

Light Valley Solar

Consultation Report Appendix 1: Statement of Compliance

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APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)



Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended)

Light Valley Solar

DCO Submission

Consultation Report Appendix 1: Statement of Compliance

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1 Statement of Compliance

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This Appendix includes a Consultation Compliance Checklist, provided as Table 1.1, Table 1.2, Table 1.3 and Table 1.4.

1.1.2 These tables set out legislation and guidance relevant to pre-application consultation for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

1.1.3 The Applicant has considered and complied with the following legislation and guidance when undertaking the pre-application consultation and when compiling the Consultation Report:

- The Planning Act 2008 (“2008 Act”) (Table 1.1);
- The Infrastructure Planning (Application: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (“APFP Regulations”) (Table 1.2);
- Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (“EIA Regs”) (Table 1.3); and
- Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024) (Table 1.4).

1.1.4 Beyond the legislation and guidance referenced above, the Applicant has also followed additional government-issued guidance and advice issue by the Planning Inspectorate. Evidence of this compliance with advice is presented in the following tables:

- Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus (‘the Prospectus’) (PINS advice updated 4 November 2025) in Table 1.4;
- Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the Consultation Report (PINS advice updated 24 March 2025) in Table 1.1;
- Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Good Design (PINS advice updated 16 April 2025) in Table 1.4; and
- Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the Preparation and Submission of Application Documents (PINS advice updated July 2025) in Table 1.4.

1.1.5 This appendix includes the Applicant’s written statement of adequacy undertaken, which was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 13 November 2025. The Applicant’s Adequacy of Consultation Milestone is presented in Section 2 of this document.

1.2 Compliance with the 2008 Act



1.2.1 The Applicant undertook consultation consistent with the relevant requirements of the 2008 Act, with this being Sections 42 to 49.

1.2.2 Table 1.1 describes how the Applicant’s pre-application consultation activities have compiled with these requirements in the 2008 Act.

Table 1.1: Compliance Checklist for the Planning Act 2008

Section	Requirement	Compliance
Section 42(1)	Duty to consult	
	(a) Such persons as may be prescribed;	<p>The Applicant consulted all relevant prescribed consultees as defined in Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations and the APFP Regulations.</p> <p>A Scoping Opinion was adopted by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) on 19 December 2024 and included the list of consultation bodies notified by the Planning Inspectorate under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations.</p> <p>The Applicant consulted with all of the prescribed bodies.</p> <p>The responses received to the Scoping Opinion and how the Applicant has responded are set out at the start of each respective EIA topic, as set out in ES Chapter 4: Approach to EIA [EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.04].</p> <p>The full list of Section 42 consultees consulted by the Applicant can be found in Consultation Report Appendix 7: Section 42 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.07].</p>
	(aa) the Marine Management Organisation, in any case where the proposed development would affect, or would be likely to affect any of the areas specified in subsection (2).	<p>The Applicant did not consult the Marine Management Organisation as the Proposed Development is not sited in the areas specified in subsection (2) of Section 42 of the 2008 Act.</p>



Section	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>(b) each local authority that is within subsection 43;</p>	<p>The Applicant consulted each relevant local authority as defined within Section 43 of the 2008 Act. These are listed below:</p> <p>'B' Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Yorkshire Council <p>'A' Authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of York Council • Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council • Middlesborough Council • Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council • Darlington Borough Council • Westmorland and Furness Council • East Riding of Yorkshire Council • City of Doncaster Council • Wakefield Metropolitan District Council • Leeds City Council • City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council • Lancaster City Council • Ribble Valley Borough Council • Pendle Borough Council • North Yorks Moors National Park • Yorkshire Dales National Park <p>'D' Authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durham County Council



Section	Requirement	Compliance
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lancashire County Council <p>By the time of the statutory consultation, City of York Council was no longer a ‘B’ authority, due to the boundary of the Proposed Development no longer entering the council’s area.</p> <p>Local authorities identified by the Applicant under Section 43 of the 2008 Act are listed in Table 9.1: Relevant local authorities under Section 43 of the Planning Act 2008, of the Consultation Report [EN0110012/LVS/APP/05.01] along with the dates during which they were consulted.</p>
	(c) the Greater London Authority if the land is in Greater London, and	The Proposed Development is not sited within the administrative boundary of Greater London or the Greater London Authority.
	(d) each person who is within one or more categories set out in Section 44.	<p>The Applicant consulted each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in Section 44.</p> <p>This is detailed in Chapter 8: Statutory Consultation under Section 42 (26 June – 7 August 2025) of the Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>A full list of Section 44 consultees can be found in Appendix 7: Section 42 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.07].</p>
Section 45 (Timetable for consultation under section 42)	(1) the applicant must, when consulting a person under Section 42, notify the person of the deadline for the receipt by the applicant of the person’s response to the consultation.	The Applicant notified all those consulted under Section 42 of the deadline in writing by email and/or post. This is detailed in Consultation Report Chapter 9: Statutory Consultation – Compliance with Section 42 of



Section	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>(2) A deadline notified under subsection (1) must not be earlier than the end of the period of 28 days that begins with the day after the day on which the person received the consultation documents.</p> <p>(3) in subsection (2) “the consultation documents” means the document supplied to the person by the applicant for the purpose of consulting the person.</p>	<p>the 2008 Act [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>The Applicant undertook consultation on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) from 26 June to 7 August 2025. This exceeded the statutory minimum of 28 days.</p> <p>The Applicant issued hard copy notifications to consultees. In addition to post, the Applicant notified Section 42 consultees by email where contact details were available.</p> <p>This is also detailed in Chapter 9: Statutory Consultation – Compliance with Section 42 of the 2008 Act [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>The consultation documents provided to Section 42 consultees comprised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A covering letter, including a link to the consultation materials; • A copy of the notice publicising the Application under Section 48 of the 2008 Act (including detailed of the information events and the locations of where the consultation documents could be inspected free of charge); and • The Site Location Plan (PEIR Figure 1.1). <p>Copies of these materials are provided in Consultation Report Appendix 7: Section 42</p>



Section	Requirement	Compliance
		<p>Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.07].</p>
<p>Section 46 (Duty to notify Secretary of State of proposed application)</p>	<p>(1) the applicant must supply the Secretary of State with such information in relation to the proposed application as the applicant would supply to the Secretary of State for the purpose of complying with section 42 if the applicant were required by that section to consult the Secretary of State about the proposed application.</p>	<p>The Applicant notified the Secretary of State (SoS), via the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), in writing under Section 46 of the 2008 Act on 24 June 2025 that it was intending to commence consultation under Section 42 of the 2008 Act on the PEIR, commencing on 26 June 2025 and closing on 7 August 2025. The Applicant included the following consultation documents with this notification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A covering letter, • Example copies of the Section 42 and Section 44 covering letters; • A copy of the Section 48 Notice (which included details of the information events and the locations of where the consultation documents could be inspected free of charge); and • The Site Location Plan (PEIR Figure 1.1). <p>The documents listed above are included in Consultation Report Appendix 7: Section 42 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.07].</p> <p>PINS, on behalf of the SoS, acknowledged receipt of the notification on 24 June 2025. A copy of this acknowledgement is included in Consultation Report Appendix 7: Section 42</p>



Section	Requirement	Compliance
	(2) the applicant must comply with subsection (1) on or before commencing consultation under section 42.	<p>Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.07].</p> <p>The Applicant complied with subsection (1) on 24 June 2025, prior to commencing consultation under Section 42 on 26 June 2025.</p>
Section 47 (Duty to consult the local community)	(1) the applicant must prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposed to consult, about the proposed application, with people living in the vicinity of the land.	<p>The Applicant prepared and published a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) that set out how the Applicant proposed to consult, about the proposed Application, with people living in the vicinity of the Site.</p> <p>A copy of the published SoCC is provided in Consultation Report Appendix 4: Statement of Community Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.04].</p>
	(2) before preparing the statement, the applicant must consult each local authority that is within section 43(1) about what is to be in the statement.	<p>To inform the preparation of the SoCC, the Applicant consulted with North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council on the content of the SoCC. City of York Council was consulted as at the time it was considered that works were potentially likely to take place within the area of both authorities. The project boundary was subsequently refined such that only North Yorkshire Council was a host authority).</p> <p>Details of this are further set out in Consultation Report Chapter 6: Preparation for Statutory Section 47 Consultation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>
	(3) the deadline for the receipt by the applicant of a local authority's response to consultation under subsection (2) is the end of the	<p>The Applicant formally consulted with North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council between 3 April and 13 May 2025.</p>

Section	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>period of 28 days that begins the day after the day on which the local authority receives the consultation documents.</p>	<p>Comments were received on 13 May 2025 from North Yorkshire Council.</p> <p>Table 6.1 (The Applicant’s consideration of North Yorkshire Council’s comments on the draft SoCC) of the Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>
	<p>(4) In subsection (3) “the consultation documents” mean the documents supplied to the local authority by the applicant for the purpose of consulting the local authority under subsection (2).</p>	<p>The consultation documents supplied by the Applicant included a covering letter and email and the draft SoCC.</p> <p>These materials are provided in Consultation Report Appendix 4: Statement of Community Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.04].</p>
	<p>(5) In preparing the statement, the applicant must have regard to any response to consultation under subsection (2) that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed by subsection (3).</p>	<p>The Applicant had regard to all relevant responses on the draft SoCC. The Applicant shared response tables with North Yorkshire Council to explain how the comments had been considered. This table is presented in the Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>
	<p>(6) Once the applicant has prepared the statement, the applicant must – make a statement available for inspection by the public in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land, (a) publish, in a newspaper circulating the vicinity of the land, a notice stating where and when the statement can be inspected, and (b) publish the statement in such manner as may be prescribed.</p>	<p>The final SoCC was published in accordance with the Section 47 of the 2008 Act on 12 June 2025.</p> <p>The SoCC was uploaded to the Document page on the project website and made available to view from the three Community Access Points (CAPs) listed in the document and accompanying notice. Details of the CAPs can be found in Table 8.1 of the Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>



Section	Requirement	Compliance
		<p>Notices in accordance with Section 47 of the 2008 Act were published in the York Press and Selby Times on 12 June 2025 to publicise the SoCC and its availability.</p> <p>The publication of the SoCC was also communicated through emailing identified key stakeholders and any party that had registered to be kept informed of the proposals.</p> <p>Copies of the final SoCC and notices as published (confirming the name of the publication and date) are provided in Consultation Report Appendix 4: Statement of Community Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.04].</p>
	(7) The applicant must carry out consultation in accordance with the proposals set out in the statement.	<p>The Applicant undertook consultation under Section 47 of the 2008 Act in accordance with the SoCC.</p> <p>This detail is evidenced in Consultation Report Table 6.2: SoCC Commitments and Applicant Compliance [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>
Section 48 (Duty to Publicise)	(1) The applicant must publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner.	<p>The Applicant prepared and publicised the Application in the prescribed manner set out in APFP Regulations by publishing a Section 48 Notice.</p> <p>The Section 48 Notice was published in the following publications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Selby Times and York Press on 19 June and 26 June 2025;



Section	Requirement	Compliance
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Guardian on 19 June 2025; • The London Gazette on 19 June 2025; <p>This detail is evidenced in Consultation Report Chapter 10: Notification and Publication under Section 48 of the 2008 Act [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>
	<p>(2) Regulations made for the purposes of subsection (1) must, in particular, make provision for publicity under subsection (1) to include a deadline for receipt by the applicant of responses to the publicity.</p>	<p>The Section 48 Notice included a deadline of 7 August 2025 for the receipt of responses to the consultation.</p> <p>The final notice was published on 19 June 2025, which clearly stated the consultation date (26 June 2025) and end date (7 August 2025), therefore exceeding the 28-days statutory minimum response time.</p> <p>A copy of the Section 48 Notice is provided in Consultation Report Appendix 8: Section 48 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.08].</p>
<p>Section 49 (Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity)</p>	<p>(1) Subsection (2) applies where the applicant — (a) has complied with sections 42, 47 and 48, and (b) proposes to go ahead with making an application for an order granting development consent (whether or not in the same terms as the proposed application).</p> <p>(2) The applicant must, when deciding whether the application that the applicant is actually to make should be in the same terms as the proposed application, have regard to any relevant responses.</p>	<p>The Applicant has reviewed all relevant responses made pursuant to s42, s47 and s48 in accordance with s49.</p> <p>In reviewing the responses, the Applicant is cognisant of its duty to have regard to any relevant responses.</p> <p>A summary of relevant responses received to the Section 47 consultation is provided in Consultation Report Chapter 12: Section 47 Responses Received, Issues Raised, and Changes Made</p>



Section	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>(3) In subsection (2) “relevant response” means— (a) a response from a person consulted under section 42 that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed by section 45 in that person's case,</p> <p>(b) a response to consultation under section 47(7) that is received by the applicant before any applicable deadline imposed in accordance with the statement prepared under section 47, or</p> <p>(c) a response to publicity under section 48 that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed in accordance with section 48(2) in relation to that publicity.</p>	<p>[EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01], and supported by Appendix 11: Section 47 Applicant Response Table [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.11].</p> <p>A summary of relevant responses received to the Section 42 consultation is provided in Consultation Report Chapter 13: Section 42 Responses Received, Issues Raised, and Changes Made [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01], and supported by Appendix 12: Section 47 Applicant Response Table [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.12].</p> <p>No responses received by the Applicant indicated that they were submitted specifically in relation to the Section 48 notice. Any feedback to the Section 48 notice will have therefore been considered as feedback to consultation under Section 42 or Section 47.</p>
<p>Section 50 (Statutory guidance about pre-application procedure issued under Section 50 of the Planning Act 2008)</p>	<p>(1) Guidance may be issued about how to comply with the requirements of this Section.</p> <p>(2) Guidance under this section may be issued by the Planning Inspectorate or the Secretary of State.</p> <p>(3) The Applicant must have regard to any guidance under this section.</p>	<p>In carrying out both Phase One non-statutory consultation, Phase Two statutory consultation, and Targeted Consultation, the Applicant has complied with statutory guidance issued under section 50 of the 2008 Act, namely the “Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects” published by the Government in April 2024.</p> <p>For completeness and as set out in this Appendix, the Applicant</p>



Section	Requirement	Compliance
		<p>has also complied with the 2024 Pre-Application Prospectus and advice notes issued by PINS, including the: Advice Note on the Consultation Report (updated March 2025), Advice on Good Design (updated April 2025), and Advice on the Preparation and Submission of Application Documents (updated July 2025).</p> <p>Full details are set out in Consultation Report Chapter 2: Relevant Legislation and Guidance [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>

1.3 Compliance with the Infrastructure Planning (Application: Prescribed Form and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Table 1.2: Compliance Checklist with the Infrastructure Planning (Application: Prescribed Form and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Reference	Requirement	Compliance
The Infrastructure Planning (Application: Prescribed Form and Procedure) Regulations 2009		
Regulation 3	The persons prescribed for the purposes of section 42 (a) (duty to consult) are those listed in column 1 to these in Schedule 1 of these Regulations, who must be consulted in the circumstances specified in relation to each person in column 2 of that table.	<p>The Applicant consulted all persons prescribed in column 1 who were deemed relevant to this Application by the descriptions set out in column 2 of that table.</p> <p>A full list of Section 42 consultees is provided in Consultation Report Appendix 7: Section 42 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.07].</p>
Regulation 4 (2)	The applicant must publish a notice, which must include the matters prescribed by paragraph (3) of this	The Applicant published a notice which included all the matters set



Reference	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>regulation, of the proposed application –</p> <p>(a) for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the proposed development would be situated;</p> <p>(b) once in a national newspaper;</p> <p>(c) once in the London Gazette, and if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette;</p> <p>(d) where the proposed application relates to offshore development –</p> <p>(i) once in Lloyd’s List; and</p> <p>(ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal.</p>	<p>out in paragraph (3) of this regulation.</p> <p>Copies of the notice are provided in Consultation Report Appendix 8: Section 48 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.08].</p> <p>The Section 48 Notice was published in the following local newspapers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selby Times on 19 and 26 June 2025; and • York Press on 19 June and 26 June 2025. <p>The Section 48 Notice was published in a national newspaper as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Guardian on 19 June 2025. <p>The Section 48 Notice was published in the London Gazette on 19 June 2025.</p> <p>The Proposed Development does not affect land in Scotland and therefore a notice was not placed in the Edinburgh Gazette.</p> <p>Not Applicable.</p>
Regulation 4 (3)	<p>The matters which the notice must include are:</p> <p>(a) the name and address of the applicant;</p>	<p>The Applicant’s Section 48 Notice included all matters required by this regulation, including stipulation of a deadline for</p>



Reference	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>(b) a statement that the applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State;</p> <p>(c) a statement as to whether the application is an EIA development;</p> <p>(d) a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the proposed development;</p> <p>(e) a statement that the documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location are available for inspection free of charge on a website maintained by or on behalf of the applicant;</p> <p>(ea.) the address of the website where the documents, plans and maps may be inspected;</p> <p>(be) the place on the website where the documents, plans and maps may be inspected;</p> <p>(etc) a telephone number which can be used to contact the applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps;</p> <p>(f) the latest date on which these documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection on the website (being a date no earlier than the deadline in sub-paragraph);</p> <p>(g) whether a charge will be made for copies of the documents, plans or maps, and the amount of any charge;</p> <p>(h) details of how to respond to the publicity; and</p> <p>(j) a deadline for receipt of those responses by the applicant, being not less than 28 days following the</p>	<p>responses being made by 7 August 2025.</p> <p>All matters listed under Reg 4 (3) were included in the Section 48 Notice. The published Section 48 Notices are included in Consultation Report Appendix 8: Section 48 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.08].</p>



Reference	Requirement	Compliance
	dates when the notice is last published.	

1.4 Compliance with Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017

Table 1.3: Consultation Compliance Checklist for the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017

Section	Requirement	Compliance
The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017		
Regulation 8	<p>(1) A person who proposes to make an application for an order granting development consent must, before carrying out consultation under section 42 (duty to consult) either –</p> <p>(a) request the Secretary of State to adopt a screening opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates; or</p> <p>(b) notify the Secretary of State in writing that the person proposes to provide an environmental statement in respect of that development.</p>	<p>The Applicant submitted a Scoping Report to PINS on behalf of the Secretary of State on 8 November 2024.</p> <p>Through this report, the Applicant notified PINS that it intended to provide an Environmental Statement (ES) in respect of the Scheme pursuant to Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations.</p>
Regulation 12	<p>The consultation statement prepared under Section 47 (duty to consult local community) must set out –</p> <p>(a) whether the development for which the applicant proposed to make an application for an order granting consent is EIA development; and</p> <p>(b) if that development is EIA development, how the applicant intends to publicise and consult on</p>	<p>The Applicant’s SoCC, under Section 10: Environmental Information, states:</p> <p><i>“We will undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (‘EIA’) for Light Valley Solar. The scope and methodology for this assessment will be informed by feedback from relevant regulatory and environmental bodies.”</i></p>



Section	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>the preliminary environmental information.</p>	<p>Further to this, the Section 47 Notice outlines that the Applicant has prepared a SoCC that explains how people living in the vicinity of the Scheme will be consulted throughout the pre-application process, and how it intends to consult on the PEIR which will inform the ES.</p> <p>The Applicant’s SoCC sets out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on preliminary environmental information in Section 8: How We Will Consult and Section 10: Environmental Information.</p> <p>The Applicant’s SoCC also explained that environmental information, through the PEIR and PEIR non-technical summary (NTS), would be published as part of the consultation materials during the statutory consultation.</p> <p>In addition to this, the Section 47 Notice, was placed in the York Press on 12 June 2025, publicising the SoCC, and this noticed also referred to the PEIR and ES. The Section 47 notice as placed in the newspaper can be found in Consultation Report Appendix 4: Statement of Community Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.04].</p> <p>The Applicant’s published SoCC and Section 47 Notice is provided in Consultation Report Appendix 4: Statement of Community Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.04].</p>
Regulation 13	<p>Where the proposed application for an order granting development consent is an application for EIA</p>	<p>The Applicant provided a copy of the notice in accordance with</p>



Section	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>development, the Applicant must, at the same time as publishing notice of the proposed application under Section 48(1), send a copy of that notice to the consultation bodies and to any person notified to the applicant in accordance with regulation 11(1)(c).</p>	<p>Section 48 of the 2008 Act to all prescribed bodies.</p> <p>The list of Section 42 consultees is included in Consultation Report Appendix 7: Section 42 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.07].</p> <p>A copy of the Section 48 Notice is provided in Consultation Report Appendix 8: Section 48 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.08].</p>

1.5 Compliance with Planning Act 2008: Pre-Application Stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024)

1.5.1 The guidance set out in the following table is issued under section 50 of the Planning Act 2008 and therefore constitutes statutory guidance, to which applicants are required to have regard when undertaking pre-application activities. The Applicant has complied with this guidance as required by section 50 of the Planning Act 2008.

Table 1.4: Compliance Checklist for Planning Act 2008: Pre-Application Stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024)

Ref	Requirement	Compliance
<p>Planning Act 2008: Pre-Application Stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024)</p>		
<p>Paragraph 009</p>	<p>What is the purpose of the Programme Document?</p> <p>The pre-application process is applicant-led. To deliver a good pre-application process, including effective engagement and a well-prepared application, applicants should put together a Programme Document at the outset of the pre-application stage for submission to the Planning Inspectorate and agreement at the Inception Meeting. The Programme Document is an essential element of the quality standard for applications seeking a fast-track route to consent.</p> <p>The Programme Document will enable all those engaged in the pre-application process, particularly statutory consultees, to understand the timescales and ensure their contribution is programmed into the pre-application stage at the most effective point. It will also assist the applicant in managing the preparation and subsequent</p>	<p>The Inception Meeting with the Planning Inspectorate was held on 25 September 2024. It was agreed at the Inception Meeting that the Applicant would produce and maintain a Programme Document throughout the pre-application period.</p> <p>The Applicant subsequently prepared and published its first version of the Programme Document on its website in February 2025. This document has been maintained and hosted on the Applicant’s website.</p> <p>The second version of the Programme Document was uploaded to the Applicant’s website in June 2025.</p> <p>The third version of the Programme Document was uploaded to the Applicant’s website and shared with North Yorkshire Council in October 2025.</p> <p>The latest version of the Programme Document was published in January 2026 and can be found within this appendix.</p>

Ref	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>submission of the application documents for consideration by the Planning Inspectorate at the acceptance stage in compliance with the Planning Inspectorate's advice on preparing and submitting application documents.</p> <p>Following the Inception Meeting, it is expected that the applicant will host and maintain the agreed Programme Document on its website and update it as necessary during the pre-application period to publicise completion of significant stages and demonstrate progress in preparation of the application.</p>	
<p>Paragraph 010</p>	<p>What should the Programme Document contain?</p> <p>The Programme Document is not a statutory requirement and is not for consultation apart from agreement with the Planning Inspectorate. It should set out the timetable and activities necessary for an effective pre-application process including the level of pre-application services from the Planning Inspectorate, and consultation with various parties required under the Planning Act.</p> <p>The Programme Document should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The date the applicant intends to submit their application; • A comprehensive timetable of the 	<p>The Programme Document was drafted and maintained to provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Section 2.1 (Key Milestones Programme) this document includes a comprehensive timetable of the main events and dates for the pre-application period. This section includes the anticipated DCO Application submission date of Q1 2026. • Section 2.2 sets out the potential risks identified to date by the Applicant and proposed activities to address these risks. • Section 3.4 confirms the Applicant has developed a SoCC in accordance with the requirements of Section 47 of the 2008 Act.



Ref	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>applicant's pre-application process, the main events with dates and milestones demonstrating how the pre-application process will be completed (using the maximum target of 2 years a benchmark);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant's views on the main issues for resolution and activities they will undertake to address these; • The applicant's proposals for engaging with statutory consultees and local authorities during the pre-application period, and any intended financial support agreements, such as Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs); • The applicant's identification of risks to achievement of the pre-application stage and the process by which these risks are tracked and managed; and • Cross references to the SoCC required by section 47 of the Planning Act. 	
Paragraph 012	<p>How should Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) be prepared?</p> <p>Where an NSIP is determined to be EIA development in line with Regulation 8 of the EIA Regulations 2017 the applicant</p>	<p>The Applicant set out in the SoCC how it would be publicising and consulting on the PEIR. This included making available a non-technical summary of the PEIR (PEIR NTS). The PEIR and accompanying NTS was available to any interested party through the Applicant's website and at the Phase</p>

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	<p>is required by Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations 2017 to publish sufficient Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) to enable consultees to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the proposed development. The information required will be different for different types and sizes of projects and it may also vary depending on the audience of a particular consultation.</p> <p>Applicants are advised to consult any relevant existing environmental assessments or survey information, in the first instance to get an idea of what environmental effects could arise. The key issue is that the information presented must be clear to all consultees, even if it is of specialised technical nature. As required by Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations 2017 any difficulties or areas of uncertainty such as in data collection, forecasting methods or scientific knowledge must be identified and acknowledged.</p> <p>There is no prescribed format for PEI. However, depending on the availability of material, applicants are encouraged to prepare this as an early draft of the Environmental Statement and include it as such as part of the statutory consultation under sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act. If applicants decide to take a different approach, they should be clear with consultees about the status of the PEI.</p>	<p>Two information events. The PEIR NTS was available to view at all three Community Access Points (CAPs). Further details about the availability of the PEIR and PEIR NTS can be found in Consultation Report Chapter 6: Preparation for Statutory Section 47 Consultation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>The availability of the PEIR was publicised through a Section 48 Notice. Further details can be found in Consultation Report Chapter 10: Statutory Consultation under Section 48 of the 2008 Act [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01]. Copies of the Section 48 Notice as published can be found in Consultation Report Appendix 8: Section 48 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.08].</p> <p>Section 42 of the Applicant's Programme Document set out timescales for finalising and consulting on the PEIR ahead of finalising and submitting the ES as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) Application. The latest version of the Programme Document was published in January 2026 and can be found within this appendix.</p>



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	<p>In any event, applicants will need to maintain close dialogue with statutory consultees throughout the pre-application period. The provision of PEI can help statutory consultees to understand the environmental effects of the development and may assist in the identification and addressing of potential issues at an early stage in the pre-application process.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate will not review any of the draft PEI material unless specifically included as part of the agreed pre-application service, but applicants are encouraged to include their approach to preparing PEI in the Programme Document for discussion with the Planning Inspectorate. Further information can be found in the Planning Inspectorate’s Pre-Application Prospectus</p>	
<p>Paragraph 014</p>	<p>What is needed for consideration of good design?</p> <p>Good design is not simply about the look of a project; it is about the whole process of putting a project together so that it achieves the elements of good design including choice of location, vision, narrative, design principles and consultation programme.</p> <p>Applicants should involve a diverse range of people including where appropriate, planners, environmental</p>	<p>The Applicant published a Draft Design Principles document for consultation (PEIR Volume III Appendix 5.1). This includes a description as to how the Proposed Development’s Design Principles had been informed by the consideration of PINS’ ‘Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Good Design (published October 2024 and updated April 2025) and the National Infrastructure Commission’s ‘Design Principles for National Infrastructure’ (published August 2020).</p> <p>The Applicant’s Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01] sets out how the Applicant sought to ensure its</p>

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	<p>specialists, landscape architects, architects, engineers and community groups in informing the project vision, narrative, design principles, and project design process to support delivery of the outcomes of the project.</p> <p>Applicants should explain how the design responds to the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) design principles for national infrastructure: climate, people, places and value.</p>	<p>pre-application consultation activities were publicised and accessible by a diverse range of consultees.</p> <p>The Applicant also undertook design workshops These workshops took the format of a collaborative master-planning exercise between stakeholders and the Applicant, to capture local knowledge and incorporate this into the evolving design of the Proposed Development. These are further set out in Chapter 7 of the Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>The Applicant’s consideration of good design is set out in more detail in the Design Approach Document [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.05] and the Design Parameters and Commitments [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06] which is secured by DCO requirement and submitted as part of the Application.</p>
<p>Paragraph 020</p>	<p>How can applicants ensure consultation is proportionate?</p> <p>The pre-application consultation undertaken should be proportionate to the scale and nature of the project and its effects. A ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach is not appropriate. For a straightforward and uncontroversial application, an applicant may choose to discharge the obligations of sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act concurrently in a single round of consultation, or in separate stages. For more complex proposals, an applicant may choose to conduct a non-statutory round of consultation (for example considering options) before undertaking a</p>	<p>The Applicant has undertaken a series of defined stages of consultation during the pre-application period, to allow for iterative involvement, engagement feedback throughout the development of the proposals.</p> <p>This included a non-statutory Phase One consultation on early-stage proposals, held over six weeks between 24 October and 5 December 2024. A summary of the consultation undertaken was set out in the Project Update Newsletter and Phase One Consultation Summary Report, available in Appendix 3: Post-Phase One Communications Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.03].</p> <p>The Applicant’s strategy of undertaking an iterative consultation process allowed for feedback to inform the Proposed Development in a timely</p>

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	<p>statutory round of consultation, or they may choose to run a multi-stage consultation process.</p>	<p>manner, including reporting back to consultees at an interim stage.</p> <p>The Applicant has actively sought and had regard to feedback provided by stakeholders on its approach to community consultation and has made changes where possible as documented in the Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>Consultation responses to each stage of consultation have been carefully documented and considered as part of the iterative progress of the Proposed Development, with stakeholders playing a key role in the design of the proposals.</p> <p>The Applicant's approach to consultation was set out in the SoCC, which in turn was informed through consultation with North Yorkshire Council as described in Consultation Report Chapter 6: Preparation for Statutory Section 47 Consultation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>
	<p>Large, more complex applications are likely to warrant going beyond the statutory 28-day minimum timescales for consultation laid down in the Planning Act 2008 to ensure enough time for consultees to understand project proposals and formulate a response.</p>	<p>All defined consultation periods (both statutory, non-statutory and Targeted Consultation) for the Proposed Development have exceeded 28 days.</p> <p>The key stages of pre-application consultation undertaken by the Applicant are set out in Table 1.2 (Pre-application consultation activities undertaken) of the Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>
	<p>Once Applicants have completed the consultation process set out in the SoCC, where a proposed application is amended in light of responses to the consultation then, unless those amendments materially and substantially change the</p>	<p>Following the close of Phase Two statutory consultation, the Applicant continued to refine the proposals in preparation for submitting an application for development consent.</p> <p>This refinement was informed by further design work and due diligence,</p>

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	<p>proposed application or materially changes its effects as a whole, the amendments themselves should not trigger a need for further consultation. The amendments can be reported as part of the consultation report submitted within the application.</p> <p>Only where the project taken as a whole changes very significantly, and to such a large degree that what is being taken forward is fundamentally different from what was previously consulted on, should re-consultation on the proposed application as a whole be considered.</p> <p>For any material change to be part of the proposed application where the project as a whole is not fundamentally changed, for example in the case of linear aspects where new information leads to a new alignment for a particular section of the proposal, a bespoke and targeted approach to further consultation can be adopted, which can address the specific consultation obligations arising proportionately.</p> <p>Targeted consultation can be statutory or non-statutory or a combination of the two depending on whether new persons needed to be consulted under section 42 of the Planning Act have been identified, but such targeted consultation will not require the production of PEI provided proportionate and appropriate information on environmental implications of</p>	<p>consideration of consultee feedback, and responding to the results and data from environmental assessments.</p> <p>This resulted in changes to the boundary of the Proposed Development (as presented in the PEIR Order Limits) which had been consulted on during the Phase Two statutory consultation. Further details can be found in Consultation Report Chapter 8: Statutory Consultation under Section 47 of the 2008 Act [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>The Applicant undertook a Targeted Consultation on these specific changes to ensure communities and consultees had an opportunity to comment on the full Order Limits prior to a DCO Application being submitted.</p> <p>This consultation ran from Thursday 16 October to Thursday 20 November 2025. Further details can be found in Chapter 11: Targeted Consultation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>Prior to the start of the Targeted Consultation, the Applicant shared a document describing its approach to the consultation, which was shared with North Yorkshire Council for review and comment. No written comments were provided by either local authority. A copy of this document can be found in Consultation Report Appendix 9: Targeted Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.09].</p>

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	any changes, where necessary, is provided.	
Paragraph 022	<p>How can applicants consult communities effectively?</p> <p>It is good practice for applicants to work with local stakeholders in the formative stages of the project, through early engagement. This can help inform the Programme Document that they later take to the Inception Meeting with the Planning Inspectorate. Early engagement with local authorities, parish and town councils can help applicants to ensure they find the best approach to engage the relevant communities in the most effective and proportionate way.</p>	<p>The Applicant engaged relevant local authorities prior to undertaking a non-statutory stage of consultation, as described in Consultation Report Chapter 4: Phase One (non-statutory) Consultation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>Early pre-consultation engagement with representative stakeholders and relevant local authorities was designed to help inform the consultation process. Further details on this can be found in Consultation Report Chapter 3: Introduction of the Development to Consultees [EN0110012/LVS/APP/05.01].</p> <p>The Applicant reflected on this feedback, alongside the level of engagement, when preparing the SoCC, and the subsequent methods used at the Phase Two statutory consultation. Further details regarding the Applicant’s preparation for Phase Two Statutory consultation can be found in Consultation Report Chapter 6: Preparation for Statutory Section 47 Consultation [EN011012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>
	<p>Local communities may need support to help them to input to the NSIP consenting process. Independent community liaison chairs or forums can be used to provide support to local communities and non-statutory consultees to enable them to provide an effective input to the pre-application process. Applicants will want to consider whether these should be used, not least to assist an applicant’s own assessment of potential</p>	<p>The Applicant noted this updated guidance. The Applicant has sought to ensure consultation activities are accessible and were open to engagement requests.</p> <p>The Applicant’s SoCC (Section 5.20) states:</p> <p><i>“The Applicant’s consultation methodology (see Section 8) has been developed to accommodate communicating as effectively as possible with these</i></p>

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	<p>examination issues in preparing their Programme Document and SoCC.</p>	<p><i>groups so they can have their say. Contact will be made with bodies and gateway organisations representing these groups ahead of consultation starting to ensure our approach meets the specific needs of their members. Requests for specific consultation activity to cater for their members will be considered on a case-by-case basis. This will then be agreed and planned with the requesting organisations.”</i></p> <p>A copy of the Applicant’s published SoCC is provided in Consultation Report Appendix 4: Statement of Community Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/05.01.04].</p>
<p>Paragraph 024</p>	<p>What do applicants have to do to consult people with an interest in land?</p> <p>Where an applicant proposes to compulsorily acquire an interest or take temporary possession of land it does not own in order to implement a proposed NSIP, under section 42 of the Planning Act they must identify and consult people, including those who own, occupy or have another interest in the land in question.</p> <p>It is the applicant’s responsibility to demonstrate at submission of the application to the Planning Inspectorate that due diligence has been undertaken in identifying all land interests. Applicants must ensure that the Book of Reference (which records and categorises those land interests) is sufficiently up to date at the time of</p>	<p>The Applicant has sought to identify and consult with all those with an interest in the land.</p> <p>The Applicant sought to identify the Section 44(1)(d) consultees (referred to as ‘S44 consultees’) by undertaking diligent inquiry before the Phase Two statutory consultation commenced. This included reviewing publicly available data (for example, the Land Registry), sending out Land Interest Questionnaires, undertaking site visits and erecting site notes.</p> <p>The Applicant notified 411 Section 44 consultees by letter on 24 June 2025, ahead of the statutory consultation period commencing on 26 June 2025. These consultees were informed of a response deadline of 7 August 2025, exceeding the statutory requirement of 28 days.</p> <p>Any additional consultees identified during Statutory Consultation received an extended deadline ensuring the</p>

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	<p>submission (acknowledging the timescales for preparing and updating it) and fully meets the requirements of Regulations 5 and 7 of the APFP Regulations 2009.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>Applicants should explain in the consultation report how they have dealt with any new interests in land emerging after conclusion of their statutory consultation having regard to their duties to consult and take account of any responses.</p>	<p>statutory requirement of 28 days was upheld.</p> <p>Where owners, lessees, tenants, or occupiers were unknown, the Applicant placed notices detailing the consultation at the relevant locations around the Site.</p> <p>A list of land interests consulted to date is presented in Consultation Report Appendix 7: Section 42 Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.07]. This appendix details the date on which they were notified of consultation and the deadline provided to them for responding.</p> <p>All persons listed in the Book of Reference [EN0110012/APP/LVS/04.03], which is up to date at the time of submitting the DCO Application, were consulted under Section 42(1)(d). It is noted that the list of persons with an interest in land is subject to change over time, as a result of changes to landownership.</p> <p>This is described in Chapter 9: Statutory Consultation Under Section 42 of the 2008 Act [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p>
<p>Paragraph 025</p>	<p>What is the early adequacy of consultation milestone?</p> <p>The Programme Document will enable the Planning Inspectorate to determine at the Inception Meeting that the proposed consultation arrangements are adequate for the level of complexity of the proposed project. The Programme Document should also identify an appropriate milestone during the</p>	<p>The latest version of the Programme Document was shared with PINS in October 2025.</p> <p>The Programme Document was prepared in accordance with the guidance set out in PINS' Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-Application Prospectus.</p> <p>The Programme Document has also been prepared to identify the engagement and preparation activities that have been carried out by the</p>

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	<p>preapplication stage to enable the Planning Inspectorate to test the progress of the consultation.</p>	<p>Applicant during the pre-application process.</p> <p>Since February 2025, the Applicant has hosted the Programme Document on its website. The Programme Document was subsequently updated in June 2025 and October 2025. These revised versions were shared with North Yorkshire Council.</p> <p>The latest version of the Programme Document was published in January 2026 and can be found within this appendix.</p>
	<p>This adequacy of consultation milestone should be early enough to enable applicants to consider how to undertake any additional engagement that may be needed, but sufficiently towards the end of the pre-application stage to assess the adequacy of the consultation that has been done. It is likely therefore to be no later than around 3 months before the intended date of submission of the application.</p> <p>The adequacy of consultation milestone should be recorded by the applicant and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as a short statement of the elements of consultation which have been carried out compared with the components set out in the Programme Document and the SoCC. The statement should include the views and any relevant supporting material from local authorities if available.</p> <p>The adequacy of consultation milestone is an informal but</p>	<p>Prior to submitting a DCO application, the Applicant prepared a written statement in response to the government's guidance regarding an early Adequacy of Consultation Milestone. A copy of this written statement is appended to this document in in Consultation Report Appendix 1: Statement of Compliance [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.01].</p> <p>The Applicant submitted their written statement of the adequacy of consultation undertaken to the Planning Inspectorate on 13 November 2025. This was to give early consideration of the adequacy of consultation undertaken by the Applicant, prior to the Acceptance stage of a DCO application.</p> <p>The Applicant discussed the preparation of the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone with North Yorkshire Council as the host local authority for the Proposed Development, and 19 neighbouring authorities, prior to its submission to the Planning Inspectorate on 13 November 2025.</p>



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	<p>nonetheless important opportunity to check that the pre-application programme is on track, and if it is seriously adrift the Planning Inspectorate will advise the applicant about the steps necessary to enable the application to be submitted having fulfilled the statutory requirements. Inevitably this could mean a renegotiation of the expected date of submission, with the objective of avoiding the prospect of an application not being accepted for examination.</p>	
<p>Paragraph 026</p>	<p>What is the consultation report and how should applicants respond to consultees?</p> <p>[The Consultation Report] should not include an excessively detailed description of every element of the consultation programme. The main objective should be to provide clarity not just on what consultation has been done but, crucially how the applicant has taken it into account. It should therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a general description of the consultation process undertaken including the timeline; • set out specifically what the applicant has done to comply with the statutory requirements of the Planning Act, including advice issued under section 51 of the Planning Act, relevant 	<p>The Applicant has prepared a Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01].</p> <p>Relevant sections of the Consultation Report include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 1: Introduction, which sets out the Applicant’s approach to consultation and includes Table 1.1: Pre-application stages of consultation undertaken, setting out the pre-application stages and consultation undertaken in chronological order. • Consultation Report Appendix 1: Statement of Compliance [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.01] sets out how the Applicant has complied with relevant legislation and guidance. • Consultation Report Chapter 6: Preparation for Statutory Consultation Under Section 47 of the 2008 Act [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01] sets out how the Applicant consulted relevant local



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	<p>secondary legislation and this guidance;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set out how the applicant has complied with the requirements to consult local communities described in the SoCC; • set out any relevant responses to consultation (but not a complete list of responses); • provide a description of how the proposed application for submission has been informed and influenced by taking account of those responses, showing any significant changes made as a result; • provide an explanation as to why any responses advising on changes to a proposed project, including advice from statutory consultees and local authorities on effects, were not followed; and • be expressed in terms sufficient to enable the Planning Inspectorate to understand fully how consultation has been undertaken, and how the issues raised through consultation have been addressed or responded to. 	<p>authorities to inform the SoCC, including comments received and consideration given to these.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table 6.2 of the Consultation Report details how the Applicant complied with the commitments set out in the published SoCC. • Consultation Report Chapters 12 and 13 set out the responses received to Section 47 and Section 42 consultation respectively, alongside a summary of the Applicant responses. The responses in full are set out in Appendix 11 [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.11] and Appendix 12 [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.11] respectively.
	<p>It is good practice that those who have contributed to the</p>	<p>The Applicant's website continued to be available for any interested parties to</p>



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	<p>consultation are informed of the results. The consultation report may not be the most appropriate format in which to respond to the points raised by various consultee groups and bodies. Applicants should therefore consider producing a summary note in plain English for the local community setting out headline findings and how they have been addressed, together with a link to the full consultation report for those interested.</p>	<p>access information regarding the Proposed Development, including updated on proposals, latest documentation and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).</p> <p>Following the review and consideration of feedback received to the Phase One non-statutory consultation in Winter 2024, the Applicant prepared a Phase One Consultation Summary Report (CSR) to share details of the level of engagement, themes of responses received, and updated regarding the Applicant’s consideration of feedback and next steps of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>To publicise the availability of the Phase One Consultation Summary Report, the Applicant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notified identified key stakeholders (including MPs, councillors, and parish councils) and individuals who had registered to be kept informed; • Uploaded the report to the website; and • Extended invitations to meet with representative stakeholders (including MPs, councillors, and parish councils) on the contents of the report. <p>A copy of the Phase One Consultation Summary Report is captured in Consultation Report Appendix 3: Post-Phase One Communications Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.03].</p> <p>The Applicant also prepared a Community Update regarding changes made to the design of the Proposed Development following the Phase Two and Targeted Consultation, which was</p>



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		<p>publicised in December 2025. This update included details of the level of engagement received to the statutory consultation, themes of responses received, and updates regarding the Applicant’s consideration of feedback, and next steps for the proposals.</p> <p>To publicise the availability of the Community Update, the Applicant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notified identified key stakeholders (including MPs, councillors, and parish councils) and individuals who has registered to be kept informed; • Uploaded the Community Update to the website; and • Extended invitations to meet with representative stakeholders (including MPs, councils and parish councils) on the contents of the Community Update. <p>A copy of the Community Update is provided in Consultation Report Appendix 10: Post Phase Two Communication Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.10].</p> <p>Furthermore, following the DCO Application submission, the Applicant will continue to host up-to-date information on its dedicated website and will consider publishing a public summary of the DCO Application proposals and how these have been informed by the pre-application consultation.</p>
<p>Paragraph 032</p>	<p>How should applicants engage with local authorities?</p> <p>The Planning Act recognises the role that local authorities</p>	<p>As described in Consultation Report Chapter 6: Preparation for Statutory Consultation Under Section 47 of the 2008 Act [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01], the Applicant formally consulted with North</p>

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	<p>play as bodies with expert knowledge of the local community, business and other interests as well as their responsibility for development of the local area. They can support applicants in developing proposals, ensuring local issues are understood and taken into account.</p> <p>The particular functions that local authorities have in the pre-application process include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consultation about the SoCC under section 47 of the Planning Act which sets out [...]; • although not a statutory requirement, a SoCG between the applicant and local authorities is now a well-established practical part of the process; • initial preparation stages of the Local Impact Report (LIR) setting out the local authority’s views on the likely impact of the proposed development on their local area and communities; and • responses and engagement in relation to the adequacy of consultation milestone. <p>Applicants are required to consult the local authority in whose area a proposed NSIP project lies (the ‘host’ local authority). They are also required to identify and consult</p>	<p>Yorkshire Council on the contents of the draft SoCC between 3 April and 9 May 2025. Table 6.2 of the Consultation Report [EN011012/APP/LVS/05.01] details the comment received by North Yorkshire Council on the draft SoCC and how the Applicant has considered these comments.</p> <p>Consultation Report Chapter 9 [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01], details how the relevant local authorities were identified as statutory consultees by the Applicant. Table 9.1 of this chapter sets out how the Applicant has defined these authorities according to Section 43 of the 2008 Act, and the dates within which they were consulted.</p> <p>The Applicant submitted a written statement on the adequacy of pre-application consultation undertaken to PINS in November 2025. As the host local authority, North Yorkshire Council was provided an opportunity to comment on this statement. The draft Adequacy of Consultation Milestone document which was shared with host local authorities in October 2025 is appended to this document (Appendix 1: Statement of Compliance [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.01]) as well as Adequacy of Consultation Milestone was published by PINS on 13 November 2025.</p>



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	<p>the neighbouring local authorities under the requirements of section 43(2) and (2A) of the Planning Act. This explains how lower tier or unitary authorities adjacent to the host authority, and upper tier authorities adjacent to the upper tier authority within which the proposal is located, should be consulted. Determining which neighbouring authorities should be involved can only be done on a case-by-case basis. If the boundaries of the proposed applications change, applicants will need to consider whether there are any changes to the local authorities they need to consult.</p> <p>Applicants need to appreciate the range of local government structures in England particularly, and the meaning of 'local authority' in section 43(3) of the Planning Act for the purposes of consultation under the section 42 of the Planning Act. Where a combined authority or combined county authority is in place, applicants are recommended to review whether the relevant legislation which established those authorities brings them within scope of the consultation requirements under the Planning Act. Unless functions of county, district or unitary authorities have been specifically transferred by legislation, then these type of government bodies would not be a 'local authority' under these sections of the Planning Act. However, it is good practice</p>	



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	<p>for applicants to work with the constituent local authorities to consider how a combined authority could best support development of the application.</p> <p>Depending on the nature and scale of the NSIP, and the extent to which a particular authority is affected, Planning Performance Agreements or mechanisms that provide cost recovery may be appropriate. This should be set out in the applicant’s Programme Document for discussion and agreement with the Planning Inspectorate at the Inception Meeting.</p>	
<p>Paragraph 034</p>	<p>Where projects affect multiple local authority areas what considerations arise?</p> <p>In preparing a SoCC under section 47 of the Planning Act, applicants may need to consult with a number of different local authorities. This may particularly be the case for long, linear projects. In this situation, the local authorities in question should, as far as practicable, co-ordinate their responses to the applicant. This will ensure that the consultation proposals set.</p>	<p>As described in Consultation Report Chapter 6: Preparation for Statutory Consultation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01], the Applicant formally consulted with North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council on the contents of the SoCC between 3 April and 9 May 2025. However, following refinements to the project boundary which removed the potential for works to take place within the area of City of York Council, only North Yorkshire Council was referred to as a host authority in relation to the Targeted Consultation.</p> <p>North Yorkshire Council was the only authority to return comments on the SoCC. Table 6.2 of the Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01] details the comments received by North Yorkshire Council on the draft SoCC and how the Applicant has considered these comments.</p> <p>As described in Chapter 11: Targeted Consultation, of the Consultation Report [EN011012/APP/LVS/05.01],</p>

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		<p>the Applicant provided an opportunity for host local authorities to understand and comment on its proposed approach to engagement and consultation prior to commencing targeted consultation activities. The Applicant shared a document describing its approach to the targeted consultation with the local authorities. No written comments were provided to the Applicant on this document. The document is provided in Consultation Report Appendix 9: Targeted Consultation Materials [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.09].</p>
<p>Paragraph 035</p>	<p>What is the role of local authorities in adequacy of consultation?</p> <p>When an application is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, local authorities affected by a proposed NSIP are invited by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55(4)(b) of the Planning Act to confirm whether the consultation has been adequate in meeting the expectations set out in the SoCC.</p> <p>It is therefore vital that local authorities have been fully engaged during the consultation process undertaken by the applicant during the pre-application stage [...]. Accordingly, local authorities are advised to prepare their adequacy of consultation responses in advance of the acceptance stage, and to raise any concerns with applicants ahead of submission, and as part of the early adequacy of consultation milestone.</p>	<p>As described in the Consultation Report [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Yorkshire Council was consulted on a draft of the SoCC prior to the document being finalised and the Statutory Section 47 consultation commencing, as described in Chapter 6: Preparation for Statutory Section 47 Consultation; • Relevant local authorities were identified according to Section 43 of the 2008 Act and were consulted, as described in Chapter 8: Statutory Consultation Under Section 47 of the 2008 Act; • North Yorkshire Council (as the host local authority) were invited to comment on the Applicant's proposed approach to Targeted Consultation, as described in Chapter 11: Targeted Consultation [EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01]. • The Applicant submitted a written statement on the adequacy of pre-application



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		consultation undertaken, which was submitted to PINS in November 2025. As host authorities, North Yorkshire Council was provided an opportunity to comment on this statement.



2 Email from North Yorkshire Council Regarding the Approach to Targeted Consultation

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:
Subject:

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Good morni

[Redacted]

Apologies, I did look at this and ran out of time to respond sooner.

I am content with the proposed Targeted Consultation and consider it proportionate to the amendments made to the scheme.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

Principal Planning Officer



OFFICIAL



3 Early Adequacy of Consultation Milestone

Light Valley Solar

Early Adequacy of Consultation Milestone

November 2025



Light Valley
Solar

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM) document has been prepared by Light Valley Solar Ltd ('the Applicant') in preparation for the submission of its application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for Light Valley Solar ('the Proposed Development').
- 1.1.2 In the first half of 2024, the Government introduced new guidance relevant to the application for a DCO:
- Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects issued by the Minister of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities ('the Guidance') (published 30 April 2024); and
 - Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus issued by the Planning Inspectorate ('the Prospectus') (published 16 May 2024).
- 1.1.3 In setting out the requirements and expectations for the preparation of an application for a DCO, both the Guidance and the Prospectus introduced an early Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM).
- 1.1.4 The purpose of the AoCM is to give early consideration on the adequacy of consultation undertaken by the Applicant, prior to the acceptance stage of a DCO application.
- 1.1.5 The Applicant is providing this document to the Planning Inspectorate to demonstrate how it has complied with the consultation and publicity requirements prescribed by Sections 42, 46, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008), associated provisions of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('the EIA Regulations') and The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 ('the APFP Regulations') (as amended) and how the Applicant has had regard to Government guidance.
- 1.1.6 The Prospectus states: *"This adequacy of consultation milestone should be early enough to enable applicants to consider how to undertake any additional engagement that may be needed, but sufficiently towards the end of the pre-application stage to assess the adequacy of the consultation that has been done. It is likely therefore to be no later than around 3 months before the intended date of submission of the application."*
- 1.1.7 *"The adequacy of consultation milestone should be recorded by the applicant and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as a short statement of the elements of consultation which have been carried out compared with the components set out in the Programme Document and the SoCC. The statement should include the views and any relevant supporting material from local authorities if available."*

- 1.1.8 Prior to this, the Applicant invited comments from local authorities on a draft version of the AoCM, providing an opportunity for views and supporting material from the host authorities to be included in the document.
- 1.1.9 To note, the Applicant engaged with local authorities North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council for the Proposed Development on the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) as at the time it was considered that works were potentially likely to take place in the area of both authorities.
- 1.1.10 Following refinements to the project boundary which removed the potential for works to take place within the area of City of York Council, only North Yorkshire Council were referred to as a host authority in relation to the Targeted Consultation, and were the only authority invited to comment on the 'Approach to Targeted Consultation' document, described in Section 4 of this document.
- 1.1.11 Notwithstanding the above, for the purposes of early Adequacy of Consultation, the Applicant provided a draft AoCM to all local authorities identified under Section 43 of the PA 2008.
- 1.1.12 North Yorkshire Council, the host authority, responded to the consultation on the draft AoCM and confirmed that they had no comments to make. Durham County Council also stated that they had no comments to make due to the location of the Proposed Development. No other comments were received from other local authorities.
- 1.1.13 The Applicant has carried out pre-application consultation for the Proposed Development in accordance with relevant legislation, as set out in Table 3.1. This will be further evidenced in the full Consultation Report to be submitted as part of the DCO application.

2 Pre-application Consultation

2.1 Overview

- 2.1.1 The Applicant has undertaken statutory consultation in accordance with the requirements set by the Planning Act 2008 and the EIA Regulations.
- 2.1.2 In accordance with Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008, the Applicant has undertaken pre-application consultation on the Proposed Development ahead of submission of the Application to the Secretary of State with the following consultees:
- Prescribed bodies (in accordance with Section 42(1)(a)) and set out in Appendix 3 of this document;
 - Local authorities (in accordance with Section 42(1)(b) and as set out in Section 43(1)) and set out in Appendix 3 of this document;
 - Those with an interest in the land (in accordance with Section 42(1)(d) and as set out in Section 44);
 - Community and other organisations in the “vicinity” of the Proposed Development who may be affected both directly and indirectly by the Proposed Development (in accordance with Section 47); and
 - Wider communities and organisations (local, national and regional) in order to seek their comments on the Proposed Development (in accordance with Section 48).

2.2 Stages of consultation undertaken

- 2.2.1 The key stages of pre-application consultation undertaken by the Applicant are set out in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1: Pre-application stages of consultation activities undertaken

	Date	Consultation Undertaken
1	September - October 2024	<p>Introduction of the Proposed Development and ongoing engagement and consultation with local authorities and political stakeholders.</p> <p>Prior to the start of non-statutory consultation in late October 2024, the Applicant commenced early engagement with key local and political stakeholders including local authorities, council leadership and MPs through offering a briefing to these stakeholders. This engagement was organised to introduce the Proposed Development, and engagement with these bodies has been ongoing throughout the pre-application period.</p> <p>The Applicant also commenced engagement with locally elected members and representatives including ward and parish councillors and Members of Parliament (MPs) through briefing meetings. For example, the Applicant introduced the proposals to parish councils and elected ward members by issuing digital communications to them on 10 October 2024 describing the Proposed Development and providing advance notice of the upcoming consultation. This also included holding the following meetings prior to Phase One consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 9 October: Keir Mather MP’s office • Wednesday 9 October: a webinar with councillors from North Yorkshire Council and local parish councils. • Tuesday 22 October: Cllr Mark Crane
2	24 October – 5 December 2024	<p>Phase One community consultation (non-statutory)</p> <p>The Applicant held its Phase One non-statutory consultation for six weeks from 24 October to 5 December 2024.</p> <p>The aim of this initial consultation was to introduce the Proposed Development, present early-stage proposals, and give individuals and interested parties the opportunity to share their views.</p> <p>During this non-statutory consultation period, the Applicant held five in-person information events and an online webinar, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday 8 November 2024 – 3pm to 7pm – Riccall Village Institute, 12 Station Road, Riccall, YO19 6QJ • Saturday 7 November 2024 – 11am to 3pm – Hambleton Village Hall, Station Road, Hambleton, Selby, YO8 9HS • Tuesday 12 November 2024 – 3pm to 7pm – Eggborough Village Hall, 57 Selby Road, Eggborough, DN14 0LJ • Saturday 16 November 2024 – 11am to 3pm – Monk Fryston and Hillam Community Centre, Old Vicarage Lane, Monk Fryston, LS25 5EA • Monday 18 November 2024 – 11:30am to 3:30pm – Escrick Village Hall, Main Street, Escrick, York, YO19 6LQ • Wednesday 20 November 2024 – 6pm to 7:30pm – Online Webinar (Zoom) <p>The Applicant publicised the events and consultation information by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distributing a community consultation postcard to over 12,500 local homes and businesses; • Advertising the events across local media; • Distributing posters to invite identified local information points for them to display; • Providing details of the events on the Proposed Development website;

	Date	Consultation Undertaken
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wider publicity via a press release, which was sent to more than fifteen local publications; and Contacting identified stakeholders and individuals who had registered to be kept informed. <p>Full details of these activities will be set out in the Consultation Report.</p>
3	8 November 2024	<p>Scoping Report Submitted</p> <p>The Applicant submitted a Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate, in their role on behalf of the Secretary of State, on 8 November 2024. Through this report, the Applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate that it intended to provide an Environmental Statement (ES) in respect of the Proposed Development pursuant to Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations.</p>
4	19 December 2024	<p>Scoping Opinion</p> <p>A Scoping Opinion was adopted by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) on 19 December 2024 and included the list of consultation bodies notified by the Planning Inspectorate under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations.</p>
5	3 April – 13 May 2025	<p>Consultation on draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) with local authorities under Section 47 of the PA 2008</p> <p>A draft version of the SoCC was circulated with North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council for comment. Comments were received on 13 May 2025 from North Yorkshire Council. The Applicant had regard to these comments in preparing the final version of the SoCC, as set out in Table 4.1 of this document.</p>
6	17 April 2025	<p>Phase One Consultation Summary Report</p> <p>The Applicant published a Phase One Consultation Summary Report to summarise the feedback received during the Phase One consultation and how this feedback was being considered to inform the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The Phase One Consultation Summary Report was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared by email and/or post with key stakeholders (including MPs, councillors, parish councils) and individuals who had registered to be kept informed; and Uploaded to the Proposed Development website.
7	12 June 2025	<p>Publication of SoCC in accordance with Section 47 of the PA 2008</p>
8	18 June and 24 June 2025	<p>Design Workshops</p> <p>Prior to the Phase Two Statutory Consultation, the Applicant invited parish councils, relevant local interest and community groups, and technical consultees to two Design Workshops held on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 18 June 2025, 1pm – 4pm, Riccall Village Institute, 12 Station Road, Riccall, York, YO19 6QJ Tuesday 24 June 2025, 1pm – 4pm, Hambleton Village Hall, Station Road, Hambleton, Selby, YO9 9HS <p>The workshops were an opportunity for the Applicant to openly engage with local stakeholders on the design, asking for suggestions on how the design could be progressed, focusing on where people’s feedback had the biggest scope to influence the design. Attendees were encouraged to provide suggestions and feedback during the sessions through interactive discussions and were also encouraged to subsequently submit written feedback formally</p>

	Date	Consultation Undertaken
		through the Proposed Development communication channels during the Phase Two Statutory Consultation period.
9	24 June 2025	<p>Notification to the Secretary of State, via the Planning Inspectorate, under Section 46 of the PA 2008</p> <p>The Applicant notified the Secretary of State, via the Planning Inspectorate, in writing in accordance with Section 46 of PA 2008 on 24 June 2025 that it was intending to commence consultation under Section 42 of the PA 2008 on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') commencing on 26 June 2025 and closing on 7 August 2025.</p> <p>The Applicant included the following consultation documents with this notification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a covering letter; • example copies of the Section 42 covering letters (one letter type being for prescribed consultees and the other one to landowners); • A site plan showing the location of the Proposed Development; and • A copy of the notice publicising the application under Section 48 of the 2008 Act (including details of the public consultation events and the locations where the consultation documents could be inspected free of charge).
10	26 June – 7 August 2025	<p>Phase Two Statutory Consultation (including Publication of PEIR and Non-Technical Summary of the PEIR)</p> <p>The Applicant published a PEIR on 26 June 2025 as part of statutory consultation under Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008 with prescribed consultees, land interests and the community (Phase Two Statutory Consultation) as described below.</p> <p>The Applicant undertook Phase Two Statutory Consultation from 26 June 2025 to 7 August 2025 (providing a 43-day consultation response period and therefore exceeding the 28-day requirement). Section 42 consultees were formally notified of the commencement of statutory consultation on or before 26 June 2025 by written letter and/or email (where email only service had been confirmed). These letters provided links to the Proposed Development website which hosted copies of the consultation materials, notices and the PEIR and associated documents.</p> <p>Notices were published in accordance with Section 48 of the PA 2008 and copies of this notice were enclosed with the letters sent to section 42 consultees.</p> <p>The PEIR and PEIR Non-technical Summary (NTS) were made available to Section 42 consultees and the community as part of the Phase Two Statutory Consultation via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Proposed Development website; • In hard copy form at the community information events; and • The PEIR NTS only was also available in hard copy form at the Community Access Point (CAP) sites, which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Selby Library, 52 Micklegate, Selby, YO8 4EQ; ○ Barlby Library and Community Hub, Howden Road, Barlby, Selby, YO8 5JE; and ○ Sherburn & Villages Community Library, Finkle Hill, Sherburn in Elmet, Leeds, LS25 6EA. <p>Details of how to access the PEIR and PEIR NTS were provided via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Proposed Development website;

	Date	Consultation Undertaken
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project Information Booklet that was produced as part of the Phase Two Statutory Consultation materials and was available on the Proposed Development website The Section 42 letter; and The Section 48 notice. <p>Details of how to obtain hard copies of the consultation documents, including requests for materials in an alternative format such as large print or audio for those with visual impairments were also provided in the section 42 letter and section 48 notice.</p>
11	26 June – 7 August 2025	<p>Phase Two community consultation (statutory)</p> <p>During Phase Two Statutory Consultation the Applicant held six in-person information events, and an online webinar as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friday 4 July 2025 – 3pm to 7pm – Eversley Park Centre, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Low Street, LS25 6BA Tuesday 8 July 2025 – 3pm to 7pm – Escrick and Deighton Club, 59 Main Street, Escrick, York, YO19 6LQ Wednesday 9 July 2025 – 3pm to 7pm – Riccall Village Institute, 12 Station Road, York, YO19 6QJ Friday 11 July 2025 – 1pm to 5pm – Millfield Road, Chapel Haddlesey, YO8 8QF Tuesday 15 July 2025 – 3pm to 7pm – Hambleton Village Hall, 3 Station Road, Selby, YO8 9HS Saturday 19 July 2025 – 11am to 3pm – Monk Fryston and Hillam Community Centre, Old Vicarage Lane, LS25 5EA Monday 21 July 2025 – 6pm to 7:30pm – Online webinar (via Zoom) <p>The following materials were available at these events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event materials, including maps and plans. Copies of the Project Information Booklet and Feedback Form to view and take away. Copies of the SoCC to view. The full PEIR and PEIR NTS available to view. Copies of the Project Update Newsletter and Phase One Consultation Summary Report to view and take away. <p>The Applicant publicised the events and consultation information by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distributing a community consultation postcard to over 14,000 local homes and businesses setting out details of the consultation (including the proposed information events and how consultation materials (including the PEIR and Project Information Booklet) could be accessed); Distributing a press release containing details of the consultation to regional media publications; Distributing posters to parish councils and Local Information Points inviting them to display (as listed in the SoCC, including village halls, churches and community centres); Distributing hard copies of consultation documents to the three CAP sites (i.e. the libraries listed above); Providing details of the public information events on the Proposed Development website; and Contacting identified key stakeholders (including MPs, councillors and parish councils) and individuals who had registered to be kept informed.

	Date	Consultation Undertaken
		<p>The Applicant had originally planned an event at Queen Margaret’s School, Escrick, for Tuesday 8 July 2025. The closure of this venue was announced two weeks before the event was to occur, making the venue no longer available for an information event. Upon receiving this information, the Applicant was able to book the Escrick and Deighton Club on the same date, at the same time advertised.</p> <p>To ensure that this change was communicated, the Applicant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued a postcard to the entire Core Consultation Zone, over 14,000 addresses; • Updated the Proposed Development website with the new venue; • Printed and attached notices of the venue change to the outside of the previous venue. These notices also contained details of future information events. • Included a line on the event change within email communications sent out at the start of the consultation period. • Corrected the SoCC and inserted an Errata Statement detailing the change. <p>The Applicant invited feedback from the community via a paper feedback form, an online feedback form, and feedback to the Proposed Development communication channels over a stated 42-day response period.</p> <p>Further details on how the Applicant complied with the SoCC are set out in Table 4.2.</p>
12	16 October – 20 November	<p>Targeted Consultation</p> <p>The Applicant is undertaking a targeted consultation for the Proposed Development in Autumn 2025. These changes focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access Points – to allow access to the Proposed Development during construction and operation, including possible vegetation management to allow safe movement of construction traffic. • Visibility Splays – to ensure safe sightlines for vehicles entering or exiting the Proposed Development at access points, including possible vegetation management. • Passing Places – to allow vehicles to pass safely on narrow roads used to access the Proposed Development during construction, including possible vegetation management. • Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AIL) Access – to facilitate safe movement of AILs, which require wide turning radii and unobstructed routes, including possible vegetation management. • Cable Route Adjustments – to allow flexibility to avoid environmental and engineering constraints, such as vegetation or land drains. • Permissive Paths – to enable public access routes within the Solar Photovoltaic Sites for walking or cycling. <p>Prior to this, the Applicant shared an ‘Approach to Targeted Consultation’ document with North Yorkshire Council to invite comments on the Applicant’s approach to consultation. North Yorkshire Council confirmed that they were content with the Applicant’s approach to targeted consultation and did not provide any comments on the detail of the document .</p> <p>Further detail of the targeted consultation, including details of the feedback received and how it has been considered, will be included in the Consultation Report.</p>

3 Compliance with the Planning Act 2008

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 The Applicant undertook the Phase Two Statutory Consultation consistent with the commitments set out in the published SoCC, in accordance with the Section 47(7) of the PA 2008.
- 3.1.2 Table 3.1 describes how the Applicant’s pre-application consultation activities have complied with these requirements in the PA 2008.

Table 3.1: Consultation compliance checklist with PA 2008

Section	Requirement	Consultation Undertaken
Section 42 (The applicant must consult the following about the proposed application)	(a) Such persons as may be prescribed	<p>The Applicant consulted all relevant prescribed consultees as defined in Regulation 3 and Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations (as amended). A list of bodies is provided in Appendix 3 of this document.</p> <p>A Scoping Opinion was adopted by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) on 19 December 2024 and included the list of consultation bodies notified by the Planning Inspectorate under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations. The Applicant consulted with all of these bodies.</p>
	(aa) the Marine Management Organisation, in any case where the proposed development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in subsection (2)	The Applicant did not consult the Marine Management Organisation as the Proposed Development is not sited in areas specified in subsection (2) of Section 42 of the PA2008.
	(b) each local authority that is within Section 43	<p>The Applicant consulted each relevant local authority as defined within Section 43 of the PA 2008. These are listed below:</p> <p>‘A’ Authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lancaster City Council • Pendle Borough Council • Ribble Valley Borough Council • Lancashire County Council • Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority • North York Moors National Park Authority • City of Doncaster Council • Wakefield Metropolitan District Council • Bradford Metropolitan District Council • Westmorland and Furness • Durham County Council • Darlington Borough Council • East Riding of Yorkshire Council • Middlesbrough Borough Council • Leeds City Council • Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council • Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council <p>‘B’ Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Yorkshire Council <p>‘B’ & ‘A’ Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of York Council* <p>*For the purposes of Phase Two statutory consultation, City of York Council were considered</p>

Section	Requirement	Consultation Undertaken
		<p>a 'B' authority as at the time it was considered that works were potentially likely to take place in the area of both authorities.</p> <p>Following refinements to the project boundary which removed the potential for works to take place within the area of City of York Council,</p>
	(c) the Greater London Authority if the land is in Greater London, and	Not applicable because the Proposed Development is not within Greater London.
	(d) each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in Section 44	The Applicant consulted each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in Section 44.
Section 45 (Timetable for consultation under Section 42)	(1) The applicant must, when consulting a person under Section 42, notify the person of the deadline for the receipt by the applicant of the person's response to the consultation.	The Applicant notified all those consulted under Section 42 of the deadline in writing by email and/or post.
	(2) A deadline notified under subsection (1) must not be earlier than the end of the period of 28 days that begins with the day after the day on which the person receives the consultation documents.	The Applicant undertook Phase Two Statutory Consultation from 26 June 2025 to 7 August 2025 which was a period of 42 days, well beyond the 28-day minimum. All consultees were sent the consultation materials to enable them to be delivered by 26 June 2025.
	(3) In subsection (2) "the consultation documents" means the documents supplied to the person by the applicant for the purpose of consulting the person.	<p>The consultation documents provided to Section 42 consultees comprised of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A covering letter, including a link to the consultation materials; • A copy of the notice publicising the application under Section 48 of the PA 2008 (including details of the public consultation events and the locations where the consultation documents could be inspected free of charge); and • A site location plan
Section 46 (Duty to notify Secretary of State)	(1) The applicant must supply the Secretary of State with such information in relation to the proposed application as the applicant would supply to the Secretary of State for the purpose of complying with Section 42 if the applicant were required by that section to consult the Secretary of State about the proposed application.	<p>The Applicant notified the Secretary of State, via the Planning Inspectorate, in writing under Section 46 of the PA 2008 on 24 June 2025 that it was intending to commence consultation under Section 42 of the PA 2008 commencing on 26 June 2025 and closing on 7 August 2025.</p> <p>The Applicant included the following consultation documents with this notification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a covering letter; • example copies of the Section 42 covering letters (including examples for prescribed consultees, the MMO, local authorities and landowners); • A copy of section 47 and section 48 notices (including details of the public consultation events and the locations where the consultation documents could be inspected free of charge); and • A site location plan.
	(2) The applicant must comply with subsection (1) on or before commencing consultation under Section 42.	The Applicant complied with subsection (1) on 24 June 2025, prior to commencing consultation on 26 June 2025.
Section 47 (Duty to consult the local community)	(1) The applicant must prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult, about the proposed application, people living in the vicinity of the land.	The Applicant prepared and published a SoCC that set out how the Applicant proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the land about the Application for the Proposed Development.

Section	Requirement	Consultation Undertaken
	(2) Before preparing the statement, the applicant must consult each local authority that is within Section 43(1) about what is to be in the statement.	To inform the preparation of the statement, the Applicant consulted North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council on the content of the SoCC. Following the refinement of the project boundary, City of York Council are no longer considered a local authority within Section 43(1).
	(3) The deadline for the receipt by the applicant of a local authority’s response to consultation under subsection (2) is the end of the period of 28 days begins with the day after the day on which the local authority receives the consultation documents.	The Applicant then formally consulted with North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council on the draft SoCC between 3 April and 9 May 2025, a period lasting 36 days. Comments were received by North Yorkshire Council on 13 May 2025, following confirmation that the Applicant would be happy to receive comments on the draft SoCC after the deadline. No comments were received from City of York Council on the draft SoCC.
	(4) In subsection (3) “the consultation documents” means the documents supplied to the local authority by the applicant for the purpose of consulting the local authority under subsection (2).	The consultation documents supplied by the Applicant included a covering letter and email, and the draft SoCC.
	(5) In preparing the statement, the applicant must have regard to any response to consultation under subsection (2) that is received by the Applicant before the deadline imposed by subsection (3).	The Applicant had regard to all relevant responses to the draft SoCC. The Applicant shared a response table with North Yorkshire Council to explain how their comments had been considered, as shown in Table 4.2 of this document.
	(6) Once the applicant has prepared the statement, the applicant must – (za) make the statement available for inspection by the public in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land, (a) publish, in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land, a notice stating where and when the statement can be inspected, and (b) publish the statement in such a manner as may be prescribed.	The final SoCC was publicised in accordance with Section 47 of the PA 2008 on 12 June 2025. The SoCC was uploaded to a dedicated page on the Applicant’s website and made available to view and collect from the three CAP sites listed in the document and accompanying notice. Notices were published in the York Press and Selby Times on 12 June 2025 to publicise the SoCC and its availability. The publication of the SoCC was also communicated through emailing identified key stakeholders and any party that has registered to be kept informed for project updates.
	(7) The applicant must carry out consultation in accordance with the proposals set out in the statement.	The Applicant undertook consultation under Section 47 of the PA 2008 in accordance with the SoCC. This is evidenced in the accompanying table and will be further detailed in the Consultation Report.
Section 48 (Duty to publicise)	(1) The applicant must publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner.	The Applicant prepared and publicised the Application in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations and Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations by publicising a Section 48 notice and including a copy of that notice in the letter to s.42 consultees (including all Regulation 11 bodies). The Section 48 Notice was published in the following publications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selby Times on 19 and 26 June 2025; • York Press on 19 and 26 June 2025; • The Guardian on 19 June 2025; and • The London Gazette on 19 June 2025.
	(2) Regulations made for the purpose of subsection (1) must, in particular,	The Section 48 notice included a deadline of 7 August 2025 for receipt of responses to the

Section	Requirement	Consultation Undertaken
	<p>make provision for publicity under subsection (1) to include a deadline for receipt by the applicant of a responses to the publicity.</p>	<p>publicity. The final notice was published on 26 June 2025, which clearly stated the consultation start and end dates, which exceeded the 28 days statutory minimum response time.</p>
<p>Section 49 (Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity)</p>	<p>(1) Subsection (2) applies where the applicant – (a) has complied with Sections 42, 47, and 48, and (b) proposes to go ahead with making an application for an order granting development consent (whether or not in the same terms as the proposed application).</p> <p>(2) The applicant must, when deciding whether the application that the applicant is actually to make should be in the same terms as the proposed application, have regard to any relevant responses.</p> <p>(3) In subsection (2) “relevant response” means—</p> <p>(a) a response from a person consulted under section 42 that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed by section 45 in that person’s case,</p> <p>(b) a response to consultation under section 47(7) that is received by the applicant before any applicable deadline imposed in accordance with the statement prepared under section 47, or</p> <p>(c) a response to publicity under section 48 that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed in accordance with section 48(2) in relation to that publicity</p>	<p>The Applicant is reviewing all relevant responses made pursuant to Section 42, Section 47 and Section 48 in accordance with Section 49.</p> <p>In reviewing the responses, the Applicant is cognisant of its duty to have regard to any relevant responses.</p> <p>A summary of relevant responses received and how the Applicant has had regard to these will be provided in the Consultation Report submitted with the DCO Application.</p>
<p>Section 50 (Guidance about pre-application procedure)</p>	<p>(1) Guidance may be issued about how to comply with the requirements of this Section.</p> <p>(2) Guidance under this section may be issued by the Planning Inspectorate or the Secretary of State.</p> <p>(3) The Applicant must have regard to any guidance under this section.</p>	<p>In carrying out both the Phase One Non-Statutory Consultation and Phase Two Statutory Consultation, the Applicant had regard to the Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024) and continues to do so during this pre-application phase.</p> <p>Full details will be set out in the Consultation Report.</p>

4 Statement of Community Consultation

4.1 Overview

- 4.1.1 In accordance with Section 47 of the PA 2008, a draft SoCC was prepared, consulted on with the host authority, finalised and published ahead of commencing statutory consultation on the Proposed Development. This SoCC confirmed that the Proposed Development is an EIA development, complying with the requirements of Regulation 12(1) EIA Regulations.
- 4.1.2 Section 47(2) of PA 2008 states that before preparing the SoCC, an applicant must consult each local authority that is within Section 43(1) in regard to the content of the SoCC.
- 4.1.3 The Applicant consulted the following authorities on the content of the SoCC:
- North Yorkshire Council; and
 - City of York Council (as at the time this Council was a section 43(1) authority).
- 4.1.4 The finalised SoCC was shared with each authority prior to publication, alongside a table explaining how each of their comments on the draft had been considered and whether it informed a change to the document content.
- 4.1.5 City of York Council did not make any comments on the SoCC.
- 4.1.6 The Applicant considered all comments made by North Yorkshire Council, before publishing the SoCC in accordance with Section 47(6) of the 2008 Act, as described below. A copy of the final SoCC can be seen in Appendix 1 of this document.
- 4.1.7 The Applicant has subsequently undertaken consultation consistent with the principles and commitments and principles set out in the published SoCC, in accordance with Section 47(7) of the 2008 Act, as set out in table 4.4 of this document.

4.2 Consultation on the SoCC

- 4.2.1 The Applicant formally provided a draft SoCC to host authorities for consultation on 3 April 2025. This was provided alongside a covering email and letter to explain the purpose of the draft SoCC, the response process and deadline for comments.
- 4.2.2 The Applicant stated a response deadline of 9 May 2025. This provided a consultation period of 35 days, therefore exceeding the requirement set in Section 47(3) to provide a period of 28 days.
- 4.2.3 North Yorkshire Council provided comments on the draft SoCC on 13 May 2025.
- 4.2.4 The response received from North Yorkshire Council to this consultation on the draft SoCC was considered by the Applicant when finalising the SoCC prior to publication.

4.2.5 A copy of the final SoCC, alongside a table explaining how comments received have been considered by the Applicant when finalising the SoCC, were shared with each authority following publication of the SoCC on 12 June 2025.

4.2.6 The feedback submitted to the consultation on the draft SoCC, and how this was considered by the Applicant, is described in **Table 4.1**.

Table 4.1: Applicant consideration of feedback received to the draft SoCC from North Yorkshire Council (comments received on 13 May 2025)

Feedback	Applicant Response	Updated SoCC Text (if applicable)
1. Introduction		
[1.12]: regarding non-statutory consultation and engagement] Can a summary be provided on what has come out of this and what is being taken through to Stat con?	The Applicant produced a document, the 'Project Update Newsletter and Phase One Consultation Summary Report', setting out a summary of the feedback received at the first phase of consultation, and how that feedback was considered at that time. The Applicant referred to this in the final SoCC.	[para 1.17] In April 2025, the Applicant published a Project Update Newsletter and Phase One Consultation Summary Report. The document includes a summary of the comments received and how the Applicant is using this feedback to inform the project design process moving forward. It can be viewed on the Proposed Development's website [www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk] and will be available to view at CAPs during Phase Two Statutory Consultation. More detail can be found in Section 8 of this document.
2. The Project		
No comment.	Noted.	
3. About us		
No comment.	Noted.	
4. Our Consultation Process		
[4.2.2: regarding statutory consultation dates] Can the dates be included?	The dates of consultation were added to the final SoCC.	[para 4.2.2] Phase Two (statutory) Consultation, to be held for a minimum of six weeks across Summer 2025, from Thursday 26 June to Thursday 7 August 2025.
[4.7: regarding CSR availability on project website] Could add a link to the document?	Yes – a link to the Documents library was added to the final SoCC.	[para 4.7] The CSR has been published on our website, available to view in the Documents section [www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/documents],
5. Who we will consult		
[5.8 regarding written materials sent to CCZ] What are the written materials?	The Applicant welcomed this comment and clarified this in the final SoCC.	[para 5.8] Information about the Project will be communicated directly to properties within the core consultation zone including residents, local businesses and community organisations (including parish councils), to raise awareness and promote dialogue through the Project communication channels. These include written information materials in the form of a Community Consultation Postcard, local and regional media channels; and meetings/briefings (see Section 8 of this document).
[5.8 error reference source not found for link to meetings/briefings] This needs amending.	The Applicant noted this comment and amended the paragraph.	
[5.10 regarding distribution of consultation information to keep informed list] How is this take place? Post or online?	The Applicant welcomed this comment and clarified this in the final SoCC.	Consultation information will also be distributed directly to any individuals and organisations who have specifically registered an interest in the Project. This will be done via post and/or email, depending on how individuals have registered their interest.
6. When we will consult		
[6.5 regarding information events being held outside school holidays] Suggest include the dates here.	The Applicant noted this comment. The full schedule of events was set out in Section 8 of the SoCC. The date range of the events was also added to this paragraph in the final SoCC.	Please see Table 1 in Section 8 for our proposed venues for public information events. The period of time in which information events will be held would be outside of school holidays, with the first event on Friday 4 July, and the final event on Monday 21 July.

Feedback	Applicant Response	Updated SoCC Text (if applicable)
7. What we will consult on		
No Comments.	Noted.	
8. How we will consult		
[8.4 regarding identifying ways people can access, review and express their views on consultation information] What are these? Suggest these are explained.	The Applicant noted this comment. The Applicant set out that the subheadings within Section 8, outlining the various consultation activities, explained how people can access information, review and comment on consultation documents, and express their views regarding the Proposed Development. The Applicant sought to clarify this in this in the final SoCC.	<p>[para 8.4] As set out in more detail under the headings in this section, we have identified a number of ways in which people can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access clear and concise information about our proposals and their potential effects to aid constructive debate (this includes making relevant Project and technical documents available); • Review and comment on consultation documents at a time which is convenient to them; and • Express their views regarding the Project by submitting feedback to the statutory consultation via easy to use and accessible methods.
[8.8 regarding how to submit feedback via channels provided] Again, what are these? Suggest these are explained.	The Applicant noted this comment and sought to clarify this in the final SoCC.	<p>[para 8.8] The workshops will be an opportunity for the Project to openly engage with local stakeholders on the design, asking for suggestions on how the design could be changed, focusing on where people’s feedback has the biggest scope to influence the design. People will be encouraged to submit written feedback formally through the Project communication channels, set out in Section 8.61: Open Communication of this document. Comment sheets will also be provided at the design workshops for attendees to provide written feedback.</p>
[8.10 regarding design workshops] These are taking place so suggest that the dates are included.	The Applicant noted this and updated the wording in the final SoCC to reflect its commitment to design workshops. However, the Applicant did not publicise the event details of the design workshops within the SoCC as they were invite-only.	<p>[para 8.6] Prior to Phase Two Statutory Consultation, the Applicant is inviting parish councils, relevant local interest and community groups, and technical stakeholders through design preview workshops to encourage feedback on the design of the project.</p> <p>[para 8.9] The Project team has written to parish councils, relevant local interest and community groups, and technical stakeholders to invite them to workshops being held two weeks before the start of consultation.</p> <p>[para 8.10] Design workshops are being held in-person prior to Phase Two Statutory Consultation. The dates and times of these workshops have been confirmed with the relevant stakeholders prior to the start of design workshops.</p>
[8.15 regarding online feedback form] Provide a link to this?	The Applicant noted this comment. The online feedback form was not open at the time of publishing the SoCC. Therefore, the Applicant did not put a link within the SoCC. However, the Applicant sought to assure that the link to the online feedback form would be clearly presented on the Proposed Development website and has sought to clarify this in the final SoCC. The online feedback form link was available to view on the website Home page during consultation.	<p>[para 8.15] It will be possible to submit a response to the consultation via the website using a dedicated online feedback form during the defined consultation period. The online feedback form will be made available from 26 June to 7 August 2025.</p>

Feedback	Applicant Response	Updated SoCC Text (if applicable)
<p>[8.36 regarding offering briefings to political stakeholders to update them on the Project] Will stakeholder receive regular updates or at key milestones, throughout the application process? If so how will they receive these?</p>	<p>The Applicant noted this comment. Key stakeholders have been and will continue to be emailed where any proactive updates are made regarding the Proposed Development during the pre-application phase of the Proposed Development outside of the formal statutory consultation process. Once the application is submitted and accepted, the Applicant will comply with Section 56 of the Act to ensure that the Proposed Development's acceptance is publicised in the prescribed manner, and stakeholders will then be able to register with the Planning Inspectorate to participate in the Examination process.</p>	
<p>[8.44 regarding the Applicant holding an online information event] Can the date and time be provided if known? If a stakeholder specifically requests the applicant to present directly to their group, would that be possible? Would a slide deck be available? How do they ask for this?</p>	<p>The date and time of the online information event (Community Webinar) was set out in Table 1 on the SoCC. As set out in Section 8.35 of the SoCC, meetings and briefing sessions may be arranged with local parish councils, elected members and key local stakeholder groups prior, during and following the second phase of community consultation. The Applicant also added in a paragraph regarding a slide deck and its availability Section 8.34: Meetings and Briefing Sessions to clarify this point.</p>	<p>[new para 8.38] A slide deck providing an update on the project, details of Phase Two Statutory Consultation, and a presentation on the updated Project proposals, will be produced for any briefings, and can be made available on request by contacting the Project communication channels</p>
<p>[8.53 regarding materials available at CAPs] Will there be materials available for people with visual impairments?</p>	<p>The Applicant is committed to ensuring that consultation for the Proposed Development is accessible for all. A paragraph has been added in Section 8.56: Availability of Materials to clarify this point.</p>	<p>[new para 8.59] We are committed to ensuring that anyone interested in the project is able to access materials. We encourage anyone who may require consultation materials in alternative formats, such as large-print, audio or braille, to get in touch with the Project via the Project communication channels to request these materials.</p>
<p>[8.59 regarding contacting the Proposed Development's community relation team to ask questions] Is there a community liaison lead for the project? If so suggest details are provided</p>	<p>The Applicant noted this comment. There is not a community liaison officer at this stage of the Proposed Development. Anyone who would like to get in touch with the Proposed Development is encouraged to do so via the Proposed Development communication channels.</p>	
<p>[8.61 regarding providing written feedback during consultation] What about someone who cannot provide written feedback? Will there be someone available to write for them? Or is there an option for someone to phone and leave verbal feedback?</p>	<p>The Applicant noted this comment. An additional paragraph was added to clarify that the Applicant welcomes verbal feedback for those unable to provide written feedback.</p>	<p>[new para 8.63] For those unable to provide written feedback and by appointment with the Project team, it will be possible to make a verbal representation over the Project freephone information line 0808 281 4784. Feedback provided will be transcribed and agreed verbally prior to being recorded as feedback. Appointments to provide verbal feedback should be made by contacting the Project communication channels.</p>
<p>[8.62 regarding the closing date for consultation] Specify the closing date, ambiguous otherwise.</p>	<p>The Applicant noted this comment. The closing date was added to the final SoCC.</p>	<p>[para 8.64] All feedback must be received by 11.59pm on Thursday 07 August 2025. To account for postage delays, feedback received after this date via freepost may be considered.</p>

Feedback	Applicant Response	Updated SoCC Text (if applicable)
[8.69 regarding a press release sent to media outlets at the beginning of consultation] Will social media be used? Have you approached local groups to see if they would be willing to provide updates on Facebook pages (for example)?	The Applicant noted this comment. There was no intention to use social media on behalf of the Proposed Development and has not been used by the Applicant to date. However, parish councils and relevant interest groups received communications regarding the launch of consultation, as well as the publication of the SoCC, and were encouraged to publicise the consultation on their own communication channels, which could include Facebook pages. The Applicant sought to clarify this in the final SoCC.	[para 8.73] Posters publicising the consultation will be issued to venues where in-person information events are taking place, and the clerks of parish councils with a request that these are displayed on local parish notice boards or other suitable locations, including the CAPs. We will also be asking that parish councils publish the consultation on any social media channels they may run. The list of parish councils that will be contacted is provided in Appendix 3 of this document.
9. Consultation Reporting		
No comment.	Noted.	
10. Environmental Information		
No comment.	Noted.	
11. Indicative timeline		
No comment.	Noted.	
Appendices		
[Appendix 1 regarding gateway organisations] Suggest also include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selby District Association of Voluntary Service - York CVS - York LGBT forum - Friends, Family and Travellers - North Yorkshire Disability Forum - North Yorkshire Young Carers - Samaritans - Disability north 	The Applicant welcomes these suggestions. All of the groups listed by North Yorkshire Council were added to Appendix 1 of the SoCC.	

4.3 Targeted consultation

- 4.3.1 Following the close of Phase Two Statutory Consultation, following refinements to the proposals, the Applicant identified a series of minor amendments to the development boundary area for the Proposed Development, compared to the boundary presented for Phase Two Statutory Consultation.
- 4.3.2 The Applicant decided to undertake a targeted consultation on these changes.
- 4.3.3 The published SoCC states that *“If, as a result of feedback, our proposals change to the extent we consider it necessary to undertake further targeted consultation, this will be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC.”*
- 4.3.4 Based on this, the Applicant shared a draft Approach to Targeted Consultation Document with North Yorkshire Council on 15 September 2025 for comment.

- 4.3.5 On 26 September 2025, North Yorkshire Council confirmed that they were content with the Applicant’s Approach to Targeted Consultation Document and that they considered it proportionate in relation to the changes being consulted on with the Targeted Consultation period.
- 4.3.6 The targeted consultation shared with North Yorkshire Council is being carried out in accordance with the approach set out in the finalised Approach to Targeted Consultation Document appended in Appendix 2 of this document.

4.4 Compliance with the SoCC

- 4.4.1 The Applicant undertook Phase Two Statutory Consultation consistent with the commitments set out in the published SoCC, in accordance with Section 47(7) of the PA 2008.
- 4.4.2 **Table 4.3** describes how the Applicant has complied with commitments set out within the published SoCC.

Table 4.3: SoCC Commitments and Applicant Compliance

Section	Commitment	Compliance
1. Introduction	Comments received from the authorities on the draft SoCC have been considered by the Applicant when preparing the final SoCC for publication.	Table 4.1 of the AoCM evidences how the Applicant considered comments from local authorities in preparing the final SoCC for publication.
	The final SoCC will then be publicised and made available for inspection. The final SoCC will be publicised in accordance with Section 47 of the Act, published on our website (www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk), directly emailed to identified key stakeholders and those who have registered to be kept informed, with hard copies available on request, and for review at the venues described in section 8 of this document.	The final SoCC was publicised in accordance with Section 47(6) of the PA 2008 on 12 June 2025. The SoCC was uploaded to the document library on the Applicant’s website and made available to view from the three CAP sites listed in section 8 of the SoCC and accompanying Section 47 Notice.
	As required by Section 47(6) of the Act, we will publish a Section 47 Notice in local newspapers for one week to advertise that the SoCC has been published. The notices will be published in the Selby Times and the York Press on 12 June 2025.	The Section 47 Notices were published in the York Press and Selby Times on 12 June 2025 to publicise the SoCC and its availability.
4. Our Consultation Process	<p>Consultation Objectives</p> <p>Our overall objectives for Phase Two Statutory Consultation are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness about the Proposed Development proposals and the consultation so local communities have the opportunity to understand the Proposed Development, its potential impacts and the measures proposed to reduce those impacts. • Engage in discussion relating to ways of maximising local benefits to meet their long-term needs so they can provide their views and feedback. • Give local communities, relevant authorities and other stakeholders an opportunity to comment on the proposals based on appropriately 	<p>The Applicant undertook consultation with local communities, local authorities, statutory bodies and persons with an interest in land potentially affected by the Proposed Development under Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008.</p> <p>A suite of consultation materials was published on 26 June 2025 to provide appropriately detailed information that is clear and accessible. Materials were published online and also available in printed format (to inspect and/or take away) at the three Community Access Points (CAPs), as stated in the SoCC.</p> <p>Materials also clearly signposted how people could get involved in the Phase Two Statutory Consultation, including a series of in-person and online information events and different methods to provide feedback.</p>

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>detailed information that is clear and accessible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a range of ways for people to engage with the Proposed Development at a time that is convenient to them. For example, online (website, webinars), in person (events, briefings), and in writing (feedback form, leaflet). • Clearly signpost the different ways people can comment on the Proposed Development. • Ensure that everyone who has an interest in the Proposed Development is made aware of the examination process and provided with information explaining how they can participate in that process. 	<p>Materials included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and accompanying PEIR Non-Technical Summary (NTS), including technical maps and plans; • A Community Consultation Postcard (distributed to local homes and businesses); • A Project Information Booklet, including illustrative plans showing the nature of the Proposed Development; • Event Displays; and • A paper and online Feedback Form to encourage responses.
	<p>The Applicant published a Consultation Summary Report ('CSR') for Phase One Consultation in Spring 2025. The purpose of the CSR is to present the feedback received to the Phase One Consultation and set out our response to how we are considering this feedback, as well as provide a project update regarding site selection.</p>	<p>The CSR has been published on the Applicant's website, available to view in the Documents section [www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/documents], and its availability was publicised through notifying, via email, identified consultees such as political and local stakeholders, as well as those who signed up for project updates.</p> <p>The CSR was also made available to view and take away at CAPs from the start of Phase Two Statutory Consultation, as well as at in-person information events.</p>
<p>5. Who we will consult</p>	<p>Our consultation process is open to anyone who is affected by or has an interest in our proposals for the Proposed Development. We are seeking to engage with a range of individuals and groups and want our consultation to be accessible for everyone to take part.</p> <p>In accordance with Section 47 of the Act, the SoCC must outline how we propose to consult people living 'in the vicinity of the land' for the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Core Consultation Zone</p> <p>To help determine the core consultation zone, we considered where may be directly or indirectly impacted by the Proposed Development permanently or temporarily as a result of its construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning.</p> <p>Having considered these impacts, we then determined an appropriate Core Consultation Zone by initially extending a minimum distance of two kilometres from the boundaries of the seven Solar Development Sites and 500 metres</p>	<p>The Applicant accepted all feedback submitted in response to consultation during the consultation period. Opportunities to provide feedback were publicised through a range of methods including national and local media.</p> <p>Section 8 of the SoCC details the Applicant's approach to consulting people living in the vicinity of the Proposed Development. These commitments are evidenced later in this table.</p> <p>As set out in Section 5.4: Core Consultation Zone, the Applicant determined an appropriate core consultation zone by initially extending a minimum distance of two kilometres from the boundaries of the seven Solar Development Sites and 500 metres from the edge of the Cable Corridor Options Area. Following this, additional areas were considered to be included in the zone, as set out in paragraph 5.7 of the SoCC.</p> <p>The Applicant issued a Community Consultation Postcard to all properties (over 14,000) within the defined Core Consultation Zone) to publicise and encourage responses to the Phase Two Statutory Consultation.</p> <p>The postcard notified consultees of the consultation dates and provided information relating to the consultation process and where information about how to take part and what was being consulted on could be found.</p> <p>The Applicant issued a Community Consultation Postcard to all properties (over 14,000) within the defined Core Consultation Zone to publicise and encourage responses to the Phase Two Statutory Consultation. Figure 2 of the SoCC</p>

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>from the edge of the Cable Corridor Options Area and other project infrastructure.</p> <p>Where proportionate and reasonable, the zone has been extended further subject to consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing and human geographical boundaries, for example, railway lines, A-roads and/or motorways such as the A1(M), A19 and the A63. • Avoiding splitting communities. • Coverage of the host parishes that host Solar Development Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Escrick Parish Council ○ Thorganby Parish Council ○ Hambleton Parish Council ○ South Milford Parish Council ○ Monk Fryston Parish Council ○ Hillam Parish Council ○ Birkin Parish Council ○ West Haddlesey Parish Council • Where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications. 	<p>depicts the Core Consultation Zone in relation to the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The postcard notified consultees of the consultation dates and provided information relating to the consultation process and where information about how to take part and what was being consulted on could be found using a range of communication methods.</p> <p>Following the announced closure of Queen Margaret’s School, a second postcard was sent to all properties within the Core Consultation Zone to inform them of the change in event venue to the Escrick & Deighton Club.</p> <p>Every property within the parish councils listed was included within the Core Consultation Zone.</p> <p>A full list of parishes that were notified by the Applicant (separately to the statutory Section 42 notification) is listed within Appendix 3 of the SoCC.</p>
	<p>Information about the Proposed Development will be communicated directly to properties within the Core Consultation Zone including residents local business and community organisations (including parish councils), to raise awareness and promote dialogue through the Proposed Development communication channels. These include written information materials in the form of a Community Consultation Postcard;</p>	
	<p>Consulting people beyond the core consultation zone</p> <p>To give these individuals and organisations the opportunity to participate in this second stage of consultation, we will raise awareness in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directly Notify all those who have registered their interest in the Proposed Development about consultation; 	<p>Those who registered to be kept informed were directly notified via email with information about Phase Two Statutory Consultation. There were no postal addresses of those who wished to be kept informed that were outside of the Core Consultation Zone.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish a Section 48 notice in the local and national press and London Gazette; 	<p>The Section 48 Notice was published as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selby Times on 19 and 26 June 2025; • York Press on 12 and 26 June 2025; • The Guardian on 19 June 2025; and • The London Gazette on 19 June 2025.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish consultation materials online via the Proposed Development website and make them available on request via our contact details. 	<p>All consultation materials were published on the Proposed Development website on 26 June 2025.</p> <p>The Applicant responded to all requests for printed and digital consultation materials.</p>
	<p>We will also engage those parties representing the interests of those communities which lie beyond the core consultation zone, including:</p>	<p>The Applicant contacted the MPs listed via email and posted individual letters to their office on 27 June 2025, at the start of the statutory consultation and on 8 August 2025 following the close of consultation on 7 August 2025.</p>

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of Parliament ('MP') representing the host constituencies and properties within the CCZ: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keir Mather MP (Selby) Sir Alec Shelbrooke MP (Wetherby and Easingwold) Luke Charters MP (York Outer) North Yorkshire Council and City of York councillors and leadership. Parish Councils that host or neighbour the Proposed Development Boundary for Consultation, set out in Appendix 3 of this document. 	<p>The Applicant also contacted North Yorkshire and City of York Councillors, including Officers, Senior Leadership, and those representing the relevant electoral districts by email on 27 June 2025 and 8 August 2025. These were also issued alongside ad hoc meetings and correspondence undertaken throughout the consultation period.</p> <p>All parish councils outlined in Appendix 3 of the SoCC were contacted on 27 June 2025 and 8 August 2025.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community interest groups and voluntary organisations, set out in Appendix 2 of this document. 	<p>In addition to consulting North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council on the draft SoCC, the Applicant welcomed additional groups to engage with the Applicant ahead of and during the Phase Two Statutory Consultation. The Applicant contacted these groups on 27 June 2025 (to confirm the consultation launch) and on 8 August 2025 (to confirm its close).</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statutory bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways in line with Section 42 of the Act. 	<p>The Applicant notified all those consulted under Section 42 of the deadline in writing by post on 25 June 2025 and by email on 26 June 2025.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Owners, tenants and occupiers of the land included within the draft Limits, and those potentially eligible for compensation claims, in line with section 44 of the Act. 	<p>The Applicant notified all those identified under Section 44 of the PA 2008 by post from 25 June 2025. Those who were identified subsequently following further investigations have been provided more than the minimum 28 days to provide their feedback on the Proposed Development.</p>
	<p>Wider outreach and inclusion</p> <p>We will contact the bodies and gateway organisations in Appendix 1 prior to statutory consultation to invite their feedback on our approach to consultation and seek guidance on any actions to further increase accessibility.</p>	<p>The Applicant identified and contacted by email all seldom heard groups and gateway organisations listed in Appendix 1 of the SoCC, regarding the publication of the SoCC and upcoming consultation, on 12 June 2025, and sought guidance from these groups on any methods that would provide accessibility for their members.</p>
	<p>We would welcome any further suggestions from Local Authorities regarding additional groups to include in the list in Appendix 1.</p>	<p>North Yorkshire Council suggested to contact seven additional organisations to contact in their feedback to the draft SoCC. All organisations were added to Appendix 1 and contacted on 27 June 2025.</p>
<p>6. When we will consult</p>	<p>The Applicant will hold their Phase Two Statutory Consultation for a period of 43 days.</p> <p>A 43-day consultation period is consistent with the approach taken to the non-statutory Phase One Consultation and exceeds the statutory requirement of 28 days.</p>	<p>The Applicant held its Phase Two Statutory Consultation for a period of 43 days between 26 June 2025 and 7 August 2025.</p> <p>This duration exceeded the 28-day statutory requirement.</p>
<p>7. What we will consult on</p>	<p>The aim of our pre-application consultation is to ensure that both community and technical consultees have meaningful opportunities to understand and influence Project proposals prior to the submission of a DCO application.</p> <p>Our Phase two (statutory) Consultation will seek feedback on updated Proposed Development proposals that have had regard to feedback received to date.</p> <p>It will include publishing the results of ongoing environmental surveys and preliminary</p>	<p>The Applicant received feedback via online feedback forms, physical feedback submitted by freepost, and by email.</p> <p>The Applicant presented the most up to date environmental information via the PEIR, which was available online, present in printed format at all six in-person information events, and available in specific sections by request via the Proposed Development communication lines.</p>

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>assessments of likely significant effects, and studies that have been carried out to date. These will be presented in a PEIR and accompanying Non-Technical Summary ('NTS').</p> <p>This will report on any potential significant environmental effects related to the Proposed Development and how we are intending to manage these.</p> <p>The Proposed Development Boundary for Consultation will be presented through the consultation materials.</p> <p>Our Phase Two Statutory Consultation will provide an opportunity to comment on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The design of the seven Solar Development Sites in which the electricity generating station and BESS would be contained; • The potential routing for underground Cable Corridors within the Cable Corridor Options Area to connect the Solar Development Sites to one another and provide an electrical connection into the National Grid; • The potential environmental effects of the Proposed Development detailed in the PEIR which sets out the results of our preliminary environmental assessments and associated mitigation; • The timescales and next steps for the Proposed Development; and • Anything else consultees think we need to consider. 	<p>Alongside the PEIR, the Non-Technical Summary ('NTS') was present at each event, available online, and issued to CAP sites.</p> <p>The information presented within the community-facing consultation materials (such as the Project Information Booklet) was consistent with that presented within the PEIR.</p> <p>The Applicant presented maps of the Proposed Development Boundary for Consultation for the Proposed Development online and at information events and could be seen in the Site Location Plan – June 2025.</p> <p>The Phase Two Statutory Consultation allowed the opportunity to provide feedback on any aspect of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Information on the matters listed was set out in the Project Information Booklet, on the Proposed Development leaflet, on poster boards at events and in the published PEIR and PEIR NTS.</p> <p>The Applicant received comments on a variety of aspects, including but not limited to those set out in the SoCC.</p>
<p>8. How We Will Consult</p>	<p>Throughout the consultation process, we will invite communities and interested parties to view, discuss and comment on our proposals; working to ensure that consultation is effective, so that as many people as possible are given the opportunity to express their views.</p> <p>Design Workshops</p> <p>Prior to Phase Two Statutory Consultation, the Applicant is inviting parish councils, relevant local interest and community groups, and technical stakeholders through design preview workshops to encourage feedback on the design of the project.</p>	<p>Throughout the consultation period, the Applicant ensured all consultation information/materials were readily accessible, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosting materials on the Proposed Development website and in printed format at three CAPs and at in-person events. • Giving people seven weeks to review consultation documents at a time convenient to them, including accessing documents online and/or in person (as above). • Providing a variety of channels to provide feedback, include via a printed and/or online feedback form or to the Proposed Development's communication channels (email or Freepost) <p>The Applicant held two design workshops prior to the Phase Two Statutory Consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 18 June 2025 – 1pm – 4pm, Riccall Village Institute, 12 Station Road, Riccall, York, YO19 6QJ. • Tuesday 24 June 2025, 1pm – 4pm, Hambleton Village Hall, Station Road, Hambleton, Selby, YO8 9HS

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	Design workshops are being held in-person prior to Phase Two Statutory Consultation. The dates and times of these workshops have been confirmed with the relevant stakeholders prior to the start of design workshops.	
	The level of detail presented within the design workshops will be consistent with the materials produced for Phase Two Statutory Consultation, ensuring that anybody interested in the project has the opportunity on the proposals presented at Phase Two Statutory Consultation.	The materials presented within the design workshops were consistent with the materials presented at the Phase Two Statutory Consultation.
	The workshops will be an opportunity for the Proposed Development to openly engage with local stakeholders on the design, asking for suggestions on how the design could be changed, focusing on where people’s feedback has the biggest scope to influence the design. People will be encouraged to submit written feedback formally through the Proposed Development communication channels.	The Applicant accepted feedback as part of the design workshops, which has been considered as part of the ongoing design process for the Proposed Development. The feedback will be summarised and considered within the application Consultation Report.
	The Proposed Development team has written to parish councils, relevant local interest and community groups, and technical stakeholders to invite them to workshops being held two weeks before the start of consultation.	<p>The Applicant sent invitations to these groups on 12 May 2025, over a month before the start of the first design workshop being held on 18 June 2025.</p> <p>Attendees from the following organisations attended the workshops included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Yorkshire Council (a number of officers from the council covering a number of environmental topics) • Natural England • Together Hillam and Monk Fryston • Monk Fryston and Hillam Community Sustainability Project • Hambleton Parish Council • Skipwith Parish Council • Riccall Parish Council • Friends of Skipwith Common
	Ad hoc technical workshops may also be held with technical consultees, following engagement with them.	The Applicant has conducted further engagement with technical consultees during and following Phase Two Statutory Consultation.
	<p>Project Website</p> <p>The dedicated Project website will be updated to provide information about the consultation and proposals being consulted on, as well as being available to view and download via the Documents tab.</p>	<p>The Proposed Development website was updated on 26 June 2025 to provide full information about the Phase Two Statutory Consultation and to host the consultation materials. All materials were also hosted on the website from this date: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/documents.</p>
	It will be possible to submit a response to the consultation via the website using a dedicated online feedback form during the defined consultation period. The online feedback form will be made available from 26 June to 7 August 2025.	The Applicant hosted an online feedback form on the Proposed Development website, which replicated the content of the paper feedback form. The online form was accessible until 11.59pm on 7 August 2025.
	It will continue to provide a facility for people to register their contact details with the Proposed Development so they can receive future updates directly within and beyond defined periods of consultation.	The Proposed Development website continues to remain active and host the latest Proposed Development information. This includes a ‘Register for updates’ page: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/register-for-updates
	<p>Direct Communications</p> <p>Direct communications – via a Community Consultation postcard- will be issued to all</p>	The Applicant issued two rounds of over 14,000 postcards to the Core Consultation Zone defined in Figure Two, Section 6 of the SoCC.

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>properties within the core consultation zone and to any other parties who registered to be kept informed about the Proposed Development by post.</p> <p>The postcard will notify local residents and businesses of the consultation period commencing, their opportunities to find out more information (including details of public information events), how to provide feedback, and the response deadline</p>	<p>The first postcard notified local residents and businesses of the consultation period commencing, their opportunities to find out more information (including details of public information events), how to provide feedback, and the response deadline for comments to be submitted. The first postcard also included a map inside of the site location.</p> <p>The second postcard was primarily intended to notify the core consultation zone of a change in venue to the second public information event in Escrick. The Applicant also used the postcard to further publicise the Phase Two Statutory Consultation and the remaining information events.</p>
	<p>Project Information Booklet</p> <p>A Project Information Booklet will be published at the start of the Phase Two Statutory Consultation. This will provide a summary of the proposals we are consulting on, details of how people can take part in the consultation, how feedback will be considered and used to influence the shape of our proposals, and how we will provide information on the outcome of this consultation.</p> <p>8.23. Printed copies of this document will be available to take away at in-person public information events and Community Access Points ('CAPs'), Proposed Development website.</p>	<p>The Project Information Booklet provided a summary of information about the Proposed Development and details of Phase Two Statutory Consultation.</p> <p>The Project Information Booklet was published on the Proposed Development website and was available in printed format at the three CAPs on 26 June 2025.</p> <p>The Project Information Booklet was also available at all community information events.</p>
	<p>Feedback Form</p> <p>A feedback form will be developed to enable people to provide feedback on the proposals.</p> <p>An online version of the feedback form will be hosted on the dedicated Project website so that feedback can be provided electronically.</p> <p>Hard copy feedback forms will be available at in-person public information events and at CAPs. An online PDF version of the feedback form will also be available to download from the Proposed Development website. Copies will also be made available on request in digital or hard copy format, free of charge.</p>	<p>A Feedback Form was produced and made available for the Phase Two Statutory Consultation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In printed format at the three CAPs, at in-person events and on request from the Proposed Development team from 26 June 2025; • Online via the Proposed Development website (as a downloadable PDF) from 26 June 2025; and • As an online interactive form on the Proposed Development website, which could be accessed from 26 June until at least 11.59pm on 7 August 2025. <p>Completed forms and freeform feedback could be returned by post (FREEPOST Light Valley Solar), in person at events, or by email to the Proposed Development team.</p>
	<p>While the feedback form is intended to encourage and support the provision of feedback, we recognise some respondents may prefer to provide written comments outside of set questions.</p> <p>Any and all written comments will be accepted and can be submitted during the Phase Two Statutory Consultation period by post to FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR (no stamp of further address details required) or by email to info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk. Feedback by telephone is not being accepted, except by prior arrangement.</p>	<p>The Applicant accepted feedback until 11.59pm on 7 August 2025 and allowed additional days after this date to receive representations via Freepost, acknowledging delay in postal times.</p> <p>By exception (to the stated feedback methods), the Applicant accepted verbal feedback via the Proposed Development freephone. No representations were received via this method.</p>

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>Technical Documents, Maps, and Plans</p> <p>The Proposed Development Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') will be published at the start of the Phase Two Statutory Consultation period. This document will provide details of the Proposed Development and report on progress with the environmental studies underway to inform the Environmental Assessment.</p> <p>The full PEIR, including the NTS, will be available to view digitally on the Proposed Development website and in printed format at public information events. The NTS will be able to view in Community Access Periods (CAPs).</p> <p>We will endeavour to provide relevant information from the PEIR in hard copy, however reasonable charges will apply to requests for significant volumes of information to be printed given the anticipated size of the fully document.</p>	<p>All technical documents – including the PEIR and accompanying NTS and maps and plans – were made available on the Proposed Development website from 26 June 2025 and hard copies were available to view (but not take away) at the information events. Printed copies of the NTS were also available to inspect (but not take away) from this date at CAPs.</p> <p>Stock levels were monitored on a regular basis and replenished as necessary.</p>
	<p>Meetings and Briefing Sessions</p> <p>Meetings and briefings sessions may be arranged with local parish councils, elected members and key local stakeholders groups prior, during and following the second phase of community consultation.</p>	<p>The Applicant has continued to engage with local stakeholders prior, during and following Phase Two Statutory Consultation. This has included engagement with neighbours to the Proposed Development boundary, as well as continued engagement with local parish councils.</p> <p>Details of this engagement will be summarised within the Consultation Report.</p>
	<p>Key stakeholders set out in Section 5 of this document will be contacted prior to the start of the Phase Two Statutory Consultation to notify them of the upcoming consultation.</p>	<p>Key stakeholders set out in Section 5 of the SoCC were contacted prior to the start of the Phase Two Statutory Consultation to notify them of the upcoming consultation.</p>
	<p>Consultation Information Events</p> <p>We are holding six in-person public information events during the Phase Two Statutory Consultation.</p> <p>We have scheduled these events towards the start of the consultation period, with a minimum of three weeks' notice between events being publicised in the final SoCC and the first event. This is to ensure all events are held prior to school summer holidays.</p> <p>Events will be held across different days of the week and cover a range of times to accommodate different working hours and care schedules to promote accessibility and attendance. This will include holding an event on a Saturday and events running into the evening.</p> <p>At events attendees will be able to find out information about the Proposed Development and what we are consulting on. Members of the Proposed Development team will be present to discuss the proposals and answer questions.</p> <p>In-person information events will be held at venues within the core consultation zone that are accessible by public transport and accommodate the needs of individuals with limited mobility.</p>	<p>The Applicant held a total of six in-person events across the consultation period (as listed in Table 1 of the SoCC). Events were held on a range of dates and times throughout the week, including in the afternoon, evening and at weekends to encourage attendance from all consultees.</p> <p>All venues were located within the Proposed Development's Core Consultation Zone and were selected based on their accessibility (to affected communities) and health and safety/capacity requirements. All venues had disabled access.</p> <p>Several members of the Proposed Development team were in attendance at the events, including representatives from IGP and a wide range of planning, land, technical and environmental impact assessment disciplines.</p> <p>All consultation materials were made available to inspect and/or take away from the in-person events. Members of the Proposed Development team were on hand to discuss the proposals in more detail.</p>

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>The Applicant will also hold one online information event (webinar) via 'Zoom', the date and time of which will be publicised along with details of the in-person events.</p> <p>The webinar will be held for any member of the public to join via telephone or the internet. The format of this webinar will involve the presentation of information consistent with that made available at in-person events by representatives from the Proposed Development team, followed by a moderated question and answer session. A recorded version of the webinar presentation will be made available on the Proposed Development website after the session.</p>	<p>The Applicant held an online webinar via Zoom. Details were publicised in the consultation materials and wider publicity. Consultees could sign up to attend via a link on the Proposed Development website or by getting in touch with the Proposed Development team.</p> <p>The webinar included a live presentation, which covered information consistent with materials presented at the in-person events, and a Q&A with the Proposed Development team. Questions could be submitted and answered live via a 'Q&A' box.</p> <p>A recording of the Webinar presentation was uploaded to the Proposed Development website afterward.</p>
	<p>Community Access Points</p> <p>Community Access Points ('CAPs') are deposit locations where we will make hard copies of this document and relevant Phase Two Statutory Consultation materials available.</p> <p>CAPs have been selected based on their public accessibility including their proximity to the Proposed Development.</p> <p>All three CAPs also host computers with internet access, should any interested individual wish to access the full PEIR via the Proposed Development website.</p>	<p>Consultation materials made available at the CAPs were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback forms (to take away) • Project information booklets (to take away) • Copies of the PEIR Non-Technical Summary (NTS) (to inspect) • Copies of the Phase One Consultation Summary Report (to take away) • Copies of the SoCC (to inspect) <p>The CAPs were selected based on their public accessibility and their proximity to the Proposed Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selby Library, 52 Micklegate, Selby, YO8 4EQ. • Barlby Library and Community Hub, Howden Road, Barlby, Selby, YO8 5JE. • Sherburn & Villages Community Library, Finkle Hill, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Leeds, LS25 6EA. <p>All three CAPs were contacted in advance of the consultation to ensure they each had working computers with internet access.</p>
	<p>Availability of Materials</p> <p>Table 3 below summarises the availability of consultation materials during the Phase Two Statutory Consultation period.</p> <p>The materials will be available in their relevant locations until at least the end of the consultation closing date. Materials will continue to be available to view on the Proposed Development website following the end of the consultation closing date.</p>	<p>All materials committed to being present at events and CAPs in Table 3, were present at CAPs, at the In-person information events, on the Proposed Development Website, and on request.</p>
	<p>We are committed to ensuring that anyone who may require consultation materials in alternative formats, such as large-print, audio or braille, to get in touch with the Proposed Development via the Proposed Development communication channels to request these materials.</p>	<p>Details of how to obtain hard copies of the consultation documents, including requests for materials in an alternative format such as large print or audio for those with visual impairments or in an alternative language for those who do not speak English as their first language, were also provided. This was set out on the Proposed Development website, the Feedback Form, the Project Information Booklet, and within the Section 48 Notice.</p>

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>Open Communications</p> <p>The Proposed Development communications channels will remain open throughout the pre-application stage. Outside the statutory consultation period consultees will still be able to speak to a member of our Proposed Development community relations team to ask questions through these channels.</p> <p>During the consultation period consultees can provide written feedback by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitting an online feedback form through the Proposed Development website • Completing a PDF version of the physical feedback form and submitting via email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk. • Completing a printed copy of the feedback form and submitting it in person information event or returning it to FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR (no stamp required) • Sending an email to: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk. • Providing comments in writing and posting them to FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR (no stamp required). <p>For those unable to provide written feedback and by appointment with the Proposed Development team, it will be possible to make a verbal representation over the Proposed Development freephone information line 0808 281 4784. Feedback provided will be transcribed and agreed verbally prior to being recorded as feedback. Appointments to provide verbal feedback should be made by contacting the Proposed Development communication channels.</p> <p>All feedback must be received by 11.59pm on Thursday 07 August 2025. To account for postage delays, feedback received after this date via freepost may be considered.</p> <p>Questions and requests for information can be made using the communications channels above and by calling the Proposed Development freephone line 0808 281 4784 (open 09:00-17:00, Monday-Friday, with a voice message service operating during out of office hours so a callback can be made subject to the correct information being provided in the message).</p> <p>Section 48 Notice</p> <p>As required by Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 we will publish a Section 48 Notice advertising our intention to submit a DCO application and to notify readers about the Phase Two Statutory Consultation in local newspapers in the vicinity of the Proposed Development for two consecutive weeks and a national newspapers and the London Gazette for one week.</p>	<p>All communication channels remain open throughout the pre-application period, including Freephone, email and Freepost.</p> <p>Stakeholders could submit comments to the Phase Two Statutory Consultation via the advertised methods.</p> <p>All responses submitted by the closing date (11.59pm on 7 August 2025) were accepted, with additional days provided for the receipt of postal feedback (to account for any delays).</p> <p>Subsequently, a small amount of feedback was received following the advertised deadline, which has also been accepted.</p> <p>The Applicant maintained this service throughout consultation. No representations were received verbally via the Proposed Development freephone.</p> <p>All responses submitted by the closing date (11.59pm on 7 August 2025) were accepted, with additional days provided for the receipt of postal feedback (to account for any delays).</p> <p>Subsequently, a small amount of feedback was received following the advertised deadline, which has also been accepted.</p> <p>The Proposed Development team were available via the stated communication channels and received answerphone messages outside of these hours.</p> <p>The Section 48 Notice was published as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selby Times on 19 and 26 June 2025; • York Press on 12 and 26 June 2025; • The Guardian on 19 June 2025; and • The London Gazette on 19 June 2025.

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>The local newspapers in which the Section 48 Notice will appear are the Selby Times and York Press, and the national newspaper is the Guardian. A final publication schedule will be included in the final SoCC.</p>	
	<p>A copy of the Section 48 notice will also be sent via post to the clerks of parish councils with a request that these are displayed on local parish notice boards or other suitable locations, including the CAPs. The list of parish councils that will be contacted is provided in Appendix 3 of this document</p>	<p>The Applicant issued posters to 50 community venues, local information points, inviting them to display an information poster. As noted in Appendix 3 of the SoCC, the parish councils listed in Section 6 were also provided information posters to advertise the Phase Two Statutory Consultation. Posters included a list of in-person and online events.</p>
	<p>Media, Advertising and Publicity</p> <p>To raise awareness about the Proposed Development and consultation within and beyond the core consultation zone we will issue a media release at the start of consultation to provide an overview of the proposed application, why we are consulting and how people can access information about the Proposed Development, including dates of information events and the deadline for receipt of feedback to the consultation.</p>	<p>The Applicant issued a series of media releases to local/regional publications at the start and after the close of the Phase Two Statutory Consultation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A media release on 26 June 2025, announcing the start of the Phase Two Statutory Consultation, a list of in-person and online events and where people could view more information; and • A media release on 8 August 2025, announcing the close of the consultation, a summary of consultation activities undertaken and thanking stakeholders for their engagement.
	<p>In addition to publishing a formal Section 48 Notice in regional and national newspapers, we will place advertisements in local media publications during consultation, including the Selby Times and the York Press, to publicise the consultation and information events taking place.</p>	<p>The Applicant placed a series of additional advertisements in local media outlets as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selby Times on 3 July; and • York Press on 3 July 2025.
	<p>Changes to consultation activities.</p> <p>Should any changes to our consultation activities be required due to circumstances outside of our control following the publishing of the SoCC, details will be publicised in line with the method set out in this SoCC to the extent it is reasonable and proportionate to do so.</p>	<p>On 18 June 2025, the Proposed Development was informed that the venue booked for the second event in Escrick at Queen Margaret’s School would no longer be possible due to the permanent closure of the school.</p> <p>To ensure that this change was communicated, the Applicant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued a postcard to the entire Core Consultation Zone, over 14,000 addresses; • Updated the Proposed Development website with the new venue; • Printed and attached notices of the venue change in Escrick, near the previous venue. These notices also contained details of future information events; and • Updated the SoCC on the Project Development website detailing the change.
	<p>Coordination with other NSIP developers</p> <p>The Applicant recognises the number of other NSIPs in the North Yorkshire County. Ahead of the statutory consultation, the Applicant will attempt to engage with the developers of other third-party developments to determine the timing of any defined consultation periods and activities, including when in-person events will be taking place. Where possible the Applicant</p>	<p>The Applicant contacted developments in the vicinity to ensure due regard was given to any other consultation events occurring in the core consultation zone and host local authorities.</p> <p>This information was considered when setting out the proposed consultation schedule, including dates and times of information events.</p>

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>will endeavour to ensure that in-person events do not take place on the same days to ensure all stakeholders can take part in the Consultation for the Proposed Development.</p>	<p>Most notably, this included Ferrybridge Next Generation Power Station, whose boundary intersects the Proposed Development's boundary, engaging to understand potential cross-over of consultation and engagement activities. There was no clash in in-person events between the Proposed Development and this project.</p>
	<p>The consultation material produced for the statutory consultation, including information set out in the PEIR, will deal with the interaction the Proposed Development and other projects.</p>	<p>Maps detailing other proposed developments in the area were present in the Phase Two Statutory Consultation Materials available online and at in-person information events.</p> <p>Maps detailing these proposed developments were also sent directly to stakeholders upon request.</p> <p>The PEIR also included preliminary reporting in respect of cumulative environmental effects with other projects.</p>
<p>9. Consultation Reporting</p>	<p>A Consultation Report will be prepared and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the application for a Development Consent Order for the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The Consultation Report will also include details of the level of engagement with our consultation activities, such as number of attendees to public information events and the number of feedback submissions received.</p> <p>All feedback received during our Phase Two Statutory Consultation period will be recorded and analysed. This will be presented in the Consultation Report.</p> <p>All feedback received will be stored in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). More information on this can be found www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/privacy-policy</p> <p>Comments will be shared with relevant members of the Proposed Development team to inform ongoing refinement of the proposals ahead of the submission of a DCO application. This will include sharing feedback on the PEIR to inform the completion of the Environmental Statement which will form part of the DCO application.</p> <p>The Applicant's response to feedback received, including whether it has resulted in a change to the Proposed Development or the Applicant's evidence, will be described in the Consultation Report, in compliance with Section 49 of the Act.</p>	<p>The Applicant is preparing a Consultation Report to include as part of the application for a Development Consent Order.</p> <p>The document will include details of the level of engagement with the Applicant's consultation activities, such as number of attendees to public information events and the number of feedback submissions received.</p> <p>The Consultation Report will include a summary of feedback received during Phase Two Statutory Consultation. The Consultation Report will also be accompanied by appendices, namely Section 42 Applicant Response and Section 47 Applicant Response, which will evidence how all feedback received under statutory consulted has been considered and responded to by the Applicant.</p> <p>All feedback received has been stored and processed in accordance with UK GDPR.</p> <p>Comments were shared with relevant members of the Proposed Development team to inform the refinement of the proposals.</p> <p>The Applicant's Consultation Report will contain a full response to the comments raised throughout the statutory consultation process.</p>
<p>10. Environmental Information</p>	<p>We will undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') for Light Valley Soar. The scope and methodology for this assessment will be informed by feedback from relevant regulatory and environmental bodies. The EIA process is described in Table 4.</p>	<p>The PEIR and accompanying NTS were made available on the Proposed Development website from 26 June 2025. Hard copies of the PEIR NTS (for inspection only) were also available at CAPs from 26 June 2025 and at the in-person events (the latter of which also had copies of the PEIR itself to review).</p> <p>The feedback form was designed to include questions targeted at specific areas of the Proposed Development, including requesting comments on the contents of the PEIR and NTS.</p>

Section	Commitment	Compliance
	<p>The Phase Two Statutory Consultation includes for the publication of the PEIR. This will allow community members to consider and provide feedback to us directly on relevant environmental information in parallel to statutory consultees.</p>	<p>The ES will be submitted as part of the Applicant's DCO application for the Proposed Development. The DCO application will explain changes to the Proposed Development as a result of statutory consultation feedback and ongoing design work.</p>

5 Consideration of feedback

5.1 Overview

- 5.1.1 The Applicant recognises their duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity, in accordance with Section 49 of the PA 2008.
- 5.1.2 The Applicant is preparing a full Consultation Report to be submitted as part of the DCO application in accordance with Section 37(3)(c) of the PA 2008.
- 5.1.3 In doing so, the Applicant's Consultation Report will demonstrate how consultation responses have been taken into account during the preparation of the application, including comments received at Targeted Consultation.
- 5.1.4 The Applicant has considered (and will continue to consider) feedback received in its consultations and separate design workshops that were held pre-Phase Two consultation, alongside the results of environmental assessments and stakeholder engagement, to inform the design evolution of the Proposed Development, including mitigation proposals.
- 5.1.5 The Applicant notes that many consultation responses included broader concerns regarding the efficiency of solar technology, the need for solar generally and in this location, the scale of the Proposed Development and the location of the agreed grid connection. Interested parties will have the opportunity to engage on these topics throughout the Examination process.
- 5.1.6 The Applicant is also continuing its technical engagement with stakeholders in evolving the design of the Proposed Development.
- 5.1.7 To date, there are changes that have been adopted following the consideration of feedback. These include:
- The further introduction of new hedgerows and screening
 - Alterations to accesses proposed to access sites and the cable corridor
 - The introduction of additional permissive paths
- 5.1.8 Further changes will be evidenced within the Consultation Report.

Appendix 1: Statement of Community Consultation – June 2025

Light Valley Solar

Statement of Community Consultation

June 2025



Light Valley
Solar

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Errata Statement: Update: June 2025

Due to the recently announced closure of Queen Margaret’s School, we have been informed that we can no longer host an event there. We have since confirmed the Escrick & Deighton Club as an alternative, at the same time and on the same date. Table 1, on page 25 of this SoCC, has been updated to reflect this.



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Lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Email us at:
info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Call our Freephone line:
0808 281 4784



Write to us at:
FREEPOST Light Valley Solar

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Light Valley Solar Ltd ('we' or 'the Applicant') has prepared this draft Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC') in connection with its proposals for a new solar and battery energy storage project known as Light Valley Solar ('the Proposed Development'), located on land between Escrick, Monk Fryston, Hambleton, Chapel Haddlesey and South Milford.
- 1.2. The Proposed Development is anticipated as being able to deliver up to 500 megawatts (MW) of electricity over 60 years of operation. Clean electricity generated by the project will be supplied to the National Grid at the existing Monk Fryston substation, where a 500 MW AC (alternate current) connection has been agreed. For context, 500 MW AC is equivalent to producing enough electricity to power approximately 115,000 homes annually.
- 1.3. The Proposed Development would comprise the installation of ground-mounted solar photovoltaic ('PV') panels, and a battery energy storage system ('BESS') with below ground cable connections between the panel areas and into the existing Monk Fryston substation.
- 1.4. Due to the Proposed Development's size, it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ('NSIP'). This means it requires a development consent order ('DCO') under the Planning Act 2008 ('the Act'). The Act requires promoters of NSIPs to carry out a formal stage of consultation referred to as a 'Statutory Consultation' to take place over a minimum of 28 days.
- 1.5. Our Phase Two (statutory) consultation is taking place over a minimum of six weeks in Summer 2025. It will run from Thursday 26 June to Thursday 7 August 2025.
- 1.6. Prior to this statutory stage of consultation, and in accordance with Section 47 of the Act, consultation was carried out on a draft SoCC with the host Local Planning Authorities ('LPA'). For the purposes of this document, the LPAs are North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council.
- 1.7. As noted in section 5 of this document, a small section of the core consultation zone falls within the boundary of City of York Council. Furthermore, there is also the potential for physical works (small scale highway works) to be carried out within the administrative area of City of York Council. Therefore, City of York Council will be defined as a host authority until stated otherwise.
- 1.8. Comments received from the authorities on the draft SoCC have been considered by the Applicant when preparing the final SoCC for publication.



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info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Call our Freephone line:
0808 281 4784



Write to us at:
FREEPOST Light Valley Solar

1.9. The final SoCC will then be publicised and made available for inspection. The final SoCC will be publicised in accordance with Section 47 of the Act, published on our website (www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk), directly emailed to identified key stakeholders and those who have registered to be kept informed, with hard copies available on request, and for review at the venues described in section 8 of this document.

1.10. As required by Section 47 (6) of the Act, we will publish a Section 47 Notice in local newspapers for one week to advertise that the SoCC has been published. The notices will be published in the Selby Times and the York Press on 12 June 2025.

1.11. Statutory consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the methodology and commitments set out in the SoCC as published.

1.12. Phase One Consultation (October – December 2024)

1.13. Prior to this stage, the Applicant has already undertaken non-statutory consultation and engagement ('Phase One Consultation') to inform the emerging proposals for the Proposed Development and shape the ongoing design development. This was a six-week phase of consultation held between Thursday 24 October and Thursday 5 December 2024.

1.14. The aim of Phase One Consultation was to introduce the Applicant and the overall Project, share information about the emerging proposals and give individuals and interested parties an early opportunity to have their say and share their views and local knowledge.

1.15. The Applicant's Phase One Consultation involved welcoming over 250 people to a series of five in-person information events and one online community webinar, as well as receiving over 125 pieces of feedback. The Applicant's feedback form invited comments and views on the Proposed Development and our methods of consultation. A community consultation postcard was sent to over 12,500 households and businesses, and the Proposed Development was advertised in local media, including the Selby Times and the York Press.

1.16. Experience from Phase One Consultation has also informed the proposed approach to statutory consultation, as set out in this draft SoCC, which has been prepared for consultation with local authorities.

1.17. In April 2025, the Applicant published a *Project Update Newsletter and Phase One Consultation Summary Report*. The document includes a summary of the comments received and how the Applicant is using this



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feedback to inform the project design process moving forward. It can be viewed on the Proposed Development's website [www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk] and will be available to view at CAPs during Phase Two Consultation. More detail can be found in **Section 8** of this document.



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2. THE PROJECT

- 2.1. The Light Valley Solar draft site boundary (described as the ‘Proposed Development Boundary for Consultation’) consists of seven Solar Development Sites (‘Sites’) and approximately 30 km of below ground cable connections (‘Cable Corridor’) and associated infrastructure. Site 2 (shown in Figure 1) is intended to include a Battery Energy Storage System (‘BESS’) area. The below ground cable connectors will connect the seven sites together before connecting into the existing Monk Fryston National Grid substation. The Proposed Development will also incorporate environmental mitigation and enhancement areas, including to deliver biodiversity net gain.
- 2.2. The seven Sites comprise approximately 1020 hectares (2500 acres) of predominantly agricultural land between the villages of Escrick, Monk Fryston, Hambleton, Chapel Haddlesey and South Milford.
- 2.3. The Proposed Development Boundary for Consultation includes a Cable Corridor within which the cable connections will be required between the Solar Development Sites and the existing Monk Fryston substation where the project will connect to the National Grid. Through consultation and further environmental assessment and design, this corridor will be further refined ahead of submitting the DCO application.
- 2.4. The Proposed Development Location Plan is shown in Figure 1. This map shows the extent of the land that is being investigated for use for the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the Solar Development Sites and the connection into the National Grid at Monk Fryston substation.
- 2.5. Following our initial public consultation at the end of 2024, we have made changes to the area covered by the project proposals. This includes introducing new land to the project moving forward which is now being considered for solar development, labelled as Sites 6, 7 and 8 on **Figure 1**. Furthermore, as a result of ongoing design work and environmental assessment ahead of our Phase Two consultation, one area of the project near Chapel Haddlesey and Temple Hirst, previously known as Site 5, has been removed.
- 2.6. Subject to being consented, the Proposed Development has the potential to:
- Provide up to 500 MW AC of clean, affordable energy into the National Grid.
 - Store up to 500 MWh (megawatt-hours) of energy in the BESS.



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- Generate enough renewable electricity capacity to power the equivalent of 115,000 homes annually.
- Contribute to climate targets and the decarbonisation of our electricity supply.
- Co-exist and enhance the natural environment by delivering a net gain in biodiversity.
- Provide community and local benefits for the surrounding area, with a commitment to work with the local community to identify and define community benefits.

2.7. The operational life of the Proposed Development will be up to 60 years. At the end of the Proposed Development's operational life a decommissioning plan will be enacted. This plan will detail the removal of infrastructure and restoration of the land to its original use.

2.8. The Applicant will be applying for a DCO under the Act. The application will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, and the final decision on whether the project is granted consent will be determined by the Secretary or State.

2.9. Further information on the DCO process can be found here:

<https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/decision-making-process-guide>

2.10. Environmentally led design

2.11. The Proposed Development is being developed through environmentally led design with regard to the surrounding environment and communities, taking into account existing homes, landscape, ecological and habitat features, heritage assets, the need to manage flood risk and Public Rights of Way, for example.

2.12. The design of the Proposed Development is an iterative process, based on ongoing environmental assessments and consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees. The design will be informed by understanding the environmental constraints within and outside the Proposed Development Boundary for Consultation. Where possible, the process is steering development away from sensitive areas, whilst including land suitable for mitigation requirements.

2.13. Island Green Power has developed a number of design principles which will be applied to the Proposed Development. These are:

- Decarbonisation and Energy Security
- Environmentally led design
- Biodiversity net gain and Nature Recovery and



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- Design flexibility
- Social value and community
- Efficient infrastructure & ethical supply chain
- Sustainability, Durability, and Reversibility
- Commitment to Mitigation

2.14. These design principles, and Light Valley specific design principles are set out in more detail in Section 2.6 of Chapter 2 of the Proposed Development's PEIR (Volume 1). The Proposed Development specific design principles will be consulted on and further developed as part of the Phase Two consultation.



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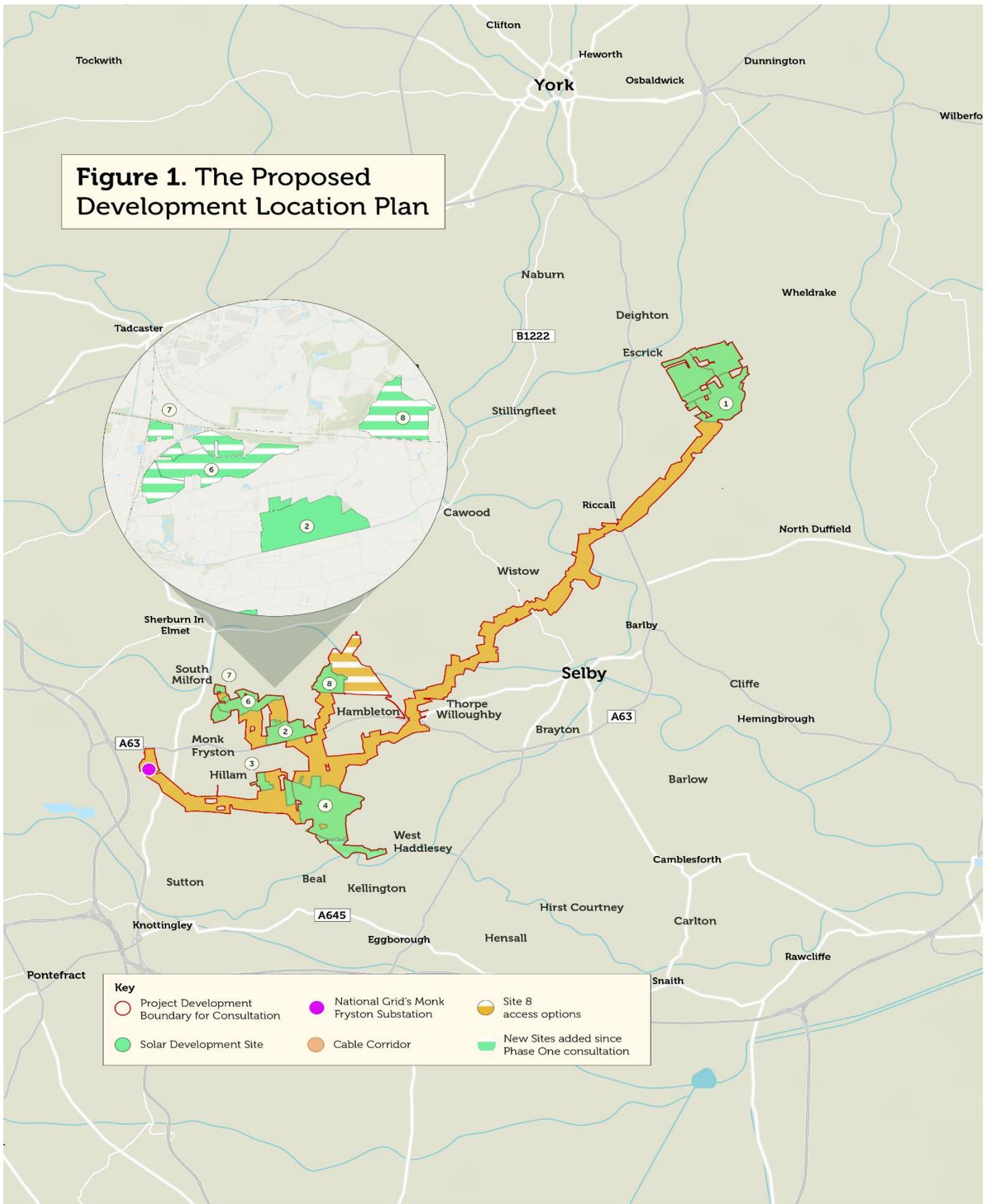


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Figure 1. The Proposed Development Location Plan



3. ABOUT US

- 3.1. The Proposed Development is a development proposed by Island Green Power ('IGP') who is an international developer of renewable energy projects.
- 3.2. Light Valley Solar Limited is a 100 per cent subsidiary of IGP UK Projects Limited, which is in turn a 100 per cent subsidiary of Island Green Power's UK group holding company, Island Green Power Group Limited.
- 3.3. Established in 2013, IGP has successfully delivered 37 solar projects worldwide with a total of more than 2.5 gigawatts of energy capacity. This includes 20 projects in the UK and Republic of Ireland.
- 3.4. These range in size from below 5 MW to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) such as Cottam Solar Project, currently the UK's largest consented solar farm, generating 600 MW of clean, renewable and secure electricity including 600 MW of Battery Storage.
- 3.5. IGP specialises in the development of utility-scale solar projects and battery energy storage systems; overseeing the entire development process from start to finish, including sourcing land, securing grid connections and obtaining planning consents.
- 3.6. IGP's mission is to deliver renewable energy solutions that create lasting value for the communities they serve, protecting the environment while fostering economic growth and energy independence.
- 3.7. IGP has appointed a professional project team to provide support and expertise throughout the project development process for the project. Together, the project team has significant experience working across solar and DCO projects, and in developing plans that are sensitive to the needs of the local community and surrounding environment.



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4. OUR CONSULTATION PROCESS

4.1. The proposed approach is an iterative two-phase consultation process for the Proposed Development whereby feedback and information received in response to consultation will inform the refinement of the Proposed Development design and options.

4.2. This includes:

4.2.1. **Phase One (non-statutory) Consultation**, which was held for six weeks between 24 October and 5 December 2024 to:

- Introduce the proposals and the Applicant.
- Seek initial feedback on the Proposed Development and emerging proposal to inform design refinement.
- Identify local schemes or initiatives the Proposed Development could support or deliver to benefit those communities closest to the Proposed Development.
- Understand any opportunities to improve consultation methods ahead of Phase Two (statutory) Consultation.

4.2.2. **Phase Two (statutory) Consultation**, to be held for a minimum of six weeks across Summer 2025, from Thursday 26 June to Thursday 7 August 2025. Consultation will seek to gather feedback on the refined design, proposed mitigation and information presented in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR').

4.3. Our overall objectives for Phase Two consultation are to:

- Raise awareness about the Proposed Development proposals and the consultation so local communities have the opportunity to understand the Proposed Development, its potential impacts and the measures proposed to reduce those impacts.
- Engage in discussion relating to ways of maximising local benefits to meet their long-term needs so they can provide their views and feedback.
- Give local communities, relevant authorities and other stakeholders an opportunity to comment on the proposals based on appropriately detailed information that is clear and accessible.
- Provide a range of ways for people to engage with the Proposed Development at a time that is convenient to them. For example, online (website, webinars), in person (events, briefings), and in writing (feedback form, leaflet).
- Clearly signpost the different ways people can comment on the Proposed Development.
- Ensure that everyone who has an interest in the Proposed Development is made aware of the examination process and provided with information explaining how they can participate in that process.



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- 4.4. In carrying out Phase One Consultation on the emerging proposals for the Proposed Development, the Applicant sought to help stakeholders and local communities understand the Proposed Development sufficiently, what it could mean for them (including potential benefits), and how they can become involved at the pre-application stage of the development process.
- 4.5. Experience of the Phase One Consultation – such as attendance at public information events and the levels and format of feedback received – has also been considered by the Applicant when preparing their proposed approach to statutory consultation.
- 4.6. The Proposed Development team has considered all feedback received during Phase One Consultation. This process has informed further updates to the proposals for the Proposed Development.
- 4.7. The Applicant published a Consultation Summary Report ('CSR') for Phase One Consultation in Spring 2025. The purpose of the CSR is to present the feedback received to the Phase One Consultation and set out our response to how we are considering this feedback, as well as provide a project update regarding site selection. The CSR has been published on our website, available to view in the Documents section [www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/documents], and its availability was publicised through notifying, via email, consultees and community members who have signed up for project updates. It will also be made available view and take away at Community Access Points (CAPs) prior to the start of Phase Two consultation, as well as at our in-person information events. More details on this can be seen in **Section 8** of this document.
- 4.8. The Applicant is now preparing to undertake a statutory phase of consultation, as described in this draft SoCC, before the Applicant submits its application for development consent, expected in 2026.
- 4.9. Following this Phase Two Consultation, a Consultation Report will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the Proposed Development DCO application. The Consultation Report will describe, and evidence consultation undertaken, the level of engagement with this consultation, and how regard has been had to feedback received. More information on this is described in **Section 9** of this document.
- 4.10. If, as a result of feedback, our proposals change to the extent we consider it necessary to undertake further targeted consultation, this will be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC.



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5. WHO WE WILL CONSULT

- 5.1. Our consultation process is open to anyone who is affected by or has an interest in our proposals for the Proposed Development. We are seeking to engage with a range of individuals and groups and want our consultation to be accessible for everyone to take part.
- 5.2. In accordance with Section 47 of the Act, the SoCC must outline how we propose to consult people living 'in the vicinity of the land' for the Proposed Development. This also encompasses those working and visiting areas within the vicinity of the Proposed Development.
- 5.3. To help determine the areas where we will consult, professional judgement has been adopted and considered based on common practice, potential effects, and existing infrastructure, as well as our experience from Phase One consultation.

5.4. Core Consultation Zone

- 5.5. To help determine the core consultation zone, we considered where may be directly or indirectly impacted by the Proposed Development permanently or temporarily as a result of its construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning.
- 5.6. Having considered these impacts, we then determined an appropriate core consultation zone by initially extending a minimum distance of two kilometres from the boundaries of the seven Solar Development Sites and 500 metres from the edge of the Cable Corridor Options Area and other project infrastructure.
- 5.7. Where proportionate and reasonable, the zone has been extended further subject to consideration of:
- Existing natural and human geographical boundaries, for example, railway lines, A-roads and/or motorways such as the A1(M), A19 and the A63.
 - Avoiding splitting communities.
 - Coverage of the host parishes that host Solar Development Sites. This includes:
 - Escrick Parish Council
 - Thorganby Parish Council
 - Hambleton Parish Council
 - South Milford Parish Council
 - Monk Fryston Parish Council
 - Hillam Parish Council
 - Birkin Parish Council



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- West Haddlesey Parish Council
- Where we propose to undertake additional works to enable construction transport, equipment areas or road modifications.

- 5.8. Information about the Proposed Development will be communicated directly to properties within the core consultation zone including residents, local businesses and community organisations (including parish councils), to raise awareness and promote dialogue through the Proposed Development communication channels. These include written information materials in the form of a Community Consultation Postcard; local and regional media channels; and meetings/briefings (see **Section 8** of this document).
- 5.9. The core consultation zone is shown in **Figure 2**. There are over 14,000 properties within the core consultation zone, which is subject to change based on available Royal Mail data.
- 5.10. Consultation information will also be distributed directly to any individuals and organisations who have specifically registered an interest in the Proposed Development. This will be done via post and/or email, depending on how individuals have registered their interest.
- 5.11. Design workshops, set out in **Section 8** of this document, will be held with parish councils, community interest groups and any other key groups such as campaign groups prior to and during statutory consultation. The intention is to consult with these groups to better engage with the community through open engagement on the design and to set out how they can influence project design with their feedback to the statutory consultation.
- 5.12. Further design workshops may also be arranged with statutory technical bodies prior, during or after the statutory consultation period.
- 5.13. In-person information events will be hosted at venues located within the core consultation zone. The list of in-person information event venues is stated in **Section 8** of this document.



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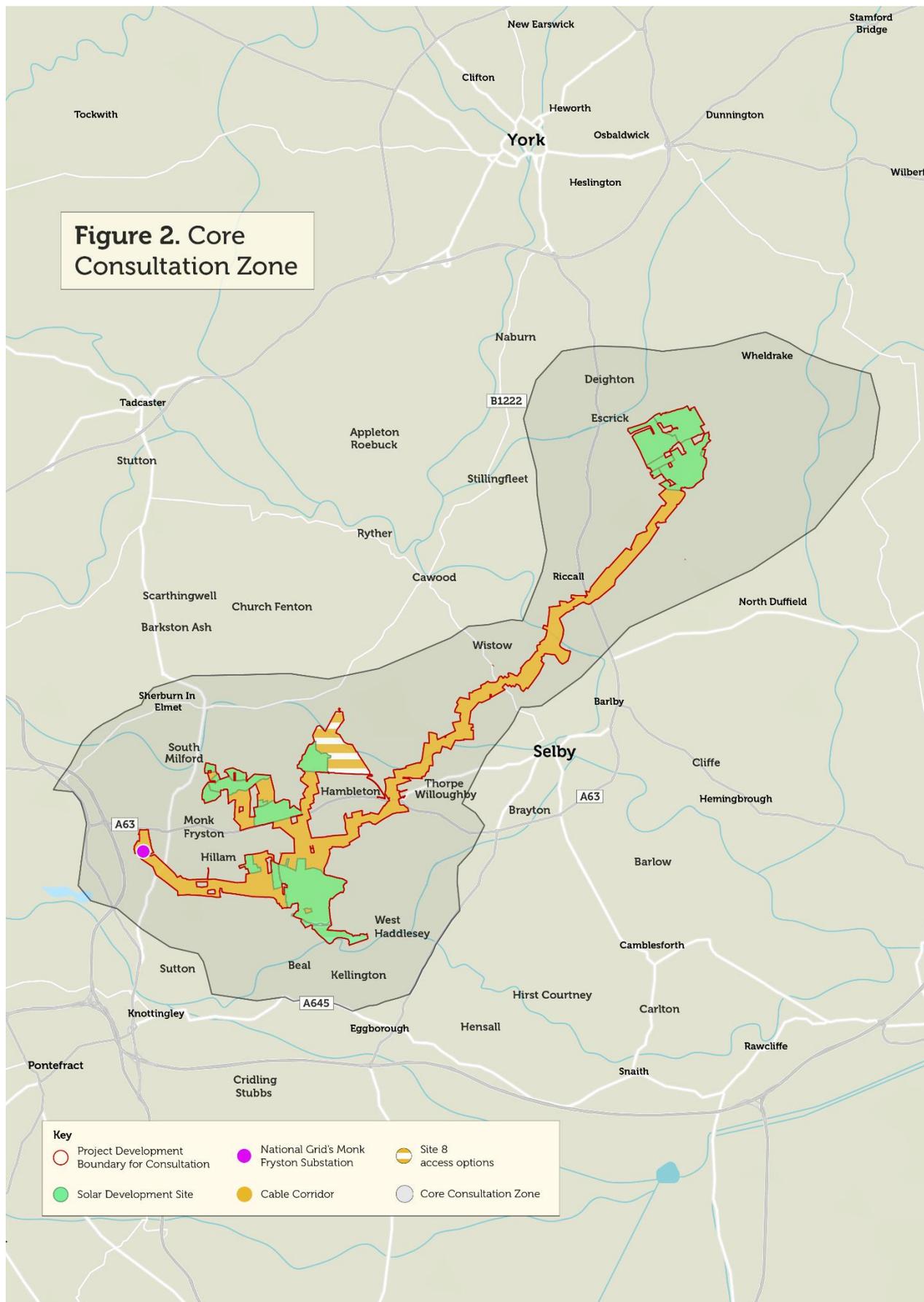


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Figure 2. Core Consultation Zone



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5.14. Consulting people beyond the core consultation zone

5.15. It is recognised that people who live and work beyond the core consultation zone, while not being directly affected, may have an interest in our proposals and wish to participate in consultation.

5.16. To give these individuals and organisations the opportunity to participate in this second stage of consultation, we will raise awareness in the following ways:

- Directly notify all those who have registered their interest in the Proposed Development about consultation;
- Publish a Section 48 notice in the local and national press and London Gazette;
- Publish consultation materials online via the Proposed Development website and make them available on request via our contact details.

5.17. We will also engage those parties representing the interests of those communities which lie beyond the core consultation zone, including:

- Members of Parliament ('MP') representing the host constituencies and properties within CCZ:
 - Keir Mather MP (Selby)
 - Alec Shelbrooke MP (Wetherby and Easingwold)
 - Luke Charters MP (York Outer)
- North Yorkshire Council and City of York councillors and leadership
- Parish Councils that host or neighbour the Proposed Development Boundary for Consultation, set out in **Appendix 3** of this document.
- Community interest groups and voluntary organisations, set out in **Appendix 2** of this document.
- Statutory bodies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and National Highways in line with section 42 of the Act.
- Owners, tenants and occupiers of the land included within the draft Limits, and those potentially eligible for compensation claims, in line with section 44 of the Act.

5.18. Wider outreach and inclusion

5.19. The Applicant is committed to ensuring that the consultation process, and associated communications, reach as many parts of the community as possible. We recognise that there are individuals, groups and communities within the core consultation zone for whom there may be certain barriers which could prevent them from fully participating in the consultation - or make them less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation techniques.



- 5.20. The Applicant's consultation methodology (see Section 8) has been developed to accommodate communicating as effectively as possible with these groups so they can have their say. Contact will be made with bodies and gateway organisations representing these groups ahead of consultation starting to ensure our approach meets the specific needs of their members. Requests for specific consultation activity to cater for their members will be considered on a case-by-case basis. This will then be agreed and planned with the requesting organisations.
- 5.21. We will contact the bodies and gateway organisations in Appendix 1 prior to statutory consultation to invite their feedback on our approach to consultation and seek guidance on any actions to further increase accessibility.
- 5.22. We would welcome any further suggestions from Local Authorities regarding additional groups to include in the list in Appendix 1.



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6. WHEN WE WILL CONSULT

- 6.1. The Applicant will hold their Phase Two Consultation for a period of 43 days.
- 6.2. A 43-day consultation period is consistent with the approach taken to the non-statutory Phase One Consultation and exceeds the statutory requirement of 28 days.
- 6.3. The specific dates of Phase Two Consultation are yet to be defined but will be confirmed and included in the final published version of the SoCC.
- 6.4. For the purposes of this draft, the Applicant is working towards the dates of Thursday 26 June to Thursday 7 August 2025 for their six-week consultation period, with targeted preview workshops to be held up to two weeks in advance of this or during the first week of consultation.
- 6.5. Please see Table 1 in **section 8** for our proposed venues for public information events. The period of time in which information events will be held would be outside of school holidays, with the first event on Friday 4th July, and the final event on Monday 21st July.



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7. WHAT WE WILL CONSULT ON

- 7.1. The aim of our pre-application consultation is to ensure that both community and technical consultees have meaningful opportunities to understand and influence Project proposals prior to the submission of a DCO application.
- 7.2. Through multiple phases of consultation, we are seeking feedback to help develop our proposals. This provides opportunities to provide feedback on proposals at an initial stage and then provide further feedback on more developed proposals.
- 7.3. Our Phase Two (statutory) Consultation will seek feedback on updated Project proposals that have had regard to feedback received to date.
- 7.4. It will include publishing the results of ongoing environmental surveys and preliminary assessments of likely significant effects, and studies that have been carried out to date. These will be presented in a PEIR and accompanying Non-Technical Summary ('NTS').
- 7.5. This will report on any potential significant environmental effects related to the Proposed Development and how we are intending to manage these.
- 7.6. The Proposed Development Boundary for Consultation will be presented through the consultation materials.
- 7.7. Our Phase Two Consultation will provide an opportunity to comment on:
- The design for the seven Solar Development Sites in which the electricity generating station and BESS would be contained;
 - The potential routing for underground Cable Corridors within the Cable Corridor Options Area to connect the Solar Development Sites to one another and provide an electrical connection into the National Grid;
 - The potential environmental effects of the Proposed Development detailed in the PEIR which sets out the results of our preliminary environmental assessments and associated mitigation;
 - The timescales and next steps for the Proposed Development; and
 - Anything else consultees think we need to consider.



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8. HOW WE WILL CONSULT

- 8.1. Throughout the consultation process, we will invite communities and interested parties to view, discuss and comment on our proposals; working to ensure that consultation is effective, so that as many people as possible are given the opportunity to express their views.
- 8.2. During our Phase One Consultation we used a range of methods to provide information about the Proposed Development and the opportunities to provide feedback.
- 8.3. While acknowledging that some aspects of the Proposed Development may be complicated, we will endeavour to continue to conduct consultation in a way that gives anyone interested the opportunity to access information and provide their views.
- 8.4. As set out in more detail under the headings in this section, we have identified a number of ways in which people can:
- Access clear and concise information about our proposals and their potential effects to aid constructive debate (this includes making relevant Project and technical documents available);
 - Review and comment on consultation documents at a time which is convenient to them; and
 - Express their views regarding the Proposed Development by submitting feedback to the statutory consultation via easy to use and accessible methods.

8.5. Design Workshops

- 8.6. Prior to Phase Two Consultation, the Applicant is inviting parish councils, relevant local interest and community groups, and technical stakeholders through design preview workshops to encourage feedback on the design of the project.
- 8.7. The level of detail presented within the design workshops will be consistent with the materials produced for Phase Two consultation, ensuring that anybody interested in the project has the opportunity on the proposals presented at Phase Two Consultation.
- 8.8. The workshops will be an opportunity for the Proposed Development to openly engage with local stakeholders on the design, asking for suggestions on how the design could be changed, focusing on where people's feedback has the biggest scope to influence the design. People will be encouraged to submit written feedback formally through the Proposed Development communication channels, set out in **Section 8.60** of



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this document. Comment sheets will also be provided at the design workshops for attendees to provide written feedback.

- 8.9. The Proposed Development team has written to parish councils, relevant local interest and community groups, and technical stakeholders to invite them to workshops being held two weeks before the start of consultation.
- 8.10. Design workshops are being held in-person prior to Phase Two Consultation. The dates and times of these workshops have been confirmed with the relevant stakeholders prior to the start of design workshops.
- 8.11. Ad hoc technical workshops may also be held with technical consultees, following engagement with them.

8.12. Project website

- 8.13. A dedicated Project website (www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk) was launched in October 2024 to host up-to-date Project information. This included hosting consultation materials during our Phase One Consultation and subsequent updates as more information has become available, including linking to the Proposed Development's Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') Scoping and Programme documents that are available to view on the PINS website for the Proposed Development.
- 8.14. The dedicated Project website will be updated to provide information about the consultation and proposals being consulted on, as well as being a resource for all the Phase Two Consultation materials which will be available to view and download via the Documents tab:
<https://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/documents>.
- 8.15. It will be possible to submit a response to the consultation via the website using a dedicated online feedback form during the defined consultation period. The online feedback form will be made available from 26 June to 7 August 2025.
- 8.16. It will continue to provide a facility for people to register their contact details with the Proposed Development so they can receive future updates directly within and beyond defined periods of consultation.

8.17. Direct communications

- 8.18. Direct communications – via a Community Consultation postcard – will be issued to all properties within the core consultation zone (see Figure 2 in Section 6) and to any other parties who registered to be kept informed about the Proposed Development by post.



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8.19. The postcard will notify local residents and businesses of the consultation period commencing, their opportunities to find out more information (including details of public information events), how to provide feedback, and the response deadline for comments to be submitted.

8.20. The communication will be printed and posted prior to the Phase Two consultation period commencing.

8.21. Project Information Booklet

8.22. A Project Information Booklet will be published at the start of the Phase Two Consultation. This will provide a summary of the proposals we are consulting on, details of how people can take part in the consultation, how feedback will be considered and used to influence the shape of our proposals, and how we will provide information on the outcome of this consultation.

8.23. Printed copies of this document will be available to take away at in-person public information events and Community Access Points ('CAPs'), and a digital version will be available to view and download from the Proposed Development website. Copies will also be made available on request in digital or hard copy format. This document is being provided as a source of information to support the consultation process.

8.24. Feedback Form

8.25. A feedback form will be developed to enable people to provide feedback on the proposals. Specific questions will guide people on the particular areas on which we are seeking comment, however no questions will be mandatory, and people will have space to provide comments on other topics.

8.26. An online version of the feedback form will be hosted on the dedicated Project website so that feedback can be provided electronically.

8.27. Hard copy forms will be available at in-person public information events and at CAPs. An online PDF version of the feedback form will also be available to download from the Proposed Development website. Copies will also be made available on request in digital or hard copy format, free of charge.

8.28. While the feedback form is intended to encourage and support the provision of feedback, we recognise some respondents may prefer to provide written comments outside of set questions. Any and all written comments will be accepted and can be submitted during the Phase Two consultation period by post to FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR (no



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stamp or further address details required) or by email to info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk. Feedback via telephone is not being accepted, except by prior arrangement.

8.29. Technical Documents, Maps, and Plans

8.30. The Proposed Development Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') will be published at the start of the Phase Two consultation period. This document will provide details of the Proposed Development and report on progress with the environmental studies underway to inform the Environmental Assessment.

8.31. The PEIR will include dedicated chapters on all topics considered to give rise to potential likely significant environmental effects associated with the Proposed Development, as has been determined through the Planning Inspectorate Scoping Opinion. These chapters will be supported by relevant appendices.

8.32. The full PEIR, including the NTS, will be available to view digitally on the Proposed Development website and in printed format at public information events. The NTS will be able to view in Community Access Points (CAPs).

8.33. We will endeavour to provide relevant information from the PEIR in hard copy, however reasonable charges will apply to requests for significant volumes of information to be printed given the anticipated size of the full document (the charge will be calculated based on cost per individual chapter, figure, appendix or volume requested as follows: Volume 1 – Main Report; Volume Two – Figures and Volume Three – Appendices). The cost to provide full copy of the PEIR is £750.

8.34. Meetings and Briefing Sessions

8.35. Meetings and briefing sessions may be arranged with local parish councils, elected members and key local stakeholder groups prior, during and following the second phase of community consultation. These meeting and briefing sessions will be organised separately to the Design Workshops.

8.36. Key stakeholders set out in **Section 5** of this document will be contacted via prior to the start of Phase Two Consultation to notify them of the upcoming consultation. Political stakeholders, including MPs, councillors and parish councils will be offered a briefing to update them on the Proposed Development and notify them of the upcoming opportunity to engage with the proposals during the statutory consultation period. Briefings will be offered to these stakeholders and organised accordingly.



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8.37. The invite will be circulated to all Parish Council clerks at the Parish Councils listed in **Appendix 3** of this document.

8.38. A slide deck providing an update on the project, details of Phase Two Consultation, and a presentation on the updated Project proposals, will be produced for any briefings, and can be made available on request by contacting the Proposed Development communication channels.

8.39. Consultation Information Events

8.40. We are holding six in-person public information events during the Phase Two consultation.

8.41. We have scheduled these events towards the start of the consultation period, with a minimum of three weeks' notice between event being publicised in the final SoCC and the first event. This is to ensure all events are held prior to school summer holidays, in line with North Yorkshire Council¹ and City of York Council's² term times. It also allows time beforehand for the events to be effectively publicised and for interested parties to access and consider consultation information before attending, while allowing time after events for attendees to prepare and submit feedback ahead of the response deadline.

8.42. Events will be held across different days of the week and cover a range of times to accommodate different working hours and care schedules to promote accessibility and attendance. This will include holding an event on a Saturday and events running into the evening.

8.43. At events attendees will be able to find out information about the Proposed Development and what we are consulting on. Members of the Proposed Development team will be present to discuss the proposals and answer questions.

8.44. In-person information events will be held at venues within the core consultation zone that are accessible by public transport and accommodate the needs of individuals with limited mobility. Information available to view at these events will include:

- This SoCC (for reference only).
- Event display panels and boards (for display only).
- Maps of the project (for display only).
- Project Information Booklet (for reference and to take away).

¹ <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-term-and-holiday-dates>

² <https://www.york.gov.uk/attendance-truancy/school-term-dates/2>



- Copies of the Feedback Form (for reference and to take away).
- The PEIR and accompanying NTS (for reference only).

8.45. The Applicant will also hold one online information event (webinar) via 'Zoom', the date and time of which will be publicised along with details of the in-person events.

8.46. The webinar will be held for any member of the public to join via telephone or the internet. The format of these webinars will involve the presentation of information consistent with that made available at in-person events (i.e. display panels) by representatives from the Proposed Development team, followed by a moderated question and answer session. Participants will be invited to submit questions during the webinar. A recorded version of the webinar presentation will be made available on the Proposed Development website after the session.

8.47. Based on the consultation period set out in paragraph 7.4, information events (including the webinar) will be held across a two-week window between Friday 4 July and Monday 21 July 2025.

8.48. The confirmed list of in-person information event venues is set out in Table 1 below to show our potential list of locations. Please note that these details will be informed by venue availability and confirmation that they meet our health and safety and capacity requirements.



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Table 1: Confirmed Information Event Schedule

The confirmed event schedule is provided below.

Venue	Date & Time
Eversley Park Centre Sherburn-in-Elmet Eversley Park Centre, Low St LS25 6BA	Friday 4th July 2025 3pm – 7pm
Escrick & Deighton Club, 59 Main Street, Escrick, York YO19 6LQ	Tuesday 8th July 2025 3pm – 7pm
Riccall Village Institute 12 Station Road, York YO19 6QJ	Wednesday 9th July 2025 3pm – 7pm
Haddlesey Church Community Hall Millfield Rd, Chapel Haddlesey YO8 8QF	Friday 11th July 2025 1pm – 5pm
Hambleton Village Hall 3 Station Road, Selby YO8 9HS	Tuesday 15th July 2025 3pm – 7pm
Monk Fryston & Hillam Community Centre Old Vicarage Ln LS25 5EA	Saturday 19th July 2025 11am – 3pm
Community Webinar Via Zoom	Monday 21st July 2025 6pm – 7.30pm

8.49. Community Access Points

8.50. Community Access Points ('CAPs') are deposit locations where we will make hard copies of this document and relevant Phase Two Consultation materials available.

8.51. CAPs have been selected based on their public accessibility, including their proximity to the Proposed Development.

8.52. Table 2 below sets out the CAPs that will host relevant Phase Two Consultation materials will be made available.

8.53. The materials include:

- Copies of this document for reference and taking away.
- Copies of the Phase One Consultation Summary Report for reference and taking away.
- Copies of the Proposed Development Information Booklet for reference and taking away.
- Copies of the Feedback Form for reference and taking away.
- A copy of the PEIR NTS for reference only.

8.54. All three CAPs also host computers with internet access, should any interested individual wish to access the full PEIR via the Proposed Development website.



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Table 2: Community Access Points

Location	Current Opening Times
Selby Library	Monday: 9.30am – 7.30pm Tuesday & Wednesday: 9.30am – 5.30pm Thursday: 9.30am – 12.30pm Friday: 9.30am – 5.30pm Saturday: 9.30am – 12.30pm Sunday: closed
Barlby Library and Community Hub	Monday: closed Tuesday & Wednesday: 2pm – 5pm Thursday: closed Friday: 2pm – 5pm Saturday: 10am – 12pm Sunday: closed
Sherburn & Villages Community Library	Monday & Tuesday: 9.30am – 5pm Wednesday: closed Thursday: 9.30am – 5pm Friday: 9.30am – 1pm Saturday: 9.30am – 12.30pm Sunday: closed

8.55. Opening times and accessibility may vary, so it is advised to check with venues directly for up-to-date information. It should also be noted that the libraries with computer access require visitors to show proof of identity to use an on-site computer to view the consultation documents online. For more information go to: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/leisure-tourism-and-culture/libraries/computers-and-online-support-your-library>

8.56. Availability of Materials

8.57. Table 3 below summarises the availability of consultation materials during the Phase Two consultation period.

8.58. The materials will be available in their relevant locations until at least the end of the consultation closing date. Materials will continue to be available to view on the project website following the end of the consultation closing date.

Table 3: Availability of consultation materials



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Document	In-person information events	Project website*	On request	Direct mailed	Community Access Points
Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR')	Yes (for reference only)	Yes	Yes (charges apply for hard copy)	No	Physical copies: No Online access: Yes
PEIR Non-Technical Summary ('NTS')	Yes (for reference only)	Yes	Yes (charges apply for hard copy)	No	Yes (for reference only)
Community Consultation Postcard	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No Online access: Yes
Project Information Booklet	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Feedback Form	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Event Displays and Maps	Yes	Yes	No	No	No Online access: Yes
Statement of Community Consultation ('SoCC')	Yes (for reference only)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes (for reference only)
Phase One Consultation Summary Report ('CSR')	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes, available from start of Phase Two consultation

*Documents and materials will be available as PDFs to view and download free of charge from the 'Documents' section of the Proposed Development website: <https://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/documents>.



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8.59. We are committed to ensuring that anyone interested in the project is able to access materials. We encourage anyone who may require consultation materials in alternative formats, such as large-print, audio or braille, to get in touch with the Proposed Development via the Proposed Development communication channels to request these materials.

8.60. Open Communication

8.61. The Proposed Development communications channels will remain open throughout the pre-application stage. Outside the statutory consultation period consultees will still be able to speak to a member of our Project community relations team to ask questions through these channels.

8.62. During the consultation period consultees can provide written feedback by:

- Submitting an online feedback form through the Proposed Development website
- Completing an PDF version of the physical feedback form and submitting via email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk
- Completing a printed copy of the feedback form and submitting it an in-person information event or returning it to FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR (no stamp required)
- Sending an email to: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk
- Providing comments in writing and posting them to FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR (no stamp required)

8.63. For those unable to provide written feedback and by appointment with the Proposed Development team, it will be possible to make a verbal representation over the Proposed Development freephone information line 0808 281 4784. Feedback provided will be transcribed and agreed verbally prior to being recorded as feedback. Appointments to provide verbal feedback should be made by contacting the Proposed Development communication channels.

8.64. All feedback must be received by 23:59 on Thursday 07 August 2025. To account for postage delays, feedback received after this date via freepost may be considered.

8.65. Questions and requests for information can be made using the communications channels above and by calling the Proposed Development freephone line 0808 281 4784 (open 09:00-17:00, Monday-Friday, with a voice message service operating during out of office hours so a callback can be made subject to the correct information being provided in the



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message). Feedback via telephone is not being accepted, except by prior arrangement.

8.66. Section 48 Notice

8.67. As required by Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 we will publish a Section 48 Notice advertising our intention to submit a DCO application and to notify readers about the Phase Two Consultation in local newspapers in the vicinity of the Proposed Development for two consecutive weeks, and a national newspaper and the London Gazette for one week.

8.68. The local newspapers in which the Section 48 Notice will appear are the Selby Times and York Press, and the national newspaper is the Guardian. A final publication schedule will be included in the final SoCC.

8.69. A copy of the Section 48 notice will also be sent via post to the clerks of parish councils with a request that these are displayed on local parish notice boards or other suitable locations, including the CAPs. The list of parish councils that will be contacted is provided in **Appendix 3** of this document.

Table 4: Section 48 Notice schedule

Newspaper	1 st Publication Date	2 nd Publication Date
Selby Times	19 th June 2025	26 th June 2025
York Press	19 th June 2025	26 th June 2025
The Guardian	19 th June 2025	n/a
London Gazette	19 th June 2025	n/a

8.70. Media, Advertising and Publicity

8.71. To raise awareness about the Proposed Development and consultation within and beyond the core consultation zone we will issue a media release at the start of consultation to provide an overview of the proposed application, why we are consulting and how people can access information about the Proposed Development, including dates of information events (online and in-person) and the deadline for receipt of feedback to the consultation.

8.72. In addition to publishing a formal Section 48 Notice in regional and national newspapers, we will place advertisements in local media publications during consultation, including the Selby Times and the York Press, to publicise the consultation and information events taking place (online and in-person).



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8.73. Posters publicising the consultation will be issued to venues where in-person information events are taking place, and the clerks of parish councils with a request that these are displayed on local parish notice boards or other suitable locations, including the CAPs. We will also be asking that parish councils publish the consultation on any social media channels they may run. The list of parish councils that will be contacted is provided in **Appendix 3** of this document.

8.74. Changes to consultation activities

8.75. Should any changes to our consultation activities be required due to circumstances outside of our control following the publishing of the SoCC, details will be publicised in line with the methods set out in this SoCC to the extent it is reasonable and proportionate to do so.

8.76. Coordination with other NSIP developers

8.77. The Applicant recognises the number of other NSIPs in the North Yorkshire County. Ahead of the statutory consultation, the Applicant will attempt to engage with the developers of other third-party developments to determine the timing of any defined consultation periods and activities, including when in-person events will be taking place. Where possible, the Applicant will endeavour to ensure that in-person events do not take place on the same days to ensure all stakeholders can take part in the consultation for the Proposed Development.

8.78. The consultation material produced for the statutory consultation, including information set out in the PEIR, will deal with the interaction the Proposed Development and other projects.



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9. CONSULTATION REPORTING

- 9.1. A Consultation Report will be prepared and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the application for a Development Consent Order for the Proposed Development.
- 9.2. This Consultation Report will describe the consultation activities undertaken and evidence compliance with the requirements of the Act and associated guidance, as well as compliance with all commitments and principles set out in the published SoCC.
- 9.3. The Consultation Report will also include details of the level of engagement with our consultation activities, such as number of attendees to public information events and the number of feedback submissions received.
- 9.4. All feedback received during our Phase Two consultation period will be recorded and analysed. This will be presented in the Consultation Report.
- 9.5. All feedback received will be stored in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). More information on this can be found in the privacy notice on the Proposed Development website:
www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/privacy-policy
- 9.6. Comments will be shared with relevant members of the Proposed Development team to inform ongoing refinement of the proposals ahead of the submission of a DCO application. This will include sharing feedback on the PEIR to inform the completion of the Environment Statement which will form part of the DCO application.
- 9.7. The Applicant's response to feedback received, including whether it has resulted in a change to the Proposed Development or the Applicant's evidence, will be described in the Consultation Report, in compliance with Section 49 of the Act (Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity).
- 9.8. We anticipate submitting a DCO application for the Proposed Development to the Planning Inspectorate in Q1 2026.



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10. ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

10.1. We will undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') for Light Valley Solar. The scope and methodology for this assessment will be informed by feedback from relevant regulatory and environmental bodies. The EIA Process is described in Table 4 below.

10.2. The Phase Two consultation includes for the publication of the PEIR. This will allow community members to consider and provide feedback to us directly on relevant environmental information in parallel to statutory consultees.

Table 5: The EIA Process

<p>Scoping Report</p> <p>Our Scoping Report was published on 08 November 2024 and described the Proposed Development and the assessment we are undertaking to inform understanding of any likely significant impacts to the receiving environment.</p> <p>Feedback on this from Local Planning Authorities and statutory consultees was published in the Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate on 19 December 2024. Both of these documents are available to view on the Proposed Development website (www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk) and the Planning Inspectorate's website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110012</p>
<p>Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR')</p> <p>The PEIR will build upon the findings from the scoping documents and the feedback received through the Phase One consultation and engagement with stakeholders.</p> <p>It will incorporate findings of the surveys and preliminary environmental assessments that have been carried out to date, including assessing cumulative impacts. This will enable consultees to develop an informed view of the potential effects that Light Valley Solar may have on the local environment.</p>
<p>Environmental Statement ('ES')</p> <p>The ES will advance the content of the PEIR and continue to incorporate the responses from the Phase Two consultation, stakeholder engagement and results of the surveys undertaken to present our full assessments of the likely effects of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>The ES will form part of the DCO application for submission.</p>



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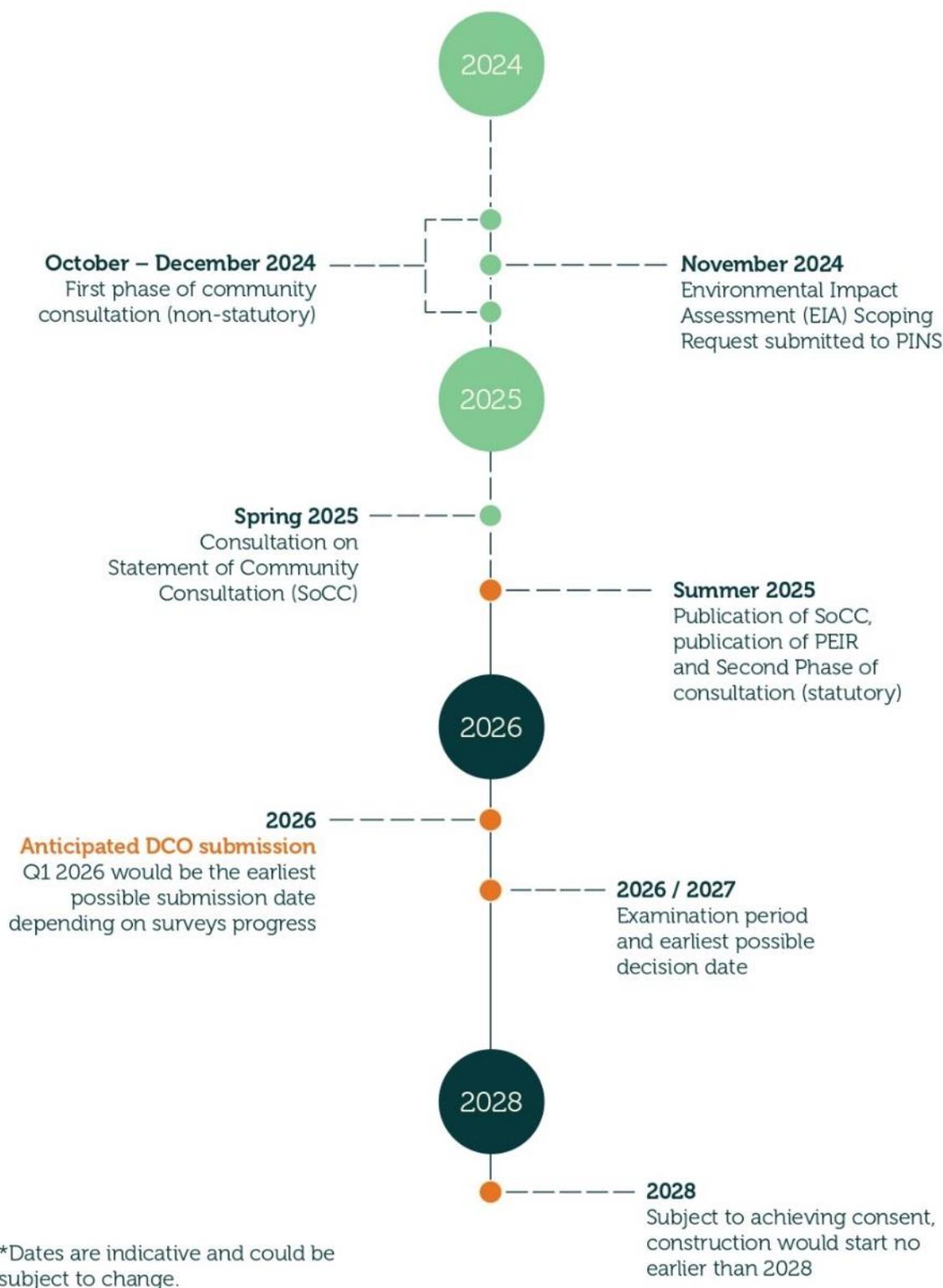


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11. INDICATIVE PROJECT TIMELINE



Appendix 1: Gateway organisations

Organisation
Disabled people and those with learning disabilities
Selby District Disability Forum (SDDF)
Bee-Able CIC
Selby District Vision
Everyday Enable CIC
SYPCO
York Disability Rights Forum
Lollipop York
Leeds Society for Deaf and Blind People
Disability Action Yorkshire
Yorkshire & Humber Dementia Action Alliance
Leeds and District Autism, Behaviour and Communication Support Group
York Down Syndrome Support Group
Disability North
Economically Inactive
Foundation - Selby Team - Homeless England Homeless Link
Sleep Safe Selby
Selby Hands of Hope
Selby & District Foodbank
Ethnic Minorities
Black Asian Minority Ethnic Business Committee - (West and North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce)
Friends, Family and Travellers
York Travellers Trust
Religious Groups
Christian Science Society
Christians Against Poverty
Pocklington Christian Fellowship
York Muslim Association
Goole & Selby Methodist Circuit
Mental Health



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The big communi-tea
Live Well York
The Dan Rhodes Foundation
Samaritans UK
Older People
Gateforth Park (residential homes/ gated community)
Age UK North Yorkshire & Darlington
Supporting Older People
Carers
Carers' Resource
Young People
1st Riccall Scout Group
1st Monk Fryston and Hillam Scout Group
North Yorkshire Youth
North Yorkshire Young Carers
Early Years & Primary Schools
Monk Fryston C Of E Primary School
Burton Salmon Community Primary School
Monk Fryston Pre School
Hambleton church of England Primary School
Kellington Primary School
Chapel Haddlesey Church of England Primary School
Escrick C Of E Primary School
Mill House Nursery Escrick
Wheldrake With Thorganby Church Of England Primary School
Barlby Bridge Community Primary School
Brayton Busy Bees Pre-School
St. Mary' Catholic Primary
Barlby Community Primary School
Peter Pan Nursery
Secondary Schools/Academies / Colleges
Queen Margarets School York (Escrick)
Selby College





Brayton Academy
Read School
Women's Charities
Selby Swans Women's Institute
Brayton Women's Institute
South Milforrd Women's Institute
Other
Advonet
People in Action
Up for Yorkshire
North Yorkshire Citizens Advice & Law Centre
York Mediale
York Pride
Vale of York Athletic Community
Riccall Regen Centre
Selby District Association of Voluntary Service
York CVS
York LGBT forum

Appendix 2: Community interest groups and voluntary organisations



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Organisation
Business and Economic Groups
West & North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce
Environmental Groups
Richmondshire Climate Action Partnership Action (North Yorkshire)
North Yorkshire Climate Coalition
Wistow Eco Group
Our Zero Selby
Friends of the Earth Selby
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
Friends of Skipwith Common
Three Haggas Woodmeadow
Recreational Groups
Yorkshire Gentleman's Cricket Club (YGCC)
Escrick Park Estate
Escrick 10K
Angel Riding & Livery Centre
Selby Cycling Club
Sherburn Community Gymnastics Club
York Astronomical Society
Community Groups
Monk Fryston and Hillam Community Association
Escrick Heritage
Yorkshire Air Museum
Ryedale Sports Club
Ben Rhydding Sports Club
Vale of York Athletic Community
Cleakheaton Sports Club
West Yorkshire Sports & Social Club
Yorkshire Main Officials Club
Shaw Lane Sports Club
York Environment Forum



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The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)
The Farming Community Network - Yorkshire Division
The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS)
The Farming Community Network
Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)
National Trust
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
RSPB
Woodland Trust
The British Horse Society
The Ramblers Association
The National Farmer's Union (NFU)



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Appendix 3: Parish and Town Councils to be invited to elected member and parish council webinar, and to be sent a copy of the Section 48 Notice and Project Information Poster

Parish Council	
Parishes that host Solar Development Sites and/or Cable Corridors	
Escrick Parish Council	Riccall Parish Council
Thorganby Parish Council	Wistow Parish Council
Hambleton Parish Council	Barlby with Osgodby Parish Council
South Milford Parish Council	Selby Town Council
Monk Fryston Parish Council	Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council
Hillam Parish Council	Burton Salmon Parish Council
Birkin Parish Council	Gateforth Parish Council
West Haddlesey Parish Council	Sherburn in Elmet Parish Council
Skipwith Parish Council	Cawood Parish Council
Neighbouring Parishes in close proximity to the Proposed Development Boundary for Consultation	
Wheldrake Parish Council	Byram cum Sutton Parish Council
Stillingfleet Parish Council	Beal Parish Council
Kelfield Parish Council	Kellington Parish Council
Brayton Parish Council	Burn Parish Council
Biggin Parish Council	Chapel Haddlesey Parish Council
Fairburn Parish Council	Temple Hirst Parish Council



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Appendix 2: Approach to Targeted Consultation Document

Light Valley Solar

Draft Approach to Targeted Consultation Document

September 2025



Light Valley
Solar

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This document explains further targeted consultation that will be undertaken on Light Valley Solar prior to a Development Consent Order (DCO) application being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. The document describes the purpose and method of this further targeted consultation, and how it relates to the pre-application consultation already undertaken.

2 Approach to pre-application consultation

- 2.1.1 Light Valley Solar Ltd ('the Applicant') is proposing a new solar and energy storage project on land between Escrick, Monk Fryston, Hambleton, Chapel Haddlesey and South Milford, located entirely within the administrative boundary of North Yorkshire, with associated infrastructure to connect it to the national grid. This solar park is known as Light Valley Solar (or the 'Proposed Development').
- 2.1.2 As described in the Proposed Development's Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)¹, the Applicant recognises consultation to be a vital stage in the development of proposals. Feedback received through consultation is informing the refinement of plans for the Proposed Development, helping the proposals to be developed responsibly and in a manner that recognises local community and stakeholder interests.
- 2.1.3 The published SoCC outlines how the Applicant has consulted with the local community during the 'pre-application stage' before submitting a DCO application for the Proposed Development to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 2.1.4 Within the published SoCC, it states (in paragraph 4.10) that *"If, as a result of feedback, our proposals change to the extent we consider it necessary to undertake further targeted consultation, this will be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC."*
- 2.1.5 As noted in paragraph 2.12 of the published SoCC, *"the design of the Proposed Development is an iterative process, based on ongoing environmental assessments and consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees. Further targeted consultation may therefore be necessary"*.
- 2.1.6 This document sets out how the targeted consultation will be undertaken, ensuring that the activities are relevant and proportionate on the changes being consulted on, and is in accordance with the principles and methods set out in the published SoCC.

¹ Accessed at: <https://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/documents>

3 Objective of targeted consultation

- 3.1.1 Following the close of the Stage Two Consultation, the Proposed Development team has continued to refine the proposals for the Proposed Development, in preparation for submitting the DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 3.1.2 This progression has been informed by further design work and due diligence, ongoing consideration of consultee feedback (including from Stage Two Statutory Consultation), and findings from the ongoing environmental impact assessment process.
- 3.1.3 This has resulted in a series of minor amendments to the development boundary area for the Proposed Development, compared to the Project Development Boundary for Consultation presented in the Stage Two Statutory Consultation. In summary, the changes to the boundaries relate to confirming the land that may be required for:
- Access Points – to allow access to the Proposed Development during construction and operation, including possible vegetation management to allow safe movement of construction traffic.
 - Visibility Splays – to ensure safe sightlines for vehicles entering or exiting the Proposed Development at access points, including possible vegetation management.
 - Passing Places – to allow vehicles to pass safely on narrow roads used to access the Proposed Development during construction, including possible vegetation management.
 - Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AIL) Access – to facilitate safe movement of AILs, which require wide turning radii and unobstructed routes, including possible vegetation management.
 - Cable Route Adjustments – to allow flexibility to avoid environmental and engineering constraints, such as vegetation or land drains.
 - Permissive Paths – to enable public access routes within the Solar Photovoltaic Sites for walking or cycling.
- 3.1.4 Although these changes are minor in nature and scale, the Applicant is committed to ensuring that relevant stakeholders are consulted on the changes prior to the DCO application being submitted.
- 3.1.5 The Applicant is therefore preparing to undertake a further targeted consultation on the changes referred to above.
- 3.1.6 Through the targeted consultation materials, the Applicant will clearly present each of these changes and explain if there are any changes to the reporting of likely significant environmental effects in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report published at Stage Two Statutory Consultation.

- 3.1.7 In determining how to consult on the localised changes we have had regard to paragraph 020 of the 2008 Act Pre-application guidance for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Proposed Developments² setting out as follows:
- 3.1.8 *“For any material change to a part of the proposed application where the project as a whole is not fundamentally changed, for example in the case of linear aspects where new information leads to a new alignment for a particular section of the proposal, a bespoke and targeted approach to further consultation can be adopted, which can address the specific consultation obligations arising proportionately.*
- 3.1.9 *Targeted consultation can be statutory or non-statutory or a combination of the two depending on whether new persons needing to be consulted under section 42 of the Planning Act have been identified, but such targeted consultation will not require the production of PEI provided proportionate and appropriate information on environmental implications of any changes, where necessary, is provided.”*
- 3.1.10 In line with this guidance and the Applicant’s commitments as set out in the SoCC, the approach set out below is considered to be proportionate given the scale and nature of each localised change. A full re-consultation is therefore not proposed.

4 What will be consulted on

- 4.1.1 Consultation will be held on the proposed changes set out above in Section 3.1.3.
- 4.1.2 These changes will be identified and numbered in a **Proposed Development Change Note**.
- 4.1.3 This Note will include a visual of each change, accompanied by an explanation of why the change is necessary for the Proposed Development. Any changes to the environmental impact assessment results presented at Stage Two Statutory Consultation will also be set out in the Note, for each change.

5 Who will be consulted

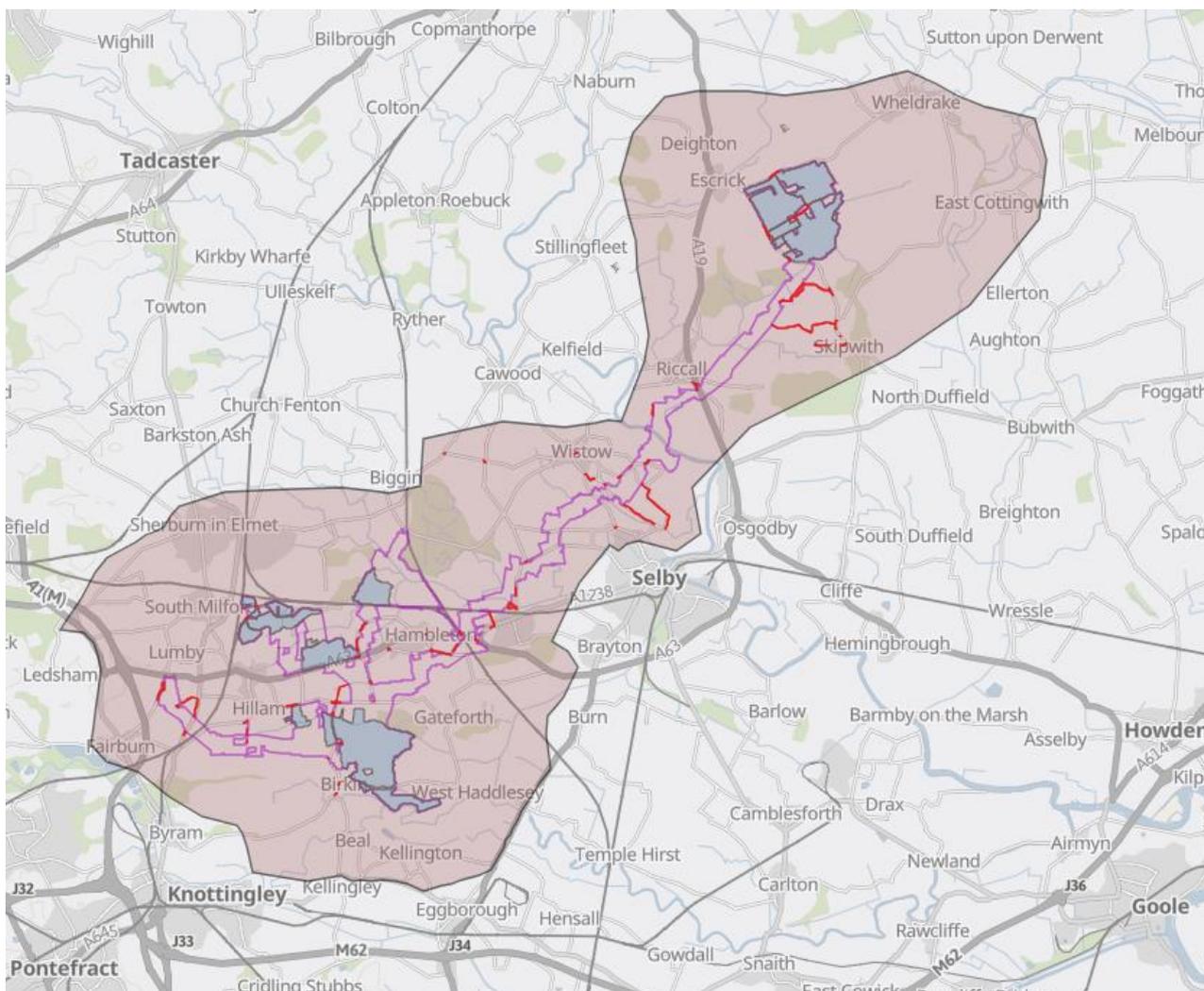
- 5.1.1 The targeted consultation will be carried out in accordance with relevant parts of the 2008 Act, the APFP Regs 2009 and the EIA Regs 2017.
- 5.1.2 The Applicant will proactively notify the following consultees:
- All prescribed consultees under section 42 of the 2008 Act will be notified (via a letter) and invited to respond.
 - As part of this, all host and neighbouring local authorities will be included in the consultation. This aligns with consultation under section 43 of the 2008 Act.
 - Any new land interests will be consulted. This aligns with consultation under section 44 of the 2008 Act.
 - Parties representing the interests of these localised communities, including relevant ward members, Parish Councils, MPs, community groups and

² Accessed at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-act-2008-pre-application-stage-for-nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects>

gateway organisations, will be notified. This aligns with consultation under the SoCC and will involve the same list of non-prescribed groups consulted during the Stage Two consultation.

- The Core Consultation Zone of over 14,000 properties will be notified (via a letter) and invited to respond. This zone will be consistent with the zone presented in Section 5 of the SoCC, with additions to account for the revised boundary. The CCZ (as established for Phase Two consultation) is shown in Figure 1 below.
- Additional to this, where the changes fall beyond the Proposed Development Boundary and CCZ, communities in the immediate vicinity (within a minimum distance of 200 metres of each change), will be notified (via a letter) and invited to respond. This aligns with consultation under section 47 of the 2008 Act.
- Any parties that have registered to be kept informed by email and by post.

Figure 1: Targeted Consultation CCZ



5.1.3 The full list of these consultees can be found in **Appendix 1** of this document.

5.1.4 Anyone interested in the proposals, and not included within the categories above, will also be able to respond to the consultation. They can participate in the

consultation by accessing the Proposed Development website or free-to-use communications channels such as freephone and freepost.

6 How consultation will be undertaken

- 6.1.1 Consultation will be undertaken in a proportionate manner consistent with the principles and methods set out in the published SoCC, considering the specific details being consulted on.
- 6.1.2 The consultation period will exceed the statutory minimum of 28 days and is intended to be held between Thursday 16 October and Thursday 20 November 2025 (36 days).
- 6.1.3 The consultation will involve:
- **Written notification** of the targeted consultation will be provided to the consultees identified above.
 - The **Proposed Development Change Note** will be made available on the Proposed Development website and available in hard copy by request.
 - Feedback will be invited through a **Feedback Form** (available online via the Proposed Development website or in printed format by request), by email (info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk), or in writing to the Freepost address (FREEPOST Light Valley Solar).
 - By appointment with the Proposed Development team, it will be possible to make a verbal representation over the Proposed Development Freephone 0808 281 4784. Feedback provided will be transcribed and agreed verbally prior to submission. Appointments to provide verbal feedback should be made by contacting the Proposed Development team via the Proposed Development email address or telephone number described above.
 - The Proposed Development **website** will be updated with the latest information, including hosting the **Proposed Development Change Note**.
 - The dedicated **Proposed Development free-to-use communications channels** will remain open and staffed by members of the Community Relations team on weekdays between the hours of 9am to 5pm (with a voicemail service operating outside of these hours).
 - **Adverts** will be placed in the York Press and Selby Times on Thursday 16 October to publicise the targeted consultation locally.
 - A **press release** released to local and regional media outlets to advise them of the targeted consultation, where information about what is consulted on can be found, and details of how views and comments can be submitted.
- 6.1.4 The written notifications of the targeted consultation will be issued prior to the start of consultation in order to land by 16 October 2025.

Appendix 1: List of parties representing the interests of those communities in vicinity of the changes to whom communications will be issued

Members of Parliament
<p>Host MPs Mr Keir Mather, LAB, Selby (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Transport as of September 2025)</p> <p>Neighbouring MPs Mr Luke Charters, LAB, York Outer Sir Alec Shelbrooke, Con, Wetherby and Easingwold</p>
Local Authorities – North Yorkshire Council ('Host')
<p>Leadership and Executive Members:</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 200px; margin: 5px 0;"></div> <p>Council Members – Relevant Wards/Divisions Cllr Tim Grogan, CON and IND, Monk Fryston and South Milford Division Cllr Mike Jordan, North Yorks IND, Camblesforth and Carlton Division Cllr John Cattanach, North Yorks IND, Cawood and Escrick Division; Chair of Planning Committee Cllr Melanie Ann Davis, LAB, Selby West Division Cllr Steve Shaw-Wright, LAB, Selby West Division Cllr Stephanie Duckett, LAB, Barlby and Riccall Division Cllr Cliff Lunn, CON and IND, Thorpe Willoughby and Hambleton Division Cllr Bob Packham, Sherburn in Elmet Division Cllr Andrew Lee, Appleton Roebuck and Church Fenton Division</p>
Wider political stakeholders North Yorkshire Combined Authority
<p>██████████, Chief Executive Mayor David Skaith, Mayor of York and North Yorkshire</p>
Wider community organisations / interest groups
<p>Business and Economic Groups West & North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Environmental Groups Richmondshire Climate Action Partnership Action (North Yorkshire) North Yorkshire Climate Coalition Wistow Eco Group Our Zero Selby Friends of the Earth Selby Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Friends of Skipwith Common Three Haggas Woodmeadow</p>

<p>Recreational Groups</p> <p>Yorkshire Gentleman's Cricket Club (YGCC) Escrick Park Estate Escrick 10K Angel Riding & Livery Centre Selby Cycling Club Sherburn Community Gymnastics Club York Astronomical Society</p> <p>Community Groups</p> <p>Monk Fryston and Hillam Community Association Escrick Heritage Yorkshire Air Museum Ryedale Sports Club Ben Rhydding Sports Club Vale of York Athletic Community Cleakheaton Sports Club West Yorkshire Sports & Social Club Yorkshire Main Officials Club Shaw Lane Sports Club York Environment Forum The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) The Farming Community Network - Yorkshire Division The Yorkshire Agricultural Society (YAS) The Farming Community Network Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) National Trust Yorkshire Wildlife Trust RSPB Woodland Trust The British Horse Society The Ramblers Association The National Farmer's Union (NFU)</p>

Prescribed statutory bodies under Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms & Procedure) Regulations 2009, pursuant to Section 3 of those Regulations.

Schedule 1 description	Organisational body or bodies
The Health and Safety Executive	Health and Safety Executive
The National Health Service Commissioning Board and the relevant clinical commissioning group	NHS England
The relevant Integrated Care Board	NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
	NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Natural England	Natural England
The Forestry Commission	Yorkshire & North East
The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England	Historic England
The relevant fire and rescue authority	North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
	West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
	Humberside Fire and Rescue Service

The relevant police authority	West Yorkshire Combined Authority Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner North Yorkshire Combined Authority
The relevant parish council, or, where the application relates to land Wales or Scotland the relevant community council -i.e. the relevant 'host' parishes	Saxton cum Scarthingwell with Lead Parish Council Sherburn in Elmet Town Council Cawood Parish Council Selby Town Council Cliffe Parish Council North Duffield Parish Council Brotherton Parish Council Beal Parish Council Kellington Town Council Eggborough Parish Council Temple Hirst Parish Meeting Carlton Parish Council Hillam Parish Council Birkin Parish Council Gateforth Parish Council Monk Fryston Parish Council South Milford Parish Council Barkston Ash Parish Council Hambleton Parish Council Church Fenton Parish Council Ulleskelf Parish Council Ryther cum Ossendyke Parish Council Bolton, Percy & Colton Parish Council Appleton Roebuck and Acaster Selby Parish Council Burn Parish Council Barlow Parish Council Brayton Parish Council Wistow Parish Council Barby with Osgodby Parish Council Kelfield Parish Council Riccall Parish Council Skipwith Parish Council Stillingfleet Parish Council Escrick Parish Council Thorganby Parish Council Byram cum Sutton Parish Council West Haddlesey Parish Meeting Hensall Parish Council Chapel Haddlesey Parish Council Hirst Courtney Parish Council Fairburn Parish Council Huddleston with Newthorpe Parish Meeting Burton Salmon Parish Council

	Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council
	Little Fenton Parish Meeting
	Biggin Parish Council
	Towton, Grimston, Kirkby Wharfe with North Milford Parish Council
	Ledsham Parish Council
	Micklefield Parish Council
	Aberford and District Parish Council
	Ellerton and Aughton Parish Council
	East Cottingwith and Storwood Parish Council
	Wheldrake Parish Council
	Deighton Parish Council
The Environment Agency	The Environment Agency
Civil Aviation Authority	Civil Aviation Authority
The relevant Highways Authority	North Yorkshire Council
	City of York Council
	National Highways
The Canal and River Trust	The Canal and River Trust
United Kingdom Health Security Agency, an executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care	United Kingdom Health Security Agency
Trinity House	Trinity House
The relevant internal drainage board	Ouse and Derwent Internal Drainage Board
	Thorntree Internal Drainage Board
	Black Drain Drainage Board
	Selby Area Internal Drainage Board
	Danvm Drainage Commissioners
	Ainsty Internal Drainage Board
	Foss Internal Drainage Board
	Ouse and Humber Internal Drainage Board
	Goole and Airmyn Internal Drainage Board
	Rawcliffe Internal Drainage Board
	Cowick and Snaith Internal Drainage Board
Secretary of State for Defence	Ministry of Defence
The Mining Remediation Authority	The Mining Remediation Authority
The Crown Estate Commissioners	The Crown Estate
The relevant ambulance service	Yorkshire Ambulance Service Trust

Relevant Statutory undertakers for the purposes of Section 127 of the Planning Act 2008

Schedule 1 description	Organisational body or bodies
The relevant Integrated Care Board	NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
	NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
NHS England	NHS England
The Relevant NHS Trust	Yorkshire and the Humber Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Railways	Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
	National Highways Historical Railways Estate
Canal or Inland Navigation Authorities	The Canal and River Trust
Civil Aviation Authority	Civil Aviation Authority
Licence Holder (Chapter 1 Of Part 1 Of Transport Act 2000)	NATS En-Route Safeguarding
Universal Service Provider	Royal Mail Group
Homes and Communities Agency	Homes England
The relevant Environment Agency	The Environment Agency
The relevant water and sewage undertaker	Yorkshire Water
The relevant public gas transporter	Cadent Gas Limited
	Northern Gas Networks Limited
	Scotland Gas Networks Plc
	Southern Gas Networks Plc
	CNG Services Ltd
	Energy Assets Pipelines Limited
	ES Pipelines Ltd
	ESP Connections Ltd
	ESP Networks Ltd
	ESP Pipelines Ltd
	Fulcrum Pipelines Limited
	GTC Pipelines Limited
	Harlaxton Gas Networks Ltd
	Indigo Pipelines Limited
	Inovyn Enterprises Ltd
	Last Mile Gas Ltd
	Leep Gas Networks Limited
Mua Gas Ltd	
Quadrant Pipelines Limited	
Stark Works	
National Gas Transmission	
The relevant electricity generator with CPO Powers	Drax Power Limited
	Eggborough Power Limited
	Knottingley Power Limited
	OnPath Renewables
	SSE Ferrybridge Battery Ltd
The relevant electricity distributor with CPO Powers	Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc
	Advanced Electricity Networks Ltd
	Aidien Ltd
	Aurora Utilities Ltd
	Energy Assets Networks Limited
	ESP Electricity Limited
	Fulcrum Electricity Assets Limited
	Green Generation Energy Networks Cymru Ltd
	Independent Distribution Connection Specialists Ltd
Independent Power Networks Limited	

	Indigo Power Limited
	Last Mile Electricity Ltd
	Leep Electricity Networks Limited
	Mua Electricity Limited
	Optimal Power Networks Limited
	Stark Infra-Electricity Ltd
	The Electricity Network Company Limited
	UK Power Distribution Limited
	Utility Assets Limited
	Vattenfall Networks Limited
The relevant electricity transmitter with CPO Powers	National Grid Electricity System Operation Limited
	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc

Appendix 3: Section 42 Consultee List

Table 3.1: Prescribed statutory bodies under Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms & Procedure) Regulations 2009, pursuant to Section 3 of those Regulations.

Schedule 1 description	Organisational body or bodies
The Health and Safety Executive	Health and Safety Executive
The National Health Service Commissioning Board and the relevant clinical commissioning group	NHS England
The relevant Integrated Care Board	NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
	NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Natural England	Natural England
The Forestry Commission	Yorkshire & North East
The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England	Historic England
The relevant fire and rescue authority	North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
	South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
	West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
	Humberside Fire and Rescue Service
The relevant police authority	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
	Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner
	North Yorkshire Combined Authority
The relevant parish council, or, where the application relates to land Wales or Scotland the relevant community council -i.e. the relevant 'host' parishes	Saxton cum Scarthingwell with Lead Parish Council
	Sherburn in Elmet Town Council
	Cawood Parish Council
	Selby Town Council
	Cliffe Parish Council
	North Duffield Parish Council
	Brotherton Parish Council
	Beal Parish Council
	Kellington Town Council
	Eggborough Parish Council
	Temple Hirst Parish Meeting
	Carlton Parish Council
	Hillam Parish Council
	Birkin Parish Council
	Gateforth Parish Council
	Monk Fryston Parish Council
	South Milford Parish Council
	Barkston Ash Parish Council
	Hambleton Parish Council
	Church Fenton Parish Council
Ulleskelf Parish Council	
Ryther cum Ossendyke Parish Council	
Bolton, Percy & Colton Parish Council	

	Appleton Roebuck and Acaster Selby Parish Council
	Burn Parish Council
	Barlow Parish Council
	Brayton Parish Council
	Wistow Parish Council
	Barby with Osgodby Parish Council
	Kelfield Parish Council
	Riccall Parish Council
	Skipwith Parish Council
	Stillingfleet Parish Council
	Escrick Parish Council
	Thorganby Parish Council
	Byram cum Sutton Parish Council
	West Haddlesey Parish Meeting
	Hensall Parish Council
	Chapel Haddlesey Parish Council
	Hirst Courtney Parish Council
	Fairburn Parish Council
	Huddleston with Newthorpe Parish Meeting
	Burton Salmon Parish Council
	Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council
	Little Fenton Parish Meeting
	Biggin Parish Council
	Towton, Grimston, Kirkby Wharfe with North Milford Parish Council
	Ledsham Parish Council
	Micklefield Parish Council
	Aberford and District Parish Council
	Ellerton and Aughton Parish Council
	East Cottingwith and Storwood Parish Council
	Wheldrake Parish Council
	Deighton Parish Council
The Environment Agency	The Environment Agency
Civil Aviation Authority	Civil Aviation Authority
The relevant Highways Authority	North Yorkshire Council
	City of York Council
	National Highways
The Canal and River Trust	The Canal and River Trust
United Kingdom Health Security Agency, an executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care	United Kingdom Health Security Agency
Trinity House	Trinity House
The relevant internal drainage board	Ouse and Derwent Internal Drainage Board
	Thorntree Internal Drainage Board
	Black Drain Drainage Board
	Selby Area Internal Drainage Board
	Danvm Drainage Commissioners
	Ainsty Internal Drainage Board

	Foss Internal Drainage Board
	Ouse and Humber Internal Drainage Board
	Goole and Airmyn Internal Drainage Board
	Rawcliffe Internal Drainage Board
	Cowick and Snaith Internal Drainage Board
Secretary of State for Defence	Ministry of Defence
The Mining Remediation Authority	The Mining Remediation Authority
The Crown Estate Commissioners	The Crown Estate
The relevant ambulance service	Yorkshire Ambulance Service Trust

Table 3.2: Relevant Statutory undertakers for the purposes of Section 127 of the Planning Act 2008

Schedule 1 description	Organisational body or bodies
The relevant Integrated Care Board	NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
	NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
	NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
NHS England	NHS England
The Relevant NHS Trust	Yorkshire and the Humber Ambulance Service NHS Trust
Railways	Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
	National Highways Historical Railways Estate
Canal or Inland Navigation Authorities	The Canal and River Trust
Civil Aviation Authority	Civil Aviation Authority
Licence Holder (Chapter 1 Of Part 1 Of Transport Act 2000)	NATS En-Route Safeguarding
Universal Service Provider	Royal Mail Group
Homes and Communities Agency	Homes England
The relevant Environment Agency	The Environment Agency
The relevant water and sewage undertaker	Yorkshire Water
The relevant public gas transporter	Cadent Gas Limited
	Northern Gas Networks Limited
	Scotland Gas Networks Plc
	Southern Gas Networks Plc
	CNG Services Ltd
	Energy Assets Pipelines Limited
	ES Pipelines Ltd
	ESP Connections Ltd
	ESP Networks Ltd
	ESP Pipelines Ltd
	Fulcrum Pipelines Limited
	GTC Pipelines Limited
	Harlaxton Gas Networks Ltd
	Indigo Pipelines Limited
	Inovyn Enterprises Ltd
Last Mile Gas Ltd	

	Leep Gas Networks Limited
	Mua Gas Ltd
	Quadrant Pipelines Limited
	Stark Works
	National Gas Transmission
The relevant electricity generator with CPO Powers	Drax Power Limited
	Eggborough Power Limited
	Knottingley Power Limited
	OnPath Renewables
	SSE Ferrybridge Battery Ltd
The relevant electricity distributor with CPO Powers	Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc
	Advanced Electricity Networks Ltd
	Aidien Ltd
	Aurora Utilities Ltd
	Energy Assets Networks Limited
	ESP Electricity Limited
	Fulcrum Electricity Assets Limited
	Green Generation Energy Networks Cymru Ltd
	Independent Distribution Connection Specialists Ltd
	Independent Power Networks Limited
	Indigo Power Limited
	Last Mile Electricity Ltd
	Leep Electricity Networks Limited
	Mua Electricity Limited
	Optimal Power Networks Limited
	Stark Infra-Electricity Ltd
	The Electricity Network Company Limited
	UK Power Distribution Limited
Utility Assets Limited	
Vattenfall Networks Limited	
The relevant electricity transmitter with CPO Powers	National Grid Electricity System Operation Limited
	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc

Table 3.3: Section 43 Local Authorities (for the purposes of Section 42 (1)(B))

Schedule 1 description	Organisation
North Yorkshire Council	City of Doncaster Council
Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
Middlesbrough Council	Leeds City Council
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Bradfield Metropolitan District Council
Darlington Borough Council	Lancaster City Council
Durham County Council	Ribble Valley Borough Council
Westmorland and Furness Council	Pendle Borough Council
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	North Yorks Moors National Park
Lancashire County Council	Yorkshire Dales National Park



4 Programme Document – January 2026

Light Valley Solar

EN0110012

Programme Document

January 2026

Version 4



Acronyms

Acronym	Team
AC	alternating current
AIL	Abnormal Indivisible Loads
AoCM	Adequacy of Consultation Milestone
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
BMV	Best and Most Versatile
DCO	Development Consent Order
EHV	Extra high voltage
EIA	Environment Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
GW	gigawatts
IGP	Island Green Power
LPA	Local Planning Authority
MW	megawatts
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
PINS	The Planning Inspectorate
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SEB	Statutory Engagement Body

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Programme Document

- 1.1.1 Light Valley Solar Limited (the Applicant) has prepared this Programme Document for Light Valley Solar, a proposed renewable energy project located near Selby in North Yorkshire.
- 1.1.2 This Programme Document has been prepared in accordance with The Planning Inspectorate's (PINS) Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Pre-application Prospectus (the Prospectus)¹. The content of the document has also been informed by the Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects Guidance on the pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects published on 30 April 2024 (The Guidance)².
- 1.1.3 This Programme Document provides the information requested in Paragraph 008 of the Prospectus. It is a live document and is being monitored and updated throughout the pre-application process.

1.2 The Applicant

- 1.2.1 The applicant will be Light Valley Solar Limited. This company is part of Island Green Power (IGP), a specialist developer of utility-scale solar and battery plants.
- 1.2.2 Over the past decade, IGP has successfully delivered nearly 40 solar projects worldwide with a total of more than 3 gigawatts (GW) of energy capacity. This includes 21 projects in the UK. Their team has recent experience of the Development Consent Order (DCO) regime, with consents for Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project secured. The DCO application for Green Hill Solar Farm was accepted for examination on 19 June 2025 and for Lime Down Solar on 17 October 2025.

1.3 The Proposed Development

- 1.3.1 The Proposed Development comprises a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating station of over 100MW and associated development comprising Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), substations, grid connection infrastructure and other infrastructure integral to the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases. The operational phase of the Proposed Development is proposed to be up to 60 years.

¹ Planning Inspectorate, "Guidance: Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus," November 2025. [Online] Available: [Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1144442/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-2024-pre-application-prospectus.pdf) [Accessed November 2025].

² Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, "Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects," April 2024. [Online]. Available: [Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1144442/planning-act-2008-pre-application-stage-for-nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects.pdf) [Accessed August 2024].

- 1.3.2 Clean electricity generated by the project will be supplied to the National Grid at the existing Monk Fryston substation, where a 500 MW alternating current (AC) connection has been agreed.
- 1.3.3 The draft Order Limits incorporate seven Solar Development Sites (sites 1-4 and sites 6-8), and approximately 30 km of below ground cable connectors for solar photovoltaic modules and associated infrastructure. The seven Solar Development Sites comprise approximately 900.2 hectares of predominantly agricultural land between the villages of Escrick, Monk Fryston, Hambleton, and South Milford.
- 1.3.4 There will be Solar PV module and mounting structures, substations, conversion units, transformers, extra high voltage (EHV) switchgear and control equipment, and onsite underground electrical cabling. Site 2 will accommodate the BESS. Underground electrical cable routes (located within the Cable Route Corridors) will connect the seven Solar Development Sites to each other and also provide the connection to the National Grid at Monk Fryston Substation.
- 1.3.5 The Solar Development Sites will include environmental mitigation and enhancement areas.
- 1.3.6 Due to the Proposed Development's size, it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). This means an application for a DCO must be submitted under the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) to obtain consent for the Proposed Development.

2 The Programme Document

2.1 Key Milestones Programme

2.1.1 In accordance with Paragraph 010 of the Government's Pre-application Guidance², a key milestones programme, including the Applicant's intended month of submission, is set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Key Milestones Programme

Stage	Activity / Milestone	Timescales
1	Environmental Surveys – note that survey activity has been extended from August to October 2025 to allow for continued ecological and archaeological surveys.	April 2024 – October 2025
	Stakeholder Engagement	August 2024 – completion of construction
2	Public Introduction to Proposals	October 2024
	Phase One (non-statutory) Consultation	October – December 2024
	Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report submission	November 2024
3	Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) publication	June 2025
	Phase Two (Statutory) Consultation (Section 42, 44, 47 & incl. S48), including the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)	June – August 2025
	Targeted Consultation (Section 42, 44, 47 and incl. S48), including update statements regarding Preliminary Environmental Information. Focussed on additional land required to enable access and following detailed access studies.	October – November 2025
4	Earliest DCO Application Submission	Quarter 1 2026 (expected February 2026)

2.2 Main Issues for Resolution

2.2.1 The Applicant has utilised an Issues Tracker (evolved from the template tracker in the PINS Prospectus) to identify project-wide matters as raised by Statutory Engagement Bodies (SEBs) throughout the pre-application process. .

2.2.2 Through this tracker, project issues have, and are, being tracked, assessed and managed through the pre-application process and reviewed regularly by the multi-disciplinary Applicant team. The Applicant continues to report on and seek to resolve these during meetings with the Local Authority, SSEBs and PINS.

-
- 2.2.3 Working versions of the Issues Tracker have been presented to and discussed with PINS, and shared with the SEBs for discussion, including North Yorkshire Council³, the Environment Agency⁴ and Natural England⁵.
- 2.2.4 A high level summary of some main issues for resolution which have been considered as part of the Applicant's Issues Tracker is presented in Table 2 below.

³ An extract of the Issues Tracker was shared with the main contact at North Yorkshire Council on 8 December 2025.

⁴ An extract of the Issues Tracker was shared with the main contact the EA on 18 December 2025.

⁵ An extract of the Issues Tracker was shared with the main contact at NE on 23 January 2026.

Table 2. Main Issues for Resolution

Affected Consultee	Issue	Steps Taken to Reach a Resolution
North Yorkshire Council (NYC)	Field evaluation (archaeological trial trenching).	An agreement on the approach to evaluation trial trenching was reached in June 2025 with North Yorkshire Council. Dialogue remains open as trial trenching results are analysed and reported.
	Query regarding the extent to which the LVIA has been used to inform or guide site selection and the cable corridor routing.	Details of the extent to which LVIA matters have influenced site selection and cable corridor routing will be set out in the DCO Application in ES Chapter 3 Alternatives and Design Iteration and the appended Site Selection Assessment Report.
	Recommended commitment to a design criterion whereby operational noise emissions do not exceed the representative background sound level (LA90) at the nearest residential receptors.	The WHO guidelines and BS 8233 have been followed in carrying out the assessment. With appropriate mitigation, no significant effects are concluded. The Applicant has committed in its Outline Environmental Management Plan to providing a detailed plan of the mitigation measures to be applied and to confirm that no likely significant effects will arise, in line with the ES.
	A separate Health Impact Assessment (HIA) assessment is recommended.	The Applicant does not consider that a full HIA is required as set out in the EIA Scoping Report. Three dedicated meetings with the Council's Public Health team have taken place to discuss the scope of the Environmental Assessment and the approach to delivery of the Proposed Scheme.
	Potential for negative cumulative effects on local communities and scale of the proposed development in combination with other major development, and wish to agree scope and method of the cumulative assessment when considering landscape effects.	Cumulative assessments both inter-project and intra-project have been carried out for each scoped-in EIA topic, including LVIA. The methodology for landscape and visual cumulative effects was shared with NYC's landscape team, via email, in July 2025.
Environment Agency	Flood Risk Modelling should include allowances for climate change and breach modelling.	Engagement between the Applicant and EA regarding the matter has been ongoing. In September 2025, the Applicant shared outputs of

Affected Consultee	Issue	Steps Taken to Reach a Resolution
	<p>Scoping out of ground condition impacts on groundwater quality – these effects should not be excluded without confirmation from a Preliminary Risk Assessment (PRA).</p> <p>Opposition to the use/construction of culverts and recommend open-span structures, as well as the opening up of existing culverts.</p>	<p>flood risk modelling. In December 2025, a subsequent version was shared and an update meeting held in January 2026. This modelling has included allowances for climate change and breach modelling.</p> <p>The Applicant has prepared a Ground Conditions Preliminary Risk Assessment (PRA) to support the ES. No significant contaminant linkages have been identified. During an engagement meeting held between the Applicant and the EA in September 2025, the proposed approach was agreed, and the draft PRA was shared with the EA in December 2025.</p> <p>Engagement between the Applicant and EA regarding culverts took place in November 2025. Given the minimal use of culverts, in low risk locations, and with the Applicant’s proposed mitigation measures applied, the EA have confirmed no objection subject to confirmation of follow up dialogue with Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) and relevant Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs). The Applicant has met with the LLFA and IDBs and has agreed the approach to use of culverts in principle.</p>
Natural England	Request for two years of Wintering Bird Surveys (specifically in relation to Site 1) to be undertaken, including surveys during the spring and autumn passage periods (single year). Surveys should be supported by use of a desk study in the HRA.	The Applicant has demonstrated, through analysis of one year of Wintering Bird Surveys (including passage periods) and the mitigation proposed, that effects are not significant. In October 2025, NE provided confirmation that the Applicant’s proposed approach of one year of surveys is acceptable in principle, although they advise further assessments are undertaken. Further assessment work was issued to NE in October 2025. NE provided a written response in December 2025 and agreement on the approach was confirmed in January 2026 subject to confirmation on proposed wording in the shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment which will be submitted with the DCO application.
Forestry Commission	An Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) should be prepared for the Cable Corridor, in addition to the Solar Development Sites.	The AIA prepared as part of the ES includes an assessment of the Cable Route Corridor. Additionally, the Proposed Development’s

Affected Consultee	Issue	Steps Taken to Reach a Resolution
	<p>Advise that proposals in proximity to ancient woodland should have a buffer of at least 15 m.</p>	<p>design includes a 15 m buffer from ancient woodland at Gilbertsons Plantation.</p>
<p>Ouse & Derwent Internal Drainage Board (IDB)</p>	<p>Request the Applicant seek written consent from IDBs (outside of the planning process) under the Land Drainage Act 1991 and the Boards' byelaws where necessary.</p> <p>Any cables crossing watercourses should be laid above any existing culverts which would not require the IDB's consent. If this is not feasible, directional drilling is requested as open cut crossings won't be accepted.</p>	<p>Engagement with IDBs regarding other relevant consents is ongoing. The Applicant proposes to use trenchless solutions such as directional drilling for crossing IDB assets.</p> <p>Consenting for crossing the IDB's assets will be via the DCO's Protective Provisions, rather than the Land Drainage Act 1991. This is understood to be accepted by the IDB.</p>

3 Pre-application Stages

3.1.1 As shown in Table 1, there are four broad pre-application stages and progress with key activities for each is described below:

- Stage 1: Environmental Surveys and Initial Engagement
- Stage 2: Public Introduction of Proposals, Phase One Consultation and Scoping
- Stage 3: Phase Two Consultation and PEIR
- Stage 4: DCO Application Drafting and Submission

3.2 Stage 1: Environmental Surveys and Initial Engagement

Environmental Surveys

3.2.1 Various environmental surveys were initiated during this stage; most, as of September 2025, are complete. Surveys considered necessary to inform the ES are anticipated to be completed (as set out in the PEIR) by the time of DCO submission.

Landowner Engagement

3.2.2 The Applicant aims to obtain all land required for the Proposed Development voluntarily and continues to engage with all landowners. The Applicant is continuing close liaison to provide relevant information throughout the pre-application stage.

3.2.3 The Applicant has secured land rights by way of options agreements for all Solar Development Sites. The Applicant aims to obtain voluntary agreements from all Affected Parties for the Cable Route Corridor and related access land. Template Heads of Terms for voluntary agreements were issued to Affected Parties in the Cable Route Corridor in October 2025.

The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) Engagement

3.2.4 An Inception Meeting with PINS was held on the 25 September 2024 whereby the Applicant introduced the Proposed Development, activities undertaken to date, the anticipated programme, planned activities and the intended submission date.

3.2.5 Following the Inception Meeting, it was agreed that Basic Tier of pre-application service would be appropriate for this development. Engagement with PINS has continued with three further meetings in April, September and November 2025. Engagement is ongoing with PINS prior to planned submission of the DCO application.

3.2.6 Section 51 advice provided by the Inspectorate is available to access via the PINS hosted project webpage⁶.

Local Planning Authority (LPA) and Prescribed Consultee Engagement

3.2.7 The Proposed Development is located within the administrative area of North Yorkshire Council. It was previously thought that that some highways works might be required in the administrative area of the City of York to facilitate access to the Proposed Development. However, access studies undertaken since project launch have meant that it is now possible to rule this out and City of York Council has been informed.

3.2.8 Engagement with North Yorkshire Council, including with all relevant technical officers has been ongoing, will continue throughout the remainder of the pre-application period. A Planning Performance Agreement is in draft and expected to be agreed in early 2026.

3.2.9 Engagement with other SEBs is also ongoing, specifically regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and results, and will continue as appropriate. Pre-application service agreements with certain stakeholders have been agreed and put in place:

- An agreement with the Environment Agency has been reached and engagement is ongoing.
- An agreement with Natural England, focusing on ecology and agriculture, has been reached and engagement is ongoing.
- An agreement with Historic England, focusing on conservation and archaeology, has been reached and engagement is ongoing.
- Engagement with National Highways is expected to be outside of a paid service agreement. Necessary engagement is ongoing.

3.2.10 Discussions with other SEBs such as the relevant Internal Drainage Boards and the Canals and River Trust are also ongoing.

3.3 Stage 2: Public Introduction of Proposal, Phase One Consultation and Scoping

Public Introduction of Proposals

3.3.1 In October 2024, the Applicant introduced the Proposed Development to identified stakeholders and local communities ahead of commencing the Phase One (Non-statutory) Consultation and submitting the Scoping Report to PINS. This early engagement was undertaken to increase awareness of the Proposed Development and upcoming consultation opportunities and to agree the scope of the EIA.

⁶ <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110012>

3.3.2 From September 2024, the Applicant contacted and offered briefing opportunities to identified stakeholders representing members of the community. This included stakeholders such as MPs, Local Authority officers and councillors, and Parish Councils.

3.3.3 A dedicated project website⁷ for the Proposed Development was published on 17 October 2024 to provide information on the Proposed Development and promote the Applicant's range of free-to-use contact channels. The Proposed Development, and the Applicant's associated website and contact details, were further publicised through local media. The website and contact details have been updated through the pre-application stage and will remain open and up to date as the Proposed Development progresses to Submission and Examination stages.

Phase One (Non-statutory) Consultation

3.3.4 The Non-statutory Consultation was conducted for a six-week period from 24 October – 5 December 2024.

3.3.5 The following activities were undertaken during this stage:

- Consultation opportunities were publicised through direct written notification to properties within the vicinity of the Proposed Development (via postcard), emailing identified stakeholders and organisations, and through local media publicity.
- Project information was published in a Consultation Leaflet, on a dedicated project website, and at public information events (both in-person and online).
- Free-to-use communications channels were used (phone, post and email) to facilitate questions and comments on the proposals.
- Written feedback on the emerging proposals was invited through an online survey, a paper feedback form (which could be submitted by Freepost or at arranged events), and through the dedicated communications channels.

3.3.6 On 22 April 2025, the Applicant published a Project Update Newsletter and Phase One Consultation Summary Report. This document includes a summary of the feedback received during the Phase One (Non-statutory) Consultation and how the Applicant is using this feedback to inform the design process moving forward.

Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report

3.3.7 The Applicant confirms that an Environmental Statement (ES) will accompany the DCO application.

3.3.8 The EIA Scoping Report was submitted to PINS on the 8 November 2024, during the non-statutory consultation period. The purpose of this report was to establish the scope, including content and extent of matters which should be covered in an ES to be prepared and submitted for the Proposed Development.

⁷ <https://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/>

- 3.3.9 The decision to submit the Scoping Request during non-statutory consultation was taken in consultation with PINS. The 42-day period, whereby PINS must consult on the scoping request with relevant consultation bodies, commenced on 11 November and ended on 19 December 2024. The Applicant provided relevant consultation bodies with advanced notification of the timing of the EIA Scoping Report and confirmed that they should respond formally to PINS' scoping consultation.
- 3.3.10 Engagement with PINS and the statutory bodies who commented on the EIA Scoping Report continues to take place and has informed the production of the PEIR and now the production of the ES.

3.4 Stage 3: Phase Two Consultation and PEIR

Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

- 3.4.1 The Applicant developed a SoCC, informed by feedback from the Phase One (Non-statutory) Consultation. This set out how the Applicant intended to undertake Statutory Consultation. The Applicant consulted North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council on a draft SoCC in line with the requirements of the Act. The SoCC was agreed with North Yorkshire Council on 13 May 2025.
- 3.4.2 On 12 June 2025 the SoCC was published in accordance with S47 of the Act and made available at the three Community Access Points (Selby Library, Barlby Library and Community Hub and Sherburn and Villages Community Library) and uploaded to the Project website.
- 3.4.3 On 19 June 2025 notices advertising the intention to submit a DCO application in accordance with Section 48 of the Act, notifying readers about the Phase Two Consultation were published in the Selby Times, York Press, the Guardian and the London Gazette. These notices were published for a second week (w/c 26 June 2025) in the three local publications.

Design Workshops

- 3.4.4 Prior to Phase Two Consultation, in June 2025, the Applicant invited parish councils, relevant local interest and community groups, and technical stakeholders to two in-person design preview workshops to encourage feedback on the design of the project. The workshops, held on the 18 and 24 June 2025, were an opportunity for the Proposed Development team to openly engage with local stakeholders on the emerging design principles, layouts and mitigation measures. Delegates were invited to share suggestions on how the design could be changed and improved.

Phase Two Consultation

- 3.4.5 Phase Two (Statutory) Consultation ran between 26 June 2025 and 7 August 2025. The purpose of the Statutory Consultation was to:

- Raise awareness about the Proposed Development and the consultation so local communities have the opportunity to understand the Proposed Development, its potential impacts and the measures proposed to reduce those impacts.
- Engage in discussion relating to ways of maximising local benefits to meet their long-term needs so they can provide their views and feedback.
- Give local communities, relevant authorities and other stakeholders an opportunity to comment on the proposals based on appropriately detailed information that is clear and accessible.
- Provide a range of ways for people to engage with the Proposed Development at a time that is convenient to them. For example, online (website, webinars), in person (events, briefings), and in writing (feedback form, leaflet).
- Clearly signpost the different ways people can comment on the Proposed Development.
- Ensure that everyone who has an interest in the Proposed Development is made aware of the examination process and provided with information explaining how they can participate in that process.

3.4.6 Six in-person information events were held between the 4 and 21 July 2025 with information about the project available at the events and members of the Light Valley Solar team available to answer questions. An online information event (webinar) was also organised and held on 21 July 2025. All information was also available on the project website and remains on the website for those interested.

Targeted Consultation

3.4.7 Following the close of the Phase Two Consultation, the Proposed Development team has continued to refine the proposals for the Proposed Development, in preparation for submitting the DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate. This progression has been informed by further design work and due diligence, ongoing consideration of consultee feedback (including from Phase Two Statutory Consultation), and findings from the ongoing EIA process.

3.4.8 This resulted in a series of minor amendments to the development boundary area for the Proposed Development. In summary, the changes to the boundaries related to confirming the land that may be required for:

- Access Points – to allow access to the Proposed Development during construction and operation, including possible cutting back or removal of trees or hedges to allow safe movement of construction traffic.
- Visibility Splays – to ensure safe sightlines for vehicles entering or exiting the Proposed Development at access points, including possible cutting back or removal of trees or hedges to allow increased driver visibility.
- Passing Places – to allow vehicles to pass safely on narrow roads used to access the Proposed Development during construction, including possible cutting back or removal of trees or hedges.

- Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AIL) Access – to facilitate safe movement of AILs, which have wide turning circles and need unobstructed routes; this may include the possible cutting back or removal of trees or hedges.
- The Cable Route – to allow flexibility to avoid engineering or environmental constraints, such as land drains or damage to existing hedgerows, trees and their roots.
- Permissive Paths – to create publicly accessible routes within the Solar Development Sites for walking or cycling.

3.4.9 The Applicant launched a targeted consultation period in relation to these changes from 16 October to 20 November 2025. The targeted consultation materials presented 40 minor changes relating to the above types across the project site area. The targeted consultation materials also explained any recent changes to the reporting of likely significant environmental effects in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report published at Stage Two Statutory Consultation.

3.4.10 To support people in responding to the Targeted Consultation, a feedback form accompanied the Targeted Consultation materials. This feedback has been considered alongside responses received at Phase Two consultation, and will be reported in the DCO submission materials. Relevant responses have been considered in the ongoing design evolution, and have resulted in minor amendments to the Order Limits.

3.5 Stage 4: DCO Application Drafting and Submission

3.5.1 The pre-submission stage of the pre-application programme is now well advanced. Following the conclusion of Targeted Consultation, the Applicant is now sufficiently confident the EIA process can progress and be completed to enable submission of the application in Q1 2026. The EIA process will still be informed by the Targeted Consultation feedback.

3.5.2 The earliest possible submission of the DCO application is February 2026.

Pre-submission Activities

3.5.3 A follow up meeting with PINS was held in September 2025 to discuss the outcomes of the Phase Two Consultation, the planned Targeted Consultation, and the implications for the Proposed Development layout. The Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM) was also discussed.

3.5.4 The Applicant has also engaged with North Yorkshire Council, the LPA, in September 2025, to seek views on the approach to the Targeted Consultation. The Applicant's approach to consultation was agreed with North Yorkshire Council. The AoCM document was shared with S43 bodies on 10 October 2025 and comment from North Yorkshire Council was received, confirming that they had no comments. The Applicant issued the final AoCM document to PINS on 13 November 2025.

- 3.5.5 Another meeting with PINS was held on 17 November 2025 outcomes following Targeted Consultation. The applicant shared an update on the development of the Issues Tracker, including visibility of the contents (examples were shared for landscape, archaeology and noise). The applicant summarised the number of key issues identified across the SEBS to date, numbers resolved, numbers likely to be resolved and numbers unlikely to be resolved.
- 3.5.6 Engagement will also continue with prescribed consultees on technical and design matters throughout Stage 4 and issues contained within the Applicant's working Issues Tracker will be discussed with SEBs.
- 3.5.7 Statements of Common Ground are being progressed for relevant SEBs where appropriate. The Applicant will use Statements of Common Ground to document progress on remaining issues, an approach that was agreed with PINS during engagement on 17 November 2025.
- 3.5.8 The Applicant will submit the Potential Main Issues for the Examination document as part of the DCO. This will build on the Issues Tracker currently in use to guide stakeholder dialogue.

Consultation Report

- 3.5.9 A Consultation Report is currently being finalised following completion of the Phase Two Consultation and Targeted Consultation. This report will be submitted as part of the final DCO application.

DCO Submission

- 3.5.10 Alongside the submission of the DCO application to PINS, the Applicant will notify the LPA and statutory consultees of the submission of the application on acceptance.



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