

Planning Act 2008 – Section 93

Application by Elements Green Trent Limited for an order granting development consent for the Great North Road Solar and Biodiversity Park

Agenda for Open Floor Hearing 1 (OFH1):

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Open Floor Hearing 1	Thursday 27 November 2025 Registration and seating available at venue from: 2:30pm Virtual registration process from: 2:30pm Hearing starts: 3:00pm	Sir Stuart Goodwin Suite, Newark Showground, Lincoln Road, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 2NY and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Agenda

- 1. Welcome and logistics**
- 2. Purpose of the open floor hearing**
- 3. Oral submissions at the hearing**

It is likely that:

- a maximum speaking time of five minutes per person will apply to submissions by individuals; and
- a maximum speaking time of ten minutes will apply to shared speaking submissions between several persons (for example representing more than one member of a household) and representatives of membership organisations and formal groups such as businesses, clubs or societies.

The Examining Authority (ExA) will confirm the time limits at the start of the hearing taking into account the number of persons registered to speak.

The ExA may ask questions of persons and the applicant about matters arising from the oral submissions.

The ExA is likely to invite speakers following the order in which they registered to speak.

Should time permit the ExA may invite additional persons who did not register to speak by the deadline.

4. Responses by the applicant

The applicant will be invited to respond to matters raised and to questions arising from the ExA.

5. Next Steps

The ExA will review any actions placed on the applicant and other parties speaking. It will also consider how those actions fit into the timetable and the next steps that need to be taken.

6. Closing

Purpose of an open floor hearing

OFHs are hearings where interested parties and other persons who are individuals, groups and organisations can have their say. They do not have subject-matter controlled agendas. Participants may raise any matters arising from the application that are important and relevant to a decision taken under the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). OFHs aim to identify planning issues that are important and relevant. Once an issue has been identified it does not need to be repeated. It is sufficient to say that you agree with something a previous speaker has raised. All important and relevant issues raised at all OFHs are considered by the ExA and contribute towards its consideration of the planning balance in due course.

Attendees

Anyone wishing to attend the hearing in person, who has not already advised the case team of this, should do so as soon as possible.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage](#) of the National Infrastructure Planning website closer to the hearing date. Anyone who wishes to observe the hearing can therefore view and listen to the hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

Timing

The ExA will keep to the agenda as much as possible. The hearing is not expected to go beyond 5:00pm.

Anyone who is not able to provide all their oral submissions by the close of the hearing should follow it up in writing on or before **Deadline 1 (10 December 2025)**.

Registration Process

Parties who have registered to speak (both in person and virtually) will receive a joining instruction email shortly before the hearing which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. To enable the hearing to start on time at **3.00 pm** those attending virtually should join promptly at **2.30 pm** to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the registration process in good time.

Procedure at an open floor hearing

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at hearings. Questioning at the hearing will be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA considers it is necessary to do so.