Landscape and Visual Amenity

Background and survey work

We have carried out initial site work to consider the character of the site and the views experienced by people living, working, and travelling through the local area.

The site is not within, or close to, any national landscape designations (National Parks or Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty) or locally designated landscapes.

Results so far

Landform across the site is mostly flat or very gently falling, other than occasional local high points such as land south west of Newton on Trent. Fields are mostly used for arable farming and bounded by hedgerows, interspersed with occasional trees. Pockets of woodland are scattered across the eastern part of the site, whilst the western side is typically more open with little woodland cover. The River Trent flows through the centre of the site and is flanked by public rights of way (PRoW), including the Trent Valley Way on the eastern bank. The PRoW network extends across the wider landscape, including a Sustrans route (NCR 647) running east to west across Fledborough viaduct. Power infrastructure is present across much of the landscape, including multiple lines of pylons which converge at High Marnham. Cottam Power Station is also visible in northerly views.

Several villages, including North Clifton, South Clifton, Ragnall and Fledborough, are located close to the site. A series of individual houses and farmsteads are also located across the landscape. Part of South Clifton is designated as a Conservation Area. The setting of these settlements and views experienced by residents will help inform our ongoing design process.

Next steps

We will continue our analysis of landscape character and visual amenity to further understand the constraints and opportunities present across the site and surrounding area. This will include consideration of existing PRoW, including how their connectivity may be improved and how the design can protect important features and views.

Following refinement of the design we will carry out an assessment of the effects on landscape character and visual amenity. We will seek agreement of the scope of the assessment through consultation with local authorities and present early findings at the next stage of consultation.

