

5. Description of the proposal

This chapter describes the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the ETTT proposal. It includes a description of the physical components to be built, an outline of the construction methods and management approach adopted for specific issues and the proposed operation and maintenance arrangements.

5.1 Overview of the proposal

The ETTT proposal involves the construction or refurbishment and operation of approximately six kilometres of an additional (third) track, located between Epping Station and south of Thornleigh Station. The proposed track would be positioned on the western side of the existing rail tracks. The proposal also includes associated works, such as station modifications and additional structures such as overhead wiring and signalling.

The ETTT would be used only by northbound trains and would resolve the identified capacity and operational constraints for northbound freight movements by allowing separation of freight and passenger services (refer section 4). The ETTT would also provide the opportunity for separation of 'through-running' or non-stop passenger services from all stops services when not in use by freight trains.

Sections 5.2 to 5.5 below provide information on the proposed track alignment, station modifications and structures that form part of the proposal, generally divided into four geographical areas located along the Main North Line rail corridor. These areas are:

- Epping Station to Cheltenham Station
- north of Cheltenham Station to Beecroft Station
- north of Beecroft Station to Pennant Hills Station
- north of Pennant Hills Station to Thornleigh Station.

Section 5.6 describes the ancillary works that also form part of the proposal. The proposed approach to construction is described in sections 5.7 and 5.8. The operation and maintenance of the proposal is described in section 5.9.

Figure 5.1 shows a schematic of the proposed track layout in relation to the existing track configuration. The proposed alignment is shown on Figure 5.2a to i.

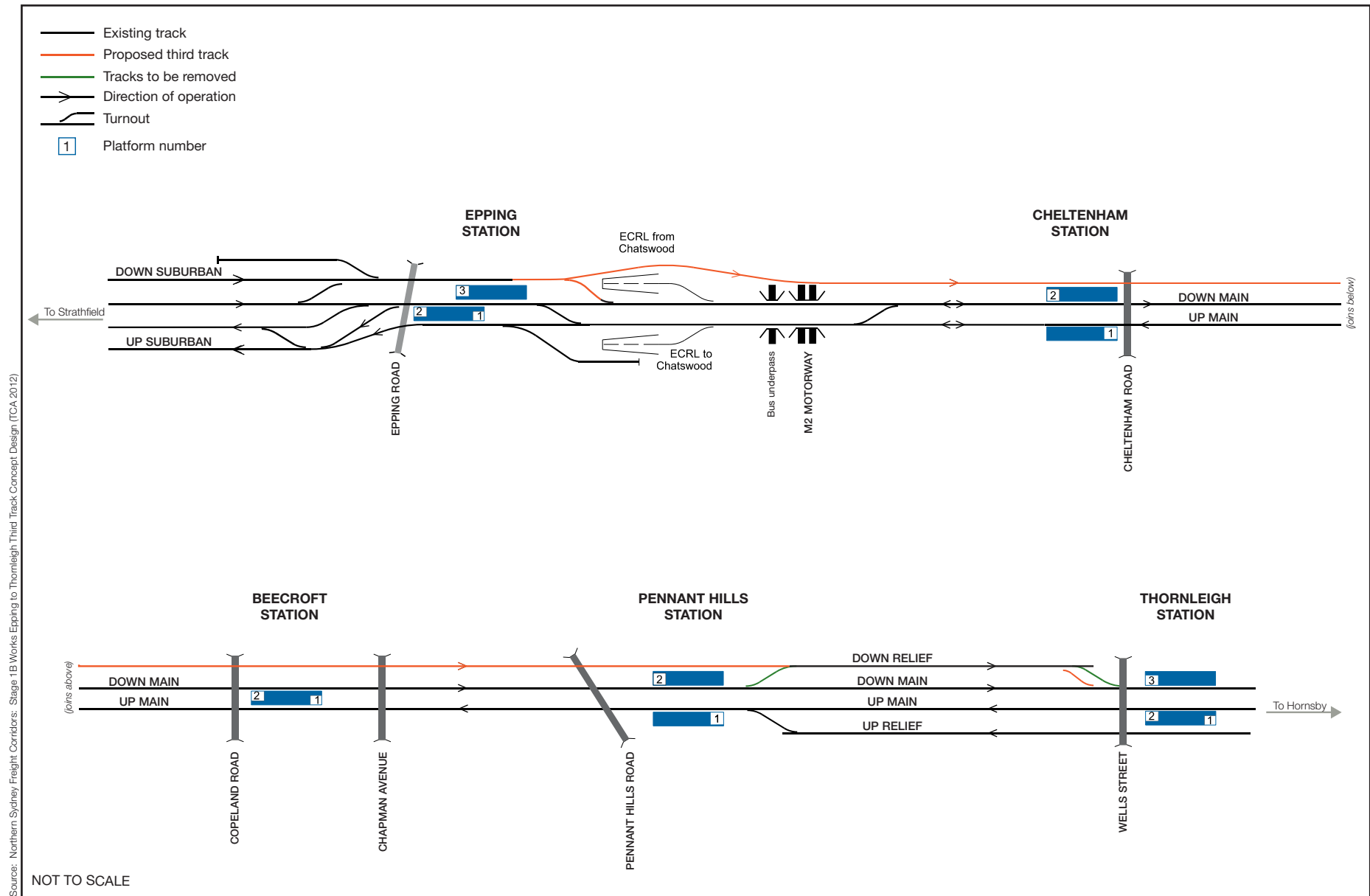


Figure 5.1 ETTT proposal track schematic

Note: Indicative only, subject to detailed design.



Joins Figure 5.2b (map B)

Figure 5.2a The proposal

Note: Indicative only, subject to detailed design.



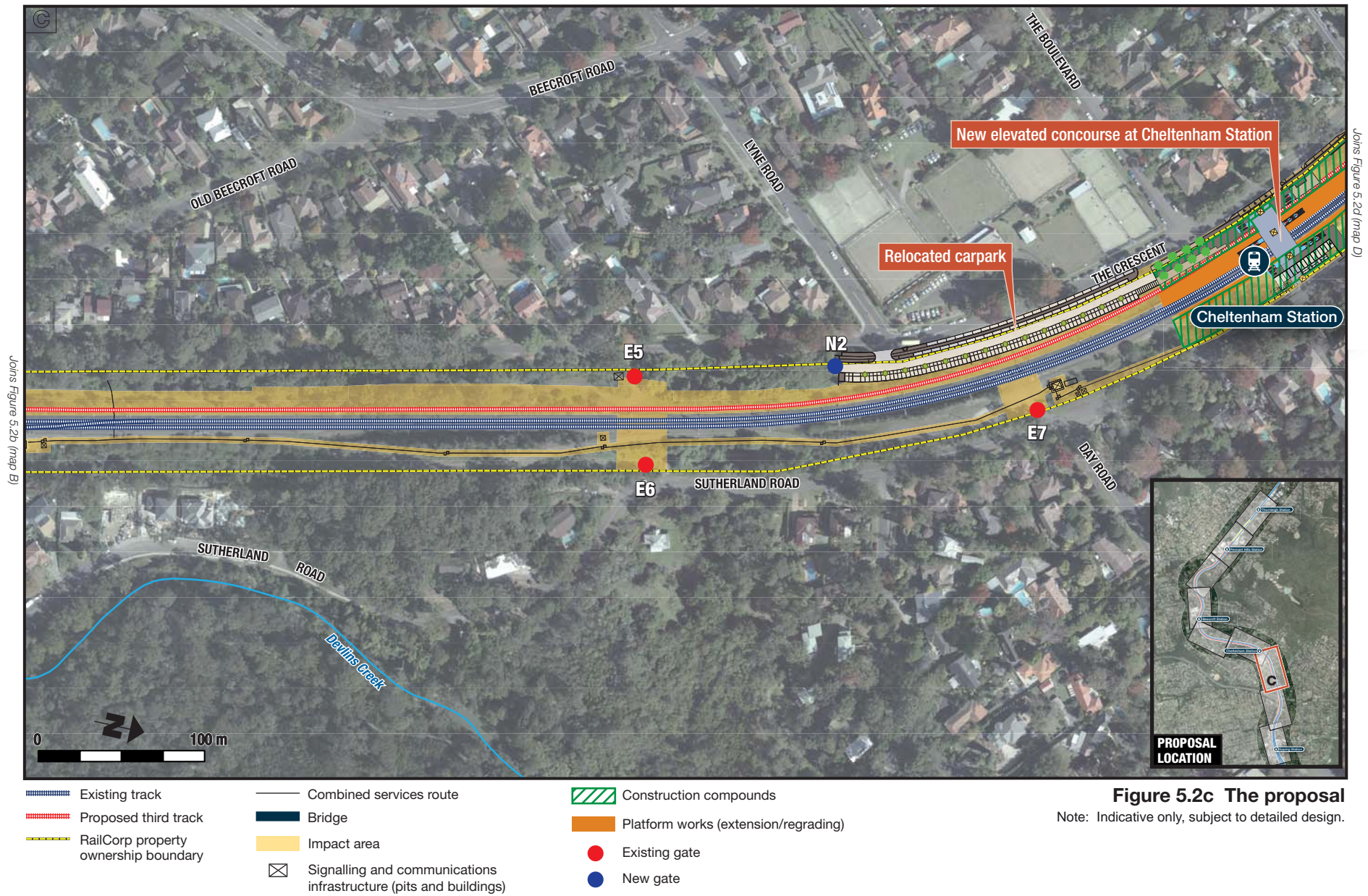




Figure 5.2d The proposal

Note: Indicative only, subject to detailed design.

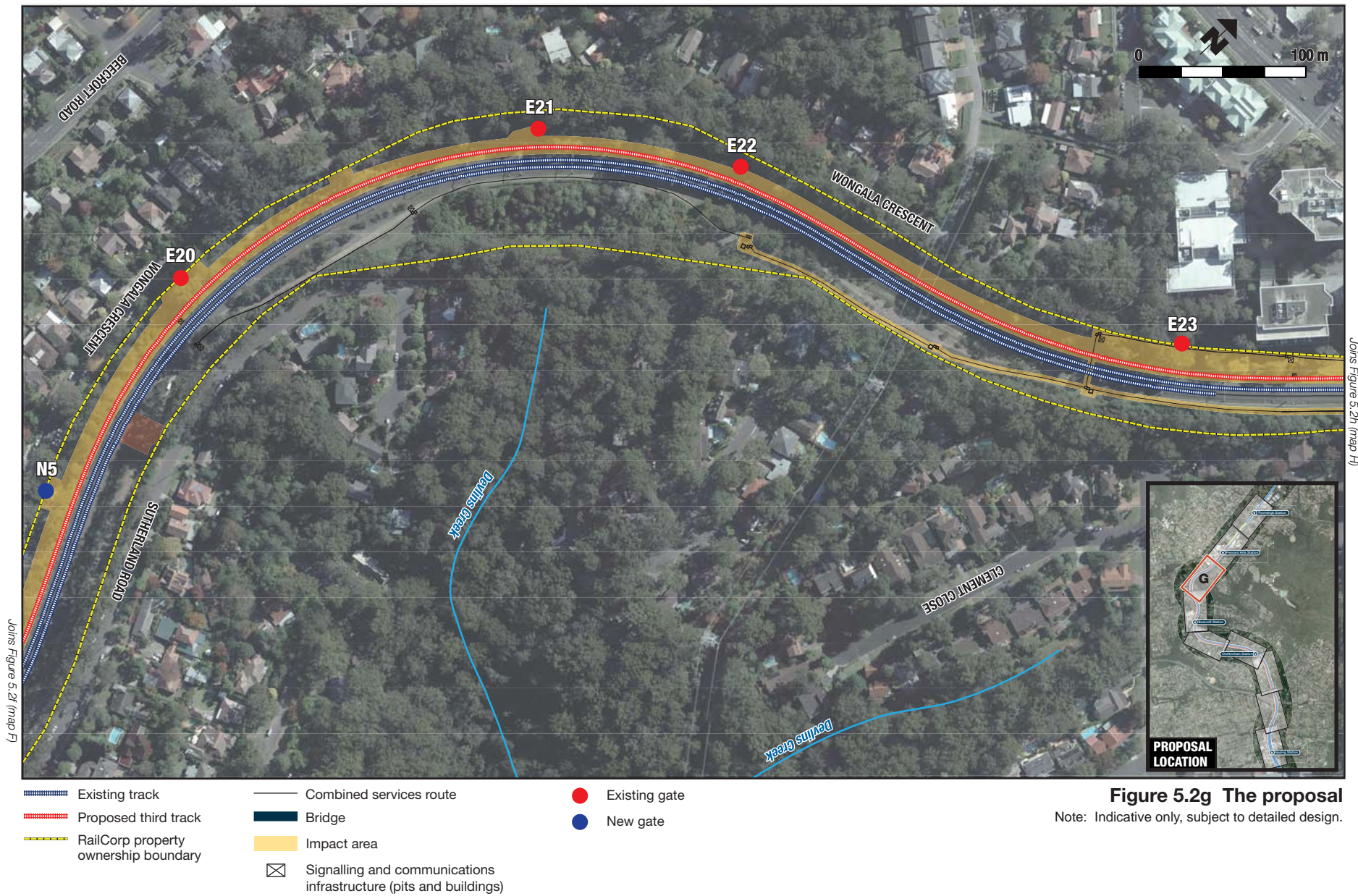


Joins Figure 5.2d (map D)

Joins Figure 5.2f (map F)



Figure 5.2f The proposal
 Note: Indicative only, subject to detailed design.



Joins Figure 5.2f (map F)

Joins Figure 5.2h (map H)

Figure 5.2g The proposal

Note: Indicative only, subject to detailed design.

