Appendix C: Accurate Visual Representations

Westport BESS

Verified Views - Document Reference No. V3D 250209

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Content

1.0 Introduction

1.1. Verified View / Accurate Visual Representation

1.1.1. A Verified View (VV) or Accurate Visual Representation (AVR) is *"a still image, or animated sequence of images, intended to convey reliable visual information about a proposed development to assist the process of visual assessment"*. [1]

1.1.2. This document applies current good practice in preparing verified views of a proposed development. Views are from what is considered to be the most representative viewpoints in the area surrounding the site.

1.1.3. The current practice guides this process is informed by include:

- The Landscape Institute's, 'Technical Guidance Note 06/19 : Visual Representation of Development Proposals'
- 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment' Third edition April 2013, The landscape institute and Institute of Environmental Assessment and Management.
- 'London View Management Framework', (March 2012) Published by Greater London Authority.

1.1.4. When displaying images taken with a 50mm lens at A3, It is advised (within the Landscape Institute's Technical Guidance Note 06/19) that the viewing distance for the montages from eye to paper should be 'at arms length' between 50 and 55cm (Landscape Institute TGN 06/19 para 3.8.3) with a Horizontal Field of View of around 39.6°.

In this document, for practical tabled discussions, the viewing distance in some of the viewpoints has been set at 50cm so that the images display a wider HFOV of 90° when printed at extended A3. Extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm (at 100% scaling) so that the image size width is 80cm.

[1] London View Management Framework March 2012

2.0 Methodology

2.1. Overview

2.1.1. In preparing the verified views/photomontages, accurate photography is required, with survey information recorded, and an accurate model of the application parameters prepared. In simple terms, this allows a 'virtual' viewpoint to be constructed that accurately reflects an actual photograph, which in turn allows a wireline (representing the outline of the proposed development form) or fully rendered image of the proposed development to be accurately superimposed on the existing photograph.

2.2. Photography

2.2.1. In accordance with current guidance, on-site photography records the position (as a grid reference), height of camera lens, camera used, lens type and focal length, field of view, date and time. Photographs were recorded at 1.6 metres above ground level to reflect the pedestrian eye height. Photographs are taken with a fixed 50mm focal length lens attached to a SLR camera (Canon EOS 6D MKII).

2.2.2. In assessing the impact of development on the landscape it is often necessary to record a panoramic view. A panorama made up from planar photographs is not strictly a 'true panorama' due to distortion encountered from the rectilinear projection of the lens. This is best described by looking through the viewfinder as you rotate the camera, the objects near the centre get larger as they approach the edge of the frame. Accurate 'stitching software' overcomes this effect by distorting each image into a cylindrical projection before aligning and blending, to reflect as accurately as possible the experience of the human eye.

2.3. Survey Information

2.3.1. With use of the topographical site survey, key surveyed data is identified. This data is subsequently transferred into computer modelling software to produce a 3D environment. These points are then used to align the computer image against the photography.

2.4. Scheme Parameters Modelling

2.4.1. The Landscape Proposals Plan on page 5, provides a layout that is reflective of how the proposed application could be realised, and is therefore considered to be an acceptable basis for verified view production.

2.4.2. The 3D model has been formed with reference to the plan and elevation drawings (produced by renewable Energy Ststems Ltd). The Sub-station has been shown indictatively and is subject to the final design.

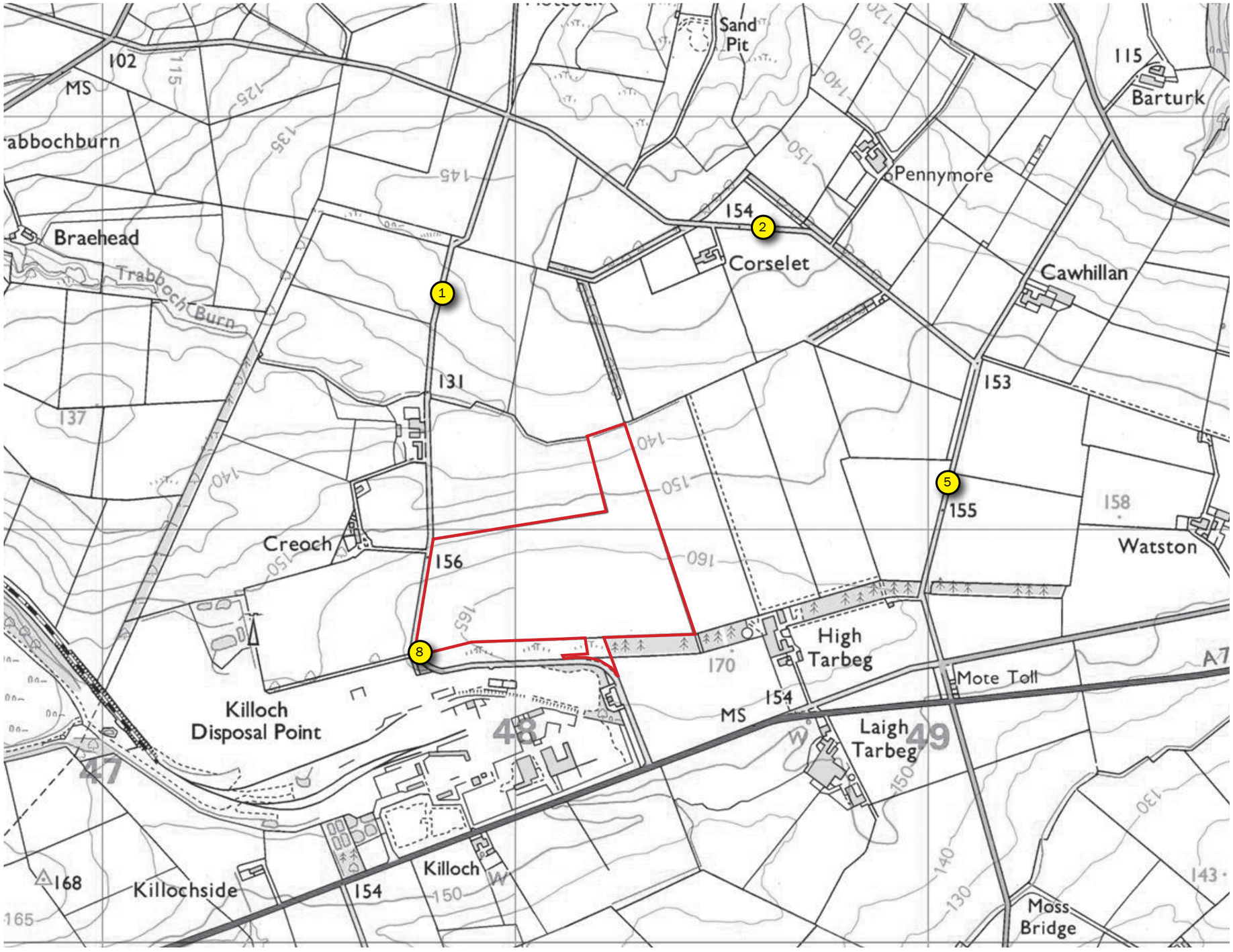
2.4.3. Newly planted hedgerows/woodland are shown as 0.5m whips with protected tubes. At year 15, the hedges are kept in line with the existing and the woodland planting growth as up to 6-7m.

Trees at planting are shown as 4m and at year 15 these are as up to 7-8m.

2.5. Camera Matching

2.5.1. Having accurately modelled the scheme, a series of computer generated images are constructed from the exact viewpoint locations and have cylindrical projection applied before photo-stitching to match the panoramic photographs, thus creating a 'virtual' panorama of the proposed development. With the virtual and photographic images overlaid with each other, common (surveyed) reference points are used to aligned both the virtual and actual images and the foreground clipping applied.

3.0 Viewpoint Location Plan



Legend

- Site Boundary
- (x) Viewpoint Location

N

SCALE 1:10,000

50 150

0m 100 250 500

4.0 Landscape Proposals Plan

NTS.

5.0 Viewpoint 1 - Minor road, north of Tally Ho

National Grid Reference:
247801, 621499

Camera:
Canon EOS 6D MKII

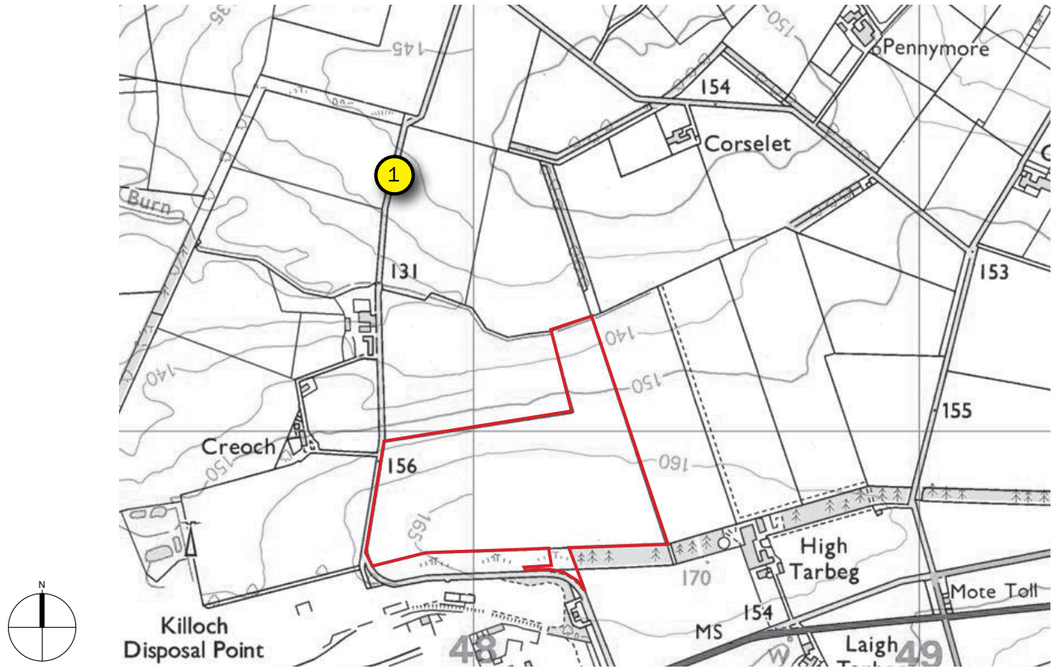
Lens:
Fixed 50mm

Height of Camera Lens:
141.6 AOD

Horizontal Field of View:
90 °

Date:
30.01.25

Time:
13.24



Existing extended panorama

5.1. Viewpoint 1 - Existing baseline view.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

5.2. Viewpoint 1 - Proposed view at year 1.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

5.3. Viewpoint 1 - Proposed view at year 15.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

6.0 Viewpoint 2 - C123 road, northeast of Corselet

National Grid Reference:
248555, 621735

Camera:
Canon EOS 6D MKII

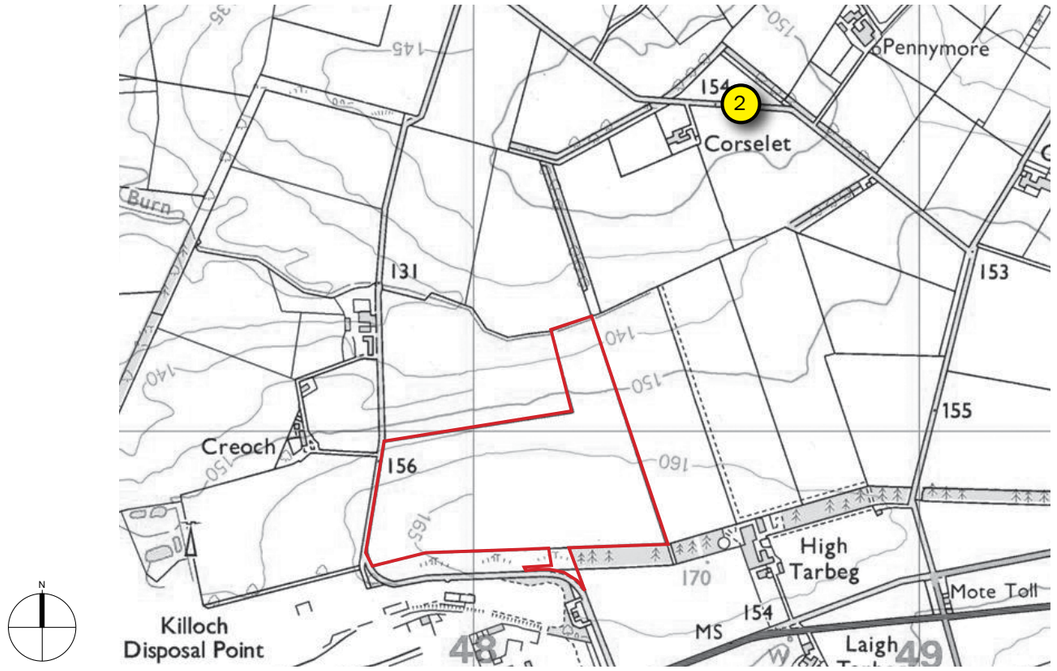
Lens:
Fixed 50mm

Height of Camera Lens:
156.1 AOD

Horizontal Field of View:
90 °

Date:
30.01.25

Time:
12.23



Existing extended panorama

6.1. Viewpoint 2 - Existing baseline view.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

6.2. Viewpoint 2 - Proposed view at year 1.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

6.3. Viewpoint 2 - Proposed view at year 15.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

7.0 Viewpoint 5 - C123 road, between Corselet Bungalow and Torview access

National Grid Reference:
249060, 621141

Camera:
Canon EOS 6D MKII

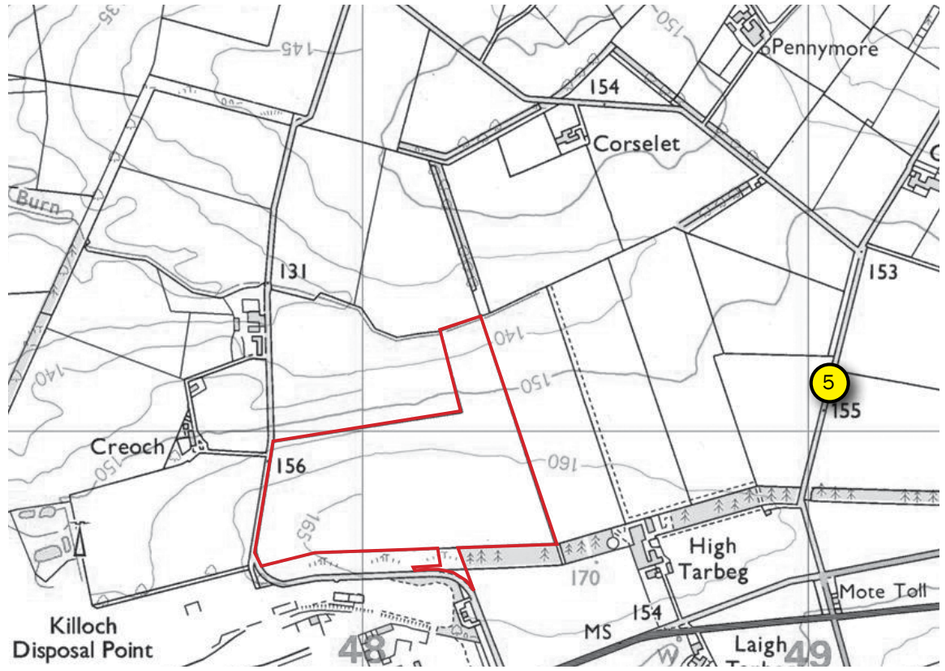
Lens:
Fixed 50mm

Height of Camera Lens:
156.25 AOD

Horizontal Field of View:
90 °

Date:
30.01.25

Time:
12.58



Existing extended panorama

7.1. Viewpoint 5 - Existing baseline view.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

7.2. Viewpoint 5 - Proposed view at year 1.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

7.3. Viewpoint 5 - Proposed view at year 15.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

8.0 Viewpoint 8 - Minor road, between Electricity Distribution Station and Creoch House access

National Grid Reference:
247755, 620715

Camera:
Canon EOS 6D MKII

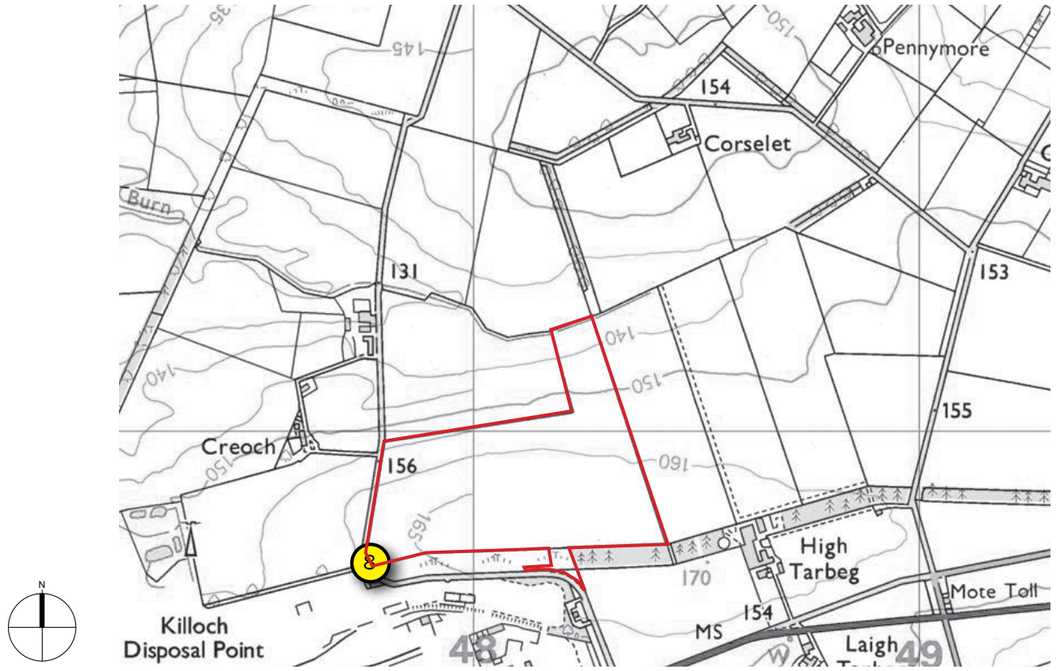
Lens:
Fixed 50mm

Height of Camera Lens:
162.6 AOD

Horizontal Field of View:
90 °

Date:
30.01.25

Time:
13.44



Existing extended panorama

8.1. Viewpoint 8 - Existing baseline view.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

8.2. Viewpoint 8 - Proposed view at year 1.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)

8.3. Viewpoint 8 - Proposed view at year 15.

Viewing Distance at **50cm** - This is the distance from eye to paper to gain a true representation of the image (extended A3 pages to be printed at 29.7x84.1cm)