

Sunlight Screening

Barbican Estate, London EC2Y

SCREENING VERDICT

A full daylight and sunlight assessment is likely to be needed — every elevation exceeds 25°.

Greatest angle subtended by the surveyed surface, measured from 2 m above ground at each elevation: North 86.0° (14.3 m above the reference at 1 m); East 88.2° (31.9 m above the reference at 1 m); South 34.4° (78.6 m above the reference at 115 m); West 68.4° (2.5 m above the reference at 1 m).

4 of the 4 elevations exceed 25° (North, East, South, West), which is the point at which BRE guidance directs that the detailed checks be carried out rather than assumed unnecessary.

Exceeding the angle is a trigger for further work, not a finding that daylight is unacceptable. The detailed methods need window positions and room uses, which this pack does not have and does not guess.

MEASURED AND INFERRED VALUES

North elevation	86.0° — exceeds the 25° first-stage angle. Worst obstruction 14.3 m above the reference point at 1 m.
East elevation	88.2° — exceeds the 25° first-stage angle. Worst obstruction 31.9 m above the reference point at 1 m.
South elevation	34.4° — exceeds the 25° first-stage angle. Worst obstruction 78.6 m above the reference point at 115 m.
West elevation	68.4° — exceeds the 25° first-stage angle. Worst obstruction 2.5 m above the reference point at 1 m.
Reference point	2 m above local surveyed ground at the middle of each elevation — a ground-floor window centre by convention. BRE measures from the centre of the lowest affected window; this pack has no window positions and does not guess them, so a real window higher up the elevation will see a smaller angle than the figure given here.
Surfaces	Ground levels from the terrain model, obstruction heights from the first-return surface model — so hedges, trees, walls and buildings all count as obstructions, exactly as they would to a window. Vegetation is included and will change; a hedge surveyed at 6 m is not a permanent 6 m.

WHAT A FULL BRE DAYLIGHT AND SUNLIGHT ASSESSMENT ADDS

Surveyed levels to a known datum rather than remote-sensed ones; the modelled flood level for the design event, obtained from the Environment Agency or by modelling; the sequential and exception tests where they apply; residual

risk behind defences and in a breach; a drainage strategy; safe access and egress; and a signed professional opinion your local planning authority can rely on. This pack is the evidence base those start from, not a replacement for any of them.

Screening assessment from remote-sensed data (EA composite, surveyed 2020, ± 15 cm RMSE (composite-level)) — not a substitute for a site survey or a professional BRE daylight and sunlight assessment.

METHOD AND LIMITATIONS

Obstruction angles are the greatest angle subtended by the surveyed surface along each elevation's outward bearing, searched to 120 m and measured from 2 m above local ground. The maximum along the walk is taken, not the nearest obstruction: a tall building at 60 m can subtend more than a low wall at 5 m, and the test is about whichever dominates.

The 25° threshold is the first-stage angular check in BRE's "Site layout planning for daylight and sunlight" (BR 209). That is a purchased BRE standard and is not reproduced here — this pack applies the angular geometry and cites the standard as the source of the convention. Exceeding the angle means the detailed checks (vertical sky component, no-sky line, annual probable sunlight hours) are warranted, not that daylight is unacceptable.

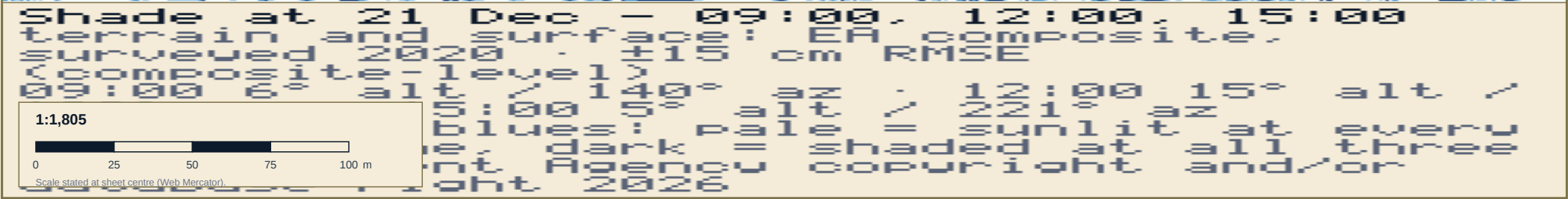
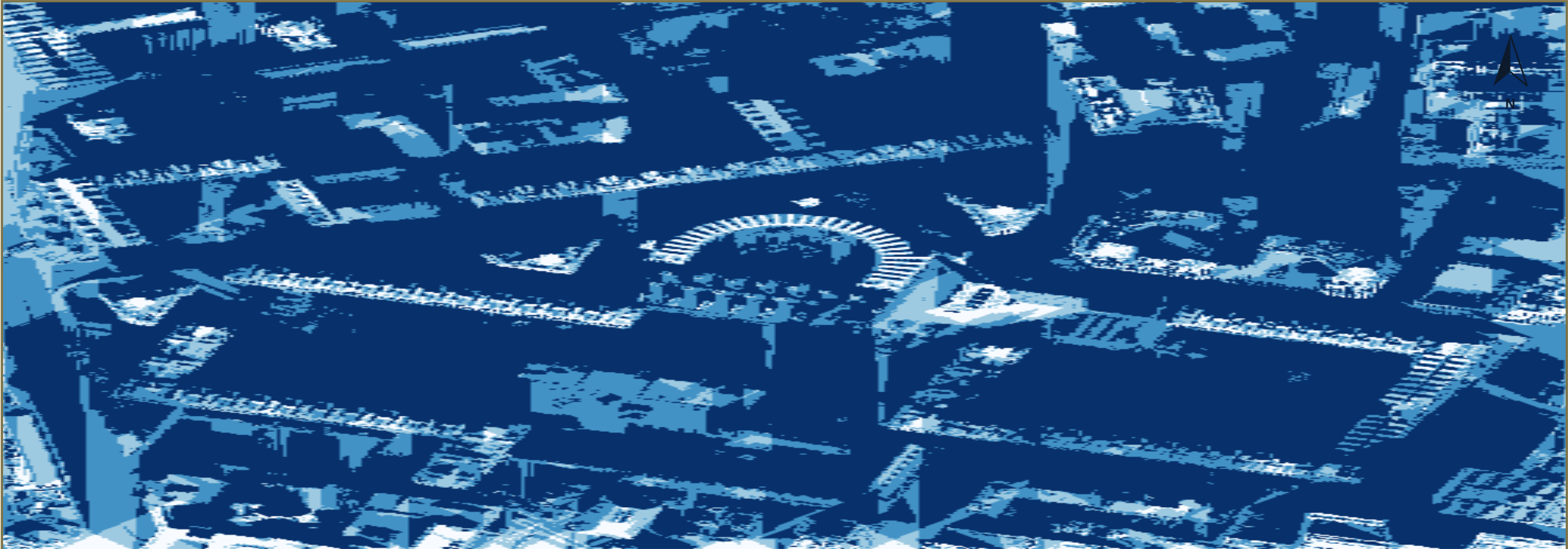
Shadows are cast from the first-return surface model by marching toward the sun and testing whether the surface rises above the solar ray. Solar positions come from suncalc (BSD 2-Clause). Sampled at 9 moments — the two solstices and the spring equinox, at 09:00, 12:00 and 15:00 local clock time: 21 Dec, 09:00 (6° alt, 140° az); 21 Dec, 12:00 (15° alt, 180° az); 21 Dec, 15:00 (5° alt, 221° az); 20 Mar, 09:00 (25° alt, 126° az); 20 Mar, 12:00 (38° alt, 177° az); 20 Mar, 15:00 (27° alt, 230° az); 21 Jun, 09:00 (36° alt, 98° az); 21 Jun, 12:00 (59° alt, 151° az); 21 Jun, 15:00 (54° alt, 230° az).

Accuracy is a property of the national LiDAR composite, not a measurement of this site, and the surface model is a snapshot: anything that has been built, demolished, grown or felled since the survey is not in these figures. The survey year for each surface is stamped on every figure.

This screens. It does not assess. A full assessment needs window positions, room uses and the detailed BRE methods, and it considers what a proposed building would do to its neighbours — which this pack cannot know, because nobody has told it what is proposed.

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SOLAR GEOMETRY COMPUTED WITH SUNCALC (BSD 2-CLAUSE)

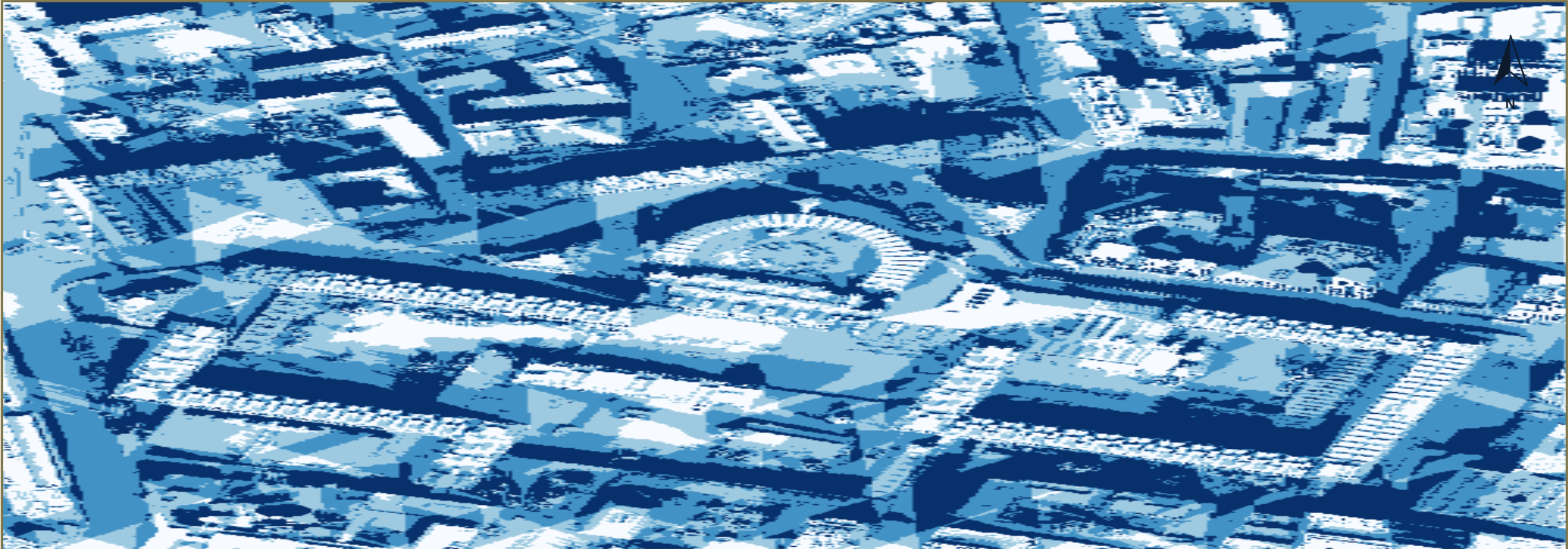
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PLANNING CONSTRAINTS SITE Barbican Estate, London EC2Y SHEET 01	CLIENT — DATE 09 Aug 2026	PROJECT Sunlight Screening DRAWN BY Planning Constraints
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Appraisal figure — not a substitute for a licensed location plan. Not for submission to a planning authority as a location or block plan.



Shade at 20 Mar - 09:00, 12:00, 15:00
terrain and surface: EA composite,
surveyed 2020 ±15 cm RMSE
(composite-level)
09:00 25° alt / 126° az / 12:00 38° alt /
15:00 27° alt / 230° az
blues: pale = sunlit at every
e, dark = shaded at all three
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1:1,805

0 25 50 75 100 m

Scale stated at sheet centre (Web Mercator).

LEGEND

— Site boundary (redline)

DATA VINTAGES

ATTRIBUTION

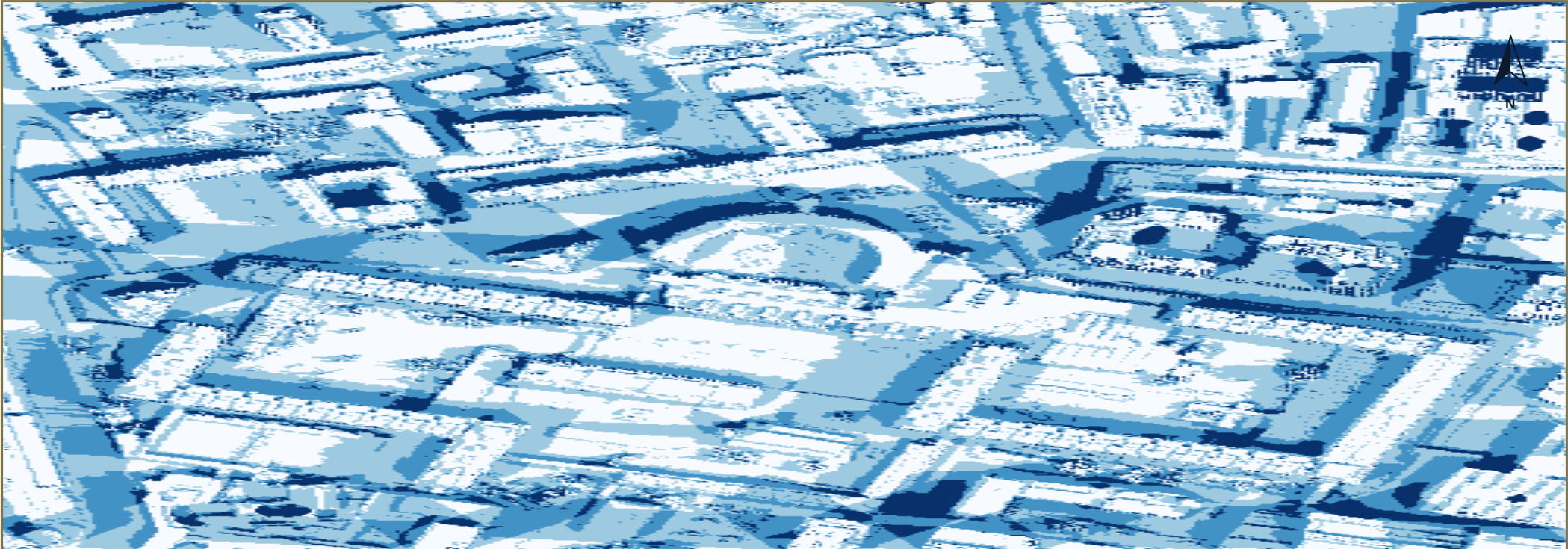
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PLANNING CONSTRAINTS

SITE
Barbican Estate, London EC2Y
SHEET
02

CLIENT
—
DATE
09 Aug 2026

PROJECT
Sunlight Screening
DRAWN BY
Planning Constraints



Shade at 21 Jun - 09:00, 12:00, 15:00
terrain and surface: EA composite,
surveyed 2020 ±15 cm RMSE
(composite-level)
09:00 36° alt / 98° az · 12:00 59° alt /
15:00 54° alt / 230° az
blues: pale = sunlit at every
e, dark = shaded at all three
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PLANNING CONSTRAINTS	CLIENT	PROJECT
SITE Barbican Estate, London EC2Y	—	Sunlight Screening
SHEET	DATE	DRAWN BY
03	09 Aug 2026	Planning Constraints