# LAU 46: MYNYDD TWYN-GLAS, MYNYDD MAEN, MYNYDD HENLLYS RIDGE

### **Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development**

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susce	ptibility	Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Mountain plateau			
Landcover	Upland heath/grassland.			
Built environment	No settlement, Pylons along southern ridge.			
Visual susceptibi				
Skylines and settings	Elevated ridge forms distinctive skyline			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	An exposed landscape offering panoramic views to ridge tops and across neighbouring counties and to Bristol Channel.			
Views in/out	Extensive attractive views in and out with some detractive views out to nearby urban edge.			
Typical receptors	Recreational users (open access land and PRoW). Residents in Cwmbran to the east.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Includes part of Upper Race iron ore scours Scheduled Monument to northeast. Entire area covered by SINC.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Intervisibility with Twm-Barlwm Mound SM on hilltop to south			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A strong sense of place, perceived as exposed and tranquil.			

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would only be able to accommodate	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
development of this type in limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with a low tolerance to change of this type.	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

### Wind turbines

- Avoid placing turbines on narrow sections of ridge where they will appear on the skyline.
- Consider opportunities to use existing forestry to partially screen wind development.
- Respect the setting of Twm-Barlwm Mound SM which provides a viewpoint to the south.

### Solar PV

- Consider opportunities to use local topography or existing woodland to screen solar development from wider views.
- Avoid siting within SINCs unless land management can be consistent with and support conservation objectives.
- Respect the setting of Twm-Barlwm Mound SM which provides a viewpoint to the south.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

### **Landscape capacity**

Total area of LAU: 426 Ha.

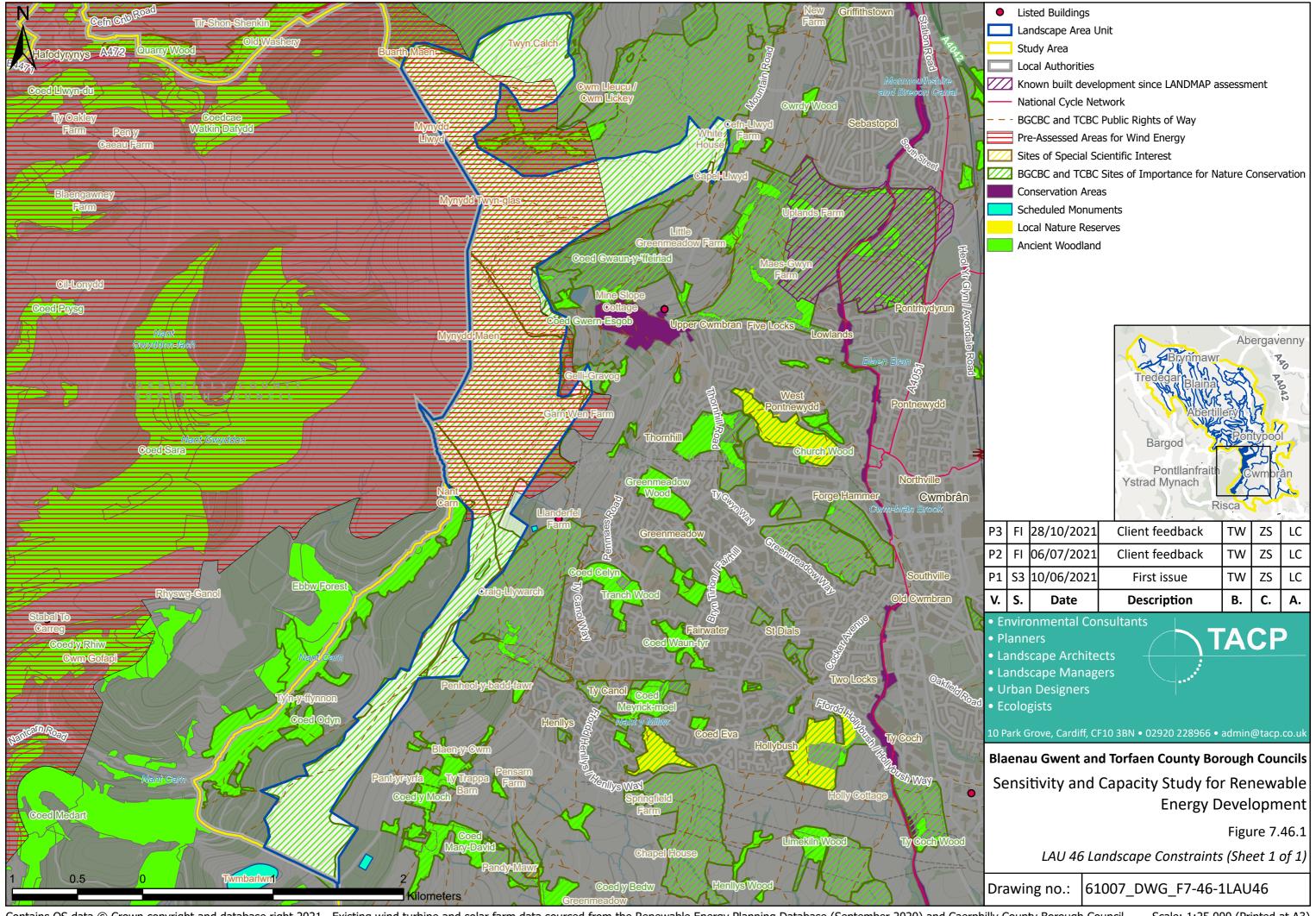
### Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the area. The area has high sensitivity to wind development. Potentially this area could accommodate a single small-scale development, with care taken to avoid cumulative effects due to the high levels of intervisibility with other ridges. The majority of the central part of the area lies within the PAA.

### Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. Small scale solar development could potentially be accommodated, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.46.1



# LAU 47: CWM-Y-GLYN & CWM LLEUCU, TWYN CALCH HILLSIDES

### **Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development**

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susce	Landscape susceptibility		Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Hill/valley sides			
Landcover	Predominantly forestry on steep slopes on northern side (Cwm-Y-Glyn), with open grassland and woodland at base of slopes. Pasture with remnant treed boundaries and woodland to the southern side (Cwm Lleucu).			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small-scale residential. A472 crosses SW-NE along Cwm-y-Glyn valley. Otherwise largely undeveloped.			
Visual susceptibi	lity			
Skylines and settings	Hillside below distinctive ridgeline.			
Movement	Occasional activity			
Visibility, quality of views	Forestry and steep valley sides restrict views in Cwm-Y-Glyn, with wider, sometimes panoramic views from the more open southern side.			
Views in/out	Predominantly detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and the southern fringes of Pontypool, recreational users of occasional PRoW, land workers and road users.			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality, moderate landscape character and integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Scheduled Monument on the Iron Ore Scours at Upper Race to the south, also of Glyn Pits Pump and winding engine on northern slope. Ancient woodland sites throughout area north of A472 road corridor, and another substantial site on southern slope. Listed farm and outbuilding Gellipistyll, in the north adjacent to edge of Pontypool. SINC covers northern slope of hill and sides of Cwm Lleucu to south.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Potential intervisibility from eastern slopes across developed valley floor to southern extent of BBNP.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, perceptions not recorded.			

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
development of this type in in some defined situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
The landscape is assessed as of medium sensitivity with an intermediate threshold of resilience to change of this type without adverse impacts	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
on landscape character.					

This landscape has two distinct areas: the narrow, enclosed, forested valley of Cwm-Y-Glyn to the north and the more open setting of Cwm Lleucu to the south. It is not considered feasible to site any development of this kind north of the A472 corridor. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

### Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to partially screen turbines with local topography or existing woodland.
- Respect the setting of the Upper Race Scheduled Monument.
- Site turbines away from individual residences.
- Avoid siting turbines on northeast slope of hill where they will be widely visible, including from Pontypool and BBNP.

### Solar PV

- Consider using existing forestry and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Respect the setting of the Upper Race Scheduled Monument.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

### **Landscape capacity**

Total area of LAU: 381 Ha.

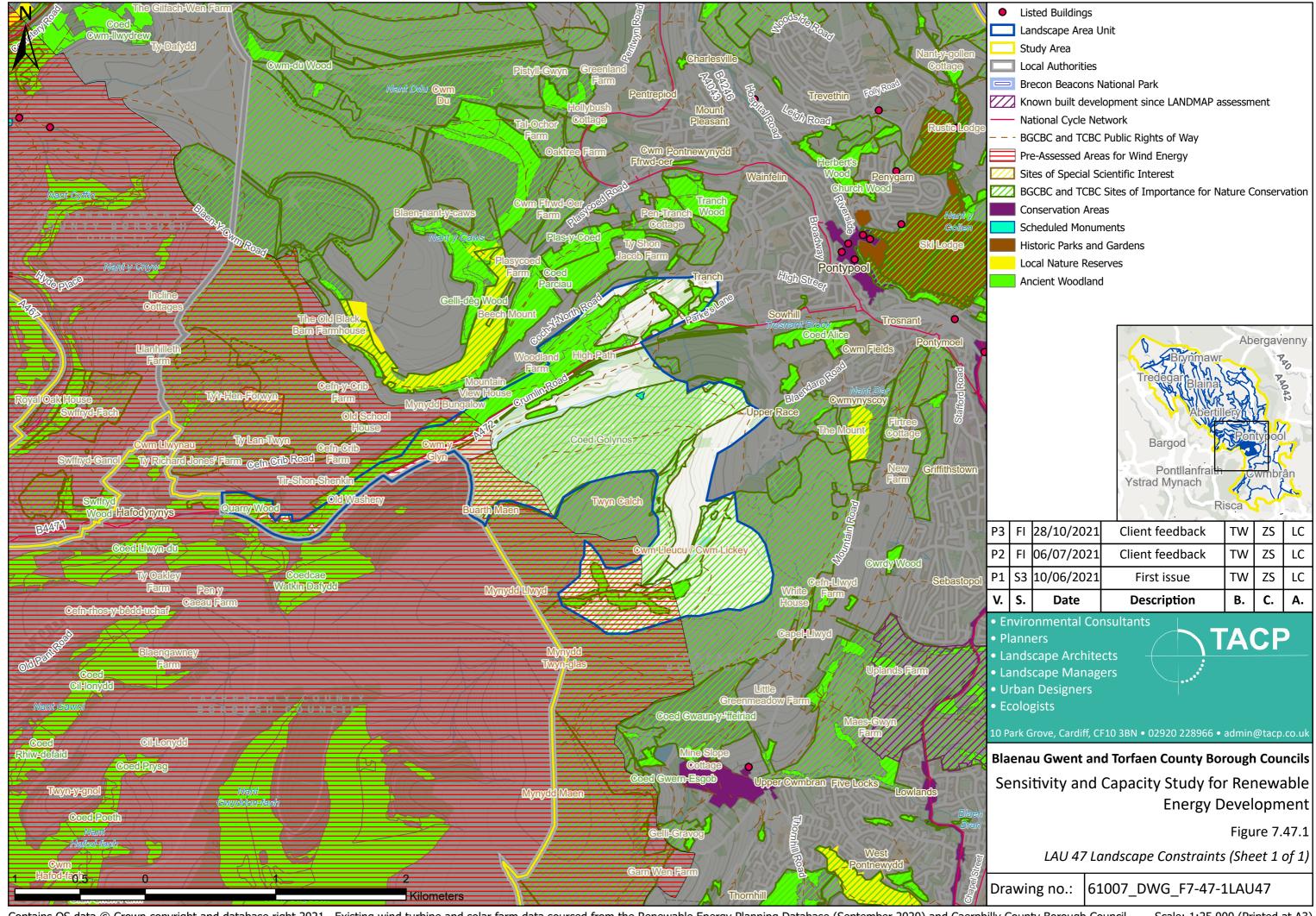
### Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has medium sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual and small-scale wind development in this area, following the guidance above. A small portion of the western part of the area lies within the PAA.

### Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is medium. Should operational constraints allow, there would be potential to site 1-2 medium-large scale solar developments in this area, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.47.1



## **LAU 48: CWMAVON**

### **Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development**

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description				
Landscape susce	ptibility	Low	Med	High	
Scale	Small scale				
Landform	Valley				
Landcover	Mosaic of open grassland on higher slopes and enclosed small-scale fields with scattered woodland including dense woodland blocks in south of area. Amenity lands and cemetery/burial grounds near settlements.				
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small-scale settlements. Cwmavon Conservation Area. A4043 Cwmavon Road runs N-S through valley.				
Visual susceptibi	lity				
Skylines and settings	Enclosed valley floor.				
Movement	Frequent activity.				
Visibility, quality of views	The valley landform contains views within the landscape, and large areas of woodland and treed field boundaries limit many views. Occasional views in from surrounding open elevated ground.				
Views in/out	Attractive views in and out with few detractors.				
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and the southern edge of Blaenavon, northern fringes of Abersychan and Talywain. Recreational users of frequent PRoW, NCN Route 492, land workers and road users.				
Scenic quality and character	Moderate scenic quality and landscape character, high integrity.				

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Northern third of the area lies within Blaenavon WHS, CADW outstanding historical landscape, also lower slopes of Blorenge SSSI. Cwmavon Corridor LNR, follows the route of NCN Route 492 along an old railway line. This is bracketed by ancient woodland sites, of which there are extensive tracts throughout the area, with near total cover around Lasgarn, to the south. This area also includes the Abersychan Railway Scheduled Monument and a listed bridge and cottage. The Cwmavon Conservation Area covers the village in the centre of the valley and includes eight listed buildings. Multiple SINCs on upland areas and covering Lasgam woodland.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	The northern part of the area lies within the Blaenavon WHS, although intervisibility is restricted south of Cwmavon village by the topography as the valley turns towards the southwest. Intervisibility with BBNP unlikely due to intervening ridge.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with a perception of shelter and unity.			

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind		sed Sen	sitivity		
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of a very high sensitivity, the landscape character of the area would only be able to	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
accommodate development of this type in very limited situations.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar		sed Sen	sitivity		
The landscape is assessed as of very high sensitivity with low tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.		Low	Med	High	V High

Development within the Blaenavon WHS should be avoided where possible. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

#### Wind turbines

- Respect the setting of the Blaenavon WHS.
- Consider opportunities to partially screen turbines with local topography or existing woodland and forestry.
- Respect the setting of the Cwmavon Conservation Area and associated listed buildings.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.
- Avoid siting turbines where they may interfere with wildlife using the Cwmavon Corridor LNR.
- Avoid direct impacts on the Blorenge SSSI.

### Solar PV

- Respect the setting of the Blaenavon WHS.
- Consider using existing woodland, forestry and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Respect the setting of the Cwmavon Conservation Area and associated listed buildings.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

### **Landscape capacity**

Total area of LAU: 593 Ha.

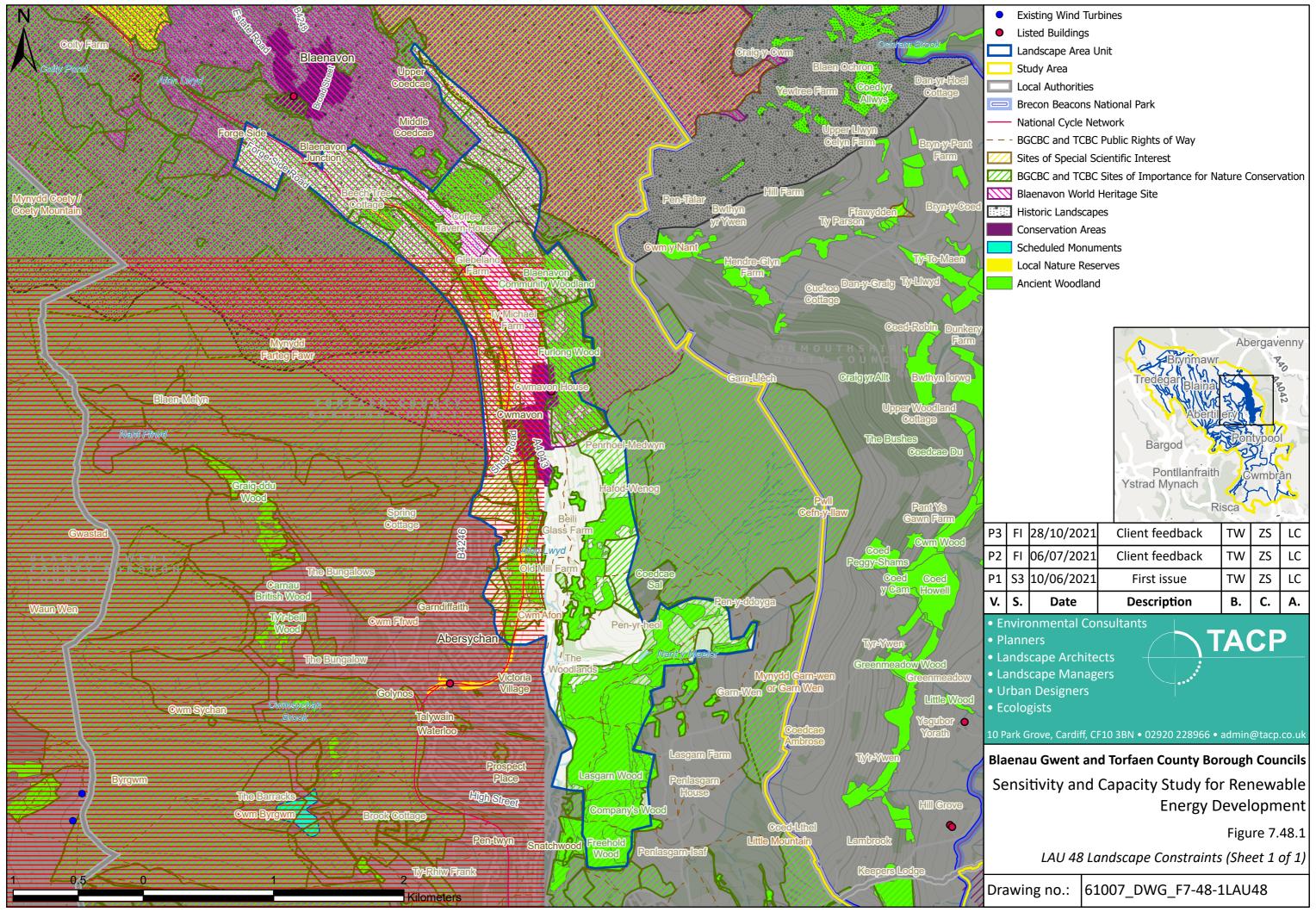
#### Wind turbines

There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual and small-scale wind development in this area, avoiding intervisibility with the WHS and following the guidance above.

#### Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. There may be potential to site 1-2 small scale solar developments in this area, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.48.1



# LAU 49: MYNYDD MAEN, MYNYDD HENLLYS SIDES ABOVE CWMBRAN

### **Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development**

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susce	ptibility	Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Hill/Valley sides			
Landcover	Predominantly small fields with hedge and tree boundaries, deteriorating further south in the area. More open rough pasture and developing scrub at higher elevations. Some large forestry blocks at northern and southern ends, scattered small woodlands.			
Built environment	Scattered farmsteads and small nucleated settlements. Larger development at northern end near A472, including Coleg Gwent and caravan park. Upper Cwmbran Conservation Area between the town and Blaen Bran Reservoir. New housing development to east of area below Monmouth & Brecon Canal. Solar farm to far south.			
Visual susceptibi	lity			
Skylines and settings	Undulating hillside.			
Movement	Frequent activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with extensive views out, visible as backdrop to valley settlement and from elevated ridges to west.			
Views in/out	Attractive views to upland areas and detractive views to urban area.			
Typical receptors	Residents within the area and the western fringes of Cwmbran. Recreational users of frequent PRoW, NCN Route 49, land workers.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, moderate landscape character and high integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Conservation Areas at Upper Cwmbran and covering the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal, both incorporating several listed features. Cairns West of Craig-Y-Dyffryn and Llanderfel Church, both in the south, recorded as Scheduled Monuments. Henllys Bog SSSI, also in the south. 13 Listed farm properties scattered throughout. Cwmynyscoy Quarry LNR to the north outside Cwmynyscoy. Small to medium ancient woodland sites scattered throughout. SINCs in areas north of Upper Cwmbran and to the south of Llanderfel farm, Coed Alice in north.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	None identified.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with no perceptual qualities recorded.			

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
The assessment identifies that the landscape is of very high sensitivity, the strong landscape character of the area would be adversely affected	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
The landscape is assessed as of high sensitivity with low tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.		Low	Med	High	V High

A very large area with a tranquil rural character contrasting with the nearby urban settlement. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

#### Wind turbines

- Consider opportunities to site turbines along the A472 corridor alongside other large scale development.
- Respect the setting of the SM Cairns and Llanderfel Church.
- Respect the setting of the Upper Cwmbran Conservation Area and associated listed buildings.
- Site turbines away from individual residences and settlement edges.

### Solar PV

- Consider using existing woodland, forestry and local topography to screen solar development from wider views.
- Consider opportunities to site solar development within existing field boundaries, or where these can be enhanced as part of the development.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Respect the setting of the SM Cairns and Llanderfel Church.
- Respect the setting of the Upper Cwmbran Conservation Area and associated listed buildings.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

### **Landscape capacity**

Total area of LAU: 1034 Ha.

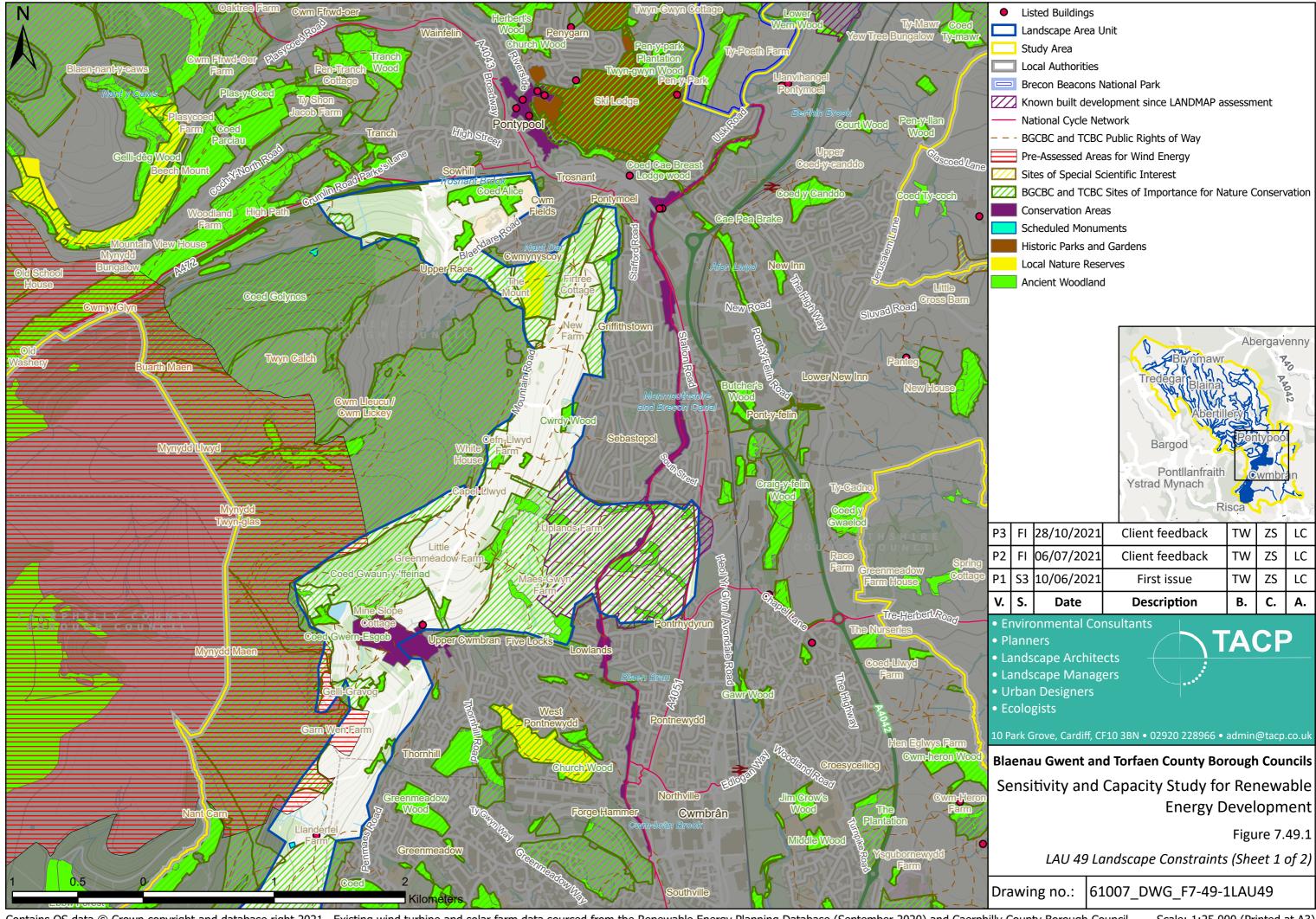
### Wind turbines

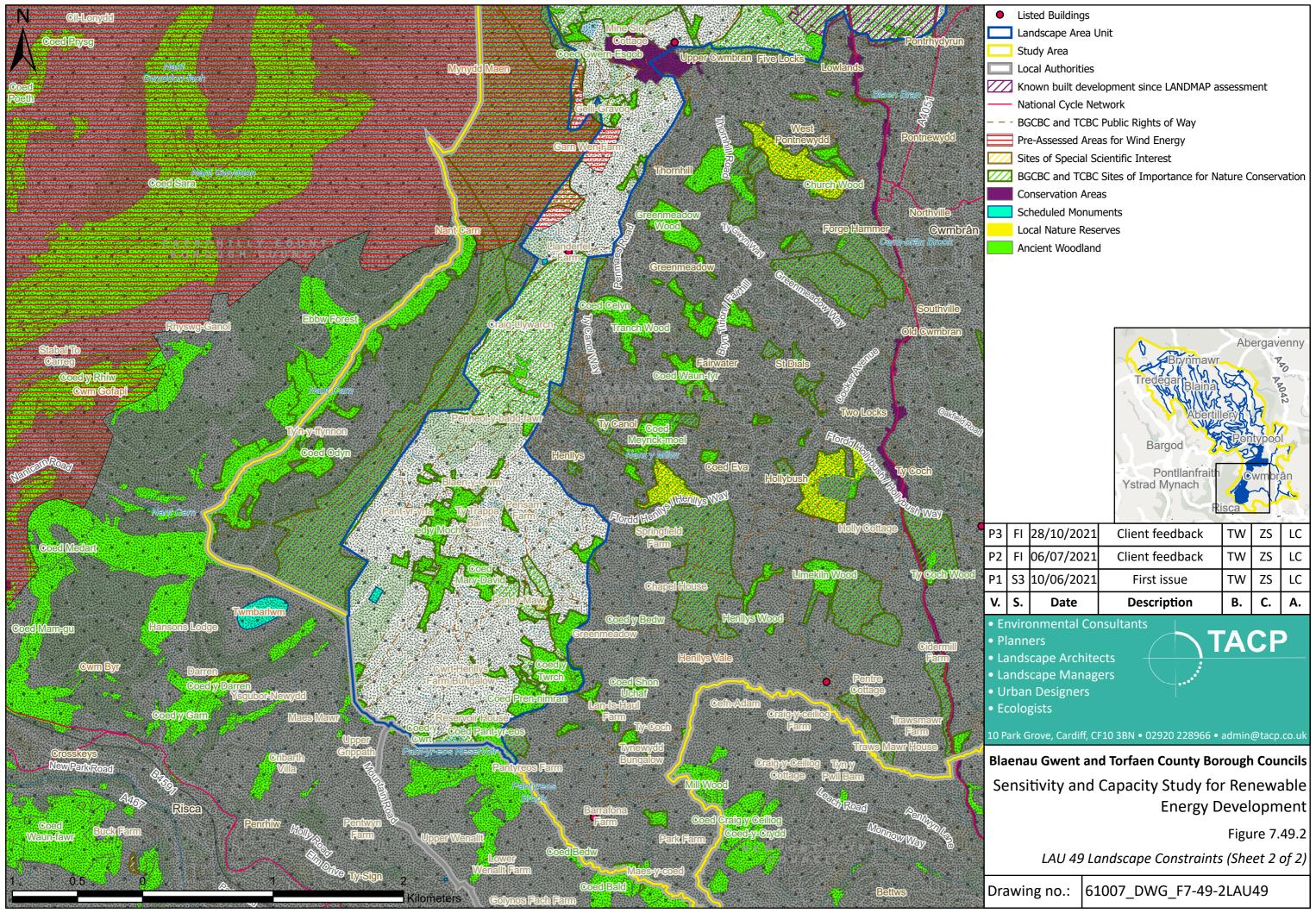
There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. There may be opportunities to site individual turbines in this area, with care to avoid cumulative effects, following the guidelines above. A very small portion of the western part of the area above Thornhill lies within the PAA.

### Solar PV

There is currently a single small scale solar farm in the south of this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is high. There may be potential to site several further small-scale solar developments in this area, taking care to avoid cumulative effects and following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.49.1 and 7.49.2





# LAU 50: MYNYDD Y GARN-FAWR, MYNYDD GARNCLOCHDY

### **Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development**

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susce	ptibility	Low	Med	High
Scale	Large scale			
Landform	Mountain upland			
Landcover	Primarily open grassland and heath, with one small forestry block, areas of historic extraction to north.			
Built environment	Unpopulated area, partially within Blaenavon WHS			
Visual susceptibi	Visual susceptibility			
Skylines and settings	Undeveloped high ridge forms boundary with BBNP			
Movement	Infrequent activity.			
Visibility, quality of views	Very exposed landscape with panoramic views available.			
Views in/out	Attractive views to upland areas, not available to valley floor. Some detractive views out.			
Typical receptors	Recreational users (PRoW, Open access land), land workers.			
Scenic quality and character	High scenic quality, moderate landscape character and high integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Blaenavon World Heritage Site covers area north of Cwmavon, Blorenge SSSI and CADW outstanding historical landscape covers area from approx. 1km north of this. Remainder of area to the south covered by SINC. Large Scheduled Monument over the Iron and coal patches at Pen-Ffordd-Goch at the northernmost point, and a smaller one on the site of Capel Newydd near the western upland edge			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	Lies part within Blaenavon WHS and adjoins BBNP as an elevated ridge.			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, with a perception of exposure.			

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
, ,	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
by development of this type.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
The landscape is assessed as of very high sensitivity with little tolerance to change of this type without adverse impacts on landscape character.	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High

Development within the Blaenavon WHS should be avoided where possible, especially given the multiple designations that apply within this area. The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

#### Wind turbines

- Respect the Setting of the Blaenavon WHS.
- Avoid direct impacts on the Blorenge SSSI.
- Respect the setting of the Capel Newydd SM.
- Respect the setting of Brecon Beacons National Park.
- Avoid siting turbines on narrow sections of ridge where they will be more widely visible.

### Solar PV

- Respect the Setting of the Blaenavon WHS.
- Avoid direct impacts on the Blorenge SSSI.
- Respect the setting of the Capel Newydd SM.
- Respect the setting of Brecon Beacons National Park.
- Consider using existing woodland or forestry to screen solar development from views to the west.
- Consider siting solar development on less elevated sections of the ridge where the local topography will screen views from BBNP.
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

### **Landscape capacity**

Total area of LAU: 651 Ha.

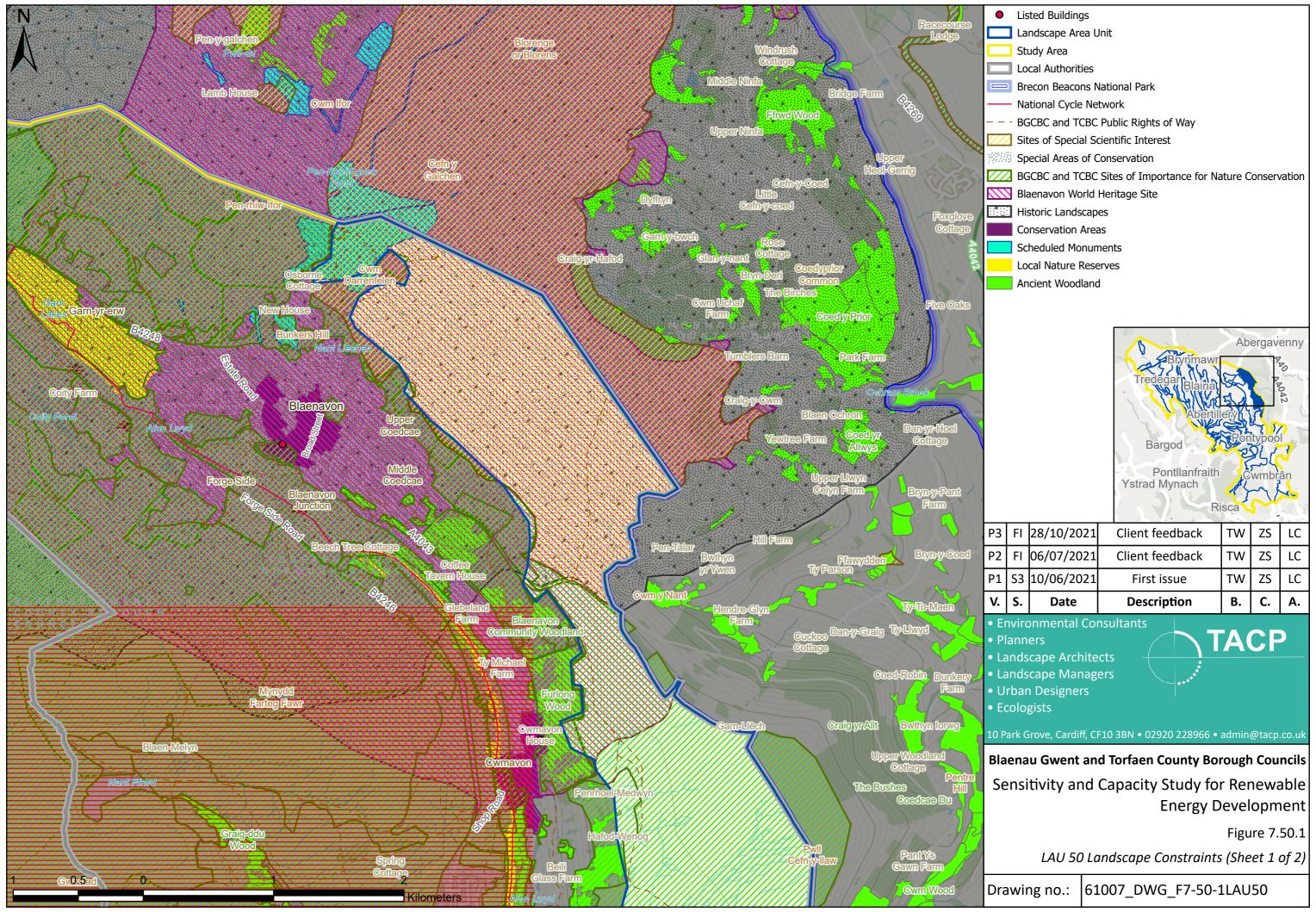
### Wind turbines

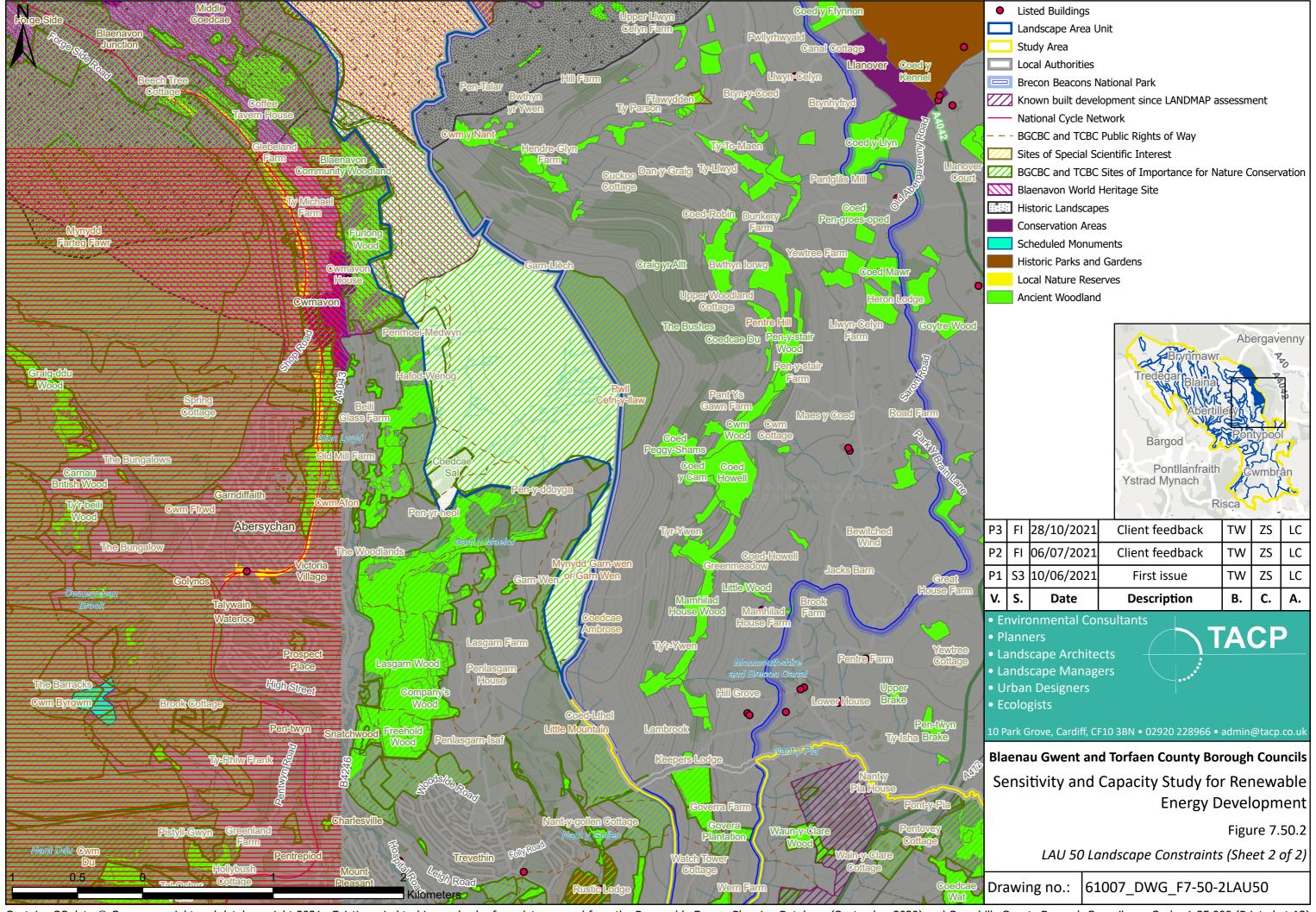
There is no existing wind turbine development in the landscape unit. The area has very high sensitivity to wind development. It is not recommended to site wind turbines in this area, given the proximity to both the WHS and BBNP.

### Solar PV

There is no existing solar development in this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is very high. There may be potential to site a single small scale solar development in this area, in the southern part of the area where the ridge widens around Garn Clochdy. Should this be the case, development should be sited very carefully, following the guidance above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.50.1 and 7.50.2





# **LAU 51: UPPER RACE**

### **Susceptibility to Wind and Solar development**

Combined summary of landscape susceptibility

Criteria	Description	Score		
Landscape susce	otibility	Low	Med	High
Scale	Medium scale			
Landform	Undulating valley			
Landcover	Mixture of rough grazing grass and gorse with developing scrub and low trees to north. Tips and old pond from derelict workings.			
Built environment	Small settlement to north and farm to east of area.			
Visual susceptibi	Visual susceptibility			
Skylines and settings	Undulating valley dropping down to northern more enclosed area.			
Movement	Infrequent activity			
Visibility, quality of views	An open landscape with good views north onto facing ridge with settlement of Trevethin and ridges beyond. Topography restricts views into some extent.			
Views in/out	Attractive views out, with detractive views both in and out.			
Typical receptors	Residential receptors within the area and the southern fringes of Pontypool. Recreational users (Open access land and PRoW).			
Scenic quality and character	Low scenic quality, moderate landscape character and low integrity.			

Criteria	Description	Score		
Value		Low	Med	High
Landscape value (designations)	Scheduled Monument in the southern part of the area for Iron Ore Scours at Upper Race. SINC covers majority of site except settled areas and associated improved grassland to north.			
Visual/sensory	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Historic value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Habitats value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Geological value	LANDMAP overall evaluation			
Visual value (key views/vistas)	None identified			
Aesthetic, perceptual, experiential	A moderate sense of place, perceptions not recorded.			

Summary of Sensitivity - Wind	Assessed Sensitivity				
The assessment identifies that the landform and visual qualities of the area would be able to accommodate a significant amount of change	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
without affecting landscape character.					

Summary of Sensitivity - Solar	Assessed Sensitivity				
	V Low	Low	Med	High	V High
character.					

The following advice should be considered for renewables development within this landscape unit:

### Wind turbines

- Respect the setting of the Iron Ore Scours SM
- Consider opportunities to use local topography to partially screen wind turbines from wider views.
- Avoid siting wind development in close proximity to residential properties.

### Solar PV

- Consider opportunities for siting solar farms where local topography may screen the development from wider views.
- Respect the setting of the Iron Ore Scours SM
- Only site solar farms within SINCs where their management can be consistent with management objectives of SINC.
- Avoid siting solar farms adjacent to residential properties.

Any development should be subject to a detailed environmental impact assessment including landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity as a minimum.

### **Landscape capacity**

Total area of LAU: 94 Ha.

### Wind turbines

There are no turbines currently within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low, but it is a relatively small area.

A small group of turbines may be considered within this area, where practical constraints allow. This should follow the guidance on siting described above.

### Solar PV

There is currently no solar farm development within this landscape unit. The landscape sensitivity is low. A medium scale development could be sited within this area, or potentially across this and LAU 47, adjacent. Subject to the guidance set out above.

For Local Landscape Constraints see Figure 7.51.1

