

# South Gloucestershire Landscape Character Assessment

## Annex II: Strategic Viewpoints

### South Gloucestershire Council

**Final Draft Report for Adoption Chapter 34**

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
2	Draft Report	L Jewitt V Kakar	E White	K Davies	16.05.2023
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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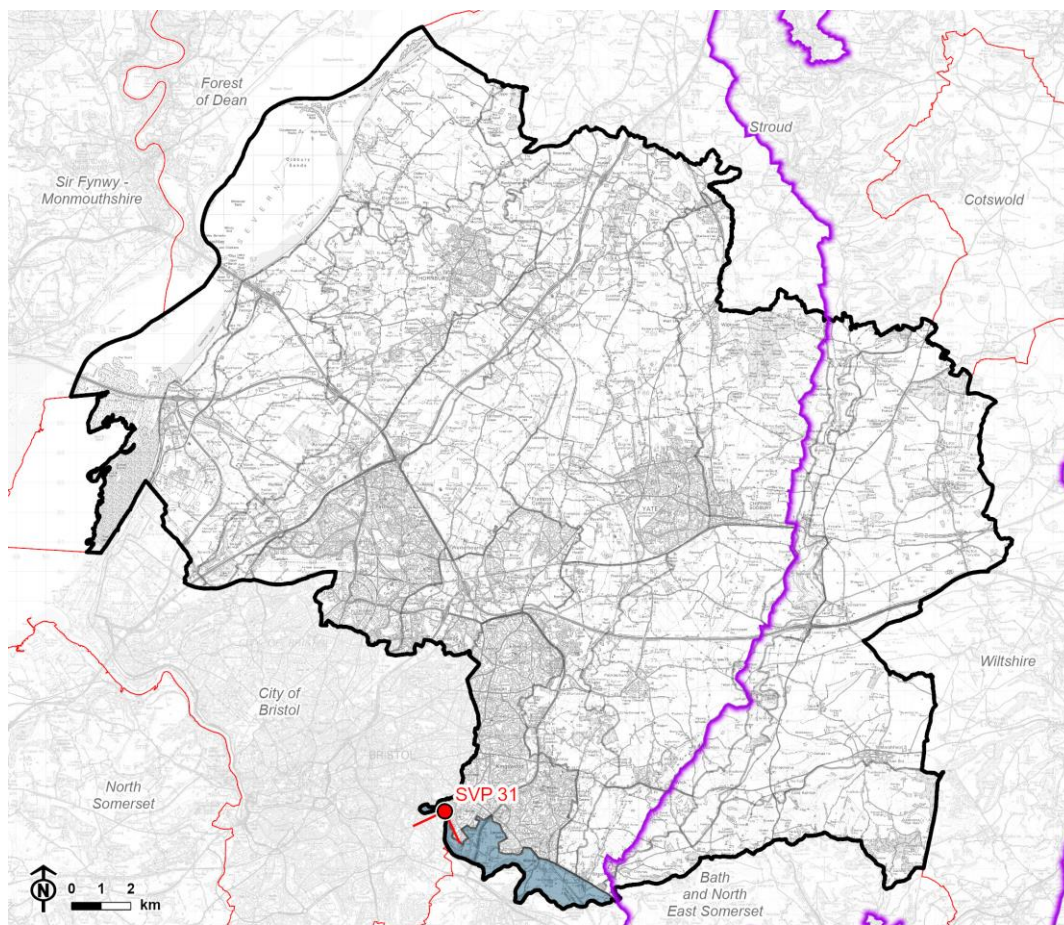
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# Chapter 34

## Strategic Viewpoint 31: Avon Valley Panorama

Figure 34.1: Location of Strategic Viewpoint 31 and landscape character context

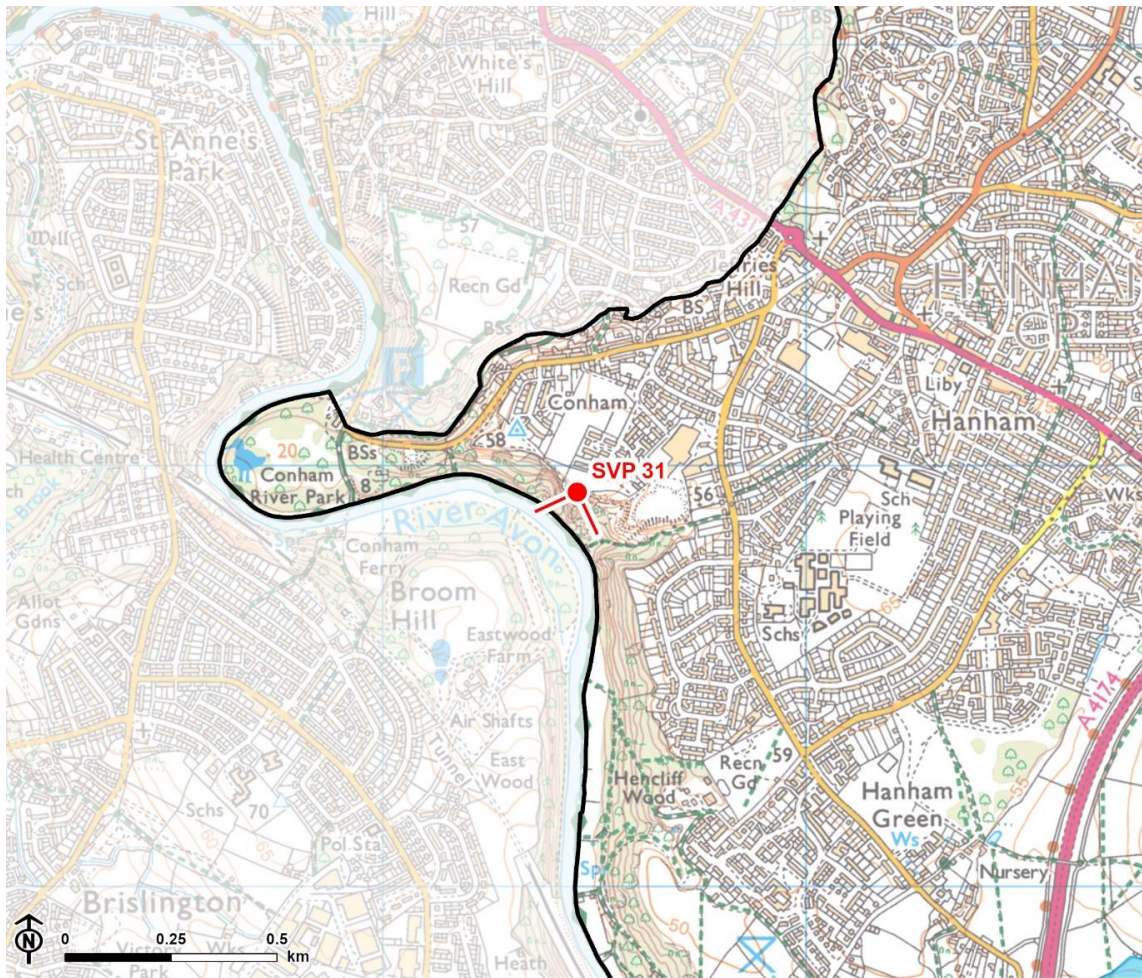


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-  Council boundary
-  Neighbouring local authority
-  Cotswolds National Landscape (AONB) boundary
-  LCA 16: Avon Valley
-  Strategic viewpoint and angle



Figure 34.2: Detailed map of the location of Strategic Viewpoint 31



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



## Viewpoint Information

**Grid reference:** ST 63469 71932

**View location:** Avon Valley Panorama viewpoint, Avon Valley Woodlands, Hanham.

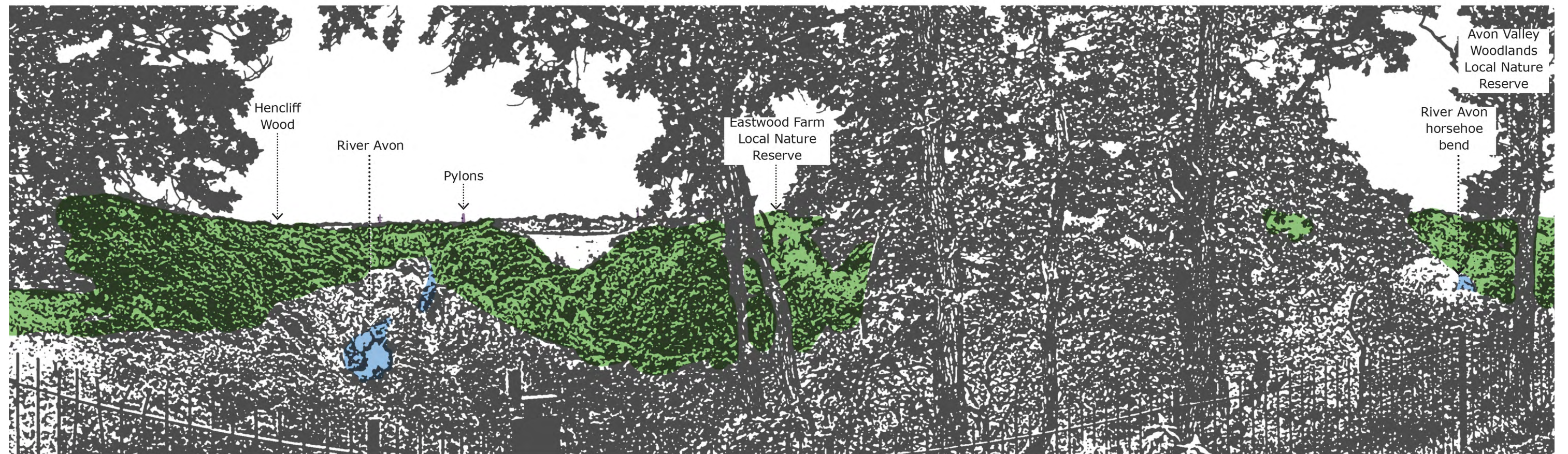
**View direction:** Views south and south-west along LCA 16: Avon Valley.

**Relationship with Visually Important Hillside (VIH):** The viewpoint is located along the River Avon VIH.

**Experienced by:** Visitors to Avon Valley Woodlands and recreational users of the numerous public rights of way, including The River Avon Trail Panorama Walk.



Figure 34.3: View Composition of Strategic Viewpoint 31



 Key landscape feature


 Detractive feature



Figure 34.4: Full Panoramic Photograph of Strategic Viewpoint 31



Strategic Viewpoint 31: Avon Valley Panorama



Strategic Viewpoint 31 (continued)



## Characteristics

### Popularity, access and facilities

- The viewpoint location is marked on Google Maps as 'Avon Valley Panorama' and is noted as a viewpoint on Komoot (a walking and cycling route planning app) and is likely to attract many visitors as a result.
- Views from the viewpoint are recorded in the 'River Avon Trail guide' booklet [See reference 1]. Loop Walk 3: Panorama Walk (page 21) notes the “*spectacular views of the River Avon and its steep wooded valley*” afforded from the viewpoint.
- The viewpoint is publicly accessible from Dean Close in Hanham and is located within Avon Valley Woodlands Local Nature Reserve. It can also be reached via the River Avon Trail footpath which ascends through the woodland from the riverside path.
- A litter bin is provided at the entrance to the woodland. There is an information board and viewing platform at the viewpoint location to facilitate enjoyment and interpretation of the landscape.

### Quality, value and features of the view

- An elevated viewpoint that provides panoramic views (180°) of the River Avon, and along the Avon Valley (LCA 16), and to the opposite valley side to Eastwood Farm Local Nature Reserve. To the west/south-west, the horseshoe bend of the River Avon can be seen winding along the wooded riverbank between the trees.
- The viewpoint provides views along the steep north-facing Avon Valley side, incorporating views to Hencliff Wood. Woodland on the slopes partially obscure views when in leaf, becoming more open in the winter months.
- The viewpoint provides views over the Avon Valley Conservation Area. A pylon line on the skyline slightly detracts from the overall composition of the view.



## Summary

The Avon Panorama viewpoint is categorised as a SVP as it meets most of the criteria to some extent. It is a popular, well known and recorded viewpoint and likely to attract many visitors; it is located within the Avon Valley Woodlands Local Nature Reserve and along a local trail with a litter bin, information board and viewing platform facilitating enjoyment and interpretation of the view; it provides a panoramic view that takes in the notable landscape features of the dramatic steeply sloping Avon Valley side and associated woodland, as well as providing views of the River Avon and Valley in their wider landscape setting/context, and views into the Avon Valley Conservation Area.



## References

# References

- 1 River Avon Trail guide booklet. (2004). Available at:  
<http://www.riveravontrail.org.uk/booklet.pdf>



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