



Planning Inspectorate

**Lime Down Solar Park
Lime Down Solar Park Limited**

**Section 51 Advice Log
Version: 14 August 2025**

There is a statutory duty under [section 51 \(s51\) of the Planning Act 2008](#) for the Planning Inspectorate to record the advice that it gives in relation to an application or potential application, and to make this publicly available.

This document comprises a record of the advice that has been provided by the Inspectorate to the applicant (Lime Down Solar Park Limited/ Island Green Power) and their consultants during the pre-application stage. It will be updated by the Inspectorate after every interaction with the applicant during which s51 has been provided. The applicant will always be given the opportunity to comment on the Inspectorate's draft record of advice before it is published.

The applicant will use this Advice Log as the basis for demonstrating regard to section 51 advice within the application.

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Date of meeting/ advice	Meeting/ advice description
20 February 2024	Project update meeting
16 January 2025	Programme Review document
2 April 2025	Project update meeting
1 July 2025	Adequacy of Consultation Milestone
14 August 2025	Project update meeting

Library	
Topic	Meeting date: 20 February 2024
20 February 2024	Please see the project meeting note on the Planning Inspectorate website. Project Update Meeting
Topic	Date advice given: 16 January 2025
Programme Document	<p>The applicant supplied the Planning Inspectorate with its initial Programme Document in July 2024, in line with the Inspectorate's Expression of Interest process and its 2024 Pre-application Prospectus.</p> <p>Having reviewed the document, the Inspectorate considers that it overall covers the expected content as set out in the government's pre-application guidance at paragraph 10, providing clear details about the proposed development, the main issues and the progress made against related activities, progress made with Planning Performance Agreements, as well as the applicant's approach to engaging with statutory consultees. However, the updated Programme Document should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reference to whether the Programme Document has been shared with local authorities, statutory consultees and others and whether they are content with the proposed programme and when will it be published to your website • when an Issues Tracker will be used and when this will be shared with local authorities, statutory consultees and others for their review (see 'Primary service features' section of the 2024 Pre-application Prospectus) • if Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements will be used

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether information to inform Habitat Regulations Assessment Report will be endorsed by the relevant statutory nature conservation body prior to submission • dates in the overall timetable for the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone, obtaining other consents or permissions (if required), consultation and publication of the SoCC, and any likely dates for project update meetings to be held with the Inspectorate • the identified risks at this stage, even if these may evolve. <p>It would also be helpful if the Programme Document explained how the design approach will be managed and communicated during pre-application and includes the location of the project.</p>
Topic	Date advice given: 2 April 2025
Statutory consultation	<p>The applicant was advised to start formulating how it will report its consultation activities in its Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AOCM) statement and eventual Consultation Report in line with guidance, such as how it responded to Wiltshire County Council's request for additional detail on the proposed grid connection corridor ahead of statutory consultation. The applicant was advised to review other Solar projects where AOCM statements had been published recently and where similar concerns had been raised by parties. The applicant was also advised to ensure that any responses and supporting information received from local authorities at the AOCM stage are appended to the AOCM statement.</p> <p>The applicant explained how it had taken views on its draft Statement of Community Consultation into account, such as in setting a seven week statutory consultation period, the number of in-person events held and the level of consideration given to the locations (having considered feedback provided through previous engagement with and consultation and then proactively seeking advice from Parish Councils). The applicant was in the process of assessing all feedback received and recording how it has had regard to it.</p>
Engagement	<p>The applicant was asked to consider the recent update to the Environment Agency's flood risk and erosion data, when conducting their Flood Risk Assessment, as this may affect flood zone designations. The applicant stated that it was aware of the EA's recent communication on the matter and was taking it into account as part of any assessment.</p> <p>It is important that when dealing with Crown Land and Special Category Land, the applicant should engage with relevant</p>

	stakeholders on securing agreements early, ahead of any potential Examination.
Project update	When considering potential watercourse connectivity or European Sites, especially with sites like the River Severn, the applicant should take a precautionary approach and include a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).
Programme/Application Preparation	The applicant should ensure ongoing updates to the Programme Document reflect Inspectorate comments and any subsequent updates remain accessible to the public through their website.
Topic	1 July 2025
Adequacy of Consultation Milestone	The Inspectorate notes the Council's concerns about the adequacy of statutory consultation materials, and that the applicant has responded to this. The Inspectorate advise that this matter is also addressed in the Consultation Report. As there is ongoing targeted consultation that is not reflected in the AoCM, the Inspectorate advise that this is also reflected in the Consultation Report.
Topic	14 August 2025
Project Update - Environment	The Planning Inspectorate reminded the applicant that, under Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations, quantified waste stream data is required. This omission may prompt further questions from the Examining Authority during any future examination.
Project Update – Targeted Consultation	The Inspectorate advised the applicant to consider route diversions in the transport assessment and any impacts on receptors on any divergent routes.
Submission	The applicant intends to submit their application on 19 September. The Inspectorate advised that a test should be undertaken ahead of the submission date, to ensure that documents can be successfully accessed.
AoB	The Inspectorate advised that the GIS shape file should be submitted at least two weeks before submission. The shapefile will be checked to ensure it is working correctly. The applicant should ensure their team are available to resolve any issues.