7.0 HQDP 5

7.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

ROADS, PATHWAYS, CAR PARKS, CYCLE PARKING

Although not sought in detail at this stage, the internal site road would be built to adoptable standards with carriage way widths to suit vehicle tracking and use, 3m wide shared footway / cycleways, grass verges incorporating street lighting and services and generous set-backs. All site roads and entrances would be tree lined ("tree lined streets") to form a high standard of public realm.

Buildings would have integrated access and circulation routes for pedestrians, cyclist and other non-motorised users, provided along clear desire lines. Where footway / cycleways cross vehicle carriageways, dropped kerbs and tactile paving would be provided. Cycle parking would be placed close to the pedestrian entrances of buildings, incorporate secure and covered parking spaces and would exceed North Warwickshire Parking Standards in quantity terms.

Car park areas would be constructed with a mix of macadam and permeable block work to aid infiltration.

Car park areas constructed with macadam and permeable blockwork

UNIFORM CLEAR SIGNAGE

Estate roadside signage would be of a uniform design throughout the proposals, with wording, font type, text size, colour and the use of symbols, such as company logos, to be clear, concise and consistent. Signage would be prominent and legible without being incongruous.

Signage would be provided with the proposed new and enhanced public rights of way and footway / cycleways, targeted at promoting options for active travel and circular recreational routes. Subject to the agreement of the responsible statutory authority, provision would be made for new signage within Dordon and Birchmoor to direct residents to the new and enhanced links.

USE OF LANDSCAPING TO AID LEGEBILITY AND WAYFINDING

Landscaping and planting along all site roads, entrances and footway / cycleways, both within the Site and offsite landscape mitigation areas, would be carefully designed to provide coherent and legible user journeys, including tree lined streets and hedgerow planting. The new public realm beyond these routes would feature clear wayfinding and careful consideration of viewpoints.

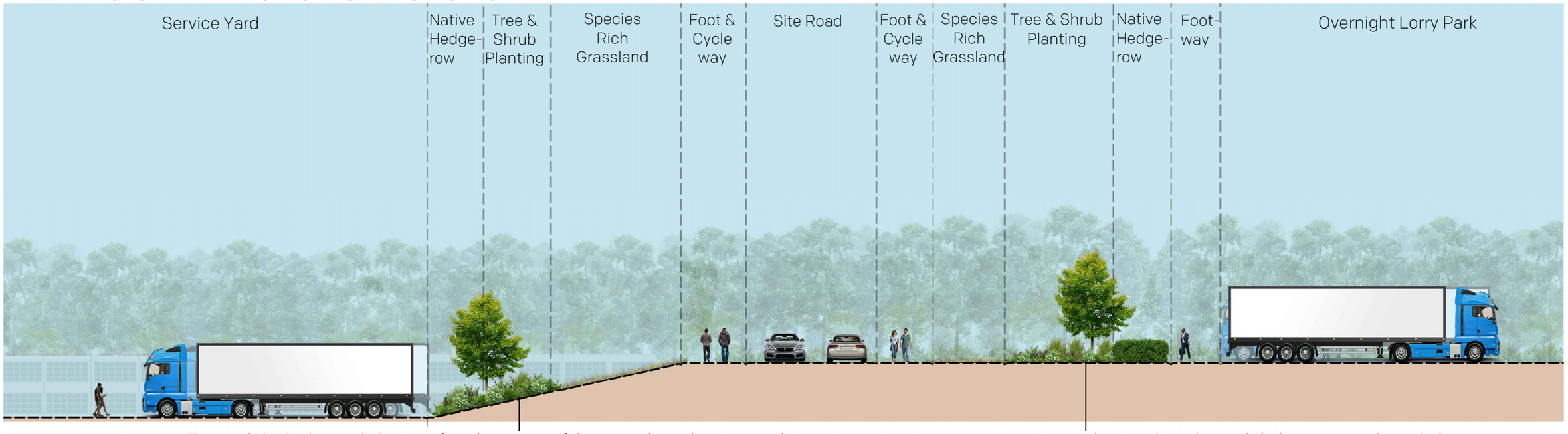
Mature and veteran trees would be retained and utilised as focal points with possible seating areas, public art and information boards, to create memorable routes on the new and enhanced public rights of way and footway / cycleway network.

Extract of landscape plan showing tree lined site road, ancillary Hub Office and site access

Industrial Park Signage

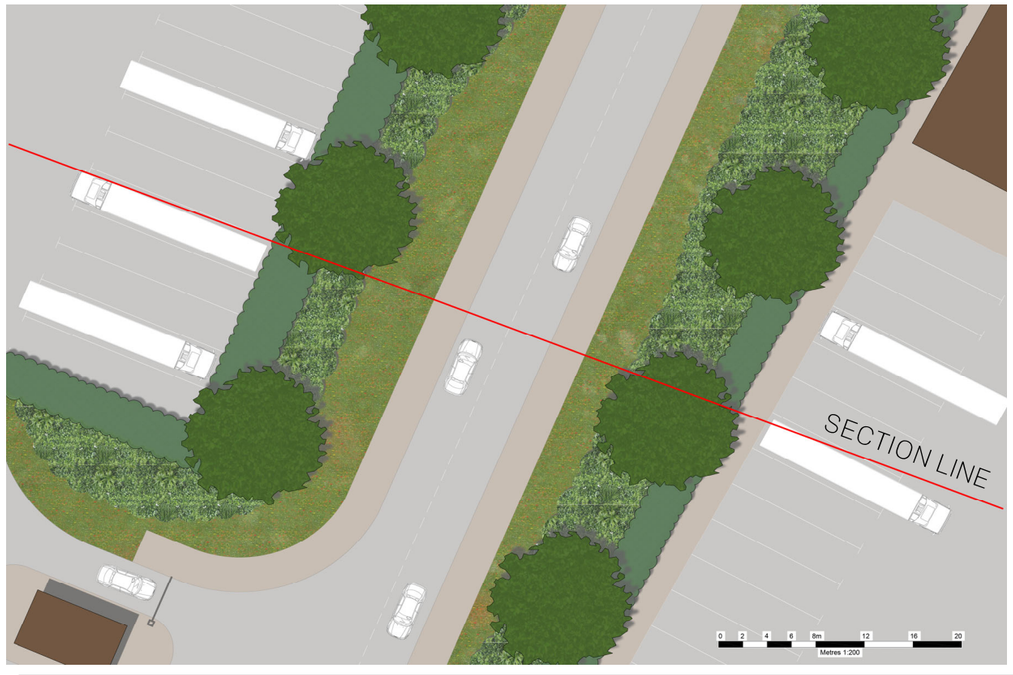
7.0 HQDP 5

7.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE



Illustrative Typical Section Through Site Road

Tree and shrub planting helps to soften the impact of the car parks and commercial units



Site Extract- Typical Section Through Site Road

Linear planting along the roads help to connect larger habitats

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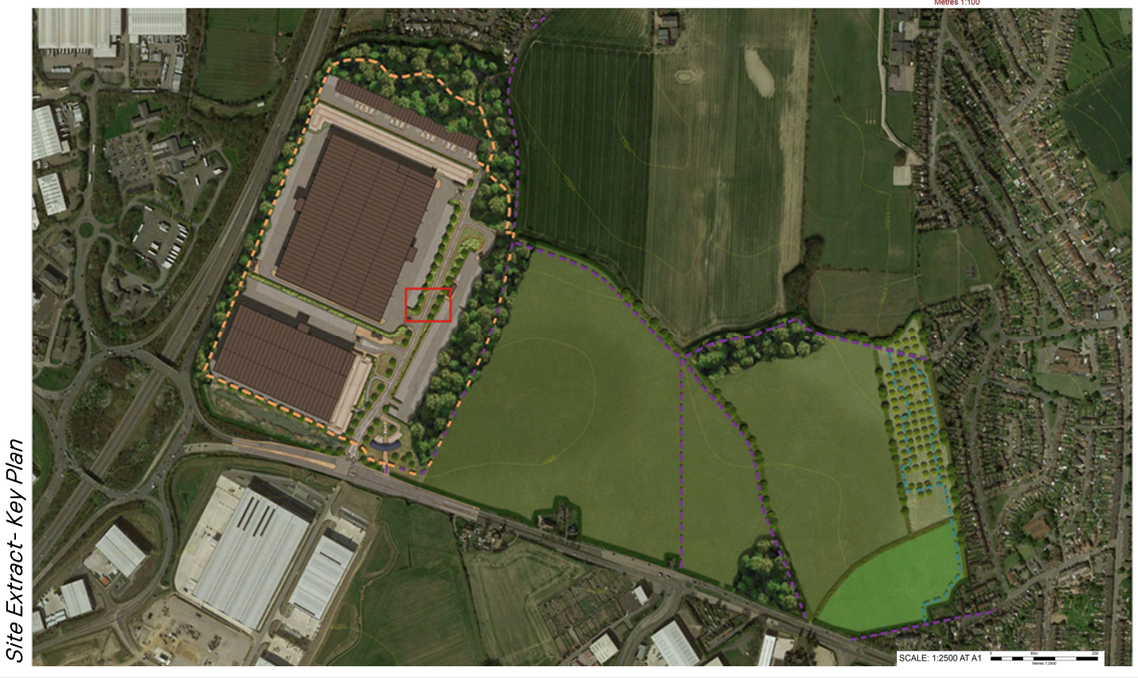


Site Extract- Key Plan

7.0 HQDP 5

7.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

LIGHTING

Throughout the development lighting elements will be positioned sensitively to provide required user safety levels while minimising impact beyond the Site.

Street lighting would be limited to the internal street scape. All sitewide lighting would be of an appropriate lumen level and directional downwards to avoid light spill above the horizontal.

Internal office and amenity block lighting would be sensor operated to negate unnecessary light spill from windows when rooms are not being used.

'Dark corridors' would be maintained throughout the Site, in the transitional landscape zones to the north and east, to provide foraging areas for wildlife and to not cause unacceptable levels of light pollution.

ENHANCED RURAL LANDSCAPE

The quality of the open arable land to the east of the Site, between the application site and Dordon, would become increasingly rural in character through reinstatement of historic field boundaries, planting of native hedgerow and tree species to reinforced gaps in peripheral boundary vegetation and planting of corner woodland copses. As such, the proposals would enhance the rural character of this part of the Strategic Gap, including the setting of Hall End Hall (Grade II Listed), 850m to the south-east of the Site.

In order to be sympathetic to local character and heritage and establish a strong sense of place, the internal parkscape would be designed to a high standard.

PUBLIC ART

A Public Art Strategy would be developed for the Site in collaboration with Dordon Parish Council, the local community and local schools.

Public art would be integrated into the development as part of structural landscaping, placed in prominent locations within the Site and along the footway / cycleway network. It is envisaged that the artworks could be designed in collaboration with the local community and potentially employing local artists. The artworks might be designed to reflect the diverse and rich history of the area, and would aim to capture the imagination of and inspire future generations.

DESIGN PARAMETERS

- Building plot layouts would be designed to make efficient use of available space.
- Buildings would present appropriate frontages to the main site road wherever possible.
- A uniform palette of building materials, profiles, finishes and colours/shades would be used to create a harmonious design across the business park.
- All service yards and the overnight lorry parking facility would have boundary protection in the form of 2.4m high palisade / paladin fencing.
- Offices would be located overlooking car parks, which would be placed in prominent locations.

- Formal planting at the entrance to buildings and surrounding publicly accessible areas, such as car parks, would be designed to minimise the visual impact of vehicles.
- Mature and veteran trees would be retained and utilised as focal points.
- All site roads and entrances would be tree lined.
- Estate roadside signage would be of a uniform design throughout the proposals, with wording, font type, text size, colour and the use of symbols, such as company logos, to be clear, concise and consistent.
- Signage would be provided along public rights of way and footway / cycleways. Provision would be made for new signage within the villages of Dordon and Birchmoor.
- Street lighting would be limited to the internal street scape.
- Sitewide lighting would be of an appropriate lumen level and directional downwards.
- Internal office and amenity block lighting would be sensor operated.
- 'Dark corridors' would be maintained in the transitional landscape zones.
- The quality of the open arable land to the east of the Site would become increasingly rural in character through reinstatement of historic field boundaries, planting of native hedgerow and tree species to reinforced gaps in peripheral boundary vegetation and planting of corner woodland copses.
- Public art would be incorporated in prominent locations throughout the Site and footway / cycleway network, to be designed in collaboration with the local community.

7.0 HQDP 5

7.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

APPLICABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES FROM THE DDGC

SL01 – PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT

- Developments affecting the transition zones between the settlement and the wider countryside should be softened by landscape planting to better integrate development into the landscape. At the same time, good development should not be hidden behind buffer planting and can, when well-conceived and executed, make a positive contribution to local character and views.
- Future developments should be sympathetic to the local character and history and establish or maintain a strong sense of place.
- The relationship between different components of the built environment needs to be carefully considered and design proposals need to be coherent and respectful of existing character and form.
- To ensure a good fit between new and old, it is important that any new development seeks to conserve and enhance the character of the existing settlement in terms of urban form as well as architectural design.
- Any future developments should reflect the local context in Dordon, ensuring that it makes a positive contribution to the existing character.

BU02 – SCALE FORM AND MASSING

- New developments should seek to respond to the surrounding context by using similar configurations.
- Development within Dordon should be of a scale and design to reinforce the locally distinctive character.

SM03 – PARKING TYPOLOGIES

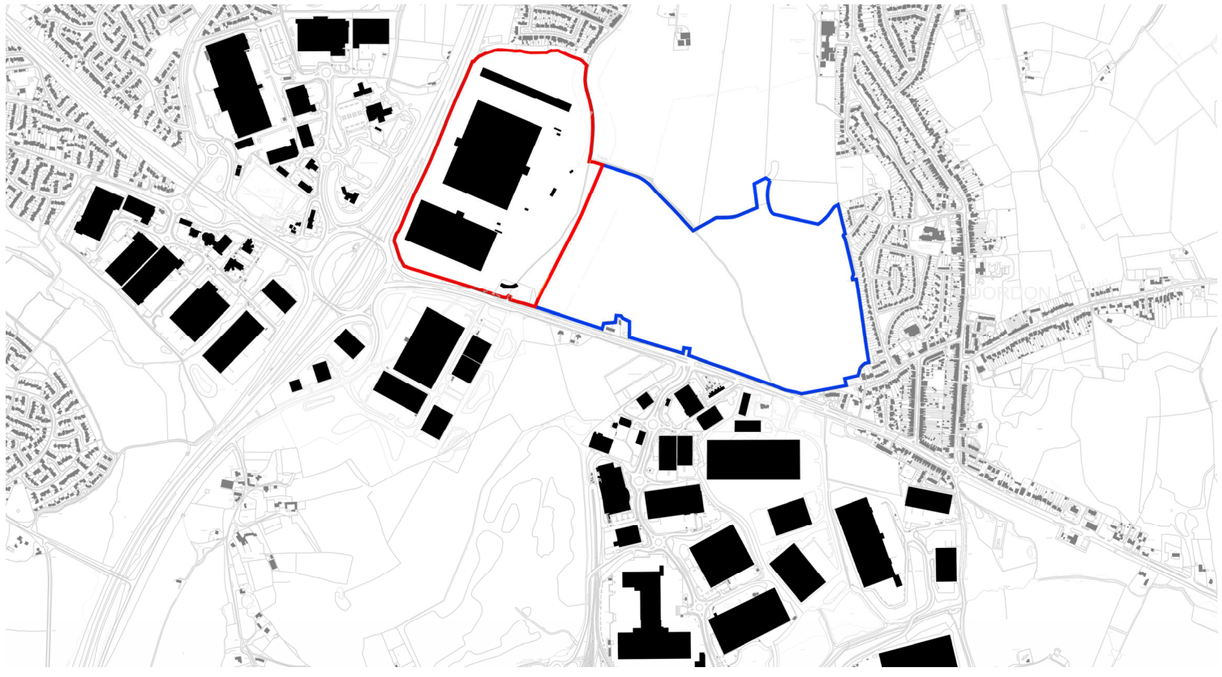
- Hardstanding must be constructed from porous materials to minimise surface water run-off.

BU03 – BUILDING PROPORTION

- Features such as windows, doors and solid walls should create vertical and horizontal rhythms along the façade providing variety.

AV02 – PUBLIC REALM

- The public realm should be co-ordinated and reflect local distinctiveness to enhance its integration with the rest of Dordon.
- Street furniture should be well organised to avoid clutter and encourage pedestrian flow.



Built form map with proposed form included

7.0 HQDP 5

7.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

APPLICABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES FROM THE DDGC

LC02 – LANDMARKS AND VIEWS

- New buildings should be designed to provide interest with a range of architectural features, such as, projecting bays, large window openings, expressive roof forms and taller elements.
- To provide articulation and create visual interest, building façades should have occasional projections such as bays and porches.
- Development should be designed such that it provides a series of short-, middle and long-distance views that enhance the sense of place and the experience of the villagescape. Views can be structured by the careful positioning of buildings, trees or landmarks to create memorable routes and places, and easily intelligible links between places. New development should be oriented to maximise the opportunities for memorable views and visual connectivity. There are some historic routes and memorable mature trees in Dordon which should be retained in future developments.
- Existing views and vistas should be actively considered when preparing new development proposals. Where possible, new development will seek to retain existing and frame new views and vistas towards the wider countryside.

LC03 – ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS

- New development or infill development within the existing urban area of Dordon must be able to demonstrate a sympathetic response to the existing character and architectural details found in the village.
- There are many elements that contribute to the local character of the village including fenestration, roof details, materials and massing, for example.

LC04 – MATERIALS AND COLOUR PALETTE

- Architectural design shall reflect high quality local design references in both the natural and built environment and reflect and reinforce local distinctiveness.
- Any future development proposals should demonstrate that the palette of materials has been selected based on an understanding of the surrounding built environment.

LC05 – STREET LIGHTING / DARK SKIES

- Any new development should minimise impact on the existing 'dark skies' within the settlements and reduce light pollution that disrupts the natural habitat and human health.
- Street lighting should be avoided within public open space, in line with the existing settlement character.
- Ensure that lighting schemes will not cause unacceptable levels of light pollution, particularly in intrinsically dark areas. These can be areas very close to the countryside or where dark skies are enjoyed.
- Impact on sensitive wildlife receptors throughout the year, or at particular times (e.g. on migration routes), may be mitigated by the design of the lighting or by turning it off or down at sensitive times.
- Glare should be avoided, particularly for safety reasons. This is the uncomfortable brightness of a light source due to the excessive contrast between bright and dark areas in the field of view. Consequently, the perceived glare depends on the brightness of the background against which it is viewed. It is affected by the quantity and directional attributes of the source. Where appropriate, lighting schemes could include 'dimming' to lower the level of lighting (e.g. during periods of reduced use of an area, when higher lighting levels are not needed).

7.0 HQDP 5

7.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

APPLICABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES FROM THE DDGC

- Consider lighting schemes that could be turned off when not needed ('part-night lighting') to reduce any potential adverse effects.
- Foot/cycle path light should be introduced sensitively and in harmony with surrounding rural landscape. Light fittings such as solar cat's-eye lighting, reflective paint and ground-based lighting could be introduced. Full-height lighting should be avoided.
- Any new development should seek to maximise the use of natural light sources.

SM05 – LEGIBILITY AND SIGNAGE

- Dordon should be made more legible by the use of distinctive architectural elements around gateways and nodes.
- New developments should be designed around a series of nodal points focusing on the relationship with the existing character areas as well as the surrounding landscape.
- Use high quality tree and landscape planting to help with wayfinding along key routes.
- Wayfinding must be clearly established throughout the village, particularly along pedestrian and cycle routes.
- New signage design must be easy to read. Wording, font choice, text size, colour and the use of symbols should be clear and concise, and avoid confusion.

BU06 – BOUNDARY TREATMENT

- Boundary treatments, such as hedges, low walls and fences should be included in design proposals to clearly distinguish public and private spaces. High walls and fences or railings should be avoided.
- Boundary treatments should reflect locally distinctive forms and materials, consisting predominantly of red brick, railing and wooden fencing for boundary walls, or hedgerows, trees and wooden fencing.
- Development shall identify existing boundary treatments in the context of the Site and consider appropriate boundaries for new development to ensure integration with existing context.
- Existing boundary trees and hedgerow should be retained and be reinforced with native species.

BU11 – WELL DEFINED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SPACE

- Appropriate boundary treatments including low walls, hedges and railings must be incorporated into design proposals to clearly distinguish public and private space.

SL01 – PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT

- Future developments should be sympathetic to the local character and history and establish or maintain a strong sense of place.
- The relationship between different components of the built environment needs to be carefully considered and design proposals need to be coherent and respectful of existing character and form.
- Any future developments should reflect the local context in Dordon, ensuring that it makes a positive contribution to the existing character.
- Developments affecting the transition zones between the settlement and the wider countryside should be softened by landscape planting to better integrate development into the landscape. At the same time, good development should not be hidden behind buffer planting and can, when well conceived and executed, make a positive contribution to local character and views.

SL02 – LAYOUT AND GRAIN

- Understanding and appreciating the local historic environment and the different character areas can help to ensure that new development is properly integrated with the existing settlement and does not result in the loss of local distinctiveness.

7.0 HQDP 5

7.3 ACHIEVING HQDP 5

Through the adoption of HQDP 5 and associated Design Parameters, which have been conceived in response to site context and relevant local planning policy and guidance, future development proposals would be brough forward in a coherent manner across all elements of the design to ensure that a uniform architectural language is achieved that creates a strong sense of place – an architectural language that is clearly legible, provides interest and variety and is respectful of existing character and form.

Reflective Road Marking

Landscaping and planting along all site roads, entrances and footway / cycleways

Public Art to be integrated into the development

Solar Cat's Eyes for Paths

Public Realm

7.0 HQDP 5

7.4 CONFORMITY WITH PLANNING POLICY & GUIDANCE

RELEVANT NWLP POLICIES:

- **Policy LP14** – Landscape
- **Policy LP15** – Historic Environment
- **Policy LP29** – Development Considerations
- **Policy LP30** – Built Form
- **Policy LP34** – Parking

RELEVANT DDGC DESIGN PRINCIPLES:

- **SL01** – Pattern of Development
- **SL02** – Layout and Grain
- **SM03** – Parking Typologies
- **SM05** – Legibility and Signage
- **BU02** – Scale, Form and Massing
- **BU03** – Building Proportion
- **BU06** – Boundary Treatment
- **BU11** – Well Defined Public and Private Space
- **AV02** – Public Realm
- **LC02** – Landmarks and Views
- **LC03** – Architectural Details
- **LC04** – Materials and Colour Palette
- **LC05** – Street Lighting / Dark Skies

8.0 HQDP 6 ENCOURAGING HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

8.1 Encouraging Healthy and Active Lifestyles
8.2 Design Approach & Response
8.3 Achieving HQDP 6
8.4 Conformity with Planning Policy & Guidance

8.0 HQDP 6

8.1 ENCOURAGING HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

Encouraging healthy and active lifestyles through the incorporation and enhancement of landscaping features, and linkages between the Site and surrounding area for recreation and leisure uses.

Optimising and enhancing the health and wellbeing of people using, visiting and living nearby to the Site is a fundamental consideration of the design process. The Applicant has a track-record of delivering health and amenity benefits locally and remains committed to providing enhanced and beneficial user enjoyment across the built form, interlinked public realm and landscaped areas.

Active lifestyle

8.0 HQDP 6

8.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

A network of over 3.5km of new and improved public footpaths, public bridleways, cycleways, crossings and informal recreational routes throughout the Site and broader area (detailed in Section 5) will promote sustainable modes of transport and create community health and fitness benefits. They will link the Site with Birchmoor and Dordon, and open up foot and bicycle commuting opportunities from further afield including Polesworth and Tamworth.

The layout of the Site and broader area will allow for multiple connections and a choice of accessible routes for different users, including circular routes. The routes will connect places of interest, services and amenities and residential and recreational uses. The creative surface water management plan will incorporate balancing ponds to enrich the public realm and help improve a sense of wellbeing and offer an interaction with nature.

The enhanced footway and cycleway links to the proposed playing fields, multi-use sports pitch and clubhouse at the relocated Birch Coppice Miners Social Welfare Centre and Birch Coppice Allotments will encourage greater use of the facilities by the local community, as well as staff from the Site and neighbouring business parks.

Healthy and active lifestyles will be encouraged with the provision of a publicly accessible 'fitness trail' around the Site, incorporating hydraulic and other outdoor gym equipment and linking into existing 'trim trail' at St Modwen Park Tamworth. This facility will be free to use and accessible to the general public.

Communal cycle parking, electric scooter and bike charging, showers and changing facilities will be provided on-site at the ancillary Hub Office to promote walking and cycling to work, with the facilities available for use by the general public including staff from neighbouring business parks to reduce traffic on the surrounding road network.

Public artworks, seating areas and information boards will be incorporated along sustainable travel routes to provide interest and further encourage their use.

8.0 HQDP 6

8.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

DESIGN PARAMETERS

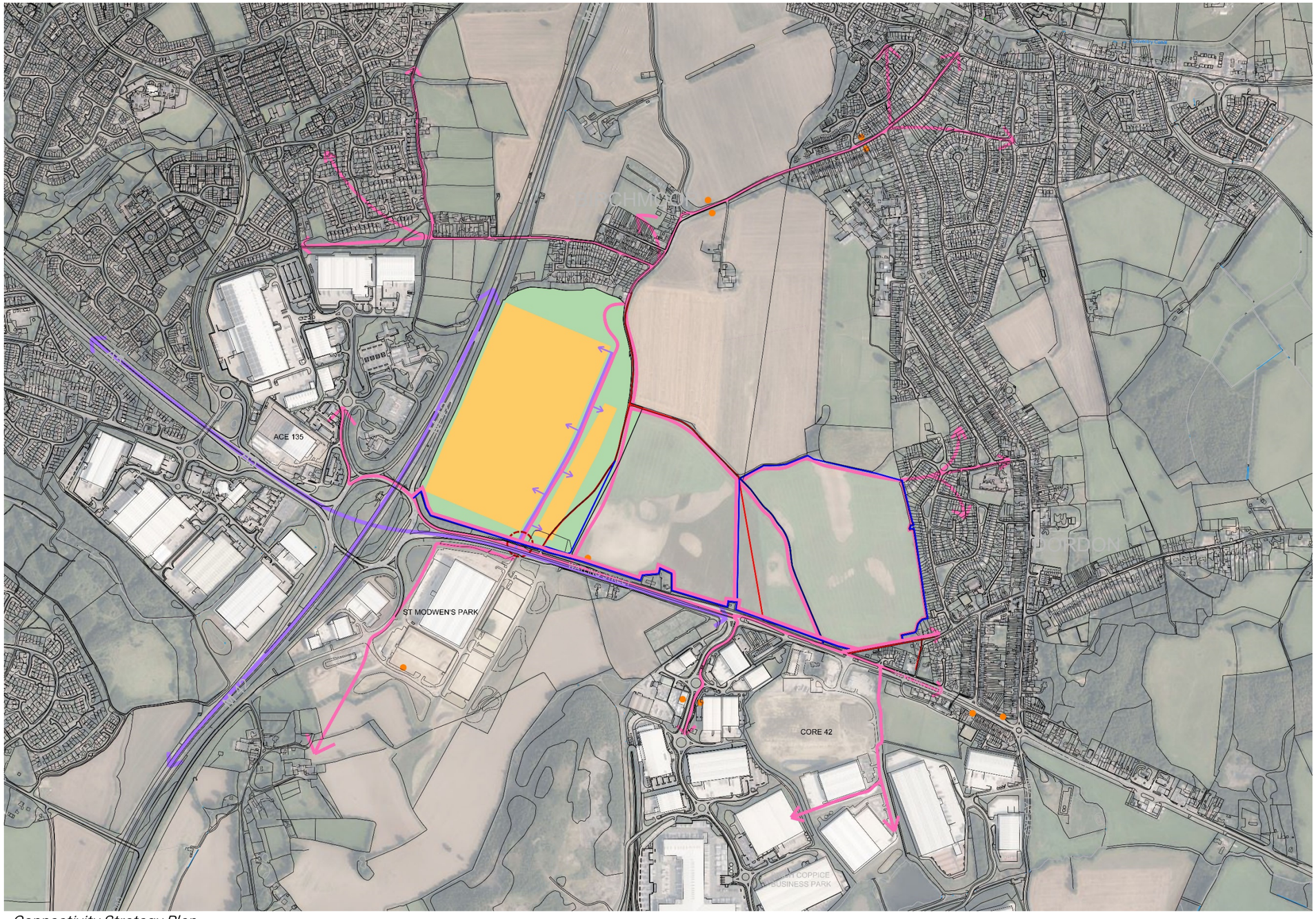
- Approximately 10,000 trees to be planted in on and offsite locations.
- Over 15.5 hectares (38 acres) of new publicly accessible landscaping both on and offsite, including parkland, native woodlands, native shrublands, wildflower meadows, wetland wildflower meadows and species rich amenity grasslands.
- Deliver significant biodiversity net gains across the Site of +26.5% for habitat biodiversity and +298% for linear biodiversity.
- Incorporation of public art into the scheme in collaboration with the local community, schools and local artists.
- Heritage and ecological information boards located along the proposed footway/cycleway network at the proposed seating areas, to take advantage of biodiversity enhancements and introduced habitats and provide education/learning opportunities on notable species and features.
- Publicly accessible fitness trail around the Site, incorporating hydraulic and other outdoor gym equipment. Provision of dog waste bins throughout the Site and along walking routes.
- Dual use footpath / cycleways along route of all internal site roads and access.
- Dual use footpath / cycleway linking north from the Site road, providing a continuous non-motorised user link between the A5 trunk road and Birchmoor.
- Dual use footpath / cycleway linking east from the Site to Barn Close, Dordon, enhancing east-west commuting and leisure routes through the Strategic Gap, to be designated as a new public right of way (subject to the agreement of WCC Rights of Way Team).
- An offline dual use footpath / cycleway linking east from the Site access to Dordon along the route of the A5 highway, facilitating circular routes and providing a betterment on the existing segregated cycleway along the A5 eastbound that does not meet required design standards, to be designated as a new public right of way (subject to the agreement of relevant statutory authority).
- Public Footpath AE46 to be diverted to provide more direct access to Birch Coppice Business Park, from residential areas to the north (subject to the agreement of relevant statutory authority).
- New 3m wide footway / cycleway along the route of the existing farm track southeast from Public Footpath AE46 to Core 42 Business Park providing enhanced commuting links, to be designated as a new public right of way (subject to the agreement of relevant statutory authority).
- Public Footpath AE46 to be diverted to provide more direct access to Birch Coppice Business Park from residential areas to the north (subject to the agreement of relevant statutory authority).
- New informal / recreational route linking Barn Close to The Stumps (public footpath AE48), through the landscape enhancement and community orchard west of Dordon.
- New signalised pedestrian and cycle crossing at the A5 to facilitate improved pedestrian links throughout Dordon Parish and particularly down to Freasley.
- Publicly accessible communal cycle parking, showers and changing facilities at ancillary Hub Office.




A memorable and sensory experience along a public footpath with a focus on well-being of the local community and improving the existing biodiversity.

8.0 HQDP 6

8.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE



Connectivity Strategy Plan

8.0 HQDP 6

8.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

APPLICABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES FROM THE DDGC

AV01 – MIX OF USE (COMMUNITY FACILITIES)

- New development should protect and, where possible, enhance the existing provision of community facilities. As the population grows, community facilities should be provided to meet the growing need.
- Signage and wayfinding must be used to highlight the options for sustainable transport modes, promoting walking and cycling.

AV02 –PUBLIC REALM

- Well-connected, high quality public spaces are essential because they create informal meeting places and venues, as well as providing the setting for people to engage in commercial and social transactions, take their leisure and participate in community events.
- The public realm should be coordinated and reflect local distinctiveness to enhance its integration with the rest of Dordon.

SU03 – SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE

- Creative surface water management such as rills, brooks and ponds to enrich the public realm and help improve a sense of wellbeing and offer an interaction with nature.

SAFE MOVEMENT (SM)

- Walking and cycling should be encouraged to support growth, limit the negative impacts of traffic congestion on the roads and create direct and memorable routes.
- Public transport should be used to support active travel and provide improved links between places.

SM02 – PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE PATHS/ CONNECTIVITY

- New development should respond to pedestrian and cyclist desire lines and complement a permeable and legible connected street pattern.
- New development must integrate with the existing network of footpaths and cycle routes, enhancing these where possible and adding new routes that connect places of interest (including open space and sports provision), services and amenities and residential areas.

SM04 – CYCLE PARKING

- Cycle storage should be provided at a convenient location within an easy access.

Outdoor gym equipment

Signage and way finding

Public seating area

Cycle storage

8.0 HQDP 6

8.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

USER ROUTES

Over 3.5km of new and enhanced public footpaths, bridleways, cycleway routes and informal recreational routes will link the Site with Birchmoor to the north and Dordon to the east, and open up foot and bicycle commuting opportunities from settlements further afield including Polesworth and Tamworth.

1. A native hedgerow breaks up the hard surfaces and softens the impact of the commercial units.
2. New mixed native woodland and understorey screens views of the proposed commercial units from the north.
3. To encourage a range of fauna and flora, the woodland should comprise of rides, glades and woodland edge habitat.
4. Bulbs such as bluebells, crocuses and daffodils to be planted within the woodland to provide seasonal interest and habitat.
5. Activity zones are located along the fitness trail to encourage exercise.

Outdoor Gym

Fitness Trial

8.0 HQDP 6

8.3 ACHIEVING HQDP 6

The Applicant is committed to delivering the extensive suite of Design Parameters set out in this chapter, including enhancements to the existing public right of way network, new and improved access to significant areas of landscaping and habitats, public realm and recreational spaces, which would ensure that HQDP 6 is achieved and the development ultimately adds social value to the area and its inhabitants and helps to promote and facilitate healthy and active lifestyles.

Public routes to be designed for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders.

An engaging and legible network of public paths can facilitate a healthy lifestyle.

Attenuation pond can help promote new types of habitats.

A multi-purposeful social space for relaxation and recreation.

8.0 HQDP 6

8.4 CONFORMITY WITH PLANNING POLICY & GUIDANCE

RELEVANT NWLP POLICIES:

- **Policy LP14** – Landscape
- **Policy LP16** – Natural Environment
- **Policy LP17** – Green Infrastructure
- **Policy LP22** – Open Spaces and Recreational Provision
- **Policy LP29** – Development Considerations
- **Policy LP27** – Walking and Cycling
- **Policy LP34** – Parking

RELEVANT DDGC DESIGN PRINCIPLES:

- **AV01** – Mix of Use (Community Facilities)
- **AV02** – Public Realm
- **SU03** – Sustainable Drainage
- **SM01** - Highways
- **SM02** – Pedestrian and cycle paths connectivity
- **SM04** – Cycle parking
- **SM05** – Legibility and Signage

9.0 HQDP 7 CREATION OF A MULTI-FUNCTIONAL GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

9.1 Creation of a Multi-Functional Green and Blue Infrastructure Network
9.2 Design Approach & Response
9.3 Achieving HQDP 7
9.4 Conformity with Planning Policy & Guidance

9.0 HQDP 7

9.1 CREATION OF A MULTI-FUNCTIONAL GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

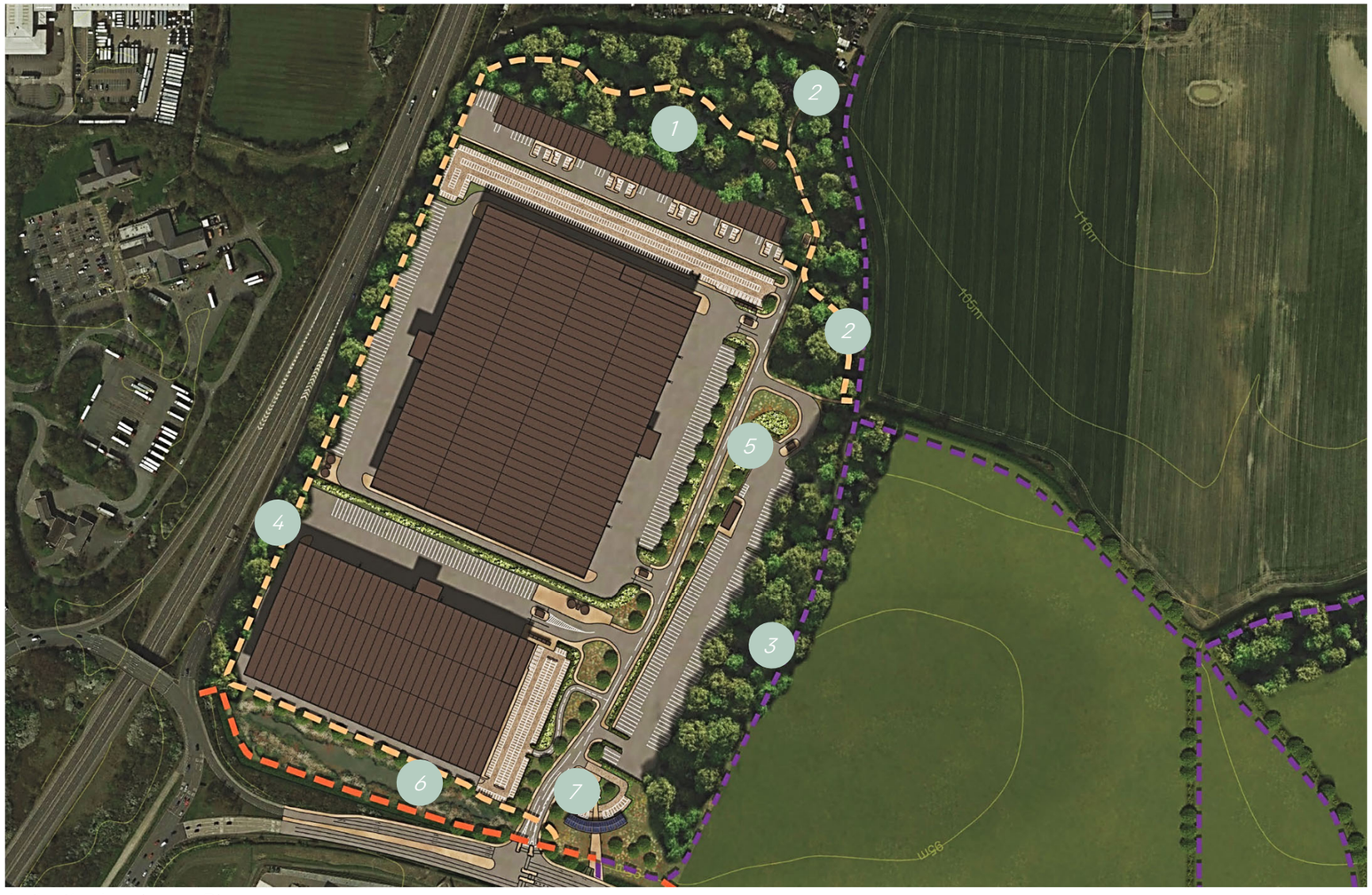
Creation of a multi-functional green and blue infrastructure network, where valuable landscape features and ecological assets are enhanced, increasing biodiversity and habitat connectivity. Buildings will also contribute towards these networks and will meet the highest standard of sustainability that is practicably achievable.

In addition to the climate change mitigation and resilience initiatives detailed in Section 3, the development would enhance existing landscape features and ecological assets to make a substantial positive impact in biodiversity terms.

1. Publicly accessible parkland and naturalistic earth mounds, which would be planted with mixed native trees and understorey, would be located to the north of the development plots to filter views from the settlement edge of Birchmoor and provide recreation opportunities along the proposed fitness trail.

2. Recreational routes would be distributed throughout the proposed native woodland planting to encourage exercise and retain existing rural connections between Birchmoor and Watling Street.

3. Naturalistic earth mounds and areas of landscaping would be created to the east of the development plots, which would be densely planted with mixed, native trees and understorey to help screen and filter views of the development and to reinforce the sense of separation between the development and the remaining arable farmland to the east. Landscaping in this area would be designed to avoid the high-pressure gas pipeline easement zone.



Indicative Landscape Plan

4. Existing native tree and shrub planting along the western boundary of the Site would be reinforced to screen views from the east of Tamworth and beyond.

5. Native specimen trees, native hedgerows and ornamental scrub planting would be planted alongside the internal roads to soften the hard landscaping.

6. Drainage basins, located near to the entrance of the Site, would comprise of wetland meadow and reed planting. This introduces additional habitat and increases the Site's biodiversity.

7. Planting at the Site entrance and adjacent to the Hub Office would be designed to create a softened and attractive frontage to the business park given its gateway location.

9.0 HQDP 7

9.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

Significant biodiversity net gains would be delivered through a significant onsite and offsite landscaping scheme. A mix of juvenile and adolescent trees would be planted to provide immediate effects in terms of biodiversity support, visual screening and carbon capture. Veteran and mature trees and historic hedgerows around the periphery of the Site and in the offsite landscape mitigation measures would be retained and protected.

A substantial area of onsite green infrastructure (over 9ha – over 30% of the Site area) would be created principally to the north, south and east of the development area. This would incorporate significant areas of native woodland planting, as well as public open space, parkland, formal planting, public rights of way, footways and cycleways.

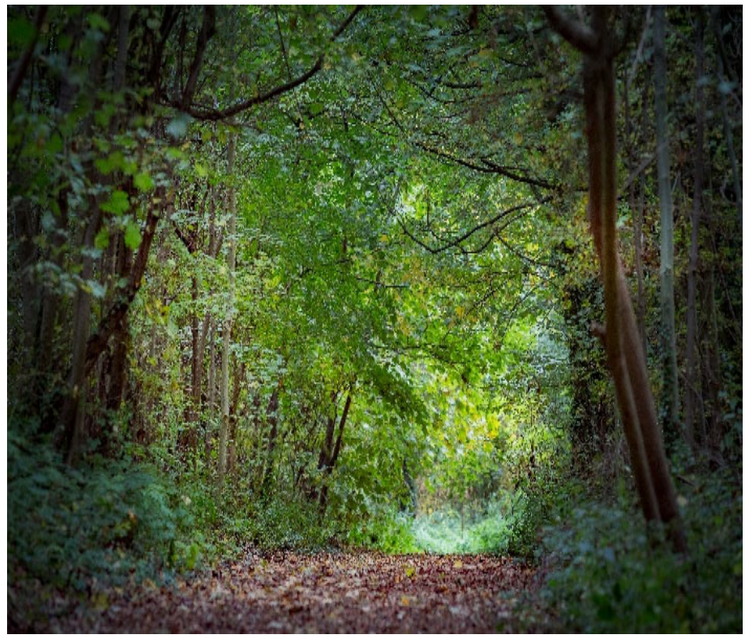
The significant onsite green infrastructure will be supported by an additional 6.51 ha (16 ac) of offsite landscape mitigation measures and enhancements which would comprise native woodland and hedgerow planting, reinstatement of historic field boundaries and footpath enhancements, providing access to members of the public.

The proposed new native woodlands, native shrublands, mixed hedgerows, wildflower meadows, wetland wildflower meadows, ornamental planting and species rich amenity grassland would create a variety of wildlife habitats and new wildlife corridors through the native woodland planting to the north and east of the Site. The inclusion of significant areas of green infrastructure will also provide localised cooling. Climate tolerant species that are resistant to higher temperatures and sustained dry weather would be used within the green infrastructure to mitigate possible future climate change.

DESIGN PARAMETERS

- Approximately 10,000 trees to be planted in on and offsite locations.
- Over 15.5 hectares (38 acres) of new habitat creation both on and offsite, including native woodlands, native shrublands, mixed hedgerows, wildflower meadows, wetland wildflower meadows, ornamental planting and amenity grassland.
- Significant biodiversity net gains across the Site of +26.5% for habitat biodiversity and +298% for linear biodiversity.
- Creation of + 9 ha of new habitats on site and +6.5 ha offsite.

Wetland features



Native Woodland

Wildflower meadow

9.0 HQDP 7

9.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

Dark corridors would be retained within the landscaping around the Site edges to create 'dark sky' linear and boundary vegetation areas for wildlife and provide routes through the Site for foraging bats.

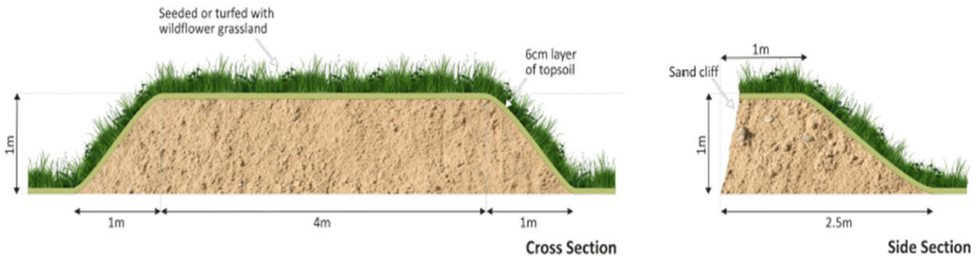
Sustainable drainage measures would include SuDS ponds designed to retain a depth of water to provide a wetland feature and enhance biodiversity, particularly for birds, invertebrates and wetland plant species.

DESIGN PARAMETERS

- Bird and bat boxes to promote nesting and roosting.
- 'Insect hotels' to provide refuge in suitable locations throughout natural open space.
- Bee hives and bee bricks for wild bees.
- Butterfly banks, providing breeding opportunities and enhanced connectivity between habitats for a range of butterfly and moth species and other invertebrates.
- Buried logs 'loggery' and log piles, i.e. from dead and decaying wood which form an important habitat for several species of reptiles, beetle and invertebrates.
- Refugia/hibernacula for invertebrates, small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.
- Maintenance of 'dark corridors' through and around the Site for wildlife (e.g. foraging bats).
- Wildlife information boards tying in with the proposed new footpaths, cycleways and seating areas, to provide education / learning opportunities on notable habitats, species and features.

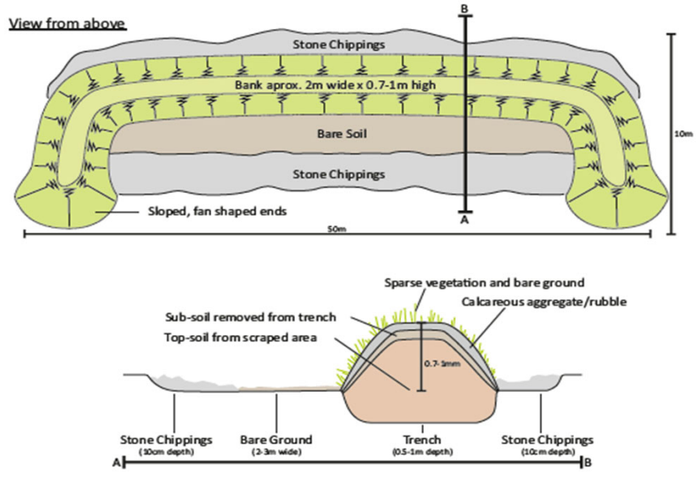
- Retain and protect existing veteran and mature trees and historic hedgerows around the periphery of the Site and offsite areas.
- Preparation of a Site Habitat Management Plan to ensure the ecological and landscape enhancement are implemented in full and thereafter monitored to ensure benefits are realised.

Refugia/hibernacula



Sandy banks for ground nesting insects

Bee hives/bricks/hotels



Butterfly banks

Buried logs 'loggery'

9.0 HQDP 7

9.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

A number of measures have been designed in direct response to Appendix E of the Pre-Submission Draft Dordon Neighbourhood Plan, namely:

DESIGN PARAMETERS

- Where physical retaining is required, crib, gabion and/or green walls will be used to provide greater opportunities for biodiversity enhancement and design quality.
- Flower rich grasses will be used in amenity grassland habitats and woodland fringes.
- Landscape mitigation measures would incorporate adolescent and semimature trees to assist with earlier integration and mitigation of the development with the surroundings.
- Planting of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants and sowing of wildflower mixes will comprise native species typical of the region and locally distinctive to the environs of Dordon.

A Site Habitat Management Plan would ensure the ecological and landscape enhancements are implemented in full and thereafter monitored to ensure their benefits are realised. Furthermore, offsite landscape mitigation measures would be secured in perpetuity through an agreement with North Warwickshire Borough Council.

Ecological enhancements and new habitats would be referenced on information boards, tying in with the proposed new footpaths, cycleways and seating areas, to provide education and learning opportunities about notable habitats, species and features.

APPLICABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES FROM THE DDGC

SU02 – BIODIVERSITY

- Minimise the impact on the natural environment ensuring that the design and layout of development protects watercourses, ancient woodland, local wildlife sites and hedgerows that provide valuable habitats to protect local wildlife.
- Protect woodlands, hedges, trees and road verges, where possible. Natural tree buffers should also be protected when planning for new developments.
- Avoid abrupt edges to development with little vegetation or landscape on the edge of the settlement and, instead, aim for a comprehensive landscape buffering.
- Include the creation of new habitats and wildlife corridors in the schemes. This could, inter alia, be by installing bird boxes.
- Propose wildlife corridors in the surrounding countryside by proposing new green links and improving the existing ones. This will enable wildlife to travel to and from foraging areas and their dwelling areas.

Retaining wall

Bird Box

Information board

9.0 HQDP 7

9.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

APPLICABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES FROM THE DDGC

SU03 – SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE

- Creative surface water management such as rills, brooks and ponds to enrich the public realm and help improve a sense of wellbeing and offer an interaction with nature.
- Reduce runoff rates by facilitating infiltration into the ground or by providing attenuation that stores water to help slow its flow down so that it does not overwhelm water courses or the sewer network.
- Integrate into development and improve amenity through early consideration in the development process and good design practices.
- SuDS are often as important in areas that are not directly in an area of flood risk themselves, as they can help reduce downstream flood risk by storing water upstream.
- Some of the most effective SuDS are vegetated, using natural processes to slow and clean the water whilst increasing the biodiversity value of the area.
- Best practice SuDS schemes link the water cycle to make the most efficient use of water resources by reusing surface water.
- SuDS must be designed sensitively to augment the landscape and provide biodiversity and amenity benefits.

SU04 – PERMEABLE PAVING

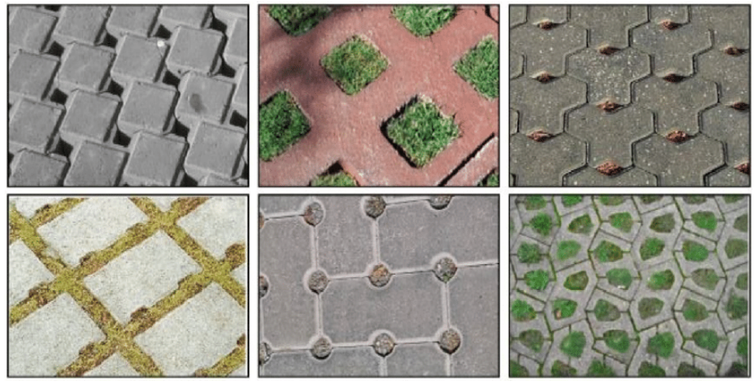
- Permeable pavements offer a solution to maintain soil permeability while performing the function of conventional paving.
- Permeable paving can be used where appropriate on footpaths, public squares, private access roads, driveways, and private areas within the individual development boundaries.

SU05 – STORAGE AND SLOW RELEASE

- Rainwater harvesting allowing the capture and storage of rainwater as well as those enabling the reuse in-site of grey water.
- Simple storage solutions, such as water butts, can help provide significant attenuation. To be able to continue to provide benefits, there has to be some headroom within the storage solution. If water is not reused, a slow-release valve allows water from the storage to trickle out, recreating capacity for future rainfall events.
- New digital technologies that predict rainfall events can enable stored water to be released when the sewer has greatest capacity to accept it.
- Conceal tanks by cladding them in complementary materials.
- Use attractive materials or finishing for pipes.
- Combine landscape/planters with water capture systems.
- Underground tanks.
- Utilise water bodies for storage.

SU06 – BIO-RETENTION SCHEMES

- Bioretention systems, including soak-aways and rain gardens, can be used within each development, along verges, and in seminatural green spaces.
- Planted spaces are designed to enable water to infiltrate into the ground. Cutting of downpipes and enabling roof water to flow into rain gardens can significantly reduce the runoff into the sewer system.



Common permeable pavement surface materials

SuDS

9.0 HQDP 7

9.2 DESIGN APPROACH & RESPONSE

APPLICABLE DESIGN PRINCIPLES FROM THE DDGC

LC01 – LANDSCAPE AND GREENSPACE

Any new development should respect landscape assets and future open spaces should be planned with respect to the following principles:

- Design new open space such that it incorporates existing landscape features to create open space with opportunities for natural play and informal recreation.
- Landscape planting should be used to soften the mass of built form at the interfaces with the wider landscape.
- Green buffers can be a satisfactory transition between old and new neighbourhoods. This could take the form of a 'semi-natural' woodland strip, or more formal open space such as playing fields (including those belonging to schools).
- All existing good quality woodland, hedgerows, trees and shrubs to be retained within the layout of the parks and enhanced, with improved management.
- New trees, grassland and shrubs to be planted to supplement existing vegetation;.
- Green spaces to have buildings presenting active frontages that encourage active and passive surveillance of the space.
- Development along the western edge of Dordon should be limited so that the sense of openness is preserved and enhanced.
- Provide allotments or other community garden facilities where appropriate.
- Allow for flexible use of the space including temporary uses with a varied programme of events and use.

Indicative Landscape Plan

Amphitheatre, Sherwood Forest, Mansfield

Connswater Community Greenway, East Belfast

Community driven allotments

9.0 HQDP 7

9.3 ACHIEVING HQDP 7

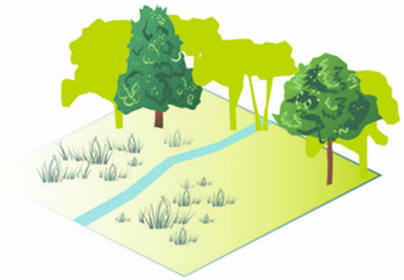
The development proposals would enhance the Site's existing ecological assets to make a substantial positive impact to its biodiversity through the extensive list of biodiversity, habitat and landscaping initiatives set out as part of achieving HQDP 7.

The creation of the new and significantly enhanced green and blue infrastructure across the Site and surrounding land would provide protection and habitat for flora and fauna to thrive and deliver a significant biodiversity net gain. Added benefits of this significant biodiversity net gain include improved educational and recreational amenity for people working at the Site and the local community which in turn would help improve engagement with the outdoors and environmental awareness for both current and future generations.

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION

Landscapes for community and social use, play and recreation.

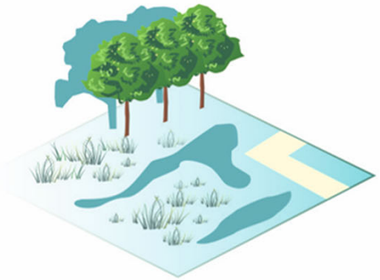
Natural play
Neighbourhood parkland
Trails
Woodland
Fitness opportunities



ECOLOGICAL & NATURAL LANDSCAPES

Meadows and forests providing habitats and environmental benefits.

Nature Parks
Nature Trails
Wildlife Sites
Woodland



BLUE & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Landscapes that capture water, provide flood mitigation and natural drainage.

Retention ponds
Attenuation basins
Swales
Infiltration medians
Green buffers

9.0 HQDP 7

9.4 CONFORMITY WITH PLANNING POLICY & GUIDANCE

RELEVANT NWLP POLICIES:

- **Policy LP1** – Sustainable Development
- **Policy LP14** – Landscape
- **Policy LP16** – Natural Environment
- **Policy LP17** – Green Infrastructure
- **Policy LP22** – Open Spaces and Recreational Provision
- **Policy LP29** – Development Considerations
- **Policy LP33** – Water and Flood Risk Management
- **Policy LP35** – Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency

RELEVANT DDGC DESIGN PRINCIPLES:

- **SU02** – Biodiversity
- **SU03** – Sustainable Drainage
- **SU04** – Permeable Paving
- **SU05** – Storage and Slow Release
- **SU06** – Bio-Retention Systems
- **LC01** – Landscape and Green Space

10.0 SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

10

10.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This Design Guide supports an outline planning application submitted on behalf of Hodgetts Estates to support ambitious proposals seeking to create *"The Greenest Business Park in the West Midlands".* This aspiration is derived from its commitment to achieving a very high bar in terms of sustainability and mitigating potential climate change impacts of the proposals.

Driven by the seven HQDPs and implementation of the associated Design Parameters set out in this Design Guide, all future developments at the Site brought forward via reserved matters applications would be required to follow a prescribed set of design guidance and parameters, to ensure compliance with all relevant planning policy and guidance, including the Dordon Design Guidance and Code. In all aspects relevant to sustainability and design (including energy efficiency, renewable energy generation and biodiversity), the future development proposals would either meet or exceed the standards currently required by legislation, policy and guidance.

This Design Guide captures the requirement to provide a flexible yet cohesive development framework that allows for a multitude of future development options for future reserved matters applications. This includes various size large format distribution / warehouse / manufacturing uses as well as the potential for SME units and a secure overnight lorry parking facility, all in response to current and future demand and market indicators.

Application of the HQDPs and Design Parameters within this Design Guide would ensure that all future potential development options at the Site respect the surrounding area and adjacent settlements and would deliver a safe, inclusive and high quality development, which also links in with and enhances connectivity throughout the surrounding environs. Future development would be set within its own comprehensively landscaped surroundings, strengthening the natural perimeters, and enhancing substantially the existing biodiversity value of the Site, whilst allowing for easy, safe and inclusive access for staff, visitors and the local communities for pedestrians and cyclists, as well as harnessing other sustainable modes of transport.

Illustrative CGI

In accordance with NPPF paragraph 128 and the National Design Guide, this Design Guide would act as a development framework for creating beautiful, healthy, greener, enduring, distinctive and successful places with a consistent and high quality standard of design.

It is anticipated that a planning condition could form part of any forthcoming outline planning permission, to require future reserved matters applications to demonstrate compliance with this Design Guide and in doing so facilitate delivery of the substantial scheme benefits set out above.

11.0 APPENDICES

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11.0 APPENDICES

4263-CA-00-00-DR-A-00075 - PARAMETERS PLAN-P16

11.0 APPENDICES

4263-CA-00-00-DR-A-00078 - INDICATIVE MASTERPLAN - MULTI UNIT OPTION - P10

11.0 APPENDICES

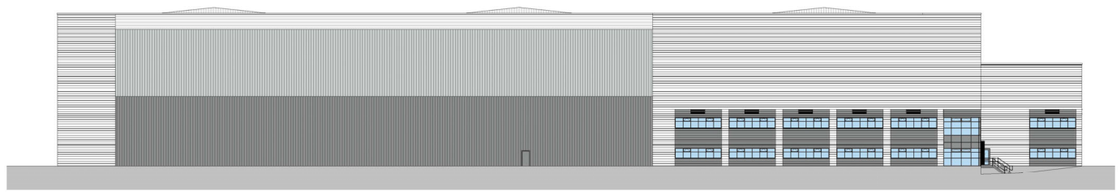
4263-CA-00-00-DR-A-00055 - INDICATIVE MASTERPLAN - TWO UNIT OPTION - P8

11.0 APPENDICES

4263-CA-00-00-DR-A-00054 - INDICATIVE MASTERPLAN - SINGLE UNIT OPTION - P9.

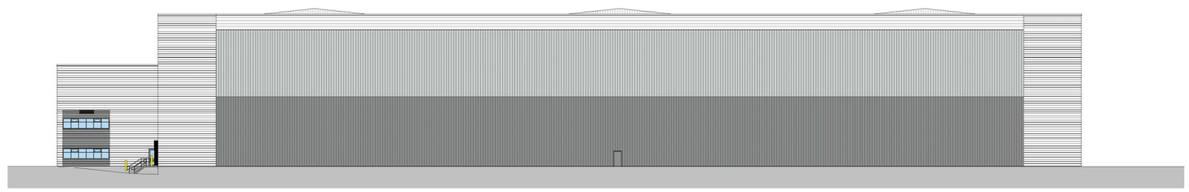
11.0 APPENDICES

1 **Elevation 1**
1 : 250



2 **Elevation 2**
1 : 250

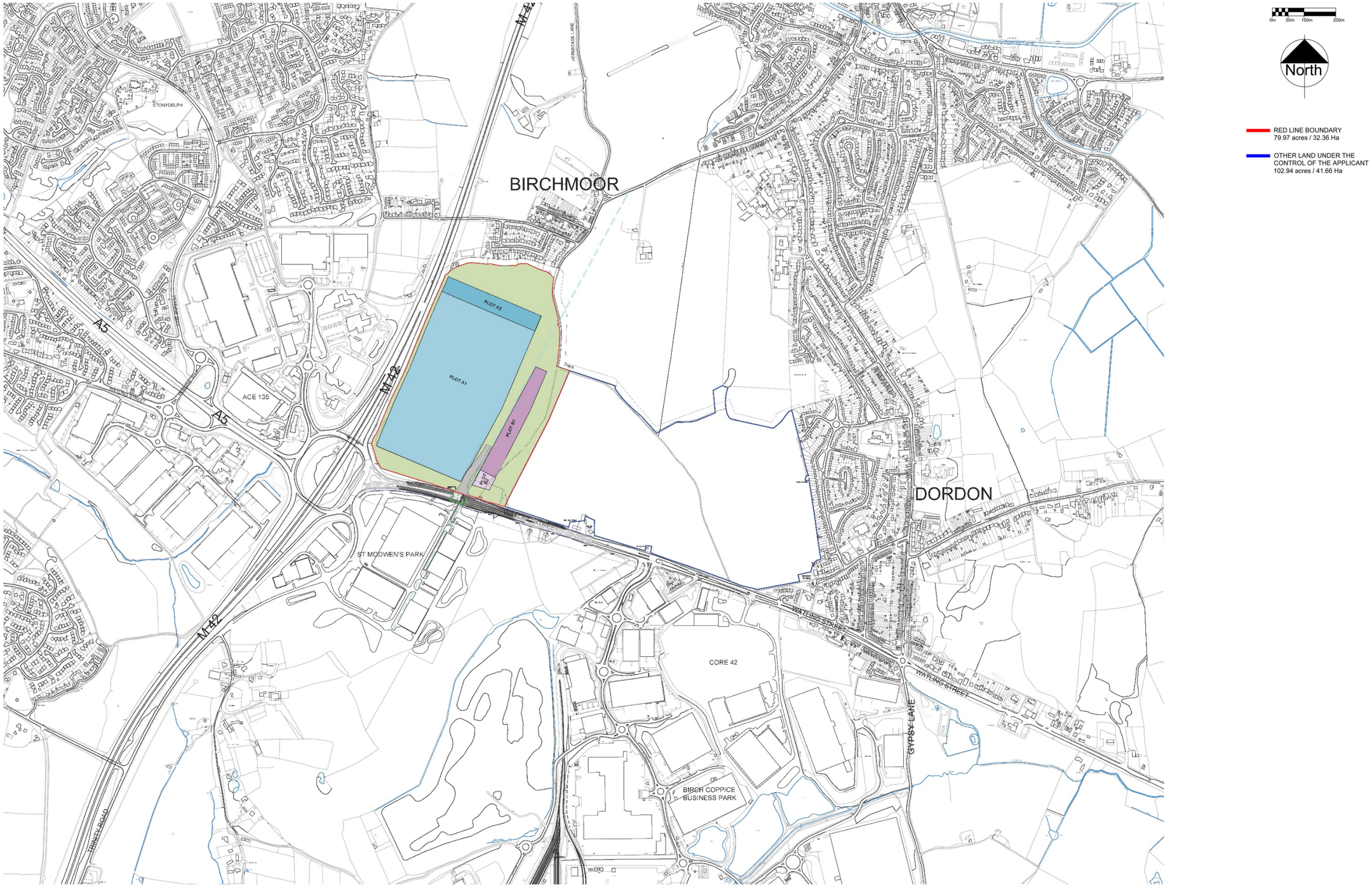
3 **Elevation 3**
1 : 250



4 **Elevation 4**
1 : 250

4263-CA-02-XX-DR-A-02300-PROPOSED ELEVATIONS-PL1

11.0 APPENDICES



4263-CA-00-00-DR-A-00086 - CONTEXT MAP WITH PARAMETER PLAN OVERLAY-P1