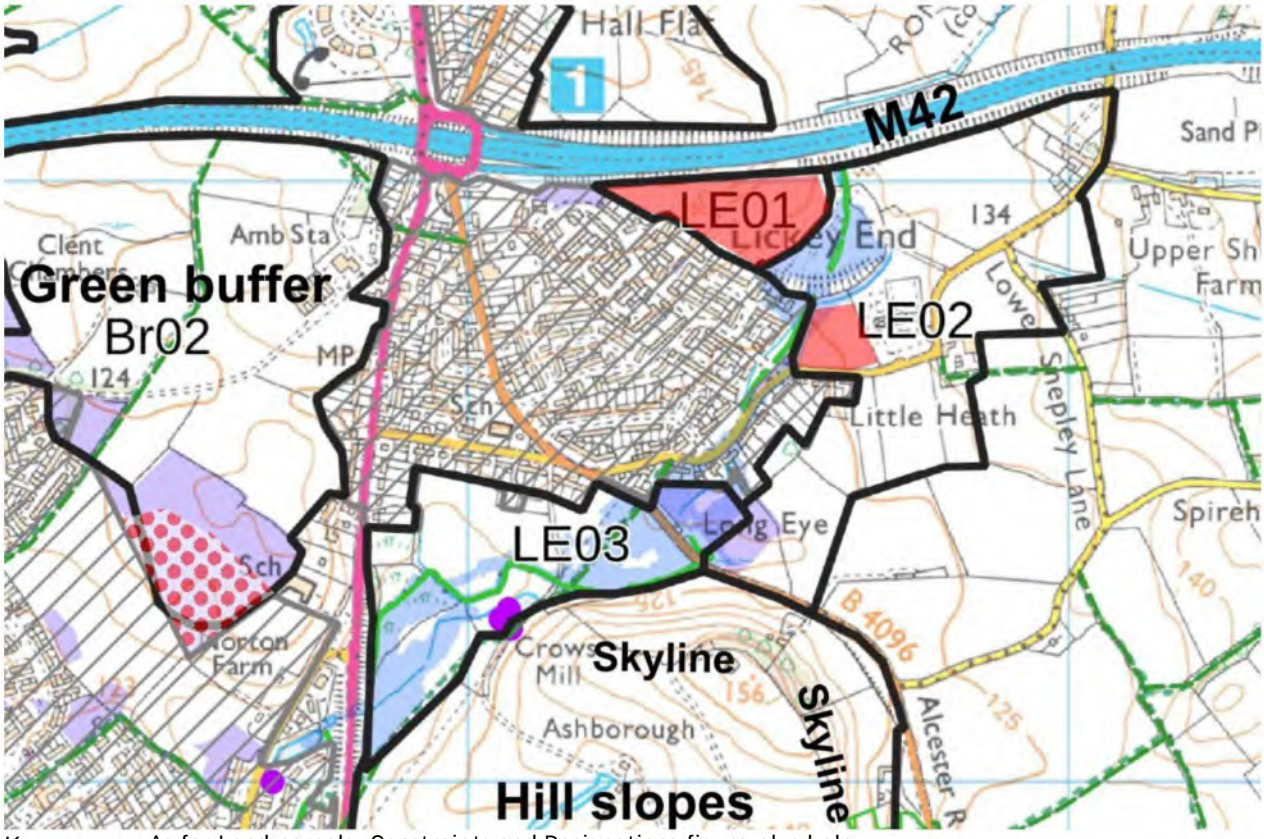
Settlement Sensitivity Summary: Lickey End

Summary

Lickey End lies on the southern end of the minor ridge running south from Catshill and effectively feels like an extension of this suburban area. A thin strip of sloping land separates part of the settlement from the M42 to the north The southern and eastern edges of the settlement are largely bounded by Spadesbourne Brook with associated floodplain and very gently sloping pastoral land. There are attractive views south across the valley towards the wooded hillside, south east of listed Crows Mill from the well-used recreation ground and from the settlement and public footpath.

Sensitivity to housing is considered high/medium to the south and medium to the north east and east. Opportunities could be located between the settlement and the garden centre in the east and between the settlement and the M42 in the north.

Sensitivity to employment use is considered high in all areas around the settlement.



Key

As for Land parcels, Constraints and Designations figure plus below.

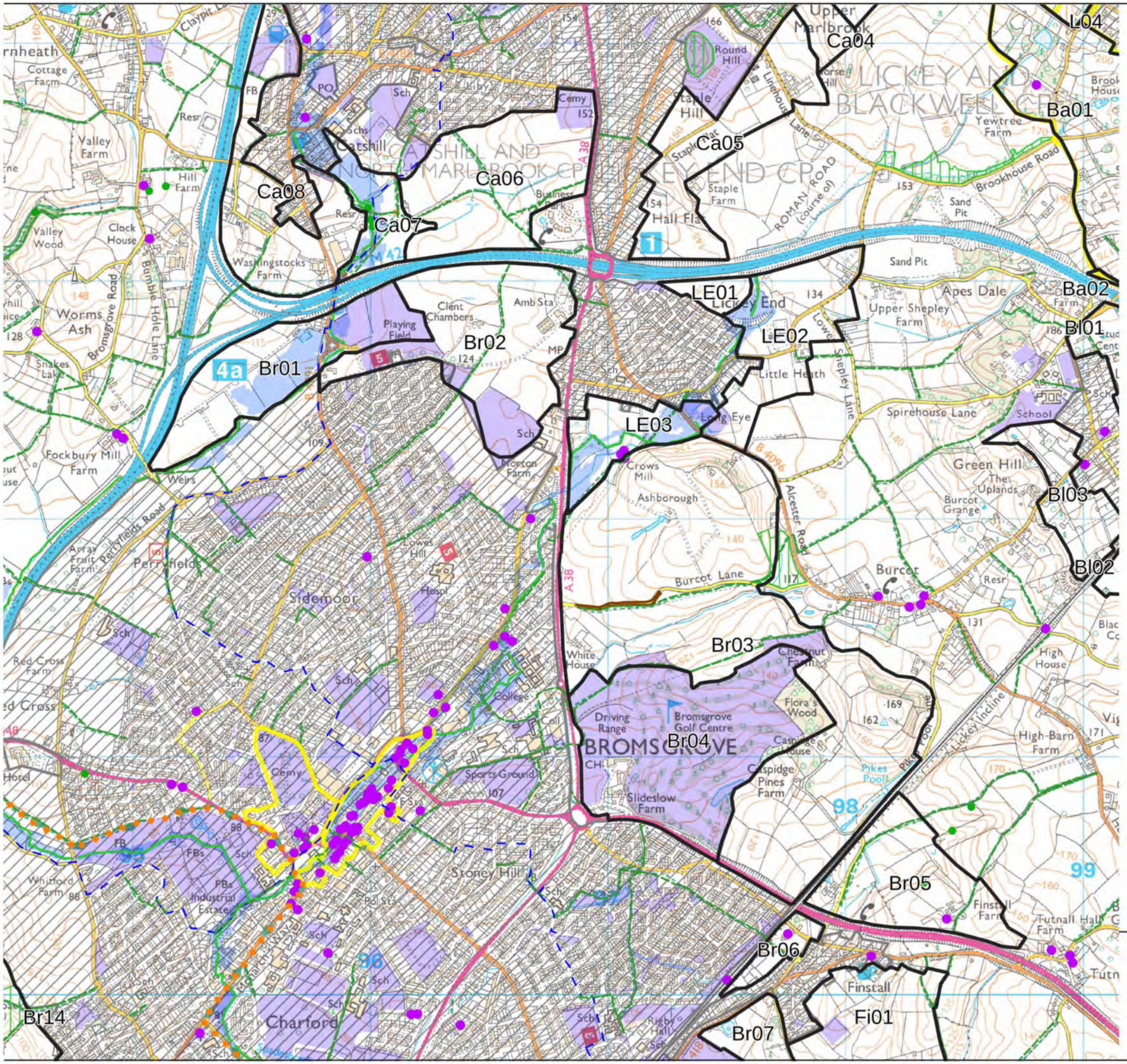
Opportunity for Housing

Rising land to the north of the settlement bounded by M42 (Le01).

Land east of the settlement looking south towards treed hillside and skyline (Le02).

View south from the settlement edge across the Spadesbourne Brook valley towards hill with open skyline (Le03).

Land east of the settlement looking north from Alcester Road (Le02).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Bl02
Bl03
Fi01
LICKEY AND BLACKWELL CP
CATSHILL AND NORTH MARLBROOK CP
LICKEY END CP
BROMSGROVE
Sidemoor
Charford
Stoney Hill
Lickey End
Finstall
Burcot
Perryfields
Catshill
Upper Marlbrook
Green Hill
Spirehouse Lane
Apes Dale
Upper Shepley Farm
Little Heath
Ashborough
Crows Mill
Norton Farm
Staple Hill
Round Hill
Yewtree Farm
Brookhouse Road
Sand Pit
Staple Farm
Hall Flat
Linehouse Lane
ROMAN ROAD (course of)
Lickey Incline
Bromsgrove Golf Centre
Driving Range
Flora's Wood
Caspidge House
Caspidge Pines Farm
Slideslow Farm
Pikes Pool
High House
High-Barn Farm
Chestnut Farm
White House
Burcot Grange
The Uplands
Tutnall Hall Farm
Finstall Farm
Worms Ash
Valley Wood
Valley Farm
Clock House
Washingstocks Farm
Bromsgrove Road
Bumble Hole Lane
Snakes Lake
Fockbury Mill Farm
Weirs
Array Fruit Farm
Red Cross Farm
Whitford Farm
Client Chambers
Playing Field
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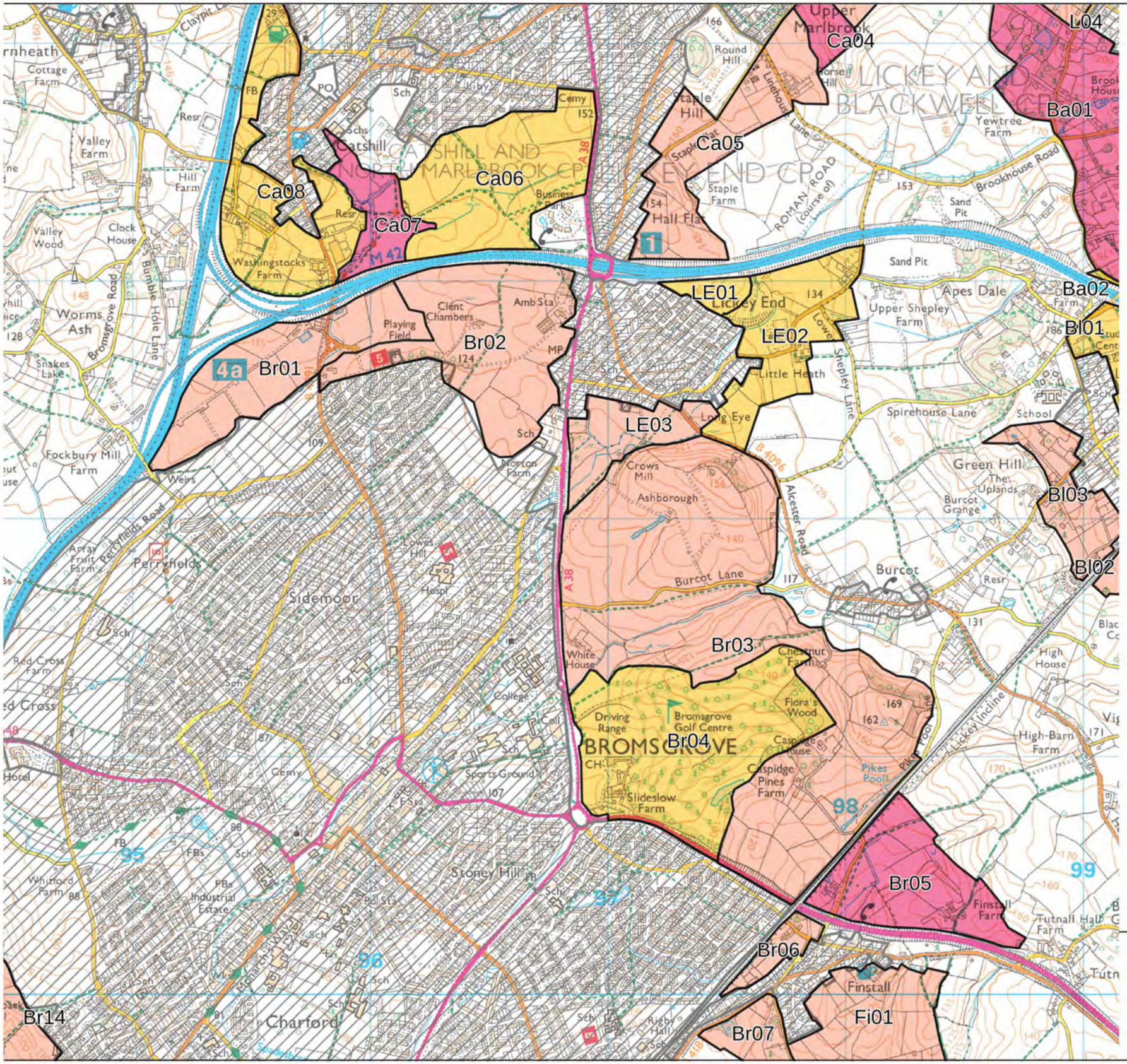
Alcester Road
Burcot Lane
Brookhouse Road
Industrial Estate
Perryfields Road
Claypit L
Cottage Farm
Hill Farm
Clock House
Valley Wood
Worms Ash



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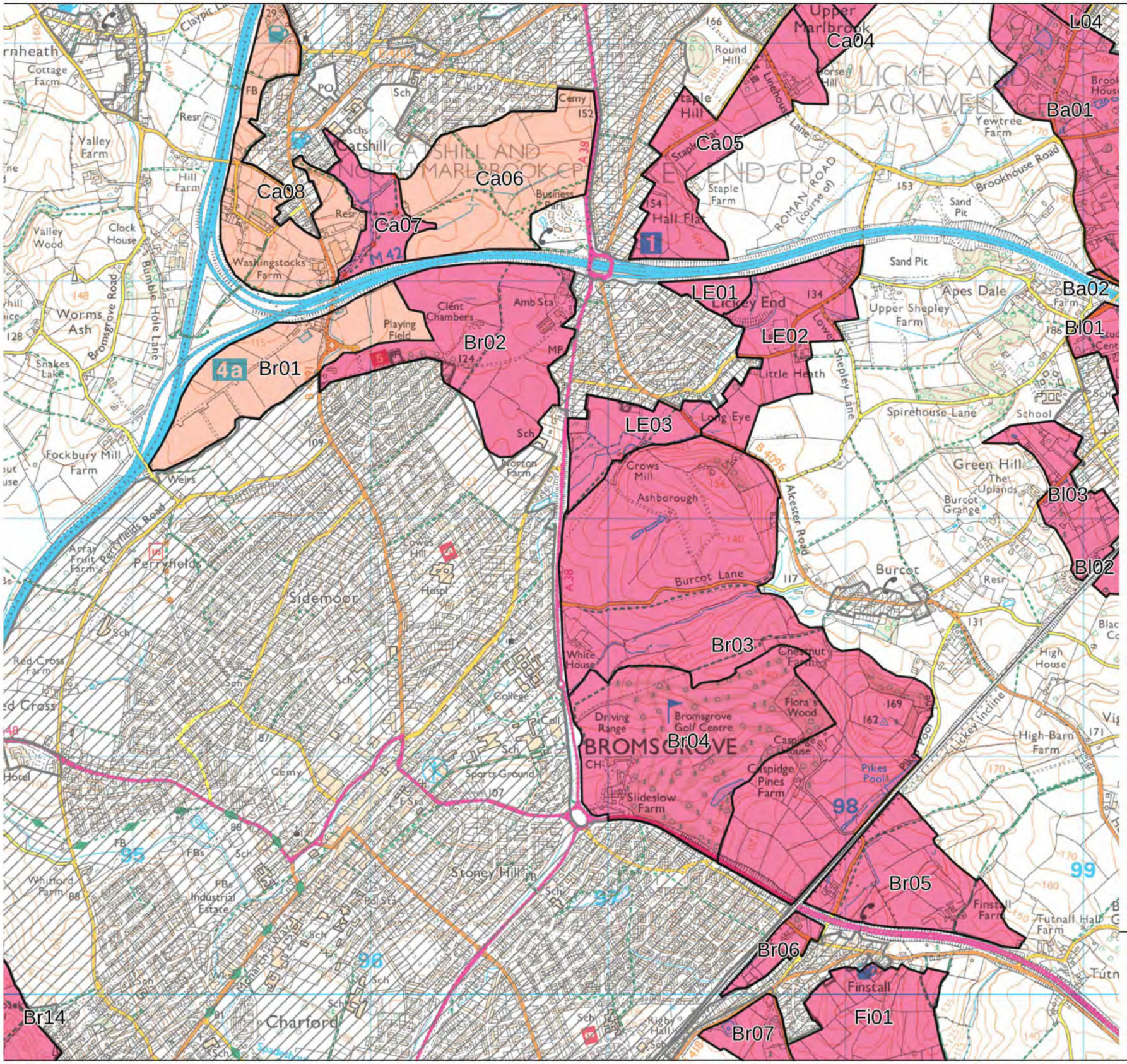
Project: Bromsgrove District Landscape and Visual Sensitivity Study
Client: Bromsgrove District Council

Bromsgrove north and Lickey End Settlements: Sensitivity to Housing



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Project: Bromsgrove District Landscape and Visual Sensitivity Study
Client: Bromsgrove District Council

Bromsgrove north and Lickey End
Landscape sensitivity to employment use

Land Cover Parcel No.	LE01

ASSESSED SENSITIVITY EVALUATION

Sensitivity to Housing	Medium
Sensitivity to Employment	High

Sensitivity Summary

The landscape value lies in its character as part of the green slopes where Lickey End lies and its role as green corridor north east of the settlement with pleasant views. The landscape susceptibility to housing lies in its role as a buffer separating housing from the M42, its openness and limited intervisibility to the east. The visual susceptibility to housing lies in views from the adjacent residence to the south and the M42 and minor road to the east. As the existing adjacent settlement lies on the hill slopes and can be seen falling down the slopes it would not necessarily be out of character for this field to be developed for housing. Employment use would be unsuitable due to the size, shape and slope of the parcel and its direct relationship with housing.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT

National character area	Arden
WCC landscape character type (LCT)	Principal Settled Farmlands
WCC land cover parcel (LCP) sensitivity	Medium

LANDSCAPE VALUE FACTORS

Landscape designations		-
Natural heritage	M/L	Improved grassland/pasture.
Cultural heritage	M/L	Field derived from reorganisation of piecemeal enclosure.
Distinctiveness	M	Part of hill slopes on which Lickey End settlement lies.
Perceptual	M	
Scenic factors		Contributes to green corridor north east of the settlement with pleasant views.
Tranquillity		M42 is a major source of noise and movement. 20c housing is apparent to the east. No public access.
Recreational and functional	M/L	
Recreational		No public access.
Functional		Part of green corridor north east of the settlement.
Condition	M/L	Poor- one trimmed hedge and no trees within area.
Associations		N/A
Summary evaluation of overall value		**M**

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

Natural factors	M/L	
Landform eg steep slopes		Distinct slopes expose area to view from the east.
Presence of water		None within area.
Cultural factors	M/L	

Historic field/land use pattern		Field derived from reorganisation of piecemeal enclosure.
Settlement pattern		Late 20c/21c housing estate with linear edge adjacent.
Land use factors	M/L	
Function of area e.g. floodplain, GI corridor, biodiversity corridor or patch, productive land.		May contribute to biodiversity corridor but limited.
Amenity- presence of footpaths/recreation corridors		No public access.
Functional relationship between the area and the settlement/key features		Limited functional connection.
Perceptual factors	M	
Scale		Medium.
Enclosure		Relatively open to the east.
Skyline		Forms local skyline to the north.
Landmarks/features		None.
Detractors		M42.
Settlement edge character		Late 20c/21c housing estate with linear edge.
Visual relationship between the area and the settlement/key features (eg cumulative impact issues)		Provides positive open green separation between adjacent housing and M42.
Summary evaluation of landscape susceptibility		**M**

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

General factors		
Intervisibility	M	Limited intervisibility to the east.
Key views	M/L	None.
Key receptors		
Residents- rural/semi-rural	H	Views from the east.
Residents-urban/suburban edge	H/M	Adjacent residents in settlement.
Promoted trails		N/A
Public rights of way		N/A
Access/common land		N/A
Cycleways		N/A
Roads	M	M42- view to edge, minor road to east.
Summary evaluation of visual susceptibility		**H/M**

OPPORTUNITIES, DESIGN AND MITIGATION

Development location, layout and design recommendations where appropriate:

Opportunities and potential for landscape mitigation where appropriate:

Land Cover Parcel No.	LE02

ASSESSED SENSITIVITY EVALUATION

Sensitivity to Housing	Medium
Sensitivity to Employment	High

Sensitivity Summary

The landscape value of the area lies in the Spadesbourne Brook Local Wildlife site, riparian vegetation and floodplain/attenuation area, small woodland, hedges, rough grassland and well used recreation ground with rural character and pleasant views across the area to the hills to the south and east. The landscape susceptibility to housing lies in the rural character and openness to the south with effective separation from the settlement through woodland, recreation ground and long gardens, the floodplain and attenuation pond which are buffers. The visual susceptibility lies in the views from recreation ground, residents, the B4096 rural approaches and the PROW. An expansion of housing here would extend into an area of substantially rural character and so it is sensitive. The only opportunity appears to be in the field west of the garden centre as this is enclosed and discreet with opportunities for enhancement. The parcel is more sensitive to employment due to its rural character and the presence of housing within and adjacent to the area.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT

National character area	Arden
WCC landscape character type (LCT)	Principal Settled Farmlands
WCC land cover parcel (LCP) sensitivity	Medium

LANDSCAPE VALUE FACTORS

Landscape designations		-
Natural heritage	H/M	Spadesbourne Brook Local Wildlife site with riparian vegetation and floodplain/attenuation area, small woodland, mix of outgrown and trimmed hedges, improved pasture (horse pasture in places) and rough grassland, recreation ground, planted large gardens and plots.
Cultural heritage	M	Reorganised semi-regular piecemeal enclosure to the north and south. The central area around Little Heath is regular planned enclosure derived from former heathland. Rural settlement- interrupted row and plant nursery.
Distinctiveness	M	Watercourse corridor and interrrupted row settlement.
Perceptual	M	
Scenic factors		Pleasant views to hills to south across flat ground of parcel (including recreation ground) and to river corridor and to the east.
Tranquillity		M42 is major noise source to the north and tranquillity increases to the south and east. Settlement edge apparent and garden centre also is a presence centrally. One PROW running east.
Recreational and functional	M	
Recreational		One PROW running east.
Functional		Watercourse with riparian vegetation and floodplain/attenuation area, recreation ground, small woodland, mix of outgrown and trimmed hedges and rough grassland contribute to GI.
Condition	M	Poor generally although some patches of better condition.

Associations		N/A
Summary evaluation of overall value		**M**

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

Natural factors	M	
Landform eg steep slopes		Generally low lying and flat, falling to the watercourse and rising slightly to the south.
Presence of water		Watercourse to the east and ditch to east.
Cultural factors	M	
Historic field/land use pattern		Reorganised semi-regular piecemeal enclosure to the north and south. The central area around Little Heath is regular planned enclosure.
Settlement pattern		20c ribbon development with mature rear gardens to the west and rural settlement in area- interrupted row.
Land use factors	M	
Function of area e.g. floodplain, GI corridor, biodiversity corridor or patch, productive land.		Floodplain and attenuation basin , watercourse- GI corridor, woodland and hedgerows and rough grass areas contribute to GI.
Amenity- presence of footpaths/recreation corridors		Limited PROW to east. Recreation Ground to the west contributes to river corridor.
Functional relationship between the area and the settlement/key features		Main relationship is to recreation ground.
Perceptual factors	M	
Scale		Medium to small.
Enclosure		More enclosed to north and more open to south.
Skyline		N/A
Landmarks/features		N/A
Detractors		M42 on embankment and nursery.
Settlement edge character		Settlement generally well integrated in mature gardens and trees.
Visual relationship between the area and the settlement/key features (eg cumulative impact issues)		Main relationship is to attractive recreation ground with rural character.
Summary evaluation of landscape susceptibility		**M**

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

General factors		
Intervisibility	H/M	Moderate intervisibility to landscape to the east especially to the south.
Key views	M/L	N/A
Key receptors		

Residents- rural/semi-rural	H/M	Interrupted row dwellings and smallholdings.
Residents-urban/suburban edge	H/M	Some overlooking- filtered views.
Promoted trails		N/A
Public rights of way	H/M	Limited- PROW ot east.
Access/common land		N/A
Cycleways		N/A
Roads	M	M42, B4096 rural approach and local roads
Summary evaluation of visual susceptibility		**H/M**

OPPORTUNITIES, DESIGN AND MITIGATION

Development location, layout and design recommendations where appropriate:

The only opportunity appears to be in the field west of the garden centre as this is enclosed and discreet with opportunities for enhancement with open space and GI corridor along the brook and replacing conifers with broadleaf native trees and hedges. Properties should not back onto the road to the south.

Opportunities and potential for landscape mitigation where appropriate:

As above.

Land Cover Parcel No.	LE03

ASSESSED SENSITIVITY EVALUATION

Sensitivity to Housing	High/medium
Sensitivity to Employment	High

Sensitivity Summary

The landscape value is strongly related to its wetland associations and role as floodplain, lying in the valley floor between Lickey End and the steeply sloping hill to the south, the PROW which links the settlement of Lickey End to Bromsgrove along the stream corridor, the well used recreation ground to the east and the attractive views across the valley and the listed buildings at Crows Mill. Landscape susceptibility to housing lies in its open pastoral character to the east and strong wooded character to the west, the watercourse and its associated wetland features and role contributing to the separation of Lickey End and Bromsgrove. Visual susceptibility to housing lies in views from Lickey End and around the recreation ground, from the PROW and from the adjacent roads. The parcel is sensitive to housing. Sensitivity to employment use is greater due to the location on floodplain in the relationship between the area and the residential edge to the north.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT

National character area	Severn and Avon Vales
WCC landscape character type (LCT)	Principal Settled Farmlands
WCC land cover parcel (LCP) sensitivity	Medium

LANDSCAPE VALUE FACTORS

Landscape designations		-
Natural heritage	H	Streamline with its associated wetland habitats.
Cultural heritage		Listed buildings at Crows Mill, enclosed meadow and piecemeal enclosure.
Distinctiveness	H/M	Tree lined watercourse is a distinctive feature in this low lying, wetland corridor.
Perceptual	H/M	
Scenic factors		An enclosed landscape with middle distance views to rising ground.
Tranquillity		Sense of peace and tranquillity along the PROW that crosses the area, despite the proximity of the urban edge.
Recreational and functional	M	
Recreational		Access through parcel by PROW with Playing field at eastern end.
Functional		Wet pasture used for pony grazing.
Condition	M	Land reasonably well managed.
Associations		-
Summary evaluation of overall value		**H/M**

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

Natural factors	M	
Landform eg steep slopes		Low lying, wetland corridor.
Presence of water		River channel with associated wetland vegetation.
Cultural factors	M	

Historic field/land use pattern		Enclosed meadow and piecemeal enclosure.
Settlement pattern		Crows Mill.
Land use factors	M	
Function of area e.g. floodplain, GI corridor, biodiversity corridor or patch, productive land.		Floodplain in part used for grazing.
Amenity- presence of footpaths/recreation corridors		Access through parcel by PROW with Playing field at eastern end.
Functional relationship between the area and the settlement/key features		Playing field appears to be well used.
Perceptual factors	H/M	
Scale		Medium scale landscape.
Enclosure		Open, with middle distance views enclosed by tree cover.
Skyline		Views out of area framed by adjoining hillside and tree cover.
Landmarks/features		Steep wooded hillside to south.
Detractors		-
Settlement edge character		Settlement edge along northern boundary of parcel softened by garden/amenity trees.
Visual relationship between the area and the settlement/key features (eg cumulative impact issues)		Moderate functional relationship along well used PROW between Licky End and adjoining urban area at Bromsgrove.
Summary evaluation of landscape susceptibility		**H/M**

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

General factors		
Intervisibility	H/M	Moderate intervisibility of area with its surroundings.
Key views	H/M	Open view from road over wet pasture on floodplain to wooded hillside.
Key receptors		
Residents- rural/semi-rural		-
Residents-urban/suburban edge	M	Restricted views from urban edge.
Promoted trails		-
Public rights of way	H/M	Open views from PROW crossing area.
Access/common land		-
Cycleways		-
Roads	M	Open views from minor road crossing parcel at eastern end but screened from A38.

Summary evaluation of visual susceptibility	**M**

OPPORTUNITIES, DESIGN AND MITIGATION

Development location, layout and design recommendations where appropriate:

Opportunities and potential for landscape mitigation where appropriate: