

Natural England welcomes the opportunity to provide its final position to the Examining Authority at the close of the examination for the Great North Road Biodiversity and Solar Park application. We can confirm that there have been no changes to the Risk and Issues Log since our submission at Deadline 4. As a result, all items remain at a green RAG status, with the exception of one amber item (NE15). Natural England's position on item NE15 remains unchanged, and we continue to consider the permanent loss of 22.4 hectares to be a major significant impact that should be taken into account by the Secretary of State. Further detail is provided in the Applicant's Statement of Common Ground with Natural England, submitted into the examination at Deadline 6. Natural England has no further comments to make at the close of the examination.