Figure 11.19: Disused Railway Corridor – Informal footpath

View looking west, along the informal footpath along the floor of the disused railway corridor, outside the site. The stone overbridge provides access towards the site, across the former railway corridor (west of Coryton Station). The railway corridor runs directly past the site, in deep cutting. The view illustrates the visual separation of the footpath afforded by the dense vegetation within the railway corridor and the deep cutting slopes. Screening is increased within summer due to leaf cover, however the depth of the cutting would heavily filter winter views towards the site.

Figure 11.20: Disused Railway Corridor/ Local Nature Reserve – Informal footpath

View looking northwest, from within the disused railway corridor towards the brick-built overbridge. The railway corridor runs directly past the site, in deep cutting. The view illustrates the visual separation of the informal footpath along the floor of the cutting, afforded by the dense woodland vegetation on the deep cutting slopes. Screening is increased within summer due to leaf cover, however the depth of the cutting would heavily filter winter views. The height of the mature trees within the woodland, and the visual containment that they afford the site is evident within the view. The view also illustrates the lack of long views beyond the linear form of the cutting in summer.
View looking southwest, along the boundary of the site. The site is to the right of the view beyond the railings which delineate the southern site boundary. The path within the view is designated as an Adopted Highway Footpath. There is a dense strip of vegetation within the Whitchurch Hospital grounds that runs parallel to the footpath which is designated as a group Tree Preservation Order (TPO). The vegetation forms a visual barrier between the site and the more formal areas of the Whitchurch Hospital campus and is referred to as a “wildlife corridor” within the existing planning consent for the campus. A chainlink fence is aligned along the left hand side of the path and a number of informal access points have been made through the fence to access the footpath. The railings along the site boundary are in poor condition yet function to secure the boundary to the former farmland. The view illustrates the dense vegetation along the boundary of the site, and the screening it provides within summer. Despite the immediate proximity of the footpath to the site the view illustrates the lack of visibility to it, due to the overhanging vegetation and dense bramble thicket that runs the length of the site boundary. Several access points have been created from the footpath into the site and the views from these locations are illustrated in Viewpoints 7 and 8.

View looking south, from outside the site, along the adopted highway footpath aligned along the southern boundary of the site. In the centre of the view is the stone overbridge over the former railway corridor. The gateway into the site is just visible in the centre of the view. The view illustrates the dense vegetation within the railway corridor and the screening it provides within summer.
View looking northwest, along a footpath aligned inside the western boundary of the site. The western site boundary comprises a wire fence which is obscured within the vegetation to the left of the footpath. The trees to the left of the view are within the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and obscure views west towards the Radyr ridgeline and down the steeply sloping landform towards the Glamorgan Canal. The rough, open grassland and scattered scrub landcover of the site is visible to the right of the view. The mature woodland of the Local Nature Reserve, within the disused railway cutting, is visible outside the eastern boundary of the site to the far right of the view. The view illustrates the screening provided to the footpath by the bramble scrub of varying height to the right, which filters views across the wider site. The footpath in several sections is visually separated from the site by scrub, topography and overhanging branches from the SSSI woodland. The density of the SSSI woodland is also evident within the view by the lack of visibility available to the west from the footpath, and the wider site. The western boundary footpath is partially designated as Public Right of Way (PRoW) Ref: Whitchurch No. 12, there is no remarkable difference where the route is non-designated. Viewpoint 5 is located from further north along this footpath.

View looking southeast, from within the site, towards the Whitchurch Hospital buildings (the hospital water tower is a local landmark and is visible in the centre of the view, above the treeline) and Registered Park and Garden. The treeline that runs across the width of the view is aligned along the southern boundary, on the Whitchurch Hospital side of the Adopted Highway Footpath. The vegetation forms a visual barrier between the site and the more formal areas of the Whitchurch Hospital campus and is referred to as a “wildlife corridor” within the existing planning consent for the campus. The site was formerly used for grazing and the vegetative cover now comprises rough, open grassland with scattered thickets of bramble and scrub. The view illustrates the lack of summer views available from the site due to the dense vegetation along the site periphery, and the additional screening in the southern end of the site provided by tall bramble thickets.
View looking southeast, from within the site, towards the Whitchurch Hospital water tower visible in the centre of the view, above the treeline. The viewpoint is from a high point afforded by the rising landform to the north of the site. The view illustrates the landcover of rough, open grassland with scattered thickets of bramble and scrub. The worn grass footpath to the left of the view is typical of the desire lines/informal footpath network across the site. The large mature trees either side of the view are located within woodland outside the site boundaries of the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) to the left and the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) to the left. The height of the mature trees, and the visual containment that they afford the site is evident within the view. The view illustrates the lack of prominent landform or buildings within long views to the southwest of the site. The view also illustrates the level nature of the landscape extending across Cardiff towards the Bristol Channel, and the extent of large mature trees that screen summer views of the Whitchurch Hospital buildings from this location.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure 11.25: Informal footpath within the site - Summer</th>
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<td>View looking southeast, from within the site, towards the Whitchurch Hospital water tower visible in the centre of the view, above the treeline. The viewpoint is from a high point afforded by the rising landform to the north of the site. The view illustrates the landcover of rough, open grassland with scattered thickets of bramble and scrub. The worn grass footpath to the left of the view is typical of the desire lines/informal footpath network across the site. The large mature trees either side of the view are located within woodland outside the site boundaries of the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) to the left and the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) to the left. The height of the mature trees, and the visual containment that they afford the site is evident within the view. The view illustrates the lack of prominent landform or buildings within long views to the southwest of the site. The view also illustrates the level nature of the landscape extending across Cardiff towards the Bristol Channel, and the extent of large mature trees that screen summer views of the Whitchurch Hospital buildings from this location.</td>
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<th>Figure 11.26: High point within the site - Winter</th>
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<td>View looking southeast, from within the site, towards the Whitchurch Hospital water tower visible in the centre of the view, above the treeline. This location is not on an informal footpath but has been selected due to being the highest point within the site. The view illustrates the height and density of the trees within the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) to the left which form an effective screen to views east. The undulating landform and landcover of rough, open grassland with scattered thickets of bramble and scrub and occasional trees is evident from this location. The view illustrates the lack of prominent landform or buildings within long views to the southwest of the site across the low-lying landscape of Cardiff.</td>
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Figure 11.27: Informal footpath within site

View looking northwest, along an informal footpath aligned through the site. The western site boundary comprises a wire fence which is obscured within the vegetation to the left of the footpath. The trees to the left of the view are within the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and obscure views west. The rough, open grassland and scattered scrub landcover, and rising landform to the north of the site is visible within the view. The mature woodland of the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) forms a linear feature along the disused railway cutting, outside the eastern boundary of the site to the far right of the view. The view illustrates the visual containment of the site in summer afforded by the dense woodland of the SSSI and LNR as they taper towards the dense woodland vegetation along the northern boundary of the site.

Figure 11.28: Informal footpath within site

View looking east, from within the site, towards the disused railway corridor and the Heol Coed Hir estate. The view is from an informal footpath across the site through the landcover of open grassland, with occasional scattered thickets of bramble and scrub. At the centre of the view is the northeastern corner of the site, at the junction of the “wildlife corridor” along the southern site boundary, and the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) along the eastern boundary. The view demonstrates the low lying nature of the landform to the east, and the absence of views of any built form in this direction. The dense vegetation screens views beyond of the disused railway corridor and the suburb of Whitchurch. The height of the mature trees within the woodland, and the visual containment that they afford the site is evident within the view.
View looking northeast, from within the site, towards the disused railway corridor and the Hollybush Estate. The view is from an informal footpath across the site through the landcover of open grassland, with occasional scattered thickets of bramble and scrub. The mature woodland of the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) is visible across the extent of the view and delineates the eastern site boundary. The woodland is located within the disused railway cutting. The upper storeys of two of the residential blocks within the Hollybush Estate are visible above the tree line. The coniferous trees to the left of the view are within the grounds of Coryton House that are designated as a Registered Park and Garden. The height of the mature trees within the woodland, and the visual containment that they afford the site is evident within the view. The view illustrates the lack of long views or prominent landform to the east of the site in summer.

View looking northeast, from within the site, towards the disused railway corridor and the Hollybush Estate. The view location is similar to that used for Figure 11.30 and has been included to demonstrate the seasonal change in intervisibility between the site and the Hollybush Estate. The lower residential blocks are just visible through the woodland which would filter views towards the site. There is increased visibility of the south facing elevations of the tower blocks in winter, with only the uppermost apartments being afforded open views of the site.

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<td>View looking northeast, from within the site, towards the disused railway corridor and the Hollybush Estate. The view is from an informal footpath across the site through the landcover of open grassland, with occasional scattered thickets of bramble and scrub. The mature woodland of the Local Nature Reserve (LNR) is visible across the extent of the view and delineates the eastern site boundary. The woodland is located within the disused railway cutting. The upper storeys of two of the residential blocks within the Hollybush Estate are visible above the tree line. The coniferous trees to the left of the view are within the grounds of Coryton House that are designated as a Registered Park and Garden. The height of the mature trees within the woodland, and the visual containment that they afford the site is evident within the view. The view illustrates the lack of long views or prominent landform to the east of the site in summer.</td>
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Figure 11.31: Informal footpath within site - Winter

View looking southwest, from within the site, from an informal footpath. The rough, open meadow grassland and bramble thicket landcover and the level nature of the southernmost extents of the site are evident within the view. The dense, linear belt of vegetation to the left of the view lies just outside the southern site boundary within the Whitchurch Hospital grounds and is designated as a group Tree Preservation Order (TPO). The vegetation forms a visual barrier between the site and the more formal areas of the Whitchurch Hospital campus and is referred to as a “wildlife corridor” within the existing planning consent for the campus. The winter view demonstrates the presence of overgrown laurel hedging within the “wildlife corridor” which heavily filters intervisibility between the site and the recreation land within the Whitchurch Hospital campus. The large, mature trees across the rear of the view are aligned outside the western site boundary, within the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The landform steeply falls away beyond the western boundary, towards the River Taff. Views west from the site are limited to filtered views of the far ridgeline and distant, partial views of the Cardiff suburb of Radyr.

Figure 11.32: Informal footpath within site - Winter

View looking south, from within the site, towards the Whitchurch Hospital campus. The outline of the distinctive, tall roof of the George Thomas Hospice is just visible in the centre of the view beyond the group of tall trees. The outline of the Whitchurch Hospital water tower is visible behind the large trees to the left of the view. The linear belt of vegetation across the rear of the view lies just outside the southern site boundary, within the Whitchurch Hospital grounds, and is designated as a group Tree Preservation Order (TPO). The vegetation forms a visual barrier between the site and the more formal areas of the Whitchurch Hospital campus and is referred to as a “wildlife corridor” within the existing planning consent for the campus. The presence of evergreen vegetation within the “wildlife corridor” heavily filters intervisibility in winter, between the site and the recreation land within the Whitchurch Hospital campus.
Figure 11.33: Local Nature Reserve – Informal footpath

View looking east, outside the site, from an informal footpath within the Local Nature Reserve (LNR). The viewpoint is located within the larger northern meadow within the LNR. The view into the smaller LNR meadow is narrowed by the dense vegetation along the former field boundary. The rough, open meadow grassland and bramble thicket within the small meadow is visible against the backdrop of the dense woodland within the disused railway corridor. The view illustrates the visual containment between the two fields within the LNR in summer afforded by the dense woodland vegetation along the field boundary. The site is not visible within the view, however the small meadow will be effected by the proposed access road.

Figure 11.34: Site of Special Scientific Interest – Public Right of Way

View looking along a Public Right of Way (PRoW) within the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The view illustrates the lack of intervisibility to/from the woodland due to rising landform and (in summer views) dense tree canopies. The footpath is aligned across rising ground and the steepness of the landform within the SSSI as it falls towards the Glamorgan Canal is visible across the view.
This location is the same as for Figure 11.27, with a different orientation. The view looks west across the narrowest section of the site. This location is not on an informal footpath but has been selected due to being the highest point within the site. The vegetation to the right of the view is the northern boundary, comprising an overgrown field boundary. The ridgeline of Radyr is just visible in the distance, through the woodland within the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The undulating landform and landcover of rough, open grassland with scattered thickets of bramble and scrub and occasional trees is evident from this location. The view illustrates the dip in the landform at the northernmost point of the site, and the effectiveness of the SSSI trees in filtering views westwards, that are completely obscured in summer by vegetation.

View looking southwest, from Public Right of Way (PRoW) Whitchurch No. 14 which traverses the steep, wooded slope of the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The view illustrates the height of the slope which restricts intervisibility between the site and the lower-lying Glamorgan Canal towpath and housing estate beyond (just visible through the trees). Views are further filtered by the dense woodland both within the SSSI and along the canal and Melingriffith Feeder which is also visible running parallel with the canal. The winter view demonstrates that views are filtered despite the reduced leaf cover, partially due to the evergreen vegetation of holly and the dense canopies and large trunks of the beech trees. The footpath is aligned at a lower elevation to the site therefore views from the towpath and housing would be further filtered by the rising landform within the SSSI.