

About Smeeden Foreman

Here at Smeeden Foreman, we balance the need for pragmatism and creativity to deliver the best solution for each unique and individual project.

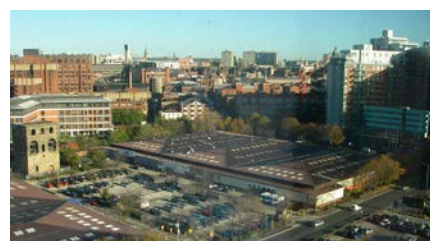
We have a team of experienced landscape architects, urban designers, ecologists and arboriculturists who work together to provide inclusive, sustainable and holistic solutions. This involves close collaboration with the client team to ensure that the most suitable and effective output is achieved and to successfully negotiate with planning authorities and contractors to facilitate the necessary processes.

The practice was established in 1992; Smeeden Foreman is based near Harrogate and the team works throughout the whole country for a wide cross section of clients in both the public and private sector.

As well as housing and assessment, Smeeden Foreman produces work for a number of other fields including, healthcare, retail, commercial, residential, transport, recreation and urban environments.

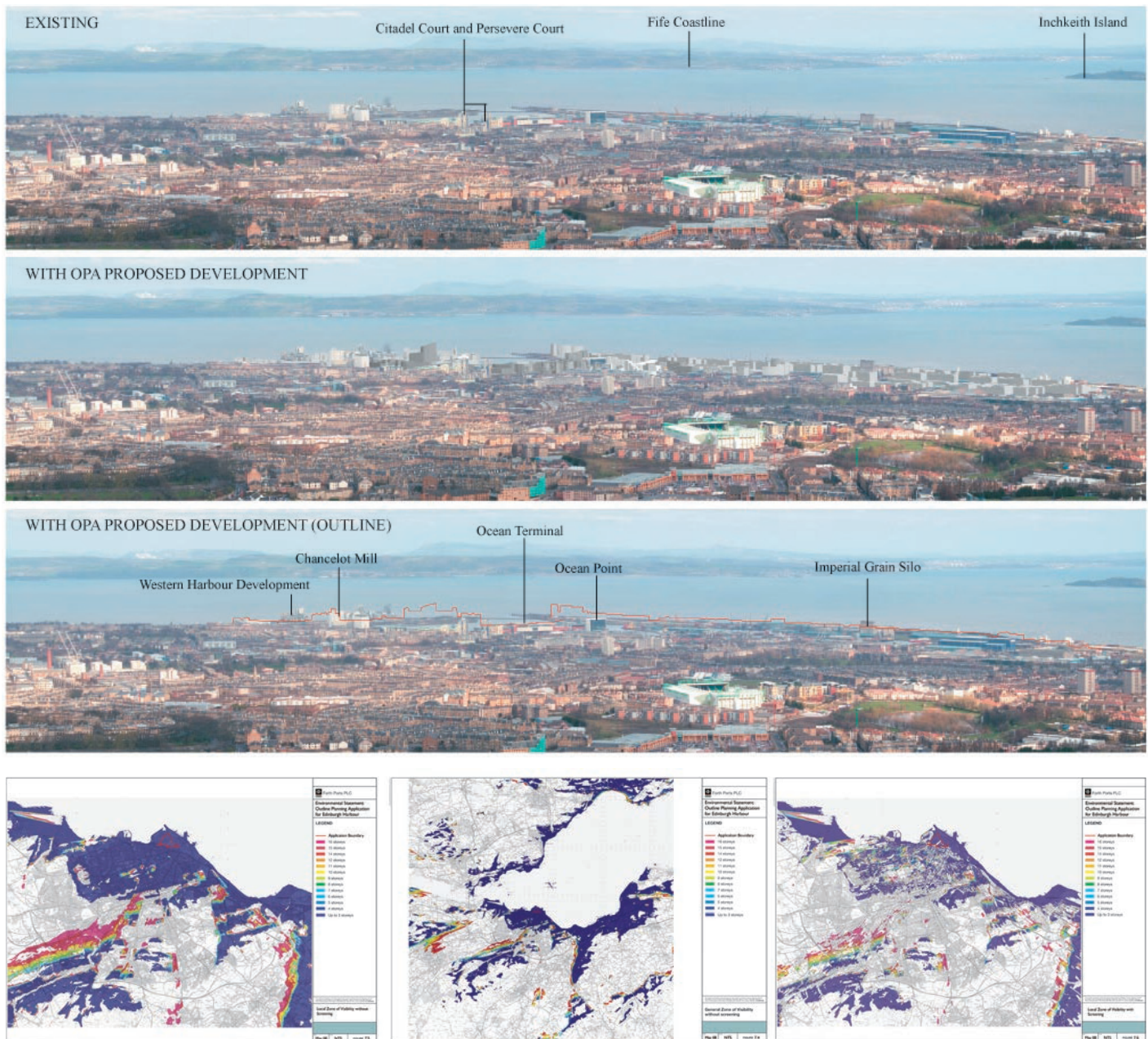
We carry out work in both town and countryside, often within sensitive landscapes protected by statutory designations and within the setting of significant listed buildings and world heritage sites.

Projects are varied and include extensive housing and assessment work; examples of these projects are included within the following pages of this document.



Leith Docks, Edinburgh

Assessment



Time Period: Sept/Oct 2012

Works Value: N/A

LI Work Stages: A to C

The redevelopment of the Port of Leith will be the biggest single change to Edinburgh since the 19th century. Smeeden Foreman undertook studies across Edinburgh, including the rural hinterland and the Fife coast of the Firth of Forth. The team produced the townscape and visual amenity chapters for the Environmental Statement.

Much of the work was directed to determining the capacity of the site to accommodate large scale development, including proposals

for tower blocks, without adversely impacting on the existing qualities of the landscape setting of the city.

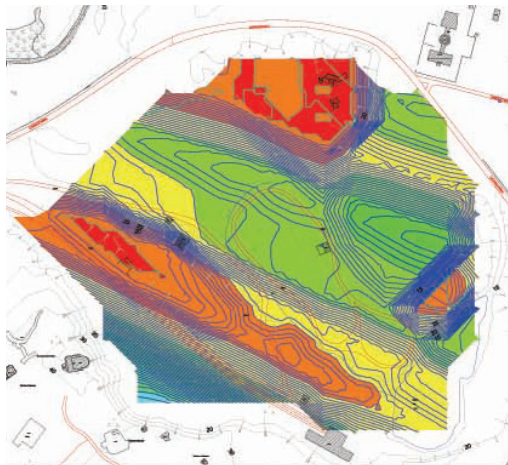
A key factor was the relationship of the development to Edinburgh's World Heritage Site and Leith Conservation Area. The relationship of the man-made with the dramatic coastal location and volcanic outcrops was explored.

Calibrated photomontages from selected viewpoints were produced to show the impacts upon the landscape, which included Edinburgh Castle, Arthur's Seat and Calton Hill.

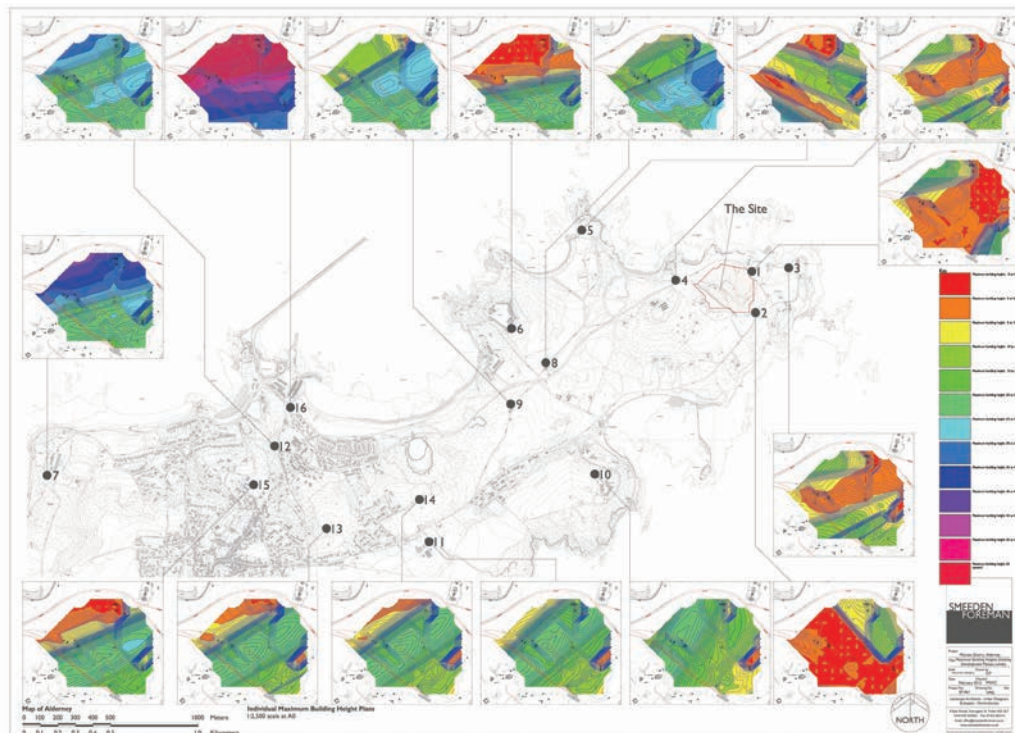
The proposal successfully received planning consent, without the need for a public inquiry.

Mannez Quarry, Alderney

Assessment



Viewpoint 16: View from Essex Castle



Time Period: Sept/Oct 2012

Works Value: N/A

LI Work Stages: A to C

Siting large scale facilities to bring tidal power energy to a hub for export within a small scale landscape lead Smeeden Foreman to examine landscape character and capacity for the whole island of Alderney and to undertake site selection and impact appraisals.

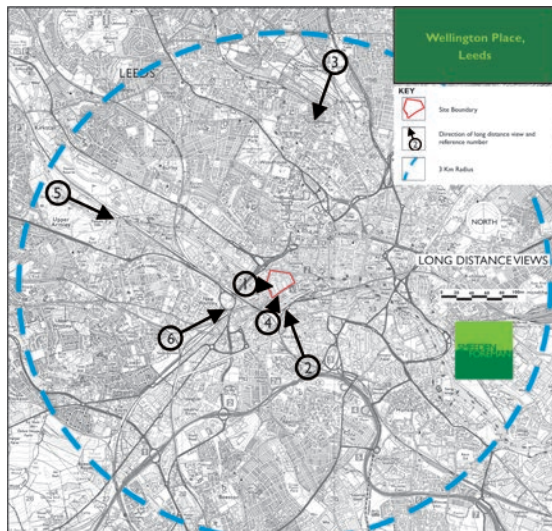
Having identified a potential location, the illustration shows a colour coded assessment relating potential building heights to particular viewpoints. As the project developed, this approach informed site planning for subsequent assessment.

In order to complete the work, Smeeden Foreman made on-site assessments, literature searches and consulted locally with stakeholders. Using ground modelling and visual assessment modelling, the extent of potential visibility from identified viewpoints was plotted and the process undergone a second time. An outline mitigation strategy was developed to highlight the potential benefits of the landscape proposals.

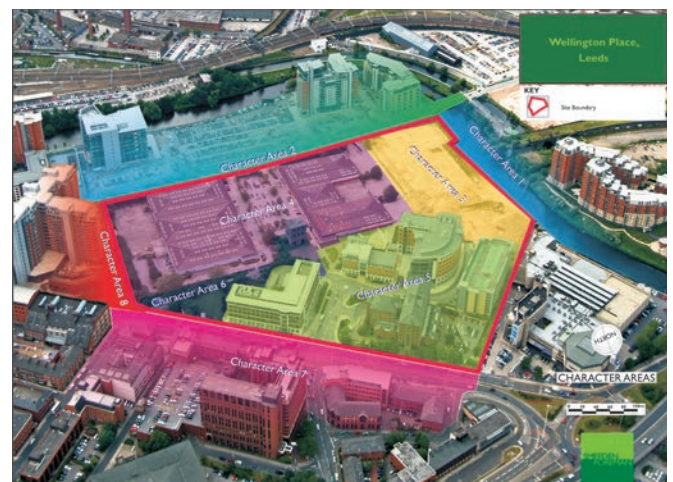
Once detailed proposals were better developed the landscape mitigation proposals were refined and the visual assessment re-run prior to an assessment of potential impacts.

Wellington Place, Leeds

Assessment



Likely Significant Effect	Nature of Effect (Permanent or Temporary)	Significance (Major, Moderate, Minor or Negligible) (Positive or Negative)	Mitigation / Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects (Major, Moderate, Minor or Negligible) (Positive or Negative)
Construction				
Impact of construction plant and activities on views and visual amenity.	Temporary	Minor to Moderate (Negative)	Screening of fencing should be used at the ground level to provide some screening. Contractor shall ensure that the site is kept tidy.	Minor (Negative)
Operation				
Effect of the new development on Townscape Character.	Permanent	Moderate to Major (Positive)	Not required	Moderate to Major (Positive)
Change in Local Views (traffic receptors)	Permanent	Moderate to Major (Positive)	Not required	Moderate to Major (Positive)
Change in Local Views (residential receptors)	Permanent	Negligible to Moderate (Negative)	The appearance of new development should be of a high quality to offset the loss of existing extensive views.	Negligible to Minor (Negative)
Change in Local Views (office receptors)	Permanent	Minor (Positive and Negative)	The new development should incorporate and appropriate level of street tree planting to soften the new development and retain a level of openness and green relief.	Negligible
Change in distant views of the site and the Leeds skyline.	Permanent	Minor (Positive)	Not required	Minor (Positive)
Shading of buildings on Wellington Street and buildings within the development.	Permanent	Minor to Moderate (Negative)	Shading of buildings outside of the development cannot be avoided. However it will only be buildings that front on to Wellington Street that will be affected so the number of receptors is low. Shading within the development has implications for the amount of daylight the individual buildings receive. This should be followed up in more depth as part of the detailed design process.	Minor (Negative)



Time Period: 2006-2007

Works Value: N/A

LI Work Stages: A to C

Smeeden Foreman was commissioned to prepare the townscape and visual assessment chapters for the Environmental Statement for this large scale development in the centre of Leeds.

A site masterplan had been prepared by the architects. A collection of documentation with scoping, concept and design information, was made available and from this, Smeeden Foreman

assessed the impact that the scale, layout and massing would have on this part of the city and its streetscape.

Both temporary impacts (during construction), and permanent impacts upon the site were considered.

Key issues were the impact on light and shade, accessibility and linkages, the importance of integration with the surrounding townscape, and the protection and enhancement of heritage features.

Cortonwood

Housing

SMEEDEN
FOREMAN



Time Period - Over 10 years
Works Value - Multiple projects
RIBA Work Stages - A to L

Smeeden Foreman have been involved in this site from the outset. The team developed the initial landform design for the reclamation of the colliery, and was involved in the project through to completion. The site is a mixed development for housing, recreation, retail, commercial and industrial uses.

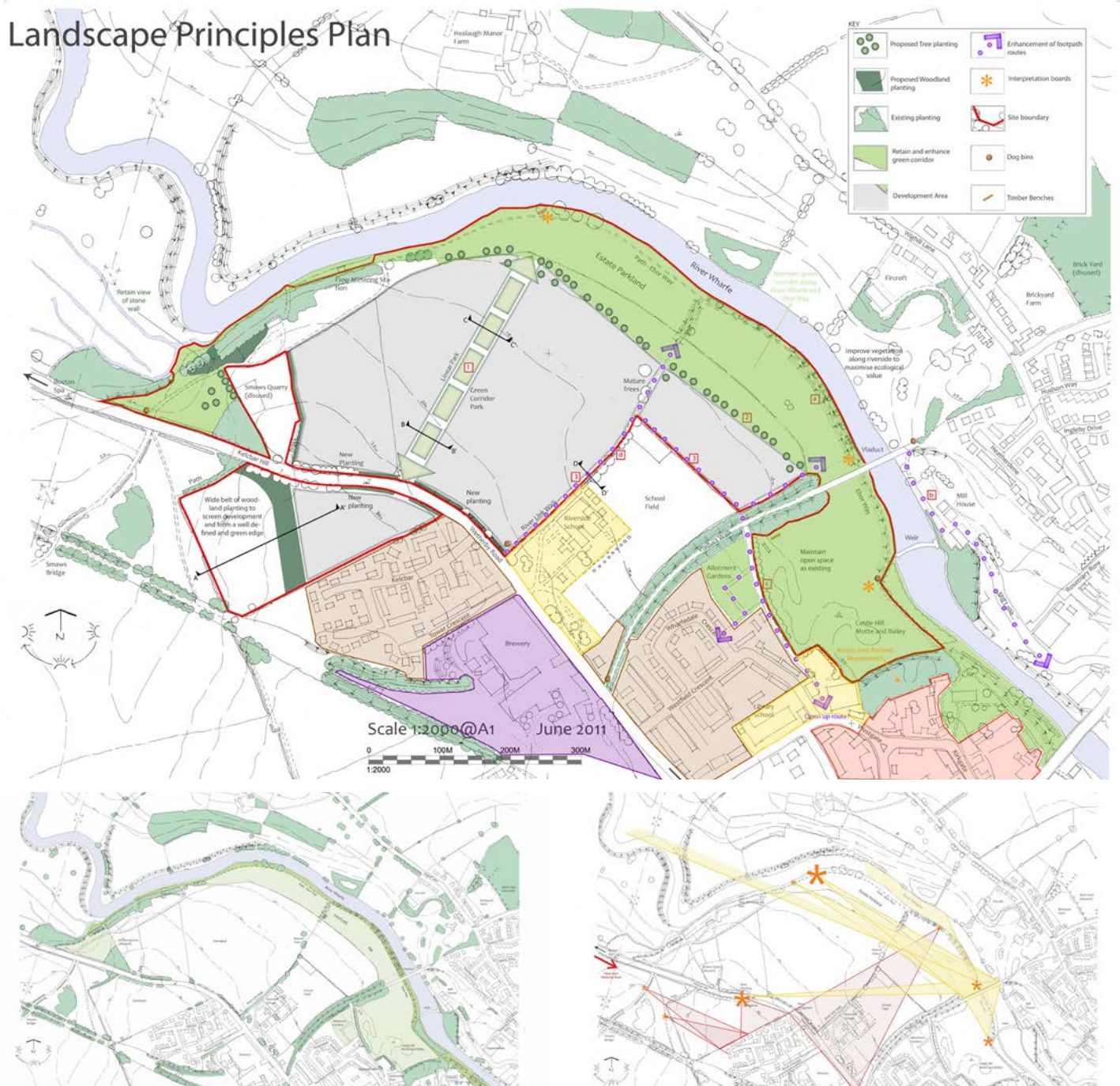
The scheme includes public open space for informal recreation, as well as playing fields and playgrounds. Large scale attenuating water bodies, including wetland, meadow, native shrub and woodland planting formed the bulk of the planting design. Footpaths and cycleways allow access between housing and retail and employment areas. (Morrison's Supermarket and a retail park, as well as call centres, offices and industrial and distribution facilities). The site is directly accessed from the Dearne Towns Link Road where Smeeden Foreman provided design contributions and expert witness services at public inquiry.

Tadcaster

Housing



Landscape Principles Plan



Time Period - Over 10 years
 Works Value - Multiple projects
 RIBA Work Stages - A to C

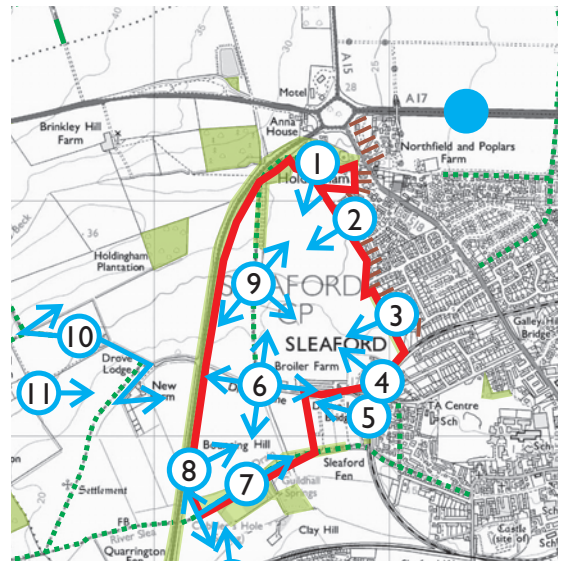
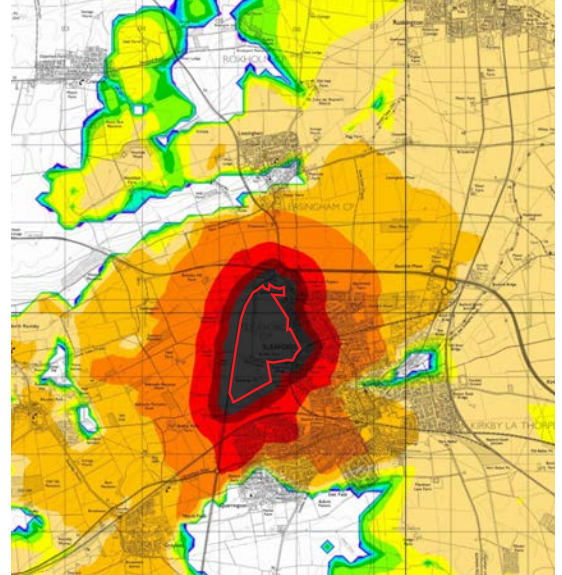
Smeeden Foreman were commissioned to carry out a Landscape and Visual Assessment and a Phase I ecological survey for a site which is being put forward by the landowner for housing allocation within the LDF process. It is a contentious site which is in Green Belt and next to a National Trail and Conservation Area. Careful consideration has therefore been required in relation to views across the site and distinctive characteristics that exist.

Smeeden Foreman then worked closely with PRA Architects to derive a landscape-led masterplan, which responded to the results of the assessment process and successfully integrated the substantial development within the landscape setting. The sustainability of the site was also considered with links to town centre amenities, SUDs and interpretation of local features and attractions highlighted as value-added interventions.

The proposals have been presented to key stakeholders in the town and have been favourably received. Smeeden Foreman shall now continue to progress the detail of the scheme and carry out further consultations.

Sleaford

Housing



Time Period - 2014 to date

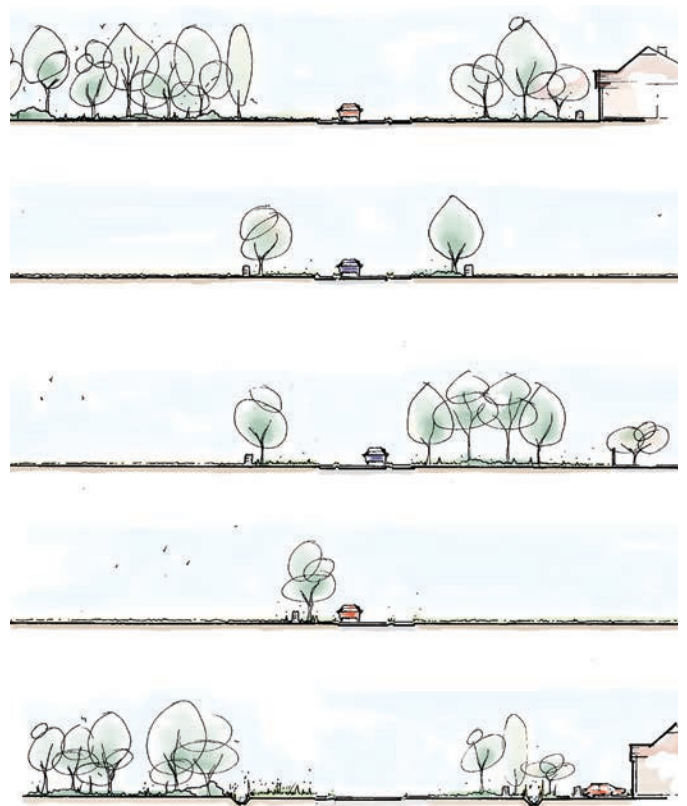
Works Value - N/A

RIBA Work Stages - A to C

Smeeden Foreman provided landscape, arboricultural and ecological surveys for an urban extension to Sleaford.

The work included extensive protected species surveys. The scheme has now achieved adoption by the local authority as an allocation.

Grimsby West Housing



Time Period - 2014 to Date

Works Value - N/A

RIBA Work Stages - A to C

Smeeden Foreman has undertaken landscape assessment to guide the masterplan process, working with the design team, and the local authority enabled by ATLAS to provide a scheme of Green/Blue infrastructure. The Smeeden Foreman team has also provided the basis for an application to the European Regional Development Fund for extensive environmental works.