



GILLESPIES

SHROPSHIRE LANDSCAPE & VISUAL SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

HANWOOD
[36HWD]

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36. HANWOOD [36HWD]



LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Hanwood is a village in the centre of Shropshire, located to the west of Shrewsbury. The A488 runs through its centre and the village is built on the valley floor of the Rea Brook, which also runs through its centre. Coal mining was prominent in the history of the village, as well as brick-making. Hanwood has a population of 610. This settlement has been divided into 2 parcels for the purpose of this study.



HANWOOD A [36HWD-A]

LOCATION AND CHARACTER

Parcel A is located to the north west of Hanwood. The Cambrian Line railway forms the parcel boundary to the south, with field boundaries to the remainder but excluding the settlement of Cruckton. There are a number of PRow connecting Hanwood to outlying settlements. The small river valley landscape steeply rises to the north of the Rea Brook and is elsewhere gently rolling. The Rea Brook intersects the parcel. Pastoral farming dominates. The nucleated settlement of Cruckmeole, several isolated properties and farmsteads form the settlement pattern.



1. FROM PRow, VIEW NORTH OF THE REA BROOK AND RISING LANDFORM



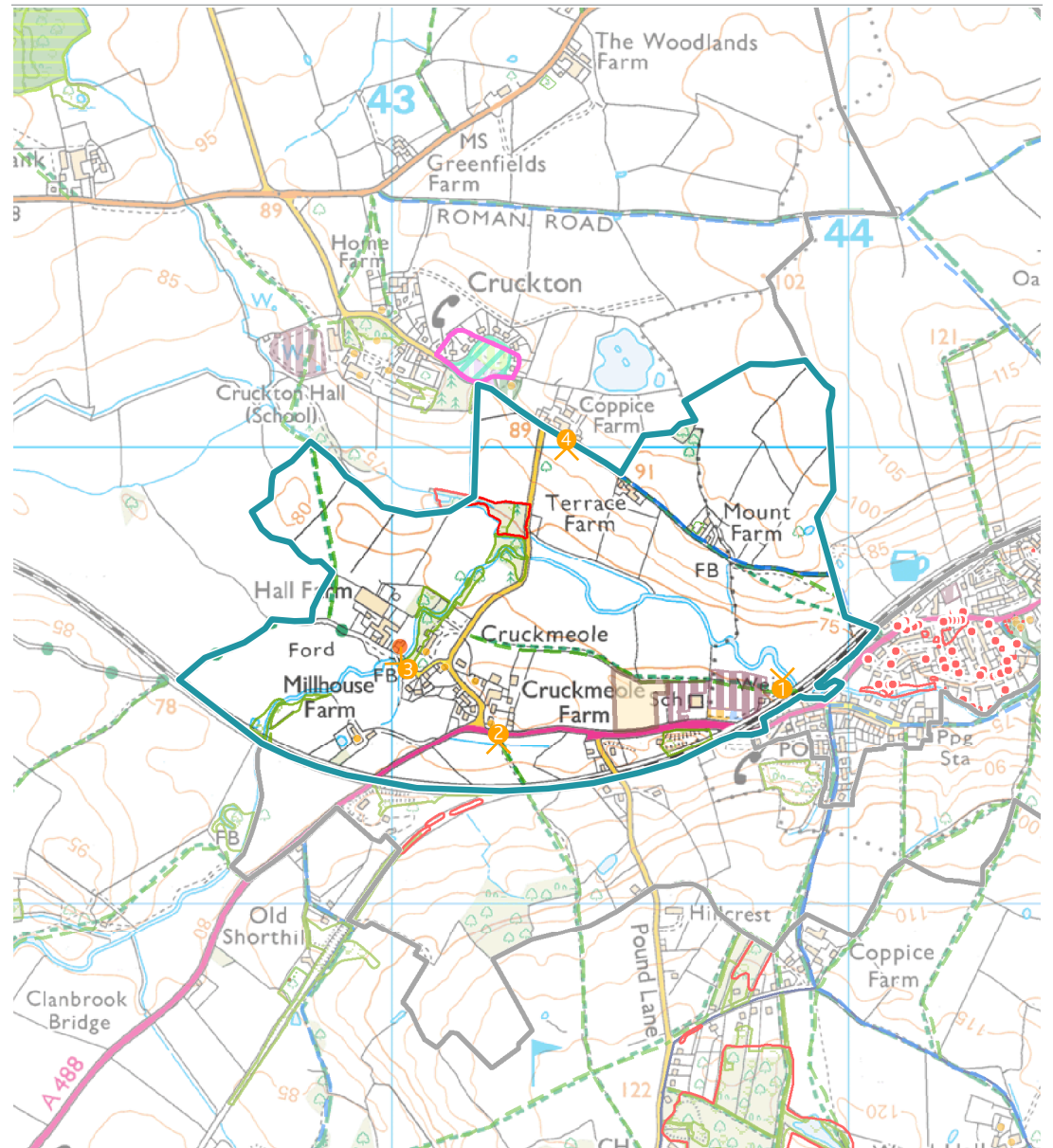
2. FROM A488, VIEW SOUTH ACROSS THE PASTORAL LANDSCAPE



3. FROM ROAD IN CRUCKMEOLE, VIEW ACROSS THE RIVER REA AND OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES



4. FROM MINOR LANE, LONG DISTANT VIEWS SOUTH TOWARDS AONB



LANDSCAPE

LANDSCAPE VALUE

This is a typical rural landscape of good condition. The landscape character is positive with the Rea Brook flowing through the village of Cruckmeole defining the settlement pattern and including a river ford. There is an area of woodland with several TPO's to the north. The landscape hosts a PRoW network and recreational areas which contribute to the overall enjoyment of the area. There is a high frequency of Grade II Listed buildings within the village of Cruckmeole which relate to their immediate landscape and add to heritage value.

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

This is a small scale landscape set within a small river valley, which steeply rises to the north of the Rea Brook and is elsewhere gently rolling. There is a strong sense of place with the Rea Brook flowing through the village of Cruckmeole that would be vulnerable to changes in character. There is some sense of tranquility, however this is reduced in closer proximity to the Cambrian Line railway in the south and particularly where it forms the settlement edge to Hanwood. Riparian vegetation along the Rea Brook progresses into woodland planting in the village of Cruckmeole and ensures an integrated relationship to the settlement, where the wooded landscape relates to the setting of a number of Grade II Listed Buildings. In contrast, the relationship with the settlement edge of Hanwood is abrupt.

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

This is an intact small scale typical farming landscape with the path of the Rea Brook affording a strong sense of place, particularly within the village of Cruckmeole. Overall the sensitivity of the landscape to change arising from new housing is medium and to employment is medium-high.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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VISUAL

VISUAL VALUE

There are glimpsed long distance views to hills within the AONB, however these are only gained from receptors in the north and are not representative of the overall views experienced. The parcel does not take in any of the special qualities of the AONB. The main detracting element is intervisibility with the Cambrian Line railway and overhead power lines within an otherwise scenic landscape.

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

The covering of woodland planting and riparian vegetation along the Rea Brook screens some views at lower elevations and limits intervisibility with the village of Cruckmeole and its Listed Buildings. Views are open, however are mostly contained to the valley floor, which is extensive across the area. Long distance views beyond the parcel are only gained from receptors in the north. Development on this higher ground would be particularly noticeable. New development would be better screened at lower levels where they can be enclosed by existing vegetation. The parcel is intervisible with parcels B and E. The level of access within this parcel is constant with the A488 intersecting the parcel to the south. However, road uses of the A488 and rail users are less susceptible as views experienced are of a transient nature. Other receptors include recreational users of PRoW and recreational ground, residents within the settlement parcel that would be more susceptible to changes in their surroundings.

VISUAL SENSITIVITY

This area has a typically rural character with natural features that add to scenic quality and generally open views contained to the valley floor. Overall, views experienced are of medium sensitivity to change arising from new housing and medium-high sensitivity to change arising from employment.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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HANWOOD B [36HWD-B]

LOCATION AND CHARACTER

Parcel B is located to the south and south west of Hanwood. The Cambrian Line railway and the settlement edge of Hanwood forms the parcel boundary to the north. Post Office Lane forms the eastern boundary with the other extents being defined by field boundaries. Pound Lane is the only road that intersects the parcel. There is an extensive network of PRoW which connects Hanwood to its wider landscape. The landform is significantly steep and rises from the Rea Brook forming a narrow valley with Hanwood sitting at the valley floor.



1. FROM POUND LANE, LONG DISTANT VIEWS NORTH WEST ACROSS THE FALLING LANDSCAPE



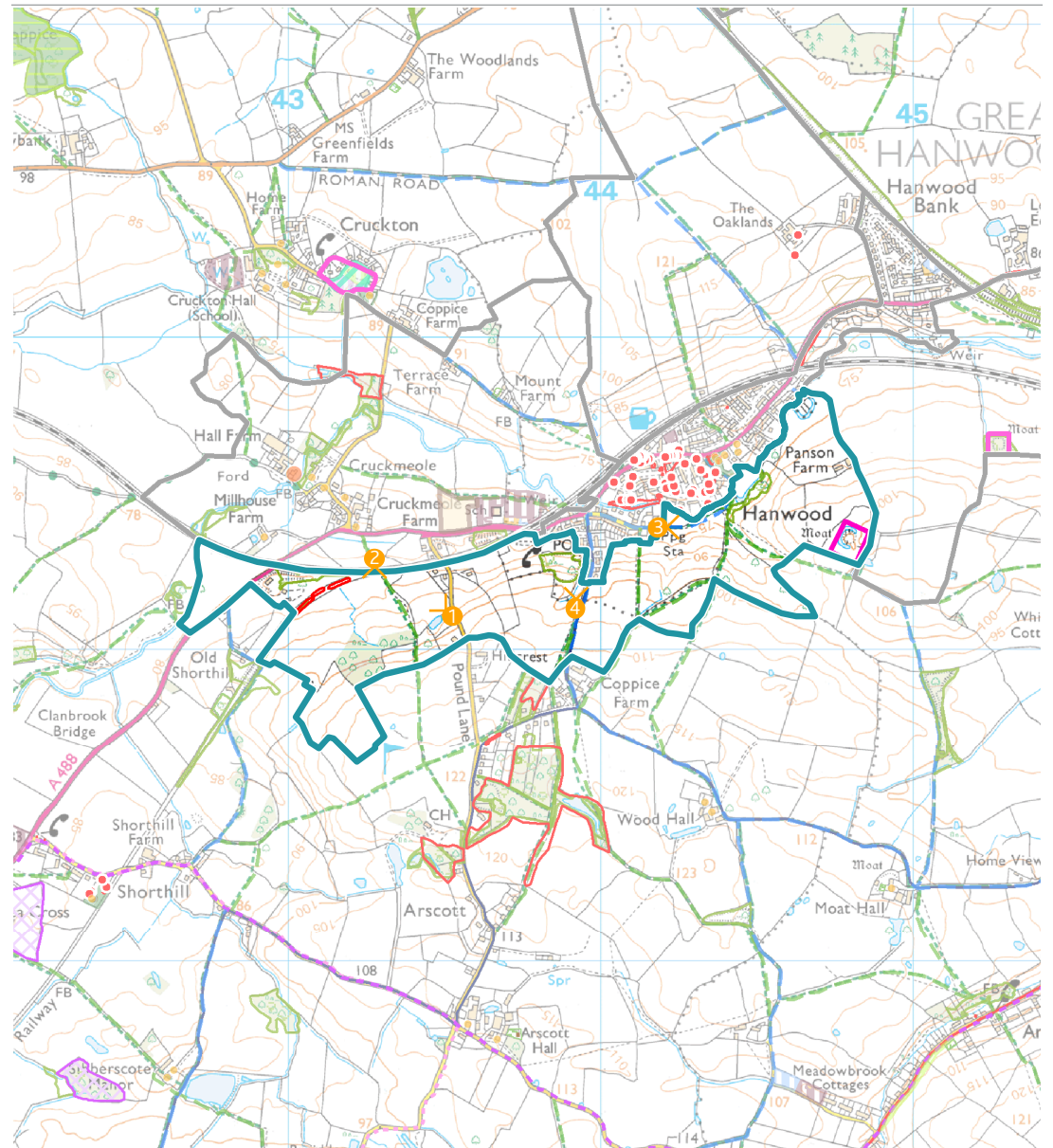
2. FROM PROW, VIEW SOUTH ACROSS THE CAMBRIAN LINE RAILWAY



3. FROM WEIR ROAD, VIEW EAST ACROSS THE STEEPLY RISING LANDFORM



4. FROM POUND LANE, VIEW NORTH TOWARDS THE SETTLEMENT EDGE



LANDSCAPE

LANDSCAPE VALUE

This is a landscape of moderate condition with a distinctively steep landform. The Rea Brook forms a strong physical feature within the landscape and intermittently intersects the parcel to the north east. There is a moat designated as a Scheduled Monument upon higher landform, in the north east of the parcel and TPO's within the west of the parcel that contribute to historic and nature conservation value. The landscape does make an important contribution to the enjoyment of the area as there is a well-connected PRoW network, which in part follows the path of the brook.

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

This is a typical rural landscape of small to medium scale irregular shaped fields. The landform is significantly steep and rises from the Rea Brook forming a narrow valley. There is a medium sense of place. However, this is particularly increased in proximity to the moated site, which historically takes advantage of the higher landform. There is some sense of tranquility at higher elevations, away from the Cambrian Line railway and the settlement edge that would be more vulnerable to development. Infill development at the settlement edge would be the most appropriate with the existing settlement edge only partially integrated. Tranquility is also reduced in the west, where there is a brownfield site of former shafts. Woodland and riparian vegetation along the Rea Brook is particularly susceptible as it forms strong elements in the landscape. Intact hedgerows also contribute to defining the rural character and would be vulnerable to further loss. Existing settlement comprises individual properties and isolated farmsteads that would be vulnerable to noticeable change of the discrete settlement pattern.

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

This is a typical rural landscape on the south side of a narrow river valley, which is relatively steep and includes a Schedule Monument. Overall the sensitivity of the landscape to change arising from new housing is medium-high and to employment is high.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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VISUAL

VISUAL VALUE

Views within this farmed intact landscape are relatively scenic to the north west although there are no perceptible views of the Shropshire Hills AONB. The landscape is intact with the main detractors being overhead lines. Localised views over the Cambrian Line railway also reduce scenic quality.

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

The distinctively steep landform, which rises south of Hanwood, restricts any views to the south. Views to the north however, are open and elevated with the parcel forming part of a skyline. There are views to the north west which are particularly scenic of hills in the wider landscape, however these are not views to landscape with any designated value. Settlement and hedgerow trees contribute to screening some long distant views to the north. There is glimpsed intervisibility with Parcels A and C. The level of access within this parcel is occasional, with only one road intersecting the parcel and very few residential receptors present. Residential receptors at the settlement edge are most susceptible to change, however planting along the Rea Brook is significant in containing views. Development would not be suitable at higher elevations and would be very noticeable in the landscape.

VISUAL SENSITIVITY

This area has a typically rural character and forms a skyline due to its significantly steep landform. With a low number of sensitive receptors overall, views experienced are of medium sensitivity to change arising from new housing and medium-high sensitivity to change arising from employment.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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HANWOOD C [36HWD-C]

LOCATION AND CHARACTER

Parcel C is located to the east of Hanwood. The A5 defines its north eastern boundary and the linear settlement edge of Hook-a-Gate defines the parcels south eastern boundary. A linear riparian lowland distinctly intersects the parcel which is otherwise overlaid by sub-regular mixed farmlands. Within it is the Rea Brook and the Cambrian Line railway. From the lowland the valley sides rise progressing to gently rolling. There is distinctive woodland planting along a dismantled railway within the lowland, which relates to a larger woodland block designated as a LWS.



1. FROM A488, LONG DISTANT VIEWS SOUTH ACROSS THE RURAL LANDSCAPE



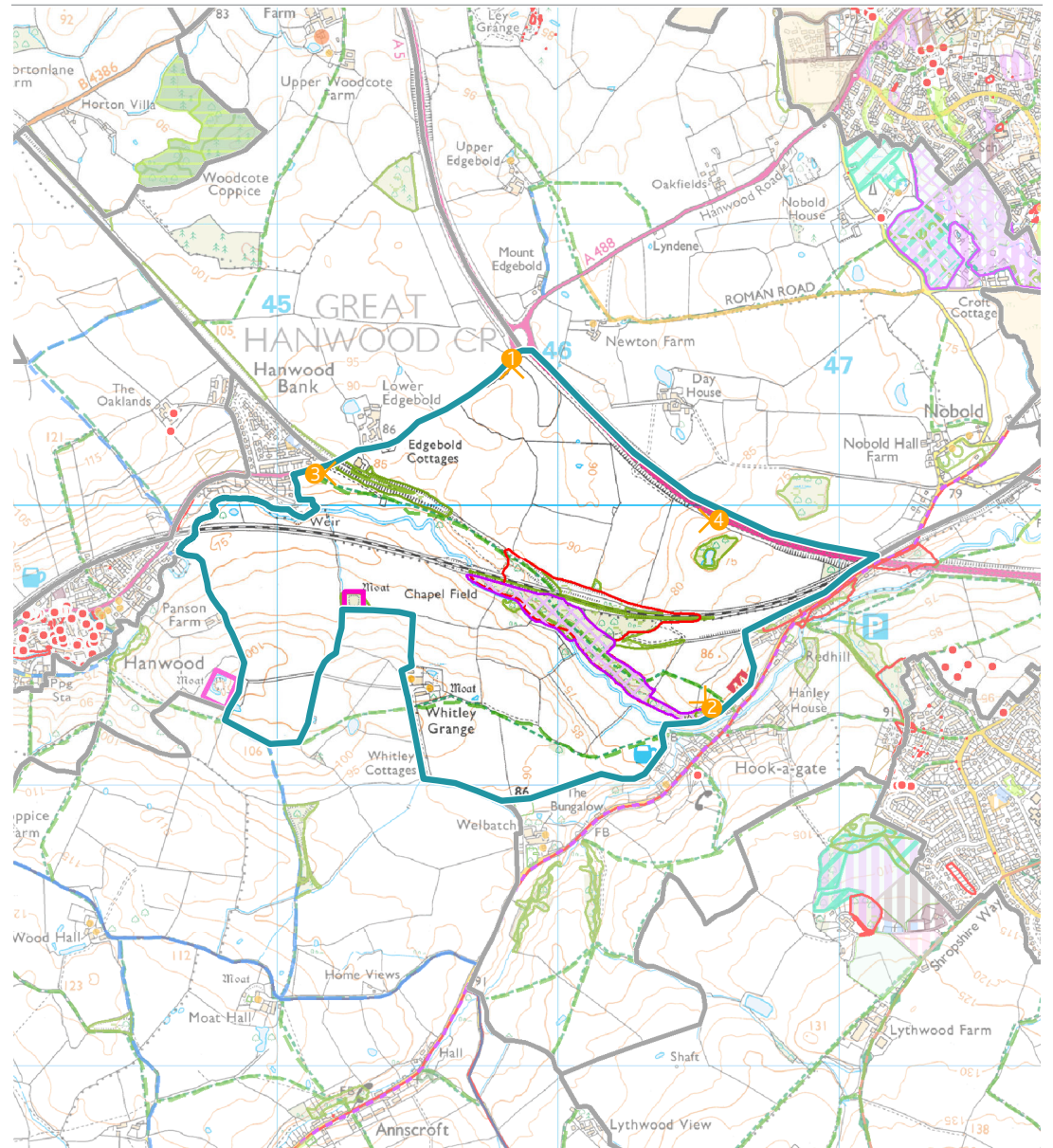
2. FROM LONGDEN ROAD, VIEW NORTH WEST OF LAND RISING FROM THE RIVER VALLEY



3. FROM A488, LONG DISTANT VIEWS SOUTH EAST



4. FROM A5, GLIMPSED LONG DISTANT VIEWS ACROSS THE RURAL LANDSCAPE



LANDSCAPE

LANDSCAPE VALUE

This is typical rural landscape of moderate character and condition. The landscape has a high rarity, with a riparian lowland distinctively intersecting the parcel and including woodland planting along a dismantled railway. There is also a connecting linear woodland block which is designated as a LWS, enhancing nature conservation value within the parcel. To the west of the parcel there is a moated site designated as a Scheduled Monument. The cultural pattern has seen some erosion with the intensification of arable production. There are PRoW which connect Hanwood to Hook-a-Gate and therefore contribute to the informal recreation of the area.

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

This is landscape of irregular shaped open medium and large mixed agricultural fields. The landscape is within a river valley, which in some places rises relatively steeply from the Rea Brook and progresses to gently rolling. There is a medium sense of place overall, however, this is increased along the valley floor and is created by the proximity to the LWS and woodland which follows a dismantled railway line. Substantial woodland planting, within this otherwise mixed farming landscape, forms strong elements in the landscape and would be vulnerable to loss as a result of development. The parcel is fairly underdeveloped and there is a sense of tranquility in the south west which is vulnerable to loss and erosion due to disturbance associated with development. However, elsewhere, the A Roads and Cambrian Line railway detract from the sense of remoteness. Settlement comprises a single farmstead and small isolated development along the A488.

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

This is an intact medium to large scale farming landscape within a river valley with woodland planting that is designated as a LWS. Overall the sensitivity of the landscape to change arising from new housing is medium and to employment is medium-high.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
-----	------------	--------	-------------	------	-----------



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
-----	------------	--------	-------------	------	-----------

VISUAL

VISUAL VALUE

There are glimpsed long distant views to hills within the AONB, however these are only gained by receptors at higher elevations. The parcel does not take in any of the special qualities of the AONB and quality of views are reduced by presence of overhead power lines. Other detracting elements include intervisibility with the A Roads and the Cambrian Line railway.

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

There are open and elevated views across the extent of the parcel which are gained from the valley sides at higher elevations. Therefore at elevations, the susceptibility to development would be much higher than at lower levels when views are more enclosed by landform and vegetation. There are long distant views to the south west of the parcel. There is little or no intervisibility with the settlement of Hook-a-Gate as it is within the river valley. There is intervisibility with Parcels B and D, with views also from the settlement edge. The relative number of people likely to experience these views is focused along A488, however some views are filtered by hedgerows. Residential receptors and PRoW users would be susceptible to changes in their surroundings and across the open landscape.

VISUAL SENSITIVITY

This area has a typical rural character with natural features that add to scenic quality, which is reduced by detracting elements of transport routes. The relative number of receptors combine with detracting factors, mean views experienced are considered to be of medium sensitivity to change arising from new housing and medium-high sensitivity to change arising from employment.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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HANWOOD D [36HWD-D]

LOCATION AND CHARACTER

Parcel D is located to the north east of Hanwood and Hanwood Bank. The A488 defines the south eastern parcel boundary and the A5 defines the north eastern extent. The parcel boundary traces the outer extent of Woodcote Coppice and the B4386 in the north and is defined by the path of a dismantled railway at its south western boundary. The landform is gently rolling and overlain with mixed farmland. Agricultural intensification has resulted in loss of hedgerows particularly in the south of the parcel, however ancient woodland has been retained. Linear planting along the



1. FROM B4386, VIEW SOUTH EAST WITH WOODCOTE COPPICE ON THE RIGHT



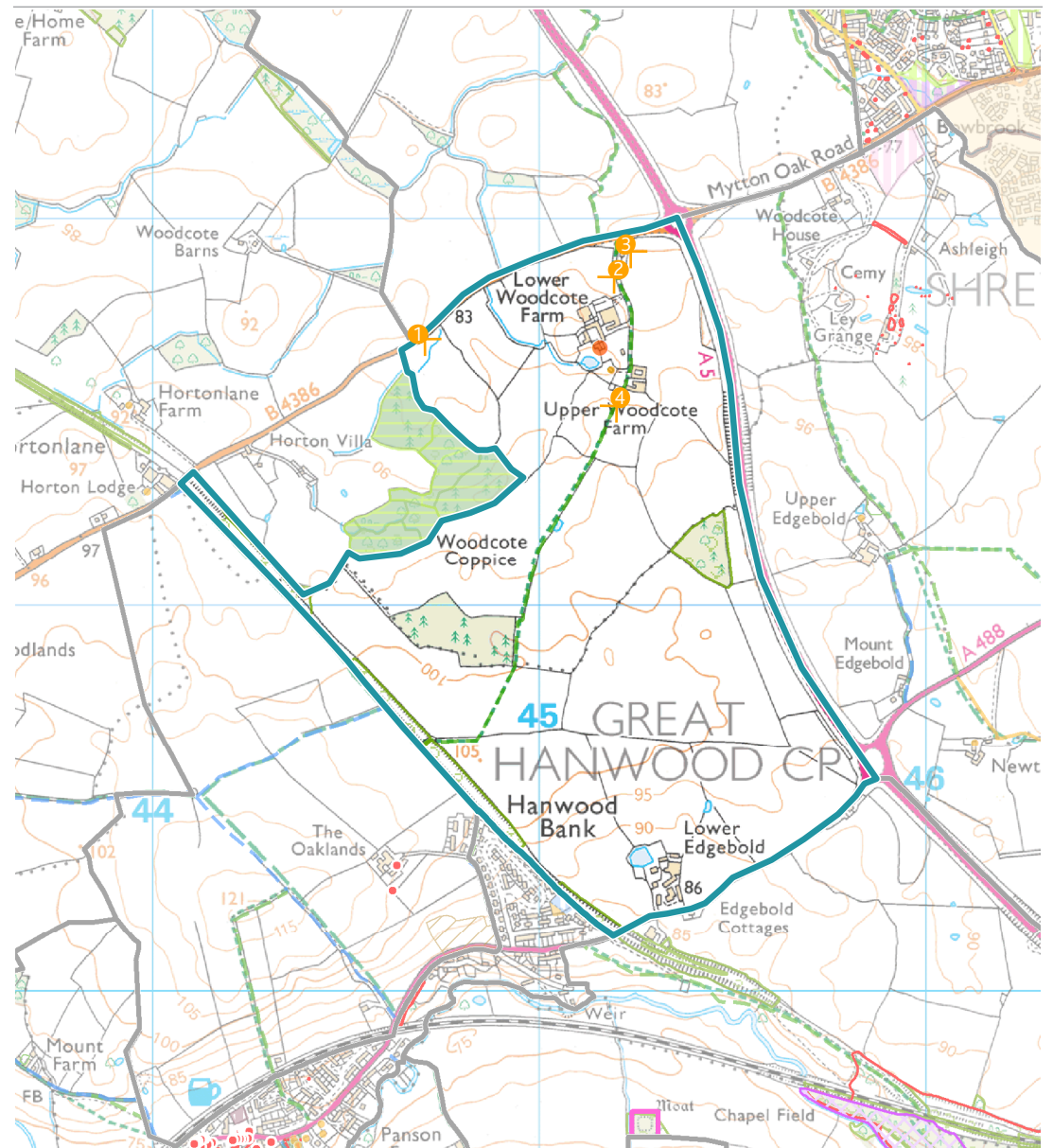
2. FROM PROW ALONG FARM TRACK, VIEW SOUTH WEST OF BUILDINGS AT LOWER WOODCOTE FARM



3. FROM PROW ALONG FARM TRACK, VIEW SOUTH EAST OF ARABLE LAND



4. FROM PROW ALONG FARM TRACK, VIEW SOUTH WEST ACROSS THE ARABLE LANDSCAPE



LANDSCAPE

LANDSCAPE VALUE

This is typical rural landscape of moderate character and condition. There is a lack of natural designations and notable features within the parcel other than listed buildings at Lower and Upper Woodcote Farms. There are two ancient woodland blocks which form strong features in the landscape and there is relatively good connectivity from robust hedgerows and scattered ponds throughout the parcel. There is a PRoW which contributes to the informal recreation of the area.

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

This is a gently rolling landscape of irregular shaped open medium and large scale mixed fields. Arable farming is concentrated in the south of the parcel and intensification has resulted in the loss of some hedgerows that would be vulnerable to further loss. The parcel hosts a medium sense of place, however this is increased in proximity to the Grade II Listed Upper Woodcote Farm and its associated immediate landscape. The parcel is mostly undeveloped contributing to a sense of tranquility. However, it is reduced elsewhere in proximity to the A and B roads and specifically near to Lower Edgebold Industrial Estate. Retained ancient woodland, mitigation planting along the A5, scattered hedgerow trees and linear tree planting along the dismantled railway form strong elements in the landscape and define the rural character. The settlement edge is intervened by planting along the dismantled railway.

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

This is an intact medium to large scale mixed farming landscape with ancient woodland blocks. Overall the sensitivity of the landscape to change arising from new housing is medium and to employment is medium-high.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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VISUAL

VISUAL VALUE

Views within this farmed landscape are relatively scenic although there are no perceptible views of the Shropshire Hills AONB. The main detracting element is intervisibility with Lower Edgebold industrial Estate in the south of the parcel as there is no evident screen planting. The A5 corridor is sufficiently screened by tree planting, preventing any intervisibility.

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

There are open and elevated views across the extent of the parcel however these are visually contained by field boundaries. Woodland blocks also contribute in preventing long distant views and new development would be better screened in areas of enclosed views and mature planting. Tree planting along the dismantled railway prevents any intervisibility with the settlement edge of Hanwood, however there is intervisibility with Parcel D. The level of access within the parcel is occasional through the parcel, however constant to parcel boundaries along the A and B Roads. Views are limited by landform and mitigation planting along the A5. Residential receptors particularly susceptible to noticeable change to their surroundings, however the views experienced by receptors at Lower and Upper Woodcote Farm are mostly filtered by planting.

VISUAL SENSITIVITY

This area has a typical rural character with distinctive woodland blocks and long distance views. The relative number of receptors combined with detracting factors, mean views experienced are considered to be of medium sensitivity to change arising from new housing and medium-high sensitivity to change arising from employment.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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HANWOOD E [36HWD-E]

LOCATION AND CHARACTER

Parcel E is located to the north of Hanwood with its north eastern boundary defined by the linear path of a dismantled railway. The parcel is on the north facing slope of the river valley and which steeply rises from Hanwood within the lowland before reaching a high point and progressing to gently rolling. There is a PRoW network from the settlement into the parcel. Arable farming dominates in the landscape. Woodland planting along the dismantled railway forms a strong element in the landscape and elsewhere tree cover is limited to hedgerow boundaries.



1. FROM B4386, VIEW SOUTH EAST OF WOODLAND PLANTING ALONG THE DISMANTLED RAILWAY



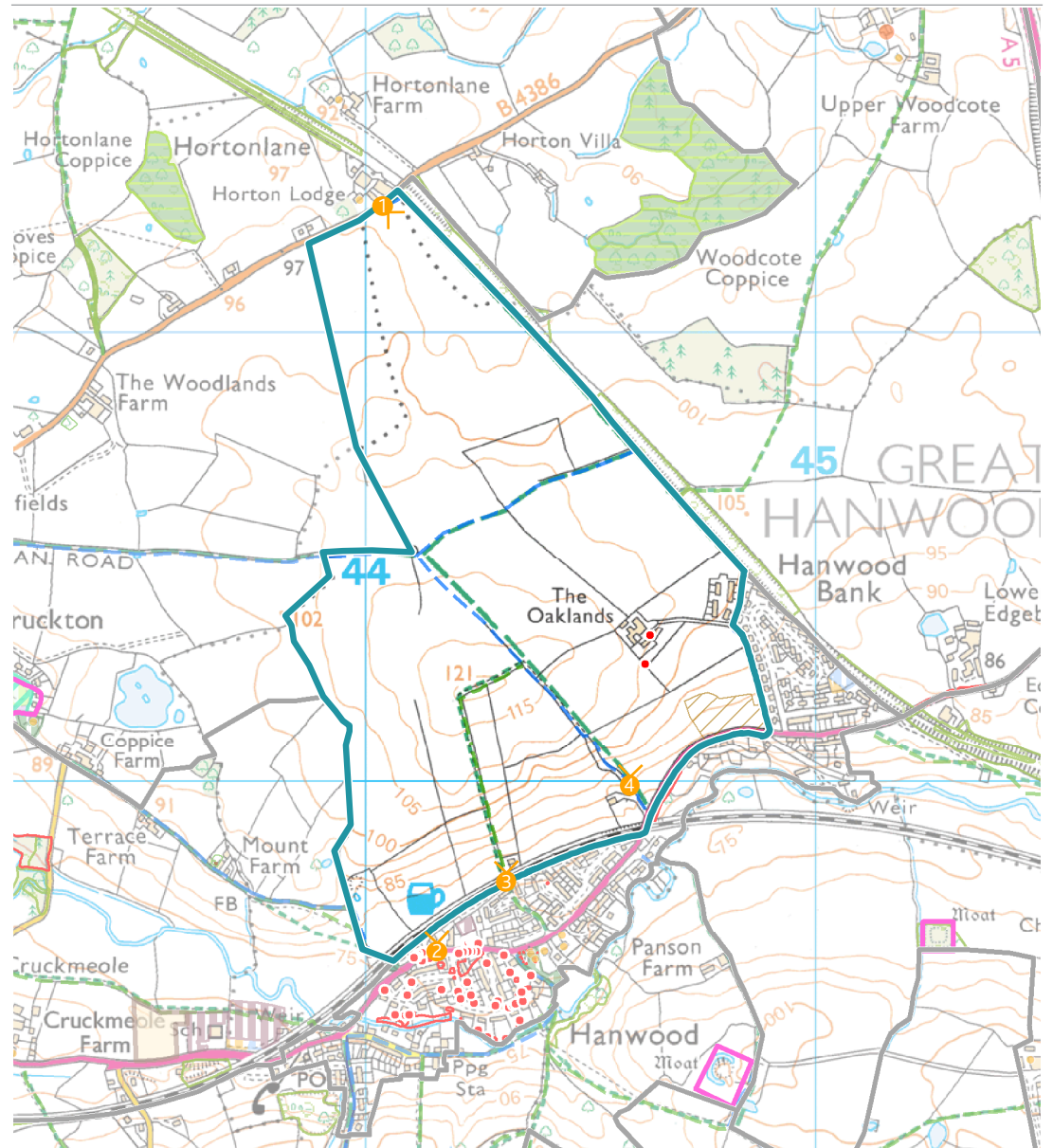
2. FROM A488, VIEW NORTH OF STEEP VALLEY SIDES WITHIN THE PARCEL



3. FROM VINE CLOSE, VIEW NORTH WEST ACROSS THE CAMBRIAN LINE RAILWAY



4. FROM A488, VIEW NORTH OF THE STEEP VALLEY SIDE OVERLAID BY ARABLE FARMING



LANDSCAPE

LANDSCAPE VALUE

This is typical rural landscape of moderate character and condition. There is a lack of notable historic or natural designations within the parcel which as a result has relatively low value. There is a PRoW network that contributes to the informal recreational value of the area.

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

This is landscape of sub-regular shaped medium to large scale fields of predominantly arable use. The parcel is on the north facing slope of the river valley and steeply rises from Hanwood within the lowland before reaching a high point and progressing to gently rolling. The steeper landform would be particularly vulnerable to changes in level as a result of development. The parcel is mostly undeveloped which affords a sense of tranquility that would be vulnerable to erosion due to disturbance associated with new development. However, tranquility is reduced in the south in proximity to the A Road, Cambrian Line railway and new residential development. To the west is an area allocated for housing and the settlement edge is abrupt with opportunities for improvement. Woodland planting along the dismantled railway forms a strong element in the landscape and would be vulnerable to loss from new development. An increase in arable intensification has seen the loss of some hedgerows.

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

This is an intact medium to large scale predominantly arable farming landscape with steep landform. Overall the sensitivity of the landscape to change arising from new housing is medium and to employment is medium-high.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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VISUAL

VISUAL VALUE

There are glimpsed long distance views towards the Shropshire Hills AONB, however these are only gained by receptors at higher elevations. The parcel does not take in any of the special qualities of the AONB. The landscape is intact with few detracting elements.

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

There are open and elevated views across the extent of the parcel from higher elevations, particularly to the south west. In contrast, views from the south of the parcel are limited as the landform steeply rises and prevents any long distant views. Tree planting along the dismantled railway prevents any intervisibility with Parcel D. The level of access within the parcel is occasional throughout the parcel, however it is constant to parcel boundaries along the A and B Roads and Cambrian Line railway. Residential receptors are most susceptible to change at the settlement edge, however their views are limited due to the rising landform.

VISUAL SENSITIVITY

This area has a typical rural character with distinctive rising landform at the settlement edge which prevents views, compared with open and elevated views in the north. The relative number of sensitive receptors present means overall views experienced are considered to be of medium sensitivity to change arising from new housing and medium-high sensitivity to change arising from employment.



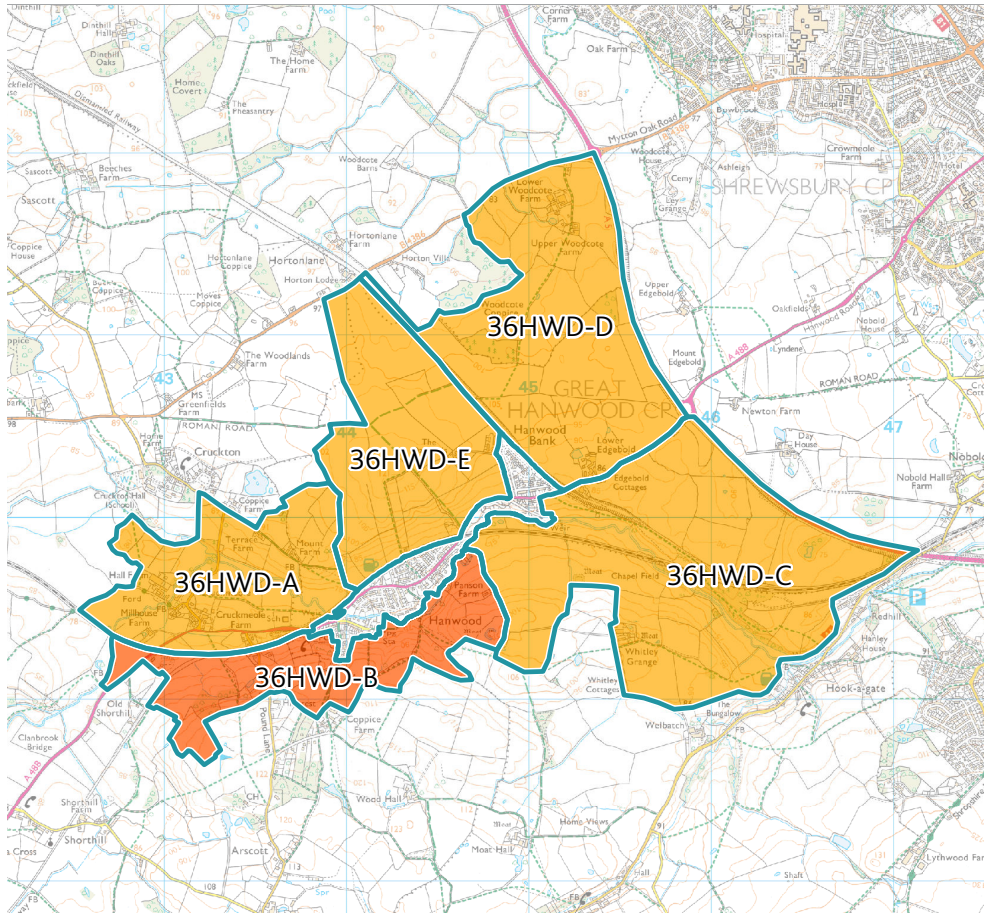
LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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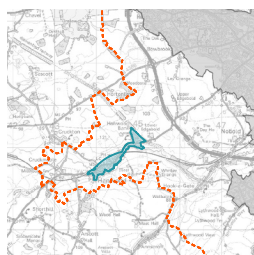
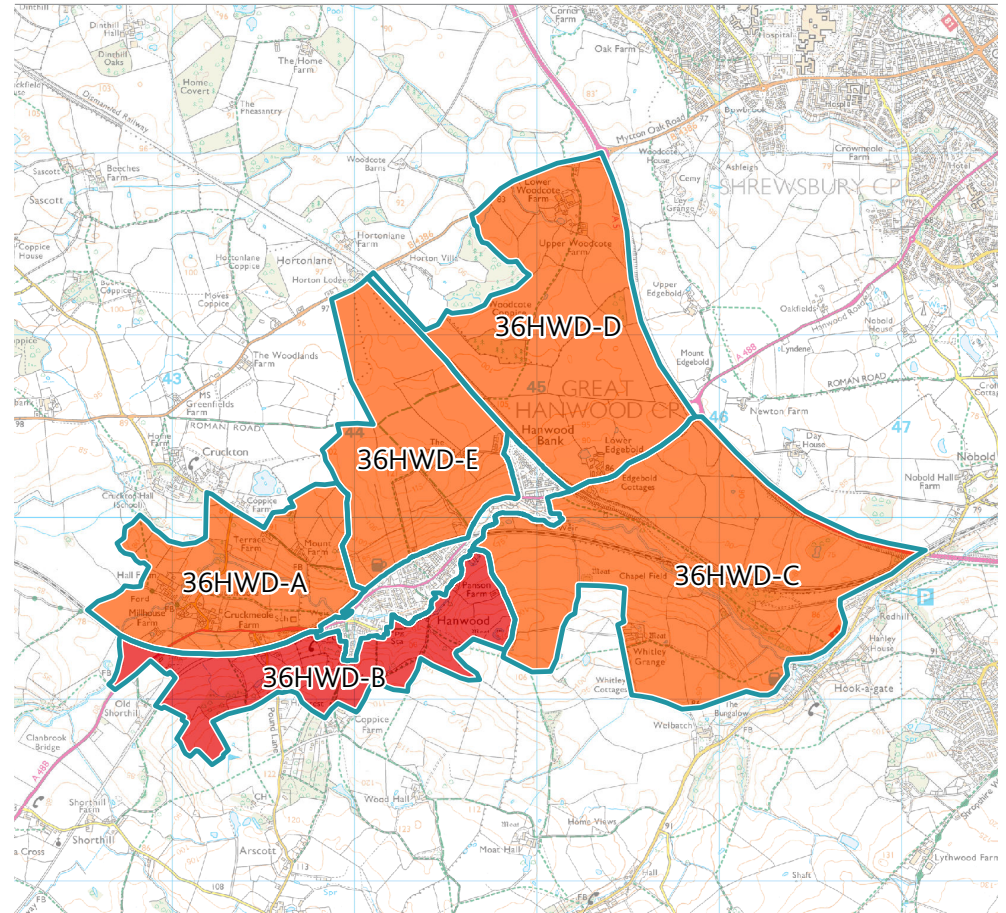
LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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HANWOOD LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

HOUSING



EMPLOYMENT



KEY:

SENSITIVITY PARCEL

LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY:

VERY HIGH

MEDIUM-HIGH

MEDIUM-LOW

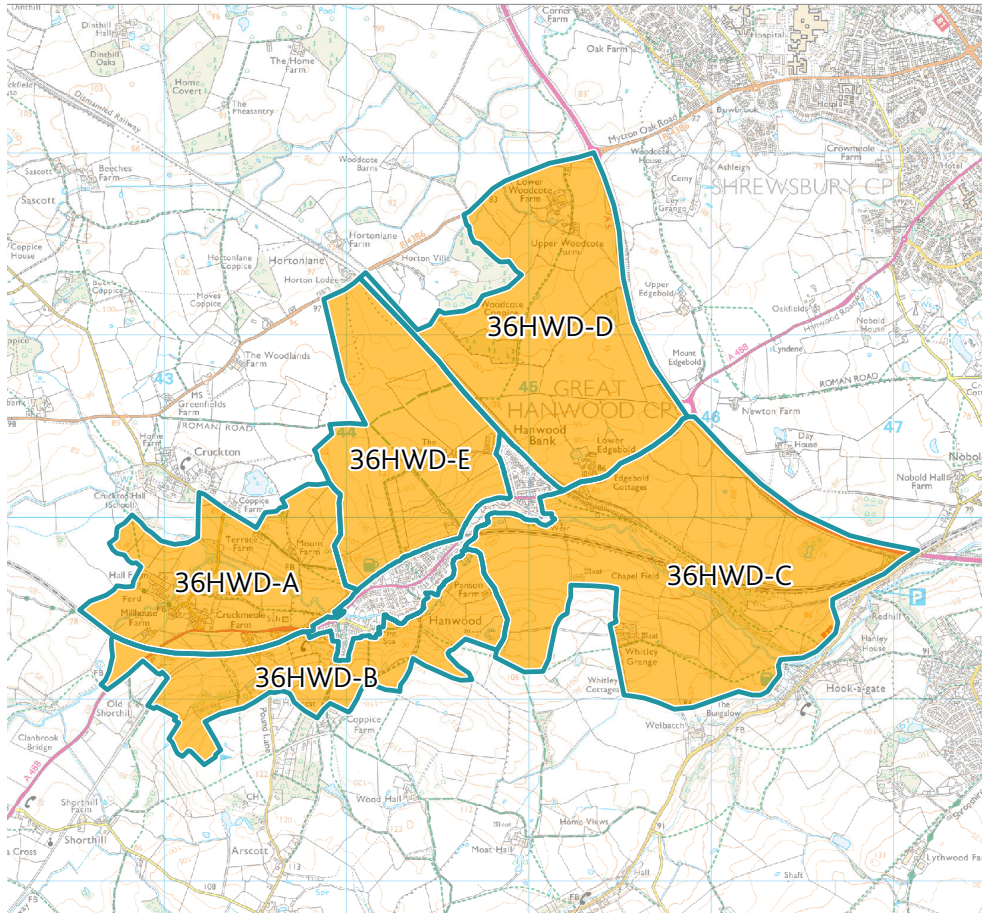
HIGH

MEDIUM

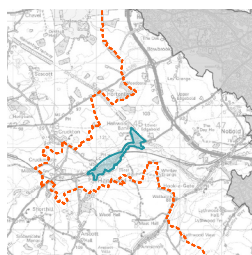
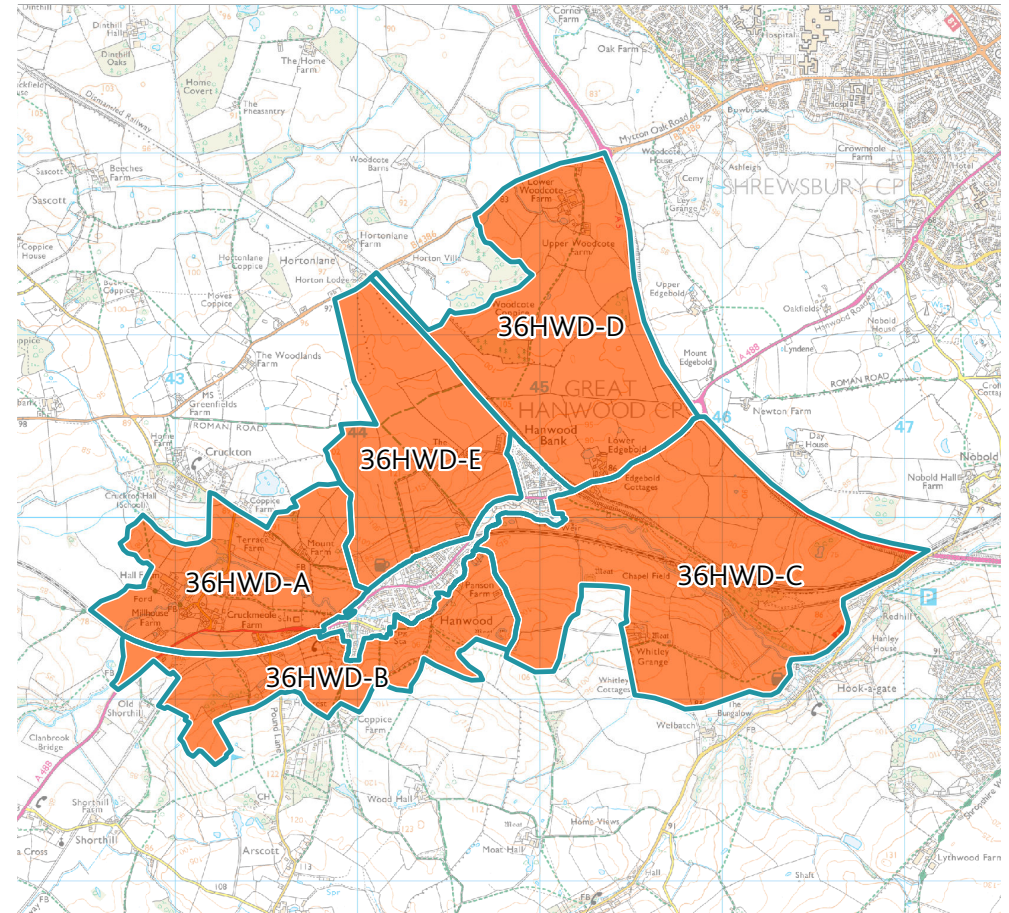
LOW

HANWOOD VISUAL SENSITIVITY

HOUSING



EMPLOYMENT



KEY:

SENSITIVITY PARCEL

VISUAL SENSITIVITY:

VERY HIGH

MEDIUM-HIGH

MEDIUM-LOW

HIGH

MEDIUM

LOW

DESIGN GUIDANCE FOR HANWOOD









[36HWD]

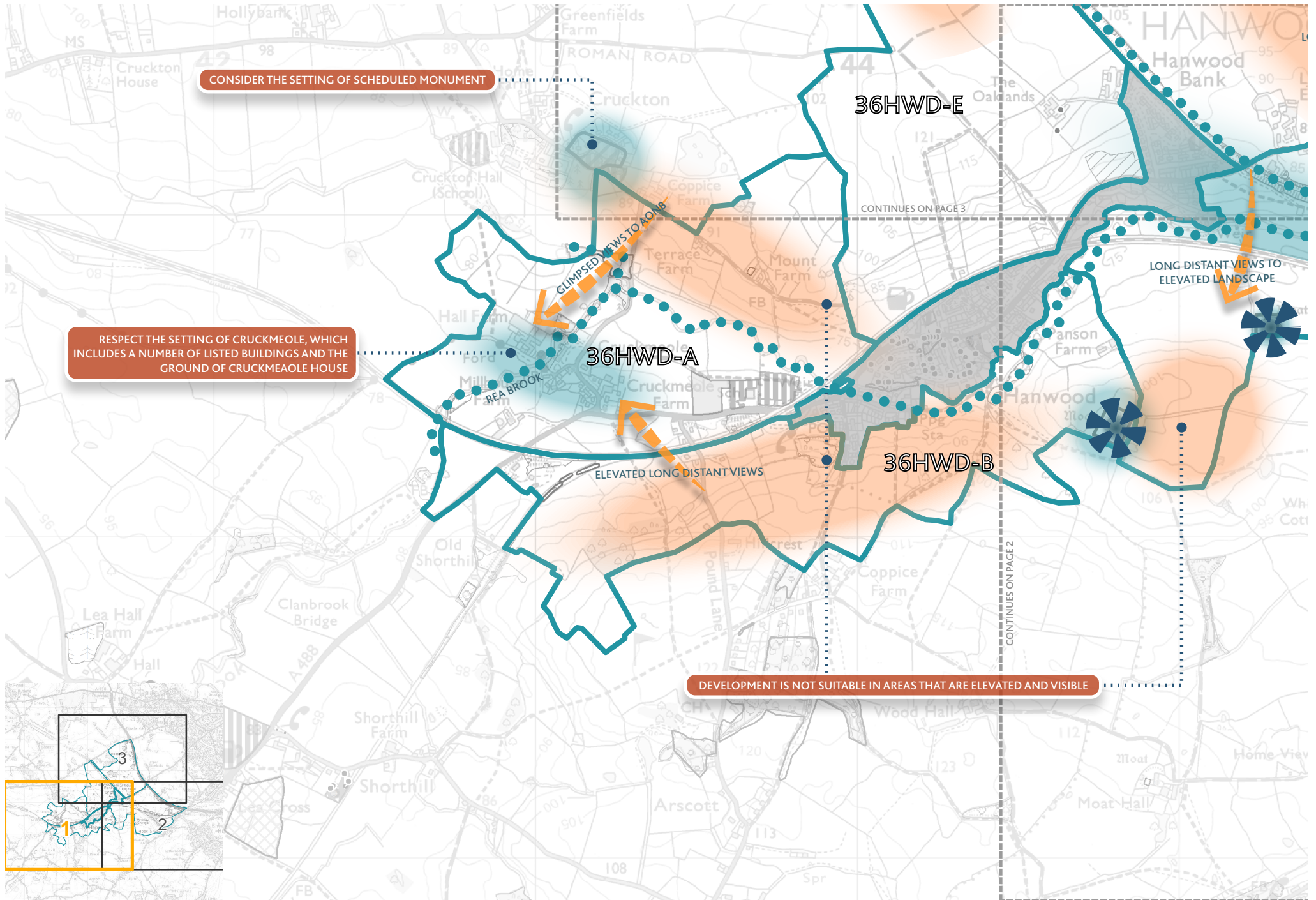
5 SENSITIVITY PARCELS

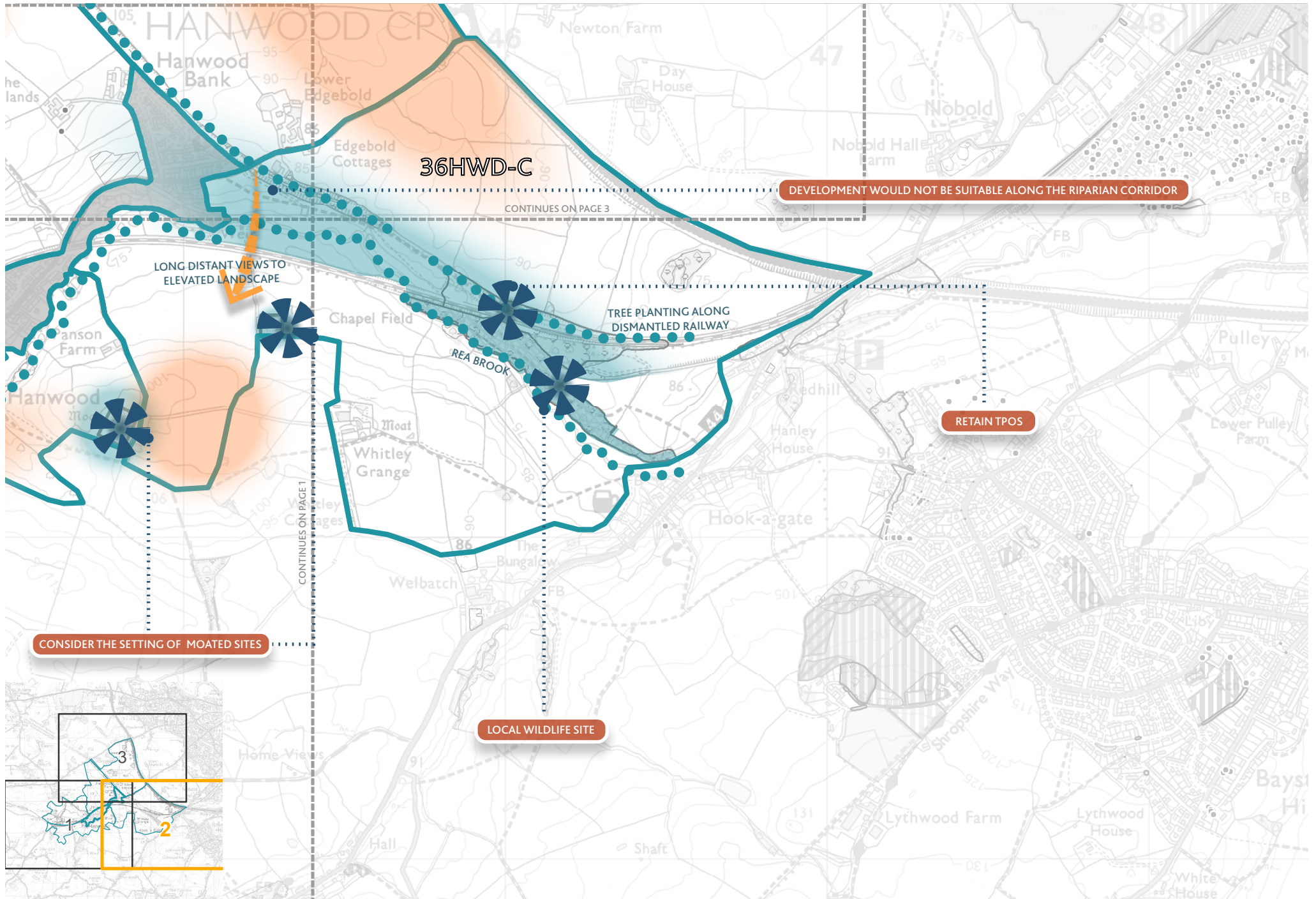


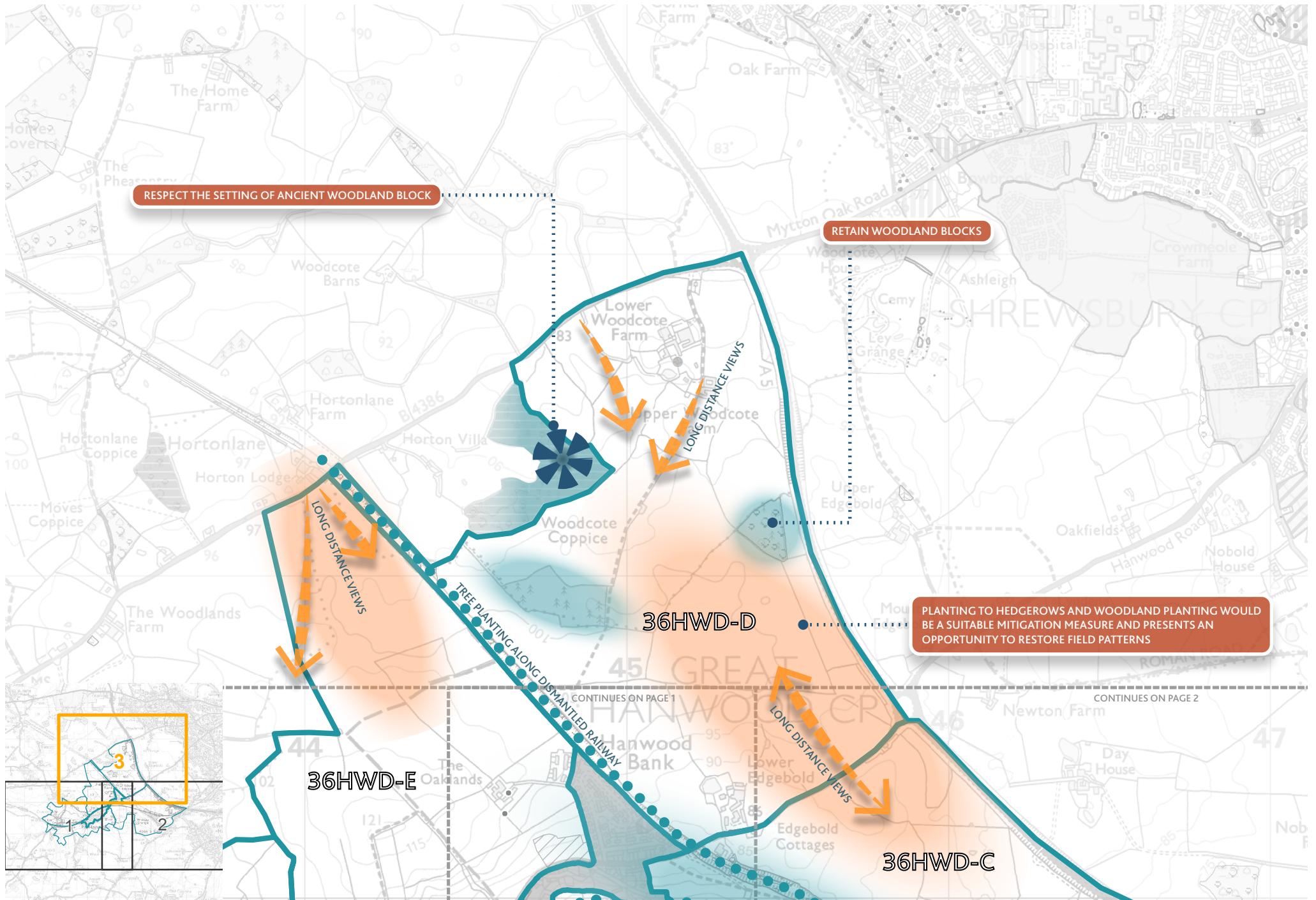
AONB

KEY

-  PARCEL BOUNDARY
-  SETTLEMENT
-  HIGHER LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY TO DEVELOPMENT
-  HIGHER VISUAL SENSITIVITY TO DEVELOPMENT
-  VIEWS TO BE PROTECTED
-  DESIGNATED FEATURES WHERE THE SETTING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED
-  VISITOR DESTINATION WHERE THE SETTING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED
-  IMPORTANT LANDSCAPE FEATURE WHICH SHOULD BE RETAINED







RESPECT THE SETTING OF ANCIENT WOODLAND BLOCK

RETAIN WOODLAND BLOCKS

PLANTING TO HEDGEROWS AND WOODLAND PLANTING WOULD BE A SUITABLE MITIGATION MEASURE AND PRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESTORE FIELD PATTERNS

CONTINUES ON PAGE 1

CONTINUES ON PAGE 2



