Fferm Solar Larnog

Environmental Statement

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List of Contents

6E Viewpoint Analysis 1
6.1. Introduction 1
6.2. Viewpoint Analysis Tables 1

List of Tables

Table 6E-1 - Viewpoint 1: Wales Coast Path (Footpath L1/7/1 / L1/8/1) through Site 1
Table 6E-2 - Viewpoint 2: Lavernock Nature Reserve 3
Table 6E-3 - Viewpoint 3: Fort Road 5
Table 6E-4 - Viewpoint 4: St Mary's Well Bay Road 7
Table 6E-5 - Viewpoint 5: The Bay Caravan Park 9
Table 6E-6 - Viewpoint 6: Lavernock Road (B4267) 11
Table 6E-7 - Viewpoint 7: Wales Coast Path to the East (Footpath L1/2/1) 13
Table 6E-8 - Viewpoint 8: Future Residential Development and POS Allocation - Land at Upper Cosmeston Farm (2020/01170/OUT) 14
Table 6E-9 - Viewpoint 9: Footpath L1/4/2 South of Cosmeston Lakes 16
Table 6E-10 - Viewpoint 10: Cosmeston Lakes Country Park 18
Table 6E-11 - Viewpoint 11: Residential development at Swanbridge Road / Melrose Walk 19

6E Viewpoint Analysis

6.1. Introduction

6.1.1. The viewpoint analysis in the tables below are used to assist in describing the likely visual effects on people living, working or undertaking recreational activities within the Study Area. These descriptions are based on the representative photography presented in **Figures 6.7-1 to 6.7-5** that should be viewed alongside this Appendix. This has been used to focus the baseline information and detailed reporting of the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) in **Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual** of the Environmental Statement (ES). Mitigation measures mentioned below predominantly during the operation phase are illustrated in the Landscape and Ecological Masterplan within the accompanying OLEMP (see **Appendix 6G: Outline LEMP**).

6.2. Viewpoint Analysis Tables

Table 6E.1 - Viewpoint 1: Wales Coast Path (Footpath L1/7/1 / L1/8/1) through Site

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 1: Wales Coast Path (Footpath L1/7/1 / L1/8/1) through Site
Description	This viewpoint is located just after where the Wales Coast Path (WCP) enters the Site via Footpath L1/5/1 from St Mary's Well Bay Road. That PRoW then follows the boundary of Field 8 to the north-east (left) as Footpath L1/5/2 and heads off into the background of the view passing through the Site. The Wales Coast Path follows Footpaths L1/7/1 and L1/8/1 along the boundary of Field 8 to the south-east (right) passing through the Site. Visibility of the Site from this location is representative of views available to recreational users of the WCP and local footpaths. It is also indicative of views from The Bay Caravan Park behind the field boundary although they would be heavily curtailed by the intervening hedge and occasional hedgerow trees. 180-degree views can be obtained from this location directly into the Site. The view is orientated to the east directly into Field 8, which is agricultural where the land can be seen gently sloping to the south-east. The views of the wider landscape are restricted by boundary vegetation although glimpsed and filtered views into neighbouring Fields 4, 5, 9 and 11 within the Site are available through existing gaps in the intervening hedges.
Sensitivity	Viewpoint 1 is located on the nationally promoted long-distance WCP following a short inland section passing through the pastoral Fields 8 and 11 within the Site. Consequently, the value of the view is considered to be *High*. The view would be experienced primarily by recreational walkers where direct open views into the Site are available in close proximity. Also, indicative of the views that are potentially available to visitors to The Bay Caravan Site who would also be engaged in recreational/tourist activity

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 1: Wales Coast Path (Footpath L1/7/1 / L1/8/1) through Site
	including enjoying views of the surrounding landscape. Susceptibility is therefore assessed as *High*. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be **High**.
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	**Construction:** Construction activities will be visible within Field 8 and potentially through gaps in the intervening boundary hedges offering glimpses of activities in the neighbouring Fields 4, 5 9 and 11. Activities in the wider surrounding fields within the Site would be obscured by intervening boundary vegetation. The scale of change would be *High*. The geographic extent would be *Low*. **Operation:** At completion, the full extent of solar panels within Field 8 would be visible in close proximity. Views would be of the side elevation of panels set back from this location behind perimeter fencing. Surrounding vegetation would form a backdrop and offer some containment although due to the close proximity, the panels are likely to break the skyline. The nature of the view would change from a pastoral field to a solar farm that would appear as an expansive technological element in this view. New hedge planting is proposed along footpath L1/5/1 and scrub planting along the WCP but would not obscure the panels in this particular view. Therefore, the visibility of the panels would remain from this location before continuing along one of the footpaths. Once mature, the new hedge would screen the panels in views from footpath L1/5/1 as it passes through Field 8. The swathes of scrub planting along the WCP soften the appearance of the panels and break up the extent that they are visible from as the route passes through the Site. The scale of change would be *High* at completion and throughout the operational period where the panels are not obscured by new planting. The geographic extent would be *Low* reducing to *Negligible* as mitigation planting matures. **Decommissioning:** Decommissioning activities would be visible in a similar way to construction activities although softened and obscured by the now mature hedge and scrub planting. Once removed the areas within fields that have contained panels within the Site would be reinstated to their current condition retaining the hedge and scrub along footpaths. The scale of change would be *Medium*. The geographic extent would be *Negligible*.

Table 6E.2 - Viewpoint 2: Lavernock Nature Reserve

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 2: Lavernock Point Nature Reserve
Description	This viewpoint is located on Footpath L1/6/1 which runs along the south-eastern boundary of Lavernock Nature Reserve, to the south-east of the Site. The Wales Coast Path also follows this route. Visibility of the Site from this location is representative of views available to recreational users of the Nature Reserve, the WCP and local footpaths. It is also indicative of views from Marconi Holiday Village on the opposite side of the field boundary behind this view although they would be heavily curtailed by the intervening hedge and occasional hedgerow trees. 180-degree views inland towards the undulating arable landscape can be obtained from this location including into parts of the Site. Views of the Site are to the north-west where it can be seen amongst the undulating landform and intervening boundary vegetation which substantially restrict views to glimpses of the Site. It does become more visible during winter months when vegetation loses it leaves although views are still heavily filtered. Hopkins Mount is visible as a landscape feature behind the Site in the background.
Sensitivity	Viewpoint 2 is located on the nationally promoted long-distance WCP following a short inland section passing through Lavernock Nature Reserve which is managed, operated and promoted by the Wildlife trust. Consequently, the value of the view is considered to be *High*. The view would be experienced primarily by recreational walkers and visitors to Lavernock Nature Reserve who would be engaged in wildlife observation and other nature-based activities. Also, indicative of the views that are potentially available to visitors to Marconi Holiday Village who would also be engaged in recreational/tourist activity including enjoying views of the surrounding landscape. Susceptibility is therefore assessed as *High*. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be **High**.
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	**Construction:** Construction activities will be visible mainly in the north-western corner of Field 10 as well as through gaps in the intervening boundary hedges offering glimpses of activities in the neighbouring Fields 6, 9 and 8. Activities in the wider surrounding fields within the Site would be obscured by intervening landform and boundary vegetation. Due to the conspicuous nature of the activities the scale of change would be *High*. The geographic extent would be *Medium*. **Operation:** At completion the main view of the Proposed Development would be of solar panels within the north-western corner of Field 10. The view would be looking along rows of panels that are oriented to the south, to the left of this view. The panels would appear contained amongst the existing boundary vegetation and would not break the skyline that is formed by elevated land

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 2: Lavernock Point Nature Reserve
	and tree lines in the background. Hopkins Mount would remain a visible feature seen as a rising pastoral field topped with trees that would not contain any panels. The Proposed Development would introduce a technical element into the view which would be visible but would appear contained within the pastoral landscape so would not dominate. Over time, visibility of the Proposed Development is not likely to change considerably due to elevational relationship between this location and the Site. Strengthening and management of boundary hedgerows generally at a height of 2 m would ensure the containment and structure they provide is retained. The proposed orchard planting may become perceptible within Field 6 to the right which would contribute to the tree cover in the view and obscure some panels behind to some extent. The scale of change would be *Medium* at completion and throughout the operational period. The geographic extent would be *Medium*. **Decommissioning:** Decommissioning activities would be visible in a similar way to construction activities. Once removed the areas within fields that have contained panels within the Site would be reinstated to their current condition. The scale of change would be *High*. The geographic extent would be *Medium*.

Table 6E-3 - Viewpoint 3: Fort Road

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 3: Fort Road
Description	This viewpoint is located on Fort Road, a narrow local road extending southwards from Lavernock Road (B4267) towards the Marconi Holiday Village and the coast. Visibility of the Site from this location is representative of views available to road users who would be predominantly those travelling in vehicles, with the potential for some cyclists and pedestrians although this is not a dedicated route for those users and there are no pavements provided. Views into the Site are constrained to those available specifically through the field gate and what could be obtained over the roadside hedge. This particular view is of Field 6 through the field gate orientated to the south-east. The view is of a pastoral field gently sloping upwards to the east towards the hedgerow on the field boundary. The tree line of Hopkins Mount can be seen in the background contributing to the skyline. A telegraph pole and overhead lines can be seen in the foreground within the western edge of the field close to the road. Either side of the field gate the boundary hedges are maintained and clipped low and wide as part of the pastoral use of the field.
Sensitivity	Viewpoint 3 is located on Fort Road which has no intrinsic value or wider recognition attributed to it. It does provide access to locations and features that have recreational, tourist, cultural and ecological interest and value. Visual experience along the road is often channeled by the roadside hedgerows either side so views of the surrounding area are constrained to field gates/gaps and where available over the hedge which are then of a typical agricultural landscape, and far-reaching views are restricted. Consequently, the value of the view is considered to be *Medium*. The primary receptors using Fort Road would be people travelling in vehicles whose attention would be engaged with the activity of driving. Views of the surrounding landscape would be transient albeit at a relatively low speed in close proximity to the Site and constrained to glimpses through field gates/gaps and over roadside hedgerows. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as *Medium*. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be **Medium**.
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	**Construction:** Construction activities will be openly visible within Field 6 through the field gate in close proximity. They would be set back beyond the ecological buffer/margin along the eastern edge of this field. Activities in the wider surrounding fields within the Site would be obscured by intervening landform and boundary vegetation. Due to the conspicuous nature of the activities the scale of change would be *High*. The geographic extent would be *Low*.

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 3: Fort Road
	Operation: At completion, views would be of the side elevation of panels set back from this location behind the ecological buffer/margin and perimeter fencing although still in quite close proximity. It is possible that the panels closest to this location would break the skyline due to the close proximity in which they are viewed. The boundary vegetation and tree line in the background would likely be largely obscured. The nature of the view would change from a pastoral field to a solar farm that would appear as an expansive technological element in this view. Over time, visibility of the Proposed Development in this particular view is not likely to change considerably due to elevational relationship between this location and the Site. Wildflower meadow provided within the ecological buffer/margin would establish that would provide an attractive feature in the foreground during flowering season. Maintenance of the roadside hedgerows at a minimum of 2 m high would screen views of the panels from the road either side of this field gate. The scale of change would be *High* at completion and throughout the operational period. The geographic extent would be *Negligible*. **Decommissioning:** Decommissioning activities would be visible in a similar way to construction activities. Once removed the areas within fields that have contained panels within the Site would be reinstated to their current condition. The scale of change would be *High*. The geographic extent would be *Low*.

Table 6E.4 - Viewpoint 4: St Mary's Well Bay Road

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 4: St Mary's Well Bay Road
Description	Viewpoint 4a and b are located on the pavement along St Marys Well Bay Road, a local rural road extending southwards from Lavernock Road (B4267) towards The Bay Caravan Site. Beyond that after following the coastline around to the west it culminates in a dead-end at a group of residential properties. Visibility of the Site from this location is representative of views available to road users who would be predominantly those travelling in vehicles. There are likely to be pedestrians using the roadside pavement to access The Bay Caravan Site and the WCP which follows a route along the road further along to the south and connects to Cosmeston Lakes Country Park further to the north. Views into the Site are constrained to those available through field gates/gaps (VP 4a) and over the roadside hedge (VP 4b) which is maintained quite low between trees on the eastern side. Viewpoint 4a is through a field gate oriented to the north-west looking into Field 2. The view is of an undulating pastoral field generally sloping upwards towards to the west towards the hedgerow and trees on the field boundary as part of the lower slopes around Hopkins Mount. Telegraph poles and overhead lines can be seen passing through this field. On the opposite side, viewpoint 4b is through a gap between trees where the hedgerow has been clipped low and wide, maintained as part of the pastoral use of the field. The view is oriented to the north-east looking into Field 4. The view is of a pastoral field gently sloping upwards to the east towards the hedgerow with sporadic trees in the boundary of Fields 4 and 5. Trees on elevated landform can be seen in the background.
Sensitivity	Viewpoint 4a and b is located on St Mary's Well Bay Road which has no intrinsic value or wider recognition attributed to it. It does provide access to locations and features that have recreational and tourist value including the nationally promoted WCP. Visual experience along the road is heavily influenced by the roadside hedgerows either side. Views of the surrounding area to the west are constrained to field gates/gaps as the hedgerow is generally quite tall but wider views are available over the low cut hedge to the east which are then of a typical agricultural landscape, and far-reaching views are limited. Consequently, the value of the view is considered to be *Medium*. The primary receptors using St Mary's Well Bay Road would be people travelling in vehicles whose attention would be engaged with the activity of driving. Views of the surrounding landscape would be transient albeit at a relatively low speed in close proximity to the Site. There are also likely to be high numbers of pedestrians using this route engaged in recreational activities. Views are constrained to glimpses through field gates/gaps (west) and over roadside hedgerows (east). As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as *Medium* and *High*. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be **Medium** and **High**.

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 4: St Mary's Well Bay Road
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	**Construction:** Construction activities will be visible within Field 2 to the west (VP 4a) through the field gate in close proximity which would include widening the access and creation of the gravel access track. To the east (VP 4b) activities would be visible within Field 4 seen over the low roadside hedgerow. It is possible that activities could be apparent within Field 5 above the intervening boundary hedge. Due to the conspicuous nature of the activities, the scale of change would be *High*. The geographic extent would be *Medium*. **Operation:** At completion, views into Field 2 (4a) would be of the widened access and the gravel access track in the foreground with the panels where the southern face would be visible beyond behind the perimeter fence. Panels would cover the entirety of Field 2 but would be contained within the field by the surrounding boundary hedgerow and trees. Views into Field 4 (VP4b) would be of panels where the southern face will be visible behind a perimeter fence beyond the roadside hedge and internal access track within the western edge of the field. It is likely that due to the close proximity, the panels would break the skyline and obscure views beyond. The nature of the views would change from a pastoral field to a solar farm that would appear as an expansive technological element in these views. Over time, visibility of the Proposed Development within Field 2 to the west (VP 4a) is not likely to change as the Site access will be required for lifetime of the Proposed Development. However, views of the panels within Field 4 (VP 4b) would be largely obscured due to the maintenance of the roadside hedgerow at a minimum of 3 m high along this road. The scale of change would be *High* at completion. Throughout the operational period in views to the west (VP 4a) the scale of change would remain at *High* but in views to the east (VP 4b) would reduce to *Low*. The geographic extent represented by 4a would be *Negligible* and by 4b would be *Medium*. **Decommissioning:** Decommissioning activities would be visible in a similar way to construction activities in views to the west (VP 4a). Once removed the areas within fields that have contained panels within the Site would be reinstated to their current condition. However, construction activities to the east (VP 4b) would be screened by the 3 m high roadside hedge. The scale of change would be *High* in views to the west (VP 4a) but *Negligible* in views to the east (VP 4b). The geographic extent represented by 4a would be *Negligible* and by 4b would be *Medium*.

Table 6E-5 - Viewpoint 5: The Bay Caravan Park

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 5: The Bay Caravan Park
Description	This viewpoint is located at the entrance/exit of The Bay Caravan Site from St Mary's Well Bay Road. Visibility of the Site from this location is primarily representative of visitors to The Bay Caravan Park, both as pedestrians and travelling in vehicles. Also, road users travel past in vehicles as well as pedestrians using the roadside pavement on the opposite side to access including those accessing the WCP which follows a route along the road further along to the south and connects to Cosmeston Lakes Country Park further to the north. This is a specific view into the Site through a gap in the hedgerow that has previously been used for access. This specific view is of Field 7 through the gap in the roadside hedgerow on the opposite side of the road orientated to the west. The view is of a pastoral field sloping fairly steeply upwards to the east towards the tree belt at the field boundary which marks the top of Hopkins Mount which forms the background and skyline in this view. Either side of the gap the hedge has not been subject to regular maintenance so has become overgrown containing some trees that have grown out and is sparse or gappy in places which is more apparent in the winter.
Sensitivity	The location of Viewpoint 5 has no intrinsic value or wider recognition attributed to it. There is access to locations and features that have recreational and tourist value including the nationally promoted WCP. Visual experience of the surrounding landscape towards the Site is heavily influenced by the roadside hedgerow on the opposite side which constrained to the gaps in the hedgerow that otherwise is generally quite tall. Consequently, the value of the view is considered to be *Medium*. The primary receptors in this location would be visitors to The Bay Caravan Park via St Mary's Well Bay Road. They would be people in vehicles and pedestrians. While this location is heavily influenced by activity on the road there is a direct view towards the Site. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is also assessed as *Medium* and *High*. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be **Medium** and **High**.
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	**Construction:** Construction activities will be visible within Field 7 to the west but would not be dominant as seen through the gap in the hedgerow in fairly close proximity. Due to the conspicuous nature of the activities the scale of change would be *Medium*. The geographic extent would be *Negligible*.

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 5: The Bay Caravan Park
	Operation: At completion, the view through the gap would be of the side of panels and looking along rows behind the perimeter fence. The panels are located on the more gently sloping land at the bottom of the field so would not extend onto the steep slope. Panels would not break the skyline as would be contained by the tree belt on the boundary on the top of the slope. Panels would also be obscured in the foreground by the roadside hedgerow either side of the gap. The nature of the view through the gap would change from a pastoral field to a solar farm that would introduce a technological element into the view but would not dominate it. The gap can be filled with new supplementary hedge planting. Over time once this has established and matured it will provide effective screening of the panels in a similar way to the rest of the hedge either side. The scale of change would be *Medium* but would reduce to *Negligible* once infill planting within hedgerow gap has matured. The geographic extent would be *Negligible*. **Decommissioning:** Decommissioning activities would be similar to construction activities within Field 7 although would be obscured by the boundary hedgerow including the infilling of the gap. The scale of change would be *Negligible*. The geographic extent would be *Negligible*.

Table 6E.6 - Viewpoint 6: Lavernock Road (B4267)

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 6: Lavernock Road (B4267)
Description	Viewpoint 6 is located on the pavement along Lavernock Road (B4267) which is the principal local route connecting Sully, Cosmeston and Lavernock. It runs in a general north-east to south-west direction with the Site located on the southern side. Visibility of the Site from this location is representative of views available to road users who would be predominantly those travelling in vehicles. There are also likely to be cyclists using the road as well as pedestrians using the roadside pavement. The visual experience is contained within the road corridor by dense and mature hedgerows and tree lines/groups on the roadside extending into the neighbouring fields where vegetation allows. Viewpoint 6 is looking into Field 12 on the southern side of the road where views are available over the boundary hedge which is clipped low and wide as part of the pastoral use of the field. The view is of a pastoral field that rises slightly southwards towards the boundary of St Marys Well Bay Road consisting of a hedgerow with trees and the embankment of the disused railway line covered by a mix of scrub and trees. The rest of the Site is obscured behind this vegetation. Lavernock Road (B4267) is in the foreground with a maintained grass verge and regularly spaced street-lighting columns clearly visible on both sides of the road.
Sensitivity	Viewpoint 6 is located on Lavernock Road (B4267) which has no intrinsic value or wider recognition attributed to it. It does provide access to Cosmeston Lakes Country Park via a path opposite the junction with St Mary's Well Bay Road and the car park further to the north east. Visual experience along the road is heavily influenced by the roadside vegetation either side so views of the surrounding area are often constrained although where views become available it is of a typical agricultural landscape, and far-reaching views are limited. Consequently, the value of the view is considered to be *Medium*. The primary receptors using Lavernock Road (B4267) would be people travelling in vehicles whose attention would be engaged with the activity of driving. Views of the surrounding landscape would be transient at high speed in close proximity to the Site. There are also likely to be cycles and pedestrians using this route who could be engaged in recreational activities. Views are constrained to where roadside vegetation allows through field gates/gaps and over low clipped hedgerows. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is assessed as *Low* for vehicle users and *High* for pedestrians/cyclists. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be **Low** and **High**.

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 6: Lavernock Road (B4267)
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	**Construction:** The construction compound will be visible over the low hedgerow within Field 12 at the eastern end of the field near the junction of St Mary's Well Bay Road and Lavernock Road. It would be seen in place of the current agricultural use/storage in that location occupying the eastern end of the site but would appear more prominent due to the conspicuous nature of the activities. Therefore, the scale of change would be *High*. The geographic extent would be *Low*. **Operation:** Once construction is complete the compound will be removed and the site returned to its current agricultural condition in this location. At completion there may still be some evidence of the compound such as bare earth etc but over time the overall character of this view will return with little to no change. The scale of change would be *Negligible* but would quickly reduce to *No Change* once the area of the compound is reinstated. The geographic extent would be *Low*. **Decommissioning:** Decommissioning activities would be visible in a similar way to construction activities likely as a storage/works compound. Once removed the area of the compound within the field would be returned to agriculture. The scale of change would be *High*. The geographic extent would be *Low*.

Table 6E.7 - Viewpoint 7: Wales Coast Path to the East (Footpath L1/2/1)

Figure 6.7	**Viewpoint 7: Wales Coast Path to the East (Footpath L1/2/1)**
Description	Viewpoint 7 is located on Footpath L1/2/1, forming part of the Wales Coast Path so views are available to recreational walkers. The view is orientated generally westwards with pastoral fields, hedgerows and mature trees occupying the middle ground, with intervening vegetation and undulating landform. The Site where panels are to be located is not perceptible from this viewpoint due to screening provided by intervening landform and vegetation.
Sensitivity	N/A
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	Ecological enhancement is proposed for Field 24 to provide suitable Skylark habitat which would be achieved through agricultural practices and management during the operational lifetime of the Proposed Development. This would have no discernible change to the view.

Table 6E.8 - Viewpoint 8: Future Residential Development and POS Allocation - Land at Upper Cosmeston Farm (2020/01170/OUT)

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 8: Future Residential Development and POS Allocation - Land at Upper Cosmeston Farm (2020/01170/OUT)
Description	This viewpoint is located within the future residential development and public open space allocation at Upper Cosmeston Farm, north-east of the Site. The viewpoint is representative of views likely to be experienced by future residents (albeit from ground level) and from the public realm within the future layout. Views of this nature are currently available from potentially quite a large extent across the open agricultural fields within this allocation area. However, in the future these views will often be obscured from publicly accessible locations by the intervening buildings and vegetation as part of the future development. Therefore, opportunities for views would be limited from the public realm and will most likely be available from first floor windows. The foreground comprises rough grassland and scattered scrub, beyond which rolling pastoral and grassland fields with vegetated boundaries extend across the middle ground. There are glimpses of the slightly elevated western and southern edges of Field 1 where it can be seen in the background past the undulating landform in the middle ground. An undulating landform topped with trees including those atop Hopkins Mount forms the background. It is likely that the Site and therefore panels would become more visible when elevated, such as from first floor windows in this location.
Sensitivity	The location of Viewpoint 8 has no intrinsic value or wider recognition attributed to it. Visual experience towards the Site is heavily influenced by the surrounding landscape of fields being a mix of pastoral and grassland/scrub. Consequently, the value of the view is considered to be *Medium*. The primary receptors in this location would be residents who would have prolonged static views that would contribute to the enjoyment and amenity of properties in this location. As a result, the susceptibility to visual change is assessed as *High*. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be **High**.
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	**Construction:** Glimpses of construction activities will be visible in the elevated western and southern edges of Fields 1 and 2 seen at a distance in the background and only occupying a small proportion of the view. There would be little change to views from ground level but could potentially slightly alter views from first floor windows.

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 8: Future Residential Development and POS Allocation - Land at Upper Cosmeston Farm (2020/01170/OUT)
	Due to the conspicuous nature of the activities the scale of change would be *Low*. The geographic extent would be *Low* (views at a distance in one direction to the south-west which according to the illustrative layout would not be the main aspect of the majority of properties). **Operation:** At completion, there will be glimpses of panels occupying the elevated western and southern edges of Fields 1 and 2 seen at a distance in the background and only occupying a small proportion of the view. There would be little change to views from ground level but could potentially slightly alter views from first floor windows. Panel would not break the skyline as would be contained by the tree belt on the top of the undulating landform the forms the backdrop. The majority of panels within the Site would be obscured by the intervening landform, vegetation and field pattern. The Proposed Development would introduce a technological element into the view but would only slightly alter the general composition in views from first floor windows and above but there would be little change to views from ground level. There would be little change to the appearance of the Proposed Development over time from this location. The scale of change would be *Low* throughout the operational period. The geographic extent would be *Low* (views at a distance in one direction to the south-west which according to the illustrative layout would not be the main aspect of the majority of properties). **Decommissioning:** Decommissioning activities would be similar to construction activities within Fields 1 and 2 seen as glimpses at a distance in the background and only occupying a small proportion of the view. Again, there would be little change to views from ground level but could potentially slightly alter views from first floor windows and above. The scale of change would be *Low*. The geographic extent would be *Low* (views at a distance in one direction to the south-west which according to the illustrative layout would not be the main aspect of the majority of properties).

Table 6E-9 - Viewpoint 9: Footpath L1/4/2 South of Cosmeston Lakes

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 9: Footpath L1/4/2 South of Cosmeston Lakes
Description	This viewpoint is located just south of Footpath L1/4/1. The footpath runs diagonally in a north-east to south-west direction across a pastoral field on the southern edge of Cosmeston Lakes Country Park. The footpath is accessible from within the Country Park. The viewpoint location is actually taken from slightly elevated ground off the footpath itself but is easily accessible to the public. Visibility of the Site from this location is representative of recreational users however views available from the footpath itself are restricted by intervening landform. 360-degree views can be obtained from this location including towards the Site when looking south. Views of the Site are to the south towards Field 12 which can be seen in the middle distance as glimpses of a pastoral field amongst the intervening hedges and trees along field and road boundaries. The view is across a pastoral field in the foreground. The tall street-lighting columns can be seen evenly spaced along Lavernock Road (B4267) just in front of the site. The background comprises of trees along the embankment of the disused railway line which form the skyline. The rest of the main Site that contains the panels is located behind the railway embankment so is screened from view.
Sensitivity	Viewpoint 9 is located near to footpath PRoW connected to Cosmeston Lakes Country Park which is a locally recognised recreational resource. Consequently, the value of the view is considered to be *Medium*. The view would be experienced primarily by recreational walkers and visitors to Cosmeston Lakes Country Park who would be enjoying views of the surrounding landscape. Susceptibility is therefore assessed as *High*. The overall visual sensitivity of receptors at this viewpoint would therefore be **High**.
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	**Construction:** The construction compound may be visible through gaps in the intervening vegetation particularly during winter when the vegetation is not in leaf and would appear as a key feature due to the conspicuous nature of the activities. It would be seen in place of the current agricultural use/storage in that location. Therefore, the scale of change would be *Medium* from this location but *Negligible* from the footpath. The geographic extent would be *High* as would be visible from around half of the field but a *negligible* extent from the footpath itself.

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 9: Footpath L1/4/2 South of Cosmeston Lakes
	Operation: Once construction is complete, the compound will be removed and the Site returned to its current agricultural condition in this location. There would be no visible change during operation. The scale of change would be *No Change*. The geographic extent would be *N/A*. **Decommissioning:** Decommissioning activities would be visible in a similar way to construction activities likely as a storage/works compound. Once removed, the area of the compound within the field would be returned to agriculture. The scale of change would be *Medium* from this location but *Negligible* from the footpath. The geographic extent would be *High* as would be visible from around half of the field but a *negligible* extent from the footpath itself.

Table 6E.10 - Viewpoint 10: Cosmeston Lakes Country Park

Figure 6.7	**Viewpoint 10: Cosmeston Lakes Country Park**
Description	This viewpoint is located within Cosmeston Lakes Country Park, an important recreational landscape within the Vale of Glamorgan and part of the wider Sully Ridge/Cosmeston landscape. The viewpoint is representative of views experienced by visitors using the park's footpaths and recreational facilities. Exact location and extent of the Site is only approximate beyond the Lakes as it is screened by a series of dense woodland/tree belts around the lakes in combination with the intervening landform.
Sensitivity	N/A
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	As the Site and the Proposed Development will not be visible, it will cause No Change to the view.

Table 6E-11 - Viewpoint 11: Residential development at Swanbridge Road / Melrose Walk

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 11: Residential Development at Swanbridge Road / Melrose Walk
Description	Viewpoint 11 is located at the residential edge around Swanbridge Road and Melrose Walk, north-west of the Site. Visibility of the Site is representative of views experienced from local streets and pedestrian routes as well as views potentially available from outward-facing residential properties and gardens. Views can be obtained in all directions but are generally orientated eastwards with views towards the Site being to the south-east. The view towards the Site is across the road and then over pastoral fields to Hopkins Mount in the background. Intervening vegetation on roadsides and field boundaries comprising hedgerows, mature field-boundary trees and tree groups filter views of the site combined with undulating landform. Field 1 within the Site is partially visible as part of the lower slopes of Hopkins Mount in the background. The woodland block on the upper slope of Hopkins Mount forms the skyline along with other trees in the surrounding landscape either side in this view. Street-lighting columns, overhead lines and telegraph poles can be seen from this location along Swanbridge Road.
Sensitivity	There is no intrinsic value or wider recognition attributed to this location. The view is of a fairly typical agricultural landscape so has some scenic quality. It is not despoiled and there are no prominent detractors in the view. The value attached to the view is therefore considered to be *Medium*. Residents would experience views from dwellings, gardens and associated outdoor spaces repeatedly and over long durations, hence the residential receptors are generally of high susceptibility. This view will also be experienced by road users in vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians potentially accessing Swanbridge Road and Melrose Walk. Susceptibility to visual change is therefore assessed as *High* for residents, pedestrians and cyclists and *Low* for vehicles users as views of the Site will be transitionary and at a distance. The overall visual sensitivity would therefore be **High** for residential receptors, pedestrians and cyclists and **Low** for vehicle users.
Scale and extent of Change (Proposed Development only)	**Construction:** Construction activities will be visible in the north-western corner of Field 1. Activities in the wider surrounding fields within the Site would be obscured by intervening landform and vegetation. Due to the conspicuous nature of the activities but seen at a distance the scale of change would be *Medium*. The geographic extent would be Low.

Figure 6.7	Viewpoint 11: Residential Development at Swanbridge Road / Melrose Walk
	Operation: At completion, the view of the Proposed Development would be of solar panels within the north-western corner of Field 1. The view would be of the rear and sides of panels arranged in rows. The panels would appear on the slightly rising ground of the lower slopes of Hopkins Mount but contained by the surrounding vegetation. They would not break the skyline that is formed by elevated land and woodland block on the top of Hopkins Mount, which would remain a visible feature in the view. The Proposed Development would introduce a technical element into the view which at this distance would occupy a small portion of the view which overall would continue to appear as a pastoral landscape with only a slight alteration to its composition. Over time, visibility of the Proposed Development is not likely to change considerably due to elevational relationship between this location and the Site where it is already seen on slightly sloping ground over intervening vegetation. The scale of change would be *Low* at completion and throughout the operational period. The geographic extent would be Low. **Decommissioning:** Decommissioning activities would be visible in a similar way to construction activities. Once removed the areas within fields that have contained panels within the Site would be reinstated to their current condition. The scale of change would be *Medium*. The geographic extent would be *Low*.