



Planning Inspectorate
Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Section 55

Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Appendix 2 of [Advice on the preparation and submission of application documents](#)

Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Relevant sections of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at legislation.gov.uk, here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/>

All other secondary legislation referred to in this checklist is searchable, here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/>

DISCLAIMER: This checklist is a non-statutory checklist for the Planning Inspectorate to complete. Completion or self-assessment by the applicant does not hold weight at the acceptance stage. Unless specified, all references to the Planning Inspectorate are made in relation to functions being carried out on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Section 55(2) Acceptance of applications				
1	Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) The Planning Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for examination.	Date received	28-day due date	Date of decision
		27 June 2025	25 July 2025	22 July 2025
Section 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only accept an application if it concludes that:		Planning Inspectorate comments		
Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for an order granting development consent				
2.	In accordance with sections(s) 14 to 30 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), is the development a Nationally Significant	Yes The proposed development set out in schedule 1 of the Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1) includes development falling		

	<p>Infrastructure Project (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that, in accordance with s31 of the PA2008, it is an application for a development consent order (DCO) under the PA2008, or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to which it relates, meaning which category or categories in s14 to 30 does the proposed development fall?</p> <p>If the development does not fall within the categories in s14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required?</p>	<p>within the categories in s14 of the PA2008. The development is for the construction of a generating station and satisfies section 15 of the PA2008; including subsection 2.</p> <p>This is consistent with the summary provided in section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.3) which states that the application is for an NSIP.</p>
2	Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)	The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1) includes development for which development consent is required.
Section 55(3)(e): The applicant in relation to the application made has complied with chapter 2 of part 5 (pre-application procedure)		
3	In accordance with regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA regulations), did the applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request the Planning Inspectorate adopt a screening opinion in	<p>Yes</p> <p>On 8 November 2023 the applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA regulations of its intention to provide an environmental statement in respect of the proposed development. The notification was received before the start of statutory consultation on 9 January 2025.</p>

	respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an environmental statement in respect of that development?	The applicant submitted the Great North Road Solar Park Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate on 8 November 2023, which was published on the Planning Inspectorates project page on 9 November 2023. Scoping Report submitted to the Secretary of State on 8th November 2023
5	<p>Have any adequacy of consultation representations (AoCR) been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?</p> <p>Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the consultation report, and any AoCRs received.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>There are 18 host and neighbouring authorities, of which 9 responded to the Planning Inspectorate's invitation to make an AoCR dated 1 July 2025.</p> <p>All 9 responding authorities confirmed in their AoCR that either the applicant had complied with its duties under s42, s47 and s48 of the PA2008 and/ or that their authority had no comments/ objections to make. These local authorities were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newark and Sherwood District Council (B authority) • Nottinghamshire County Council (C authority)* • North Lincolnshire Council (D authority) • Lincolnshire County Council (D authority) • West Lindsey District Council (A authority) • Melton Borough Council (A authority) • North Kesteven District Council (A authority) ** • Ashfield District Council (A authority) • Mansfield District Council (A authority) <p>*Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) confirmed that the applicant fulfilled the requirements under sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning</p>

		<p>Act 2008. However, NCC AoCR response did include some reservations about the approach taken with the targeted consultation (TC) which took place between 8 May to 6 June 2025, which they felt did not apply the same rigour as set out in the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Phase Two Statutory Consultation. NCC raised these concerns with the applicant, and the applicant subsequently contacted the affected parish councils to provide them with an opportunity to further discuss the proposed amendments to the scheme to alleviate NCC's concerns regarding inadequate community engagement for the TC.</p> <p>All AoCRs received have been carefully considered and are available to view on the Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park project page on the National Infrastructure Project website:</p> <p>https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010162</p>
Section 42: Duty to consult		
Did the applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?		
6	<p>Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed?</p> <p>The persons prescribed are the statutory consultees set out in schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP regulations).</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>The applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) on 9 January 2025 at appendix 5.1.7 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(a) consultees is provided at appendix 5.17 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate has identified the following parties based on a precautionary interpretation of the APFP regulations that were not consulted by the applicant under s42:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglian Water

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CNG Services Limited • Inovyn Enterprises Ltd • Lightsource BP - Hawton (solar) • Breach Farm Energy Storage Ltd - Bilsthorpe (solar) • Breach Farm Energy Storage Ltd - Stud Farm (solar) • Breach Farm Energy Storage Ltd - Ollerton (solar) • RWE Generation UK Plc • Advanced Electricity Networks Ltd • Aidien Ltd • Aurora Utilities Ltd • Green Generation Energy Networks Cymru Ltd • TC Robin Rigg OFTO Limited <p>The applicant's Consultation Report (Doc ref 5.1) does not appear to show if these bodies identified above have been consulted. However, it is noted that the licences held by these bodies cover Great Britain or various smaller areas and the operational areas of each are not clear from information in the public domain.</p> <p>One of the bodies listed above (RWE Generation UK Plc) has been identified by the applicant as having an interest in the order land and are listed in the Book of Reference (Doc 4.3) under category 2 and was consulted under s44.</p> <p>Section 51 advice has been issued to the applicant in respect of the above matter and is available to view on the Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park project page of the National Infrastructure Project</p>
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		website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010162
7	<p>Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation(MMO)?</p> <p>The MMO must be consulted in any case where the proposed development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
8	<p>Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43?</p> <p>Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 9.5 Table 9.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) lists the relevant local authorities that were identified and consulted under s43 and s42(1)(b).</p> <p>The host 'B' authority was consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newark and Sherwood District Council <p>The host 'C' authority was consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottinghamshire County Council <p>The boundary 'A' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melton Borough Council • West Lindsey District Council • North Kesteven District Council • Bassetlaw District Council • Rushcliffe Borough Council • Gedling Borough Council

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Kesteven Borough Council • Ashfield District Council • Mansfield District Council • Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council • Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council <p>The boundary 'D' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Lincolnshire Council • Nottingham City Council • Derbyshire County Council • Leicestershire County Council • Lincolnshire County Council <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(b) relevant authorities is provided at appendix 5.1.7 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?	N/A
10	<p>Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories?</p> <p>Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land</p> <p>Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 9.6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that all persons identified under s42(1)(d) were consulted.</p> <p>Paragraphs 9.6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) summarise how the applicant made diligent inquiry to seek to identify and consult persons with an interest in lands affected by the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1). The full methodology undertaken by the applicant is provided in appendices</p>

	Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim	<p>5.1.2, 5.1.3 (Parts 1-5), 5.1.4 (Parts 1-3), 5.1.5, 5.1.6 (Parts 1-2), 5.1.7, 5.1.9 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The persons consulted under s42(1)(d) are listed at appendix 5.1.7 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>A sample of the letter is provided at appendix 5.1.7 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation		
11	Did the applicant notify s42 consultees of the deadline for receipt of consultation responses; and if so was the deadline notified by the applicant 28 days or more starting with the day after receipt of the consultation documents?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42 consultees is provided at appendix 5.17 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The sample letter dated 9 January 2025 confirmed that consultation commenced on 9 January 2025 and closed on 20 February 2025, providing more than the required minimum time for receipt of responses.</p> <p>Further to the consultation, the applicant conducted a targeted phase of consultation.</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42 consultees is provided at appendix 5.1.9 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The sample letter dated 8 May 2025 confirmed that consultation commenced on 8 May 2025 and closed on 6 June 2025, providing more than the required minimum time for receipt of responses.</p>
Section 46: Duty to notify The Planning Inspectorate of proposed application		
12	Did the applicant supply information to notify the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application; and if so, was the	Yes

	information supplied to the Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42 consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42?	<p>The applicant gave notice under s46 on 7 January 2025, which was before the commencement of s42 consultation.</p> <p>A copy of the s46 notification letter is provided at appendix 5.1.7 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and a copy of s46 notification acknowledgement letter from the Planning Inspectorate is provided at appendix 5.1.7 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
Section 47: Duty to consult local community		
13	Did the applicant prepare a statement of community consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The applicant submitted a draft SoCC which stipulated how they intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land.</p> <p>A copy of the applicant's final SoCC is provided at section 3 (page 31) of the 5.1.5 Statement of Community Consultation Materials.</p>
14	Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and, where applicable, 'C' authorities received the consultation documents?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Information is included in Section 7.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The applicant sent the draft SoCC to Newark and Sherwood District Council ('B' authority) and Nottinghamshire County Council ('C' authority) on 19 July 2024 and set a deadline of 27 August 2024 for responses; providing more than the required minimum time (28 days) for responses to be received as set out in section 47(3) of PA2008.</p> <p>The applicant also sought feedback from Bassetlaw District Council ('A' authority) on the draft SoCC. Although the local authority is not host to any of the proposed development's infrastructure, the applicant's core consultation zone extended into the boundary of Bassetlaw District Council.</p>

15	Has the applicant had regard to any responses received when preparing the SoCC?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Table 7.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) provides a summary of the consultation responses from Newark and Sherwood District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council in respect of the draft SoCC and demonstrates how the applicant had regard to their content.</p> <p>Examples of changes from the draft SoCC to the final SoCC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of the term ‘reasonable efforts’; • The applicant prepared a schedule of information events for Phase Two Consultation, which has been appended to this document. <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the applicant had regard to the responses received when preparing the SoCC.</p>
16	Has the SoCC been made available for inspection on a website maintained by or on behalf of the applicant; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 7.5 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) outlines that the final SoCC was made available at the following locations, which is reasonably convenient having regard to the location of the proposed development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.gnrsolarpark.co.uk/documents • Newark and Sherwood District Council Offices • Southwell Library • Newark Library • Ollerton Library <p>A notice stating when and where the final SoCC could be inspected was published in the Newark Advertiser on 19 December 2024 and the Nottingham Post on 19 December 2024.</p>

		<p>The published SoCC notice, provided at Appendix 5.1.5 - Statement of Community Consultation Materials of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states where and when the final SoCC was available to inspect.</p> <p>Clippings of the published advertisements are provided at Section 5 (page 45) of the Appendix 5.1.5: Statement of Community Consultation Materials of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p>
17	In accordance with regulation 12 of the EIA regulations, does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development; and does it set out how the applicant intends to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information?	<p>Yes</p> <p>As detailed in section 3 (Method of Consultation), paragraph 3.1.5, section 6 (What We Will Consult On) paragraph 6.1.4, and section 7 (How We Will Consult and How Respondents Can Participate) paragraphs 7.2.1 and 7.2.2 of Appendix (Doc 5.1.5) of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1), this sets out that the development is EIA development and sets out how the applicant intended to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information. This is also outlined in section 3.6 of the published Statement of Community Consultation shown in Part 3 of appendix 5.1.5 (Doc 5.1.5) of the Consultation Report (Doc ref 5.1).</p>
18	Has the applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 7.6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) set out how the community consultation was carried out in line with the final SoCC.</p> <p>Table 7.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) sets out how the applicant has complied with the commitments set out in the final SoCC.</p>
Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application		

19	Did the applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in regulation 4(2) of the (as amended) APFP regulations?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 10.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states:</p> <p>“The Section 48 notice (included in Appendix 5.1.8: Section 48 Consultation Materials [EN010162/APP/5.1.8] publicising the Development and advertising the intention to apply for a DCO was placed in the publications listed in Table 10.1”.</p> <p>Table 10.1/ Section 10 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) displays the newspapers and dates of s48 publicity as set out below.</p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice is provided at appendix 5.1.8 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>Clippings of the published notices set out below are provided at appendix 5.1.8 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1):</p>												
<table><tr><th colspan="2"></th><th>Newspaper(s)</th><th>Date</th></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">a)</td><td>for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the proposed development would be situated;</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">Newark AdvertiserNottingham Post</td><td>2 January 2025 and 9 January 2025 2 January 2025 and 9 January 2025</td></tr><tr><td>once in a national newspaper;</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">The Guardian</td><td>6 January 2025</td></tr></table>						Newspaper(s)	Date	a)	for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the proposed development would be situated;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Newark AdvertiserNottingham Post	2 January 2025 and 9 January 2025 2 January 2025 and 9 January 2025	once in a national newspaper;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Guardian	6 January 2025
		Newspaper(s)	Date											
a)	for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the proposed development would be situated;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Newark AdvertiserNottingham Post	2 January 2025 and 9 January 2025 2 January 2025 and 9 January 2025											
	once in a national newspaper;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Guardian	6 January 2025											

c)	once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The London Gazette	6 January 2025		
d)	where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?	N/A	N/A		
20	Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in regulation 4(3) of the (as amended) APFP regulations?	Yes The published s48 notice, supplied at Appendix 5.1.8 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) , contains the required information as set out below:			
Information		Paragraph	Information	Paragraph	
a)	the name and address of the applicant.	1	b)	a statement that the applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State	1
c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	4	d)	a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the proposed development	2 and 3

e)	a statement that the documents, plans and maps were available on a website maintained by or on behalf of the applicant. The statement must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">the nature and location of the proposed developmentthe address of the websitethe place on the websitea telephone number which can be used to contact the applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps	4-7 and 20	f)	the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection	7
g)	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge	7 and 8	h)	details of how to respond to the publicity	14 - 16
i)	a deadline for receipt of those responses by the applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published	17			
21	Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above?				
	No				

22	Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person notified to the applicant in accordance with regulation 13 of the EIA regulations?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice was sent to the EIA consultation bodies as part of the s42 consultation, as confirmed in Section 10.3, paragraph 246 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>A sample of the s42 consultation letter provided at appendix 5.1.7 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) confirms a copy of the s48 notice was enclosed.</p>
s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity		
23	Has the applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Table 0.2 of the Executive Summary and Sections 12 and 13 of the Consultation Report (Doc. 5.1) set out how the applicant had regard to the consultation responses received; including whether or not responses led to changes to the application.</p> <p>The actions informed by the consultation responses appear to be reflected in the final form of the application as submitted. Where a particular response has not led to a change in the application, it is sufficiently clear that regard was had to it.</p>
S50(3) Regard to guidance about pre-application procedure		
24	<p>To what extent has the applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects'?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the applicant</p>	<p>Section 2.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that the applicant has had regard to all relevant statutory guidance.</p> <p>The applicant submitted an adequacy of consultation milestone statement on 13 March 2025. The applicant has demonstrated that it has had regard to the advice issued by the Planning Inspectorate in relation to the</p>

	has had regard to guidance issued under s50.	statement in Table 1.1 Appendix 5.1.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) . Having reviewed the application, the Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the applicant has identified and had regard to the relevant statutory guidance.
25	Summary: Section 55(3)(e)	The applicant has complied with chapter 2 of part 5 (pre-application procedure) of the PA2008. In respect of the minor consultation discrepancies identified, s51 advice has been provided to the applicant and is available to view on the Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park project page of the National Infrastructure Project website https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010162
s55(3)(f) and s55(5A): The application (including accompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent to which it complies with section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and follows any applicable guidance under section 37(4)		
26	Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in schedule 2 of the APFP regulations, and does it include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; and a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme? 	Yes Section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.3) explains why the development falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate. Section 5 of the Application Form (Doc 1.3) provides a brief non-technical description of the site and section 6 provides the location of the proposed development. A Location Plan (Doc 2.9) has been provided.
27	Is it accompanied by a consultation report?	Yes

		The application is accompanied by a Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.1.1 – 5.1.11) .			
28	In accordance with regulation 5(4) of the APFP regulations, where a plan comprises three or more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets?	Yes			
29	Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP regulation 5(2)?	The documents and information required by APFP regulation 5(2) are set out in the documents and locations within the application as listed below:			
Information		Document	Information		Document
a)	Where applicable, an environmental statement required under the EIA regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	ES Non- Technical Summary (Doc 6.1 – 6.1.1) ES Chapters (Doc 6.2 – 6.2.20) ES Figures (Doc 6.3 – 6.3.18.4) ES Appendices (Doc 6.4 – 6.4.18.1)	b)	a draft development consent order (DCO)	Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)

c)	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)	d)	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
	An explanatory memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	Explanatory Memorandum (Doc 3.3)		Where applicable, a book of reference	Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)
e)	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes	f)	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)
	A copy of any flood risk assessment	ES Appendix 9.1 - Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 6.4.9.1)		A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the matters set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances) and if so, how the applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	Statutory Nuisance Statement (Doc 5.2)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes

h)	A statement of reasons and a funding statement (where the application involves any compulsory acquisition)	Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1) Funding Statement (Doc 4.2)	i)	A land plan identifying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the land required for, or affected by, the proposed development • where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of compulsory acquisition or any rights to use land • any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements, servitudes and other private rights; and • any special category land and replacement land 	Land Plans (Doc 2.2)
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j)	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)	k)	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)
	<p>A works plan showing, in relation to existing features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and the limits within which the development and works may be carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO 	Works Plans (Doc 2.3)		<p>Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation</p>	<p>Street & Access Plan – Part 1 of 4 (Doc 2.8)</p> <p>Street & Access Plan – Part 2 of 4 (Doc 2.8)</p> <p>Street & Access Plan – Part 3 of 4 (Doc 2.8)</p> <p>Street & Access Plan – Part 4 of 4 (Doc 2.8)</p>
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)

l)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation, for example sites of geological or landscape importance habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and water bodies in a river basin management plan; <p>together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies</p>	<p>i) Statutory and Non-statutory Nature Conservation Designations Plan (Doc 2.5)</p> <p>Accompanying figures in ES Appendix 8.2 (Doc 6.4.8.2) and HRA Screening (Doc 5.3)</p> <p>An assessment of these is undertaken within ES chapter 8 (Doc 6.2.8) and the HRA Screening (Doc 5.3)</p> <p>ii) Habitats and Protected Species Plan (Doc 2.7)</p> <p>Accompanying figures in ES appendices 8.3 – 8.9 (Doc 6.4.8.3 – 6.4.8.9)</p> <p>An assessment of these is undertaken</p>	m)	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (for example scheduled monuments, world heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the proposed development</p>	<p>Statutory and Non-Statutory features of Historic Environment Plan (Doc 2.17)</p> <p>Accompanying ES figures (Docs 6.3.11.1 - 6.3.11.5)</p> <p>An assessment of these is undertaken within ES chapter 11 (Doc 6.2.11).</p>
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	likely to be caused by the proposed development	<p>within ES chapter 8 (Doc 6.2.8).</p> <p>iii) Water Bodies in a River Basin Management Plan (Doc 2.6)</p> <p>Accompanying ES figure 9.4 (Doc 6.3.9.4)</p> <p>An assessment of these is undertaken within ES chapter 9 (Doc 6.2.9) and ES appendices 9.1 and 9.2 (Docs 6.4.9.1 – 6.4.9.2)</p>			
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30)
n)	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	N/A	o)	Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of design, external appearance,	<p>The full list is provided in Section 4 of the Guide to the Application (Doc 1.4) and the key drawings are as follows:</p> <p>Public Rights of Way and Permissive Routes Plan (Doc 2.4)</p>

p)			q)	and the preferred layout of buildings, structures, drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping	Locations, Order Limits, and Grid Coordinates (Doc 2.9)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	N/A		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
	Any of the documents prescribed by regulation 6 of the APFP regulations	Grid Connection Statement (Doc 7.15)		Any other documents considered necessary to support the application	Application Letter (Doc 1.1) Section S55 Checklist (Doc 1.2) Guide to the Application (Doc 1.4) Pre-application Programme Document (Doc 1.5) PINS Electronic Application Index (Doc 1.6) List of Plans (Doc 2.1) Planning Statement (Doc 5.4) Policy Compliance Document (Doc 5.5)

				Main Issues for Examination (Doc 7. 4) Design Approach Document – Part 1 of 3 (Doc 5.6) Design Approach Document – Part 2 of 3 (Doc 5.6) Design Approach Document – Part 3 of 3 (Doc 5.6) Commitments Register (Doc 7.1) Statement of Need (Doc 7.2) Consents and Licenses Required under Other Legislation (Doc 7.3) Design and Access Statement (Doc 7.5)	
	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes

30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at box 29 (a) to (q) above?
	<p>Land Plans (Doc 2.2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The language used in the legend to describe the various plots is not consistent with what is described in the Book of Reference (BoR). A consistent approach should be utilised across the plans/ BoR/ Development Consent Order/ Statement of Reasons to improve clarity. • The cutlines on sheet 2 are incorrectly labelled and refer the reader to 'sheet 2'. • There are a number of blue coloured plots that are not labelled. These are adjacent to 2/28, 2/24 and 2/38 on sheet 2. • An inset box may be beneficial for the area plot surrounding 2/38 (sheet 2) as the plot numbers are unclear. • A pink coloured plot adjacent to plot 19/21 (sheet 19) appears unlabelled. It might be part of plot 19/7 but this is unclear. • Labels 29/4 and 29/3 on sheet 29 point to the same plot. <p>Works Plans (Doc 2.3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The works numbers are listed in the legend. For improved clarity and comprehension please label each work number plot on each sheet. <p>Street & Access Plans (Doc 2.8)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not all roads are labelled on the plans, even those identified in the dDCO. For improved clarity and comprehension please revise. • Throughout the plans there are small pink lines with dots on each end. These should be labelled/ identified in the legend for clarity. • On sheets 3 & 5, SW-13 appears to be on Coldharbour Lane but the dDCO identifies SW-13 as on Broadgate Lane. <p>Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please refer to the section 51 advice letter provided where there are some points of clarification recommended.

	<p>Water Bodies in a River Basin Management Plan (Doc 2.6), Environmental Statement (ES) figure 9.4 (Doc 6.3.9.4), figures within the Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 6.4.9.1) and Water Framework Directive Assessment (Doc 6.4.9.2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please refer to the section 51 advice letter provided where there are some points of clarification recommended. <p>Statutory and Non-Statutory features of Historic Environment Plan (Doc 2.17)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please refer to the section 51 advice letter provided where there are some points of clarification recommended. <p>ES figures 6.3.7.11.1 – 6.3.7.11.55</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please refer to the section 51 advice letter provided where there are some points of clarification recommended. <p>Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 6.4.9.1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please refer to the section 51 advice letter provided where there are some points of clarification recommended. <p>Document naming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were several instances of document file names differing to the name of the document on the title page. For example, Figure 10.2 Ground Conditions Constraint Plan is also 10.2 Contaminated Land Constraints Plan. <p>Section 51 advice has been issued to the applicant and is available to view on the Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park project page of the National Infrastructure Project website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010162</p>		
31	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="356 940 1016 1342"> <p>In accordance with regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP regulations, is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the proposed development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate</p> </td><td data-bbox="1016 940 2074 1342"> <p>Yes</p> <p>A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report has been provided (Doc ref 5.3).</p> <p>The HRA Report identifies relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites. It is considered that the information provided in the report is adequate for acceptance.</p> <p>Note: The Examining Authority will be able to ask questions during the examination. This may result in additional information being required to inform the HRA Report and the competent authority. Depending upon</p> </td></tr> </table>	<p>In accordance with regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP regulations, is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the proposed development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report has been provided (Doc ref 5.3).</p> <p>The HRA Report identifies relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites. It is considered that the information provided in the report is adequate for acceptance.</p> <p>Note: The Examining Authority will be able to ask questions during the examination. This may result in additional information being required to inform the HRA Report and the competent authority. Depending upon</p>
<p>In accordance with regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP regulations, is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the proposed development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report has been provided (Doc ref 5.3).</p> <p>The HRA Report identifies relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites. It is considered that the information provided in the report is adequate for acceptance.</p> <p>Note: The Examining Authority will be able to ask questions during the examination. This may result in additional information being required to inform the HRA Report and the competent authority. Depending upon</p>		

	assessment of the implications for the site if required by regulation 48(1)?	the type and availability of information required it may not be possible to obtain this during the statutory timetable of the examination.
32	In accordance with regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP regulations, if requested by the Planning Inspectorate, have two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans been provided?	No hard copies requested.
33	Has the applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance'?	Yes The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the applicant has demonstrated regard to the guidance principles.
34	Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)	<p>The Planning Inspectorate concludes that the application (including accompaniments) has been prepared to a standard that it considers satisfactory.</p> <p>In respect of the discrepancies identified in box 30 of this checklist, to help facilitate an efficient and effective examination of the application s51 advice has been provided to the applicant in conjunction with the decision to accept the application.</p> <p>That advice is published on the Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park project page of the National Infrastructure Project website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010162</p>

The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010		
Pre-application fee		
35	<p>Were all pre-application fees paid before the application was made?</p> <p>Pre-application services for which a fee can be charged is defined in regulation 2A(8) and includes services listed within schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010. Fees for pre-application services apply to all proposed applications, from the inception meeting. These fees must be paid within 28 days of the notice. If the applicant fails to pay the fee within 28 days, the Planning Inspectorate will not provide the applicant with any further pre-application services or take any further steps in relation to the proposed application.</p>	<p>The fees for providing the applicant with standard pre-application services were received on 8 July 2025.</p> <p>This was received after the application had been submitted.</p>
Fees to accompany an application		
36	<p>Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must charge the applicant a fee in respect of the decision by</p>	<p>The fee was received on 26 June 2025 before the application was made.</p>

	the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the applicant fails to pay the fee, The Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee must be paid at the same time that the application is made	
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Role	Electronic signature	Date
Case Manager	<i>Tracey Williams</i>	18 July 2025
Acceptance Inspector	<i>Graham Hobbins</i>	21 July 2025