

Northumberland Line Project

Ashington Station - Services and Utilities Statement

Northumberland County Council

Project number: 60628487

19 January 2021

Quality information

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 AECOM has been commissioned by Northumberland County Council (NCC) to provide multi-disciplinary services in support of the upgrade of an existing freight railway to a passenger carrying line, referred to as the Northumberland Line.
- 1.2 The works will support the re-establishment of the Northumberland Line as an operational passenger line which extends approximately 23.5km from Northumberland Park to Ashington. To facilitate these works, a total of 6 No. new stations are proposed along the Northumberland Line, which are divided between two administrative areas; North Tyneside Council (NTC) and NCC.
- 1.3 This report describes the existing utility services and connections to existing utilities infrastructure. Proposals to incorporate any utility company requirements for substations, telecommunications equipment or similar structures are also provided, where relevant. This services and utilities statement focuses on the new station proposed at Ashington only.

2. Site Description

- 2.1 The site for the proposed Ashington station is located to the east of Kenilworth Road, immediately south of Wansbeck Square in Ashington town centre, Northumberland. It is approximately 23km north-east of Newcastle upon Tyne and has National Grid Reference (NGR) NZ272875.
- 2.2 The boundaries of the site are formed to the north by Wilko shopping complex and the Ashington War Memorial Garden; to the east by the fencing between the existing railway corridor and parking along John Street; to the south by a fence and overgrown hedge and to the west by Kenilworth Road and the Ashington War Memorial Garden.
- 2.3 Currently, the site is a mixture of undeveloped greenfield land comprising open parkland/grassland parallel to the western boundary with Kenilworth Road, with the eastern side of the site currently occupied by a surface level car park. A portion of the southern area of the site is currently brownfield scrubland.

3. Existing Utilities

- 3.1 A number of utility providers were contacted to determine the locations of existing services on and adjacent to the proposed site, including BT, Century Link, City Fibre, National Grid, Northern Gas, Northern Power, Vodafone and Virgin Media.
- 3.2 The majority of those utility providers contacted do not have apparatus within the proposed station site boundary. Details of existing utilities identified within the proposed site are provided below. Appendix A shows existing utilities in the vicinity of the proposed site.

Telecommunications

3.3 An underground telecommunications cable runs alongside Kenilworth Road within the proposed site boundary.

Water Mains

3.4 There are no existing water mains within the proposed site boundary.

Foul Sewer

3.5 A combined sewer crosses the existing rail line in the northern-most part of the proposed site.

Electricity

3.6 A high voltage 11kv cable and low voltage 415v cable are located in the southern-most part of the proposed site at the rear of properties on Ashbourne Crescent.

Gas

3.7 There are no existing gas mains within the proposed site boundary.

4. Proposed Utilities

Telecommunications

- 4.1 Telecoms cables will be provided up to the red line planning boundaries to tie-into existing BT cables. BT will require approximately 6 months advance notice prior to site works commencing to ensure site connections can be installed.
- 4.2 BT work with the relevant local planning authorities to obtain permissions, either to work in the highway and\or pavement to connect all telecoms cabling into the proposed station site.

Water Mains

4.3 No new connections to the existing water mains infrastructure will be required.

Foul Sewer

4.4 No new connections to the existing foul sewer network will be required, as toilets will not be provided at the proposed station site.

Surface Water Drainage

- 4.5 The proposed surface water drainage strategy is detailed in the Ashington Station Drainage Strategy report (AECOM, 2020).
- 4.6 The overarching drainage strategy is to drain each section of car park to a network of conventional road gullies which are connected to an underground piped drainage network. This strategy is utilised throughout the car park, with the exception of a small area to the north east of the car park which drains to a linear drainage channel which also connects to the same below ground network. Attenuation is provided by a below ground geocellular tank situated to the west of the car park. The volume of attenuation provided ensures that for all events simulated, there is no flooding at surface level within the car park.
- 4.7 A figure showing the proposed drainage strategy for Ashington Station is provided in Appendix B.
- 4.8 All new conventional piped surface water drainage for the development will be designed and installed in accordance with the following British standards and codes of practice and building control documents:
 - BS EN 752 Drain and Sewer Systems Outside Buildings; and
 - Building Regulations Part H Drainage and waste disposal.
- 4.9 There is a requirement for the platform drainage to connect, or discharge to the car park drainage system. It is understood that the platforms would be operated and maintained by Network Rail, whereas the car park drainage would be the responsibility of NCC. As the drainage infrastructure will need to be shared, this will be dealt with through the terms of the station lease granted to Network Rail by NCC.

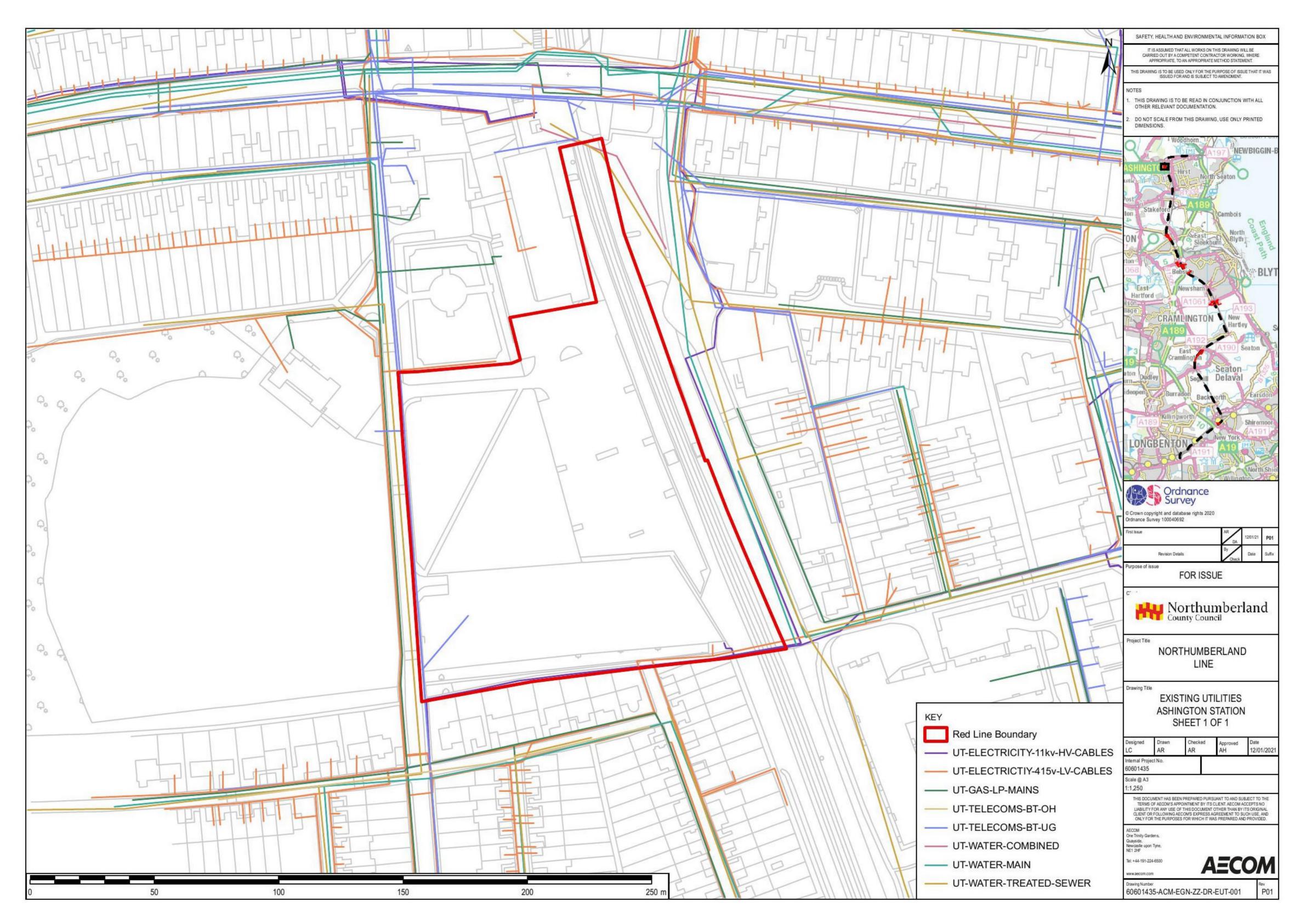
Electricity

- 4.10 Northern Powergrid is the electric Distribution Network Operator (DNO) for the area. An electrical connection will be required to supply new lighting for the station lift, and electrical vehicle charging points within the station site. The existing electrical substation in the southernmost part of the site at the rear of properties on Oakland Terrace will be moved to a new location close to Kenilworth Road.
- 4.11 It is assumed that for new electrical cables, the DNO will obtain wayleaves and any other statutory consents for any cable routes required to service the station site.



4.12 No new connections to the existing gas mains infrastructure will be required.

Appendix A - Existing Utilities

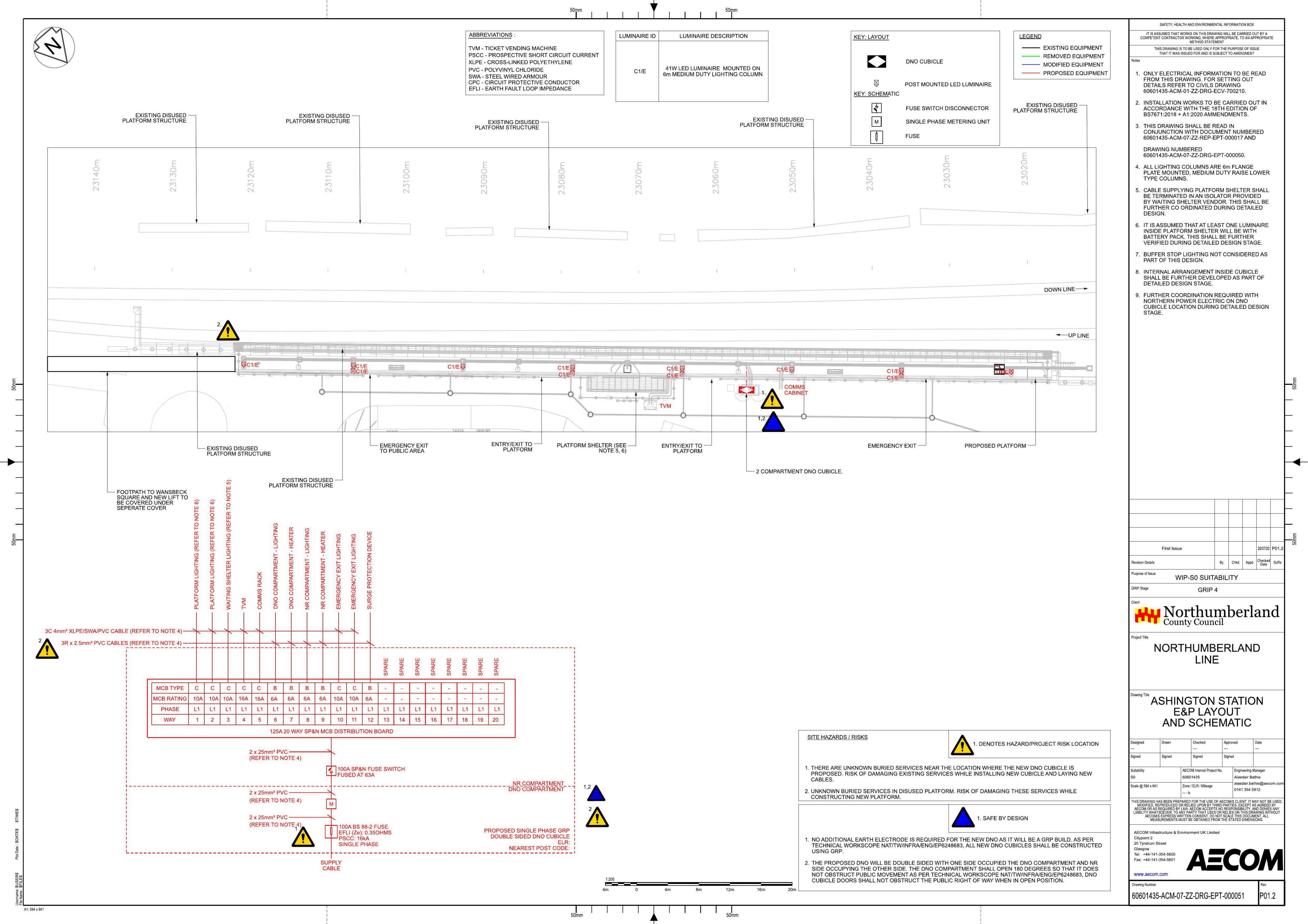


Appendix B - Proposed Utilities

Northumberland Line Project Services and Utilities Statement

Electrical

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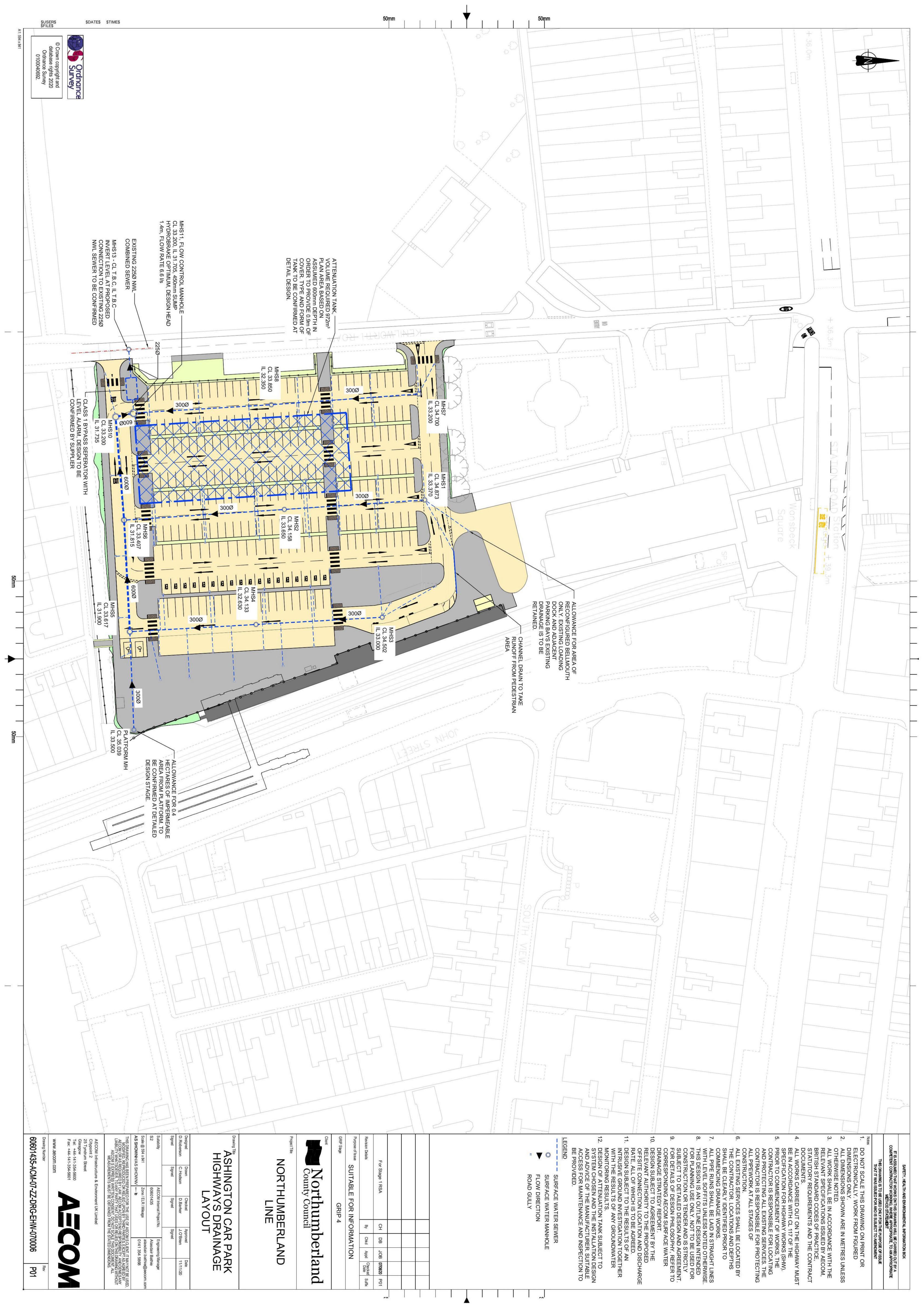




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Drainage



Telecoms. Station public address system – illustrative coverage

