Amended Claim Form by order of Mrs Justice Collins Rice dated 16 January 2025

Claim Form
(CPR Part 8)

In the King's Bench Division, Royal Courts of Justice	
Claim no.	
Fee Account no.	**PBA 0087211**
Help with Fees - Ref no. (if applicable)	H W F - -

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
17 Jan 2025
QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION
SEAL

KB-2025-000136
DATE OF ISSUE
15/01/2025

Claimant(s)

(1) WM MORRISON SUPERMARKETS LIMITED of Hilmore House, Gain Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD3 7DL

(2) SAFEWAY STORES LIMITED of Hilmore House, Gain Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD3 7DL

(3) WM MORRISON PRODUCE LIMITED of Hilmore House, Gain Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD3 7DL

Defendant(s)

~~(1) PERSONS UNKNOWN AS DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE 1~~
~~(2) PERSONS UNKNOWN AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE 1~~

(1) PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO ENTER AND REMAIN UPON ANY OF THE SITES WHICH ARE DEFINED IN SCHEDULE 1 TO THE CLAIM FORM WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE CLAIMANTS IN CONNECTION WITH AGRICULTURAL PROTESTS (AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN SCHEDULE 1 TO THE CLAIM FORM)

(2) PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO CREATE OR CAUSE BLOCKADES AND OTHER OBSTRUCTIONS TO THE ACCESS WAYS TO THE SAID SITES, WHICH ARE SHOWNS ON THE PLANS AT SCHEDULE 2 TO THE CLAIM FORM, WITH OR WITHOUT VEHICLES, INCLUDING TRACTORS OR OTHERWISE, IN CONNECTION WITH AGRICULTURAL PROTESTS (AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN SCHEDULE 1 TO THE CLAIM FORM)

Defendant's name and address	Persons Unknown

	£
Court fee	626.00
Legal representative's costs	TBC
Issue date	

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Claim No.	

Details of claim (continued)

1. The First Claimant trades as 'Morrisons' and is one of the UK's leading supermarket operators. It employs over 100,000 people and procures, manufactures, markets, and supplies various products through in-store and online portals. The First Claimant and its group companies operate across approximately 1,700 retail sites across the UK, including supermarkets and convenience stores. The 'Morrisons' business operates various regional distribution centres which serve the First Claimant's supermarket and wholesale business.

2. The Second Claimant operates certain retail supermarket stores under the First Claimant's 'Morrisons' brand. The principal activity of the Third Claimant is the purchasing and packing of produce for the First Claimant's business and third parties. The Second and Third Claimants are subsidiaries of the First Claimant.

3. The Claimants, between them, have an immediate right to possession of the 8 retail distribution centres hereafter collectively referred to as the "**RDCs**". Between them the Claimants own and/or occupy and operate the RDCs as part of their business and distribution networks in the UK.

4. The details of the Claimants' Land, their title and their business is set out in more detail in the witness statement of Andrew James Todd filed herewith ("Todd").

5. The Defendants are opposed to changes announced by the Government announced in the Autumn Budget 2024 to reduce the scope and rate of agricultural property relief and business property relief from 6 April 2026 and for fair pricing for food and food security ("the Demands"). They have expressed an intention to continue to protest for the Demands by disrupting, blocking, and disrupting the food retail and distribution industry / supermarket operators to raise awareness and bring about the Demands.

6. The government reforms were announced on 30 October 2024, to come into force on 6 April 2026, and since that anouncement was made, a number of coordinated protests have been organised by interested groups including protests targeting operators within the grocery sector.

7. On 6 January 2025 plans for a coordinated national day of protest was advertised on 'The Farming Forum', setting a date of 17 January 2025 for tractors and/or pick up trucks to park, with banners, in supermarket car parks in order to show that "*farmers are not backing down on the damage this budget will cause and show the strength [sic] of our resources that "could" be used in far more disruptive ways should [sic] that become necessary !*"

8. On 9 January 2025 a protest against the government reforms took place in Whitehall, as part of which tractors appear to be parked on part of the roadway and/or "slow driving". Farmers to Action posted a photograph of the tactics used on X with the caption: "*Farmers have come in Tractors to make @SteveReedMP listens! This is just the start! Abolish IHT @RachelReevesMP...*"

9. On 10 January 2025 protestors targeted the Willow Green RDC (identified more particularly below in the attached Schedule 1) and blockaded access in and out of parts of that RDC with approximately 50 tractors which were parked by protestors within the site and on parts of the public highway by an entrance to part of the RDC, as part of the Farmers to Action's "National Protests" (for approximately 11 hours).

10. On the same day, farmers engaged in additional protests at or nearby a number of other retail distribution centres across the UK including Reading, Northampton and Cheshire and organised a slow drive along major A roads in the vicinty of retail distribution centres.

11. The details of those protest activities are set out in more detail in Todd and the witness statement of Scott Roberts filed herewith ("Roberts").

12. On 12 January 2025 Farmers to Action posted a photograph of a 'Morrisons' supermarket operated by the First Claimant on 11 January in which the shelves were empty of produce, with a caption "@Morrisons…The time to show you back Farmers is now."

13. The Claimants fear an imminent commencement of the activities described at paragraph 9 above at both Willow Green RDC which has already been targeted and at its other RDCs.

14. As explained in Todd, there are expressions of intent to continue the campaign. On 10 January 2025, "Together Declaration" posted a photograph to its Instagram page with the statement "Farmer protest target supermarket supply chains" with a call to further action in the comments. On 11 January 2025 a TikTok user stated that there were 40 separate events strategically organised in one day starting at 9am Friday until 8.30am on Sunday with a video of the Willow Green blockade. On 13 January Alan Miller, the co-founder of "Together Declaration", also tweeted a video from 10 January 2025, showing tractors "slow driving" around a roundabout, driving into the access to a RDC in Berkshire and "blocking off" access to the RDC. In the video, stated that protests with similar tactics were occurring at RDCs across 45 counties. Further, WhatsApp messages obtained by the Claimants from members of Farmers to Action dated 13 January referred to the need to "block distribution centres and empty the shelves" in order to bring a change of Government policyand referred to a planto "hit distribution centres" "next week".

15. The First Claimant operates one of the largest supermarket chain in the UK, the Second Claimant operates retail supermarkets under the 'Morrisons' brand and the Third Claimant purchases and packs produces for the First Claimant's business and third parties. Their business activities would be affected by the threatened activity if the Defendants are not restrained. The RDCs operate on a 24/7 basis and are located in close proximity to major motorways for ease of access, egress and to facilitate distribution of produce across the UK.

16. The grounds for fearing imminent unlawful activity are set out in more detail in the witness statement of Todd but include:

    a. Trespass onto the RDCs with a view to blocking access or causing disruption.

    b. The obstruction of access by the Claimants (and those authorised by them) to and from the entrances to the RDCs on those parts of the access roads in the vicinity of the RDCs which provide access thereto and which are more particularly described and shown for illustration purposes on the plans annexed hereto in the plans in Annexure B to Schedule 1. Acts of obstruction in relation to the roads amount to a private nuisance, as that would interfere with the Claimants' rights to access over those roads from the said sites. Acts of obstruction in relation to the parts of Nectar Way leading to Cob Drive and Style Way, Malleable Way, Crofton Road, Barge Way, the part of the A530 leading to the Gadbrooke RDC, Altendiez Way, Kettering Road, the part of Steel Road leading to Corby RDC, the A38 and Bristol Road leading to the Willow Green RDC, Kenmore Road and the part of the A650 leading to Kenmore Road would also amount to a public nuisance actionable by the Claimants as causing particular harm to them, as they interfere with Claimants' rights to pass and repass along the public highway. Further, it would constitute a breach of section 137 of the Highways Act 1980 which applies if a person, without lawful authority or excuse, in any way wilfully obstructs the free passage along a highway.

17. The Claimants claim is therefore for appropriate injunctive relief restraining the Defendants (respectively) from: (a) trespassing upon the RDCs; and (b) interfering with the Claimants' (or those

authorised by them) passage over the highway or access to and egress from the RDCs.

18. The Claimants further seek an order making appropriate provision for their costs of this claim.

19. The form of the order sought is in the terms of the draft orders appended hereto. The reasons for seeking orders in those terms are set out more fully the witness statements filed herewith.

20. The Claimants bring an application at the same time as this claim for appropriate injunctive relief on an interim basis, pending trial or further order. The terms of the injunctions sought by this claim are the same as those sought on an interim basis; subject to such modification as the Court shall think fit.

Claimant's or claimant's legal representative's address to which documents should be sent if different from overleaf. If you are prepared to accept service by DX, fax or e-mail, please add details.

Statement of Truth

I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

☐ **I believe** that the facts stated in these particulars of claim are true.

X **The Claimant believes** that the facts stated in these particulars of claim are true. **I am authorised** by the claimant to sign this statement.

Signature

☐ Claimant

☐ Litigation friend (where claimant is a child or a Protected Party)

X Claimant's legal representative (as defined by CPR 2.3(1))

Date

Day	Month	Year
17	01	2025

Full name

Andrew James Tood

Name of claimant's legal representative's firm

Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP

If signing on behalf of firm or company give position or office held

Partner

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SCHEDULE 1

(1) PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO~~, IN CONNECTION WITH AGRICULTURAL PROTESTS BY 'FARMERS TO ACTION' OR OTHER SIMILAR PROTEST GROUPS~~ ENTER AND REMAIN WITHOUT CONSENT UPON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITES, IN CONNECTION WITH AGRICULTURAL PROTESTS:

(A) ON THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S NORTHAMPTON VALLEY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT (A) COB DRIVE, SWAN VALLEY, NORTHAMPTON NN4 9BB; (B) DC2, SWAN VALLEY, NORTHAMPTON NN4 9BD; AND (3) (SV3), UPTON, NORTHAMPTON (SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON PLANS 1.1, 1.2 AND 1.3 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(B) ON THE SECOND CLAIMANT'S STOCKTON DICKENS RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE MALLEABLE WAY, STOCKTON-ON-TEES, TS18 2QZ (SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON 2 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A

(C) ON THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S SITTINGBOURNE RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT G PARK, SITTINGBOURNE ME10 2FD (SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON PLAN 3 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(D) ON THE FIRST AND THIRD CLAIMANTS' GADBROOK RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT KING ST, RUDHEATH, NORTHWICH CW9 7WA (SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON PLAN 4 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(E) ON THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S LATIMER PARK KETTERING RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT ALTENDIEZ WAY, BURTON LATIMER, KETTERING NN15 5YT (SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON PLAN 5 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(F) ON THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S LATIMER PARK CORBY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT HALLEY ROAD, CORBY NN17 5AN (SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON PLAN 6 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(G) ON THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S WILLOW GREEN RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT (A) KINGS DR, BRIDGWATER TA6 4FG; AND (B) BRISTOL ROAD, BRIDGWATER TA6 4BU (SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON PLAN 7.1 AND 7.2 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(H) ON THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S WAKEFIELD RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT KENMORE RD, WAKEFIELD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, WAKEFIELD WF2 0XF (SHOWN COLOURED BLUE ON PLAN 8 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(2) PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO~~, IN CONNECTION WITH AGRICULTURAL PROTESTS BY 'FARMERS TO ACTION' OR OTHER SIMILAR PROTEST GROUPS, WITH OR WITHOUT VEHICLES, INCLUDING TRACTORS OR OTHER AGRICULTURAL VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT,~~ CREATE OR CAUSE BLOCKADES, OBSTRUCTIONS OF TRAFFIC AND/OR OTHERWISE IMPEDE, PREVENT OR INTERFERE WITH THE PASSAGE BY THE CLAIMANT, ITS AGENTS, SERVANTS, EMPLOYEES, LICENSEES, INVITEES TO, FROM, OVER AND ACROSS THE ACCESS ROAD(S), WITH OR WITHOUT VEHICLES, INCLUDING TRACTORS OR OTHER AGRICULTURAL VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT, IN CONNECTION WITH AGRICULTURAL PROTESTS, IN THE VICINITY OF THE FOLLOWING SITES:

(A) THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S NORTHAMPTON VALLEY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT (A) COB DRIVE, SWAN VALLEY, NORTHAMPTON NN4 9BB; ~~(B) DC2, SWAN VALLEY, NORTHAMPTON NN4 9BD ;~~ AND ~~(3)~~ (B) (SV3), UPTON, NORTHAMPTON (SUCH ACCESS ROAD(S) SHOWN COLOURED PINK AND/OR ORANGE ON PLANS 1.1~~, 1.2~~ and 1.3 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(B) THE SECOND CLAIMANT'S STOCKTON DICKENS RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT MALLEABLE WAY, STOCKTON-ON-TEES, TS18 2QZ (SUCH ACCESS ROAD(S) SHOWN COLOURED PINK AND/OR ORANGE ON PLAN 2 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(C) THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S SITTINGBOURNE RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT G PARK, SITTINGBOURNE ME10 2FD (SUCH ACCESS ROAD(S) SHOWN COLOURED PINK AND/OR ORANGE ON PLAN 3 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(D) THE FIRST AND THIRD CLAIMANTS' GADBROOK RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT KING ST, RUDHEATH, NORTHWICH CW9 7WA (SUCH ACCESS ROAD(S) SHOWN COLOURED PINK AND/OR ORANGE ON PLAN 4 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(E) THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S LATIMER PARK KETTERING RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT ALTENDIEZ WAY, BURTON LATIMER, KETTERING NN15 5YT (SUCH ACCESS ROAD(S) SHOWN COLOURED PINK AND/OR ORANGE ON PLAN 5 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(F) THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S LATIMER PARK CORBY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT HALLEY ROAD, CORBY NN17 5AN (SUCH ACCESS ROAD(S) SHOWN COLOURED PINK AND/OR ORANGE ON PLAN 6 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(G) THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S WILLOW GREEN RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT (A) KINGS DR, BRIDGWATER TA6 4FG; AND (B) BRISTOL ROAD, BRIDGWATER TA6 4BU (SUCH ACCESS ROAD(S) SHOWN COLOURED PINK AND/OR ORANGE ON PLANS 7.1 AND 7.2 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

(H) THE FIRST CLAIMANT'S WAKEFIELD RETAIL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE AT KENMORE RD, WAKEFIELD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, WAKEFIELD WF2 0XF (SUCH ACCESS ROAD(S) SHOWN COLOURED PINK AND/OR ORANGE ON PLAN 8 IN THE ATTACHED ANNEXURE A)

ANNEXURE A

PLAN 1.1 - SV1

Shelter
Nectar Way
Ponds
Grid
FB
62.8m
Travelling Crane
Lake
ESS
El Sub Sta
Pond
Cab Drive
Swan Valley Way
Banbury Lane
Tithe Barn Way
63.1m
N
0
100 m
200 m
Ordnance Survey
ORBITAL WITNESS
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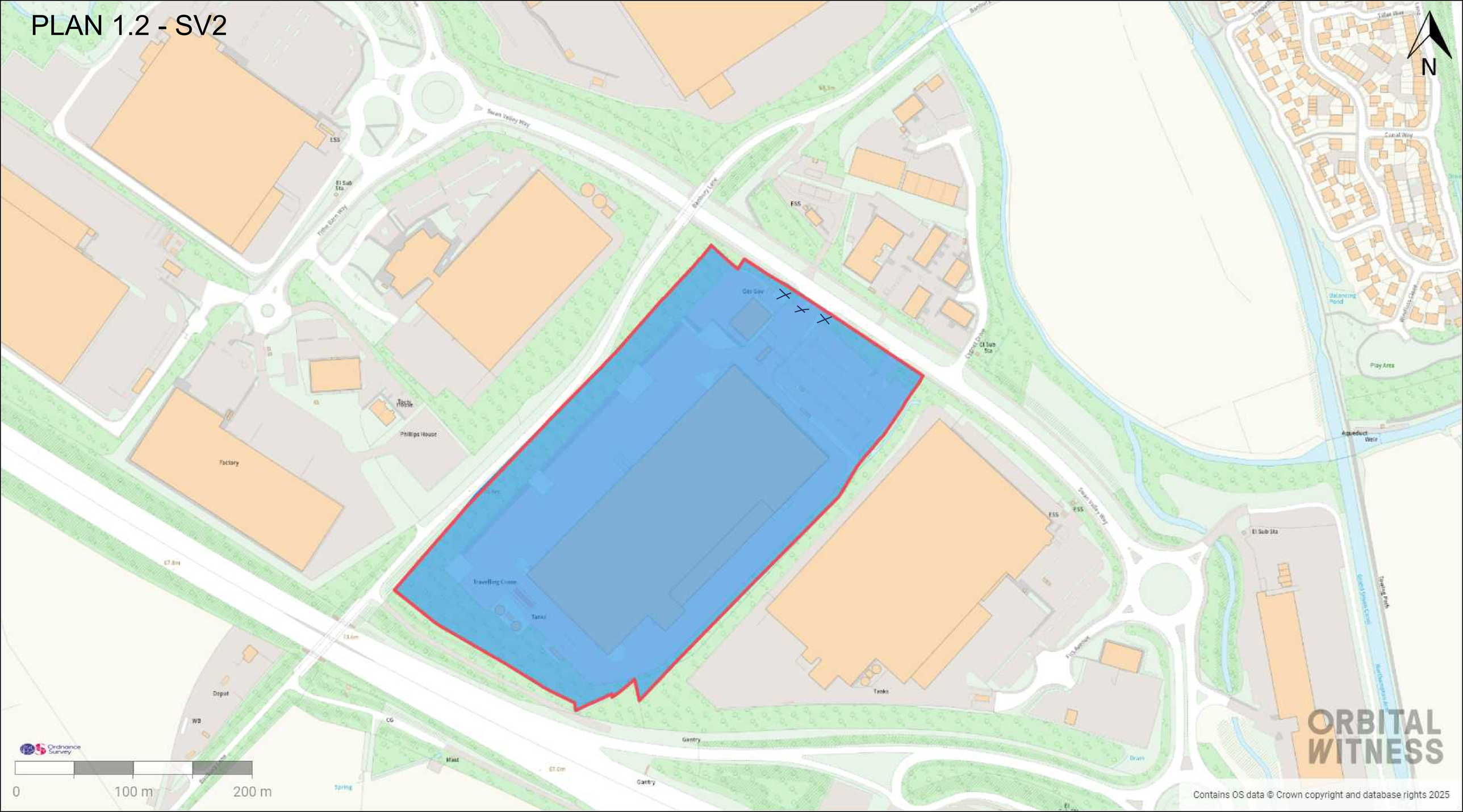
PLAN 1.2 - SV2



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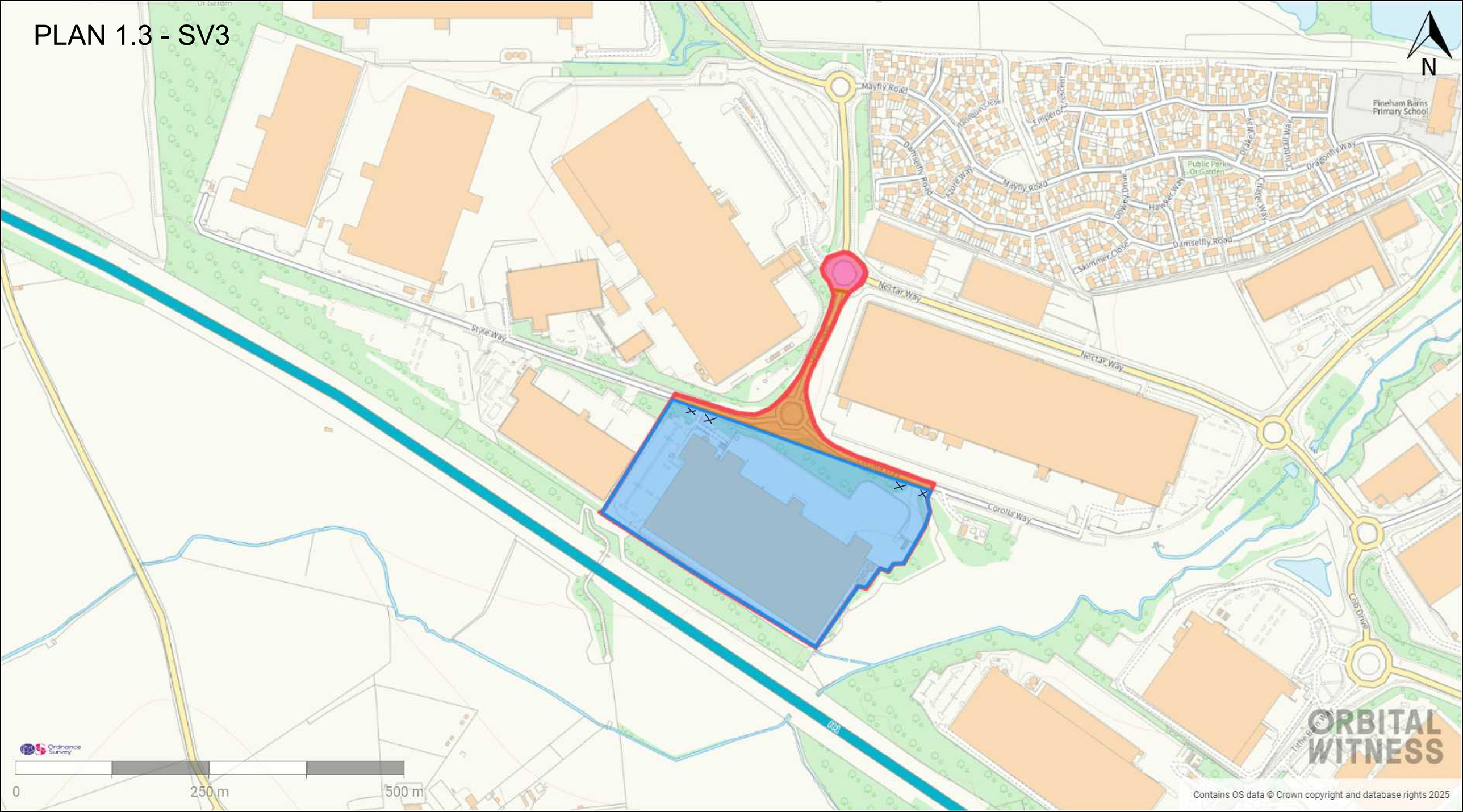
PLAN 1.3 - SV3


N
Mayfly Road
Damselfly Road
Azure Way
Emperor Crescent
Hawker Way
Skimmer Close
Chaser Way
Dragonfly Way
Public Park Or Garden
Pineham Barns Primary School
Nectar Way
Style Way
Corolla Way
Cob Drive
Tithe Barn Way
ORBITAL WITNESS
0
250 m
500 m
Ordnance Survey
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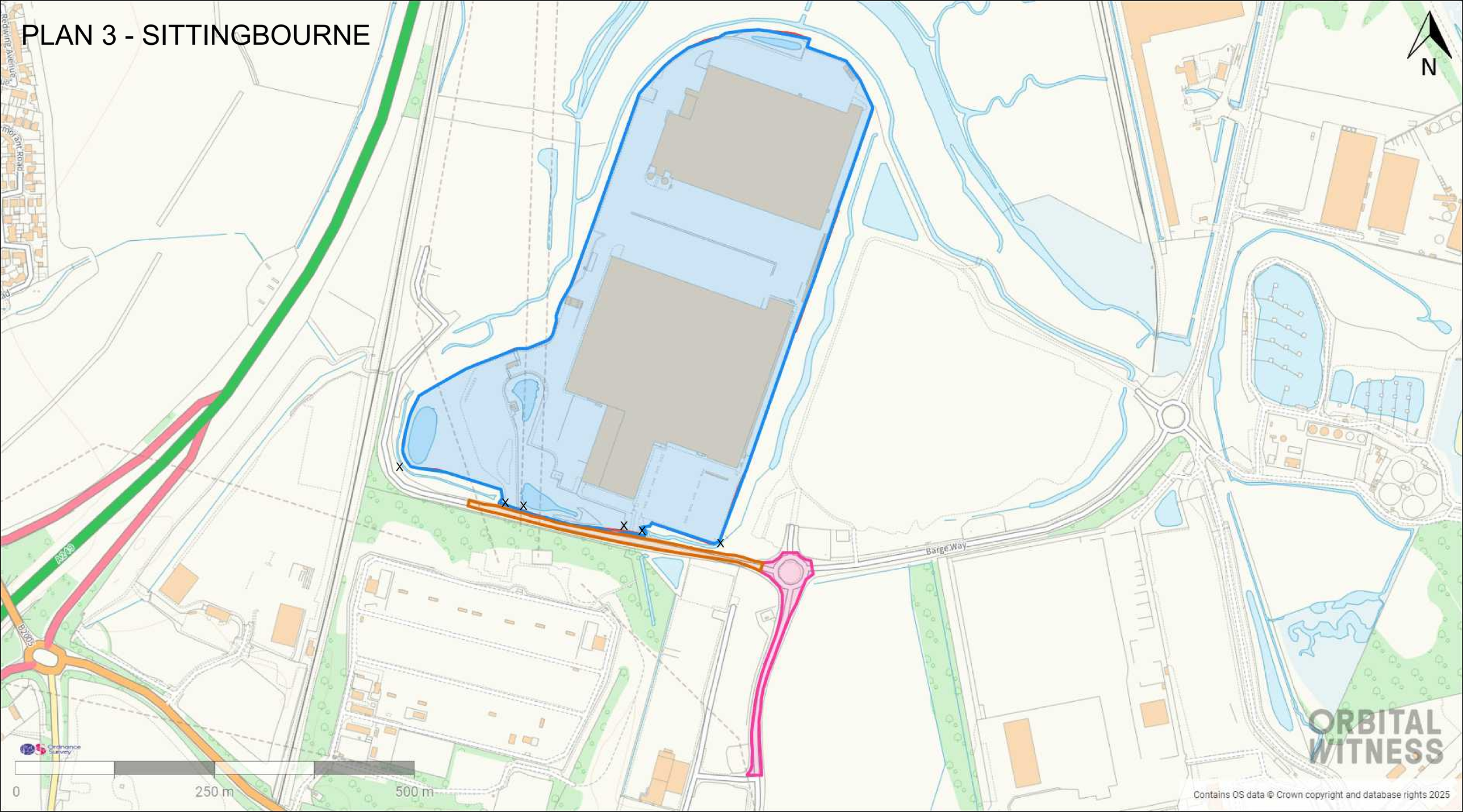
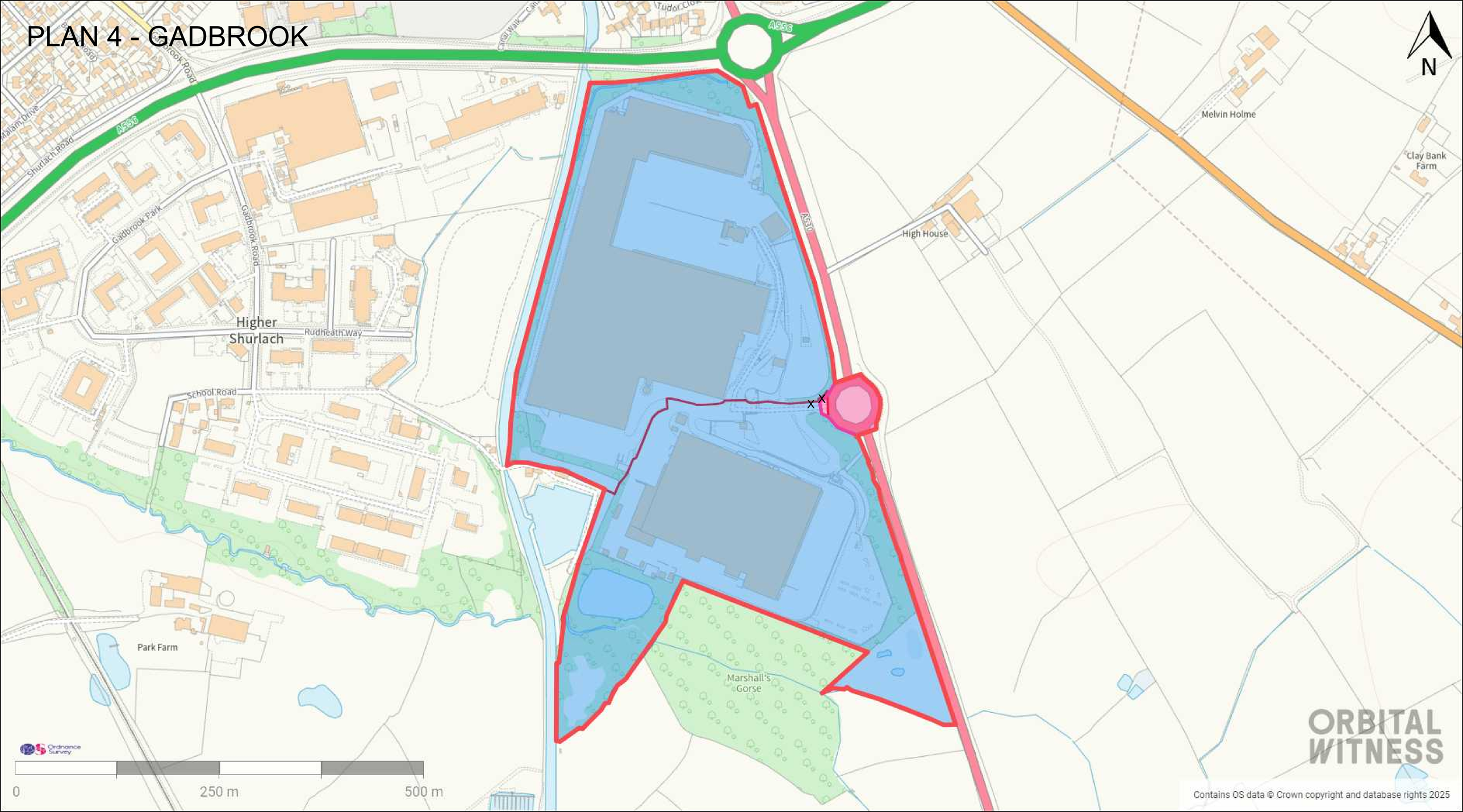
PLAN 2 - STOCKTON

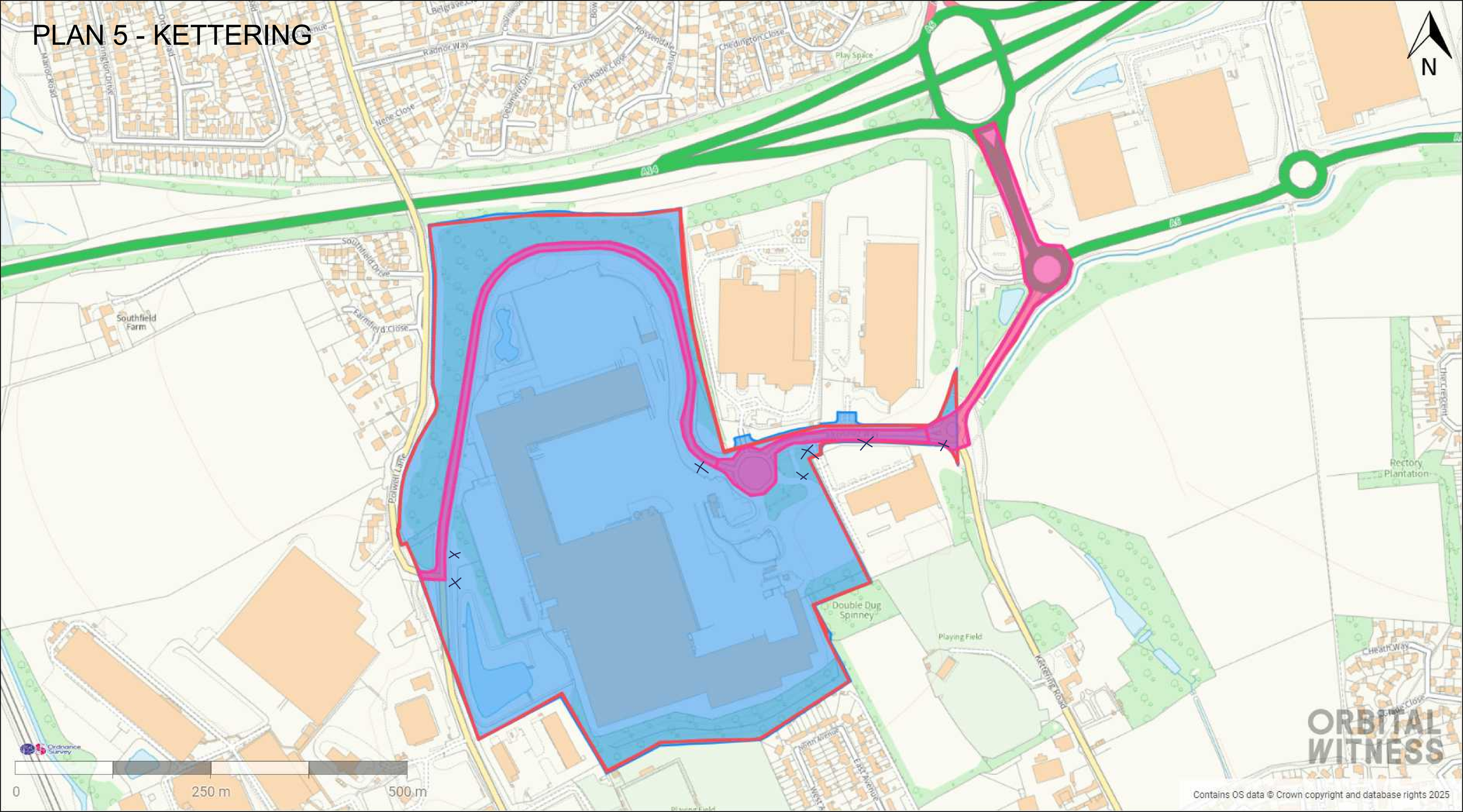
PLAN 3 - SITTINGBOURNE



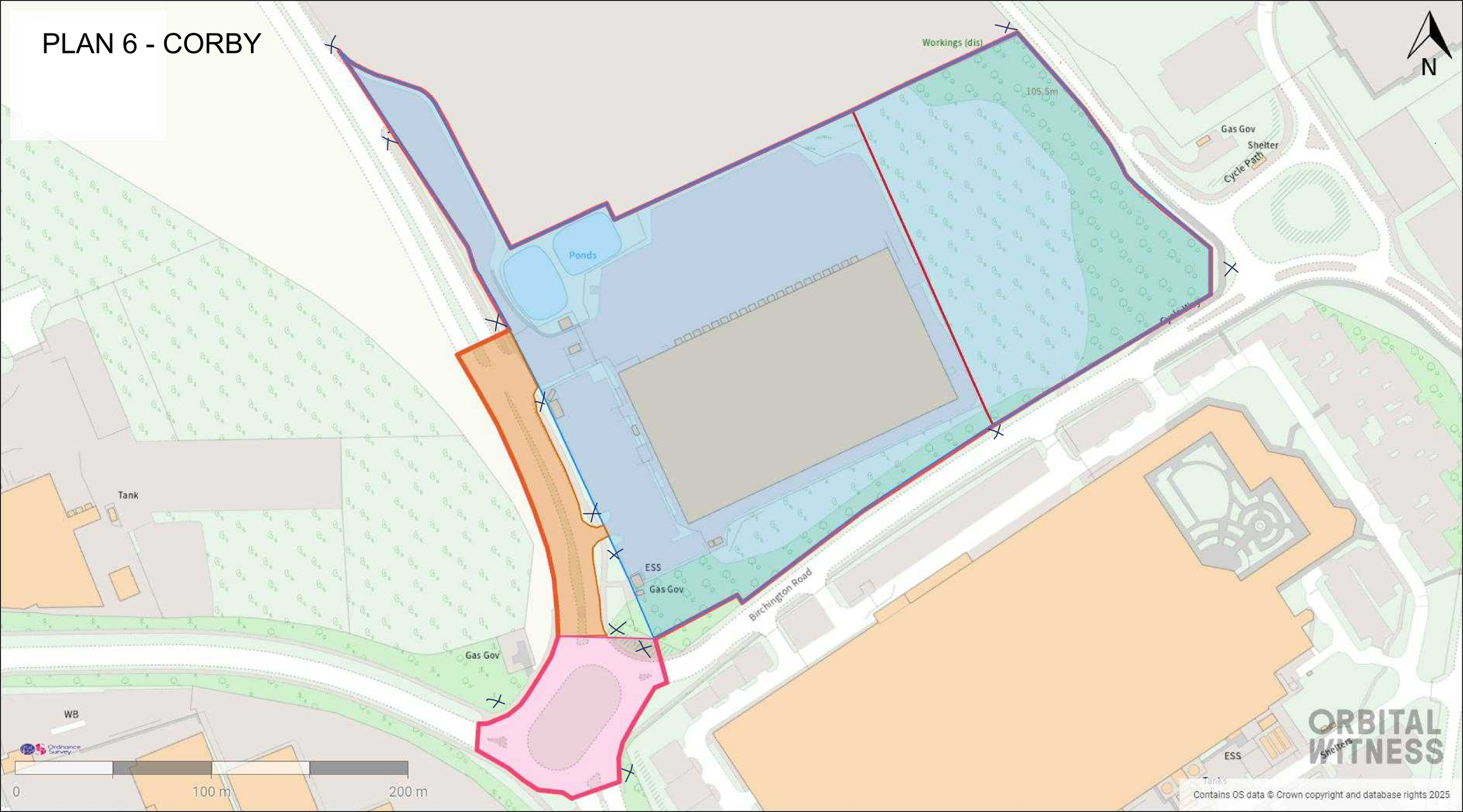
PLAN 4 - GADBROOK



PLAN 5 - KETTERING



PLAN 6 - CORBY


Workings (dis)
105.5m
Ponds
Gas Gov
Shelter
Cycle Path
Tank
ESS
Gas Gov
Birchington Road
Gas Gov
WB
ESS
Shelters
Tanks
N
0
100 m
200 m
ORBITAL WITNESS
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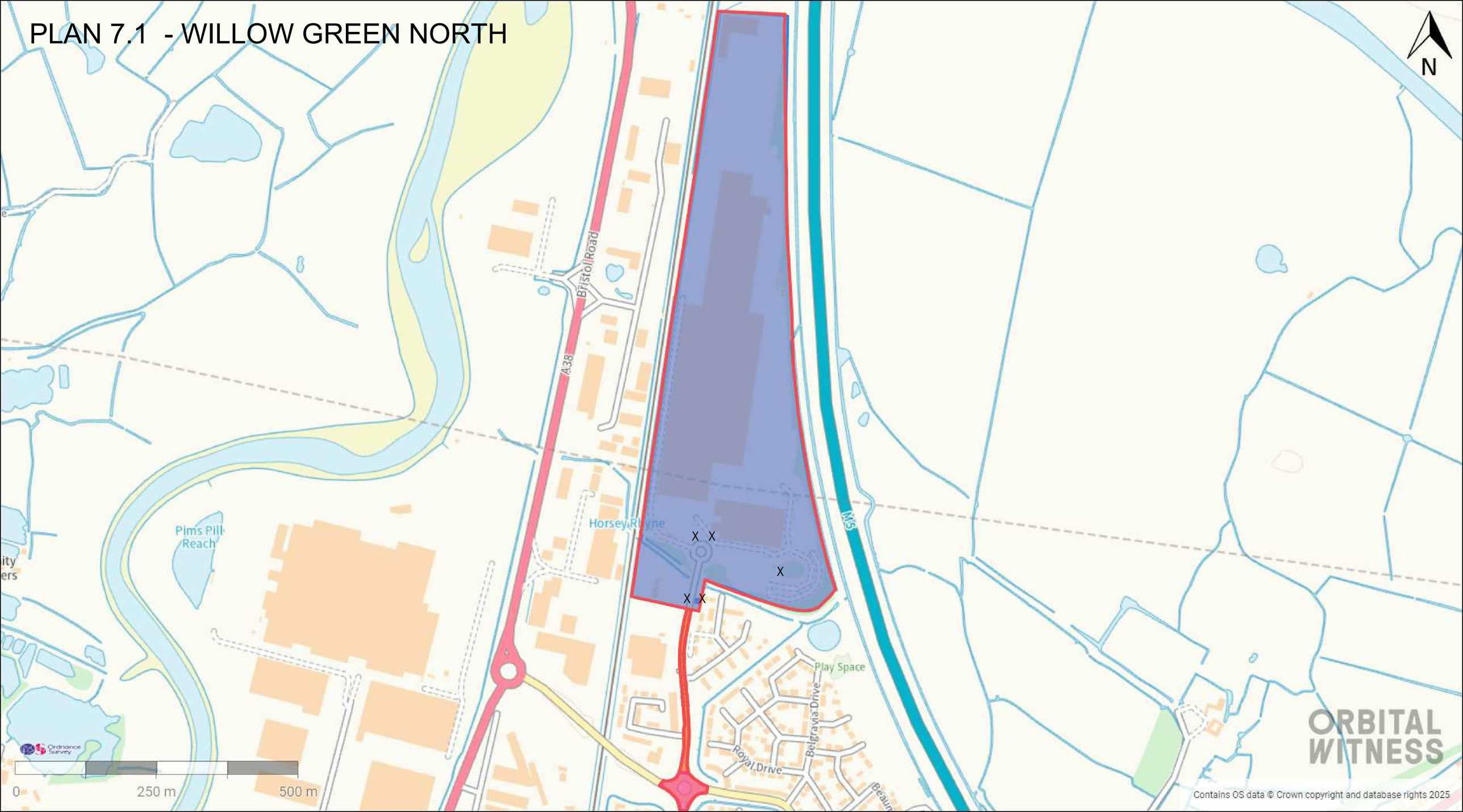
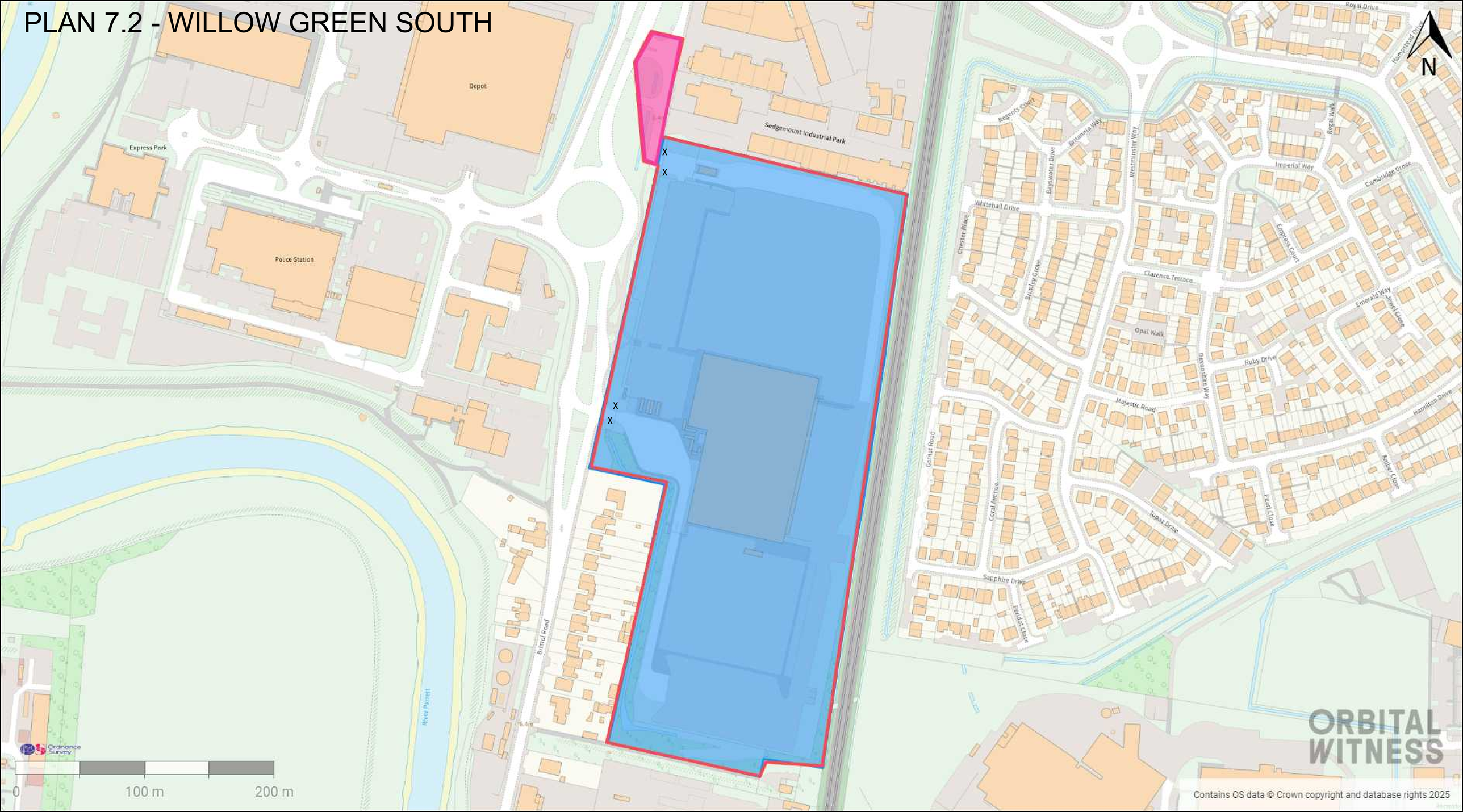
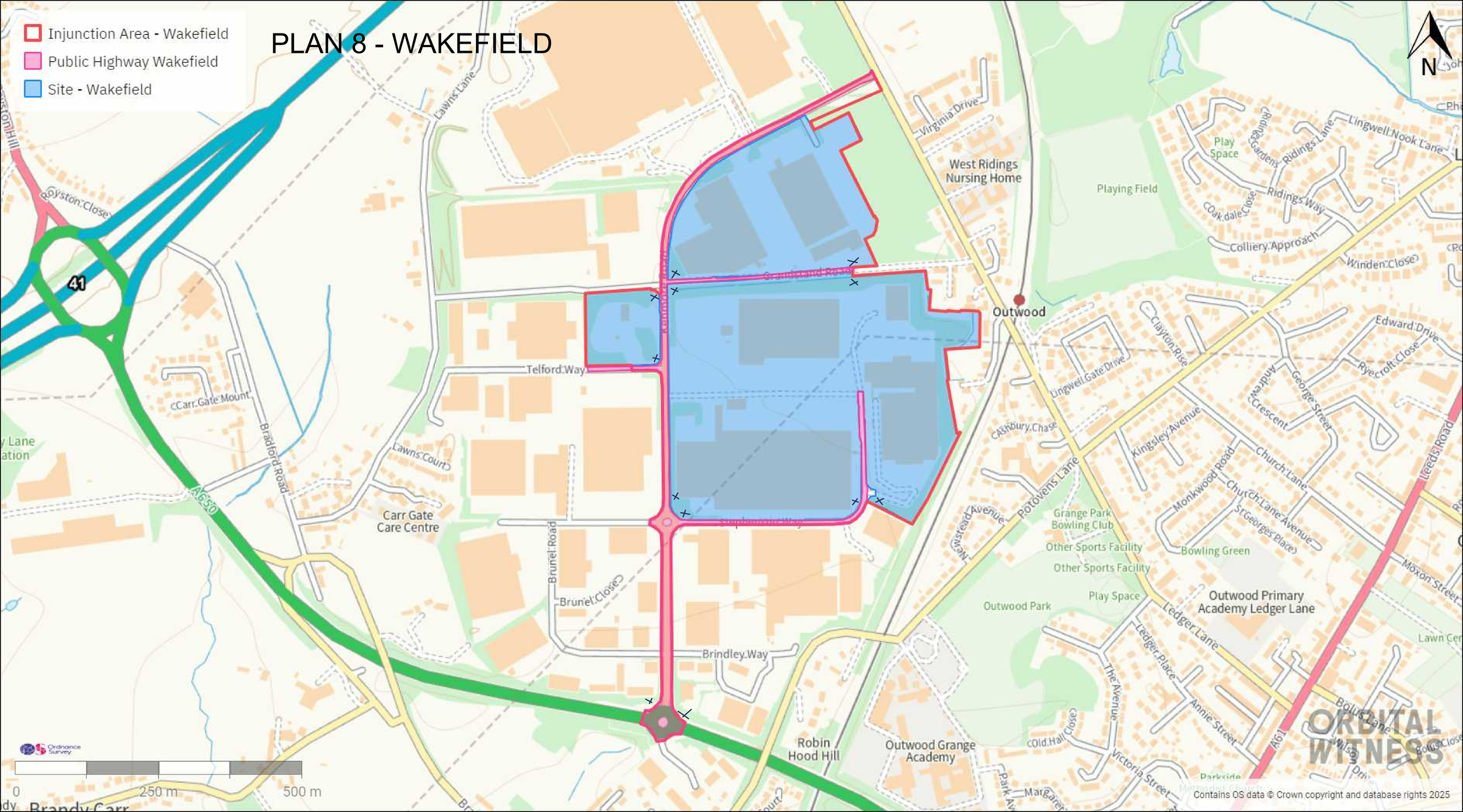
PLAN 7.1 - WILLOW GREEN NORTH



PLAN 7.2 - WILLOW GREEN SOUTH




Injunction Area - Wakefield
Public Highway Wakefield
Site - Wakefield
PLAN 8 - WAKEFIELD
N
41
A650
A61
Outwood
West Ridings Nursing Home
Playing Field
Play Space
Outwood Primary Academy Ledger Lane
Outwood Grange Academy
Robin Hood Hill
Carr Gate Care Centre
Grange Park Bowling Club
Other Sports Facility
Bowling Green
Outwood Park
Telford Way
Brindley Way
Brunel Road
Brunel Close
Bradford Road
Lawns Court
Carr Gate Mount
Lawns Lane
Virginia Drive
Lingwell Nook Lane
Ridings Lane
Ridings Way
Oakdale Close
Colliery Approach
Winden Close
Edward Drive
Ryecroft Close
George Street
Church Lane
Monkwood Road
Kingsley Avenue
Clayton Rise
Lingwell Gate Drive
Ashbury Chase
Potovens Lane
Newstead Avenue
Ledger Lane
Ledger Place
The Avenue
Victoria Street
Annie Street
Old Hall Close
Leeds Road
Moxon Street
Boltus Lane
Coyston Close
Coyston Hill
0
250 m
500 m
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