

# South Gloucestershire Landscape Character Assessment

## Annex II: Strategic Viewpoints

### South Gloucestershire Council

**Final Draft Report for Adoption Chapter 28**

Prepared by LUC

September 2024



Version	Status	Prepared	Checked	Approved	Date
1	Draft Method and Pilot	E White L Jewitt	K Davies	K Davies	03.04.2023
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3	Draft Report	E White L Jewitt	E White	K Davies	14.07.2023
4	Final Draft	E White L Jewitt	E White	K Davies	01.11.2023
5	Final Draft (updated following New Local Plan Phase 3 consultation)	L Jewitt	E White	K Davies	12.06.2024
6	Final Draft Report for Adoption	L Jewitt	E White	K Davies	11.09.2024



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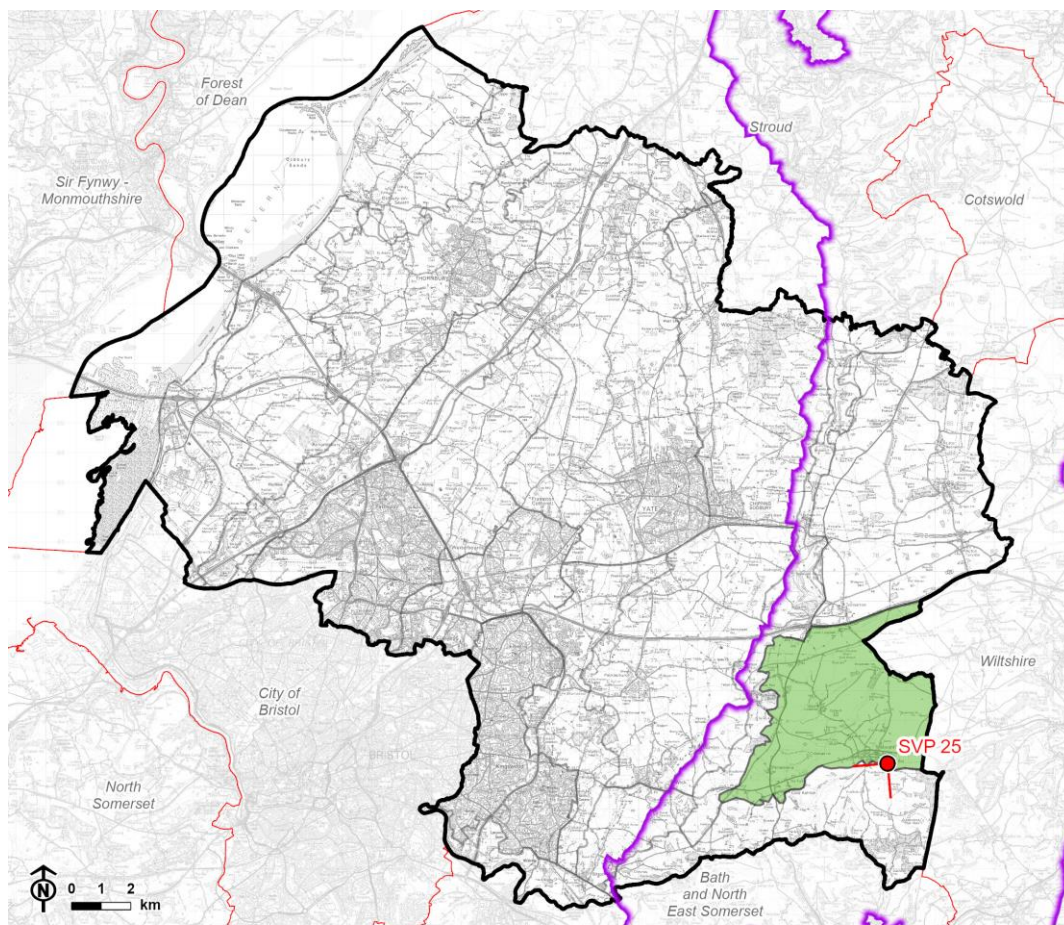
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# Chapter 28

## Strategic Viewpoint 25: East End (Marshfield)

Figure 28.1: Location of Strategic Viewpoint 25 and landscape character context

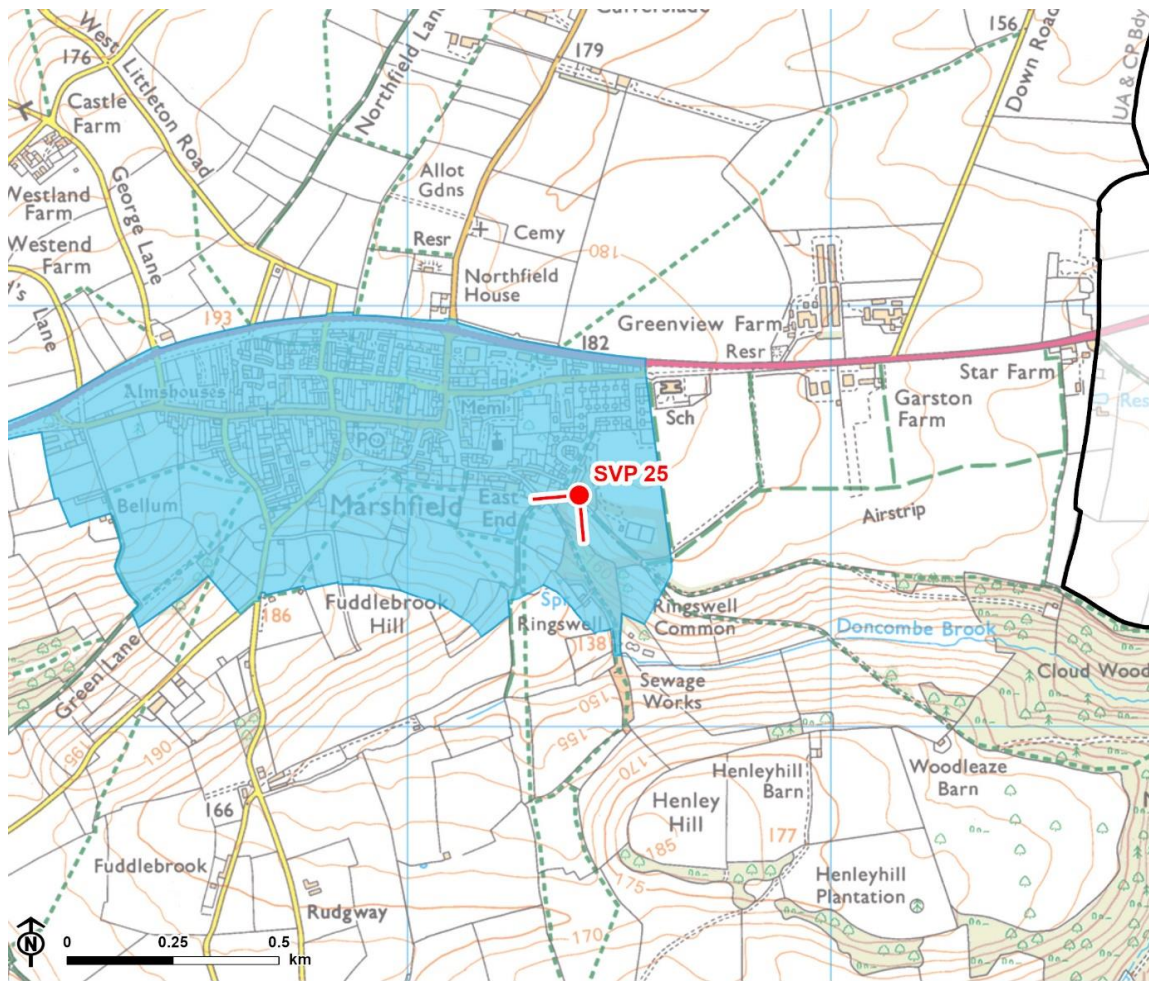


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Source: LUC, SGDC, NE, OS

-  Council boundary
-  Neighbouring local authority
-  Cotswolds National Landscape (AONB) boundary
-  LCA 2: Marshfield Plateau
-  Strategic viewpoint and angle

Figure 28.2: Detailed map of the location of Strategic Viewpoint 25



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-  Council boundary
-  Cotswolds National Landscape (AONB) boundary
-  Conservation area
-  Strategic viewpoint and angle



## Viewpoint Information

**Grid reference:** ST 78407 73550

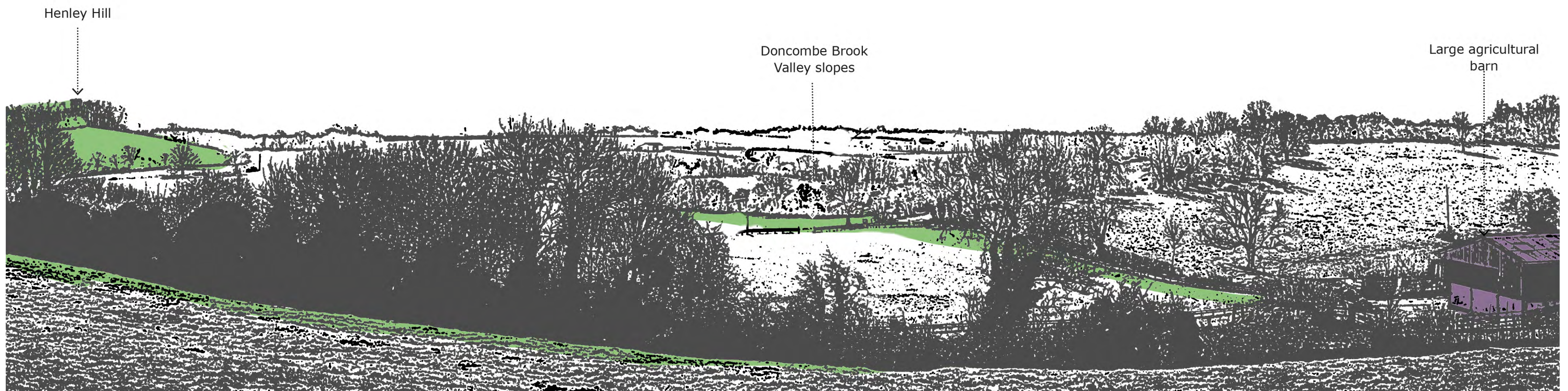
**View location:** Public bridleway LMA/36/10, to the east of the Marshfield village centre.

**View direction:** View south and south-west across LCA 2: Marshfield Plateau.

**Relationship with Visually Important Hillside (VIH):** The viewpoint is located on the northern edge of the Ashwicke Ridges VIH.

**Experienced by:** Recreational users (including pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders) travelling along bridleway LMA/36/10, as well as people using the area of open access land and seating area to the north-east of the viewpoint.

Figure 28.3: View Composition of Strategic Viewpoint 25



Key landscape feature

Detractive feature

Figure 28.4: Full Panoramic Photograph of Strategic Viewpoint 25



Strategic Viewpoint 25: East End (Marshfield)



Strategic Viewpoint 25 (continued)



## Characteristics

### Popularity, access and facilities

- The Marshfield Conservation Area Appraisal identifies important views in to and out of the village, specifically noting the views from Market Place, with its *“important view out over the valley to the south”* [See reference 1].
- Views from this viewpoint are representative of those described in LCA 3: Ashwicke Ridges which notes that from Marshfield there are *“open views southwards of rolling upland agricultural hills, with ground falling steeply from pronounced edges of high ground, into adjacent textured valleys”*.
- The viewpoint is publicly accessible, located on a public bridleway (LMA/36/10) and within an area of open access land. It can be accessed via Market Place, and Withymead Road, as well as by adjacent public rights of way (including LMA/36/20, LMA/39/10, and LMA/38/10).
- Immediately to the north-east of the viewpoint there is a small seating area with three benches and a litter bin provided to facilitate enjoyment of the view. There is also a small carpark nearby, associated with the playing fields that are located adjacent to the north-east of the viewpoint.

### Relationship with the Cotswolds National Landscape (CNL)

- The viewpoint is located within the CNL and enables appreciation of views within the designated landscape.

### Quality, value and features of the view

- An elevated viewpoint on the edge of the Ashwicke Ridges VIH and on the upper south-facing slopes of the Doncombe Brook Valley, facilitating a panoramic (180°) view south over the valley and across the rolling pastoral landscape of the

## Chapter 28 Strategic Viewpoint 25: East End (Marshfield)

Ashwicke Ridges (characterised by its complex landform of rounded hills, steep sided ridges and incised valleys).

- The locally-prominent Henley Hill (0.8km away) provides some containment of the view to the south-west and is a notable landscape feature.
- The viewpoint represents views experienced from the historic Marshfield Conservation Area which is perched on the valley side (to the west of the viewpoint), and includes views to the Grade I listed Church of St Mary (that is nestled among the traditional stone buildings) which provides a landmark feature within the view.
- A large agricultural barn in the foreground of the view slightly detracts from the overall composition of the view.

## Summary

The East End (Marshfield) viewpoint is categorised as a SVP as it meets most of the criteria to some extent. It is a recorded viewpoint within the Marshfield Conservation Area Appraisal; it is noted in the South Gloucestershire Landscape Character Assessment as being a natural observation point from which to appreciate the landscape; it is located on a public right of way and an area of open access land with a bench, litter bin and parking facilitating enjoyment of the view; it allows appreciation of the Cotswold National Landscape and provides a notable view across the designated landscape; it provides a panoramic view that takes in notable landscape features of the Ashwicke Ridges (including the Doncombe Brook Valley and Henley Hill), the Marshfield Conservation Area, and the landmark feature of the Church of St Mary.

## References

# References

- 1 Marshfield Conservation Area Advice Note (2004). Available at:  
<https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/static/0f6cb67d55fecca0796cfc22f0099ba2/pte040002.pdf>

Report produced by LUC

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