



Planning Inspectorate

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To: All interested parties

Our ref: EN010168

Date: 14 August 2026

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – rule 13

Application by Lime Down Solar Park Limited for an Order granting development consent for the Lime Down Solar Project

Notification of hearings

The examination timetable at annex A of the Examining Authority's (ExA) [rule 8\(3\) letter](#), date 16 July 2026, included reserved dates for hearings.

We are now writing to advise you that the following hearings will be held under section 91 of the Planning Act 2008. The hearings will be blended events, with participants attending either in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Date	Hearing	Start time	Venue and Joining Details
Tuesday 15 September 2026	Issue Specific Hearing 5 (ISH5) on environmental matters, including, but not necessarily limited to, landscape and visual impacts, cultural heritage, and hydrology, flood risk and drainage	Registration and seating available at venue from: 9:00am Virtual registration process from: 9:00am Hearing starts: 9:30am	The National Self Build & Renovation Centre, Lydiard Fields, Great Western Way, Swindon, SN5 8UB and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be

			provided in advance to those who have pre-registered
Wednesday 16 September 2026	Issue Specific Hearing 6 (ISH6) on environmental matters, including, but not necessarily limited to, Traffic and Transportation	Registration and seating available at venue from: 9:00am Virtual registration process from: 9:00am Hearing starts: 9:30am	The National Self Build & Renovation Centre, Lydiard Fields, Great Western Way, Swindon, SN5 8UB and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered
Thursday 17 September 2026	Issue Specific Hearing 7 (ISH7) on environmental matters, including, but not necessarily limited to, outline management and mitigation plans	Registration and seating available at venue from: 9:00am Virtual registration process from: 9:00am Hearing starts: 9:30am	The National Self Build & Renovation Centre, Lydiard Fields, Great Western Way, Swindon, SN5 8UB and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered
Notes: - If any of the above hearings are no longer required then notification will be published as soon as practicable on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website, providing reasonable notice to interested parties of the decision to cancel. - The ExA will publish detailed agendas on the project webpage at least one week before the hearing dates. However, the actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subject to change at the discretion of the ExA.			

Applicant's notification duties

The applicant is reminded of its duty to notify and publicise hearings under rule 13(6) and 13(7) of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Purpose of hearings

Please refer to The Planning Inspectorate's Advice for members of the public: [The stages of the NSIP process and how you can have your say](#) for information about the purpose of open floor, issue specific and compulsory acquisition hearings.

Registration and requests to participate in hearings

Please register using the [event participation form](#) by Monday 7 September 2026 if you intend to participate in the hearings and provide all the information requested. If you have any difficulty completing the form please contact the case team by emailing limesdown@planninginspectorate.gov.uk.

Please note that by attending the event either in person or online you are agreeing to be filmed for the purposes of the online live stream of the event and the recording of the event which will get published on the [project webpage](#). A limited number of seats will be available for observers who wish not to be filmed at the event. Please contact the case team to notify them if you prefer not to be filmed at the event. A transcript of the event will also be published on the project webpage after the event.

Any request to participate in a hearing should include the following information:

- Name and unique reference number (found at the top of any letter or email from The Planning Inspectorate);
- Email address (if available) and contact telephone number;
- Name and unique reference number of any person/organisation that you are representing (if applicable);
- Confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person;
- Confirmation of the hearing(s) you wish to participate in, and if available the agenda item(s) on which you wish to speak and/ or brief details of the topic(s) that you would like to raise
- The [examination library](#) reference number (with paragraph/page number where appropriate) of any documents you wish to refer to.

Joining instructions for hearings will be issued by the case team via email shortly before the hearing dates.

Please contact the case team if you require any support or assistance to attend any hearing, either virtually or in person.

If you wish to observe any of the hearings online you can either:

1. Watch a livestream of the event - a link to the livestream will be made available on the project webpage shortly before the event is scheduled to begin
2. Watch the recording of the event which will be published on the project webpage after the event has finished.

Alternatively, you can attend the physical event at the venue to observe the proceedings; however, to ensure there is adequate seating capacity at the venue we request that you register your attendance to observe only by **Monday 7 September 2026** using the [event participation form](#). Please note that it may not be possible to participate on the day if you have not registered your wish to speak by **Monday 7 September 2026**.

Hearing agendas

The agendas and any detailed arrangements for the hearings will be published on the [project webpage](#) at least five working days before the hearings. However, the actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subject to change at my discretion.

Procedure at hearings and post hearing submissions

The procedure to be followed at hearings is set out in The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Participation in a hearing will be subject to the ExA's powers of control. It is for the ExA to determine how the hearing will be conducted, including the time allowed at the hearing for the making of a person's representations. The hearing will be managed in the interests of ensuring fair access to the hearing for all parties, and to ensure that the submissions of all invited persons are fully heard within the allotted time. For issue specific hearings interested parties (IPs) may be invited to make oral representations at the hearing on the specific issues being examined at the hearing as set out in the agenda.

All hearings are recorded. The recordings and transcripts will be made available on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the hearing. The recordings allow any member of the public who is interested in the application and the examination to find out what has been discussed at a hearing. It is therefore important to note that anyone speaking at the hearing will need to introduce themselves, including any organisation or groups that they represent, **each time they speak** to ensure that someone listening to the recording after the hearing is clear who was speaking.

As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) applies. Please refer to our [Privacy Notice](#) for further information. Participants must do their best to avoid making public any information which they would otherwise wish to be kept private and confidential. If there is a need to refer to such information, it should be in written form. Although this will also be published, personal and private content can be redacted or removed before it is made publicly available. Any person who is unclear on this point should ask the case team for guidance before they place personal and private information into the public domain. The Planning Inspectorate's practice is to publish the recordings and transcripts and retain them for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision on the development consent order (DCO). If you actively participate in the hearing, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and that the recording and transcript will be made available in the public domain.

The evidence presented orally at hearings should be included in post hearing submissions and submitted at the relevant deadline in the [examination timetable](#).

Subsequent Hearings

A further week of hearings has been reserved in the timetable for the week commencing 21 September 2026. If the ExA resolve to hold further hearings during that week, it will issue a separate rule 13 hearing notification letter during the week commencing 24 August 2026.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the case team by email: limedown@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

Janine Laver

Janine Laver
Lead member of the panel of Examining Inspectors

This communication does not constitute legal advice.
Please view our ['Privacy Notice'](#) before sending information to The Planning Inspectorate.