

Hearing Transcript

Project:	Springwell Solar Farm
Hearing:	Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) - Part 6
Date:	08 May 2025

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FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

00:00:05:20 - 00:00:48:28

20 to 5. So we will resume, please. Okay. We'll turn to agenda item number 11. Um, and I'll now take us through the list of actions which have arisen through, uh, the discussions today. Uh, these actions will be published on the project web page on the planning inspector, uh, national infrastructure website. Uh, as soon as possible after the hearing today. Okay. Um, I've got 14 to run through, so I'll do so in turn number one is for the applicant and to provide further information in relation to the consideration of brownfield land in the wider site selection, uh, search area, uh, for deadline one.

00:00:51:03 - 00:01:08:16

At number two, for the applicant to provide further evidence to show that there were no obvious reasons why there may even be substation application or consent for the required overhead power lines would be refused and therefore would not be, uh, our act as impediments to the delivery of the proposed development. Uh, again for deadline one.

00:01:10:25 - 00:01:28:11

Uh, number three, uh, for, um, the district council to comment in the local impact report on any changes in weight that should be afforded to the benefits of the scheme. If the construction of the substation is delayed again, the ER will be provided at deadline one.

00:01:30:13 - 00:01:56:27

Uh, number four to the applicant, uh, provides an interrelationship report that considers all relevant developments, including the Oda solar farm and a revised cumulative assessment to include Oda and any other relevant developments. Again, deadline one at number five for Marianne Overton, uh, to provide details of any developments that you consider could have a cumulative effect on the character of the landscape.

00:01:58:12 - 00:02:21:07

And are you happy to do that for deadline one? Uh, yeah. Fantastic. Thank you. Um, number six for the applicant. Provide a note or revise or revision to application documents to explain or make clear how the revised plume assessment, um, once the battery technology is known, is secured in the draft development consent order again. Deadline one.

00:02:23:01 - 00:02:34:09

Uh, number seven, to the applicant. Um, provide the stage one road safety audits, uh, of the indicative junction improvement schemes, uh, that we discussed earlier. Again, uh, deadline one.

00:02:37:02 - 00:02:50:14

Number eight to the applicant. Um, to revise, uh, the application documentation to ensure that, um, the county council sign off any, uh, highway improvement works again. Deadline one.

00:02:52:15 - 00:03:05:19

Okay. Number nine, to the applicant. Um, provide, uh, updated flood risk assessment following new flood and coastal erosion risk data. Uh, that was published by the Environment Agency. Um. Deadline one.

00:03:07:28 - 00:03:52:08

Actually number ten again to the applicant and provide written submission. Um, to explain why, uh, solar panels must be located in flood zone three B for operational reasons, and a map with supporting evidence that demonstrates why it is not possible for solar panels to be located in areas of flood zone one, either within the order limits or directly around it. Um, deadline one I think that's what we agreed. Yes. Okay. Okay. Number 11, again for the applicant, uh, to provide further evidence to demonstrate that the suggested fallback permission for the solar farm and the application site is directly comparable to the proposed development, and, uh, would be delivered if the proposed development wouldn't, uh, to be refused development consents.

00:03:52:23 - 00:03:54:09

Uh, again. Deadline one

00:03:56:09 - 00:04:13:17

uh, number 11, uh, for the applicant, uh, provides, uh, the revised wording for the draft development consent order requirement 11, along with an update on discussions with the County Council and Historic England in relation to archaeological matters.

00:04:15:24 - 00:04:30:02

At number 12, for the District Council to set out in its Local Impact Report, which above ground heritage assets that have not been scoped in to the assessment should be, um, why? Um, for deadline one

00:04:32:00 - 00:05:01:07

uh, number 13 uh, for the county council, um, to provide further commentary on potential effects on Non-designated heritage assets in its local impact report. Again for deadline one. And the final one is for the applicant. Number 14. Uh, explain how, um, provide evidence to explain how the monitoring and maintenance of screening planting growth is secured through the draft of development Consent order for deadline one.

00:05:03:02 - 00:05:08:03

Okay. Does anyone have any questions or queries in relation to any of those?

00:05:16:12 - 00:05:22:13

So just wary of the recording. If you could just, um, have the roving mic up for you. Thank you.

00:05:29:22 - 00:05:32:25

Well, can you just confirm what the actual date is for deadline one?

00:05:32:27 - 00:05:42:07

Absolutely. Yep. I'll do that in closing, but it's the 3rd of June. Thank you. Sorry. Was there another gentleman with his hand up? Mr. Gallagher?

00:05:45:07 - 00:06:04:19

Thank you. Um, I think we talked earlier about the traffic assessment outside the existing area. Would it be appropriate for the examining authority outside the applicant or the county council to elaborate on what potential impact is beyond the, uh, area that's currently been identified for the traffic assessment?

00:06:05:12 - 00:06:20:21

Okay. There's still quite a lot of evidence in terms of transport and discussions to come in at the next deadline. So I think we'll see what what situation we're in at that point. And then obviously we can ask any further questions. Should we consider that necessary? Thank you.

00:06:24:13 - 00:06:56:05

Okay. Thank you very much for those. Okay. Well, we'll come on to the final agenda item in my closing remarks. Um, can you just remind everyone, um, that post hearing notes, any documents and answers prepared in response to the hearing today should be provided at deadline one, which is the 3rd of June. And, um, so with that in mind, I'll proceed to close the specific hearing today. Uh, again, a huge thank you to everyone who's taking the time to come and speak to us today and contributed to the discussions.

00:06:56:15 - 00:07:07:28

Uh, it's been very much appreciated by the examining authority. Um, and the time is now at 447. Uh, and I'll close the hearing. Thank you very much, everyone.