



Adequacy of Consultation Representation Proforma

Under *Section 55(4)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008)* the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, must take any adequacy of consultation representation (AoCR) received from a local authority consultee into account when deciding whether to accept an application for development consent, and this will be published should the application be accepted for examination.

An AoCR is defined in s55(5) in PA2008 as “a representation about whether the applicant complied, in relation to that proposed application, with the applicant’s duties under sections 42, 47 and 48”.

Project name	Meridian Solar Farm
Date of request	23 March 2026
Deadline for AOCR	06 April 2026
Return to	meridiansolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Please complete the proforma outlining your AoCR on the above NSIP.

Local Authority	Lincolnshire County Council
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In the opinion of the local authority, has the applicant complied with the legislative requirements listed below?

Please note that this is specifically about the statutory consultation(s) undertaken.

Assessment of Compliance - Required	
S42 Duty to consult	Yes / Ne
S47 Duty to consult local authority	Yes / Ne
S48 Duty to publicise	Yes / Ne

If you would like to give more detail on any of the above, please do so below.

Please keep it as succinct as possible and refer to facts and evidence related to consultation, rather than the merits of the application.



Additional comments - <i>Not compulsory</i>	
S42 Duty to consult	<p>The applicant conducted a period of early non-statutory engagement in February 2024. Prior to this the applicant organised a LCC Members briefing in December 2023.</p> <p>The County Council responded to the EIA Scoping Opinion request from the Planning Inspectorate in June 2024.</p> <p>Lincolnshire County Council is a host authority to the Meridian Solar project. The Council received notification of the Stage 2 statutory consultation in April 2025. The consultation ran for a 45-day period from 24 April through to 8 June 2025, which LCC responded to on 6 June 2025. Subsequent to this, a further two rounds of targeted consultation were undertaken in October 2025 and January 2026, to address localised changes to the Scheme and Order Limits and feedback from the Stage 2 consultation.</p> <p>The applicant commenced early engagement with LCC on this project, which has continued throughout the pre-application period. This engagement includes regular meetings with the Council's NSIP team and specific topic-led discussions covering areas such as landscape/visual impacts and public health.</p>
S47 Duty to consult local authority	<p>The applicant consulted LCC on a draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) in November 2024, enabling the Council to provide feedback for review and incorporation into the final SoCC, issued in April 2025.</p> <p>The applicant has held several public consultation events during the consultation period and offered various methods for responses to be submitted, in accordance with the SoCC.</p>
S48 Duty to publicise	<p>The applicant has publicised the scheme in line with S48.</p>
Any other comments	<p>Lincolnshire County Council considers that Meridian Solar has carried out adequate pre-application consultation in line with Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Planning Act.</p>