

Green Hill Solar Farm

EN010170

Statement of Common Ground: North Northamptonshire Council

Prepared by: Lanpro Services

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Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010



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Issue Sheet

Report Prepared for: Green Hill Solar Farm

Examination Deadline 2

Statement of Common Ground: North Northamptonshire Council

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Document

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared as part of the proposed Green Hill Solar Farm Development Consent Order (the Application) made by Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd (the Applicant) to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the Secretary of State) pursuant to the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).
- 1.1.2 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information that is available elsewhere within the Application documents. All documents are available on the Planning Inspectorate's website.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority (ExA) the matters on which agreement has been reached between the parties, and where agreement has not yet been reached. SoCGs are an established means in the DCO consenting process, of allowing all parties to identify and focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.

1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd as the Applicant and (2) North Northamptonshire Council. North Northamptonshire Council is one of three host authorities for the Application, and is specifically the host authority for Green Hill C, D, E, F, BESS, part of the cable route, and the Point of Connection at Grendon National Grid 400 kV Substation.
- 1.2.2 Collectively, Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd. and North Northamptonshire Council are referred to as 'the parties'.

1.3 Terminology and Referencing

- 1.3.1 In the Tables in Section 3 of this SoCG below:
- "Agreed" indicates where the issue has been resolved;
 - "Not Agreed" indicates a final position; and
 - "Under discussion" indicates where these points will be the subject of ongoing discussion to resolve, where possible, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the parties.

1.4 Topic Referencing for All Matters

- 1.4.1 All matters agreed, under discussion and not agreed have been given unique references which relate to the topic matter. The referencing system is defined as follows:

Table 1.1 Topic Referencing

Topic	Unique Identifying Code
Scheme Description	SD
Energy Need	EN
Planning Statement	PS



Alternatives and Design Evolution	ALT
Assessment Methodology	AM
Residual Effect	RE
Climate Change	CC
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	LVIA
Ecology and Biodiversity	EB
Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage	HYD
Minerals	MIN
Cultural Heritage	CH
Transport and Access	TA
Noise and Vibration	NV
Glint and Glare	GG
Air Quality	AQ
Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation	STR
Human Health	HH
Arboriculture	ARB
Agricultural Circumstances	ALC
Electromagnetic Fields	EMF
Ground Conditions and Contamination	GCC
Major Accidents and Disasters	MAD
Other Environmental Matters	OEM
Cumulative Effects	CE



2 Record of Engagement

2.1 Summary of Consultation

- 2.1.1 The parties have been engaged in consultation since March 2024.
- 2.1.2 A non-statutory consultation took place in March to May 2024. The statutory consultation process took place between 7th November and 19th December 2024.
- 2.1.3 A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd and North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) in relation to the Application is outlined in **Table 2.1** below.

Table 2.1: Record of Engagement

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
Project Wide Matters/ Principle, Scope and Description of Development		
13 th December 2023	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting to introduce the scheme, providing an overview of the Sites, timescales, constraints and opportunities
Monthly meetings	Meetings (virtual via Teams) with Planning Officers	Regular meetings to discuss any project and programme updates.
10 th July 2025	Site Visit	Site Visit with the planning and highways officers to allow them to view Sites C, D, E and F and proposed construction routes.
Landscape and Visual Impact		
15 th April 2024	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	The meeting focused on reviewing suggested additional viewpoints, agreement on using Type 1-2 photographs for scoping, and identified landscape receptors to include in the assessment.
17 th July 2024	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting to discuss the approach to photomontages and viewpoint locations.
23 rd January 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting with Landscape Officer to discuss section 42 comments in response to the statutory consultation.
27 th June 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting with the Landscape consultant and planning officers at North Northamptonshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council as an orientation exercise of the landscape DCO documents.
19 th September 2025	Site Visit	Site Visit with the landscape consultant who is representing both North Northamptonshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council.



Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
Ecology and Biodiversity		
29 th February 2024	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	The Applicant's Ecologist and Planning Agent contacted North Northamptonshire Local Planning Authority to discuss the Scheme proposals and gauge initial thoughts from the Local Planning Authority on approach.
19 th December 2024	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	The Applicant introduced the project and Clarkson and Wood's expertise. The meeting focused on the survey scope and design evolution as well as scoping responses. Various queries on species, mitigation, and survey methodologies were addressed.
December 2024	Section 42 Consultation response	<p>Comments related to the scope of the desktop study and suite of protected species surveys.</p> <p>Biodiversity Net Gain and whether the figure is based on the Scheme as a whole or the individual Sites.</p> <p>Clarifications needed on the temporary/permanent effects.</p> <p>Details on boundary treatments and fencing around the Sites to allow movement of wildlife through the countryside.</p> <p>All matters are covered in ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [APP-046] and ES Appendix 9.1 to 9.13 [APP-084 to APP-096]</p>
Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage		
29 th November 2024		Meeting to introduce the scheme and approach to hydrology, flood risk and drainage assessment
December 2024	Section 42 Consultation response	<p>Scope of supporting technical information to include a detailed drainage plan.</p> <p>Matter addressed in Annex A – 10.1.1 – Annex J 10.1.10: Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy – BESS [APP-097 – APP-107]</p> <p>Win DES modelling and pre-development brownfield/greenfield discharge calculations should be provided.</p> <p>Matter addressed in Annex J – 10.1.10: Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy – BESS [APP-097 – APP-107]</p>



Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		<p>BRE365 compliant infiltration testing should be undertaken.</p> <p>Matter addressed in Appendix 10.1 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [APP-097]</p> <p>Maintenance and management of individual aspects of the drainage system.</p> <p>Matter addressed in Annex J – 10.1.10: Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy – BESS [APP-107]</p>
Minerals		
07 th October 2024	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	The meeting focused on providing an overview of the Scheme, mineral safeguarding, impacts on current and future sand and gravel supply and mitigation measures
December 2024	Section 47 Consultation response	<p>Assessment should include the cable route corridor.</p> <p>All matters covered in ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048]</p>
Cultural Heritage		
25 th March 2024	North Northamptonshire Conservation Officer	Meeting to introduce the Scheme, provide a high-level review of identified heritage assets and discuss proposed methodology.
December 2024	Section 47 Consultation response	<p>Extent of archaeological field evaluation.</p> <p>Impacts of decommissioning needs to be assessed in the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>Matter addressed in Appendix 12.2 to 12.5 [APP-121 – APP-130] for the results of the archaeological assessment, including the interim results of the geophysical survey and the programme of evaluation trial trenching. Appendix 12.6 [APP-131] takes into account the results of the archaeological assessment as part of the EIA and provides an Archaeological Mitigation Strategy.</p> <p>ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049] sets out the assessment of impacts during the decommissioning phase.</p>
28 th January 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting with the WHNA to discuss potential vibration impact from construction traffic to heritage assets. It was agreed that only Station lodge and Low Farmhouse would be scoped into potential vibration assessment.



Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
10 th March 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting to discuss methodology and approach to assessment and detail finding in relation to Green Hill A, B, C and the BESS (only C and BESS in relation to NNC boundary).
24 th March 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams) with County Archaeologist	Meeting to discuss archaeological mitigation options, geophysical survey data and discuss mitigation areas.
30 th April 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams) with County Archaeologist	Meeting to discuss archaeological evaluation and mitigation options.
14 th May 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams) with Conservation Officer	Meeting to discuss final Scheme design and proposed mitigation.
25 th September 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams) with County Archaeologist	Meeting to discuss archaeological evaluation and mitigation options.
27 th October 2025	Site Visit with Conservation Officer	Site Visit with two Conservation Officers. The Applicant's landscape consultant was also present.
30 th October 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams) with County Archaeologist	Meeting to discuss archaeological evaluation and mitigation options.

2.1.4 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between (1) Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd and (2) North Northamptonshire Council in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.



3 Matters of Discussion

3.1 Overview

3.1.1 Tables 3.1 to 3.18 below detail by topic the matters under discussion with North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) at the point of this document being published.

3.2 Scheme Description

Table 3.1 Scheme Description

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
SD-01	Site Description	ES Chapter 3: The Development Site [REP1-029]	The description of the Sites set out in ES Chapter 3: The Development Site [REP1-029] is accurate.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
SD-02	Scheme Description	ES Chapter 4: Scheme Description [REP1-031]	The Scheme description set out in ES Chapter 4: Scheme Description [REP1-031] is provided with sufficient detail to inform assessments.	The Council are in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed

3.3 Energy Need

Table 3.2 Energy Need

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
EN-01	Energy Need	Statement of Need [APP-556]	The principle of the need for large scale solar projects is established in national planning policy, as detailed in Section 4 of Planning Statement [EX2/GH7.15_A] and Statement of Need [APP-556] and the principle that large scale solar is an essential part of the UK's generation mix which will bring benefits to national decarbonisation and energy security agendas as well as support the	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



			affordability of clean electricity is supported by North Northamptonshire Council.		
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3.4 Planning Statement

Table 3.3 Planning Statement

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
PS-01	Local planning policy	Planning Statement [EX2/GH7.15_A]	The Applicant has identified all planning policy documents in Section 5.5 of the Planning Statement [EX2/GH7.15_A] which are relevant and important in relation to the area of the Application. The compliance with relevant local policies is accurately set out in Policy Compliance Document [EX2/GH7.23_A]	Please refer to LIR section 6	Matter Under Discussion - Mears Ashby Village Design Statement Supplementary Planning Document (Adopted February 2017) to be included.

3.5 Alternatives and Design Evolution

Table 3.2 Alternatives and Design Evolution

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
ALT-01	Site Selection	ES Chapter 5: Alternatives and Design Evolution - Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [REP1-037]	<p>The methodology used in ES Chapter 5: Alternatives and Design Evolution - Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [REP1-037] is appropriate for the Scheme.</p> <p>The outline design parameters set out in the Concept Design Parameters and Principles [REP1-151] are</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			considered appropriate and secured by a Requirement in the Draft DCO [REP1-008] .		
ALT-03	Design Approach	Design Approach Document [APP-560]	The process which the design development has taken and how it incorporates technical, functional and safety-led design requirements that have been established through the consultation periods is set out in the Design Approach Document [APP-560] and is acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed

3.6 EIA Methodology

Table 3.5 EIA Methodology

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
AM-01	Assessment Methodology	ES Chapter 2_EIA Process and Methodology [APP-039] ES Chapter 7 to 23 [APP-039 to APP-060]	The assessment methodology adopted within the environmental topic assessments mentioned in the technical chapters of the ES [APP-039 to APP-060] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
AM-02	Assessment methodology – Professional judgement	ES Chapter 2_EIA Process and Methodology [APP-039]	The identification of likely significant effects on sensitive features and receptors has been informed by professional judgement and the views of the relevant technical specialists, where necessary. The application of professional judgement by specialists within the environmental topic assessments is outlined in	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
		ES Chapter 7 to 23 [APP-039 to APP-060]	the technical chapters of the ES Chapter 7 to 23 [APP-039 to APP-060] are appropriate and robust.		

3.7 Residual Effects

Table 3.6 Residual Effects

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
RE-01	Impacts and Effects	ES Chapter 7 to 23 [APP-039 to APP-060]	<p>The assessment findings for the environmental topics mentioned in the following technical chapters of the ES are considered not significant or of beneficial significance and therefore is considered acceptable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044]• ES Chapter 15: Glint and Glare [APP-052]• ES Chapter 16: Air Quality [APP-053]• ES Chapter 18: Human Health [APP-055]• ES Chapter 21: Electromagnetic Fields [APP-058]• ES Chapter 22: Ground Conditions and Contamination [APP-059] <p>ES Chapter 23: Major Accidents and Disasters [APP-060]</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



3.8 Landscape and Visual Impact

Table 3.7 Landscape and Visual Impact

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
LVIA-01	Meetings and Workshops	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.6 Landscape Consultation [APP-083]	The meetings and workshops with statutory consultees set out within Section 8.2 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] and ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.5 Landscape Consultation [APP-083] have been effective in informing decision making and monitoring the LVIA assessment process of the Scheme to date. The engagement has been timely and has been a valuable tool in seeking understanding and agreement about the key issues.	The Council agrees that the engagement has been a valuable tool in seeking understanding and agreement about the key issues	Matter Agreed
LVIA-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.3.1 LVIA Assessment Sheets [APP-081]	The description of the existing baseline landscape and visual conditions set out within Section 8.5 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] and ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.3.1 LVIA Assessment Sheets [APP-081] is representative of the baseline site conditions and therefore acceptable to inform the assessment.	The Council agrees that the information provided is appropriate and sufficient to inform the assessment, and that the approach taken is acceptable for the purposes of the Examination.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
LVIA-03	Appendices and Figures	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	The Appendices and Figures listed within Section 8.1 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] are presented in sufficient detail to inform the baseline, underpin the LVIA process and to identify the likely significant effects of the Scheme.	The Council agrees that the information provided is appropriate and sufficient to inform the assessment, and that the approach taken is acceptable for the purposes of the Examination.	Matter Agreed
LVIA-04	Study Area/Scope of Assessment	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	The Study Areas and Scope of Assessment set out within Section 8.5 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] is sufficient to inform the assessment baseline conditions.	The Council agrees that the information provided is appropriate and sufficient to inform the assessment, and that the approach taken is acceptable for the purposes of the Examination.	Matter Agreed
LVIA-05	Assessment Methodology	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.1 LVIA Methodology [APP-078]	The methodology adopted within Section 8.4 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] and ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.1 LVIA Methodology [APP-078] follows the 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment' Third Edition (GLVIA3) and derived from consultation and engagement with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable in so far as it relates to those elements of	The Council agrees that the methodology is appropriate and sufficient to inform the assessment, and that the approach taken is acceptable for the purposes of the Examination.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council's jurisdiction.		
LVIA-06	Landscape Character Assessments	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.4 Landscape Character Area Descriptions [APP-082] ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.2 Landscape Receptor [APP-080]	The published landscape character assessments that are relied upon at the national, regional, and local level and set out within Section 8.5 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] and ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.4 Landscape Character Area Descriptions [APP-082] and ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.2 Landscape Receptor [APP-084] are considered acceptable to inform the assessment baseline conditions.	The Council agrees that the information provided is appropriate and sufficient to inform the assessment, and that the approach taken is acceptable for the purposes of the Examination.	Matter Agreed
LVIA-07	Visual Receptors: Assessment Viewpoints for the Sites	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	The viewpoints set out within Section 8.5 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] and ES Chapter 8: Figure 8.10 [APP-308] are considered acceptable to inform the assessment baseline conditions.	The Council agrees that the viewpoint information provided is appropriate and sufficient to inform the assessment, and that the approach taken is acceptable for the purposes of the Examination.	Matter Agreed
LVIA-08	Visual Receptors: Additional Assessment Viewpoints for the	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	The viewpoints set out within Section 8.5 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] and ES Chapter 8: Figure	The Council agrees that the viewpoint information provided is appropriate and sufficient to inform the assessment, and that	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
	Cable Route Corridor		8.10 [APP-308] are considered acceptable to inform the baseline conditions for the Cable Route Corridor and Substations.	the approach taken is acceptable for the purposes of the Examination.	
LVIA-09	Landscape Receptors: Value	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	The judgements on value for the landscape receptors, as set out within Section 8.5 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] are considered acceptable to inform the assessment baseline conditions.	The Council agrees with the landscape value judgements presented in the ES, which appropriately reflect the characteristics, condition and local distinctiveness of the receiving landscape. However, the assessment of susceptibility is considered more open to professional interpretation. Given the strong rural qualities, openness and perceptual sensitivity of the landscape surrounding settlements such as Mears Ashby, Easton Maudit and Grendon, susceptibility to large-scale change may be somewhat higher than indicated. The Council therefore accepts the value assessment but considers that the overall sensitivity of some landscape receptors could reasonably fall at the upper end of the moderate range.	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
LVIA-10	Embedded Design Mitigation	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	<p>The approach and proposals for embedded mitigation set out within Section 8.6 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045], considers the landscape and visual matters associated with the Scheme as part of an iterative process, and is considered acceptable.</p> <p>Establishing planting will add a positive element to this landscape. Vegetation removal, as shown on the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plans [APP-207 to APP-219, REP1-111] is relatively minimal.</p>	<p>The Council acknowledges that embedded mitigation has been incorporated through the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (OLEMP) [REP1-137] and associated mitigation drawings, and that these measures represent a landscape-led approach.</p> <p>However, it is considered that the effectiveness of planting in reducing visual and character effects during the first 5–10 years is overstated. Mitigation planting will take time to mature and, in some locations, the proposed hedgerow heights of approximately 4–4.5 metres could increase enclosure and noticeably alter local landscape character by diminishing openness and long-distance views. While these taller hedgerows would assist in screening the solar infrastructure, they could also erode the existing sense of rural spaciousness that contributes to local distinctiveness.</p>	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
LVIA-11	Presentation of Assessment Findings	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	The approach to presenting the assessment findings is considered acceptable, as set out in Section 8.6 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] , supplemented by detailed appendices.	The Council agrees that the way information has been presented is appropriate and sufficient to inform the assessment, and that the approach taken is acceptable for the purposes of the Examination.	Matter Agreed
LVIA-12	Landscape and Ecological Management Plan: Landscape and Ecological Improvements	Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plans (Figures 4.10-4.20) [APP-207 to APP-219, REP1-111] Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [REP1-137]	<p>The landscape and ecological improvements are set out in the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plans (Figures 4.10 to 4.20) [APP-207 to APP-219, REP1-111]. The Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [REP1-137] and are considered acceptable.</p> <p>Following further development of the Scheme, more detailed planting plans including detail of areas of landscape mitigation, location and types of planting (species), as well as number, density and specification will be provided prior to any works commencing. The detailed landscape proposals will consist of the area and extent of the Scheme shown on Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and</p>	The Council supports the principle of long-term management as set out in the OLEMP [REP1-137] and recognises the opportunities for biodiversity enhancement through hedgerow, woodland and grassland creation. However, the Council considers that these measures primarily function as mitigation to reduce adverse effects rather than as enhancements that would restore the original landscape character. In particular, the proposed hedgerow reinforcement and new boundary planting at heights of around 4–4.5 metres could, while effective for screening, lead to an artificial increase in enclosure and a reduction in rural openness over time. The effectiveness of these measures will depend on successful establishment,	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			Enhancement Plans (Figures 4.10-4.20) [APP-207 to APP-219, REP1-111]. The Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [REP1-137] (the 'OLEMP') is secured by Requirement 7 of Schedule 2 of Draft Development Consent Order Revision [REP1-008]	appropriate species selection, and sustained management to ensure that vegetation does not exceed the intended visual mitigation function. The Council seeks assurance that future detailed planting, height controls and aftercare plans will be secured through DCO requirements	
LVIA-13	Landscape Assessment	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	The Landscape Assessment set out in ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] are considered acceptable	<p>The Council agrees that the assessment follows GLVIA3 and that the methodology is robust; however, there is partial disagreement with the assessment outcomes. The Council considers that residual landscape effects at Year 15 are understated for certain parcels, particularly Site E near Mears Ashby and Site F near Easton Maudit, where the scale, density and engineered form of solar arrays will continue to influence local landscape character and perception.</p> <p>The ES concludes that residual effects on the site fabric would be Neutral at Year 1, becoming Moderate Beneficial by Year 15,</p>	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				<p>reflecting new planting and habitat creation. The Council does not agree with this finding. While the proposed planting and habitat measures would deliver ecological and structural improvements, these primarily function as mitigation rather than enhancement and would not outweigh the physical and perceptual change arising from the introduction of solar infrastructure, fencing, access tracks and substations. The change from a productive rural landscape to one defined by energy infrastructure represents a long-term alteration to landscape character, not a beneficial outcome.</p> <p>Furthermore, the combined presence of multiple sites across North Northamptonshire is likely to give rise to a significant adverse cumulative effect on landscape character when the scheme is viewed and experienced as a whole.</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
L VIA-14	Visual Assessment	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	The Visual Assessment set out in ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] are considered acceptable	The Council agrees that the viewpoint assessment methodology is appropriate and that the submitted photomontages are of a good standard. However, professional judgement differs regarding the extent and duration of residual visual effects. At a number of representative viewpoints—including Easton Lane (NN10 and NN13), Wilby Road (VP16), and A509 (VP32)—effects are considered to remain Moderate Adverse at Year 15 rather than Minor Adverse as reported. Sequential views from rural lanes and PRowS will also continue to convey a strong perception of infrastructure within the landscape. While visual impacts will reduce over time, they will not be fully mitigated within the operational period.	Matter Under Discussion



3.9 Ecology and Biodiversity

Table 3.8 Ecology and Biodiversity

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
EB-01	Methodology	ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033]	The methodology adopted within Section 9.4 of ES Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation and engagement with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable in so far as it relates to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	<p>The desk-based methodology is acceptable and can be considered 'agreed'.</p> <p>With regard to the Field Survey and Methodologies and Scope, due as much as anything to the later addition of some sites (including Green Hill F within NNC boundaries) and consequent inconsistent levels of surveys that has been carried out on the individual parcels, there remains certain elements of this aspect of the methodology that may need further assessment in order to ensure that proper and comparable conclusions are drawn from the work carried out so far. In this respect therefore this is still <i>under discussion</i>. The Cable Route surveys were conducted during a sub-optimal period of the year, and this is acknowledged by the applicant as requiring further work and details provided.</p>	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
EB-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033]	The methodology adopted within Section 9.6 of ES Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033] are representative of the baseline site conditions in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	As the Ecology and Biodiversity chapter of the ES notes, the baseline conditions are set out based on in some cases only partially completed surveys, and as such this section, by definition, must remain 'Under Discussion'.	Matter Under Discussion
EB-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 9.8 of ES Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	Notwithstanding that the approach to detailing mitigation measures for the sites adopts an acceptable approach, the details of mitigation required remain to be determined as a consequence of the unresolved issues in the mitigation and baseline conditions sections above.	Matter Under Discussion
EB-04	Residual Effects	ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033]	The judgements on the likely residual effects and conclusions for the effects to ecology set out within Section 9.9 of ES Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033] are considered acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	Section 9.9 of the Ecology and Biodiversity chapter highlights that there remains the possibility of 'significant adverse effects at an international level through loss of Functionally Linked Land. As this relates primarily for parcel Green Hill F (within NNC boundaries), and as this parcel is acknowledged to have had only partial surveys completed on it, the section on residual effects	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				remains 'under discussion', pending further information.	
EB-05	Habitat Regulation Assessment	ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033] Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) [REP1-153]	A Habitat Regulation Assessment screening has been carried out and outlined in Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) [REP1-153] with impacts discussed in ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033] The methodology is considered acceptable and the assessment is considered to have been carried out appropriately.	The HRA sets out that some of the surveys required for a full assessment have not been completed in areas within NNC Boundaries, and as such this section remains 'Under Discussion'.	Matter Under Discussion
EB-06	Biodiversity Net Gain	Appendix 9.13: Biodiversity Net Gain [REP1-043]	The approach to assessing and securing BNG as stated in Appendix 9.13: Biodiversity Net Gain [REP1-043] was acceptable.	BNG for NSIPs is not yet mandatory, but the applicant has provided to meet the requirements of the BNG process as if it were. In this respect, the gains that NNC might expect to see achieved in other developments within the council area might not be applied to the same standards in this case in the event that any local and particular issues arose as planning proceeds and development issues arise. Notwithstanding this, as the applicant has proposed to meet the BNG thresholds as good practice, NNC will consider this from	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				<p>that perspective. The applicant has indicated that the proposed development requires design flexibility in a number of respects, including panel layout, and cable route corridor, which could impact on the detailed outcomes for the BNG proposals. As such it is not possible to agree the specifics of the proposals as set out in Appendix 9.13. However, the 'Applicant Position' in the SOCG document states that they consider the 'approach to assessing and securing BNG' to be acceptable. Given the non-mandatory status of the BNG proposed for this development, and that the indicative layouts would result in percentage uplifts for each BNG Unit type substantially in excess of the 10% figure that applies to mandatory BNG site, and that this allows significant leeway for future changes to be made that would not materially impact on the overall figure, we are satisfied that the 'approach' can be agreed, albeit there remains the need for further discussion on the detail.</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
EB-07	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [REP1-137]	The measures in the OLEMP [REP1-137] are correctly identified and appropriate	The Outline LEMP addresses general principles for the management of all habitat types in relation to the setting and context of the site alongside existing off-site habitats and taking into account external strategies such as the LNRS and Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping. While detail remains to be clarified on certain aspects of the proposals on completion of the DCO, the proposals included, as far as they go, addresses (or sets out how this will be addressed in the future) the key points that would be required for a full and final LEMP to be approved. The Outline LEMP states that the final LEMP would need to be substantially in accordance with the OLEMP. Barring the details that cannot be provided at present, we are satisfied that this is a satisfactory document and agree that the measures identified are correctly identified and appropriate.	Matter Agreed



3.10 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage

Table 3.9 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
HYD-01	Methodology	ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [REP1-023]	The methodology adopted within Section 10.4 of ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [REP1-023] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	Details and further discussions will be required	Matter Under Discussion
HYD-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [REP1-023]	The baseline conditions which are detailed within Section 10.5 of ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [REP1-023] are representative of the baseline site conditions within North Northamptonshire Council.	Details and further discussions will be required	Matter Under Discussion
HYD-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [REP1-023]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 10.8 of ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [REP1-023] are acceptable.	Details and further discussions will be required	Matter Under Discussion
HYD-04	Surface Water	ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [REP1-023]	It is agreed that Surface Water Flood Risk is appropriately addressed at this stage as set out in ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage Appendix 10.1 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Report [REP1-053] .	Details and further discussions will be required	Matter Under Discussion
HYD-05	Drainage	ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [REP1-023]	It is agreed that ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [REP1-023] details maintaining the existing surface water run-off regime by utilising permeable surfacing for the site accesses, linear infiltration trenches around	Details and further discussions will be required	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>any proposed infrastructure (substations and batteries) and wildflower planting at the leeward edge of solar panels will ensure that the Scheme is unlikely to generate surface water runoff rates beyond the baseline scenario.</p> <p>The proposed drainage design set out in ES Appendix 1: Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [REP1-053] is appropriate and is secured through Requirement 11, 'Surface and Foul Water Drainage' is included within Draft Development Consent Order [REP1-008]. Additional detail regarding the proposed surface water drainage strategies in accordance with SuDS principles for proposed areas of hardstanding will need to be provided to ensure greenfield run-off rates are maintained.</p> <p>Requirement 11 of the DCO secures written details of the surface water drainage scheme and (if any) foul water drainage scheme through an appropriate plan which must be substantially in accordance with the outline drainage strategy.</p>		
HYD-06	Local Lead Flood Authority (LLFA)	Draft Development Consent Order [REP1-008]	The LLFA has agreed to the DCO disapplying the requirement for ordinary watercourse consent under the Land Drainage Act 1991.	Details and further discussions will be required	Matter Under Discussion



3.11 Minerals

Table 3.10 Minerals

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
MIN-01	Methodology	ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048]	The methodology adopted within Section 11.4 of ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
MIN-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048]	The baseline conditions which are detailed within Section 11.6 of ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048] are representative of the baseline site conditions within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
MIN-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 11.9 of ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048] are acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
MIN-04	Construction/Operational/Decommissioning Impacts and Effects Sand and Gravel mineral safeguarding	ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048]	It is agreed that the impact on mineral safeguarding resources will be no more than a temporary sterilisation effect. The magnitude of impact is low to medium and minor significance residual effect. The assessment of impacts and effects as set out in	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			Section 11.8 of ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048] is accurate.		
MIN-05	Mitigation Measures: Cable Route Corridor	ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048]	<p>The Scheme has been designed to enable impacts on operational quarries to be minimised or avoided. Mitigation set out within Section 11.7 and 11.9 of ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048] addresses the impacts of the Scheme on Earls Barton Quarry and Earls Barton Spinney Quarry within the Cable Route Corridor and states that requirements of the extant planning permission relating to both quarries and on discussions with both quarry operators it is anticipated that mineral extraction will either have been completed or progress to a point where the cable can be installed within the Cable Route Corridor along a route where mineral extraction has already been completed.</p> <p>The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 11.9 of ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048] are acceptable.</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



3.12 Cultural Heritage

Table 3.11 Cultural Heritage

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
CH-01	Methodology	ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049]	The methodology adopted within ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
CH-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049]	The baseline conditions which are detailed within ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049] are representative of the baseline site conditions within North Northamptonshire Council.	In agreement regarding archaeology. Under discussion regarding built heritage.	Matter Under Discussion
CH-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049] are acceptable.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
CH-04	Heritage Assessment	ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049]	<p>The heritage assessment provided in ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049] is supported by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12.1: Heritage Statement [APP-120] <p>The heritage assessment sufficiently assesses potential impacts to heritage assets. Where impacts have been identified these have been appropriately mitigated.</p>	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
CH-05	Archaeological Assessment	ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049]	<p>The archaeological assessment provided in ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049] is supported by the results of a programme of archaeological evaluation see the following ES appendices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12.2: Archaeological Desk – Based Assessments [APP-121-127]• 12.3: Aerial Photographic and LiDAR mapping and interpretation [APP-128]• 12.4: Archaeological Geophysical Survey Reports [APP-129]• 12.5: Archaeological Evaluation (interim reports) [APP-130] <p>The works undertaken as part of the archaeological evaluation is considered appropriate for assessment.</p>	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
CH-06	Archaeological Assessment	ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049]	<p>ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049] is supported by the results of a Geophysical Survey and trial trench evaluation.</p> <p>Geophysical surveys were undertaken within all areas of the Scheme that were suitable for survey (for example, roads and areas of woodland were excluded) and where land access was permitted. The results of the geophysical survey are provided in Appendix 12.4 [APP-129]. Evaluation trial trenching was undertaken to test the results of the geophysical survey. Interim reports detailing the results of the</p>	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>evaluation trial trenching are provided in Appendix 12.5 [APP-130]. Archaeological evaluation works were undertaken in line with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) agreed with the Local Authority's Planning Archaeologists.</p> <p>Archaeological evaluation has been undertaken in accordance with Paragraph 5.9.10 of NPS EN1, Paragraphs 2.10.113 and 2.10.115 of NPS EN3 and Paragraph 207 of NPPF to ensure the level of detail provided as part of the assessment is proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. Archaeological evaluation was not undertaken in areas where it was either not possible (i.e. as a result of woodland, arboriculture and ecological considerations or access issues) or not safe to do so (i.e. due to livestock or overhead electricity cables / buried utilities).</p>		
CH-07	Further Archaeological Evaluation	ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049]	<p>Appendix 12.6: Archaeological Mitigation Strategy(AMS) [APP-146] details the mitigation measures to safeguard archaeological assets including preservation in situ (using a non-intrusive construction methodology) and mitigation by record (including strip, map and sample and archaeological monitoring) and is considered acceptable.</p> <p>The draft AMS sets out the scope and guiding principles for the planning and implementation of</p>	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			further evaluation surveys and proposed archaeological mitigation works to be undertaken. The final mitigation strategies will be set out in the Final AMS secured through Requirement 12 of the Draft DCO.		

3.13 Transport and Access

Table 3.12 Transport and Access

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
TA-01	Methodology	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A]	The methodology adopted within ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
TA-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A]	The baseline conditions which are detailed within ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A] are representative of the baseline site conditions within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
TA-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A] are acceptable.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
TA-04	Abnormal Load Routes	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A]	The routes identified for the delivery of abnormal loads, as set out in Table 13.14 of Chapter 13: Transport and Access and the Transport Assessment [EX2/GH6.2.13_A] are acceptable.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
TA-05	HGV Routes	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A]	All HGVs associated with the construction phase of the Scheme will follow the designated routes as illustrated in figures 13.13 to 13.17 and are summarised in ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access Table 13.10, and these routes are considered appropriate and acceptable.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
TA-06	PRoW	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A]	The measures to manage potential impacts identified in the Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [REP1-147] are appropriate and acceptable.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
TA-07	Permissive Paths	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A]	Permissive paths are identified and proposed as part of the Scheme and are considered appropriate.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
TA-08	Site and Cable Route Corridor Accesses	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A]	A total of 47 access points across the Scheme are proposed for construction and operation purposes for the Sites, Cable Route Corridor and Cable Construction Compounds. The access locations for the northern, central and southern area of the Study Area are presented in Figures 13.13 to 13.17 [APP-432 to APP-438] and summarised in Table 13.10 are considered appropriate.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
TA-09	Traffic and Access Impacts	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A]	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [EX2/GH6.2.13_A] presents an assessment of the impacts of the construction traffic resulting from the Scheme on sensitive receptors. The associated Transport Assessment [APP-151] considers whether the Scheme will be acceptable in transport and highway terms. The assessment conclusion that, following the implementation of mitigation measures, the residual effect would be not significant and is acceptable.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion

3.14 Noise and Vibration

Table 3.13 Noise and Vibration

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
NV-01	Methodology	ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-168]	The methodology adopted within ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-168] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter. The Applicant awaits the Council's comments on the ES Addendum.	Matter Agreed
NV-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14	The baseline conditions which are detailed within ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
		Noise and Vibration [REP1-168]	168] are representative of the baseline site conditions within North Northamptonshire Council. The baseline noise monitoring detailed within ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-168] is representative of the sound levels in the vicinity of the Sites and experienced by nearby sensitive receptors. The selected sensitive receptors represent those locations which would potentially be worst affected by noise and vibration.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments on the ES Addendum.	
NV-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-168]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-168] are acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter. The Applicant awaits the Council's comments on the ES Addendum.	Matter Agreed
NV-04	Conclusion	ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-168]	The conclusion within ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-168] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter. The Applicant awaits the Council's comments on the ES Addendum.	Matter Agreed



3.15 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation

Table 3.14 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
STR-01	Methodology	ES Chapter 17: Socio-Economics [APP-054]	The methodology adopted within ES Chapter 17: Socio-Economics [APP-054] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
STR-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 17: Socio-Economics [APP-054]	The baseline conditions which are detailed ES Chapter 17: Socio-Economics [APP-054] are representative of the baseline site conditions within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
STR-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 17: Socio-Economics [APP-054]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within ES Chapter 17: Socio-Economics [APP-054] are acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
STR-04	Conclusion	ES Chapter 17: Socio-Economics [APP-054]	The conclusion within ES Chapter 17: Socio-Economics [APP-054] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



3.16 Arboriculture

Table 3.15 Arboriculture

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
ARB-01	Methodology	ES Chapter 19: Arboriculture [APP-056]	The methodology adopted within Section 19.4 of ES Chapter 19 Arboriculture [APP-056] has been derived from the information obtained through consultation and engagement with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable in so far as it relates to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
ARB-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 19: Arboriculture [APP-056]	The methodology adopted within Section 19.6 of ES Chapter 19 Arboriculture [APP-056] are representative of the baseline site conditions in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
ARB-03	Assessment Outcomes	ES Chapter 19: Arboriculture [APP-056]	The assessment outcomes adopted within ES Chapter 19 Arboriculture [APP-056] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
ARB-04	Mitigation	ES Chapter 19: Arboriculture [APP-056]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 19.8 of ES Chapter 19 Arboriculture [APP-056] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
ARB-05	Residual Effects	ES Chapter 19: Arboriculture [APP-058]	The judgements on the likely residual effects and conclusions for the effects to ecology set out within Section 19.9 of ES Chapter 19 Arboriculture [APP-056] are considered acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
ARB-06	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [APP-549]	The measures in the OLEMP [APP-549] are correctly identified and appropriate	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion

3.17 Agricultural Circumstances

Table 3.16 Agricultural Circumstances

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
ALC-01	Methodology	Chapter 20 Agricultural Circumstances [APP-057]	The assessment methodology detailed within Section 20.4 of ES Chapter 20 Agricultural Circumstances [APP-057] is considered acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
ALC-02	Baseline Conditions	Chapter 20 Agricultural	The baseline conditions detailed within Section 20.6 of ES Chapter 20 Agricultural Circumstances [APP-057] and within ES Chapter 20 - Appendix 20.1 Agricultural Land	The Council is in agreement	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
		Circumstances [APP-057]	Classification Technical Report are representative of the site conditions within North Northamptonshire Council.	on this matter.	
ALC-03	Impacts to ALC graded land and soil quality	Chapter 20 Agricultural Circumstances [APP-057]	<p>Natural England document Agricultural Land Classification: protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land (TIN049) https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/35012 explains the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system and its use in informing land use planning decisions for agricultural land. The Applicant has submitted an ALC assessment for agricultural land within the Sites and Cable Route Corridor showing it is predominantly ALC Grade 3a, which is classed as best and most versatile agricultural land. The land within 15km of Grendon Substation is predominantly Grade 3 therefore it was not feasible to avoid land that was potentially BMV when undergoing the site selection.</p> <p>The Scheme will not result in the loss of best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Scheme will be decommissioned at the end of its operational life and restored to previous conditions. • Land will retain its existing Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) grade baseline after decommissioning of the Scheme as set out at Section 20.6 of ES Chapter 20 [APP-057]. • The residual effect on soil function would be the same as in the operational phase, the Scheme would have Moderate to Major beneficial effect on soil functions (especially on soil carbon), which is Significant. 	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			A Soil Management Plan (SMP) will be included within the detailed Construction, Operational and Decommissioning Environmental Management Plans (CEMP, OEMP, DEMP) with the aim of conserving the soil resource and its functional capacity for support of agricultural production as set out at paragraph 20.8.18 of ES Chapter 20 Agricultural Circumstances [APP-057] which is considered acceptable.		
ALC-04	Mitigation	Chapter 20 Agricultural Circumstances [APP-057]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 20.9 of ES Chapter 20 Agricultural Circumstances [APP-057] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion
ALC-05	Residual Effects	Chapter 20 Agricultural Circumstances [APP-057]	The judgements on the likely residual effects and conclusions for the effects to agricultural land set out within Section 20.10 of ES Chapter 20 Agricultural Circumstances [APP-057] are considered acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within North Northamptonshire Council.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion

3.18 Other Environmental Matters

Table 3.17 Other Environmental Matters

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
OEM-01	Light Pollution	Chapter 24 Other Environmental	The information provided within paragraphs 24.3.1 to 24.3.4 of ES Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027] is sufficient and the good practice measures which will be	The Applicant awaits the	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
		Matters [REP1-027]	employed during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning are set out in Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [APP-545] and Outline Decommissioning Statement [APP-547] and are acceptable.	Council's comments.	
OEM-02	Waste Production	Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027]	<p>The information provided Section 24.4 of ES Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027] is sufficient.</p> <p>The applicable waste policy is set out within paragraphs Section 24.4 of ES Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027] is the relevant and applicable planning policy.</p> <p>The scope of the assessment undertaken within ES Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027] including the identification of likely significant effects has been carried out in a robust and proportionate manner and is considered acceptable.</p> <p>The proposed embedded and additional mitigation measures as set out within Section 24.4 of ES Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027] are considered proportionate and acceptable.</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
OEM-03	Waste Management	Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027]	The preparation of a Site Waste Management Plan which will describe how materials will be managed and stored efficiently and disposed of legally during the construction phase. This is	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>secured through the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [APP-545] and is acceptable.</p> <p>A Waste Management Strategy will be developed and agreed with the authority prior to commencement of the operation (including maintenance) as part of the detailed OEMP [APP-546] and is acceptable.</p> <p>The decommissioning of the Scheme will adhere to the measures and procedures outlined in the ODS [APP-547], secured through the Development Consent Order (DCO), and this is considered proportionate and acceptable. A Decommissioning Resource Management Plan (DRMP) will be developed by the appointed contractor and will set out how to manage the disposal of waste in accordance with relevant legislative and policy requirements at the time of decommissioning.</p>		
OEM-04	Telecommunication, Utilities and Television	Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027]	<p>The information set out within Section 24.5 of ES Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027] is sufficient, and the protective mitigation measures set out in the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [APP-545] and Crossing Schedule [APP-558] are appropriate and therefore acceptable.</p> <p>Protective provisions for the protection of electricity, gas, water and sewerage undertakers</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			and operators of electronic communications code networks are included in Parts 1 and 2 of Schedule 16 to the Draft Development Consent Order [APP-017] and, where relevant, bespoke protective provisions are being negotiated or have been agreed to protect the assets of statutory undertakers that interface with the Scheme.		

3.19 Assessment of Cumulative Effects

Table 3.18 Assessment of Cumulative Effects

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
CE-01	Examination of Cumulative Effects	ES Chapter 25: Cumulative Effects and Effect Interactions [APP-062]	The Applicant discussed the cumulative developments with North Northamptonshire Council through the scoping opinion, the statutory consultation and as part of the regular catch-up meetings and these are agreed as set out in ES Chapter 25: Cumulative Effects and Effect Interactions [APP-062] .	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
CE-02	Cumulative Effects	ES Chapter 25: Cumulative Effects and Effect Interactions [APP-062]	An assessment of the cumulative effects of the Scheme along with these other developments is presented in each technical chapter [APP-039 to APP-062] . ES Chapter 25: Cumulative Effects and Interactions, provides a summary of the cumulative effects for the Scheme. It is considered that there will not be any new likely significant effects associated with cumulative	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments.	Matter Under Discussion



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			effects that are not already accounted for by the assessment of the Scheme		



4 Signatories

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 The above SoCG is agreed between Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd. (the Applicant) and North Northamptonshire Council, as specified below.

4.1.2 Duly authorised for and on behalf of **Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd.**

Name:	
Job Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	

4.1.3 Duly authorised for and on behalf of **North Northamptonshire Council.**

Name:	
Job Title:	
Date:	
Signature:	