

## Planning and Development

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Date: 06 May 2025

Dear Sir

**Site: Stonestreet Green Solar**

**Proposal: Application for grant of Development Consent Order ('DCO')**

**Issue: Kent Fire and Rescue Service input to DCO process**

I write with regards to the ExA's second written questions (ExQ2) and specifically in relation to battery storage matters. I note that a number of the ExA's written questions and requests for information relating to battery storage are directed to Kent Fire Service, the Fire Authority and Kent Fire and Rescue Service (ref. Q8.0.1, Q8.0.2, Q8.0.4, Q8.0.5 and Q8.0.6).

The Council is concerned to note that there is no record of a response from these parties under the Deadline 5 submissions. We were also concerned that notwithstanding the ExA's request, no representative from Kent Fire and Rescue Service attended the Issue Specific Hearing (ISH4) relating to battery energy storage system safety.

A large number of interested parties have made written and oral submissions that consistently identify fire risk as a major and crucial issue. We are concerned that Kent Fire Service, the Fire Authority or Kent Fire and Rescue Service have not engaged with the DCO process and we therefore respectfully urge you to press them for an urgent response to enable the ExA to make a fully informed judgement on this critically important matter.

Yours sincerely

**Matthew Durling**

**Deputy Team Leader, Strategic Development and Delivery**