

Green Hill Solar Farm

EN010170

Statement of Common Ground: Milton Keynes City Council Revision ~~BC~~ (Tracked)

Prepared by: Lanpro Services

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Issue Sheet

Report Prepared for: Green Hill Solar Farm

Examination Deadline [57](#)

Statement of Common Ground:
Milton Keynes City Council Revision [BC](#)

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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 Limited (the Applicant) to the Secretary of State for Energy Security & 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) Milton Keynes City Council. Milton Keynes City Council (MKCC) is one of three host authorities for the Application, and is specifically the host authority for Green Hill G, and part of the cable route.

1.2.2 Collectively, Green Hill Solar Farm Ltd. and Milton Keynes City 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 process ran from 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 Milton Keynes City Council (MKCC 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		
29 th August 2024	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 since September 2024.
9 th July 2025	Site Visit	Site visit with the Planning, Landscape and Ecological Officer to view Site G.
8 th January 2026	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	The Applicant held a meeting with representatives of the Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) from each of the Host Authorities to discuss the disapplication of provisions of the Land Drainage Act 1991. The Applicant is preparing a draft set of protective provisions to share with each of the LLFA's to allow agreement of the disapplication. This meeting was held to address action point 4 of Issue Specific Hearing 3.
Landscape and Visual Impact		
21 st January 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting to introduce the scheme, works completed to date and approach to assessment.
6 th November 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting with the Landscape Officer and Planning Officers as an orientation exercise through the landscape DCO documents.
Ecology and Biodiversity		
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.



Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
		Various queries on species, mitigation, and survey methodologies were addressed.
20 th January 2026	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting with the LPA Ecologist and council to discuss items not agreed.
Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage		
16 th December 2024	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting to discuss 1. Trial trenching WSI and trench locations in Site G.
Cultural Heritage		
26 th June 2024	Meeting (virtual via Teams)	Meeting to introduce the Scheme, provide a high-level review of identified heritage assets and discuss proposed methodology.
28 th February 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams) with Conservation Officer	Meeting to discuss methodology and approach to assessment and detail finding with relation to Green Hill G.
07 th May 2025	Meeting (virtual via Teams) with Archaeologist	Meeting to discuss archaeological evaluation and mitigation options.
11 th February 2026	Meeting (virtual via Teams) with Archaeologist	Meeting to discuss the proposals included in Change Application 2.

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) Milton Keynes City Council in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.



3 Matters of Discussion

3.1 Overview

3.1.1 **Table 3.1** to **Table 3.19** below detail by topic the matters agreed, under discussion, or not agreed with Milton Keynes City Council 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 are in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
SD-02	Scheme Description	ES Chapter 4: Scheme Description [REP1-034REP6-011] .	The Scheme description set out in ES Chapter 4: Scheme Description [REP1-034REP6-011] 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 [REP4-012REP6-037] 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	The Council are in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			decarbonisation and energy security agendas as well as support the affordability of clean electricity is supported by Milton Keynes City Council.		

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 [REP4-012REP6-037]	The Applicant has identified the planning policy documents in Section 5.4 of the Planning Statement [REP4-012REP6-037] as being 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 [REP4-014]	Table 13 Plan:MK (2019): The applicants have assessed all the relevant policies that MKCC have considered in its LIR. In general, it is considered to be an accurate policy analysis of the relevant policies in Plan:MK, subject to the specific comments in MKCC’s LIR being taken into account, which relate to Policies CT2, NE2 and NE5 (transport, ecology and landscape). Table 14 Emerging MK City Plan (Regulation 18 version, 2024): It is noted that the applicant has thoroughly considered the Regulation 18 version of the emerging Milton Keynes	Matter Agreed, though subject to update with regard to weight applied to Reg 19 MKCP



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				<p>City Plan, and it is considered to be an accurate policy assessment, subject to the specific comments in the LIR being taken into account, which relate to Policies GS10, CEA9, CEA10, CES12 (transport, ecology and landscape).</p> <p>Regulation 19 Version should be reviewed as of 7th November 2025 however it is noted that the council has not given indication of weight to be given to any policies at this stage.</p> <p>Table 15 MK Minerals Local Plan (2017):</p> <p>This table contains an accurate assessment of local minerals policy.</p> <p>Table 16 MK Waste Development Plan Document (2008) contains an accurate assessment of local waste policy.</p> <p>Table 18 Lavendon Neighbourhood Plan (2020):</p> <p>The applicants have assessed all the relevant policies that MKCC have considered in its LIR. In general, it is considered to be an accurate policy analysis of the Lavendon Neighbourhood Plan, subject to the specific comments in MKCC's LIR being taken into account,</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				which relate to Policies E2 and HT1 (ecology and transport).	

3.5 Alternatives and Design Evolution

Table 3.4 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 fields GF1 to GF8, GF10 to GF12.</p> <p>Applicants Response to Consultee</p> <p>It is acknowledged by Officers at MKCC that Site G, including fields GF9 and GF13 are located in an area identified as a suitable location for solar development, set out in EMKLP Policy GS7.</p> <p>The design development of the Scheme recognises the need for careful siting, design and mitigation,</p>	<p>Object to inclusion of fields GF9 and GF13 – reference should be made to the SLA at page 35-36 in reference to LVIA.</p> <p><u>Updated Consultee Position</u></p> <p><u>The analysis of the suitability of land for Policy GS7 within the rural parts of MK has not considered the areas of countryside designated as Special Landscape Areas. Major development of solar farms are not compatible within Special Landscape</u></p>	Matter Under Discussion <u>Disagreed</u>



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>and the importance of an iterative approach to design to ensure appropriate design solutions are reached. The Scheme has been designed to be sympathetic to local character and setting, helping to protect and enhance the landscape through the landscape- led design. The Applicant has submitted a formal response to the proposed SLA during the Reg 19 Consultation.</p> <p>The Applicant maintains their position that the two policies are not compatible with each other in their current form, and there is an inherent conflict which is further reinforced by the consultee's position.</p>	<p>Areas and has not been accounted for in the selection of sites shown on the Policies Map. SLA are sensitive locally valued landscape which has high amenity value. Therefore, conflict exists between Polices for the protection of SLAs and Wind and Solar Development.</p>	
ALT-02	Concept Design Parameters and Principles	ES Chapter 5: Alternatives and Design Evolution - Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [REP1-037]	The outline design parameters set out in the Concept Design Parameters and Principles [REP1-451REP6-039] are considered appropriate and secured by a Requirement in the Draft DCO [EX5EX7/GH3.1_DF] .	Waiting for comments from the Council This matter is agreed.	Matter Under Discussion Agreed
ALT-03	Design Approach	Design Approach	The process which the design development has taken and how it	Agree with description as set out in 3.2.80 onwards, and	Matter Under Discussion Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
		Document [APP-560]	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 for fields GF1 to GF8, GF10 to GF12.	access for Site G (page 52). Objection to inclusion of GF9 and GF13 as above.	
ALT- 0304	Site Selection and Design Approach	ES Chapter 5: Alternatives and Design Evolution - Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [REP1-037] Design Approach Document [APP-560]	The methodology used in ES Chapter 5: Alternatives and Design Evolution - Appendix 5.1 Site Selection Assessment [REP1-037] is appropriate for fields GF9 and GF13. 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 for fields is appropriate for fields GF9 and GF13.	Objection to inclusion of GF9 and GF13, their assessment as Special Landscape Areas is not recognised or mentioned in the process of site selection and design approach. Updated Consultee Position The analysis of the suitability of land for Policy GS7 within the rural parts of MK has not considered the areas of countryside designated as Special Landscape Areas.	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>Applicants Response to Consultee</p> <p>It is acknowledged by Officers at MKCC that Site G, including fields GF9 and GF13 are located in an area identified as a suitable location for solar development, set out in EMKLP Policy GS7.</p> <p>The design development of the Scheme recognises the need for careful siting, design and mitigation, and the importance of an iterative approach to design to ensure appropriate design solutions are reached. The Scheme has been designed to be sympathetic to local character and setting, helping to protect and enhance the landscape through the landscape- led design. The Applicant has submitted a formal response to the proposed SLA during the Reg 19 Consultation.</p> <p>The MKCP is currently at Reg 19 Consultation where emerging policies carry minimum weight. The Applicant maintains their position that the two policies are not compatible with each other in their</p>	<p>Major development of solar farms are not compatible within Special Landscape Areas and has not been accounted for in the selection of sites shown on the Policies Map. SLA are sensitive locally valued landscape which has high amenity value. Therefore, conflict exists between Polices for the protection of SLAs and Wind and Solar Development. MKCC Landscape DM Consultee submitted a formal response to the proposed Policy GS7 during the Reg 19 Consultation.</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			current form. and there is an inherent conflict which is further reinforced by the consultee's position.		

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] have been derived from the information obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.	The Council are 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 Applicant awaits the Council's comments. In general methodology matters are agreed, except for issues regarding landscape	Matter Under Discussion Matter Agreed, except for justification for inclusion of sites GF9 and GF13.



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
		ES Chapter 7 to 23 [APP-039 to APP-060]	The application of professional judgement by specialists within the environmental topic assessments is outlined in the technical chapters of the ES Chapter 7 to 23 [APP-039 to APP-060] are appropriate and robust.	visual impact at sites GF9 and GF13.	

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]	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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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] 	Concerns raised in LIR relating to human health and the lack of detail on the Community Liaison Officer.	Matter Under Discussion Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ES Chapter 22: Ground Conditions and Contamination [REP1-025] ES Chapter 23: Major Accidents and Disasters [APP-060] [APP] <p>Applicant Response to Consultee Position</p> <p>The Applicant confirms that mental health considerations have been central to the assessment of human health impacts, and to the design of mitigation measures set out in the management documents. The provision of a Community Liaison Manager heading a community liaison group is secured through the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan Revision B [EX5D [EX7/GH7.1_BD] and secured through Requirements 4 and 13 of Schedule 2 to the draft DCO Revision D-[EX5F [EX7/GH3.1_DF].</p> <p>The temporal scope of this role is from prior to construction, throughout construction works and until the Scheme is fully commissioned. The role of the Community Liaison Manager will be to: disseminate information relating to construction works, particularly those that effect activities; be a full-time community contact for ongoing consultation; and to be an intermediary between the public and site operators to ensure complaints or non-</p>	<p>Updated Consultee Position</p> <p>Matter agreed subject to discussions on the appointment of the Community Liaison Officer</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			compliances reported by the public are actioned by the onsite construction contractors		

3.8 Climate Change

Table 3.7 Climate Change

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
CC-1	Methodology and Assessment	ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044]	The assessment methodology detailed within Sections 7.4 and 7.5 of ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044] is considered acceptable.	The Council are in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
CC-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044]	The baseline conditions detailed within Section 7.6 of ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044] are considered representative of the baseline site conditions and therefore acceptable.	The Council are in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
CC-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044]	Section 7.9 of ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044] has not identified the need for any additional mitigation or enhancement measures.	The Council are in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
CC-04	Construction Outcomes	ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044]	GHG emissions from the construction of the Scheme are considered to have a Minor Adverse significant effect on the climate. The overall effect from Construction is considered not significant in EIA terms as set out within Section 7.8 of ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044] .	The Council are in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			The assessment finding for climate change is considered acceptable.		
CC-05	Operational Outcomes	ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044]	<p>During the operational phase it is considered that the overall GHG impact of the Scheme is beneficial and significant effect on GHG emissions by reducing reliance on fossil fuels and supporting the trajectory towards net zero as set out within Section 7.8, paragraph 7.8.68 and 7.8.69 of ES Chapter 7: Climate Change [APP-044].</p> <p>The assessment finding for climate change is considered acceptable.</p>	The Council are in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed

3.9 Landscape and Visual Impact

Table 3.8 Landscape and Visual Impact

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
LVIA-01	Meetings and Workshops	<p>ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]</p> <p>ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.6 Landscape Consultation [APP-083]</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Online meetings held on:</p> <p>28.01.2026</p> <p>06.11.2025</p> <p>Links</p>	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>has been timely and has been a valuable tool in seeking understanding and agreement about the key issues.</p> <p>Applicant Response to Consultee Position</p> <p>The Applicant has undertaken an orientation and signposting meeting (6 November 2025) and previously provided links several times to the consultee and directed them to Site G specific documents. The DCO documents are for the Scheme in its entirety and are not separated by local authority. The Applicant notes that the consultee’s position does not relate to the meetings and/or workshops held on the Scheme.</p>	<p>Updated Consultee Position</p> <p>Including hyperlinks from this document to the ES documents which are specific relating to Site G only would be more useful than simply stating the. The ES document numbers in future the SoCG are not up to date to include revision iterations of and therefore have proved difficult to trace in the SoCG examination library. Providing links in emails separates the latest information links from the SoCG work in progress document.</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
LVIA-02	Baseline Conditions	<p>ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]</p> <p>ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.3.1 LVIA Assessment Sheets [APP-081]</p>	<p>The description of the existing baseline landscape and visual conditions set out within Section 8.6 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.</p>	<p>The description of the existing baseline landscape and visual conditions is agreed.</p>	Matter Agreed
LVIA-03	Appendices and Figures	<p>ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Applicant Response to Consultee Position</p> <p>LVIA-03 directly refers to the presentation of the Appendices and Figures rather than the findings of the LVIA.</p> <p>The findings of the LVIA are discussed in LVIA-13 Landscape</p>	<p>The approach taken is acceptable for the purposes of the Examination. However, some of the detail results contained within the links to tables is not agreed. Such as Table 8.23: Significant Residual Landscape Effects on Landscape Fabric.</p>	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			Assessment and LVIA14 – Visual Assessment.	The presentation of the Appendices and Figures in Section 8.1 do not include hyperlinks to the detail for ease of reference. Only the tables listed under Appendices and Figures include hyperlinks and there is no quick 'back' button to return to the list.	
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 study area and scope of assessment is agreed.	Matter Agreed
LVIA-05	Assessment Methodology	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.1 LVIA Methodology [EX5/GH6.3.8.1_AREP6-017 and REP6-019]	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 [EX5/GH6.3.8.1_AREP6-017 and REP6-019] follows the 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment' Third Edition (GLVIA3)	The methodology adopted has not included reviewing all of the relevant studies relating to locally valued landscapes in	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>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 Scheme within Milton Keynes City Council jurisdiction.</p> <p>Applicant Response to Consultee Position</p> <p>LVIA-05 directly refers to the LVIA Methodology contained within Appendix 8.1, this being the approach that underpins the LVIA process itself rather than published documents / reports used to inform the consideration of landscape and visual Baseline. LVIA Baseline is set out within LVIA-02 (which is agreed by the consultee) and LVIA-06.</p>	<p>Milton Keynes borough:</p> <p>The historical Bucks County Council designation of AAL [Areas of Attractive Landscape]</p> <p>The updated published Special Landscape Areas.</p> <p>Updated Consultee Position</p> <p>The methodology contained within Appendix 8.1 refers to a 'review of published Landscape Character Assessments, fieldwork, and analysis of findings to create a detailed understanding of the existing</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				<p>landscape context of the Sites, Cable Route Corridor and surrounding landscape within the Study Area. The methodology for the desk-based assessment should include a review of relevant published landscape character studies and guidance. The published Milton Keynes Review of Local Landscape Designations report May 2024 is an important and relevant landscape character study and guidance document which forms part of the evidence base for the local plan review and has not been accounted for.</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
LVIA-06	Landscape Character Assessments	<p>ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]</p> <p>ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.4 Landscape Character Area Descriptions [APP-082]</p> <p>ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.2 Landscape Receptor [APP-080]</p>	<p>The published landscape character assessments that are relied upon at the national, regional, and local level and set out within Section 8.6 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-080] are considered acceptable to inform the assessment baseline conditions.</p> <p>Applicant’s Response to Consultee Position</p> <p>The local planning Policies are set out in section 8.3 7 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] which include relevant policies for Milton Keynes. The landscape character assessments are set out in ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8.4 Landscape Character Area Descriptions [APP-082].</p> <p>The MK references contained within the LVIA [APP-045] includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milton Keynes Local Plan - Plan: MK, 2019 	<p>Also, Section 8.3.7 of chapter 8 relates to The Environment Act 2021.</p> <p>Links to References listed at this stage we would note here that the ES list of reference documents only makes reference to Northamptonshire County Council. (2010). Current Landscape Character Assessment back of chapter 8 are broken and the Northamptonshire County Council. (2017). Minerals and Waste Local Emerging Milton Keynes City Plan. The equivalent</p>	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MK City Plan 2050 • Milton Keynes Landscape Character Assessment, 2022 <p>There are no current MKCC SLA designations within the Study Area. Historic SLA designations, which no longer form existing policy have not been included within the ‘existing policy’ driven baseline identification within the LVIA.</p> <p>The emerging MK Local Plan is at Reg 19. The Applicant has provided commentary on its position to this emerging Local Plan as part of the Local Authority Consultation.</p> <p>At the point at which the LVIA was undertaken the emerging Local Plan and its evidence base was at Reg 18, with minimal weight applied.</p>	<p>documents for MK have not been included and should, 2050 (Ref 8.8) needs to be.</p> <p>Also, the updated to link to Reg 19.</p> <p>Special Landscape Area designations which exist in Northamptonshire are not mentioned in the Landscape Designation section and there is no mention of the equivalent historical landscape AAL {Area Areas (SLA) are shown on the Reg 19 Policies Maps. These were established following a review of former Areas of Attractive Landscape} designation for MK or the proposed</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				<p>Special Landscape Area designation and policy being put forward in the MK local plan review. The relevant reference document is the Milton Keynes Review of Local Landscape Designations report May 2024 which is the evidence base for the local plan review and has not been accounted for in Milton Keynes and were informed by the findings of the LCA.</p> <p>Comments as per LIR.</p> <p>ES Chapter 8 LVIA Paragraph 8.6.17 says: A full suite of landscape characteristics and</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				sensitivities of the relevant Character areas within the Outer 5km Study Area have been included. However, the published Special Landscape Areas in MKCC are not mentioned and should be considered and recorded and reference made to Policy CEA12 in Reg 19 MK City Plan 2050, within Appendix 8.4 Landscape Character Area Descriptions. However, the Milton Keynes Review of Local Landscape Designations report May 2024 provides an additional study into the sensitivities and special landscape qualities	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				<p>of the landscape character of the Site where it overlaps the Ouse Valley Special Landscape Area proposed in Reg 19.</p> <p>The published Milton Keynes Review of Local Landscape Designations report May 2024 is an important and relevant landscape character study and guidance document which forms part of the evidence base for the local plan review and has not been accounted for in the ES or included as an appendix to ES Chapter 8: Landscape</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				Character Assessments. MKCC Landscape DM Consultee submitted a formal response on its position to emerging policy during the Reg 19 Consultation. Comments as per LIR	
LVIA-07	Visual Receptors: Assessment Viewpoints for the Sites	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	<p>The viewpoints set out within Table 8.5 in section 8.7 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.</p> <p>Applicant's Response to the Consultee</p> <p>The viewpoints have been submitted at Deadline 5 [EX5/GH8.2.15 and EX5/GH8.2.16] and [CR2-019 and CR2-020] The viewpoints were submitted at Deadline 5 [REP5-094 and REP5-095]. The ES Figure 8.10</p>	<p>Requested additional viewpoints were discussed on 28th January 2026 and are acceptable. Photomontages of additional VPs are not yet shown on Figure 8.10 [APP-308].</p> <p>Updated Consultee Position</p>	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p><u>Viewpoint Locations [REP5-041]</u> <u>were updated to reflect this additional viewpoint at Deadline 5 with ES Figure 8.10.5 Viewpoint Locations Green Hill G [REP5-045]</u> also updated at Deadline 5. The Applicant has also submitted at Deadline 6 an additional photomontage for viewpoint 51 at Green Hill G <u>[REP6-073]</u> as requested by the Examining Authority in Q3.10.13 of the <u>Examining Authority’s Written Questions 3 [PD-017]</u>. This was sent to MKCC landscape and planning officers on the 18 March 2026 but no response/comment has been provided to date.</p>	<p><u>As of 20/03/2026, the locations of additional VPs and photomontages shown on [GH8.2.15-MKCC2 and GH8.2.16-MKCC3] are not yet shown on Figure 8.10 [APP-308] held against Green Hill Solar Farm Examination Library Updated – 18 March 2026. We have been provided with links to correct documents in an email from MKCC planning but it is not possible to find these on the website examination library by searching under APP-308.</u></p>	
LVIA-08	Visual Receptors: Additional	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	The viewpoints set out within Table 8.5 in section 8.7 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	There are no viewpoints proposed	Matter Under Discussion <u>Agreed</u>



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
	Assessment Viewpoints for the Cable Route Corridor		<p>and ES Chapter 8: Figure 8.10 [APP-308] are considered acceptable to inform the baseline conditions for the Cable Route Corridor and Substations.</p> <p>Applicant’s Response to the Consultee</p> <p>It is assumed therefore that this matter can be agreed please could MKCC confirm.</p>	<p>specifically considering the cable route corridor section within the MKCC boundary. None are requested.</p>	
LVIA-09	Landscape Receptors: Value	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	<p>The judgements on value for the landscape receptors, as set out within Section 8.9 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] are considered acceptable to inform the assessment baseline conditions.</p> <p>Applicant’s Response to the Consultee</p> <p>The Applicant will seek further clarification as to whether the Consultee is able to set out where it has come to differing value judgements for Landscape Receptors. The LVIA [APP-045] has undertaken a robust assessment of the sensitivity of landscape receptors. The judgement on landscape sensitivity is based on</p>	<p>This matter remains under review and subject to further discussion.</p> <p><u>Updated Consultee Position</u></p> <p><u>The judgements on the value of landscape receptors should consider landscape identified as having local value and should not rely solely on</u></p>	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>consideration of both the landscape receptor's value and its susceptibility to change arising from the Scheme. Details on how landscape value and susceptibility have been assessed are set out within the LVIA Methodology, Appendix 8.1 [APP-078].</p> <p>Appendix 8.3.2.2 (REV A) [REP1-041] sets out an assessment of the Value, Susceptibility and Sensitivity for Landscape Character for each of the individual Sites within the Scheme within each of the 3 Study Areas. This approach has allowed for the individual characteristics and local variation that are present within the landscape in and around each of the individual Sites to be fully accounted for within the assessment of Landscape Sensitivity.</p> <p>The LVIA [APP-045] contains detailed descriptions of the character of each individual Site.</p> <p>Appendix 8.4: Landscape Character Area Descriptions [APP-082] contains details and extracts of published landscape character</p>	<p>Designated Landscapes. Even where not officially designated, landscapes can still be valued at a local level. Only landscape character assessments were used as reference documents and did not include the Milton Keynes Review of Local Landscape Designations report May 2024 which provides an additional study into the sensitivities and special landscape qualities of the landscape character of the Site where it overlaps the Ouse Valley Special Landscape Area</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>documents available within the Study Areas for the Scheme. Appendix 8.4 also includes interpretation and expansion of those characteristics relevant to the individual Sites, however a detailed identification of Landscape Character is contained within the LVIA [APP-045] within Section 8.6 Baseline Conditions. This is then further expanded upon, including the identification of landscape value, susceptibility and sensitivity within the assessment sheets for each of the varying Sites and Study Areas within ES Appendix 8.3 ES LVIA Assessment Sheets (Revision A) [REP1-041].</p> <p>There are no current MKCC SLA designations within the Study Area. Historic SLA designations, which no longer form existing policy have not been included within the 'existing policy' driven baseline identification within the LVIA.</p> <p>The emerging MK Local Plan is at Reg 19. The Applicant has provided commentary on its position to this</p>	<p>proposed in Reg 19.</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>emerging Local Plan as part of the Consultation.</p> <p>At the point at which the LVIA was undertaken the emerging Local Plan and its evidence base was at Reg 18, with minimal weight applied.</p>		
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 8.8 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.</p> <p>MKCC also acknowledge establishing planting will add a positive element to this landscape. Vegetation removal, as shown on the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plans [REP3-042, REP3-044REP6-021, REP6-023, APP-209, REP3-046, APP-211, REP3-048, REP3-050REP6-025, REP6-027, APP-214, APP-215, REP3-052, APP-217REP1-113, REP3-054, APP-219REP6-029] is relatively minimal.</p> <p>Applicant’s Response to the Consultee</p>	<p>It is considered that the effectiveness of planting in reducing character effects has been overstated. MKCC do not acknowledge that establishing planting will add a positive effect across all areas of landscape character. The landscape design treatment to address the issue of screening a solar farm will impose a particular local landscape character that will not be in keeping</p>	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>The LVIA does not conclude that the proposed landscape mitigation would result in a positive effect to landscape character during the lifetime of the development, only that the planting would go so far as to mitigate the significant adverse effects associated with the proposals within the Local Study Area – it is important to note that mitigation does not remove adverse effects to landscape character, with Moderate / Minor Adverse effects to landscape character anticipated beyond Year 15 for the remainder of the lifetime of the scheme.</p>	<p>with areas assessed as special landscape. We disagree that the solar farm development would enhance the landscape character of areas assessed as special landscape. We agree that mitigation does not remove adverse effects to landscape character. We disagree that the effects on landscape would result in only Moderate / Minor Adverse effects, on areas assessed as special landscape, at Year 15 and at decommissioning. [Reference to Table number 8.22 in paragraph</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				8.14.12 is incorrect .	
LVIA-11	Presentation of Assessment Findings	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	<p>The approach to the assessment is considered acceptable as set out in Section 8.6 of ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]. This non-technical summary is to assist readers understand the conclusions of the LVIA and contains a list of potentially affected receptors with summarising narrative to provide context and identify what the key issues are.</p> <p>Applicant’s Response to the Consultee</p> <p>LVIA-11 directly refers to the presentation of the assessment findings, and not the content of those findings.</p> <p>The findings of the LVIA are discussed in LVIA-13 Landscape Assessment and LVIA14 – Visual Assessment.</p> <p>The LVIA [APP-045] does not identify beneficial effects to Landscape Character as a result of the implementation of the landscape scheme during the construction</p>	<p>Beneficial effects on landscape character are overstated, the landscape character changes will not be reversed and there will forever be the imprint of the solar farm development on the local landscape character and existing views currently enjoyed over open countryside from public rights of way will be lost to screening buffers.</p> <p>Updated Consultee Position</p>	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			period or operational lifetime of the Scheme.	Section 8.6 states it 'describes the baseline environmental characteristics for the Scheme and surrounding areas with specific reference to landscape and visual setting.' [Reference to Table number 8.22 in paragraph 8.14.12 is incorrect]. The presentation of the Summary in Section 8.14 in the form of text paragraphs, tables and appendices is acceptable.	
LVIA-12	Landscape and Ecological Management Plan: Landscape and	Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plans (Figures 4.10-4.20) [REP3-042, REP3-044] REP6-021, REP6-023_C , APP-209, REP3-	The landscape and ecological improvements are set out in the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plans (Figures 4.10 to 4.20) . The Outline Landscape and Ecological	This matter remains under review and subject to further discussion. Requests made for further	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
	Ecological Improvements	<p>046, APP-211, REP3-048, REP3-050REP6-025, REP6-027, APP-214, APP-215, REP3-052, APP-217REP1-113, REP3-054, APP-219REP6-029]</p> <p>Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EX5/GH7.4_DREP6-047]</p>	<p>Management Plan [EX5/GH7.4_DREP6-047]</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 Enhancement Plans (Figures 4.10-4.20). The Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EX5/GH7.4_DREP6-047] (the 'OLEMP') is secured by Requirement 7 of Schedule 2 of Draft Development Consent Order Revision [EX5F EX7/GH3.1_D]F1.</p> <p>Applicant's Response to the Consultee</p> <p>Woodland planting has been implemented to enhance screening between GF12 and GF13 where Three Shires Way intersects Green Hill G off the A428- on both sides of</p>	<p>enhancements (as per LIR)</p> <p>Updated Consultee Position</p> <p>No additional screening is proposed for Viewpoint MKCC2 on Figure 4.20 Revision A Green Hill Site G Landscape and Ecology Mitigation Plan. Additional Native Woodland Copse/Shelter Belt (Scrub And Tree Planting) could be accommodated in the southern-most corner of parcel GF13 with an adjustment to the fenceline. Due to the ground level differences and the gap in the roadside</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>the bellmouth. The additional woodland planting in this area will be implemented under both design options (A and B) for Green Hill G. The additional planting was added at the request of the MKCC landscape officer on the 8 December 2025. ES Figure 4.20: Landscape and Ecology Mitigation Plan G (Revision A) [CR2/GH6.4.4.20_AB] [REP6-029] and Figure 8.2.14 Landscape and Ecology Mitigation Plan G (Option B) [CR2/GH8.2.14] have been REP6-071 were updated to reflect this change as part of Change Request 2 submitted and accepted into examination in February 2026.</p>	<p>hedge, we doubt the proposed hedgerow with densely spaced native hedgerow trees would achieve the height needed in 15 years and screening effect shown in the photomontage. If additional woodland can be provided at the southern-most corner of parcel GF12 then the same mitigation can be applied to parcel GF13.</p> <p>It is not clear at this stage what impact the proposed enlarged substation area shown on Green Hill Site G Option B Landscape and Ecology Mitigation Plan Figure 2.14</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				will have on landscape and visual impact.	
LVIA-13	Landscape Assessment	ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045]	<p>The Landscape Assessment set out in ES Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual [APP-045] are considered acceptable</p> <p>Applicant’s Response to the Consultee</p> <p>The LVIA does not conclude that the proposed landscape mitigation would result in a positive effect to landscape character during the lifetime of the development, only that the planting would go so far as to mitigate the significant adverse effects associated with the proposals within the Local Study Area – it is important to note that mitigation does not remove adverse effects to landscape character, with Moderate / Minor Adverse effects to landscape character anticipated beyond Year 15 for the remainder of the lifetime of the scheme.</p>	<p>The proposed Landscape and Ecology Mitigation and Enhancement Plans primarily function as mitigation rather than landscape character enhancement and would not fully outweigh the landscape fabric change arising from the introduction of introduced buffer planting, solar infrastructure, fencing, access tracks, substations and other associated paraphernalia. As such, it is the Council’s judgement that</p>	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				<p>there will still be an adverse effecteffects to Landscape Fabriclandscape character and visual receptors at Year 15 and for the duration of the scheme and at decommissioning as the once open attractive views across open countryside will no longer be available. The landscape design treatment to address the issue of screening a solar farm will impose a particular local landscape character that will not be in keeping with areas assessed as special landscape and permanently remove open</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
				<p>views. We agree that mitigation does not remove adverse effects to landscape character. We disagree that the solar farm developmenteffects on landscape would enhance the landscape ofresult in only Moderate / Minor Adverse effects, on areas assessed as special landscape, at Year 15 and at decommissioning. [Reference to Table number 8.22 in paragraph 8.14.12 is incorrect].</p>	
LVIA-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. as set out in LVIA-13 above.	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments. As above under LVIA-13	Matter Under Discussion Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status

3.10 Ecology and Biodiversity

Table 3.9 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 REP6-013]	The methodology adopted within Section 9.4 of ES Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033 REP6-013] 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 Milton Keynes City Council.	The methodology is agreed.	Matter Agreed
EB-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033 REP6-013]	The methodology adopted within Section 9.6 of ES Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033 REP6-013] are representative of the baseline site conditions in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Milton Keynes City Council.	The methodology is agreed.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
EB-03	Mitigation	<p>ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033REP6-013]</p>	<p>The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 9.8 of ES Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033REP6-013] for skylarks acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Milton Keynes City Council.</p> <p>Applicant’s Response to Consultee</p> <p>This matter was discussed in a meeting between the MKCC ecologist and the Applicant’s ecologists on 20/01/2026.</p> <p>Given that there remains a residual adverse effect on skylark through a net loss of territories, it is understood from the MKCC ecologist that this matter would have to remain disagreed between the Applicant and MKCC.</p> <p>Responses on this matter have been outlined in the Applicants responses to MKCC Local Impact Report [REP2-049] and the Applicants responses to Local Impacts Report Responses [REP4-018].</p>	<p>Set out in LIR</p> <p>The proposed compensation strategy mitigating for the loss of Skylark territories would result in the displacement of 55.5% of recorded Skylark species across the whole application site. No information appears to have been gathered to establish whether surrounding land would be capable of absorbing the displaced pairs or whether this would have additional impacts on the wider population. It cannot be assumed that surrounding land would be capable of absorbing the displaced pairs.</p> <p>The assumption that the loss of nesting opportunities will be offset by the increase in foraging opportunities is strongly disputed as both foraging and nesting opportunities are of equal importance for the survival of the population.</p>	Matter Disagreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			All other mitigation measures are covered in EB-04 below.	Updated comment: Skylark mitigation is a matter not agreed but the remaining mitigation measures for other protected species are agreeable.	
EB-04	Mitigation	ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033 REP6-013]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 9.8 of ES Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033 REP6-013] (excluding measures associated with Skylarks) are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Milton Keynes City Council.	Mitigation measures for other protected species (excluding skylarks) are agreeable.	Matter Agreed
EB-05	Residual Effects	ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033 REP6-013]	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 REP6-013] are considered acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Milton Keynes City Council.	The residual effects and conclusions are agreed.	Matter Agreed
EB-06	Habitat Regulation Assessment	ES Chapter 9: Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033 REP6-013] Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)	A Habitat Regulation Assessment screening has been carried out and outlined in Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) [EX5/GH7.21 BREP5-079] with impacts discussed in ES Chapter 9:	The methodology and assessment is agreed.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
		[EX5/GH7.21_BREP5-079]	Ecology and Biodiversity [REP1-033REP6-013] . The methodology is considered acceptable and the assessment is considered to have been carried out appropriately.		
EB-07	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.	The approach to BNG is agreed.	Matter Agreed
EB-08	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EX5/GH7.4_DREP6-047]	The measures in the OLEMP [EX5/GH7.4_DREP6-047] are correctly identified and appropriate	The OLEMP measures are agreed.	Matter Agreed

3.11 Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage

Table 3.10 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 [EX5/GH6.2.10_BREP6-007]	The methodology adopted within Section 10.4 of ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EX5/GH6.2.10_BREP6-007] has been derived from the information	The methodology is agreed.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			obtained through consultation with stakeholders and by reviewing relevant guidance and studies and is considered acceptable.		
HYD-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EX5/GH6.2.10_BREP6-007]	<p>The baseline conditions which are detailed within Section 10.5 of ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EX5/GH6.2.10_BREP6-007] are representative of the baseline site conditions within Milton Keynes City Council.</p> <p>Applicant Response to Consultee Position</p> <p>At the time of assessment, it was understood from discussions during consultation (including with the LLFA) that funding for the Flood Alleviation Scheme had been reallocated and that the scheme was not programmed. In any event, the flood risk assessment does not rely on the delivery of off-site flood alleviation measures unless they are confirmed and constructed, and the Scheme is designed to avoid</p>	<p>In Table 10.2 on Lavendon Parish Council (pg 19) it states “<i>Conversations undertaken during the consultation events suggest that this Flood Alleviation Scheme is no longer going ahead, therefore this has not been considered further within our flood risk assessments.</i>” We are not sure where this has come from or in what respect - the LLFA are seeking to develop OBC on FAS for Lavendon. Perhaps the applicant is referring to the 2017 earlier investigations?</p>	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			any increase in flood risk beyond the Order Limits.		
HYD-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EX5/GH6.2.10_BREP6-007]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 10.8 of ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EX5/GH6.2.10_BREP6-007] are acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
HYD-04	Surface Water	ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EX5/GH6.2.10_BREP6-007]	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 [REP1-053REP5-021] .	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
HYD-05	Drainage	ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EX5/GH6.2.10_BREP6-007]	As agreed, ES Chapter 10: Hydrology, Flood Risk and Drainage [EX5/GH6.2.10_BREP6-007] will detail maintaining of the existing surface water run-off regime by utilising permeable surfacing for the site accesses, linear infiltration trenches around any proposed infrastructure (substations and	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>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 the included ES Appendix 10.1: Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy [REP4-053REP5-021] is appropriate and is secured through Requirement 11, 'Surface and Foul Water Drainage' is included within Draft Development Consent Order [EX5EX7/GH3.1_DF]. 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 runoff 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</p>		



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			in accordance with the outline drainage strategy.		
HYD-06	Local Lead Flood Authority (LLFA)	Draft Development Consent Order [EX5EX7/GH3.1_DF]	<p>The LLFA has agreed to the DCO disapplying the requirement for ordinary watercourse consent under the Land Drainage Act 1991.</p> <p>The Applicant held a meeting with representatives of the Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) from each of the Host Authorities on 8 January 2026 to discuss. The Applicant is preparing a draft set of protective provisions to share with each of the LLFA's to allow agreement of the disapplication. Protective Provisions for the LLFAs are included as Part 9 of Schedule 15 to the draft DCO [EX7/GH3.1_FL].</p>	<p>Comments outstanding, comments to be provided as part of the "comments on the DCO" submission.</p> <p>The LLFA are content that provided the protective provisions are secured to cover the reasonable costs of the outsourcing required to cover the LMK LLFA drainage consents (to the IDB) that the cost of outsourcing will be recoverable. This is therefore acceptable.</p>	Matter Under Discussion Agreed



3.12 Minerals

Table 3.11 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 Milton Keynes City 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 and minor significance of effect. The assessment of impacts and effects	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			as set out in Section 11.8 of ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048] is accurate.		
MIN-05	Construction/Operational/Decommissioning Impacts and Effects Limestone resources	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 and minor significance of effect. The assessment of impacts and effects as set out in Section 11.8 of ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048] is accurate.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
MIN-06	Mitigation Measures: Cable Route Corridor	ES Chapter 11: Minerals [APP-048]	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] . 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



3.13 Cultural Heritage

Table 3.12 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 Milton Keynes City Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
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 Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
CH-04	Heritage Assessment	ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049]	The heritage assessment provided in ES Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage [APP-049] is supported by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12.1: Heritage Statement [APP-120] The heritage assessment sufficiently assesses potential impacts to heritage assets. Where impacts have been identified these have been appropriately mitigated.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	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] 	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
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, excluding roads and areas of woodland) 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 evaluation trial trenching are provided in Appendix 12.5 [APP-130]. Archaeological evaluation works were undertaken in line with a Written Scheme of Investigation</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>(WSI) agreed with the Local Authority’s Planning Archaeologists.</p> <p>Archaeological evaluation has been undertaken inline 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) [CR2-006] 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>An Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation [EX5/GH8.2.17REP5-096] has been prepared and is submitted at Deadline 5. This has been agreed with the County Archaeologist The final mitigation strategies will be set out in the Final AMS secured through Requirement 12 of the Draft DCO.</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



3.14 Transport and Access

Table 3.13 Transport and Access

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
TA-01	Methodology	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003]	The methodology adopted within ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003] 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
TA-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003]	The baseline conditions which are detailed within ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003] are representative of the baseline site conditions within Milton Keynes City Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
TA-03	Mitigation	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003] are acceptable.	The Council is in agreement with regard to the impact on Milton Keynes.	Matter Agreed
TA-04	Abnormal Load Routes	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003]	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 [REP2-003] are acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
TA-05	HGV Routes	ES Chapter 13: Transport and	All HGVs associated with the construction phase of the Scheme will	The Applicant has now provided vehicle numbers for the cable route	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
		<p>Access [REP2-003]</p>	<p>follow the designated routes as illustrated in figures 13.13 to 13.17 and are summarised in ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003] Table 13.10.</p> <p>Applicant response to consultee position.</p> <p>The vehicle movements figures provided are the peak or maximum daily numbers which might occur. Movements at other times within this construction period will be expected to be lower. Movements are also spread across the day rather than compressed into arrival and departure periods. The access (CR24) is also expected to operate as a left-in / left-out arrangement, minimising turning movements on the A509 by removing opportunity for right turn movements across traffic.</p> <p>The access will be available for the majority of the construction period but with varying degrees of usage as described above. The Applicant will look to provide further detail on construction period by Deadline 5.</p>	<p>corridor access on the A509. These would be 11 arrivals per day during the haul road construction period although it is noted not all would be articulated vehicles. This number, whilst not excessive is not insignificant as it represents 22 movements 2 way. The Council would therefore request an estimate of the haul road construction period before making a final comment.</p> <p>Matter now agreed.</p>	



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
TA-06	PRoW	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003]	<p>ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003] identifies and proposes measures to address the potential impacts and likely significant effects of the Scheme on Transport and Access during the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases, including PRoW.</p> <p>The residual effects and conclusions for impacts on PRoW are considered acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Milton Keynes City Council.</p>	The Applicant awaits the Council's comments. Effects on PRoW are agreed in accordance with LIR comments.	Matter Agreed
TA-07	Permissive Paths	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003]	Permissive paths are identified and proposed as part of the Scheme. Refer to the Outline Public Rights of Way and Permissive Paths Management Plan [REP3-066] which is considered a benefit of the Scheme.	Supported by the PRoW Team.	Matter Agreed
TA-08	Site and Cable Route Corridor Accesses	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003]	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	<p>Concerns raised in LIR relating to access improvements.</p> <p>In response to the revised arrangements plan, this matter can now be agreed.</p>	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<p>in Table 13.10 are considered appropriate.</p> <p>The LIR made comments relating to the Site G access from the A428. A revised drawing showing how a vehicle may access and egress the site at the same time has been prepared to address the comment raised by MKCC.</p> <p>Applicant response to consultee position.</p> <p>Please see Green Hill G - Access 1 - Revised General Arrangement [REP4-024].</p>		
TA-09	Traffic and Access Impacts	ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003]	<p>ES Chapter 13: Transport and Access [REP2-003] 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 concludes that, following the implementation of mitigation measures, the residual effect would be not significant and is acceptable.</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



3.15 Noise and Vibration

Table 3.14 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.	Matter Agreed
NV-02	Baseline Conditions	ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-168]	The baseline conditions which are detailed within ES Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration [APP-051] and ES Addendum Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration [REP1-168] . 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 Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
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.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
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.	Matter Agreed

3.16 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation

Table 3.15 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 Milton Keynes City 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



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
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

3.17 Arboriculture

Table 3.16 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 Milton Keynes City 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 Milton Keynes City Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
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 Milton Keynes City Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
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 Milton Keynes City Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
ARB-05	Residual Effects	ES Chapter 19: Arboriculture [APP-056]	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 Milton Keynes City Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter..	Matter Agreed
ARB-06	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EX5/GH7.4_DREP6-047]	The measures in the OLEMP [EX5/GH7.4_DREP6-047] are correctly identified and appropriate	The OLEMP measures are agreed.	Matter Agreed



3.18 Agricultural Circumstances

Table 3.17 Agricultural Circumstances

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
ALC-01	Methodology	Chapter 20 Agriculture Land Classification [APP-057]	The assessment methodology detailed within Section 20.4 of ES Chapter 20 Agriculture Land Classification [APP-057] is considered acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
ALC-02	Baseline Conditions	Chapter 20 Agriculture Land Classification [APP-057]	The baseline conditions detailed within Section 20.6 of ES Chapter 20 Agriculture Land Classification [APP-057] and within ES Chapter 20 - Appendix 20.1 Agricultural Land Classification Technical Report are representative of the site conditions within Milton Keynes City Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
ALC-03	Impacts to ALC graded land and soil quality	Chapter 20 Agriculture Land Classification [APP-057]	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 and it was not feasible to avoid land that was potentially BMV when undergoing the site selection. The Scheme will not result in the loss of best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land because:	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<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 Agriculture Land Classification [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. <p>A Soil Management Plan (SMP) will be included within the agreed 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 Agriculture Land Classification [APP-057] which is considered acceptable.</p>		
ALC-04	Mitigation	Chapter 20 Agriculture Land Classification [APP-057]	The proposed mitigation measures set out within Section 20.9 of ES Chapter 20 Agriculture Land Classification [APP-057] are acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Milton Keynes City Council.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
ALC-05	Residual Effects	Chapter 20 Agriculture Land	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 Agriculture Land Classification [APP-057] are	The Council is in agreement	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
		Classification [APP-057]	considered acceptable in so far as they relate to those elements of the Scheme within Milton Keynes City Council.	on this matter.	

3.19 Other Environmental Matters

Table 3.18 Other Environmental Matters

	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
OEM-01	Light Pollution	Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027]	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 employed during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning are set out in Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EX5EX7/GH7.1_BD] and Outline Decommissioning Statement [EX5/GH7.4_DREP6-045] and are acceptable.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed
OEM-02	Waste Production	Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027]	The information provided Section 24.4 of ES Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027] is sufficient. 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.	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			<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>		
OEM-03	Waste Management	Chapter 24 Other Environmental Matters [REP1-027]	<p>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 secured through the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan [EX5EX7/GH7.1_BD].</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 [EX5/GH7.2_CREP6-043].</p> <p>The decommissioning of the Scheme will adhere to the measures and procedures outlined in the ODS [EX5/GH7.3_BREP6-045], 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</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



	Matter	Details of Matters for Discussion	Applicant Position	Consultee Position	Status
			disposal of waste in accordance with relevant legislative and policy requirements at the time of decommissioning.		
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 [EX5EX7/GH7.1_BD] and Crossing Schedule [APP-562] are appropriate and therefore acceptable.</p> <p>Protective provisions for the protection of electricity, gas, water and sewerage undertakers and operators of electronic communications code networks are included in Parts 1 and 2 of Schedule 16 to the Draft Development Consent Order [EX5EX7/GH3.1_DF] 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.</p>	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



3.20 Assessment of Cumulative Effects

Table 3.19 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 Milton Keynes City 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-44 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 effects that are not already accounted for by the assessment of the Scheme	The Council is in agreement on this matter.	Matter Agreed



4 Signatories

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 The above SoCG is agreed between Green Hill Solar Farm Limited (the Applicant) and Milton Keynes City Council, as specified below.

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

Name:	[REDACTED]
Job Title:	Project Development Manager
Date:	07/04/2026
Signature:	[REDACTED]

4.1.3 Duly authorised for and on behalf of **Milton Keynes City Council**

Name:	[REDACTED]
Job Title:	Team Leader (Strategic Team) – Development Management
Date:	07/04/2026
Signature:	[REDACTED]