

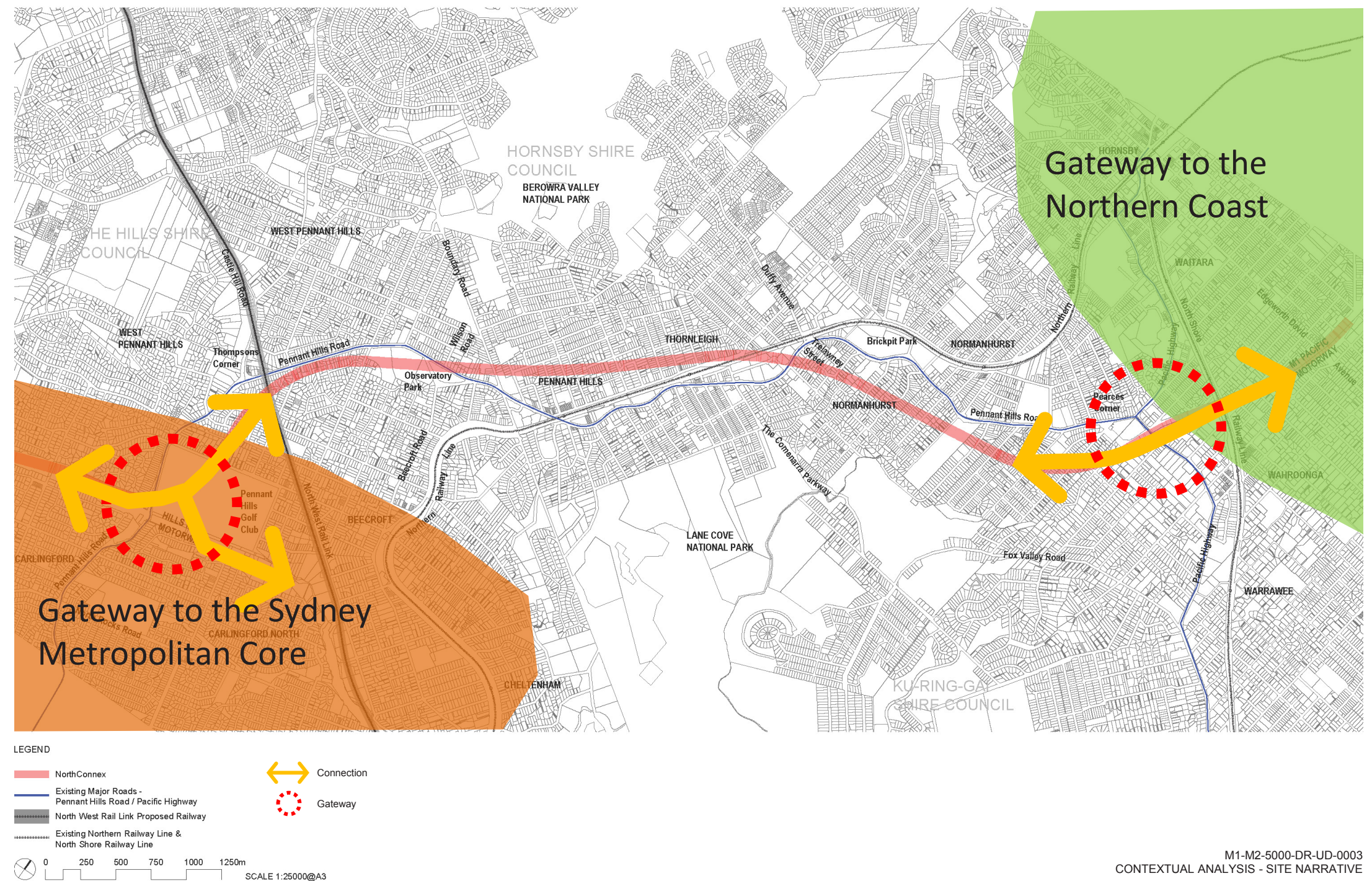
1.0 General

1.4.2 Site Narrative

The proposed project would provide a much needed connection between major parts of Sydney's motorway system. It would also change the narrative of travel by creating a clear gateway to the north and providing a seamless transition along motorways from the metropolitan core of Sydney to its northern reaches and to the Central Coast beyond.

Where the corridor meets the Hills M2 Motorway, the driver experience is that of an urban/suburban motorway with varying types of built elements visible on all sides. Where the corridor meets the M1 Pacific Motorway, the motorway quickly reaches Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park and continues through open space, with magnificent views over the bays, islands and headlands of the Hawkesbury River estuary. The Link is a gateway from the city to the coast, from urban to natural and from enclosed places to open expanses of space.

This clear and unifying concept would inform the design process and underscores the image and legibility potential of the new motorway.



1.0 General

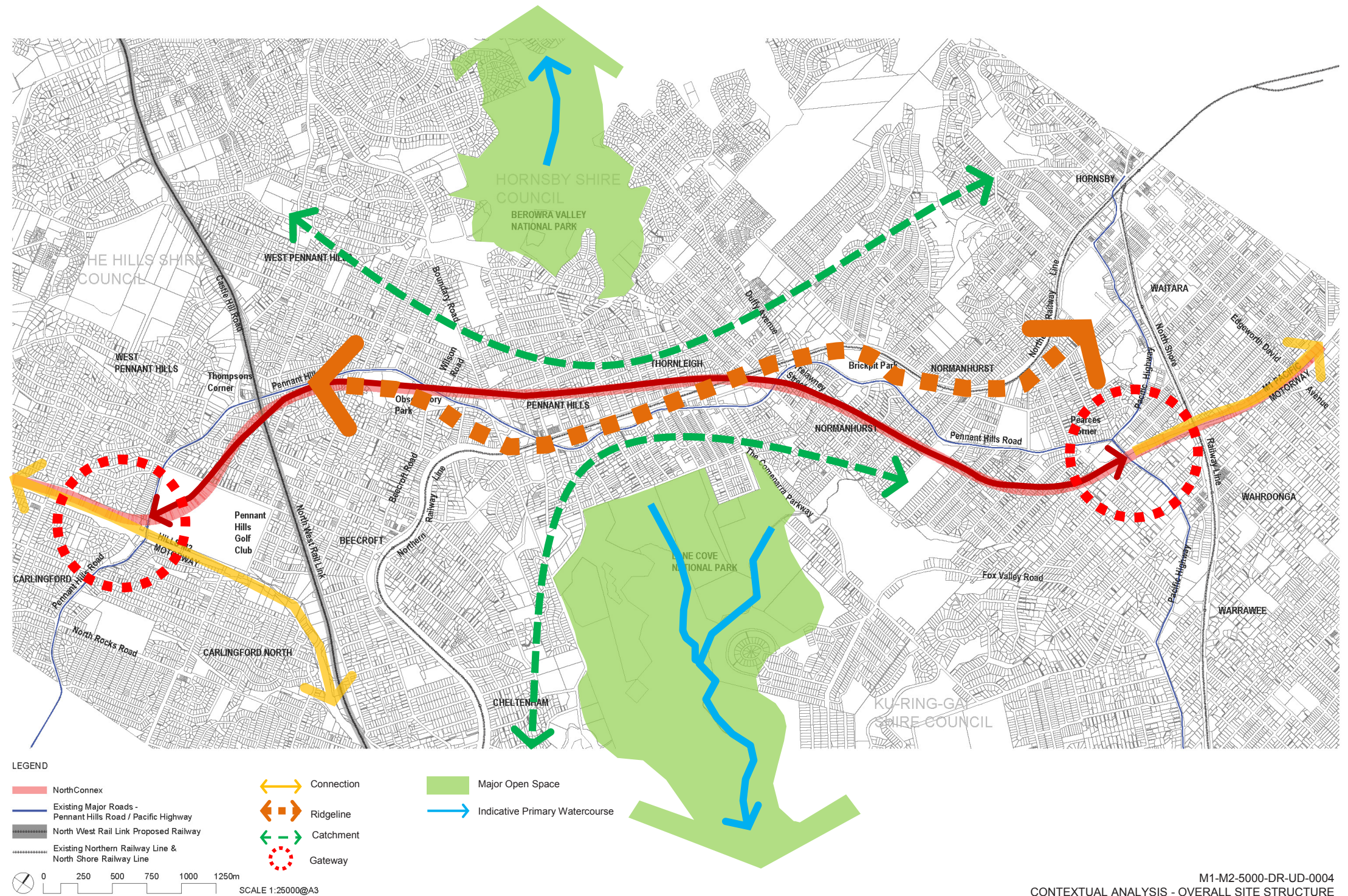
1.4.3 Overall Site Structure

The project corridor extends from the Hills M2 Motorway at Pennant Hills Road to the M1 at the Pacific Highway. It roughly follows the alignment of Pennant Hills Road. Pennant Hills Road traverses a major ridgeline in the Sydney basin and serves as part of a greater divide between the Sydney Harbour and the Hawkesbury River catchments. The corridor can be understood as a significant part of Sydney's natural geography and a place where the Harbour and the northern coast come together.

As with other ridgelines in the Sydney Basin, the corridor has become a conduit for infrastructure including Pennant Hills Road, a railway line and major bus lines.

Design Implications

- Capitalise on the overall site structure to create a strong identity for the link;
- Use the design potential of the link to reinforce the legibility and site identity to drivers passing through the area; and
- Transform the driver experience of this area from a negative one to a positive one.



M1-M2-5000-DR-UD-0004
CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS - OVERALL SITE STRUCTURE

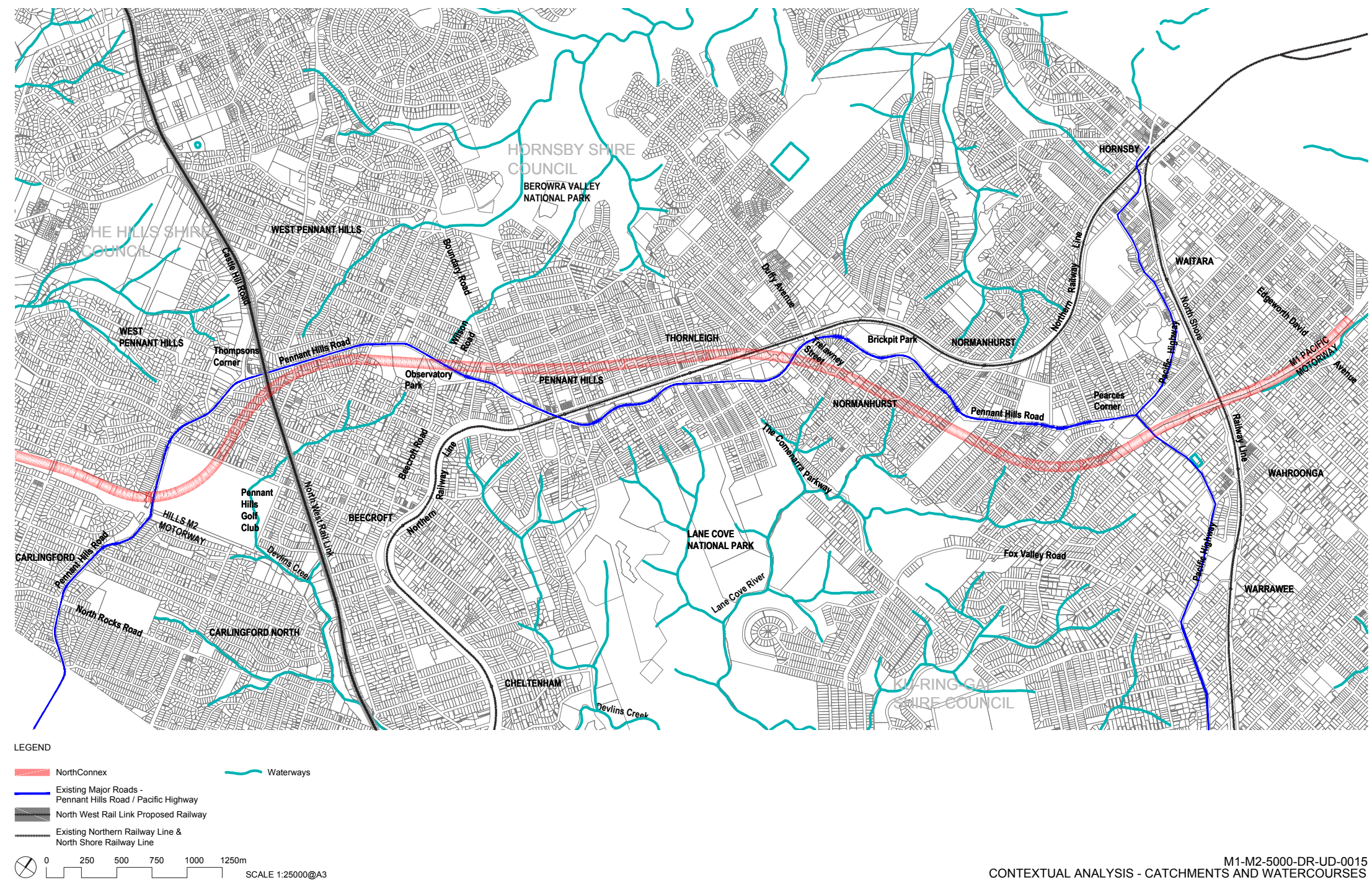
1.0 General

1.4.4 Catchments, Watercourses and Drainage Lines

The analysis identified minor and major watercourses traversed by the project, as well as drainage systems and their relationship to the watercourses, stormwater detention basins and water treatment locations.

Design Implications:

- Establish the impact of the proposed built elements on the minor and major water courses along the corridor. The design of these built elements required resolution so as to limit environmental impact; and
- Resolve the impact of new drainage structures, water quality ponds, treatment facilities and deluge systems on landscape proposals associated with these facilities.



M1-M2-5000-DR-UD-0015
CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS - CATCHMENTS AND WATERCOURSES

1.0 General

1.4.5 Landform and Soil Landscapes

The analysis has identified the major soil landscape types along the corridor to assist in understanding the variations of landforms and soil type along the project corridor.

Design Implications:

- Appreciate the underlying substrate of the landscape along the corridor;
- Develop an informed landscape design response that is contextually and ecologically appropriate; and
- Select plant palettes that are suitable for the various soil types and therefore more sustainable.

