

12. Built Heritage

Introduction

- 12.1 This Chapter reports the outcome of the assessment of likely significant environmental effects in relation to built heritage.
- 12.2 The Chapter describes the technical consultation that has been undertaken during the EIA, the scope of the assessment and assessment methodology and a summary of the baseline information that has informed the assessment.
- 12.3 In line with **Chapter 2: Approach to EIA**, the assessment reports on the likely significant environmental effects, the further mitigation measures required to prevent, reduce or offset any significant adverse effects, or further enhance beneficial effects. The conclusions are provided both in terms of the residual effects and whether these are considered to be significant. The assessment of effects takes into consideration both primary and tertiary mitigation (see **Chapter 2: Approach to EIA** for further details).
- 12.4 This Chapter, and its associated **Figures 12.1 – 12.11, Appendices 12.1 – 12.7 and Visualisations**, is intended to be read as part of the wider ES with particular reference to the introductory Chapters of this ES (**Chapters 1 – 5**), as well as **Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual**.
- 12.5 In addition, this Chapter should be read in conjunction with **Chapter 16: Assessment of Cumulative Effects**.
- 12.6 This Chapter only assesses likely significant effects and is focused on built heritage assets where a significant effect is considered likely. The Chapter is informed by an accompanying Heritage Assessment (**Appendix 12.1**), which provides an assessment of the effects of the Project for Assessment on these and other heritage assets (i.e. those considered likely to experience significant and not significant effects) to address the statutory duties of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990¹, relevant policies of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2025², and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) for the historic environment³. These documents identify the ‘significance’ (in heritage terms) of the relevant heritage assets and assess the impact of the Project for Assessment upon that heritage significance. A glossary of terms and acronyms used within this assessment is also presented at the end of this Chapter as part of **Table 12.9**.

Summary of Consultation

2025 ES

- 12.7 The Project Team undertook an EIA Scoping exercise (described further under the ‘Scope of Assessment’ section below) in support of the 2025 ES, which included consultation with RMBC and RBC and other stakeholders. The outcomes of this process are documented in **Chapter 2: Approach to EIA and Appendix 2.1**.
- 12.8 **Table 12.1** provides an overview of the consultation that has been undertaken to inform the Project for Assessment and EIA, in addition to that completed as part of EIA Scoping, including the consideration of likely significant effects and the methodology for assessment.

Table 12.1: Summary of consultation

Body / organisation	Contact	Date and form of consultation	Summary
Growth Lancashire	Heritage Advisors to RBC.	Microsoft Teams meeting, 17 th February 2025	Introduction to the Project for Assessment and discussion of scope, including which heritage assets to be considered within the EIA. The baseline study and scoping exercise were confirmed to be acceptable (email issued by Growth Lancashire, 2 nd April 2025).
Growth Lancashire	Heritage Advisors to RBC.	Microsoft Teams meeting, 29 th November 2025 (Joint with RMBC Conservation Officer)	An overview of the Project for Assessment and submitted documents relating to built heritage was provided for the consultee.
RMBC Conservation Officer	Heritage Advisor to RMBC	Teams meeting, 29 th November 2025 (Joint with Growth Lancashire)	An overview of the Project for Assessment and submitted documents relating to built heritage was provided for the consultee.

2026 FEI ES

- 12.9 Statutory consultation responses received following submission of the 2025 ES that are directly relevant to the ES, and its supporting material have been considered with the outcomes documented in **Appendix 2.4**. No further consultation has been undertaken with relevant stakeholders since the submission of the 2025 ES.

Scope of the Assessment

- 12.10 An EIA Scoping Report was submitted to RMBC and RBC on 16th December 2024, as presented as **Appendix 2.1** (this included a Heritage Asset Plan (HAP) which is also included in **Figure 12.4** of the ES). At the time of writing (June 2026), no Scoping Opinion has been received. Therefore, the scope of assessment is the same as that submitted as part of the EIA Scoping Report with only minor updates to take account of the Project for Assessment and consultation comments received following the submission of the 2025 ES.

Effects Unlikely / Not Significant

12.11 The following effects were considered unlikely / not significant as part of the EIA Scoping Report and are not considered further in this Chapter:

- Physical (direct) changes to designated and non-designated heritage assets arising from the Electrical Grid Connection during construction / decommissioningⁱ;
- Changes in the setting of designated and non-designated built heritage assets arising from the Electrical Grid Connection during operation – The Project for Assessment includes an alternative grid connection route (Option C), which differs from those assessed at the EIA Scoping stage and has therefore been subject to reappraisal. Notwithstanding this change, the nature of the works remains consistent with that previously described, comprising predominantly underground cabling aligned, where practicable, with proposed or existing tracks. Accordingly, the original justification for scoping out potential physical (direct) impacts on designated and non-designated heritage assets during construction and decommissioning, as well as changes to their setting during operation, as set out in the EIA Scoping Report, remains valid for Electrical Grid Connection Option C. The resulting effect is therefore considered to be not significant.
- Changes in the setting of designated built heritage assets over 15km from the Assessment Boundary; and
- Changes in the setting of non-designated heritage assets over 5km from the Assessment Boundary.

12.12 The EIA Scoping Report was informed by Screening Blade Tip and Hub Height Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTVs) as prepared by Stephenson Halliday (see Figures 11.9 and 11.10 of the EIA Scoping Report (**Appendix 2.1**)). This ZTV considered the theoretical visibility of wind turbines of 180m in height at any location across the Turbine Development Zones. After the submission of the EIA Scoping Report, and following the design freeze, new ZTVs were prepared to inform the preparation of the EIA. These ZTVs are contained in **Figures 11.5 – 11.8** supporting **Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual** and consider the theoretical visibility of the 12 turbines of up to 180m tip height which comprise the Project for Assessment. The assessment has assumed that wind turbines will be up to 180m to tip height, 150m rotor diameter and a hub height of 105m.

12.13 In addition to the effects listed above, the following were also listed as part of the EIA Scoping Report (**Appendix 2.1**):

- Changes in the setting of heritage assets within the 15km study area and non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area with limited or no predicted visibility of the Project for Assessment;
- Changes in the setting of designated heritage assets within the 15km study area and non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area which are located within urban areas; and

ⁱ This will comprise an underground connection following existing roads.

- Changes in the setting of non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area which are located within valley bottom settlements with localised settings.
- 12.14 Following the EIA Scoping process, and additional appraisal work, including a review of the updated ZTVs for the Project for Assessment the above have been refined further and the following / additional effects are considered unlikely / not significant and the (in part, updated) evidence to support this determination is outlined below.
- 12.15 It is also noted that the built heritage assessment focusses on the 'Main Site' (i.e. the Assessment Boundary without the Electrical Grid Connection Options, as effects related to this component are 'scoped out' – as set out above).

Changes in the setting of heritage assets within the 15km study area and non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area with no predicted visibility of the Project for Assessment.

- 12.16 There are a large number of heritage assets and non-designated heritage assets within areas with no predicted visibility of the Project for Assessment and where no significant effects upon the setting or heritage significance of heritage assets are predicted. The list of assets with no predicted visibility was derived from analysis in QGIS software. The zonal statistics plugin for QGIS was used to determine the mean number of wind turbines with predicted visibility from those heritage assets covering a larger area, recognising that the predicted visibility of the Project for Assessment may not be the same across the full extent of these heritage assets. The zonal statistics process was applied to the consideration of Conservation Areas, Registered Park and Gardens and Scheduled Monuments. The list of assets with no predicted visibility of the Project for Assessment was then subject to manual sense check, so that assets with functional or other associative relationships to the Main Site and / or assets where views to, from, or across the asset which contribute to their heritage significance, could be identified and included within the assessment, where likely significant effects may occur.
- 12.17 **Appendix 12.2** provides a full list of those heritage assets and non-designated heritage assets which have been 'scoped out' of the assessment for this reason. Areas where there is no predicted visibility of the Project for Assessment include Todmorden, Hebden Bridge, Walsden, Timbercliffe, Littleborough and the majority of Ramsbottom and Rawtenstall.
- 12.18 Therefore, changes in the setting of these heritage assets within the 15km study area and non-designated heritage assets within a 5km study area with no predicted visibility of the Project for Assessment are unlikely to be significant and have not been considered further within the EIA or reported in this Chapter.

Changes in the setting of heritage assets within the 15km study area and non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area situated within urban areas

- 12.19 There are large groups of heritage assets located within urban areas to the south of the Assessment Boundary. There would be only patchy visibility of the Project for Assessment from these areas and the contained urban setting of heritage assets located within these areas means that it is their immediate local setting and their relationships with one another and with the surrounding townscape which makes the greatest contribution to their significance. Although there are some limited locations from which the Main Site and / or the Project for Assessment may be visible in combination with heritage assets within these urban areas, the Main Site does not contribute to their heritage significance. The list of assets situated within urban areas was derived from analysis in QGIS. The list was then subject to

manual sense check and review through site visits, so that assets with functional or other associative relationships to the Main Site and / or assets where views to, from, or across the asset which contribute to their heritage significance, could be identified and included within the assessment, where likely significant effects may occur.

- 12.20 A limited number of more elevated locations close to St Chad's Church, at the centre of Rochdale were identified during field visits where some parts of the moorland including parts of the Main Site are visible above the roofline of the existing buildings. **Plates 12.1 and 12.2** are examples of these limited glimpsed views towards the moorland. In these views, the existing turbines of Scout Moor windfarm and Crook Hill windfarm can be seen on the skyline. A wireline (**Plate 12.3**) was prepared to consider the potential visibility of the turbines of the Project for Assessment in these long-distance views. Review of the wireline (**Plate 12.3**) and the reference photography from approximately the same location (**Plate 12.2**) shows that the Project for Assessment would add additional wind turbines to this view. There would however be limited visibility of the Project for Assessment from this and other more elevated locations within the urban areas, and intervening buildings within the urban areas mean that there would be very few, if any, locations where all of the turbines of the Project for Assessment would be present within a single view. The Project for Assessment would not affect the prominence of key landmark features within the urban centres, such as Rochdale Town Hall. Following this analysis, it was concluded that no likely significant effects upon buildings within the urban areas could occur.



Plate 12.1 View from footpath leading to Saint Chad's Church, looking north over Rochdale City Centre, including Rochdale Town Hall.



Plate 12.2 View from footpath leading to Saint Chad's Church, looking north-east over Rochdale City Centre, showing Rochdale Town Hall situated within the wider townscape, including the 'seven sisters' tower blocks. Parts of the moorland can be seen on the skyline where there are no intervening buildings.

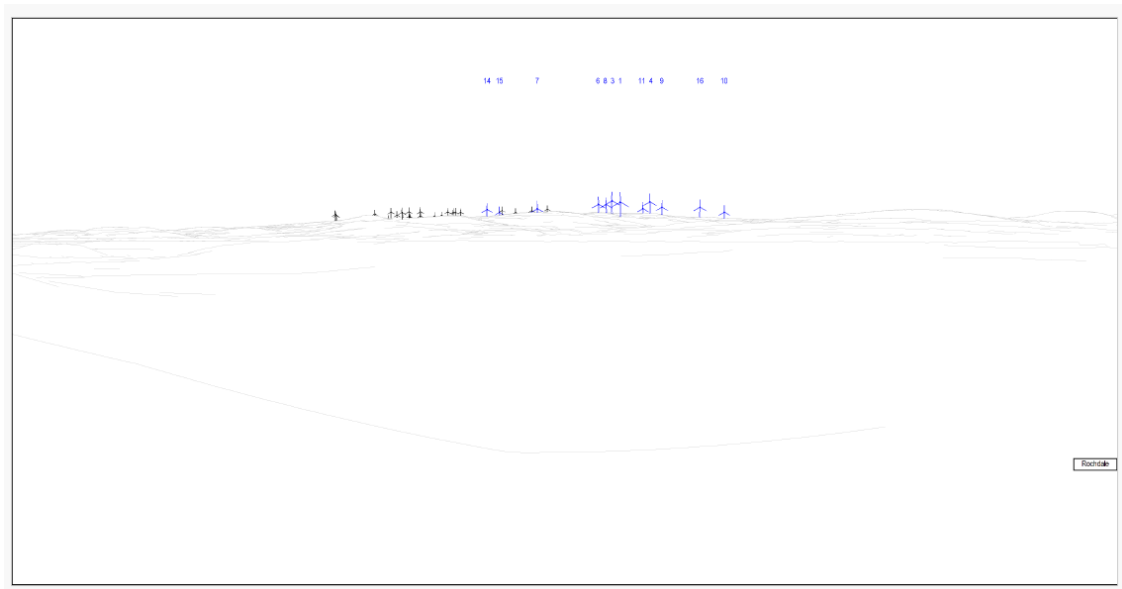


Plate 12.3 Wireline model showing the location of the existing Scout Moor turbines (black) and proposed turbines of the Project for Assessment against the skyline. This wireline should be viewed in combination with the reference photograph in Figure 12.2

- 12.21 **Appendix 12.3** provides a full list of those heritage assets and non-designated heritage assets which have been ‘scoped out’ of the assessment for this reason. Urbanised areas where these criteria apply include Rochdale, Bury, Radcliffe, Middleton and Oldham.
- 12.22 Therefore, changes in the setting of heritage assets within the 15km study area and non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area situated within urban areas are unlikely to be significant and have not been considered further within the EIA or reported in this Chapter.

Changes in the setting of heritage assets within the 15km study area and non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area which are of heritage significance due to their function or association with other heritage assets, such that the wider setting does not contribute to their heritage significance

- 12.23 There are a large number of heritage assets which are of heritage significance due to their historic function, their longevity as features of a localised area of townscape or landscape, or due to their association with other proximate heritage assets. Heritage assets of this type include features such as milestones, phone boxes, gatepiers or entrance lodges associated with other buildings. Immediate local setting or functional associations make the greatest contribution to the heritage significance of these heritage assets. The wider setting (including the Main Site) makes a limited or no contribution to their heritage significance. They have therefore been ‘scoped out’ of the assessment as there is no potential for significant effects upon their setting or heritage significance arising from the Project for Assessment.
- 12.24 **Appendix 12.4** provides a full list of those heritage assets and non-designated heritage assets which have been ‘scoped out’ of the assessment for this reason.
- 12.25 Therefore, changes in the setting of heritage assets within the 15km study area and non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area which are of heritage significance due to their function or association with other heritage assets, such that their wider setting (including the Main Site) does not contribute or makes a limited contribution, to their heritage significance are unlikely to be significant and have not been considered further within the EIA or reported in this Chapter.

Other designated and non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area where no potential for significant effects upon their setting was identified

- 12.26 Following the analysis as set out above, the remaining list of designated and non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area were further reviewed in order to assess the potential for significant effects on their heritage significance due to change within their setting arising from the Project for Assessment. This further review was informed by an understanding of the heritage significance of the assets, observations from site visits, professional experience and judgement. This further review and analysis allowed the identification of those assets where significant effects on their heritage significance could arise from the Project for Assessment. These assets have been included in the ES. All other assets were ‘scoped out’ of the ES. Those assets where there is a potential for effects on their heritage significance, but that change was not identified as likely to be significant are considered in the Heritage Assessment (**Appendix 12.1**). **Appendix 12.5** summarises the reasons for the ‘scoping out’ of these assets at this stage.

- 12.27 Therefore, changes in the setting of these non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area are unlikely to be significant and have not been considered further within the EIA or reported in this Chapter.

Other Designated Heritage Assets within the 5 – 15km study area where no potential for significant effects upon their setting (and therefore heritage significance) was identified

- 12.28 Following the analysis as set out above, the remaining list of designated heritage assets within the 5km – 15km study area was further reviewed in order to assess the potential for significant effects on their heritage significance due to change within their setting arising from the Project for Assessment. This further review was informed by understanding of the heritage significance of the assets, observations from site visits, professional experience and judgement. In particular, it considered whether the type/nature and heritage significance of a heritage asset was such that long distance views from, to or over the asset, which include the Main Site, were likely to contribute to their setting and heritage significance and had the potential to be significantly affected by the Project for Assessment. This analysis resulted in the ‘scoping out’ of other designated heritage assets within the 5km – 15km study area.

Appendix 12.6 provides a full list of these heritage assets which have been ‘scoped out’ of the assessment following this review.

- 12.29 Therefore, changes in the setting of these designated heritage assets within the 5km – 15km study area are unlikely to be significant and have not been considered further within the EIA or reported in this Chapter.

Effects Likely / Significant

- 12.30 Since the EIA Scoping process, an additional receptor has been identified in relation to the effects below.

Harm to the heritage significance (special architectural and historic interest) of listed buildings as a result of change within their setting

- 12.31 Peel Monument, Holcombe Hill has been identified as an additional receptor following consultee comments / responses and is included within the assessment reported in this Chapter.
- 12.32 **Table 12.2** outlines the effects that are considered likely / significant and are reported within this Chapter.

Table 12.2: Effects likely / significant

Likely significant effect	Receptor(s)	Applicable stage(s)*
Harm to the heritage significance (character and appearance) of Conservation Areas as a result of change within their setting	Catley Lane Head Conservation Area Prickshaw and Broadley Fold Conservation Area ⁱⁱ Whitworth Conservation Area	Construction / operation / decommissioning

ⁱⁱ Note that the name of this receptor has been updated since EIA Scoping.

Likely significant effect	Receptor(s)	Applicable stage(s)*
Harm to the heritage significance (special architectural and historic interest) of listed buildings as a result of change within their setting	Smallshaw Farmhouse (Grade II Listed Building 1084252) Prickshaw Cottages (Grade II Listed Building 1346267) Church of St. Bartholomew (Grade II Listed Building 1164533) Church of St. Saviour, Bacup (Grade II Listed Building 1361954) Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit (Grade II Listed Building 1073548) Peel Monument, Holcome Hill (Grade II Listed Building 1163433)	Construction / operation / decommissioning
Harm to the heritage significance (special historic interest) of Registered Parks and Gardens (RP&Gs) as a result of change within their setting.	Whitworth Cemetery (Grade II Listed RP&G 1000475)	Construction / operation / decommissioning
Harm to the heritage significance of non-designated heritage assets as a result of change within their setting.	Rooley Moor Road ⁱⁱⁱ	Construction / operation / decommissioning

* It is noted that construction is to be used as a 'proxy' for decommissioning.

- 12.33 Where more than one receptor has been identified in close proximity, these receptors have been considered as a single asset grouping where appropriate in the 'Assessment of Effects, Secondary Mitigation and Residual Effects' section below. Individual conclusions on the level of effect of each receptor have been reached and are reported in **Table 12.8**.

Assessment Methodology

- 12.34 The methodology utilises established legislation, national policy, guidance and advice documents, as outlined below. This frames the assessment process for construction and operation. The methodology acknowledges how the understanding and appreciation of the heritage values of the heritage assets and their constituent elements can be affected both

ⁱⁱⁱ Note that the assessment of direct impacts from the Project for Assessment on Rooley Moor Road is reported in **Chapter 13: Archaeology**.

directly and indirectly through change to setting; not only visually but also as part of a broader experience.

Legislative Framework, Policy and Guidance

12.35 The following legislation and policy have informed the assessment of effects within this Chapter and are detailed further in **Appendix 12.1**:

- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990;
- National Planning Policy Framework (2024);
- Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document for Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan 2022 to 2039 (adopted March 2024)⁴;
- Rochdale Core Strategy (October 2016)⁵;
- ‘Saved’ policies from Rochdale Unitary Development Plan Review 2001-2016 (June 2006)⁶; and
- Rossendale Local Plan 2019 to 2036 (adopted 15 December 2021)⁷.

12.36 The following guidance has informed the assessment of effects within this Chapter and is detailed further in **Appendix 12.1**:

- Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (online) PPG historic environment;
- English Heritage (2008) Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance⁸;
- Highways England (2020) Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB)⁹;
- Historic England (2015) Good Practice Advice Note 2, Managing Significance in Decision Taking in the Historic Environment¹⁰;
- Historic England (2017) Good Practice Advice Note 3, The Setting of Heritage Assets¹¹;
- Historic England (2019) Advice Note 12, Statements of Heritage Significance¹²;
- Historic England (2026) Delivering Clean Power: Commercial Renewable Energy Development and the Historic Environment²²; and
- Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC), Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) & Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) (2021) Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment¹³.

Defining the Study Area

12.37 Effects arising from the construction and operation of the Electrical Grid Connection have been ‘scoped out’ from the assessment and the technical study areas have therefore been identified in relation to the construction and operational impacts of the wind turbines and other associated infrastructure only within the Main Site (as outlined above).

- 12.38 Study areas have been identified following site visits and inspections of relevant heritage assets and a review of a ZTV as prepared by Stephenson Halliday (**Figure 11.5-11.8**). Work was undertaken by suitably qualified heritage professionals into account:
- The nature and scope of the Project for Assessment;
 - The proximity of heritage assets to the Project for Assessment;
 - The degree of inter-visibility between the heritage assets and the Main Site, taking into consideration, for instance, changes in topography as well as interposing townscape and landscape features and seasonal changes; and
 - The heritage significance of the relevant heritage assets and the contribution made by their setting including any historic or functional relationships.
- 12.39 The following study areas have been used for the assessment:
- A 15km study area from the Main Site has been established as a guide and basis for identifying designated heritage assets for assessment, taking into account the factors identified above; and
 - A 5km study area from the Main Site has been established as a guide and basis for identifying non-designated heritage assets for assessment, taking into account the factors identified above.
- 12.40 It should be noted that at the EIA Scoping stage (see EIA Scoping Report (**Appendix 2.1**)), the study areas were based upon the Turbine Development Zones which at that time represented the potential largest spatial area for wind turbines to be located. A full review of the additional heritage assets within the larger study areas extending from the Main Site has been carried out in advance of the preparation of this ES chapter.
- 12.41 These study areas are considered to be sufficient to enable the identification of heritage assets that have the potential to be subject to likely significant effects and have been agreed upon through consultation (see **Table 12.1**).
- 12.42 Designated heritage assets within the 15km study area have been identified from the following sources:
- The National Heritage List for England (NHLE)¹¹, which identifies designated heritage assets (with the exception of conservation areas); and
 - The websites of local authorities¹² which provide details on the location and extent of conservation areas.
- 12.43 Non-designated heritage assets within the 5km study area have been identified from both RMBC and RBC as well as other surrounding local planning authority areas, as listed in the following sources:
- RMBC website which provides details of locally listed assets¹³;

- RBC website which provides details of a draft local list of non-designated heritage assets¹⁴.
- Bury Council website which provides details of the Council's draft local list¹⁴;
- Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) Historic Environment Record (HER) (which covers the RMBC and Bury area);
- Lancashire County Council HER (which covers the RBC area); and
- West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Service HER (which covers the Calderdale area).

12.44 As outlined above, heritage assets within the 15km and 5km study areas have been subject to initial appraisal to determine those with the potential to experience significant environmental effects. This has led to a refinement of those assets to be assessed, as set out under 'Scope of Assessment' above.

Background Studies to Inform the ES

12.45 **Table 12.3** summarises all studies / surveys / analysis / evaluations undertaken to inform the assessment presented within this Chapter.

Table 12.3: Studies / surveys / evaluations / analysis undertaken to inform the ES

Study / survey / analysis / evaluation	Overview	Date of completion
Initial Heritage Appraisal	Provides initial heritage advice on considerations associated with the development of the Project for Assessment. The appraisal, which was informed by site visits, considers the historic development of the Assessment Boundary, the built heritage baseline within the Assessment Boundary and surrounding 15km and 5km study areas and an initial assessment of those heritage assets whose heritage significance may be affected by change within their setting.	October 2024
Heritage appraisal and assessment of the heritage significance of assets	Heritage appraisal has been ongoing throughout the design development period. The initial appraisal has been reviewed and updated as design development progressed and additional information about the location and height of wind turbines and more detailed information about the locations from which they are likely to be visible, became available. An additional more detailed assessment of the heritage significance of those heritage assets which may be affected by the Project for Assessment has also been prepared.	October 2024 – June 2026

Study / survey / analysis / evaluation	Overview	Date of completion
Heritage Assessment (Appendix 12.1)	A full Heritage Assessment is appended to the ES and has been prepared in light of the statutory duties of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and relevant policies of the NPPF and PPG for the historic environment.	June 2026

Assessment Process

- 12.46 In the absence of specific prescribed criteria for the assessment of impacts on built heritage¹⁵ the methodology for establishing the relative value or importance of heritage assets (termed ‘heritage significance’), the magnitude of impact and the level and significance of effect is drawn from the DMRB¹⁶ and Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment in the UK July 2021¹⁷. This assessment has also been informed by the Historic England guidance referenced above. The assessment has been based on **Chapter 4: Development Specification** and supporting plans (**Figures 4.1 – 4.24**).
- 12.47 This Chapter takes into account the findings of **Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual** and **Chapter 13: Archaeology** to ensure integration of approach and assessment. Analysis has been supported by the findings from site visits which sought to gauge the potential effects of the Project for Assessment on heritage assets, judge their relative heritage significance, including within any grouping and also how sensitive their heritage significance would be to change. This evaluation is set out in the Heritage Assessment (**Appendix 12.1**).
- 12.48 The existing operational Scout Moor Wind Farm (outside control of the Applicant) is due to be decommissioned in 2033. Therefore, in line with NatureScot’s Pre-application Guidance for Onshore Wind Farms¹⁵, the assessment has considered the effects arising from the following two different baseline scenarios:
- ‘Existing Baseline Scenario’ – whereby it is assumed that the current baseline includes the existing operational Scout Moor Wind Farm as a baseline feature in the landscape and views; and
 - ‘Restored Baseline Scenario’ – whereby it is assumed that the existing operational Scout Moor Wind Farm is decommissioned (July 2033) and the site restored and therefore is no longer present in the landscape or in views.
- 12.49 The assessment reported in this Chapter is supported and informed by a series of photomontages and wirelines from viewpoint locations. Visualisations from each viewpoint have been prepared by Stephenson Halliday in accordance with Nature Scot guidance Visual Representation of Windfarms: Version 2.2¹⁶. The baseline panorama and matching wireline show the operational Scout Moor Wind Farm turbines in the baseline photograph and the matched wireline. The matched wireline distinguishes between the wind turbines within the operational Scout Moor Wind Farm and those of the Project for Assessment. The ground level infrastructure has been included on visualisations within a 5km radius where it would be noticeable, as beyond that distance the impacts of that aspect of the Project for Assessment are unlikely to be significant. The cultural heritage and landscape visuals are

provided as part of **Visualisations**. Additional wirelines and reference photography as requested by statutory consultees are presented in **Appendix 12.7**.

Reporting of the Environmental Effect and Significance Criteria

- 12.50 The assessment of likely significant environmental effects as a result of the Project for Assessment has taken into account the construction, operational and decommissioning stages. The following sections define the approach adopted within the assessment for the determination of heritage significance (sensitivity), magnitude of change, the level of effect and significance.
- 12.51 To achieve consistency in reporting across the ES, the ES terminology has been adopted (in '**bold**') with the equivalent DMRB terminology provided for reference in **Tables 12.4 – 12.7**.

Determining Heritage Significance (Sensitivity) of Receptor

- 12.52 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of affected receptors has been considered on a scale of **high, medium, low** or **negligible**.
- 12.53 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of the heritage assets (receptors) has been defined on the basis of **Table 12.4**, which has been informed by the DMRB and a clear understanding and appreciation of heritage significance as set out in the Heritage Assessment (**Appendix 12.1**), which has been informed by the staged approach to assessment set out in Historic England's Good Practice Advice (GPA) in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (Second Edition) (2017) and undertaken with in accordance with other relevant Historic England guidance and informed by a site visit, research and professional judgement.
- 12.54 The ES terminology used in **Table 12.4** is consistent with the terminology used within the DMRB, though the latter has a five-point scale with the additional category of 'very high.' As there are no assets within the 'very high' category (e.g. World Heritage Sites), this category has been omitted from the criteria set out.

Table 12.4: Determining the heritage significance (sensitivity) of the receptor

Heritage Significance (sensitivity)	DMRB definition	Asset type
High	High importance and rarity, national scale, and limited potential for substitution	Scheduled monuments with standing remains Registered Battlefields Grade I and II* listed buildings Other listed buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical association not adequately reflected in the listing grade Grade I and II* RP&G Conservation Areas containing very important buildings
Medium	Medium or high importance and	Grade II listed buildings

Heritage Significance (sensitivity)	DMRB definition	Asset type
	rarity, regional scale, limited potential for substitution	Historic (unlisted) buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical association Grade II RP&G Conservation Areas containing important buildings Historic townscape or built-up areas with historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings (e.g. including street furniture and other structures)
Low	Low or medium importance and rarity, local scale.	' <i>Locally listed</i> ' buildings and landscapes Historic (unlisted) buildings of modest quality in their fabric or historical association Historic townscape or built-up areas of limited historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings (e.g. including street furniture and other structures)
Negligible	Very low importance and rarity, local scale.	Assets of no architectural or historic note; buildings of an intrusive character

Determining the Magnitude of Change

- 12.55 The magnitude of change has been considered as the change experienced from the baseline conditions and has been considered on a scale of **large**, **medium**, **small** or **negligible**.
- 12.56 As noted above, two baseline scenarios have been considered – the Existing Baseline Scenario and the Restored Baseline Scenario.
- 12.57 The magnitude of change to heritage assets has been assessed using the criteria in **Table 12.5**, which draws upon Table 3.4N of the DMRB.

Table 12.5: Magnitude of change to heritage assets

Magnitude of change (ES / DMRB Terminology)	DMRB definition	Application of definition to built heritage
Large / Major	<i>Adverse</i> – loss of resource and / or quality and integrity of resource; severe damage to key characteristics, features or elements. <i>Beneficial</i> – large scale or major improvement of resource quality; extensive restoration; major improvement of attribute quality	Change to key elements of the heritage asset, such that the asset is totally altered and much of its heritage significance is lost or enhanced. Substantial change within the setting of a heritage asset leading to considerable loss or enhancement of heritage significance of the asset.

Magnitude of change (ES / DMRB Terminology)	DMRB definition	Application of definition to built heritage
Medium / Moderate	<i>Adverse</i> – loss of resource but not adversely affecting the integrity; partial loss of / damage to key characteristics, features or elements. <i>Beneficial</i> – benefit to, or addition of, key characteristics, features or elements; improvement of attribute quality.	Change to many key elements of the heritage asset, such that the asset is clearly modified and there is some loss or enhancement of heritage significance. Change within the setting of a heritage asset leading to some loss or enhancement of heritage significance of the asset.
Small / Minor	<i>Adverse</i> – some measurable change in attributes, quality or vulnerability; minor loss of, or alteration to, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements. <i>Beneficial</i> – minor benefit to, or addition of, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements; some beneficial impact on attribute or a reduced risk of negative impact occurring.	Changes to key elements of the heritage asset, such that the asset is slightly altered and there is some loss or enhancement of heritage significance. Change within the setting of a heritage asset leading to a slight loss or enhancement of heritage significance of the asset.
Negligible / Negligible	<i>Adverse</i> – very minor loss or detrimental alteration to one or more characteristics, features or elements. <i>Beneficial</i> – very minor benefit to or positive addition of one or more characteristics, features or elements.	Slight changes to elements of a heritage asset or within its setting that hardly affect the heritage significance of the asset.

Determining the Level of Effect

- 12.58 The level of effect has been informed by the magnitude of change due to the Project for Assessment and the evaluation of the heritage significance (sensitivity) of the affected receptor. The level of effect has been determined using professional judgement and **Table 12.6** has been a tool which has assisted with this process.
- 12.59 The determination of the level of effect has also been informed by the Significance Matrix at Table 3.8.1 in the DMRB. The DMRB terminology is provided in brackets after the ES terminology.
- 12.60 Whilst **Table 12.6** provides ranges, the level of effect is confirmed as a single level and not a range, informed by professional judgement, where possible.

Table 12.6: Matrix to support determining the level of effect

Magnitude of change	Heritage significance (Sensitivity)			
	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Large (Major)	Major (Large or very large)	Moderate to major (Moderate or large)	Minor to moderate (Slight to moderate)	Negligible (Slight)
Medium (Moderate)	Moderate to major (Moderate or large)	Moderate (Moderate)	Minor (Slight)	Negligible (Neutral or slight)
Small (Minor)	Minor to moderate (Slight or moderate)	Minor (Slight)	Negligible to minor (Neutral or slight)	Negligible (Neutral or slight)
Negligible (Negligible)	Negligible (Slight)	Negligible (Neutral or slight)	Negligible (Neutral or slight)	Negligible (Neutral)

- 12.61 The terms outlined in **Table 12.7** have been used to define the level of the effects identified and these can be ‘beneficial’ or ‘adverse.’ The standardised level of effect criteria are not an exact equivalence with the DMRB five-point significance categories. However, professional judgement has been used in determining the category of level of effect for each asset.

Table 12.7: Level of effect categories and definitions

Level of Effect (ES / DMRB terminology)	DMRB definition	ES Definition
Major / Very Large	Effects at this level are material in the decision-making process	Where the Project for Assessment is likely to cause a considerable change from the baseline conditions and the receptor has limited adaptability, tolerance or recoverability or is of the highest sensitivity
Major / Large	Effects at this level are likely to be material in the decision-making	
Moderate / Moderate	Effects at this level can be considered to be material decision-making factors	Where the Project for Assessment is likely to cause either a considerable change from the baseline conditions at a receptor which has a degree of adaptability, tolerance or recoverability or a less than considerable change at a receptor that has limited adaptability, tolerance or recoverability

Level of Effect (ES / DMRB terminology)	DMRB definition	ES Definition
Minor / Slight	Effects at this level are not material in the decision-making process.	Where the Project for Assessment is likely to cause a small, but noticeable change from the baseline conditions on a receptor which has limited adaptability, tolerance or recoverability or is of the highest sensitivity; or where the Project for Assessment is likely to cause a considerable change from the baseline conditions at a receptor which can adapt, is tolerant of the change and / or can recover from the change
Negligible / Neutral	No effects or those that are beneath levels of perception, within normal bounds of variation or within the margin of forecasting error.	Where the Project for Assessment is unlikely to cause a noticeable change at a receptor, despite its level of sensitivity or there is a considerable change at a receptor which is not considered sensitive to a change

- 12.62 The duration of the effect has been assessed as either ‘short-term’, ‘medium-term’ or ‘long-term’. Short-term is considered to be up to 2 years, medium-term is considered to be between 2 and 10 years and long-term is considered to be greater than 10 years.

Determining Significance

- 12.63 For each effect, a statement has been made as to whether the level of effect is ‘**Significant**’ or ‘**Not Significant**’. This determination has been based on professional judgement and / or relevant guidance / legislation, where applicable. For the avoidance of doubt, when referring to the significance of heritage assets the term ‘heritage significance’ has been used.
- 12.64 The DMRB LA 106⁶ states that the effect on the cultural heritage resource is not significant when the impact does not substantially diminish or enhance the heritage interest of the cultural heritage resource. This has been applied, as a guide, informed by professional judgement.
- 12.65 Significance of effect has only been concluded for residual effects (i.e. following the identification of any secondary mitigation).

Baseline Conditions

History and Development

- 12.66 The Main Site was historically used for sandstone quarrying and coal mining. Rooley Moor Road, first referred to in Court Record documents dating from 1729, bisects the Main Site. A single property ‘Rooley House’, later known as the Moor Cock Inn, was located at a junction of the Rooley Moor Road and a second route running further to the south-west. Hennet’s Plan of 1828² is the first plan to mark industrial activity within the Main Site, marking a colliery on Rooley Moor at the southern end of the Main Site. By the mid-19th century, the

First Edition OS plan (**Figure 12.1**) shows a number of small collieries or coal pits at the southern end of the Main Site and a large number of collieries across the Main Site. This industry expanded rapidly, as shown on the Second Edition and 1913 Editions of the OS plan (**Figures 12.2 and 12.3**), with the individual quarries connected by tramways to aid the movement of stone from the moor.

- 12.67 The quarrying industry declined during the First World War, with many of the tramway tracks lifted during the 1920s. Today many of the routes of the former tramways remain as embankments, many of which have become public footpaths, and there are surviving spoil heaps and other features from the quarrying and mining activity. Change has been ongoing during the later 20th and early 21st centuries. The Whitworth Quarry complex to the east of the Main Site continues to be excavated today, whilst Cragg Quarry and the northern part of Lee Quarry to the north of the Main Site have been altered to accommodate mountain biking trails. The steep sided valleys of the Rivers Spodden and Irwell have resulted in settlement being focussed within the flat valley bottoms, where flat land was available and water power from the streams and reservoirs created at the edge of the moor could be used to power factories. Over time, the valley bottom settlements have expanded resulting in long ribbons of settlement, with little separation between settlements.

Heritage Context

- 12.68 The north-western part of the Catley Lane Head Conservation Area falls within the southern-most part of the Main Site. There are no other designated heritage assets located within the Main Site.
- 12.69 There are a large number of other designated heritage assets within the surrounding 15km study area, these comprise:
- 91 Conservation Areas;
 - 46 Scheduled Monuments;
 - 2,716 Listed Buildings (comprising 22 Grade I Listed Buildings, 129 Grade II* Listed Buildings, and 2,565 Grade II Listed Buildings); and
 - 22 RP&Gs.
- 12.70 The Rooley Moor Road which runs through the Assessment Boundary has been identified as a non-designated heritage asset.
- 12.71 In addition, there are a large number of other non-designated heritage assets located within the 5km study area, these include a mixture of residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural buildings as well as archaeological sites.
- 12.72 A summary of the baseline information on the heritage assets is provided below. Further baseline information on the heritage assets within the Assessment Boundary and in the surrounding study area (specifically where such assets are 'scoped in' to the assessment) is provided in the Heritage Assessment (**Appendix 12.1**). The Heritage Assessment also includes detailed consideration of the contribution that setting makes to the heritage significance of each of the assets.

Catley Lane Head Conservation Area (CLCHA)

- 12.73 CLCHA is of heritage significance as an example of a Pennine settlement which retains much of its traditional vernacular architecture which is reflective of the historic industries located within the vicinity of the hamlet. The situation of the hamlet in relation to the historic Rooley Moor Road, an important communication route over Rooley Moor also contributes to its significance, enabling an understanding of positioning of the settlement in relation to this long-distance routeway across the moor.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.74 The CLCHA is experienced as a rural hamlet with dispersed farmsteads and short rows of terraced housing set in relation to the course of Rooley Moor Road, which has been modernised as it runs through the hamlet. The hamlet is set within a wider post-industrial moorland landscape, including a number of former mill ponds and a large area of former quarrying and mining to the immediate north of the hamlet.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.75 The Main Site contributes to the significance of the CLCHA due to the manner in which it partially enables understanding of the position of the settlement in relation to the historic communication routes (Rooley Moor Road) and industrial activities which caused the village to come into existence.

Prickshaw and Broadley Fold Conservation Area (P&BFCA)

- 12.76 The Prickshaw & Broadley Fold Conservation Area (P&BFCA) is of heritage significance as a rural, vernacular, historic Pennine settlement and textile community. The hamlet is focussed on the junction of Knack Lane and Prickshaw Lane. It comprises a small number of terraced stone built buildings, dating from the late 18th and early 19th centuries, formerly mainly used as living/work spaces for the domestic textile industry, the exception being the former Star Inn.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.77 The P&BLCA is experienced as a rural settlement on the edge of a large conurbation. It is set within a surrounding rural landscape, albeit one that has been influenced and shaped by historic industrial activities, evidence of which remains within the immediate context in which the asset is appreciated. The surroundings and setting of the hamlet have also been influenced by modern changes, including the construction of a high voltage pylon route to the north of the hamlet, distant views of the wind turbines of Crook Hill Windfarm, situated to the north-east on the opposite side of the Spodden Valley, and the notable 20th century expansion of the settlement of Wallbrook /Whitworth, with residential development now extending to within c.350m of the conservation area.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.78 The Main Site contributes to the significance of P&BFCA due to the manner in which it forms part of the wider surrounding moorland, which over time, has been exploited for both agricultural and industrial purposes connected with the hamlet. The Main Site also includes the strategic route of Rooley Moor Road which provided an important transport link between the settlements to the north of the moors and Rochdale to the south, and which would have encouraged the development of settlement and industrial activities at Prickshaw and Broadley Fold.

Prickshaw Cottages (Grade II listed building, NHLE ref. 1346267)

- 12.79 Prickshaw Cottages are located within the P&BFCA. Prickshaw Cottages are of heritage significance as textile workers cottages built in the local vernacular using locally sourced building materials. They provide evidence of the social and industrial history and development of the locality.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.80 Prickshaw Cottages are located within the settlement of Prickshaw and Broadley Fold, which is designated as a conservation area. The cottages form part of a small informal grouping of stone built buildings of similar age and form. A grassed area is located to the west of the cottages, and beyond this, to the south-west, are the cottages of Croft Head. A setted trackway runs to the south of the cottages.
- 12.81 The setting of Prickshaw Cottages is in relation to the surrounding hamlet of Prickshaw and Broadley Fold. The hamlet is set within a surrounding rural landscape, albeit one that has been influenced and shaped by historic industrial activities. The surroundings and setting of the cottage and hamlet have also been influenced by modern changes, including the construction of a high voltage pylon route to the north and distant views of the wind turbines of Crook Hill Windfarm, situated to the north-east on the opposite side of the Spodden Valley.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.82 The Main Site contributes to the significance of Prickshaw Cottages due to the manner in which it forms part of the wider surrounding moorland, which over time, has been exploited for both agricultural and industrial purposes connected with Prickshaw Cottages and the hamlet of Prickshaw and Broadley Fold within which it is located. The Main Site also includes the strategic route of Rooley Moor Road which provided an important transport link between the settlements to the north of the moors and Rochdale to the south, and which would have encouraged the development of settlement and industrial activities at Prickshaw and Broadley Fold.

Whitworth Square Conservation Area

- 12.83 The WSCA comprises the historic core of the settlement of Whitworth. The conservation area is of heritage significance as the surviving historic core of a settlement which originated as a dispersed grouping of farmsteads, which was subject to rapid growth during the 19th and 20th century when cotton mills exploited the power of the River Spodden. The conservation area was the home of the 'Whitworth doctors' who were primarily members of the Taylor family and who dispensed advice and treatments from buildings in the hamlet for over 100 years beginning in the mid-18th century, this association also contributes to the heritage significance of the conservation area.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.84 The WSCA is experienced in a semi-rural context with views to the north and east being over open countryside. The narrow roads, and steeply sloping land of the eastern part of the conservation area mean that there are incidental long views to the east and west through the conservation area and towards the moorland beyond. St Bartholomew's Church located at the eastern edge of the conservation area, forms a local landmark, situated at the edge of the village and adjacent to the historic route of Whitworth Rake, which formed a route across the moorland.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.85 The topography and areas of moorland close to Whitworth were important factors in the reasoning for the location and development of the settlement. The Main Site comprises part of the wider moorland setting of the conservation area and makes some contribution to the significance of the WSCA, as part of the wider surrounding moorland landscape to the east and west of Whitworth. The rising land of the Main Site forms a green backdrop which accentuates the status of the tower of the Church of St Bartholomew as a local landmark within the WSCA when approaching from the east on the route of Whitworth Rake.

Smallshaw Farmhouse (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1084252)

- 12.86 Smallshaw Farmhouse is of heritage significance as an example of a 17th century farmhouse built in the local vernacular with locally sourced materials. It provides evidence of the agricultural origins of the locality with the quality of the architectural detailing demonstrating the relative prosperity of the area in the 17th century. The associated farm buildings demonstrate historic agricultural practices.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.87 The farm, which is situated within a slight hollow in the landscape, is primarily experienced within a contained setting as part of a wider surrounding group of agricultural buildings of various periods. Two adjacent agricultural buildings appear stylistically contemporary with the farmhouse. A modern shed is to the north-east. It has functional connections with the surrounding land which it farmed. Smallshaw Farmhouse is situated within a wider broadly rural context, within which traces of the former agricultural and industrial uses of the wider landscape can be seen, including the millponds associated with the former Smallshaw Mill, and the remaining bings and spoil heaps from mining and quarrying activity to the north. The wider rural context includes pylons to the north and wind turbines, visible on the skyline to the east.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.88 The Main Site is located to the north-west of Smallshaw Farmhouse and forms part of the wider, broadly rural, post-industrial surroundings of the asset which include the remaining bings and spoil heaps from mining and quarrying activity on Rooley Moor. The situation of the farmstead in a localised hollow means that the architectural and historic interest of the asset is principally experienced in close proximity. The topography means that the wider surroundings make a limited contribution to the experience of the farmhouse. The sense of wider rural surroundings is primarily attributed to views through the farmyard to the wider rural landscape to the north-east (away from the Main Site), in particular to the higher ground of Rushy Hill. The Main Site makes a limited contribution to the significance of the asset as part of the wider surrounding post-industrial, rural surroundings of the farmhouse.

Church of St Bartholomew (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1164533)

- 12.89 The Church of St Bartholomew is of heritage significance as it provides evidence of the growing population of Whitworth in the 19th century and the importance of religion and particularly church attendance in society at the time. It also shows changing architectural styles and tastes although this is somewhat diminished by the fire damage and smaller scale re-building of the church.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.90 St Bartholomew's Church is located at the eastern edge of Whitworth, situated above the historic core and later modern settlement of Whitworth. The church's location at the edge

of the village, and adjacent to the moorland and the historic route of Whitworth Rake is likely to have been intentionally chosen so that the church could act as a local landmark, including for those travelling across the moorland. From locations further to the east, on Whitworth Rake and the moorland, the church's tower is visible against a backdrop of the rising land on the opposite side of the Spodden Valley, which comprises agricultural fields with moorland beyond (Viewpoint CH03 in Visualisations). Some of the wind turbines of the existing Scout Moor Wind Farm can be seen on the skyline. This view makes some contribution to the significance of the church, enabling understanding of its intentional design and location to act as a local landmark. The view also makes a contribution to the significance of the WSCA allowing understanding of how the dispersed group of farmsteads, which were the origin of the settlement, gradually extended both to the west in the valley bottom as an industrial settlement, and eastwards towards the church and graveyard.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.91 The topography and areas of moorland close to Whitworth were important factors in the reasoning for the location and development of the settlement. The Main Site comprises part of the wider moorland surroundings of St Bartholomew's Church. The rising land of the Main Site forms a green backdrop which accentuates the status of the church tower as a local landmark when approaching Whitworth from the east on the route of Whitworth Rake.

Church of St Saviour, Bacup (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1361954)

- 12.92 The Church of St Saviour is of heritage significance as an example of the work of an architect (Edward Wyndham Tarn) who focussed on Lancashire and Yorkshire for much of his career, and who was elected as a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1855. It was built in a gothic style of locally sourced stone. It provides evidence of the expanding population of the area, driven by its growing industrialisation, and the importance of ensuring there were sufficient churches to accommodate the growing congregations. The church is now vacant and no longer in use for worship.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.93 The church is located within a churchyard which is defined to the north, along the edge of New Line Road, by a sandstone wall which includes a gate arch that is separately grade II listed. To the east is the associated vicarage, also separately listed at grade II. The churchyard contains many mature trees which heavily screen views of the church from the north-west, west and south. Stubblee Park, consisting of tennis courts, a car park and council offices are to the south. Historically, the church was positioned amidst a wider surrounding industrial landscape including the railway terminus of the Bacup and Facit branchlines including goods sheds and railway sidings. The wider surroundings included mills and terraced housing, with larger villas to the south and south-east. Today, a business park containing a number of large portal framed buildings is located to the north of the church.
- 12.94 Views of both the nave of the church and the spire can be appreciated across a wide area. In most views it is experienced in combination with intervening built form, including traditionally constructed buildings as well as large modern structures, beyond which are areas of open countryside. The road layout and topography mean that views to the church, and particularly its spire, are possible from the A681. These views are transitory, with the spire of the church being periodically visible or screened from view by other buildings when moving south and south-west along Market Street / A681 between 96 Market Street and Avalon House. The tall spire acts as a landmark within the valley, commonly visible above the

height of other buildings and this effect has been accentuated since the demolition of many of the mills and their associated chimneys, which formerly occupied the valley bottom. The church is also visible from New Line.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.95 The Main Site forms part of the wider surroundings of Church of St Saviour, situated on the rising ground to the south-east, beyond the former Lee Quarry (now used in part as a mountain bike trail) which caused notable human-made change to the landscape. The churchyard, which forms the immediate surrounding for the church, is enclosed by mature trees which screen views out to the wider landscape, including screening views to/of the Main Site. The Main Site can however be seen beyond the church's spire in longer distance views, in particular from Market Street, Bacup, A681, as shown in Viewpoint CH06 **(Visualisations)**. The Main Site makes some contribution to the significance of the Church of St Saviour as it forms part of the wider surrounding landscape, with the rising slopes of the moorland visible beyond the built up area of the town, and in combination with the church, in some views.

Church of St John the Evangelist, Facit (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1073548)

- 12.96 The Church of St John the Evangelist is of heritage significance as an example of a High Gothic style church, designed by a regional firm of architects who practised extensively across the north of England. It provides evidence of the expanding population of the area, driven by its growing industrialisation, and the importance of ensuring there were sufficient churches to accommodate the growing congregations.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.97 The church is sited to the east of Market Street and the land slopes steeply upwards from the road behind a stone retaining wall. Historically, the position higher on the slope would have allowed the church tower to be visible over a larger area, and to appear taller than the chimneys of the factories in the valley below. The raised location of the church, and the height of its tower, means that it is visible from an extensive area, including from the west, and in views when moving along Market Street (A671) from the length extending between Whitworth Civic Hall (to the south) and as far north as 37 Market Street (to the north).

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.98 The landmark status of the church's tower is best appreciated from the settlements in the base of the Spodden Valley. From these locations, the land of the Main Site cannot be viewed in conjunction with the church. There are locations on the eastern slopes of the valley where it would be possible to gain incidental views of the church's tower with the land of the Main Site seen beyond. Views out from the more elevated parts of the Main Site over the settlements of Whitworth and Facit, including the church, can also be gained. The Main Site is located to the west of Church of St John the Evangelist, on the rising slopes on the opposite side of the River Spodden valley, and comprises part of the wider surrounding landscape of the Spodden Valley, and makes a limited contribution to its significance.

Peel Monument, Holcombe Hill (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1163433)

- 12.99 Peel Monument is of heritage significance due to its association with Sir Robert Peel, a local man who twice served as Prime Minister and, among other achievements, is responsible for the founding of the police force and the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846. The monument is a distinctive 19th century commemorative monument which forms a conspicuous landmark atop Harcles Hill overlooking Ramsbottom and the Irwell Valley.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.100 Peel Monument is located at the top of Harcles Hill and to the west of the settlements of Holcombe and Ramsbottom. It is surrounded by a plateau of moorland which extends to the north and west and is traversed by public footpaths. The land is steeper to the south and east, where it slopes down into the Irwell Valley. The Peel Monument is a widely visible landmark with a viewshed of over 20 miles across Greater Manchester and Lancashire. The listed building draws considerable significance from its landmark value, as well as the extensive panoramic views available from within its immediate context out towards the Manchester and Salford city skylines, Bury, Winter Hill, the Irwell Valley and the West Pennine Moors. These views comprise both rural and urban areas.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.101 The Main Site is located over 7.5km to the east of the Peel Monument. Views to the east from the monument (Baseline Visualisation 17 in **Visualisations**) include the settlement of Ramsbottom, with the large area of Scout Moor quarry visible beyond. The skyline beyond comprises Whittle Hill and Knowl Moor, which are occupied by the existing Scout Moor Wind Farm. Only small parts of the land of the Main Site are visible where the land rises above the heights of Whittle Hill and Knowl Moor. The land of the Main Site is therefore largely hidden in these long distance panoramic views which can be achieved from Peel Monument. The Main Site makes a negligible contribution to the significance of Peel Monument as a small part of the surrounding rural landscape, which is largely hidden from view by intervening landform.

Whitworth Cemetery Registered Park and Garden (Grade II listed RPG, NLHE ref. 1000475)

- 12.102 Whitworth Cemetery is of heritage significance as a good and little altered example of a late Victorian Cemetery laid out for a burial board, and incorporating three chapels, and a lodge which together with the structural planting of the cemetery, all remain intact. The cemetery's layout, attributed to Thomas Holt, surveyor to the burial board, was designed to exploit views out to the west. The Cemetery has a collection of 19th and early 20th century monuments and small stone markers, and has a functional and visual connection with the adjacent town.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.103 Whitworth Cemetery is located to the north east of Whitworth town centre on ground rising to the south-east, on the east side of the valley of the River Spodden. Ground in the western half of the cemetery rises steeply up to the centre from where the ground rises more gently to the south-east boundary. The cemetery wraps around three chapels which are arranged in a linear grouping at the centre of the cemetery, which is intersected by winding paths.
- 12.104 The layout of the cemetery exploits the sloping site to create both views out from the cemetery and views into the cemetery from the adjacent town. Views out, to the west, from the cemetery have experienced change through the 20th century. Historically the views included industrial features including the chimneys of mills in the valley bottom. Today, views out to the rising land to the west include a small number of buildings, woodland plantations, and areas of agricultural and moorland land which have been modified by quarrying and the creation of the Cowm Reservoir. Some of the turbines of the existing Scout Moor Wind Farm can be picked out on the skyline, with 9 tips visible and 1 turbine visible to hub height.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.105 The Main Site forms part of the wider landscape surroundings, to the west of Whitworth Cemetery. The Main Site is seen as part of the view to the west which has been intentionally exploited in the layout of the cemetery. These views out from the cemetery have undergone gradual change throughout the 20th century, with the establishment, and subsequent removal of factories and their associated chimneys, and with the gradual abandonment of most of the quarrying activity on the western side of the River Spodden Valley. The most recent change in the view has been the introduction of the wind turbines of Scout Moor Wind Farm. The Main Site contributes to the significance of the RPG as part of the wider surrounding landscape, views to which were intentionally exploited in the layout of the cemetery.

Rooley Moor Road

- 12.106 Rooley Moor Road is of heritage significance due to its longevity as a route across the moors, and from its connection with both the local mill industry and the wider international history of the American Civil War and the cotton famine.

Setting (Physical Surroundings and Experience of the Asset)

- 12.107 The non-designated length of Rooley Moor Road runs through open moorland and ends at a tarmacked turning circle within the settlement of Catley Head Lane. The asset is experienced within a rural moorland landscape, which despite its current appearance of being an isolated location, has been significantly shaped by industrial activity, including quarrying, which reused parts of the road in order to transport materials from the hillside to the settlements below. The wider surrounding landscape includes reservoirs, and the existing wind turbines of the operational Scout Moor Wind Farm, which lie to the west of the road.

Contribution made by the Main Site

- 12.108 The Rooley Moor Road runs through the Main Site. The Main Site, which comprises an area of rural moorland landscape, which has been shaped by quarrying and other industrial activities, contributes to the significance of the road, enabling understanding for the reasons for the existence of the route as a way of connecting settlements to the north, with Rochdale. The Main Site also makes some contribution to the significance of the asset as it allows understanding of the vast undertaking of setting the road, and why this was adopted as a project to provide labour for those made redundant during the cotton famine.

Future Baseline

- 12.109 In the absence of the Project for Assessment, it is anticipated that the existing baseline scenario would experience limited change as it is assumed that current land management practices would continue.
- 12.110 There would be a change to the baseline within the area surrounding the Assessment Boundary, in an alternative future scenario where the existing operational Scout Moor Wind Farm is decommissioned and its site restored. The removal of the Scout Moor Wind Farm turbines would mean that these turbines would no longer be visible within the landscape or within the setting of heritage assets.

Primary and Tertiary Mitigation

Construction Stage

12.111 The following primary and tertiary mitigation which has been evaluated as part of the construction stage assessment is outlined below.

- Localised site clearance will be undertaken at the temporary laydown area, construction compound, substation site access tracks / crossings and the wind turbine locations with associated hardstanding (e.g. crane pads) as shown in **Figure 4.2**;
- Internal site track layout has been designed to limit vehicular crossings of Rooley Moor Road as a non-designated heritage asset and public route (with a single crossing point proposed as shown in **Figure 4.2**). A layer of terram (or similar) will be laid over the existing road surface to prevent aggregate migration, followed by a geogrid with a layer of crushed stone to create the crossing surface. The historic road will be reinstated to its original form for the operational life of the wind farm, with a maintenance track junction re-graded to match the roads original levels;
- Site restoration following the initial construction works, which will reduce the visibility / extents of temporary infrastructure works;
- Maintaining the temporary construction compound in a tidy and contained condition;
- Removing and restoring all temporary construction materials and areas once work is completed; and
- New signage and interpretation boards will be installed at locations considered to be leisure destinations or landscape / heritage / ecological assets.

Operational Stage

12.112 The following primary and tertiary mitigation which has been evaluated as part of the operational stage assessment is outlined below.

- Adjustments and reduction in numbers of turbines to improve visual composition and minimise inconsistent turbine spacing, such as, relatively large gaps, outliers or excessive overlapping turbines to achieve a relatively balanced array from most views; and
- Location of substation compound on the edge of the moorland where mitigation planting would be more in keeping with local landscape features, in order to mitigate some of the impact of this feature.

Assessment of Effects, Secondary Mitigation and Residual Effects

Construction Stage

12.113 The construction period would be 24 months and would be phased. The construction activity across the Main Site would include the creation of access tracks, turbine foundations and hardstanding for erection of turbines, installation of electrical infrastructure, construction compound, substation, as well as vehicle movements. These indirect effects would be very different in nature to those experienced once the Project for Assessment was complete.

12.114 The erection of the proposed wind turbines involving the use of large cranes would also be a component of the construction stage. Compared with the ground-level construction activities, the influence of this activity would affect a wider range of receptors, similar to those during the operational stage. These construction effects would occur for the same receptors as reported in the operational stage and therefore are not repeated here. At no point during the construction stage would the temporary indirect effects arising from the use of large cranes, or the presence of partially constructed turbines, result in a greater level of effect than those effects occurring during the operational stage.

12.115 The following assessment focuses on the ground-level construction effects.

Harm to the heritage significance (character and appearance) of Conservation Areas as a result of change within their setting; and

Harm to the heritage significance (special architectural and historic interest) of Listed Buildings as a result of change within their setting.

Catley Lane Head Conservation Area (CLCHA)

12.116 Ground-level construction activities would be partially visible in proximity to CLHCA and would introduce construction activity to the wider rural surroundings of the CLCHA. The construction activity would be visible beyond the existing high voltage powerline and its pylon towers, adding to a part of the surroundings of the hamlet which has already been influenced and affected by modern energy infrastructure. There would be no effect upon any of the key views or vistas identified in the CLHCA Conservation Area Appraisal and views from the northern edge of the CLHCA looking south over the hamlet to the open countryside, with the northern suburbs of Rochdale visible beyond, would not be affected.

12.117 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of CLCHA is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, medium-term adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.118 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.119 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.120 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for CLHCA are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

Significance

12.121 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Prickshaw and Broadley Fold Conservation Area (P&BFCA)

and

Prickshaw Cottages (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1346267)

12.122 Ground-level construction activities would be partially visible in proximity to P&BFCA, and would introduce construction activity to the surrounding moorland landscape to the north

west of P&BFCA, which would be visible beyond an existing high power pylon line which runs in an approximately east-west direction to the north of the hamlet.

- 12.123 Construction activity would be visible in views from the hamlet and in the vicinity of Prickshaw Cottages, and in slightly longer distance incidental views towards the hamlet from the local surroundings, in particular from parts of the nearby network of footpaths and bridleways to the south. The detail of the ground-level construction activities would not be clearly discernible in these views given the separation distance, but the activities would be perceptible including vehicle movements, gradual assembly of the wind turbines, and works at the base of turbines and construction compound. The construction activity would appear on the skyline beyond the hamlet, including Prickshaw Cottages, visible on the more elevated land of the moorland.
- 12.124 This would change the experience of the conservation area, and its broadly rural surroundings, which have already been influenced by both historic industrial and mining / quarrying activities and by modern changes within the landscape, including the insertion of a high power pylon route to the north-west of the village. The ability to understand the reasons for the location of the hamlet in relation to the local topography, historic routeways of Prickshaw Lane and Knacks Lane, and the nearby Rooley Moor Road would be unaffected by the construction stage. It would also remain possible to view the buildings and other architectural features of the conservation area (including the Prickshaw Cottages) and to appreciate their architectural and historic interest as surviving vernacular buildings associated with the rural textile industry of the Pennines.
- 12.125 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of P&BFCA is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary medium-term adverse effect on P&BFCA) which is considered to be moderate.
- 12.126 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Prickshaw Cottages is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, medium-term adverse effect on Prickshaw Cottages, which is considered to be moderate.
- 12.127 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

- 12.128 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

- 12.129 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effect for P&BFCA is the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.
- 12.130 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effect for Prickshaw Cottages (grade II listed building) is the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

Significance

- 12.131 This effect on P&BFCA is considered to be **Not Significant**.
- 12.132 This effect on Prickshaw Cottages is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Whitworth Square Conservation Area

and

Church of St Bartholomew (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1164533)

12.133 Ground-level construction activities are unlikely to be clearly discernible from the majority of Whitworth Square Conservation Area, including from locations within the immediate vicinity of the Church of St Bartholomew. Where there are more open or longer distance views towards the Main Site, construction activities would be partially visible but the detail of the ground-level construction activities would not be clearly discernible given the separation distance. Activities which would be perceptible would include vehicle movements and works at the base of turbines and construction compound. Temporary construction activity would be a noticeable addition in views from locations on or adjacent to Whitworth Rake, to the east of the conservation area, including in views towards the Church of St Bartholomew which forms the primary landmark of the conservation area.

12.134 Construction activity would be partially visible in some views to the north-west from the upper (eastern) part of the conservation area, and glimpsed views would also occur when moving through the conservation area along Whitworth Rake and Taylor Street, although ground-level construction activity would be barely perceptible due to the separation distance.

12.135 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Whitworth Square Conservation Area is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary medium-term adverse effect on Whitworth Square Conservation Area, which is considered to be moderate.

12.136 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of the Church of St. Bartholomew is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary medium-term adverse effect on the Church of St Bartholomew, which is considered to be moderate.

12.137 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.138 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.139 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Whitworth Square Conservation Area are the same as those reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.140 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Church of St Bartholomew (grade II listed building) are the same as those reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

Significance

12.141 This effect on Whitworth Square Conservation Area is considered to be **Not Significant**.

12.142 This effect on Church of St Bartholomew is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Harm to the heritage significance (special architectural and historic interest) of Listed Buildings as a result of change within their setting.

Smallshaw Farmhouse (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1084252)

12.143 The ground-level construction activity would cause a slight change to the wider post-industrial rural surroundings of Smallshaw Farmhouse, introducing construction activity in some longer distance views north-west towards the farmhouse from the south-east. The construction activity would cause some diminution of the appreciation of the rural and relatively isolated location of the farm.

12.144 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Smallshaw Farmhouse is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be negligible. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, medium-term adverse effect which is considered to be negligible.

12.145 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.146 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.147 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Smallshaw Farmhouse (grade II listed building) are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

Significance

12.148 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Church of St Saviour, Bacup (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1361954)

12.149 During the construction stage, ground-level construction activity would be introduced on more elevated land to the south-south-west of the Church of St. Saviour. The church, in particular its roof and spire, are visible intermittently as part of the transitory experience when moving south and south-west along Market Street / A681. Ground-level construction activities, including the movement of plant and machinery, and construction of the substation are unlikely to be clearly discernible in these views, in particular due to mature woodland located in proximity to the church, which would limit views of this ground level activity.

12.150 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Church of St. Saviour, Bacup (grade II listed building) is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, medium-term adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.151 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.152 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.153 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Church of St. Saviour, Bacup (grade II listed building) are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

Significance

12.154 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Church of St John the Evangelist, Facit (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1073548)

12.155 The gothic tower of the Church of St. John the Evangelist forms a local landmark, particularly in views northwards from the Whitworth extent of Market Street / A671. The enclosed nature of the base of the Spodden valley which is emphasised by the dense areas of terraced housing located within the valley bottom, means that the land of the Main Site cannot be seen alongside or viewed in combination with the church tower in views northwards. Ground-level construction activities including the movement of plant and machinery, and construction of the substation would similarly not be visible in conjunction / in the same part of the view as the church tower from the Spodden Valley, where the church, and particularly its tower, was intended to be seen as a local landmark. Therefore, the landmark status of the church tower, in views northwards from Market Street / A671 would remain unaffected.

12.156 Some incidental views from elevated land to the east of the church, such as from Hades Hill and Brown Wardle Hill, would include both the tower of the church and the ground-level construction activity. The detail of the ground-level construction activities would not be clearly discernible given the separation distance, but the activities including vehicle movements and works at the base of turbines and construction compound, would be perceptible. In these incidental views, the ground level construction activities would be seen as part of expansive views over the landscape. The ground level construction activities on higher moorland on the opposite side of the valley, would be seen separately from the church tower, which would be seen as part of the settlement in the valley bottom. Although these incidental views would include both the church tower and some construction activity, they would not affect the ability to understand and appreciate the location and context of the church in relation to the industrial settlements of Whitworth and Facit.

12.157 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit (grade II listed building) is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, medium-term adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.158 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.159 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.160 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

Significance

12.161 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Peel Monument, Holcombe Hill (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1163433)

12.162 The detail of the ground-level construction activities would not be clearly discernible given the distance and separation between the Peel Monument and the Main Site. Construction activity would not affect the prominence or heritage significance of the monument as a local landmark. It would remain possible to view, understand and appreciate the extensive views

out from the monument, including the different components both rural and urban within these extensive views. The heritage significance derived from the monument's association with Sir Robert Peel, a local man who twice served as Prime Minister would also be unaffected.

12.163 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of the Peel Monument (grade II listed building) is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary medium-term adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.164 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.165 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.166 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects on the Peel Monument are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

Significance

12.167 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Harm to the heritage significance (special historic interest) of the/an RP&G as a result of change within their setting

Whitworth Cemetery Registered Park and Garden (Grade II listed RP&G, NLHE ref. 1000475)

12.168 The late Victorian public cemetery was intentionally laid out with the landscape structure and positioning of the three central chapels to exploit views out over the adjacent town and across the Spodden valley to the west. Ground level construction operations would be visible in these views across the valley. Temporary ground level construction activity would be a small but noticeable addition to the views from the cemetery across the valley to the moorland of the Main Site. The introduction of construction activity would change this view, albeit with the ability to understand and appreciate the exploitation of this view within the cemetery's design remaining. The view, whilst remaining legible, would be changed from its current appearance as open moorland to an area with construction activity associated with modern energy infrastructure present.

12.169 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Whitworth Cemetery (grade II listed RPG) is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, medium-term adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.170 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.171 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.172 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Whitworth Cemetery (grade II listed RPG) are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

Significance

12.173 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Harm to the heritage significance of non-designated heritage assets as a result of change within their setting

Rooley Moor Road (NDHA)

12.174 Ground-level construction activities would be visible in close proximity to either side of Rooley Moor Road, adding to surroundings which include the existing turbines of Scout Moor Wind Farm which can currently be observed in views westwards from Rooley Moor Road. The access tracks for the Project for Assessment would cross the Rooley Moor Road at a single point. Construction activity would be visible amidst what currently initially appears to be an isolated and little altered area of rural landscape. However, upon more detailed inspection the level of human activity of the moorland, in particular the large bings and spoil heaps and areas of disturbance resulting from mining and quarrying activities can be observed, revealing an area of landscape which has been subject to notable industrial activity over time.

12.175 Construction activity would influence the experience of moving along the road, through the introduction of new modern features, as well as other non-visual changes, such as the introduction of sound from the movement of the vehicles and other construction activities. The precise nature of the visual effects of ground-level construction activity would alter at different locations along the route, depending upon the localised topography and the nature and locations of construction activities at different phases during the construction programme. Although notable change to the surroundings of the Rooley Moor Road would be introduced during the construction stage, it would remain possible to understand and appreciate the course of the routeway across the moorland, and to view and appreciate the detail and the level of work involved in the creation of the setted surface for the road during the cotton famine. Its rural and isolated qualities would be diminished.

12.176 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Rooley Moor Road (non-designated heritage asset) is considered to be low. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, medium-term adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.177 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.178 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.179 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Rooley Moor Road (non-designated heritage asset) are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

Significance

12.180 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Operational Stage

Harm to the heritage significance (character and appearance) of Conservation Areas as a result of change within their setting; and

Harm to the heritage significance (special architectural and historic interest) of Listed Buildings as a result of change within their setting.

Catley Lane Head Conservation Area (CLHCA)

- 12.181 The Project for Assessment would be located to the north-west of CLHCA, with the closest wind turbine approximately 1.5km to the north-north-west of CLCHA. The Project for Assessment would introduce new modern features into the wider rural surroundings of the CLHCA. Some of the proposed wind turbines would be observed as part of a transitory experience, when moving through the hamlet of Catley Lane Head, which is centred around the meandering course of Rooley Moor Road. The central part of the hamlet has an enclosed character where there would be limited visibility of the proposed wind turbines, in particular during summer months when vegetation is at its most dense and provides greatest level of screening. In contrast, there are more views out to the wider moorland surroundings when looking north from both the northern and southern ends of the CLHCA, where the wind turbines would be visible beyond the hamlet, as part of the wider post-industrial landscape and together with the existing high voltage pylon line which runs to the north of the hamlet.
- 12.182 The blade tip with screening ZTV (shown at Figure 5.1 of the Heritage Assessment (**Appendix 12.1**)) indicates that there would be varied visibility through the CLHCA. Up to three turbine hubs and four blade tips would be visible within the northern part of the CLHCA along Rooley Moor Road. There would be patches of visibility of the Project for Assessment in glimpses to the wider surroundings, filtered between buildings and trees. There would be limited visibility at the junction with Smallshaw Road and the bus turning circle. When moving through the conservation area, 7-23 Smallshaw Road and buildings on the western side of Rooley Moor Road would screen views of the wind turbines of the Project for Assessment. This would mean that from locations in close proximity to the buildings of the conservation area, where their architectural features can best be appreciated, the wind turbines would be screened from view.
- 12.183 Ground truthing has also shown that the blade tip with screening ZTV shows greater levels of visibility of the turbines than would actually occur, in particular when approaching from the south along Rooley Moor Road, due to topographic information used for the creation of the ZTV not taking full account of tall hedgerows and mature tree copses, in this area.
- 12.184 Viewpoint CH05 within the **Visualisations** shows the view from the northern end of the Conservation Area, at the modern bus turning circle looking towards the Project of Assessment; this location, on the edge of the hamlet and closest to the moorland, represents a worst-case scenario in terms of the level of visibility of the proposed wind turbines. From this location, three wind turbine hubs would be visible, and a maximum of two blade tips would also be visible. The wind turbines would be visible in a cluster and observed beyond the existing high voltage powerline and its pylon towers, adding to a part of the surroundings of the hamlet which has already been influenced and affected by modern energy infrastructure. A single turbine tip (Turbine 7) would be seen separately from the main cluster, seen just to the west of Rooley Moor Road from this location.

- 12.185 There would be no effect upon any of the key views or vistas identified in the CLHCA Conservation Area Appraisal and views from the northern edge of the CLHCA looking south over the hamlet to the open countryside, with the northern suburbs of Rochdale visible beyond, would not be affected.
- 12.186 CLHCA is of heritage significance as an example of a little altered Pennine settlement retaining much of its vernacular architecture which is reflective of the historic industries which were located in the vicinity of the hamlet. Up to five blade tips and five turbine hubs would be visible from locations within the CLHCA, they would be seen as a group within the north-western part of the view from the CLHCA and would be observed in conjunction with the towers of the existing overhead powerline. The ability to understand the historic reasons for the development of the settlement in relation to both Rooley Moor Road and the remaining traces of industry (mining, quarrying and mills) would not be affected by the Project of Assessment.
- 12.187 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of CLCHA is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term, adverse effect which is considered to be minor.
- 12.188 The effect on CLHCA in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.
- 12.189 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

- 12.190 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

- 12.191 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for CLHCA are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.
- 12.192 The residual effect on CLHCA in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

Significance

- 12.193 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Prickshaw and Broadley Fold Conservation Area (P&BFCA)

and

Prickshaw Cottages (Grade II listed building, NHLE ref. 1084252)

- 12.194 The Main Site is located circa 200m to the north-west of the conservation area, with the nearest wind turbine of the Project for Assessment located circa 1.4km to the north-west. The Project for Assessment would introduce additional modern energy infrastructure within the wider surrounding moorland landscape to the north-west of P&BFCA, which would be observed beyond an existing high power pylon line which runs in an approximately east-west direction to the north of the hamlet.
- 12.195 The wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would be visible along with the hamlet, including Prickshaw Cottages, in slightly longer distance incidental views towards the hamlet

from the local surroundings, in particular from parts of the nearby network of footpaths and bridleways to the south (such as public rights of way RocCRupp7 & RocCRupp8, which are discussed below). The wind turbines would appear on the skyline beyond the hamlet, including Prickshaw Cottages, visible on the more elevated land of the moorland.

- 12.196 The PBFA Appraisal identifies 12 key views and vistas which contribute to the character and appearance of the conservation area (see Figure 4.6 of the Heritage Assessment, **Appendix 12.1**). Of these views, seven are views into and within the conservation area from along the setted roads. The other views are views out to the wider surrounding landscape. Each of these key views is discussed, as relevant, below.
- 12.197 Key View 3 (Figure 5.2 of the Heritage Assessment, **Appendix 12.1**) to the south-east and Key View 4 to the north-east (Figure 5.3 of the Heritage Assessment, **Appendix 12.1**) do not intersect with the Project for Assessment and will not be affected by it. Key View 6 (Figure 5.4 of the Heritage Assessment, **Appendix 12.1**) similarly is a view on approach to the conservation area. The recent extension of the settlement at Wallbrook means that from the location of Key View 6, modern residential development occupies the foreground, before, as part of the transitory experience of approaching the conservation area, the hamlet of Prickshaw Broadley Fold becomes visible. The turbines (located to the north-west) would not be visible when approaching the conservation area from Key View 6 and would not affect the experience or appreciation of the conservation area when approaching it in this direction.
- 12.198 Key View 7 (Figure 5.5 of the Heritage Assessment, **Appendix 12.1**) is a south-easterly view, taken from the northern end of the hamlet. From this location the situation of the hamlet in relation to the wider topography can be viewed. The turbines (situated to the north-west) would not be visible when approaching the conservation area from this direction and would not affect the experience and appreciation of the conservation area when approaching it in this direction.
- 12.199 Key View 5 is located at the north-eastern edge of the village and comprises two different parts of the view. The first view (Figure 5.6 of the Heritage Assessment, **Appendix 12.1**) is looking south-west into the hamlet when approaching along the setted road. The second part of Key View 5 (Figure 5.7 of the Heritage Assessment, **Appendix 12.1**) looks north along the setted road leaving the village, towards the wider surrounding landscape. When leaving the hamlet to the north along the setted road (Figure 5.7 of the Heritage Assessment, **Appendix 12.1**), a number of modern features are present in the view. The wires of the high voltage pylon route which pass above the road, with pylons located circa 180m to either side of the road. Other modern features include an agricultural building and the modern housing at the edge of Whitworth /Wallbank visible in the distance. A further high voltage pylon is visible on the skyline to the north-east. Existing turbines of Reaps Moss Windfarm are visible on the skyline to the north beyond the new residential development at Wallbank, and existing turbines of the Crook Hill windfarm to the north-east.
- 12.200 The Project for Assessment would not be present in the viewcone of either of the parts of Key View 5, which are focussed on the approach to / exit from the hamlet. The Project for Assessment would be located to the north-west of Key View 5 and would be seen at the periphery of the view when approaching or leaving the hamlet. Figure 5.8 of the Heritage Assessment, **Appendix 12.1**, shows the view looking north-west from the location of Key View 5 looking towards the Project for Assessment (not in the direction of either of the key

views). The Project for Assessment would be visible on the skyline, seen beyond the towers of the high voltage pylons and associated power lines. Eight turbine hubs and two turbine blades would be visible.

- 12.201 Key View 11 from the conservation area appraisal looks north from Croft Head towards the Project for Assessment. From this location, views out across the setted road and the drystone wall to its north extend onto the wider post-industrial moorland landscape, across which the existing high voltage pylon line runs. Wireline / Reference Photograph 2 (**Appendix 12.7**) shows that the Project for Assessment would be visible in this view situated between two overhead pylons and associated powerlines. Due to the effects of distance and perspective, the turbines would, with the exception of Turbine 1, appear of smaller size than the pylons. The Project for Assessment would introduce additional modern energy infrastructure into this view, causing some change to the experience of this part of the conservation area. The historic functional and spatial relationships between the hamlet and the moorland to the north would nonetheless remain legible.
- 12.202 The change to the view north from the location of Key View 10, and to the northwest from Key View 8 would be similar to that experienced at Key View 11. Key View 10 is orientated south-westwards along Prickshaw Lane and is located to the immediate south of a steeper area of slope between the viewpoint and the Project for Assessment, which somewhat restricts views towards the area of the Project for Assessment, meaning the effects would be at a reduced level compared to those experienced at Key View 11. Key View 8 is located within the private gardens of buildings within the hamlet and comprises a wider view out from these gardens over the adjacent moorland, including the Project for Assessment. The high voltage powerline runs across the moorlands, with pylons visible against the skyline. The turbines would be visible within a small part of this extensive view, seen beyond a pylon, and appearing due to the effects of height and perspective to be notably smaller than the closest of the pylons.
- 12.203 Viewpoint CH07 within the **Visualisations** shows the view from a public right of way (RocCRupp7) between Station Road and Higher Dunishbooth. This view is not identified within the conservation area appraisal but was chosen as an example of a slightly longer distance incidental view towards the hamlet. Due to distance and perspective, the majority of the wind turbines would appear of similar height as the existing high power pylon route which runs to the north of the hamlet. T1, T3 and T4, the closest proposed wind turbines to P&BFCA, would be seen as being of greater height than the pylons and power lines. The Project for Assessment would alter the experience of the conservation area when viewing it from a distance, introducing additional modern energy infrastructure, seen beyond and as a backdrop to the buildings of the conservation area.
- 12.204 Viewpoint CH02 within the **Visualisations** is a similar view to Key View 1 as described in the conservation area appraisal, it is taken from a bend in the road circa 37m to the south-east of Key View 2. In the view from Prickshaw Lane, between Station Road and Broadley Fold Cottage (public right of way RocCRupp8) (Viewpoint CH02 within the **Visualisations**), the wind turbines would be seen beyond the eastern part of the hamlet, with eight turbine hubs and one turbine blades visible beyond the eastern end of the buildings of Prickshaw Cottages, along with the existing cables, high voltage powerline pylon towers and smaller wooden pylons. The Project for Assessment would introduce additional modern energy infrastructure to the moorland landscape to the north-west of the hamlet, changing the

current character of its setting and the experience of the conservation area in relation to these surroundings.

- 12.205 The ZTV shows that from within the conservation area, the buildings (Prickshaw Cottages and the buildings to Prickshaw Lane) would screen views of the turbines of the Project for Assessment. This is the case from Key Views 1 & 9 as identified in the conservation area appraisal. This would mean that from locations in close proximity to the buildings of the conservation area, where their architectural features can best be appreciated, the wind turbines would be screened from view. Ground truthing has also shown that the ZTV shows greater levels of visibility of the turbines than would actually occur, in particular when approaching from the west along Knacks Lane (including Key View 12). This is due to the topography information used for the creation of the ZTV not taking full account of the tall hedge rows and sunken roads in this area.
- 12.206 The P&BFCA is of special interest as a rural, vernacular, historic Pennine settlement and textile community. Up to a maximum of 10 turbine hubs would be visible from locations within the P&BFCA, they would be visible as a group to the north-west and would be visible from locations at the edge of the conservation area and in incidental views from footpaths and bridleways in the immediate vicinity. This would change the experience of the conservation area, further eroding its rural isolated character, which has already been affected by the high voltage powerline which runs to the north-west of the village. The ability to understand the reasons for the location of the hamlet in relation to the local topography and the nearby Rooley Moor Road would be unaffected by the Project for Assessment. It would also remain possible to view the buildings and other architectural features of the conservation area (including Prickshaw Cottages) and to appreciate their architectural and historic interest as surviving vernacular buildings associated with the rural textile industry of the Pennines.
- 12.207 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of P&BFCA is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term, adverse effect which is considered to be moderate.
- 12.208 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Prickshaw Cottages is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term adverse effect on Prickshaw Cottages, which is considered to be moderate.
- 12.209 The effect on P&BFCA in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.
- 12.210 The effect on Prickshaw Cottages in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.
- 12.211 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

- 12.212 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

- 12.213 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for P&BFCA are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.214 The residual effect on P&BFCA in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

12.215 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Prickshaw Cottages (grade II listed building) is the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.216 The residual effect on Prickshaw Cottages (grade II listed building) in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

Significance

12.217 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Whitworth Square Conservation Area

and

Church of Bartholomew (Grade II listed building, NHLE ref. 1164533)

12.218 Whitworth Square Conservation Area is of heritage significance as the surviving historic core of the settlement of Whitworth which underwent rapid growth during the Victorian period. From much of the conservation area, including from the core of the conservation area at Whitworth Square, there would be limited views of the Project for Assessment, due to intervening built form and mature trees. The Project for Assessment would not affect the ability to view, understand and appreciate the architectural interest of the conservation area, or its historic interest as the home of the Whitworth Doctors. The wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would be visible in some views to the west and north-west from the upper (eastern) part of the conservation area, and glimpsed views of some of the turbines would also occur when moving through the conservation area along Whitworth Rake and Taylor Street.

12.219 The wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would be at their most visible from locations on or adjacent to Whitworth Rake, to the east of the conservation area, and in views westwards in the vicinity of the Church of St. Bartholomew which forms its primary landmark. Viewpoint CH03 within the **Visualisations** shows the view from this area and shows how the tower of the Church of St. Bartholomew can be seen above the Spodden Valley and the wider settlement of Whitworth. The rising moorland on the western side of the valley, including the Main Site, is visible beyond and as a backdrop to the church tower. This backdrop comprises a rural landscape of open fields with moorland on the upper parts of the slope. Evidence of quarrying can also be observed further to the south-east. The wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would be visible above and beyond the tower of the church, within a separate part of the landscape, on the rising slopes on the opposite side of the Spodden Valley. The wind turbines would change the character of the skyline beyond the church introducing additional modern energy infrastructure to the view and would have some effect upon the landmark status of the church. The movement of the turbine blades would contribute to this effect.

12.220 Although the Project for Assessment would introduce new wind turbines, visible beyond and adjacent to the church in longer distance views, it would remain possible to understand the church tower as a waymarker of the village when moving across the moorland, and as the key landmark building of the conservation area. The historic interest of the church and its

architectural significance as an altered example of a church in the Perpendicular style would also be sustained.

12.221 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Whitworth Square Conservation Area is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term, adverse effect which is considered to be moderate.

12.222 The effect on Whitworth Square Conservation Area in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

12.223 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Church of St. Bartholomew is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term, adverse effect which is considered to be moderate on each of the assets.

12.224 The effect on Church of St. Bartholomew in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

12.225 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.226 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.227 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Whitworth Square Conservation Area are the same as those reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.228 The residual effect on Whitworth Square Conservation Area in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

12.229 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Church of Bartholomew are the same as those reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.230 The residual effect on Church of St. Bartholomew in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

Significance

12.231 This effect on Whitworth Square Conservation Area is considered to be **Not Significant**.

12.232 This effect on Church of St Bartholomew is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Harm to the heritage significance (special architectural and historic interest) of Listed Buildings as a result of change within their setting.

Smallshaw Farmhouse (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1084252)

12.233 The Project for Assessment would be located to the north-west of Smallshaw Farmhouse, with the closest elements located approximately 1.8km to the north-north-west. The situation of Smallshaw Farmhouse within a hollow in the local topography means that it is primarily experienced within a localised enclosed setting in relation to the other associated farm buildings and in relation to the wider hamlet of Catley Lane Head to the west.

- 12.234 The Project for Assessment would introduce new modern features into the wider post-industrial, rural surroundings of Smallshaw Farmhouse, which would be visible beyond the farmhouse in longer distance views, such as from the public footpath (Ref. RocCFp2) to the south-east of the farmhouse.
- 12.235 The Project for Assessment would cause a slight change to the wider post-industrial rural surroundings of Smallshaw Farmhouse, introducing additional modern energy infrastructure in some longer distance views towards the farmhouse from the south. Smallshaw Farmhouse is of architectural and historic interest as an example of a 17th century farmhouse built in the local vernacular with locally sourced materials and retains a number of features characteristic of its 17th century date. The localised topography means that the Project for Assessment would not be visible from locations within its immediate enclosed setting in relation to the other associated farm buildings, from which the architectural interest of the building can be best appreciated. The wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would cause some diminution of the appreciation of the rural and relatively isolated location of the farm.
- 12.236 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Smallshaw Farmhouse is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be negligible. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term, adverse effect which is considered to be negligible.
- 12.237 The effect on Smallshaw Farmhouse in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.
- 12.238 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

- 12.239 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

- 12.240 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Smallshaw Farmhouse are that same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.
- 12.241 The residual effect on Smallshaw Farmhouse in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

Significance

- 12.242 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Church of St. Saviour, Bacup (Grade II listed building, NHLE ref. 1361954)

- 12.243 The Project for Assessment would introduce wind turbines on the more elevated land to the south-south-west of the Church of St. Saviour. The church, in particular its roof and spire, are visible periodically as part of the transitory experience when moving south and south-west along Market Street / A681, between 96 Market Street and Avalon House. The Project for Assessment would introduce wind turbines within these views, which would also be observed intermittently as part of the transitory experience, beyond mill buildings and buildings of the modern industrial park. The wind turbines would be readily distinguishable from the church's spire and clearly understood as modern additions to the landscape. The wind turbines would, as new tall and moving elements within these transitory views, have some effect upon the landmark status of the church, meaning that it would no longer be the only tall element of the skyline, and that it would be observed with wind turbines situated

immediately adjacent within the view. The moving nature of the wind turbines would also contribute to the effect, causing distraction within these transitory views.

12.244 The Project for Assessment would have no effect upon the immediate setting of the church within the enclosed churchyard, nor would it affect views to the church and its tower when moving along New Line Road. The architectural significance of the church as a good example of the Early Gothic style by architect Edward Wyndham would also be sustained. While the Project for Assessment would introduce wind turbines, visible beyond and adjacent to the church in some views when moving along Market Street / A681, it would remain possible to understand the intentional and hierarchical situation of the church on elevated land situated above the industrial activities and railway station at the base of the valley.

12.245 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Church of St. Saviour, Bacup (Grade II listed building) is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.246 The effect on Church of St. Saviour, Bacup (grade II listed building) in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

12.247 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.248 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.249 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Church of St. Saviour, Bacup are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.250 The residual effect on Church of St. Saviour, Bacup (grade II listed building) in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

Significance

12.251 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1073548)

12.252 The Project for Assessment would be located to the west of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, on the rising slopes on the opposite side of the River Spodden valley. The Project for Assessment would introduce wind turbines to the wider landscape surrounding the church.

12.253 The gothic tower of the Church of St. John the Evangelist forms a local landmark, in transitory views along Market Street / A671, from the length extending between Whitworth Civic Hall (to the south) and as far north as 37 Market Street (to the north). The enclosed nature of the base of the Spodden valley which is emphasised by the dense areas of terraced housing located within the valley bottom, means that the land of the Main Site cannot be observed alongside with the church tower. The wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would similarly not be visible in-conjunction / in the same part of the view as the church tower when moving through the Spodden Valley, where the church, and particularly its tower, was intended to be seen as a local landmark. Therefore, the landmark status of the church tower, when moving through the valley would remain unaffected.

12.254 There would also be no effect upon views towards the church from the nearby Whitworth Cemetery which was also constructed during the late Victorian period to cater for the growing population of the industrial towns of the Spodden Valley. Some incidental views from more elevated land to the east of the church, such as from Hades Hill and Brown Wardle Hill, would include both the church's tower and the proposed wind turbines. They would be visible as part of expansive views over the landscape, with the church's tower visible as part of the settlement in the valley bottom and the wind turbines seen within a separate part of the landscape, on the higher moorland on the opposite side of the valley. Wireline / Reference Photograph 3 (**Appendix 12.7**) shows the view from the lane leading north to High Barn, looking over the church to the west, a publicly accessible location lower down the slope, from which it is possible to view both the church tower and parts of the surrounding landscape. The wireline shows how the Project for Assessment would introduce wind turbines within these kinds of incidental longer distance views west over the church tower and valley. The turbines would, as new tall and moving elements within these incidental views, have some effect upon the landmark status of the church, meaning that it would no longer be the primary tall element of the skyline, and that it would be observed with turbines immediately adjacent within the view. Although these incidental views would include both the church tower and the wind turbines of the Project for Assessment, they would not affect the ability to understand and appreciate the location and context of the church in relation to the industrial settlements of Whitworth and Facit and the remaining elements of industry that caused the rapid increase in the area's population during the Victorian period. The architectural interest of the building as an example of a High Gothic Style church designed by architects Medland and Taylor would also be unaffected by the Project for Assessment.

12.255 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit (grade II listed building) is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.256 The effect on Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit (grade II listed building) in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

12.257 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.258 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.259 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.260 The residual effect on Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit (grade II listed building) in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

Significance

12.261 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Peel Monument, Holcombe Hill (Grade II listed building, NLHE ref. 1163433)

- 12.262 The Project for Assessment would be located to the east of the Peel Monument, with the closest turbine located circa 6.3km from the monument. The height of the proposed wind turbines is such that, although the land of the Main Site largely cannot be viewed from the Peel Monument, the proposed wind turbines would be visible, seen beyond the existing turbines of Scout Moor Wind Farm. Visualisation 17 (within the **Visualisations**) shows how the existing Scout Moor Wind Farm turbines would be seen in-conjunction with the wind turbines of the Project for Assessment. The proposed wind turbines would be observed within the same grouping and would not extend the breadth of the turbine group. The south-eastern wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would appear of a similar height to the existing turbines within Scout Moor Wind Farm due to distance and perspective. However, turbines T15 and T13 of the Project for Assessment would appear, in this view, to be of greater height than the existing turbines of Scout Moor Wind Farm.
- 12.263 As a local landmark feature, the Peel Monument can be seen from a number of places across the surrounding area, in particular in views when moving north to south along the Irwell Valley, including from the M66 motorway. The distance between Peel Monument and the Project for Assessment is such that the proposed wind turbines and the monument are visible in different parts of the view, to either side of the valley. The landmark status of the Peel Monument in these views from the surrounding area would not be affected by the Project for Assessment.
- 12.264 The Project for Assessment would cause a slight change to the extensive surroundings of the Peel Monument, by introducing additional wind turbines into the surrounding landscape. The turbines of the Project for Assessment would be visible beyond and in conjunction with the existing turbines of Scout Moor Wind Farm. Their addition to the landscape would not affect the prominence or heritage significance of the monument as a local landmark. It would remain possible to view, understand and appreciate the extensive views out from the monument, including the different components both rural and urban within these extensive views. The historic interest of the monument, due to its association with Sir Robert Peel, a local man who twice served as Prime Minister would also be unaffected.
- 12.265 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of the Peel Monument (grade II listed building) is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term adverse effect which is considered to be minor.
- 12.266 In the Restored Baseline Scenario, the wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would be observed within the same part of the extensive views from the Peel Monument but would be the only features visible on the skyline due to the removal of the turbines of Scout Moor Wind Farm. The wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would occupy a slightly narrower arc of view, and narrower part of the skyline as seen from the Peel Monument, than in the Existing Baseline Scenario. In the Restored Baseline Scenario, the prominence of the Peel Monument, the extensive views out from the monument, and its historic interest would all be unaffected. Therefore, the effect on the Peel Monument in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.
- 12.267 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.268 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.269 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects on the Peel Monument are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.270 The residual effect on Peel Monument in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

Significance

12.271 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Harm to the heritage significance (special historic interest) of RP&G as a result of change within their setting

Whitworth Cemetery RP&G (Grade II listed RP&G, NLHE ref. 1000475)

12.272 The Project for Assessment would be located to the west of the cemetery, with the closest turbine approximately 3km from the centre of the cemetery. The late Victorian public cemetery was intentionally laid out with the landscape structure and positioning of the three central chapels to exploit views out over the adjacent town and across the Spodden valley to the west.

12.273 Viewpoint CH01 within the **Visualisations** shows the view out to the west from outside the central Church of England chapel, which along with the two adjacent chapels, forms the central focal point of the cemetery layout. In the existing baseline scenario, the view out, which is partially screened by mature trees at the edges of the cemetery, includes the rising land on the western side of the River Spodden valley, including the Main Site. Some of the turbine tips and a single turbine hub of the existing turbines of the Scout Moor Wind Farm are visible.

12.274 The Project for Assessment would introduce twelve new wind turbines in views to the north-west from the cemetery. The wind turbines would appear on the skyline, with T1 and T3 positioned just beneath the summit of the moorland. The Project for Assessment would introduce a grouping of new modern turbines distributed across the intentionally exploited view out from the cemetery and change the nature and character of the view, which has been subject to gradual change over time with the rise and fall of both factories in the valley bottom and quarrying activities on the valley slopes. The introduction of new modern energy infrastructure would change this view, but it would nonetheless remain possible to understand, appreciate and experience how the cemetery layout and structural planting was intentionally arranged to exploit this view.

12.275 The experience of the cemetery and its setting varies when moving around its area, with the western and northern parts of the cemetery being more enclosed due to the local topography and mature structural planting, and with the views out to the wider landscape making less contribution to the appearance and experience of these parts of the cemetery. In some parts of the cemetery there would be little visibility of the wind turbines of the Project for Assessment. The historic significance of the collection of 19th and early 20th century monuments within the cemetery would not be affected by the Project for Assessment.

12.276 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Whitworth Cemetery (grade II listed RPG) is considered to be medium. The magnitude of change is considered to be small. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term, adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.277 The effect on Whitworth Cemetery in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

12.278 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.279 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.280 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Whitworth Cemetery are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.281 The residual effect on Whitworth Cemetery in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

Significance

12.282 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Harm to the heritage significance of non-designated heritage assets as a result of change within their setting

Rooley Moor Road (NDHA)

12.283 The Project for Assessment would introduce wind turbines, and associated access tracks and turbine bases to either side of Rooley Moor Road, adding to the existing turbines of Scout Moor Wind Farm which can currently be seen in views westwards from Rooley Moor Road. The access tracks for the Project for Assessment would cross the Rooley Moor Road at a single point. A substation, with a control building, would be constructed within the northern part of the Main Site. The turbines of the Project for Assessment would be seen amidst what currently initially appears to be an isolated and little altered area of rural landscape. However, upon more detailed inspection the level of human activity of the moorland, in particular the large bings and spoil heaps and areas of disturbance resulting from mining and quarrying activities can be seen, revealing an area of landscape which has been subject to notable industrial activity over time.

12.284 Viewpoint CH05 within the **Visualisations** shows the view from Catley Lane Head, at the southern end of the Rooley Moor Road, and shows how from this location, three turbine hubs and a maximum of four turbine tips would be visible, seen in a cluster to the east of the road, with a single turbine tip visible to the west of the road.

12.285 Viewpoint 1 within the **Visualisations** shows a view from further to the north, when moving along the course of the road, and shows how the turbines would appear to either side of Rooley Moor Road.

12.286 The Project for Assessment would be highly visible from the route. It would introduce new modern features within the area of rural moorland to either side of the Rooley Moor Road and would cause some change to the experience of moving along the road, through the

introduction of new modern features, as well as other non-visual changes, such as the introduction of sound from the movement of the turbines. The precise nature of the visual effects of the wind turbines of the Project for Assessment would alter at different locations along the route, depending upon the localised topography and the distance between the closest turbines and the route. Although the Project for Assessment would introduce notable change to the surroundings of the Rooley Moor Road, it would remain possible to understand and appreciate the course of the routeway across the moorland, and to view and appreciate the detail and the level of work involved in the creation of the setted surface for the road during the cotton famine. Its rural and isolated qualities would be somewhat diminished by the introduction of the modern energy infrastructure and the modern access tracks of the Project for Assessment.

12.287 The heritage significance (sensitivity) of Rooley Moor Road is considered to be low. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, long-term, adverse effect which is considered to be minor.

12.288 In the Restored Baseline Scenario, the smaller turbines of the Scout Moor Wind Farm, which are located at a greater distance to the west of Rooley Moor Road than the turbines of the Project for Assessment, would no longer be present. The turbines of the Project for Assessment would nonetheless be seen to either side of Rooley Moor Road, along with associated infrastructure and other landscape changes, such as the creation of levelled areas for turbine bases. The Project for Assessment would also introduce other non-visual changes to the surroundings and experience of Rooley Moor Road, such as the introduction of sound resulting from the movement of the wind turbines. Although there would be less turbines visible to the west of Rooley Moor Road in the Restored Baseline Scenario, it is considered that the overall effect upon the heritage significance of Rooley Moor Road would be the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

12.289 Application of micro-siting allowance does not change the level of effect reported above.

Secondary mitigation or enhancement

12.290 No secondary mitigation or enhancement has been identified.

Residual effect

12.291 In the absence of secondary mitigation, the residual effects for Rooley Moor Road are the same as that reported in the pre-mitigation scenario.

12.292 The residual effect on Rooley Moor Road in the Restored Baseline Scenario is the same as that reported in the Existing Baseline Scenario.

Significance

12.293 This effect is considered to be **Not Significant**.

Limitations and Assumptions

12.294 To ensure transparency within the EIA process, the following limitations and assumptions have been identified:

- The assessment relies on available data, and best endeavours have been made to ensure that the data is accurate and up to date. HER data was gathered from Greater Manchester HER (who cover RMBC and Bury Council), and the Lancashire HER (who

cover RBC) in September 2024 and a refreshed set of data obtained in May 2026. Information from Historic England's National Heritage List for England (NHLE) was downloaded in May 2026. It is assumed that information obtained from, Historic England, the HER database and other sources are accurate;

- The RBC Local List has not been mapped and is only available in list form. The location of locally listed buildings within the study area has therefore been manually added to the HAP;
- There has been no access to the interiors of the relevant listed buildings to assess their significance or to prepare Accurate Visual Representations (AVRs). It is considered that an external inspection is sufficient for the purposes of assessing the impacts of the Project for Assessment on their heritage significance through change in part of the buildings' setting as informed by representative AVRs and professional judgement; and
- The assessment has been informed by the Screening Blade Tip and Hub Height ZTVs as prepared by Stephenson Halliday (**Figures 11.7 and 11.8**). ZTVs show the potential visibility of the proposed wind turbines. Other elements of the Project for Assessment, such as tracks and compounds are not included within the ZTV study. The ZTVs show only theoretical visibility and on the ground sense checking has been carried out to inform the assessment.

Summary

12.295 **Table 12.8** provides a summary of the effects, receptors, residual effects and conclusions of significance considered within the Chapter.

12.296 The table only provides a summary of the residual effects identified within the assessment and details of all primary, secondary and tertiary mitigation measures that have been taken into account are set out in detail within the Chapter and summarised in the Environmental Management Plan included in **Volume 3: Environmental Management Plan**.

Table 12.8: Summary of residual effects

Effect	Receptor	Residual effect	Is the residual effect Significant?
Construction stage			
Harm to the heritage significance (character and appearance) of Conservation Areas as a result of change within their setting	Catley Lane Head Conservation Area	Minor adverse	No
	Prickshaw and Broadley Fold Conservation Area	Moderate adverse	No
	Whitworth Square Conservation Area	Moderate adverse	No
Harm to the heritage significance (special architectural and	Smallshaw Farmhouse (grade II listed building)	Negligible adverse	No

Effect	Receptor	Residual effect	Is the residual effect Significant?
historic interest) of listed buildings as a result of change within their setting	Prickshaw Cottages (grade II listed building)	Moderate adverse	No
	Church of St. Bartholomew (grade II listed building)	Moderate adverse	No
	Church of St. Saviour, Bacup (grade II listed building)	Minor adverse	No
	Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit (grade II listed building)	Minor adverse	No
	Peel Monument, Holcombe Hill (grade II listed building)	Minor adverse	No
Harm to the heritage significance (special historic interest) of RP&G as a result of change within their setting	Whitworth Cemetery (grade II listed RP&G)	Minor adverse	No
Harm to the heritage significance of non-designated heritage assets as a result of change within their setting	Rooley Moor Road	Minor adverse	No
Operational stage			
Harm to the heritage significance (character and appearance) of Conservation Areas as a result of change within their setting	Catley Lane Head Conservation Area	Minor adverse	No
	Prickshaw and Broadley Fold Conservation Area	Moderate adverse	No
	Whitworth Square Conservation Area	Moderate adverse	No
Harm to the heritage significance (special architectural and	Smallshaw Farmhouse (grade II listed building)	Negligible adverse	No

Effect	Receptor	Residual effect	Is the residual effect Significant?
historic interest) of listed buildings as a result of change within their setting	Prickshaw Cottages (grade II listed building)	Moderate adverse	No
	Church of St. Bartholomew (grade II listed building)	Moderate adverse	No
	Church of St. Saviour, Bacup (grade II listed building)	Minor adverse	No
	Church of St. John the Evangelist, Facit (grade II listed building)	Minor adverse	No
	Peel Monument, Holcombe Hill (grade II listed building)	Minor adverse	No
Harm to the heritage significance (special historic interest) of RP&G as a result of change within their setting	Whitworth Cemetery (grade II listed RP&G)	Minor adverse	No
Harm to the heritage significance of non-designated heritage assets as a result of change within their setting	Rooley Moor Road	Minor adverse	No

Table 12.9: Glossary and Acronyms Related to the Heritage Assessment

Term	Definition
Conservation Area	An area of special architectural or historic interest designated under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Designated Heritage Asset	A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.
Existing Baseline Scenario	Baseline scenario whereby it is assumed that the current baseline includes the existing operational Scout Moor Wind Farm as a baseline feature in the landscape and views
Heritage significance	The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
Listed Building	A building of special architectural or historic interest designated under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Main Site	The Assessment Boundary, but without the Electrical Grid Connection.

Term	Definition
Non-Designated Heritage Assets (NDHA)	Non-designated heritage assets are buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of heritage significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets.
Registered Park and Garden	Park or Garden of special historic interest which is included on Historic England's register of Registered Parks and Gardens.
Setting	The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral. <i>(Definition from NPPF, Annex 2: Glossary)</i>

Acronym	Meaning
VR	Accurate Visual Representation
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CLCHA	Catley Lane Head Conservation Area
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
GMAAS	Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service
HER	Historic Environment Record
IHBC	Institute of Historic Building Recording

Term	Definition
IEMA	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
NHLE	National Heritage List for England
P&BFCA	Prickshaw and Broadley Fold Conservation Area
RP&G	Registered Park and Garden
RMBC	Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council
RBC	Rossendale Borough Council
WSCA	Whitworth Square Conservation Area
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility Model

References

- ¹ Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
- ² MCHLG and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (2025) National Planning Policy Framework.
- ³ Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (online) PPG historic environment. Accessed 18/06/2026
- ⁴ Greater Manchester Combined Authority (2024) Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document for Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan 2022 to 2039
- ⁵ Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council (2016) Rochdale Core Strategy.
- ⁶ Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council (2006) Rochdale Unitary Development Plan Review 2001-2016.
- ⁷ Rossendale Borough Council (2021) Rossendale Local Plan 2019 to 2036
- ⁸ English Heritage (2008) Conservation Principles Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment
- ⁹ Highways England (2020) The 'Design Manual for Roads and Bridges' ((LA 104 Environmental Assessment and Monitoring) and (LA 106 Cultural Heritage Assessment)) ('DMRB')
- ¹⁰ Historic England (2015) Historic Environment Good Practice in Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision Taking in the Historic Environment
- ¹¹ Historic England (2017) Historic Environment Good Practice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets
- ¹² Historic England (2019) Advice Note 12, Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets
- ¹³ IEMA, IHBC and ClfA (2021) Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment in the UK
- ¹⁴ Rossendale Borough Council (2025) Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets. Available at: <https://www.rossendale.gov.uk/heritage/heritage-1/5> [Date accessed: April 2025]
- ¹⁵ NatureScot (2024) Pre-application Guidance for Onshore Wind Farms.
- ¹⁶ Scottish Natural Heritage (2017) Visual Representation of Wind Farms Guidance. Version 2. February 2017.