



One Earth Solar Farm

Volume 5.0 Reports and Statements [EN010159]

Consultation Report

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1.1 This Consultation Report relates to the proposed One Earth Solar Farm (the Proposed Development) and is submitted by One Earth Solar Farm Ltd. (the Applicant) in accordance with section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).
- 1.1.2 The approach taken to pre-application and engagement was designed to ensure compliance with the legislative requirements set out in sections 42, 47, 48, 49 and 50 of the PA 2008, while also exceeding these minimum requirements to ensure best practice.
- 1.1.3 Pre-application consultation and engagement were key features of the evolution of the Proposed Development, enabling continuous improvements to the Applicant's proposals and related assessments that form the basis of this application for development consent.
- 1.1.4 This Report describes the pre-application consultation and engagement undertaken by the Applicant, summarises the responses received, and explains how the Applicant has had regard to them to develop its proposals.
- 1.1.5 The Report sets out how pre-application consultation, including a period of non-statutory consultation and a period of statutory consultation was undertaken in the development of the Proposed Development.
- 1.1.6 **Chapter 2** of this report sets out the purpose of the document, summarises the context for the consultation and provides an overview of the different stages of consultation which the Applicant carried out.
- 1.1.7 **Chapter 3** summarises non-statutory consultation carried out by the Applicant in relation to the Proposed Development. This includes early engagement (set out in section 3.2), a period of non-statutory consultation from 27 September – 8 November 2023 (set out in sections 3.3-3.5) and a summary of the feedback received, how the Applicant has had regard to it, and how the design has changed in response (section 3.6). It should be read alongside **Appendices A-1 to A-3**. This chapter also includes a summary of regard had to advice received under s51 of PA 2008 (section 3.7).
- 1.1.8 **Chapter 4** confirms that the Proposed Development is EIA development as defined by the EIA Regulations 2017 [REF-1] and that the Applicant sought a scoping opinion from the Secretary of State as a result. It should be read alongside **Appendix B-1**.
- 1.1.9 **Chapter 5** sets out the process through which the Applicant developed its Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). This includes how the Applicant developed the SoCC including through early engagement with the local authorities under s43(1) of the PA 2008 (section 5.2 and 5.3) and details of the

publication of the SoCC (section 5.4). It should be read alongside **Appendices C-1 to D-4**.

- 1.1.10 **Chapter 6** reports on consultation carried out by the Applicant in fulfilment of statutory requirements over the period from 29 May – 23 July 2024. This includes an overview of the statutory consultation (section 6.1), consultation under s42 of PA 2008 (section 6.2), the notification of PINS (on behalf of the Secretary of State) under s46 of PA 2008 (section 6.3), consultation with the local community in accordance with the SoCC as prescribed by s47(7) of PA 2008 (section 6.4), and publicity under s48 of PA 2008 (section 6.5). It should be read alongside **Appendices E-1 – I-1**.
- 1.1.11 **Chapter 7** sets out responses to the statutory consultation and summarises the regard had to them by the Applicant. This includes responses from consultees under s42(1)(a) and (b) of PA 2008 (section 7.2), s42(1)(d) of PA 2008 (7.3) and s47 of PA 2008 (section 7.4)). None of the consultees who responded identified themselves as specifically responding to the s48 (section 7.5). Changes to the draft masterplan following this consultation are outlined in section 7.6. This chapter should be read alongside **Appendices J-1 and J-2**.
- 1.1.12 **Chapter 8** details engagement conducted by the Applicant following the statutory consultation and prior to the submission of the DCO application. This includes engagement with stakeholders following statutory consultation (section 8.1) and details of the Applicant's Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (section 8.2). It should be read alongside **Appendix M-1**.
- 1.1.13 **Chapter 9** concludes by providing an overview of how the Proposed Development's design has evolved in response to consultation feedback and finally confirming the Applicant's compliance with requirements and guidance for consultation. It should be read alongside **Appendices L-1 and L-2**.
- 1.1.14 At each stage, the Applicant has considered and complied with relevant advice and guidance including the Planning Inspectorate's Guidance on the pre-application stage for NSIPs, April 2024 [REF-2] and the Planning Inspectorate's Advice page, entitled **Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the Consultation Report** [REF-3]. The information included in **Appendices L-1 and L-2** supports this through direct reference to MHCLG's and the Planning Inspectorate's guidance and advice on the pre-application process.
- 1.1.15 As well as preparing this report, the Applicant has set out how it has complied with guidance and advice on consultation in the **s55 checklist [EN010159/APP/1.6]** that is also part of the DCO application documents.

2. Introduction

2.1 Purpose of the document

- 2.1.1 This Consultation Report relates to the proposed One Earth Solar Farm (the Proposed Development). One Earth Solar Farm Ltd (the Applicant) has submitted an application (the Application) to the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Proposed Development. In accordance with section 37(3)(c) and (7) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008), the Applicant has submitted this Report as part of the Application.
- 2.1.2 This Report explains how the Applicant has complied with legislative requirements set out in the PA 2008 (as well as the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations) [REF-4] and the Infrastructure Planning: (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations)) [REF-1]. It also summarises the responses received to during statutory consultation and explains how the Applicant has had regard to these in developing the Application. It also provides information about non-statutory consultation and stakeholder engagement undertaken by the Applicant regarding the Proposed Development.

2.2 The Proposed Development

- 2.2.1 The Proposed Development comprises the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) array electricity generating facility. The project includes solar PV panels, Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), onsite substations and associated grid connection infrastructure which will allow for the generation and export of electricity to the proposed National Grid High Marnham Substation. The Applicant has secured a connection agreement with National Grid which will allow export and import of up to 740 megawatts (MW) of electricity to the National Grid High Marnham Substation. The Proposed Development is described in full in **Environmental Statement (ES) Volume 1, Chapter 5: Description of the Proposed Development [EN010159/APP/6.5]**.
- 2.2.2 The location of the Proposed Development is shown in **ES Volume 3, Figure 3.1: Ecological Designations [EN010159/APP/6.20]** and described in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 3: Description of Site and Surrounding Area [EN010159/APP/6.3]**, with consideration of alternatives described in **ES Volume 1, Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution [EN010159/APP/6.4]** of this ES.
- 2.2.3 The Proposed Development is located within the administrative boundaries of Bassetlaw District Council (BDC), West Lindsey District Council (WLDC), Newark and Sherwood District Council (NSDC) as well Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) and Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) (the host authorities).

- 2.2.4 Refining the design and layout of the Proposed Development was an iterative process, guided by a programme of pre-application consultation and engagement, as well as the outputs of environmental assessments and technical work. The key stages of design and how they relate to the stages of formal pre-application consultation are summarised in the **Design Approach Document [EN010159/APP/5.8]**.

2.3 Overview of the consultation process

- 2.3.1 **Table 2.1** provides a summary of key pre-application consultation milestones and signposts where these activities are described in the Report. This is also shown in **Figure 2.1**.
- 2.3.2 The Applicant has undertaken a continuous programme of engagement in parallel with, and complementary to, its formal phases of pre-application consultation. The important distinction between consultation and engagement is as follows:
- > Engagement relates to discussions between the Applicant, community and stakeholders outside formal phases of consultation.
 - > Consultation relates to the formal stages of consultation (both non-statutory and statutory), the detail of which is provided in Chapters 3, 5, 6 and 8 of this Report.

Table 2.1: Summary of pre-application consultation and engagement activities

Dates	Activity	Chapter of Report
Early engagement and non-statutory consultation		Chapter 3
29 June – 20 September 2023	Early engagement with host authorities, members of the community and other stakeholders	
27 September – 8 November 2023	First Consultation (non-statutory consultation)	
9 November – 11 November 2023	Ongoing engagement with stakeholders, near neighbours and other members of the community	
Development of the SoCC		Chapter 5
5 February – 3 May 2024	Consultation with host local authorities on the SoCC as prescribed by s47(3) of the PA 2008	
15 May 2024	Notice of availability of SoCC in the vicinity of the proposal as prescribed by s47(6) of the PA 2008	
Statutory Consultation		Chapter 6
15 May 2024	Notification of the proposed application as prescribed by s42 of the PA 2008 and Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations	
21 May 2024	Notification of the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) of proposed application as prescribed by s46 of the PA 2008 and EIA Regulations	
29 May – 6 June 2024	Publication of the consultation as prescribed by s48 of the PA 2008	
17 June – 27 June 2024	Notification the consultation period had been extended as prescribed by s42, s46 and s48 of the PA 2008	
29 May 2024 – 23 July 2024	Consultation as prescribed under s42 of the PA 2008 and in accordance with the SOCC as prescribed by s47(7) of the PA 2008	
Further engagement after statutory consultation		Chapter 8
1 August 2024 – 3 February 2025	Ongoing engagement prior to submission of the DCO	



Figure 2.1: Key pre-application consultation milestones

3. Early engagement, non-statutory consultation and ongoing engagement

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 The Applicant conducted consultation outside of the statutory consultation period. This included a period of ‘early engagement’ from 29 June – 13 September 2023, before a period of non-statutory consultation which occurred between 27 September and 8 November 2023, with additional engagement through 11 November 2023.
- 3.1.2 The purpose of this period of non-statutory consultation was to inform design development and the process of environmental impact assessment by gathering feedback from consultees at an early stage in the design process.
- 3.1.3 This chapter sets out the consultation and engagement activities conducted by the Applicant in advance of the statutory consultation.
- 3.1.4 **Table 3.1** sets out the timeline for activities during this period.

Table 3.1: Timeline of early engagement, non-statutory consultation and ongoing engagement

Dates	Activity	Document Sections
29 June- 20 Sept 2023	Early engagement meetings with Local Planning Authorities	3.2.1 - 3.2.2
12 Sept 2023	- Door knock visits to near neighbours of Proposed Development - Emails to stakeholders	3.2.3 - 3.2.4
13 Sept 2023	- Leaflet posted to consultation zone - Website goes live - Press releases sent to media	3.2.5 - 3.2.7
27 Sept 2023	- Start of consultation - Materials available online and in access locations	3.4.1 - 3.4.2
5 – 12 Oct 2023	Information events	3.4.3 - 3.4.4
6 Oct – 11 Nov 2023	Site visits with near neighbours	3.4.5 - 3.4.6
19 Oct – 9 Nov 2023	Meetings with parish councils	3.4.7

3.2 Early Engagement

- 3.2.1 Prior to the non-statutory consultation, the Applicant engaged with host authorities, organisations which would later be statutory consultees, and members of the community to introduce The Proposed Development, seek early feedback, and develop the scope and methodology for the non-statutory consultation.
- 3.2.2 The initial engagement set out in **Table 3.2** informed the early development of the Proposed Development, the approach taken by the Applicant to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping and the approach taken to the non-statutory consultation set out in this chapter.

Table 3.2: Early engagement meetings with local authorities

Date	Stakeholders	Topics Discussed
29 June 2023	Lincolnshire County Council officers	- Broad project description - Approach to consultation - Planning performance agreement (PPA)
7 July 2023	Newark and Sherwood District Council officers	- Broad project description - Approach to consultation - PPA
18 July 2023	Nottinghamshire County Council officers	- Broad project description - Familiarity with NSIP process - Agricultural land classification (ALC) - Public Rights of Way - PPA
20 July 2023	West Lindsey officers	- Familiarity with NSIP process - Flood Risk - Approach to consultation
17 August 2023	Nottinghamshire County Council officers	- Draft masterplan - Consultation strategy - Deposit locations for materials
22 August 2023	Newark and Sherwood District Council officers	- Draft masterplan - Consultation strategy - Concern over batteries
25 August 2023	Bassetlaw District Council officers	- Draft masterplan - Consultation strategy - Deposit locations for materials

Date	Stakeholders	Topics Discussed
29 August 2023	Lincolnshire County Council officers	- Flood risk - Employment and training opportunities - PPA
30 August 2023	Nottinghamshire County Council members	- How the cable will cross the river Trent - Consultation zone
31 August 2023	Lincolnshire County Council members	- Familiarity with NSIP process - ALC - Consultation fatigue for community
31 August 2023	West Lindsey District Council officers	- Concerns about BESS size - Employment and skills programmes - Resourcing and ability to respond to timelines
11 September 2023	Newark and Sherwood District Council planning committee members	- Battery safety - Visual impact and set back from properties - ALC
12 September 2023	Newark and Sherwood District Council ward members	- Concerns about compulsory acquisition - ALC - Total space needed for panels - Battery storage
20 September 2023	Bassetlaw District Council members	- Consultation strategy and events - Coordination with nearby projects - ALC - Decommissioning process

3.2.3 Prior to the Proposed Development being made public on 13 September 2023, the Applicant conducted several activities to notify the community of the upcoming project launch and consultation.

3.2.4 On 12 September 2023, the Applicant knocked on the doors of 35 properties that had been identified as being located particularly near to the boundary of the Proposed Development. The goal of this activity was to personally introduce the Proposed Development to residents and answer any questions in advance of wider publicity. If no one answered the door, the Applicant left behind a letter as shown in **Appendix A-1.2**.

3.2.5 On 12 September 2023, the Applicant contacted elected officials to introduce the Proposed Development and offer to hold a briefing, the DCO process ahead and the scope of the non-statutory consultation. A copy of the email is included in

Appendix A-1.2. Recipients included the named representatives listed in **Table 3.3** and the clerks of parish councils shown in **Figure 3.1** and listed in **Table 3.4**.

Table 3.3: Elected officials consulted

Name	Organisation	Title
Members of Parliament		
Sir Edward Leigh	UK Parliament	MP for Gainsborough
Robert Jenrick MP	UK Parliament	MP for Newark
County Councils		
Cllr Ben Bradley MP	Nottinghamshire County Council	Leader of the Council
Cllr Neil Clarke MBE	Nottinghamshire County Council	Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment
Cllr Debbie Darby	Nottinghamshire County Council	Ward member for Collingham
Cllr John Ogle	Nottinghamshire County Council	Ward member for Tuxford
Cllr Martin Hill OBE	Lincolnshire County Council	Leader of the Council
Cllr Colin Davie	Lincolnshire County Council	Executive Councillor: Economic Development, Environment and Planning
Cllr Richard Butroid	Lincolnshire County Council	Division member for Gainsborough
District Councils		
Cllr Paul Peacock	Newark and Sherwood District Council	Council Leader
Cllr Linda Dales	Newark and Sherwood District Council	Ward member for Collingham
Cllr Phil Farmer	Newark Sherwood District Council	Ward member for Collingham
Cllr James Naish	Bassetlaw District Council	Leader of the Council
Cllr Jo White	Bassetlaw District Council	Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Regeneration

Name	Organisation	Title
Cllr Emma Griffin	Bassetlaw District Council	Ward member for Tuxford and Trent
Cllr Lewis Stanniland	Bassetlaw District Council	Ward member for Tuxford and Trent
Cllr Owen Bierley	West Lindsey District Council	Leader of Council
Cllr Roger Pilgrim	West Lindsey District Council	Ward member for Torksey

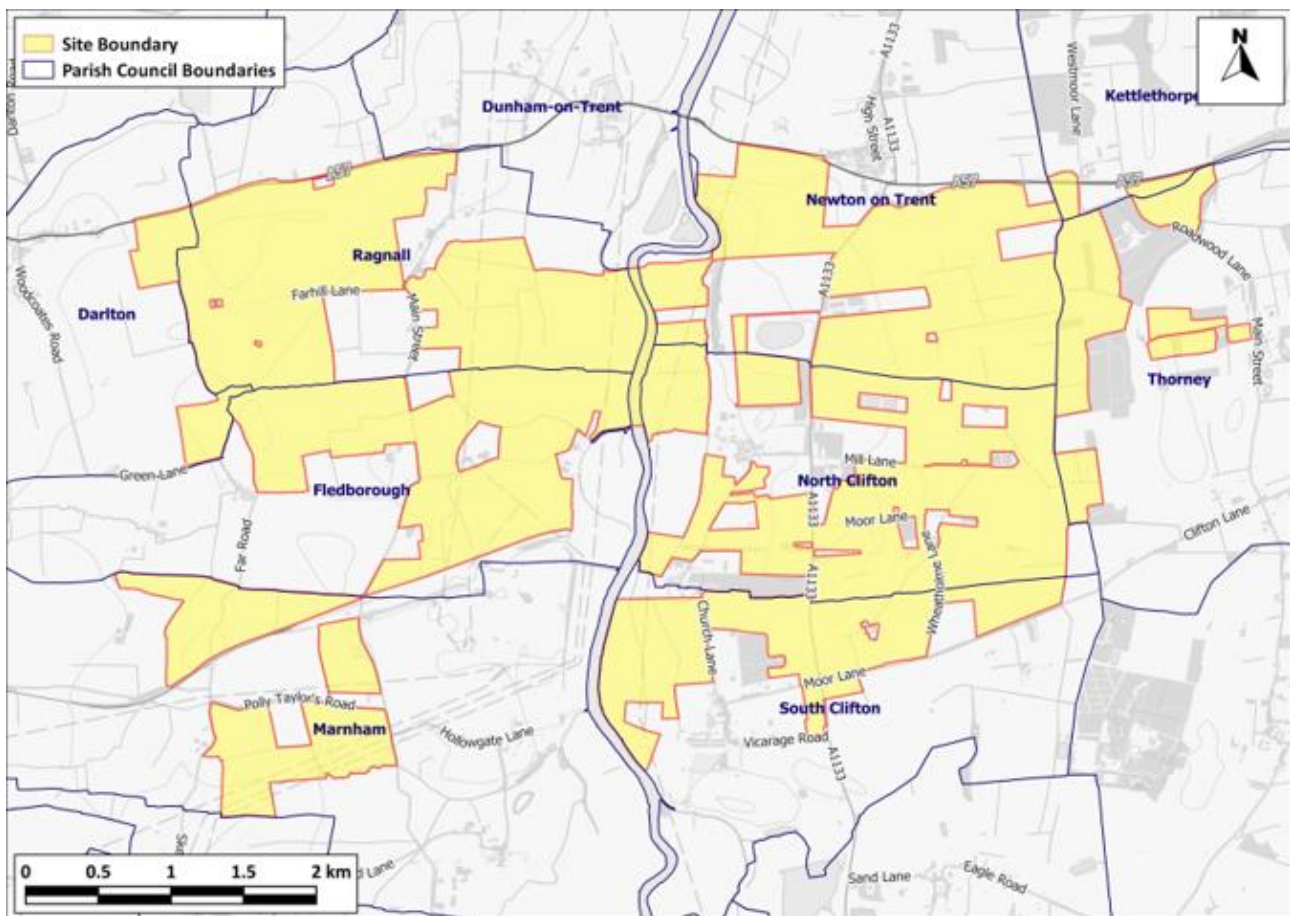


Figure 3.1: Map of parish councils identified as containing part of the Proposed Development at non-statutory consultation

Table 3.4: Parish councils identified as containing part of the Proposed Development at non-statutory consultation

Parish Councils
Kettlethorpe with Fledborough Parish Council
Newton on Trent Parish Council
Dunham with Ragnall, Fledborough and Darlton Parish Council
Normanton on Trent with Marnham Parish Council
South Clifton Parish Council
North Clifton Parish Meeting
Thorney Parish Council

3.2.6 On 13 September 2023, the Applicant introduced the Proposed Development to the public through several methods.

- 3.2.7 The Applicant posted an introductory leaflet to all addresses within the area shown in **Figure 3.2** that provided high-level information about the Proposed Development and consultation events. The leaflet is included in **Appendix A-1.1**.

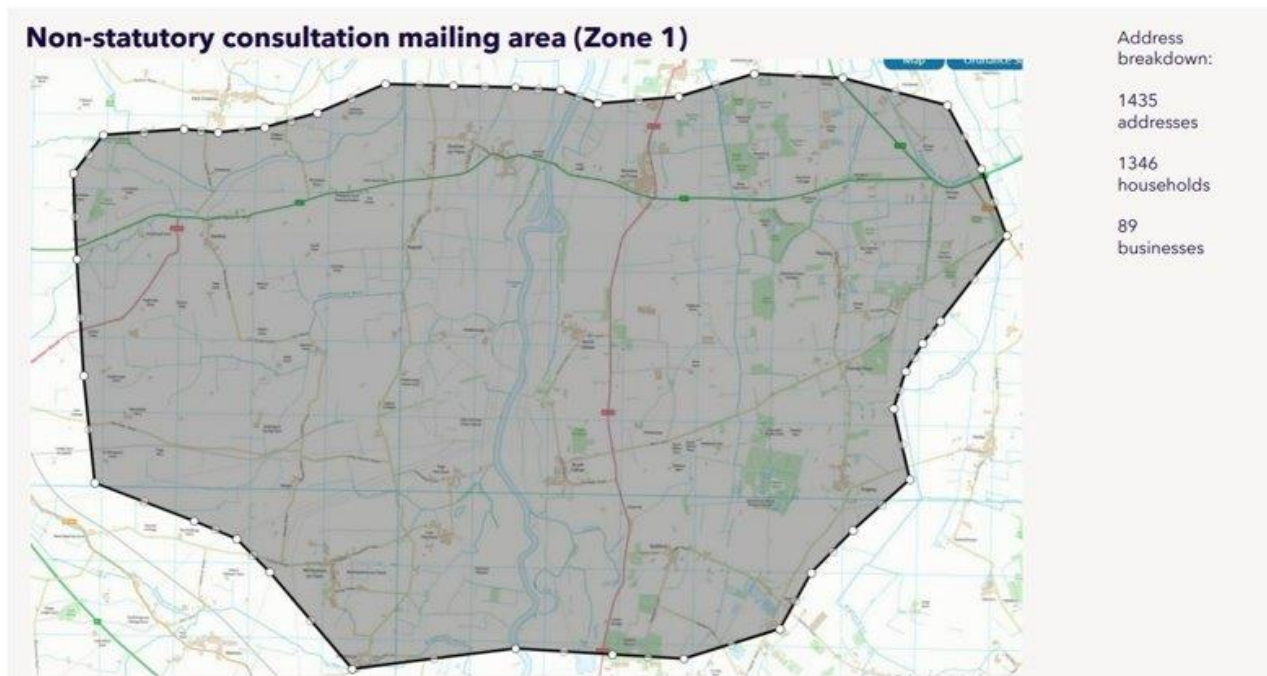


Figure 3.2: Map of consultation zone at non-statutory consultation

- 3.2.8 On the same day, the Applicant launched a dedicated project website (see **Appendix A-1.5**) with more information about the Proposed Development, the development process, and details of communications lines, including a dedicated freephone number, dedicated email address and freepost address. Images of the website are included in **Appendix A-1.5**.
- 3.2.9 On the same day, the Applicant contacted local media outlets with a press release providing more information on the Proposed Development, the application process and the consultation. The press release is included in **Appendix A-1.6**, and the media outlets contacted by the Applicant are listed in **Appendix A-1.7**.

3.3 Scope of non-statutory consultation

- 3.3.1 The Applicant conducted a period of non-statutory consultation over six weeks between 27 September and 8 November 2023.
- 3.3.2 The Applicant consulted with:
- > Local authorities and parish councils in the vicinity of the Proposed Development
 - > The local community, as defined by all properties within approximately 2km of the project boundary, shown in **Figure 3.2**.

3.3.3 During this consultation, the Applicant provided information on:

- > The Applicant
- > Background in developing the Proposed Development
- > The need for the Proposed Development
- > The site proposed for the Proposed Development
- > Representative technology that would be included
- > Initial proposals including a draft masterplan
- > The EIA process
- > Environmental constraints relevant to the Proposed Development
- > The planning process for NSIPs
- > The timeline for development
- > How to take part in the consultation

3.3.4 Through the non-statutory consultation, the Applicant sought consultees' views on:

- > Initial proposals for the locations of solar PV panels and environmental mitigation areas
- > The construction and operation of the Proposed Development
- > Any information relevant to the Proposed Development and/or the local environment
- > The potential to include environmental enhancements in the Proposed Development
- > The potential for the Proposed Development to contribute to community benefits
- > Any information it would be helpful to include in the statutory consultation

3.4 Non-statutory consultation activities

3.4.1 The Applicant publicised the consultation through several methods:

- > Emailing and posting a letter to all elected representatives identified in **Tables 3.3 and 3.4.**
- > Writing two letters to all properties within the consultation zone in **Figure 3.2.** A copy of the letters can be found in **Appendix A-2.1.**
- > Submitting a press release to media outlets identified in **Appendix A-1.7.**

- > Placing advertisements in the local media and online (**Appendix A-2.2**)
- > Posting posters in local information sites around the vicinity of the Proposed Development (**Appendix A-2.2**)

3.4.2 Throughout the consultation, the Applicant maintained several communications channels for enquiries which were staffed during standard working hours (9am-5pm, Monday to Friday). All voicemail messages and emails that were received outside of these hours were responded to promptly on the following weekdays. The channels included:

- > a Freephone number (0800 169 6507)
- > an email address (info@oneearthsolarfarm.co.uk)
- > a Freepost address (One Earth Solar Farm, Freepost SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL)

3.4.3 The Applicant produced a booklet summarising the Proposed Development and explaining how to provide feedback during the consultation as well as a questionnaire to provide feedback. These materials, which are included in **Appendix A-2.3 and Appendix A-2.5**, were made available online through the project website, as well as in hard copy at community access locations shown in **Figure 3.3** and listed in **Table 3.5**.

Community access locations

3.4.4 The community access locations were selected to be accessible for those living near the Proposed Development as well as in the broader area. Four of the community access locations were located near the Proposed Development, and three were located in district council offices, see **Figure 3.3**.

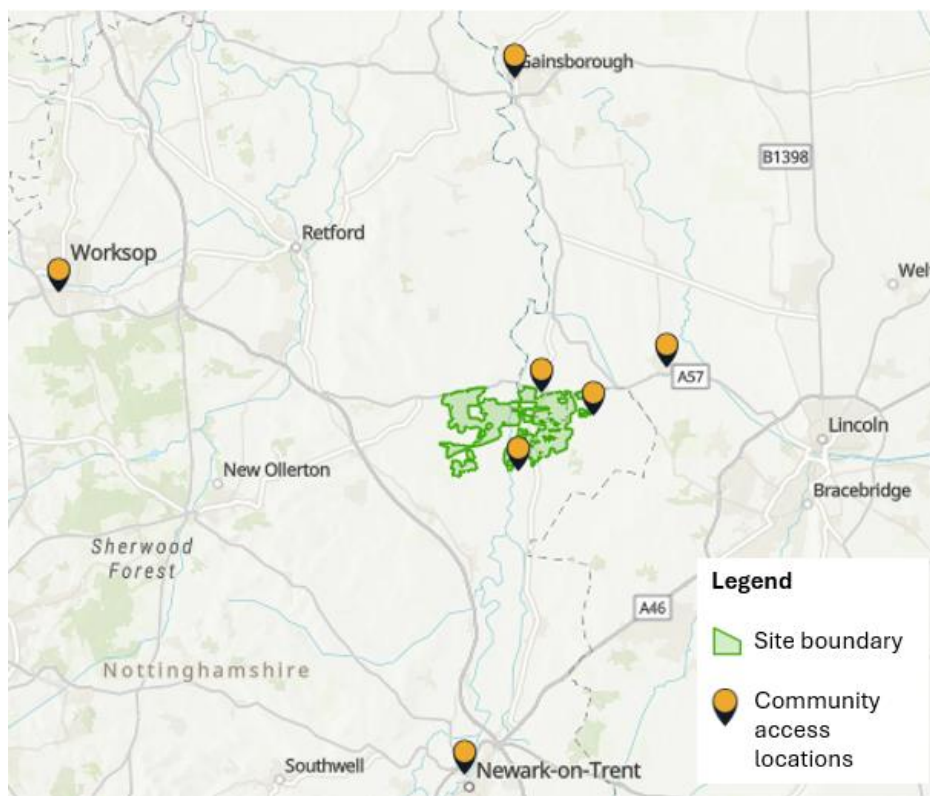


Figure 3.3: Map of community access locations for non-statutory consultation

Table 3.5: Community access locations during non-statutory consultation

Locations
South Clifton Sports Pavilion, South Clifton, Newark NG23 7AH
The Courtyard Tea Room, Collingham Rd, Newton on Trent, Lincoln LN1 2LL
Saxilby Library, St Andrews Centre, William St, Saxilby LN1 2LP
St Helen's Church, Main Street, Thorney, Newark, NG23 7EU
Bassetlaw District Council, Queens Buildings, Potter St, Worksop S80 2AH
Newark and Sherwood District Council, Castle House, Great North Rd, Newark NG24 1BY
West Lindsey District Council, Guildhall Marshall's Yard, Marshalls Yard, 13b Beaumont St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA

Public information events

- 3.4.5 The Applicant hosted five public information events during the consultation period which are listed in **Table 3.6**. The purpose of these events was to present information about the Proposed Development and provide the opportunity to ask questions of the Applicant's project team.
- 3.4.6 The materials that were available in hard copy at the events included the consultation booklet, information boards, and fact sheets on various topics (**Appendix A-2.3 to A-2.6**).
- 3.4.7 The events were organised to be as accessible as possible for the public by:
- > Occurring at various times of day and days of the week to accommodate various work/life schedules
 - > Being located at various locations on either side of the river Trent within the consultation zone (**see Figure 3.5**)
 - > Including a webinar to accommodate anyone who could not attend in person.
 - > Including a virtual exhibition on the project website that could be viewed at any point during the consultation displaying the same information banners which were present at the in-person information events.



Figure 3.4: Photo of a consultation event in South Clifton, 7 October 2023

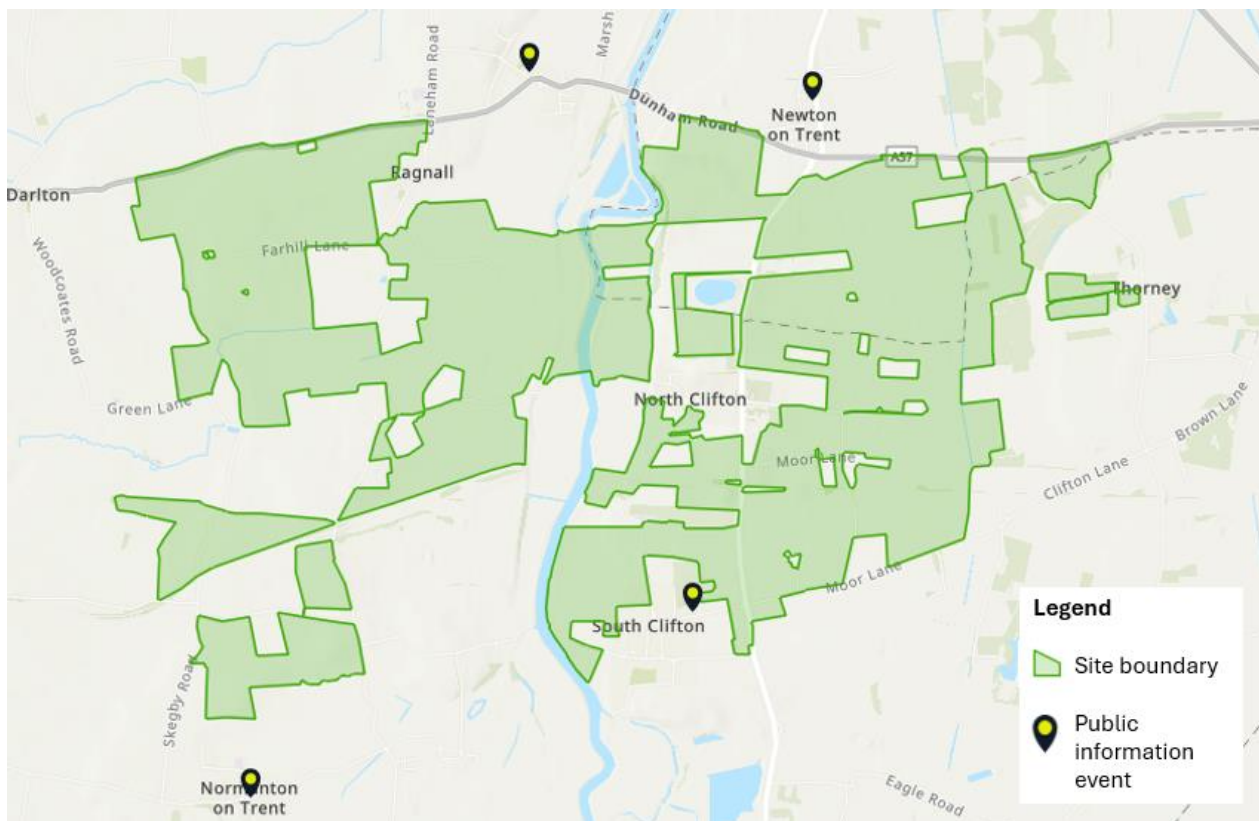


Figure 3.5: Map of public information events for non statutory consultation

Table 3.6: Non statutory public information events

Dates and Times		Location	Public Attendance
5 October	5-8:30pm	St Peters Church Newton on Trent, Lincoln LN1 2JS	31
7 October	12-4pm	South Clifton Coronation Hall South Clifton, NG23 7AN	103
10 October	3:30-7:30pm	Dunham on Trent Village Hall, Dunham NG22 0FJ	31
11 October	6-7pm	Webinar	5
12 October	3:30-7:30pm	Normanton Village Hall Normanton on Trent	42
Anytime during the consultation period		Virtual Exhibition	50
Total Attendance			262

Site visits

- 3.4.8 The Applicant recognised that some people lived in properties particularly close to the Proposed Development boundary and required more targeted consultation. The Applicant therefore conducted site visits to local properties where members of the project team visited the households to answer questions and receive feedback about the Proposed Development.
- 3.4.9 These site visits were offered to anyone who stated at the public information events or through the communication lines set out at 3.4.2 that they lived particularly close to the Proposed Development, or to anyone who requested one. A total of 14 site visits took place, as detailed in **Figure 3.6** and **Table 3.7**. While some of these visits took place just after the end of the consultation period, they are included here for consistency. Feedback from the visits was considered alongside feedback from the non-statutory consultation.

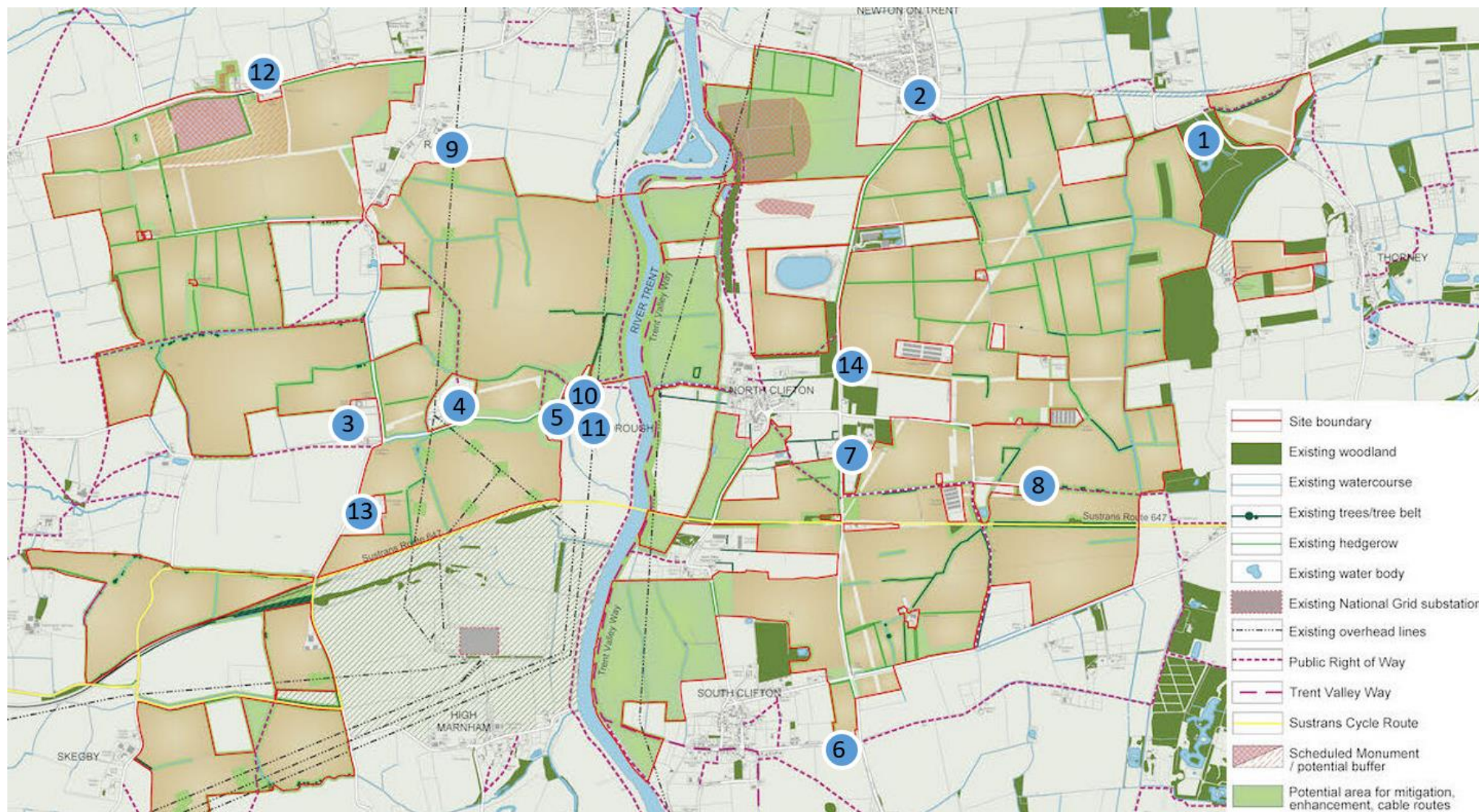


Figure 3.6: Map of site visits during non-statutory consultation

Table 3.7: Site visits during non-statutory consultation

Site Visit Number	Dates/ Times	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response	Change to Design
1	6 October 2023 4pm	- Concerned about fire risk during hot/dry summers - Concerned about potential damage to new water pipe - Concerned about construction noise - Concerned about impact on birds of prey - Would like the panels set back behind the strip to avoid visual impact/fire risk	There is no evidence that the panels would create a fire risk during hot periods. Potential impacts on noise and birds of prey will be assessed. As the requested set back is not viewable from the property, it is not being included at this time.	No
2	11 October 2023 11am	- Concerned about view from back garden (fence is low) - Worried about traffic/noise - Flood risk in area - Concern about theft/damage - Worried about impact to housing values.	Potential development in the field closest to the property has been removed, this field will be used for environmental enhancement.	Yes
3	11 October 2023 1pm	- Worried about view of fields from the house and fields as the topography slopes up - Concerned about traffic and noise on small roads	A setback has been included in the field directly to the east of the property. Traffic and noise will be assessed.	Yes
4	11 October 2023 2pm	Property is currently surrounded by panels, but the view from the front of the house is the most important	The existing setback to the south of the property has been extended further, to the top of the hill. The development in the field to the west of the property has been removed.	Yes

Site Visit Number	Dates/ Times	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response	Change to Design
		- There is a slight hill that could hide the panels - Request to retain the view of the viaduct		
5	12 October 2023 11:30am	- House is surrounded with trees, but has some view of open fields through gaps - Concerned about losing the views of open fields - Also concerned about wildlife: birds, badgers, and mink - Concerned that any new footpaths would bring more people near house	Impacts on wildlife will be assessed. The setback to the south of the property is being extended to preserve views.	Yes
6	19 October 2023 3pm	- Concerned about the EMF and health risks - Concerned about noise from inverters - Visual impact and glare from panels near house - Concerned about loss of best agricultural land	Both health and agricultural land classification will be assessed. However, this field and all the area near this property have been removed from the project boundary.	Yes
7	10 November 2023 12pm	- Currently hire a small field to keep their horses and want to keep it from the Proposed Development or we will need to address it - Concerned about construction timelines - Scale and cumulative impacts - Would like better access to Sustrans	An area near the property along this boundary has been removed from potential development and will be included as environmental enhancement. The area identified that they use for horses has already	Yes

Site Visit Number	Dates/ Times	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response	Change to Design
			been excluded from the project boundary.	
8	10 November 2023 1pm	• Very concerned about being surrounded and losing all views from the house and the approach • Worried about noise impacts • Like to see their neighbours to the north and to the south • Worried about impact to house values	A significant set back has been created around this property to reduce the feeling of being surrounded, potential impacts to house prices, and noise. This would allow the resident to maintain views to their northern neighbour.	Yes
9	11 November 2023 2:30pm	• Concerned about the view from the fields as there aren't any existing hedges or visual barriers • Want hedges planted now across north boundary so they have time to grow	This is not a primary view from a home, therefore this is not included at this time.	No
10	11 November 2023 12pm	• Most concerned about view from a particular bedroom • Hiring out rooms for income/worried about visual impact from house and approach • Concern about impact to tourism and local economy	The area around Fledborough and this home has been removed from the developable area and kept as environmental enhancement to protect the views from this home, and reduce potential impact to house prices and tourism.	Yes
11	11 November 2023 1pm	• Concerned about view towards bridge and from the footpath, the hill with the turbine	The area around Fledborough and this home has been removed from the developable area and kept as	Yes

Site Visit Number	Dates/ Times	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response	Change to Design
		- Trying to sell, worried about impact to house prices - Concerned about light pollution - Path to Sustrans/viaduct is not an official footpath	environmental enhancement to protect the views from this home, and reduce potential impact to house prices.	
12	11 November 2023 2pm	- Concerned about view from back garden - To the side, would like some set back	The setback around this home has been expanded to the south to the top of the hill and to the west to the existing setback around the scheduled monument.	Yes
13	11 November 2023 2:30pm	- Doesn't want hedges to screen panels, but wants to keep open views - Likes watching the seasons change and wildlife - Concerned about impact to food production - Likes the idea of the panels being set back past first field	The field to the east of the property has been removed from the potential development and will be included as environmental enhancement to protect the open view.	Yes
14	11 November 2023 3:30pm	- Most concerned about view from a particular bedroom and kitchen - Request for hedges behind the first field	A setback has already been included in the non-statutory design that would protect the views from the requested priority rooms. Landscaping will be considered	No

Meetings with stakeholders

- 3.4.10 The Applicant also offered to meet with elected representatives in the consultation area, including the host parish councils, district and county councillors and MPs, to provide more information about the Proposed Development and receive their feedback. Two meetings occurred in which the Applicant met with members from parish councils in the area as well as selected representatives from the community. These are detailed in **Table 3.8** below.

Table 3.8: Meetings with stakeholders during non-statutory consultation

Dates	Attended by	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response
19 October 2023	North Clifton, South Clifton and Thorney Parish Councils	- Applicant corporate structure - Availability of information during non-statutory consultation	- The Applicant provided clarity about its corporate and project structure. - The Applicant set out information about the planning process for NSIPs and how this related to the design stages for the Proposed Development.
9 November 2023	Dunham with Ragnall, Fledborough and Dalton Parish Council	- Applicant corporate structure - Availability of information during non-statutory consultation	

3.5 Responding to the non-statutory consultation

- 3.5.1 Respondents to the consultation were invited to complete a consultation questionnaire which included the following questions:

PART ONE – DRAFT MASTERPLAN

Q1: What local features do you think we need to consider in preparing our proposals for One Earth Solar Farm?

Q2: Do you have any other comments on our draft masterplan (see page 15) for One Earth Solar Farm?

PART TWO – ENHANCEMENTS AND MITIGATION

Q3: What do you value currently about the local environment?

Q4: What do you feel could be enhanced about the local environment?

Q5: What are the views and parts of the local landscape you most value?

Q6: Are there any new walking, cycling or riding routes we could provide through the project?

PART THREE – FUTURE ENGAGEMENT

Q7: Do you have any thoughts on benefits to the community and how we can support local initiatives?

Q8: Do you have any comments on what we should include in the next public consultation?

Q9: Do you have any other comments that you would like us to consider?

3.5.2 Copies of the questionnaire were available at the information events, in the access locations, or by request. Completed questionnaires could be returned in person at the information events, by freepost, or by email. A digital version was available through the project website.

3.5.3 Consultees could also submit written feedback by email to the Proposed Development inbox (info@oneearthsolarfarm.co.uk), by post to the freepost address: One Earth Solar Farm, Freepost SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL.

3.6 Feedback from the non-statutory consultation

3.6.1 During the consultation period, the Applicant received the following written feedback, shown in **Table 3.9** below:

Table 3.9: Analysis of feedback sources for non-statutory consultation

Feedback Source	Analysis Method	Document Reference
5 emails from organisations, including bodies which would later be statutory consultees	Analysed separately from community feedback	Table 3.10
42 questionnaires	Combined and analysed together as 'Community Feedback'	Table 3.11 and Appendix A-3
24 emails and letters from individuals		
Petition (391 responses)	Written statements are included with other 'Community Feedback'	Table 3.12 and Appendix A-3
	Statements from petitions were analysed separately	

Feedback Source	Analysis Method	Document Reference
462 total written submissions		

- 3.6.2 Following the non-statutory consultation, the Applicant analysed all of the responses received. All sources of community feedback, including emails, letters, questionnaires, and written statements in petitions have been aggregated together, summarised and grouped by topic.

3.6.3 Responses from groups and organisations were analysed separately from the community feedback and are included and summarised in **Table 3.10** below.

Table 3.10: Feedback from organisations for the non-statutory consultation

Organisation	Comments	Response
Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board	Guidelines on building near and crossing watercourses	These guidelines will be applied in the updated masterplan.
Environment Agency	Concerns raised about flood risk, river crossings, and land owned by the Environment Agency	This is considered in Chapter 7: Hydrology and Hydrogeology [EN010159/APP/6.7]
UK Health Security Agency	Request that applicant assess electromagnetic field (EMF) health impacts	Health impacts, including EMF, are assessed in Chapter 16: Human health [EN010159/APP/6.16] .
Forestry Commission	There are no ancient woodlands, but there are two woodlands which require access for management.	Access is maintained within the design of the Proposed Development as set out in the Works Plan [EN010159/APP/2.3] .
Nottinghamshire County Council	Assessments needed for traffic, minerals and waste, archaeology, ecology, heritage, public health	These are assessed in the Environmental Statement [EN010159/APP/6] .

3.6.4 Key themes from the community feedback are presented in **Table 3.11**. This table highlights the most common feedback received from the community through questionnaires and by email and letter (excluding feedback from the organisations and topics of the petition, which are covered in **Appendix A-3**).

Table 3.11: Key themes from community feedback

Comment	Frequency
Concerns about impact to agriculture and food security	39
Support for solar in other locations, including brownfields, rooftops, and other industrial land	33
Concern about the general visual impact to the countryside	26
Concern about impact to local housing values	23
Concern about how the Proposed Development could impact flooding in the area	20
Support for other energy options including wind, hydro, nuclear and tidal energy	18
The Proposed Development is too big	18
Confusion about why it was not possible for the Applicant to provide answers to some detailed questions due to the early stage of design, such as number of batteries, size/location/number of panels, etc	18

3.6.5 The detailed community feedback is presented in **Appendix A-3**. Codes have been applied to each item of feedback to protect personal information, which are included in the tables.

3.6.6 The Applicant also received 391 responses in a petition format, which included statements on various topics and asked the respondent to tick a box to agree with the statement. Those statements are summarised in **Table 3.12** below. Respondents also had the ability to write in additional comments, which have been included in **Appendix A-3** with the other feedback received by questionnaire, email and post.

Table 3.12: Statements included in the petition

Statements	Response
One Earth claimed to conduct door knocking, but not everyone in the community received a visit.	The door knocking was to contact people living assessed by the Applicant as living close to the Proposed Development's boundary. It would not be manageable or appropriate to knock on the doors all of the residents in the consultation zone.

Statements	Response
At the events, there was no one present from One Earth, PS Renewables, or Orsted and just a team of consultants.	Representatives of the Applicant's project team were present at non-statutory consultation events. The Applicant considered this feedback and arranged for representatives from the backers of One Earth Solar Farm Ltd, PS Renewables and Orsted, to attend the statutory consultation events.
They did not engage with our community enough to make an informed choice or for us to know with any details the nature of what they want us to agree to or comment on.	During the 6-week consultation period, there were numerous opportunities to learn about the initial proposals and provide feedback. More detail was made available for the statutory consultation, based on the iterative nature of the design of the Proposed Development.
We should build more solar panels on roofs of factory buildings, brown field sites and new homes before industrialising our great British countryside.	The starting point for the Applicant's site selection process was the grid connection at High Marnham, due to the decommissioning of the old coal power station at this location. New energy projects can only connect where there is capacity in the grid.
We need to protect UK food production.	The UK needs to balance both the need for food security and energy security, but it takes a very small amount of land (0.3%) to meet solar energy goals, which would have a negligible impact on food production. In fact, climate change is the biggest threat to agricultural production.
Offshore wind turbines will soon [produce enough energy] without the need to industrialise our agricultural countryside and landscapes.	Current energy policy calls for both the development of offshore wind and solar farms, which work well together. Meeting the UK's energy needs means using the grid connections that are available today, which includes the capacity at High Marnham.
Most of the solar panels will probably end up in land fill sites and this is not environmentally friendly or sustainable.	It is possible to recycle the majority of a solar panel now, and the recycling industry is expected to improve as more solar panels begin to reach their end of life. The Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (ODEMP) [EN010159/APP/7.6] includes a commitment to recycling components when the Proposed Development is decommissioning, including 100% of the solar panels

Statements	Response
Intrusions around family homes and despite promises and token gestures, wildlife and our nature can be harmed by these massive industrial developments.	The updated design includes significant setbacks around homes and villages that are near the project boundary. The impacts to wildlife are assessed in Chapter 6: Biodiversity [EN010159/APP/6.6] .
They are purchasing cheaper products from communist China who do not have good human rights records, oppress ethnic minorities and imprison human rights defenders.	The Applicant wishes to ensure the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development is undertaken pursuant to an ethical procurement policy and that this is a legal obligation on anyone who has the powers under the DCO. That would be achieved by securing the Outline Skills, Supply Chain and Employment Plan [EN010159/APP/7.8] by a requirement of the DCO. This includes a commitment to an Ethical Procurement Policy.
I object because of the risk of severe fires and the possible release of toxic chemicals.	The risk of fire from the battery units is very low, due to improvements in the technology, including internal sensors that would activate before a fire breaks out. Further information is set out in the Outline Battery Safety Management Plan (OBMSP) [EN010159/APP/7.11]

3.6.7 The petitions included the option for the respondent to identify their parish, which is shows the geographical reach of the petition, in which 71% respondents were from North or South Clifton as shown in **Table 3.13**.

Table 3.13: Geographic sources of petitions

Parish	Number	Percent of Total
Darlington	2	1%
Dunham	16	4%
Fledborough	28	7%
North Clifton	91	23%
Ragnall	27	7%
South Clifton	188	48%

Parish	Number	Percent of Total
Spalford	19	5%
Thorney	4	1%
Whimpton Moor	4	1%
None Listed	12	3%
Total	391	100%

3.7 Engagement with the Planning Inspectorate, including regard had to advice received under S51 of PA 2008

- 3.7.1 The Applicant has held regular meetings with the Planning Inspectorate throughout the pre-application stage since its Inception Meeting on 18 July 2023. The purpose of these meetings has been to provide updates on the Proposed Development and seek advice on aspects of the Application (detailed in **Appendix B-2**).
- 3.7.2 A summary of the advice given by the Planning Inspectorate during the pre-application stage ("s51 advice") and how the Applicant has had regard to it in preparing the Application is detailed in **Table 3.14** below.

Table 3.14: Summary of s51 advice given and regard had by the Applicant

Date	Advice	Regard had
19 June 2024	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to cross reference the responses from consultations with environmental bodies in the Consultation Report, providing evidence of the correspondence and agreements.	This is included in Appendices J-1 and J-2 .

Date	Advice	Regard had
19 June 2024	The Inspectorate advised that the earlier an Issues Tracker can be provided, the better this could assist to inform the pre-application discussions and directed the Applicant to the suggested template in the Pre-application Prospectus.	Given the stage of development that the Proposed Development was in at the time of the updated guidance, a public issues tracker was not provided. However, an issues tracker was included in the Programme Document, submitted in July 2024 and since updated and uploaded to the website. The Applicant updated the Inspectorate on the progress of the Potential Main Issues for Examination document, which has been submitted with the application.
6 November 2024	The Inspectorate advised submitting draft plans and related documents for review and providing any new redline boundary shapefile at least ten working days before the application.	The redline boundary shapefile was submitted at least 10 working dates before the application. The Applicant opted not to submit draft documents in advance of the submission.
6 November 2024	The Inspectorate advised that the Applicant must include all necessary information on pre-application consultation activities in the Consultation Report when submitting the DCO application. The Inspectorate has published guidance on the Consultation Report.	The consultation report is drafted following the updated guidance, which is detailed in Appendices L-1 and L-2 .
6 November 2024	The Inspectorate advised that GIS files must be submitted at least two weeks before submission to identify required Local Authority consultations. The Inspectorate advised that submission documents must clarify: Whether s42 consultees were consulted and notified of a 28-day response deadline.	The shapefile of the redline boundary was submitted 10 working days or 2 weeks before the submission. This includes the details of the s42 consultees and the required notices (section 6.2), clarification in the SOCC that it is an EIA development (Appendix D-1), demonstration that the application was publicised as required (chapter 6), and how the Applicant has met statutory requirements, guidance and advice (Appendices L-1 and L-2).

Date	Advice	Regard had
	• If the SoCC included the EIA status. • Whether the application was publicised as required. • The Applicant's regard for statutory guidance and any Inspectorate advice.	

3.8 Summary of changes after non-statutory consultation

3.8.1 After the non-statutory consultation, the Proposed Development was updated as shown on **Figure 3.7** to remove areas marked in dark green from the potential developable area or from the Order Limits altogether. To compensate for this loss in generating capacity, areas marked in dark blue were added to the project boundary. These changes were made in response to feedback from the community and other stakeholders, resulting in larger offsets around homes and between North and South Clifton, and Fledborough.

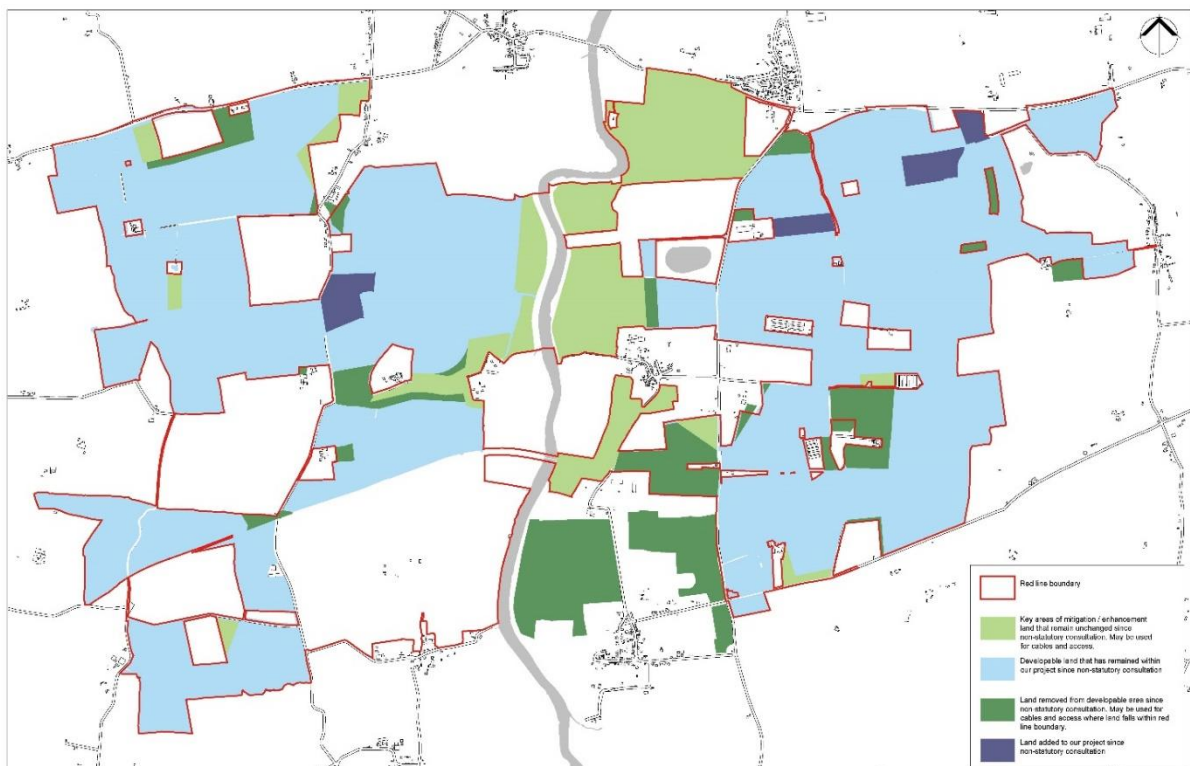


Figure 3.7 Summary of changes to project design after non-statutory consultation

4. EIA Scoping

- 4.1.1 On 10 November 2023, the Applicant submitted an EIA Scoping Report and a request for a Scoping Opinion to the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) under the provisions of the EIA Regulations. This described the scope and methodology for the technical studies proposed to provide an assessment of the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development and, where necessary, described suitable mitigation measures. It also described topics and sub-topics proposed to be scoped out of the EIA process, and the justification for doing so. The EIA Scoping Report was developed following consultation with a number of statutory consultees. Meetings that took place as part of this process are set out in more detail in the relevant topic chapters of the **Environmental Statement, Volume 2, Chapters 5-17 [EN010159/APP/6.1]**.
- 4.1.2 Following consultation with statutory bodies, the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) adopted a Scoping Opinion (see **Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 6.23: Scoping Opinion [EN010159/APP/6.23]**) on 22 December 2023. The Environmental Statement is based on the Scoping Opinion.
- 4.1.3 Key issues raised in the Scoping Opinion and the Applicant's response are set out in the **Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 6.23: Scoping Opinion [EN010159/APP/6.23]**. All issues have been considered during the EIA process.
- 4.1.4 Following the adoption of the Scoping Opinion, consultation was undertaken with relevant statutory consultees in the preparation of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) (see **Appendix K-1: Preliminary Environmental Information Report**) and has also been considered in the preparation of the Environmental Statement (including where required by the Scoping Opinion).
- 4.1.5 The Applicant additionally reviewed the list of consultees contacted by the Planning Inspectorate as part of its consultation on its Scoping Opinion to ensure that all organisations contacted by the Planning Inspectorate were included in subsequent consultation activity. All consultees included in Appendix 1 and 2 of the Scoping Opinion were consulted as part of Statutory Consultation.
- 4.1.6 The Applicant was not notified of any additional consultation bodies under Regulation 11(1)(c) of the EIA Regulations.
- 4.1.7 A copy of the Scoping Report is available in the **Environmental Statement, Volume 3, Appendix 6.23: Scoping Opinion [EN010159/APP/6.23]**.

5. Development of the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

5.1 Preparation of the SoCC

- 5.1.1 As prescribed by section 47(1) of the PA 2008, the Applicant prepared a SoCC setting out how it proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the proposed Site boundary. In accordance with section 47(2) of the PA 2008, the Applicant consulted each local authority within section 43(1) of the PA 2008 (i.e. the host authorities) on the contents of the SoCC.

5.2 Development of the SoCC

- 5.2.1 In preparing the draft SoCC, the Applicant considered best practice, guidance from the Planning Inspectorate, and feedback from the non-statutory consultation (see Chapter 3 of this Report).
- 5.2.2 Feedback from the host authorities helped to inform the development of the SoCC. The Applicant met with the host authorities on 8 February 2024 (Newark and Sherwood District Council) and 9 February 2024 (Lincolnshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council) to review the draft SoCC and hear preliminary feedback. It was agreed that the local authorities would have a period to review the draft document in advance of the formal 28-day consultation period. The covering email is included in **Appendix C-1.1**, and the draft SoCC is included in **Appendix C-1.2**.
- 5.2.3 The feedback from this initial informal consultation and the Applicant's response are included in **Appendix C-2**. Key changes that were made to the draft SOCC in response to the informal consultation included the addition of an event in South Clifton near the end of the consultation, as well as a number of clarifying points to the text.

5.3 Formal consultation on the draft SoCC

- 5.3.1 The Applicant consulted the host authorities on the draft SoCC from 5 April 2024 to 11:59pm on 3 May 2024, in accordance with section 47(3) of the PA 2008.
- 5.3.2 The Applicant's covering email is included at **Appendix C-3.1**: Emails inviting host authority feedback on the draft SoCC and a copy of the draft SoCC issued to the host authorities are included at **Appendix C-3.2**.
- 5.3.3 The Applicant had regard to the responses from the host authorities as required by section 47(5) of PA 2008 and then finalised the SoCC for publication.

5.3.4 A table listing the feedback received to the formal consultation and how the Applicant had regard to that feedback in preparing the final version of the SoCC is provided in **Appendix C-4**.

5.3.5 Key changes made in response to feedback from the host authorities included:

- > Adding an additional event towards the end of the consultation period
- > Adding an additional community access location at Bassetlaw District Council's office in Retford
- > Adding an additional webinar
- > Shifting the hours of one event further into the evening to accommodate individuals who work from 9am-5pm

5.4 Publication of the SoCC

5.4.1 The SoCC was published on 15 May 2024 (see **Appendix D-1**) and made available for inspection by the public free of charge in accordance with section 47(6) of the PA 2008 on the One Earth Solar Farm website (**Appendix D-3**) and by depositing printed copies at each location listed in **Table 5.1**. Printed copies of the SoCC were available to inspect at these locations from 15 May to 23 July 2024.

5.4.2 Printed copies of the SoCC were available on request free of charge from 15 May 2024 and could be requested using the Applicant's communication channels. No requests for hard copies of the SoCC were received.

Table 5.1: Community access locations to view the SOCC

Location	Opening Hours
South Clifton Sports Pavilion, South Clifton, Newark NG23 7AH	After 5:30pm on Friday
The Courtyard Tea Room, Collingham Rd, Newton on Trent, Lincoln LN1 2LL	9am - 4pm Tuesdays - Fridays
Saxilby Library, St Andrews Centre, William St, Saxilby LN1 2LP	10:30am - 4pm Tuesdays, 10:30am - 1pm Wednesdays - Fridays
St Helen's Church, Main Street, Thorney, Newark, NG23 7EU	11am - 4pm Sundays
Bassetlaw District Council, 17B The Square, Retford, DN22 6DB	9am - 5pm Mondays - Fridays

Location	Opening Hours
Bassetlaw District Council, Queens Buildings, Potter St, Worksop S80 2AH	9am - 5pm Mondays - Fridays
Newark and Sherwood District Council, Castle House, Great North Rd, Newark NG24 1BY	9am - 5pm Mondays - Fridays
West Lindsey District Council, Guildhall Marshall's Yard, Marshalls Yard, 13b Beaumont St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA	9am - 5pm Mondays – Fridays

- 5.4.3 The Applicant also publicised the SoCC's availability in a newspaper circulated in the vicinity of the land, as prescribed by section 47(6) of PA 2008.
- 5.4.4 The Applicant published a section 47 notice in the Lincolnshire Echo on 16 May 2024 and the Nottingham Post on 15 May 2024. These were chosen as they have the highest average circulation figure of local newspapers with a distribution area covering both zones of consultation. A copy of this notice as published, which confirms the name of the publication and the date it was published, is provided in **Appendix D-2**.
- 5.4.5 The publication of the SoCC was prior to the start of the Statutory Consultation. This involved:
- > Sending a letter to all addresses within Consultation Zone 1 on 15 May 2024 to publicise the availability of the SoCC and the upcoming consultation. It also included the times, dates and locations of the public events. A copy of this letter is included in **Appendix F-1**.
 - > Issuing a press release (**Appendix G-2.8**) on 15 May 2024 to publicise the availability of the SoCC and start of Statutory Consultation. The press release listed the times, dates and locations of the public events and was issued to the media outlets included in **Appendix G-2.8**.
- 5.4.6 The Applicant subsequently carried out local community consultation in accordance with the SoCC. The Applicant has listed the requirements of the SoCC, and how it has carried out the consultation in accordance with each requirement in **Appendix D-4: Compliance with the SoCC**. Details of activity carried out as part of the consultation can be found in Chapter 6 of this Report.

6. Statutory Consultation

6.1 Overview

- 6.1.1 The Applicant conducted a period of statutory consultation on the Proposed Development from 29 May to 23 July 2024.
- 6.1.2 The purpose of consultation was to seek the views of statutory consultees and the public on the updated proposals of the Proposed Development.
- 6.1.3 The Applicant conducted consultation under s42, s47 and s48 of the PA 2008 and Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations 2017 (REF 1) in parallel. This meant that all materials made available for consultation under s47 and s48 of the PA 2008 were available to consultees under s42 of the PA 2008 and Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations 2017 [REF 1].
- 6.1.4 The consultation was originally scheduled to take place from 29 May to 8 July 2024. However, due to the General Election, the consultation period was extended by the Applicant on a voluntary basis for a further two weeks to 23 July 2024 following discussion with the host authorities.
- 6.1.5 As the extension took place following the publication of the SoCC, the Applicant conducted additional publicity over and above that required to comply with the requirements of PA 2008.

6.2 Consultation under s42 of the PA 2008

- 6.2.1 S42 of the PA 2008 requires the Applicant to consult with the prescribed consultees under s42(1)(a), persons with an interest in the land and those who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim under s42(1)(d) and s44 and relevant local authorities under s42(1)(b).

Identification of consultees under s42(1)(a)

- 6.2.2 Prescribed consultees are defined in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations (REF-4). This also makes provision through a 'circumstances' test for whether there is a requirement to consult a specific party. **Appendix H-1** sets out each consultee prescribed in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations (REF-4), whether they were included in the consultation, and justification for that inclusion or exclusion, where relevant. Consultation with the Marine Management Organisation took place under s42(1)(a). Consultation was not undertaken with the Greater London Authority under s42(1)(c) given that the Proposed Development is outside of its administrative area. Regard was had to the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Three: EIA Notification and Consultation (REF-5) in identifying the consultation bodies. Updated regulations were published in April 2024 which expanded the

definition of 'relevant' to include both host and neighbouring entities, which were included for this process.

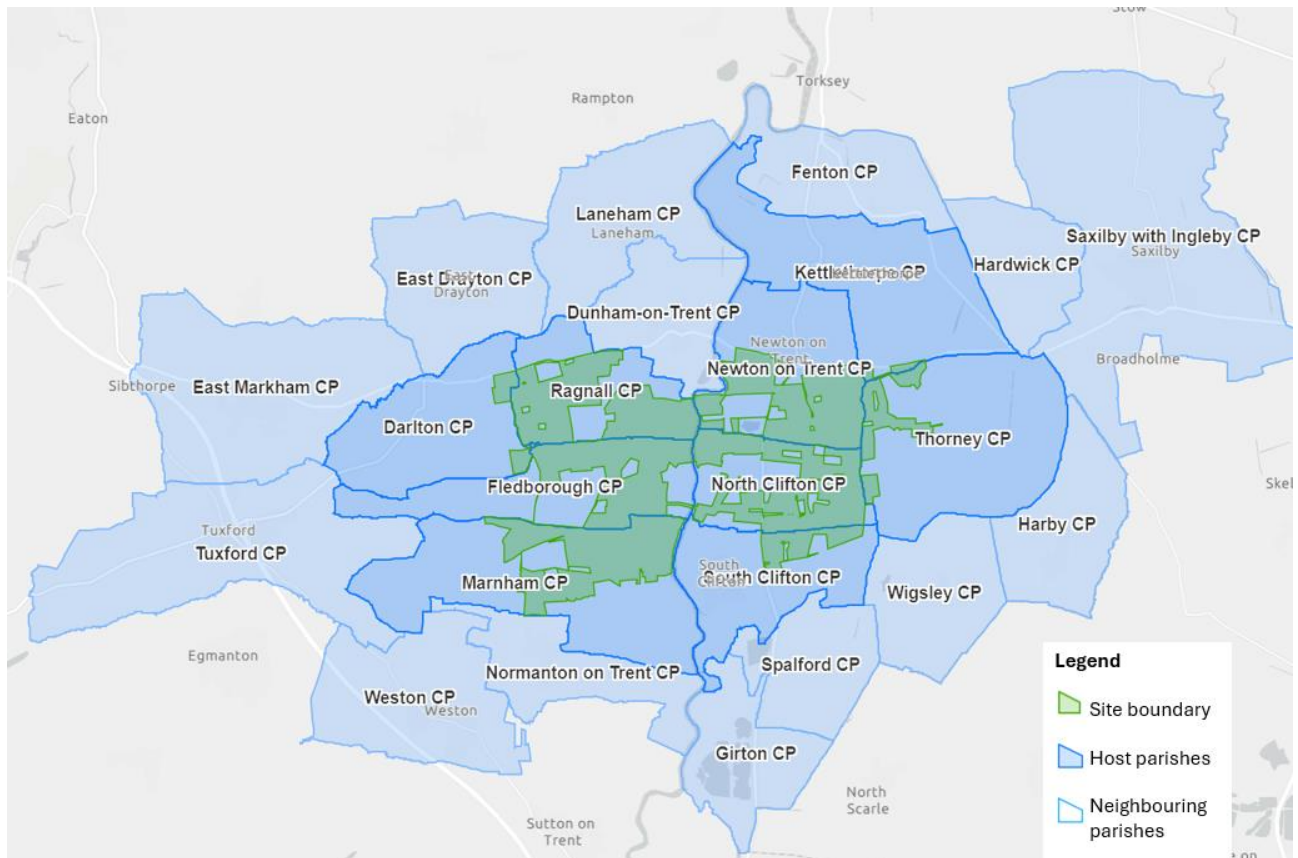


Figure 6.1: Map of relevant parish councils for the purposes of consultation under s42(1)(a)

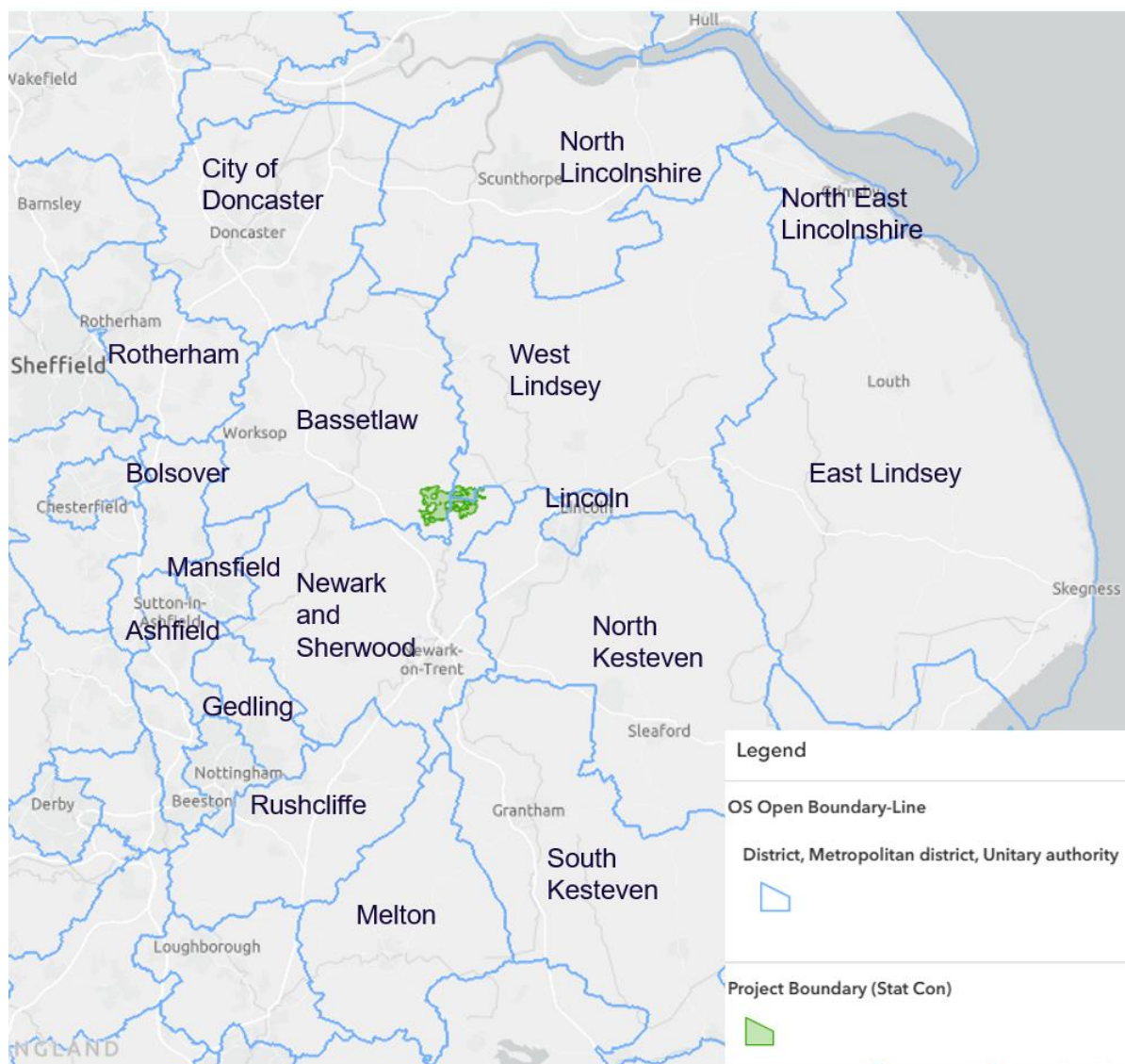


Figure 6.2: Map showing A and B local authorities for the purposes of consultation under s42(1)(b)



Figure 6.3: Map showing C and D local authorities for the purposes of consultation under s42(1)(b)

Identification of consultees under s42(1)(b)

- 6.2.3 S42(1)(b) of the PA2008 requires the Applicant to consult with the local authorities identified in s43 of the PA 2008, which sets out four categories of authority:
- > A is a neighbouring local authority (s43(2)) that shares a boundary with a unitary council or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated
 - > B is either a unitary council or a lower-tier district council in which the development is situated –a host local authority
 - > C is an upper-tier county council in which the development is situated –a host local authority
 - > D is either a unitary council or an upper tier county council which shares a boundary with a host 'C' authority –a neighbouring local authority (s43(2A))
- 6.2.4 Details of the identification of relevant local authorities, including whether they are an A, B, C or D authority, and the criteria for their identification, are included in **Table 6.1** and shown in **Figures 6.2 and 6.3**.

Table 6.1: Identification of consultees under s42(1)(b)

Name	A, B, C or D authority	Criteria for identification
Ashfield District Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.
Bassetlaw District Council	B	The project would be located within the boundaries of this district council.
Bolsover District Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.
Cambridgeshire County Council	D	This county council neighbours one of the host county councils.
City of Doncaster Council	A and D	This unitary authority neighbours a host district council and a host county council.
Derbyshire County Council	D	This county council neighbours one of the host county councils.
East Lindsay District Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.

Name	A, B, C or D authority	Criteria for identification
Gedling District Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.
Leicestershire County Council	D	This county council neighbours one of the host county councils.
City of Lincoln Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.
Lincolnshire County Council	C	The Proposed Development would be located within the boundaries of this county council.
Mansfield District Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.
Melton District Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.
Newark and Sherwood District Council	B	The Proposed Development would be located within the boundaries of this district council.
Norfolk County Council	D	This county council neighbours one of the host county councils.
North East Lincolnshire Council	A and D	This unitary authority neighbours a host district council and a host county council.
North Kesteven District Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.
North Lincolnshire Council	A and D	This unitary authority neighbours a host district council and a host county council.
North Northamptonshire Council	D	This unitary authority neighbours a host county council.
Nottinghamshire County Council	C	The project would be located within the boundaries of this county council.
Peterborough City Council	D	This unitary authority neighbours a host county council.

Name	A, B, C or D authority	Criteria for identification
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	A and D	This unitary authority neighbours a host district council and a host county council.
Rushcliffe District Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.
Rutland County Council	D	This unitary authority neighbours one of the host county councils.
South Kesteven District Council	A	This district council neighbours one of the host district councils.
South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority	A and D	Given that the South Yorkshire Combined Mayoral Authority exercises a strategic function for certain local authorities identified as A or D authorities, the Applicant treated it as an A and D authority.
West Lindsey District Council	B	The Proposed Development would be located within the boundaries of this district council.

Identification of consultees under s42(1)(d)

- 6.2.5 S42(1)(d) of the PA 2008 requires the Applicant to consult each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in s44 of the PA 2008 with respect to the Order limits. This requires the developer to consult with landowners, lessees, tenants or occupiers (Category 1 persons, as per s44(1)); those with an interest in the land or certain powers with respect to the land (Category 2 persons, s44(2)); and those who the Applicant thinks would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim under s44(4) (Category 3 persons).
- 6.2.6 Land referencers were appointed by the Applicant to complete the process of diligent inquiry prior to, throughout, and following Phase Two Consultation to identify relevant persons with an interest in land. The diligent inquiry process included the following methods described below and is set out in more detail in the **Statement of Reasons [EN010159/APP/4.1]**:

- > Title information: His Majesty's Land Registry ('HMLR') registers and title plans were used to identify all parties that fall into one or more of the categories set out in paragraph 5.4.7. Additional desktop activities were undertaken to validate the information, including using Royal Mail address finder, TracelQ and Companies House. HMLR spatial polygons and title plans were used to create geo-referenced landownership parcels which were given a unique reference number. Information extracted from Registers was recorded against the relevant landownership parcel on the secure Land Referencing database CONNECT. To ensure any new interests were identified, refreshes of HMLR Registers were conducted every six months, or at a significant milestone in the pre-application stage (e.g., Statutory Consultation), whichever came first.
- > Environmental Impact Assessment: As part of the preparation of the PEIR, the Applicant's environmental specialists and Land Referencing teams collaborated in identifying receptors potentially impacted by the Proposed Development with a view to understand whether there were any 'Category 3' persons who might have a 'relevant claim' as defined by section 44(6) of the PA 2008.
- > Land Interest Questionnaires ("LIQs"): HMLR Register information was further verified using LIQs. These were issued to all identified land interests, both within the Order Limits and those identified outside the Order Limits as potential Category 3 interests. The LIQs asked respondents to confirm that the information extracted from the HMLR Register was correct and provide additional information not publicly available e.g., tenancy agreements and informal rights of access. Where new interests were found, LIQs were issued and the process outlined above was followed to verify their details, supplemented by desktop referencing and the use of publicly available information. Where LIQs were not returned, contact was sought with interested parties through a variety of methods to confirm their land interest. This included LIQ reminder letters, phone calls and emails if the information was held on record. Where no contact information was held, site visits were conducted to speak to interested parties in person.
- > Unregistered site notices: Unregistered site notices were utilised to confirm the owners of unregistered land. Where land is unregistered under roads, ad medium filum has been assumed and the adjacent landowners included as subsoil interests.
- > The Applicant consulted with all parties identified under s42(1)(d) and s44 of the PA 2008 at that time. For the statutory consultation, there were 242 Category 1 and 2 consultees along with 5 consultees in Category 3. Sample letters for each category are included in **Appendix F.1**.
- > The Applicant continued to undertake diligent inquiry which led to two additional land interests being identified.
- > On 19 December 2024 the Applicant identified a new land interest. On 7 January, the Applicant wrote to them to inform them of the consultation. To enable the consultee sufficient time to consider the proposals, the Applicant provided 28 days to respond by 6 February 2025.

- > On 28 January 2025, the Applicant identified another new land interest. Due to the short amount of time before submitting the application, the Applicant was not able to consult with and take account of any feedback from this stakeholder. Therefore, the Applicant contacted them to provide information about how they could take part in the upcoming examination stage.

6.2.7 A list of land interests consulted (noting their interest in the land) during the statutory consultation is provided in the Book of Reference [EN010159/APP/4.3].

Consultation under s42 of the PA 2008

6.2.8 The Applicant wrote to all consultees identified under s42 of the PA 2008 to notify them of the consultation.

6.2.9 The Applicant wrote by first class post to consultees under s42(1)(a), s42(1)(b), and s42(1)(d) of the PA 2008 on 15 May 2024, setting out the background to the Proposed Development, the Applicant's intention to submit a DCO application, the fact that the Applicant had identified them as a consultee under s42(1)(a), s42(1)(b), or s42(1)(d) of the PA 2008, the documents being provided as part of the consultation, and how to respond to the consultation.

6.2.10 On 17 June 2024 the Applicant wrote to the same list of s42(1)(a) and s42(1)(b), and s42(1)(d) consultees to provide details of the voluntary extension to the consultation set out at 6.1.4 and 6.1.5.

6.2.11 Within the letter sent on 15 May 2024 and the letter sent on 17 June 2024, the Applicant included a link to its website, where the consultees could find a copy of consultation materials including a consultation booklet, the masterplan, the PEIR, the SoCC, and a link to a consultation questionnaire, the list of community access locations where the hard copies could be found to view, the details for attending public information event, and details of how to respond to the consultation.

6.2.12 The letter also confirmed that these documents, alongside the PEIR and its non-technical summary, were available electronically on a website maintained by the Applicant, and the website address was provided.

6.2.13 A notice of the proposed application which was publicised in accordance with s48 of the PA 2008 and the requirements set out in Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations [REF-1] was also provided to consultation bodies as required by Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations 2017 [REF-2]. This notice was included as an attachment to both the 15 May 2024 and 17 June 2024 letters to s42(1)(a) and s42(1)(b), and s42(1)(d) consultees. The s42(1)(d) consultees also received a map showing the project boundary.

6.2.14 The relevant parish councils as shown in Figure 6.1 were contacted by email and first-class post with a similar letter, as well as an invitation to meet during the statutory consultation period.

- 6.2.15 Copies of the letters sent to consultees under s42 of the PA 2008 are included in **Appendix F-1**.
- 6.2.16 All of the letters and emails were delivered without any bounce-backs or failed deliveries. However, the Applicant was alerted that the contact addresses for one of the relevant parish councils – Gorton Parish Council – was no longer correct. On 1 July 2024, the Applicant forwarded the notice to the correct email address. On 9 July 2024, the Applicant sent a follow-up email to confirm that the deadline to submit comments for them would be extended to 29 July 2024. The Applicant sought confirmation that this would provide sufficient time for the consultee to respond but did not receive any further feedback from the consultee.

Notification under s46

- 6.2.17 Pursuant to s46 of the PA 2008, the Applicant must send the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) the s42 consultation documents on or before commencing the s42 consultation. The Applicant wrote to the Planning Inspectorate on 21 May 2024 to provide this notification and 18 June 2024 to advise of the extension to the consultation period.
- 6.2.18 The notification provided on 21 May 2024 and again on 18 June 2024 included the consultation documents listed above electronically via a link to the Applicant's website and a covering letter. These are included in **Appendix G-1.1**.
- 6.2.19 The Applicant received an acknowledgement of the receipt of its notification under s46 of the PA 2008 from the Planning Inspectorate on 22 May 2024 (**Appendix G-1.2**).

Community consultation under s47 of the PA 2008

- 6.2.20 The Applicant consulted with the local community in accordance with the SoCC provided in **Appendix D-1**, as prescribed by s47(7) of the PA 2008. Full details of compliance with the SoCC are included in **Appendix D-4**.
- 6.2.21 For the purposes of community consultation, the Applicant defined two zones of consultation:
- > Zone 1: Core Consultation Zone: An area that included around 2,140 addresses which was drawn 2km from the Proposed Development boundary and then expanded further to ensure parts of communities were not excluded. Being in close proximity to the Proposed Development, this zone was selected as the group of homes and businesses that would have the greater interest in the project (**Figure 6.4**).
 - > Zone 2: The Broader Area: which is defined as the host districts of Newark and Sherwood, West Lindsey and Bassetlaw District Councils.

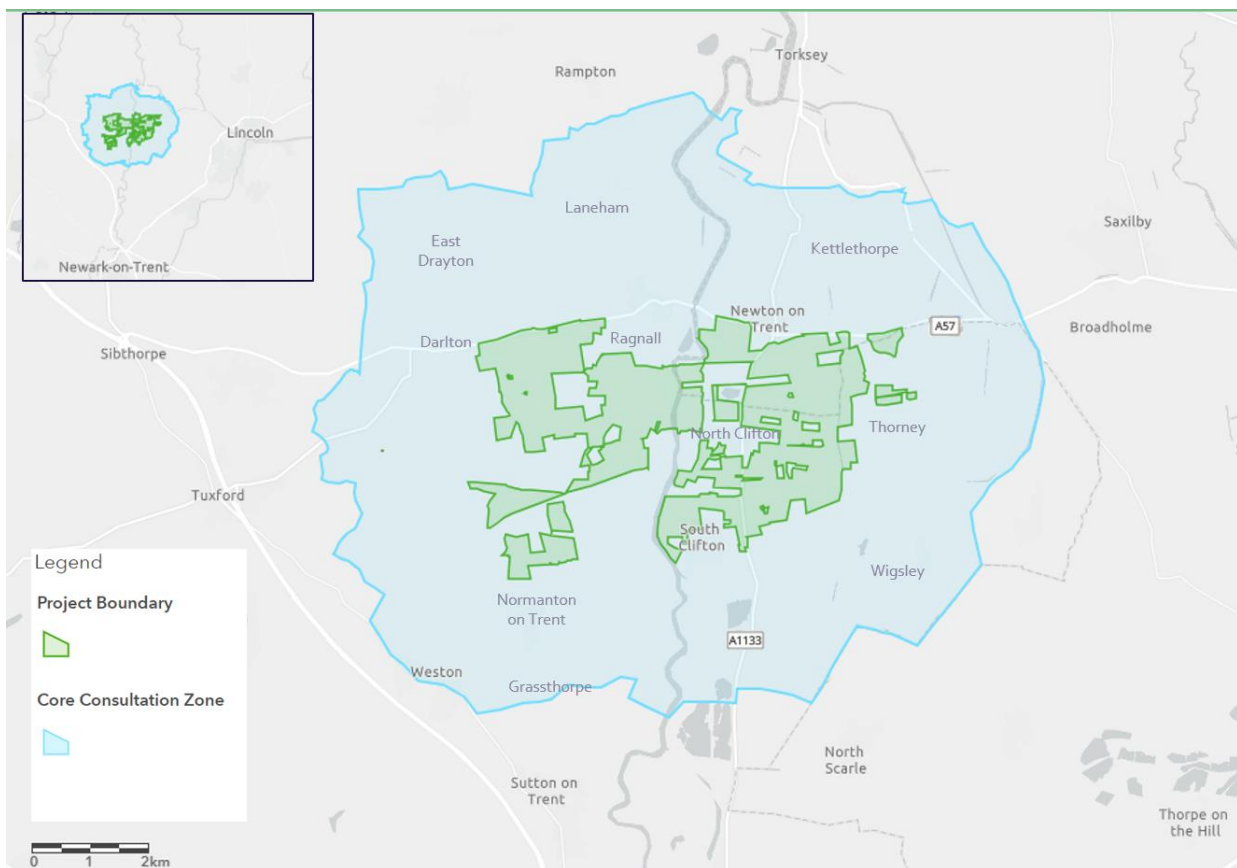


Figure 6.4: Map of Consultation Zone 1 for statutory consultation

6.2.22 To ensure that local residents and other interested parties were aware of the consultation and how they could take part, the Applicant publicised the consultation through several methods. These are summarised in **Table 6.2**.

Table 6.2: Publicity and notification of statutory consultation

Date	Event
13 May 2024	SOCC delivered to community access locations
15 May 2024	- S42 notices sent to prescribed consultees, local authorities and persons with a land interest - S47 notice published in Nottinghamshire Post (Zone 2) - SOCC published to website - Letter sent to addresses in Zone 1 (Appendix G-2.1) - Letter sent to community groups and emails sent to elected officials - Press release sent to media in Zone 2 (Appendix G-2.8) - Posters in local information points and advertisements on Facebook (Appendix G-2.8)
16 May 2024	S47 Notice published in Lincolnshire Echo (zone 2)
21 May 2024	S46 notice sent to PINS
29 May 2024	- S48 notice in Nottinghamshire Post (1st week), London Gazette and Guardian (zone 2) - Website updated with consultation materials - Leaflet sent to community in Zone 1 (Appendix G-2.3) - Email sent to parish councils in Zone 1
30 May 2024	S48 Notice published in Lincolnshire Echo (1st week)
5 June 2024	S48 notice in Nottinghamshire Post (2nd week)
6 June 2024	S48 Notice published in Lincolnshire Echo (2nd week)
17 June 2024	Due to the extension of the consultation period: - S42 notices sent to prescribed consultees, local authorities and persons with a land interest - S48 notice published in the Guardian - Letters sent to community groups and elected officials
18 June 2024	- S48 Notice in Nottinghamshire Post (1st week) - S46 notice sent to PINS
19 June 2024	- Letter sent to addresses in Zone 1 (Appendix G-2.2) - Press release sent to media in Zone 2 - Email sent to parish councils - S48 notice published in London Gazette
20 June 2024	S48 notice published in Lincolnshire Echo (1st week)
25 June 2024	S48 Notice in Nottinghamshire Post (2nd week)

Date	Event
27 June 2024	S48 Notice in Lincolnshire Echo (2nd week)

Consultation materials

6.2.23 The Applicant made the following materials available as part of consultation with the local community:

- > A consultation booklet providing a non-technical overview of the Proposed Development, the EIA process, the consultation and planning process, and proposed next steps (Appendix G-2.4)
- > The PEIR and accompanying Non Technical Summary (Appendix K)
- > Pop-up banners that described the Proposed Development, changes from the non-statutory consultation, and development process (Appendix G-2.7)
- > A virtual exhibition showing the same pop-up banners in a digital format available on the Applicant's website
- > The SoCC, which set out the Applicant's approach to consulting with the community (Appendix D)
- > An updated masterplan (Appendix G-2.5)
- > A 3D model depicting the Proposed Development which was available at the public information events and as a video on the Applicant's website.

6.2.24 All materials were available on the project website to download for free. Printed copies of the booklet, project masterplan and questionnaire as well as a USB containing the PEIR were also available for free upon request. There were several requests for the USB with all consultation materials, which were completed by first-class post. As explained in the SOCC, materials were also available in alternative formats upon request, but there were no requests received.

Collection of responses

6.2.25 To capture participants' feedback, the Applicant produced a consultation questionnaire inviting comments on the different elements of the Proposed Development. The questionnaire was made available online at the project website. Printed copies were also provided at the public exhibition events, the community access locations and by request. (Appendix G-2.6)

6.2.26 The questionnaire asked the following questions:

- > Overall, to what extent would you say these updates are an improvement to the proposed design of One Earth Solar Farm? (0-10 SCALE: 'Not improvement at all' to 'A great improvement') Please specify why you chose this number on the scale.

- > To what extent do you think our proposed environmental mitigation and enhancement measures address the environmental impacts to the surrounding areas identified by the EIA assessment? (0-10 SCALE: 'Does not address environmental impacts in the EIA at all' to 'Fully addresses environmental impacts in the EIA')
- > Do you have any specific concerns related to the following environmental topics identified by the EIA assessment for One Earth Solar Farm? Please select all that apply:
 - Biodiversity
 - Hydrology and Hydrogeology
 - Landscape and Visual
 - Land and Soils
 - Air Quality
 - Carbon and Climate Change
 - No specific concerns related to the environmental topics
- > Please specify any environmental concerns that you have, if any.
- > To what extent do you think our proposed construction, operation, and decommissioning management plans address the construction impacts to the surrounding areas identified by the EIA assessment? (0-10 SCALE: 'Does not address construction impacts in the EIA at all' to 'Fully addresses construction impacts in the EIA')
- > Do you have any specific concerns related to the following construction topics identified by the EIA assessment for One Earth Solar Farm? Please select all that apply:
 - Buried Heritage
 - Cultural Heritage
 - Transport and Access
 - Noise and Vibration
 - Human Health
 - Socio-Economics
 - No specific concerns related to the construction topics
- > Please specify any concerns that you have about construction, operation or decommissioning, if any.
- > To help us understand where this funding is best used, please select the top two things you would like to see in a community benefits package:
 - A Community fund, to fund projects that support the local community

- Reduced energy bills for the local community
 - A new jobs and skills programme, in partnership with a local educational organisation, to support skills development in the local community
 - A research and development opportunity, in partnership with a local educational organisation, to provide space and resources for research
- > Do you have any other ideas or comments on what you would like to see in a community benefits package?
- > Do you have any final thoughts, comments, or other feedback on One Earth Solar Farm that you would like to provide?

6.2.27 Consultees were able to submit their written feedback by:

- > Completing the questionnaire online at the project website
- > Completing a printed questionnaire and returning to the Freepost address (One Earth Solar Farm, Freepost SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL)
- > Emailing the project inbox (Info@oneearth solar farm.co.uk)
- > Writing to the same Freepost address

6.2.28 Through the SoCC, the Applicant offered that anyone who was unable to provide written feedback could provide their verbal feedback for transcription, however, no one requested this service.

6.2.29 Throughout the consultation, the Applicant maintained several communications channels for enquiries. These included:

- > a Freephone number (0800 169 6507) which was answered between the hours of 9am-5pm on weekdays and included a voicemail option;
- > an email address (info@oneearth solar farm.co.uk); and,
- > a Freepost address (One Earth Solar Farm, Freepost SEC NEWGATE UK LOCAL)

Community access locations

6.2.30 The community access locations were selected to be accessible both to individuals living near the Site (Zone 1) and individuals in the broader area (Zone 2). There were four locations near the Proposed Development, and an additional four in the district council offices. These are the same locations used during the non-statutory consultation, with the addition of Retford, which was added at the request of local authorities during the development of the SoCC. See **Figure 6.5** and **Table 6.3**.

- 6.2.31 The community access locations included copies of the SoCC, the consultation booklet and the consultation questionnaire to take away, as well as one copy of the PEIR to view.

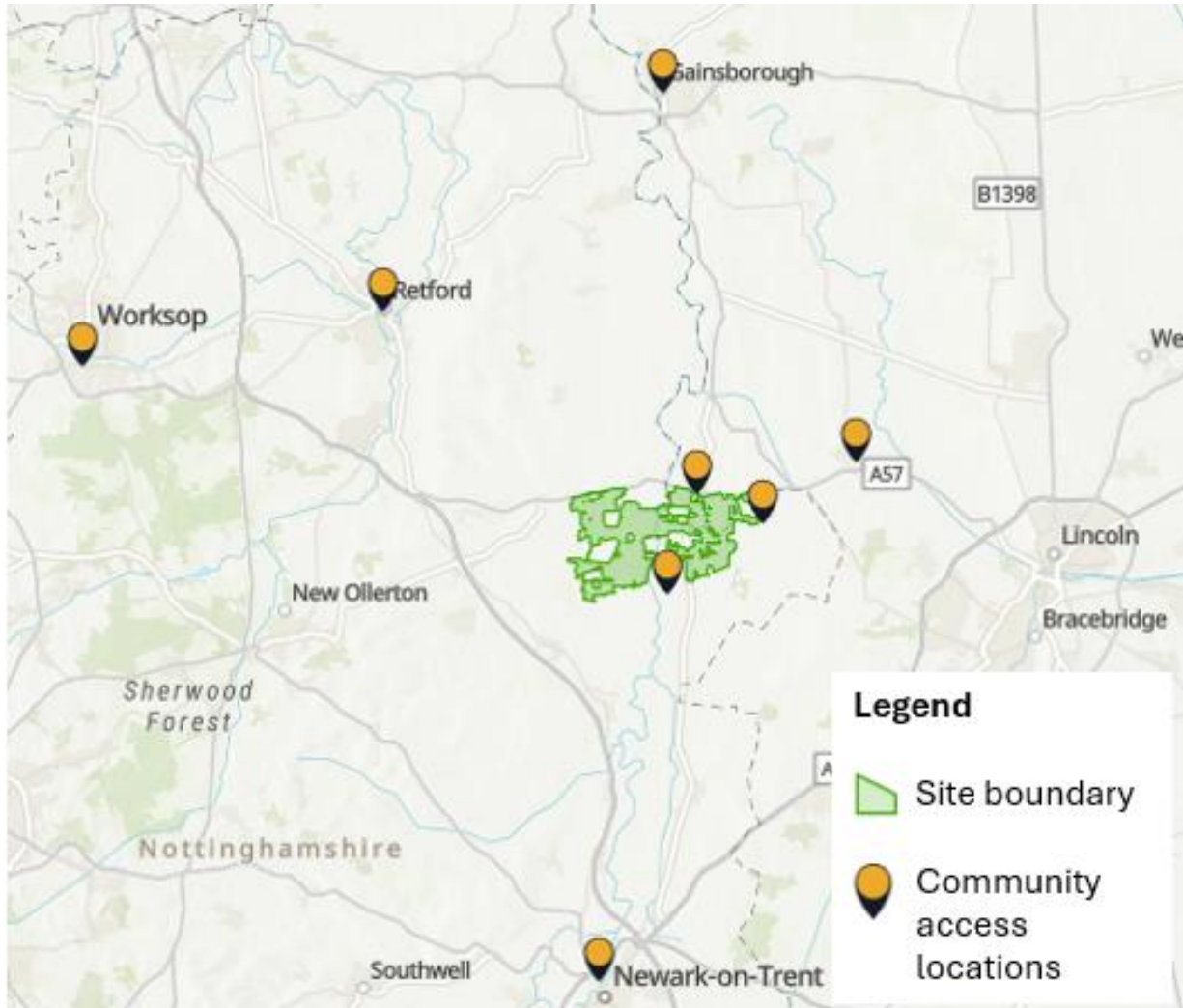


Figure 6.5: Map of community access locations for statutory consultation

Table 6.3: Community access locations for statutory consultation

Locations
South Clifton Sports Pavilion, South Clifton, Newark NG23 7AH
The Courtyard Tea Room, Collingham Rd, Newton on Trent, Lincoln LN1 2LL
Saxilby Library, St Andrews Centre, William St, Saxilby LN1 2LP
St Helen's Church, Main Street, Thorney, Newark, NG23 7EU
Bassetlaw District Council, 17B The Square, Retford, Notts, DN22 6DB
Bassetlaw District Council, Queens Buildings, Potter St, Worksop S80 2AH
Newark and Sherwood District Council, Castle House, Great North Rd, Newark NG24 1BY
West Lindsey District Council, Guildhall Marshall's Yard, Marshalls Yard, 13b Beaumont St, Gainsborough DN21 2NA

Public information events

- 6.2.32 The Applicant hosted several public information events during the consultation period. The purpose of these events was to present information about the Proposed Development through information boards, booklets, copies of the SoCC, the PEIR, and by asking questions of the project team. The locations of the events are shown in **Figure 6.7** and listed in **Table 6.4** below.
- 6.2.33 The events were organised to be as accessible as possible for the public by:
- > Occurring at various times of day and days of the week to accommodate various work/life schedules
 - > Being located at various locations on either side of the River Trent within Consultation Zone 1
 - > Using accessible venues with sufficient capacity to accommodate the anticipated number of attendees
 - > Including two webinars in the consultation programme to accommodate parties who could not attend in person
 - > Including a virtual exhibition on the Applicant's website that could be viewed at any point during the consultation period



Figure 6.6: Photo of the consultation event at South Clifton Coronation Hall, 12 June 2024

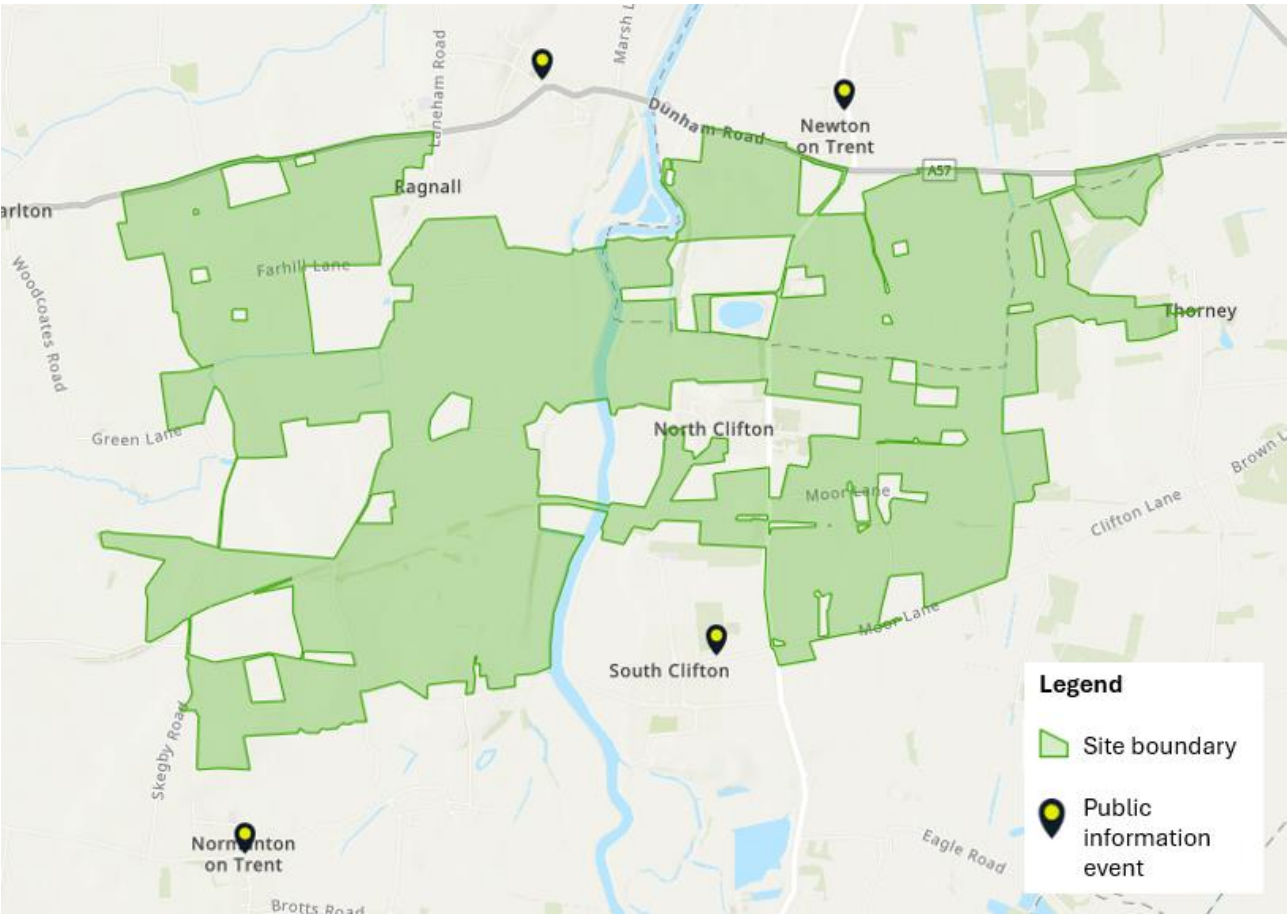


Figure 6.7: Map showing locations of public information events during the statutory consultation

Table 6.4: Statutory Consultation public information events

Date	Location	Public Attendance
Friday, 7 June 2024 2 - 6 pm	Dunham on Trent Village Hall, Dunham NG22 0FJ	44
Saturday, 8 June 2024 12 - 4 pm	St Peters Church Newton on Trent, Lincoln LN1 2JS	16
Wednesday, 12 June 2024 2 - 6 pm	South Clifton Coronation Hall South Clifton, NG23 7AN	49
Thursday, 13 June 2024 12 - 4 pm	Normanton Village Hall Normanton on Trent	17
Tuesday, 18 June 2024 6 - 7 pm	Webinar	1
Saturday, 29 June 2024 12 - 4 pm	South Clifton Coronation Hall South Clifton, NG23 7AN	77
Wednesday, 3 July 2024 6 - 7pm	Webinar	6
	Total Attendance	210

Site visits

- 6.2.34 During the non-statutory consultation period, the Applicant conducted site visits to properties that were located particularly close to the Proposed Development (see **Table 3.7**). During the statutory consultation period, the Applicant conducted a second round of site visits these same properties to explain how their feedback from the first consultation had resulted in changes to the project design, and to receive any feedback on the updated proposals. The Applicant also visited a number of properties not visited during the non-statutory consultation.
- 6.2.35 These visits were offered to anyone who had already been visited during the non-statutory consultation (see **Table 3.7**), or any additional residents who contacted the Applicant and stated that they lived particularly close to the Proposed Development. Twenty properties received site visits. If the resident requested a change to the design, it is marked in green on the map shown in **Figure 6.8**, and the Applicant's response is detailed in the corresponding **Table 6.5**. The last of these visits took place after the end of the consultation period but has been included for completeness. Many of the residents also submitted written feedback after the site visit to confirm their feedback.

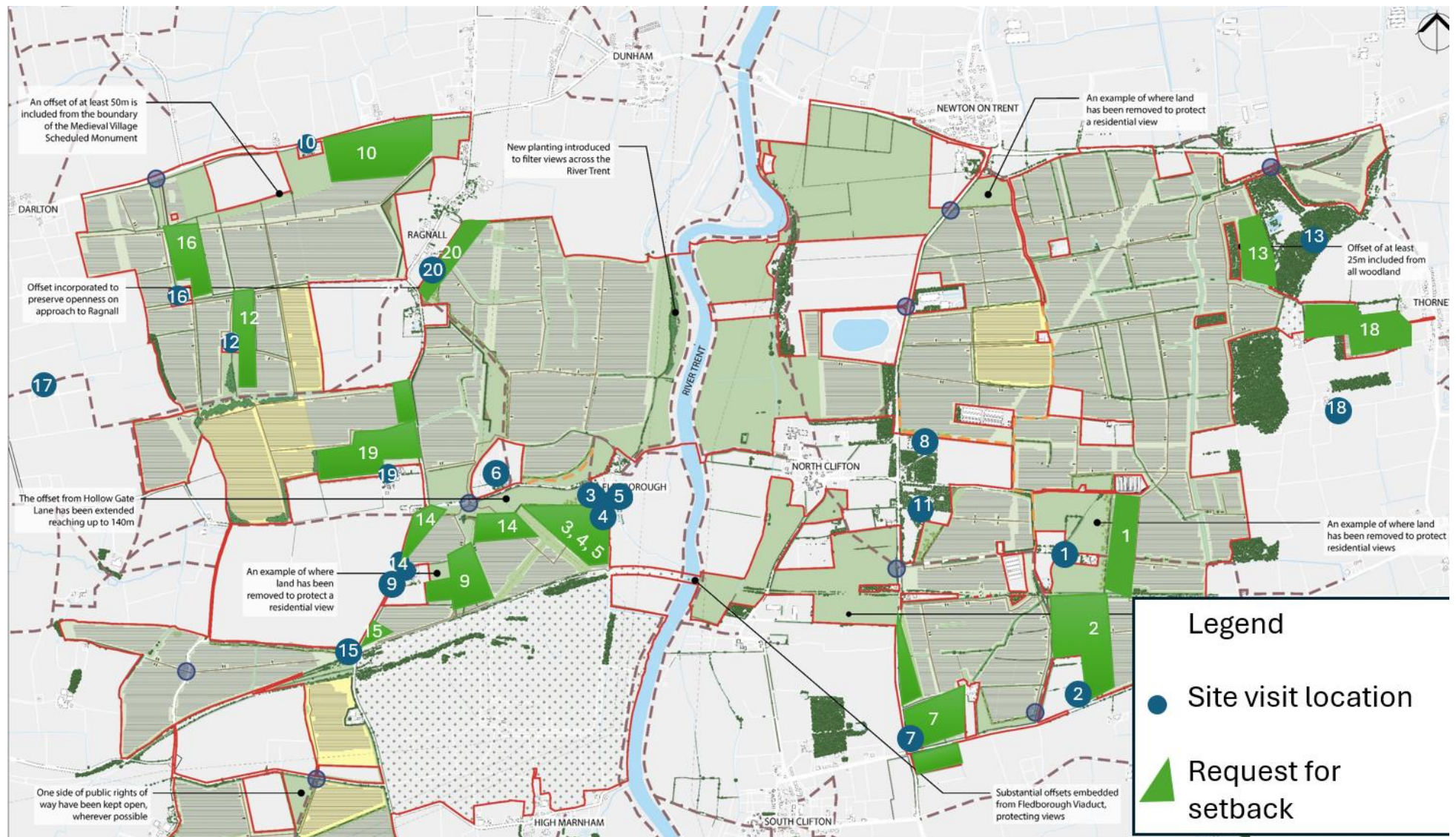


Figure 6.8: Map of site visits during Statutory Consultation

Table 6.5: Site visits during statutory consultation

Site Visit Number	Date and Time	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response	Design Change
1	4 June 2024 11am	-Concern about visual impact, particularly from northeast facing window on second floor -Request to move panels further to the east, and replace with field to the north on access	As requested, the Applicant has shifted the solar panels that were to the east of the property to the field on the north to protect the key viewpoint.	Yes
2	4 June 2024 12pm	-Concern about visual impact to the east and north, lack of hedgerows along east boundary -Request to remove panels in field to the east -Concerns about impacts of racing vehicles in their garden which can throw rocks across to the adjacent field and break panels	The request was included in part, removing all solar panels from the field to the east of the property and extending the setback to the north.	Yes
3	4 June 2024 2pm	-Concern about visual impact when trees lose leaves in the winter -Concern about impacts to birds and other wildlife during construction and operation - Request to remove panels between Fledborough and the viaduct	This request has been included, removing panels between Fledborough and the viaduct as well as along the road into Fledborough.	Yes
4	4 June 2024 2pm	-Request to remove panels between Fledborough Manor and Fledborough Farm, related to their historic connection to each other and village of Fledborough -Request to remove panels between Fledborough and the viaduct		

Site Visit Number	Date and Time	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response	Design Change
5	4 June 2024 3pm	-Requests to remove panels between Fledborough and the viaduct Concerns about visual impact to property		
6	4 June 2024 4pm	-Statements of appreciation for the changes made from the non-statutory design, -Request for further offsets around Fledborough and Dunham	Though this site visit did not include any specific requests for changes to the project design, offsets were made around Fledborough and Dunham.	Yes
7	7 June 2024 11am	-Concerns about visual impact around property, which is surrounded with trees and a garden which is well used all year -Request to remove panels to the north and east of property, as well as the small field to the south -Concerns about traffic impacts around construction access	This request was included in part, the offset around the property has been extended to the north and east.	Yes
8	7 June 2024 12pm	-Concerns about visual impact around property, particularly to the north -Concerns about impacts on bridlepaths and interest in creating a new option to access the Sustrans from North Clifton	The panels have been set back to the north of the property.	Yes

Site Visit Number	Date and Time	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response	Design Change
9	7 June 2024 1pm	-Concern about visual impact to the east -Request to remove panels to the east and north of property	This request has been included in part, the panels have been setback from the field to the east of the property.	Yes
10	7 June 1:30pm	-Concern about visual impact to the east of the property -Request to remove the field to the east	The setback around this property is already significant.	No
11	7 June 2024 2pm	-Discussions around their plans for future development around their home and whether it could be permitted on the buffer around their home within the project boundary	This discussion is outside of the scope of the project, and to be continued with the landowner.	No
12	12 June 2024 10:30am	-Concerns about visual impact along the access road to the property -Concerns about views from the property, to the north and the sweeping views to the south	This request was included, creating a set back to the north, south, and east of the property.	Yes
13	12 June 2024 11am	-Concerns about wildlife which live in the nearby woods and cross fields to access their property -Concerns about visual impact of field to the west of the property -Concerns around fire and health	This request was included in part, creating a setback from the field access point and allowing the creation of a corridor for wildlife between the nearby woods.	Yes

Site Visit Number	Date and Time	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response	Design Change
14	12 June 2024 12pm	-Concerns about visual impact to the east towards Fledborough and view of the river -Request to remove panels between Fledborough Manor and Fledborough House	This request was included in part. The panels have been set back from the road and along the view towards Fledborough.	
15	13 June 2024 4pm	Request to remove panels around home to create a sense of openness	This request has been included, and panels have been set back from the property towards the north and east.	Yes
16	13 June 2024 4:30pm	-Concern about visual impact all around house, particularly the field to the north -Concern about safety issues and risk of attracting thieves to the area	This request has been included, providing a setback to the north and east of the property. Concerns about security have been noted, and security is addressed in the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010159/APP/7.4] .	Yes
17	25 June 2024 4:30pm	-Concern about exacerbating existing flooding -Concern about noise impacts during construction on horses -Request to phase construction to minimise impacts to her horse breeding season	Flooding is considered in Chapter 7- Hydrology and Hydrogeology [EN010159/APP/6.7] , and noise is considered in Chapter 15- Noise and Vibration [EN010159/APP/6.15] . The final Construction Traffic Management Plan will address phased construction.	No

Site Visit Number	Date and Time	Key Issues Raised	Applicant Response	Design Change
18	25 June 2024 5:30pm	-Concern about visual impacts on road to access home -Request to remove all fields around Thorney	The fields around Thorney have been removed.	Yes
19	10 July 2024 4pm	-Concern about visual impact of field to the north of the property. This is a horse-riding area used by members of the community which is elevated. -Request to remove fields to the north and west of property.	This request has been included in part. The field directly north and west of the property has been removed from the developable area.	Yes
20	11 September 2024 3pm	-Concern about visual impact from the edge of their garden -Request to remove panels around Ragnall	This request has been included, providing a setback from all properties in Ragnall to the east.	Yes

Meetings with parish councils

- 6.2.36 On 15 May 2024, the Applicant wrote to the relevant parish councils to offer a meeting during the statutory consultation. The Applicant scheduled meetings to reflect the availability of those parish councils which did wish to meet (see **Table 6.6**). One meeting occurred after the consultation period had ended due to difficulty in scheduling. It is included here because the meeting was meant to occur during the consultation, and it was agreed that the Applicant would consider feedback from or following on from the meeting alongside feedback from the statutory consultation. Their questions and the Applicant's responses are included in **Appendix G-2.9**.

Table 6.6: Meetings with parish councils during statutory consultation

Date	Location	Parish Councils
25 June 2024	Dunham Village Hall	Dunham with Ragnall, Fledborough and Darlton Parish Council (Dunham)
10 July 2024	South Clifton Sports Hall	South Clifton Parish Council
1 August 2024	South Clifton Coronation Hall	North Clifton Parish Meeting, South Clifton Parish Council

- 6.2.37 The meetings with Dunham and South Clifton parish councils were structured as both a question-and-answer session and a design workshop to provide detailed feedback on the project masterplan, which had been agreed in advance. As such, both councils provided written feedback in the form of markups to the masterplan which they submitted as their written feedback. These maps are included as **Figures 6.9** and **6.10** below. **Figure 6.9** shows the feedback in blue text boxes with arrows to indicate the location of the item, while **Figure 6.10** shows the areas that were requested to have panels removed in green. Each figure has numbered items, which correspond to **Tables 6.7** and **6.8**, which also provide the Applicant response and indicates where the Applicant made a change to the Proposed Development in response to the feedback.
- 6.2.38 The meeting with North Clifton Parish Meeting and South Clifton Parish Council on 1 August was formatted as a question-and-answer session. After the meeting, North Clifton Parish Meeting and South Clifton Parish submitted a list of detailed questions regarding the PEIR. These questions and the responses to them are included in **Appendix J-2**.
- 6.2.39 Dunham, South Clifton, Saxilby and Thorney Parish councils also submitted written feedback by email, which is considered in Chapter 7 and **Appendix J-1** alongside other responses from prescribed consultees to the statutory consultation.

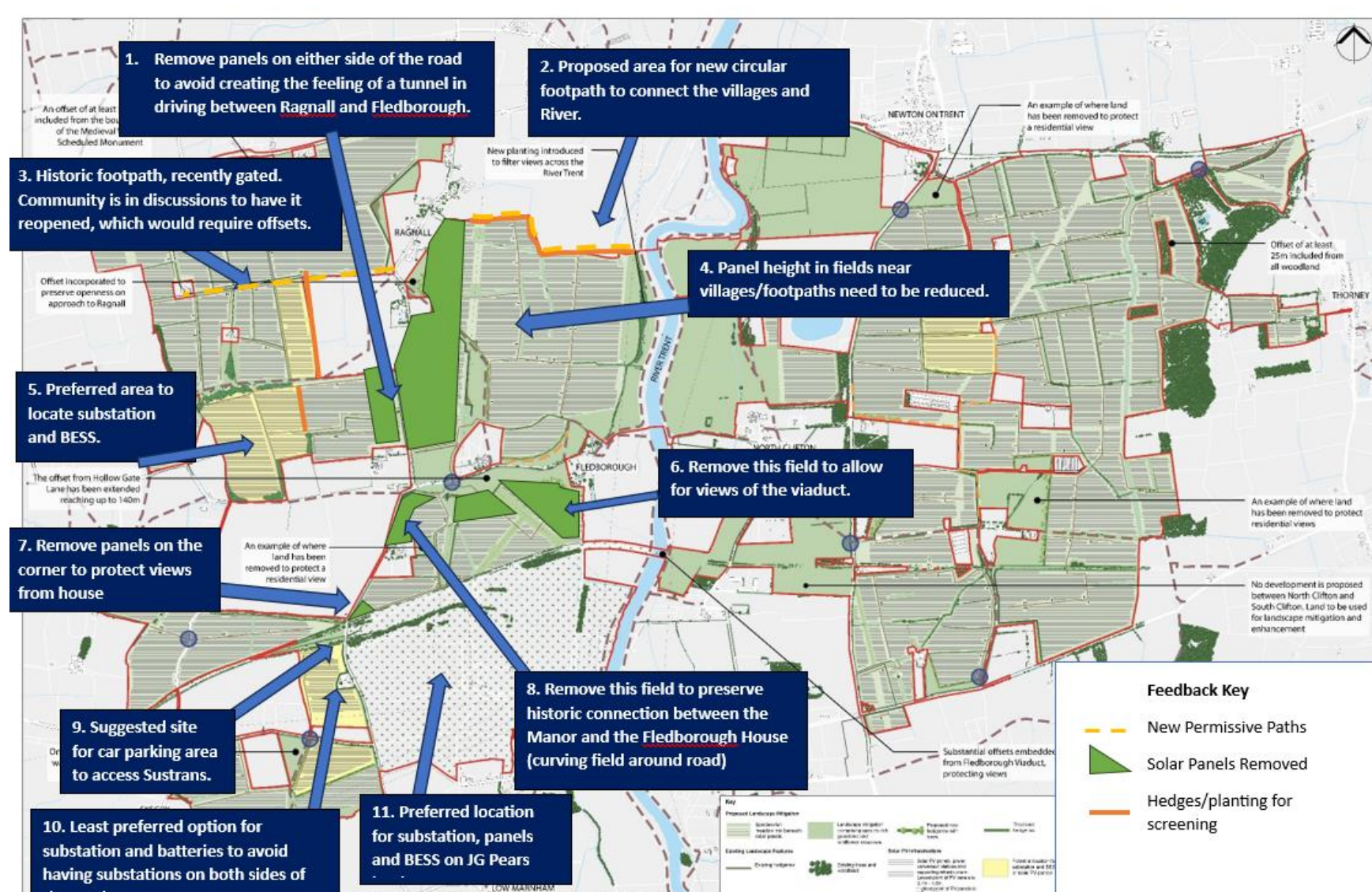


Figure 6.9: Spatial Feedback – Dunham Parish Council

Table 6.7: Summary of Spatial Feedback from Dunham Parish Council

Feedback	Applicant Response	Change to Design?
1. Remove panels to either side of the road	The Applicant has removed some of the panels, but not to the extent drawn on the map.	Yes
2. Proposed new circular permissive path	This path is included in the updated masterplan.	Yes
3. Reinstate historic footpath with offsets	The local authority is currently reviewing an application by the parish council to restore a previously used footpath. As that decision has not been made by the local authority, the Applicant is not including setbacks at this time.	No
4. Reduce panel height	There is a trade-off between reducing panel height and increasing setbacks in terms of reducing visual impacts while generating sufficient energy. During discussion at the meeting, there was a preference to increase the setback from the road. Therefore, we are not able to reduce the panel height as well to maintain the target output.	No
5. Second choice for location of substation and BESS	This is the location of the substation that is being put forward.	Yes
6. Remove field to allow views of the viaduct	This request has been included.	Yes
7. Remove panels around home	This request has been included.	Yes
8. Remove panels around curve in road	This request has been included.	Yes
9. Location for new car park area	The Applicant has consulted with Sustrans, but it is their preference not to include new car parks which promote driving instead of walking or cycling. Furthermore, there is a concern around how the car park would be maintained.	No

Feedback	Applicant Response	Change to Design?
10. Least preferred option for substation	This has been removed from consideration.	Yes
11. Preferred option for the substation	The Applicant has consulted with JG Pears and National Grid, but there is not a suitable space for our substation to be located within this area.	No

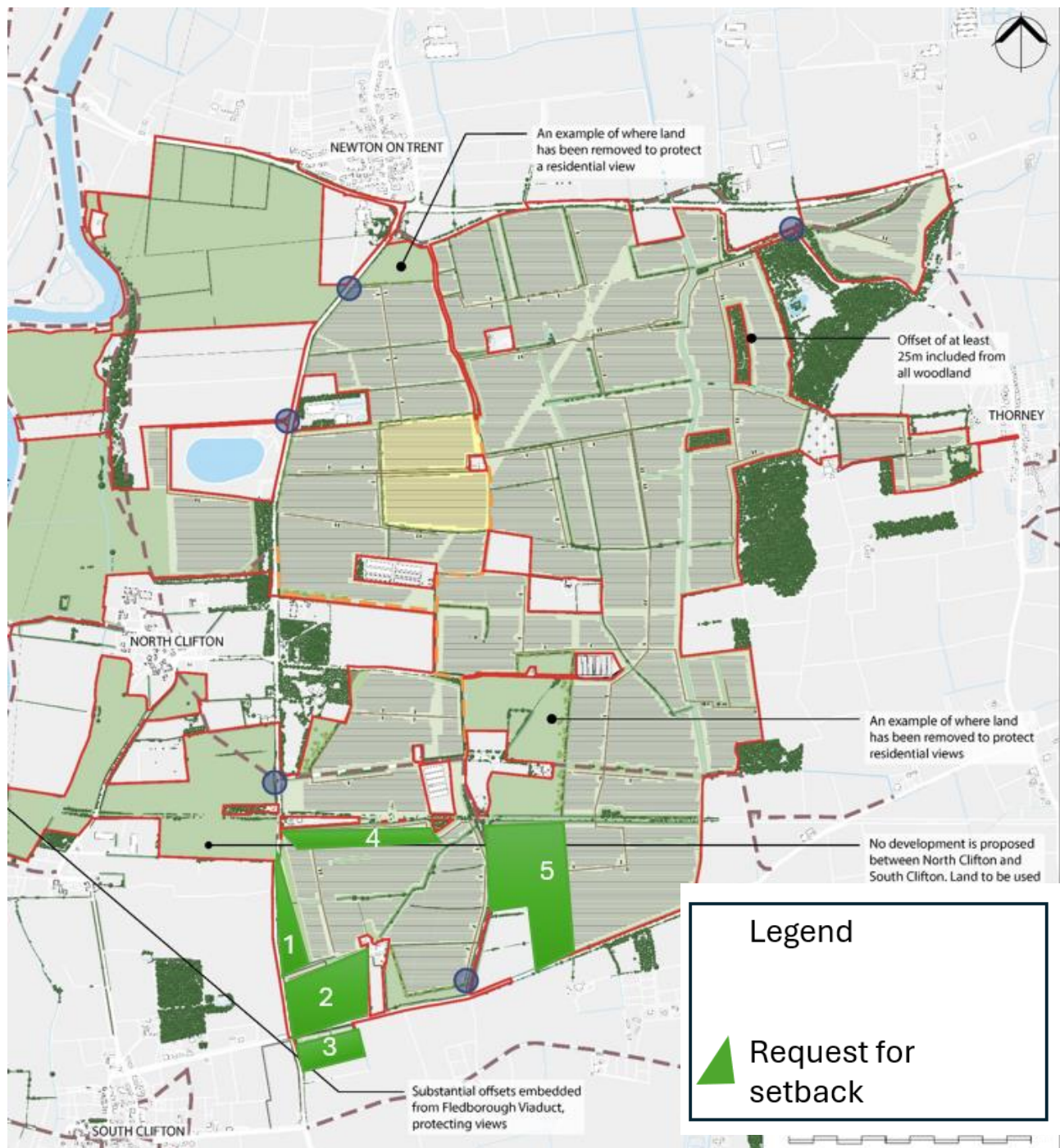


Figure 6.10: Spatial Feedback – South Clifton Parish Council

Table 6.8: Summary of Spatial Feedback from South Clifton Parish Council

Feedback	Response	Change to Design?
1. Remove the triangle-shaped area to reduce visual impacts from the road	The Applicant has prioritised reducing impacts to homes over impacts to motorists, and therefore not included this change.	No
2. Remove panels from the entire field around this home	The Applicant has included this request in part, located in the part of the field near the home.	Yes
3. Remove this small field to reduce visual impacts to the home and potential impacts to traffic and safety at this juncture	We have not included this request, but will assess any traffic and safety issues in Chapter 12- Transport and Access, [EN010159/APP/6.12]	No
4. Create a buffer around these homes	Yes, this is request has been included.	Yes
5. Remove these fields between two homes	This is included in part, the field to the east of the home and just north of the home, based on feedback from the site visit and the request of the homeowner.	Yes

6.3 Section 48 newspaper notices

- 6.3.1 S48 of the PA 2008 requires the Applicant to publish a notice of the proposed application in accordance with Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations [REF-4].
- 6.3.2 **Table 6.9** includes details of the newspapers used to publicise the proposed application, including national, local, and the London Gazette.
- 6.3.3 The Applicant considers that it fulfilled its statutory duty to publicise consultation under S48 of PA 2008 through the publication of notices between 29 May 2024 and 6 June 2024.
- 6.3.4 The Applicant decided on a voluntary basis to extend the consultation to 23 July 2024 following the calling of a General Election, in consultation with local authorities. It therefore decided to place a further set of notices in the same publications as used previously.

6.3.5 These were all published 28 days or more before 23 July 2024, with the exception of the notice placed in the Lincolnshire Echo on 27 July 2024. Given that the Applicant's first round of notices were all published more than 28 days before the close of consultation and that its second, voluntary, round of notices included a notice in an additional local newspaper, the Applicant considers that it has complied in full with the requirements of S48 of PA 2008.

6.3.6 **Table 6.9** details the publication of the s48 notices, as Round 1 – the first set of notifications, and Round 2- the second set with the extended consultation period. Copies of all notices, including evidence of the dates of publication, are included in **Appendix I-1**.

Table 6.9: Publication of newspaper notices under s48 of the PA 2008

Name	Week 1	Week 2 (local only):
The London Gazette – Round 1	29 May 2024	N/A
The London Gazette – Round 2	19 June 2024	N/A
The Guardian – Round 1	29 May 2024	N/A
The Guardian – Round 2	17 June 2024	N/A
Nottingham Post – Round 1	29 May 2024	5 June 2024
Nottingham Post – Round 2	18 June 2024	25 June 2024
Lincolnshire Echo – Round 1	30 May 2024	6 June 2024
Lincolnshire Echo – Round 2	20 June 2024	27 June 2024

7. Responses to the consultation

7.1 Overview

7.1.1 This chapter of the Consultation Report provides an overview of responses received from consultees under s42, s47 and s48 of the PA 2008, as well details of the regard had to them by the Applicant.

7.1.2 A total of 348 relevant responses for the purposes of s49 of the PA 2008 were received in response to the statutory consultation. **Table 7.1** includes a breakdown of responses by consultee and where full details of regard had by the Applicant to them can be found. There were no late responses.

7.1.3 Responses were received, securely recorded and analysed by a consultancy specialising in public consultation and stakeholder engagement. The following process was utilised:

- > When a response was received which provided identifying details (e.g., a postcode, company name), the Applicant identified whether the response had been submitted by an individual or organisation under s42, s47 or s48.
- > Each response was assigned a unique ID number, and their feedback was recorded against this number in a secure database.
- > Hard copy questionnaires and letters were manually typed and recorded against the respondent's unique ID number.
- > Responses were analysed at sentence level, using thematic coding to group together comments on similar topics, with unique ID numbers logged against comments to indicate frequency.
- > An individual response was coded in as many layers as required to ensure that the entire sentiment was captured.
- > The coding process enabled all responses to be indexed according to the issues raised by respondents and allowed a detailed summary to be prepared of the content by themes and topics raised.

7.1.4 As recommended by the Planning Inspectorate's Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the Consultation Report (August 2024), in preparing this section, the Applicant considered grouping the responses under the three strands of consultation – s42, s47 and s48 – and then further by their relation to the Proposed Development – prescribed consultees/local authorities, members of the local community and landowners/ those with a land interest.

7.1.5 None of the consultees who responded identified themselves as specifically responding to the s48 notice and so there is no separate grouping for s48 notice respondents. The Applicant notes that all consultees prescribed under s42(1)(a)

and (b) were required to receive the s48 notice. The approach to section 48 consultees is briefly explained in section 7.5.

- 7.1.6 An overview of changes made in response to feedback from statutory consultation is included in section 7.6.

Table 7.1: Document references for feedback to statutory consultation by consultee

Type of consultee	Number of responses	Document Reference	Relevant appendix
s42 (1)(a) – Prescribed consultees	23	7.2	Appendix J-1
s42 (1)(b) – Local authorities	10	7.2	Appendix J-1
s42 (1)(d) – Persons with an interest in land	2	7.3	Appendix J-1
s47 – Members of the community	313	7.4	Appendix J-2

7.2 Section 42(1)(a) and (b) consultation: prescribed consultees and local authorities

- 7.2.1 The Applicant asked that consultees provide written responses to consultation under s42 of the PA 2008 by letter or email.

- 7.2.2 A total of 33 responses were received from consultees under s42(1)(a) and s42(1)(b) of the PA 2008.

- 7.2.3 The consultees which responded include:

- > Bassetlaw District Council
- > Canal and River Trust
- > City of Doncaster
- > Coal Authority
- > Dunham Parish Council
- > East Lindsey District Council
- > Environment Agency
- > Forestry Commission
- > The Health Security Agency
- > The Health and Safety Executive

- > Lincolnshire County Council
- > Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service
- > Mansfield District Council
- > Marine Management Organisation
- > The Ministry of Defence
- > National Highways
- > NATS
- > Natural England
- > Newark and Sherwood District Council
- > North Kesteven District Council
- > Northhamptonshire Fire and Police
- > North Lincolnshire Council
- > Nottinghamshire Council Council
- > Nottinghamshire Police
- > Saxilby Parish Council
- > Severn Trent Water
- > South Clifton Parish Council
- > Thames Water
- > Thorney Parish Council
- > Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board
- > Vodaphone
- > West Lindsey District Council
- > Witham Drainage Board

7.2.4 Topics raised within the responses include:

- > Air quality
- > Alternatives and need
- > Biodiversity
- > Buried and cultural heritage
- > Climate and carbon
- > Community benefits

- > Consultation
- > EIA general approach
- > Human health
- > Hydrology
- > Masterplanning
- > Noise
- > Safety and security
- > Socio-economics
- > Transport and access

7.2.5 Comments made by consultees under s42(1)(a) and s42(1)(b) and the Applicant's response to them, are included within **Appendix J-1**. The appendix sets out feedback received from consultees by theme and topic, along with the regard had by the Applicant's and whether the feedback resulted in a change to the Proposed Development.

7.3 Section 42(1)(d): persons with an interest in land

7.3.1 Two consultees submitted feedback as S42 (1)(d) - individuals with a land interest. A summary of their response and the regard had to it by the Applicant is detailed in Table 7.2 below.

7.3.2 The Applicant has had regard to all comments received from Section 42(1)(d) and 44 consultation in **Appendix J-1**. The appendix sets out feedback received from consultees by theme and topic, along with the regard had by the Applicant's and whether the feedback resulted in a change to the Proposed Development.

Table 7.2: Responses from consultees under section 42(1)(d)

Code	Comment	Applicant's Response	Design change
OE_SC_d1	Concerns that the use of Westwood Park driveway would damage the farm road which supports nearby properties and farms	The Applicant prefers to seek voluntary agreements for land that will be part of the project, therefore, we no longer seek to use this access road. This means that the project has removed the fields around Thorney from the project.	Yes
OE_SC_d1, OE_SC_d2	Concern that the use of the driveway would impact traffic in Thorney		
OE_SC_d1, OE_SC_d2	Concern the project would impact local house values		
OE_SC_d2	Statement the owner does not agree to provide access for the project to the private road		
OE_SC_d2	Statement of concern around health and safety impact to equestrians		

7.4 Section 47 consultation: local people living in the vicinity of the Proposed Development

- 7.4.1 This section sets out “relevant responses” for the purposes of s49 of the PA 2008 received from the local community, including a summary of the most common topics raised in feedback received.
- 7.4.2 The Applicant received 311 responses to the s47 consultation between 28 May 2024 and 23 July 2024. The methods available to respond to the consultation are set out at 6.3.13. Responses received via each method are set out at **Table 7.3** below.

Table 7.3 Community Feedback during Statutory Consultation by method

Method of Submitting Feedback	Number of Responses
Email	60
Online survey	35
Written letter or map	6
Paper survey	8
Petition	202
Total	311

- 7.4.3 43 individuals responded to the questionnaire, either through the online survey or in the paper form. As set out in 6.3.13, these included a mixture of closed questions seeking quantitative feedback and open questions seeking qualitative feedback.
- 7.4.4 Responses to questions seeking quantitative feedback (questions 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9) have been analysed and are set out in **Figures 7.1 to 7.6** below.

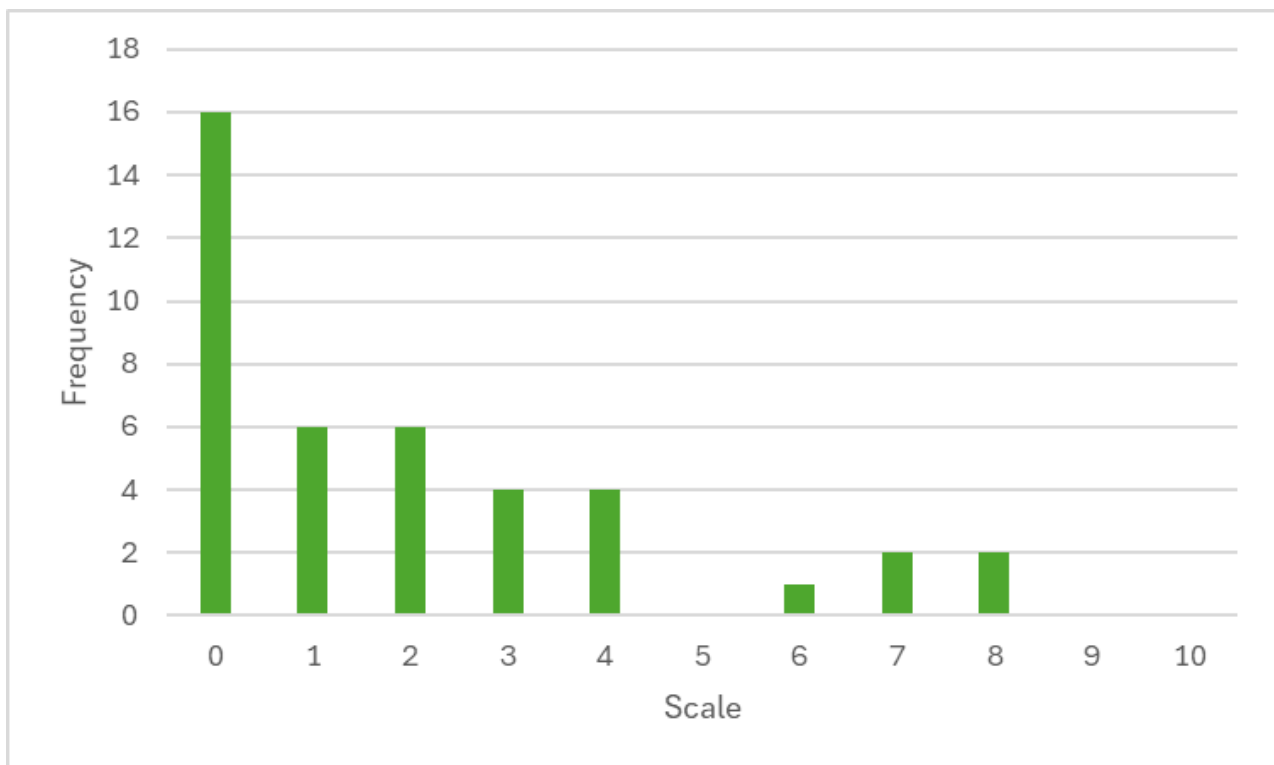


Figure 7.1: Responses to Q1. Overall, to what extent would you say these updates are an improvement to the proposed design of One Earth Solar Farm?

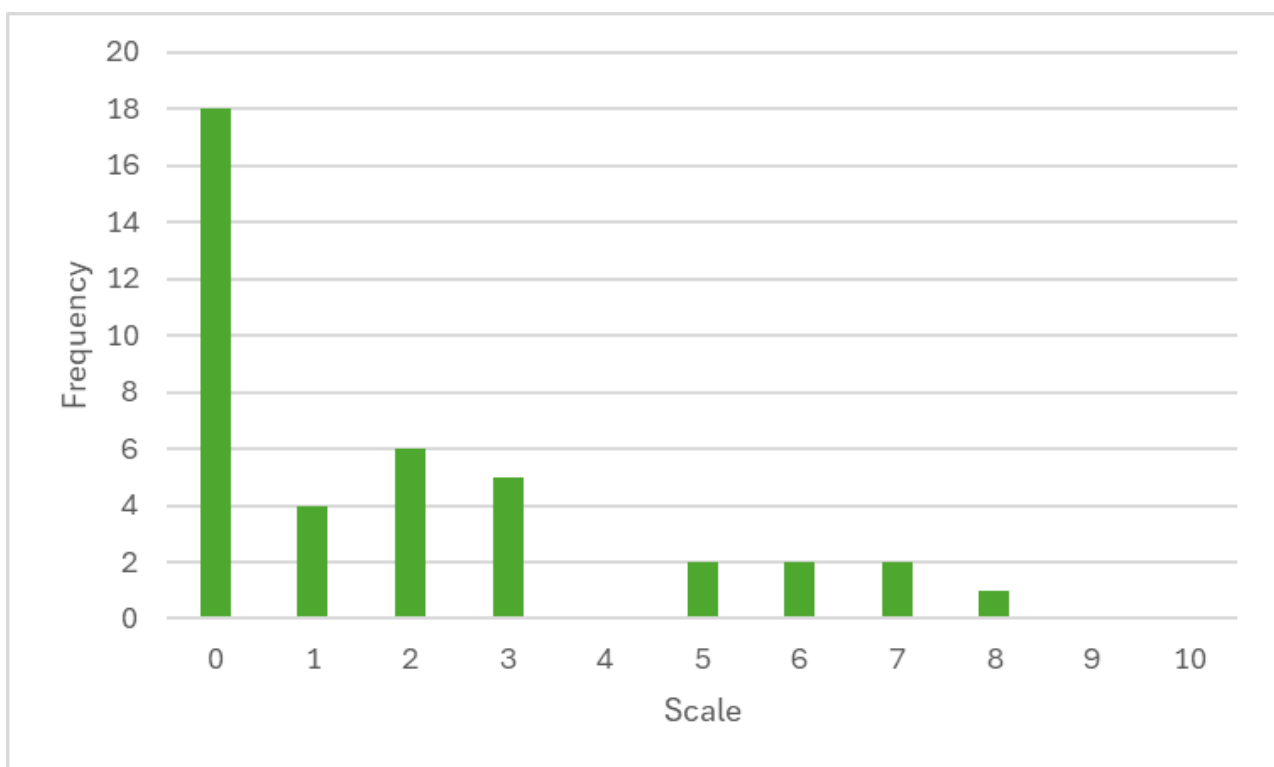


Figure 7.2: Responses to Q3. To what extent do you think our proposed environmental mitigation and enhancement measures address the environmental impacts to the surrounding areas identified by the EIA assessment?

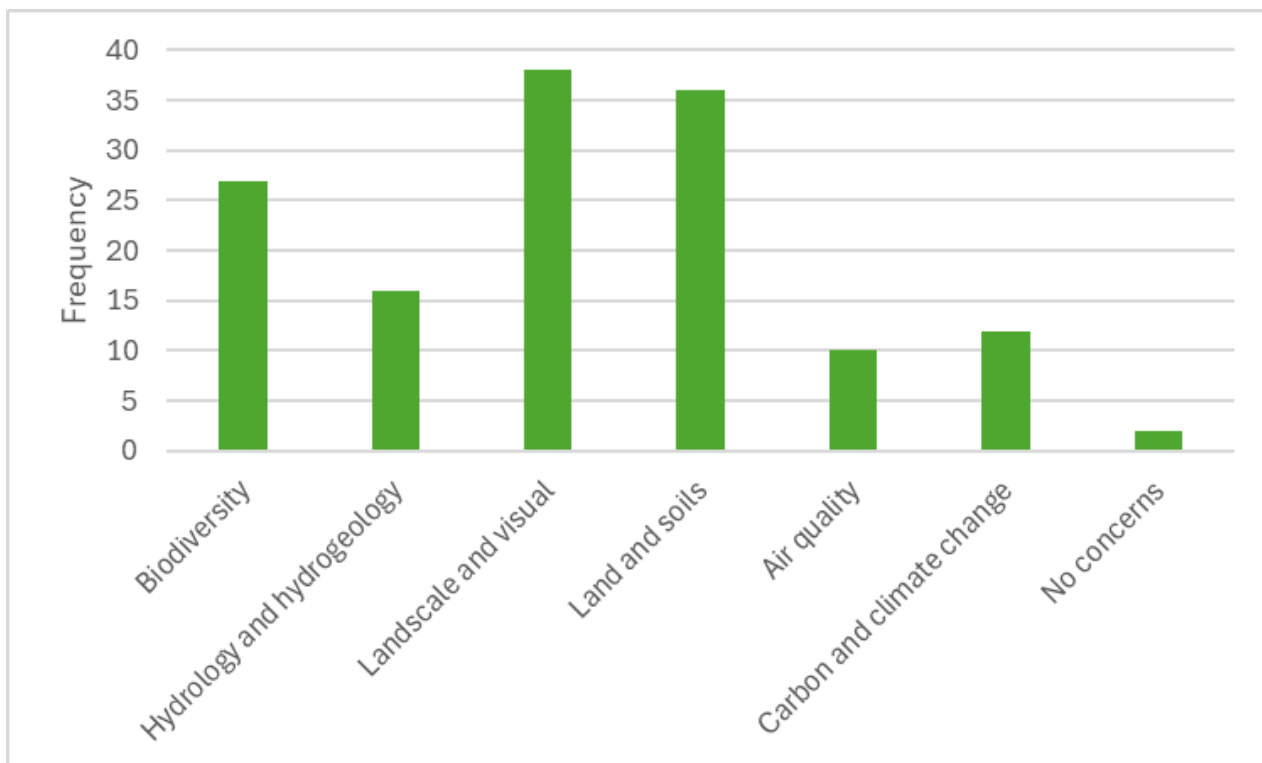


Figure 7.3: Responses to Q4. Do you have any specific concerns related to the following environmental topics identified by the EIA assessment for One Earth Solar Farm?

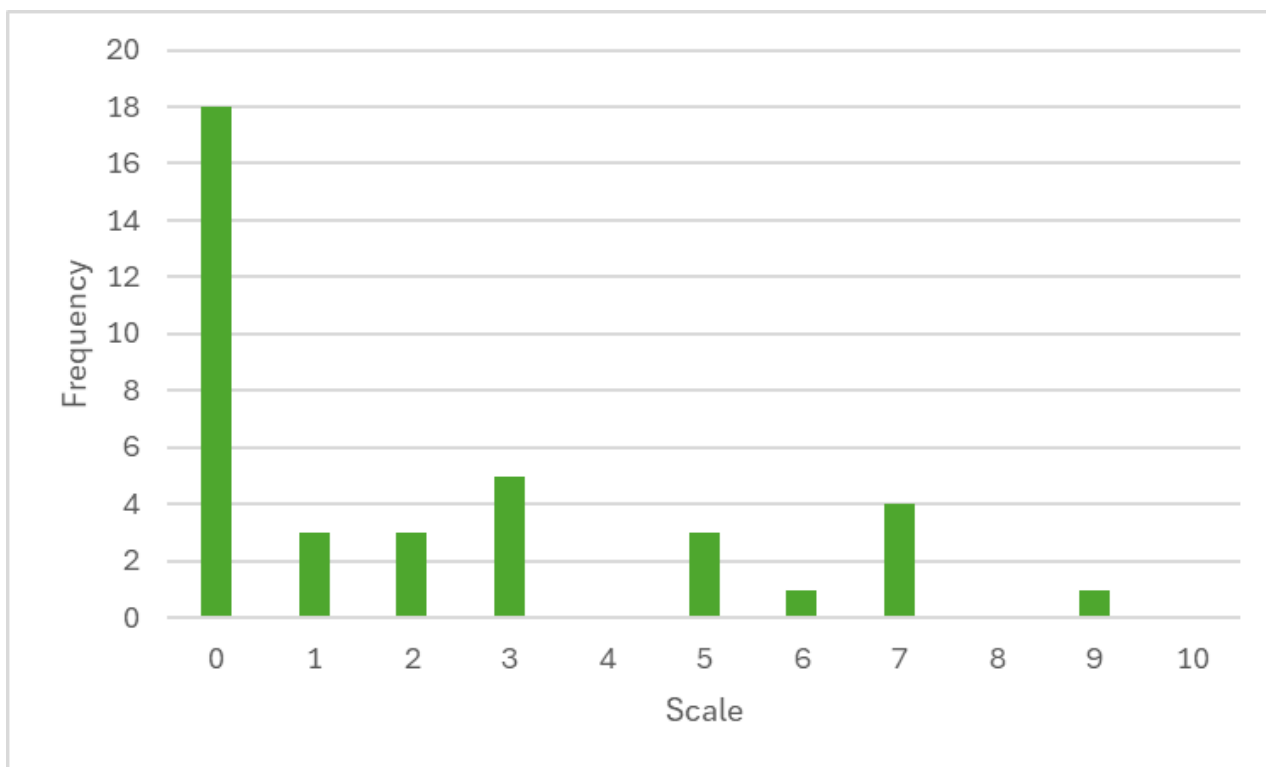


Figure 7.4: Responses to Q6. To what extent do you think our proposed construction management plans address the construction impacts to the surrounding areas identified by the EIA assessment?

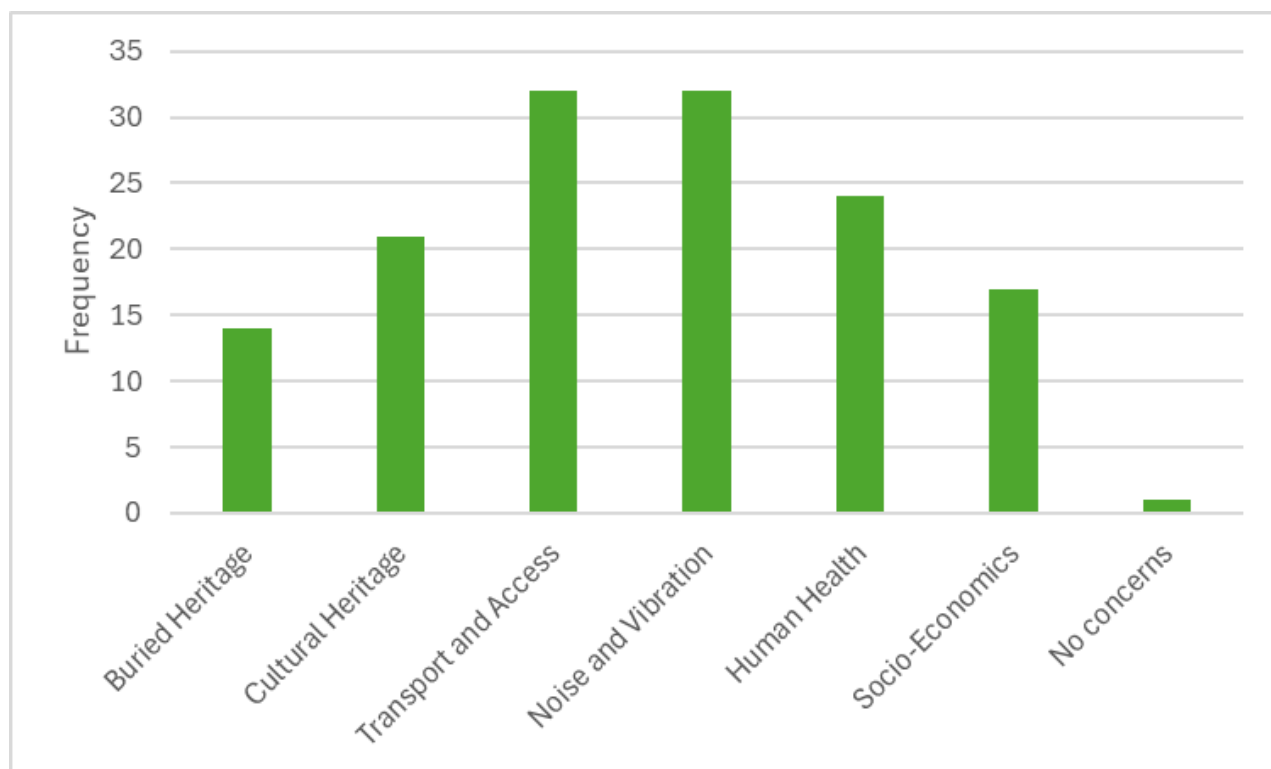


Figure 7.5: Responses to Q7: Do you have any specific concerns related to the following construction topics identified by the EIA assessment for One Earth Solar Farm?

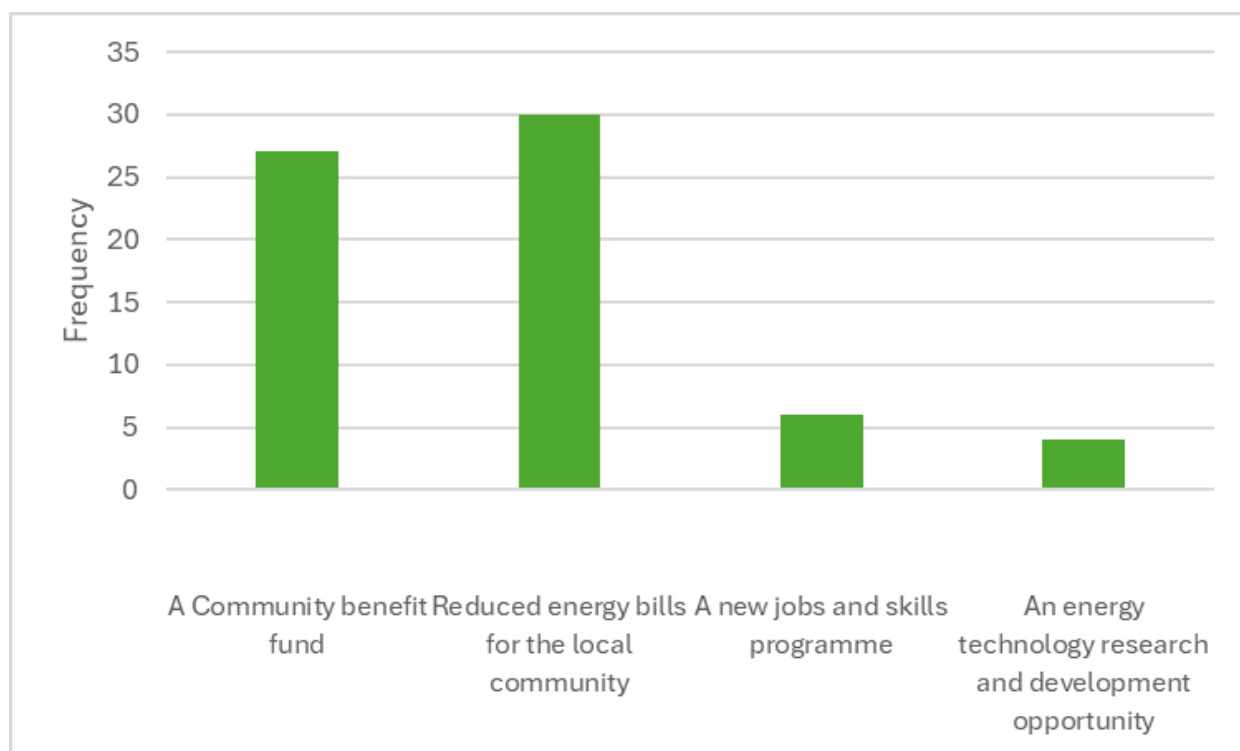


Figure 7.6: Responses to Q9. To help us understand where this funding is best used, please select the top two things you would like to see in a community benefit package.

7.4.5 Responses to qualitative feedback have been coded in line with the process set out in 7.1.3 and analysed alongside other written feedback received by email, letter or petition. 60 individuals submitted emails in response to the consultation. Six individuals submitted written feedback either in person or by the Freepost address, which included letters with written feedback and maps showing requests to alter the masterplan. 202 individuals completed a petition, which included an option to write in additional feedback.

7.4.6 Appendix J-2 sets out feedback received from s47 consultees by theme and topic, along with the regard had to the feedback by the Applicant and whether the feedback resulted in a change to the Proposed Development.

7.5 Responses under section 48

7.5.1 As set out in 7.1.4, the Applicant solicited responses from consultees under s48 of the PA 2008.

7.5.2 None of the respondents to the consultation identified themselves as responding specifically under s48 of the PA 2008 and therefore responses under s48 are considered to have been covered in the above sections.

7.6 Changes to the Proposed Development following statutory consultation

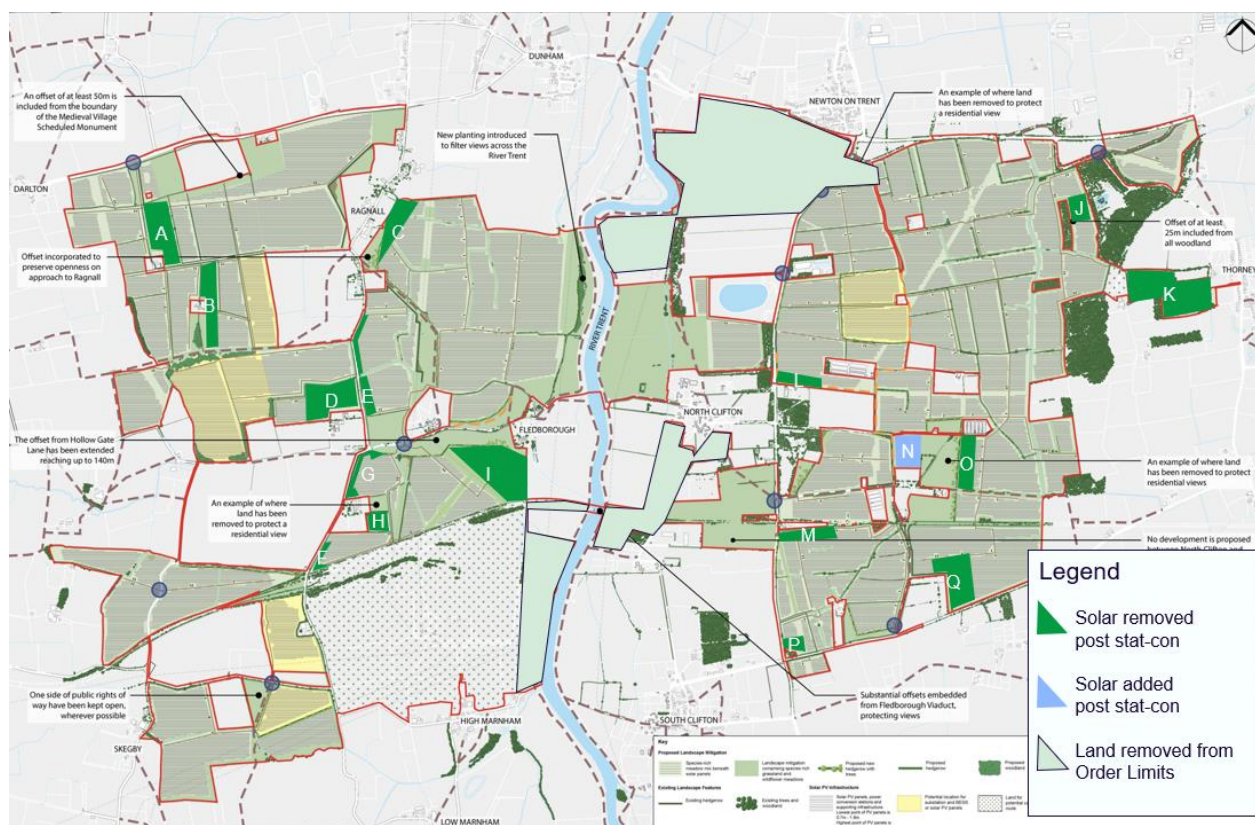


Figure 7.7: Changes to Draft Masterplan post Statutory Consultation

7.6.1 In response to feedback received through the statutory consultation, the Applicant made the following changes to the Proposed Development as shown in **Figure 7.7** and detailed below:

- > Removal of solar panels around homes on Far Hill Lane (A and B)
- > Removal of solar panels to the southeast of Ragnall (C)
- > Removal of solar panels from field to the west and east of the road between Ragnall and Fledborough (D and E)
- > Removal of solar panels along road to Fledborough (G)
- > Removal of solar panels around homes along road south from Fledborough towards High Marnham (F and H)
- > Removal of solar panels between Fledborough and the viaduct (I)
- > Removal of panels between woodlands near Thorney (J)
- > Removal of fields near Thorney from the Proposed Development (K)
- > Removal of panels to the north of home in North Clifton (L)
- > Removal of panels on south side of homes at Station House, North Clifton (M)
- > Moving panels from eastern boundary to western field around Moor Farm in North Clifton (N and O)
- > Removal of panels to north and east of home at corner of Moor Lane and A1133 (P)
- > Removal of panels to the north and east of Moor Farm in South Clifton (Q)
- > Areas marked in light green were previously marked for environmental enhancement during the statutory consultation, but have been removed from the Order Limits entirely to reduce the scope of the Proposed Development.

7.6.2 The Applicant did not adopt a number of changes to the Proposed Development requested in statutory consultation. In summary, these included:

- > Removal of panels along Far Hill Lane to reinstate former footpath
- > Removal of panels to the east of road between Fledborough and Ragnall to the extent requested
- > Removal of field to the east of the home at the northern boundary of the Proposed Development (item 10 on **Figure 6.8**)
- > Removal of the field west of site visit 19 (Item 19 in **Figure 6.8**)
- > Removal of the field east of site visit 9 (Item 9 in **Figure 6.8**)

- > Removal of the full field west of site visit 13 (Item 13 in **Figure 6.8**)
- > Removal of the field to the southeast of site visit 1 (Item 1 in **Figure 6.8**)
- > Removal of the field to the north and west of site visit 2 (Item 2 in **Figure 6.8**)
- > Removal of the triangle-shaped area north of site visit 7 and the field to the south of Site visit 7 (Item 7 in **Figure 6.8**)
- > Requests to reduce the height of panels
- > Requests for further setbacks from roads or footpaths

7.6.3 Full details of all responses to the statutory consultation, as well as the regard had to them by the Applicant, are set out by type of consultee and theme in **Appendices J-1** and **J-2**.

8. Ongoing engagement

8.1 Community Engagement

- 8.1.1 On 30 August 2024, the Applicant posted a letter to the Consultation Zone 1 to inform residents of planned trial trenching works in the area. This is included in **Appendix M-1.1**.
- 8.1.2 After the Statutory Consultation period ended, the Applicant met with both Dunham Parish Council and South Clifton Parish Councils on 11 September 2024 to present the updated masterplan which had been amended to include feedback from the Statutory Consultation.
- 8.1.3 On 26 November 2024, the Applicant posted a Community Newsletter to the Consultation Zone with the updated masterplan and an explanation of next steps as the Applicant prepares to submit the DCO application. This is included in **Appendix M-1.7**.

8.2 Adequacy of Consultation Milestone

- 8.2.1 The Applicant reviewed updated guidance on the pre-application process published by the Planning Inspectorate in April 2024, following completion of statutory and non-statutory consultations. The updated guidance included the requirement for an early Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM).
- 8.2.2 On 9 October 2024, the Applicant met with representatives from Lincolnshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Bassetlaw District Council, West Lindsey District Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council to discuss the AoCM and what would be needed. It was agreed that the Applicant would provide a written summary of the consultation activities taken and compliance with the SoCC.
- 8.2.3 On 6 November, the Applicant submitted the summary to Lincolnshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Bassetlaw District Council, West Lindsey District Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council. Four of the five local authorities responded to confirm that the consultation had been sufficient, while Newark and Sherwood District Council declined to confirm the adequacy of consultation at this stage. Details are included in **Appendix M-1.3 – 1.6**. This AoCM was submitted to PINS alongside local authority responses on 9 December 2024.

9. Conclusion

- 9.1.1 This Consultation Report forms part of the Application for the Proposed Development and is submitted in accordance with section 37(3)(c) of the PA 2008. This Consultation Report describes the pre-application consultation and engagement undertaken by the Applicant, summarises the responses received and explains how the Applicant has had regard to them to develop its proposals.
- 9.1.2 It also demonstrates how the consultation has met and exceeded the requirements set out in sections 42, 47, 48,49 and 50 of the PA 2008 (as well as the requirements of the APFP Regulations and EIA Regulations) and that the Applicant has complied with guidance on the pre-application process and compiling the consultation report (see **Appendices L-1 and L-2**).
- 9.1.3 Feedback has been integral to the design of the Proposed Development, which has helped to shape the Applicant's proposals from the outset of pre-application consultation activity. Throughout the process of preparing the design of the Proposed Development, the Applicant has sought to involve and engage a wide range of stakeholders and the local community.
- 9.1.4 As detailed in **Figure 3.7**, after the non-statutory consultation the Applicant made significant changes to the draft masterplan around homes and North and South Clifton villages. These changes were the result of feedback from site visits and other written feedback detailed in Chapter 3.
- 9.1.5 As detailed in **Figure 7.7**, after the statutory consultation, the Applicant made further changes to the Proposed Development by creating larger offsets around homes and around Fledborough and Dunham. These changes were the result of feedback received through consultation, including written responses and from site visits and engagement with parish councils as set out in Chapter 6 and 7.
- 9.1.6 Formal stages of pre-application consultation were complemented by an ongoing programme of engagement with stakeholders, including the host authorities, prescribed consultees, near neighbours and the local community. In doing so, the Applicant has sought to exceed the minimum requirements set out in the PA 2008 and in the Applicant's SoCC.
- 9.1.7 The Applicant is very grateful to all those who have responded to the consultation and engaged with the team to help shape the Proposed Development.

10. References

REF-1: The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations 2017).

REF-2: Planning Inspectorate (2024). Guidance on the pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs), April 2024.

REF 3: Planning Inspectorate (2024). Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the Consultation Report.

REF 4: Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations 2009). Schedule 1.

REF 5: Planning Inspectorate (2024). Advice Note Three: EIA Notification and Consultation



one earth
solar farm