (11kV)  
—○— HV (33kV)  
—○— HV (66kV)  
—X— HV (132kV)

**Underground Cable**  
—○— PL  
—○— Service  
—○— LV  
—○— HV (11kV)  
—○— HV (33kV)  
—○— HV (66kV)  
—X— HV (132kV)

**SURF Telecoms**  
—S—S—  
**PME Earth**  
—E—

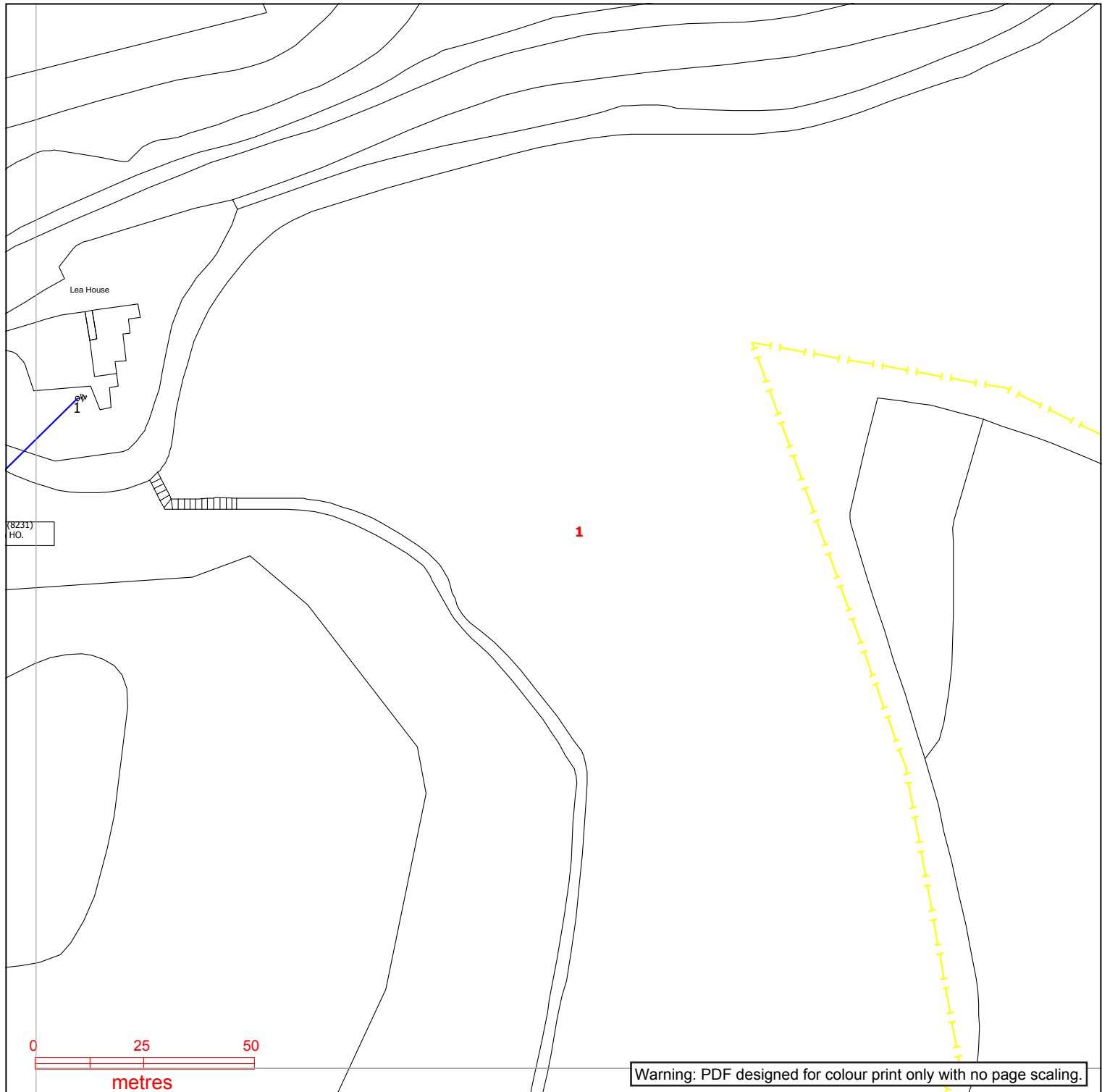
**Pilot Cables**  
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**Pole Mounted Transformer**  
**Ground Mounted Transformer**

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Your Scheme/Reference:

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Exact Scales:

1:1250 Area or Circle dig site

1:500 Line dig site

**Link Box**

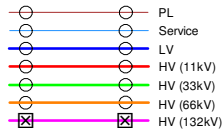


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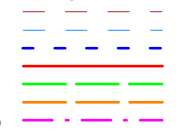
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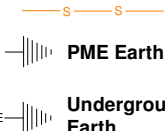
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**Underground Cable**



**SURF Telecoms**



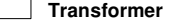
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**Pole Mounted Transformer**



**Ground Mounted Transformer**

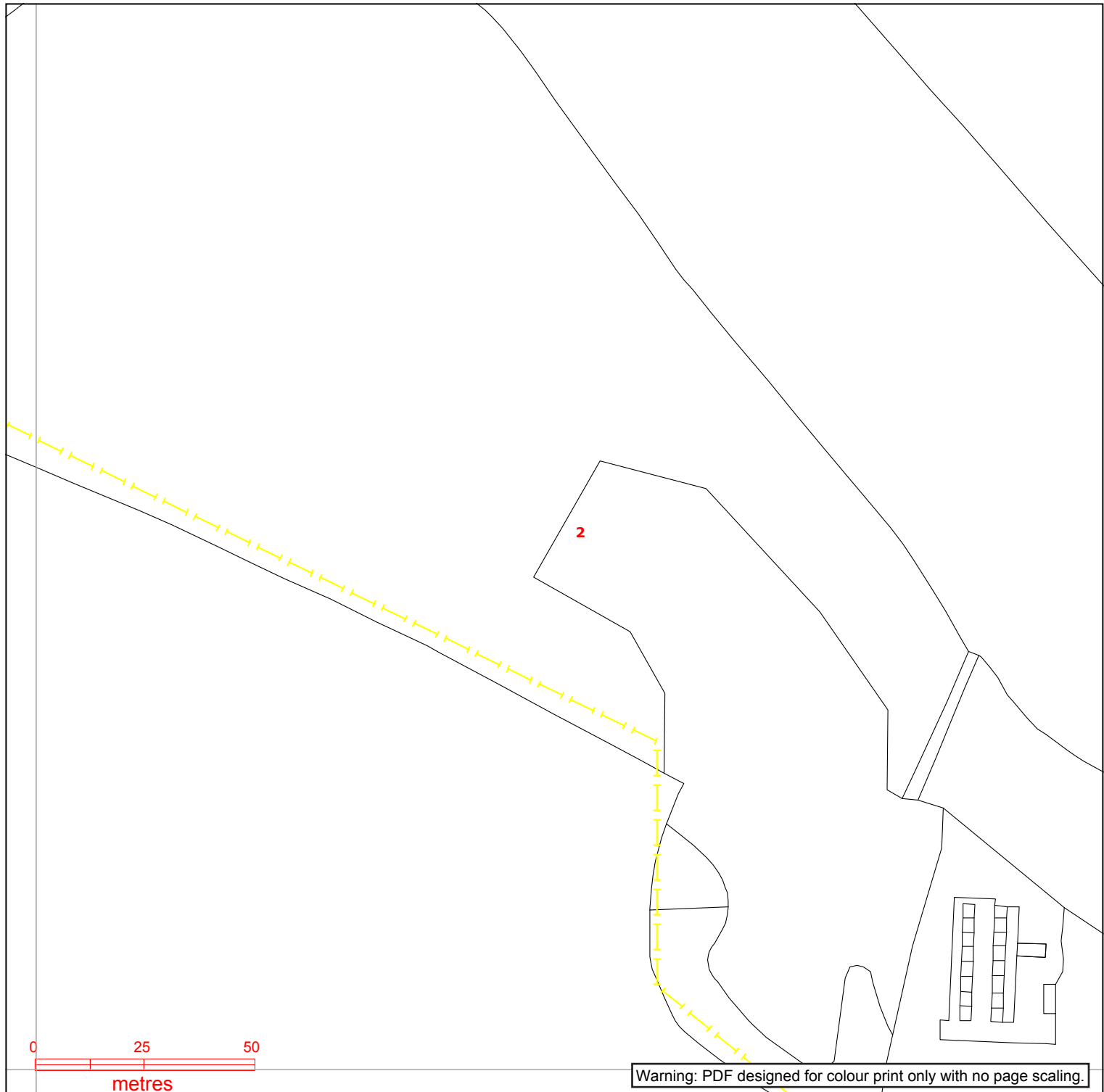


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**Line/Area**  
┌───┴───┐

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**Underground Cable**  
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PME Earth  
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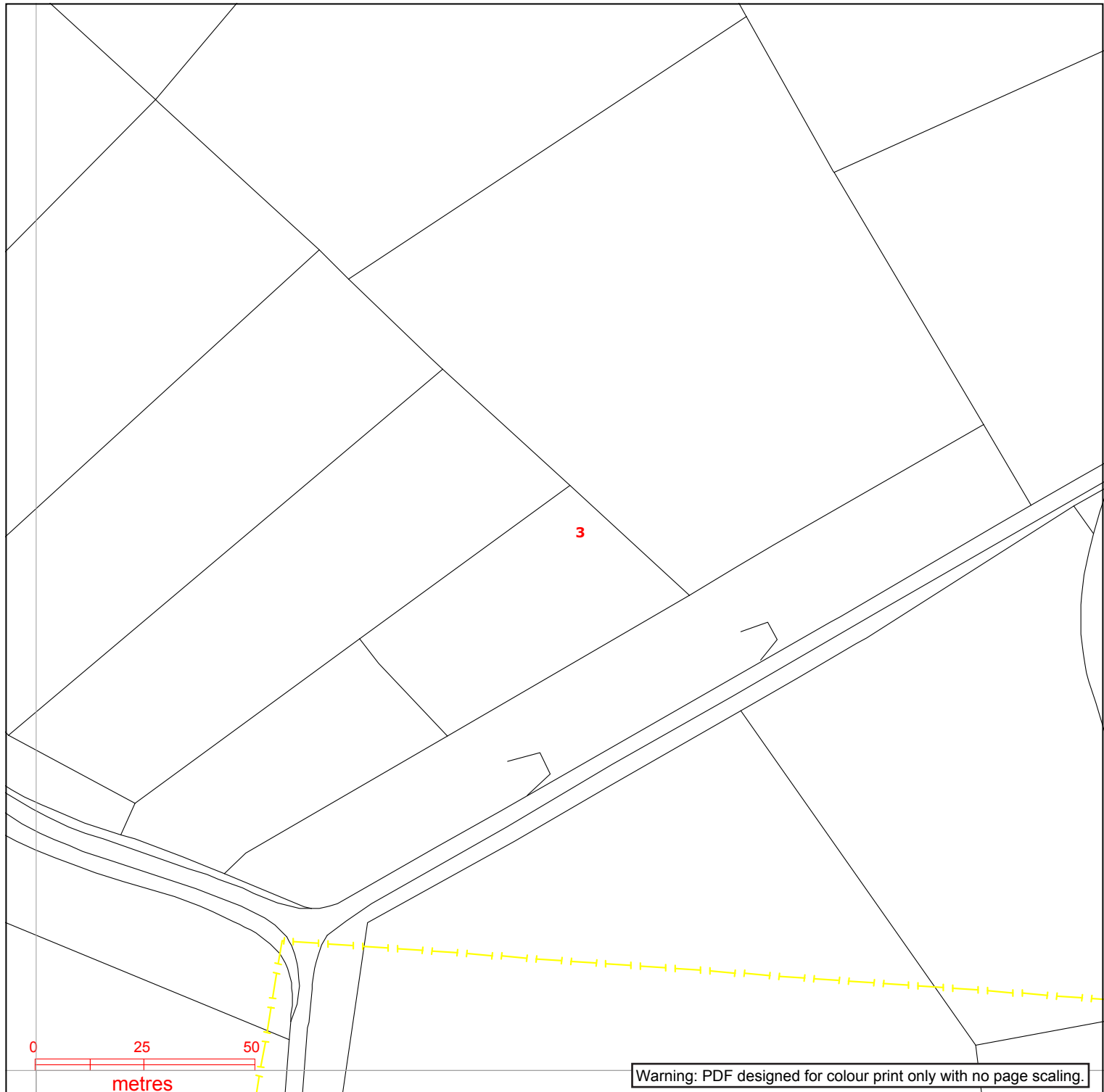
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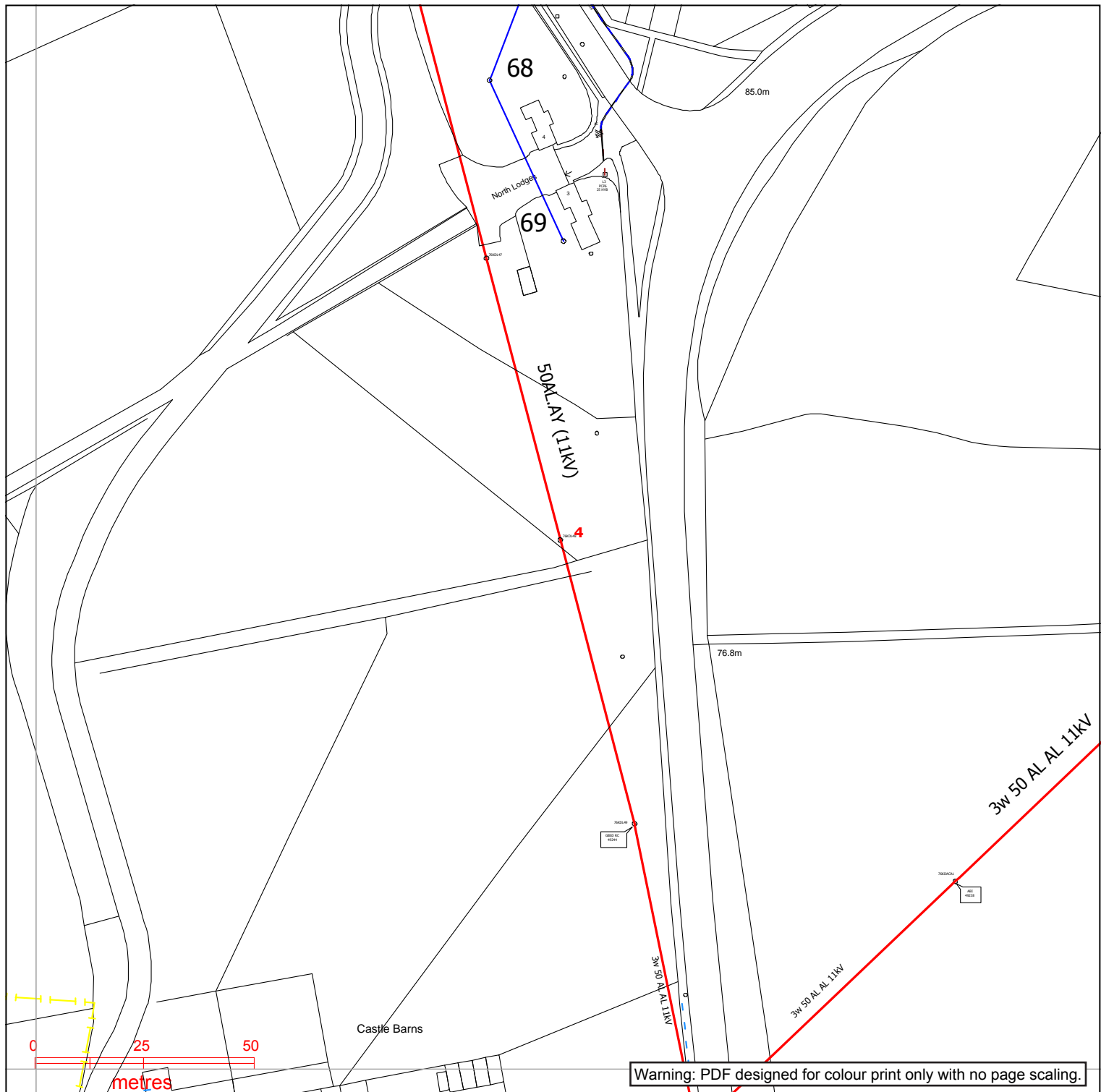
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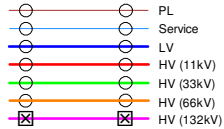


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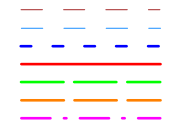
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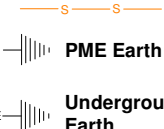
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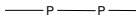
**Underground Cable**



**SURF Telecoms**



**Pilot Cables**



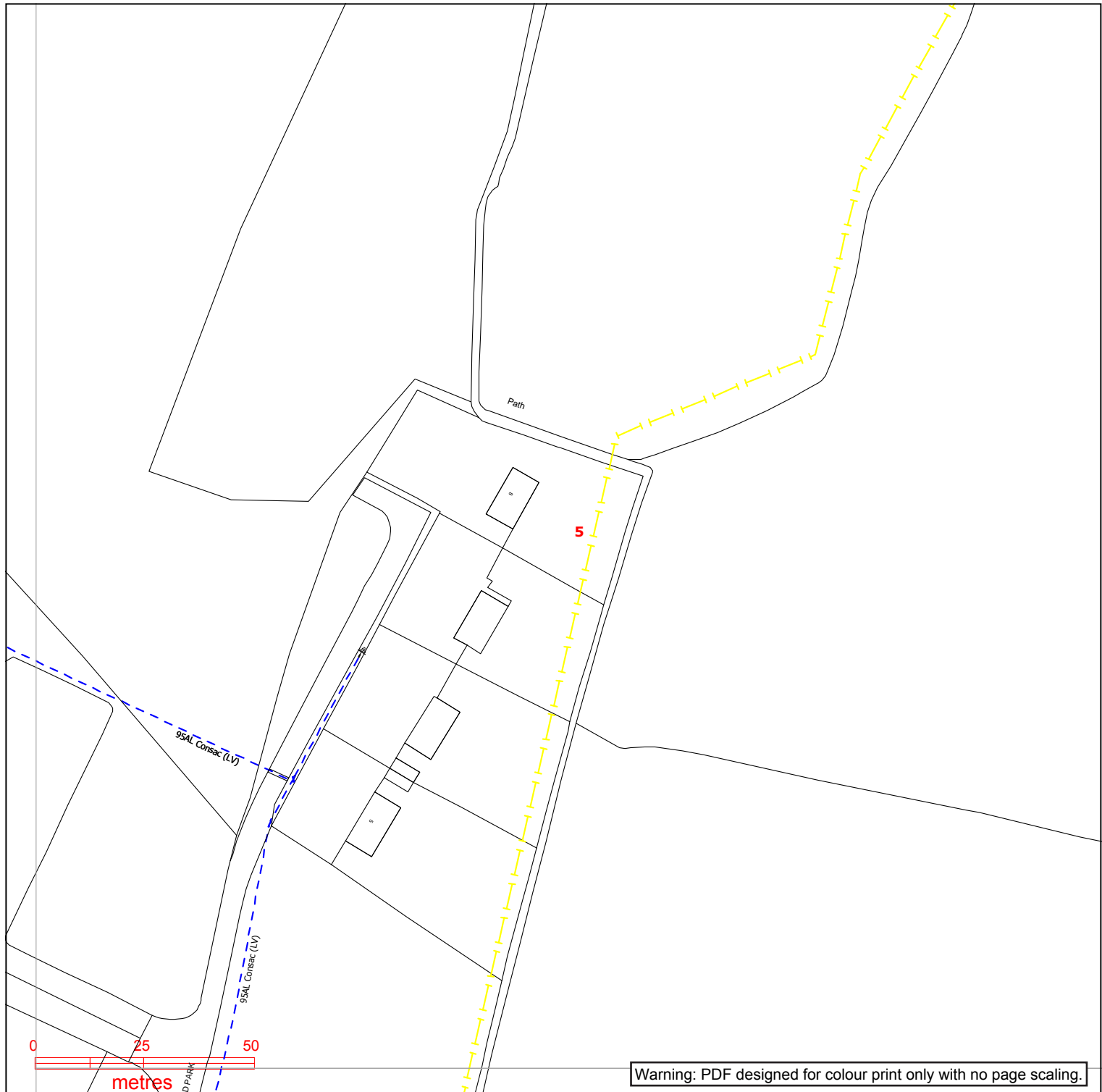
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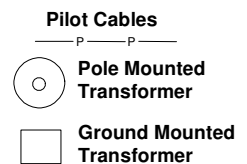
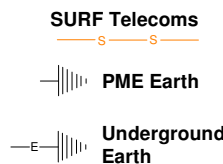
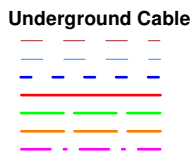
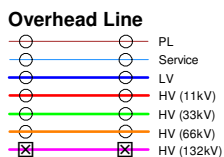


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Date Requested: 04/06/2018  
Job Reference: 12974673  
Site Location: 384133 279126  
Requested by:  
Mr Joshua Scholes  
Your Scheme/Reference:  
18/000023/SCO

Exact Scales:  
1:1250 Area or Circle dig site  
1:500 Line dig site

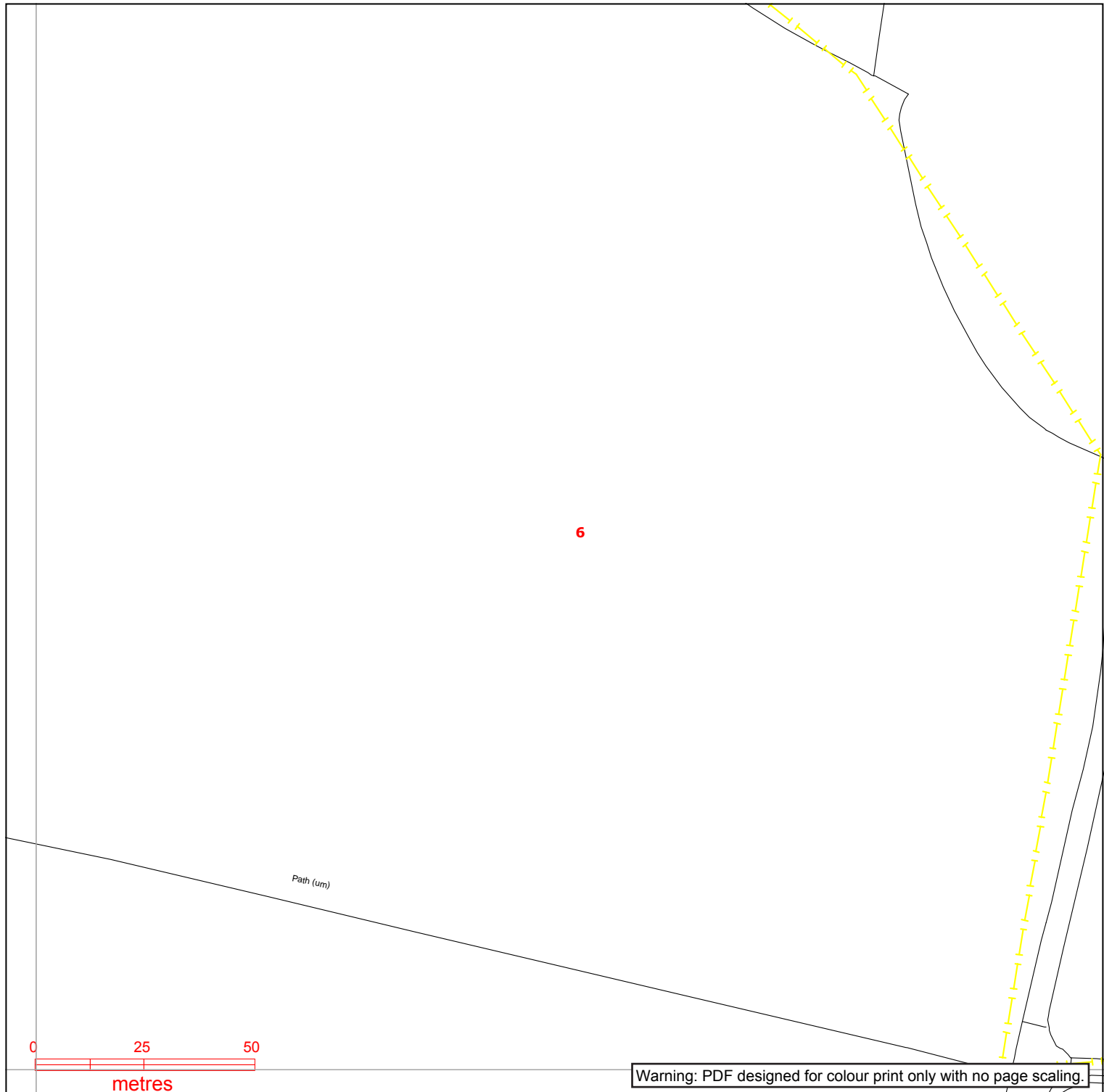


#### IMPORTANT NOTICES














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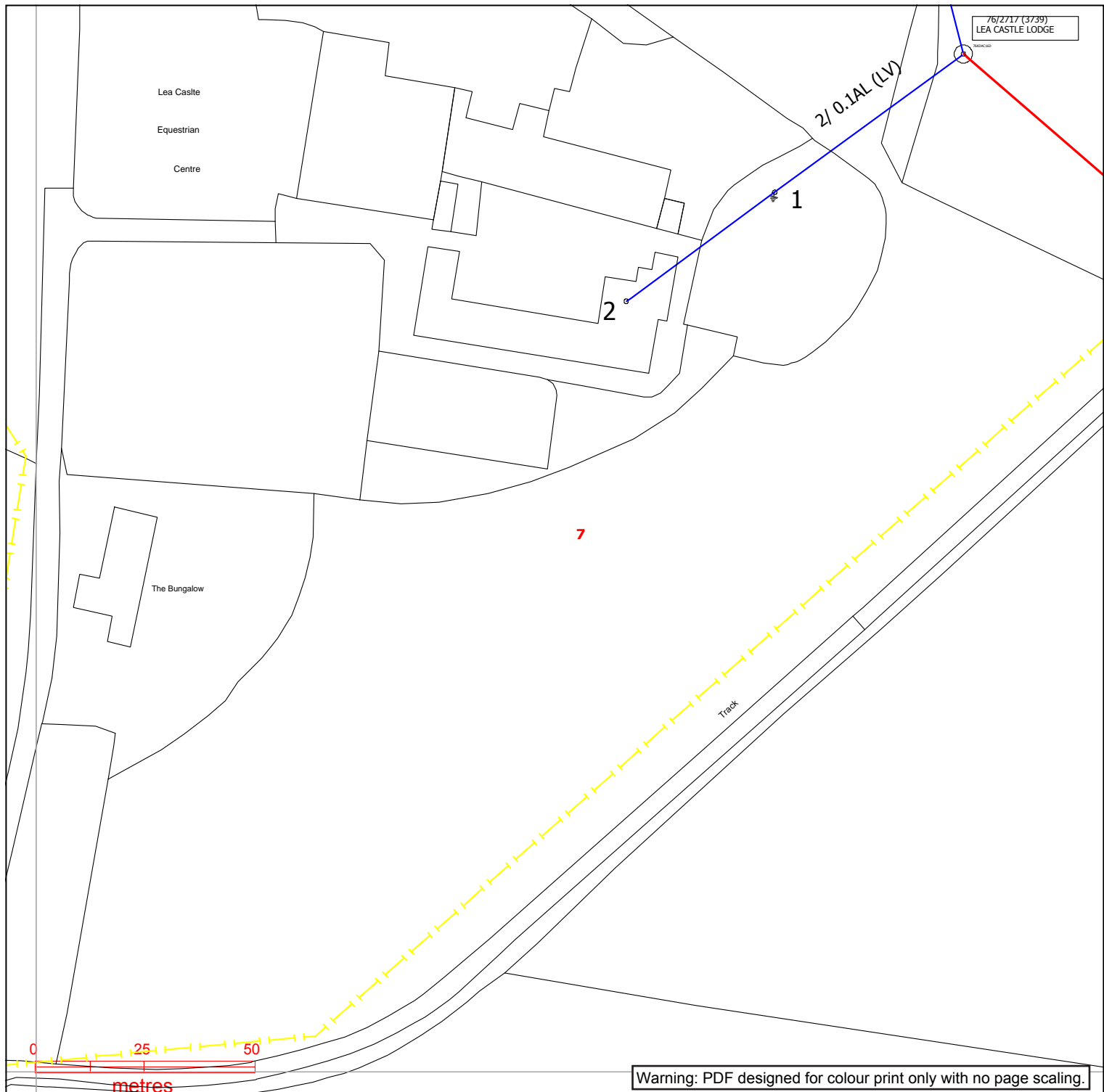
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**0800 6783 105**

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 <i>Serving the Midlands, South West and Wales</i>	<table border="0"><tr><td><b>Link Box</b> ●</td><td><b>Overhead Line</b> ○—○ PL ○—○ Service ○—○ LV ○—○ HV (11kV) ○—○ HV (33kV) ○—○ HV (66kV) ⊠—⊠ HV (132kV)</td><td><b>Underground Cable</b> — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —</td><td><b>SURF Telecoms</b> —S—S—  <b>PME Earth</b>  <b>Underground Earth</b></td><td><b>Pilot Cables</b> —P—P—  <b>Pole Mounted Transformer</b>  <b>Ground Mounted Transformer</b></td></tr></table>	<b>Link Box</b> ●	<b>Overhead Line</b> ○—○ PL ○—○ Service ○—○ LV ○—○ HV (11kV) ○—○ HV (33kV) ○—○ HV (66kV) ⊠—⊠ HV (132kV)	<b>Underground Cable</b> — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	<b>SURF Telecoms</b> —S—S—  <b>PME Earth</b>  <b>Underground Earth</b>	<b>Pilot Cables</b> —P—P—  <b>Pole Mounted Transformer</b>  <b>Ground Mounted Transformer</b>
<b>Link Box</b> ●	<b>Overhead Line</b> ○—○ PL ○—○ Service ○—○ LV ○—○ HV (11kV) ○—○ HV (33kV) ○—○ HV (66kV) ⊠—⊠ HV (132kV)	<b>Underground Cable</b> — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	<b>SURF Telecoms</b> —S—S—  <b>PME Earth</b>  <b>Underground Earth</b>	<b>Pilot Cables</b> —P—P—  <b>Pole Mounted Transformer</b>  <b>Ground Mounted Transformer</b>		
<b>Contact Us</b> <b>Mapping Enquiries:</b> All areas 0121 623 9780 <b>General Enquiries:</b> All areas 0800 096 3080	<b>IMPORTANT NOTICES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This information is given as a guide only and its accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Services or recent additions to the network may not be shown.</li><li>• Cables, overhead lines &amp; substations owned by other electricity network owners or private companies may be present and may not be shown.</li><li>• You should always verify exact locations of cables using a cable locator and by careful use of hand tools in accordance with HSE guidance note HSG47.</li><li>• When working within 10m of any overhead electric line you should follow the requirements of HSE Guidance Note GS6.</li><li>• For further advice on working near our electricity cables or lines, call our General Enquiries number.</li><li>• Advice should be sought from the Western Power Distribution General Enquiries team for any work that is to take place in proximity to 132kV underground cables and 132kV overhead lines.</li></ul>					
Date Requested: 04/06/2018 Job Reference: 12974673 Site Location: 384133 279126 Requested by: Mr Joshua Scholes Your Scheme/Reference: 18/000023/SCO	<b>Report damage immediately – KEEP EVERYONE AWAY FROM THE AREA</b> <b>0800 6783 105</b>					
Exact Scales: 1:1250 Area or Circle dig site 1:500 Line dig site	Crown Copyright © All Rights Reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence numbers: 100022488, 100024877 & 100021807. WPD Copyright: This copy has been made by or with the authority of Western Power Distribution (WPD) pursuant to Section 47 of the Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988 unless that Act provides a relevant exception to copyright the copy must not be copied without the prior permission of the copyright owner					



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18/000023/SCO

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1:500 Line dig site

**Link Box**  
●  
**Site Location**  
**Line/Area**  
| |

**Overhead Line**  
○ PL  
○ Service  
○ LV  
○ HV (11kV)  
○ HV (33kV)  
○ HV (66kV)  
⊠ HV (132kV)

**Underground Cable**  
- - - PL  
- - - Service  
- - - LV  
- - - HV (11kV)  
- - - HV (33kV)  
- - - HV (66kV)  
- - - HV (132kV)

**SURF Telecoms**  
-S-S-  
PME Earth  
-E- Underground Earth

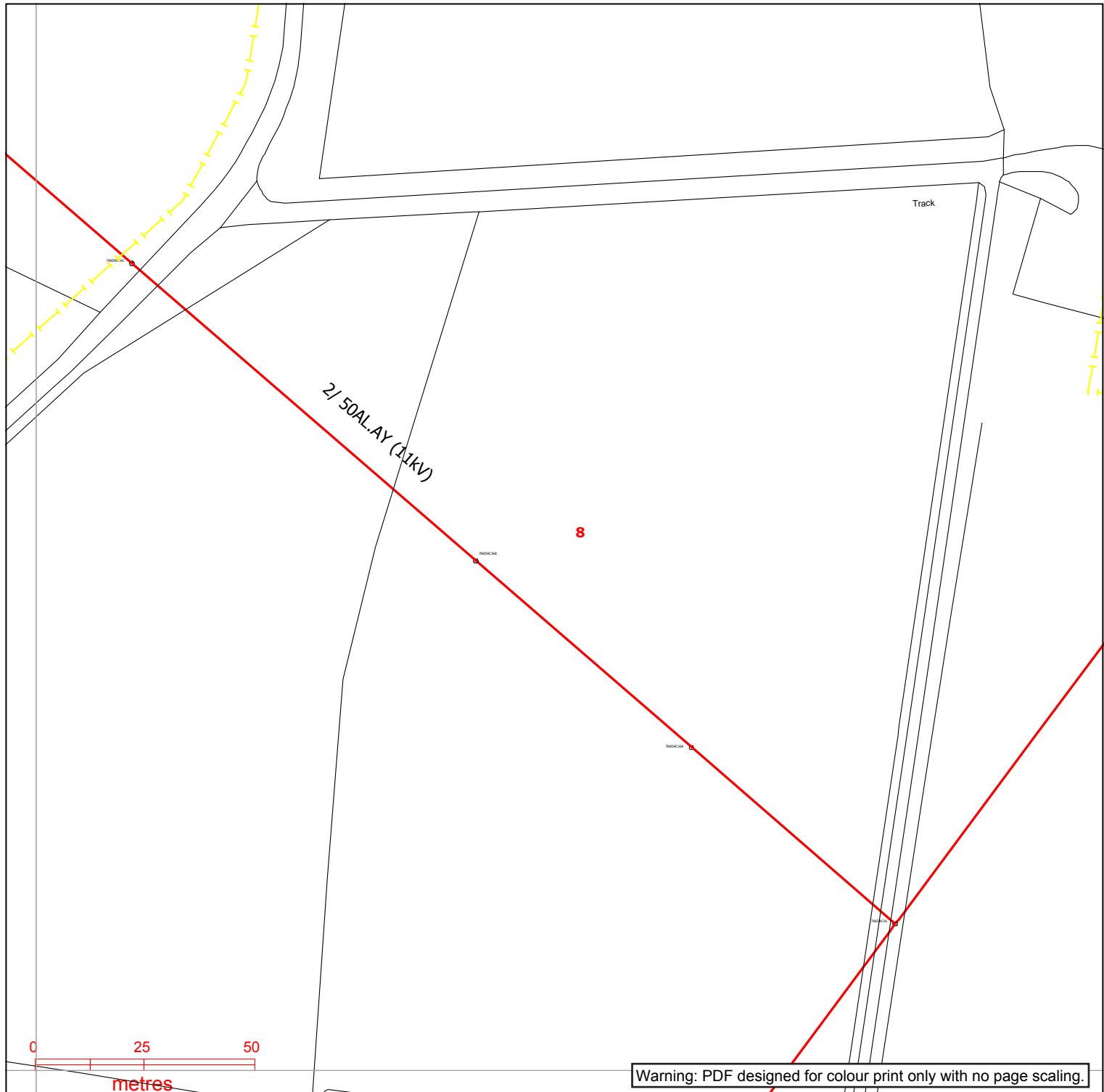
**Pilot Cables**  
-P-P-  
Pole Mounted Transformer  
Ground Mounted Transformer

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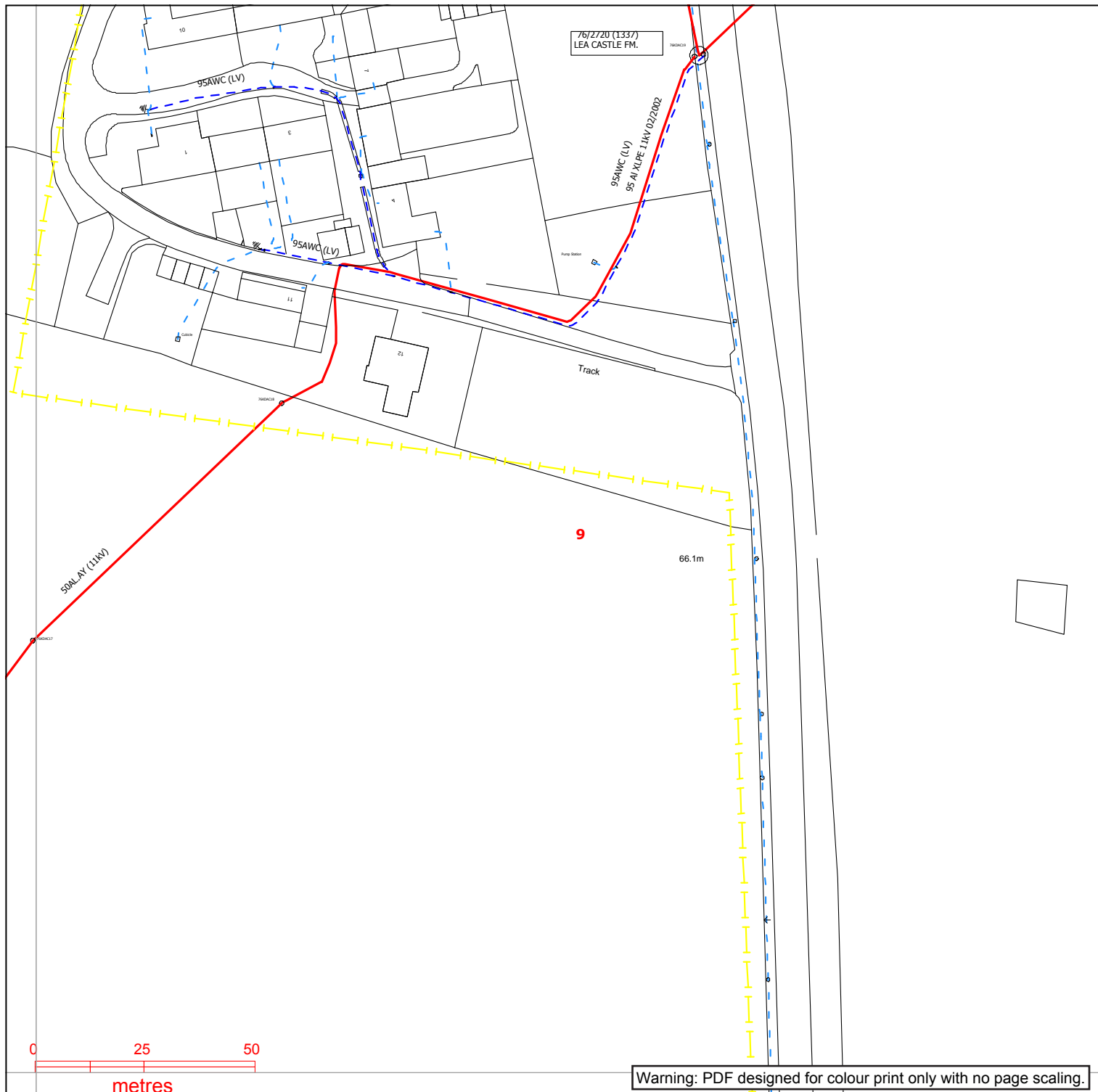
Link Box	Overhead Line	Underground Cable	SURF Telecoms	Pilot Cables
●	○ PL ○ Service ○ LV ○ HV (11kV) ○ HV (33kV) ○ HV (66kV) ⊠ HV (132kV)	— — — — — — —	—S—S— PME Earth —E— Underground Earth	—P—P— ○ Pole Mounted Transformer □ Ground Mounted Transformer

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Date Requested: 04/06/2018

Job Reference: 12974673

Site Location: 384133 279126

Requested by:

Mr Joshua Scholes

Your Scheme/Reference:

18/000023/SCO

Exact Scales:

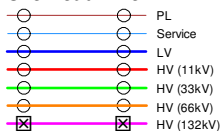
1:1250 Area or Circle dig site

1:500 Line dig site

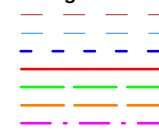
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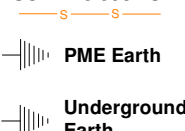
### Overhead Line



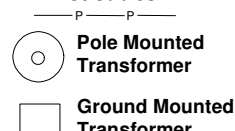
### Underground Cable



### SURF Telecoms



### Pilot Cables

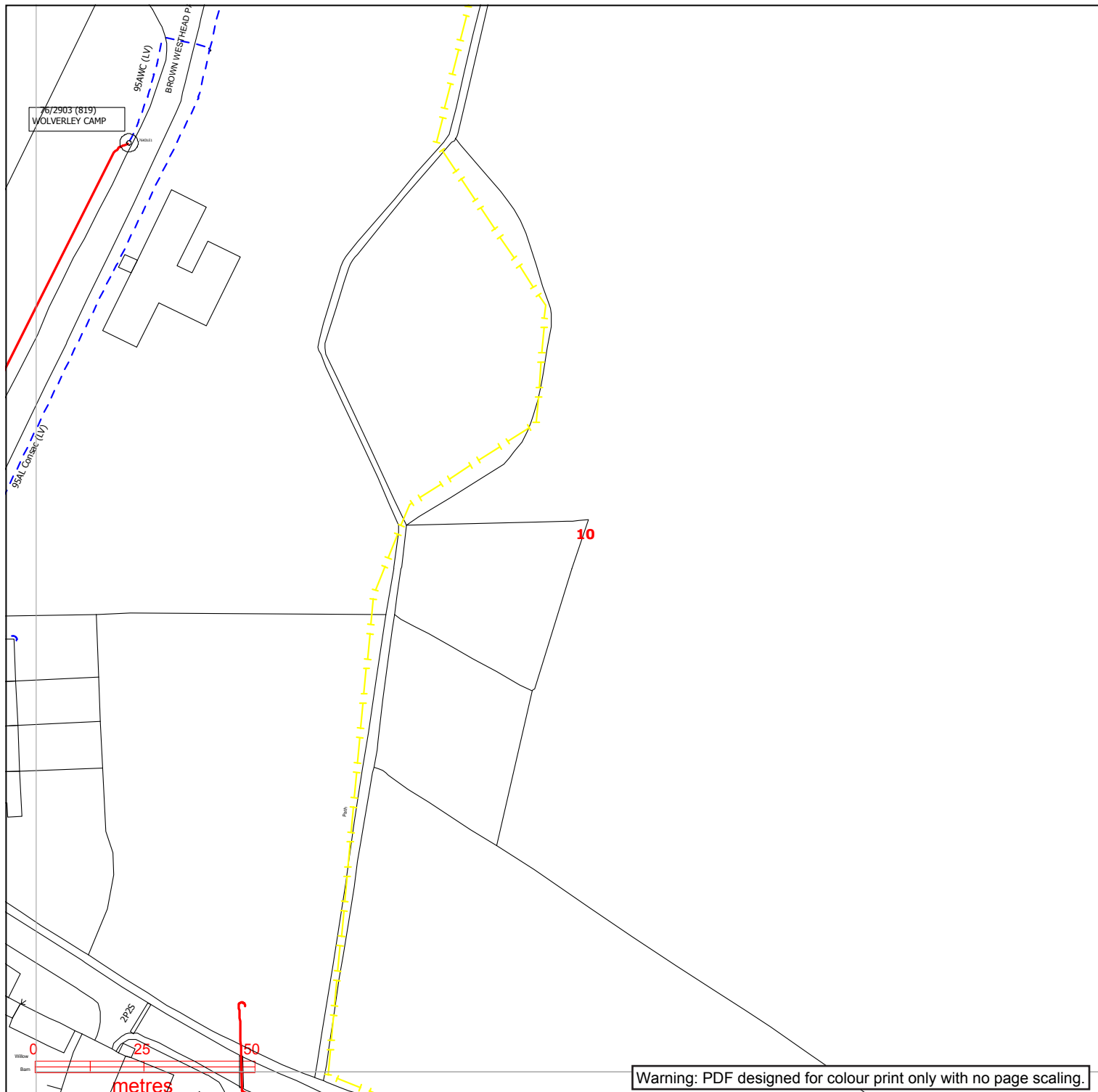


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Your Scheme/Reference:  
18/000023/SCO

Exact Scales:  
1:1250 Area or Circle dig site  
1:500 Line dig site

**Link Box**  
●  
**Site Location**  
**Line/Area**  
| |

**Overhead Line**  
—○— PL  
—○— Service  
—○— LV  
—○— HV (11kV)  
—○— HV (33kV)  
—○— HV (66kV)  
—X— HV (132kV)

**Underground Cable**  
—○— PL  
—○— Service  
—○— LV  
—○— HV (11kV)  
—○— HV (33kV)  
—○— HV (66kV)  
—X— HV (132kV)

**SURF Telecoms**  
—S—S—  
PME Earth  
—E—

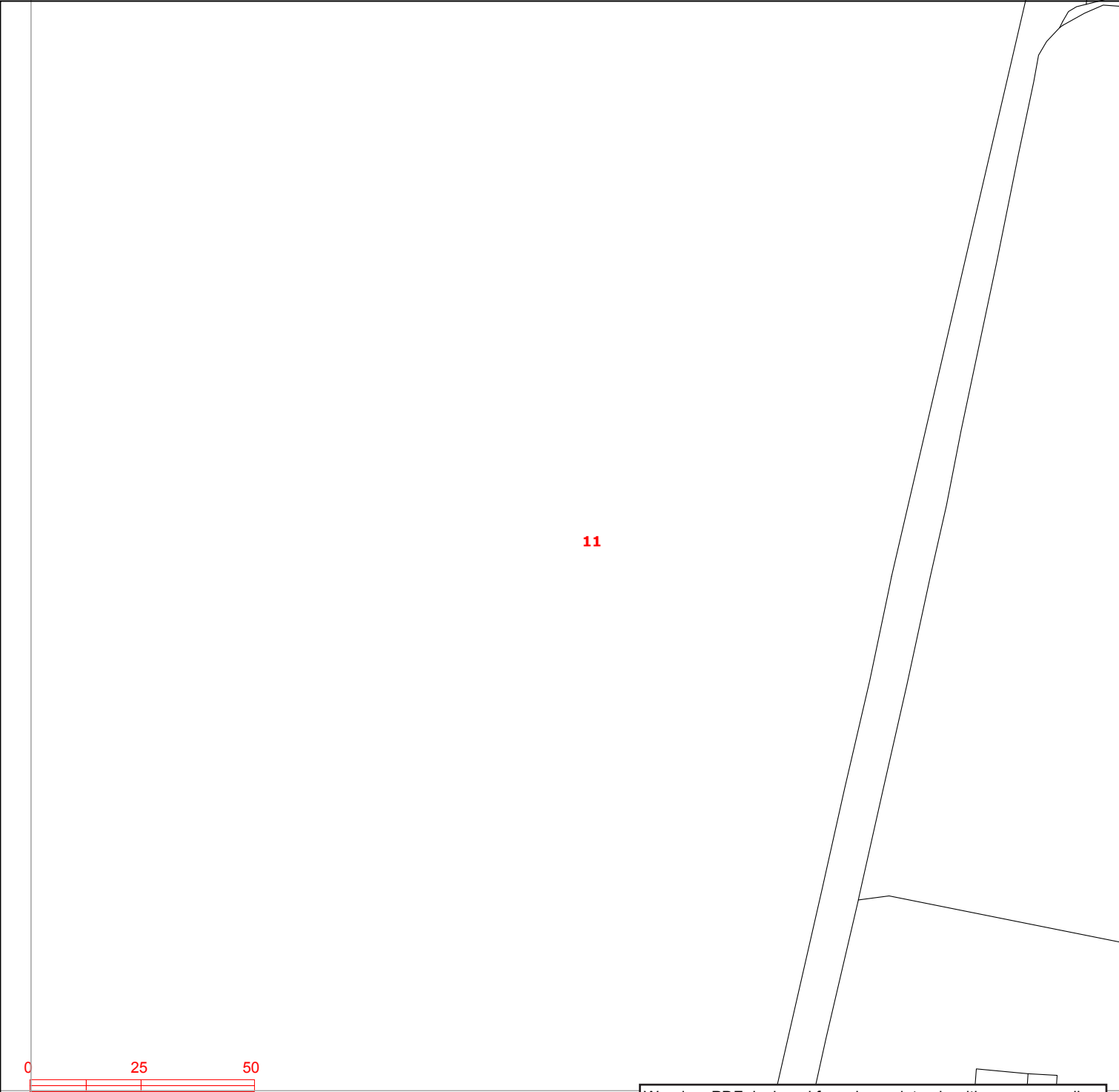
**Pilot Cables**  
—P—P—  
Pole Mounted Transformer  
Ground Mounted Transformer


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**Link Box**  
●

**Site Location**  
**Line/Area**

—

**Overhead Line**

- PL
- Service
- LV
- HV (11kV)
- HV (33kV)
- HV (66kV)
- HV (132kV)

**Underground Cable**

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
-

**SURF Telecoms**

- S — S —
- PME Earth
- E —
- Underground Earth

**Pilot Cables**

- P — P —
- Pole Mounted Transformer
- Ground Mounted Transformer

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**Link Box**  
●  
**Site Location**  
**Line/Area**



**Overhead Line**  
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—○— Service  
—○— LV  
—○— HV (11kV)  
—○— HV (33kV)  
—○— HV (66kV)  
—X— HV (132kV)

**Underground Cable**  
— — — — —  
— — — — —  
— — — — —  
— — — — —  
— — — — —

**SURF Telecoms**  
—S—S—  
PME Earth  
Underground Earth

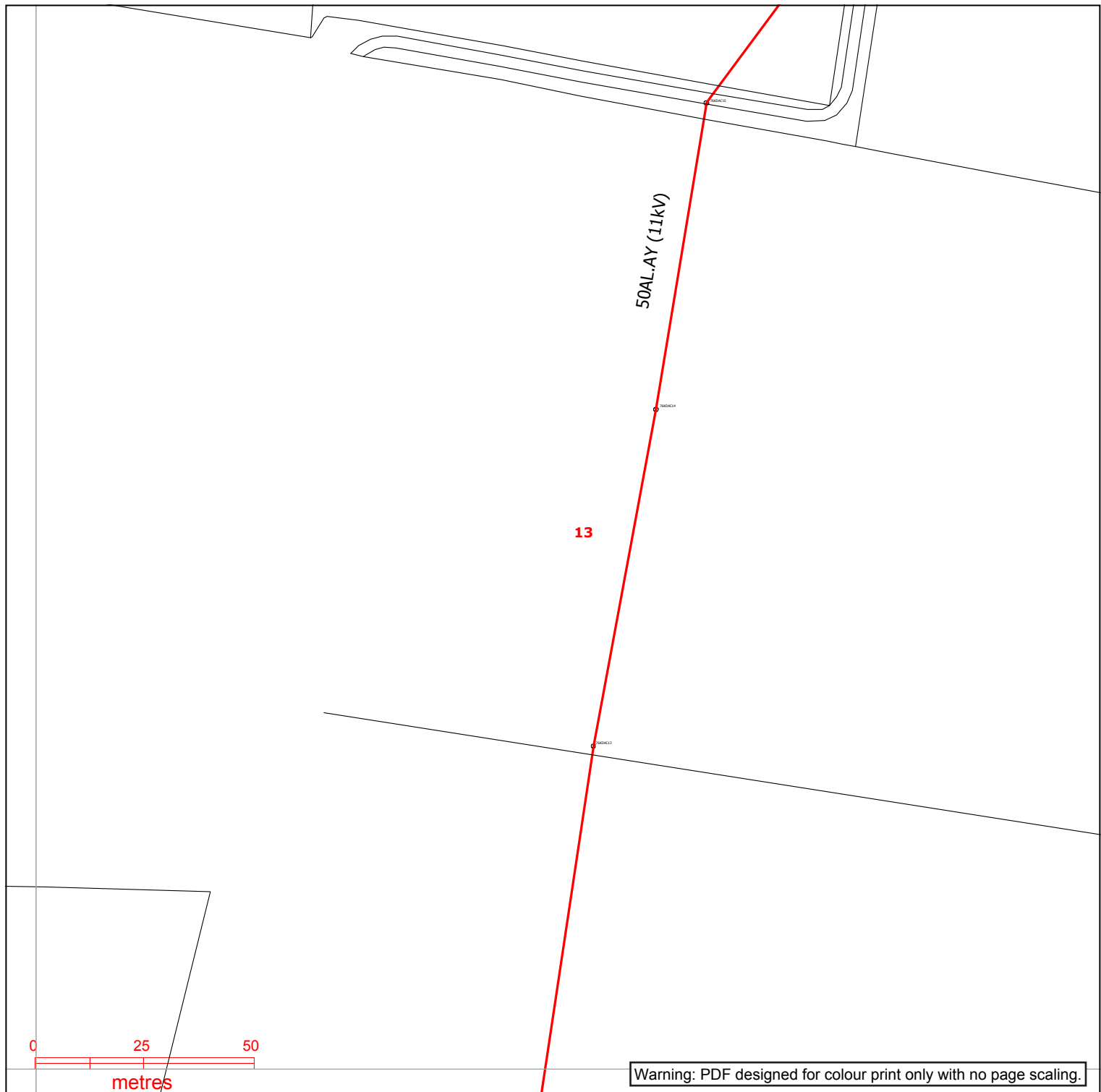
**Pilot Cables**  
—P—P—  
**Pole Mounted Transformer**  
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**Link Box**  
●  
**Site Location**  
**Line/Area**  
[Symbol]

**Overhead Line**  
—○— PL  
—○— Service  
—○— LV  
—○— HV (11kV)  
—○— HV (33kV)  
—○— HV (66kV)  
—[X]— HV (132kV)

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—○— Service  
—○— LV  
—○— HV (11kV)  
—○— HV (33kV)  
—○— HV (66kV)  
—[X]— HV (132kV)

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—S—S—  
PME Earth  
Underground Earth

**Pilot Cables**  
—P—P—  
Pole Mounted Transformer  
Ground Mounted Transformer

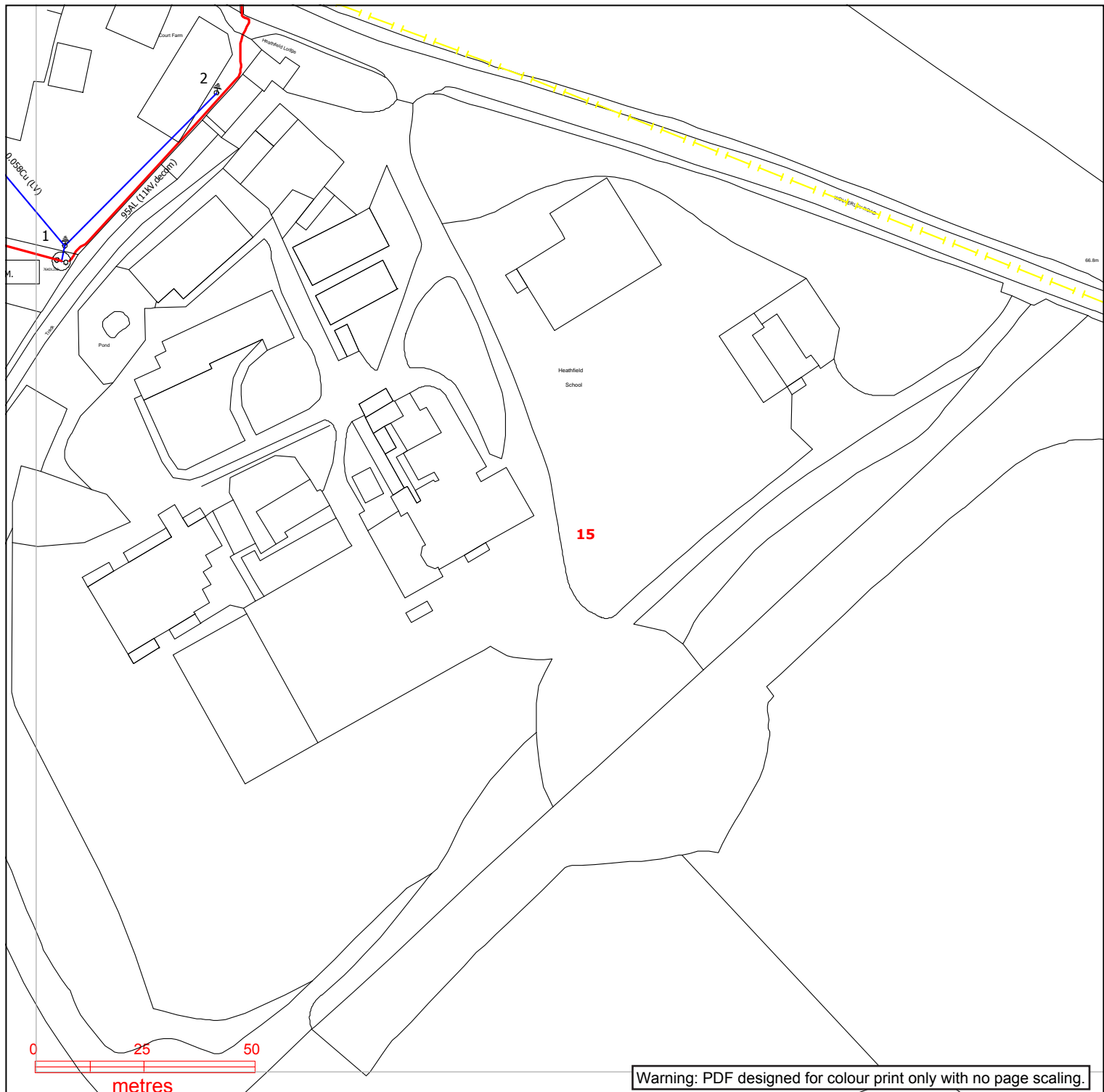
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**Mapping Enquiries:**  
All areas 0121 623 9780  
**General Enquiries:**  
All areas 0800 096 3080

Date Requested: 04/06/2018  
Job Reference: 12974673  
Site Location: 384133 279126  
Requested by:  
Mr Joshua Scholes  
Your Scheme/Reference:  
18/000023/SCO

Exact Scales:  
1:1250 Area or Circle dig site  
1:500 Line dig site

**Link Box**  
●  
**Site Location**  
**Line/Area**  
| |

**Overhead Line**  
○ PL  
○ Service  
○ LV  
○ HV (11kV)  
○ HV (33kV)  
○ HV (66kV)  
⊠ HV (132kV)

**Underground Cable**  
- - - PL  
- - - Service  
- - - LV  
- - - HV (11kV)  
- - - HV (33kV)  
- - - HV (66kV)  
- - - HV (132kV)

**SURF Telecoms**  
- - - S - - -  
PME Earth  
Underground Earth

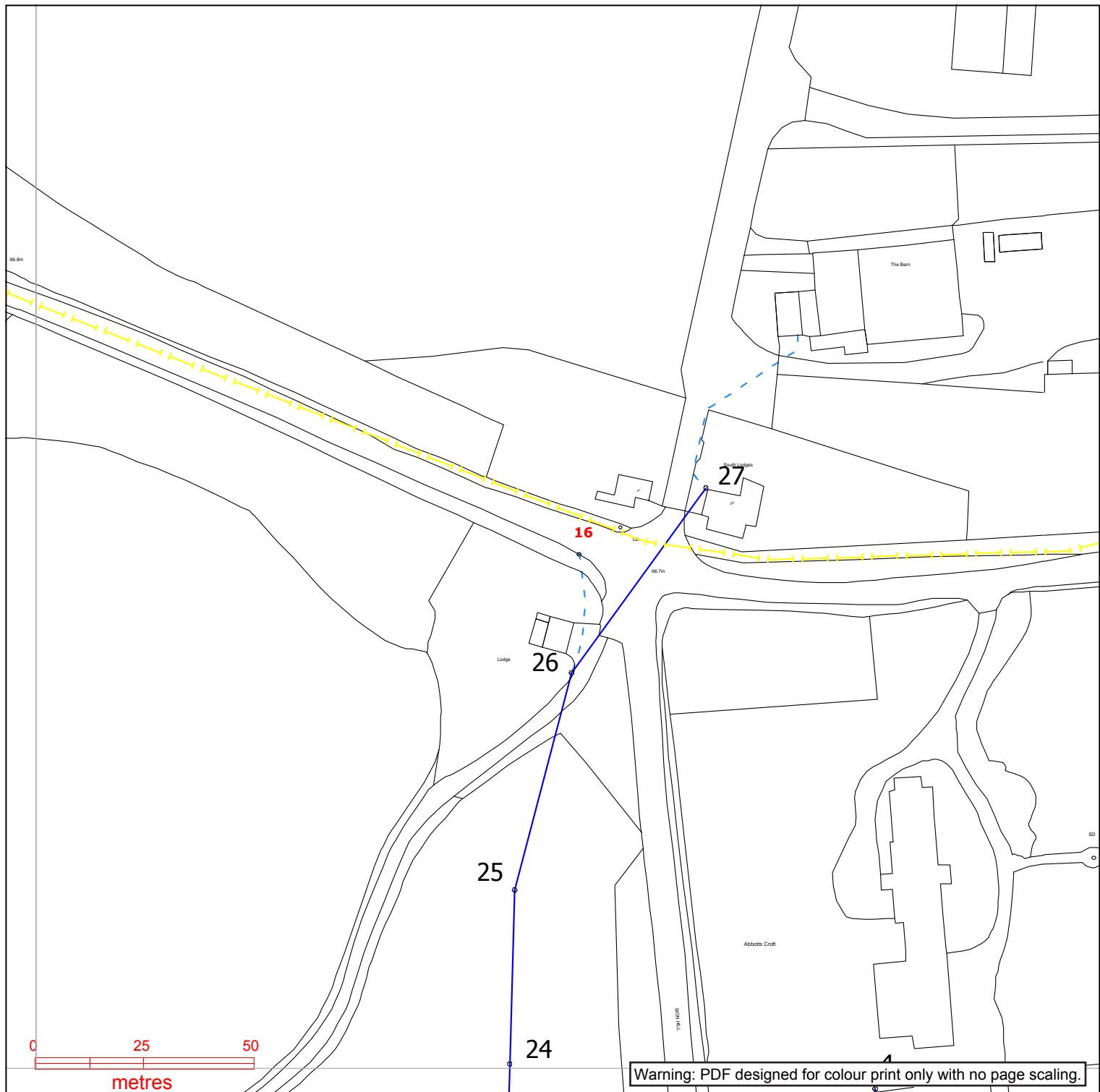
**Pilot Cables**  
- - - P - - -  
Pole Mounted Transformer  
Ground Mounted Transformer

#### IMPORTANT NOTICES

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- When working within 10m of any overhead electric line you should follow the requirements of HSE Guidance Note GS6.
- For further advice on working near our electricity cables or lines, call our General Enquiries number.
- Advice should be sought from the Western Power Distribution General Enquiries team for any work that is to take place in proximity to 132kV underground cables and 132kV overhead lines.

**Report damage immediately – KEEP EVERYONE AWAY FROM THE AREA**  
**0800 6783 105**

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Serving the Midlands, South West and Wales

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| |

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**Underground Cable**  
--- PL  
--- Service  
--- LV  
--- HV (11kV)  
--- HV (33kV)  
--- HV (66kV)  
--- HV (132kV)

**SURF Telecoms**  
—S—S—  
PME Earth  
—E—

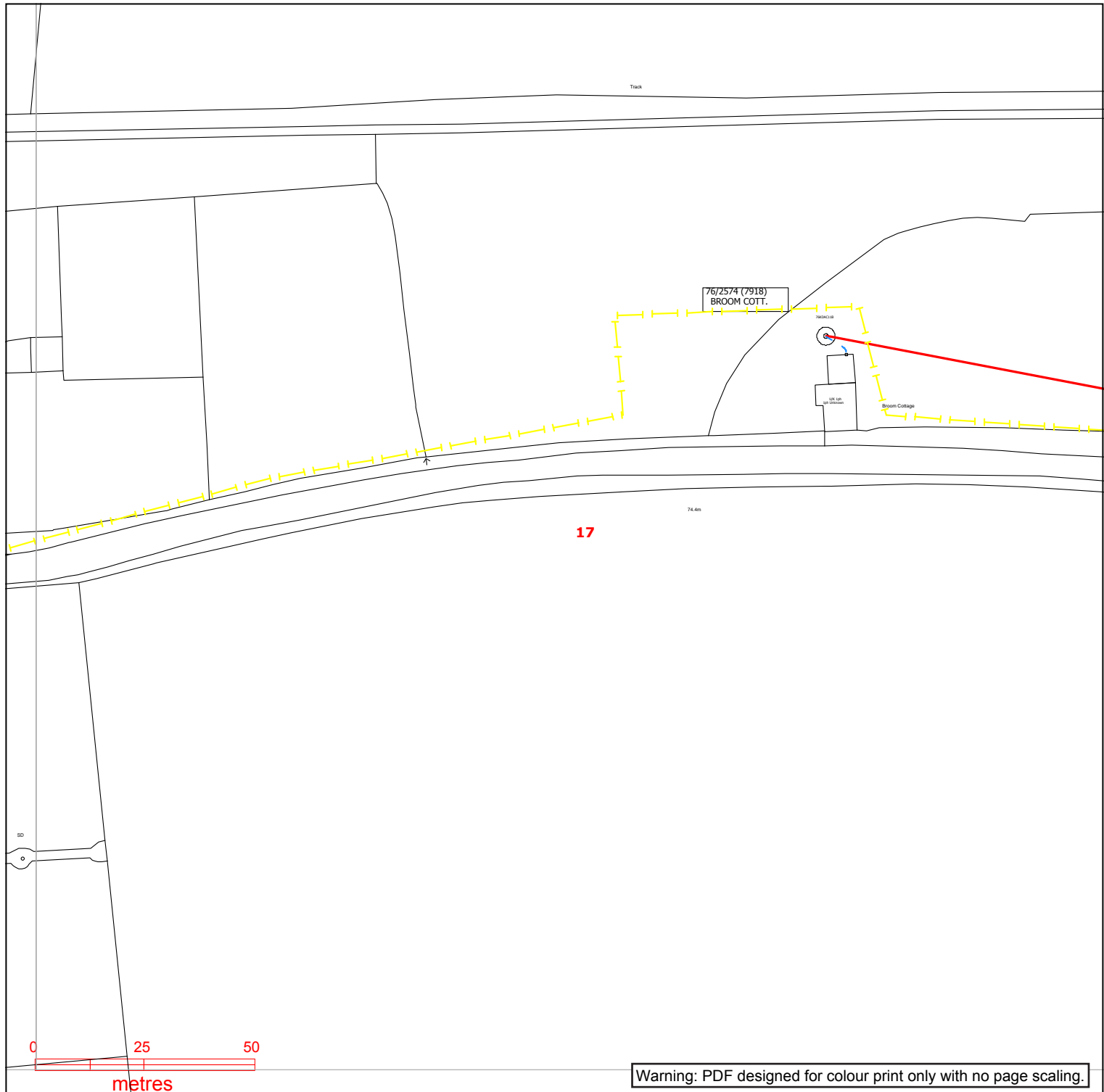
**Pilot Cables**  
—P—P—  
Pole Mounted Transformer  
Ground Mounted Transformer

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Your Scheme/Reference:  
18/000023/SCO

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1:500 Line dig site

**Link Box**  
●  
**Site Location Line/Area**  
[Yellow rectangle]

**Overhead Line**  
○—○ PL  
○—○ Service  
○—○ LV (11kV)  
○—○ HV (33kV)  
○—○ HV (66kV)  
⊠—⊠ HV (132kV)

**Underground Cable**  
— — — —  
— — — —  
— — — —  
— — — —  
— — — —  
— — — —

**SURF Telecoms**  
—S—S—  
PME Earth  
—E—

**Pilot Cables**  
—P—P—  
Pole Mounted Transformer  
Ground Mounted Transformer

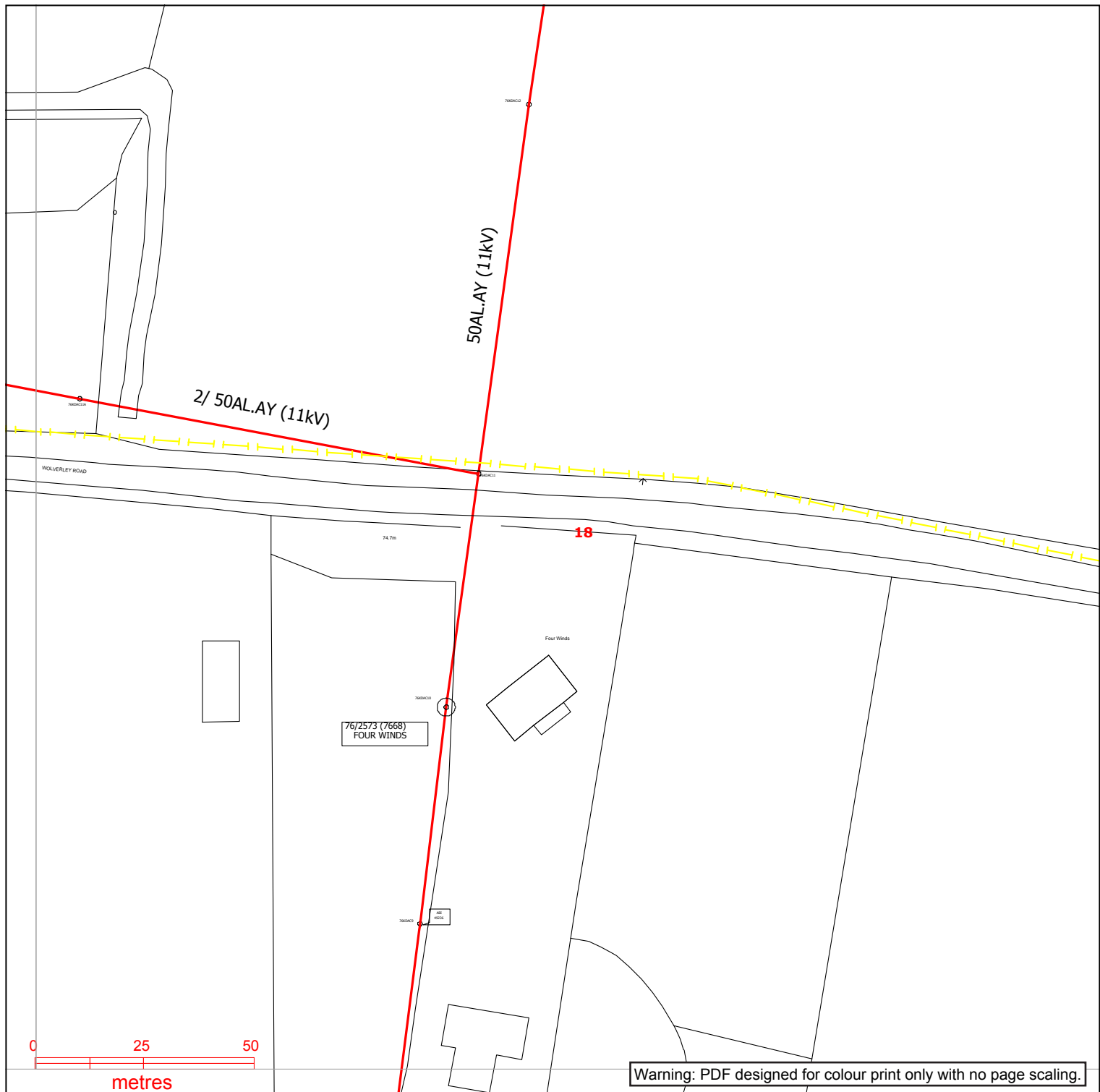
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Plans generated by DigSAFE Pro (tm) software provided by LinesearchbeforeUdig



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●  
**Site Location**  
**Line/Area**



**Overhead Line**  
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—○— Service  
—○— LV  
—○— HV (11kV)  
—○— HV (33kV)  
—○— HV (66kV)  
—X— HV (132kV)

**Underground Cable**  
—○— PL  
—○— Service  
—○— LV  
—○— HV (11kV)  
—○— HV (33kV)  
—○— HV (66kV)  
—X— HV (132kV)

**SURF Telecoms**  
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**PME Earth**  
—E—

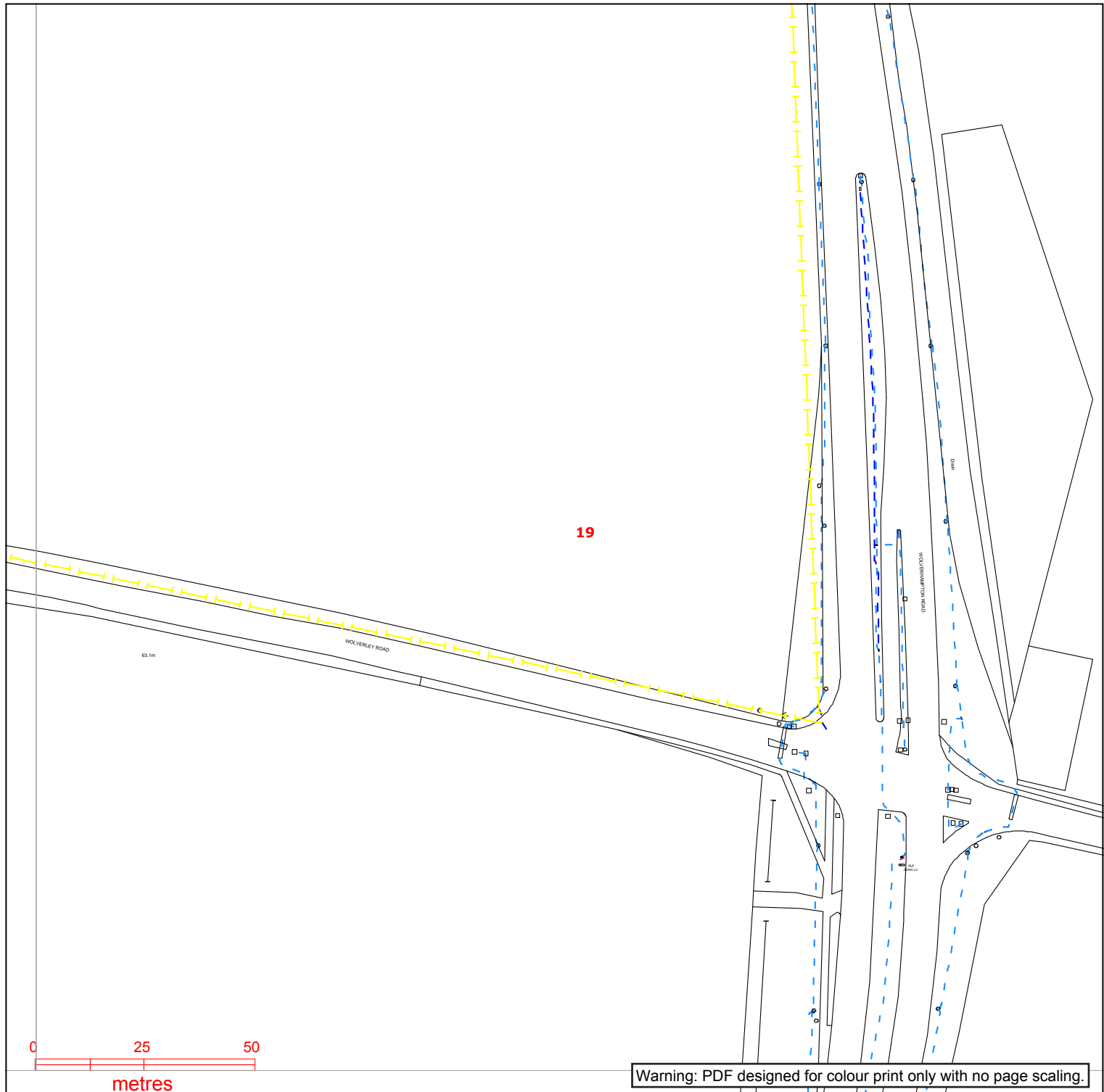
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—P—P—  
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**Ground Mounted Transformer**

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Link Box	Overhead Line	Underground Cable	SURF Telecoms	Pilot Cables
●	○ PL ○ Service ○ LV (11kV) ○ HV (33kV) ○ HV (66kV) ⊠ HV (132kV)	— — — — — - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	— S — S — PME Earth — E — Underground Earth	— P — P — ○ Pole Mounted Transformer □ Ground Mounted Transformer

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Our Ref: 12974673      Your Ref: 18/000023/SCO

Monday, 04 June 2018

Joshua Scholes  
Worcestershire County Council County Hall, Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
Worcestershire  
WR52NP

**Western Power Distribution,**  
Mapping Centre  
Toll End Road  
Tipton  
West Midlands  
United Kingdom  
DY4 0HH  
www.westernpower.co.uk

Dear Joshua Scholes

Thank you for your enquiry dated Monday, 04 June 2018

I now enclose a copy of our plan showing existing Western Power Distribution (WPD) Electricity / WPD Surf Telecom apparatus in the vicinity of your proposed works. This information is given as a general guide only and its accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Please note that all WPD equipment on site should be assumed to be LIVE until WPD prove otherwise and provide you with confirmation to this effect in writing. Recent additions to our network, or service connections between the main cable and a building or street lamp may not be shown.

Map Response  
T 0121 623 9780  
WPDMapResponse  
@westernpower.co.uk

**LinesearchbeforeUdig**  
Help Desk 0845 437 7365

Damage to underground cables and contact with overhead lines can cause severe injury or may prove fatal. If you are excavating on site in the vicinity of either WPD Electrical apparatus or WPD Surf Telecom apparatus you must comply with the requirements of the following:-

Health & Safety Executive guidance HS(G)47, Avoiding Danger from underground services.

Work taking place in the vicinity of our plant is also regulated under the:-

Electricity at Work Regulations 1989, Health and Safety Act 1974, CDM Regulations 2015.  
Safe working procedures should be defined and practiced

Please ensure that the use of mechanical excavators in the vicinity of our plant is kept to a minimum. WPD Surf Telecom ducts contain fibre cables, which are expensive to repair. Therefore, extreme care must be taken whilst working in the vicinity of these ducts, hand digging methods being used to determine their precise position.

If there are overhead lines crossing your site and your proposal involves building works which may infringe the clearance to our overhead system then you should call the relevant general enquiries number (see page 2 of this letter) for advice. Where overhead lines cross your site you must comply with the requirements of Health & Safety Executive guidance as laid down in GS6, Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Electric Lines.

Western Power Distribution PLC  
South West - 02366894  
South Wales - 02366985  
East Midlands - 02366923  
West Midlands - 03600574

Where diversions to WPD apparatus are needed to allow change to occur on site, the cost of these alterations may be charged to the persons responsible for the works.

If you require advice in connection with your proposals please contact the relevant general enquiries number (see page 2 of this letter)

Registered in  
England and Wales

Following consultation the local Western Power Distribution team will where necessary prepare detailed proposals and provide a quotation for any necessary alterations and/or development of our equipment on the site.

Registered Office:  
Avonbank  
Feeder Road  
Bristol  
BS2 0TB

Yours sincerely  
WPD Map Response Team

## **Contact Us**

### **Emergency or Power Supply issues**

In an emergency call 0800 6783 105, 24 hours a day.

### **Mapping Enquiries**

If you have an enquiry relating to this letter or the attached map plan, please contact us using the following information:

Telephone 0121 623 9780

Email [WPDMapResponse@westernpower.co.uk](mailto:WPDMapResponse@westernpower.co.uk)

### **General Enquiries**

If you have a general enquiry, please call us on the following telephone number:

All areas 0800 096 3080

### **LinesearchbeforeUdig**

If you have an enquiry relating to the use of the LinesearchbeforeUdig website please contact LinesearchbeforeUdig using the following information:

Telephone 0845 437 7365

Email [enquiries@linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk)

Website [www.linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk](http://www.linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk)

## Steps to help keep you safe

- If you are working within 10 metres of our 33kV, 66kV, 132kV underground electricity cables or within 10 metres of an overhead electricity line you should call the relevant General Enquiries for free safety advice.

**Safety Documents** – please download our informative safety documents to help ensure that you, your staff and the public are kept safe whilst working in the vicinity of electricity.

<http://www.westernpower.co.uk/Health-and-Safety/Public-Safety>

- **Make sure you have up to date plans** - remember that recent additions to our network or service connections between the main cable and a building or street lamp may not be shown.
- **Look for signs of service cables** - an electricity meter box or nearby streetlamp may give you an indication that service cables are present in your area of work.
- **Non WPD Network** - electricity cables, lines and equipment owned by others may also be present in addition to WPD network. They are unlikely to be shown on our plans.
- **Use a cable locator** - trace electricity cables and mark the position of them using paint or other waterproof marking on the ground.
- **Hand dig trial holes** - to confirm the position of cables in close proximity to your area of your work and use spades and shovels rather than picks, pins or forks.
- **Have an emergency plan** - so that everyone working on site understands what to do in the event of an underground electricity cable being damaged or contact being made with an overhead electricity line.
- **If you are working within 10 metres** of an overhead electricity line then it may be necessary for you to erect warning signs and markers, or height restriction goal posts. Ensure that you comply with the requirements of Health & Safety Executive guidance laid down in GS6, Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Electric Lines.
- **If you are erecting a structure** that could allow anyone standing on it, or its access device (ladder, scaffold, MEWP), to come within 3m of any overhead electric line then **you must inform us**. This is your duty and a legal requirement under the Electricity Safety, Quality & Continuity Regulations 2002.
- **If you cannot work safely** around the underground electricity cable or overhead electricity line, then you may need to get it moved to allow your works to go ahead. Call the general enquiry numbers above for guidance.
- **It is possible that cables or pipes may be embedded in concrete** - electricity cables embedded in concrete MUST be made 'dead' by Western Power Distribution or the cable owner before the concrete is broken out. Alternatively, another safe way of working should be agreed.

**Cables are sometimes covered by tiles or a marker tape** - these can be concrete, polythene or earthenware and are a useful early warning of the presence of cables; you should avoid disturbing any tiles or tape to expose the cable. Not all cables have these warning indicators.



# Avoidance of Danger from Electricity Overhead Lines and Underground Cables



# Avoidance of Danger from Electricity Overhead Lines and Underground Cables

## Introduction

In the UK on average, 20 people are killed and 400 people are injured as a result of coming into contact (or close proximity) with electricity overhead lines and underground cables.

Although electric shock is the first thing that people associate with coming into contact with our network, those who have witnessed the effects of damage to our system are shocked by the amounts of heat, light and noise that are the result of an electrical flashover.

In the Midlands, South West and South Wales, Western Power Distribution (WPD) have had to attend to incidents where people have accidentally made contact with one of our live electricity overhead lines or damaged an underground cable and become seriously injured.

A significant number of these accidents occurred whilst people were working in the vicinity of overhead and underground electrical apparatus and this booklet has been produced to provide general guidance on how you and your employees can avoid becoming one of these statistics.

## Our Operational Area



## PLANNING YOUR WORK.

It makes sense to consider your safety while in the vicinity of our equipment as early in your planning process as possible.

One of the first things you should do whenever you are planning your work is to check whether there is any of our equipment in the immediate vicinity. You should do this whether your work is taking place on public (e.g. highways and footpaths) or on private land.

For instance, take a good look around your site to see if there are any visible overhead lines. You should also bear in mind that we have a very extensive network of underground cables, and we are always happy to supply a plan from our Map Response Team who can be contacted via the following;

Tel: 0121 623 9780

Fax: 0121 623 9223

[WPDMapResponse@westernpower.co.uk](mailto:WPDMapResponse@westernpower.co.uk)

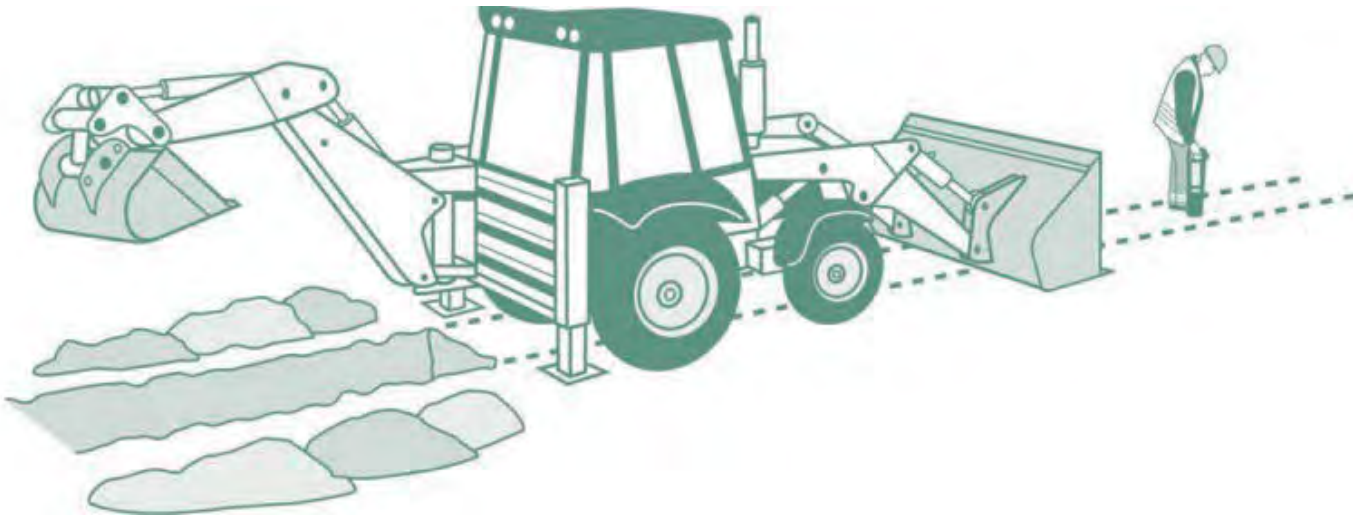
An online mapping service is available at  
[www.westernpower.co.uk/locationplans](http://www.westernpower.co.uk/locationplans)

**It is always safer to assume that there are underground cables present in the ground until you have proven otherwise.**

# WORKING IN THE VICINITY OF UNDERGROUND CABLES

Having obtained copies of our network maps, it is important to recognise that in most cases there will be no surface indication of the presence of our underground cables. We therefore advise that you take the following actions:

- Make sure that you have up-to-date copies of our cable record plans ON SITE - not back in the office.
- Don't assume that these plans are to scale if they have been faxed or copied.
- Make sure that a competent person using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) locates all of the cables shown on these plans.
- Mark the locations of cables on the ground surface with waterproof road paint or other permanent marker.
- Always assume that our cables are live unless we have informed you, in writing, otherwise.



- By hand, dig trial holes to locate the exact position of all cables. Always use a spade or shovel – never use a pick, fork or power tool – push the spade or shovel into the ground applying foot pressure.

- Look out for ducts, marker tape or tiles but do not rely on these. Even if a cable route was originally laid in a duct or with a marker tape, these may have been removed during other excavations at a later date along all or part of the cable route.
- Brief all people working in the vicinity of the presence and location of all underground cables.

**UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU ATTEMPT TO WORK ON, OR INTERFERE WITH, ANY OF OUR UNDERGROUND CABLES.**

The only people qualified to work on this equipment are our operatives; who have been specifically trained and are authorised in writing to do so.

**Please also be aware that:**

- Cable record plans are not guaranteed to be completely accurate. Kerb lines, roads and buildings may have been moved or altered since the cables were laid.
- Cables should ordinarily be at least 450mm deep but don't assume this to be the case where you are working – ground levels could have changed.
- Not all service cables are shown on record plans, so look for cables running down poles and bear in mind that all buildings, street lights and street furniture are likely to have cables running to them. Cables feeding street furniture may be relatively shallow near to the furniture.
- Cables do not run in straight lines. They often “snake” through the ground avoiding surface and buried obstacles that may not be visible to you.
- Cables are flexible and can change direction and depth abruptly – for this reason never use mechanical excavators within 0.5m of any underground electricity cable even if you have located it with trial holes.



- **No attempt should be made to break out concrete surrounding a cable. Please contact us immediately on our general enquiries number and we will discuss the options for safe working which may include making the cable dead or you moving your work site if possible. If we need to make the cable dead we may need to provide our customers with two weeks notice of the power interruption.**
- Our cables and joints are not designed to act as steps or to be left unsupported. If you remove support from any cable, you will need to support it using temporary hangers at not more than 0.5m intervals.
- When backfilling, please consolidate the ground under the cables, cover the cable with soil free of stones or with stone dust and replace any cable marker tiles, ducts and tape.

#### **IF YOU DAMAGE AN UNDERGROUND CABLE**

you must immediately clear the area of personnel, because the cable could still be live, or become live again.

If a machine is still in contact with the cable, instruct the driver to JUMP clear. Do not touch any part of the machine.

Please contact us on our emergency number immediately and tell us what has happened. Please be ready to provide us with a contact telephone number and an accurate location or set of directions – this will help us in getting our staff to site quickly to minimise any danger and lessen the disruption to your work.

**Please report any damage to a cable, however superficial it might seem. The cable may not fail at the time of damage, but it could fail later, causing danger to our staff and other contractors, disruption to our customers' supplies, and also – if we trace the damage back to you – a very much larger repair bill.**

# WORKING IN THE VICINITY OF OVERHEAD LINES

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU ATTEMPT TO WORK ON, OR INTERFERE WITH ANY OF OUR OVERHEAD LINE EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE WIRES.

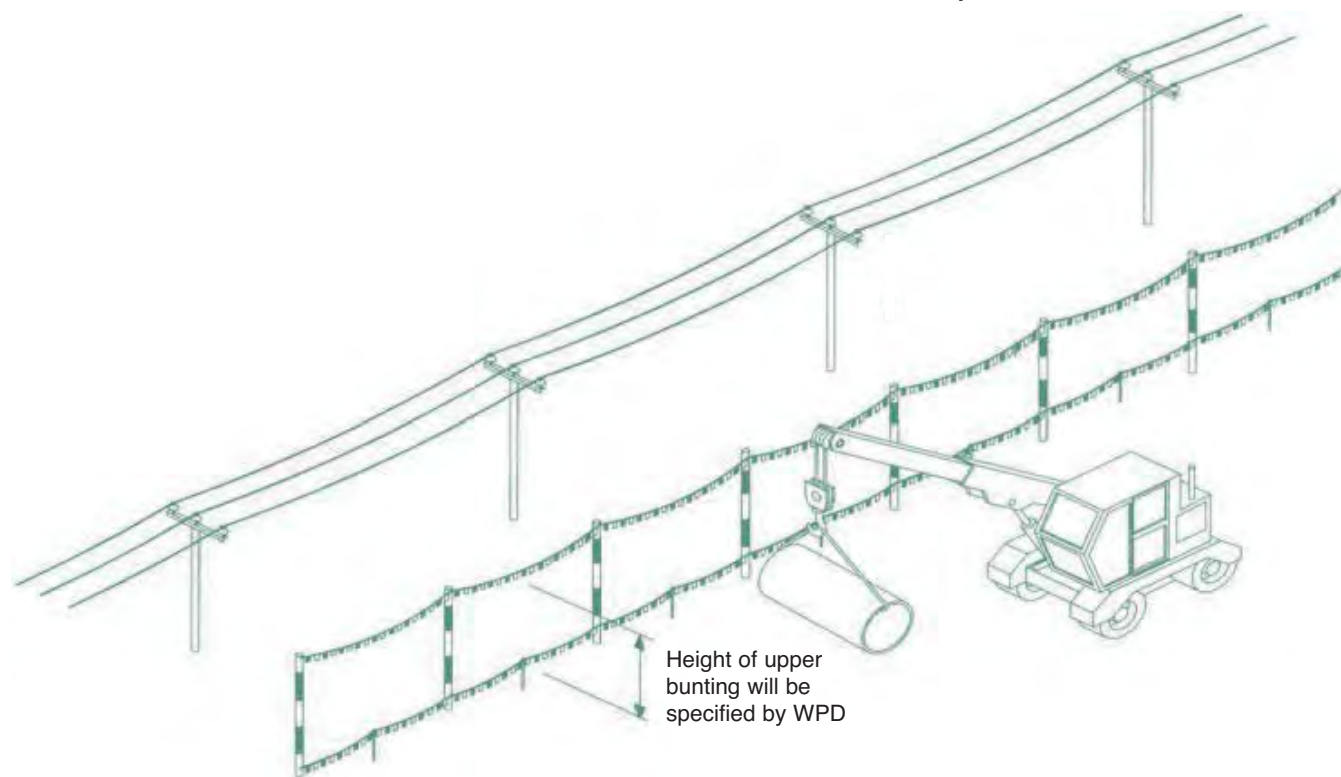
The only people qualified to work on this equipment are our operatives; who have been specifically trained and are authorised in writing to do so.

Overhead lines have the advantage that, unlike underground cables, they can easily be seen.

- Always assume that our overhead lines are live unless we have informed you otherwise in writing.
- We will be able to advise you about the type and voltage of the overhead lines in question and provide you with information about the clearances that you must adhere to during your work. Please ring our regional general enquiries number for further advice.
- If you are in any doubt about whether the overhead lines in question are power or telephone (this is a very common mistake) – please ask us.
- In some circumstances, we may be able to temporarily shroud low voltage overhead lines and services running to buildings if you need to work in the vicinity e.g. for scaffolding erection, fascia repairs and painting work on domestic properties. We don't normally charge for the shrouding of overhead lines, but please give us as much notice as possible.
- If you think that you will be working close to our overhead lines and they need shrouding – please don't start work until we have agreed what needs to be done and all safety precautions are in place.
- Please note that it is not technically possible to shroud high voltage lines, so if you cannot avoid working near to our high voltage lines, contact us and we will be happy to meet with you to discuss safe alternatives.

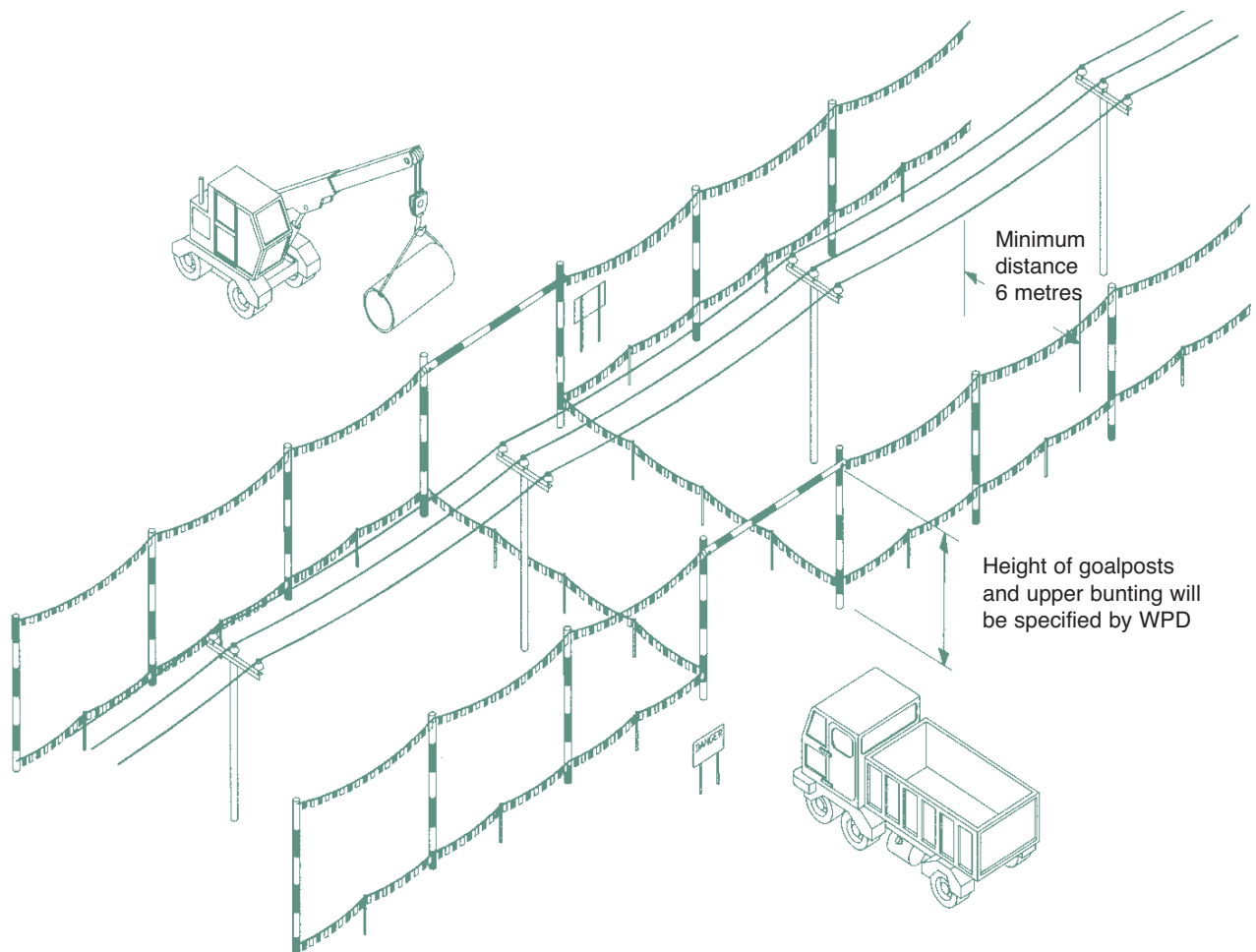
- If it is decided that work can go ahead in the vicinity of our overhead lines but there is a risk of you infringing the safety clearances from the overhead lines, you have a responsibility to erect safety barriers to segregate your works from the area around the overhead lines. The detailed requirements for these barriers are provided in the HSE document GS6 'Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Lines'. As a summary they should consist of:

- Red and white coloured posts erected at 6m intervals, with coloured bunting stretched between their tops, supplemented by low level bunting erected at 1m above ground level, supported at 3m intervals on red and white coloured posts. This is shown below.



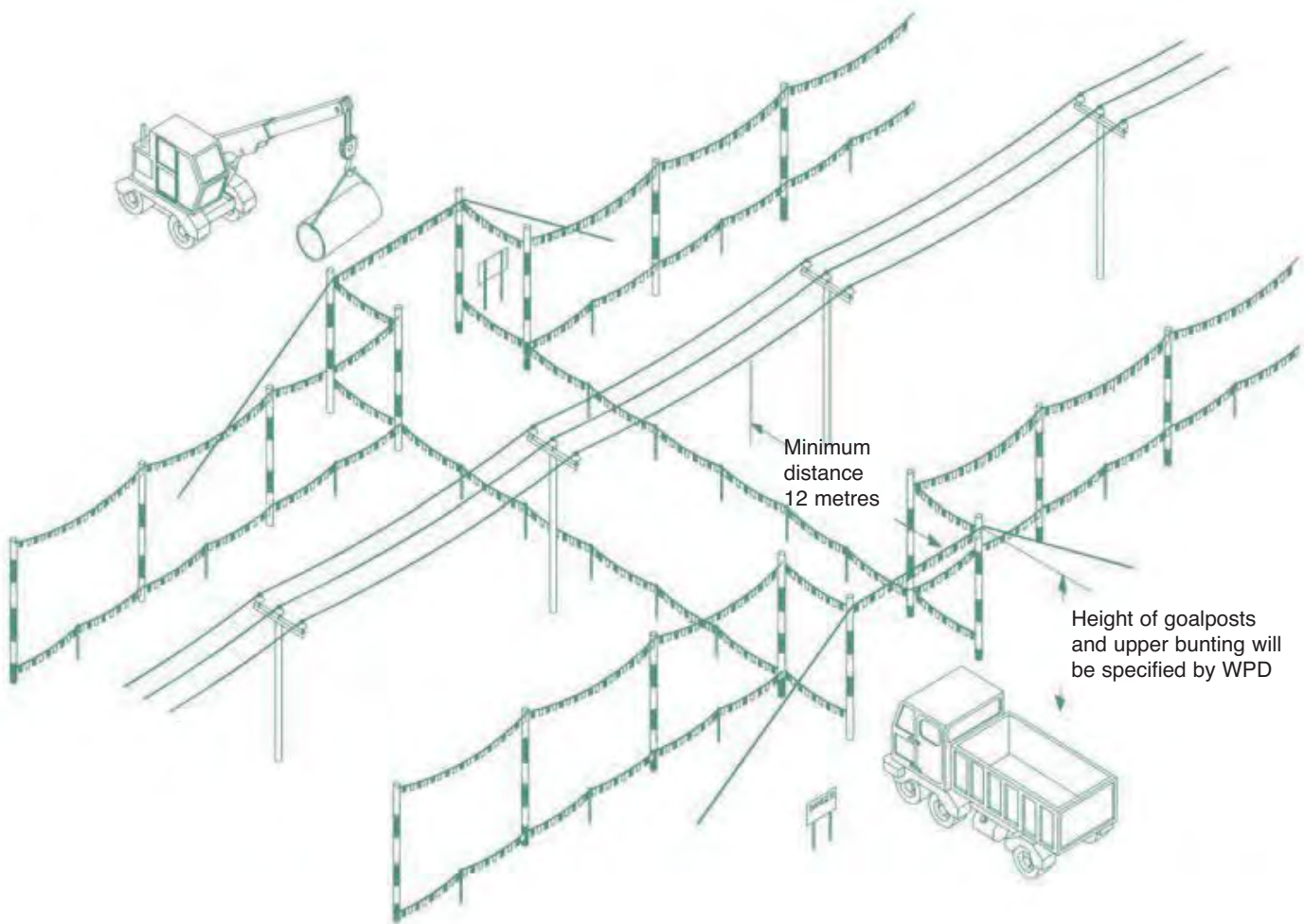
- We are able to advise you on the height of the barriers and any additional clearances necessary if you are using large plant on your site.
- Any bunting, ropes and lanyards used should be made from an insulating material.
- These barriers should be erected parallel to the overhead line at a minimum distance of 6m horizontally from the outermost conductor of the overhead line.

- The supports may be supported by rubble or concrete filled barrels or buried directly in the ground.
- Danger Notices should be fixed to all of your high level supports.
- The ground enclosed within these barriers is best regarded as “dead ground” in which all foot and vehicular traffic is forbidden, in all circumstances, for the duration of your work.
- Where it is necessary for foot and vehicular traffic to pass under the line, you will need to form a marked access way between the barriers as shown below.



- This access way should comprise of bunting erected 1m above ground, supplemented by high level “goal-posts” erected at either end.
- The goal post cross bars should be rigid, made of insulating material and positioned in a location and at a height specified by us.

- The access route should be as narrow as possible and should not normally exceed 10m in width.
- If it is necessary to make the access route wider than this, you may find it impractical to use rigid cross bars, so you may use a tensioned rope and bunting instead. If you use rope and bunting as a cross bar, you should move the entrance to the access route out to a minimum distance of 12m from the outermost conductor of the line. This is to allow for any stretching of the rope if pulled by your plant.



- If you decide to use steel wire rope to support the barrier, this must be effectively connected to earth at both ends.
- You should also install Danger Notices at all probable directions of approach and clearly display the cross bar height.
- If you are working at night, or in conditions of poor visibility, you should ensure the area is well lit and that the overhead lines are clearly visible.
- Whatever measures you take, you should ensure that everyone working in the vicinity of overhead lines is briefed about the risks and what safety measures are in place. Do not permit anyone to carry long objects, especially scaffold poles, ladders and irrigation pipes in the vicinity of overhead lines.
- You should ensure that all shrouding, barriers and signs are regularly inspected and maintained so that they remain effective.
- Overhead lines are not normally insulated and electricity at high voltages may jump, so a dangerous situation can arise just from a close approach.
- Cranes and excavators working near overhead lines are at increased risk because of the possibility of the jib/arm slewing or being raised into the overhead line, or the load swinging into the overhead line. You may therefore also need to fit plant and vehicles with restricting chains etc. to physically restrain their operation – we can advise on this if you wish.
- If you are planning to carry out tree cutting or arboriculture work in the vicinity of our overhead lines, you need to be aware that this is a complex, high risk activity and we recommend that you employ a competent tree surgeon, who complies with all of the requirements of Forestry industry Safety Accord (FISA) publication FISA 804 - Electricity at work: Forestry.



## If contact is made with an overhead line

you must immediately clear the area and suspend all work within 50m of the damage because the line could still be live, or become live again.

The operator of a machine that is in contact with an overhead line should:

- **if the machine is still operable and the operator is still in the cab:**

provided that you do not risk breaking the overhead line or dragging it to the ground, immediately lower the raised parts of the machine USING ONLY THE CONTROLS IN THE CAB and/or drive the vehicle clear of the overhead line.

contact us immediately on our emergency number so that we can check the overhead lines.

instruct other people in the vicinity not to approach the vehicle.

- **if the machine is not operable, cannot be driven clear of the overhead line or there is a risk that doing so will break the line or drag it to the ground:**

stay in the cab.

contact your site manager or us immediately on our emergency number by radio or mobile phone or as soon as possible by any other method.

instruct everyone outside the vehicle not to approach it.

do not exit the cab until given confirmation BY WPD PERSONNEL that it is safe to do so.

- **if the machine is inoperable or cannot be driven free and there is risk of fire or other immediate hazard:**

JUMP clear of the vehicle, avoiding simultaneous contact with any part of the machine and the ground.

try to land with your feet as close together as possible.

where possible, continue to move away from the vehicle using “bunny hops” with your feet together until at least 15m from the vehicle.

instruct other people in the vicinity not to approach the vehicle.

contact us immediately on our emergency number.

do not return to the vehicle until given confirmation by WPD PERSONNEL that it is safe to do so.

Whatever the circumstances please contact us on our emergency number immediately and tell us what has happened. Please be ready to provide us with a contact telephone number and an accurate location or set of directions – this will help us in getting our staff to site quickly to minimise any danger and lessen any disruption to your work.

**Please report any damage or contact no matter how minor they may seem to you at the time. The damage may not cause a serious problem at the time of damage, but it could fail later, causing danger to our staff and members of the public, disruption to our customers' supplies, and – if we trace the damage back to you – a large repair bill.**



## MORE INFORMATION

For your information, we are legally obliged to report all contact with our system to the Health & Safety Executive (HSE), and, if you are an employer, you may be obliged to report incidents involving your staff or contractors to the HSE. Even if no one is hurt, you could be prosecuted for failing to report such an incident.

More detailed general information on this subject is available in the following publications from the HSE:

HSG(47) – Avoiding Danger from Underground Services

GS6 – Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Lines

Along with Forestry Industry Safety Accord (FISA) publication FISA 804 – Electricity at Work: Forestry

If you require more site-specific information relating to our equipment at your location please contact us on our regional general enquiries numbers.

Our general enquiries numbers are;

Midlands	0845 724 0240
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General Enquiries

South Wales	0845 601 3341
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General Enquiries

South West	0845 601 2989
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General Enquiries

### FINALLY...

Please, always remember that electricity cables and overhead lines can be very dangerous – the general rule is **STAY AWAY** and stay safe.

# NOTES



This booklet is issued by the Safety Team

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2014, 4th issue

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0800 6783 105

Calling from a mobile?

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0330 123 5009

West Midlands

0330 123 5008

South Wales

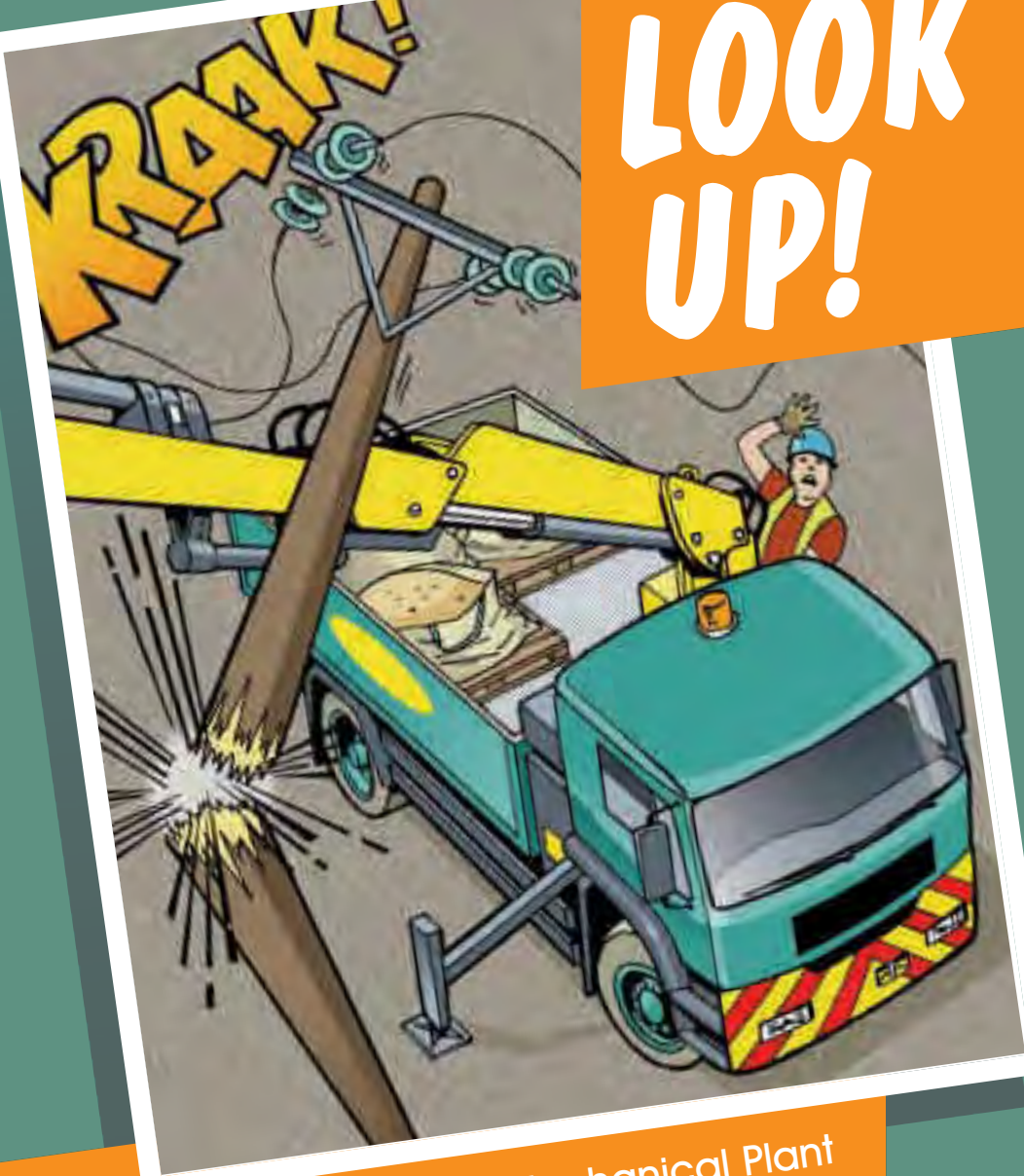
0330 123 5002

South West

0330 123 5001

# LOOK OUT-

# LOOK UP!



A Guide to the Safe Use of Mechanical Plant  
in the Vicinity of Electricity Overhead Lines

# The Safe Use of Mechanical Plant in the Vicinity of Electricity Overhead Lines

## Introduction

Every year in the UK on average, two people are killed and many more are injured when mechanical plant and machinery comes into contact or close proximity to overhead electricity lines.

This booklet has been produced for anyone who uses mobile plant, (such as Hiabs, MEWPs, Tipper Lorries and Trailers, Grab Lorries, Concrete Conveyors and Excavators) for short duration work and provides general guidance on how to avoid becoming part of these statistics.



## 1 BEFORE STARTING WORK

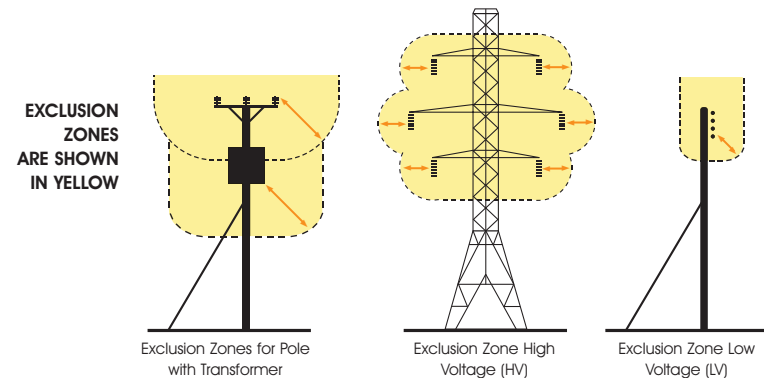
- Overhead lines have the advantage that they can easily be seen, so before you set up your vehicle or plant always:

### STOP AND LOOK UP!

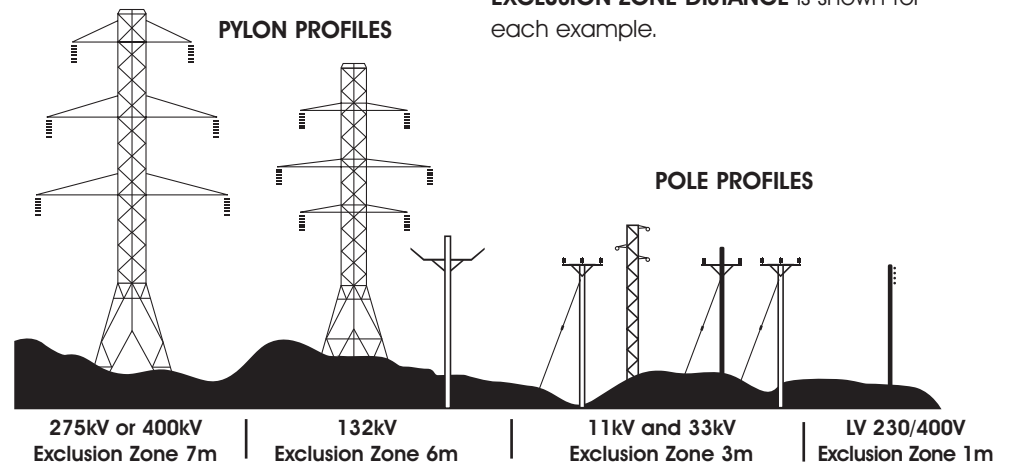
- If you are working at night, or in conditions of poor visibility, you should use spotlights or a torch to carefully check that there are no overhead lines within your vehicle's reach.
- Always assume that our lines are live unless we have informed you otherwise in writing.
- If you are in any doubt about whether the lines in question are power or telephone (this is a very common mistake) – always assume that they are power lines and are live.
- It is not normally practical for electricity companies to shroud high voltage conductors and even when low voltage conductors are shrouded, the shrouding is not designed to protect against contact by mechanical plant – again, always assume the lines are live.

## 2 EXCLUSION ZONES

- Overhead power lines are not normally insulated and so any contact can result in serious or fatal injuries.
- Electricity at high voltages can also jump gaps with no warning whatsoever, so it is also dangerous to let your plant approach too close to a line.
- The distance that electricity can jump depends on the voltage of the line. The higher the voltage, the further you must stay away from the line and any other equipment that may be fitted to the pole or pylon. This distance is called the **EXCLUSION ZONE**. Examples of this are shown highlighted in the diagram below.



- You must not allow any part of your plant to enter the **EXCLUSION ZONE**.
- The diagram below shows typical types of overhead lines and provides a guide to help you assess the line voltage of lines on wooden poles or steel pylons. The minimum **EXCLUSION ZONE DISTANCE** is shown for each example.

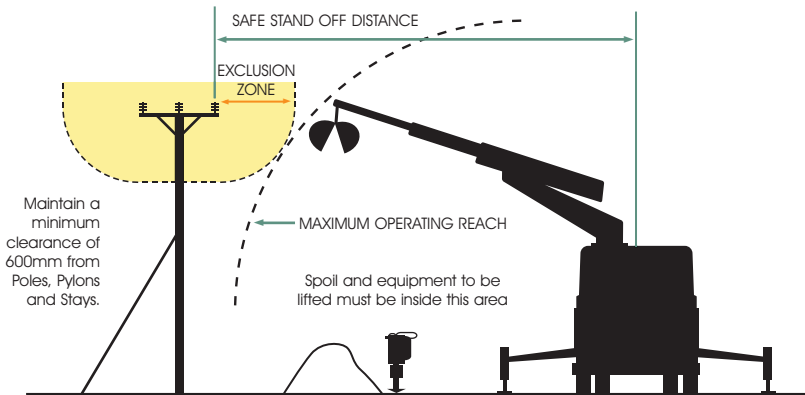


- Please note that these are absolute minimum distances that should under no circumstances be infringed. **If you do – it could prove fatal.**

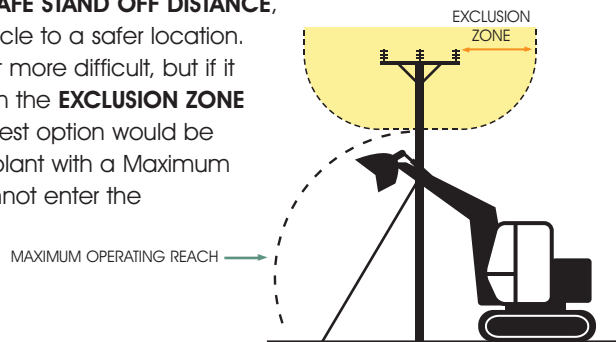
- As well as staying away from the lines or equipment, you should also stay at least 600mm away from any part of poles, pylons and stay wires.
- Please remember that is for guidance only, and if you are in any doubt, please call us for advice before setting up your plant or starting work.

### 3 STAND OFF DISTANCES

- If there are power lines in the vicinity of your work the best way to make sure you stay out of the **EXCLUSION ZONE** is to position your vehicle at a **SAFE STAND OFF DISTANCE** so that, even when fully extended, no part of it can accidentally reach inside the **EXCLUSION ZONE**.
- This **SAFE STAND OFF DISTANCE** can be calculated by adding the **EXCLUSION ZONE** distance for the appropriate voltage of the line to the Maximum Operating Reach of your vehicle. This is shown in the diagram below.



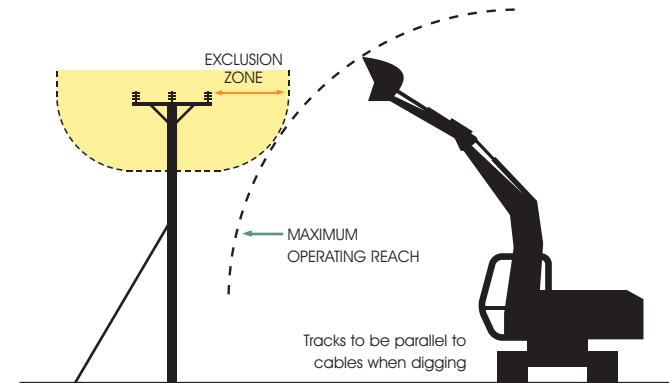
- If you position your vehicle outside of the **SAFE STAND OFF DISTANCE**, there is no risk of accidental contact with the lines and no danger of electricity jumping from the line to your vehicle.
- If you cannot achieve a **SAFE STAND OFF DISTANCE**, consider moving your vehicle to a safer location. It may make your job a bit more difficult, but if it means you stay away from the **EXCLUSION ZONE** - it will be safer. The next best option would be to consider using smaller plant with a Maximum Operating Reach that cannot enter the **EXCLUSION ZONE**.



- You may not be able to achieve either of these options, so, as a last resort, if you cannot avoid operating large items of plant in the vicinity of lines, you **MUST** make sure that the plant is fitted with restraints to ensure that the **EXCLUSION ZONE** cannot be entered. These restraints may be electrical or hydraulic systems fitted to the plant, or mechanical devices such as chains.

Please seek advice from the plant manufacturer for more information on choices available for your particular item of plant.

- If you are using a mechanical excavator to dig parallel to the line, it is good practice to position the excavator with the tracks or wheels parallel to the line, so as you move along the excavation the **SAFE STAND OFF DISTANCE** is easily maintained.



- Care must also be taken to avoid non-mechanical equipment, (e.g. scaffold poles, ladders and long loads such as lengths of steel or timber) from entering the **EXCLUSION ZONE**.
- Always maintain at least 600mm clearance from your plant to any of our poles, stay wires or pylons. Any contact with these by your plant could cause the line to break and fall to the ground.

### 4 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

**If contact is made with an overhead line**, you must immediately clear the area and suspend all work within 50m of the damage because the line could still be live, or become live again.

The operator of a machine that is in contact with an overhead line should take the following steps:

- **If the machine is still operable:**
  - lower any raised parts that are controlled from the driving position and/or drive the vehicle clear of the line, as long as neither of these actions risk breaking the line or dragging it to the ground.



● **If the machine is not operable or cannot be driven clear of the line:**

- stay in the cab.
- contact your site manager or us immediately by radio or mobile phone or as soon as possible by any other method.
- instruct everyone outside the vehicle not to approach it.
- do not exit the cab until given confirmation BY WPD PERSONNEL that it is safe to do so.

● **If the machine is inoperable or cannot be driven free and there is risk of fire or other immediate hazard:**

- jump clear of the vehicle, avoiding simultaneous contact with any part of the machine and the ground.
- try to land with your feet as close together as possible.
- where possible, continue to move away from the vehicle using "bunny hops" with your feet together until at least 15m from the vehicle.
- instruct other people in the vicinity not to approach the vehicle.
- do not return to the vehicle until given confirmation BY WPD PERSONNEL that it is safe to do so.

***Whatever the circumstances please contact us on our emergency number immediately and tell us what has happened.***

Please be ready to provide us with a contact telephone number and an accurate location or set of directions – this will help us in getting our staff to site quickly to minimise any danger and to reduce any disruption to your work.

Our emergency number is:

**105 or 0800 6783 105**

Please report any damage or contact no matter how minor they may seem to you at the time. Whilst the damage may not cause a serious problem at the time of contact it could fail later, causing danger to our staff and members of the public, disruption to our customer's supplies, and – if we trace the damage back to you – a larger repair bill!

## 5 MORE INFORMATION

- Proximity Warning Systems (such as Wire Watcher – see [wirewatcher.co.uk](http://wirewatcher.co.uk) for information) may be fitted to your vehicle. Never turn these devices off or disable them in any way.
- Take note of any warnings these proximity warning systems may provide but do not use the presence of such devices as a reason not to follow the advice provided in this leaflet.
- For your information, we are legally obliged to report all contact with our system to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and, if you are an employer, you may be obliged to report incidents involving your staff or contractors to the Health & Safety Executive (HSE). Even if no one is hurt, you could still find yourself being prosecuted for causing a dangerous occurrence.

## 6 FURTHER READING

For advice related to signing and guarding at longer term work sites please also refer to WPD booklet "Avoidance of Danger from Electricity Overhead Lines and Underground Cables"

More detailed information is also published in the following documents available from the HSE.

**GS6 – Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Lines.**

**HS(G) 47 – Avoiding Danger from Underground Services.**

Along with Forestry Industry Safety Accord (FISA) publication **FISA 804 - Electricity at Work: Forestry.**

If you require more site-specific information relating to our equipment at your location please contact us on the relevant **GENERAL ENQUIRIES NUMBER:**

**0800 096 3080**

**FINALLY....** Please, always remember that electricity overhead lines can be very dangerous – **the general rule is STAY AWAY and STAY SAFE!**

# ***For the Safe Use of Mechanical Plant in the Vicinity of Electricity Overhead Lines ALWAYS FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE RULES – THEY COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!***

- **Treat all overhead lines as live and dangerous**
- **Any contact may be fatal or cause very serious injuries**
- **Electricity can jump gaps**
- **Before you set up or use plant near to lines – STOP and LOOK UP**
- **Take special care and use lights in the dark or poor light conditions**
- **If there are lines in the vicinity of your work – stay well away**
- **Set up your plant with care to reduce the chance of contact**
- **If you are unsure or need advice**
  - please ask us before starting work

**Our emergency number is: 105 or 0800 6783 105**

**You can also call 105 if you spot damage to electricity power lines, poles and substations which could put you or someone else in danger.**

**If there's a serious immediate risk, you should also call the emergency services.**

**This booklet is issued by the Safety Team: [wpdsafetyhelpline@westernpower.co.uk](mailto:wpdsafetyhelpline@westernpower.co.uk)**



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# Electricity Network Information Plans Fees 01 December 2015

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<b>Non Chargeable</b> e.g. Local Authority, Utility, Architect, Developer, Electrical Design Consultants or, Independent Connection Providers (ICP) including contractors excavating on their behalf	
<b>LSBUD</b> internet/email	Free
<b>Chargeable - Commercial use of plans and data</b> e.g. Solicitor, Conveyancer, Search Company. Including, but not limited to, resellers and speculative consultancy	
<b>LSBUD</b> internet/email (Pay As You Go and <b>Monthly Invoice*</b> )	£15 per enquiry

**\*Monthly Invoice** - Standard payment terms are 30 days net of receipt of invoice

## Paper Plans – Map Response Team (see below for contact details)

<b>Private Domestic Enquiry</b> e.g. homeowner requesting plans of their own property	
<b>Single Paper Plan</b> Postal service	Free
<b>Chargeable</b> e.g. Solicitor, Conveyancer, Search Company, Local Authority, Utility, Architect, Consultant, Developer or, Independent Connection Providers (ICP) including contractors excavating on their behalf. Including, but not limited to, resellers and speculative consultancy	
<b>Single Paper Plan</b> Postal service	£30.00 <i>Multiple plans price on application</i>

- All prices are **exclusive of VAT**
- Plans are not suitable for black and white photocopying

To register for **LSBUD** go to <http://www.westernpower.co.uk/locationplans> or <http://www.linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk>

For more information please contact the Map Response Team:

Email: WPDWebMap@westernpower.co.uk  
 Post: Map Response Team, Western Power Distribution, Mapping Centre  
 Toll End Road, Tipton, West Midlands DY4 0HH  
 Phone: 0121 623 9780  
 Fax: 0121 623 9223

## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Neil Kirby <neil.kirby@worcsregservices.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 24 May 2018 10:13  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Cc:** Development Control team  
**Subject:** Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Josh

Our ref: 18/05802/PLAN  
Your ref: 18/000023/SCO

Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme for Land at Lea Castle Farm.

The submitted Scoping document appears to adequately address potential Air Quality and Climate issues and states that the Environmental Assessment (EA) will include impact assessments for both.

If you have any further queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the Land and Air Quality Team via [wrsenquiries@worcsregservices.gov.uk](mailto:wrsenquiries@worcsregservices.gov.uk) or 01905 822799 quoting the above reference number.

Regards

Neil Kirby

### Neil Kirby

Senior Technical Officer

Tel: 01562 732584

Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY11 7WF

Mobile: 07779 628996

Fax: 01562 745516

E-mail: [neil.kirby@worcsregservices.gov.uk](mailto:neil.kirby@worcsregservices.gov.uk)

Web: <http://www.worcsregservices.gov.uk/>

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## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Steve Williams <steve.williams@worcsregservices.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 11 May 2018 11:56  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** 18/000023/SCO Land At Lea Castle Farm

Dear Josh,

### Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme.

The submitted Scoping document appears to adequately address potential Dust and Noise issues and states that the Environmental Assessment (EA) will include impact assessments for both. Additionally Section 7.2 mentions Vibration and Lighting and these issues should also be addressed in the EA.

Regards,

### **Steve Williams**

Senior Technical Officer (Technical Services)

Tel: 01562 738091

Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY11 7WF

Mobile: 07776 145989

Fax: 01562 745516

E-mail: [Steve.Williams@worcsregservices.gov.uk](mailto:Steve.Williams@worcsregservices.gov.uk)

Web: <http://www.worcsregservices.gov.uk/>



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## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Steve Bloomfield <stevenb@worcestershireswildlifetrust.org>  
**Sent:** 23 May 2018 16:01  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Scoping opinion consultation 18/000023/SCO - Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry, Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire

Dear Joshua,

Thank you for sending us details of this scoping opinion request. We note the contents of the associated document and we would like to make the following comments.

1. We note that the site falls within open agricultural countryside and that it contains some semi-natural habitats that may be of value, both in their own right and in terms of the species they may hold. In addition we recognise that the site is bordered by woodland and is close to wetlands that have Local Wildlife Site Status (River Stour and Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal). Accordingly we are pleased to see that ecology is included in the list of issues to be considered in the EIA for the application.
2. In view of the high-value ecological receptors nearby we recommend that the EIA considers a broader ecological envelope than just the red-line boundary of the site. Commentary on likely offsite impacts on the LWS watercourses, nearby woodlands and species will be important.
3. Specific issues that appear likely to be relevant within the site include direct habitat loss (hedges, trees and potentially grassland), hydrological impacts resulting from void creation and impacts on species such as badgers, bats, birds, dormice and possibly reptiles and amphibians that may be utilising habitats on or adjacent to the working areas.
4. It therefore follows that a site-wide Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, supported by a background data search from the Worcestershire Biological Records Centre, should inform specialist surveys in line with guidance in BS42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of practice for planning and development and the relevant methodologies. Potential for ecological impacts arising from noise, vibration, dust and light pollution should be considered along with direct habitat loss or changes resulting from landform alterations (slope and aspect changes etc) and drainage implications. Assuming these matters can be fully considered in the ES you should be in receipt of sufficient ecological information to be able to determine the application in line with the relevant law and guidance.
5. In view of the comments set out above it is likely that we would expect any permission you may be minded to grant to include conditions covering at least a CEMP and LEMP but of course this will depend on the outcome of the various surveys.

I hope that these comments are of use to you but please do not hesitate to contact us again if we can be of further assistance. I look forward to seeing the application in due course.

Best Wishes,

Steve

Steve Bloomfield  
Senior Conservation Officer - Planning

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## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Paul Allen <Paul.Allen@wyreforestdc.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 30 May 2018 16:34  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO  
**Attachments:** FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Hello,

My Concern related to this scoping report is that the site is in proximity to A couple of SSSI and other wildlife site .

The SSSI's have complex and dependent hydrology that might be impacted upon by the mining operation.

At lease one SSSI is dependent on low nutrient conditions that could be negatively impacted by particulate deposition that a open cast mining operation could create.

Dormice are known to be in proximity to this application and the mining operation could impact on the available habitat and dispersal routes of this protected species.

Bats species with low levels of light tolerance are known to exist in area . the lighting of the mine working may have some potential to impact on forage and distribution of this species.

I hope the above is of some help  
Kind regards

Paul

**Paul Allen**  
Countryside Manager  
Wyre Forest District Council  
01562 732971  
Wyre Forest House, Finepoint Way, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY11 7WF  
[Paul.Allen@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.Allen@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

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## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Scholes, Joshua <JScholes@worcestershire.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 16 May 2018 13:28  
**To:** Allen, Paul (Wyre Forest)  
**Subject:** FW: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO  
**Attachments:** Consultation letter.pdf

---

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

---

Dear Paul,

I understand you would like to comment on the Scoping Opinion request for Land at Lea Castle. Please find the consultation letter attached. Please also note the error in reference to the A4189 in the thread below. This should be the B4189.

Thank you,

Josh

---

**From:** Levine, Cody  
**Sent:** 16 May 2018 13:11  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Hi Josh.

I've just come out of a meeting with Paul Allen (WFDC Countryside Manager) who asked whether you could include him on your consultation list for this scheme please.

[paul.allen@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:paul.allen@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

Many thanks

Cody.

---

**From:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Sent:** 15 May 2018 11:28  
**To:** Barker, Emily  
**Cc:** Levine, Cody  
**Subject:** RE: Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please note that reference to the A4189 Wolverley Road in the consultation is incorrect. This was made in error. The proposed access would be on to the **B4189** Wolverley Road.

Regards,

**Joshua Scholes**  
Planning Officer  
Directorate of Economy and Infrastructure  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP  
**Tel:** 01905 844485  
**Mob:** 07985 601739  
**Email:** [jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jscholes@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## Bosworth, Hayley

---

**From:** Paul Round <Paul.Round@wyreforestdc.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 22 June 2018 10:59  
**To:** Scholes, Joshua  
**Subject:** Consultation on Planning Application 18/000023/SCO  
**Attachments:** Minerals Local Plan Consultation.docx; 18.000023ConservResponse20180517.docx

Dear Josh,

Please accept the following as the response of the District Council.

I have attached documents setting out the response from the Conservation Officer in respect of heritage assets and also the response from the Local Planning Authority in respect of the MLPC.

The District Council have significant concerns over this development, but understands that this consultation is in relation to the scoping request under the EIA regs and not on the merits of the case. The comments will be limited to this remit. Where comments are made in relation to specific paragraphs of the submission paragraph numbers will be referred to.

- The District Council notes that the Applicant has accepted that the proposal is EIA development a matter to which the DC agrees.
- ¶13.3 – the comments of the Council's Conservation Officer should be noted, there is some discrepancies in the statement and CO's response.
- ¶13.4 – I understand North Worcestershire Water Management have responded direct as the LLFA.
- ¶15.4
  - Biodiversity – I have not received a response from the Council Countryside Officer. I expect that you will have received relevant advice from the GI partnership.
  - Soils – agree Agricultural Land Appraisal is required
  - Water – see LLFA response
  - Air – advice from Worcestershire Regulatory Services should be taken
  - Climate – agree needs consideration through assessments mentioned
  - Cultural Heritage – A full Heritage Impact Assessment should be undertaken along with Archaeological Assessment. AA should be scoped with County Archaeology which may include GeoPhys as well as intrusive investigations.
  - Landscape - Agree that a LVIA should be done, in accordance with GLVIA. It is worth noting at this stage that the County should considered employing a suitably qualified consultant to assess any submission.
  - Recreational – Effects and Benefits will be assessed;
  - Noise – consideration needs to be taken of existing properties, approved properties and future expansion as part of the Council's LP review. (particularly around the Lea Castle Hospital site)
  - Transport – Agreed that TA is required. The new access point will also need to be considered under cultural heritage and included in HIA.
- ¶15.5 – I should be highlighted than an HIA is required and that any assessments should take into account the District's plans for growth as part of the LP review.

I trust these comments will help you provide a suitable response to the SO. Should you require any further information or clarity please let me know.

Many thanks

Paul;

**Paul Round**

Development Manager

Wyre Forest District Council

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## **Minerals Local Plan Consultation**

We are currently in the process of preparing a new Local Plan, which will involve a study of the whole district for areas to be developed to meet housing need. It is likely that the Lea Castle area will be developed to provide a large number of dwellings. Other greenfield sites including possible urban extensions to Kidderminster may also need to be developed to meet housing need. We do have concerns that any proposed mineral extraction north and south of Wolverley Road could have a detrimental impact by virtue of dust, noise and disturbance for the duration of the period of extraction on residents in the Lea Castle area and which could have a negative impact on the development of the site.

### **Land South of Wolverley Road**

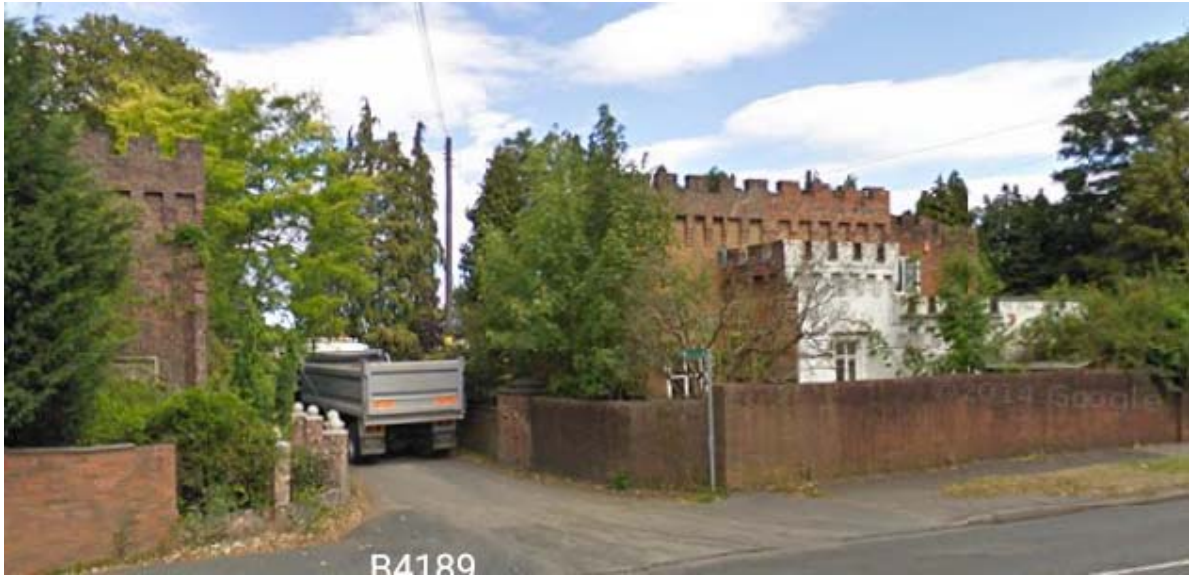
Concern with the potential visual impact of minerals extraction on the land south of Wolverley Road as seen from the Staff and Worcs Canal Conservation Area. The siting of a quarry or open-cast mine or gravel pit here would have a detrimental impact on the setting of the Conservation Area for the duration of the period of extraction. It would be particularly invasive in longer views along the canal to the north of the sports ground and around Wolverley Court Lock. The noise, dust and general pollution that could arise from such an operation could harm the character of the S&W Canal Conservation Area which at this location is tranquil and removed from the noise and activity of both Kidderminster to the south and the rather busy area around the lock public house immediately to the north.

If an application is to be made for planning permission for this use, the applicants will need to demonstrate how the proposals either “preserve” or “enhance” the Conservation Area, which is a fundamental requirement of the P(LBCA)A 1990, irrespective of any other NPPF or Local Plan guidance. Failure to do so clearly and convincingly should result in the application being refused.

### **Land North of Wolverley Road**



As can be seen from the photo above the North Lodges are largely intact and date from 1818. These are Grade II listed and we would not be supportive of an application for partial demolition to provide vehicular access to a minerals extraction site. The road junction here is also complex which effectively prevents the use of this access point.



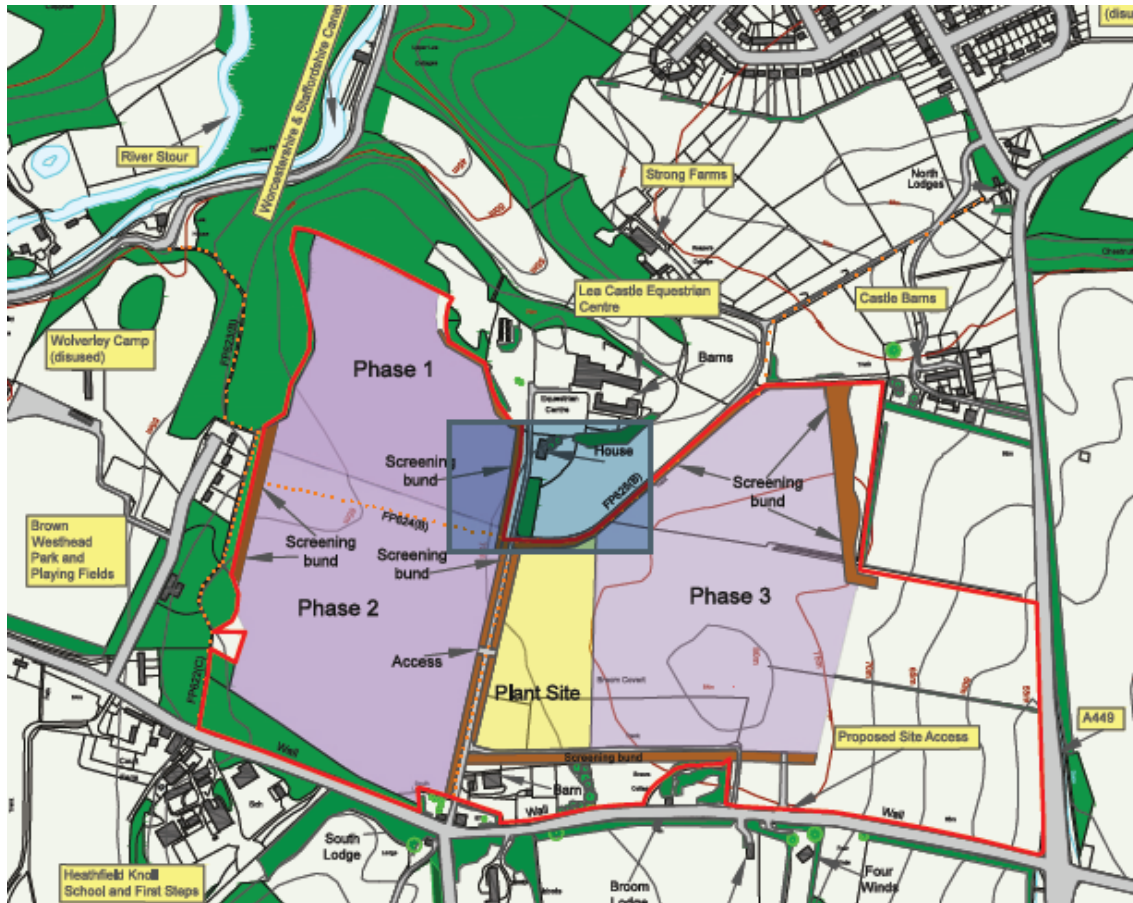
As can be seen from the photograph above the present southern access onto the site from the B4189 is severely restricted in terms of its visibility splays which are limited due to the historic boundary walls associated with the Locally Listed Lodge Houses 1 and 2 originally serving Lea Castle (which was pulled down in 1945). Dating to c.1818, these served as the entrance from Wolverley.

No 1 House is a square building, red brick construction, with castellated parapet to roof, buttresses to each corner, hood moulds to windows and doors. Extension to rear. No 2 House is a square building, red brick construction, with castellated parapet to roof, buttresses to each corner, hood moulds to windows and doors, wall for Lea Castle estate springs from western elevation of building.

Given that their northern counterparts are already listed it is considered that if these structures were at risk of demolition to provide a better access to the site that they would be suitable candidates for spot listing, given their age. In the event that the LPA was not supportive of an application for listing it is my opinion that a privately funded application would be very likely to succeed if the buildings were at risk of substantial harm.

Therefore concern regarding how a minerals extraction site could be accessed.

Application Ref: 18/000023/SCO	Site Name: Land at Lea Castle Farm, Near Wolverley, Worcestershire	Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry and Restoration Scheme
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<p>1 a) Is the site in proximity to Heritage assets?</p> <p>If yes,</p> <p>b) What type of heritage asset?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Designated Heritage Asset: Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Conservation Area</p> <p>Undesignated heritage assets included on the Worcestershire HER:</p> <p>Former Military Grass Landing Strip WSM29266</p> <p>Lea Castle Park WSM28847</p> <p>Site of Lea Castle WSM15003</p>
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<p>c) What is the proximity?</p>	<p>Wolverley Camp General Hospital WSM17233</p> <p>Lea Castle Farm Wolverley WSM30493;</p> <p>Undesignated heritage assets included on the Local Heritage List for Wolverley and Cookley:</p> <p>1 and 2 South Lodges ref: LLWC55 and LLWC56</p> <p>Staffs and Worcs Canal Conservation Area is approx 50m to the NW of the site.</p> <p>WSM 29266, WSM28847 and WSM17233 are within the site.</p> <p>WSM15003 is 40m to the North east of the site.</p> <p>Lea Castle Farm Wolverley WSM30493; is 30m to the E of the site.</p> <p>1 and 2 South Lodges ref: LLWC55 and LLWC56 lie Adjacent to the southern boundary of the site.</p>
<p>2a) What is the significance of the heritage assets?</p>	<p>The significance of the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Conservation Area is summarised as follows:</p> <p><i>“The Canal was planned by the famous engineer James Brindley and completed in 1772. It links the Rivers Trent and Severn via the industrial Midlands, and forms an important historic feature running north-south for over fourteen kilometres through the District.</i></p> <p><i>Associated with the Canal are several bridges, locks, basins, cottages, warehouses and walls, together with the towpath; which form part of its special interest. The principal building materials are red brick, particularly associated with the earlier canal buildings and structures; and all buildings have pitched roofs, generally with grey slates. The corners to buildings are often curved, in order to facilitate turning by wagons. Walls are always capped with semi-circular</i></p>

	<p><i>copied to help reduce wear on ropes and to shed rainwater. Iron metal work (painted black) is a feature of the locks and some narrow bridges. The wider bridges are constructed of red brick and utilize a semi-elliptical arch structure.</i></p> <p><i>There are many trees and shrubs along the canal side that add to the character of the Conservation Area.</i></p> <p><i>The Canal is an important leisure resource, adding to its profile. In this respect, the water way is a popular route for leisure boats, with a major complex of basins located at its southern end in Stourport-on-Severn. The towpath is a popular route for walking and cycling.</i></p> <p><i>The Canal Conservation Area consists of four fairly distinct sections: this site is adjacent to the Northern Section:</i></p> <p><i>Attractive, well wooded, northern section where it has been cut into sandstone cliffs to maintain its course along the contour, and passes through two locks and a tunnel. Bridge No. 25 is a Listed Building;</i></p> <p>The canal Conservation Area has high evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal value and overall it is of high significance.</p> <p>WSM28847 Lea Castle Park:</p> <p>Lea Castle estate had remained undisturbed by the expansion of Kidderminster into the early-20th century as recorded (as a park) on the 1st edition of the OS 6 inch. Much of the area defined then as park is still green. It was bounded on the west by the Staffordshire-Worcestershire Canal, the B4189 to the south (south lodge), with an east lodge on the Cookley-Broadwaters road near Lea Castle Farm. An avenue connected the house with the south lodge. The house at Cookley is noticed on Isaac Taylor's 1772 map. The early 19th century house was</p>
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	<p>demolished in 1945. This house was a neo-gothic castle which suggests that a picturesque taste would have been applied to the laying-out of the grounds but details cannot be made out from early or mid-19th century printed maps and the grounds today lack any special quality except for a (?) accidental vale between two woods close to the site of the demolished mansion on the north side. The mid 19th century castellated lodges and the brick boundary wall survive.</p> <p>Although the park is still legible 20<sup>th</sup> century encroachment and a variety of uses has reduced its aesthetic and historic values somewhat, although overall significance is considered to be low/medium.</p> <p>WSM 17233 Wolverley Camp General Hospital:</p> <p>Hospital built in 1942 accommodation for 500 patients used by US Servicemen until the end of the war. Buildings were brick, asbestos and corrugated iron. Some survival of buildings and foundations. Low aesthetic and communal values, medium evidential and historic values – overall significance is low.</p> <p>Former Military Grass Landing Strip WSM29266: no buildings associated with this feature, site has unknown archaeological potential.</p> <p>Lea Castle Farm Wolverley WSM30493 comprises a partially extant C18 farmstead with buildings now converted to residential use. Originally the brick pierced barns were used for threshing. The barns stand isolated and in a prominent location to the west of the site. They have low/medium significance arising from their aesthetic and historic values.</p> <p>1 and 2 South Lodges ref: LLWC55 and LLWC56</p> <p>Lodge Houses originally serving Lea Castle (which was pulled down in 1945). Dating to c.1818, both Lodges served as the entrance from Wolverley Square</p>
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<p>b) Will the proposed development have any impact on the significance? Please explain.</p>	<p>building, red brick construction, with castellated parapet to roof, buttresses to each corner, hood moulds to windows and doors. Extension to rear. These are included on the Local list for their architectural and historic values contributing to a medium significance.</p> <p>Development on the eastern part of the site will impact on the setting of the former parkland WSM28847; Lodges LLWC55 and 56, and Lea Castle Farm Wolverley WSM30493 now converted into Lea Castle Barns.</p> <p>Development on the southern part of the site will mainly impact on Lodges LLWC55 and LLWC56.</p> <p>The development of the northern part of this site has the potential to impact adversely on the significance of the adjacent Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Conservation Area within its woodland setting. This is a site highly sensitive to development due to its intact rural parkland character, topography and impact on mature woodland which form the setting for the Conservation Area.</p> <p>Development on this site has potential to affect below ground historic environment the significance of which is unknown.</p>
<p>3a) Are there mitigation measures that could overcome the impact/harm?</p> <p>b) If yes, explain further including how mitigation could be achieved through the local plan</p>	<p>Yes. Mitigation possible but difficult to mitigate impact on Canal Conservation Area. The impact on the surrounding residential properties will be considerable despite the protective bunds, although this will be temporary for the duration of the extraction.</p> <p>Mitigation also very difficult where there exist sites of heritage assets – the excavation of these sites may remove all physical trace of the assets.</p> <p>Building recording will mitigate removal of surviving above ground heritage assets. In terms of mitigating impact on potential below ground archaeology there will be a requirement for a desk-based assessment to assess this potential. It may be necessary to undertake fieldwork to fully understand the resource. Where</p>

<p>c) If mitigation is not possible, are there benefits that justify the development?</p>	<p>development may result in the loss of archaeology, recording will be required by an appropriate professional.</p> <p>No.</p>
<p>4a) Are there any opportunities for development to enhance an asset or better reveal its significance?</p> <p>b) If yes, explain further</p> <p>c) Can the Local Plan be amended to achieve the enhancements?</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
<p>5) What further work is required?</p>	<p>Site will require a desk based archaeological assessment to identify above ground and potential for below ground archaeology to inform discussions about the scope and scale of any preservation and mitigation. Where development may result in the loss of heritage assets, archaeological assessment and/or mitigation may be required to record and advance the understanding of their significance. Archaeological assessment to accompany or be incorporated into a Heritage Statement submitted with the planning application to identify the significance of on site assets that may be affected and to assess the impact of development on them and their settings.</p>