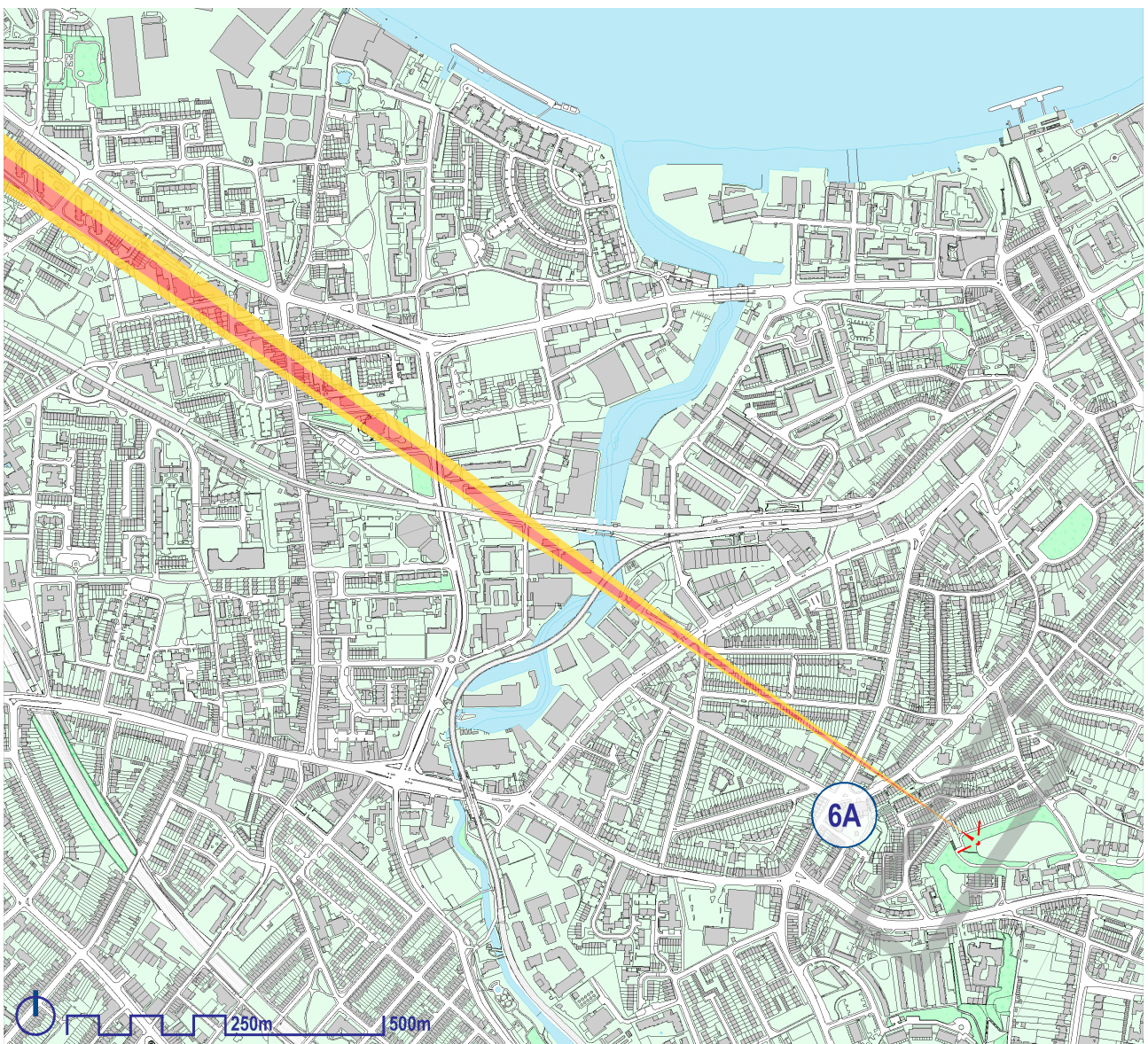
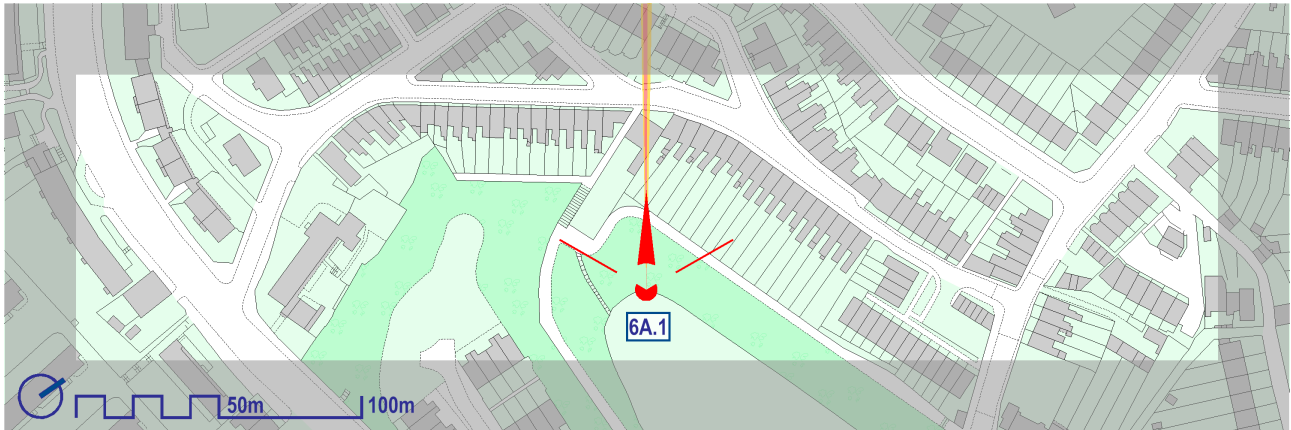


6 London Panorama: Blackheath Point

- 149 Blackheath Point is a local public garden, to the west of the heath, within a mid-Victorian residential area. The high ground of Blackheath was once a place of strategic importance, overlooking London on the route from the Kent coast. The garden provides a broad Panorama from Westminster to Canary Wharf.
- 150 There is one Viewing Location at Blackheath Point: 6A, from the west side of the public garden.



Viewing Location 6A Blackheath: the Point



N.B for key to symbols refer to image 1



Panorama from Assessment Point 6A.1 Blackheath Point – near the orientation board

Description of the View

- 151 The Viewing Location is a level green space above a dramatic escarpment, partially enclosed by trees. At the western end is an open space with views towards central London. Assessment Point 6A.1 is located at this position, and includes a Protected Vista to ensure development does not have a negative effect on views of St Paul's Cathedral.
- 152 The foreground is detached from the Viewing Location because of the dramatic drop from the Blackheath Point escarpment to the flat plane of rooftops below. The foreground and middle ground are visually merged and are largely made up of late eighteenth century and early nineteenth century houses and terraces, generally consistent in their materials, colour, roof and chimneys amid a rich treescape. St Paul's Church in Deptford and the Laban Centre are two existing examples of contrasting buildings in the middle ground. They add interest to the view by virtue of high quality design.
- 153 A number of tall buildings stand in isolation on the skyline. Tower Bridge is visible between St Paul's Cathedral and the City cluster of tall buildings, including 30 St Mary Axe. The dome and western towers of the Cathedral are visible, the former silhouetted against the sky, enabling clear recognition and appreciation of the landmark. Few buildings are visible immediately behind the landmark, such that the rising line of hills to the north are the dominant backdrop feature. The dome of the Old Bailey is just visible to the right of the peristyle of the Cathedral.

Landmarks include:

St Paul's Cathedral (I) †
 Tower Bridge (I)
 The Old Bailey (II*)
 The Shard

Also in the views:

Guy's Hospital
 St Paul's Church, Deptford (I)
 The City cluster
 Canary Wharf

() Grade of Listed Building

† Strategically Important Landmark

Visual Management Guidance

Foreground and Middle Ground

- 154 The panorama is sensitive to large-scale development in the foreground and middle ground. There is considerable opportunity, however, to introduce new development if it is sympathetic to the composition and character of the view.
- 155 The western towers of St Paul's Cathedral are integral to the viewer's ability to recognise and appreciate the landmark. Therefore, the Landmark Viewing Corridor of the Protected Vista from Assessment Point 6A.1 incorporates these features.



View from Assessment Point 6A.1 Blackheath Point – near the orientation board (West of the orientation board, close to the railings). 538238.2E 176823.1N. Camera height 47.61m AOD. Aiming at St Paul's Cathedral (Central axis of the dome, at the base of the drum). Bearing 304.9°, distance 7.5km.



Background

- 156 Development in the Wider Setting Consultation Area should preserve or enhance the viewer's ability to recognise and appreciate St Paul's Cathedral and its western towers. It should generally not be taller than the base of the peristyle of the Cathedral although the effect of colour, scale, reflectivity and distance from the landmark of new development should be understood and tested.

Management of the Viewing Location

- 157 Vegetation in the immediate foreground, if it is not controlled, could reduce the quality of the view. The Assessment Point is not clearly defined. The space should be designed so that this point is recognisable to the viewer.



Telephoto view of Protected Vista from Assessment Point 6A.1 to St Paul's Cathedral



Annotated map of Protected Vista from Assessment Point 6A.1 to St Paul's Cathedral