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Client: Chord Electronics Ltd

Daylight and Sunlight Assessment for the Development at The Pump House, Farleigh Bridge, Maidstone ME16 9NB

February 2023

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Contents

1	Bac	kground and Scope of Appraisal	4
	1.1	Study Objectives	4
	1.2	Site Location	4
	1.3	The Development	4
2	Poli	icy and Guidance	5
	2.1	National Planning Policy	5
	2.2	Regional Planning Policy	5
	2.3	Local Planning Policy	5
	2.4	Best Practice Guidance	6
3	Ass	essment Techniques	7
	3.1	Background	7
	3.2	Vertical Sky Component (VSC)	8
	3.3	No Sky Line	8
	3.4	Annual Probable Sunlight Hours	8
	3.5	Overshadowing	9
4	Ass	essment Methodology	11
	4.1	Method of Baseline Data Collation	11
	4.2	Identification of Key Sensitive Receptors	11
	4.3	Numerical Modelling	12
	4.4	Calculation Assumptions	12
	4.5	Assessment criteria	14
5	Dise	cussion of Daylighting Impacts	15

	5.1	Vertical Sky Component Assessment	15
	5.2	No Sky Line Assessment	15
	5.3	Summary of Daylighting Impacts	16
6	Sur	nlight and Overshadowing Analysis	17
	6.1	Annual Probable Sunlight Hours Assessment	17
	6.2	Sun on the Ground	19
	6.3	Transient Overshadowing	19
	6.4	Solar Glare	20
7	Cor	nclusions	21
Α	Appendices		22

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1 Background and Scope of Appraisal

1.1 Study Objectives

Herrington Consulting has been commissioned by Chord Electronics Ltd to assess the potential impact of the proposed development at The Pump House, Farleigh Bridge, Maidstone ME16 9NB, in relation to daylight, sunlight and overshadowing on the neighbouring buildings. The key objectives of the assessment are to:

- assess the baseline conditions at the site;
- analyse the potential impacts of the development on the daylight and sunlight currently received by the neighbouring building;
- assess these impacts in line with any relevant planning policies and best practice guidance.

1.2 Site Location

The site is situated in the village of East Farleigh near Maidstone and is located within administrative boundaries of Maidstone Borough Council. The location of the site is shown in Figure 1.1 and the site plan included in Appendix A.1 of this report gives a more detailed reference to the site location and layout.

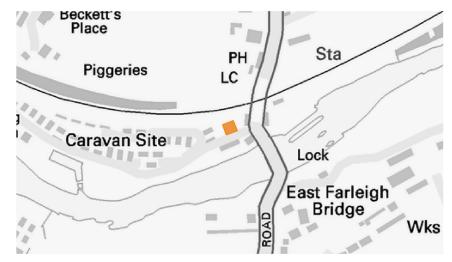


Figure 1.1 – Location map (Contains Ordnance Survey data \circledcirc Crown copyright and database right 2011)

1.3 The Development

The proposal for development is for a roof level extension to create additional business space at roof level. Drawings of the proposed scheme are included in Appendix A.1 of this report.

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2 Policy and Guidance

2.1 National Planning Policy

National Planning Policy Framework (Revised July 2021)

Paragraph 125 on 'Achieving appropriate densities' states that "c) local planning authorities should refuse applications which they consider fail to make efficient use of land, taking into account the policies in this Framework. In this context, when considering applications for housing, authorities should take a flexible approach in applying policies or guidance relating to daylight and sunlight, where they would otherwise inhibit making efficient use of a site (as long as the resulting scheme would provide acceptable living standards)."

Guidance on Effective Use of Land (Revised July 2019)

The guidance states that: 'Where a planning application is submitted, local planning authorities will need to consider whether the proposed development would have an unreasonable impact on the daylight and sunlight levels enjoyed by neighbouring occupiers, as well as assessing whether daylight and sunlight within the development itself will provide satisfactory living conditions for future occupants.'

Further to this, it also states that 'All developments should maintain acceptable living standards. What this means in practice, in relation to assessing appropriate levels of sunlight and daylight, will depend to some extent on the context for the development as well as its detailed design. For example in areas of high-density historic buildings, or city centre locations where tall modern buildings predominate, lower daylight and daylight and sunlight levels at some windows may be unavoidable if new developments are to be in keeping with the general form of their surroundings.

In such situations good design (such as giving careful consideration to a building's massing and layout of habitable rooms) will be necessary to help make the best use of the site and maintain acceptable living standards.'

2.2 Regional Planning Policy

Kent Design Guide

Section 2.2.8 "Maximising the use of Sunlight and Daylight" states that Sunlight and energy efficiency should be considered as an integral part of finalising a layout. Sunlight and energy efficiency can be maximised if the layout of new buildings is designed with the following principles in mind;... avoid overshadowing'.

2.3 Local Planning Policy

Maidstone Borough Local Plan (October 2017)

Policy DM9 states that "Within the defined boundaries of the urban area, rural service centres and larger villages, proposals for the extension, conversion or redevelopment of a residential property which meet the following criteria will be permitted if...iii. The privacy, daylight, sunlight and maintenance of a pleasant outlook of adjoining residents would be safeguarded".

Policy DM1 states that "Proposals which would create high quality design and meet the following criteria will be permitted:...iv. Respect the amenities of occupiers of neighbouring properties and uses and provide adequate residential amenities for future occupiers of the development by ensuring that development does not result in, or is exposed to, excessive noise, vibration, odour, air

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pollution, activity or vehicular movements, overlooking or visual intrusion, and that the built form would not result in an unacceptable loss of privacy or light enjoyed by the occupiers of nearby properties."

2.4 Best Practice Guidance

In the absence of official national planning guidance / legislation on daylight and sunlight, the most recognised guidance document is published by the Building Research Establishment and entitled 'Site Layout Planning for Daylight and Sunlight – A Guide to Good Practice', Third Edition, 2022; herein referred to as the 'BRE Guidelines'.

The BRE Guidelines are not mandatory and themselves state that they should not be used as an instrument of planning policy, however in practice they are heavily relied upon as they provide a good guide to approach, methodology and evaluation of daylight and sunlight impacts.

Whilst the BRE Guidelines provide numerical guidance for daylight, sunlight and overshadowing, these criteria should not be seen as absolute targets. The document states that the intention of the guide is to aid rather than constrain the designer. The Guide is not an instrument of planning policy, therefore whilst the methods given are technically robust, it is acknowledged that some level of flexibility should be applied where appropriate.

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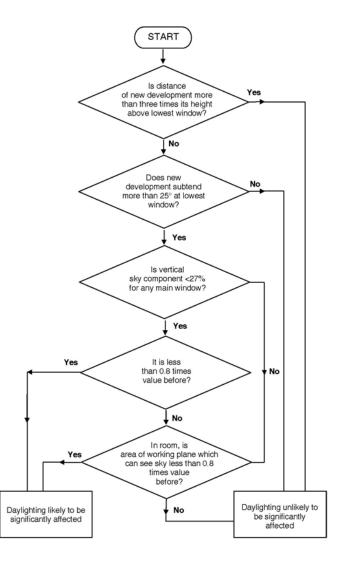
3 Assessment Techniques

3.1 Background

Natural light refers to both daylight and sunlight. However, a distinction between these two concepts is required for the purpose of analysis and quantification of natural light in buildings. In this assessment, the term '*Daylight*' is used for natural light where the source is the sky in overcast conditions, whilst '*Sunlight*' refers specifically to the light coming directly from the sun.

The primary objective of this assessment is to quantify the impacts of the proposed development on the adjacent building[s] and therefore the methods employed by this study are focussed on this objective. These methodologies are described in the following sections of this report and follow the hierarchical approach set out by the BRE Guidelines. The 'decision chart' outlining this process (Figure 20 of the Guidelines) has been reproduced for clarity.

The BRE guidelines are primarily intended for use for residential rooms in adjoining dwellings. However, they may also be applied to any existing nondomestic buildings where the occupants have a reasonable expectation of daylight, which could include schools, hospitals, hotels and offices in specific circumstances. For dwellings, it states that living rooms, dining rooms and kitchens should be assessed. Bedrooms should also be checked, although it states that they are less important. Other rooms, such as bathrooms, toilets, storerooms, circulation areas and garages need not be assessed.



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3.2 Vertical Sky Component (VSC)

The Vertical Sky Component (VSC) calculation is the ratio of the direct sky illuminance falling on the outside of a window, to the simultaneous horizontal illuminance under an unobstructed sky. The standard CIE (Commission Internationale d'Éclairage) Overcast Sky is used and the ratio is expressed as a percentage. For example, a window that has an unobstructed view over open fields would benefit from the maximum VSC, which would be close to 40%. For a window to be considered as having a reasonable amount of skylight reaching it, the BRE Guidelines suggests that a minimum VSC value of 27% should be achieved. When assessing the impact of a new development on an existing building the BRE Guidelines sets out the following specific requirement:

If the VSC with the new development in place is both less than 27% and less than 0.8 times its former value, then the reduction in light to the window is likely to be noticeable.

This means that a reduction in the VSC value of up to 20% its former value would be acceptable and thus the impact would be considered negligible. It is important to note that the VSC is a simple geometrical calculation, which provides an early indication of the potential for daylight entering the space. It does not, however, assess or quantify the actual daylight levels inside the rooms.

3.3 No Sky Line

The No Sky Line, or sometimes referred to as No Sky View method, describes the distribution of daylight within rooms by calculating the area of the 'working plane', which can receive a direct view of the sky. The working plane height is generally set at 850mm above floor level within a residential property and 700mm within a commercial property. When assessing the potential impacts on the daylight available to the neighbouring properties, the BRE Guidelines state that if the area within a room receiving direct skylight is reduced by less than 0.8 following the construction of a new development, the impact will be noticeable to the occupants. This is also true if the No Sky Line encroaches onto key areas like kitchen sinks and worktops.

The BRE Guidelines state that the main rooms should be tested, this would include living rooms, dining rooms and kitchens. While bedrooms should be included in the analysis, these are acknowledged as less important. If daylight is expected in non-domestic buildings, each of these room should be included in analysis.

3.4 Annual Probable Sunlight Hours

It is also possible to quantify the amount of sunlight available to a new development and the recognised methodology for undertaking this analysis is the Annual Probable Sunlight Hours (APSH) method.

To pass this test the centre point of the window will need to receive more than one quarter (25%) of the APSH, including at least 5% APSH in the winter months between 21st September and the 21st March. The BRE Guidelines state that if 'post-development' the available sunlight hours are both less than the amount above and less than 0.8 times their 'pre-development' value, either over the whole year or just within the winter months, then the occupants of the existing building will notice the loss of sunlight. In addition, if the overall annual loss is greater than 4% of APSH, the room may appear colder and less pleasant. For new development and especially where existing buildings are being redeveloped, it is important to acknowledge that these are aspirational targets intended to aid and not constrain the designer.

These aspirational targets were derived to improve the amenity of single dwellings that typically comprise a living room, kitchen and bedrooms; the objective being to maximise sunlight in the main living areas. However, for buildings that contain multiple apartments, it is rarely possible to configure the internal layout such that all rooms receive direct sunlight as it is inevitable that some windows will be situated on an elevation that faces within 90 degrees of due north.

It is therefore important to understand that when assessing the provision of sunlight to a building containing multiple dwellings, the BRE Guidelines seek only to maximise the amount of sunlight received. They do not set absolute targets.

3.5 Overshadowing

The BRE Guidance suggests that where new development may affect one or more amenity areas, then analysis can be undertaken to quantify the loss of sunlight resulting from overshadowing. Typical examples of areas that could be considered as open spaces or amenity areas are main back gardens of houses, allotments, parks and playing fields, children's playgrounds, outdoor swimming pools, sitting-out areas, such as in public squares and focal points for views, such as a group of monuments or fountains. Amenity areas in the form of balconies are not recommended to be assessed under the BRE Guidelines due to their small size and often significant obstruction.

Sun Hours on Ground

The BRE Guidelines recommend that for a garden or amenity area to appear adequately sunlit throughout the year, at least 50% of an amenity area should receive at least 2 hours of sunlight on 21st March. The BRE Guidelines also suggest that if, as a result of a new development, an existing garden or amenity area does not meet these guidelines, and the area which can receive some sun on the 21st March is less than 0.8 times its former value, then the loss of sunlight is likely to be noticeable.

When undertaking this analysis, sunlight from an altitude of 10° or less has been ignored as this is likely to be obscured by planting and undulations in the surrounding topography. Driveways and hard standing for cars is also usually left out of the area used for this calculation. Fences or walls less than 1.5 metres high are also ignored. Front gardens which are relatively small and visible from public footpaths are omitted with only main back gardens needing to be analysed.

The Guidelines also state that "normally, trees and shrubs need not be included, partly because their shapes are almost impossible to predict, and partly because the dappled shade of a tree is more pleasant than a deep shadow of a building". This is especially the case for deciduous trees, which provide welcome shade in the summer whilst allowing sunlight to penetrate during the winter months.

Transient Overshadowing

The BRE Guidelines suggest that where large buildings are proposed, which may affect a number of open spaces or amenity areas, it is useful and illustrative to plot a shadow plan to show the location of shadows at different times of the day and at key times during the year. Typically, the 21st March, the 21st June, and 21st December are used to represent the annual variance of sun position, noting



that the position of the sun in the sky during the spring equinox (21st March) is equivalent to that of the autumn equinox.

The BRE Guidelines provide no criteria for the significance of transitory overshadowing other than to suggest that by establishing the different times of day and year when shadow would be cast over surrounding areas, provides an indication as to the significance of the likely effect of a new development. The assessment of transient overshadowing effects is therefore based upon expert judgment, taking into consideration the likely effects of the various baseline conditions and comparing them with the likely significant transient overshadowing effects of the redevelopment proposals.



4 Assessment Methodology

4.1 Method of Baseline Data Collation

The following data and information has been used to inform this study:

- OS Mastermap mapping
- Scheme drawings in AutoCAD format (Flex Lewis Architects January 2023)
- Photographic information provided by architect.
- Aerial photography (Google Maps and Bing)

4.2 Identification of Key Sensitive Receptors

The BRE Guidelines are intended for use for rooms and adjoining dwellings where daylight is required, including living rooms, kitchens and bedrooms. Windows to bathrooms, toilets, storerooms circulation areas and garages are not deemed as requiring daylight and therefore are not identified as sensitive receptors. The BRE document also states that the guidelines may also be applied to any non-domestic building where the occupants have a reasonable expectation of daylight. This would normally include schools, hospitals, hotels, hostels, small workshops and some offices.

The first step in this process is to determine the key sensitive receptors, i.e. which windows may be affected by the proposed development. Key receptors are those

windows that face, or are located broadly perpendicular to the proposed development.

If a window falls into this category, the second step is to measure the obstruction angle. This is the angle at the level of the centre of the lowest window between the horizontal plane and the line joining the highest point of nearest obstruction formed from any part of the proposed development. If this angle is less than 25° then it is unlikely to have a substantial effect on the diffuse daylight enjoyed by the existing window and the window is not deemed to be a sensitive receptor. A graphical representation of the 25° rule is illustrated in Figure 4.1 below.

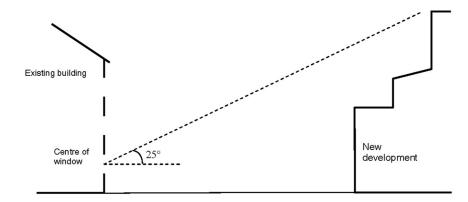


Figure 4.1 – Graphical representation of the 25° Rule (indicative buildings used for illustration purposes only)

As part of this assessment a digital three-dimensional model of the study area has been created for both the 'pre' and 'post' development scenarios. Images of these models are shown by the drawings appended to this report.

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Using the 3D model, it is possible to identify all windows having an obstruction angle no greater than 25°. Impacts to these windows are therefore deemed to be negligible in line with the criteria set out within the BRE Guidelines.

There are, however, circumstances where the 25°*degree* rule is not wholly appropriate, for example where the development facing the window does not create a uniform obstruction along the skyline, or where the proposals are not directly adjacent to the receptor window. In these situations, professional judgement is used to differentiate between windows that require more detailed analysis and those that will clearly not be impacted. Where any level of uncertainty exists, the window is taken forward for detailed analysis.

Windows serving non-habitable spaces are not included within the assessment as these are not identified by planning policy or by the BRE Guidelines to be sensitive to changes in daylight and sunlight. Therefore, as part of the identification of sensitive receptor process, the use of each room is, where possible, established and windows serving non-habitable spaces such as toilets, store rooms, stairwells and circulation spaces are identified. Typically kitchens that have a floor area less then 13m² are not considered to be habitable spaces in their own right.

Windows serving rooms within commercial premises are assumed to be nonhabitable and in accordance with the BRE Guidelines are not identified as sensitive receptors. However, there are special cases where it can be assumed that some non-domestic uses could be deemed to have a reasonable expectation of daylight and therefore could be taken forward for more detailed analysis. Typically, these could be school classrooms, hospital wards, art studios etc, but professional judgement is generally relied upon to determine this and where considered appropriate, windows serving commercial premises are included.

Drawings showing the location of all sensitive receptors that have been assessed as part of this study are included in Appendix A.2 of this report.

In summary, habitable rooms in the following residential buildings have been identified as potential sensitive receptors and have therefore been tested.

- The Malthouse
- 1-2 River Lodge
- 33 Riverside Park
- 34 Riverside Park
- 4.3 Numerical Modelling

The numerical analysis used in this assessment has been undertaken using the Waldrum Tools (Version 6.0.0.9) software package.

4.4 Calculation Assumptions

The following assumptions have been made when undertaking the analysis:

- When assessing the VSC the calculation is based on the centre point of the window position.
- When assessing the daylighting for internal rooms and in the absence of specific information, the following parameters are assumed:

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- For new buildings, the glazing type is assumed to be double glazing (Pilkington K Glass 4/16/4 Argon filled) with a light transmittance value of 0.78 (value for double glazed unit not per pane). For existing buildings, a value of 0.68 has been assumed.
- Correction factor for frames and glazing bars = 0.8
- Where information from the designer is not available, the following values are used to derive the Maintenance Factor applied to the transmittance values.

Type of window	Maintenance Factor		
	Rural/ suburban	Urban	
Vertical, no overhang	0.96	0.92	
Vertical, sheltered from rain by balcony/overhang	0.88	0.76	
Sloping rooflight	0.92	0.84	
Horizontal rooflight	0.88	0.76	

Table 4.1 – Parameters used for deriving Maintenance Factor

- Where information on internal room layouts of adjacent properties is not known, best estimates as to room layout and size have been made in order to undertake No Skyline analysis.
- Where the internal arrangements and room uses have been estimated, it should be noted that this has no bearing upon the tests for VSC or APSH because the reference point is at the centre of the window being tested and windows have been accurately drawn from the survey information where

possible. It is relevant to the daylight distribution assessment, but in the absence of suitable plans, estimation is a conventional approach.

- In areas where survey data has not been provided or needs to be supplemented with additional information, photographs, OS mapping and brick counts have been used in the process of building the 3D model of the surrounding and existing buildings.
- When analysing the effect of the new building on the existing buildings, the shading effect of the existing trees has been ignored. This is the recommended practice where deciduous trees that do not form a dense belt or tree line are present (BRE Guidelines – Appendix H). This is because daylight is at its scarcest and most valuable in the winter when most trees will not be in leaf.
- In situations where windows are deeply set-back beneath balconies or other overhanging features, it is common for these rooms to have low VSC values as a result of the obstruction caused by the balcony. It widely accepted and acknowledged within the BRE Guidelines that the presence of balconies can mask the impact of a proposed development when using the VSC test and therefore the Guidelines suggest that the window should be tested both 'with' and 'without' the balcony in place. If the ratio of change with the development in place, but with the balconies removed, remains above 0.8, then it can be concluded that it is the presence of the balcony rather than the introduction of a new building that is the main factor in the relative loss of light.



4.5 Assessment criteria

The numerical assessment criteria specified within the BRE Guidelines is designed to identify the threshold at which point a change in daylight or sunlight would become 'noticeable' to the occupants. Consequently, where the results of the daylight/sunlight analysis demonstrate compliance with the BRE criteria it can be concluded that the impact will be negligible. However, a point that should be stressed here is that 'noticeable' does not necessarily equate to 'unacceptable' and the BRE's standard target values should not always be considered as pass/fail criteria. Whilst the BRE Guidelines provide numerical guidance for daylight, sunlight and overshadowing, these criteria should not be seen as absolute targets since, as the document states, the intention of the guide is to help rather than constrain the designer. The Guide is not an instrument of planning policy, therefore whilst the methods given are technically robust, it is acknowledged that some level of flexibility should be applied where appropriate.

Consequently, based on the numerical assessment criteria set out with the BRE Guidelines and the use of professional judgment, the following assessment criteria have been established and are used in describing the impacts of the proposed development.

Significance	ignificance Description				
Negligible	No alteration or a small alteration from the existing scenario. Results demonstrate full compliance with the BRE assessment criteria and therefore occupants are unlikely to notice any change.	1.0 to 0.8			
Minor adverse					
Moderate adverse	An alteration from the existing scenario which may cause a moderate noticeable change to the occupant. This may consist of a moderate infringement of the numerical BRE assessment criteria.	0.6 to 0.7			
Major adverse	An alteration from the existing scenario which may cause a major noticeable change to the occupant. This may consist of a significant infringement of the numerical BRE assessment criteria.	Less than 0.6			

Table 4.3 – Daylight & Sunlight Impact Descriptors

5 Discussion of Daylighting Impacts

Based on the results of the numerical analysis summarised in Appendix A.3, it is possible to draw conclusions on the impacts that the proposed development will have on the neighbouring buildings. These are based on the principle numerical tests that are discussed below.

5.1 Vertical Sky Component Assessment

The BRE Guidelines operate on the general principle that where the retained VSC is 27% or greater, or where the retained VSC has not reduced to less than 0.8 times its former value, then the reduction in daylight is unlikely to be noticeable to the building's occupants and thus the impact can be deemed negligible. The results of the VSC analysis are summarised below.

	No.	Windows meeting BRE Guidelines		VSC Windows Transgressions			
Property	Windows Tested	No.	%	Minor adverse	Moderate adverse	Major adverse	
The Malthouse	16	16	100%	0	0	0	
1-2 River Lodge	7	7	100%	0	0	0	
33 Riverside Park	5	5	100%	0	0	0	
34 Riverside Park	1	1	100%	0	0	0	
Total	29	29	100%	0	0	0	

Table 5.1 – Results of Vertical Sky Component (VSC) Analysis

Inspection of the results of this test show that all of the windows either retain a VSC value greater than 27% post development, or have a ratio of change that is 0.8 or above and therefore are fully compliant. Consequently, in line with the assessment criteria set out within the BRE Guidelines it is possible to conclude that the impact will be **negligible**.

5.2 No Sky Line Assessment

In order to pass the No Sky Line Assessment, the BRE Guidelines state that the area of the working plane within the room that has a view of the sky should not be reduced to less than 0.8 times its former value as a result of new development. One benefit of the daylight distribution test is that the resulting contour plans show where the light falls within a room, for both the existing and proposed conditions, and a judgement can be made as to whether the room will retain light to a reasonable depth.

In Appendix D of the BRE guidance, it states in D3 that 'In most cases the position of the no sky line has to be found from plans. The calculation can only be carried out where room layouts are known. Using estimated room layouts is likely to give inaccurate results and is not recommended. However, where plans are available, for example on the local authorities online planning portal, the calculation should be carried out'.



In this case, the dimensions and layouts of the habitable rooms within The Malthouse have been estimated based on estate agent images whilst the window are positioned according to topographic survey elevations. The rooms within River Lodge are based on floor plans and images obtained from estate agent websites and the windows serving habitable rooms have been positioned according to topographic survey elevations.

The remaining internal floor layouts for the remaining properties are not available and therefore an estimate of the room dimensions and layouts has been made. The results of the No Sky Line/Daylight Distribution analysis are summarised below.

	Number	Transgressions				
Property	of Rooms Tested	No.	%	Minor adverse	Moderate adverse	Major adverse
The Malthouse	12	12	100%	0	0	0
1-2 River Lodge	4	4	100%	0	0	0
33 Riverside Park	2	2	100%	0	0	0
34 Riverside Park	1	1	100%	0	0	0
Total	19	19	100%	0	0	0

Table 5.2 – Results of No Sky Line (NSL) Analysis

From the results summarised above, it can be seen that as a result of the proposed development, the impact on the daylight distribution within the assessed rooms will be negligible. The reduction in the area of the working plane

that has a direct view of the sky will be less than 20% therefore occupants are unlikely to notice any change.

5.3 Summary of Daylighting Impacts

The proposed development at The Pump House, Farleigh Bridge, Maidstone ME16 9NB has been evaluated against the criteria set out by the BRE Guidelines for the assessment of the potential impacts on the daylight of the neighbouring properties. Four properties have been identified as sensitive receptors for this study, and therefore the habitable rooms and the windows serving the rooms within these properties have been tested.

When the magnitude of reduction is considered, it is evident that this will be within the acceptable limits set out within the BRE Guidelines. Consequently, it is possible to conclude that any changes to the daylight received by the habitable rooms of the neighbouring buildings will not be significant and is unlikely to be noticeable by the occupants.

6 Sunlight and Overshadowing Analysis

6.1 Annual Probable Sunlight Hours Assessment

The Annual Probable Sunlight Hours (APSH) tests have been carried out using the numerical model described in Section 4.3. The assessment requirements for the APSH test, as set out in the BRE Guidelines, have been reiterated below. For the assessment to conclude that the sunlighting of the existing dwelling could be adversely affected, <u>all three</u> of the following tests need to have been failed:

Test A - Does the window receive less than 25% of the APSH, or less than 5% the APSH between 21st September and 21st March?

Test B - Does the assessed window receive less than 0.8 times its former sunlight hours during either the 'whole year' or 'winter' period?

Test C - Is the reduction in sunlight received over the whole of the year greater than 4% of the APSH?

However, these tests are only applicable to windows that face within 90 degrees of due south. Consequently, in line with the guidelines and assessment methodologies set out within the BRE document, the analysis of sunlight impacts has only been carried out for these windows. Windows facing within 90 degrees of due north are not analysed and impacts are deemed to be negligible.

It should also be noted that where rooms have windows on more than one elevation, it is acceptable to sum the non-coincident sunlight hours to achieve a 'room total'. This approach is acknowledged by the BRE Guidelines and facilitates a greater understanding of the sunlight received within a room by taking into account the fact that some windows will receive sunlight at different times during the day.

When examining the results of the three sunlight tests, it is first necessary to understand why there are three separate tests and more importantly, why it is not necessary to pass all three to demonstrate that there is no adverse impact. The BRE Guidelines clearly state that for the proposed development to be considered to have an adverse effect on the available sunlight to neighbouring windows, <u>all three</u> tests would need to have been failed.

This is because sunlight is not assessed in terms of its contribution to the overall lighting levels within the room. The value attributed to sunlight is its transient presence and the way in which it can make a room appear bright and cheerful. There are also therapeutic values associated with sunlight and therefore it can be seen that these are not quantitative metrics that can be assessed using a single pass/fail criteria test. It is also necessary to understand that the amount of sunlight received by a window is strongly influenced by the orientation of the window elevation and any surrounding obstructions.

As a consequence of these factors, the assessment methodology embodied within the three separate tests allows the change in sunlight to be assessed in terms of the magnitude of change, absolute change and the retained level of sunlight. To conclude that a new development has no adverse impact, all that is required is for <u>one</u> of the three tests to be passed. The APSH test has been carried out and the detailed results of the analysis are included in Appendix A.3 and a summary of the results are shown in Table 6.1.



		Annual			Winter			
Property	Number of	Windows that meet BRE Guidelines		No. of Windows	Windows that meet BRE Guidelines		No. of Windows	
	Windows Tested	No.	%	Experiencing Adverse Impacts	No.	%	Experiencing Adverse Impacts	
The Malthouse	1	1	100%	0	1	100%	0	
1-2 River Lodge	4	4	100%	0	4	100%	0	
33 Riverside Park	2	2	100%	0	2	100%	0	
Total	7	7	100%	0	7	100%	0	

Table 6.1 – Results of APSH Analysis

When the results of the APSH analysis summarised in Table 6.1 and Appendix A.3 are inspected, it can be seen that all windows and rooms pass at least one of the three sunlight tests. Consequently, it has been demonstrated that the proposed scheme will have a negligible impact on neighbouring buildings.

6.2 Sun on the Ground

The BRE Guidelines acknowledge that good site layout planning for daylight and sunlight should not limit itself to providing good natural light inside buildings. Sunlight in the space between buildings has an important effect on the overall appearance and ambiance of a development.

The 2022 BRE Guidelines suggest that the Spring Equinox (21st March) is a suitable date for the assessment and therefore using the specialist software described in Section 4.3, the path of the sun is tracked to determine where the sun would reach the ground and where it would not.

The BRE guidelines recommend that at least half of a garden or amenity area should receive at least 2 hours of sunlight on March 21st or the area which receives 2 hours of direct sunlight should not be reduced to less than 0.8 times its former value (i.e. there should be no more than a 20% reduction).

Typical examples of areas that could be considered as open spaces or amenity areas are main back gardens of houses, allotments, parks and playing fields, children's playgrounds, outdoor swimming pools, sitting-out areas, such as in public squares and focal points for views.

The garden of the Malthouse has been identified as sensitive amenity area and the results of the sun on the ground analysis for this property are summarised in Table 6.2. The graphical results of the overshadowing analysis are included in Appendix A.2.

Amenity area	Percentage o hours or more March		Ratio of change	Compliant with BRE criteria?	
	Existing	Proposed		Criteria	
The Malthouse	80%	80%	1.0	Yes	

Table 6.2 – Results of the Sun on Ground analysis

From the above results, it can be seen that with the proposed scheme in place, the amenity area benefits from two hours or more of direct sunlight to well over 50% of its area on the 21st March. In addition, it can be seen that as a result of the proposed development, the sunlight available to these amenity areas will not be reduced by more than 20% which is the acceptable reduction limit prescribed by the BRE Guidelines.

Consequently, it can be concluded that the proposed development will not result in a noticeable increase in overshadowing to this neighbouring amenity space.

6.3 Transient Overshadowing

Where amenity areas are used at specific times of day or year, it is useful and illustrative to comment on the overshadowing that will occur throughout the day and at different times of the year. However, with traditional rear gardens and public open spaces that are potentially used all year round, it is acknowledged by the BRE Guidelines that the 21st March equinox is used, as this represents a much worst case than an assessment during the summer when shadows are shorter and impacts of new development are less magnified.

It is also worth highlighting that whilst the BRE Guidelines do not provide any thresholds or assessment criteria for overshadowing analysis carried out at any



date other than the 21st March. All that is quoted in the Guidelines is an acknowledgement that some degree of transient overshadowing should be expected from new development. Consequently, unless there is a specific reason to assess overshadowing at a specific time of day, the use of transient shadow plots is not recommended by the BRE Guidelines.

In this situation, it is not considered that any of the amenity areas that are potentially affected by the proposed development would be described as being sensitive to overshadowing at any particular time of day. Consequently, transient overshadowing is not considered appropriate for this assessment.

6.4 Solar Glare

Solar glare or dazzle can affect neighbouring buildings and pose potential hazards for road users under certain circumstances. The BRE Guidelines highlight two particular cases where this can be a problem; these being where there are large areas of reflective glass or cladding on the façade, or where large areas of glass or cladding slope back such that high-altitude sunlight can be reflected along the ground.

When the proposed design is considered, it can be seen that the building does not slope back, nor does it include large areas of reflective glass or cladding. Given the building design and the BRE Guideline's stance on this matter, it is not considered necessary or appropriate to incorporate an analysis of solar glare.

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7 Conclusions

The detailed analysis undertaken as part of this assessment has examined the impact of the proposed development at The Pump House, Farleigh Bridge, Maidstone ME16 9NB, on the amount of daylight enjoyed by the neighbouring buildings. Four properties have been identified as sensitive receptors for this study, the Malthouse, 1-2 River Lodge, 33 Riverside Park and 34 Riverside Park, and therefore, the habitable rooms and the windows serving the rooms within these properties have been tested.

In line with the assessment criteria prescribed by the BRE Guideline, it has been shown that the reduction in daylighting to the windows/rooms of the neighbouring buildings will be within the acceptable limits set out within the BRE Guidelines. Consequently, it is possible to conclude that any changes to the daylight received by the habitable rooms of the neighbouring buildings will not be significant and is unlikely to be noticeable by the occupants.

The assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the sunlight enjoyed by the neighbouring buildings has also shown that despite some reductions seen in the number of probable sunlight hours enjoyed by these windows/rooms, these are again within the limits prescribed by the BRE Guidelines as being acceptable. Furthermore, the assessment of the sunlight available to the neighbouring amenity areas indicates that all of the amenity areas will experience no change to the excellent sunlight levels they currently enjoy.

In summary, the development proposals have been appraised in line with the guidelines set out in the BRE document. When assessed against the criteria for

establishing whether the proposed development will have a significant impact, it has been possible to conclude that the development will not result in a notable reduction in the amount of either daylight or sunlight enjoyed by the neighbouring buildings.



A Appendices

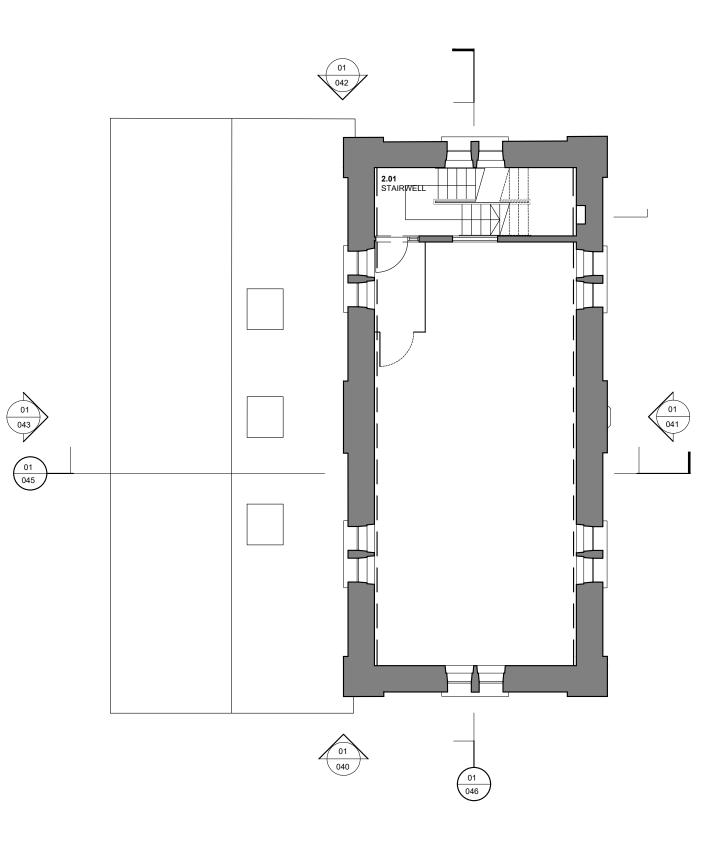
Appendix A.1 – Scheme Drawings

Appendix A.2 – Graphical Model Outputs

Appendix A.3 – Tabulated Results for Daylight & Sunlight Calculations

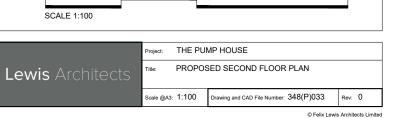


Appendix A.1 – Scheme Drawings

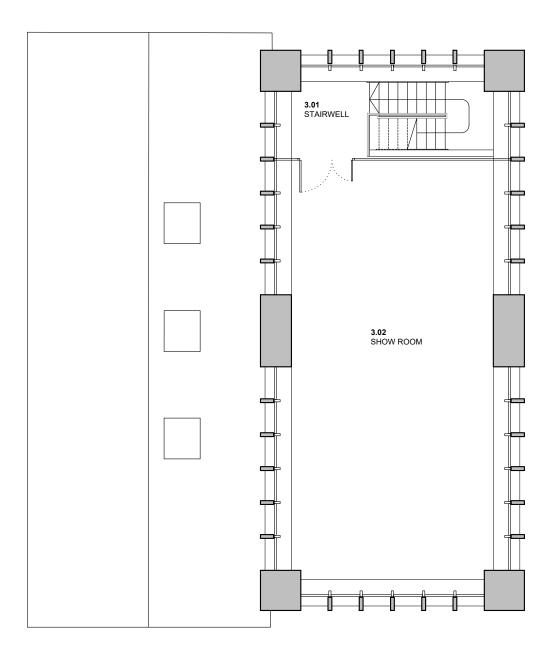


01 PROPOSED SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Date 13.11.2022 04.01.2023	Description Drawn Check STAGE 2: ISSUED FOR PRE-APP GS FL STAGE 2: ISSUED TO CONSULTANT GS FL CONSULTANT GS	Do not Scale for Construction (Suitable for planning purposes only). Use figured dimensions only. All dimensions to be checked on site. All drawings to be read in conjunction with the Engineers' drawings. Any discrepancies between consultants drawings to be reported to the Architect before any work commences. The Contractor's attention is drawn to the Health & Safety matters identified in the Health & Safety plan as being potentially hazardous. These items should not be considered as a complete and final list. The Work Package Contractor's normal Health and Safety obligations still apply when undertaking constructional operations both on and off site.	E: info@felixlewisarchitects.com T: 01622 535 010 T: 01737 457 123 W: www.felixlewisarchitects.com	Felix L



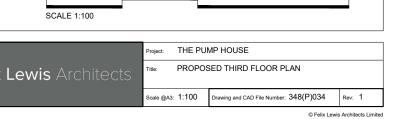
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01 PROPOSED THIRD FLOOR PLAN 1:100 @A3

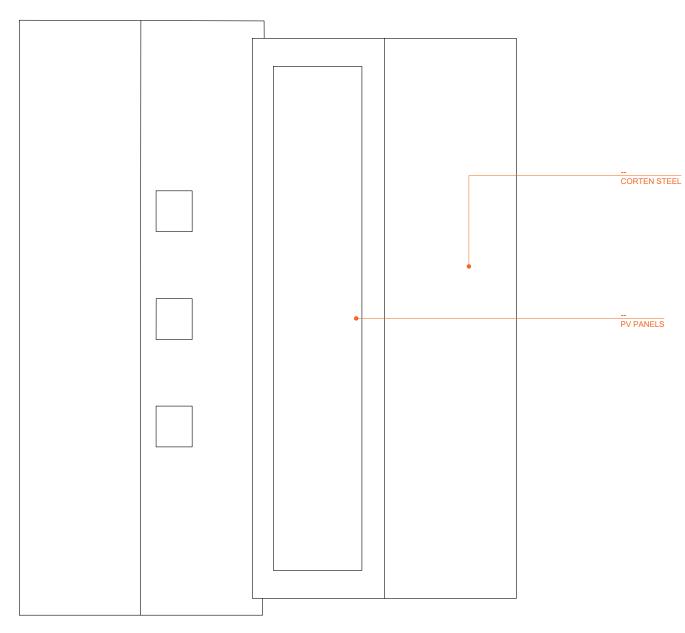
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				The Contractor's attention is drawn to the Health & Safety matters identified in the Health & Safety plan as being potentially hazardous.	W: www.felixlewisarchitects.com	
				These items should not be considered as a complete and final list. The Work Package Contractor's normal Health and Safety obligations		
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01 PROPOSED ROOF PLAN 1:100 @A3

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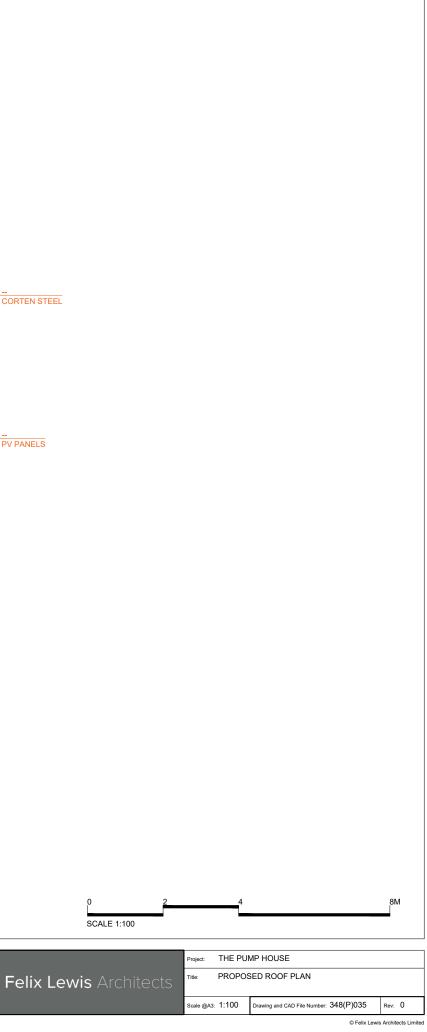
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STAGE 2





01 PROPOSED SOUTH ELEVATION 1:100 @A3

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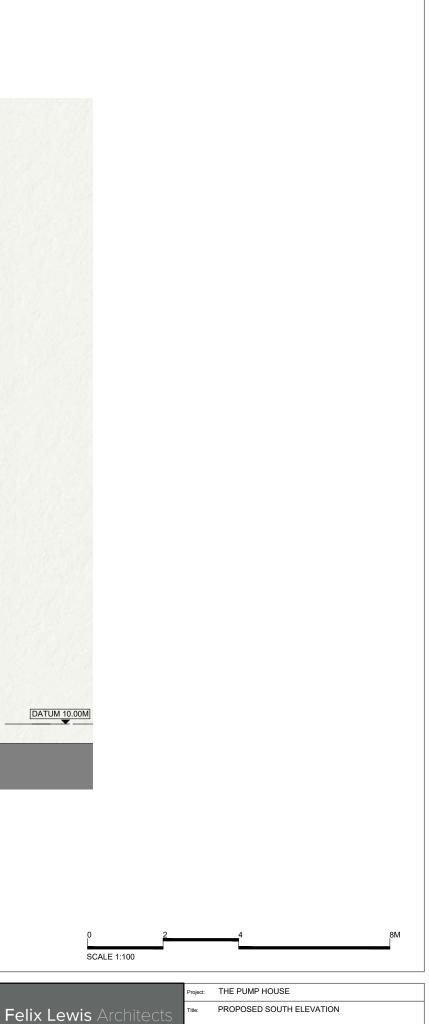
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Drawing and CAD File Number: 348(P)040 Rev: 1



01 PROPOSED EAST ELEVATION

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01 PROPOSED NORTH ELEVATION 1:100 @A3

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01 PROPOSED WEST ELEVATION

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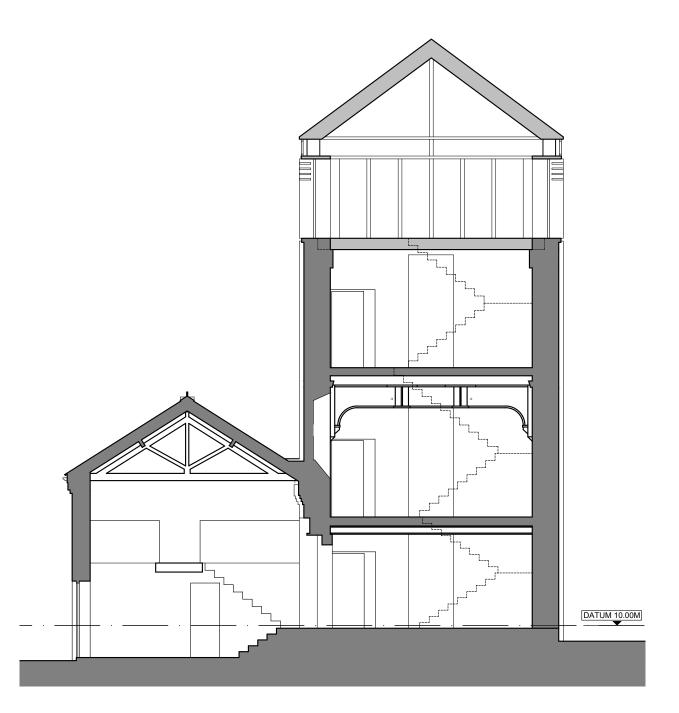
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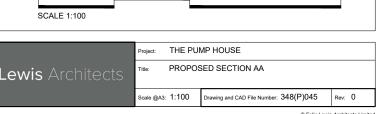
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01 PROPOSED SECTION - AA

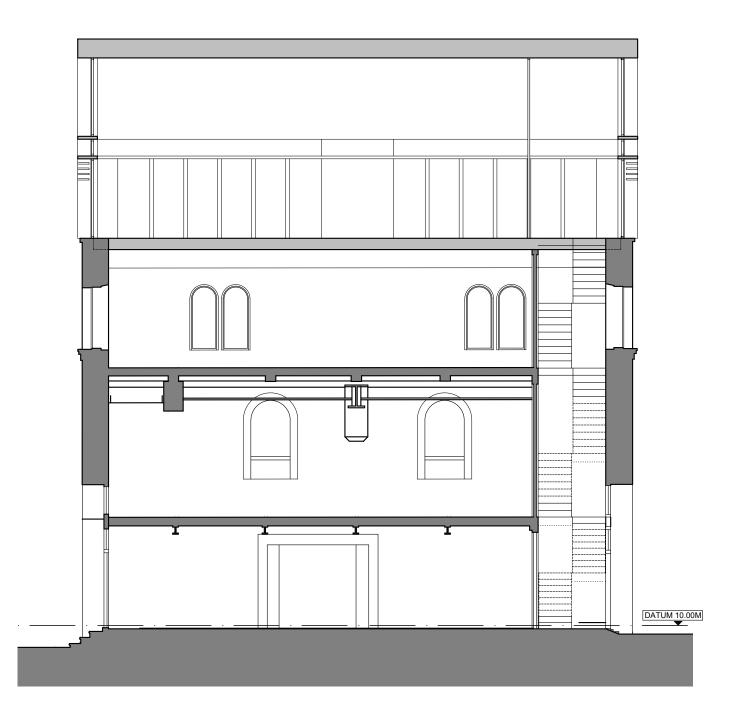
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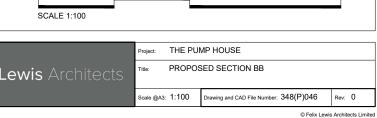


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01 PROPOSED SECTION - BB

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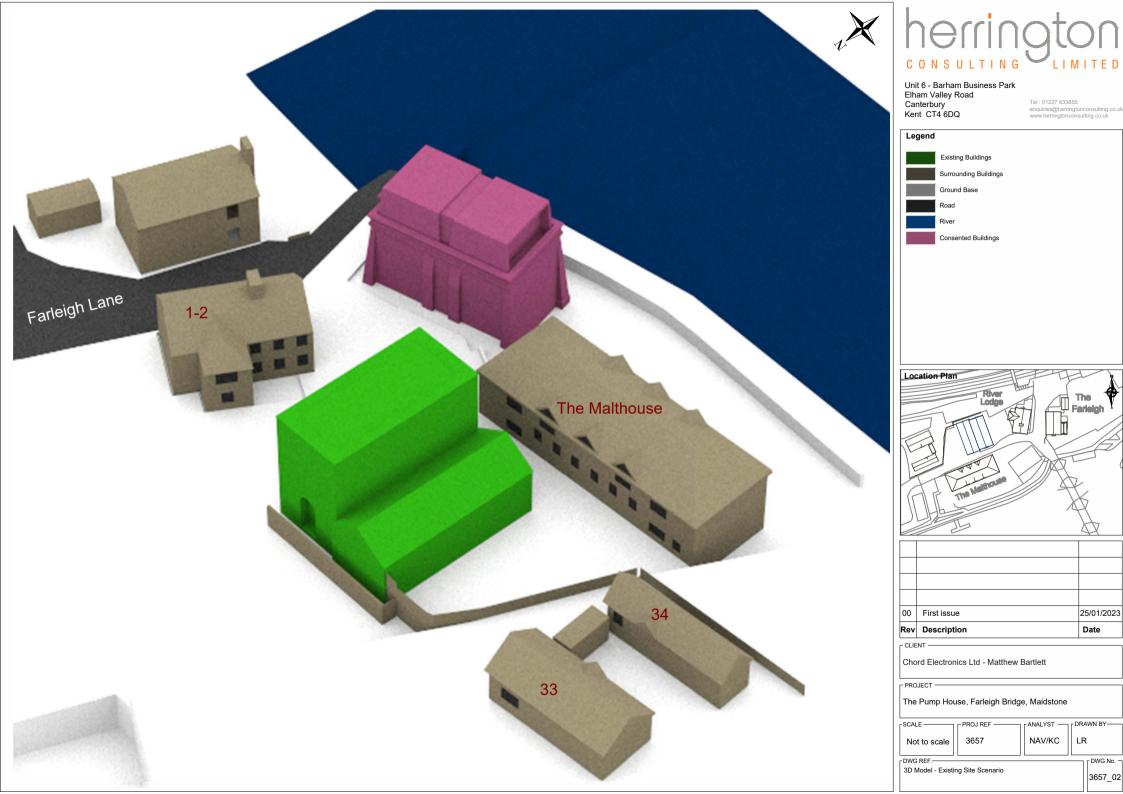
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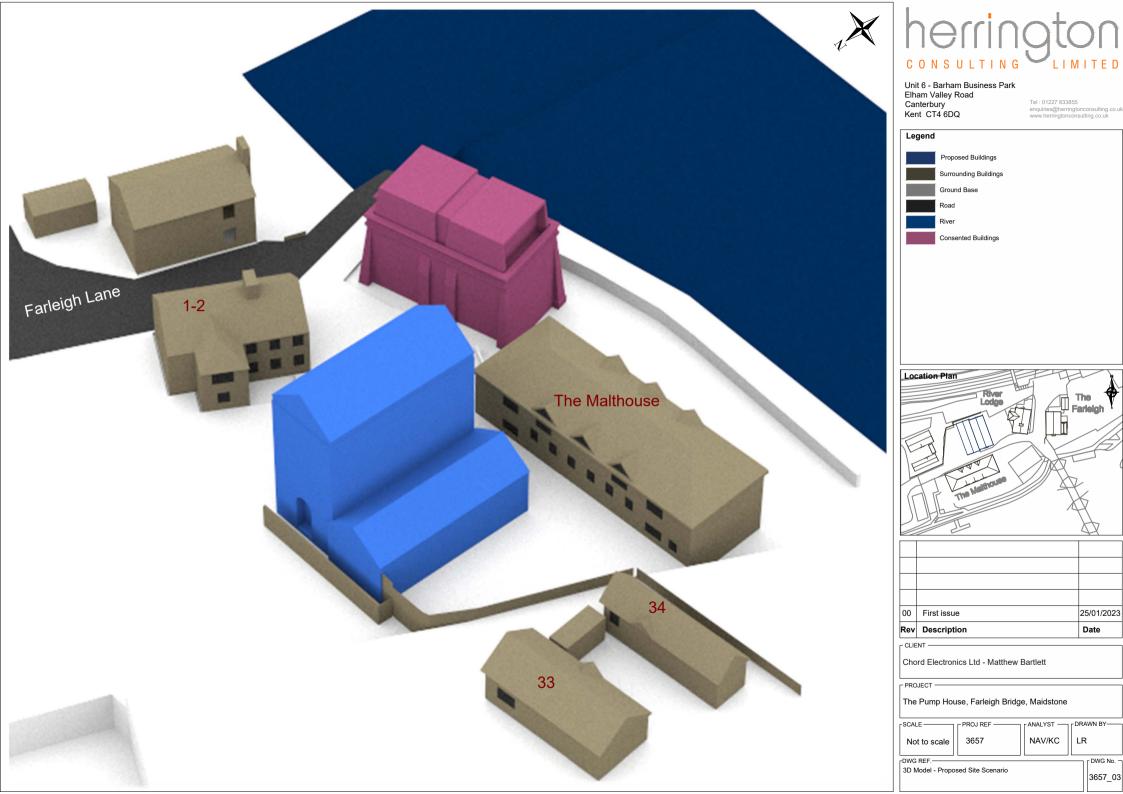
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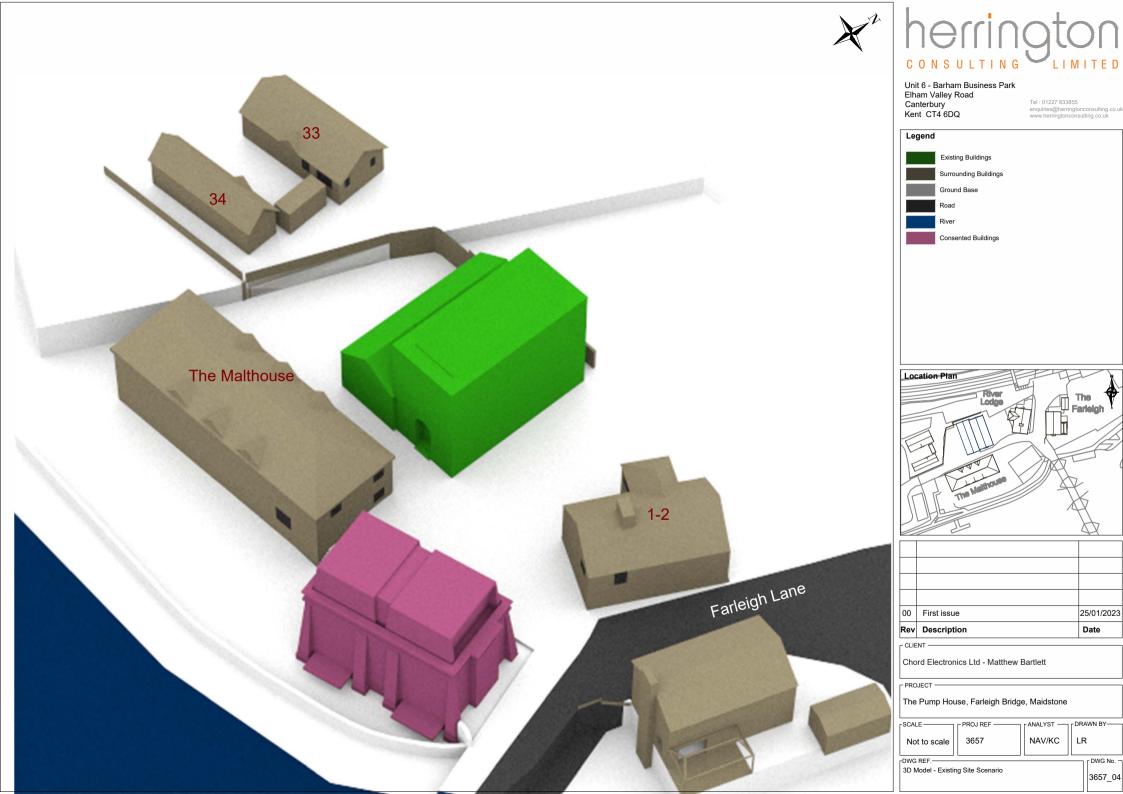


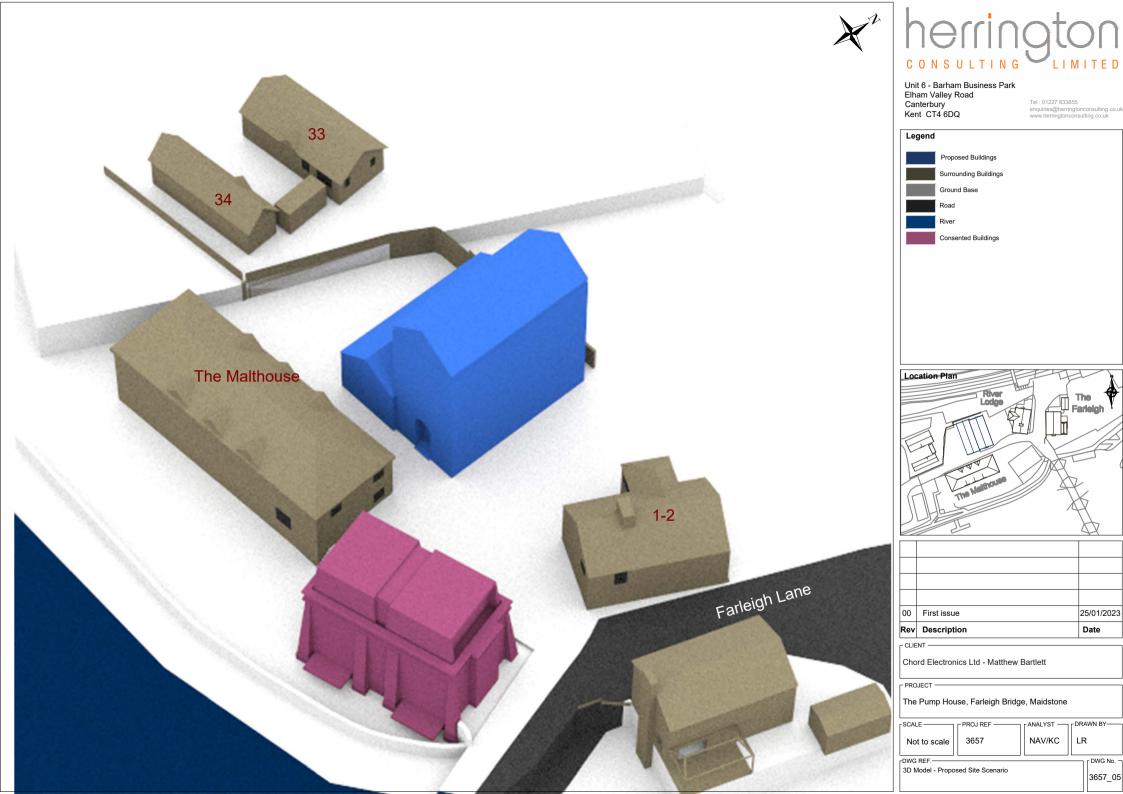
Appendix A.2 – Graphical Model Outputs

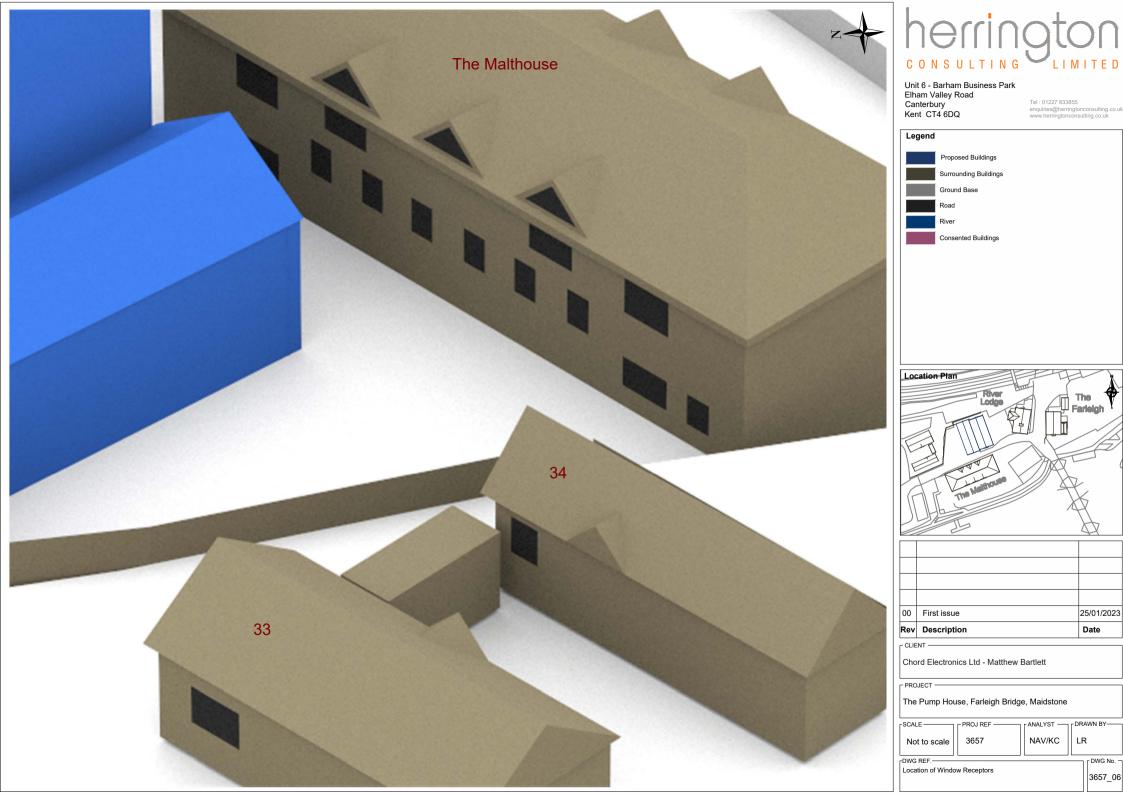


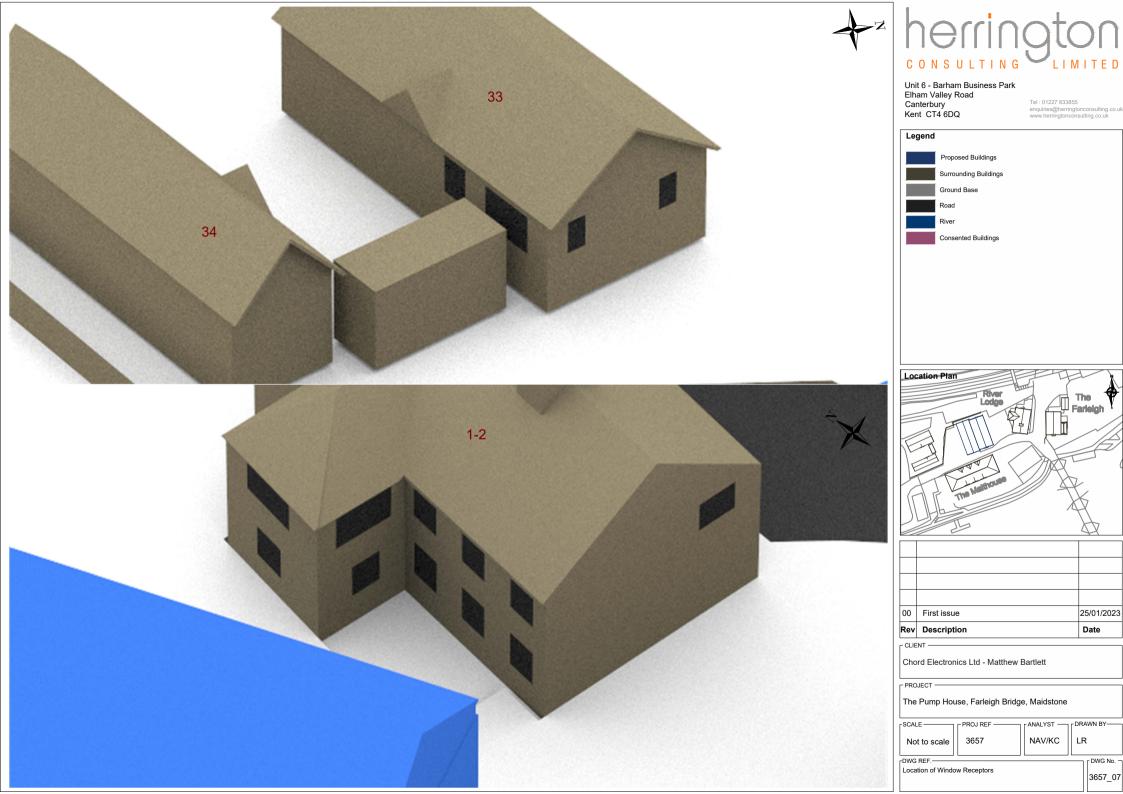






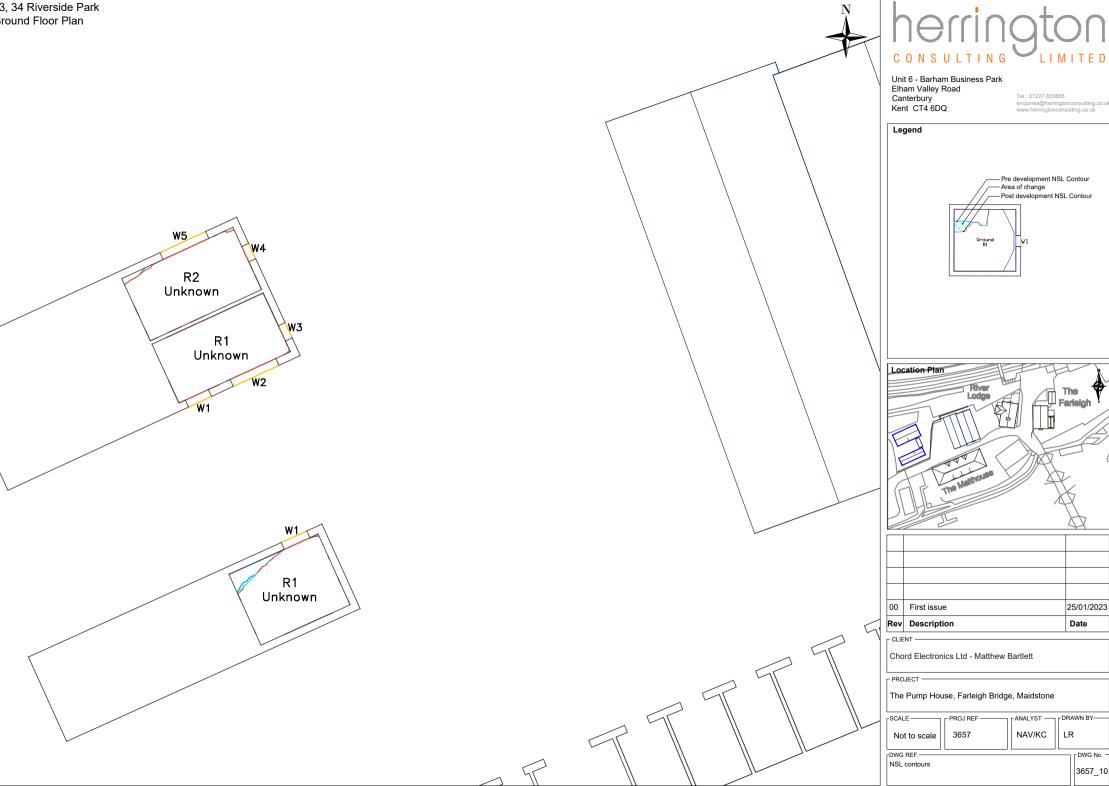


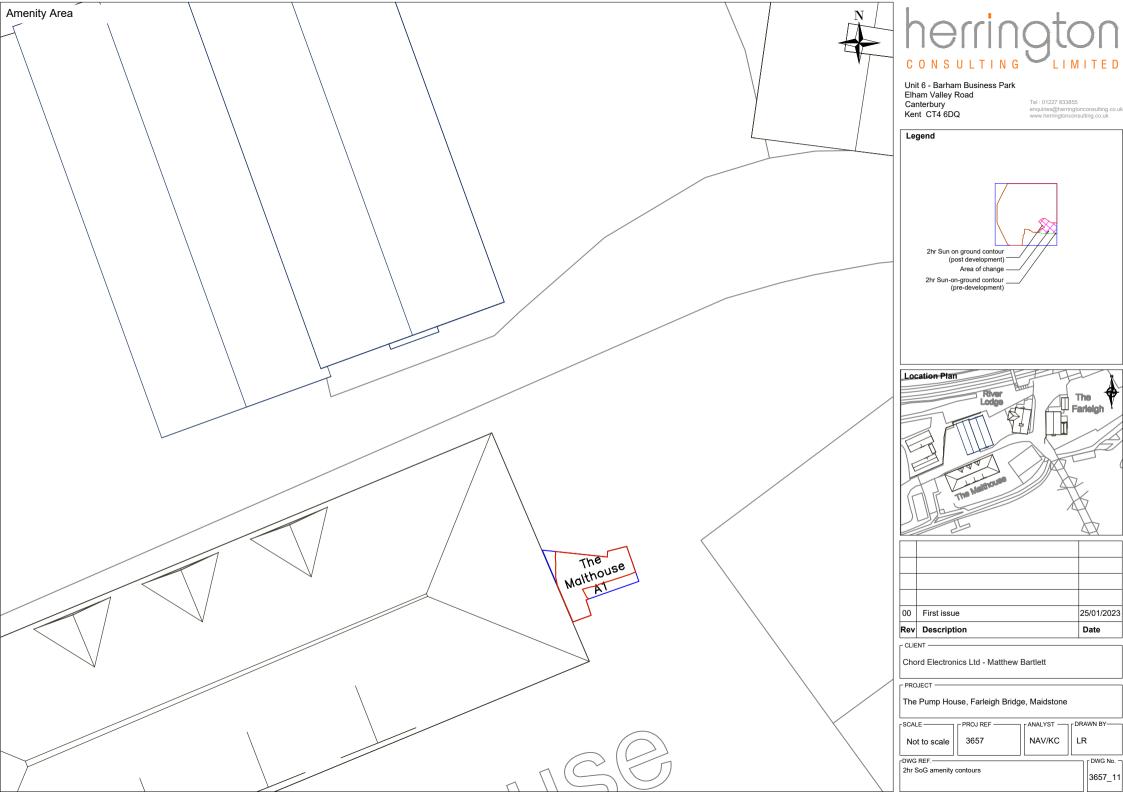














Appendix A.3 – Tabulated Results for Daylight and Sunlight Calculations

Project Name: The Pump House Project No.: 3657 Report Title: Daylight & Sunlight Analysis - VSC & APSH Analysis Date of Analysis: 25/01/2023

Floor Ref.	Room Ref.	Property Type	Room Use	Window Ref.		vsc	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Window Orientation	Room VSC	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Annual	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Winter	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Total Suns per Room Annual	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Total Suns per Room Winter	Pr/Ex	Meets BRI Criteria
											The Ma	althouse												
Ground	R1	Residential	LKD	W1		25.74	1.00	YES	67°N				4.00	*North	*North		*North	*North						
				W2		25.67 11.75	0.94	YES	337°N				4.00 5.00	*North	*North	0.00 0.00	*North	*North						
				W11		11.03 37.10	1.00	YES	158°				5.00 67.00	1.00	YES	0.00 27.00	1.00	YES						
				****	Proposed		1.00	125	150				67.00	1.00	125	27.00	1.00	125						
										27.14 26.91	0.99	YES							74.00 74.00	1.00	YES	27.00 27.00	1.00	YES
	R2	Residential	Bedroom	W3	Existing		0.93	YES	337°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
					Proposed	15.28				16.37	0.93	YES												
	R3	Residential	Landing	W4	Existing	20.44	0.95	n/a	337°N	15.28				*North	*North		*North	*North		*North	*North		*North	*North
	кS	Residential	Lanung	VV4	Proposed		0.95	II/d	557 N					NOTUT	NOILII		NOTUT	NOTUT						
										20.44 19.42	0.95	n/a								*North	*North		*North	*North
	R4	Residential	Bedroom	W5	Existing		0.96	YES	337°N	10.12				*North	*North		*North	*North			Hortin		north	
					Proposed	25.25				26.24	0.96	YES												
	85	Desidential	Landina	11/5	Eviation	20.70	0.00	- /-	227%	25.25				****	****		****	****		*North	*North		*North	*North
	R5	Residential	Landing	W6	Existing Proposed		0.96	n/a	337°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
										29.70 28.50	0.96	n/a								*North	*North		*North	*North
	R6	Residential	Bedroom	W7		30.86	0.97	YES	337°N	20.50				*North	*North		*North	*North			Hortin		north	Hora
					Proposed	29.81				30.86	0.97	YES												
	R7	Residential	Landina	14/0	Eviation	21.22	0.07	- /-	337°N	29.81				****	*North		****	*North		*North	*North		*North	*North
	к7	Residential	Landing	W8	Existing Proposed		0.97	n/a	337 N					North	North		*North	North						
										31.23 30.35	0.97	n/a								*North	*North		*North	*North
	R8	Residential	Kitchen	W9	Existing		0.98	YES	337°N	50.55				*North	*North		*North	*North		North	North		North	North
					Proposed	28.02				28.68	0.98	YES												
	20	B eatheastal			- 1.11.1	27.20		. 1.	22781	28.02				***	****		***	***		*North	*North		*North	*North
	R9	Residential	Hallway	W10	Existing Proposed		0.98	n/a	337°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
										27.28 26.71	0.98	n/a								*North	*North		*North	*North
First	R1	Residential	Bedroom	W1	Existing		1.00	YES	67°N	20.71				*North	*North		*North	*North		North	North		North	North
					Proposed	24.81				24.83	1.00	YES												
	53	B eatheastal	D. d		F 10100		4.00	100	C781	24.81				***	***		***	***		*North	*North		*North	*North
	R2	Residential	Bedroom	W2	Existing Proposed		1.00	YES	67°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
										28.53 28.50	1.00	YES								*North	*North		*North	*North
	R3	Residential	Bedroom	W3		17.54	0.91	YES	337°N	20.50				*North	*North		*North	*North		north	North		North	North
					Proposed	15.95				17.54	0.91	YES												
		Desidential	Dedagar	14/4	Fuinting	21.00	0.02	VEC	227%N	15.95				*****	*****		****	*N+-		*North	*North		*North	*North
	R4	Residential	Bedroom	W4	-	21.66 19.93	0.92	YES	337°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
				W5	Existing		0.92	YES	337°N Inc					*North	*North		*North	*North						

Project Name: The Pump Hou

Project No.: 3657 Report Title: Daylight & Sunlight Analysis - VSC & APSH Analysis Date of Analysis: 25/01/2003

oor Ref.	Room Ref.	Property Type	Room Use	Window Ref.			Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Window Orientation	Room VSC	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Annual	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Winter	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Total Suns per Room Annual	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria	Total Suns per Room Winter	Pr/Ex	Meets B Criteria
					Proposed	29.62																		
										25.70	0.92	YES												
										23.65										*North	*North		*North	*Nort
	R5	Residential	Bedroom	W6	Existing	36.90	0.95	YES	337°N Inc					*North	*North		*North	*North						
					Proposed	34.99																		
										36.90	0.95	YES												
										34.99										*North	*North		*North	*Nort
	R6	Residential	Bedroom	W7		31.71	0.97	YES	337°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
						30.62																		
				W8	Existing	38.61	0.97	YES	337°N Inc					*North	*North		*North	*North						
					Proposed	37.34																		
										34.36	0.97	YES												
										33.20										*North	*North		*North	*Nort
	R7	Residential	Bedroom	W9		32.59	0.98	YES	337°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
					Proposed	31.78																		
										32.59	0.98	YES												
										31.78										*North	*North		*North	*Nort
											1-2 Rive	er Lodge												
Ground	R1	Residential	Unknown	W1	Existing	23.79	0.92	YES	278°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
					Proposed	21.87																		
				W2	Existing	22.34	0.91	YES	278°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
					Proposed	20.44																		
										23.06	0.92	YES												
										21.15										*North	*North		*North	*Nort
	R2	Residential	Unknown	W3	Existing	14.87	0.88	YES	278°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
					Proposed	13.07																		
										14.87	0.88	YES												

					rioposed	10.07				14.87	0.88	YES												
	53	De tribuitet				47.40		. 1.	1008	13.07			20.00	0.00			4.00	1000		*North	*North		*North	*North
	R3	Residential	Hallway	W4	Existing	17.49	0.94	n/a	188°				29.00	0.90	YES	8.00	1.00	YES						
					Proposed		0.05	. 1.	20481				26.00	***	****	8.00	****	***						
				W5	Existing	29.39	0.95	n/a	281°N				13.00	*North	*North	0.00	*North	*North						
					Proposed	27.92				22.70	0.05	. 1.	9.00			0.00			27.00			0.00		
										23.78	0.95	n/a							37.00	0.00	VEC	8.00	4.00	200
First	R1	Residential	Bedroom	W1	Cuistia a	34.35	1.00	YES	99°	22.52			37.00	1.00	YES	9.00	1.00	YES	33.00	0.89	YES	8.00	1.00	YES
FIISU	KI	Residential	Bedroom	VVI	Existing Proposed		1.00	TES	99				37.00	1.00	TES	9.00	1.00	TES						
				W2	Existing	29.73	0.99	YES	187°				48.00	1.00	YES	16.00	1.00	YES						
				VV Z	Proposed		0.99	TES	187				48.00	1.00	TES	16.00	1.00	TES						
					Proposeu	29.45				32.40	1.00	YES	40.00			10.00			71.00			19.00		
										32.40	1.00	163							71.00	1.00	YES	19.00	1.00	YES
	R2	Residential	Bedroom	W3	Existing	27.19	0.91	YES	278°N	52.27				*North	*North		*North	*North	/1.00	1.00	TES	19.00	1.00	TES
	R2	Residential	Beuroom	VV 5	Proposed		0.91	TES	270 N					NOTUI	NOTUT		North	North						
				W4	Existing	24.02	0.91	YES	278°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
				VV-4	Proposed		0.51	TL3	270 1					NOTEI	North		NOTI	North						
					FTOPOSEU	24.33				27.10	0.91	YES												
										24.58	0.91	TL3								*North	*North		*North	*North
	R3	Residential	Bathroom	W5	Existing	22.88	0.90	n/a	278°N	24.30				*North	*North		*North	*North		North	North		NOTUT	North
	113	Residential	batmoon	VV J	Proposed		0.50	ii/a	270 1					NOTEI	North		NOTI	North						
					FTOPOSEU	20.00				22.88	0.90	n/a												
										20.60	0.50	ny u								*North	*North		*North	*North
	R4	Residential	Hallway	W6	Existing	25.80	0.95	n/a	188°	20.00			46.00	0.91	YES	15.00	1.00	YES		North	North		NOTUT	North
	114	Residential	Hallway	**0	Proposed		0.55	ii/a	100				42.00	0.51	TLS	15.00	1.00	115						
				W7	Existing	30.39	0.94	n/a	281°N				15.00	*North	*North	0.00	*North	*North						
					Proposed		0.94	n/a	201 1				10.00	NOTIT	North	0.00	NOTEN	North						
						20.44				28.09	0.94	n/a	10.00			0.00			55.00			15.00		
										26.44	0.94	11/ d							50.00	0.91	YES	15.00	1.00	YES
L										20.44									50.00	0.91	113	10.00	1.00	1123

Project Name: The Pump House Project No.: 3657 Report Title: Daylight & Sunlight Analysis - VSC & APSH Analysis Date of Analysis: 25/01/2023

	Room							Meets	Window	Room		Meets			Meets			Meets	Total Suns		Meets BRE	Total Suns		Meets BRE
Floor Ref.	Ref.	Property Type	Room Use	Window Ref.		VSC	Pr/Ex	BRE Criteria	Orientation	VSC	Pr/Ex	BRE Criteria	Annual	Pr/Ex	BRE Criteria	Winter	Pr/Ex	BRE Criteria	per Room Annual	Pr/Ex	Criteria	per Room Winter	Pr/Ex	Criteria
											33 River	side Park												
Ground	R1	Residential	Unknown	W1	Existing	28.31	0.99	YES	155°				48.00	1.00	YES	14.00	1.00	YES						
					Proposed	28.08							48.00			14.00								
				W2	Existing	19.94	0.98	YES	155°				54.00	1.00	YES	14.00	1.00	YES						
						19.55							54.00			14.00								
				W3	Existing	33.11	0.95	YES	65°N				10.00	*North	*North	0.00	*North	*North						
1					Proposed	31.39				24.35	0.98	YES	8.00			0.00			60.00			18.00		
										23.80	0.58	1123							59.00	0.98	YES	18.00	1.00	YES
	R2	Residential	Unknown	W4	Existing	34.28	0.96	YES	65°N	20.00				*North	*North		*North	*North	55.00	0.50	125	10.00	1.00	125
						32.80																		
				W5	Existing	38.86	1.00	YES	335°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
					Proposed	38.86																		
										37.86	0.99	YES												
										37.54										*North	*North		*North	*North
											34 River	side Park												
Ground	R1	Residential	Unknown	W1	Existing	25.71	0.99	YES	336°N					*North	*North		*North	*North						
					Proposed	25.56																		
										25.71	0.99	YES												
										25.56									1	*North	*North		*North	*North

Project Name: The Pump House, Maidstone Project No.: 3657 Report Title: Daylight Assessment - No Sky Line Analysis Date of Analysis: 25/01/2023

Floor Ref.	Room Ref	Property Type	Room Use		Room Area	Lit Area Existing	Lit Area Proposed	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria
			The N	Nalthouse					
Ground	R1	Residential	LKD	Area m2	39.59	38.22	38.22		
				% of room		96.55%	96.55%	1.00	YES
	R2	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	6.19	2.90	2.67		
				% of room		46.82%	43.12%	0.92	YES
	R3	Residential	Landing	Area m2	5.62	3.73	3.50		
				% of room		66.32%	62.27%	0.94	n/a
	R4	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	6.19	5.86	5.63		
				% of room		94.62%	90.95%	0.96	YES
	R5	Residential	Landing	Area m2	5.62	5.54	5.52		
				% of room		98.47%	98.12%	1.00	n/a
	R6	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	6.22	6.11	6.10		
				% of room		98.21%	98.00%	1.00	YES
	R7	Residential	Landing	Area m2	5.65	5.57	5.57		
				% of room		98.48%	98.47%	1.00	n/a
	R8	Residential	Kitchen	Area m2	8.06	7.89	7.89		
				% of room		97.89%	97.88%	1.00	YES
	R9	Residential	Hallway	Area m2	4.15	4.10	4.10		
				% of room		98.61%	98.61%	1.00	n/a
First	R1	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	5.55	5.25	5.25		
				% of room		94.51%	94.51%	1.00	YES
	R2	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	5.12	4.97	4.97		
				% of room		97.12%	97.12%	1.00	YES
	R3	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	13.71	11.76	11.76		
				% of room		85.77%	85.77%	1.00	YES
	R4	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	12.23	10.58	9.97		
				% of room		86.53%	81.51%	0.94	YES
	R5	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	12.23	11.31	11.05		
				% of room		92.47%	90.38%	0.98	YES
	R6	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	12.29	11.92	11.92		
				% of room		96.96%	96.96%	1.00	YES
	R7	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	9.60	9.56	9.55		
				% of room		99.53%	99.52%	1.00	YES
			1-2 Ri	ver Lodge					
Ground	R1	Residential	Unknown	Area m2	13.62	12.39	12.39		
				% of room		90.98%	90.96%	1.00	YES
	R2	Residential	Unknown	Area m2	5.65	3.96	3.67		
				% of room		70.07%	64.93%	0.93	YES
	R3	Residential	Hallway	Area m2	9.30	8.95	8.85		
				% of room		96.26%	95.15%	0.99	n/a
First	R1	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	10.82	10.79	10.78		
				% of room		99.68%	99.57%	1.00	YES
	R2	Residential	Bedroom	Area m2	13.62	12.27	12.27		

iect No.: 3657	light Assessme	e, Maidstone ent - No Sky Line A							
Floor Ref.	Room Ref	Property Type	Room Use		Room Area	Lit Area Existing	Lit Area Proposed	Pr/Ex	Mee BRI Crite
				% of room		90.13%	90.13%	1.00	YE
	R3	Residential	Bathroom	Area m2	2.92	2.52	2.28		
				% of room		86.23%	77.96%	0.90	n/
	R4	Residential	Hallway	Area m2	9.36	9.34	9.34		
				% of room		99.83%	99.83%	1.00	n/
			33 Rive	erside Park					
Ground	R1	Residential	Unknown	Area m2	10.15	10.14	10.14		
				% of room		99.96%	99.96%	1.00	YE
	R2	Residential	Unknown	Area m2	10.74	10.57	10.54		
				% of room		98.47%	98.15%	1.00	YE
			34 Rive	erside Park					
Ground	R1	Residential	Unknown	Area m2	9.72	9.05	8.97		
				% of room		93.19%	92.36%	0.99	YE

Project Name: The Pump House, Maidstone Project No.: 3657 Report Title: Sunlight Assessement - Two hours Sunlight to Amenity Analysis Date of Analysis: 25/01/2023														
Floor Ref	Amenity Ref		Amenity Area	Lit Area Existing	Lit Area Proposed	Pr/Ex	Meets BRE Criteria							
		т	he Maltho	ouse										
Ground	A1	Area m2 Percentage	4.89	3.92 80%	3.92 <mark>80%</mark>	1.00	YES							