

APPENDIX 4. 1 – ST AGNES LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT TABLE – ELEVATED UPLAND/PLATEAU EXPOSED LAND

CHARACTER AREA : Elevated upland/plateau exposed land					
Character Attribute	Ward – Blackwater	Ward - Mithian	Ward – Mount Hawke	Ward - Porthtowan	Ward – St Agnes
Topography and drainage					
What is the shape of the land?	Undulating plateau varying in height from 150m to 136m. There are three ridgelines spreading out from Chiverton Cross, the principal one running North West with the B3277 central to it. A broader ridge extends westwards with the road to Mount Hawke central to it, while the third extends northwards and is followed by the line of the road towards Mithian. There is the start of a significant valley between the principal ridge and that heading North. The valley is dry in its upper reaches.	There are three areas of exposed, flat topped elevated plateau. One large area in the north which forms a significant proportion of the land and two quite small areas in the south. Off the smaller areas one is 700m long by 300 wide and the other is 1000m by 200m. These are 130 m high and 110m high. The plateau in the north is 2500m by 1500m at its widest point. The highest point here is 104 m. It rises sharply to 100m from the coast with 2 steep incised valleys at its western and eastern edges. There are major and minor ridgelines which establish the watersheds for drainage. The major ridgeline runs north/south with water either draining west into Jericho Valley or eastwards into Perrancoombe Valley	Mount Hawke ward is straddled by three east-west trending elevated plateaus, each of which is flanked by intermediate sloping land incised at the western edge by two steep sided valleys with narrow valley bottoms broadening at their confluence. The northern of the three plateaus is windswept and gently slopes downward from east to west from Sevenmilestone to Towan Cross. The village of Mount Hawke sits on the middle plateau just spilling over its edges in the north and west. The southern plateau is more ridge like in the west (towards Mount Pleasant Farm) but has a broader undulating character to the east centring on Goonearl Farm and extending to Apex Garage (Mitchell & Webber).	Plateaus occur on four sides of Porthtowan, West, N/E, S/E and South, none having much topographical change within them. They each form the seaward extensions of major elevated plateaus with ridgelines which are parish-wide in extent, e.g. the southern component stretches from Mount Pleasant in Porthtowan ward, eastward towards the A30 between Scorrier and Blackwater. Each of the plateaus around Porthtowan are flanked by intermediate sloping land.	Upland plateau, much of which is very flat, with some sloping land with visible ridges seen. Only one area at Polberro has been quarried away by mining activity. Ropewalk, east of the village, follows the ridgeline to the coast road. Wheal Kitty has a large, flat area of higher ground, which then descends into the Trevaunance valley and the Peterville area of the village at the valley head.
What water is present?	No water features are present.	Source of some streams from the top of the plateau but no streams or water on the plateau	Localised small accumulations of water associated with ditches during times of heavy rain e.g. near Wheal Concord and near Sevenmilestone.	Water is not present in these locations.	No water present on the land.
Data source	<i>OS Map; aerial photographs</i>				
Biodiversity					
Does the area contain areas of 'semi natural habitat?	Wide verges currently with wildflowers. Fields bordered by Cornish hedges. There are unlikely to be semi-natural habitats within plantation woodlands.	Perranporth airfield contains a large area of semi- natural habitat between runways and around the perimeter of the site. Scrubland and plants including gorse, heather, brambles, furze and sea thrift. All these grow close to the ground. Elsewhere there are hedgerows with a variety of small trees and plants including foxgloves, brambles, three cornered leek, ferns and honeysuckle	Vestiges of Lowland Heath can be found typically on the remnants of former mining activity i.e. where a mine burrow (spoil tip) or shaft collar occurs e.g. a small area northwest of Menagissey. Some unimproved pasture. Well-vegetated diverse Cornish hedges particularly on the middle and southern plateaus.	West, mainly small improved fields, Cornish hedges, overgrown. N/E, medium to large scale fields merge into a semi natural habitat, stretching from Wheal Charlotte Moor to Towan Cross, consisting of mainly gorse, bramble and heather. S/E, medium to large scale fields stretching from Trevissick Farm Lane to Tywarnhayle, overgrown Cornish hedges. South, small/medium pasture and modified land, high Cornish Stone hedges to some fields, overgrown. Heathland habitat and overgrown hedges.	Historically, parts of this plateau were heavily mined and have now regenerated with gorse, bracken and scrub heathland, offering valuable bird cover and habitat. The same with the hedgerows and cornish hedges which offer "green corridors" for birds, lizards, adders and small mammals. This applies across the elevated plateau.
What elements of the character could support protected species?	Small copses and some mature plantations around the industrial unit on the B3277. The many Cornish hedges and the growth both on and next to them.	Cornish hedges evidence of animal paths (badgers or foxes) Variety of plant life	Unimproved areas could harbour protected species.	There are no invasive species in this assessment area.	Japanese knotweed, montbretia and an over abundance of three cornered leek present, particularly near quarry, at Polberro, in the dump.
Are there any invasive species?	Three cornered leek and montbretia.	No invasive species seen	Small areas of Japanese knotweed occur in several locations, notices indicate that in most cases this is regrowth on a previously treated area. <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> is present at Mongoose Plantation and occasionally elsewhere.		
Data source	<i>CWT Wildlife notes and maps, and local knowledge</i>				
		Environmental Mapping (Biodiversity and Geodiversity)			

Land cover and Land Use					
What is the land used for?	Arable and improved grassland. Caravan park and holiday homes. Teagles - industrial unit manufacturing farm machinery. Two football pitches at Chiverton	Several small caravan parks and camp sites. A large part of the area covered by the airfield and runway. Holiday village with leisure facilities. Arable land improved grassland is dominant away from the coastal scrubland. Arable land for vegetables(cauliflowers/ cabbages) daffodils and grassland for grazing (horses in fields with wooden shelters) Isolated farm houses and small clusters of houses (Trevellas)	Some arable but principally pasture mainly for beef and dairy, with sheep and in one case Llamas, pigs are also evident. Paddocks for horses more evident on the southern plateau where the smaller field pattern lends itself to this use. Break-up of larger farms has lead to a scattering of 'hobby farms' many of which have new agricultural buildings associated with them. On the northern plateau north of Gover Farm lies an 8MW solar farm covering approximately 44 acres (17.6 Ha). A cricket pitch with a small single storey building is present on the northern plateau. Allotments lie southeast of Mount Hawke village on the middle plateau. Several caravan sites and 28-day sites may be found throughout the area.	West, small improved fields, caravan club in farmer's field. Isolated residential property, private wind turbine to property. N/E, arable & improved fields, merging with heathland habitat at Wheal Charlotte Moor, stretching to Towan Cross. S/E – medium to large scale fields stretching from Trevisick Farm Lane to Tywarnhayle. South – Industrial workshops, events centre, allotments, camp site, private wind turbine at Mount Pleasant Eco Park. Improved fields, riding stables with modern 21 st century residential property, 20 th century farm house and outbuildings in grounds.	Wide variety of land use including recreational and amenity, particularly on old historical mining sites. Small businesses, campsite, public houses, and farming on the lower flanks of the Beacon and on most of the other elevated ground, especially to the south of the village. Both arable and pasture are evident. Scattered pockets of housing, including some isolated farms. New developments at Wheal Kitty and Polberro. Extensive evidence of mining and associated activities to the east of the village off Wheal Kitty rd.
What is the vegetation cover?	Mainly grass farmland, isolated copses and narrow plantations	Heather and gorse towards the cliffs and at the airfield. Farmland of mainly improved grassland and arable farmland. Pastoral agriculture. Very few trees	Improved farmland with mature Cornish hedges is the predominant vegetation character. The hedges become more wooded in the middle and southern plateaus tending to be less wooded on the northern plateau.	Vegetation cover West, N/E and S/E is dominated by farmland, which merges with heathland habitat at Wheal Charlotte Moor to Towan Cross. Vegetation cover in the south is mainly grassland at the Eco Park and small area of pasture land.	Heathland in small pockets at Polberro and Wheal Kitty. Also, some scrub with thorns, willow and some oak. Improved grassland in farming areas around Ropewalk.
Data source	<i>OS Map; aerial photographs, local knowledge</i>	Environmental Mapping (Agricultural land classification)			

Field and woodland pattern					
Where is the woodland located?	Copses, mainly broadleaf but with some coniferous, in low lying undulations on the plateau. Broadleaf plantations adjacent to the B3277 were planted in narrow strips to form wind-breaks between 1841 and 1880. These plantations include beech, sweet chestnut, laurel, oak, elder, willow and sycamore.	Very little woodland on the top of the plateau. This is mainly broadleaf and not ancient. Mainly sycamore trees	The single largest block of woodland is Mongoose Plantation at the eastern end of the northern plateau. Somewhat wind cropped on the south and western edges, the trees consist of Oak, Sycamore, Sweet Chestnut and Willow with stands of <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> . Where they occur, the hedgerow trees are a mixture of smaller specimens of Oak, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Elder with Sycamore and occasionally Ash and Holly. Coniferous trees are present but usually associated with clusters of development and probably more recently planted. Some non-native trees such as Eucalyptus recently planted near Splatt Lane. Near Coosewartha Farm there is a tree tunnel of Holm Oak and coppiced Beech. Larger trees are present on the western edge of Mount Hawke village, above Menagissey and at Skinners Bottom.	There is no woodland in this area of assessment.	Some scrubland and heath around old mining sites, with small trees-mostly oak, willow and thorn. Few conifers, a small plantation (shelter belt), seen at Higher Bal transitional land. Only one sunken green lane at Mongoose, forming a tree tunnel over a small road. (Just off plateau on transitional land.)
What size are the fields	Large and medium. This area contains some of the largest fields in the region due to its relatively late conversion to farm-land.	Variety of field sizes. Miners' small holdings particularly around Trevellas area. Medieval fields sloping down on to intermediate land by Trevellas Manor Farm and larger post medieval fields on top of plateau around the holiday park. Hedges have not been removed	Fields are generally rectilinear but hedge lines waver and contort with the undulations of the land. Field size tends to be larger on the northern plateau and both east of Mount Hawke and west of Mawla; these appear to be later enclosures. Smaller fields of the "miners' smallholding" type are more evident on the middle plateau around Mount Hawke Village, Towan Cross and on the southern plateau around Skinners Bottom and Apex Garage. A few broken boundaries and consolidations point to merging of smaller fields.	West, small improved fields, Cornish stone hedges not removed. N/E, medium and large fields Cornish stone hedges not removed. S/E, at Trevissick Farm Lane to Tywarnhayle, medium and large scale fields, Cornish stone hedges, not removed, some wire and wood fencing splitting fields. South at Mount Pleasant, small scale fields, Cornish stone hedges, and some hedges removed now posts and wire.	Fields are of mixed size, including some Medieval fields systems at Goonvrea. Most of the land is farmed and a few hedges have been removed.
What are the hedges made of?	The majority of boundaries are Cornish hedges, mostly made from granite and left in a natural state. Some post and wire fencing borders arable land above Blackwater.	Cornish hedges overgrown with vegetation. Local stone (Killas) construction.	Well-vegetated mature Cornish hedges with granite gate posts is the predominant field boundary type, some constructed from mine waste (borer marks) some from small stone cleared from fields. Stones are coursed in an upright style rather than on the bed with diminishing stone size in the upper courses although small stones in the mid courses can be common where needs must.	West and N/E, Cornish Stone hedges, overgrown. S/E Cornish Stone hedges, overgrown. Some wire and post and wooden fencing at Tywarnhayle in S/E. South, Cornish stone hedges, overgrown, some Cornish stone hedges removed now wire and post fencing,	Many earth hedgerows visible and some cornish hedges too.
What is the character of the hedge?	There are a few small trees, sculpted by the wind on the top of the hedges between fields, increasing in number towards Chiverton Cross. There are narrow strips containing wildflowers and vegetation on the field side of hedges. There are broader buffer zones with taller and denser vegetation on the sides of hedges adjacent to roads and tracks. The vast majority of hedges are unfenced. Hedge species include Hawthorn, sycamore, oak, willow, hazel, holly, dog roses and privet with some pines adjacent to Teagles.	Hedges sculptured by exposure. Very few trees and those present are stunted due to the wind and lean away from the sea winds No evidence of a buffer either side of the hedges and no fences	Hedges on the northern plateau tend to be close-cropped both by management and wind exposure; this is also true at the western end of the southern plateau and eastern end of the middle plateau.	Hedges to all assessment areas sculptured by exposure, buffer of vegetation to both sides of mainly bramble and gorse. There are no fences to tops of Cornish stone hedges. S/E at Tywarnhayle, some stunted blackthorn trees in hedges.	Most hedgerow scrub has been sculpted by the wind and a few stunted trees are present. No mature trees seen. Hedges are buffered by grassland and gorse predominantly. Only post and rail fencing seen in Goonbell on Station Rd.
Data source	<i>OS Map; aerial photographs, CWT Wildlife notes, and visit the area to confirm details</i>	Environmental Mapping (Trees and Woodland)			

<p>Settlement pattern</p> <p>How is the development distributed?</p> <p>Age and type of buildings and their relationship with the landscape are they</p> <p>What are the distinctive elements of the buildings?</p>	<p>Properties are scattered and are few in this character type; apart from those at Chiverton Cross there is a cluster of buildings at Teagles with a farm opposite.</p> <p>There is one isolated farm well screened by trees opposite Teagles. There is a disused church and hall, due for conversion to private residences, and a vicarage (all built in 1847 and grade 2 listed) at Chiverton Cross where there is also a caravan park and a holiday home park which centre around more modern residences (20th C). There is public house at Chiverton Cross which probably originates from a similar period to the church. It has been considerably extended in the last century and now incorporates a former blacksmiths as a row of holiday lets. At Teagles (industrial unit) there is a cluster of factory buildings and residences which have developed over time.</p> <p>The church was built from killas rubble with granite and freestone dressings stone. The church hall was also built from killas and probably has original three light casement windows. The vicarage is stuccoed and has some mullioned windows and axial chimneys. The caravan park residence has exposed slate on the ground floor with cement render above and three dormers. The holiday home residence is rendered and fronted by a large, very well maintained front garden, mainly laid to lawn. The Teagles site contains a number of low factory units built at different periods since 1930, an imposing older stone built residence with granite surrounds to the windows, a modern single storey suite of offices and two modern residences, one single and one double storey.</p>	<p>Single isolated farm houses and small intermittent clusters of buildings. Occasional holiday let cottage</p> <p>Large holiday park of concrete houses and recreational facilities.</p> <p>Small caravan parks usually next to farm houses</p> <p>Buildings mainly of local stone, slate roof, sash windows but many with modern extensions or annexes, granite gate posts, traditional farm buildings</p>	<p>Mount Hawke village with stone buildings at its core is the principal settlement of the three plateaus. Modern-day estate type and single developments have greatly extended the village with both single and two-storey buildings and these now define the character of the village at its edges and in the landscape generally even when viewed from a distance. The boundary of the village is well defined particularly on the south and east a feature that effectively sets the church, graveyard and vicarage outside of the village.</p> <p>A cluster of development exists at Towan Cross on the northern plateau where local stone is more evident in construction both in the cluster and in the isolated farms and cottages nearby e.g. Splat Farm. Development on the southern plateau is more scattered being a mix of modern residences, older stone built cottages, extended rural buildings, barn conversions and permutations of all of these.</p>	<p>West, isolated property. N/E & S/E There are no developments in these areas South, at Mount Pleasant Eco Park, small industrial units, horse riding stables cluster, modern residence attached to riding stables. Large open barn/ storage area, disused.</p> <p>West, 21st century isolated property. South, 21st century eco industrial units, at least one industrial unit built from 'rammed earth'. Riding stables, 20th century, new development, 21st century dwelling attached to riding stables, 20th century farm house, and 19th century open barn.</p> <p>West at Jollys Lane, modern residence, large glass windows, property has large acreage of land for grazing sheep etc, wire fence surrounding land. South, 20th century farm house at riding stables, local stone for construction. 21st century property attached to riding stables, no local stone, large windows, gated boundary to riding stables. Some rammed earth buildings at the Eco Park</p>	<p>Ribbon development along many roads within this character area. Some scattered housing and isolated farmsteads. Victorian mineworker type cottages made from local stone.</p> <p>Evidence of infill building on plots between older houses and bungalows, particularly in Wheal Kitty and Polberro, where the extent of new housing is considerable. A variety of design, using more urban materials in new individual builds, with more uniform materials on the small estates.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p><i>OS Map; aerial photographs, Historic Environment information, and visit the area to confirm details</i></p>	<p>Environmental Mapping (Principle Settlements)</p>			

Transport pattern					
What is the character of the roads?	Minor roads & the very straight B3277 running past Teagles The majority of roads are straight, with verges, those on the B3277 being wide in places. There is a tree tunnel near Teagles. There are no significant gradients.	One B road St Agnes to Perranporth. Bends round valleys it crosses but generally straight on the top of the plateau. Minor single track lanes to settlements	The roads of the three plateaus are unclassified apart from a small section of the B3277 which lies adjacent to the eastern end of the northern plateau and part of the former A30 at Apex Garage. Most roads have grass verges, management of which varies.	West, straight farm track, (Prow) level, to coast path. N/E, minor single track road, Towan Road, winding in places, hinterland pathways, some undulations. S/E, Bridleways at Trevissick Farm Lane some small bends, level, and Tywarnhayle, straight, level. South, minor, winding road, level. There are no tree tunnels or sunken lanes.	B3285, leading into the village from Goonbell/Railway Yard. Otherwise mostly minor roads-predominantly straight, but a few winding. Pavement present at the top of Goonbell, verges seen across elevated plateau. One tree tunnel at Mongoose
Describe the public rights of way	There are no public rights of way in this area.	Footpaths in good condition on top of plateau and signed. Easily accessible. Footpaths tend to follow field boundaries	Public rights of way – As shown on the map, both of the paths in the Menagissey, Skinners Bottom & Manor Parsley triangle no longer exist in full. Between Park Shady & Mount Hawke the path exists and is marked but is impassable. Other than the footpath going from Park Shady to Towan Cross, it seems that only bridle paths are viable.	West, Prow, farm lane, in poor condition, waterlogged and impassable most of time, used when not waterlogged. There are no signs. Not part of the historic field pattern.	Access to most paths is good and well sign-posted. Stiles are visible and well kept. New footpath opened at Ropewalk recently. Exposed paths leading to coast away from Polberro.
Are the roads and paths part of the historic field pattern?	The roads in this area are all relatively straight and follow the ridgelines across what was originally heathland. They connect Mithian, St. Agnes and Mount Hawke to Chiverton Cross and hence the A30 and Truro.	Lanes follow field pattern whereas B road to Perranporth generally straight on plateau section	Each of the east-west ridge lines is more or less followed by a road.	N/E PROW from Towan Cross to Wheal Charlotte Moor. In good condition, could be part of historic field pattern, used regularly, signage good. S/E, bridleway at Trevissick Farm Lane. Tarmac single track with grass to middle, good condition, used regularly by vehicles and walkers, could be part of historic field pattern, signage good. South, PROW to S/E of Mount Pleasant Eco Park land, leading to valley bottom at Porthtowan/ Mount Hawke valley road. Cut out of steeply sloping heathland approximately three years ago by owner of Eco Park. Good condition. Only used when events take place at Eco Park.	Some historical routes along Ropewalk and across Football Lane towards the coast and the mining areas.
Are there bridges?	There are no bridges in this area.	No bridges on plateau	The course of the former Chacewater to Newquay branch line cuts through each plateau there being three road bridges over the now filled railway cuttings one associated with each plateau. Only one wall of one bridge is visible above ground and this lies on the southern plateau at the roadside near the entrance to Wheal Briton Coaches.	There are no stiles or bridges in any of the assessment areas.	There are bridges to be found at ST. Agnes railway yard and at Goonbell Halt, remnants from the old Newquay/Chacewater line. The roads and paths/lanes are mostly unlit and "Dark sky" is present, particularly in the areas of the Beacon and Goonbell.
Data source	<i>OS Map; aerial photographs local knowledge and visit the area to confirm details</i>	Environmental Mapping (Access and Rights of Way)			

<p>Historic Features</p> <p>Are there features in the landscape?</p> <p>The features will have their own setting.</p>	<p>Mithian Church (1847), widely in view, is now disused but a listed building.</p> <p>Two barrows (listed), overgrown and would not be recognisable as such unless you had an OS map. The whole of this area is former heathland which was enclosed as farmland between 1841 and 1880. Wind sculpted low trees along Cornish hedges.</p> <p>Wind turbines, mobile phone mast and pylons.</p> <p>Mature plantations close to the B3277 near Teagles are near to forming a tunnel.</p> <p>Retain – Cornish Hedges, wide verges and mature plantations for wildlife. Retain the open and isolated feel of the landscape.</p>	<p>Airfield designated as WW2 scheduled monument. (Spitfire revetments and underground bunkers)</p> <p>Listed farm buildings near the edge of the plateau Listed thatch cottage next to Mithian School</p> <p>Evidence mine shafts and surface remains near Higher Trevellas Farm but no conserved engine house of chimney</p> <p>Mithian School distinctive building on plateau at 100m above sea level on edge of the plateau</p> <p>Tumulus south of Wheal Davey Farm</p>	<p>The northern plateau contains two ancient barrows, one within Mongoose Plantation the other in an adjoining field, and the Jubilee Stone (at the geographic centre of St. Agnes parish). The Sevenmilestone. There is a Holm Oak tree tunnel next to Coosewartha Farm.</p> <p>The middle plateau has remnant mine dumps south of Mount Hawke village (marked Wheal Ellen on O.S. map); Mount Hawke Church (opened in 1878) is where the first clerk insisted on ringing the service bell according to sundial time (GMT still not widely accepted at the time).</p> <p>The southern plateau bears remnants of mining centring on the prominent abandoned engine house of North Treskerby Mine at Doctor's Shaft (the 80" engine from here was sold in 1891). The timber headgear of Wheal Concord is also visible on this plateau (bought from another mine and installed in the mid 1980s).</p>	<p>There are no historic features in the assessment areas.</p> <p>Only a handful of stunted blackthorn trees to Cornish hedges in S/E, there are no tree tunnels.</p> <p>It is important to retain high graded farmland for crops, and good quality grazing land, heathland habitats and PROWs.</p>	<p>Mine dumps and chimney at Polberro, shafts, engine houses and chimneys at Wheal Kitty.</p> <p>There is a barrow recorded at Hurlingburrow, not seen from the road. Tree tunnel on road at Mongoose on transitional land. Beacon (own assessment sheet.) Monterey pines maturing on skyline at top of coast rd at Goonlaze.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p><i>Use local knowledge, Historic Environment information - Historic Landscape Character Assessment Heritage Designations; aerial photographs and visit the area to confirm details</i></p>	<p>Environmental Mapping (Heritage Designations and Historic Landscape Character Types)</p>			

<p>Condition</p> <p>In what state/appearance are the characteristics of the area?</p> <p>Are there areas where improvements could be made to enhance the character of the area?</p> <p>How is the area managed?</p>	<p>The bulk of this area is actively, well managed farmland. Properties and their grounds are well maintained. However, there is evidence of fly tipping in a lay-by, at farm gateways and on verges.</p> <p>Regular inspection and clearance of fly tipping.</p> <p>Improved grassland and tree plantations well managed. Cornish hedges are mostly left natural and will provide wildlife habitat.</p>	<p>Buildings and land well maintained. No degradation seen. Hedgerows overgrown in parts but natural. Road verges clear. Roads in good condition and some recently resurfaced.</p>	<p>Apart from bridle paths, the public rights of way are in a poor state or in some cases sections no longer exist. Reviewing the upkeep and status of existing public rights of way with a view to improving or re-establishing them is essential. Small areas of water can accumulate in the verges e.g. between Skinners Bottom and Wheal Concord.</p> <p>The engine house of North Treskerby Mine is deteriorating and its walls and stack would benefit from re-pointing. Addressing invasive species such as Japanese knotweed and Rhododendron may be beneficial. Management to retain or extend heathland where it occurs could be advocated through practical advice. Promotion of Cornish hedge laying techniques with practical support would help retain this distinctive facet of local character. Good practice guidance should be issued to hedge and verge owners making clear their responsibilities and advocating maintenance of local character type.</p> <p>Efficient management for intensive arable cropping is evident (e.g. for brassicas) but most of the land is maintained in good condition for grazing. Removal of granite gate-posts to admit modern machinery is evident in a few cases. Repair of Cornish hedges in an authentic style is rare.</p>	<p>West, lane, PROW to coast path degraded, otherwise area in good condition. All other areas of assessment in good condition</p> <p>Improvement could be made to Factory Farm Lane in the West. This lane is almost always impassable as a route to the coastal path.</p> <p>West, lane not managed, fields managed by farmers. N/E, fields and heathland, good condition, managed by farmer and N.T. S/E, Trevissick Farm Lane to Tywarnhale, good condition, managed by Trevissick Farm. South, minor road managed by Highways, Eco Park and riding stables, managed by owners, fields managed by farmers, in good condition All areas of assessment, overgrown Cornish Hedges provide habitat. N/E heathland habitat from Wheal Charlotte Moor to Towan Cross.</p>	<p>There is some scrubland habitat loss, due to new pockets of housing appearing in Polberro and Wheal Kitty.</p> <p>Very little shelter or tree cover generally. Appropriate tree planting would perhaps enhance the scrubby areas, adding greater diversity and more shelter.</p> <p>Some pockets of rubbish left along the waysides, perhaps more bins in the more remote areas would help this? Hedges also suffering from damage due to insensitive flailing.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p><i>Use local knowledge and visit the area to confirm details</i></p>				

<p>Aesthetic and sensory</p> <p>Describe the level of tranquillity,</p> <p>How is the landscape experienced?</p> <p>How will the experience of the area change through the seasons?</p> <p>What is the level of light pollution at night?</p>	<p>Skylarks singing, some intermittent traffic noise, particularly near to the B3277, but relatively quiet.</p> <p>Windswept and uncluttered on this exposed relatively high plateau. Wind strength, agricultural 'seasons' and what is currently growing in the verges. The predominant wind direction is South West.</p> <p>Light pollution is very low in the immediate area but can be affected by nearby towns, particularly when cloudy.</p>	<p>Calm and mainly undisturbed. Bird song Distant road noise from A30. Occasional aircraft noise from Perranporth aerodrome</p> <p>Exposed and windswept being remote in parts. Very open and uncluttered Prevailing SW wind which can be strong. No shelter.</p> <p>Very little light pollution.</p>	<p>The windswept and open northern plateau with its far reaching views can be invigorating. A similar effect may be experienced at the western end of the southern plateau.</p> <p>The middle plateau is dominated by Mount Hawke village and the comings and goings of daily traffic associated with a vibrant small village. The mature hedgerows of the southern plateau give the illusion of a more sheltered countryside but the eastern end of the plateau suffers from background A30 traffic noise and occasional mainline railway noise particularly around Skinners Bottom/Wheal Concord to Apex Garage.</p> <p>The succession of hedgerow blossom (Blackthorn, Hawthorne, Elder) with the associated succession of hedgerow herbs and flowers is striking in spring and early summer. Predominant wind direction is southwest. Some wind pruning is evident in exposed locations.</p> <p>Some light pollution from Mount Hawke. Reflected orange light from Redruth in cloudy conditions.</p>	<p>West, tractor noise, bird song. Wind & sea noise. N/E, quiet, calm, open/windswept, bird song, occasional tractor noise. S/E, quiet, occasional vehicle, birdsong. South, muted noise from industrial workshops at Eco Park, very loud music during events, traffic noise, bird song. Landscape in all areas of assessment exposed, windswept, only noise is occasional tractor and muted noise from workshops and riding stables in South.</p> <p>Quiet in winter. Heathland in N/E changes colour with various seasons. Wind direction S/W summer, N/W winter.</p> <p>No lighting in this assessment area.</p>	<p>Predominantly calm, quiet areas with big open sky and extended views, some panoramic, eg. the Beacon (separate sheet.) The exception to this is the small area along the B road into St. Agnes, where road traffic and farm noise is louder.</p> <p>The landscape is mostly exposed (often windy), rugged and sculptural and in places feels remote.</p> <p>There is a considerable change in colour in the landscape in the heathland areas, when the heath and gorse are in flower. Wind direction is SW, sometimes fierce, and there is little shelter available on the plateau generally.</p> <p>Very little light pollution throughout.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p><i>Use local knowledge and visit the area to confirm details</i></p>				
<p>Distinctive features</p> <p>Specific features. The features will have their own setting.</p>	<p>Visible features – church tower, scheduled monuments (barrows), wind turbines, power lines with pylons, telecommunication mast, Cornish Hedges and granite gateposts. These features stand out because there are few of them and they are located in a very open, relatively flat landscape. The B3277 runs very straight through the middle of the plateau.</p>	<p>WW2 scheduled monument at Perranporth airfield, Mithian School, listed farmhouse buildings including Trevellas Manor Farm, isolated cottages, tumulus, Thatched cottage next to Mithian School</p> <p>Far reaching views in all directions, (Cubert Church tower, Carn Brea monument, Perranporth sand dunes, The Beacon, wind turbines, sea views from the airfield)</p> <p>Large exposed open space</p>	<p>Mongoose Barrows and Solar Farm on the northern plateau. Masonry walls defining the road from the plateau at Gover Farm to Mount Hawke.</p> <p>On the middle plateau, Mount Hawke Church and Vicarage; 'Cumber Homes' development is distinctive if somewhat at odds with the landscape when viewed from Gover.</p> <p>On the southern plateau, North Treskerby engine house; Wheal Concord headgear; power lines with latticework pylons and one small wind turbine near Concord.</p>	<p>West, private wind turbine at residential property on Jollys Lane, power lines to property, some granite gate posts. N/E, distinctive feature in this area is the beautiful, reasonably undisturbed heathland habitat. S/E power lines to Trevissick farm crossing PROW and farm land. South, private wind turbine at Mount Pleasant Eco Park, power lines to Eco Park and riding stables, local stone to original stables farm house. There are no distinctive trees on skyline, telecommunication masts etc.</p> <p>It is important to retain high quality farm land and good grazing land. It is also vitally important to retain the heathland habitat.</p>	<p>There are views of wind turbines and solar panels in fields. Telegraph poles and cables at Wheal Kitty were detrimental to coastal views. Industrial heritage buildings are abundant in the landscape throughout-built from local stone, as are many of the older village dwellings. Trevellas airfield is visible from Wheal Kitty, along with one of the very few views over the village to both the Church and Stippy Stappy. Large private dwellings more evident and appearing on the skyline more frequently; detrimental to setting</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p><i>Use local knowledge, Historic Environment information</i></p>	<p>Environmental Mapping (Heritage Designations and Biodiversity and Geodiversity)</p>			

<p>Views</p> <p>Are there any important vantage points?</p>	<p>From the lay-by adjacent to the telecommunications mast, one of the highest points on the plateau, there are views to St Agnes Beacon, Carn Brae and Kenwyn Parish.</p>	<p>Extensive far reaching 360 degree views from most places on the elevated plateau and where plateau meets the cliffs and valley sides Views of The Beacon, Perranporth sand dunes, Carn Brea, Mithian School</p>	<p>These are mainly ridgeline views with a hilltop view at Coosewartha (see map). Sevenmilestone looking south and west. Towan Cross looking north (towards St. Agnes Beacon). South of Mongoose plantation looking south and west towards Mount Hawke. From close to Gover Farm entrance before dropping down the hill towards Mount Hawke. The ridgeline above Mawla particularly looking north over the World Heritage Site. South and west from the entrance to Coosewartha Farm towards the fine examples of tree lined hedges below Menagissey and in the valley. North and west from the junction of the Wheal Rose to Porthtowan road and the road from Coosewartha.</p>	<p>Vantage points in N/E to coast and to St Agnes Beacon, S/E towards St Agnes Beacon, the coast and Carne Brea, South, magnificent views to coast, Tywarnhale, St Agnes Beacon and Carn Brea.</p>	<p>Unique view from Football Lane, with the village in the foreground and Beacon as backdrop. View from Wheal Kitty over the whole village, just as transition occurs onto sloping land. View from Wheal Kitty to Trevellas airfield across the Trevellas valley. View from Ropewalk across farmland to the Beacon.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p><i>OS Map; Use local knowledge</i></p>				
<p>Key characteristics</p> <p>What features stand out from completing the assessment sheet as being a key characteristic of the area?</p>	<p>Large open, level fields, bounded by Cornish hedges with far reaching views studded by pylons and wind turbines. Features of significant height stand out because there are few of them and the landscape is relatively flat.</p>	<p>Exposed plateau with 360 degree views. WW2 airfield and listed buildings. Part is in the World Heritage Site</p> <p>Unspoilt area of natural beauty with a small population. Medieval field system. Tourist area</p>	<p>An active agricultural landscape set in a mosaic of mainly medium to small fields of improved pasture with some modern commercial arable uses. Smallholdings and hobby farming evident throughout possibly more prevalent on the southern plateau. Cornish hedges of upright coursed stones supporting vegetation in places close cropped by exposure to wind (and by land management) and elsewhere well lined with established trees. Scattered development some of which is historically linked to past metalliferous mining activity of which North Treskerby Engine House is the single most prominent remaining landmark. The village of Mount Hawke now characterised by modern development at its edges, sits awkwardly at the centre of this landscape character type.</p>	<p>Magnificent distant views of coast, village, St Agnes Beacon and Carne Brea. Overgrown hedges for habitat and heathland habitat.</p>	<p>Sense of space, light and quiet with extensive windy ridged views. Big sky, dark at night. A general feeling of remoteness and peace.</p> <p>This applies to all the elevated areas, with exception of the junction at the end of Station rd where it meets the B road into the village.</p>
<p>Relationship to the adjacent assessment area(s)</p>	<p>There is a gentle transition to lower lying land with an increasing gradient and denser growth on the Cornish hedges.</p>	<p>There is a marked transition between the cliffs and the very steep valley sides of Jericho valley. No gradual change</p> <p>Intermediate sloping land shown on Map 1 is quite steep where it is adjacent the plateau areas.</p>	<p>This landscape type extends into Porthtowan ward to the west towards Mount Pleasant Farm, Blackwater and Mithian wards to the east (in respect of larger fields) and St. Agnes ward to the north as an extension of the smaller field character of Towan Cross into Mongoose.</p>	<p>Transition is between this landscape and intermediate sloping land which in all locations is fairly steep, giving way over a very short distance in several instances to steeply sloping land. This is especially the case to the west of Porthtowan village and in the vicinity of Mount Pleasant Eco-park.</p>	<p>The land shifts from high plateau to either intermediate sloping farmland,(including coastal farmland), amenity land or ribbon housing development, which does not respect the boundaries between character types. The shift is either towards the village, which is more extensively built up, or out towards the coast, which maintains an overall quiet landscape with less and more widely scattered housing.</p>