

**EAST STAFFORDSHIRE LOCAL PLAN  
BARTON BUSINESS PARK**

**Agricultural Land Classification**

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**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR  
EAST STAFFORDSHIRE LOCAL PLAN  
BARTON BUSINESS PARK**

**1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Survey for this site shows that the following proportions of ALC grades are present:

Grade/Subgrade	ha	% of site
2	8.1	20
3a	9.4	24
3b	20.0	51
Other land	2.1	5

- 1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of land in Grade 2, Subgrade 3a and Subgrade 3b is soil droughtiness.

**2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 The site was surveyed by the Resource Planning Team in April 1996. An Agricultural Land Classification survey was undertaken according to the guidelines laid down in the "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales - Revised Guidelines and Criteria for Grading the Quality of Agricultural Land" (MAFF 1988).
- 2.2 The 39.6 ha site is situated to the south of Barton under Needwood. It is bounded to the west by the A38 and to the east by a railway. The land immediately to the north and south of the site is predominantly in agricultural use.
- 2.3 The survey was requested by MAFF in connection with the development of a business park.
- 2.4 At MAFF Land Use Planning Unit's request this was a detailed grid survey at 1:10000 with a minimum auger boring density of 1 per hectare. The attached map is only accurate at the base map scale and any enlargement would be misleading.
- 2.5 At the time of the survey the site was under cereals.

**3 CLIMATE**

- 3.1 The following interpolated data are relevant for the site (SK195170):

Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	649
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C January to June (day °C)	1412

- 3.2 There is no overall climatic limitation on the site.

3.3 Other relevant data for classifying land include:

Field Capacity Days (days)	145
Moisture Deficit Wheat (mm)	105
Moisture Deficit Potatoes (mm)	96

#### 4 SITE

4.1 Three site factors of gradient, micro relief and flooding are considered when classifying land.

4.2 These factors do not impose any limitations on the agricultural use of the land.

#### 5 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

5.1 The geology of the area is comprised of First River Terrace deposits, British Geological Survey Sheet 140 Burton upon Trent 1”.

5.2 The underlying geology influences the soils which have a sandy loam texture.

#### 6 AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

6.1 Grade 2 - occupies 8.1 ha (20%) of the survey area and is found in the east of the site.

6.1.1 These soils typically have a sandy clay loam or sandy loam texture overlying loamy sand and sand to depth, with many to abundant stones within the profile. The moisture balance places these soils in Grade 2.

6.1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of this land is soil droughtiness.

6.2 Subgrade 3a - occupies 9.4 ha (24%) of the survey area and is found mainly in the west of the site.

6.2.1 The soil has a sandy loam texture over loamy sand and sand to depth, with many to abundant stones within the profile. The moisture balance places these soils into Subgrade 3a.

6.2.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of this land is soil droughtiness.

6.3 Subgrade 3b - occupies 20.0 ha (51%) of the survey area.

6.3.1 The soil typically has a sandy loam texture overlying loamy sand and sand to depth with many stones within the profile. The moisture balance places these soils in Subgrade 3b.

6.3.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of this land is soil droughtiness.

6.4 Other land includes agricultural buildings, a bottled gas retail unit and an area of woodland which together occupy 2.1 ha (5%) of the site.

## 6.5 SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

Grade/Sub-grade	Area in Hectares	% of Survey Area	% of Agricultural Land
2	8.1	20	22
3a	9.4	24	25
3b	20.0	51	53
Other land	2.1	5	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>