

Given the scale of the proposed solar farm and the substantial impact on communities within the local area over a period of 40 years, the most recent offer of community benefits (£440k per annum announced in May 2025) is completely inadequate. The recent Government Working Paper 'Community Benefits and Shared Ownership for Low Carbon Infrastructure' compares with other projects and proposes a figure based on £5000 per MW - this would be the equivalent of £4.2 million per annum at 840 MW, reducing down if the development is reduced in scale to address planning concerns and constraints in the local authorities' impact report submission. There are good examples from other countries and regions where proper community co-ownership or compensation helps to put large scale projects on a more sustainable footing, something that is essential in the community with a long-term impact project of this nature.