

# Steeple Renewables Project

## 5.1.1 Consultation Report Appendices Part C

[EN010163/APP/5.1.1]

Section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q) Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

May 2025



## Table of Contents

Purpose of this document .....	4
Table 1-1 List of documents in Appendix C .....	4
Appendix C-1 Early draft of SoCC shared with local authorities .....	6
Appendix C-1.1 Email sharing early draft SoCC with Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) .....	6
Appendix C-1.2 Email Sharing early draft SoCC with Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) .....	7
Appendix C-1.3 Chaser email to NCC.....	8
Appendix C-1.4 Chaser email to BDC.....	9
Appendix C-1.5 Draft of SoCC .....	10
Appendix C-2 Email to local authorities for draft SoCC consultation .....	11
Appendix C-2.1 Email sharing early draft SoCC with BDC .....	11
Appendix C-2.2 Email sharing early draft SoCC with NCC .....	12
Appendix C-2.3 Copy of the draft SoCC provided to local authorities .....	13
Appendix C-2.4 Chaser email asking for comments on SoCC to NCC .....	14
Appendix C-2.5 Chaser email asking for comments on SoCC to BDC .....	15
Appendix C-3 Response from local authority on SoCC.....	16
Appendix C-3.1 Email with comments on draft SoCC from Notts CC.....	16
Appendix C-3.2 Chaser email with extended deadline to BDC .....	17
Appendix C-3.3 Email with comments on draft SoCC from BDC .....	18
Appendix C-4 Email to local authorities with updated SoCC and table of amends.....	19
Appendix C-4.1 Email to Notts CC with updated SoCC.....	19
Appendix C-4.2 Email to BDC with updated SoCC .....	20
Appendix C-4.3 Updated SoCC .....	21
Appendix C-4.4 SoCC with tracked changes .....	22
Appendix C-5 Final SoCC.....	23
Appendix C-5.1 Email to Notts CC with final SoCC.....	23
Appendix C-5.2 Email to BDC with final SoCC .....	24
Appendix C-5.3 Final SoCC.....	25
Appendix C-5.4 Website screenshot showing SoCC can be downloaded .....	26
Appendix C-6 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice .....	27
Appendix C-6.1 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice PDF .....	27

Appendix C-6.2 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Guardian clipping .....	28
Appendix C-6.3 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Gazette clipping .....	29
Appendix C-6.4 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Retford Times clipping .....	30
Appendix C-6.5 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Nottingham Post clipping .....	31
Appendix C-6.6 Additional newspaper advert independent of statutory notices .....	32

## Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1. This document the Consultation Report Appendices contains information relevant to the **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1.]**. The Consultation Report has been prepared by Steeple Solar Fram Limited (“the Applicant”) to accompany an application for a Development Consent Order (“DCO”) for Steeple Renewables Project (the Proposed Development).
- 1.1.2. The report is submitted in accordance with section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008), which requires that any application for an order granting development consent must be accompanied by a consultation report.
- 1.1.3. This document contains information which evidences or supports the information provided in the **Consultation Report [EN010163/APP/5.1.]**.

### 1.1 Structure of this document

- 1.2.1. The Appendices are as far as possible the order that are referenced within the Consultation Report.
- 1.2.2. A list is provided below in Table 1-1 of the documents within Appendix C.

**Table 1-1 List of documents in Appendix C**

Appendix No.	Appendix Title
Appendix C-1.1	Email sharing early draft SoCC with Bassetlaw District Council (BDC)
Appendix C-1.2	Email Sharing early draft SoCC with Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC)
Appendix C-1.3	Chaser email to NCC
Appendix C-1.4	Chaser email to BDC
Appendix C-1.5	Draft of SoCC
Appendix C-2.1	Email sharing early draft SoCC with BDC
Appendix C-2.2	Email Sharing early draft SoCC with NCC
Appendix C-2.3	Copy of the draft SoCC provided to local authorities
Appendix C-2.4	Chaser email asking for comments on SoCC to NCC
Appendix C-2.5	Chaser email asking for comments on SoCC to BDC



Appendix C-3.1	Email with comments on draft SoCC from Notts CC
Appendix C-3.2	Chaser email with extended deadline to BDC
Appendix C-3.3	Email with comments on draft SoCC from BDC
Appendix C-4.1	Email to Notts CC with updated SoCC
Appendix C-4.2	Email to BDC with updated SoCC
Appendix C-4.3	Updated SoCC
Appendix C-4.4	SoCC with tracked changes
Appendix C-5.1	Email to Notts CC with final SoCC
Appendix C-5.2	Email to BDC with final SoCC
Appendix C-5.3	Final SoCC
Appendix C-5.4	Website screenshot showing SoCC can be downloaded
Appendix C-6.1	Section 47 and Section 48 Notice PDF
Appendix C-6.2	Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Guardian Clipping
Appendix C-6.3	Section 47 and Section 48 Notice London Gazette Clipping
Appendix C-6.4	Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Retford Times Clipping
Appendix C-6.5	Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Nottingham Post Clipping
Appendix C-6.6	Additional newspaper advert independent of statutory notices

## **Appendix C-1 Early draft of SoCC shared with local authorities**

### **Appendix C-1.1 Email sharing early draft SoCC with Bassetlaw District Council (BDC)**

**From:** [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Steeple Renewables Project Draft SoCC  
**Date:** 18 March 2024 14:14:07  
**Attachments:** [Steeple Renewables Project - Draft SoCC MARCH 24.docx](#)  
[Steeple Renewables Project - Draft SoCC MARCH 24.pdf](#)

---

Dear [REDACTED],

As you may be aware, Steeple Renewables Project is a new renewable energy project being brought forward by RES located immediately to the south of West Burton power station. As Bassetlaw District Council is a host authority for the project, we wanted to share our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for review and any informal comments or feedback you may have (pdf and word versions).

We are sending this through to you ahead of formal submission of the SoCC for consultation, expected late-April. We would appreciate any initial comments on this version before 3rd April so that these could be incorporated into the document before the formal consultation. Please note that there is some red text in the attached, this shows where items are still being confirmed. In particular the land under consideration for the project which we would include in the appendix, this is still being refined as part of the ongoing design process. These details will be finalised ahead of our statutory consultation planned for later this year.

Best Wishes,

[REDACTED]

**Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team**

## Appendix C-1.2 Email Sharing early draft SoCC with Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC)

**From:** [info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Steeple Renewables Project Draft SOCC  
**Date:** 18 March 2024 14:13:43  
**Attachments:** [Steeple Renewables Project - Draft SoCC MARCH 24.docx](#)  
[Steeple Renewables Project - Draft SoCC MARCH 24.pdf](#)

---

Good Afternoon all,

As you may be aware, Steeple Renewables Project is a new renewable energy project being brought forward by RES located immediately to the south of West Burton power station. As Nottinghamshire County Council is a host authority for the project, we wanted to share our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for review and any informal comments or feedback you may have (pdf and word versions).

We are sending this through to you ahead of formal submission of the SoCC for consultation, expected late-April. We would appreciate any initial comments on this version before 3rd April so that these could be incorporated into the document before the formal consultation. Please note that there is some red text in the attached, this shows where items are still being confirmed. In particular the land under consideration for the project which we would include in the appendix, this is still being refined as part of the ongoing design process. These details will be finalised ahead of our statutory consultation planned for later this year.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

**Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team**



## Appendix C-1.3 Chaser email to NCC

---

**Re: Steeple Renewables Project Draft SOCC**

---

**From** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Date** Thu 2024-04-04 15:59

**To**

**B**

Good Afternoon,

I just wanted to follow up on the below email to see if you have any comments on the draft SoCC?

Just to confirm we are in the process of finalising the PPA and will have the completed version across to you soon.

If you have any questions regarding the SoCC or the PPA let me know.

Kind Regards,

**Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team**

---

**From:** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 2:13 PM

**Subject:** Steeple Renewables Project Draft SOCC

Good Afternoon all,

As you may be aware, Steeple Renewables Project is a new renewable energy project being brought forward by RES located immediately to the south of West Burton power station. As Nottinghamshire County Council is a host authority for the project, we wanted to share our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for review and any informal comments or feedback you may have (pdf and word versions).

We are sending this through to you ahead of formal submission of the SoCC for consultation, expected late-April. We would appreciate any initial comments on this version before 3rd April so that these could be incorporated into the document before the formal consultation. Please note that there is some red text in the attached, this shows where items are still being confirmed. In particular the land under consideration for the project which we would include in the appendix, this is still being refined as part of the ongoing design process. These details will be finalised ahead of our statutory consultation planned for later this year.

Kind Regards,



**Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team**

## Appendix C-1.4 Chaser email to BDC

---

**Re: Steeple Renewables Project Draft SoCC**

---

**From** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Date** Thu 2024-04-04 16:00

**To**

**Cc**

**Bcc**

Good Afternoon,

I just wanted to follow up on the below email to see if you have any comments on the draft SoCC?

Just to confirm we are in the process of finalising the PPA and will have the completed version across to you soon.

If you have any questions regarding the SoCC or the PPA let me know.

Kind Regards,

Indya

**Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team**

---

**From:** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2024 2:14 PM

**To**

**Cc**

**Subject:** Steeple Renewables Project Draft SoCC

Dear [REDACTED],

As you may be aware, Steeple Renewables Project is a new renewable energy project being brought forward by RES located immediately to the south of West Burton power station. As Bassetlaw District Council is a host authority for the project, we wanted to share our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for review and any informal comments or feedback you may have (pdf and word versions).

We are sending this through to you ahead of formal submission of the SoCC for consultation, expected late-April. We would appreciate any initial comments on this version before 3rd April so that these could be incorporated into the document before the formal consultation. Please note that there is some red text in the attached, this shows where items are still being confirmed. In particular the land under consideration for the project which we would include in the appendix, this is still being refined as part of the ongoing design process. These details will be finalised ahead of our statutory consultation planned for later this year.

Best Wishes,

Indya

**Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team**



## Appendix C-1.5 Draft of SoCC

# Steeple Renewables Project

Statement of Community Consultation  
March 2024 (DRAFT)



## Contents

1.	Introduction .....	3
1.1.	Purpose of the document .....	3
2.	Steeple Renewables Project .....	4
2.1.	The Project .....	4
2.2.	Environmental Impact Assessment.....	4
3.	Consenting process.....	5
4.	About RES .....	6
4.1.	The Applicant - RES.....	6
5.	Engagement to date.....	6
5.2.	Timeline for the Project .....	7
6.	Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act .....	8
6.1.	How we will consult on the proposed application .....	8
6.2.	Who are we consulting .....	9
6.3.	What are we consulting on? .....	10
6.4.	Approach to community consultation .....	14
6.5.	Consultation events.....	16
6.6.	Promoting the consultation .....	16
6.7.	Engagement with seldom-heard groups .....	17
6.8.	Information channels .....	19
7.	Responding to the consultation .....	20
7.1.	How to respond to the consultation .....	20
7.2.	Further consultation.....	20
8.	How we will use consultation feedback .....	20
9.	Contact details .....	21
10.	Appendices.....	22
	Appendix 1: Land under consideration for Steeple Renewables Project.....	22

# **1. Introduction**

## **1.1. Purpose of the document**

- 1.1.1. RES (“we” or “the Applicant”) is publishing this Statement of Community Consultation (“SoCC”) in connection with its proposals for a new solar energy and battery storage scheme known as Steeple Renewables Project (“the Project”).
- 1.1.2. The purpose of this SoCC is to set out how we intend to consult people living in the vicinity of the Project about the proposals.
- 1.1.3. Understanding the views of the local community, local authorities and other stakeholders helps ensure we identify valuable information and the feedback received will help shape the Project.
- 1.1.4. This SoCC explains the consultation being undertaken before submission for our application for development consent. It includes:
  - a description of the consenting process we must follow
  - what we will be consulting on
  - who we will consult
  - how we will consult
  - how people can respond to the consultation
  - how we will use the consultation feedback responses
- 1.1.5. Anticipated to generate up to 400MW of solar energy and 200MW of battery storage, the Project is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (“NSIP”), as defined by the Planning Act 2008 (“the 2008 Act”) and requires consent from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, via a Development Consent Order (“DCO”).
- 1.1.6. This SoCC has been prepared in accordance with section 47(1) of the 2008 Act, which requires applicants to prepare a statement explaining how they will consult with the local community regarding their proposals, and to carry out pre-application consultation in accordance with this statement.
- 1.1.7. As the Project is an ‘EIA Development’ (meaning that it is subject to an environmental impact assessment or “EIA”), this SoCC also sets out how RES intends to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information, in accordance with Regulation 12 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (“the EIA Regulations”).
- 1.1.8. In addition to our obligations under section 47, section 42 of the 2008 Act sets out how to consult with prescribed consultees, local authorities and persons with an interest in land. All section 42 consultees will be consulted in accordance with this document and are able to participate in community consultation activities.



## 2. Steeple Renewables Project

### 2.1. The Project

- 2.1.1. The Project is located on land at Sturton-le-Steeple, Nottinghamshire, within the administrative boundaries of Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. The Project will connect into the grid at the recently decommissioned West Burton Power Station.
- 2.1.2. The Project comprises of an area of approximately 2,324 acres and is made up of land parcels in the vicinity of West Burton Power Station where solar panels and battery storage energy systems are proposed. The Project will also include associated infrastructure, areas for ecological mitigation and enhancement.
- 2.1.3. The Project would make a meaningful contribution to the local, and national climate commitments generating up to 400MW of renewable energy, for approximately 156,884 homes every year, around 45% of all homes in Nottinghamshire<sup>1</sup>.
- 2.1.4. A map of the land under consideration for the Project can be found at **Appendix 1**.

### 2.2. Environmental Impact Assessment

- 2.2.1. The Project constitutes an 'Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development' as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.
- 2.2.2. An EIA is therefore being prepared to ensure the likely significant effects of the Project are properly understood and whether appropriate mitigation measures should be put in place to control or reduce environmental effects. The DCO application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement containing the findings of the EIA.
- 2.2.3. An EIA Scoping Opinion was issued by the Planning Inspectorate on XX. Together with the Applicant's Scoping Report, this identifies the environmental issues relevant to the Project and suggests any potential mitigation measures. The Scoping Opinion is available to view on the Planning Inspectorate website at:  
  
[please note: As this is an early draft of the SoCC, the scoping report has not yet been submitted  
this text will be updated ahead of the formal SoCC consultation]
- 2.2.4. In accordance with Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) which sets out initial information on the potential environmental effects of the Project and any proposed mitigation, will be prepared and published that will help consultees to take an informed view on these matters.

---

<sup>1</sup> The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from the Department of Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,748 kWh (Dec 2021). This calculation will be updated with the most recent annual average electricity figures from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) (January 2024) for the statutory consultation.



- 2.2.5. The Applicant will invite feedback on the information presented in the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation. Feedback received will be considered before the DCO application and EIA are finalised for submission.

### 3. Consenting process

- 3.1.1. As the Project will have a generating capacity of more than 50MW, the Project will be classified as a National Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and under the 2008 Act requires the Applicant to submit an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 3.1.2. If the application for the DCO is accepted, the Planning Inspectorate will appoint an Examining Authority to scrutinise the application who would make a recommendation on the application to the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero. The Secretary of State makes the final decision on a DCO application.
- 3.1.3. Before submitting a DCO application, the 2008 Act requires us to carry out consultation with people living in the vicinity of the land and prescribed stakeholders.
- 3.1.4. Pre-application consultation is a key requirement for applications for Development Consent Orders for major infrastructure projects under the 2008 Act. The 2008 Act requires us to consult with persons with an interest in the proposed land and certain bodies as prescribed under section 42 of the 2008 Act; the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act (the subject of this SoCC); and to publicise the proposals, locally and nationally, under section 48 of the 2008 Act and regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("EIA Regulations"). It also provides a fixed role as consultees for those local authorities which host the Project.
- 3.1.5. Discharging the obligations under section 42 and section 48 of the 2008 Act is not intended by this SoCC.
- 3.1.6. Further information on the DCO application process can be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate which has published a range of advice notes which intend to inform applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of matters in relation to the 2008 Act process. This includes advice note eight, which provides more detail on the NSIP planning process. All advice notes can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website: [www.infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/](http://www.infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/).
- 3.1.7. In line with the requirements of the 2008 Act, we provided Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council with an opportunity to comment on a draft version of this SoCC. Regard has been had to their responses in producing this final version.
- 3.1.8. An overview of the DCO process is shown in **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: The DCO Process



## 4. About RES

### 4.1. The Applicant - RES

- 4.1.1. RES, a British company, is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, active in onshore and offshore wind, solar, energy storage, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution.
- 4.1.2. At the forefront of the industry for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 24GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports an operational asset portfolio exceeding 41GW worldwide for a large client base.
- 4.1.3. Drawing on its decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality which contribute to a low carbon future by providing a secure supply of sustainable, low cost, clean green energy. RES is committed to finding effective and appropriate ways of engaging with all its stakeholders, including local residents and businesses, and believes that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process. RES is also committed to developing long term relationships with the communities around its projects, proactively seeking ways in which it can support and encourage community involvement in social and environmental projects near its developments.

## 5. Engagement to date

- 5.1.1. The Applicant undertook early informal consultation on the Project between Monday 23 October and Monday 4 December 2023<sup>2</sup>.
- 5.1.2. The non-statutory consultation had the following aims:
- to introduce the Project to the public, providing an overview of the Project and the national need for solar
  - present the early plans
  - to give stakeholders and the community the opportunity to provide feedback on the early proposals

<sup>2</sup> Whilst the consultation material states a consultation close date of 4 December 2023, due to IT issues that rendered the feedback form inactive for two days, the consultation was therefore extended to account for this, and the consultation closed at 11:59pm on Wednesday 6 December 2023.

- to outline the next steps for the Project

5.1.3. Over the course of the non-statutory consultation, the project team held two face-to-face consultation events and one webinar. The consultation was publicised through a mixture of direct mailings, newspaper adverts and posters sent to local parishes. Dedicated project information channels were established for those who had questions about the Project or needed to get in contact with the project team. This engagement is summarised in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Summary of activities to date**

Activity	Total
Community newsletters issued	3,334
In-person consultation events	2
Stakeholder briefings	6
Webinars	1

5.1.4. There were a number of ways for members of the public and those interested in the consultation to provide feedback. These included:

- completing an online feedback form on the project website ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk))
- completing a paper feedback form or sending written comments by post (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project)
- emailing feedback to the project email address ([info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk))
- calling the project information line (0115 718 2070)

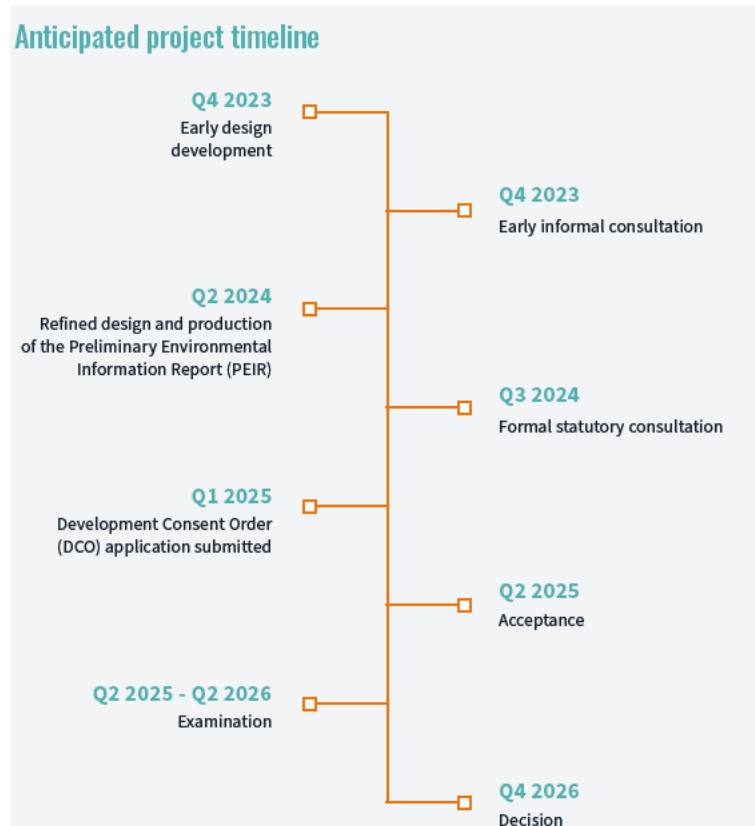
5.1.5. In total, throughout the six-week early consultation period, 118 responses were received.

5.1.6. More information about the non-statutory consultation can be found in the Early Consultation Report which is part of the documents that are currently available on the project website. Archive documents from the non-statutory consultation will remain available on the project website. Paper copies will be available on request and subject to a printing charge.

## **5.2. Timeline for the Project**

5.2.1. **Figure 2** sets out an indicative timeline for each stage of the Project from consultation through to the Secretary of State's decision.

**Figure 2: Indicative project timeline**



## **6. Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act**

### **6.1. How we will consult on the proposed application**

- 6.1.1. We will undertake a statutory consultation in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act for eight weeks starting on Monday 17 June 2024. The deadline for accepting consultation responses is 11:59pm on Monday 12 August 2024. All responses to the consultation must be received by the closing date.
- 6.1.2. This consultation will provide an opportunity for people in the local community and interested parties to have their say about our proposals for the Project.
- 6.1.3. As well as the community consultation in accordance with Section 47, this consultation will also include:
- consultation with prescribed bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways (under Section 42 of the 2008 Act),
  - consultation with host and neighbouring Local Planning Authorities (under Section 43 of the 2008 Act),

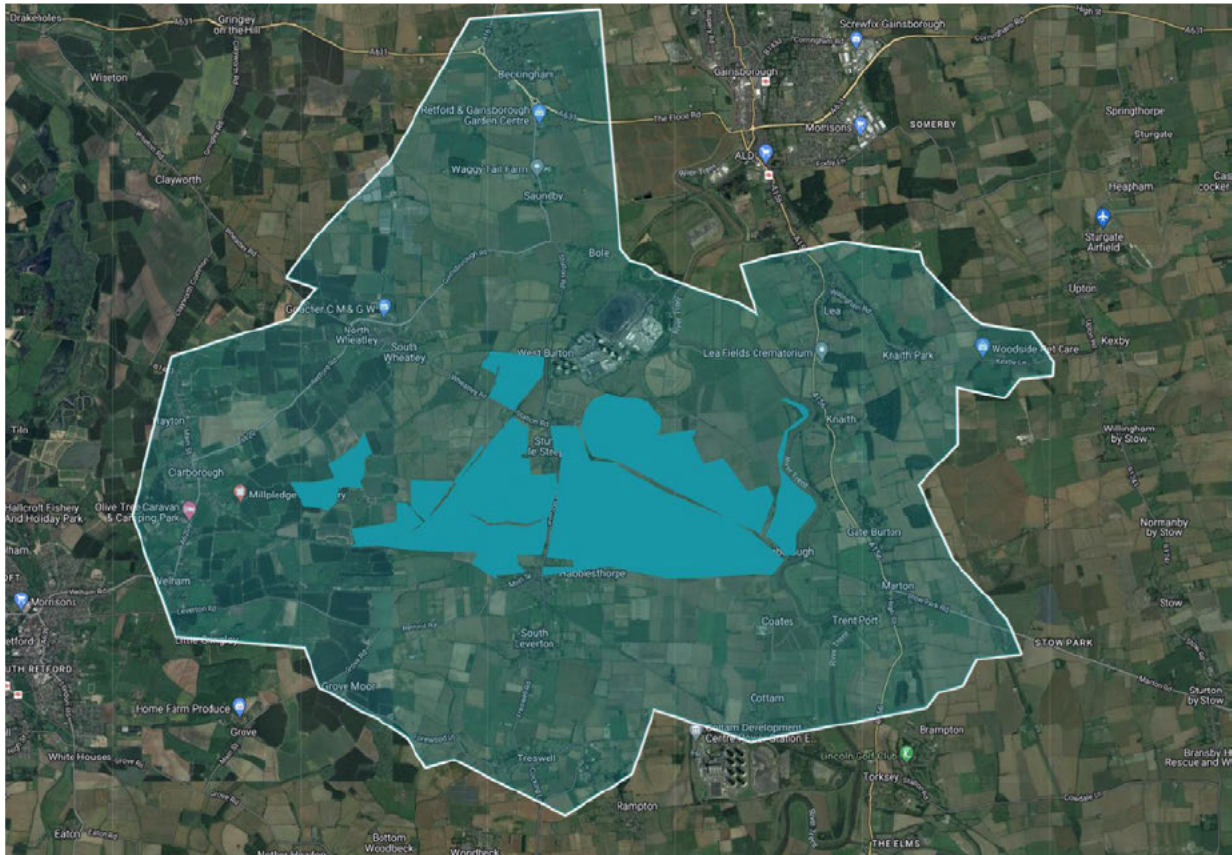
- consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by the Project (under Section 44 of the 2008 Act); and
- general public consultation on the Project (under Section 48 of the 2008 Act).

## **6.2. Who are we consulting?**

- 6.2.1. We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC. Our consultation process is open to anyone with an interest in our proposals for the Project.
- 6.2.2. We have identified a primary consultation zone (PCZ) (shown in **Figure 3**) for the purpose of communicating with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act. The PCZ has been identified by extending a minimum distance of approximately two kilometres from the proposed site boundary within which the solar PV panels, energy storage system and on-site substation and supporting infrastructure would be located.
- 6.2.3. The PCZ has been amended beyond these criteria, in certain areas, to consider:
- existing physical features, such as main roads
  - capturing entire communities rather than excluding small numbers of properties
  - where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications.
- 6.2.4. Within the PCZ, we will be consulting any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the Project by virtue of their living or working in proximity to the site.
- 6.2.5. This will include:
- parish councils representing parishes within the PCZ, Members of Parliament (MPs) representing constituencies within and bordering the PCZ;
  - elected representatives in local authorities within the PCZ; and
  - relevant local interest groups, such as residents' associations, community groups and groups with particular specialisms, such as environmental groups; and we are also committed to making sure that individuals and organisations outside of the PCZ are given the opportunity to participate in the statutory consultation



Figure 3: Primary consultation zone (PCZ) for the Project



*The dark teal area is the land under consideration, and the lighter shaded area is the consultation zone that extends 2km from the site boundary.*

[Please note: As this is an early draft of the SoCC, the above image is based on the diagram which shows the land under consideration that was presented at our early informal consultation. We are in the process of reviewing this following feedback from the early informal consultation, environmental assessment work and ongoing surveys]

### 6.3. What are we consulting on?

- 6.3.1. We will present proposals for the Project including how they have been informed by our environmental assessments and consultation to date.
- 6.3.2. We will be seeking feedback on the ongoing evolution of the proposals for the Project. These proposals will be explained in the following materials:
  - PEIR – the PEIR sets out the preliminary findings from the EIA
  - PEIR Non-Technical Summary – the Non-Technical Summary is a brief overview of the EIA work that has been undertaken. This summary is written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public
  - Consultation brochure – this brochure will provide an overview of the proposals including site layouts and connection infrastructure
  - Maps – The maps will set out the site areas in which the Project will be located

**Table 2: Statutory consultation materials for the Project**

<b>Consultation materials</b>	
<b>Material</b>	<b>Detail</b>
<b>Consultation newsletter</b>	<p>A newsletter publicising the consultation and outlining a high-level overview of the Project, details of the consultation programme, including the location, dates and times of the public consultation events will be distributed to 3000+ addresses within the PCZ.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be issued to wider consultees via email and distributed to local interest groups and sent to statutory parties in the post.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be available to view and download on the project website.</p>
<b>Consultation brochure</b>	<p>A consultation brochure will be published on the project website at the start of the statutory consultation period, providing a summary of the proposals we are consulting on, an outline of the environmental assessment work, details of how people can take part, and how feedback will be used to influence and shape the proposals.</p> <p>Printed copies of this brochure will be available to take away at all consultation events, at deposit locations, and on request by contacting the project team.</p> <p>The brochure will also be available for download from the project website.</p>
<b>Feedback form</b>	<p>A feedback form will be prepared to gather feedback on all aspects of the Project.</p> <p>The feedback form will be available for completion online via the project website and will be accessible throughout the six-week consultation period.</p> <p>Printed feedback forms will be available (free of charge) on request by contacting the project team, in hard copy at consultation events, and at the deposit points, along with freepost envelopes.</p> <p>The feedback form will also be available to download from the website, complete in pen and return to FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project.</p>
<b>Exhibition boards</b>	<p>Exhibition boards will be created to display information about the proposals and provide an overview of the key components of the Project.</p> <p>The boards will be designed to assist the understanding of the Project at the consultation events.</p> <p>Members of the public will also be available to view the boards in the virtual exhibition on the project</p>

	website, which will go live on the day of the first event.
<b>PEIR</b>	<p>The PEIR will contain a description of the Project, and a preliminary assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of the Project, based on the initial information available at that time.</p> <p>It will also set out how we propose to mitigate the impacts of and maximise the benefits of the Project.</p> <p>The PEIR can be downloaded free of charge from the project website. A printed copy of the full PEIR will be available to view (but not take away) at the consultation events and deposit locations. Copies of the PEIR contained on a USB stick can be sent out on request at no extra cost. A hard copy can be requested for a charge of £0.35 per page to cover printing and posting costs. Requests for hardcopies can be made by email: <a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.</p>
<b>PEIR Non-Technical Summary</b>	<p>The Non-Technical Summary (NTS) is a brief overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment work that has been undertaken. This summary is written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public.</p> <p>The NTS will be available to view on our project website, at deposit locations, at or consultation events and posted out on request.</p>
<b>Technical maps and plans of the Project</b>	<p>Additional technical maps and plans for the Project will also be available on the project website and at the consultation events and deposit locations (tbc).</p> <p>Requests for hard copies of the technical documents will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. To cover printing costs a reasonable copying charge may apply (up to a maximum of £350 for one full suite of documents - to be paid for by the recipient).</p>
<b>Materials in alternative formats</b>	<p>Upon request, documents can be made available in alternative accessible formats, such as braille, and speaking text. Consultation information in alternative languages can be provided.</p> <p>All requests should be made to the project team by email: <a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.</p>

**Table 3: The project website**

Features	Rationale
<b>Online downloadable copies of all the statutory consultation material, including:</b>	To ensure the exhibition material is accessible to those who may not be able to get to an in-person event or a



<b>The PEIR, consultation brochure and feedback form</b>	deposit location. This will ensure that the consultation is fully accessible to everyone who wants to participate.
<b>Virtual exhibition</b>	<p>To ensure that people who cannot attend the events are able to access the same materials that are present at the in-person events.</p> <p>This allows people to virtually walk around the consultation room simulating how the exhibition boards would be viewed at a public consultation event. The consultation feedback mechanism can also be accessed via the virtual exhibition.</p>
<b>Web page content</b>	<p>The project website will provide up to date information about the project and have downloadable versions of all the documents that have been prepared for statutory consultation.</p> <p>The website will feature several pages that will provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an overview of the Project, the energy it will generate, information on the opportunity the Project presents and the potential benefits it could bring</li> <li>• an up to date version of the site plan, rationale for site selection and the layouts of the panels across the site areas</li> <li>• a brief overview of the DCO process and an indicative project timeline</li> <li>• benefits to the local economy and community that could be delivered as part of the proposals</li> <li>• information about RES and its history as a renewable energy developer and its global portfolio of projects</li> </ul>
<b>Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</b>	To provide answers to frequently asked questions without the need to contact the project team or attend an in-person event.
<b>Online feedback form</b>	To enable members of the public to submit their feedback online and reduce the carbon footprint of consultation activity. This will be available from the consultation launch until close.
<b>Register for updates function</b>	This enables the public to register to be updated about the project, when signed up they will receive updates at key project milestones.
<b>Webinar registration form</b>	To enable members of the public to register to join the webinar.
<b>Contact details</b>	To provide details of how to contact the project team for any further questions.

## 6.4. Approach to community consultation

- 6.4.1. During the statutory consultation, we will use a range of methods to ensure an inclusive, meaningful, and open consultation. We will use a range of digital and non-digital methods of communication to ensure that our consultation can be accessed by all members of the community.
- 6.4.2. We will be focusing our consultation on communities within the primary consultation zone (PCZ); however, we will ensure communities outside of the PCZ are made aware of the consultation.
- 6.4.3. Inside the PCZ:
- All homes and businesses within the PCZ will be sent a consultation newsletter with high-level details about the Project and consultation programme, as well as contact details for the project team
  - Consultation events will be held at locations within the PCZ
  - Relevant groups and organisations such as parish councils and local interest groups, will be notified of consultation opportunities
  - We have also identified a list of local community spaces within the PCZ that will be directly mailed a poster to put up, advertising how people can get involved in the consultation
- 6.4.4. Outside of the PCZ:
- We will raise awareness of the consultation using a number of methods, including via local news media, project website and direct communication with organisations such as regional, environmental, religious or health organisations located outside of the PCZ
- 6.4.5. **Table 4** below sets out the approaches that will be used to consult on the proposals and Preliminary Environmental Information.

**Table 4: Statutory consultation methods for the Project**

Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
Consultation events	<p>We will be holding three in-person events at locations spread across the PCZ. These events will be publicised in the consultation newsletter, the consultation brochure, on posters, in local news media and in a public notice and on the project website.</p> <p>These events will run for periods of five hours on a mixture of weekdays and weekends to accommodate different availability.</p> <p>Details of the events are available in <b>Table 5</b>.</p>
Stakeholder briefing meetings	<p>We will seek to brief key political stakeholders, representing wards, constituencies and parishes within the consultation zone.</p>

	We will consider invitations to, or requests for, meetings with affected stakeholders, other local groups or special interest organisations on a case-by-case basis.
<b>Webinar</b>	<p>One webinar will be held for members of the public to join towards the end of the consultation period to provide an alternative option for those who may not be able to attend the in-person events. This will be held in the evening outside of normal working hours to make the session as accessible as possible.</p> <p>Individuals can register to join the webinar via the website. The webinar will be held on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DATE TBC</li> </ul> <p>A recording of the webinar will be made available online for those unavailable to attend.</p>
<b>Project contact details</b>	<p>Members of the public will be able to call and speak to a member of the project team on the project information line (0115 718 2070), email (<a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) or write in (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project)</p>
<b>Deposit and information points</b>	<p>Hard copies of the consultation materials including this SoCC, the consultation brochure and the PEIR will be available to view at the following deposit locations and times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gainsborough Library</li> <li>• Sturton Hall and Conference Centre</li> <li>• Retford Library</li> </ul> <p>[locations and opening times to be confirmed]</p> <p>Only hard copies of the consultation brochure and feedback form will be available for people to take away with them.</p> <p>We will check on a weekly basis that sufficient volumes of consultation documentation remains at the information points throughout the consultation period.</p> <p>Where possible, if there are hard copies of the consultation brochure and feedback form remaining after the respective consultation events have taken place, we will leave these behind at the venues, so that community groups using these spaces afterwards can view the material and take away copies if they wish.</p>
<b>Project website and virtual exhibition</b>	<p>A dedicated project website (<a href="http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) will be updated for people to find out more information about the proposals and to provide feedback.</p> <p>All consultation documents will be presented on the website and available for download, free of charge from the document library. The website will also feature a virtual exhibition. Information will be consistent with materials available at the deposit locations and consultation events.</p>

- 6.4.6. Any activity(ies) that cannot be undertaken due to circumstances beyond our control, where possible, will be substituted with similar activity(ies) and communicated in local newspapers (via press release) circulating in the vicinity of the Project. Any activity changes will also be published on the project website.

## 6.5. Consultation events

- 6.5.1. Three public consultation events will be held for communities to find out information about the Project and speak to members of the project team. The consultation events will be held at suitable, publicly accessible venues located within the PCZ.
- 6.5.2. Copies of all relevant consultation materials will be made available in print format at each consultation event. There will be a series of exhibition boards to present the proposals for the Project, including maps.
- 6.5.3. Those attending will be encouraged to provide their feedback on the proposals.
- 6.5.4. **Table 5** outlines the dates, times, and locations of each of the consultation events.

**Table 5: Details of the consultation events**

Date	Time	Location
TBC		Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY
TBC		South Leverton Memorial Institute Town St, South Leverton, Retford, DN22 0BT
TBC		Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY
TBC		Online

## 6.6. Promoting the consultation

- 6.6.1. We will use a variety of methods to make people aware of the Project and publicise the statutory consultation. These methods are outlined in **Table 6** below.

**Table 6: Methods for promoting the statutory consultation for The Project**

Methods to promote the consultation	
Method	Detail
Consultation newsletter	Consultation newsletters will be posted to all homes and businesses in the PCZ ahead of the statutory consultation period. The newsletter will also be issued to statutory consultees in the mail, and to wider consultees via email, including local interest groups.



<b>Press releases</b>	To raise awareness of the Project and the consultation programme, both within and beyond the PCZ, we will share a press release with local media outlets at the start of consultation.
<b>Emails and letters</b>	<p>We will send both emails and letters about the consultation programme to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• host constituency and neighbouring constituency area MPs;</li> <li>• elected representatives at Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council;</li> <li>• host and neighbouring parish councils;</li> <li>• host and neighbouring local authorities; and</li> <li>• local interest groups, such as environmental groups</li> </ul> <p>Parish councils will be sent hard copies of the consultation brochure as part of the mailing to statutory consultees.</p>
<b>Statutory notices</b>	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the consultation, in accordance with section 48 of the 2008 Act, will be published once in a national newspaper (The Guardian) and the London Gazette and twice (across two successive weeks) in local circulating papers such as The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p> <p>Statutory notices publicising the SoCC, in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act, will be published once (for one week) in local circulating papers such as The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p>
<b>Information posters</b>	<p>Posters including details of the consultation, how to access information about the Project and how to get involved, will be displayed at well-used public locations within and outside of the PCZ, including libraries, shops and civic buildings. These will be hosted in agreement with relevant organisations and venues.</p> <p>Information posters will be sent to all host and neighbouring parish councils, to be used on local noticeboards, and to help raise awareness of the consultation.</p>

## 6.7. Engagement with seldom heard groups

- 6.7.1. We are committed to ensuring that our consultation is accessible and inclusive for all stakeholders, including ‘under-represented’ or ‘seldom heard’ groups and individuals who may be less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation methods.

6.7.2. These groups and individuals that may find it harder to be involved in the consultation, and/or need additional support to access materials, include:

- geographically isolated communities
- young people
- older people
- disabled people and those with learning disabilities
- people who do not have English as a first language

**Table 7: Consultation with seldom-heard groups for the Project**

<b>Seldom-heard groups</b>	<b>Consultation approach</b>
<b>Older people</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the PCZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p>Providing important information in both digital and non-digital formats and offering alternative formats such as large print formats (upon request).</p> <p>Offering feedback to be provided via a freepost address so feedback can be easily provided by post.</p> <p>Consultation events at three locations within the PCZ, with members of the team available to answer questions to help inform feedback responses.</p>
<b>Disabled people and those with learning disabilities</b>	<p>Providing important information in both digital and non-digital formats and providing alternate formats such as braille and large print (upon request).</p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p>Consultation events at three locations within the PCZ, with members of the team available to assist with completing feedback responses.</p> <p>One online webinar, so anyone who may not be able to attend an in-person event can have the opportunity to ask questions of the project team.</p> <p>Ensure all event spaces have disabled access and facilities, and the layout of the consultation room provide space for those with wheelchairs to move around.</p>
<b>Geographically isolated communities</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the PCZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p>

	<p>Offering feedback to be provided via an online form and via the freepost address so feedback can be easily provided from all locations.</p> <p>One webinar for people to join and find out about the Project.</p> <p>Advertising the availability of the project phonenumber for stakeholders with further questions to speak with the project team, regardless of location.</p>
<b>Young people</b>	Online engagement methods, to encourage young people to complete online feedback forms and engage with the consultation.
<b>People who do not have English as a first language</b>	Upon request, consultation information can be made available to those who speak additional languages. If required, the team will appoint appropriate translation services who can read materials such as the PEIR out over the phone. Stakeholders can request this service by contacting the project team through the below communication channels.

## 6.8. Information channels

- 6.8.1. The following channels will be available throughout the consultation for members of the community and other stakeholders to get in touch with the project team, ask questions, request further information, or request copies of the consultation materials and documents. These channels are provided in **Table 8** below:

**Table 8: Information channels for the Project**

Channel	Contact details	Hours of operation
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24/7
<b>Telephone</b>	0115 718 2070	9am–5:30pm weekdays (with a voicemail facility to take messages outside these hours)
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24 hour (emails will be monitored between 9am–5:30pm weekdays and responded to within 10 working days)
<b>Post</b>	FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project	24 hour (mailbox will be monitored between 9am-5:30pm on weekdays)

- 6.8.2. Requests for consultation information to meet specific requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis so we can establish how best to provide the information required. This will include materials such as large print or audio for those with visual impairments, or an alternative language to for those for whom English is not their first language, to enable them to take part in the consultation.

## 7. Responding to the consultation

### 7.1. How to respond to the consultation

- 7.1.1. Feedback to the consultation must be submitted **by 11:59pm on 12 August 2024**. Responses received after this date may not be considered.
- 7.1.2. Consultation responses can be made in the following ways:
- Completing the feedback form online which can be accessed via the project website from Monday 17 June 2024: ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk))
  - Attending a consultation event and completing a printed feedback form which can be handed into the team in-person or taken away and sent to us via a freepost (using FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project). Feedback forms can also be collected from our community deposit locations, downloaded from the website, and completed in pen or requested from the project team, using the contact details in **Table 8**.
  - Emailing into [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
  - Writing to us at FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (no stamp is required)

### 7.2. Further consultation

- 7.2.1. If, following the statutory consultation we consider it is necessary to undertake further targeted or supplementary consultation, this would be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC.

## 8. How we will use consultation feedback

- 8.1.1. When our statutory consultation closes, we will have regard to all comments received. All feedback, including ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders, is important to us and will help to influence our design for the Project.
- 8.1.2. Once we have reviewed and finalised our application, we will produce a Consultation Report, which will set out how the feedback from the pre-application consultation has shaped and influenced our proposed application.
- 8.1.3. The Consultation Report will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero as part of the DCO application.
- 8.1.4. Any comments received could be made public but no personal information will be published. Any personal data received as part of the consultation will be stored and protected in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation. The privacy notice for those visiting the project website is available at: [www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk).

## **9. Contact details**

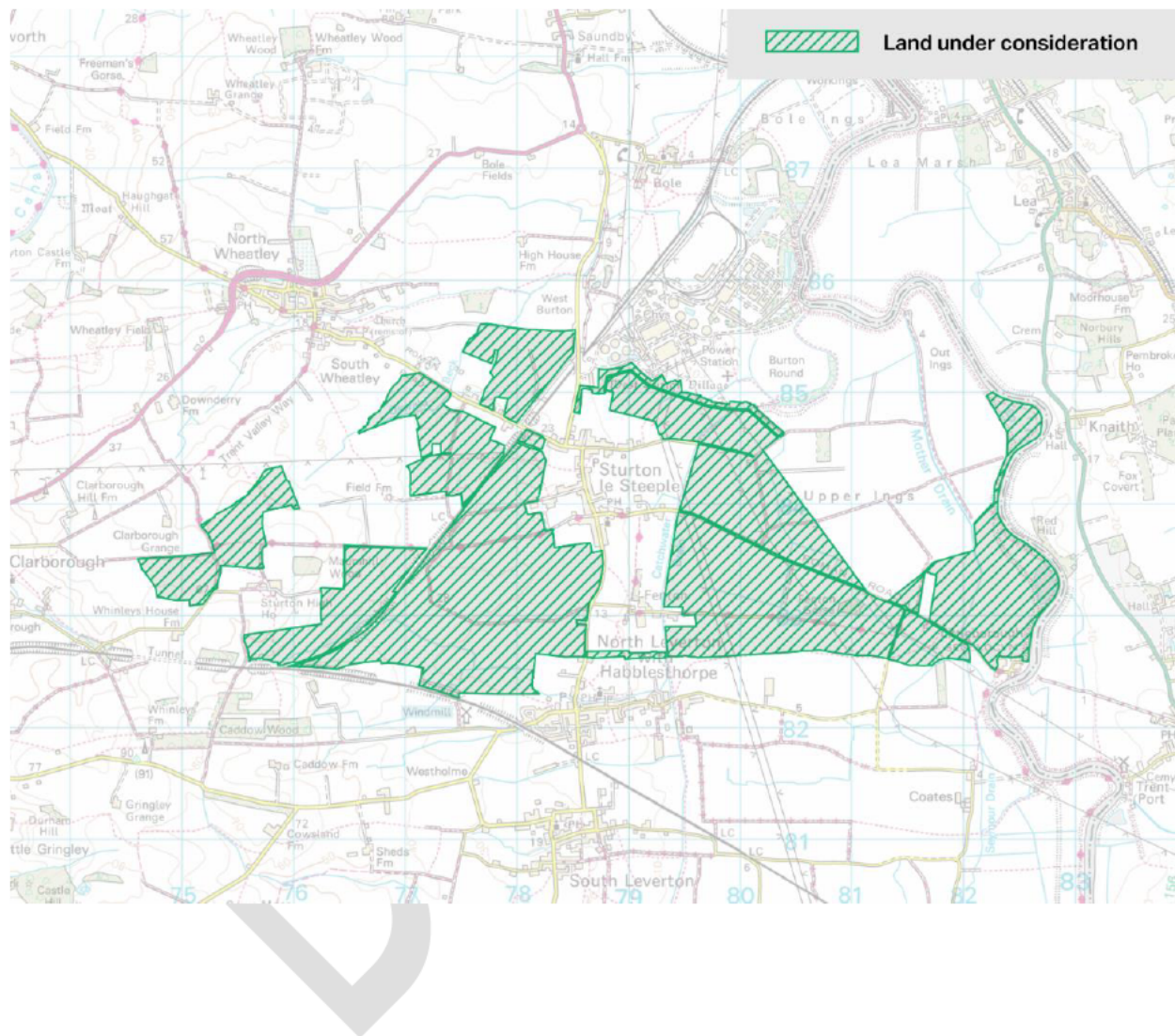
- 9.1.1. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more information about the Project and our consultation programme. The project team can be contacted using any of the communications lines listed below.
- 9.1.2. Should you require any documents in large print, audio or braille then please contact us using the details provided. Every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate at the time of going to print.
- 9.1.3. Our communications channels are:
- Email: [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
  - Call: 0115 718 2070
  - Write to: FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (you do not need a stamp)



## 10. Appendices

### Appendix 1: Land under consideration for Steeple Renewables Project

[Please note: As this is an early draft of the SoCC, this is the diagram showing land under consideration that was presented at our early informal consultation. We are in the process of reviewing this following feedback from the early informal consultation, environmental assessment work and ongoing surveys]



## **Appendix C-2 Email to local authorities for draft SoCC consultation**

### **Appendix C-2.1 Email sharing early draft SoCC with BDC**



---

**Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

---

From

Date

To

Cc

Bcc

 5 a

BASSET~1.PDF; BASSET~1.PDF; BASSET~1.PDF; Steeple Renewables Project - Draft SoCC Letter Bassetlaw.pdf; Steeple Renewables Project - Draft SoCC FOR COMMENTS.docx;

Good morning,

I hope this email finds you well.

We are writing to you regarding Steeple Renewables Project, a solar and battery storage project in Sturton-le-Steeple, Nottinghamshire. As a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project we must apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008.

Before submitting our DCO application, we are required to conduct a statutory consultation. Enclosed is our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) outlining how we intend to engage with the local community regarding the project.

As a representative of a local authority under section 43(1) of the Planning Act 2008, we invite you to review and comment on the draft SoCC. Please find attached the draft SoCC for your review, along with the formal letter requesting your comments.

We would appreciate it if you could confirm receipt of this email and the attached documents at your earliest convenience. Please submit your comments via email to [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk), the deadline for providing comments is **11.59pm on Wednesday 04 December 2024**.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

  
On Behalf of RES

## Appendix C-2.2 Email sharing early draft SoCC with NCC

---

**Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

---

**From** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Date** Wed 2024-11-06 11:48

**To**

**Bcc**

 2 attachments (3 MB)

Steeple Renewables Project - Draft SoCC Letter NCC.pdf; Steeple Renewables Project - Draft SoCC FOR COMMENTS.docx;

Good morning all,

I hope this email finds you well.

We are writing to you regarding Steeple Renewables Project, a solar and battery storage project in Sturton-le-Steeple, Nottinghamshire. As a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project we must apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008.

Before submitting our DCO application, we are required to conduct a statutory consultation. Enclosed is our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) outlining how we intend to engage with the local community regarding the project.

As a representative of a local authority under section 43(1) of the Planning Act 2008, we invite you to review and comment on the draft SoCC. Please find attached the draft SoCC for your review, along with the formal letter requesting your comments.

We would appreciate it if you could confirm receipt of this email and the attached documents at your earliest convenience. Please submit your comments via email to info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk, the deadline for providing comments is **11.59pm on Wednesday 04 December 2024**.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

  
On Behalf of RES

## Appendix C-2.3 Copy of the draft SoCC provided to local authorities

# Steeple Renewables Project

Statement of Community Consultation  
November 2024 (DRAFT)



## Contents

1. Introduction .....	3
1.1. Purpose of the document.....	3
2. Steeple Renewables Project .....	4
2.1. The Project.....	4
2.2. Environmental Impact Assessment.....	4
3. Consenting process.....	6
4. About RES .....	5
4.1. The Applicant - RES.....	5
5. Engagement to date.....	7
5.2. Timeline for the Project .....	8
6. Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act .....	8
6.1. How we will consult on the proposed application .....	9
6.2. Who are we consulting .....	9
6.3. What are we consulting on? .....	11
6.4. Approach to community consultation .....	15
6.5. Consultation events.....	17
6.6. Promoting the consultation .....	18
6.7. Engagement with seldom-heard groups .....	19
6.8. Information channels .....	21
7. Responding to the consultation .....	21
7.1. How to respond to the consultation .....	21
7.2. Further consultation.....	22
8. How we will use consultation feedback .....	22
9. Contact details .....	22



# **1. Introduction**

## **1.1. Purpose of the document**

- 1.1.1. RES (“we” or “the Applicant”) is publishing this Statement of Community Consultation (“SoCC”) in connection with its proposals for a new solar energy and battery storage scheme known as Steeple Renewables Project (“the Project”).
- 1.1.2. Anticipated to generate up to 400MW of solar energy and 200MW of battery storage, the Project is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (“NSIP”), as defined by the Planning Act 2008 (“the 2008 Act”) and requires consent from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, via a Development Consent Order (“DCO”).
- 1.1.3. The purpose of this SoCC is to set out how we intend to consult people living in the vicinity of the Project about the proposals. This SoCC explains the consultation being undertaken before submission for our application for development consent. It includes:
  - a description of the consenting process we must follow
  - what we will be consulting on
  - who we will consult
  - how we will consult
  - how people can respond to the consultation
  - how we will use the consultation feedback responses
- 1.1.4. This SoCC has been prepared in accordance with section 47(1) of the 2008 Act, which requires applicants to prepare a statement explaining how they will consult with the local community regarding their proposals, and to carry out pre-application consultation in accordance with this statement.
- 1.1.5. Understanding the views of the local community, local authorities and other stakeholders helps ensure we identify valuable information and the feedback received will help shape the Project.
- 1.1.6. As the Project is an ‘EIA Development’ (meaning that it is subject to an environmental impact assessment or “EIA”), this SoCC also sets out how RES intends to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information, in accordance with Regulation 12 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (“the EIA Regulations”).
- 1.1.7. In addition to our obligations under section 47, section 42 of the 2008 Act sets out how applicants must consult with prescribed consultees, local authorities and persons with an interest in land (“section 42 consultees”). All section 42 consultees will be consulted in accordance with this document and are invited to participate in community consultation activities.



## 2. Steeple Renewables Project

### 2.1. The Project

- 2.1.1. The Project is located on land at Sturton-le-Steeple, Nottinghamshire, within the administrative boundaries of Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. The Project will connect into the national grid at the recently decommissioned West Burton Power Station.
- 2.1.2. You can view the land under consideration on the Project website here:  
<https://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk/media/o5npccme/steeple-renewables-land-under-consideration-v2.jpg>
- 2.1.3. The Project comprises an area of approximately 2,300 acres and is made up of land parcels in the vicinity of West Burton Power Station where solar panels and battery storage energy systems are proposed. The Project will also include\*:
- solar PV modules and associated mounting structures;
  - underground cabling within the areas of the solar PV modules and connecting solar PV module areas to the on-site substation;
  - on-site supporting equipment including inverters, transformers, and switchgears;
  - battery Energy Storage System (BESS);
  - highways access and internal tracks;
  - areas for ecological mitigation and enhancement

*\*Please note that these details are subject to confirmation and may be subject to adjustments as the project progresses.*

- 2.1.4. The Project would make a meaningful contribution to local and national climate commitments generating up to 400MW of renewable energy, for approximately 156,884 homes every year, around 45% of all homes in Nottinghamshire<sup>1</sup>.

### 2.2. Environmental Impact Assessment

- 2.2.1. The Project constitutes an 'EIA Development' as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.
- 2.2.2. An EIA is therefore being prepared to ensure the likely significant effects of the Project are properly understood and whether appropriate mitigation measures should be put in place to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any significant adverse environmental effects. The DCO application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement containing the findings of the EIA.

---

<sup>1</sup> The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from the Department of Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,748 kWh (Dec 2021). This calculation will be updated with the most recent annual average electricity figures from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) (January 2024) for the statutory consultation.

- 2.2.3. An EIA Scoping Opinion was issued by the Planning Inspectorate on 03 June 2024. Together with the Applicant's Scoping Report, this identifies the environmental issues relevant to the Project and suggests any potential mitigation measures. The Scoping Opinion is available to view on the Planning Inspectorate website at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010163/EN010163-000013-Steeple%20-%20Scoping%20Opinion%202017%20EIA%20Regs.pdf>
- 2.2.4. In accordance with Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) which sets out initial information on the potential environmental effects of the Project and any proposed mitigation, will be prepared and published that will help consultees to take an informed view on these matters.
- 2.2.5. The Applicant will invite feedback on the information presented in the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation. Feedback received will be considered before the DCO application and EIA are finalised for submission.

## **3. About RES**

### **3.1. The Applicant - RES**

- 3.1.1. RES, a British company, is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, active in onshore and offshore wind, solar, energy storage, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution.
- 3.1.2. At the forefront of the industry for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 27GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports an operational asset portfolio exceeding 41GW worldwide for a large client base.
- 3.1.3. Drawing on its decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality which contribute to a low carbon future by providing a secure supply of sustainable, low cost, clean green energy. RES is committed to finding effective and appropriate ways of engaging with all its stakeholders, including local residents and businesses, and believes that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process. RES is also committed to developing long term relationships with the communities around its projects, proactively seeking ways in which it can support and encourage community involvement in social and environmental projects near its developments.
- 3.1.4. You can visit the Applicant's website at: <https://www.res-group.com/>

## 4. Consenting process

- 4.1.1. As the Project will have a generating capacity of more than 50MW, the Project is classified as a NSIP and under the 2008 Act requires the Applicant to submit an application for a DCO to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 4.1.2. If the application for the DCO is accepted, the Planning Inspectorate will appoint an Examining Authority to scrutinise the application who will then make a recommendation on the application, that is whether consent should be granted or refused, in the form of a report, to the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (the “Secretary of State”). The Secretary of State will make the final decision on a DCO application.
- 4.1.3. Interested parties are entitled to participate throughout the duration of the process, including after submission and during examination.
- 4.1.4. Before submitting a DCO application, the 2008 Act requires us to carry out consultation with people living in the vicinity of the land and prescribed stakeholders.
- 4.1.5. Pre-application consultation is a statutory requirement for applications for DCOs for major infrastructure projects under the 2008 Act.
- 4.1.6. An overview of the DCO process is shown in **Figure 1**.

**Figure 1: The DCO Process**



- 4.1.7. The 2008 Act requires us to consult with persons with an interest in the proposed land and certain bodies as prescribed under section 42 of the 2008 Act. They include bodies such as Bassetlaw District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and the Environment Agency.
- 4.1.8. The 2008 Act requires us to consult with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act (the subject of this SoCC); and to publicise the proposals, locally and nationally. The local community is defined in the 2008 Act as people living within the vicinity of the land.
- 4.1.9. Under section 48 of the 2008 Act and Regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (“EIA Regulations”). It also provides a fixed role as consultees for those local authorities which host the Project.

- 4.1.10. Discharging the obligations under section 42 and section 48 of the 2008 Act is not intended by this SoCC. This SoCC merely sets out how the Applicant proposes to consult about the Project with people living in the vicinity of the land.
- 4.1.11. Further information on the DCO application process can be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate which has published a range of advice notes which intend to inform applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of matters in relation to the 2008 Act process. This includes Advice Note Eight, which provides more detail on the NSIP planning process. All advice notes can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-infrastructure-planning-advice-notes>
- 4.1.12. In line with the requirements of the 2008 Act, we provided Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council with an opportunity to comment on a draft version of this SoCC. Regard has been had to their responses in producing this final version.

## **5. Engagement to date**

- 5.1.1. The Applicant undertook early informal consultation on the Project between Monday 23 October and Monday 04 December 2023<sup>2</sup>.
- 5.1.2. The non-statutory consultation had the following aims:
- to introduce the Project to the public, providing an overview of the Project and the national need for solar
  - present the early plans
  - to give stakeholders and the community the opportunity to provide feedback on the early proposals
  - to outline the next steps for the Project
- 5.1.3. Over the course of the non-statutory consultation, the project team held two face-to-face consultation events and one webinar. The consultation was publicised through a mixture of direct mailings, newspaper adverts and posters sent to local parishes. Dedicated project information channels were established for those who had questions about the Project or needed to get in contact with the project team. This engagement is summarised in **Table 1**.

---

<sup>2</sup> Whilst the consultation material states a consultation close date of 4 December 2023, due to IT issues that rendered the feedback form inactive for two days, the consultation was therefore extended to account for this, and the consultation closed at 11:59pm on Wednesday 6 December 2023.

**Table 1: Summary of activities to date**

Activity	Total
Community newsletters issued	3,334
In-person consultation events	2
Stakeholder briefings	6
Webinars	1

5.1.4. There were a number of ways for members of the public and those interested in the consultation to provide feedback. These included:

- completing an online feedback form on the project website ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk))
- completing a paper feedback form or sending written comments by post (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project)
- emailing feedback to the project email address ([info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk))
- calling the project information line (0115 718 2070)

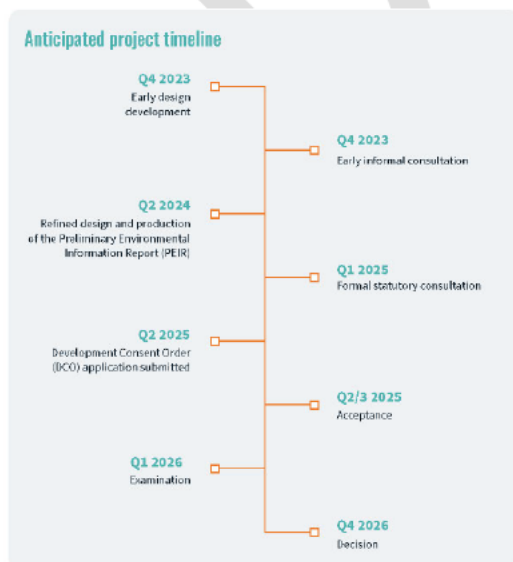
5.1.5. In total, throughout the six-week early consultation period, 118 responses were received.

5.1.6. More information about the non-statutory consultation can be found in the Early Consultation Report which is part of the documents that are currently available on the project website. Archive documents from the non-statutory consultation will remain available on the project website. Paper copies will be available on request and subject to a printing charge.

## 5.2. Timeline for the Project

5.2.1. **Figure 2** sets out an indicative timeline for each stage of the Project from consultation through to the Secretary of State's decision.

**Figure 2: Indicative project timeline**





## 6. Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act

### 6.1. How we will consult on the proposed application

- 6.1.1. We will undertake a statutory consultation in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act for six weeks starting on Monday 20 January 2025. The deadline for accepting consultation responses is 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025. All responses to the consultation must be received by the closing date.
- 6.1.2. This consultation will provide an opportunity for people in the local community and interested parties to have their say about our proposals for the Project.
- 6.1.3. As well as the community consultation in accordance with section 47, this consultation will also include:
- consultation with prescribed bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways (under section 42 of the 2008 Act),
  - consultation with host and neighbouring Local Planning Authorities (under section 43 of the 2008 Act),
  - consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by the Project (under section 44 of the 2008 Act); and
  - general public consultation on the Project (under Section 48 of the 2008 Act).

### 6.2. Who are we consulting?

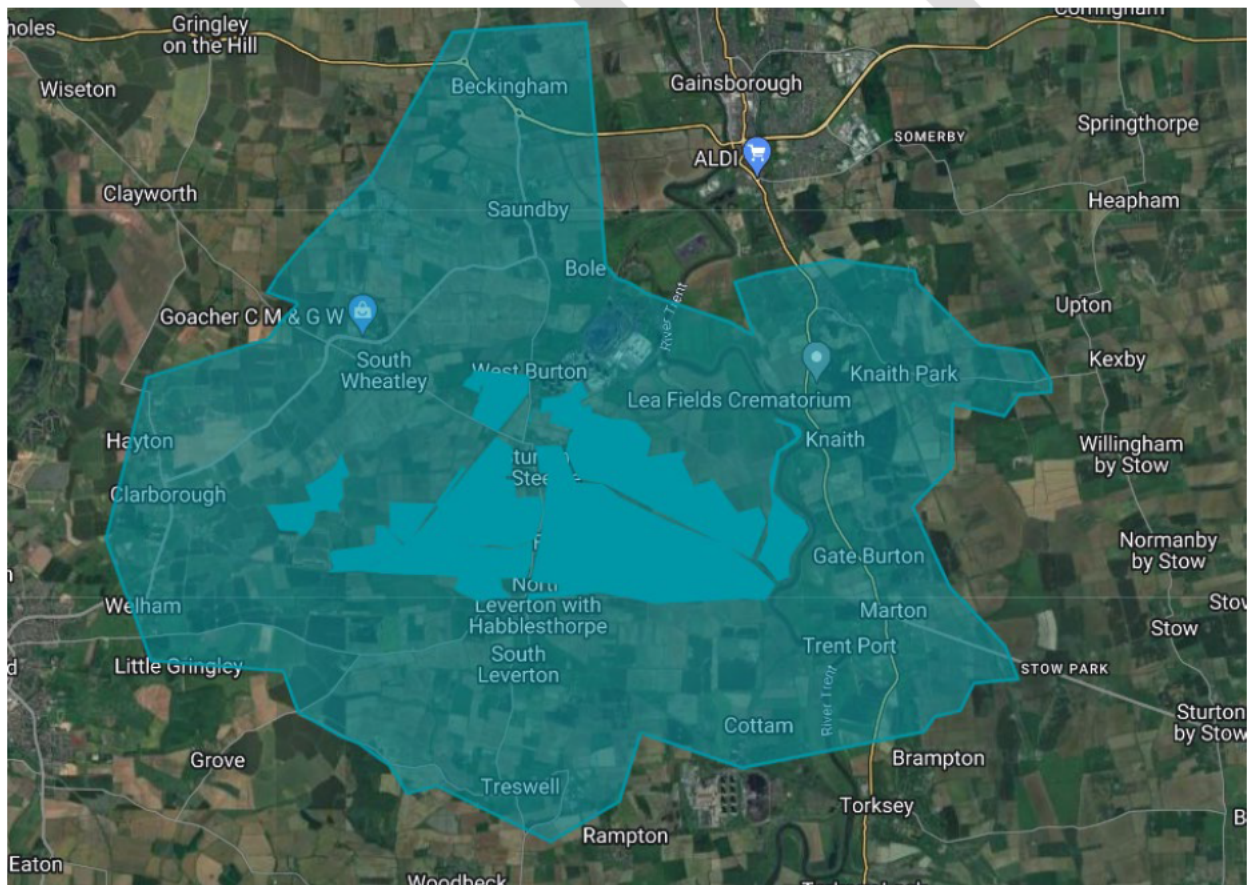
- 6.2.1. We will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC. Our consultation process is open to anyone with an interest in our proposals for the Project.
- 6.2.2. We have identified a consultation zone (CZ) (shown in **Figure 3**) for the purpose of communicating with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act. This is the same CZ which was initially defined for our early informal consultation and based on a minimum distance of approximately two kilometres from the proposed site boundary within which the solar PV panels, energy storage system and on-site substation and supporting infrastructure would be located.
- 6.2.3. The CZ encompasses the entire village of Sturton-le-Steeple, the village in which the Project is proposed. To the south, the CZ extends to include the villages of North Leverton, South Leverton, and Treswell. Westward, it reaches Clarborough and Welham, while to the north, it includes Beckingham and Saundby. Extending northwest, the CZ covers North and South Wheatley. To the east, across the River Trent, the CZ also incorporates the villages of Gate Burton, Knaith, Lea, and Marton.
- 6.2.4. The CZ has been amended beyond these criteria, in certain areas, to consider:
- existing physical features, such as main roads

- capturing entire communities rather than excluding small numbers of properties
- where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications.

6.2.5. Within the CZ, we will be consulting any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the Project by virtue of their living or working in proximity to the site.

6.2.6. This will include:

- parish councils representing parishes within the CZ, Members of Parliament (MPs) representing constituencies within and bordering the CZ;
- elected representatives in local authorities within the CZ; and
- relevant local interest groups, such as residents' associations, community groups and groups with particular specialisms, such as environmental groups; and we are also committed to making sure that individuals and organisations outside of the CZ are given the opportunity to participate in the statutory consultation.



**Figure 3: Consultation zone (CZ) for the Project**

The dark teal area is the land under consideration, with the village of Sturton-le-Steeple in the centre, and the lighter shaded area shows the same CZ that was initially defined for the informal consultation on our early proposals, based on a minimum 2km distance from the proposed site boundary.



### **6.3. What are we consulting on?**

- 6.3.1. We will present proposals for the Project including how they have been informed by our environmental assessments and consultation to date.
- 6.3.2. We will be seeking feedback on the ongoing evolution of the proposals for the Project. We will be seeking feedback on:
- The overall proposals for Steeple Renewables Project
  - The updated site plan for the land under consideration
  - Measures proposed to avoid or minimise impacts identified in our preliminary environmental assessments
  - (whilst outside of the considerations for the DCO application) our proposals for community benefits and Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS).
- 6.3.3. These proposals will be explained in the following materials:
- PEIR – the PEIR sets out the preliminary findings from the EIA.
  - PEIR Non-Technical Summary – the Non-Technical Summary is a provides a non-technical summary of the EIA and the conclusions within the PEIR. This summary is written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public.
  - Consultation brochure – this brochure will provide an overview of the proposals including site layouts and connection infrastructure.
  - Maps – The maps will set out the site areas in which the Project will be located.

**Table 2: Statutory consultation materials for the Project**

<b>Consultation Materials</b>	
<b>Material</b>	<b>Detail</b>
<b>Consultation newsletter</b>	<p>A newsletter publicising the consultation and outlining a high-level overview of the Project, details of the consultation programme, including the location, dates and times of the public consultation events will be distributed to 3000+ addresses within the CZ.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be issued to wider consultees via email and distributed to local interest groups and sent to statutory parties in the post.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be available to view and download on the project website.</p>
<b>Consultation brochure</b>	<p>A consultation brochure will be published on the project website at the start of the statutory consultation period, providing a summary of the proposals we are consulting on, an outline of the environmental assessment work, details of how people can take part, and how feedback will be used to influence and shape the proposals.</p> <p>Printed copies of this brochure will be available to take away at all consultation events, at deposit locations (listed in Table 4), and on request by contacting the project team.</p> <p>The brochure will also be available for download from the project website.</p>
<b>Navigation document</b>	<p>At the start of the statutory consultation period, a comprehensive Project Navigation Document will be published on the project website. This document will offer a clear overview of all consultation materials available for review, along with a user-friendly guide to help navigate them. Designed to simplify the consultation process, it will direct readers to specific sections of interest, ensuring they can easily locate relevant information and engage meaningfully with the materials provided.</p>
<b>Feedback form</b>	<p>A feedback form will be prepared to gather feedback on all aspects of the Project.</p> <p>The feedback form will be available for completion online via the project website and will be accessible throughout the six-week consultation period.</p> <p>Printed feedback forms will be available (free of charge) on request by contacting the project team, in hard copy at consultation events, and at the deposit points (listed in Table 4), along with freepost envelopes.</p> <p>The feedback form will also be available to download from the website, complete in pen and return to FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project.</p>
<b>Exhibition boards</b>	<p>Exhibition boards will be created to display information about the proposals and provide an overview of the key components of the Project.</p> <p>The boards will be designed to assist the understanding of the Project at the consultation events.</p>

<b>Consultation Materials</b>	
<b>Material</b>	<b>Detail</b>
	Members of the public will also be available to view the boards in the virtual exhibition on the project website, which will go live on the day of the first event.
<b>PEIR</b>	<p>The PEIR will contain a description of the Project, and a preliminary assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of the Project, based on the initial information available at that time.</p> <p>It will also set out how we propose to mitigate the impacts of and maximise the benefits of the Project.</p> <p>The PEIR will be able downloaded free of charge from the project website. A printed copy of the full PEIR will be available to view (but not take away) at the consultation events and deposit locations.</p> <p>Copies of the PEIR contained on a USB stick can be provided on request at no extra cost.</p> <p>A hard copy can be requested for a charge of £0.35 per page to cover printing and posting costs. Requests for hard copies can be made by email: <a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.</p>
<b>PEIR Non-Technical Summary</b>	<p>The Non-Technical Summary (NTS) the Non-Technical Summary will provide a non-technical summary of the EIA and the conclusions within the PEIR. This summary will be written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public.</p> <p>The NTS will be available to view on our project website, at deposit locations, at or consultation events and posted out on request.</p>
<b>Technical maps and plans of the Project</b>	<p>Additional technical maps and plans for the Project will also be available on the project website and at the consultation events and deposit locations.</p> <p>Requests for hard copies of the technical documents will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. To cover printing costs a reasonable copying charge may apply (up to a maximum of £350 for one full suite of documents - to be paid for by the recipient).</p>
<b>Materials in alternative formats</b>	<p>Upon request, documents can be made available in alternative accessible formats, such as braille, and speaking text. Consultation information in alternative languages can be provided.</p> <p>All requests should be made to the project team by email: <a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.</p>

**Table 3: The project website**

<b>Features</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
<b>Online downloadable copies of all the statutory consultation material, including: The PEIR, consultation brochure and feedback form</b>	To ensure the exhibition material is accessible to those who may not be able to get to an in-person event or a deposit location. This will ensure that the consultation is fully accessible to everyone who wants to participate.
<b>Virtual exhibition</b>	<p>To ensure that people who cannot attend the events are able to access the same materials that are present at the in-person events.</p> <p>This will allow people to virtually walk around the consultation room simulating how the exhibition boards would be viewed at a public consultation event. The consultation feedback mechanism will also be able to be accessed via the virtual exhibition.</p>
<b>Web page content</b>	<p>The Project website will provide up to date information about the project and have downloadable versions of all the documents that have been prepared for statutory consultation.</p> <p>The website will feature several pages that will provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an overview of the Project, the energy it will generate, information on the opportunity the Project presents and the potential benefits it could bring</li> <li>• an up to date version of the site plan, rationale for site selection and the layouts of the panels across the site areas</li> <li>• a brief overview of the DCO process and an indicative project timeline</li> <li>• benefits to the local economy and community that could be delivered as part of the proposals</li> <li>• information about RES and its history as a renewable energy developer and its global portfolio of projects</li> </ul>
<b>Online feedback form</b>	To enable members of the public to submit their feedback online and reduce the carbon footprint of consultation activity. This will be available from the consultation launch until close.
<b>Register for updates function</b>	This will enable the public to register to be updated about the Project, when signed up they will receive updates at key project milestones.
<b>Webinar registration form</b>	To enable members of the public to register to join the webinar.
<b>Contact details</b>	To provide details of how to contact the project team for any further questions.

## 6.4. Approach to community consultation

- 6.4.1. During the statutory consultation, we will use a range of methods to ensure an inclusive, meaningful, and open consultation. We will use a range of digital and non-digital methods of communication to ensure that our consultation can be accessed by all members of the community.
- 6.4.2. We will be focusing our consultation on communities within the primary consultation zone (CZ); however, we will ensure communities outside of the CZ are made aware of the consultation.
- 6.4.3. Inside the CZ:
- All homes and businesses within the CZ will be sent a consultation newsletter with high-level details about the Project and consultation programme, as well as contact details for the project team
  - Consultation events will be held at locations within the CZ
  - Relevant groups and organisations such as parish councils and local interest groups, will be notified of consultation opportunities
  - We have also identified a list of local community spaces within the CZ that will be directly mailed a poster to put up, advertising how people can get involved in the consultation
- 6.4.4. Outside of the CZ:
- We will raise awareness of the consultation using a number of methods, including via local news media, project website and direct communication with organisations such as regional, environmental, religious or health organisations located outside of the CZ
- 6.4.5. **Table 4** below sets out the approaches that will be used to consult on the proposals and Preliminary Environmental Information.

**Table 4: Statutory consultation methods for the Project**

<b>Consultation methods</b>	
<b>Method</b>	<b>Detail</b>
<b>Consultation events</b>	<p>We will be holding three in-person events at locations spread across the CZ. These events will be publicised in the consultation newsletter, the consultation brochure, on posters, in local news media and in a public notice and on the project website.</p> <p>These events will run for periods of five hours on a mixture of weekdays and weekends to accommodate different availability.</p> <p>Details of the events are available in <b>Table 5</b>.</p>
<b>Stakeholder briefing meetings</b>	<p>We will seek to brief key political stakeholders, representing wards, constituencies and parishes within the consultation zone.</p> <p>We will consider invitations to, or requests for, meetings with affected stakeholders, other local groups or special interest organisations on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<b>Webinar</b>	<p>One webinar will be held for members of the public to join to provide an alternative option for those who may not be able to attend the in-person events. This will be held in the evening outside of normal working hours to make the session as accessible as possible.</p> <p>Individuals can register to join the webinar via the website. The webinar will be held on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 12 February 2025: 6:30PM-8:00PM</li> </ul> <p>A recording of the webinar will be made available online for those unavailable to attend.</p>
<b>Project contact details</b>	<p>Members of the public will be able to call and speak to a member of the project team on the project information line (0115 718 2070), email (<a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) or write in (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project)</p>
<b>Deposit and information points</b>	<p>Hard copies of the consultation materials including this SoCC, the consultation brochure and the PEIR will be available to view at the following deposit locations and times:</p> <p><b>Gainsborough Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mon:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Tue:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Wed:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Thu:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Fri:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Sat:</b> 9:00AM - 1:00PM</li> </ul> <p><b>Retford Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mon:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Tue:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Wed:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> </ul>



Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Thu:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Fri:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Sat:</b> 9:00AM – 3:30PM</li> </ul> <p>Documents are also available to be viewed and collected at Sturton-le-Steeple Village Hall, <i>The Sturton Hall and, Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton Le Steeple, DN22 9HY</i>. Please note this venue does not have regular opening hours but materials are available to be collected when the village hall is open.</p> <p>Only hard copies of the consultation brochure, navigation document, non-technical summary and feedback form will be available for people to take away with them.</p> <p>We will check on a weekly basis that sufficient volumes of consultation documentation remains at the information points throughout the consultation period.</p> <p>Where possible, if there are hard copies of the consultation brochure and feedback form remaining after the respective consultation events have taken place, we will leave these behind at the venues, so that community groups using these spaces afterwards can view the material and take away copies if they wish.</p>
<b>Project website and virtual exhibition</b>	<p>A dedicated project website (<a href="http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) will be updated for people to find out more information about the proposals and to provide feedback.</p> <p>All consultation documents will be presented on the Project website and available for download, free of charge from the document library. The website will also feature a virtual exhibition. Information will be consistent with materials available at the deposit locations and consultation events.</p>

- 6.4.6. Any activity(ies) that cannot be undertaken due to circumstances beyond our control, where possible, will be substituted with similar activity(ies) and communicated in local newspapers (via press release) circulating in the vicinity of the Project. Any activity changes will also be published on the project website.

## 6.5. Consultation events

- 6.5.1. Three in-person public consultation events will be held for communities to find out information about the Project and speak to members of the project team. The consultation events will be held at suitable, publicly accessible venues located within the CZ.
- 6.5.2. Copies of all relevant consultation materials will be made available in print format at each consultation event. There will be a series of exhibition boards to present the proposals for the Project, including maps.

6.5.3. Those attending will be encouraged to provide their feedback on the proposals.

6.5.4. **Table 5** outlines the dates, times, and locations of each of the consultation events.

**Table 5: Details of the consultation events**

Date	Time	Location
Saturday 01 February 2025	10:00AM- 3:00PM	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY
Wednesday 05 February 2025	2:00PM-7:00PM	South Leverton Memorial Institute Town St, South Leverton, Retford, DN22 0BT
Wednesday 19 February 2025	2:00PM-7:00PM	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY
Wednesday 12 February 2025	6:30PM-8:00PM	Online

## 6.6. Promoting the consultation

6.6.1. We will use a variety of methods to make people aware of the Project and publicise the statutory consultation. These methods are outlined in **Table 6** below.

**Table 6: Methods for promoting the statutory consultation for the Project**

Methods to promote the consultation	
Method	Detail
<b>Consultation newsletter</b>	Consultation newsletters will be posted to all homes and businesses in the CZ ahead of the statutory consultation period. The newsletter will also be issued to statutory consultees in the mail, and to wider consultees via email, including local interest groups.
<b>Press releases</b>	To raise awareness of the Project and the consultation programme, both within and beyond the CZ, we will share a press release with local media outlets at the start of consultation.
<b>Emails and letters</b>	We will send both emails and letters about the consultation programme to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• host constituency and neighbouring constituency area MPs;</li><li>• elected representatives at Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council;</li><li>• host and neighbouring parish councils;</li><li>• host and neighbouring local authorities; and</li><li>• local interest groups, such as environmental groups</li></ul>

Methods to promote the consultation	
Method	Detail
	Parish councils will be sent hard copies of the consultation brochure as part of the mailing to statutory consultees.
<b>Statutory notices</b>	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the consultation, in accordance with section 48 of the 2008 Act, will be published once in a national newspaper (The Guardian) and the London Gazette and twice (across two successive weeks) in local circulating papers, The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p> <p>Statutory notices publicising the SoCC, in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act, will be published once (for one week) in local circulating papers such as The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p>
<b>Information posters</b>	<p>Posters including details of the consultation, how to access information about the Project and how to get involved, will be displayed at well-used public locations within and outside of the CZ, including libraries, shops and civic buildings. These will be hosted in agreement with relevant organisations and venues.</p> <p>Information posters will be sent to all host and neighbouring parish councils, to be used on local noticeboards, and to help raise awareness of the consultation.</p>

## 6.7. Engagement with seldom heard groups

- 6.7.1. We are committed to ensuring that our consultation is accessible and inclusive for all stakeholders, including 'under-represented' or 'seldom heard' groups and individuals who may be less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation methods.
- 6.7.2. These groups and individuals that may find it harder to be involved in the consultation, and/or need additional support to access materials, include:
- geographically isolated communities
  - young people
  - older people
  - disabled people and those with learning disabilities
  - people who do not have English as a first language

**Table 7: Consultation with seldom-heard groups for the Project**

<b>Seldom-heard groups</b>	<b>Consultation approach</b>
<b>Older people</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the CZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p>Providing important information in both digital and non-digital formats and offering alternative formats such as large print formats (upon request).</p> <p>Offering feedback to be provided via a freepost address so feedback can be easily provided by post.</p> <p>Consultation events at three locations within the CZ, with members of the team available to answer questions to help inform feedback responses.</p>
<b>Disabled people and those with learning disabilities</b>	<p>Providing important information in both digital and non-digital formats and providing alternate formats such as braille and large print (upon request).</p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p>Consultation events at three locations within the CZ, with members of the team available to assist with completing feedback responses.</p> <p>One online webinar, so anyone who may not be able to attend an in-person event can have the opportunity to ask questions of the project team.</p> <p>Ensure all event spaces have disabled access and facilities, and the layout of the consultation room provide space for those with prams, wheelchairs and other mobility aids to move around.</p>
<b>Geographically isolated communities</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the CZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p> <p>Offering feedback to be provided via an online form and via the freepost address so feedback can be easily provided from all locations.</p> <p>One webinar for people to join and find out about the Project.</p> <p>Advertising the availability of the project phoneline for stakeholders with further questions to speak with the project team, regardless of location.</p>

Seldom-heard groups	Consultation approach
Young people	Online engagement methods, to encourage young people to complete online feedback forms and engage with the consultation.
People who do not have English as a first language	Upon request, consultation information can be made available to those who speak additional languages. If required, the team will appoint appropriate translation services who can read materials such as the PEIR out over the phone. Stakeholders can request this service by contacting the project team through the below communication channels.

## 6.8. Information channels

- 6.8.1. The following channels will be available throughout the consultation for members of the community and other stakeholders to get in touch with the project team, ask questions, request further information, or request copies of the consultation materials and documents. These channels are provided in **Table 8** below:

**Table 8: Information channels for the Project**

Channel	Contact details	Hours of operation
Website	<a href="http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24/7
Telephone	0115 718 2070	9am–5:30pm weekdays (with a voicemail facility to take messages outside these hours)
Email	<a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24 hour (emails will be monitored between 9am–5:30pm weekdays and responded to within 10 working days)
Post	FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project	24 hour (mailbox will be monitored between 9am–5:30pm on weekdays)

- 6.8.2. Requests for consultation information to meet specific requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis so we can establish how best to provide the information required. This will include materials such as large print or audio for those with visual impairments, or an alternative language to for those for whom English is not their first language, to enable them to take part in the consultation.

## 7. Responding to the consultation

### 7.1. How to respond to the consultation

- 7.1.1. Feedback to the consultation must be submitted **by 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025**. Responses received after this date may not be considered.
- 7.1.2. Consultation responses can be made in the following ways:



- Completing the feedback form online which can be accessed via the project website from Monday 20 January 2025: ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk))
- Attending a consultation event and completing a printed feedback form which can be handed into the project team in-person or taken away and sent to us via a freepost (using FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project). Feedback forms can also be collected from our community deposit locations, downloaded from the website, and completed in pen or requested from the project team, using the contact details in **Table 8**.
- Emailing into [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
- Writing to us at FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (no stamp is required)

## **7.2. Further consultation**

- 7.2.1. If, following the statutory, consultation we consider it is necessary to undertake further geographically targeted or supplementary consultation, this would be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate. Wider consultation could also be carried out if considered appropriate, all consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC.

## **8. How we will use consultation feedback**

- 8.1.1. When our statutory consultation closes at **11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025**, we will have regard to all comments received. All feedback, including ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders, is important to us and will help to influence our design for the Project.
- 8.1.2. Once we have reviewed and finalised our application, we will produce a Consultation Report, which will set out how the feedback from the pre-application consultation has shaped and influenced our proposed application.
- 8.1.3. The Consultation Report will be submitted to the Secretary of State as part of the DCO application.
- 8.1.4. Any comments received could be made public but no personal information will be published. Any personal data received as part of the consultation will be stored and protected in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation. The privacy notice for those visiting the project website is available at: [www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk).

## **9. Contact details**

- 9.1.1. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more information about the Project and our consultation programme. The project team can be contacted using any of the communications lines listed below.
- 9.1.2. Should you require any documents in large print, audio or braille then please contact us using the details provided. Every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate at the time of going to print.



9.1.3. Our communications channels are:

- Email: [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
- Call: 0115 718 2070
- Write to: FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (you do not need a stamp)

DRAFT

## Appendix C-2.4 Chaser email asking for comments on SoCC to NCC



Outlook

---

**Re: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

---

**From** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Date** Mon 2024-12-02 08:45

Good morning,

This is a gentle reminder that the deadline to provide comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Steeple Renewables Project is 11:59pm on **Wednesday, 04 December 2024**.

If you have any questions or need the documents re-sent, please feel free to get in touch.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

On behalf of RES

---

## Appendix C-2.5 Chaser email asking for comments on SoCC to BDC

---

**Re: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

---

**From** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Date** Mon 2024-12-02 08:46

**To** [REDACTED]

Good morning,

This is a gentle reminder that the deadline to provide comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Steeple Renewables Project is 11:59pm on **Wednesday, 04 December 2024**.

If you have any questions or need the documents re-sent, please feel free to get in touch.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
On behalf of RES

---

---

---



[REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 3:33 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

---

From: [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk) <[info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)>

Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 11:49 AM

[REDACTED]  
Subject: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

External Message - Be aware that the sender of this email originates from outside of the Council. Please be cautious when opening links or attachments in email

Good morning,

I hope this email finds you well.

We are writing to you regarding Steeple Renewables Project, a solar and battery storage project in Sturton-le-Steeple, Nottinghamshire. As a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project we must apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008.

Before submitting our DCO application, we are required to conduct a statutory consultation. Enclosed is our draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) outlining how we intend to engage with the local community regarding the project.

As a representative of a local authority under section 43(1) of the Planning Act 2008, we invite you to review and comment on the draft SoCC. Please find attached the draft SoCC for your review, along with the formal letter requesting your comments.

We would appreciate it if you could confirm receipt of this email and the attached documents at your earliest convenience. Please submit your comments via email to [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk), the deadline for providing comments is **11.59pm on Wednesday 04 December 2024**.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
On Behalf of RES

[REDACTED]  
Planning Support Manager



[REDACTED]  
Major Projects Manager

Bassetlaw District Council, Potter Street, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S80 2AH

W: [www.bassetlaw.gov.uk](http://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk)

---

This email is only for the use of the addressee. It may contain information which is legally privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient you must not copy, distribute or disseminate this email or any enclosure to anyone other than the addressee. If you receive this communication in error please delete it

This email has been scanned for viruses and malware, and may have been automatically archived by Mimecast Ltd on behalf of Bassetlaw District Council.

## **Appendix C-3 Response from local authority on SoCC**

### **Appendix C-3.1 Email with comments on draft SoCC from Notts CC**

---

**RE: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

---

From [REDACTED]

Date Mon 2024-12-02 15:21

[REDACTED]

Afternoon Indya,

Thank you for the reminder.

We have reviewed the draft SoCC and are satisfied with the approach set out, which seems clear and comprehensive.

We would, however, query the absence of social media within the strategy. We feel that the SoCC should reference social media engagement and how this will be handled, both as a mechanism for promoting the consultation and as a means through which the community can get in touch with the project team. For example, there could be a dedicated account on X or similar to respond to questions or requests for further information from respondents and further consideration should be given to whether there are any existing pages or accounts on social media platforms through which the consultation could be publicised, akin to an advert in a local newspaper. This could be a route through which to engage with seldom heard groups, namely young people.

Kind regards,  
Will

[REDACTED]  
Planning and Infrastructure Manager | Planning Policy

[REDACTED]

## Appendix C-3.2 Chaser email with extended deadline to BDC

---

**Re: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

---

**From** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Date** Thu 2024-12-05 10:39

Good Morning Amanda,

I just wanted to follow up regarding the deadline for providing comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Steeple Renewables Project, which closed at 11:59pm on Wednesday, 04 December 2024.

If you intended to submit feedback but were unable to do so before the deadline, we would still be happy to receive your comments at this time. Could we kindly ask that any feedback be provided by the end of day on Friday, 06 December 2024.

Kind regards,  
Indya Waite  
On behalf of RES

---

---

---



## Appendix C-3.3 Email with comments on draft SoCC from BDC

---

Steeple's SoCC

---


**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 13 January 2025 09:31


**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** FW: Steeple's SoCC

---

 **ATTENTION:** This originated outside of RES

Good morning

 I'm catching up on emails as I have been off sick since 20<sup>th</sup> November and I note that we didn't respond to the SoCC. However I have the following comments to make:

**Overall:**

The consultation zone appears appropriate in scale and extent, and it is pleasing to see that whole communities are being consulted, rather than being bisected arbitrarily.

**Table 4:**

We note that one webinar is due to be hosted on Wednesday 12 February, but it may be useful to add another, likely towards the end of the consultation window.

**Table 5:**

As above, it is noted that there aren't any events proposed towards the end of the consultation period. Our experience is that these can provide a useful means for people to ask questions about what they have been reading, and also provide a useful reminder to those involved in the later stages of the consultation.

Given the proximity of elements of the proposal to the village of Clarborough, it would be welcomed if an additional event – potentially as part of the above – was hosted there. This would also help to counter the limited public transport options between Clarborough and the proposed events in Sturton and South Leverton.

**Table 7:**

The table makes reference to hosting events in three locations, but currently only two are proposed (Sturton and South Leverton), albeit with two events in one of these.

**Section 8:**

Where contact details have been provided, and subject to necessary permissions, it would be good practice to offer participants the opportunity to receive updates as to next steps so as to help them understand how their comments have helped shape the project.

Happy to discuss further.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Major projects Manager  
Bassetlaw District Council



[REDACTED]  
Major Projects Manager  
Bassetlaw District Council, Potter Street, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S80 2AH  
W: [www.bassetlaw.gov.uk](http://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk)

---

This email is only for the use of the addressee. It may contain information which is legally privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient you must not copy, distribute or disseminate this email or any enclosure to anyone other than the addressee. If you receive this communication in error please delete it

This email has been scanned for viruses and malware, and may have been automatically archived by **Mimecast Ltd** on behalf of Bassetlaw District Council.

**NOTICE TO RECIPIENT:** This e-mail is meant for only the intended recipient of the transmission, and may be a communication privileged by law. This e-mail, including any attachments, contains information that may be confidential, and is protected by copyright. If you received this e-mail in error, any review, use, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this e-mail is strictly prohibited. Please notify us immediately of the error by return e-mail and please delete this message from your system. Any communication of a personal nature in this e-mail is not made by or on behalf of any RES group company. E-mails sent or received may be monitored to ensure compliance with the law, regulation and/or our policies. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

## **Appendix C-4 Email to local authorities with updated SoCC and table of amends**

### **Appendix C-4.1 Email to Notts CC with updated SoCC**

---

**Re: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

---

**From** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Date** Fri 2025-01-17 10:52

**To**

**Bcc**

 1 attachment (691 KB)

Steeple Renewables Project - SoCC Final.pdf;

Thank you for your comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) received on 03 December 2024 regarding RES' proposals for Steeple Renewables Project.

We have reviewed your comments and made some changes to the document, outlined below. Please find attached the updated final SoCC, including a word tracked changes version for your information.

Paragraph	Comment	Change Made
2.1.4.	None	The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from DESNZ (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) showing that the annual GB average domestic household consumption is 3,239 kWh (January 2024).
Table 4: Statutory consultation methods for the Project	None	We have removed the provision that stated where possible consultation materials will be left behind at event venues.  Materials will be present throughout the consultation at Sturton-le-Steeple Hall and Conference Centre alongside the two other deposit locations.  Considering this we no longer deem it necessary to leave materials at South Leverton Memorial Hall.
Table 6: Methods to promote the consultation	Nottinghamshire County Council: The strategy should include social media engagement, both for promoting the consultation and as a channel for community interaction. Consider	We have added social media to our methods to promote the consultation.

	creating a dedicated account on X or similar platforms to address questions and provide information. Additionally, explore using existing social media pages to publicise the consultation, especially to reach seldom-heard groups like young people.	Prior to and throughout the consultation we will use Facebook to promote the consultation.  The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.
Table 6: Methods to promote the consultation	None	Separately to the statutory notices we will now be publishing an advert in the Retford Times ahead of the consultation launch. The advert will run for a week to publicise the consultation dates and advertise the consultation events and the deposit locations.
Provision of materials in alternative formats	None	Requests for consultation information to meet specific requirements will now be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.

We also received late comments on the SoCC from Bassetlaw that requested additional deposit locations at Retford Town Hall and Bassetlaw District Council Offices in Worksop. Whilst these comments were received too late to incorporate into the final SoCC we have had regard to these comments. We will include these additional deposit locations for consultation materials. These locations will also be advertised on the project website.

Further to your comment regarding the use of Facebook as a method to collect feedback, whilst we agree that social media is an effective tool for promoting the consultation, we want to clarify that it is not our intention to collect feedback via Facebook or any other social media platform. This decision aligns with company policy, which prohibits RES from creating project-specific social media accounts, as the company does not maintain a direct presence on social media.

Feedback will instead be collected via email, phone, and feedback forms. These methods provide clear and structured channels for submitting responses, helping to avoid confusion and ensuring the efficient management of feedback. As set out above, promotional advertisements will be run through a Facebook account wholly owned and managed by Cavendish.

I hope the above goes some way to address your feedback on this topic but please do get in touch if you have any further questions.

Best Wishes,  
Indya

**Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team**



## Appendix C-4.2 Email to BDC with updated SoCC

---

**Re: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

---

**From** info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk <info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk>

**Date** Fri 2025-01-17 10:52

**To**

**Bcc**

 2 attachments (7 MB)

Steeple Renewables Project - SoCC Final.pdf; Steeple Renewables Project - SoCC with Tracked Changes.docx;

Good morning Amanda,

I am writing further to our email in November 2024 about our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). We have reviewed the comments from Nottinghamshire County Council and summarised them in a table below. Please find attached the updated final SoCC, including a word tracked changes version for your information.

Paragraph	Comment	Change Made
2.1.4.	None	The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from DESNZ (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) showing that the annual GB average domestic household consumption is 3,239 kWh (January 2024).
Table 4: Statutory consultation methods for the Project	None	We have removed the provision that stated where possible consultation materials will be left behind at event venues.  Materials will be present throughout the consultation at Sturton-le-Steeple Hall and Conference Centre alongside the two other deposit locations.  Considering this we no longer deem it necessary to leave materials at South Leverton Memorial Hall.
Table 6: Methods to promote the consultation	Nottinghamshire County Council: The strategy should include social media engagement, both for promoting the	We have added social media to our methods to promote the consultation.

	consultation and as a channel for community interaction. Consider creating a dedicated account on X or similar platforms to address questions and provide information. Additionally, explore using existing social media pages to publicise the consultation, especially to reach seldom-heard groups like young people.	<p>Prior to and throughout the consultation we will use Facebook to promote the consultation.</p> <p>The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.</p>
Table 6: Methods to promote the consultation	None	Separately to the statutory notices we will now be publishing an advert in the Retford Times ahead of the consultation launch. The advert will run for a week to publicise the consultation dates and advertise the consultation events and the deposit locations.
Provision of materials in alternative formats	None	Requests for consultation information to meet specific requirements will now be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.

As discussed yesterday, the late receipt of comments from Bassetlaw District Council prevented us from incorporating them into the final SoCC. However, we have had regard to your feedback. In response to your request, we will include additional deposit locations for consultation materials at Retford Town Hall and Bassetlaw District Council Offices in Worksop. These locations will also be advertised on the project website.

I hope the above goes some way to address your feedback on this topic but please do get in touch if you have any further questions.

Best Wishes,

  
Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team

## Appendix C-4.3 Updated SoCC

# Steeple Renewables Project

Statement of Community Consultation  
January 2025



## Contents

1.	Introduction .....	3
1.1.	Purpose of the document .....	3
2.	Steeple Renewables Project .....	4
2.1.	The Project .....	4
2.2.	Environmental Impact Assessment .....	4
3.	Consenting process .....	6
4.	About RES .....	5
4.1.	The Applicant - RES .....	5
5.	Engagement to date .....	7
5.2.	Timeline for the Project .....	8
6.	Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act .....	8
6.1.	How we will consult on the proposed application .....	9
6.2.	Who are we consulting .....	9
6.3.	What are we consulting on? .....	11
6.4.	Approach to community consultation .....	14
6.5.	Consultation events .....	16
6.6.	Promoting the consultation .....	17
6.7.	Engagement with seldom-heard groups .....	18
6.8.	Information channels .....	20
7.	Responding to the consultation .....	20
7.1.	How to respond to the consultation .....	20
7.2.	Further consultation .....	21
8.	How we will use consultation feedback .....	21
9.	Contact details .....	21



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Purpose of the document

- 1.1.1. RES ( “the Applicant”) is publishing this Statement of Community Consultation (“SoCC”) in connection with its proposals for a new solar energy and battery storage scheme known as Steeple Renewables Project (“the Project”).
- 1.1.2. Anticipated to generate up to 400MW of solar energy, the Project is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (“NSIP”), as defined by the Planning Act 2008 (“the 2008 Act”), with up to 200MW of battery storage associated development and requires development consent from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, via a Development Consent Order (“DCO”).
- 1.1.3. The purpose of this SoCC is to set out how the Applicant intends to consult people living in the vicinity of the Project about the proposal before submission of the DCO application. It includes:
  - a description of the consenting process the Applicant must follow;
  - what the Applicant will be consulting on;
  - who the Applicant will consult;
  - how the Applicant will consult;
  - how people can respond to the consultation; and
  - how the Applicant will use the consultation feedback responses.
- 1.1.4. This SoCC has been prepared in accordance with section 47(1) of the 2008 Act, which requires applicants to prepare a statement explaining how they will consult with the local community regarding their proposals, and to carry out pre-application consultation in accordance with this SoCC.
- 1.1.5. Understanding the views of the local community, local authorities and other stakeholders helps ensure the Applicant identifies valuable information and the feedback received will help shape the Project.
- 1.1.6. As the Project is an ‘EIA Development’ (meaning that it is subject to an environmental impact assessment or “EIA”), this SoCC also sets out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information, in accordance with Regulation 12 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (“the EIA Regulations”).
- 1.1.7. In addition to the Applicant’s obligations under section 47, section 42 of the 2008 Act sets out how applicants must consult with prescribed consultees, local authorities and persons with an interest in land (“section 42 consultees”). All section 42 consultees known at the present time will be consulted in accordance with this SoCC and are invited to participate in consultation activities.

## 2. Steeple Renewables Project

### 2.1. The Project

- 2.1.1. The Project is located on land at Sturton-le-Steeple, Nottinghamshire, within the administrative boundaries of Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. The Project will connect into the national grid at the recently decommissioned West Burton Power Station.
- 2.1.2. You can view the land under consideration on the Project website here:  
<https://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk/media/o5npccme/steeple-renewables-land-under-consideration-v2.jpg>
- 2.1.3. The Project comprises an area of approximately 2,300 acres and is made up of land parcels in the vicinity of West Burton Power Station where solar panels and battery storage energy systems are proposed. The Project will also include\*:
- solar PV modules and associated mounting structures;
  - underground cabling within the areas of the solar PV modules and connecting solar PV module areas to the on-site substation;
  - on-site supporting equipment including inverters, transformers, and switchgears;
  - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS);
  - highways access and internal tracks; and
  - areas for ecological mitigation and enhancement.

*\*Please note that these details are subject to confirmation and may be subject to adjustments as the project progresses.*

- 2.1.4. The Project would make a meaningful contribution to local and national climate commitments generating up to 400MW of renewable energy, for approximately 180,000 homes every year, around 50% of all homes in Nottinghamshire<sup>1</sup>.

### 2.2. Environmental Impact Assessment

- 2.2.1. The Project constitutes an 'EIA Development' as defined by the EIA Regulations.
- 2.2.2. An EIA is therefore being prepared to ensure the potential environmental effects of the Project are properly understood and whether appropriate mitigation measures should be put in place to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any significant adverse environmental effects. The DCO application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement containing the findings of the EIA.

---

<sup>1</sup>The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from DESNZ (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) showing that the annual GB average domestic household consumption is 3,239 kWh (January 2024).

- 2.2.3. An EIA Scoping Opinion was issued by the Planning Inspectorate on 03 June 2024. Together with the Applicant's Scoping Report, this identifies the environmental issues relevant to the Project and suggests any potential mitigation measures. The Scoping Opinion is available to view on the Planning Inspectorate website at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010163/EN010163-000013-Steeple%20-%20Scoping%20Opinion%202017%20EIA%20Regs.pdf>
- 2.2.4. In accordance with Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which sets out initial information on the potential environmental effects of the Project and any proposed mitigation, will be prepared and published that will help consultees to take an informed view on these matters.
- 2.2.5. The Applicant will invite feedback on the information presented in the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation. Feedback received will be considered before the DCO application and EIA are finalised for submission.

## 3. About RES

### 3.1. The Applicant - RES

- 3.1.1. RES, a British company, is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, active in onshore and offshore wind, solar, energy storage, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution.
- 3.1.2. At the forefront of the industry for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 27GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports an operational asset portfolio exceeding 41GW worldwide for a large client base.
- 3.1.3. Drawing on its decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality, which contribute to a low carbon future by providing a secure supply of sustainable, low cost, clean green energy. RES is committed to finding effective and appropriate ways of engaging with all its stakeholders, including local residents and businesses, and believes that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process. RES is also committed to developing long term relationships with the communities around its projects, proactively seeking ways in which it can support and encourage community involvement in social and environmental projects near its developments.
- 3.1.4. You can visit the Applicant's website at: <https://www.res-group.com/>

## 4. Consenting process

- 4.1.1. As the Project will have a generating capacity of more than 50MW, the Project is classified as a NSIP and under the 2008 Act requires the Applicant to submit an application for a DCO to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 4.1.2. If the application for the DCO is accepted, the Planning Inspectorate will appoint an Examining Authority to examine the application that will then submit a report on the application to the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (the “Secretary of State”) recommending whether consent should be granted or refused. The Secretary of State will make the final decision on the DCO application.
- 4.1.3. Interested parties are entitled to participate throughout the duration of the process, including after submission and during examination.
- 4.1.4. Before submitting a DCO application, the 2008 Act requires the Applicant to carry out consultation with people living in the vicinity of the land and prescribed stakeholders.
- 4.1.5. An overview of the DCO process is shown in **Figure 1**.

**Figure 1: The DCO Process**



- 4.1.6. The 2008 Act requires the Applicant to consult with persons with an interest in the proposed land and certain bodies as prescribed under section 42 of the 2008 Act. They include bodies such as Bassetlaw District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and the Environment Agency.
- 4.1.7. The 2008 Act requires the Applicant to consult with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act (the subject of this SoCC); and to publicise the proposals, locally and nationally. The local community is defined in the 2008 Act as people living within the vicinity of the land.
- 4.1.8. Further information on the DCO application process can be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate which has published a range of advice notes which intend to inform applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of matters in relation to the 2008 Act process. This includes Advice Note Eight, which provides more detail on the NSIP planning process. All advice notes can be found on the Planning Inspectorate’s website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-infrastructure-planning-advice-notes>

- 4.1.9. In line with the requirements of the 2008 Act, the Applicant provided Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council with an opportunity to comment on a draft version of this SoCC. Regard has been had to their responses in producing this final version.

## 5. Engagement to date

- 5.1.1. The Applicant undertook early informal consultation on the Project between Monday 23 October and Monday 04 December 2023<sup>2</sup>.
- 5.1.2. The non-statutory consultation had the following aims:
- to introduce the Project to the public, providing an overview of the Project and the national need for solar;
  - present the early plans;
  - to give stakeholders and the community the opportunity to provide feedback on the early proposals; and
  - to outline the next steps for the Project.
- 5.1.3. Over the course of the non-statutory consultation, the Applicant held two face-to-face consultation events and one webinar. The consultation was publicised through a mixture of direct mailings, newspaper adverts and posters sent to local parishes. Dedicated project information channels were established for those who had questions about the Project or needed to get in contact with the project team. This engagement is summarised in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Summary of activities to date**

Activity	Total
Community newsletters issued	3,334
In-person consultation events	2
Stakeholder briefings	6
Webinars	1

- 5.1.4. There were a number of ways for members of the public and those interested in the consultation to provide feedback. These included:
- completing an online feedback form on the project website ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk));
  - completing a paper feedback form or sending written comments by post (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project);
  - emailing feedback to the project email address ([info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)); and

<sup>2</sup> Whilst the consultation material states a consultation close date of 4 December 2023, due to IT issues that rendered the feedback form inactive for two days, the consultation was therefore extended to account for this, and the consultation closed at 11:59pm on Wednesday 6 December 2023.

- calling the project information line (0115 718 2070).

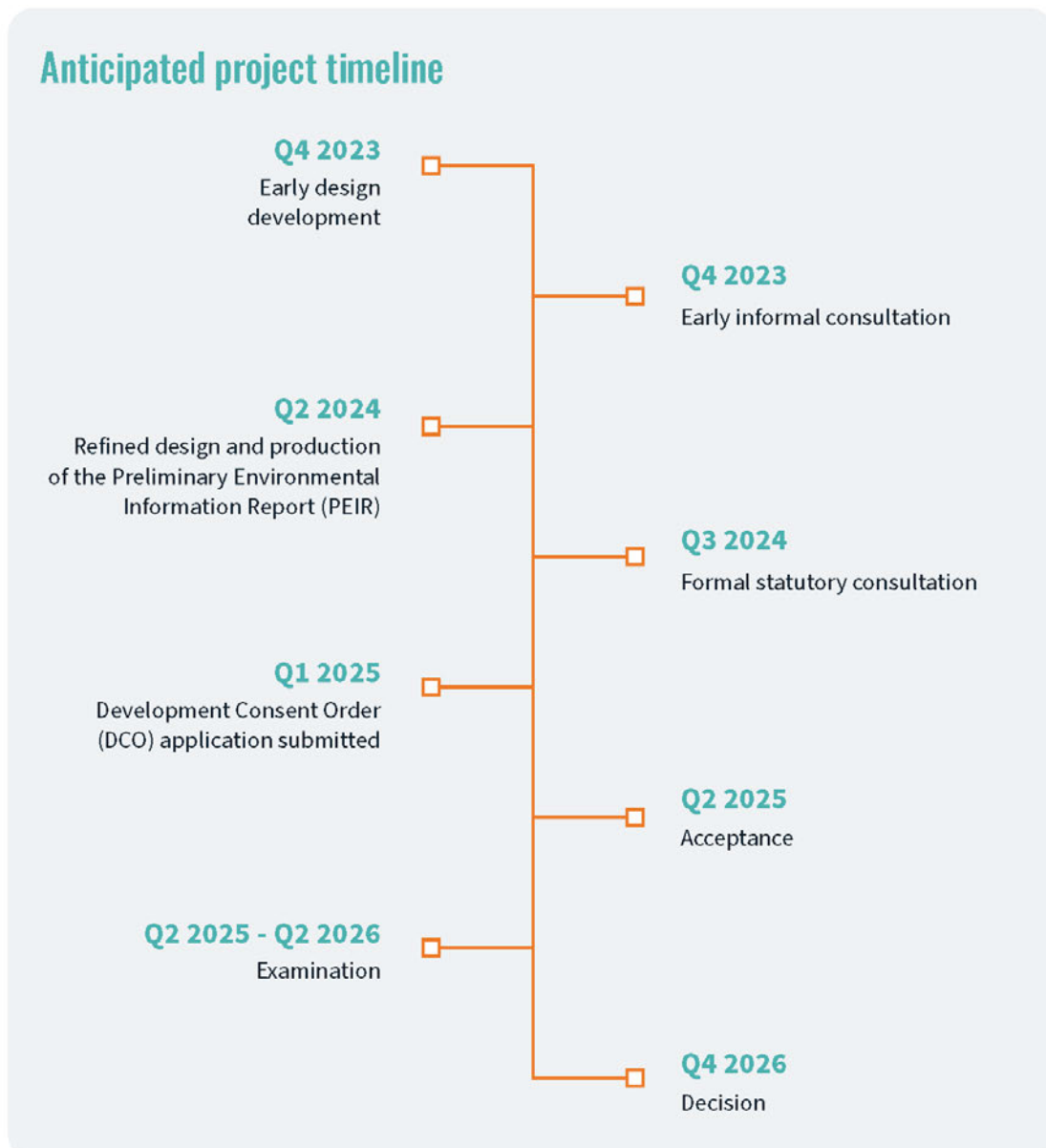
5.1.5. In total, throughout the six-week early informal consultation period, 118 responses were received.

5.1.6. More information about the non-statutory consultation can be found in the Early Consultation Report which is part of the documents that are currently available on the Project website. Archive documents from the non-statutory consultation will remain available on the Project website. Paper copies will be available on request and subject to a printing charge.

## 5.2. Timeline for the Project

5.2.1. **Figure 2** sets out an indicative timeline for each stage of the Project from consultation through to the Secretary of State's decision.

**Figure 2: Indicative project timeline**





## 6. Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act

### 6.1. How the Applicant will consult on the proposed application

- 6.1.1. The Applicant will undertake statutory consultation in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act for six weeks starting on Monday 20 January 2025. The deadline for consultation responses is 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025. All responses to the consultation must be received by the closing date.
- 6.1.2. This consultation will provide an opportunity for people in the local community and interested parties to have their say about the Applicant's proposals for the Project.
- 6.1.3. As well as the community consultation in accordance with section 47, this consultation will also include:
- consultation with prescribed bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways (under section 42 of the 2008 Act);
  - consultation with host and neighbouring local planning authorities (under section 42 of the 2008 Act);
  - consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by the Project (under section 42 of the 2008 Act); and
  - publication of the consultation on the Project (under Section 48 of the 2008 Act).

### 6.2. Who is The Applicant consulting?

- 6.2.1. The Applicant will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC. The Applicant's consultation process is open to anyone with an interest in the Applicant's proposals for the Project.
- 6.2.2. The Applicant has identified a consultation zone (CZ) (shown in **Figure 3**) for the purpose of communicating with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act. This is the same CZ that was initially defined for the Applicant's early informal consultation and based on a minimum distance of approximately two kilometres from the proposed site boundary within which the solar PV panels, energy storage system and on-site substation and supporting infrastructure would be located.
- 6.2.3. The CZ encompasses the entire village of Sturton-le-Steeple, the village in which the Project is proposed. To the south, the CZ extends to include the villages of North Leverton, South Leverton, and Treswell. Westward, it reaches Clarborough and Welham, while to the north, it includes Beckingham and Saundby. Extending northwest, the CZ covers North and South Wheatley. To the east, across the River Trent, the CZ also incorporates the villages of Gate Burton, Knaith, Lea, and Marton.
- 6.2.4. The CZ has been amended beyond these criteria, in certain areas, to consider:
- existing physical features, such as main roads;
  - capturing entire communities rather than excluding small numbers of properties; and

- where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications.

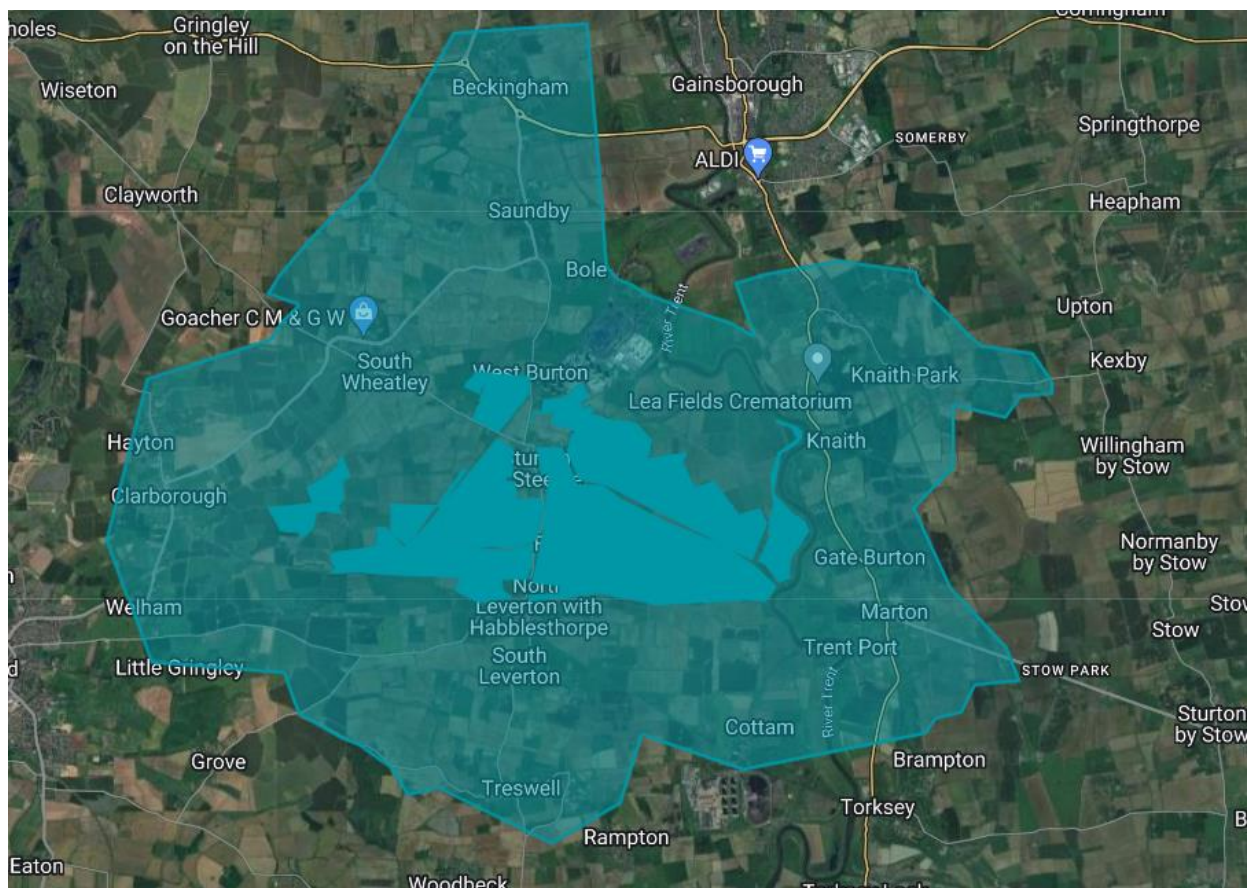
6.2.5. Within the CZ, the Applicant will be consulting any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the Project by virtue of their living or working in proximity to the site.

6.2.6. This will include:

- parish councils representing parishes within the CZ, Members of Parliament (MPs) representing constituencies within and bordering the CZ;
- elected representatives in local authorities within the CZ; and
- relevant local interest groups, such as residents' associations, community groups and groups with particular specialisms, such as environmental groups;
- and the Applicant is also committed to making sure that individuals and organisations outside of the CZ are given the opportunity to participate in the statutory consultation.

**Figure 3: Consultation zone (CZ) for the Project**

The dark teal area is the proposed site, with the village of Sturton-le-Steeple in the centre, and the lighter shaded area shows the same CZ that was initially defined for the informal consultation on the Applicant's early proposals, based on a minimum 2km distance from the proposed site boundary.



### 6.3. What is the Applicant consulting on?

- 6.3.1. The Applicant will present proposals for the Project including how they have been informed by the Applicant's environmental assessments and consultation to date.
- 6.3.2. The Applicant will be seeking feedback on the ongoing evolution of the proposals for the Project and:
- The overall proposals for the Project;
  - The updated site plan for the proposed site;
  - Measures proposed to avoid or minimise impacts identified in the Applicant's preliminary environmental assessment; and
  - (whilst outside of the considerations for the DCO application) the Applicant's proposals for community benefits and Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS).
- 6.3.3. The Project will be explained in the following materials:
- PEIR – the PEIR sets out the preliminary findings of the EIA;
  - PEIR Non-Technical Summary – the Non-Technical Summary provides a non-technical summary of the PEIR and the conclusions within the PEIR. This summary is written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public;
  - Consultation brochure – this brochure will provide an overview of the proposals including site layouts and connection infrastructure; and
  - Maps – the maps will set out the site areas in which the Project will be located.

**Table 2: Statutory consultation materials for the Project**

Consultation Materials	
Material	Detail
<b>Consultation newsletter</b>	<p>A newsletter publicising the consultation and outlining a high-level overview of the Project, details of the consultation programme, including the location, dates and times of the public consultation events. The newsletter will also include a QR code that links to the project website. This newsletter will be distributed to 3000+ addresses within the CZ.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be issued to wider consultees via email and distributed to local interest groups and sent to statutory bodies in the post.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be available to view and download on the project website.</p>
<b>Consultation brochure</b>	<p>A consultation brochure will be published on the project website at the start of the statutory consultation period, and will be available for download. The brochure provides a summary of the proposals the Applicant is consulting on, an outline of the environmental assessment work, details of how people can take part, and how feedback will be used to influence and shape the proposals.</p> <p>Printed copies of this brochure will be available to take away at all consultation events, at deposit locations (listed in <b>Table 4</b>), and on request by contacting the project team.</p>

Consultation Materials	
Material	Detail
<b>Navigation document</b>	<p>At the start of the statutory consultation period, a comprehensive Project Navigation Document will be published on the project website, and made available in hard copy at consultation events, and at the deposit points (listed in <b>Table 4</b>).</p> <p>This document will offer a clear overview of all consultation materials available for review, along with a user-friendly guide to help navigate them. Designed to simplify the consultation process, it will direct readers to specific sections of interest, ensuring they can easily locate relevant information and engage meaningfully with the materials provided.</p>
<b>Feedback form</b>	<p>A feedback form will be prepared to gather feedback on all aspects of the Project.</p> <p>The feedback form will be available for completion online via the project website and will be accessible throughout the six-week consultation period.</p> <p>Printed feedback forms will be available (free of charge) on request by contacting the project team, in hard copy at consultation events, and at the deposit points (listed in <b>Table 4</b>), along with freepost envelopes.</p> <p>The feedback form will also be available to download from the website, complete in pen and return to FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project.</p>
<b>Exhibition boards</b>	<p>Exhibition boards will be created to display information about the proposals and provide an overview of the key components of the Project.</p> <p>The boards will be designed to assist the understanding of the Project at the consultation events.</p> <p>Members of the public will also be available to view the boards in the virtual exhibition on the project website, which will go live on the day of the first event.</p>
<b>PEIR</b>	<p>The PEIR will contain a description of the Project, and a preliminary assessment of the environmental effects of the Project, based on the assessments carried out to date.</p> <p>It will also set out how the Applicant proposes to mitigate the impacts of and maximise the benefits of the Project.</p> <p>The PEIR will be available for download free of charge from the project website. A printed copy of the full PEIR will be available to view (but not take away) at the consultation events and deposit locations.</p> <p>Copies of the PEIR contained on a USB stick can be provided on request free of charge.</p> <p>A hard copy can be requested for a charge of £0.35 per page to cover printing and posting costs. Requests for hard copies can be made by email: <a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.</p>
<b>PEIR Non-Technical Summary</b>	<p>The Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides a non-technical summary of the preliminary environmental information and the</p>



Consultation Materials	
Material	Detail
	<p>conclusions within the PEIR. This summary will be written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public.</p> <p>The NTS will be available to view on the Applicant's project website, at deposit locations, at or consultation events and posted out on request free of charge.</p>
<b>Maps and plans of the Project</b>	<p>Additional maps and plans for the Project will also be available on the project website and at the consultation events and deposit locations.</p> <p>Requests for hard copies of the maps will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. To cover printing costs a reasonable copying charge may apply (up to a maximum of £350 for one full suite of documents - to be paid for by the recipient).</p>
<b>Materials in alternative formats</b>	<p>Requests for consultation information in additional formats will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</p> <p>All requests should be made to the project team by email: <a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.</p>

Table 3: The project website

Features	Rationale
<b>Online downloadable copies of all the statutory consultation material, including: The PEIR, consultation brochure and feedback form</b>	To ensure the exhibition material is accessible to those who may not be able to get to an in-person event or a deposit location. This will ensure that the consultation is accessible to everyone who wants to participate.
<b>Virtual exhibition</b>	<p>To ensure that people who cannot attend the events are able to access the same materials that are present at the in-person events.</p> <p>This will allow people to virtually walk around the consultation room simulating how the exhibition boards would be viewed at a public consultation event. The consultation feedback mechanism will also be able to be accessed via the virtual exhibition.</p>
<b>Web page content</b>	<p>The Project website will provide up to date information about the Project and have downloadable versions of all the documents that have been prepared for statutory consultation.</p> <p>The website will feature several pages that will provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an overview of the Project, the energy it will generate, information on the opportunity the Project presents and the potential benefits it could bring</li> <li>• an up to date version of the site plan, rationale for site selection and zoomed in plans of each land area</li> <li>• a brief overview of the DCO process and an indicative project timeline</li> </ul>

Features	Rationale
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>benefits to the local economy and community that could be delivered as part of the proposals</li> <li>information about RES and its history as a renewable energy developer and its global portfolio of projects</li> </ul>
<b>Online feedback form</b>	To enable members of the public to submit their feedback online and reduce the carbon footprint of consultation activity. This will be available from the consultation launch until close.
<b>Register for updates function</b>	This will enable the public to register to be updated about the Project, once they have signed up they will receive updates at key project milestones.
<b>Webinar registration form</b>	To enable members of the public to register to join the webinar.
<b>Contact details</b>	To provide details of how to contact the project team for any further questions.

## 6.4. Approach to community consultation

- 6.4.1. During the statutory consultation, the Applicant will use a range of methods to ensure an inclusive, meaningful, and open consultation. The Applicant will use a range of digital and non-digital methods of communication to ensure that the consultation can be accessed by all members of the community.
- 6.4.2. The Applicant will be focusing the consultation on communities within the primary consultation zone (CZ); however, the Applicant will ensure communities outside of the CZ are made aware of the consultation.
- 6.4.3. Inside the CZ:
- All homes and businesses within the CZ will be sent a consultation newsletter with high-level details about the Project and consultation programme, as well as contact details for the project team;
  - Consultation events will be held at locations within the CZ;
  - Relevant groups and organisations such as parish councils and local interest groups, will be notified of consultation opportunities; and
  - The Applicant has also identified a list of local community spaces within the CZ that will be directly mailed a poster to put up, advertising how people can get involved in the consultation.
- 6.4.4. Outside of the CZ:
- The Applicant will raise awareness of the consultation using a number of methods, including via local news media, social media, project website and direct communication with organisations such as regional, environmental, religious or health organisations located outside of the CZ.
- 6.4.5. **Table 4** below sets out the approaches that will be used to consult on the proposals and Preliminary Environmental Information.



**Table 4: Statutory consultation methods for the Project**

<b>Consultation methods</b>	
<b>Method</b>	<b>Detail</b>
<b>Consultation events</b>	<p>The Applicant will be holding three in-person events at locations spread across the CZ. These events will be publicised in the consultation newsletter, the consultation brochure, on posters, in local news media and in a public notice and on the project website.</p> <p>These events will run for periods of five hours on a mixture of weekdays and weekends to accommodate different availability.</p> <p>Details of the events are available in <b>Table 5</b>.</p>
<b>Stakeholder briefing meetings</b>	<p>The Applicant will seeks to brief key political stakeholders, representing wards, constituencies and parishes within the consultation zone.</p> <p>The Applicant will consider invitations to, or requests for, meetings with affected stakeholders, other local groups or special interest organisations on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<b>Webinar</b>	<p>One webinar will be held for members of the public to join to provide an alternative option for those who may not be able to attend the in-person events. This will be held in the evening outside of normal working hours to make the session as accessible as possible.</p> <p>Individuals can register to join the webinar via the website. The webinar will be held on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 12 February 2025: 6:30PM-8:00PM</li> </ul> <p>A recording of the webinar will be made available online for those unavailable to attend.</p>
<b>Project contact details</b>	<p>Members of the public will be able to call and speak to a member of the project team on the project information line (0115 718 2070), email (<a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) or write in (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project)</p>
<b>Deposit and information points</b>	<p>Hard copies of the consultation materials including this SoCC, the consultation brochure and the PEIR will be available to view at the following deposit locations and times:</p> <p><b>Gainsborough Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Monday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Tuesday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Wednesday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Thursday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Friday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Saturday:</b> 9:00AM - 1:00PM</li> </ul> <p><b>Retford Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Monday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Tuesday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Wednesday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Thursday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> </ul>

Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Friday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Saturday:</b> 9:00AM – 3:30PM</li> </ul> <p>Documents are also available to be viewed and collected at Sturton-le-Steeple Village Hall, The Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton Le Steeple, DN22 9HY. Please note this venue does not have regular opening hours but materials are available to be collected when the village hall is open. The village hall opening times can be seen on their website at <a href="https://www.sturtonhall.org.uk/">https://www.sturtonhall.org.uk/</a>.</p> <p>Only hard copies of the consultation newsletter, consultation brochure, navigation document, NTS and feedback form will be available for people to take away with them.</p> <p>The Applicant will check on a weekly basis that sufficient volumes of consultation documentation remains at the information points throughout the consultation period.</p>
<b>Project website and virtual exhibition</b>	<p>A dedicated project website (<a href="http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) will be updated for people to find out more information about the proposals and to provide feedback.</p> <p>All consultation documents will be presented on the Project website and available for download, free of charge, from the document library. The website will also feature a virtual exhibition. Information will be consistent with materials available at the deposit locations and consultation events.</p>

## 6.5. Consultation events

- 6.5.1. Three in-person public consultation events will be held for communities to find out information about the Project and speak to members of the project team. The consultation events will be held at suitable, publicly accessible venues located within the CZ.
- 6.5.2. Copies of all relevant consultation materials will be made available in print format at each consultation event. There will be a series of exhibition boards to present the proposals for the Project, including maps.
- 6.5.3. Those attending will be encouraged to provide their feedback on the proposals.
- 6.5.4. **Table 5** outlines the dates, times, and locations of each of the consultation events.

**Table 5: Details of the consultation events**

Date	Time	Location
Saturday 01 February 2025	10:00AM- 3:00PM	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY
Wednesday 05 February 2025	2:00PM-7:00PM	South Leverton Memorial Institute Town St, South Leverton, Retford, DN22 0BT
Wednesday 12 February 2025	6:30PM-8:00PM	Online Webinar
Wednesday 19 February 2025	2:00PM-7:00PM	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY

## 6.6. Promoting the consultation

6.6.1. The Applicant will use a variety of methods to make people aware of the Project and publicise the statutory consultation. These methods are outlined in **Table 6** below.

**Table 6: Methods for promoting the statutory consultation for the Project**

Methods to promote the consultation	
Method	Detail
<b>Consultation newsletter</b>	Consultation newsletters will be posted to all homes and businesses in the CZ ahead of the statutory consultation period. The newsletter will also be issued to statutory consultees in the mail, and to wider consultees via email, including local interest groups.
<b>Press releases</b>	To raise awareness of the Project and the consultation programme, both within and beyond the CZ, the Applicant will share a press release with local media outlets at the start of consultation.
<b>Social media</b>	<p>The Applicant will run social media adverts prior to and throughout the consultation. These adverts will be targeted to reach people within the CZ and the surrounding areas.</p> <p>The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.</p>
<b>Emails and letters</b>	<p>The Applicant will send both emails and letters about the consultation programme to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• host constituency and neighbouring constituency area MPs;</li> <li>• elected representatives at Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council;</li> <li>• host and neighbouring parish councils;</li> <li>• host and neighbouring local authorities; and</li> <li>• local interest groups, such as environmental groups.</li> </ul> <p>Parish councils will be sent hard copies of the consultation brochure as part of the mailing to statutory consultees.</p>

Methods to promote the consultation	
Method	Detail
<b>Statutory notices</b>	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the consultation, in accordance with section 48 of the 2008 Act, will be published once in a national newspaper (The Guardian) and The London Gazette and twice (across two successive weeks) in local circulating papers, The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p> <p>Statutory notices publicising the SoCC, in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act, will be published once (for one week) in local circulating papers: The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p>
<b>Newspaper advertising</b>	An advert publicising the consultation – separate to the statutory notices – will be published in the Retford Times ahead of the consultation launch. The advert will run for one week, publicising the consultation dates and advertise the consultation events and the deposit locations.
<b>Information posters</b>	<p>Posters including details of the consultation, how to access information about the Project and how to get involved, will be displayed at well-used public locations within and outside of the CZ, including libraries, shops and civic buildings. These will be hosted in agreement with relevant organisations and venues.</p> <p>Information posters will be sent to all host and neighbouring parish councils, to be used on local noticeboards, and to help raise awareness of the consultation.</p>

- 6.6.2. Any activity(ies) that cannot be undertaken due to circumstances beyond the Applicant's control, where possible, will be substituted with similar activity(ies) and communicated in local newspapers (via press release) circulating in the vicinity of the Project. Any activity changes will also be published on the project website.

## 6.7. Engagement with seldom heard groups

- 6.7.1. The Applicant is committed to ensuring that the consultation is accessible and inclusive for all stakeholders, including 'under-represented' or 'seldom heard' groups and individuals who may be less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation methods.
- 6.7.2. These groups and individuals that may find it harder to be involved in the consultation, and/or need additional support to access materials, include:
- geographically isolated communities
  - young people
  - older people
  - disabled people and those with learning disabilities
  - people who do not have English as a first language

**Table 7: Consultation with seldom-heard groups for the Project**

Seldom-heard groups	Consultation approach
<b>Older people</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the CZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p>Requests for consultation information in additional formats will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</p> <p>Offering feedback to be provided via a freepost address so feedback can be easily provided by post.</p> <p>Consultation events at two locations within the CZ, with members of the team available to answer questions to help inform feedback responses.</p>
<b>Disabled people and those with learning disabilities</b>	<p>Providing information in both digital and non-digital formats.</p> <p>Requests for consultation information in additional formats will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p>Consultation events at two locations within the CZ, with members of the team available to assist with completing feedback responses.</p> <p>One online webinar, so anyone who may not be able to attend an in-person event can have the opportunity to ask questions of the project team.</p> <p>Ensure all event spaces have disabled access and facilities, and the layout of the consultation room provide space for those with, wheelchairs and other mobility aids to move around.</p>
<b>Geographically isolated communities</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the CZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p> <p>Offering feedback to be provided via an online form and via the freepost address so feedback can be easily provided from all locations.</p> <p>One webinar for people to join and find out about the Project.</p> <p>Advertising the availability of the Project phoneline for stakeholders with further questions to speak with the project team, regardless of location.</p>
<b>Young people</b>	<p>Online engagement methods, to encourage young people to complete online feedback forms and engage with the consultation.</p> <p>The Applicant will run social media adverts throughout the consultation. These adverts will be targeted so will reach people within the CZ and the surrounding areas.</p>



Seldom-heard groups	Consultation approach
	The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.
<b>People who do not have English as a first language</b>	Requests for consultation information in additional languages will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.  If required, the team could appoint appropriate translation services who can read materials such as the PEIR out over the phone. Stakeholders can request this service by contacting the project team through the below communication channels.

## 6.8. Information channels

- 6.8.1. The following channels will be available throughout the consultation for members of the community and other stakeholders to get in touch with the project team, ask questions, request further information, or request copies of the consultation materials and documents. These channels are provided in **Table 8** below:

**Table 8: Information channels for the Project**

Channel	Contact details	Hours of operation
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24/7
<b>Telephone</b>	0115 718 2070	9am–5:30pm weekdays (with a voicemail facility to take messages outside these hours)
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24 hour (emails will be monitored between 9am–5:30pm weekdays and responded to within 10 working days)
<b>Post</b>	FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project	24 hour (mailbox will be monitored between 9am–5:30pm on weekdays)

- 6.8.2. Requests for consultation information to meet specific requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required. This will include materials such as large print or audio for those with visual impairments, or an alternative language to for those for whom English is not their first language, to enable them to take part in the consultation.

## 7. Responding to the consultation

### 7.1. How to respond to the consultation

- 7.1.1. Feedback to the consultation must be submitted **by 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025**. Responses received after this date may not be considered.
- 7.1.2. Consultation responses can be made in the following ways:



- Completing the feedback form online which can be accessed via the project website from Monday 20 January 2025: ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk))
- Attending a consultation event and completing a printed feedback form which can be handed into the project team in-person or taken away and sent to us via a freepost (using FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project). Feedback forms can also be collected from the community deposit locations, downloaded from the website, and completed in pen or requested from the project team, using the contact details in **Table 8**.
- Emailing into [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
- Writing to us at FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (no stamp is required)

## 7.2. Further consultation

- 7.2.1. If, following the statutory consultation, the Applicant considers it is necessary to undertake further geographically targeted or supplementary consultation, this would be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate. Wider consultation could also be carried out if considered appropriate.
- 7.2.2. Any additional consultation will be carried out on a proportionate basis in line with the principles set out in this SoCC and communicated to the host local authorities in advance.

## 8. How the Applicant will use consultation feedback

- 8.1.1. When the Applicant's statutory consultation closes at **11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025**, the Applicant will have regard to all comments received. All feedback, including ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders, is important to us and will help to influence the Applicant's design for the Project.
- 8.1.2. Once the Applicant has reviewed and finalised the application, the Applicant will produce a Consultation Report, which will set out how the feedback from the pre-application consultation has shaped and influenced the Applicant's proposed application.
- 8.1.3. The Consultation Report will be submitted to the Secretary of State as part of the DCO application.
- 8.1.4. Any comments received could be made public but no personal information will be published. Any personal data received as part of the consultation will be stored and protected in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation. The privacy notice for those visiting the project website is available at: [www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk).

## 9. Contact details

- 9.1.1. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more information about the Project and the Applicant's consultation programme. The project team can be contacted using any of the communications lines listed below.

- 9.1.2. Should you require any documents in large print, audio or braille then please contact us using the details provided. Every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate at the time of going to print.
- 9.1.3. The Applicant's communications channels are:
- Email: [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
  - Call: 0115 718 2070
  - Write to: FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (you do not need a stamp)

## Appendix C-4.4 SoCC with tracked changes



POWER  
FOR GOOD

# Steeple Renewables Project

Statement of Community Consultation  
January 2025



## Contents

1. Introduction .....	3
1.1. Purpose of the document .....	3
2. Steeple Renewables Project .....	4
2.1. The Project .....	4
2.2. Environmental Impact Assessment .....	4
3. Consenting process .....	6
4. About RES .....	5
4.1. The Applicant - RES .....	5
5. Engagement to date .....	7
5.2. Timeline for the Project .....	8
6. Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act .....	9
6.1. How we will consult on the proposed application .....	9
6.2. Who are we consulting .....	9
6.3. What are we consulting on? .....	11
6.4. Approach to community consultation .....	14
6.5. Consultation events .....	16
6.6. Promoting the consultation .....	17
6.7. Engagement with seldom-heard groups .....	19
6.8. Information channels .....	20
7. Responding to the consultation .....	21
7.1. How to respond to the consultation .....	21
7.2. Further consultation .....	21
8. How we will use consultation feedback .....	21
9. Contact details .....	22

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Purpose of the document

- 1.1.1. RES ( “the Applicant”) is publishing this Statement of Community Consultation (“SoCC”) in connection with its proposals for a new solar energy and battery storage scheme known as Steeple Renewables Project (“the Project”).
- 1.1.2. Anticipated to generate up to 400MW of solar energy, the Project is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (“NSIP”), as defined by the Planning Act 2008 (“the 2008 Act”), with up to 200MW of battery storage associated development and requires development consent from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, via a Development Consent Order (“DCO”).
- 1.1.3. The purpose of this SoCC is to set out how the Applicant intend to consult people living in the vicinity of the Project about the proposal before submission of the DCO application. It includes:
  - a description of the consenting process the Applicant must follow;
  - what the Applicant will be consulting on;
  - who the Applicant will consult;
  - how the Applicant will consult;
  - how people can respond to the consultation; and
  - how the Applicant will use the consultation feedback responses.
- 1.1.4. This SoCC has been prepared in accordance with section 47(1) of the 2008 Act, which requires applicants to prepare a statement explaining how they will consult with the local community regarding their proposals, and to carry out pre-application consultation in accordance with this SoCC.
- 1.1.5. Understanding the views of the local community, local authorities and other stakeholders helps ensure the Applicant identifies valuable information and the feedback received will help shape the Project.
- 1.1.6. As the Project is an ‘EIA Development’ (meaning that it is subject to an environmental impact assessment or “EIA”), this SoCC also sets out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information, in accordance with Regulation 12 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (“the EIA Regulations”).
- 1.1.7. In addition to the Applicant’s obligations under section 47, section 42 of the 2008 Act sets out how applicants must consult with prescribed consultees, local authorities and persons with an interest in land (“section 42 consultees”). All section 42 consultees known at the present time will be consulted in accordance with this SoCC and are invited to participate in consultation activities.



## 2. Steeple Renewables Project

### 2.1. The Project

- 2.1.1. The Project is located on land at Sturton-le-Steeple, Nottinghamshire, within the administrative boundaries of Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. The Project will connect into the national grid at the recently decommissioned West Burton Power Station.
- 2.1.2. You can view the land under consideration on the Project website here:  
<https://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk/media/o5npccme/steeple-renewables-land-under-consideration-v2.jpg>
- 2.1.3. The Project comprises an area of approximately 2,300 acres and is made up of land parcels in the vicinity of West Burton Power Station where solar panels and battery storage energy systems are proposed. The Project will also include\*:
- solar PV modules and associated mounting structures;
  - underground cabling within the areas of the solar PV modules and connecting solar PV module areas to the on-site substation;
  - on-site supporting equipment including inverters, transformers, and switchgears;
  - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS);
  - highways access and internal tracks; and
  - areas for ecological mitigation and enhancement.

*\*Please note that these details are subject to confirmation and may be subject to adjustments as the project progresses.*

- 2.1.4. The Project would make a meaningful contribution to local and national climate commitments generating up to 400MW of renewable energy, for approximately ~~180,000~~156,884 homes every year, around ~~4550~~% of all homes in Nottinghamshire<sup>1</sup>.

### 2.2. Environmental Impact Assessment

- 2.2.1. The Project constitutes an 'EIA Development' as defined by the EIA Regulations 2017.
- 2.2.2. An EIA is therefore being prepared to ensure the potential environmental effects of the Project are properly understood and whether appropriate mitigation measures should be put in place to avoid,

<sup>1</sup>The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from DESNZ (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) showing that the annual GB average domestic household consumption is 3,239 kWh (January 2024). The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from the Department of Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,748 kWh (Dec 2021). This calculation will be updated with the most recent annual average electricity figures from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) (January 2024) for the statutory consultation.

prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any significant adverse environmental effects. The DCO application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement containing the findings of the EIA.

- 2.2.3. An EIA Scoping Opinion was issued by the Planning Inspectorate on 03 June 2024. Together with the Applicant's Scoping Report, this identifies the environmental issues relevant to the Project and suggests any potential mitigation measures. The Scoping Opinion is available to view on the Planning Inspectorate website at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010163/EN010163-000013-Steeple%20-%20Scoping%20Opinion%202017%20EIA%20Regs.pdf>
- 2.2.4. In accordance with Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which sets out initial information on the potential environmental effects of the Project and any proposed mitigation, will be prepared and published that will help consultees to take an informed view on these matters.
- 2.2.5. The Applicant will invite feedback on the information presented in the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation. Feedback received will be considered before the DCO application and EIA are finalised for submission.

## **3. About RES**

### **3.1. The Applicant - RES**

- 3.1.1. RES, a British company, is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, active in onshore and offshore wind, solar, energy storage, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution.
- 3.1.2. At the forefront of the industry for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 27GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports an operational asset portfolio exceeding 41GW worldwide for a large client base.
- 3.1.3. Drawing on its decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality, which contribute to a low carbon future by providing a secure supply of sustainable, low cost, clean green energy. RES is committed to finding effective and appropriate ways of engaging with all its stakeholders, including local residents and businesses, and believes that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process. RES is also committed to developing long term relationships with the communities around its projects, proactively seeking ways in which it can support and encourage community involvement in social and environmental projects near its developments.
- 3.1.4. You can visit the Applicant's website at: <https://www.res-group.com/>

## 4. Consenting process

- 4.1.1. As the Project will have a generating capacity of more than 50MW, the Project is classified as a NSIP and under the 2008 Act requires the Applicant to submit an application for a DCO to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 4.1.2. If the application for the DCO is accepted, the Planning Inspectorate will appoint an Examining Authority to examine the application that will then submit a report on the application to the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (the “Secretary of State”) recommending whether consent should be granted or refused. The Secretary of State will make the final decision on [the](#) DCO application.
- 4.1.3. Interested parties are entitled to participate throughout the duration of the process, including after submission and during examination.
- 4.1.4. Before submitting a DCO application, the 2008 Act requires The Applicant to carry out consultation with people living in the vicinity of the land and prescribed stakeholders.
- 4.1.5. An overview of the DCO process is shown in **Figure 1**.

**Figure 1: The DCO Process**



- 4.1.6. The 2008 Act requires the Applicant to consult with persons with an interest in the proposed land and certain bodies as prescribed under section 42 of the 2008 Act. They include bodies such as Bassetlaw District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and the Environment Agency.
- 4.1.7. The 2008 Act requires the Applicant to consult with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act (the subject of this SoCC); and to publicise the proposals, locally and nationally. The local community is defined in the 2008 Act as people living within the vicinity of the land.
- 4.1.8. Further information on the DCO application process can be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate which has published a range of advice notes which intend to inform applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of matters in relation to the 2008 Act process. This includes Advice Note Eight, which provides more detail on the NSIP planning process. All advice notes can be found on the

Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-infrastructure-planning-advice-notes>

- 4.1.9. In line with the requirements of the 2008 Act, the Applicant provided Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council with an opportunity to comment on a draft version of this SoCC. Regard has been had to their responses in producing this final version.

## 5. Engagement to date

- 5.1.1. The Applicant undertook early informal consultation on the Project between Monday 23 October and Monday 04 December 2023<sup>2</sup>.

- 5.1.2. The non-statutory consultation had the following aims:

- to introduce the Project to the public, providing an overview of the Project and the national need for solar;
- present the early plans;
- to give stakeholders and the community the opportunity to provide feedback on the early proposals; and
- to outline the next steps for the Project.

- 5.1.3. Over the course of the non-statutory consultation, the Applicant held two face-to-face consultation events and one webinar. The consultation was publicised through a mixture of direct mailings, newspaper adverts and posters sent to local parishes. Dedicated project information channels were established for those who had questions about the Project or needed to get in contact with the project team. This engagement is summarised in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Summary of activities to date**

Activity	Total
Community newsletters issued	3,334
In-person consultation events	2
Stakeholder briefings	6
Webinars	1

- 5.1.4. There were a number of ways for members of the public and those interested in the consultation to provide feedback. These included:

<sup>2</sup> Whilst the consultation material states a consultation close date of 4 December 2023, due to IT issues that rendered the feedback form inactive for two days, the consultation was therefore extended to account for this, and the consultation closed at 11:59pm on Wednesday 6 December 2023.

- completing an online feedback form on the project website ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk));
- completing a paper feedback form or sending written comments by post (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project);
- emailing feedback to the project email address ([info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)); and
- calling the project information line (0115 718 2070).

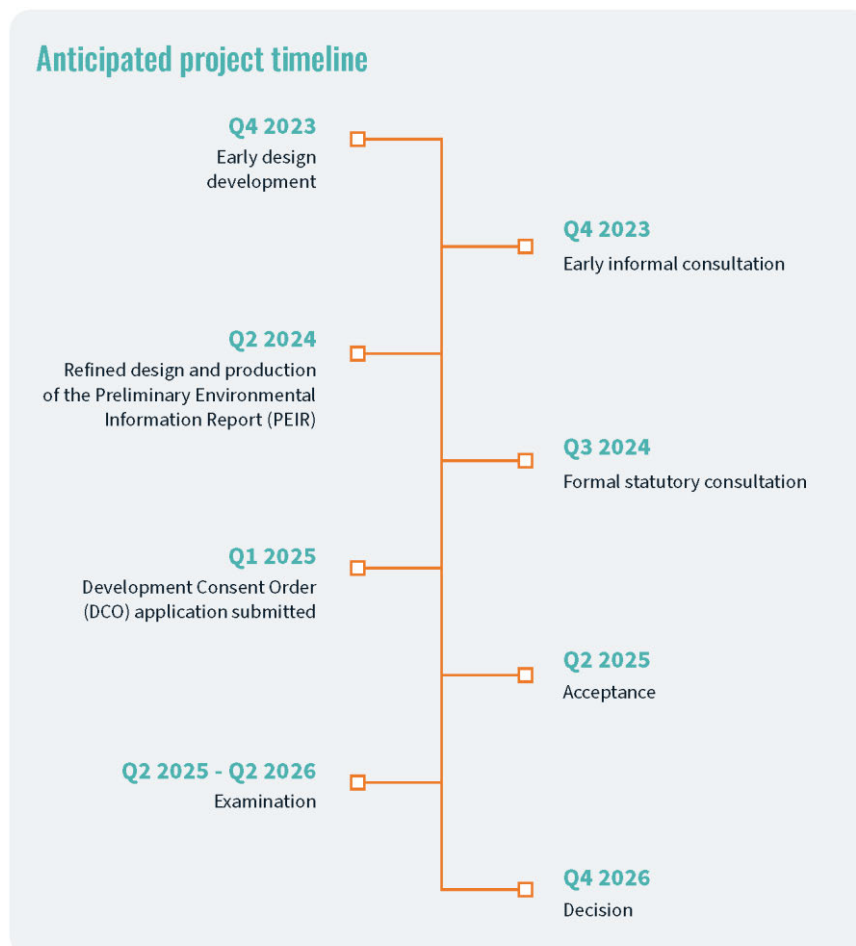
5.1.5. In total, throughout the six-week early consultation period, 118 responses were received.

5.1.6. More information about the non-statutory consultation can be found in the Early Consultation Report which is part of the documents that are currently available on the Project website. Archive documents from the non-statutory consultation will remain available on the Project website. Paper copies will be available on request and subject to a printing charge.

## 5.2. Timeline for the Project

5.2.1. **Figure 2** sets out an indicative timeline for each stage of the Project from consultation through to the Secretary of State's decision.

**Figure 2: Indicative project timeline**



## 6. Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act

### 6.1. How The Applicant will consult on the proposed application

- 6.1.1. The Applicant will undertake statutory consultation in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act for six weeks starting on Monday 20 January 2025. The deadline for consultation responses is 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025. All responses to the consultation must be received by the closing date.
- 6.1.2. This consultation will provide an opportunity for people in the local community and interested parties to have their say about the Applicant's proposals for the Project.
- 6.1.3. As well as the community consultation in accordance with section 47, this consultation will also include:
- consultation with prescribed bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways (under section 42 of the 2008 Act);
  - consultation with host and neighbouring local planning authorities (under section 43 of the 2008 Act);
  - consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by the Project (under section 44 of the 2008 Act); and
  - general public consultation on the Project (under Section 48 of the 2008 Act).

### 6.2. Who is The Applicant consulting?

- 6.2.1. The Applicant will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC. The Applicant's consultation process is open to anyone with an interest in the Applicant's proposals for the Project.
- 6.2.2. The Applicant has identified a consultation zone (CZ) (shown in **Figure 3**) for the purpose of communicating with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act. This is the same CZ that was initially defined for the Applicant's early informal consultation and based on a minimum distance of approximately two kilometres from the proposed site boundary within which the solar PV panels, energy storage system and on-site substation and supporting infrastructure would be located.
- 6.2.3. The CZ encompasses the entire village of Sturton-le-Steeple, the village in which the Project is proposed. To the south, the CZ extends to include the villages of North Leverton, South Leverton, and Treswell. Westward, it reaches Clarborough and Welham, while to the north, it includes Beckingham and Saundby. Extending northwest, the CZ covers North and South Wheatley. To the east, across the River Trent, the CZ also incorporates the villages of Gate Burton, Knaith, Lea, and Marton.
- 6.2.4. The CZ has been amended beyond these criteria, in certain areas, to consider:
- existing physical features, such as main roads;
  - capturing entire communities rather than excluding small numbers of properties; and



- where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications.

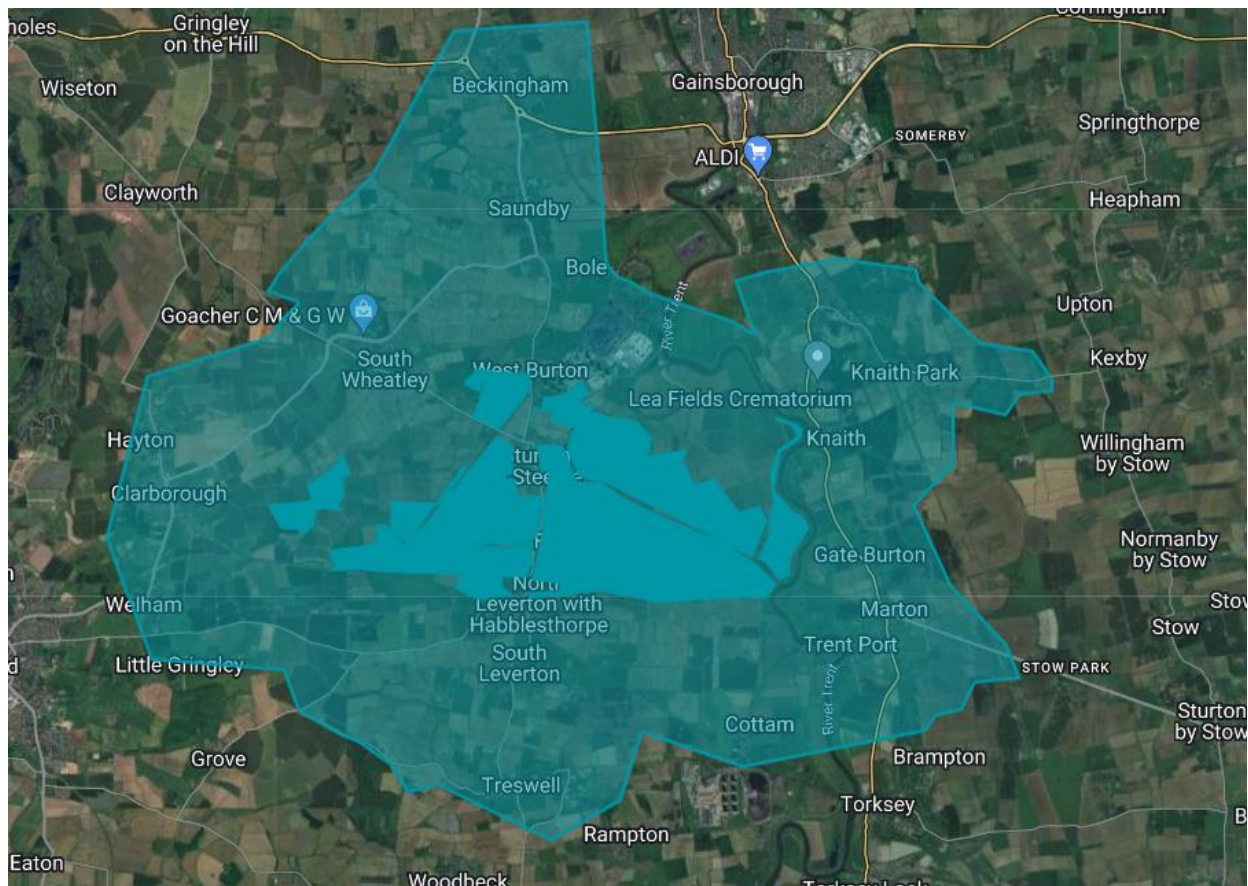
6.2.5. Within the CZ, the Applicant will be consulting any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the Project by virtue of their living or working in proximity to the site.

6.2.6. This will include:

- parish councils representing parishes within the CZ, Members of Parliament (MPs) representing constituencies within and bordering the CZ;
- elected representatives in local authorities within the CZ; and
- relevant local interest groups, such as residents' associations, community groups and groups with particular specialisms, such as environmental groups;
- and the Applicant is also committed to making sure that individuals and organisations outside of the CZ are given the opportunity to participate in the statutory consultation.

**Figure 3: Consultation zone (CZ) for the Project**

The dark teal area is the land under consideration, with the village of Sturton-le-Steeple in the centre, and the lighter shaded area shows the same CZ that was initially defined for the informal consultation on the Applicant's early proposals, based on a minimum 2km distance from the proposed site boundary.



### 6.3. What is the Applicant consulting on?

- 6.3.1. The Applicant will present proposals for the Project including how they have been informed by the Applicant's environmental assessments and consultation to date.
- 6.3.2. The Applicant will be seeking feedback on the ongoing evolution of the proposals for the Project and:
- The overall proposals for the Project;
  - The updated site plan for the proposed site;
  - Measures proposed to avoid or minimise impacts identified in the Applicant's preliminary environmental assessment; and
  - (whilst outside of the considerations for the DCO application) the Applicant's proposals for community benefits and Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS).
- 6.3.3. The Project will be explained in the following materials:
- PEIR – the PEIR sets out the preliminary findings of the EIA;
  - PEIR Non-Technical Summary – the Non-Technical Summary provides a non-technical summary of the PEIR and the conclusions within the PEIR. This summary is written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public;
  - Consultation brochure – this brochure will provide an overview of the proposals including site layouts and connection infrastructure; and
  - Maps – the maps will set out the site areas in which the Project will be located.

**Table 2: Statutory consultation materials for the Project**

Consultation Materials	
Material	Detail
<b>Consultation newsletter</b>	<p>A newsletter publicising the consultation and outlining a high-level overview of the Project, details of the consultation programme, including the location, dates and times of the public consultation events. The newsletter will also include a QR code that links to the project website. This newsletter will be distributed to 3000+ addresses within the CZ.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be issued to wider consultees via email and distributed to local interest groups and sent to statutory bodies in the post.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be available to view and download on the project website.</p>
<b>Consultation brochure</b>	<p>A consultation brochure will be published on the project website at the start of the statutory consultation period, and will be available for download. The brochure provides a summary of the proposals the Applicant is consulting on, an outline of the environmental assessment work, details of how people can take part, and how feedback will be used to influence and shape the proposals.</p>

<b>Consultation Materials</b>	
<b>Material</b>	<b>Detail</b>
	Printed copies of this brochure will be available to take away at all consultation events, at deposit locations (listed in <b>Table 4</b> ), and on request by contacting the project team.
<b>Navigation document</b>	<p>At the start of the statutory consultation period, a comprehensive Project Navigation Document will be published on the project website, and made available in hard copy at consultation events, and at the deposit points (listed in <b>Table 4</b>).</p> <p>This document will offer a clear overview of all consultation materials available for review, along with a user-friendly guide to help navigate them. Designed to simplify the consultation process, it will direct readers to specific sections of interest, ensuring they can easily locate relevant information and engage meaningfully with the materials provided.</p>
<b>Feedback form</b>	<p>A feedback form will be prepared to gather feedback on all aspects of the Project.</p> <p>The feedback form will be available for completion online via the project website and will be accessible throughout the six-week consultation period.</p> <p>Printed feedback forms will be available (free of charge) on request by contacting the project team, in hard copy at consultation events, and at the deposit points (listed in <b>Table 4</b>), along with freepost envelopes.</p> <p>The feedback form will also be available to download from the website, complete in pen and return to FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project.</p>
<b>Exhibition boards</b>	<p>Exhibition boards will be created to display information about the proposals and provide an overview of the key components of the Project.</p> <p>The boards will be designed to assist the understanding of the Project at the consultation events.</p> <p>Members of the public will also be available to view the boards in the virtual exhibition on the project website, which will go live on the day of the first event.</p>
<b>PEIR</b>	<p>The PEIR will contain a description of the Project, and a preliminary assessment of the environmental effects of the Project, based on the assessments carried out to date.</p> <p>It will also set out how the Applicant proposes to mitigate the impacts of and maximise the benefits of the Project.</p> <p>The PEIR will be available for download free of charge from the project website. A printed copy of the full PEIR will be available to view (but not take away) at the consultation events and deposit locations.</p> <p>Copies of the PEIR contained on a USB stick can be provided on request at no extra cost.</p> <p>A hard copy can be requested for a charge of £0.35 per page to cover printing and posting costs. Requests for hard copies can be made by</p>

Consultation Materials	
Material	Detail
	email: <a href="mailto:info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.
<b>PEIR Non-Technical Summary</b>	<p>The Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides a non-technical summary of the preliminary environmental information and the conclusions within the PEIR. This summary will be written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public.</p> <p>The NTS will be available to view on the Applicant's project website, at deposit locations, at or consultation events and posted out on request.</p>
<b>Technical maps and plans of the Project</b>	<p>Additional maps and plans for the Project will also be available on the project website and at the consultation events and deposit locations.</p> <p>Requests for hard copies of the technical documents will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. To cover printing costs a reasonable copying charge may apply (up to a maximum of £350 for one full suite of documents - to be paid for by the recipient).</p>
<b>Materials in alternative formats</b>	<p><u>Upon request, documents can be made available in alternative accessible formats, such as braille, and speaking text. Consultation information in alternative languages can be provided. Requests for consultation information in additional formats will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</u></p> <p>All requests should be made to the project team by email: <a href="mailto:info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.</p>

Table 3: The project website

Features	Rationale
<b>Online downloadable copies of all the statutory consultation material, including: The PEIR, consultation brochure and feedback form</b>	To ensure the exhibition material is accessible to those who may not be able to get to an in-person event or a deposit location. This will ensure that the consultation is accessible to everyone who wants to participate.
<b>Virtual exhibition</b>	<p>To ensure that people who cannot attend the events are able to access the same materials that are present at the in-person events.</p> <p>This will allow people to virtually walk around the consultation room simulating how the exhibition boards would be viewed at a public consultation event. The consultation feedback mechanism will also be able to be accessed via the virtual exhibition.</p>
<b>Web page content</b>	<p>The Project website will provide up to date information about the project and have downloadable versions of all the documents that have been prepared for statutory consultation.</p> <p>The website will feature several pages that will provide the following information:</p>



Features	Rationale
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an overview of the Project, the energy it will generate, information on the opportunity the Project presents and the potential benefits it could bring</li> <li>• an up to date version of the site plan, rationale for site selection and zoomed in plans of each land area</li> <li>• a brief overview of the DCO process and an indicative project timeline</li> <li>• benefits to the local economy and community that could be delivered as part of the proposals</li> <li>• information about RES and its history as a renewable energy developer and its global portfolio of projects</li> </ul>
<b>Online feedback form</b>	To enable members of the public to submit their feedback online and reduce the carbon footprint of consultation activity. This will be available from the consultation launch until close.
<b>Register for updates function</b>	This will enable the public to register to be updated about the Project, once they have signed up they will receive updates at key project milestones.
<b>Webinar registration form</b>	To enable members of the public to register to join the webinar.
<b>Contact details</b>	To provide details of how to contact the project team for any further questions.

## 6.4. Approach to community consultation

- 6.4.1. During the statutory consultation, the Applicant will use a range of methods to ensure an inclusive, meaningful, and open consultation. the Applicant will use a range of digital and non-digital methods of communication to ensure that the consultation can be accessed by all members of the community.
- 6.4.2. The Applicant will be focusing the consultation on communities within the primary consultation zone (CZ); however, the Applicant will ensure communities outside of the CZ are made aware of the consultation.
- 6.4.3. Inside the CZ:
- All homes and businesses within the CZ will be sent a consultation newsletter with high-level details about the Project and consultation programme, as well as contact details for the project team;
  - Consultation events will be held at locations within the CZ;
  - Relevant groups and organisations such as parish councils and local interest groups, will be notified of consultation opportunities; and
  - The Applicant has also identified a list of local community spaces within the CZ that will be directly mailed a poster to put up, advertising how people can get involved in the consultation.
- 6.4.4. Outside of the CZ:

- The Applicant will raise awareness of the consultation using a number of methods, including via local news media, [social media](#), project website and direct communication with organisations such as regional, environmental, religious or health organisations located outside of the CZ.

6.4.5. **Table 4** below sets out the approaches that will be used to consult on the proposals and Preliminary Environmental Information.

**Table 4: Statutory consultation methods for the Project**

Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
<b>Consultation events</b>	<p>The Applicant will be holding three in-person events at locations spread across the CZ. These events will be publicised in the consultation newsletter, the consultation brochure, on posters, in local news media and in a public notice and on the project website.</p> <p>These events will run for periods of five hours on a mixture of weekdays and weekends to accommodate different availability.</p> <p>Details of the events are available in <b>Table 5</b>.</p>
<b>Stakeholder briefing meetings</b>	<p>The Applicant seeks to brief key political stakeholders, representing wards, constituencies and parishes within the consultation zone.</p> <p>The Applicant will consider invitations to, or requests for, meetings with affected stakeholders, other local groups or special interest organisations on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<b>Webinar</b>	<p>One webinar will be held for members of the public to join to provide an alternative option for those who may not be able to attend the in-person events. This will be held in the evening outside of normal working hours to make the session as accessible as possible.</p> <p>Individuals can register to join the webinar via the website. The webinar will be held on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 12 February 2025: 6:30PM-8:00PM</li> </ul> <p>A recording of the webinar will be made available online for those unavailable to attend.</p>
<b>Project contact details</b>	<p>Members of the public will be able to call and speak to a member of the project team on the project information line (0115 718 2070), email (<a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) or write in (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project)</p>
<b>Deposit and information points</b>	<p>Hard copies of the consultation materials including this SoCC, the consultation brochure and the PEIR will be available to view at the following deposit locations and times:</p> <p><b>Gainsborough Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Monday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Tuesday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> </ul>



Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wednesday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Thursday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Friday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Saturday:</b> 9:00AM - 1:00PM</li> </ul> <p><b>Retford Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Monday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Tuesday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Wednesday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Thursday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Friday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Saturday:</b> 9:00AM - 3:30PM</li> </ul> <p>Documents are also available to be viewed and collected at Sturton-le-Steeple Village Hall, The Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton Le Steeple, DN22 9HY. Please note this venue does not have regular opening hours but materials are available to be collected when the village hall is open. The village hall opening times can be seen on their website at <a href="https://www.sturtonhall.org.uk/">https://www.sturtonhall.org.uk/</a>.</p> <p>Only hard copies of the consultation newsletter, consultation brochure, navigation document, NTS and feedback form will be available for people to take away with them.</p> <p>The Applicant will check on a weekly basis that sufficient volumes of consultation documentation remains at the information points throughout the consultation period. <del>Where possible, if there are hard copies of the consultation brochure and feedback form remaining after the respective consultation events have taken place, these will be left behind at the venues, so that community groups using these spaces afterwards can view the material and take away copies if they wish.</del></p>
<b>Project website and virtual exhibition</b>	<p>A dedicated project website (<a href="http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) will be updated for people to find out more information about the proposals and to provide feedback.</p> <p>All consultation documents will be presented on the Project website and available for download, free of charge, from the document library. The website will also feature a virtual exhibition. Information will be consistent with materials available at the deposit locations and consultation events.</p>

## 6.5. Consultation events

- 6.5.1. Three in-person public consultation events will be held for communities to find out information about the Project and speak to members of the project team. The consultation events will be held at suitable, publicly accessible venues located within the CZ.

- 6.5.2. Copies of all relevant consultation materials will be made available in print format at each consultation event. There will be a series of exhibition boards to present the proposals for the Project, including maps.
- 6.5.3. Those attending will be encouraged to provide their feedback on the proposals.
- 6.5.4. **Table 5** outlines the dates, times, and locations of each of the consultation events.

**Table 5: Details of the consultation events**

Date	Time	Location
Saturday 01 February 2025	10:00AM- 3:00PM	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY
Wednesday 05 February 2025	2:00PM-7:00PM	South Leverton Memorial Institute Town St, South Leverton, Retford, DN22 0BT
Wednesday 12 February 2025	6:30PM-8:00PM	Online
Wednesday 19 February 2025	2:00PM-7:00PM	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY

## 6.6. Promoting the consultation

- 6.6.1. The Applicant will use a variety of methods to make people aware of the Project and publicise the statutory consultation. These methods are outlined in **Table 6** below.

**Table 6: Methods for promoting the statutory consultation for the Project**

Methods to promote the consultation	
Method	Detail
<b>Consultation newsletter</b>	Consultation newsletters will be posted to all homes and businesses in the CZ ahead of the statutory consultation period. The newsletter will also be issued to statutory consultees in the mail, and to wider consultees via email, including local interest groups.
<b>Press releases</b>	To raise awareness of the Project and the consultation programme, both within and beyond the CZ, the Applicant share a press release with local media outlets at the start of consultation.
<b><u>Social media</u></b>	<u>The Applicant will run social media adverts prior to and throughout the consultation. These adverts will be targeted to reach people within the CZ and the surrounding areas.</u> <u>The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.</u>
<b>Emails and letters</b>	The Applicant will send both emails and letters about the consultation programme to:

Methods to promote the consultation	
Method	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• host constituency and neighbouring constituency area MPs;</li> <li>• elected representatives at Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council;</li> <li>• host and neighbouring parish councils;</li> <li>• host and neighbouring local authorities; and</li> <li>• local interest groups, such as environmental groups.</li> </ul> <p>Parish councils will be sent hard copies of the consultation brochure as part of the mailing to statutory consultees.</p>
<b>Statutory notices</b>	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the consultation, in accordance with section 48 of the 2008 Act, will be published once in a national newspaper (The Guardian) and The London Gazette and twice (across two successive weeks) in local circulating papers, The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p> <p>Statutory notices publicising the SoCC, in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act, will be published once (for one week) in local circulating papers: The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p>
<b><u>Newspaper advertising</u></b>	<p><u>An advert publicising the consultation – separate to the statutory notices – will be published in the Retford Times ahead of the consultation launch. The advert will run for one week, publicising the consultation dates and advertise the consultation events and the deposit locations.</u></p>
<b>Information posters</b>	<p>Posters including details of the consultation, how to access information about the Project and how to get involved, will be displayed at well-used public locations within and outside of the CZ, including libraries, shops and civic buildings. These will be hosted in agreement with relevant organisations and venues.</p> <p>Information posters will be sent to all host and neighbouring parish councils, to be used on local noticeboards, and to help raise awareness of the consultation.</p>

- 6.6.2. Any activity(ies) that cannot be undertaken due to circumstances beyond the Applicant's control, where possible, will be substituted with similar activity(ies) and communicated in local newspapers (via press release) circulating in the vicinity of the Project. Any activity changes will also be published on the project website.

## 6.7. Engagement with seldom heard groups

- 6.7.1. The Applicant is committed to ensuring that the consultation is accessible and inclusive for all stakeholders, including ‘under-represented’ or ‘seldom heard’ groups and individuals who may be less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation methods.
- 6.7.2. These groups and individuals that may find it harder to be involved in the consultation, and/or need additional support to access materials, include:
- geographically isolated communities
  - young people
  - older people
  - disabled people and those with learning disabilities
  - people who do not have English as a first language

**Table 7: Consultation with seldom-heard groups for the Project**

Seldom-heard groups	Consultation approach
<b>Older people</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the CZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p><u>Requests for consultation information in additional formats will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</u></p> <p>Offering feedback to be provided via a freepost address so feedback can be easily provided by post.</p> <p>Consultation events at two locations within the CZ, with members of the team available to answer questions to help inform feedback responses.</p>
<b>Disabled people and those with learning disabilities</b>	<p>Providing information in both digital and non-digital formats.</p> <p><u>Requests for consultation information in additional formats will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</u></p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p>Consultation events at two locations within the CZ, with members of the team available to assist with completing feedback responses.</p> <p>One online webinar, so anyone who may not be able to attend an in-person event can have the opportunity to ask questions of the project team.</p> <p>Ensure all event spaces have disabled access and facilities, and the layout of the consultation room provide space for those with, wheelchairs and other mobility aids to move around.</p>

Seldom-heard groups	Consultation approach
<b>Geographically isolated communities</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the CZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p> <p>Offering feedback to be provided via an online form and via the freepost address so feedback can be easily provided from all locations.</p> <p>One webinar for people to join and find out about the Project.</p> <p>Advertising the availability of the Project phonenumber for stakeholders with further questions to speak with the project team, regardless of location.</p>
<b>Young people</b>	<p>Online engagement methods, to encourage young people to complete online feedback forms and engage with the consultation.</p> <p><u>The Applicant will run social media adverts throughout the consultation. These adverts will be targeted so will reach people within the CZ and the surrounding areas.</u></p> <p><u>The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.</u></p>
<b>People who do not have English as a first language</b>	<p><u>Requests for consultation information in additional languages will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</u></p> <p>If required, the team could appoint appropriate translation services who can read materials such as the PEIR out over the phone. Stakeholders can request this service by contacting the project team through the below communication channels.</p>

## 6.8. Information channels

- 6.8.1. The following channels will be available throughout the consultation for members of the community and other stakeholders to get in touch with the project team, ask questions, request further information, or request copies of the consultation materials and documents. These channels are provided in **Table 8** below:

**Table 8: Information channels for the Project**

Channel	Contact details	Hours of operation
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24/7
<b>Telephone</b>	0115 718 2070	9am–5:30pm weekdays (with a voicemail facility to take messages outside these hours)
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24 hour (emails will be monitored between 9am–5:30pm weekdays and responded to within 10 working days)
<b>Post</b>	FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project	24 hour (mailbox will be monitored between 9am–5:30pm on weekdays)



- 6.8.2. Requests for consultation information to meet specific requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required. This will include materials such as large print or audio for those with visual impairments, or an alternative language to for those for whom English is not their first language, to enable them to take part in the consultation.

## **7. Responding to the consultation**

### **7.1. How to respond to the consultation**

- 7.1.1. Feedback to the consultation must be submitted **by 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025**. Responses received after this date may not be considered.
- 7.1.2. Consultation responses can be made in the following ways:
- Completing the feedback form online which can be accessed via the project website from Monday 20 January 2025: ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk))
  - Attending a consultation event and completing a printed feedback form which can be handed into the project team in-person or taken away and sent to us via a freepost (using FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project). Feedback forms can also be collected from the community deposit locations, downloaded from the website, and completed in pen or requested from the project team, using the contact details in **Table 8**.
  - Emailing into [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
  - Writing to us at FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (no stamp is required)

### **7.2. Further consultation**

- 7.2.1. If, following the statutory consultation, the Applicant considers it is necessary to undertake further geographically targeted or supplementary consultation, this would be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate. Wider consultation could also be carried out if considered appropriate.
- 7.2.2. Any additional consultation will be carried out on a proportionate basis in line with the principles set out in this SoCC and communicated to the host local authorities in advance.

## **8. How the Applicant will use consultation feedback**

- 8.1.1. When the Applicant's statutory consultation closes at **11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025**, the Applicant will have regard to all comments received. All feedback, including ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders, is important to us and will help to influence the Applicant's design for the Project.



- 8.1.2. Once the Applicant has reviewed and finalised the application, the Applicant will produce a Consultation Report, which will set out how the feedback from the pre-application consultation has shaped and influenced the Applicant's proposed application.
- 8.1.3. The Consultation Report will be submitted to the Secretary of State as part of the DCO application.
- 8.1.4. Any comments received could be made public but no personal information will be published. Any personal data received as part of the consultation will be stored and protected in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation. The privacy notice for those visiting the project website is available at: [www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk).

## **9. Contact details**

- 9.1.1. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more information about the Project and the Applicant's consultation programme. The project team can be contacted using any of the communications lines listed below.
- 9.1.2. Should you require any documents in large print, audio or braille then please contact us using the details provided. Every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate at the time of going to print.
- 9.1.3. The Applicant's communications channels are:
  - Email: [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
  - Call: 0115 718 2070
  - Write to: FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (you do not need a stamp)

## Appendix C-5 Final SoCC

### Appendix C-5.1 Email to Notts CC with final SoCC

**From:** [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION  
**Date:** 17 January 2025 10:51:59  
**Attachments:** [Steeple Renewables Project - SoCC Final.pdf](#)

---

Thank you for your comments on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) received on 03 December 2024 regarding RES' proposals for Steeple Renewables Project.

We have reviewed your comments and made some changes to the document, outlined below. Please find attached the updated final SoCC, including a word tracked changes version for your information.

Paragraph	Comment	Change Made
2.1.4.	None	The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from DESNZ (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) showing that the annual GB average domestic household consumption is 3,239 kWh (January 2024).
Table 4: Statutory consultation methods for the Project	None	<p>We have removed the provision that stated where possible consultation materials will be left behind at event venues.</p> <p>Materials will be present throughout the consultation at Sturton-le-Steeple Hall and Conference Centre alongside the two other deposit locations.</p> <p>Considering this we no longer deem it necessary to leave materials at South Leverton Memorial Hall.</p>
Table 6: Methods to promote the consultation	Nottinghamshire County Council: The strategy should include social media engagement, both for promoting the consultation and as a channel for community interaction. Consider creating a dedicated account on X or similar	<p>We have added social media to our methods to promote the consultation.</p> <p>Prior to and throughout the consultation we will use Facebook to promote the</p>

	platforms to address questions and provide information. Additionally, explore using existing social media pages to publicise the consultation, especially to reach seldom-heard groups like young people.	consultation.  The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.
Table 6: Methods to promote the consultation	None	Separately to the statutory notices we will now be publishing an advert in the Retford Times ahead of the consultation launch. The advert will run for a week to publicise the consultation dates and advertise the consultation events and the deposit locations.
Provision of materials in alternative formats	None	Requests for consultation information to meet specific requirements will now be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.

We also received late comments on the SoCC from Bassetlaw that requested additional deposit locations at Retford Town Hall and Bassetlaw District Council Offices in Worksop. Whilst these comments were received too late to incorporate into the final SoCC we have had regard to these comments. We will include these additional deposit locations for consultation materials. These locations will also be advertised on the project website.

Further to your comment regarding the use of Facebook as a method to collect feedback, whilst we agree that social media is an effective tool for promoting the consultation, we want to clarify that it is not our intention to collect feedback via Facebook or any other social media platform. This decision aligns with company policy, which prohibits RES from creating project-specific social media accounts, as the company does not maintain a direct presence on social media.

Feedback will instead be collected via email, phone, and feedback forms. These methods provide clear and structured channels for submitting responses, helping to avoid confusion and ensuring the efficient management of feedback. As set out above, promotional advertisements will be run through a Facebook account wholly owned and managed by Cavendish.

I hope the above goes some way to address your feedback on this topic but please do get in touch if you have any further questions.

Best Wishes,



**Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team**

## Appendix C-5.2 Email to BDC with final SoCC



**From:** [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Steeple Renewables Project SECTION 47(2) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008: REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION  
**Date:** 17 January 2025 10:52:23  
**Attachments:** [Steeple Renewables Project - SoCC.Final.pdf](#)  
[Steeple Renewables Project - SoCC with Tracked Changes.docx](#)

---

Good morning Amanda,

I am writing further to our email in November 2024 about our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). We have reviewed the comments from Nottinghamshire County Council and summarised them in a table below. Please find attached the updated final SoCC, including a word tracked changes version for your information.

Paragraph	Comment	Change Made
2.1.4.	None	The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from DESNZ (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) showing that the annual GB average domestic household consumption is 3,239 kWh (January 2024).
Table 4: Statutory consultation methods for the Project	None	We have removed the provision that stated where possible consultation materials will be left behind at event venues.  Materials will be present throughout the consultation at Sturton-le-Steeple Hall and Conference Centre alongside the two other deposit locations.  Considering this we no longer deem it necessary to leave materials at South Leverton Memorial Hall.
Table 6: Methods to promote the consultation	Nottinghamshire County Council: The strategy should include social media engagement, both for promoting the consultation and as a channel for community	We have added social media to our methods to promote the consultation.  Prior to and throughout the

	<p>interaction. Consider creating a dedicated account on X or similar platforms to address questions and provide information.</p> <p>Additionally, explore using existing social media pages to publicise the consultation, especially to reach seldom-heard groups like young people.</p>	<p>consultation we will use Facebook to promote the consultation.</p> <p>The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.</p>
Table 6: Methods to promote the consultation	None	<p>Separately to the statutory notices we will now be publishing an advert in the Retford Times ahead of the consultation launch. The advert will run for a week to publicise the consultation dates and advertise the consultation events and the deposit locations.</p>
Provision of materials in alternative formats	None	<p>Requests for consultation information to meet specific requirements will now be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</p>

As discussed yesterday, the late receipt of comments from Bassetlaw District Council prevented us from incorporating them into the final SoCC. However, we have had regard to your feedback. In response to your request, we will include additional deposit locations for consultation materials at Retford Town Hall and Bassetlaw District Council Offices in Worksop. These locations will also be advertised on the project website.

I hope the above goes some way to address your feedback on this topic but please do get in touch if you have any further questions.

Best Wishes,



**Steeple Renewables Project Communications Team**

## Appendix C-5.3 Final SoCC

# Steeple Renewables Project

Statement of Community Consultation

January 2025



## Contents

1.	Introduction .....	3
1.1.	Purpose of the document .....	3
2.	Steeple Renewables Project .....	4
2.1.	The Project .....	4
2.2.	Environmental Impact Assessment .....	4
3.	Consenting process .....	6
4.	About RES .....	5
4.1.	The Applicant - RES .....	5
5.	Engagement to date .....	7
5.2.	Timeline for the Project .....	8
6.	Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act .....	8
6.1.	How we will consult on the proposed application .....	9
6.2.	Who are we consulting .....	9
6.3.	What are we consulting on? .....	11
6.4.	Approach to community consultation .....	14
6.5.	Consultation events .....	16
6.6.	Promoting the consultation .....	17
6.7.	Engagement with seldom-heard groups .....	18
6.8.	Information channels .....	20
7.	Responding to the consultation .....	20
7.1.	How to respond to the consultation .....	20
7.2.	Further consultation .....	21
8.	How we will use consultation feedback .....	21
9.	Contact details .....	21

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Purpose of the document

- 1.1.1. RES ( “the Applicant”) is publishing this Statement of Community Consultation ( “SoCC”) in connection with its proposals for a new solar energy and battery storage scheme known as Steeple Renewables Project ( “the Project”).
- 1.1.2. Anticipated to generate up to 400MW of solar energy, the Project is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ( “NSIP”), as defined by the Planning Act 2008 ( “the 2008 Act”), with up to 200MW of battery storage associated development and requires development consent from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, via a Development Consent Order ( “DCO”).
- 1.1.3. The purpose of this SoCC is to set out how the Applicant intends to consult people living in the vicinity of the Project about the proposal before submission of the DCO application. It includes:
  - a description of the consenting process the Applicant must follow;
  - what the Applicant will be consulting on;
  - who the Applicant will consult;
  - how the Applicant will consult;
  - how people can respond to the consultation; and
  - how the Applicant will use the consultation feedback responses.
- 1.1.4. This SoCC has been prepared in accordance with section 47(1) of the 2008 Act, which requires applicants to prepare a statement explaining how they will consult with the local community regarding their proposals, and to carry out pre-application consultation in accordance with this SoCC.
- 1.1.5. Understanding the views of the local community, local authorities and other stakeholders helps ensure the Applicant identifies valuable information and the feedback received will help shape the Project.
- 1.1.6. As the Project is an ‘EIA Development’ (meaning that it is subject to an environmental impact assessment or “EIA”), this SoCC also sets out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information, in accordance with Regulation 12 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ( “the EIA Regulations”).
- 1.1.7. In addition to the Applicant’s obligations under section 47, section 42 of the 2008 Act sets out how applicants must consult with prescribed consultees, local authorities and persons with an interest in land ( “section 42 consultees”). All section 42 consultees known at the present time will be consulted in accordance with this SoCC and are invited to participate in consultation activities.



## 2. Steeple Renewables Project

### 2.1. The Project

- 2.1.1. The Project is located on land at Sturton-le-Steeple, Nottinghamshire, within the administrative boundaries of Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. The Project will connect into the national grid at the recently decommissioned West Burton Power Station.
- 2.1.2. You can view the land under consideration on the Project website here:  
<https://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk/media/o5npccme/steeple-renewables-land-under-consideration-v2.jpg>
- 2.1.3. The Project comprises an area of approximately 2,300 acres and is made up of land parcels in the vicinity of West Burton Power Station where solar panels and battery storage energy systems are proposed. The Project will also include\*:
- solar PV modules and associated mounting structures;
  - underground cabling within the areas of the solar PV modules and connecting solar PV module areas to the on-site substation;
  - on-site supporting equipment including inverters, transformers, and switchgears;
  - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS);
  - highways access and internal tracks; and
  - areas for ecological mitigation and enhancement.

*\*Please note that these details are subject to confirmation and may be subject to adjustments as the project progresses.*

- 2.1.4. The Project would make a meaningful contribution to local and national climate commitments generating up to 400MW of renewable energy, for approximately 180,000 homes every year, around 50% of all homes in Nottinghamshire<sup>1</sup>.

### 2.2. Environmental Impact Assessment

- 2.2.1. The Project constitutes an 'EIA Development' as defined by the EIA Regulations.
- 2.2.2. An EIA is therefore being prepared to ensure the potential environmental effects of the Project are properly understood and whether appropriate mitigation measures should be put in place to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any significant adverse environmental effects. The DCO application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement containing the findings of the EIA.

---

<sup>1</sup>The homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted average annual electricity generation of the site and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from DESNZ (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) showing that the annual GB average domestic household consumption is 3,239 kWh (January 2024).

- 2.2.3. An EIA Scoping Opinion was issued by the Planning Inspectorate on 03 June 2024. Together with the Applicant's Scoping Report, this identifies the environmental issues relevant to the Project and suggests any potential mitigation measures. The Scoping Opinion is available to view on the Planning Inspectorate website at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010163/EN010163-000013-Steeple%20-%20Scoping%20Opinion%202017%20EIA%20Regs.pdf>
- 2.2.4. In accordance with Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which sets out initial information on the potential environmental effects of the Project and any proposed mitigation, will be prepared and published that will help consultees to take an informed view on these matters.
- 2.2.5. The Applicant will invite feedback on the information presented in the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation. Feedback received will be considered before the DCO application and EIA are finalised for submission.

## 3. About RES

### 3.1. The Applicant - RES

- 3.1.1. RES, a British company, is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, active in onshore and offshore wind, solar, energy storage, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution.
- 3.1.2. At the forefront of the industry for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 27GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports an operational asset portfolio exceeding 41GW worldwide for a large client base.
- 3.1.3. Drawing on its decades of experience in the renewable energy and construction industries, RES has the expertise to develop, construct and operate projects of outstanding quality, which contribute to a low carbon future by providing a secure supply of sustainable, low cost, clean green energy. RES is committed to finding effective and appropriate ways of engaging with all its stakeholders, including local residents and businesses, and believes that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process. RES is also committed to developing long term relationships with the communities around its projects, proactively seeking ways in which it can support and encourage community involvement in social and environmental projects near its developments.
- 3.1.4. You can visit the Applicant's website at: <https://www.res-group.com/>

## 4. Consenting process

- 4.1.1. As the Project will have a generating capacity of more than 50MW, the Project is classified as a NSIP and under the 2008 Act requires the Applicant to submit an application for a DCO to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 4.1.2. If the application for the DCO is accepted, the Planning Inspectorate will appoint an Examining Authority to examine the application that will then submit a report on the application to the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (the “Secretary of State”) recommending whether consent should be granted or refused. The Secretary of State will make the final decision on the DCO application.
- 4.1.3. Interested parties are entitled to participate throughout the duration of the process, including after submission and during examination.
- 4.1.4. Before submitting a DCO application, the 2008 Act requires the Applicant to carry out consultation with people living in the vicinity of the land and prescribed stakeholders.
- 4.1.5. An overview of the DCO process is shown in **Figure 1**.

**Figure 1: The DCO Process**



- 4.1.6. The 2008 Act requires the Applicant to consult with persons with an interest in the proposed land and certain bodies as prescribed under section 42 of the 2008 Act. They include bodies such as Bassetlaw District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and the Environment Agency.
- 4.1.7. The 2008 Act requires the Applicant to consult with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act (the subject of this SoCC); and to publicise the proposals, locally and nationally. The local community is defined in the 2008 Act as people living within the vicinity of the land.
- 4.1.8. Further information on the DCO application process can be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate which has published a range of advice notes which intend to inform applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of matters in relation to the 2008 Act process. This includes Advice Note Eight, which provides more detail on the NSIP planning process. All advice notes can be found on the Planning Inspectorate’s website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-infrastructure-planning-advice-notes>

- 4.1.9. In line with the requirements of the 2008 Act, the Applicant provided Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council with an opportunity to comment on a draft version of this SoCC. Regard has been had to their responses in producing this final version.

## 5. Engagement to date

- 5.1.1. The Applicant undertook early informal consultation on the Project between Monday 23 October and Monday 04 December 2023<sup>2</sup>.
- 5.1.2. The non-statutory consultation had the following aims:
- to introduce the Project to the public, providing an overview of the Project and the national need for solar;
  - present the early plans;
  - to give stakeholders and the community the opportunity to provide feedback on the early proposals; and
  - to outline the next steps for the Project.
- 5.1.3. Over the course of the non-statutory consultation, the Applicant held two face-to-face consultation events and one webinar. The consultation was publicised through a mixture of direct mailings, newspaper adverts and posters sent to local parishes. Dedicated project information channels were established for those who had questions about the Project or needed to get in contact with the project team. This engagement is summarised in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Summary of activities to date**

Activity	Total
Community newsletters issued	3,334
In-person consultation events	2
Stakeholder briefings	6
Webinars	1

- 5.1.4. There were a number of ways for members of the public and those interested in the consultation to provide feedback. These included:
- completing an online feedback form on the project website ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk));
  - completing a paper feedback form or sending written comments by post (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project);
  - emailing feedback to the project email address ([info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)); and

<sup>2</sup> Whilst the consultation material states a consultation close date of 4 December 2023, due to IT issues that rendered the feedback form inactive for two days, the consultation was therefore extended to account for this, and the consultation closed at 11:59pm on Wednesday 6 December 2023.

- calling the project information line (0115 718 2070).

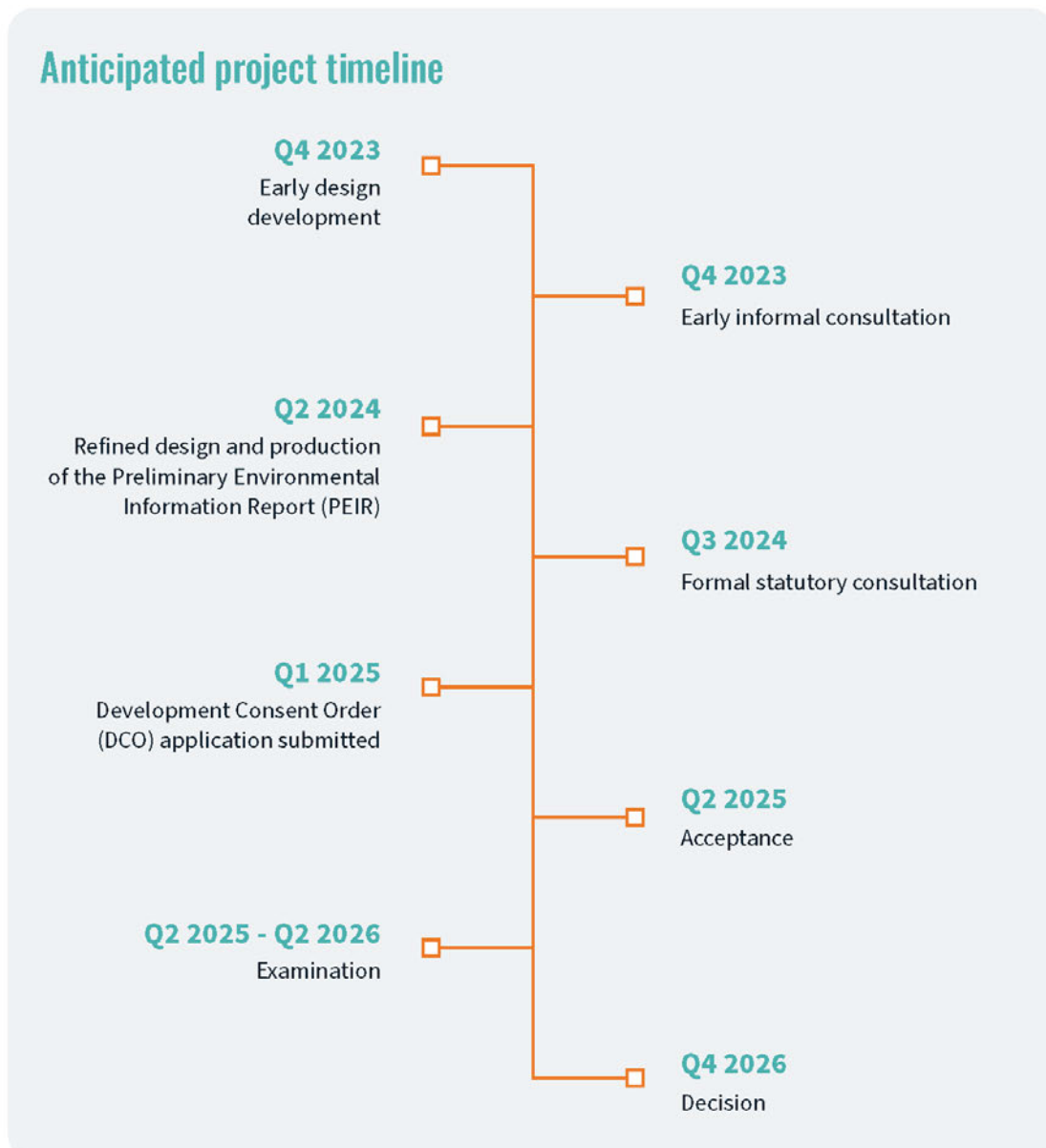
5.1.5. In total, throughout the six-week early informal consultation period, 118 responses were received.

5.1.6. More information about the non-statutory consultation can be found in the Early Consultation Report which is part of the documents that are currently available on the Project website. Archive documents from the non-statutory consultation will remain available on the Project website. Paper copies will be available on request and subject to a printing charge.

## 5.2. Timeline for the Project

5.2.1. **Figure 2** sets out an indicative timeline for each stage of the Project from consultation through to the Secretary of State's decision.

**Figure 2: Indicative project timeline**



## 6. Statutory consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act

### 6.1. How the Applicant will consult on the proposed application

- 6.1.1. The Applicant will undertake statutory consultation in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act for six weeks starting on Monday 20 January 2025. The deadline for consultation responses is 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025. All responses to the consultation must be received by the closing date.
- 6.1.2. This consultation will provide an opportunity for people in the local community and interested parties to have their say about the Applicant's proposals for the Project.
- 6.1.3. As well as the community consultation in accordance with section 47, this consultation will also include:
- consultation with prescribed bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways (under section 42 of the 2008 Act);
  - consultation with host and neighbouring local planning authorities (under section 42 of the 2008 Act);
  - consultation with any persons with an interest in the land affected by the Project (under section 42 of the 2008 Act); and
  - publication of the consultation on the Project (under Section 48 of the 2008 Act).

### 6.2. Who is The Applicant consulting?

- 6.2.1. The Applicant will consult widely in accordance with this SoCC. The Applicant's consultation process is open to anyone with an interest in the Applicant's proposals for the Project.
- 6.2.2. The Applicant has identified a consultation zone (CZ) (shown in **Figure 3**) for the purpose of communicating with the local community under section 47 of the 2008 Act. This is the same CZ that was initially defined for the Applicant's early informal consultation and based on a minimum distance of approximately two kilometres from the proposed site boundary within which the solar PV panels, energy storage system and on-site substation and supporting infrastructure would be located.
- 6.2.3. The CZ encompasses the entire village of Sturton-le-Steeple, the village in which the Project is proposed. To the south, the CZ extends to include the villages of North Leverton, South Leverton, and Treswell. Westward, it reaches Clarborough and Welham, while to the north, it includes Beckingham and Saundby. Extending northwest, the CZ covers North and South Wheatley. To the east, across the River Trent, the CZ also incorporates the villages of Gate Burton, Knaith, Lea, and Marton.
- 6.2.4. The CZ has been amended beyond these criteria, in certain areas, to consider:
- existing physical features, such as main roads;
  - capturing entire communities rather than excluding small numbers of properties; and



- where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications.

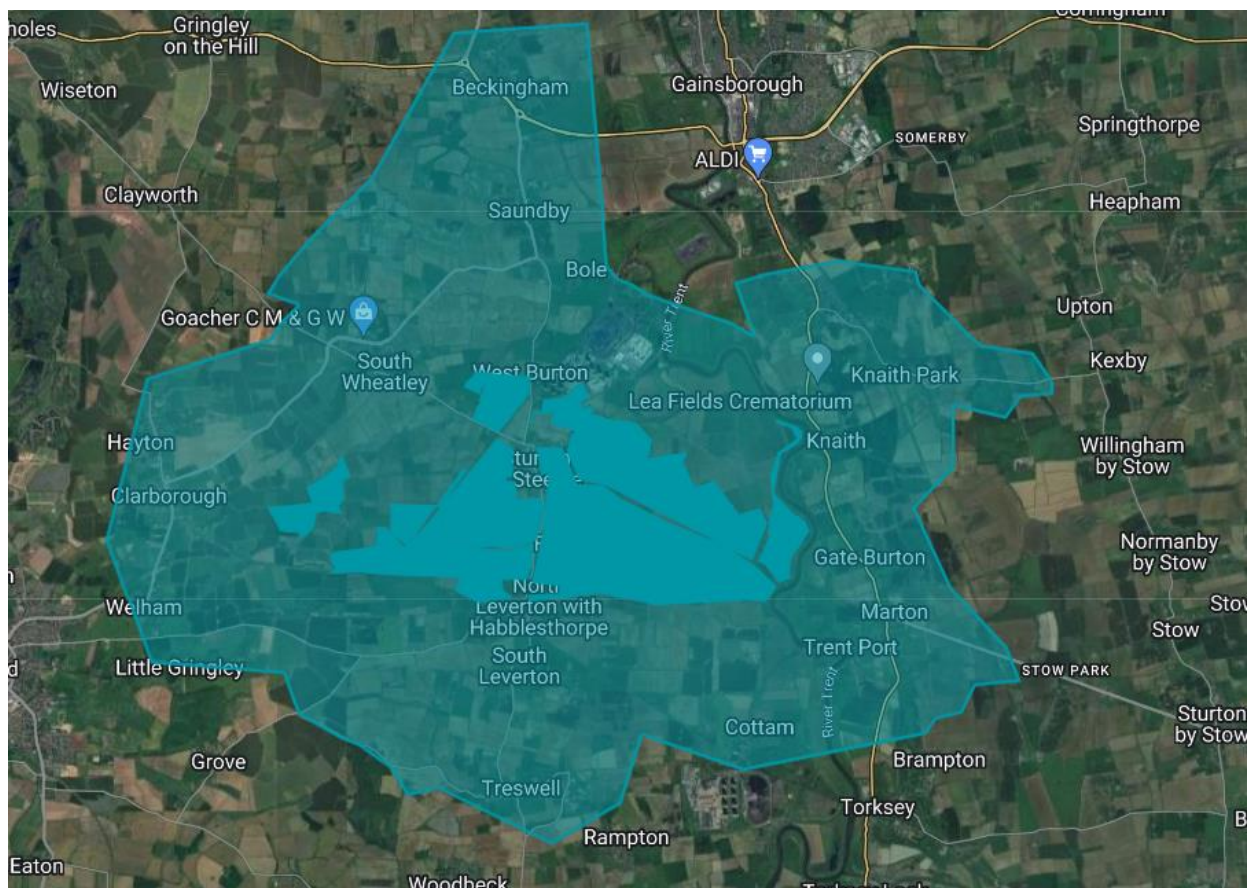
6.2.5. Within the CZ, the Applicant will be consulting any person or group likely to be directly impacted by the Project by virtue of their living or working in proximity to the site.

6.2.6. This will include:

- parish councils representing parishes within the CZ, Members of Parliament (MPs) representing constituencies within and bordering the CZ;
- elected representatives in local authorities within the CZ; and
- relevant local interest groups, such as residents' associations, community groups and groups with particular specialisms, such as environmental groups;
- and the Applicant is also committed to making sure that individuals and organisations outside of the CZ are given the opportunity to participate in the statutory consultation.

**Figure 3: Consultation zone (CZ) for the Project**

The dark teal area is the proposed site, with the village of Sturton-le-Steeple in the centre, and the lighter shaded area shows the same CZ that was initially defined for the informal consultation on the Applicant's early proposals, based on a minimum 2km distance from the proposed site boundary.



### 6.3. What is the Applicant consulting on?

- 6.3.1. The Applicant will present proposals for the Project including how they have been informed by the Applicant's environmental assessments and consultation to date.
- 6.3.2. The Applicant will be seeking feedback on the ongoing evolution of the proposals for the Project and:
- The overall proposals for the Project;
  - The updated site plan for the proposed site;
  - Measures proposed to avoid or minimise impacts identified in the Applicant's preliminary environmental assessment; and
  - (whilst outside of the considerations for the DCO application) the Applicant's proposals for community benefits and Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS).
- 6.3.3. The Project will be explained in the following materials:
- PEIR – the PEIR sets out the preliminary findings of the EIA;
  - PEIR Non-Technical Summary – the Non-Technical Summary provides a non-technical summary of the PEIR and the conclusions within the PEIR. This summary is written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public;
  - Consultation brochure – this brochure will provide an overview of the proposals including site layouts and connection infrastructure; and
  - Maps – the maps will set out the site areas in which the Project will be located.

**Table 2: Statutory consultation materials for the Project**

Consultation Materials	
Material	Detail
<b>Consultation newsletter</b>	<p>A newsletter publicising the consultation and outlining a high-level overview of the Project, details of the consultation programme, including the location, dates and times of the public consultation events. The newsletter will also include a QR code that links to the project website. This newsletter will be distributed to 3000+ addresses within the CZ.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be issued to wider consultees via email and distributed to local interest groups and sent to statutory bodies in the post.</p> <p>The consultation newsletter will also be available to view and download on the project website.</p>
<b>Consultation brochure</b>	<p>A consultation brochure will be published on the project website at the start of the statutory consultation period, and will be available for download. The brochure provides a summary of the proposals the Applicant is consulting on, an outline of the environmental assessment work, details of how people can take part, and how feedback will be used to influence and shape the proposals.</p> <p>Printed copies of this brochure will be available to take away at all consultation events, at deposit locations (listed in <b>Table 4</b>), and on request by contacting the project team.</p>

Consultation Materials	
Material	Detail
<b>Navigation document</b>	<p>At the start of the statutory consultation period, a comprehensive Project Navigation Document will be published on the project website, and made available in hard copy at consultation events, and at the deposit points (listed in <b>Table 4</b>).</p> <p>This document will offer a clear overview of all consultation materials available for review, along with a user-friendly guide to help navigate them. Designed to simplify the consultation process, it will direct readers to specific sections of interest, ensuring they can easily locate relevant information and engage meaningfully with the materials provided.</p>
<b>Feedback form</b>	<p>A feedback form will be prepared to gather feedback on all aspects of the Project.</p> <p>The feedback form will be available for completion online via the project website and will be accessible throughout the six-week consultation period.</p> <p>Printed feedback forms will be available (free of charge) on request by contacting the project team, in hard copy at consultation events, and at the deposit points (listed in <b>Table 4</b>), along with freepost envelopes.</p> <p>The feedback form will also be available to download from the website, complete in pen and return to FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project.</p>
<b>Exhibition boards</b>	<p>Exhibition boards will be created to display information about the proposals and provide an overview of the key components of the Project.</p> <p>The boards will be designed to assist the understanding of the Project at the consultation events.</p> <p>Members of the public will also be available to view the boards in the virtual exhibition on the project website, which will go live on the day of the first event.</p>
<b>PEIR</b>	<p>The PEIR will contain a description of the Project, and a preliminary assessment of the environmental effects of the Project, based on the assessments carried out to date.</p> <p>It will also set out how the Applicant proposes to mitigate the impacts of and maximise the benefits of the Project.</p> <p>The PEIR will be available for download free of charge from the project website. A printed copy of the full PEIR will be available to view (but not take away) at the consultation events and deposit locations.</p> <p>Copies of the PEIR contained on a USB stick can be provided on request free of charge.</p> <p>A hard copy can be requested for a charge of £0.35 per page to cover printing and posting costs. Requests for hard copies can be made by email: <a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.</p>
<b>PEIR Non-Technical Summary</b>	<p>The Non-Technical Summary (NTS) provides a non-technical summary of the preliminary environmental information and the</p>

Consultation Materials	
Material	Detail
	<p>conclusions within the PEIR. This summary will be written in plain language without technical jargon, making it accessible to the general public.</p> <p>The NTS will be available to view on the Applicant's project website, at deposit locations, at or consultation events and posted out on request free of charge.</p>
<b>Maps and plans of the Project</b>	<p>Additional maps and plans for the Project will also be available on the project website and at the consultation events and deposit locations.</p> <p>Requests for hard copies of the maps will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. To cover printing costs a reasonable copying charge may apply (up to a maximum of £350 for one full suite of documents - to be paid for by the recipient).</p>
<b>Materials in alternative formats</b>	<p>Requests for consultation information in additional formats will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</p> <p>All requests should be made to the project team by email: <a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a> or by calling 0115 718 2070.</p>

Table 3: The project website

Features	Rationale
<b>Online downloadable copies of all the statutory consultation material, including: The PEIR, consultation brochure and feedback form</b>	To ensure the exhibition material is accessible to those who may not be able to get to an in-person event or a deposit location. This will ensure that the consultation is accessible to everyone who wants to participate.
<b>Virtual exhibition</b>	<p>To ensure that people who cannot attend the events are able to access the same materials that are present at the in-person events.</p> <p>This will allow people to virtually walk around the consultation room simulating how the exhibition boards would be viewed at a public consultation event. The consultation feedback mechanism will also be able to be accessed via the virtual exhibition.</p>
<b>Web page content</b>	<p>The Project website will provide up to date information about the Project and have downloadable versions of all the documents that have been prepared for statutory consultation.</p> <p>The website will feature several pages that will provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an overview of the Project, the energy it will generate, information on the opportunity the Project presents and the potential benefits it could bring</li> <li>• an up to date version of the site plan, rationale for site selection and zoomed in plans of each land area</li> <li>• a brief overview of the DCO process and an indicative project timeline</li> </ul>



Features	Rationale
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>benefits to the local economy and community that could be delivered as part of the proposals</li> <li>information about RES and its history as a renewable energy developer and its global portfolio of projects</li> </ul>
<b>Online feedback form</b>	To enable members of the public to submit their feedback online and reduce the carbon footprint of consultation activity. This will be available from the consultation launch until close.
<b>Register for updates function</b>	This will enable the public to register to be updated about the Project, once they have signed up they will receive updates at key project milestones.
<b>Webinar registration form</b>	To enable members of the public to register to join the webinar.
<b>Contact details</b>	To provide details of how to contact the project team for any further questions.

## 6.4. Approach to community consultation

- 6.4.1. During the statutory consultation, the Applicant will use a range of methods to ensure an inclusive, meaningful, and open consultation. The Applicant will use a range of digital and non-digital methods of communication to ensure that the consultation can be accessed by all members of the community.
- 6.4.2. The Applicant will be focusing the consultation on communities within the primary consultation zone (CZ); however, the Applicant will ensure communities outside of the CZ are made aware of the consultation.
- 6.4.3. Inside the CZ:
- All homes and businesses within the CZ will be sent a consultation newsletter with high-level details about the Project and consultation programme, as well as contact details for the project team;
  - Consultation events will be held at locations within the CZ;
  - Relevant groups and organisations such as parish councils and local interest groups, will be notified of consultation opportunities; and
  - The Applicant has also identified a list of local community spaces within the CZ that will be directly mailed a poster to put up, advertising how people can get involved in the consultation.
- 6.4.4. Outside of the CZ:
- The Applicant will raise awareness of the consultation using a number of methods, including via local news media, social media, project website and direct communication with organisations such as regional, environmental, religious or health organisations located outside of the CZ.
- 6.4.5. **Table 4** below sets out the approaches that will be used to consult on the proposals and Preliminary Environmental Information.

**Table 4: Statutory consultation methods for the Project**

Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
<b>Consultation events</b>	<p>The Applicant will be holding three in-person events at locations spread across the CZ. These events will be publicised in the consultation newsletter, the consultation brochure, on posters, in local news media and in a public notice and on the project website.</p> <p>These events will run for periods of five hours on a mixture of weekdays and weekends to accommodate different availability.</p> <p>Details of the events are available in <b>Table 5</b>.</p>
<b>Stakeholder briefing meetings</b>	<p>The Applicant will seeks to brief key political stakeholders, representing wards, constituencies and parishes within the consultation zone.</p> <p>The Applicant will consider invitations to, or requests for, meetings with affected stakeholders, other local groups or special interest organisations on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<b>Webinar</b>	<p>One webinar will be held for members of the public to join to provide an alternative option for those who may not be able to attend the in-person events. This will be held in the evening outside of normal working hours to make the session as accessible as possible.</p> <p>Individuals can register to join the webinar via the website. The webinar will be held on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday 12 February 2025: 6:30PM-8:00PM</li> </ul> <p>A recording of the webinar will be made available online for those unavailable to attend.</p>
<b>Project contact details</b>	<p>Members of the public will be able to call and speak to a member of the project team on the project information line (0115 718 2070), email (<a href="mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) or write in (FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project)</p>
<b>Deposit and information points</b>	<p>Hard copies of the consultation materials including this SoCC, the consultation brochure and the PEIR will be available to view at the following deposit locations and times:</p> <p><b>Gainsborough Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Monday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li><b>Tuesday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li><b>Wednesday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li><b>Thursday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li><b>Friday:</b> 9:00AM - 5:00PM</li> <li><b>Saturday:</b> 9:00AM - 1:00PM</li> </ul> <p><b>Retford Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Monday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li><b>Tuesday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li><b>Wednesday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li><b>Thursday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> </ul>



Consultation methods	
Method	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Friday:</b> 9:00AM - 6:00PM</li> <li>• <b>Saturday:</b> 9:00AM – 3:30PM</li> </ul> <p>Documents are also available to be viewed and collected at Sturton-le-Steeple Village Hall, The Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton Le Steeple, DN22 9HY. Please note this venue does not have regular opening hours but materials are available to be collected when the village hall is open. The village hall opening times can be seen on their website at <a href="https://www.sturtonhall.org.uk/">https://www.sturtonhall.org.uk/</a>.</p> <p>Only hard copies of the consultation newsletter, consultation brochure, navigation document, NTS and feedback form will be available for people to take away with them.</p> <p>The Applicant will check on a weekly basis that sufficient volumes of consultation documentation remains at the information points throughout the consultation period.</p>
<b>Project website and virtual exhibition</b>	<p>A dedicated project website (<a href="http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>) will be updated for people to find out more information about the proposals and to provide feedback.</p> <p>All consultation documents will be presented on the Project website and available for download, free of charge, from the document library. The website will also feature a virtual exhibition. Information will be consistent with materials available at the deposit locations and consultation events.</p>

## 6.5. Consultation events

- 6.5.1. Three in-person public consultation events will be held for communities to find out information about the Project and speak to members of the project team. The consultation events will be held at suitable, publicly accessible venues located within the CZ.
- 6.5.2. Copies of all relevant consultation materials will be made available in print format at each consultation event. There will be a series of exhibition boards to present the proposals for the Project, including maps.
- 6.5.3. Those attending will be encouraged to provide their feedback on the proposals.
- 6.5.4. **Table 5** outlines the dates, times, and locations of each of the consultation events.

**Table 5: Details of the consultation events**

Date	Time	Location
Saturday 01 February 2025	10:00AM- 3:00PM	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY
Wednesday 05 February 2025	2:00PM-7:00PM	South Leverton Memorial Institute Town St, South Leverton, Retford, DN22 0BT
Wednesday 12 February 2025	6:30PM-8:00PM	Online Webinar
Wednesday 19 February 2025	2:00PM-7:00PM	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, DN22 9HY

## 6.6. Promoting the consultation

6.6.1. The Applicant will use a variety of methods to make people aware of the Project and publicise the statutory consultation. These methods are outlined in **Table 6** below.

**Table 6: Methods for promoting the statutory consultation for the Project**

Methods to promote the consultation	
Method	Detail
<b>Consultation newsletter</b>	Consultation newsletters will be posted to all homes and businesses in the CZ ahead of the statutory consultation period. The newsletter will also be issued to statutory consultees in the mail, and to wider consultees via email, including local interest groups.
<b>Press releases</b>	To raise awareness of the Project and the consultation programme, both within and beyond the CZ, the Applicant will share a press release with local media outlets at the start of consultation.
<b>Social media</b>	<p>The Applicant will run social media adverts prior to and throughout the consultation. These adverts will be targeted to reach people within the CZ and the surrounding areas.</p> <p>The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.</p>
<b>Emails and letters</b>	<p>The Applicant will send both emails and letters about the consultation programme to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• host constituency and neighbouring constituency area MPs;</li> <li>• elected representatives at Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council;</li> <li>• host and neighbouring parish councils;</li> <li>• host and neighbouring local authorities; and</li> <li>• local interest groups, such as environmental groups.</li> </ul> <p>Parish councils will be sent hard copies of the consultation brochure as part of the mailing to statutory consultees.</p>

Methods to promote the consultation	
Method	Detail
<b>Statutory notices</b>	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the consultation, in accordance with section 48 of the 2008 Act, will be published once in a national newspaper (The Guardian) and The London Gazette and twice (across two successive weeks) in local circulating papers, The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p> <p>Statutory notices publicising the SoCC, in accordance with section 47 of the 2008 Act, will be published once (for one week) in local circulating papers: The Retford Times and the Nottingham Post.</p>
<b>Newspaper advertising</b>	An advert publicising the consultation – separate to the statutory notices – will be published in the Retford Times ahead of the consultation launch. The advert will run for one week, publicising the consultation dates and advertise the consultation events and the deposit locations.
<b>Information posters</b>	<p>Posters including details of the consultation, how to access information about the Project and how to get involved, will be displayed at well-used public locations within and outside of the CZ, including libraries, shops and civic buildings. These will be hosted in agreement with relevant organisations and venues.</p> <p>Information posters will be sent to all host and neighbouring parish councils, to be used on local noticeboards, and to help raise awareness of the consultation.</p>

- 6.6.2. Any activity(ies) that cannot be undertaken due to circumstances beyond the Applicant's control, where possible, will be substituted with similar activity(ies) and communicated in local newspapers (via press release) circulating in the vicinity of the Project. Any activity changes will also be published on the project website.

## 6.7. Engagement with seldom heard groups

- 6.7.1. The Applicant is committed to ensuring that the consultation is accessible and inclusive for all stakeholders, including 'under-represented' or 'seldom heard' groups and individuals who may be less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation methods.
- 6.7.2. These groups and individuals that may find it harder to be involved in the consultation, and/or need additional support to access materials, include:
- geographically isolated communities
  - young people
  - older people
  - disabled people and those with learning disabilities
  - people who do not have English as a first language

**Table 7: Consultation with seldom-heard groups for the Project**

Seldom-heard groups	Consultation approach
<b>Older people</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the CZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p>Requests for consultation information in additional formats will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</p> <p>Offering feedback to be provided via a freepost address so feedback can be easily provided by post.</p> <p>Consultation events at two locations within the CZ, with members of the team available to answer questions to help inform feedback responses.</p>
<b>Disabled people and those with learning disabilities</b>	<p>Providing information in both digital and non-digital formats.</p> <p>Requests for consultation information in additional formats will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.</p> <p>Providing options to engage with the project team and consultation through conventional communications channels, including by freepost and the information phoneline.</p> <p>Consultation events at two locations within the CZ, with members of the team available to assist with completing feedback responses.</p> <p>One online webinar, so anyone who may not be able to attend an in-person event can have the opportunity to ask questions of the project team.</p> <p>Ensure all event spaces have disabled access and facilities, and the layout of the consultation room provide space for those with, wheelchairs and other mobility aids to move around.</p>
<b>Geographically isolated communities</b>	<p>Directly mailing the consultation newsletter to all stakeholders within the CZ and providing details of how to access and request paper copies of the consultation documents.</p> <p>Offering feedback to be provided via an online form and via the freepost address so feedback can be easily provided from all locations.</p> <p>One webinar for people to join and find out about the Project.</p> <p>Advertising the availability of the Project phoneline for stakeholders with further questions to speak with the project team, regardless of location.</p>
<b>Young people</b>	<p>Online engagement methods, to encourage young people to complete online feedback forms and engage with the consultation.</p> <p>The Applicant will run social media adverts throughout the consultation. These adverts will be targeted so will reach people within the CZ and the surrounding areas.</p>

Seldom-heard groups	Consultation approach
	The adverts will publicise the consultation and point people towards the project website and virtual exhibition, they will also advertise the consultation events.
<b>People who do not have English as a first language</b>	Requests for consultation information in additional languages will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required.  If required, the team could appoint appropriate translation services who can read materials such as the PEIR out over the phone. Stakeholders can request this service by contacting the project team through the below communication channels.

## 6.8. Information channels

- 6.8.1. The following channels will be available throughout the consultation for members of the community and other stakeholders to get in touch with the project team, ask questions, request further information, or request copies of the consultation materials and documents. These channels are provided in **Table 8** below:

**Table 8: Information channels for the Project**

Channel	Contact details	Hours of operation
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24/7
<b>Telephone</b>	0115 718 2070	9am–5:30pm weekdays (with a voicemail facility to take messages outside these hours)
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk">info@steepplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>	24 hour (emails will be monitored between 9am–5:30pm weekdays and responded to within 10 working days)
<b>Post</b>	FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project	24 hour (mailbox will be monitored between 9am–5:30pm on weekdays)

- 6.8.2. Requests for consultation information to meet specific requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis so the Applicant can establish how best to provide the information required. This will include materials such as large print or audio for those with visual impairments, or an alternative language to for those for whom English is not their first language, to enable them to take part in the consultation.

## 7. Responding to the consultation

### 7.1. How to respond to the consultation

- 7.1.1. Feedback to the consultation must be submitted **by 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025**. Responses received after this date may not be considered.
- 7.1.2. Consultation responses can be made in the following ways:



- Completing the feedback form online which can be accessed via the project website from Monday 20 January 2025: ([www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk))
- Attending a consultation event and completing a printed feedback form which can be handed into the project team in-person or taken away and sent to us via a freepost (using FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project). Feedback forms can also be collected from the community deposit locations, downloaded from the website, and completed in pen or requested from the project team, using the contact details in **Table 8**.
- Emailing into [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
- Writing to us at FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (no stamp is required)

## 7.2. Further consultation

- 7.2.1. If, following the statutory consultation, the Applicant considers it is necessary to undertake further geographically targeted or supplementary consultation, this would be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate. Wider consultation could also be carried out if considered appropriate.
- 7.2.2. Any additional consultation will be carried out on a proportionate basis in line with the principles set out in this SoCC and communicated to the host local authorities in advance.

## 8. How the Applicant will use consultation feedback

- 8.1.1. When the Applicant's statutory consultation closes at **11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025**, the Applicant will have regard to all comments received. All feedback, including ongoing engagement with communities and stakeholders, is important to us and will help to influence the Applicant's design for the Project.
- 8.1.2. Once the Applicant has reviewed and finalised the application, the Applicant will produce a Consultation Report, which will set out how the feedback from the pre-application consultation has shaped and influenced the Applicant's proposed application.
- 8.1.3. The Consultation Report will be submitted to the Secretary of State as part of the DCO application.
- 8.1.4. Any comments received could be made public but no personal information will be published. Any personal data received as part of the consultation will be stored and protected in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation. The privacy notice for those visiting the project website is available at: [www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk).

## 9. Contact details

- 9.1.1. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more information about the Project and the Applicant's consultation programme. The project team can be contacted using any of the communications lines listed below.



9.1.2. Should you require any documents in large print, audio or braille then please contact us using the details provided. Every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate at the time of going to print.

9.1.3. The Applicant's communications channels are:

- Email: [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
- Call: 0115 718 2070
- Write to: FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project (you do not need a stamp)

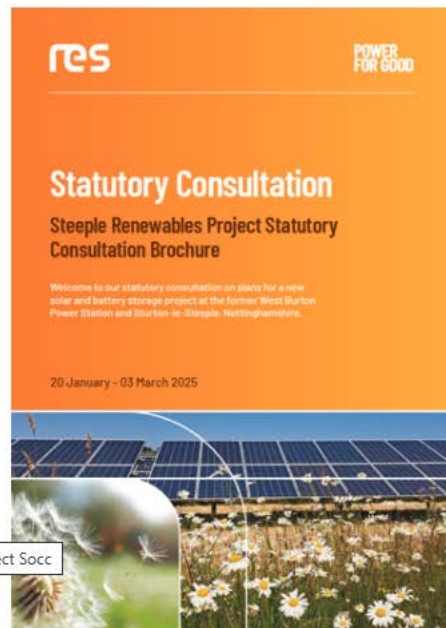
## Appendix C-5.4 Website screenshot showing SoCC can be downloaded

## Statutory Consultation

20 January 2025 – 03 March 2025

Please click here to view the [virtual exhibition](#)

- [Steeple Renewables Project Statutory Consultation Brochure](#)
- [Steeple Renewables Project Statutory Consultation Newsletter](#)
- [Steeple Renewables Project Navigation Document](#)
- [Steeple Renewables Project Feedback Form](#)
- [Steeple Renewables Project Draft DCO](#)
- [Steeple Renewables Project Statement of Community Consultation \(SoCC\)](#)
- [Steeple Renewables Project Section 47&48 Notice](#)
- [Steeple Renewables Project Statutory Consultation Poster](#)



## **Appendix C-6 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice**

### **Appendix C-6.1 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice PDF**



# ADVERTISEMENT

RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED

SECTION 47(6) and 48 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008

REGULATION 4, INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009

STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND NOTICE PUBLISHING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT

Notice is hereby given that RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED (“the Applicant”) of Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Station Road, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR intends to apply to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for Development Consent Order (DCO) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the act) to authorise the construction, operation and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) array generating facility with battery energy storage (BESS) located across 930 hectares of land located in Sturton-le-Steeple with a total generating capacity exceeding 50 megawatts and export connection to the National Grid associated infrastructure (the Project).

In accordance with section 47(6) of the Act RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED has now published a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Project. This notice publicises where and when the SoCC can be inspected. The SoCC sets out how the Applicant will consult with the local community about the Project.

Additionally, the Applicant has a duty to publicise the proposed Application under section 48 of the Act in line with Regulation 4 of the 2009 Regulations. In accordance with those provisions, this notice also summarises the main proposals and explains where the consultation documents can be viewed.

The Project is located across nine connected land areas within the administrative area of Bassetlaw District Council and will connect to the grid via the National Grid Substation at West Burton Power Station.

The Project would comprise:

- Solar PV modules and associated mounting structures;
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS);
- 33kv Underground cabling within the areas of the solar PV modules and connecting solar PV module areas to the on-site substation and to the National Grid Substation at West Burton Power Station;
- Supporting electrical infrastructure including inverters and transformers, and switchgears;
- Highways access and internal tracks;
- Areas for ecological mitigation and enhancement to avoid or reduce adverse impacts on the surrounding environment and nearby communities;
- Other associated infrastructure for example, fencing, security, cctv, local grid connections;
- the permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights (if required) and the application and/or disapplication of legislation including inter alia legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant matters.

The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the Project will constitute development for which an EIA is needed and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement. Additionally, the Applicant will be making preliminary environmental information available (PEIR).

Consultation on the Project will take place from **Monday 20 January 2025 until 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025**.

Under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, RES has a duty to consult the local community on its proposals. The SoCC explains how the Applicant will undertake the consultation, where the consultation documents can be viewed, where public events will be held and explains how people can comment on the proposals and provide responses to the consultation.

This notice contains a summary of the consultation details. However, full details of the consultation can be found in the SoCC.

Copies of the PEIR with a Non-Technical Summary, our SoCC and other consultation documents, plans and maps detailing our consultation process and showing the nature and location of the Project may be inspected free of charge at the following online at <https://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk/document-library/> or at the following deposit locations from the start of the consultation period on Monday 20 January 2025 until the close of the consultation period.

Location	Opening Times
Retford Library 17 Churchgate, Retford DN22 6PE	Monday: 9AM - 6PM, Tuesday: 9AM - 6PM, Wednesday: 9AM - 6PM, Thursday: 9AM - 6PM, Friday: 9AM - 6PM, Saturday: 9AM - 3:30PM, Sunday: Closed
Gainsborough Library Cobden St, Gainsborough DN21 2NG	Monday: 9AM - 5PM, Tuesday: 9AM - 5PM, Wednesday: 9AM - 5PM, Thursday: 9AM - 6PM, Friday: 9AM - 6PM, Saturday: 9AM - 1PM, Sunday: Closed

Materials are also available for viewing and collection at Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple, DN22 9HY. However, please be aware that the venue does not have regular opening hours.

Materials will be available to view during the opening hours listed above, except in circumstances outside of RES’ control which prevent the locations specified from opening.

Hard copies of the consultation brochure, feedback questionnaire and Non-Technical Summary will be available at no extra charge. A hard copy of the PEIR can be requested for a charge £0.35 per page to cover printing and posting costs. These can be requested by contacting the Project Team via the details at the bottom of this notice.

You can also view RES’ consultation materials at the consultation events where you can speak with the project team and share your views. Consultation events will be held at the following venues during the consultation period:

Date	Location	Time
Saturday 01 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple DN22 9HY	10:00 - 15:00
Wednesday 05 February 2025	Memorial Institute, South Leverton Town Street, South Leverton Retford DN22 0BT	14:00 - 19:00
Wednesday 19 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le-Steeple DN22 9HY	14:00 - 19:00

A consultation feedback questionnaire is available as part of the consultation materials, and online at [www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk). A printed copy of the consultation feedback questionnaire can be requested by contacting the project team on the details below. You can also contact the project team via phone on 0115 718 2070.

Responses to the consultation can be submitted in the following ways:

- Completing the feedback form online at [www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
- By returning a printed copy of the enclosed response form at Freepost STEEPLERENEWABLES PROJECT (no stamp required)
- Emailing us at [info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)
- Writing to us at Freepost STEEPLERENEWABLES PROJECT (no stamp required)

**Responses must be received by 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025.**

RES will consider and have regard to all responses when refining the Project once the consultation has closed. Responses will form the basis of a Consultation Report that will be one of the factors taken into consideration by the Secretary of State when deciding whether the DCO application can be accepted for examination. Therefore, in providing any comment, it should be borne in mind that the substance of it may be communicated to others as part of the Consultation Report. Personal details will be held securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and the development of this project and, except as noted above, will not be disclosed to any third parties. Personal information will be redacted.

If you have any questions about the Project or consultation, please get in touch using the contact details above.



## Appendix C-6.2 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Guardian clipping



Section:GDN IN PaGe:1 Edition:Date:201009 Edition:1 Zone:5 Sent at 8/1/2025 21:05

eYanmaGentaYellowbl



## Mass evacuations in Los Angeles as deadly wildfires wreak havoc



Rescue efforts hindered by windswept flames forming unprecedented blazes

Other Homes  
Lancaster, California, California

Windswept flames have now reached several neighbourhoods

### Meta's new rules set up clash with UK and EU

Robert Booth  
San Francisco, California

Downing changes to the policy of the platform has led to a clash with the UK and EU

and technology companies, which are now facing a new wave of criticism from the public. The new rules are seen as a challenge to the UK and EU's data protection laws, which require companies to protect user data and provide a clear path for users to delete their information.

Intervention  
Reeves pledges 'iron grip' on UK finances as bond sell-off continues

Reeves has pledged to take a 'hard line' on public spending, saying that the government will not be 'soft' on the public sector. He has also pledged to take a 'hard line' on the public sector, saying that the government will not be 'soft' on the public sector.

Section:GDN IN PaGe:16 Edition:Date:201009 Edition:01 Zone: Sent at 8/1/2025 16:35

eYanmaGentaYellowbl

**ADVERTISEMENT**  
RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED  
SECTION 47(1) and 48 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008  
REGULATION 4, INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009  
STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT  
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND NOTICE PUBLISHING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT

Notice is hereby given that RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED ("the Applicant") of Broadcroft Court, Egg Farm Lane, Station Road, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR intends to apply to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for Development Consent Order (DCO) under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 (the act) to authorise the construction, operation and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) array generating electricity with battery energy storage (BESS) located across 100 hectares of land located in Steeple with a total generating capacity exceeding 50 megawatts and export connection to the local distribution network (the Project).

In accordance with section 47(1) of the act, RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED has now published a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Project. The SoCC sets out the details of the Project and the reasons for its proposed development. It also sets out the details of the consultation process and the ways in which the Applicant will engage with the community during the consultation process.

The Project is located across nine connected land areas within the administrative area of Barnet District Council and will connect to the grid via the National Grid Substation at West Burton Power Station.

- Solar PV modules and associated mounting structures;
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS);
- Cable underground cabling within the areas of the solar PV modules and connecting solar PV module areas to the on-site substation and to the National Grid Substation at West Burton Power Station;
- Supporting electrical infrastructure including cabling and transformers, and switchgear;
- Highways access and internal tracks;
- Areas for ecological mitigation and enhancement to avoid or reduce adverse impacts on the surrounding environment and nearby communities;
- Other associated infrastructure for example, fencing, security, cabling, local grid connections;

The project and/or for temporary compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights of way (including the application and/or acquisition of land and/or rights of way) in relation to the Project. The Project is a proposed project under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the Project will constitute development for which an EIA is required and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement. Additionally, the Applicant will be making a written environmental statement available (WES).

Consultation on the Project will take place from Monday 20 January 2025 until 11.59pm on Monday 03 March 2025.

Under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, RES has a duty to consult the local community on its proposals. The SoCC explains how the Applicant will undertake the consultation, where the consultation documents can be viewed, where public events will be held and explains how people can comment on the proposals and provide responses to the consultation.

This notice contains a summary of the consultation details. However, full details of the consultation can be found in the SoCC.

Copies of the SoCC and a Non-Technical Summary, our SoCC and other consultation documents, plans and maps relating to our consultation process and showing the nature and location of the Project may be inspected free of charge at the following online (<https://www.renewableenergyproject.co.uk/development>) or at the following physical locations from the start of the consultation period on Monday 20 January 2025 until the close of the consultation period.

Location	Opening Times
Steeple Library 12 Churchgate, Bedford MK42 0HT	Monday: 9AM - 5PM, Tuesday: 9AM - 5PM, Wednesday: 9AM - 4PM, Thursday: 9AM - 4PM, Friday: 9AM - 4PM, Saturday: 9AM - 12PM, Sunday: Closed
Colindale Library Colindale Ave, Colindale NW9 1NS	Monday: 9AM - 5PM, Tuesday: 9AM - 5PM, Wednesday: 9AM - 5PM, Thursday: 9AM - 5PM, Friday: 9AM - 4PM, Saturday: 9AM - 4PM, Sunday: Closed

Materials are also available for viewing and collection at Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Kings Langley, Sturton Hall, Kings Langley, WD4 8LR. However, please be aware that the venue does not have regular opening hours.

Materials will be available to view during the opening hours listed above, except in circumstances outside of RES control which prevent the locations specified from opening.

Hard copies of the consultation brochures, feedback questionnaire and Non-Technical Summary will be available at no extra charge. A hard copy of the PER can be requested for a charge of £5.00 per page to cover printing and posting costs. These can be requested by contacting the Project Team via the details at the bottom of this notice.

You can also view RES consultation materials at the consultation events where you can speak with the project team and share your views. Consultation events will be held at the following venues during the consultation period:

Date	Location	Time
Thursday 01 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Kings Langley, Sturton Hall, WD4 8LR	10:00 - 15:00
Wednesday 05 February 2025	Memorial Institute, South Levenson Lane, South Levenson, Bedford MK42 0BT	14:00 - 19:00
Wednesday 19 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Kings Langley, Sturton Hall, WD4 8LR	14:00 - 19:00

A consultation feedback questionnaire is available as part of the consultation materials, and online at [www.renewableenergyproject.co.uk](https://www.renewableenergyproject.co.uk). A printed copy of the consultation feedback questionnaire can be requested by contacting the project team on the details below. You can also contact the project team via phone on 0115 718 1878.

Responses to the consultation can be submitted in the following ways:

- Completing the feedback form online at [www.renewableenergyproject.co.uk](https://www.renewableenergyproject.co.uk)
- By returning a printed copy of the enclosed response form at Freepost STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT (no stamp required)
- Creating an email response to [renewableenergyproject@res.co.uk](mailto:renewableenergyproject@res.co.uk)
- Writing to us at Freepost STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT (no stamp required)

Responses must be received by 11.59pm on Monday 03 March 2025.

RES will consider all responses when refining the Project once the consultation has closed. Responses will form the basis of a Consultation Report that will be one of the factors taken into consideration by the Secretary of State when deciding whether the DCO application can be accepted for examination. Therefore, in providing any responses, it should be borne in mind that the substance of any response will be communicated to others as part of the Consultation Report. Personal details will be held securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and the development of this project and, except as noted above, will not be disclosed to any third parties. Personal information will be redacted.

If you have any questions about the Project or consultation, please get in touch using the contact details above.

Section:GDN IN PaGe:16 Edition:Date:201009 Edition:01 Zone: Sent at 8/1/2025 16:35

eYanmaGentaYellowbl

Thursday 9 January 2025 The Guardian

National

## NHS trust to cancel operations amid 'extreme winter pressure'

Healthcare providers are facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

As NHS trusts are preparing to cancel operations, experts are warning that the situation could worsen if the weather continues to be so severe. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather. The NHS is facing a "critical situation" as the NHS struggles to cope with the impact of the winter weather.

## Met 'banned' pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC HQ

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London. The Metropolitan Police has banned pro-Palestine marches from starting outside the BBC headquarters in London.

## Appendix C-6.3 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Gazette clipping

# The London Gazette - 9<sup>th</sup> Jan - p338



CONTAINING ALL NOTICES PUBLISHED ONLINE ON 9 JANUARY 2025

PRINTED ON 10 JANUARY 2025 | NUMBER 64626  
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY | ESTABLISHED 1865  
WWW.THEGAZETTE.CO.UK

**Contents**

State/334\*

Royal family/  
Parliament Assemblies & Government/  
Honours & Awards/  
Church/  
Environment & infrastructure/335\*

Health & medicine/  
Other Notices/351\*

Money/  
Companies/354\*

People/382\*

Terms & Conditions/405\*

\* Containing all notices published online on 9 January 2025

ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

Any details you provide to the Applicant via telephone or e-mail will be subject to its privacy policy linked here: <https://www.aefi-nu.uk/privacy-policy/> and will be treated confidentially and processed and handled in accordance with the relevant data protection legislation.  
Springwell Energy Farm Ltd (4788539)

**RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED  
SECTION 47(6) AND 48 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008  
REGULATION 4, INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS:  
PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009  
STEPPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT  
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY  
CONSULTATION AND NOTICE PUBLISHING A PROPOSED  
APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR  
STEPPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT**

Notice is hereby given that RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED ("the Applicant") of Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Station Road, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR intends to apply to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) to authorise the construction, operation and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) array generating facility with battery energy storage (BESS), located across 300 hectares of land located in Sturton-le-Steape with a total generating capacity exceeding 50 megawatts and export connection to the National Grid associated infrastructure (the Project).

In accordance with section 47(6) of the Act RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED has now published a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Project. This notice publicises where and when the SoCC can be inspected. The SoCC sets out how the Applicant will consult with the local community about the Project. Additionally, the Applicant has a duty to publicise the proposed Application under section 48 of the Act in line with Regulation 4 of the 2009 Regulations. In accordance with those provisions, this notice also summarises the main proposals and explains where the consultation documents can be viewed.

The Project is located across nine connected land areas within the administrative area of Basildon District Council and will connect to the grid via the National Grid Substation at West Burton Power Station.

The Project would comprise:

- Solar PV modules and associated mounting structures;
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS);
- 33kv Underground cabling within the areas of the solar PV modules and connecting solar PV module areas to the on-site substation and to the National Grid Substation at West Burton Power Station;
- Supporting electrical infrastructure including inverters and transformers, and switchgears;
- Highway access and internal tracks;
- Areas for ecological mitigation and enhancement to avoid or reduce adverse impacts on the surrounding environment and nearby communities;
- Other associated infrastructure for example, fencing, security, CCTV, local grid connections;
- The permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights (if required) and the application and/or discontinuation of legislation including inter alia legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant matters.

The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the Project will constitute development for which an EIA is needed and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement. Additionally, the Applicant will be making preliminary environmental information available (PER).

Consultation on the Project will take place from Monday 20 January 2025 until 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025.

Under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, RES has a duty to consult the local community on its proposals. The SoCC explains how the Applicant will undertake the consultation, where the consultation documents can be viewed, where public events will be held and explains how people can comment on the proposals and provide responses to the consultation.

This notice contains a summary of the consultation details. However, full details of the consultation can be found in the SoCC.

Copies of the PER with a Non-Technical Summary, our SoCC and other consultation documents, plans and maps detailing our consultation process and showing the nature and location of the Project may be inspected free of charge at the following online at <https://www.steeprenewablesproject.co.uk/document-library/> or at the following deposit locations from the start of the consultation period on Monday 20 January 2025 until the close of the consultation period.

Location	Opening Times
Reford Library, 17 Churchgate, Reford DN22 6PE	Monday: 9AM - 6PM, Tuesday: 9AM - 6PM, Wednesday: 9AM - 6PM, Thursday: 9AM - 6PM, Friday: 9AM - 6PM, Saturday: 9AM - 3:30PM, Sunday: Closed
Gainsborough Library, Collden St, Gainsborough DN21 2NG	Monday: 9AM - 5PM, Tuesday: 9AM - 5PM, Wednesday: 9AM - 5PM, Thursday: 9AM - 6PM, Friday: 9AM - 6PM, Saturday: 9AM - 1PM, Sunday: Closed

Materials are also available for viewing and collection at Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton le Steape, DN22 9HY. However, please be aware that the venue does not have regular opening hours.

Materials will be available to view during the opening hours listed above, except in circumstances outside of RES' control which prevent the locations specified from opening.

Hard copies of the consultation brochure, feedback questionnaire and Non-Technical Summary will be available at no extra charge. A hard copy of the PER can be requested for a charge £25 per page to cover printing and posting costs. These can be requested by contacting the Project Team via the details at the bottom of this notice.

You can also view RES' consultation materials at the consultation events where you can speak with the project team and share your views. Consultation events will be held at the following venues during the consultation period:

Date	Location	Time
Saturday 01 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton le Steape, DN22 9HY	10:00 - 15:00
Wednesday 05 February 2025	Memorial Institute, South Leventon, 'Toon Street, South Leventon, Reford, DN22 0BT	14:00 - 19:00
Wednesday 19 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton le Steape, DN22 9HY	14:00 - 19:00

A consultation feedback questionnaire is available as part of the consultation materials, and online at [www.steeprenewablesproject.co.uk](https://www.steeprenewablesproject.co.uk). A printed copy of the consultation feedback questionnaire can be requested by contacting the project team on the details below. You can also contact the project team via phone on 0115 718 2070. Responses to the consultation can be submitted in the following ways:

- Completing the feedback form online at [www.steeprenewablesproject.co.uk](https://www.steeprenewablesproject.co.uk)
- By returning a printed copy of the enclosed response form at Freepost STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT (no stamp required)
- Emailing us at [info@steeprenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeprenewablesproject.co.uk)
- Writing to us at Freepost STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT (no stamp required)

**Responses must be received by 11:59pm on Monday 03 March 2025.**

RES will consider and have regard to all responses when refining the Project once the consultation has closed. Responses will form the basis of a Consultation Report that will be one of the factors taken into consideration by the Secretary of State when deciding whether the DCO application can be accepted for examination. Therefore, in providing any comment, it should be borne in mind that the substance



## Appendix C-6.4 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Retford Times clipping



**JOIN**  
*Slimming®*  
WORLD  
**FOR FREE**

RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED  
SECTION 47(5) and 48 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008  
REGULATION 4, INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009  
STEPPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT  
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND NOTICE PUBLISHING A  
PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR STEPPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT

Location	Opening Times
Retford Library 17 Churchgate, Retford DN21 4PM	Monday: 9AM - 6PM, Tuesday: 9AM - 6PM, Wednesday: 9AM - 6PM, Thursday: 9AM - 6PM, Friday: 9AM - 6PM, Saturday: 9AM - 3:30PM, Sunday: Closed
Gainsborough Library Cobden St Gainsborough DN21 2NG	Monday: 2PM - 5PM, Tuesday: 2PM - 5PM, Wednesday: 9AM - 3PM, Thursday: 9AM - 6PM, Friday: 9AM - 6PM, Saturday: 9AM - 1PM, Sunday: Closed

Materials are also available for viewing and collection at Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton le Steeple, DN22 5HF. However, please be aware that the venue does not have regular opening hours.

Materials will be available to view during the opening hours listed above, except in circumstances outside of RES' control which prevent the locations specified from opening.

Hard copies of the consultation brochure, feedback questionnaire and Non-Technical Summary will be available at no extra charge. A hard copy of the FER can be requested for a charge of £35 per page to cover printing and posting costs. These can be requested by contacting the Project Team via the details at the bottom of this notice.

Date	Location	Time
Saturday 01 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way, Sturton-le Steeple DN22 3HT	10:10 - 15:30
Wednesday 05 February 2025	Nervens Institute, South Levenson Tall Street, South Levenson Retford DN22 0BT	14:30 - 19:00
Wednesday 19 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brickings Way, Sturton-le Steeple DN22 3HT	14:30 - 19:00

A consultation feedback questionnaire is available as part of the consultation materials, and online at [www.steeplegreenwalesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplegreenwalesproject.co.uk). A printed copy of the consultation feedback questionnaire can be requested by contacting the project team on the details below.

Responses to the consultation can be submitted in the following ways:

- Completing the feedback form online at [www.steeplegreenwalesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplegreenwalesproject.co.uk)
- By returning a printed copy of the consultation response form at Freeport STEEPLE GREENWALES PROJECT (see map required)
- E-mailing us at [info@steeplegreenwalesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplegreenwalesproject.co.uk)
- Writing to us at Freeport STEEPLE GREENWALES PROJECT (no stamp required)

**Responses must be received by 11:59pm on Monday 3 March 2025.**



## CAMPAIGN NETS 84 DRIVERS OVER LIMIT



**Very Media**



**SHOP OWNER  
GUTTED OVER  
DAMAGE - FULL  
STORY PAGE 5**

**50%  
OFF**  
**YOUR NEWSPAPER  
FOR SIX MONTHS\***

RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED  
SECTION 47(6) and 48 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008  
REGULATION 4, INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009  
STEELRENEWABLES PROJECT  
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND NOTICE PUBLISHING A  
PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR STEELRENEWABLES PROJECT

**12:55pm on Monday 20 March 2023.**

Under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, RES has a duty to consult the local community on its proposals. The SoCCE explains how the Applicant will undertake the consultation, where the consultation documents can be viewed, where public comments can be made, and how the public can comment on the proposals and provide responses to the consultation.

This notice contains a summary of the consultation details. However, full details of the consultation can be found in the SoCCE.

Copies of the PER with a Non-Technical Summary, our SoCCE and other consultation documents, plans and maps detailing our consultation process and showing the national planning context can be inspected free of charge at the following online at <https://www.thetempletonshipproject.co.uk/documents-library> until the following deposit/consultation from the start of the consultation period on Monday 20 January 2023 until the close of the consultation period.

You can also view RES' consultation materials at the consultation events where you can speak with the project team and share your views. Consultation events will be held at the following venues during the consultation period:

Date	Location	Time
Saturday 8 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Bickings Way, Sturton-le Steeple DN22 9AF	10:00 - 15:00
Wednesday 19 February 2025	Memorial Inn, South Levenson Towen Street, South Levenson Retford DN22 0ET	14:00 - 19:00
Wednesday 19 February 2025	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Bickings Way, Sturton-le Steeple	14:00 - 15:00

If you have any questions about the Project or consultation, please get in touch using the contact details above.

## Appendix C-6.5 Section 47 and Section 48 Notice Nottingham Post clipping







**Nottingham**  
**Post**  
Thursday, January 23, 2025 £2.35 In Your Area on sale

**FREE** National Trust  
**FAMILY PAS**

# Vulnerable homeless people will be victims of new cuts

► Council urged to think again as charity warns its housing will have to shut: **Page 5**

**E-SCOOTERS ARE ON THE WAY BACK**  
PAGE 3



The power to lower prices.



£11

**£6.75**

Clubcard Price

**Discover the power to lower prices on page 2.**

Coca-Cola Zero Sugar (natural). 400g can price in 2014. Apple and other prices not shown. © 2014. Available for members of pay as you go and other. Includes 5% bonus. 10% off and 10% off. Clubcard members only. Clubcard members only. Clubcard members only.

[illegible]

**RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED**  
**SECTION 47(16) and 48 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008**  
**REGULATION 4.1 INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2009**  
**STEELPILE RENEWABLES PROJECT**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND NOTICE PUBLISHING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT**

Notice is hereby given that **RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED ("the Applicant")** of Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Station Road, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR intends to apply to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under section 21 of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) to authorise the construction, operation and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) array generating facility with battery energy storage (BESS) located across 530 hectares of land located in Sturteville-Steeples estate, generating capacity exceeding 120 megawatts, and a proposed connection to the National Grid associated infrastructure (the Project).

In accordance with section 47(16) of the Act **RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS LIMITED** has now published a Statement of Community Consultation (SCoCC) for the Project. As notice of this public consultation, where the SCoCC can be inspected, the Project, sets out how the Applicant will consult with the local community about the Project.

Additionally, the Applicant has a duty to publicise the proposed application under section 48 of the Act in line with Regulation 4 of the 2009 Regulations. In accordance with these provisions, this notice also summarises the main proposals and explains where the consultation documents can be viewed.

The Project is located across nine connected land parcels within the administrative area of Basildon District Council and will connect to the grid via the National Grid Substation at West Burton Power Station.

The Project would comprise:

- Solar PV modules and associated mounting structures;
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS);
- 33kV Underground cabling within the areas of the solar PV modules and connecting solar PV module arrays to the on-site substation and to the National Grid Substation at West Burton Power Station;
- Supporting electrical infrastructure including inverters and transformers, and switchgear;
- Highways access and internal tracks;
- Areas for ecological mitigation and measures to avoid or reduce adverse impacts on the surrounding environment and nearby communities;
- Other associated infrastructure (for example, fencing, security, cabling, local grid connections);
- The permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights (if required) and the application and/or the discontinuation of legislation including inter alia legislation relating to compulsory purchase powers (landlord and tenant matters).

The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the EIA Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the Project will constitute development for which an EIA is needed and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement. Additionally, the Applicant will make an environmental information available (EIA) for the Project.

Consultation on the Project will take place from **Monday 26 January 2023 until 11:55pm on Monday 13 March 2023**.

Under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, RES has a duty to consult the local community on its proposals. The SCoCC explains how the Applicant will undertake this consultation and how the local community can be involved. Where public events will be held and explains how people can comment on the proposals and provide responses to the consultation.

This notice contains a summary of the consultation documents. However, full details of the consultation can be viewed at the following locations:

Copies of the Planning Notice, Technical Summary, SCoCC and other consultation documents, planned regarding our consultation process and showing the nature and location of the Project may be inspected free of charge at the following locations:

- At the following locations: **Sturteville-Steeples Estate, 100 Sturteville Road** or at the following deposit locations from the start of the consultation period on Monday 29 January 2023 until the close of the consultation period.

Location	Opening Times
Reford Library, 17 Churchgate, Reford DN22 6FE	Monday-AM 10PM, Tuesday-AM 10PM, Wednesday-AM 10PM, Thursday-AM 10PM, Friday-AM 10PM, Saturday-AM 10PM, Sunday-Closed
Gambrother Library, Colchen St, Easton-le-Moory DN21 2HG	Monday-AM 10PM, Tuesday-AM 10PM, Wednesday-AM 10PM, Thursday-AM 10PM, Friday-AM 10PM, Saturday-AM 10PM, Sunday-Closed

Materials are also available for viewing and collection at Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brinkings Way, Sturton-le-Steeples, DN22 9HW. However, please be aware that the venue does not have regular opening hours.

Materials will be available to view during the opening hours listed above, except in circumstances outside of RES' control which prevent the locations specified from opening.

Hard copies of the consultation brochure, guidance questionnaire and Non-Technical Summary will be available at no extra charge. An hard copy of the PER can be requested for a charge of 10.35 per page for cover printing and postage costs. These can be requested by contacting the Project Team via the details at the bottom of this notice.

You can also view RES' consultation materials at the consultation events where you can speak with the project team and share your views. Consultation events will be held at the following venues during the consultation period:

Date	Location	Time
Saturday 13 February 2023	Sturton Hall Conference Centre, Brinkings Way, Sturton-le-Steeples DN22 9HW	10:00 - 13:00
Wednesday 15 February 2023	Memorial Institute, South Levenston Town Street, South Levenston DN22 9HW	14:00 - 19:00
Wednesday 15 February 2023	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre Brinkings Way, Sturton-le-Steeples DN22 9HW	14:00 - 19:00

A consultation feedback questionnaire is available as part of the consultation materials, and online at [www.steeplesrenewablesproject.co.uk](https://www.steeplesrenewablesproject.co.uk). An printed copy of the consultation feedback questionnaire can be requested by contacting the project team via the details below. You can also contact the project team via phone on 0115 711 2070.

Responses to the consultation can be submitted in the following ways:

- Completing the feedback form online at [www.steeplesrenewablesproject.co.uk](https://www.steeplesrenewablesproject.co.uk)
- By returning a printed copy of the enclosed response form at FreePOST STEEPLE REWABLES PROJECT (the stamp required)
- Emailing at [info@steeplesrenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplesrenewablesproject.co.uk)
- Writing to us at: FreePOST STEEPLE RENEWABLES PROJECT (no stamp required)

**Responses must be received by 11:55pm on Monday 13 March 2023.**

RES will consider and have regard to all responses when refining the Project. Once the consultation has closed, Responses will form the basis of a Consultation Report that will be one of the factors taken into consideration by the Secretary of State when deciding whether the DCO application can be accepted for consideration. Therefore, in providing any comment, it should be borne in mind that the substance of it may be communicated to others as part of the Consultation Report. Personal details will be held solely in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and the development of this project and, except as noted above, will not be disclosed to any third parties. Personal information will be retained.

If you have any questions about the Project or consultation, please get in touch using the contact details above.

## Appendix C-6.6 Additional newspaper advert independent of statutory notices

# Retford Times - 16th Jan- page 5

## Half Page Ad

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025 5

News

## Police appeal after attempted theft

### CAN YOU HELP IDENTIFY THESE PEOPLE?

**By OLIVER FRIDMORE**  
oliver.fridmore@retfordspcc.com  
@retfordspcc

A CCTV appeal has been launched after a man and woman attempted to steal more than £200 worth of items from a Home Bargains store around a week before Christmas.

Nottinghamshire Police says officers attended Retford's branch of Home Bargains on Moorgate after reports that it had been targeted by shoplifters.

The East Baseline Police team, which covers Retford, Harworth and surrounding villages, shared details of the incident on Thursday January 9 along with a CCTV image of two people they want to question about it.

The police team says a man and a woman posed as shoppers when

Shop staff saw the theft taking place and managed to retrieve the bag full of items, but the pair still managed to get away.

PC Carl Forman said: "We'd urge the people in this photo to make themselves known to us, or for anyone who recognises them to please get in touch.

"This is so we can ask them some questions about this incident, and they can share any information they have that could assist our inquiries."

Those who recognise the people in the image, or who have any other information about the incident, can contact Nottinghamshire Police on 101 and quote incident number 404 of December 16.

Details can also be shared anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



visiting the store at around 2.50pm on December 16.

The pair filled a bag with more than £200 worth of clothing, washing products and other items that were taken from the shelves without any payment being made.



### Steeple Renewables Project Statutory Consultation

20 January 2025 - 03 March 2025

RES is commencing statutory consultation on proposals for Steeple Renewables Project, a new solar farm project with battery storage located at Sturton-le-Steeple, Nottinghamshire.

We hope that you will take the opportunity to learn more about Steeple Renewables Project and help shape the proposals.

All exhibition material and feedback forms will be available on the project website [www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk) from Monday 20 January 2025

**Join us at our consultation events or webinar**

<b>Saturday 01 February 2025</b>	10:00 - 15:00	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way Sturton-le-Steeple DN22 9HY
<b>Wednesday 05 February 2025</b>	14:00 - 19:00	Memorial Institute, South Leverton Town St, South Leverton, Retford DN22 0BT
<b>Wednesday 12 February 2025</b>	18:30 - 20:00	Online webinar - you can register to attend via the project website at <a href="http://www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk">www.steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk</a>
<b>Wednesday 19 February 2025</b>	14:00 - 19:00	Sturton Hall and Conference Centre, Brickings Way Sturton-le-Steeple DN22 9HY




**Contact us:**

0115 718 2070  
[info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk](mailto:info@steeplerenewablesproject.co.uk)  
 FREEPOST Steeple Renewables Project