

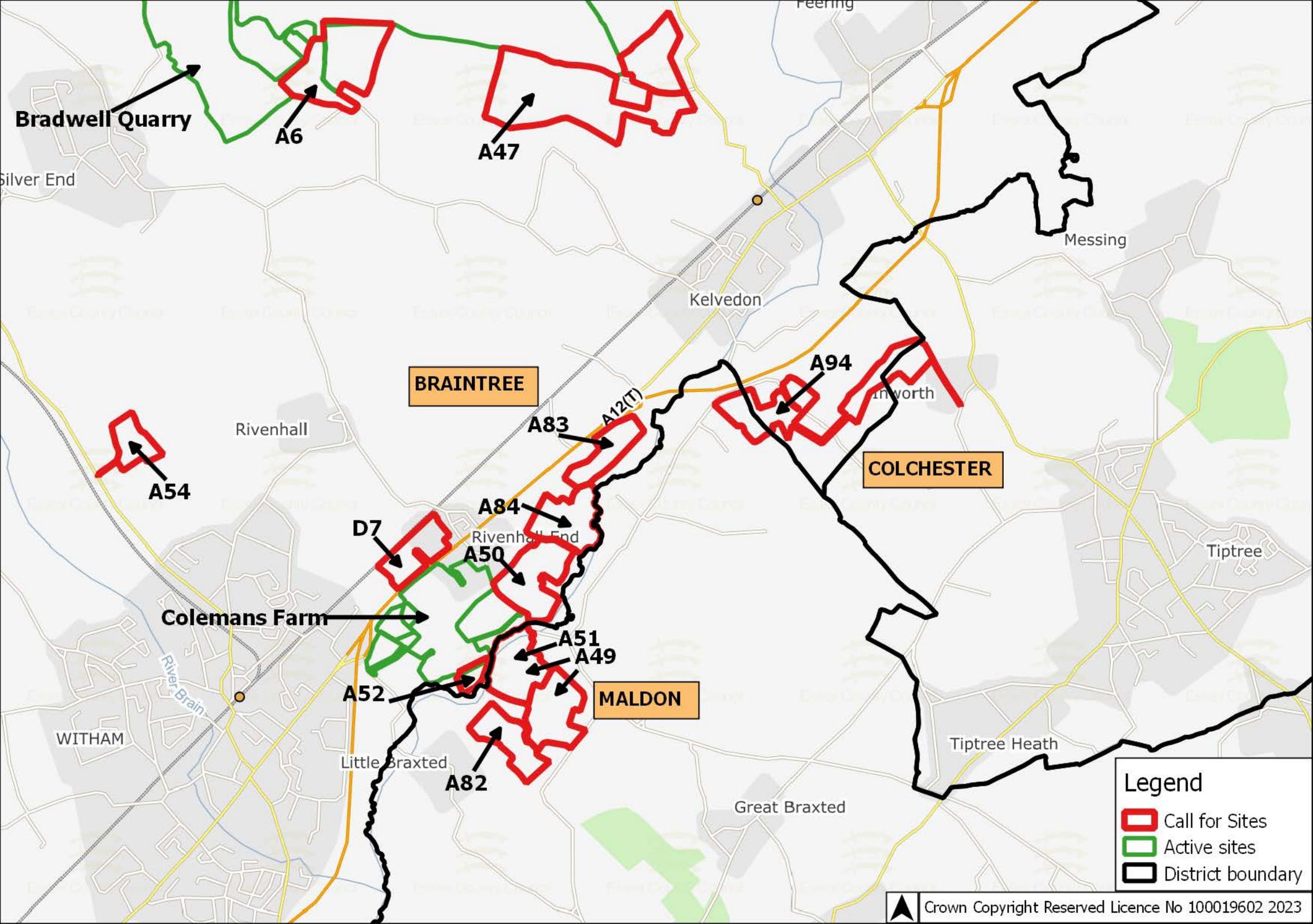
BRAINTREE

UTTLESFORD

CHELMSFORD

Legend

-  Call for Sites
-  Active sites
-  District boundary



Bradwell Quarry

A6

A47

Silver End

Kelvedon

Messing

BRAINTREE

A94

COLCHESTER

Rivenhall

A54

A83

A12(T)

Tiptree

D7

A84

Rivenhall End

A50

Coleman's Farm

A51

A49

River Brain

A52

MALDON

Tiptree Heath

WITHAM

Little Braxted

A82

Great Braxted

Legend

-  Call for Sites
-  Active sites
-  District boundary

<i>Candidate Site Reference</i>	<i>Candidate Site Name</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Existing use</i>	<i>Site Area (ha)</i>	<i>Potential Yield (million tonnes)</i>
A47	Bradwell – Monk’s Farm	Braintree	Agricultural	84.8	4

The Site is promoted as an extension to an existing mineral Site (Bradwell Quarry) and is located to the east of Bradwell Quarry. The Site area is approximately 84.8 ha and is proposed for 4 million tonnes of sand and gravel extraction which would be processed through the existing on-Site washing and screening plant located within Bradwell Quarry. The submission notes that the Site’s mineral extraction operations would commence in a planned and systematic manner consecutively to the existing mineral site. The adjoining uses include agricultural fields, and residential, farm, and commercial buildings. The village of Kelvedon is located south and south east of the Site. The Site would be accessed using the existing access from the A120 and the internal haul road would be extended. See Appendix J for a detailed map of the Site.

Summary of RAG Assessment

The results of the technical and desktop RAG assessment are detailed below.

Landscape and Visual Sensitivity	Biodiversity	Historic Buildings	Archaeology	Flooding	Transport	Access	Public Rights of Way	Geo-Environmental	Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Drainage	Air Quality	Soil Quality	Services & Utilities	Health & Amenity	Green Belt	Airport Safeguarding Zones
Amber	Amber /Green	Red/ Amber	Amber /Green	Amber	Green	Green	Red/ Amber	Green	Amber	Green	Amber	Amber	Red/ Amber	Green	Green

Key findings of the assessment are as follows:

- The Site possesses few characteristic features of the Blackwater/Brain/Lower Chelmer Valleys (C6) Landscape Character Area (LCA), which includes the predominantly arable farmland and well hedged fields. The River Blackwater and associated valley features has limited presence within the immediate landscape, and therefore reduces the sensitivity of the Site to minerals extraction.
- There are few important landscape designations within the surrounding landscape, with the exception of a few Priority Habitats (Deciduous Woodland and Woodpasture/Parkland) within the wider landscape.
- Site A47 comprises a number of arable fields with numerous boundary and internal Hedgerows and lines of mature trees and associated ditches, which are Priority habitats. There are two small areas of woodlands adjacent to the boundaries- one of which is mixed plantation- and some ponds on the

boundaries. Pantling's Lane border of the Site is an historic lane bordered by Hedgerows and Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland Priority habitat.

- There are two Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) within 500 m of the Site. Upney Wood LoWS is c.355 metres to the west and is an ancient woodland, and therefore irreplaceable habitat. Coggeshall Hall Farm LoWS is c.425m metres east of the Site; this LoWS is a river valley site and the adjacent sections of the River Blackwater are also included.
- The access route for the haul road is not provided but it could require cutting through Pantling's Lane, which would dissect this important wildlife corridor and this should be avoided if at all possible. Dewatering would be required which could have an impact on the surrounding habitats.
- The Site is graded Amber /Green because ecological impacts are likely to be minor and likely to require low levels of mitigation to make the Site acceptable. The Site could have a moderate impact upon the natural environment including and Priority habitats and species due to the loss of a number of Hedgerows and watercourses and potential hydrological impacts to retained habitats.
- Mitigation is likely to include prevention of hydrological changes to retained habitats, appropriate buffers between the Quarry and retained habitats; and prevention of deterioration of water quality to watercourses. In addition, phasing to minimise impacts and rapid restoration and creation of new replacement habitats. Adequate and appropriate compensation may be required for the loss of Hedgerows, the watercourse, and losses of habitat for Priority farmland species.
- The allocation would affect the setting of the following designated heritage assets:
 - Monks Farm Cottages, Pantlings Lane (Grade II, List UID: 1171147)
 - Pound Farmhouse, Coggeshall Road (Grade II, List UID: 1123812).
- The Site will have no direct impact to any heritage assets; the impact will be indirect, due to a change to the assets' settings. Due to the proximity of the Site to the listed buildings identified above, and the contribution the Site makes to the significance of these buildings, the proposed Site is considered to cause either a mid or a low level of harm to their significance.
- The effect on Monks Farm Cottages will be higher than the effect on the significance of Pound Farmhouse, due to the location of the Site. Whilst the Site is part of the wider setting of Pound Farmhouse, the Site is part of the immediate setting of Monks Farm Cottages and will all but entirely encircle this heritage asset. The Site will affect the setting of Monks Farm Cottages in a way which is considered to cause a mid-level of less than substantial harm to the significance of the asset. The harm to the significance of Pound Farm is at the lower end of less than substantial.

- The undeveloped, agrarian landscape of the Site contributes to the setting and significance of these assets and the fundamental change in land use and land character would undermine the ability to understand and appreciate their significance.
- The Site lies within an area of archaeological features as identified through aerial photographic evidence. The Site contains evidence for an historic field boundary of unknown date and historic landscape features.
- There is potential for evidence for Medieval and later settlement along Pantlings Lane
- The Site is assessed as having a 'medium' potential for surface water flood risk as identified within the SFRA.
- The Site has been identified as having a 'medium' groundwater flood risk.
- The Site is entirely within Flood Risk Zone 1 and therefore is not at risk from fluvial flooding.
- 3 Public Rights of Way cross the Site. 2 Public Rights of Way are within 100m of the Site. Appropriate consideration would be needed to mitigate potential impacts on these Public Rights of Way and high levels of mitigation may be required which is likely to include diversion especially with regard to those Public Rights of Way crossing the Site.
- The Site within Zone III Total Catchment Groundwater SPZ and has medium to low groundwater vulnerability. The Site is within a Drinking Water Safeguard Zone (Surface Water) and is within Drinking Water Protection Areas (Surface Water). No water body is present within the Site boundary. Appropriate consideration would be required to mitigate potential impacts on hydrology, hydrogeology, and drainage.
- The Site contains Grade 2 quality soil (very good quality agricultural land) which is BMV land. Appropriate consideration would be required to mitigate the impacts on soil quality and agricultural land – this is likely to include removal of soils for stockpiling prior to reuse, potentially in site restoration.
- The Site is within 250m of a high pressure gas mains (National Grid Gas). Further investigation and consultation would be needed to determine appropriate mitigation measures to make the Site acceptable which may include diversion and/or protection of services and utilities.
- Three commercial buildings and a farm building are outside the Site boundary less than or equal to 20m from the Site. One commercial building, one residential building and two farm buildings are more than 20m but less than or equal to 50m from the Site. One farm building and twenty eight residential buildings are more than 50m but less than or equal to 250m from the Site. Given the proximity of sensitive receptors, high levels of mitigation are likely to

be required to make the Site acceptable in terms of impacts on health and amenity e.g. high level noise screening and extensive dust suppression measures.

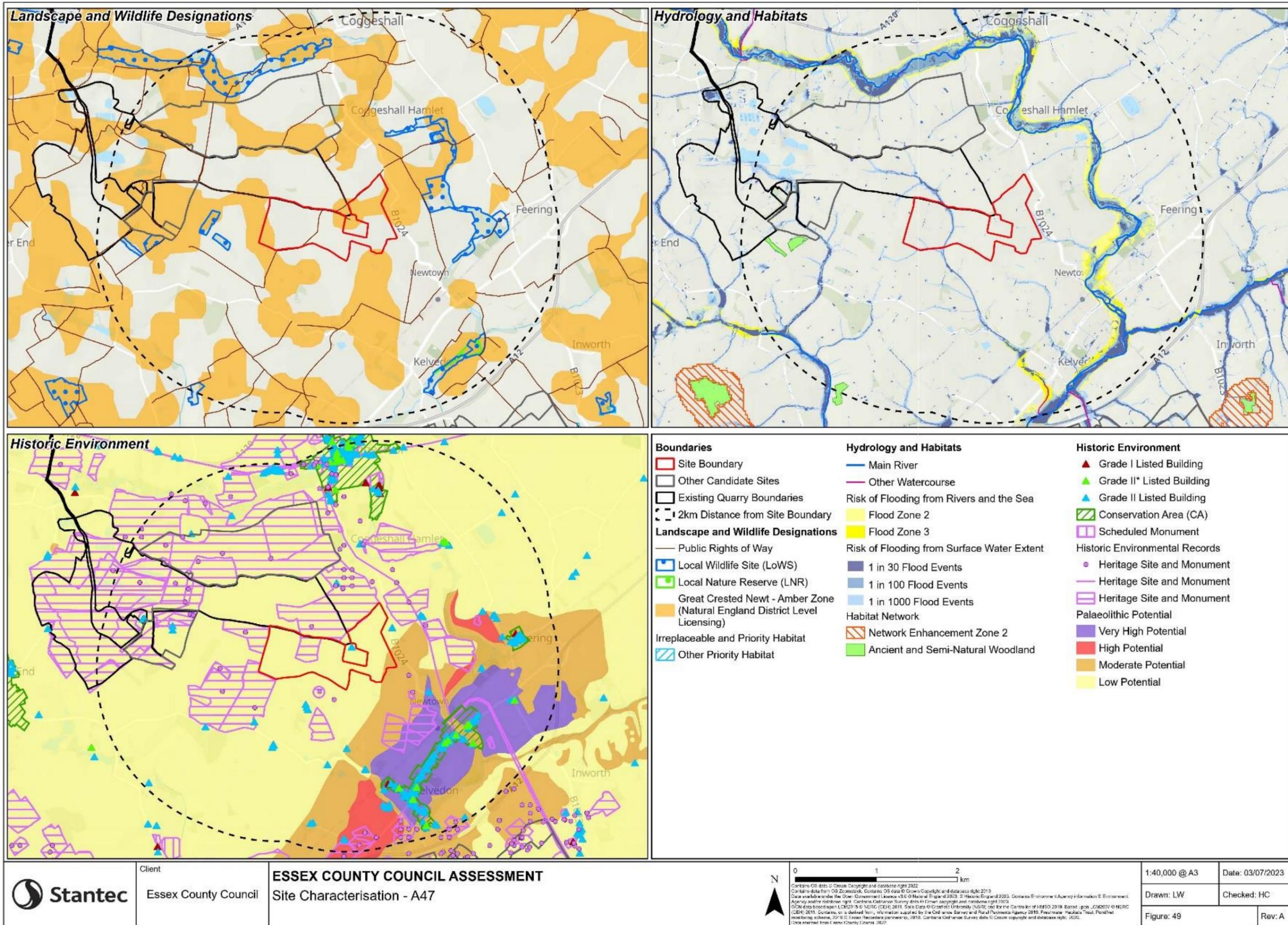


Figure 3.5: A47 - Bradwell – Monk’s Farm

The information and maps above represent a summary of the site assessment. You are encouraged to view the methodology and more detailed assessment for each site within appendices B-I. These can be found on the Candidate Sites Assessment webpage on our consultation pages:

www.essex.gov.uk/minerals-review

Appendix B - Landscape and Visual Sensitivity

Appendix C - Biodiversity

Appendix D - Historic Buildings

Appendix E - Archaeology

Appendix F - Flooding

Appendix G - Transport

Appendix H – Access

Appendix I - Public Rights of Way, Geo-Environmental, Hydrology, Hydrogeology & Drainage, Air Quality, Soil Quality, Services & Utilities, Health & Amenity, Green Belt, and Airport Safeguarding Zones