

Light Valley Solar

Consultation Report Appendix 2: Phase One Consultation Materials

Document Reference: EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.02

February 2026

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN0110012
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 2: Phase One Consultation Materials

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Regulation Reference | APFP Regulation 5(2)(q) |
| Planning Inspectorate Case Reference | EN00110012 |
| Application Document Reference | EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.02 |
| Author | Light Valley Solar Limited |

| Version | Date | Status of Version |
|---------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1.0 | February 2026 | DCO Submission |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |



Light Valley Solar

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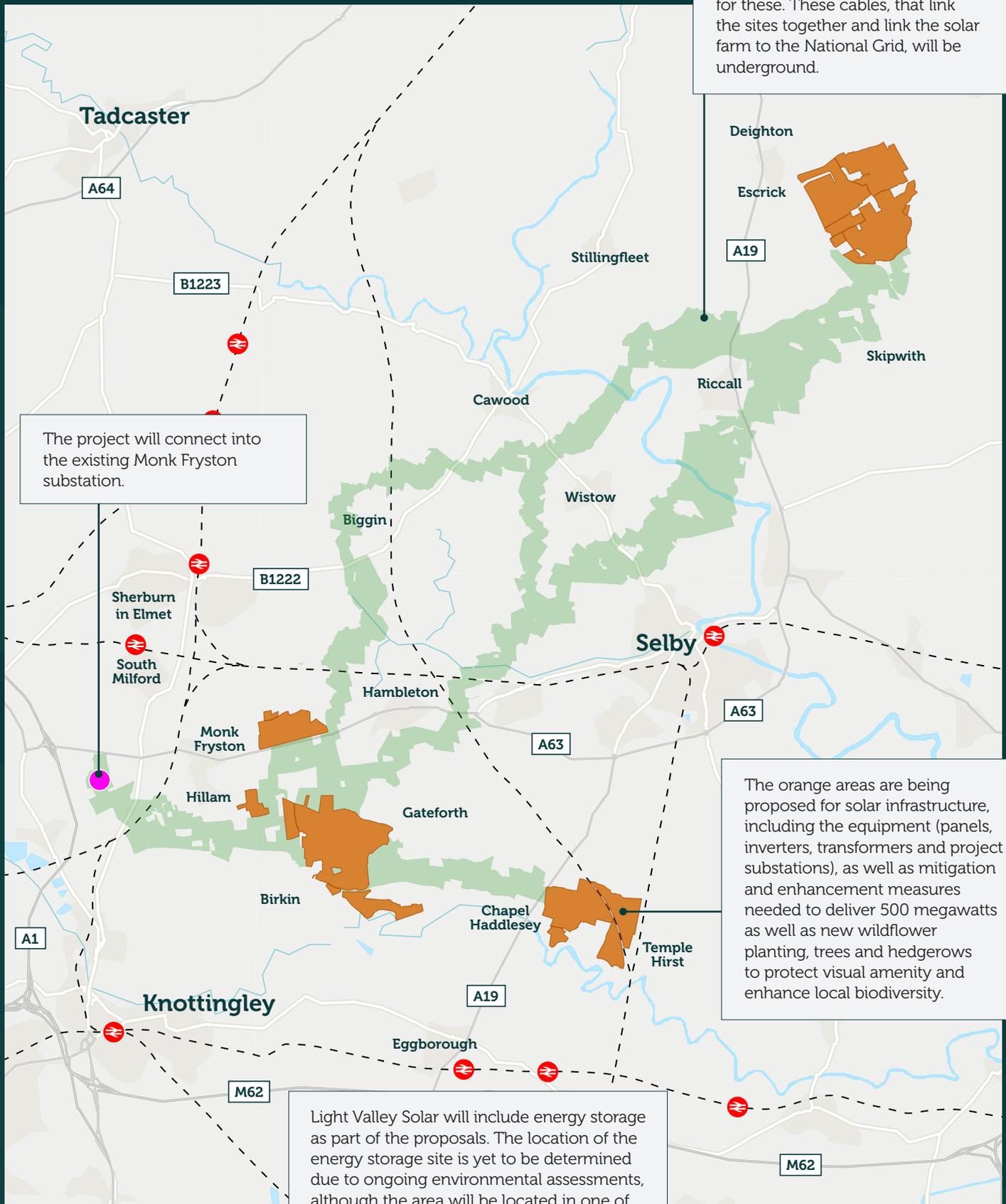
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1 Solar Project Search Area

Solar Project search area

At this stage, we have shown a wide cable search corridor on the maps, whilst we assess the preferred route for these. These cables, that link the sites together and link the solar farm to the National Grid, will be underground.



The project will connect into the existing Monk Fryston substation.

The orange areas are being proposed for solar infrastructure, including the equipment (panels, inverters, transformers and project substations), as well as mitigation and enhancement measures needed to deliver 500 megawatts as well as new wildflower planting, trees and hedgerows to protect visual amenity and enhance local biodiversity.

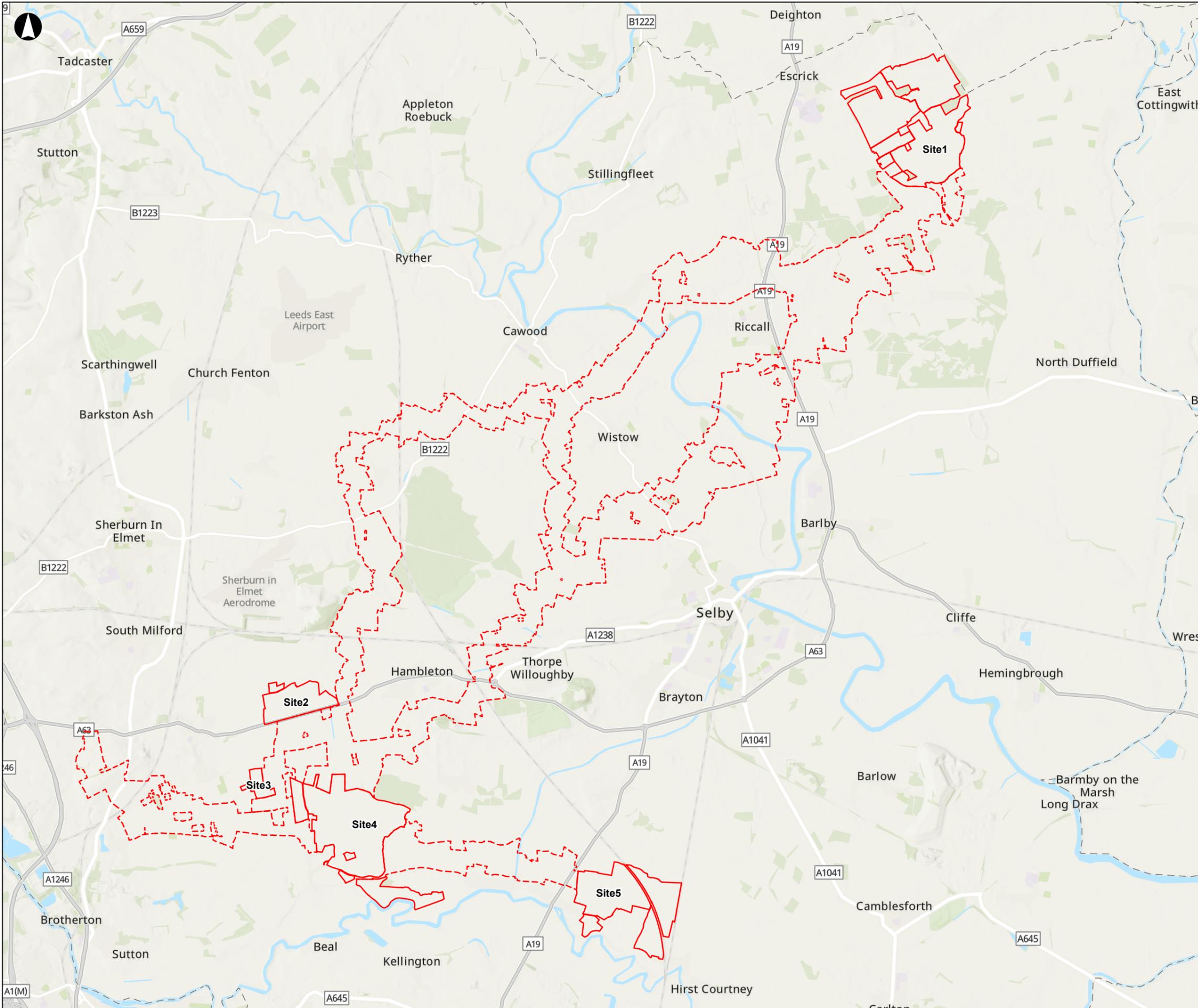
Light Valley Solar will include energy storage as part of the proposals. The location of the energy storage site is yet to be determined due to ongoing environmental assessments, although the area will be located in one of the sites closest to the connection point at Monk Fryston substation.

Key

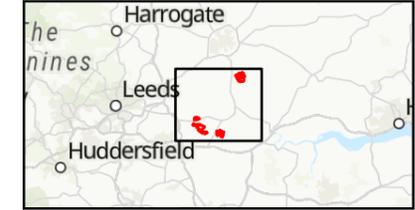
- Solar Development Area
- National Grid's Monk Fryston Substation
- Cable Route Search Corridor



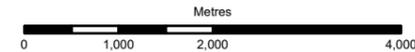
2 Site Location Plan – October 2024



- Solar Development Sites
- Cable Corridor Options Area



Coordinate System: British National Grid
 Copyright Information Text Here. World Topographic Map: Esri UK, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS
 World Hillshade: Esri, Intermap, NASA, NGA, USGS
 World Topographic Map: Esri UK, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS



| P01 | 09/10/2024 | AC | CESL | JMCH | PBUR |
|-----|------------|----|------|------|-------|
| Rev | Date | By | Chkd | Appd | Authd |



Drawing Title

Site Location plan

Client
Light Valley Solar Limited

Project Name
Light Valley Solar

Scale at A3
1:75,000

Project Number
302939-00

Rev
P01

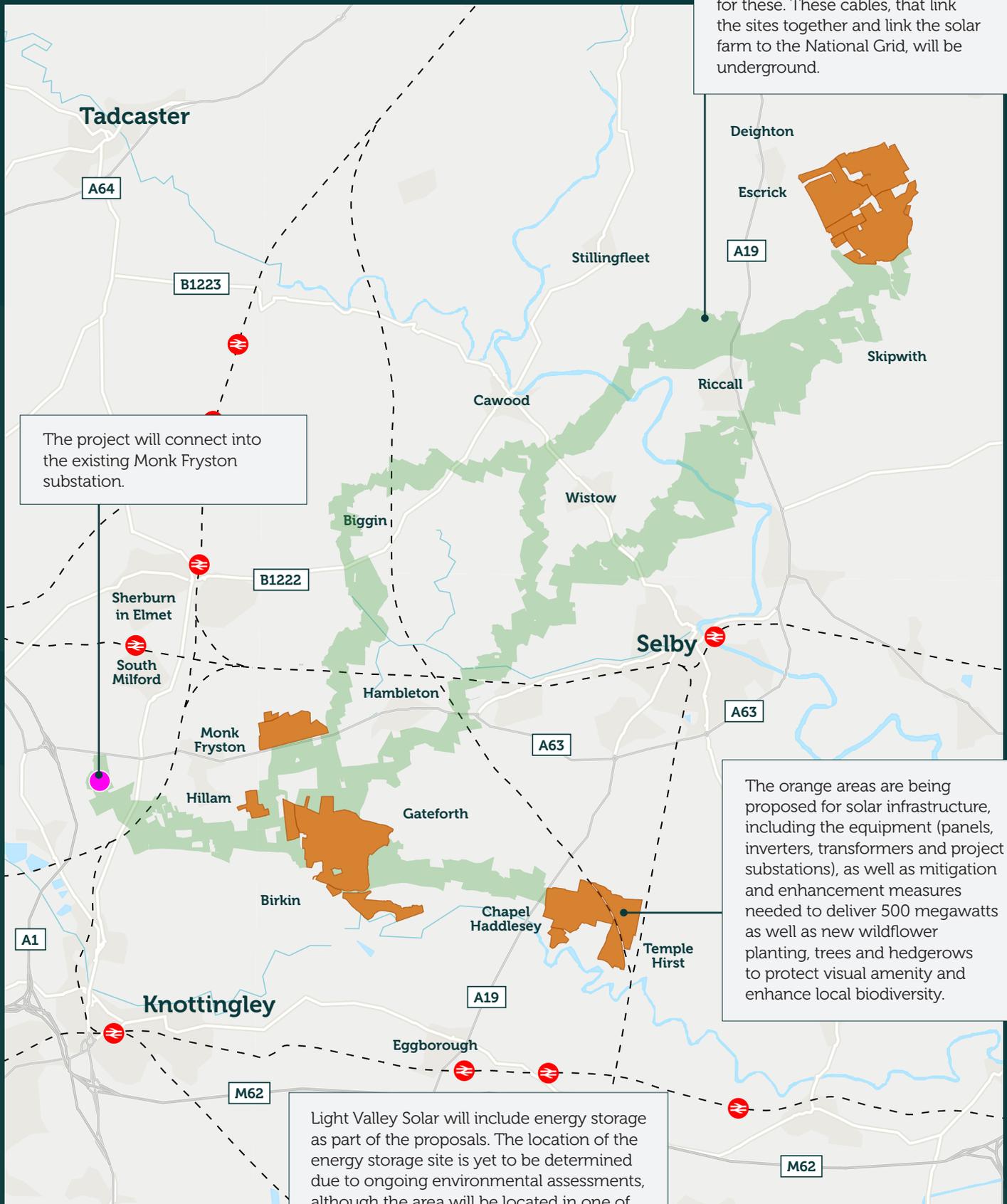
Drawing Number
LVS-302939-205



3 Phase One Community Consultation Postcard

Solar Project search area

At this stage, we have shown a wide cable search corridor on the maps, whilst we assess the preferred route for these. These cables, that link the sites together and link the solar farm to the National Grid, will be underground.



Key

- Solar Development Area
- National Grid's Monk Fryston Substation
- Cable Route Search Corridor

Light Valley Solar Phase One Community Consultation

Thursday 24th October –
Thursday 5th December 2024

Island Green Power is developing proposals for Light Valley Solar, a solar development with energy storage situated to the north and west of Selby.

Light Valley Solar will provide up to 500 megawatts (MW) of low-carbon, affordable, and dependable electricity, supporting necessary climate commitments at both regional and national levels.

We would like to invite you to take part in our first phase of consultation between Thursday 24th October and Thursday 5th December 2024.

Have your say

Attend one of our in-person information events or our community webinar for the chance to speak to members of the project team, ask questions and view information about Light Valley Solar.

| Venue | Date & Time |
|--|--|
| Riccall Village Institute 12 Station Rd, Riccall, YO19 6QJ | Friday 8th November 3pm – 7pm |
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| Online Webinar via Zoom - register your attendance via the project website: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk | Wednesday 20th November 6pm – 7:30pm |



We want to hear your feedback on our proposals which will inform our design as the project progresses.
The deadline for feedback is Thursday 5th December 2024 (on or before this date).
You can provide written feedback by completing our feedback form, or by writing to us via our project communication channels:

Email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Freephone information line: 0800 281 4784
Operational between Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm.
A voicemail service operates outside of these hours.

Freepost: FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR

Further project information on our early-stage proposals can be found by scanning the QR code.



4 Phase One Consultation Leaflet

Phase One Community Consultation Leaflet

October 2024



Light Valley Solar

This leaflet explains the emerging proposals for Light Valley Solar, a proposed solar and battery storage project to the north and west of Selby in North Yorkshire.

The following pages include information on Light Valley Solar, who we are, what we aim to achieve and how you can get involved during our first stage of community consultation. Our consultation is open for 6 weeks, between Thursday 24th October and Thursday 5th December 2024. Island Green Power website at: www.islandgp.com.

About the project

The proposals for Light Valley Solar include five site development areas, located between Monk Fryston, Hambleton, Eggborough and Escrick. The current total project area totalling approximately 1,050 hectares (excluding cable corridors) includes space for panels, electrical infrastructure, battery storage, mitigation and enhancement.

Light Valley Solar, once developed, would have the capacity to generate up to 500 megawatts (MW) of electricity over 60 years of operation. This would be enough to power 115,000 homes annually. Clean electricity generated by Light Valley Solar will be supplied to the National Grid at the existing Monk Fryston substation.

As Light Valley is proposed to have a generation capacity of more than 50 MW, the project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, or NSIP. More information on this can be found on page 6.

Why do we need Light Valley Solar?

Solar energy is essential for addressing climate change, rising energy costs, and ensuring the UK's energy security.

Light Valley Solar will have a capacity of 500 megawatts (MW), generating a significant amount of low-carbon, affordable, and dependable electricity, making a critical and timely contribution to regional and national targets.

- Utility-scale solar is proven and deliverable. It can be installed quickly and at relatively low cost, which is important for combating both climate change and rising energy bills.
- Battery storage will allow the solar farm to deploy its electricity generated during peak times, potentially when it is not sunny, increasing the resilience of the electricity network.
- Solar provides power directly to UK households and businesses, supporting the UK in increasing its supply of home-grown energy.

UK Targets

- The UK Government plan for a cheaper, zero carbon electricity system by 2030 aims to save £93 billion for UK households and cut energy bills for good.
- To achieve the mission by 2030, the UK Government plans to more than triple the UK's solar power generation to 50 gigawatts (GW) helping to deliver energy security, making the UK energy independent, creating new jobs.



Island Green Power - A responsible developer

The proposals for Light Valley Solar have been put forward by Island Green Power, a leading developer of renewable energy projects specialising in utility-scale solar and battery storage systems.

We have successfully delivered over 34 solar projects worldwide, totalling more than one gigawatt of capacity. This includes 17 solar projects in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. We recently secured consent for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) in Lincolnshire.

Committed to responsible land use, we believe that the development and delivery of utility-scale solar farms can be achieved in harmony with their surroundings.

As it is common for projects such as this, Island Green Power has established Light Valley Solar Limited as a special purpose vehicle for developing the proposals.

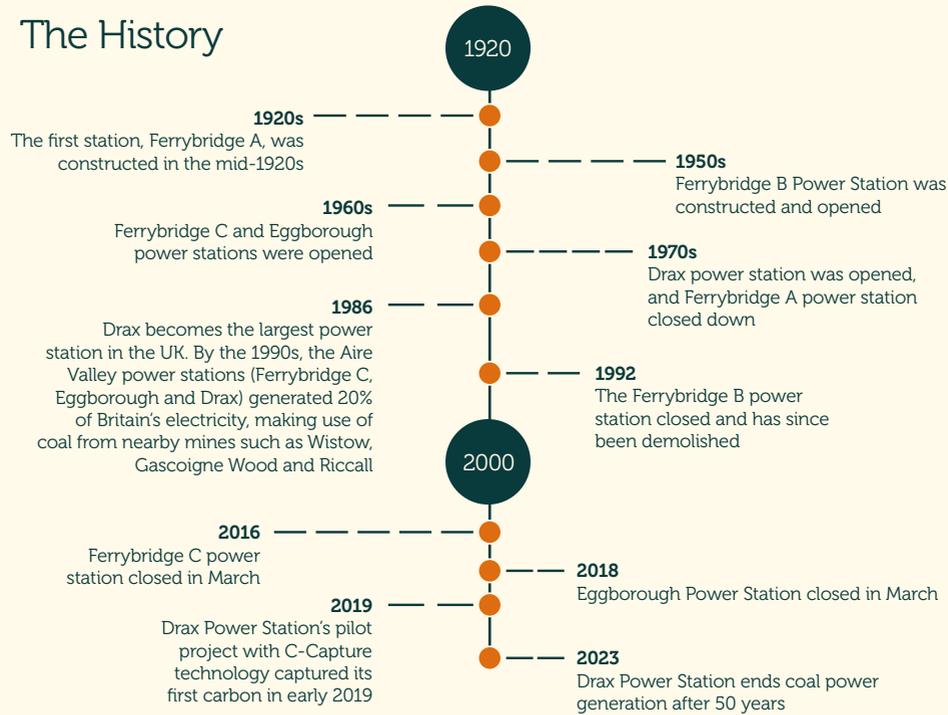
For more information, please visit the Island Green Power website at: www.islandgp.com



A Legacy of Generating Power

Light Valley Solar is proposed in an area with a significant history of power generation. Existing infrastructure and capacity makes it well placed to continue this legacy.

The History

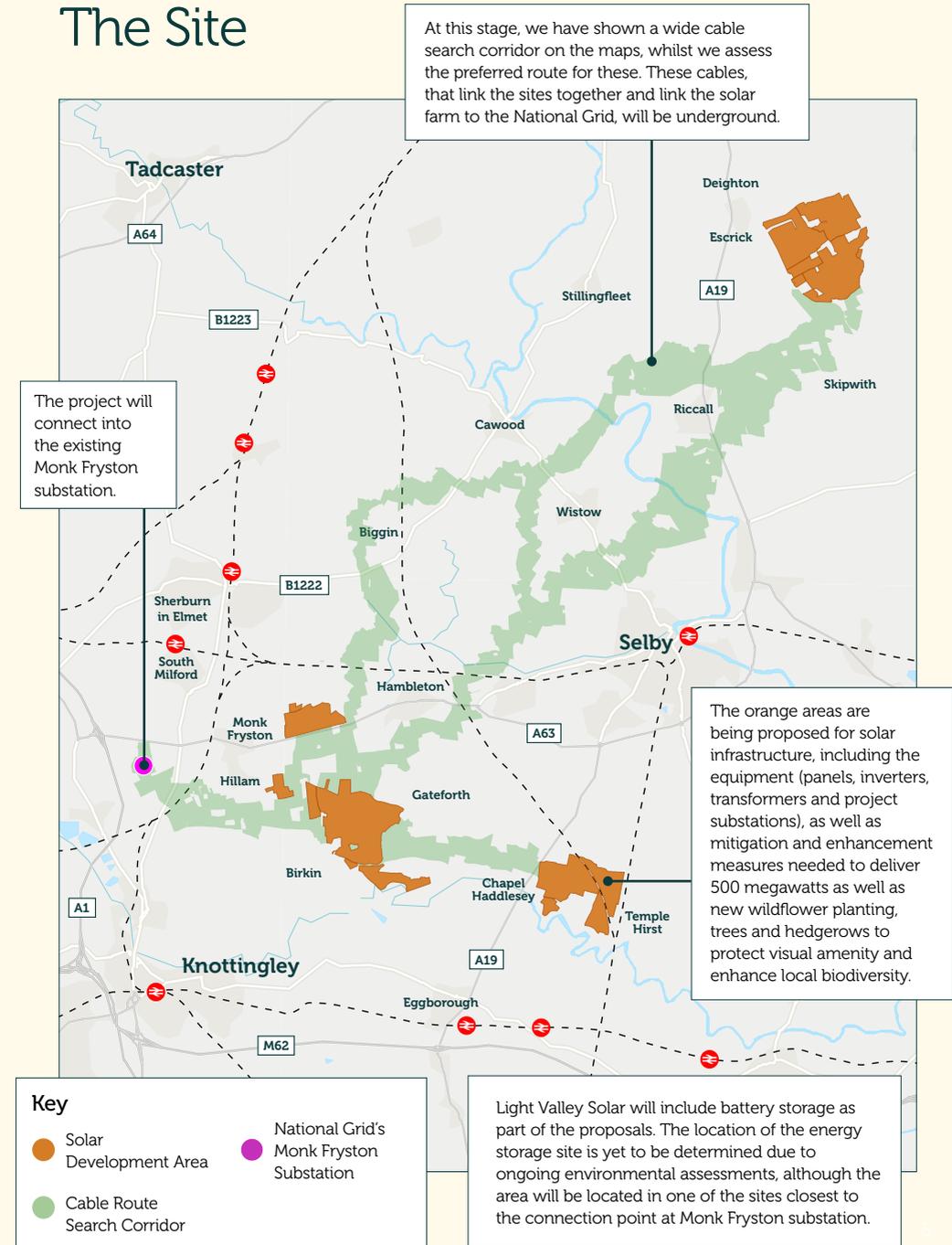


We plan to assist the North East & Yorkshire Net Zero Hub, which supports the region's transition to a low-carbon economy. The timeline shows how coal fired energy generation grew in this area but has now closed, with the area beginning to transition to more diversified generation. Light Valley Solar will further diversify this energy mix, continuing the area's legacy and contribute to local climate targets.

The hub has a co-owned plan with stakeholders to achieve net zero targets by 2034 and make the region the UK's first carbon negative area by 2040, alongside North Yorkshire Council and the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise partnership. North Yorkshire Council aspires to reach net carbon neutrality by 2030, with Light Valley Solar able to contribute to this goal.

Light Valley Solar aligns with North Yorkshire Council's Climate Change Strategy, which aims to install an additional 2,500 megawatts of solar, onshore wind, and hydropower capacity by 2038.

The Site



A Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project

As Light Valley is proposed to have a generation capacity of more than 50 MW, the project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, or NSIP.

The Planning Process for NSIPs.

The development consenting regime for an NSIP comes under the Planning Act 2008. This means that we need to submit an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build, operate and decommission Light Valley solar to the Planning Inspectorate, rather than the local planning authority.

In the case of energy related NSIPs, the Planning Inspectorate acts on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy security and Net Zero. The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) will carry out an examination of our application and then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State on whether to grant consent. The Secretary of State will make the final decision on whether to grant consent for Light Valley Solar.

We expect the development process through DCO submission and examination will take between two to three years. We intend to submit our application to the Planning Inspectorate in 2026. Subject to obtaining consent, the earliest construction would start in 2028. Our indicative project timeline can be seen on page 15 of this leaflet.

While the DCO application will not be submitted to the local planning authority, North Yorkshire Council and stakeholder groups will play a key role in the planning process and be consulted as the project progresses.

Environmental Impact Assessment and biodiversity net gain

As the project is classified as an NSIP, the project is also classified as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development.

By designing for environmental outcomes, the (EIA) process becomes much more of a reporting tool to demonstrate, for the consenting process, how those outcomes would be achieved.

EIA is broken down into many topics that we need to assess. Some of these topics could include:

- Ecology and biodiversity
- Landscape and visual
- Cultural heritage
- Transport and access
- Soils and agriculture
- Hydrology flood risk and drainage
- Socio-economics, tourism and recreation
- Noise and vibration
- Climate change
- Air quality
- Human health
- Glint and glare

For each of these topics we will assess the impact of the project throughout its lifecycle from construction through to operation, and decommissioning.

The results of the EIA will be set out in the Environmental Statement (ES) which will be included in our final DCO application.

1

Stage 1: EIA Scoping

We are preparing an EIA Scoping Report which will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).

The EIA Scoping Report will provide an overview of our proposed development and the environmental baseline surveys that we intend to undertake, describe how we intend to assess any likely significant environmental effects, and set out the proposed scope and content of the EIA and ES.

The scope of the EIA will be informed by technical expertise and by engagement with stakeholders, to ensure that the methodologies for environmental assessments are sufficient to accurately identify and understand the environmental impacts of Light Valley Solar.

PINS respond to the Scoping Report by issuing a Scoping Opinion, which will set out comments on our proposed approach to the EIA and the topics we need to take forward for assessment and should be presented in the ES.

2

Stage 2: Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

We are required by the Planning Act 2008 to prepare a PEIR.

The PEIR will set out the initial findings of the EIA and identify those measures we are proposing to reduce, enhance and improve the effects of our proposed development could have on the environment.

The PEIR will be presented at statutory consultation so technical stakeholders, local communities, individuals and interested parties can develop an informed view of the potential impacts Light Valley Solar could have on the local environment, and provide us with their views and feedback.

3

Stage 3: Environmental Statement (ES)

After statutory consultation we will produce the ES.

This will be prepared based on the Scoping Opinion and will advance the content of the PEIR, incorporating feedback received during statutory consultation, from the public, and from the outcomes of our assessments undertaken.

The ES will describe any changes to the Project and those measures we are proposing to implement to reduce, improve or enhance the impacts of the Project.

The ES, along with a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) will form part of the DCO application we submit to PINS.

You can find more information about the application process for NSIP projects on the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) website at: infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk

What happens next?

Submitting our Scoping Report

We are intending to submit our Scoping Report in early November to PINS. PINS will then carry out their own consultation specifically on the Scoping Report. This consultation will be carried out with statutory bodies, such as Natural England and the Environment Agency, as well as local authorities and parish councils.

Whilst consultation on the Scoping Report is likely to overlap with our first phase of community consultation, please note that the detail and design within the two consultations remain the same.

Once the Scoping Report has been accepted by PINS we will provide a link to it on the website. You may be interested in reading more about the environmental baseline and how we propose to assess the impact of the proposals.

Next steps

The application process for Light Valley Solar is multi-phased and an ongoing process. As well as this phase of consultation, the process will involve:

- Iterative consultation for communities to provide their feedback. In this case, we are proposing to carry out two rounds of community consultation.
- Recording and responding to feedback in a Consultation Report, which will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the DCO application.
- PINS will review the application and conduct a robust examination of the application before providing a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.
- The Secretary of State will then make the final decision on whether to grant consent for Light Valley Solar.

Further details of these stages can be seen in the Indicative Project Timeline on page 15.

A Community Focus

We are keen for Light Valley Solar to be developed in collaboration with local communities and stakeholders. This will include an extensive and iterative consultation and feedback process.

We believe the communities closest to the proposed development should benefit from it – with these communities being best place to recommend what they believe a “community benefit” should be.

In support of this, we will:



Conduct an extensive and iterative consultation and feedback process - we are committed to working with the local community to identify and define community benefits, inviting suggestions through consultation.



Explore potential on-site and off-site initiatives such as opportunities to create permissive paths.



Consider the possibility of supporting initiatives to make improvements to existing community amenities, such as sports facilities, children's playground, and village halls.



Consider enhancing existing footpaths with educational walk-boards, wildflower meadow planting and seating or bird watching areas, as well as exploring opportunities to introduce new permissive paths.

Environmentally-led design

Putting nature, the landscape and local communities first is central in how the project will be designed.

As well as providing clean electricity that helps us move away from using polluting fossil fuels, well designed solar farms often deliver opportunities beyond electricity generation, including significant boosts to biodiversity and soil recovery.

Light Valley Solar is being developed in response to its surroundings to coexist harmoniously with the local environment.

From November 2025, there will be a legal requirement for developers of NSIP's to show their projects will boost biodiversity by a minimum 10%. This means our plans need to ensure that local wildlife habitats are in a measurably better state than before.

Solar farms can be havens for biodiversity. We strive to go above and beyond the minimum statutory biodiversity net gain requirements where nature loss is anticipated, and where the project can strengthen natural habitats.

Every solar site has a different baseline and opportunity for net gain but as an example of what can be achieved, Island Green Power's consented Cottam Solar Project scheme is anticipated to deliver a biodiversity net gain of 76.8% in habitat value, 56.1% in hedgerow value, and 10% in river value.



By placing the environment at the centre of the design process we can strengthen many different outcomes.

IGP's environmentally led design goal is for the project to protect and enhance local wildlife, including delivering net gains in biodiversity. Specific examples we are considering are listed below:

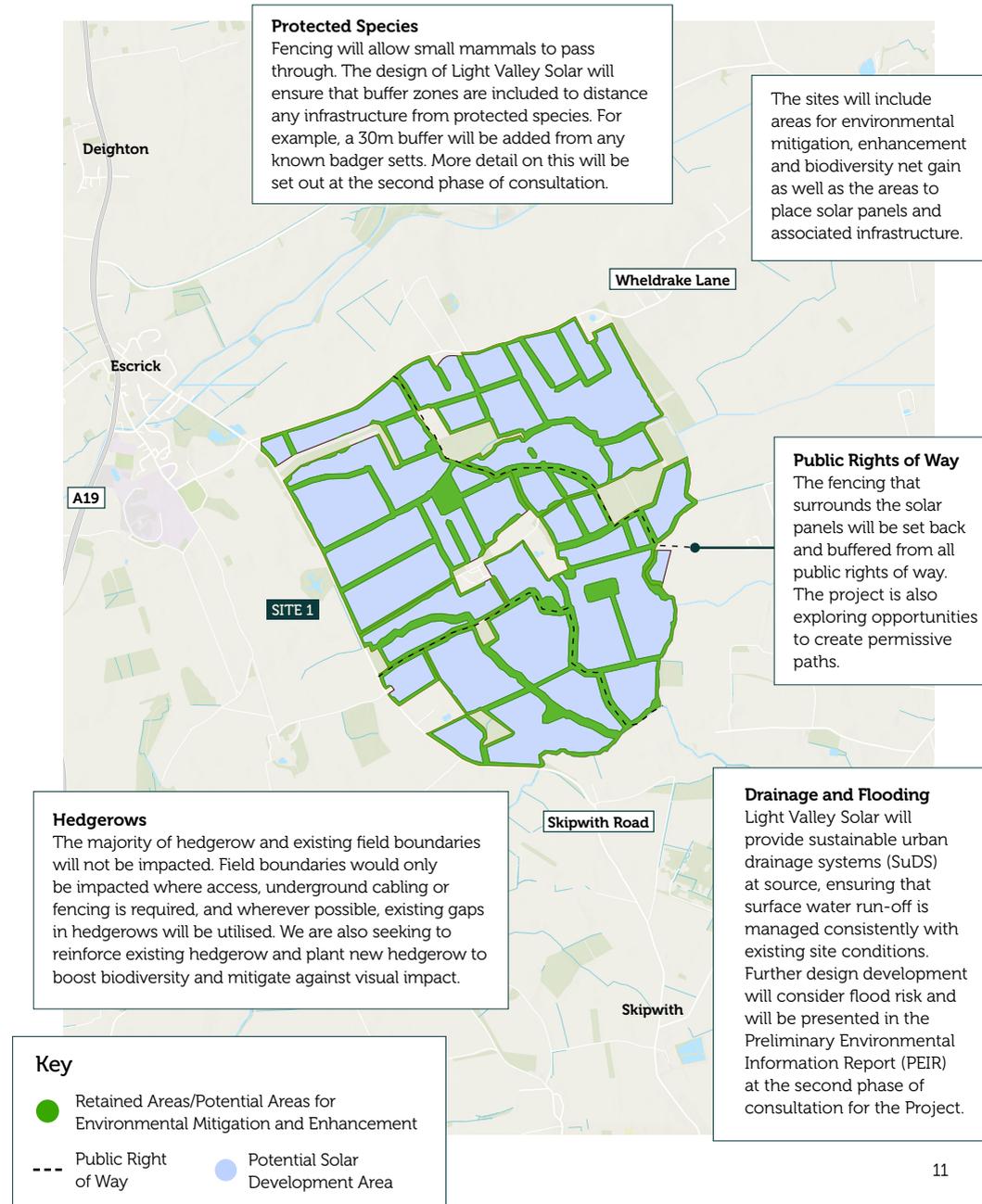
- Protection of existing ecological features such as woodland, hedgerows and ponds.
- Maintaining existing wildlife corridors.
- Ecological enhancement and wildflower planting.
- Allowing livestock grazing within developments so farming practices can continue.

We welcome your views

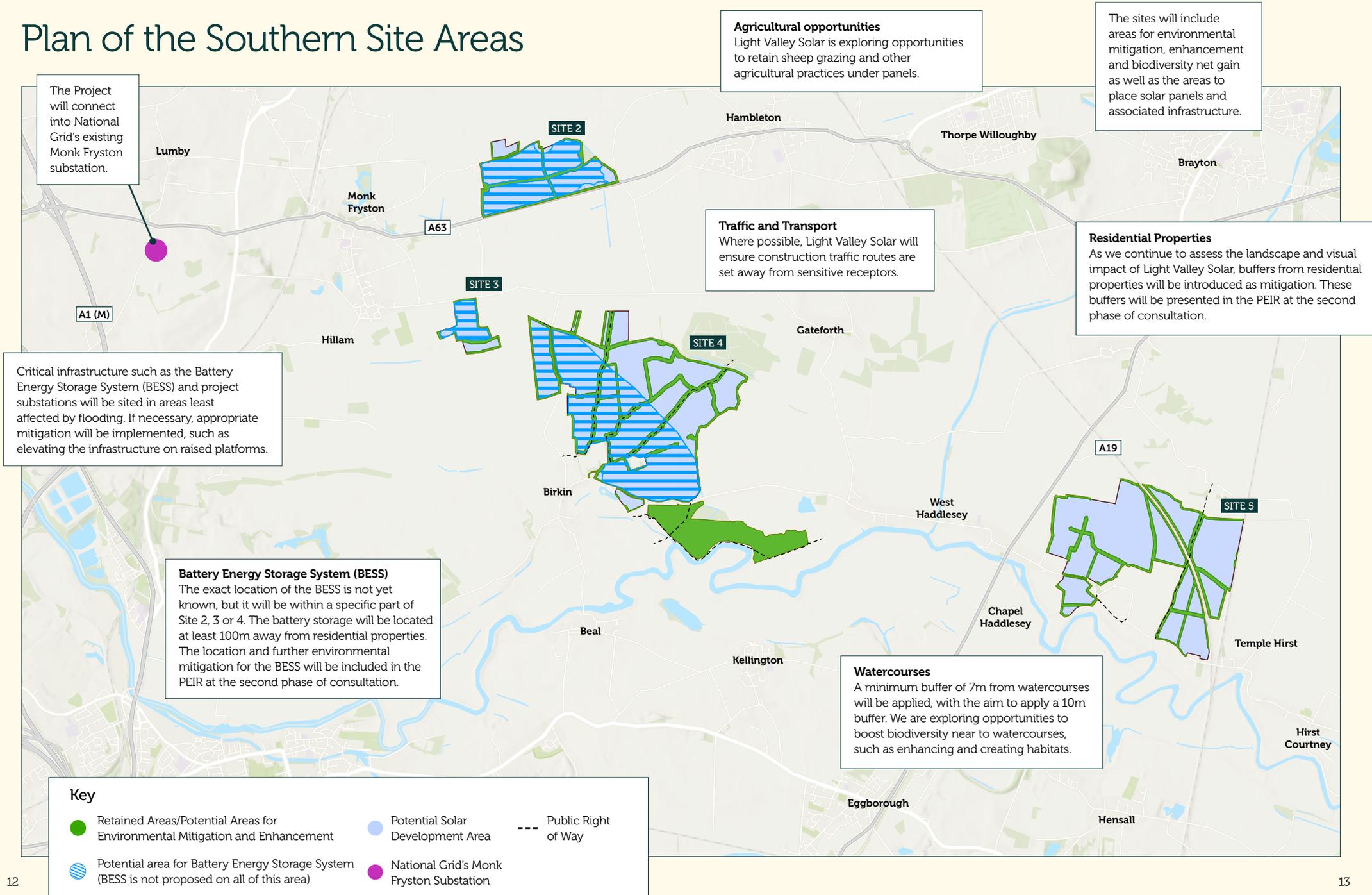
Alongside the results of the environmental studies we are undertaking to assess how to achieve biodiversity net gain, we welcome views on how we can best enhance the local environment and deliver biodiversity net gain.

Please use our feedback form or provide written feedback via email or freepost to share your views with us.

Plan of the Northern Site Area



Plan of the Southern Site Areas



The Project will connect into National Grid's existing Monk Fryston substation.

Agricultural opportunities
Light Valley Solar is exploring opportunities to retain sheep grazing and other agricultural practices under panels.

The sites will include areas for environmental mitigation, enhancement and biodiversity net gain as well as the areas to place solar panels and associated infrastructure.

Traffic and Transport
Where possible, Light Valley Solar will ensure construction traffic routes are set away from sensitive receptors.

Residential Properties
As we continue to assess the landscape and visual impact of Light Valley Solar, buffers from residential properties will be introduced as mitigation. These buffers will be presented in the PEIR at the second phase of consultation.

Critical infrastructure such as the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and project substations will be sited in areas least affected by flooding. If necessary, appropriate mitigation will be implemented, such as elevating the infrastructure on raised platforms.

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
The exact location of the BESS is not yet known, but it will be within a specific part of Site 2, 3 or 4. The battery storage will be located at least 100m away from residential properties. The location and further environmental mitigation for the BESS will be included in the PEIR at the second phase of consultation.

Watercourses
A minimum buffer of 7m from watercourses will be applied, with the aim to apply a 10m buffer. We are exploring opportunities to boost biodiversity near to watercourses, such as enhancing and creating habitats.

Key

- Retained Areas/Potential Areas for Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement
- Potential Solar Development Area
- Public Right of Way
- ▨ Potential area for Battery Energy Storage System (BESS is not proposed on all of this area)
- National Grid's Monk Fryston Substation

Information Events

**Thursday 24th October –
Thursday 5th December 2024**

We are at an early stage of developing the proposals for Light Valley Solar. We will use the views and comments you submit during the first stage of consultation, together with the findings from ongoing studies and surveys we are carrying out, to help us shape and refine our proposals.

i Attend one of our community information events

We are holding a series of information events across the area, as well as a community webinar. These events provide an opportunity to view materials and discuss the proposals with members of the project team.

Visit our project website

Our website www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk provides the latest project information, including relevant documents and answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ's).

Contact our team

Please feel free to get in touch using any of our communication lines listed on the back page of this leaflet. This includes a project email address and a freepost address.

Provide your feedback

We want to hear any views you may have on our proposals. You can submit your feedback via our website, by completing a feedback form at one of our events, by writing to us, or by email. Please contact us if you're not sure how best to provide your feedback.

The deadline for the submission of feedback is at any time on **5th December 2024**.

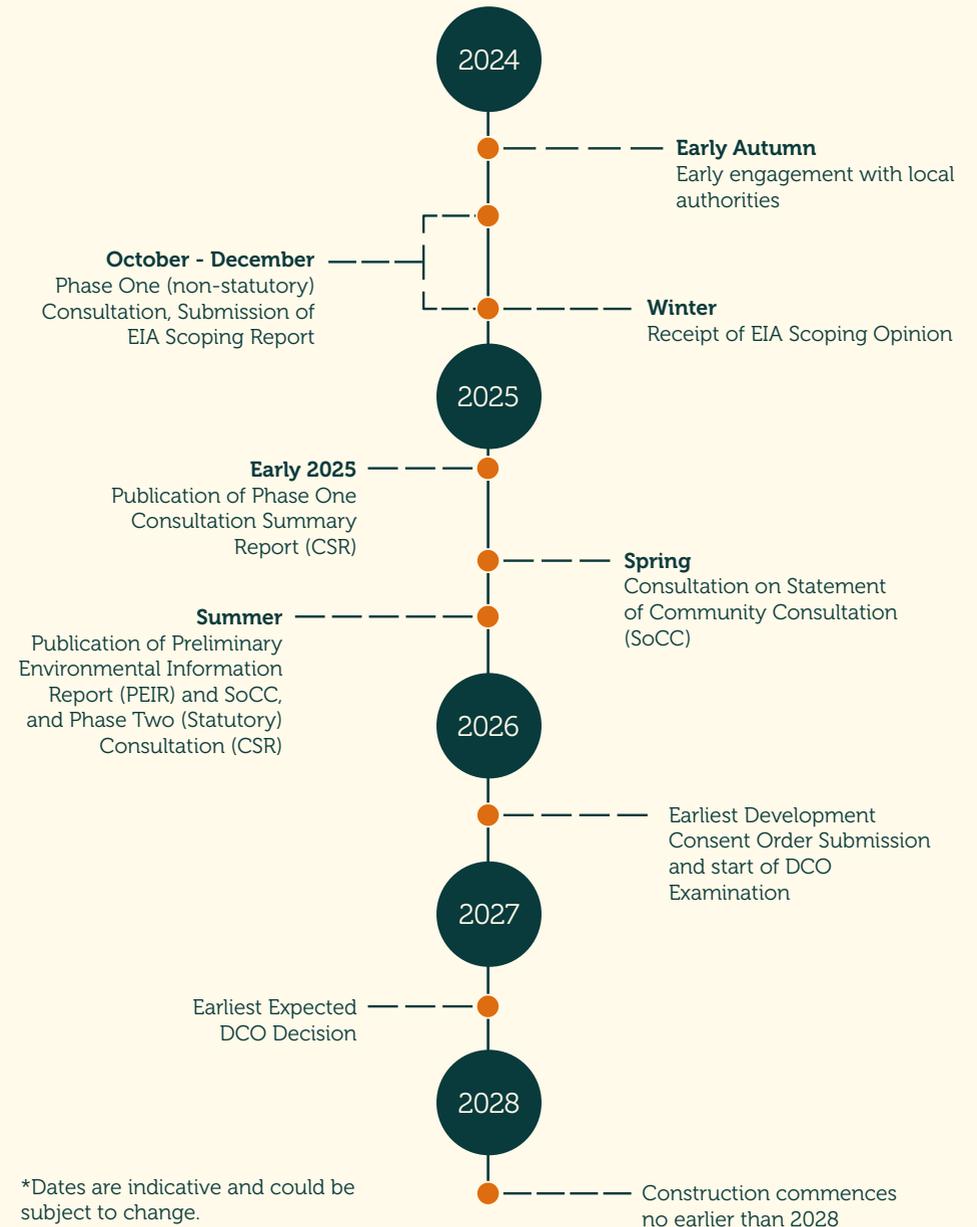
Come and meet our team at one of our community information events.

These events are an opportunity to find out more information about our proposals, discuss them in person with members of the project team and provide your feedback.

Community Information Events

| Venue | Date & Time |
|--|---|
| Riccall Village Institute 12 Station Road, Riccall, YO19 6QJ | Friday 8th November 3pm – 7pm |
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| Online Webinar via Zoom - register your attendance via the project website: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk | Wednesday 20th November 6pm – 7:30pm |

Indicative Project Timeline*



Contact Us



Website: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Freepost: Freepost LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR*

*Free of charge, no need for a stamp.



Freephone Information Line: 0808 281 4784

Available Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm.

Vicemails can be left outside of these hours.

Please contact us using the details above if you would benefit from receiving this document in an alternative format, such as large print, audio or braille.

Please note that graphics, maps and dates in this document are indicative at this stage and have been included for illustrative purposes.



5 Phase One Newspaper Advert

North Duffield and Skipwith Round Up Magazine



David McShane



Nigel Parkin

By God's Grace



Elizabeth Grace Hill



Elizabeth Grace Hill



Elizabeth Grace Hill

November-December 2024

North Duffield Parish Council
CHRISTMAS FAYRE
 2024
 JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL VILLAGE
 CHRISTMAS FAYRE & LIGHT SWITCH ON
 WITH OUR SPECIAL GUEST
FATHER CHRISTMAS
 CHRISTMAS MARKET &
 FOOD VENDORS
THE VILLAGE GREEN
 SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER
 12PM - 5PM

Secrets
 & beauty

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Secrets-salon.co.uk

There's nothing like new hair and a
 beauty treatment to make you feel
 Confident &
 Beautiful

**Baby &
 YOU @**
 NDU5s

scan for
 more info

Looking for exceptional childcare in North Duffield? Discover North Duffield Under Fives, our amazing village pre-school and nursery. Spaces are available for children age 3 months to 5 years, including after school and holiday clubs.

For over 25 years, we've been operating as a non-profit organisation. This means our children remain at the heart of what we do. We offer a safe, secure and stimulating environment for our little ones, complete with vast amounts of outdoor space and a brand new, purpose-built room for babies.

We're so excited about the launch of our new, weekly Baby & YOU sessions. This is a brilliant opportunity for new parents to get together, socialise and have the chance to participate in some great learning and development opportunities for themselves and baby. These amazing, weekly, free sessions are open for booking now, just visit our website for more information.

07391 076582 | northduffieldunderfives.co.uk | The Pavilion, York Road, North Duffield | OFSTED EY 231566 | REG CHARITY 1045432

Light Valley Solar - Phase One Consultation

Thursday 24th October – Thursday 5th December 2024

Island Green Power is developing proposals for Light Valley Solar, a solar farm with energy storage located to the north and west of Selby.

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All project information, including a consultation leaflet and the project's contact details, can be found on our website: www.lightvalley.co.uk

Light Valley Solar

Island GREEN POWER

Selby Times

Thursday, October 24th, 2024

Issue 8054

Advertising: Tel 01757 291087

Editorial: Tel 01757 700280

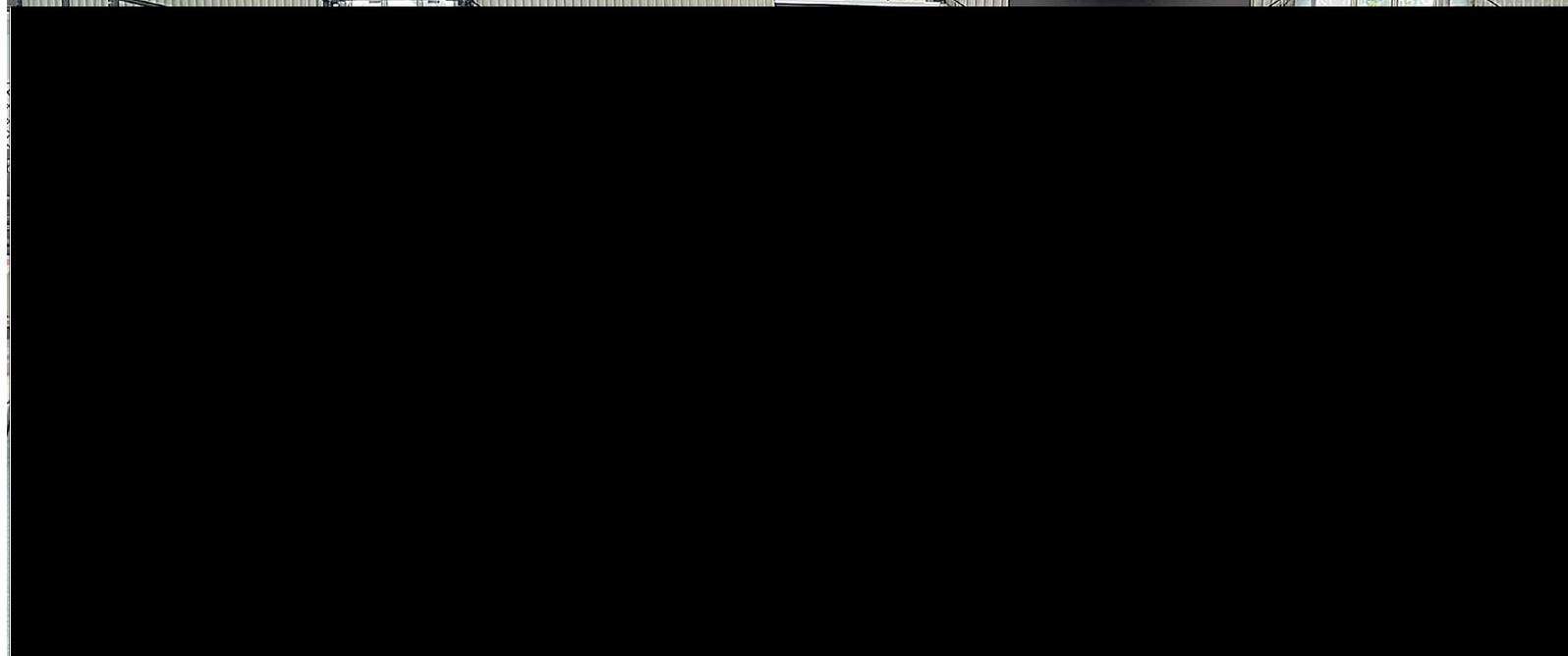
www.selbytimes.info

editorial@selbytimes.info

£1

SHERBURN MARTIAL ARTS CLUB PACKS A PUNCH IN GERMANY

by [REDACTED] @selbytimes.info



[REDACTED]

INSIDE

Bubwith pervert handed three years in jail

page 3

New target for Jim Jams for [REDACTED] appeal

page 7

Shadow Minister withdraws support for BECCS

page 4

Three and easy for Selby

page 40

CHRISTMAS
at Saltmarsh Hall

SALTMARSH HALL,
HOWDEN, DN14 7RX

WWW.SALTMARSHHALL.COM
01430 434920
@SALTMARSHHALL

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| Online Webinar via Zoom - register your attendance via the project website: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk | Wednesday 20th November 6pm – 7:30pm |

All project information, including a consultation leaflet and the project's contact details, can be found by scanning the QR code or visiting our website at www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk

All project information, including a consultation leaflet, can be found by scanning the QR code or visiting our website at www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk

If you have any queries about our proposals or community consultation, please get in touch using the communication lines below:

 **Website:**
www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk

 **Freephone Information Line:**
0808 281 4784

 **Freepost:**
LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR

 **Email:**
info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk





6 Phase One Feedback Form



Light Valley Solar

Phase One Consultation Feedback Form

Thursday 24th October to Thursday 5th December 2024

Light Valley Solar is a proposed solar and battery storage project to the north and west of Selby in North Yorkshire. The proposals include five sites where solar panels could be installed, located between Monk Fryston, Hambleton and Escrick.

Have your say

We are inviting you to take part in this first phase of community consultation and provide your feedback on our emerging proposals for Light Valley Solar.

All comments will be recorded and taken into consideration to help inform our decisions as we develop our proposals.

You can provide your feedback using this form, online by visiting our website, or contacting us by email or freepost at the address below:



Website: www.Lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Freepost: Freepost LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR



Freephone information line: 0808 281 4784



If you have any questions or would like guidance in responding to this consultation, please contact us by email at info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Please note that the deadline for the submission of feedback is **Thursday 5th December 2024** (on or before this date).

You do not have to supply personal details; however if you do, it will enable us to contact you regarding your feedback if necessary. Your personal details will be stored in compliance with GDPR by Counter Context, acting on behalf of Light Valley Solar Ltd, and will not be shared with any third parties. The project's privacy policy can be viewed via the Light Valley Solar website: <https://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/privacy-policy>

About You

Name: Postcode:

Organisation: (if applicable)

Would you like us to keep you updated?

Please let us know if you agree for us to contact you with any future updates regarding the project. This may include sharing the results of this phase of consultation with you and notifying you of any future consultation opportunities.

If you agree to being contacted, please tick how you would like to be contacted, and provide your preferred contact method and your postal and/or email address below.

Email Address:

Address:

What is your age?

- Under 18
 18 – 24
 25 – 34
 35 – 44
 45 – 54
 55 – 64
 65 – 74
 75 and over
 Prefer not to say

General

Q1) How would you describe your interest in Light Valley Solar?

- Local resident
 Local representative
 Landowner
 Local business owner
 Regular visitor
 Local interest group (if so, please name)
 Statutory organisation (if so, please name)
 Other (please specify)

Q2) As a principle, what is your view of installing ground-mounted solar infrastructure in the UK?

- I agree with the need to install ground-mounted solar infrastructure
 I do not feel I know enough about the need to install ground-mounted solar infrastructure
 I do not agree there is a need to install ground-mounted solar infrastructure

Project specific feedback

Q3) Based on our early-stage proposals, what are your views on Light Valley Solar?

- I support the proposals
 I would like changes to be made so I am able to support the proposals
 I do not support the proposals
 I need more information in order to form a view
 I have no opinion

Q4) Which aspects of the project are most important to you?

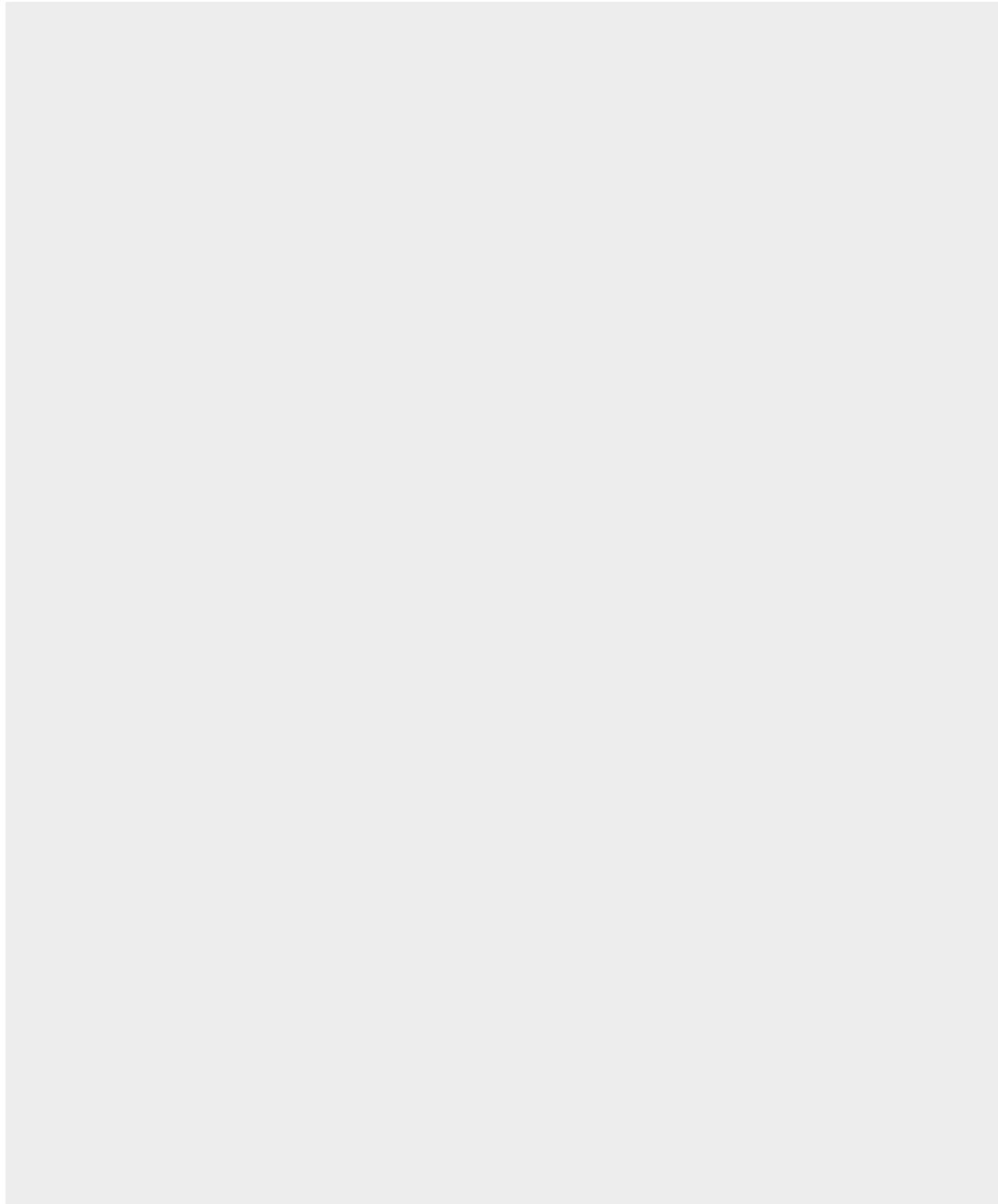
The Light Valley Solar project team are considering the following topics carefully as we develop the proposals. Environmental assessments are already underway to determine any potential impacts and how we can mitigate them. In the following table, please tick the topic areas you consider to be the most important issues you would like us to consider. You can refer to these topic areas when responding to Question 5.

| Tick box | Topic area |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Agricultural land and soils This includes how we can best manage the land during the operation of the solar development, including opportunities for continued agricultural use. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Biodiversity This includes protecting existing wildlife and exploring opportunities to improve ecology and biodiversity across the site area. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Climate change For example, the need for large-scale solar projects and the carbon footprint of the project. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cultural heritage and archaeology This includes ways that our proposals may interact with local heritage sites and the sharing of any archaeological findings. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Landscape and visual This includes any visual impacts and how we can screen the solar farm from particular local viewpoints. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Noise and vibration This includes any areas you think may need additional mitigation and screening. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Socioeconomics, tourism and recreation This includes employment opportunities during construction, operation and decommissioning, recreational and community facilities, improving skills and training, and Public Rights of Way and recreational routes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Traffic and transport This includes the management of vehicles and deliveries associated with the solar development. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Water resources and flood risk This includes considering the interaction with watercourses and rainfall in the area. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cable Routes This includes areas between sites that may be affected through the creation of cable routes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Battery Storage (Battery Energy Storage System) This includes any impacts associated with the battery storage element of the project. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please detail) Please provide any other topics that you would like our team to consider: <input type="text"/> |

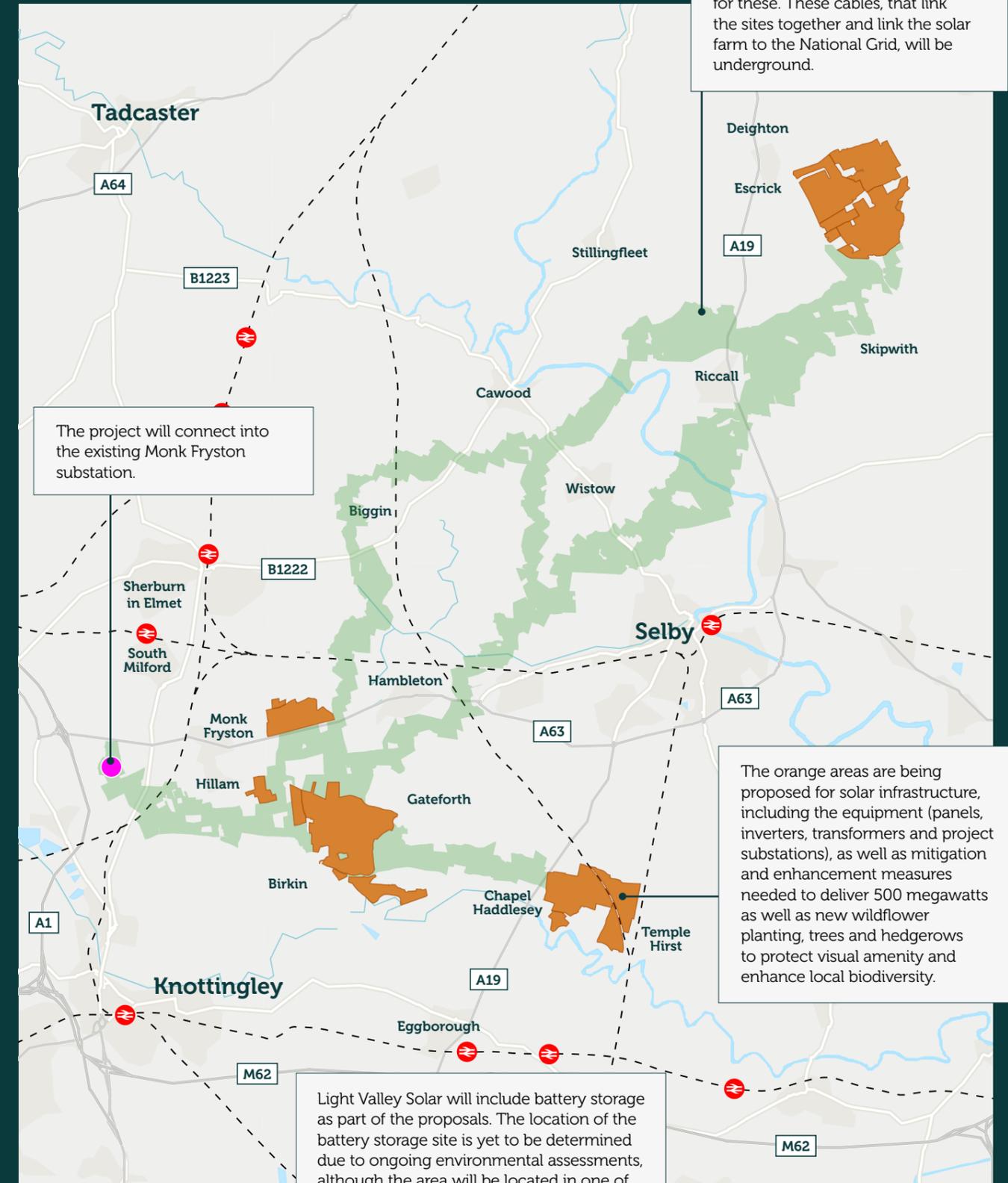
Q5) Please provide comments on our early-stage proposals for Light Valley Solar.

You may choose to expand on the topic areas in Question 4 in your answer or provide more general feedback. Please feel free to include additional sheets of paper alongside this form if you require more space to fully complete your answer. All feedback received will be considered.

If you are providing location specific feedback, please try to include as much detail as possible to help our team identify this. Please use the map to the right to provide location-specific feedback should you wish.



Solar Project search area



At this stage, we have shown a wide cable search corridor on the maps, whilst we assess the preferred route for these. These cables, that link the sites together and link the solar farm to the National Grid, will be underground.

The project will connect into the existing Monk Fryston substation.

The orange areas are being proposed for solar infrastructure, including the equipment (panels, inverters, transformers and project substations), as well as mitigation and enhancement measures needed to deliver 500 megawatts as well as new wildflower planting, trees and hedgerows to protect visual amenity and enhance local biodiversity.

Light Valley Solar will include battery storage as part of the proposals. The location of the battery storage site is yet to be determined due to ongoing environmental assessments, although the area will be located in one of the sites closest to the connection point at Monk Fryston substation.

- Key**
- Solar Development Area
 - National Grid's Monk Fryston Substation
 - Cable Route Search Corridor

Q6) What types of community initiatives would you like us to explore as part of our proposals?

Island Green Power provides a community benefits package with all the renewable energy schemes it promotes, with the potential for both on-site and off-site initiatives.

We believe the communities closest to the proposed development should benefit and are best placed to recommend what they believe a 'community benefit' should be.

Please provide detail on any community initiatives you would like the project team to consider below.

Our consultation process

Q7) How did you find out about this consultation?

- I received a leaflet Word of mouth I saw it advertised in the media I saw a poster
- Via a local community group Other (please specify)
-

Q8) Do you prefer to receive information online or in-person?

- Online In-person A combination of both

Q9) How informative have you found the materials we have shared as part of the first phase of consultation?

- Very informative Quite informative Not informative No opinion

Q10) Is there anything you would like us to consider for future consultations?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form and for providing us with your feedback.

How To Return Your Forms

**To return your completed feedback form, place it in an envelope and address it to:
Freepost LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR.**

You will not need a stamp.

Alternatively, you can answer the same questions in our online feedback form, available on the website:
www.Lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Get in Touch

If you have any questions, you can contact our team by:



Website: www.Lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Freepost: Freepost LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR



Freephone information line: 0808 281 4784

Please contact us using the details above if you would benefit from receiving this document in an alternative format, such as large print, audio or braille.

What Happens Next

We will acknowledge and record all the comments submitted to us during consultation, taking them into consideration to help inform our decisions as we evolve and finalise our proposals.

Further to developing more detailed proposals for the project, we will then carry out a second stage of consultation. This will be a statutory stage of consultation required by the application process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP).

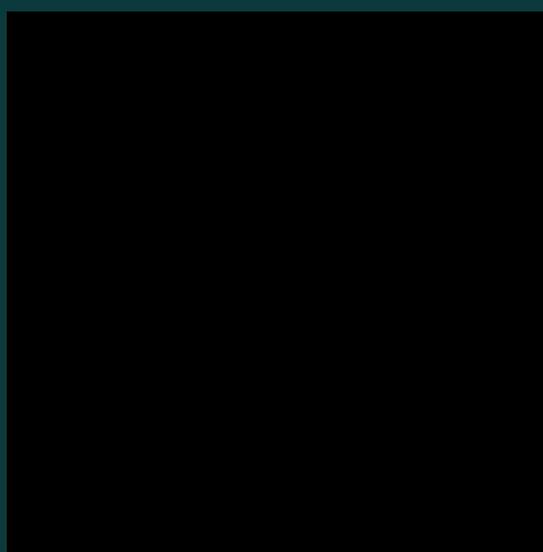
This statutory stage of consultation is intended to give you the opportunity to comment on our updated proposals and how they have evolved since the initial consultation.

Welcome to our Information Event for Light Valley Solar

Thank you for attending today's event and engaging with this initial consultation on our emerging proposals for Light Valley Solar – a proposed solar and energy storage project to the northeast and southwest of Selby in North Yorkshire.

You can scan the QR code below to visit our website
www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Here you can access information on our proposals and provide your comments through an online feedback form.





7 Phase One Exhibition Materials

Why do we need Light Valley Solar?

Solar energy is essential for addressing climate change, rising energy costs, and ensuring the UK's energy security. Light Valley Solar will have a capacity of 500 megawatts (MW), generating a significant amount of low-carbon, affordable, and dependable electricity, making a critical and timely contribution to regional and national targets.

Utility-scale solar is proven and deliverable. It can be installed quickly and at relatively low cost, which is important for combatting both climate change and rising energy bills. Solar provides power directly to UK households and businesses, supporting the UK in increasing its supply of home-grown energy.

Helping To Meet UK Targets



The Government plan for a cheaper, zero carbon electricity system by 2030 aims to save £93 billion for UK households and cut energy bills for good.



To achieve the mission by 2030, the Government plans to more than triple the UK's solar power generation to 50 gigawatts (GW) helping to deliver energy security, making the UK energy independent, creating new jobs.

ISLAND GREEN POWER

– WHO WE ARE

The proposals for **Light Valley Solar** have been put forward by Island Green Power, a leading developer of renewable energy projects specialising in utility-scale solar and battery storage systems.

We have successfully delivered over 34 solar projects worldwide, totalling more than one gigawatt of capacity. This includes 17 solar projects in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. We recently secured consent for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) in Lincolnshire.

Committed to responsible land use, we believe that the development and delivery of utility-scale solar farms can be achieved in harmony with their surroundings.

As is common for projects such as this, Island Green Power has established Light Valley Solar Limited as a special purpose vehicle for developing the proposals. For more information, please visit the Island Green Power website at: www.islandgp.com



Our Proposals

Light Valley Solar is a proposed solar farm located near Selby in North Yorkshire. The Project will consist of a new solar electricity generating station and battery storage.

The proposals for Light Valley Solar include five site development areas, located between Monk Fryston, Hambleton, Eggborough and Escrick. The current total Project area (excluding cable corridors) includes space for panels, electrical infrastructure, mitigation and ecological enhancement.

The project is anticipated to have a capacity of 500 megawatts (MW), delivering 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 alternate current (AC) connection has been agreed. For context, a project with a capacity of 500 MW can produce the electricity required to power approximately 115,000 homes.

The proposal also includes underground cabling, both on and off-site, to connect between the sites and to National Grid's transmission network.

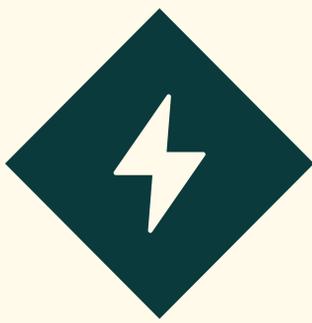
As the Project is proposed to have a generation capacity of more than 50 MW, it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, or NSIP, for which a development consent order (DCO) will be sought. Details about this can be found in the planning process section on our website:

www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk

What is a battery energy storage system (BESS)?

An on-site BESS would provide an important balancing service for the grid, storing electricity generated by the panels when demand is low, then exporting it on to the electricity transmission system when demand peaks.

Battery storage will allow the solar farm to deploy its electricity generated during peak times, potentially when it is not sunny, increasing the resilience of the electricity network.



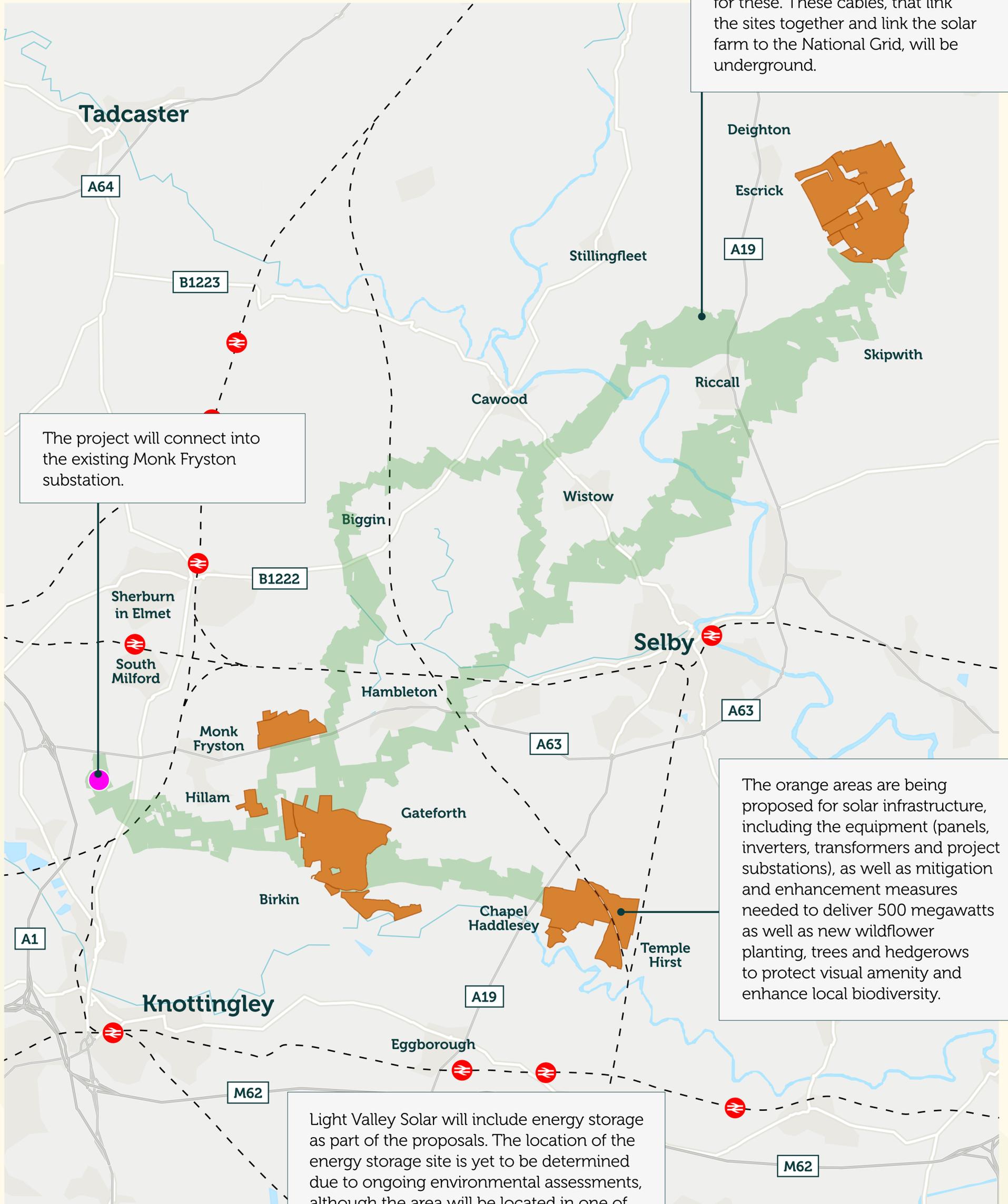
The Project is anticipated as having a generation capacity of **500 megawatts (MW)**



This is enough clean affordable electricity to power **115,000 homes**

The Site

At this stage, we have shown a wide cable search corridor on the maps, whilst we assess the preferred route for these. These cables, that link the sites together and link the solar farm to the National Grid, will be underground.



The project will connect into the existing Monk Fyston substation.

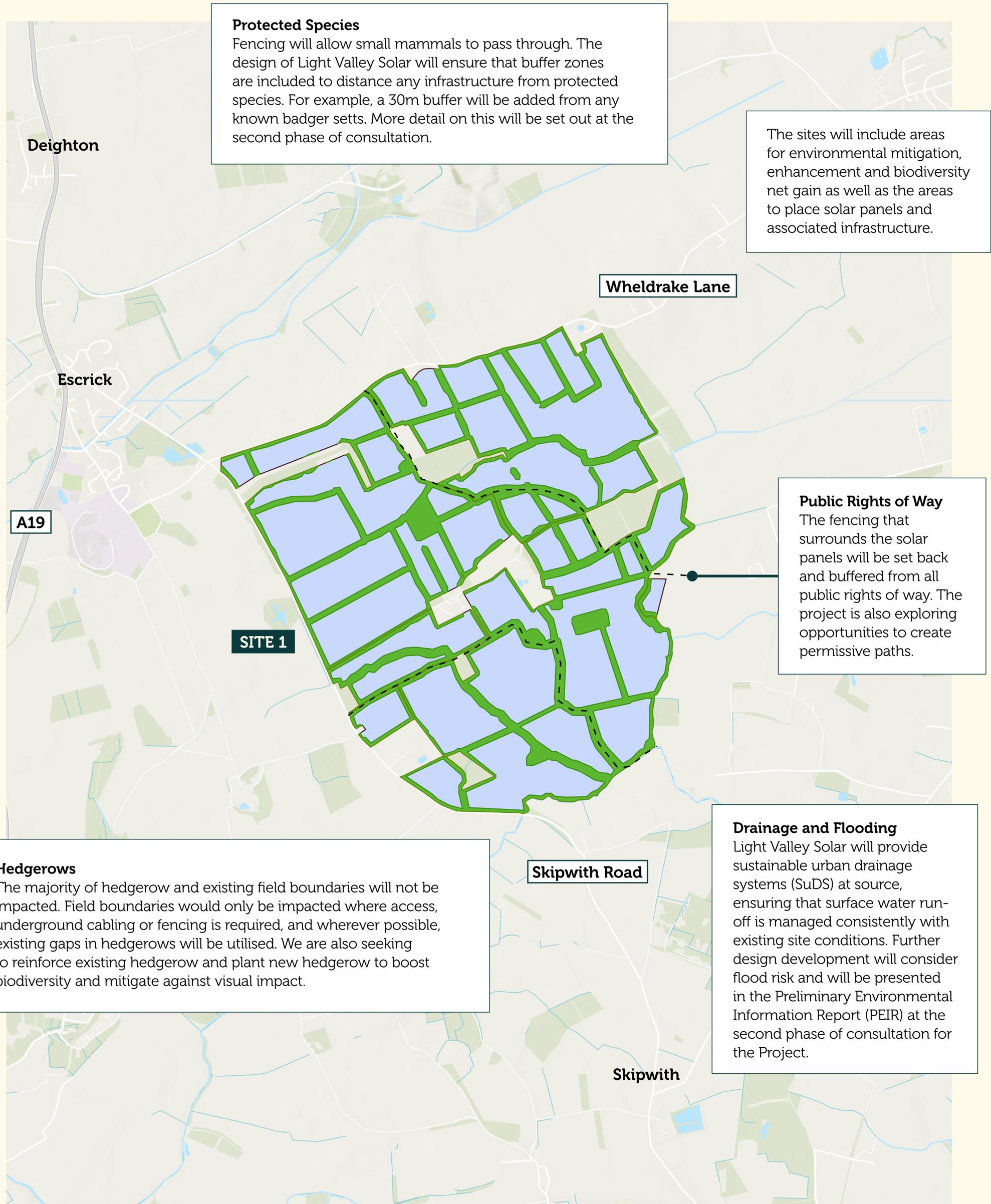
The orange areas are being proposed for solar infrastructure, including the equipment (panels, inverters, transformers and project substations), as well as mitigation and enhancement measures needed to deliver 500 megawatts as well as new wildflower planting, trees and hedgerows to protect visual amenity and enhance local biodiversity.

Light Valley Solar will include energy storage as part of the proposals. The location of the energy storage site is yet to be determined due to ongoing environmental assessments, although the area will be located in one of the sites closest to the connection point at Monk Fyston substation.

Key

- Solar Development Area
- National Grid's Monk Fyston Substation
- Cable Route Search Corridor

Plan of the Northern Site Area



Protected Species
 Fencing will allow small mammals to pass through. The design of Light Valley Solar will ensure that buffer zones are included to distance any infrastructure from protected species. For example, a 30m buffer will be added from any known badger setts. More detail on this will be set out at the second phase of consultation.

The sites will include areas for environmental mitigation, enhancement and biodiversity net gain as well as the areas to place solar panels and associated infrastructure.

Public Rights of Way
 The fencing that surrounds the solar panels will be set back and buffered from all public rights of way. The project is also exploring opportunities to create permissive paths.

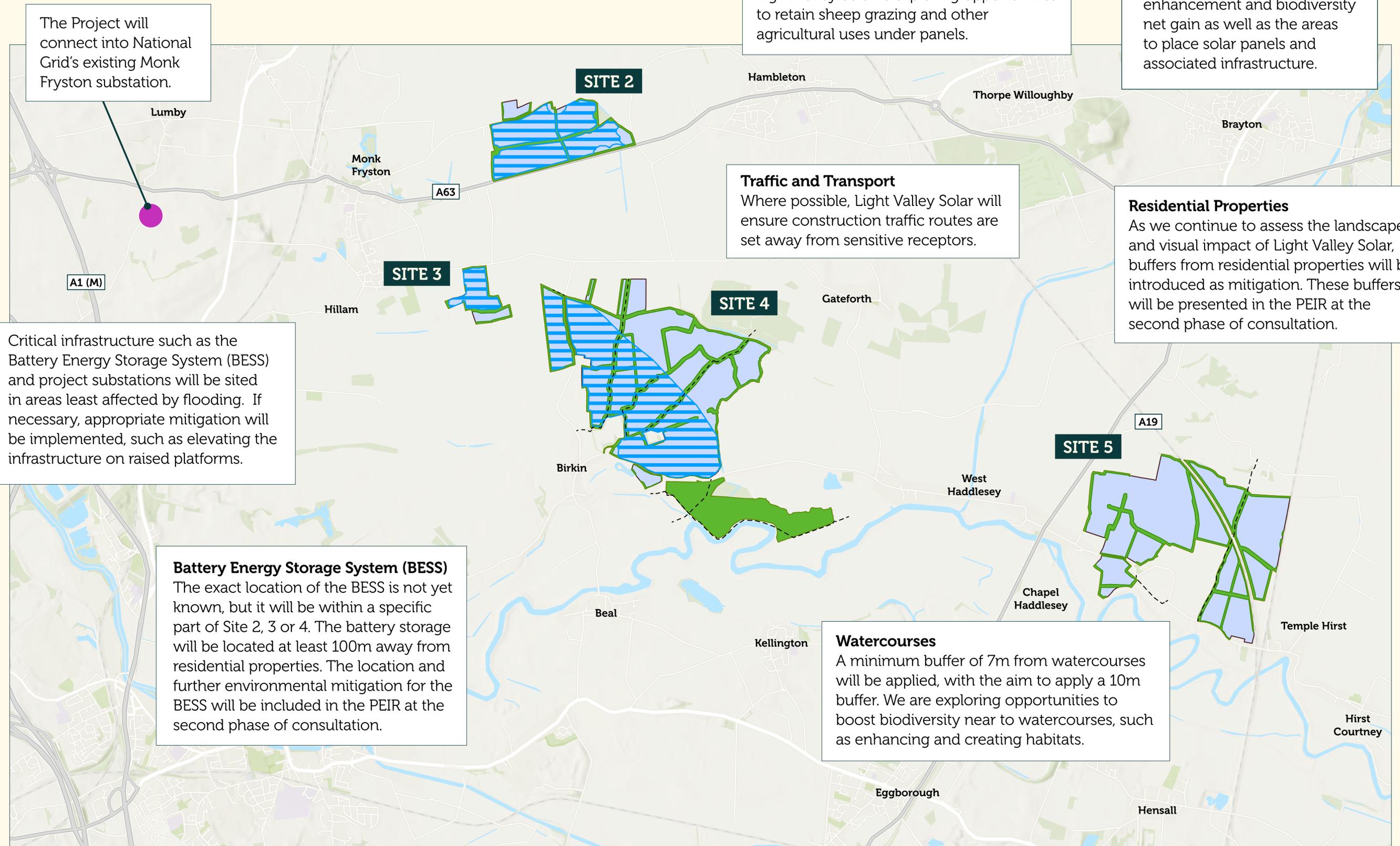
Hedgerows
 The majority of hedgerow and existing field boundaries will not be impacted. Field boundaries would only be impacted where access, underground cabling or fencing is required, and wherever possible, existing gaps in hedgerows will be utilised. We are also seeking to reinforce existing hedgerow and plant new hedgerow to boost biodiversity and mitigate against visual impact.

Drainage and Flooding
 Light Valley Solar will provide sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) at source, ensuring that surface water run-off is managed consistently with existing site conditions. Further design development will consider flood risk and will be presented in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) at the second phase of consultation for the Project.

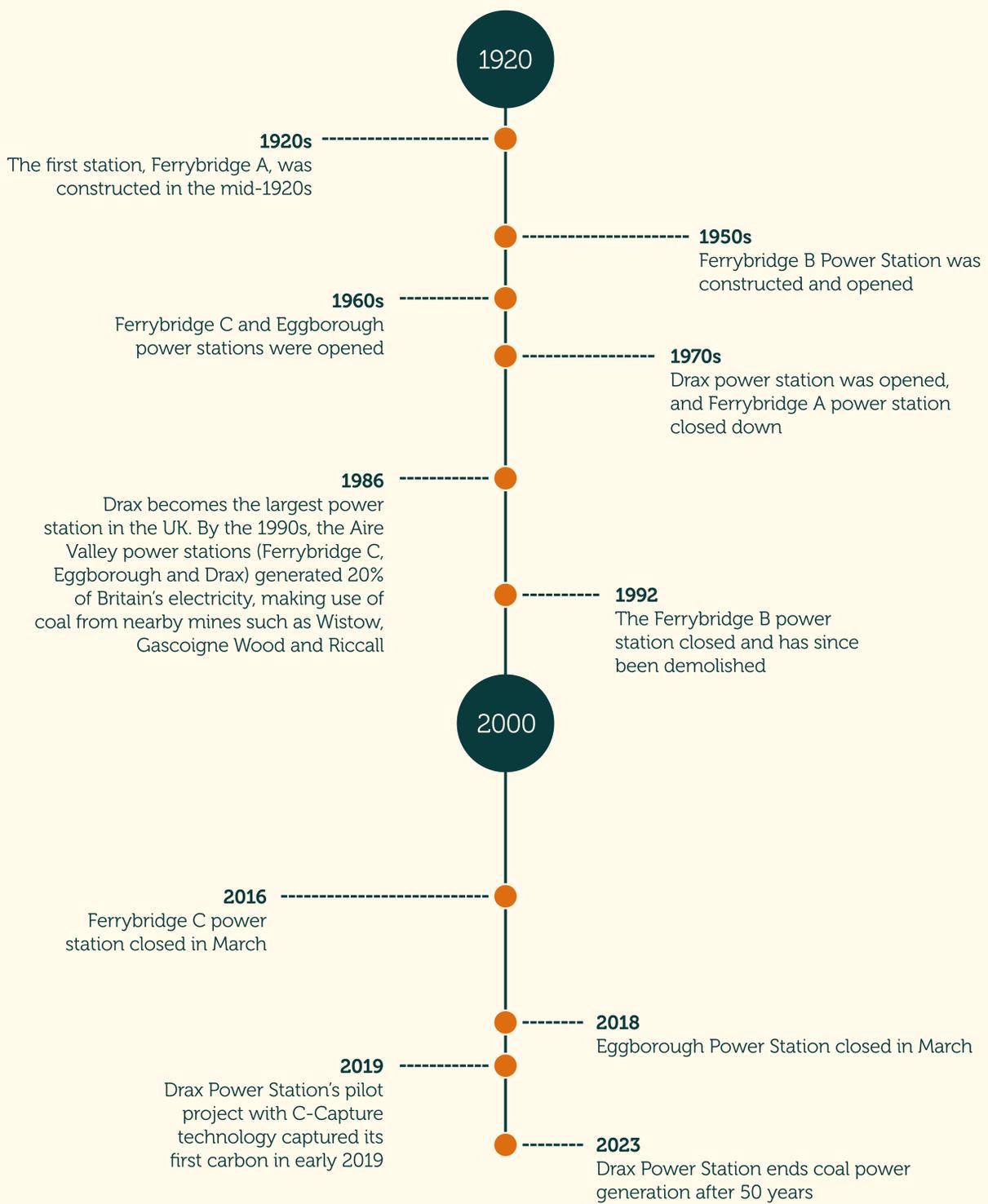
Key

- Retained Areas/Potential Areas for Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement
- Potential Solar Development Area
- Public Right of Way

Plan of the Southern Site Areas



Continuing a Legacy of Generating Power



We plan to assist the North East & Yorkshire Net Zero Hub, which supports the region's transition to a low-carbon economy. The timeline shows how coal fired energy generation grew in this area but has now closed, with the area beginning to transition to more diversified generation. Light Valley Solar will further diversify this energy mix, continuing the area's legacy and contribute to local climate targets.

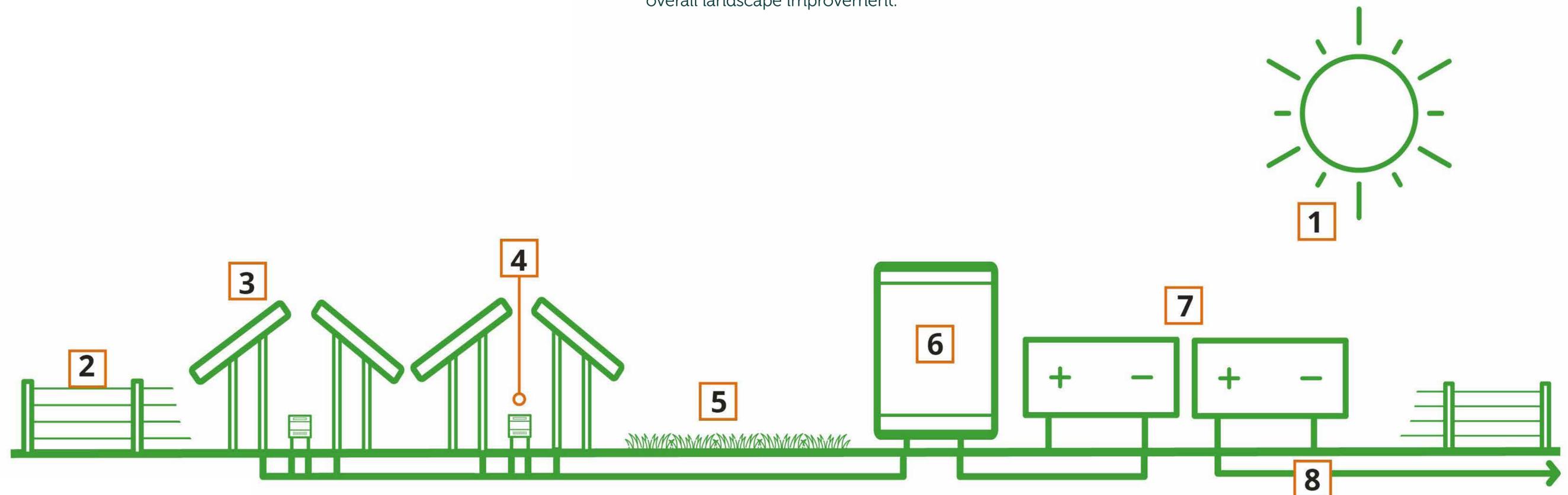
The hub has a co-owned plan with stakeholders to achieve net zero targets by 2034 and make the region the UK's first carbon negative area by 2040, alongside North Yorkshire Council and the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise partnership. North Yorkshire Council aspires to reach net carbon neutrality by 2030, with Light Valley Solar able to contribute to this goal.

Light Valley Solar aligns with North Yorkshire Council's Climate Change Strategy, which aims to install an additional 2,500 megawatts of solar, onshore wind, and hydropower capacity by 2038.

How a solar farm works

Solar PV and energy storage technology is rapidly evolving. The parameters of the application we submit to the Planning Inspectorate for Light Valley Solar will therefore maintain flexibility to allow us to use the latest technologies available at the time of construction.

- 1. The sun:** harnessing sunlight as the Earth's primary source of energy.
- 2. Fencing:** to enclose the operational areas of the site along with internal facing closed circuit television (CCTV) deployed around the site perimeter.
- 3. Solar panels:** converting the sun's energy into DC electrical power.
- 4. Inverters:** converting direct current (DC) into alternating current (AC).
- 5. Landscape area:** trees and vegetation planted across the site to enhance biodiversity and contribute to the overall landscape improvement.
- 6. Substation:** safely connecting the solar farm to the national grid.
- 7. Battery storage:** storing electricity generated by the panels when demand is low, then exporting it on to the electricity transmission system when demand peaks.
- 8. Underground cable:** connecting the solar panels and the battery storage to the inverters which in turn connect to the grid transformers. Higher voltage cables will be required between transformers and switchgear and from switchgear to the off-site electrical infrastructure.



A Community Focus

We are keen for Light Valley Solar to be developed in collaboration with local communities and stakeholders. This will include an extensive and iterative consultation and feedback process.

We believe the communities closest to the proposed development should benefit from it – with these communities being best place to recommend what they believe a “community benefit” should be.

In support of this, we will:

- Conduct an extensive and iterative consultation and feedback process - we are committed to working with the local community to identify and define community benefits, inviting suggestions through consultation.
- Explore potential on-site and off-site initiatives such as opportunities to create permissive paths.
- Consider the possibility of supporting initiatives to make improvements to existing community amenities, such as sports facilities, children’s playgrounds, and village halls.
- Consider enhancing existing footpaths with educational walk-boards, wildflower meadow planting and seating or bird watching areas.



Environmental Impact Assessment

Light Valley Solar is classified as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development. This requires us to assess the potential significant environmental impacts of our proposed development.

EIA is the iterative process in which the assessment of potential environmental impacts is carried out in parallel with the development design process. It is used as a tool to identify the potential environmental, social and economic effects our Project might have through a series of technical assessments, so we can identify how we can reduce those impacts.

We will be conducting extensive environmental surveys and consulting with a range of stakeholders to identify the potential impact of our proposed development on a number of topics including:

- Landscape and visual
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Cultural heritage
- Transport and access
- Soils and agriculture
- Hydrology, flood risk and drainage
- Socio-economics, tourism and recreation
- Noise and vibration
- Climate change
- Air quality
- Human health
- Glint and glare

1

Stage 1: EIA Scoping

We are preparing an EIA Scoping Report which will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).

The EIA Scoping Report will provide an overview of our proposed development and the environmental baseline surveys that we intend to undertake, describe how we intend to assess any likely significant environmental effects, and set out the proposed scope and content of the EIA and ES.

The scope of the EIA will be informed by technical expertise and by engagement with stakeholders, to ensure that the methodologies for environmental assessments are sufficient to accurately identify and understand the environmental impacts of Light Valley Solar.

PINS respond to the Scoping Report by issuing a Scoping Opinion, which will set out comments on our proposed approach to the EIA and the topics we need to take forward for assessment and should be presented in the Environmental Statement (ES).

2

Stage 2: Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

We are required by the Planning Act 2008 to prepare a PEIR.

The PEIR will set out the initial findings of the EIA and identify those measures we are proposing to reduce, enhance and improve the effects of our proposed development could have on the environment.

The PEIR will be presented at statutory consultation so technical stakeholders, local communities, individuals and interested parties can develop an informed view of the potential impacts Light Valley Solar could have on the local environment, and provide us with their views and feedback.

3

Stage 3: Environmental Statement (ES)

After statutory consultation we will produce the ES.

This will be prepared based on the Scoping Opinion and will advance the content of the PEIR, incorporating feedback received during statutory consultation, from the public, and from the outcomes of our assessments undertaken.

The ES will describe any changes to the Project and those measures we are proposing to implement to reduce, improve or enhance the impacts of the Project.

The ES, along with a Non-Technical Summary will form part of the DCO application we submit to PINS.

You can find more information about the application process for NSIP projects on the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) website at: infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Environmentally-led design

Putting nature, the landscape and local communities first is central in how the project will be designed.

As well as providing clean electricity that helps us move away from using polluting fossil fuels, well designed solar farms often deliver opportunities beyond electricity generation, including significant boosts to biodiversity and soil recovery.

Light Valley Solar is being developed in response to its surroundings to coexist harmoniously with the local environment.

Solar farms can be havens for biodiversity. We strive to go above and beyond the minimum statutory biodiversity net gain requirements where nature loss is anticipated, and where the project can strengthen natural habitats.

Every solar site has a different baseline and opportunity for net gain but as an example of what can be achieved, Island Green Power's consented Cottam Solar Project scheme is expected to deliver a biodiversity net gain of 76.8% in habitat value, 56.1% in hedgerow value, and 10% in river value.

By placing the environment at the centre of the design process we can strengthen many different outcomes.

IGP's environmentally led design goal is for the project to protect and enhance local wildlife, including delivering net gains in biodiversity. Specific examples we are considering are listed below:

- Protection of existing ecological features such as woodland, hedgerows and ponds.
- Maintaining existing wildlife corridors.
- Ecological enhancement and wildflower planting.
- Allowing livestock grazing within developments so farming practices can continue.



The DCO Process

As Light Valley is proposed to have a generation capacity of more than 50 MW, the Project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, or NSIP.

The development consenting regime for an NSIP comes under the Planning Act 2008. This means that we need to submit an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build, operate and decommission Light Valley Solar to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), rather than the local planning authority.

In the case of energy related NSIPs, PINS acts on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. PINS will carry out an examination of our application and then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State on whether to grant consent. The Secretary of State will make the final decision on whether to grant consent for Light Valley Solar.

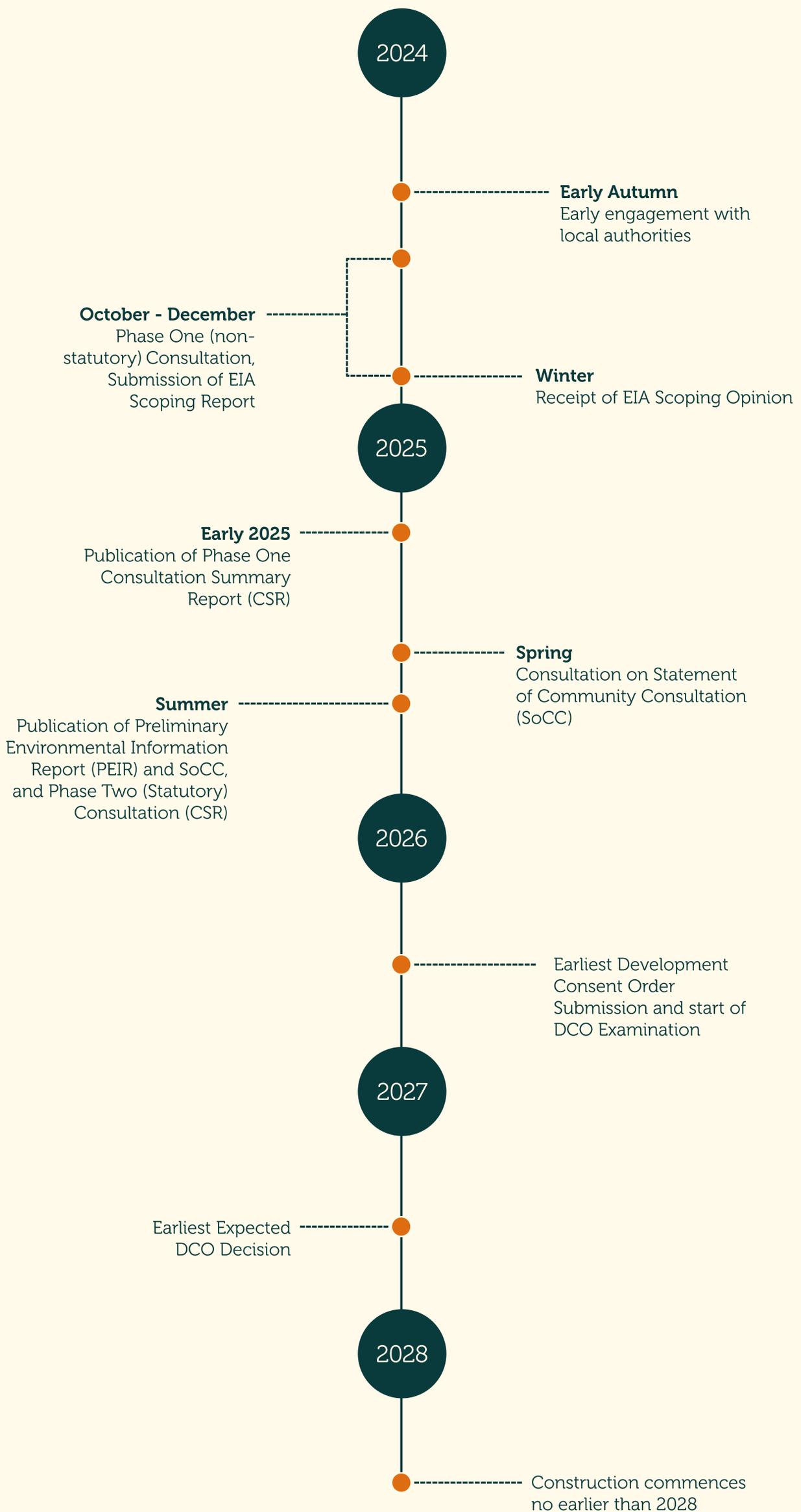
We expect the development process through DCO submission and examination will take between two to three years. We intend to submit our application to the Planning Inspectorate in 2026. Subject to obtaining consent, the earliest construction would start is 2028. Our indicative Project timeline can be seen below.

While the DCO application will not be submitted to the local planning authority, North Yorkshire Council and other stakeholder groups will play a key role in the planning process and be consulted as the Project progresses.

Further information about the DCO application process can be found on the Planning Inspectorates website:

infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Indicative Project Timeline



Dates are indicative and could be subject to change.

Have Your Say

After this consultation closes, we will review all the comments we receive. Together with the findings from our ongoing environmental and technical studies, we will use your feedback to help us refine our proposals for Light Valley Solar.

Tell us what you think

For this phase of consultation we are inviting your views on:

- The overall project
- Local projects and community initiatives we could support to create benefits for communities in proximity to our proposed scheme
- Additional considerations for how we deliver the next phase of consultation

Providing your comments

You can submit feedback to this consultation online and in writing by:



Completing the online feedback on our website www.Lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Sending an email to info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Posting a feedback form or letter to us at **FREEPOST Light Valley Solar** (no stamp or further address details required)

Printed feedback forms available at this event can also be completed and handed in to a member of the Project team here today.

The deadline for feedback to this consultation is Thursday 5th December 2024.

Next steps

The second phase of consultation we hold will likely be the last time we consult on our proposals for Light Valley Solar. However, subject to our application being accepted for examination, you will be able to register your interest in our proposals with the Planning Inspectorate who will then keep you informed about its progress and provide you with information on further opportunities to contribute to the Project development process.

All the comments submitted to this consultation will be recorded and taken into consideration as we continue to refine our proposals.



8 Phase One Information Poster

Light Valley Solar - Phase One Consultation

Thursday 24th October – Thursday 5th December 2024

Island Green Power is developing proposals for Light Valley Solar, a solar farm with energy storage located to the north and west of Selby.

The proposals include five sites where solar panels could be installed, located between Monk Fryston, Hambleton and Escrick. Light Valley Solar has agreement with National Grid to supply 500 megawatts (MW) of electricity over 60 years.

Attend one of our in-person information events or our community webinar for the chance to speak to members of the project team, ask questions and view information about Light Valley Solar.

| Venue | Date & Time |
|--|--|
| Riccall Village Institute 12 Station Road, Riccall, YO19 6QJ | Friday 8th November 3pm – 7pm |
| Hambleton Village Hall Station Rd, Hambleton, Selby, YO8 9HS | Saturday 9th November 11am – 3pm |
| Eggborough Village Hall 57 Selby Rd, Eggborough, DN14 0LJ | Tuesday 12th November 3pm - 7pm |
| Monk Fryston and Hillam Community Centre Old Vicarage Ln, Monk Fryston, LS25 5EA | Saturday 16th November 11am – 3pm |
| Escrick Village Hall Main St, Escrick, York YO19 6LQ | Monday 18th November 11:30am – 3:30pm |
| Online Webinar via Zoom - register your attendance via the project website: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk | Wednesday 20th November 6pm – 7:30pm |

All project information, including a consultation leaflet and the project's contact details, can be found by scanning the QR code or visiting our website at www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk

All project information, including a consultation leaflet, can be found by scanning the QR code or visiting our website at www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk

If you have any queries about our proposals or community consultation, please get in touch using the communication lines below:

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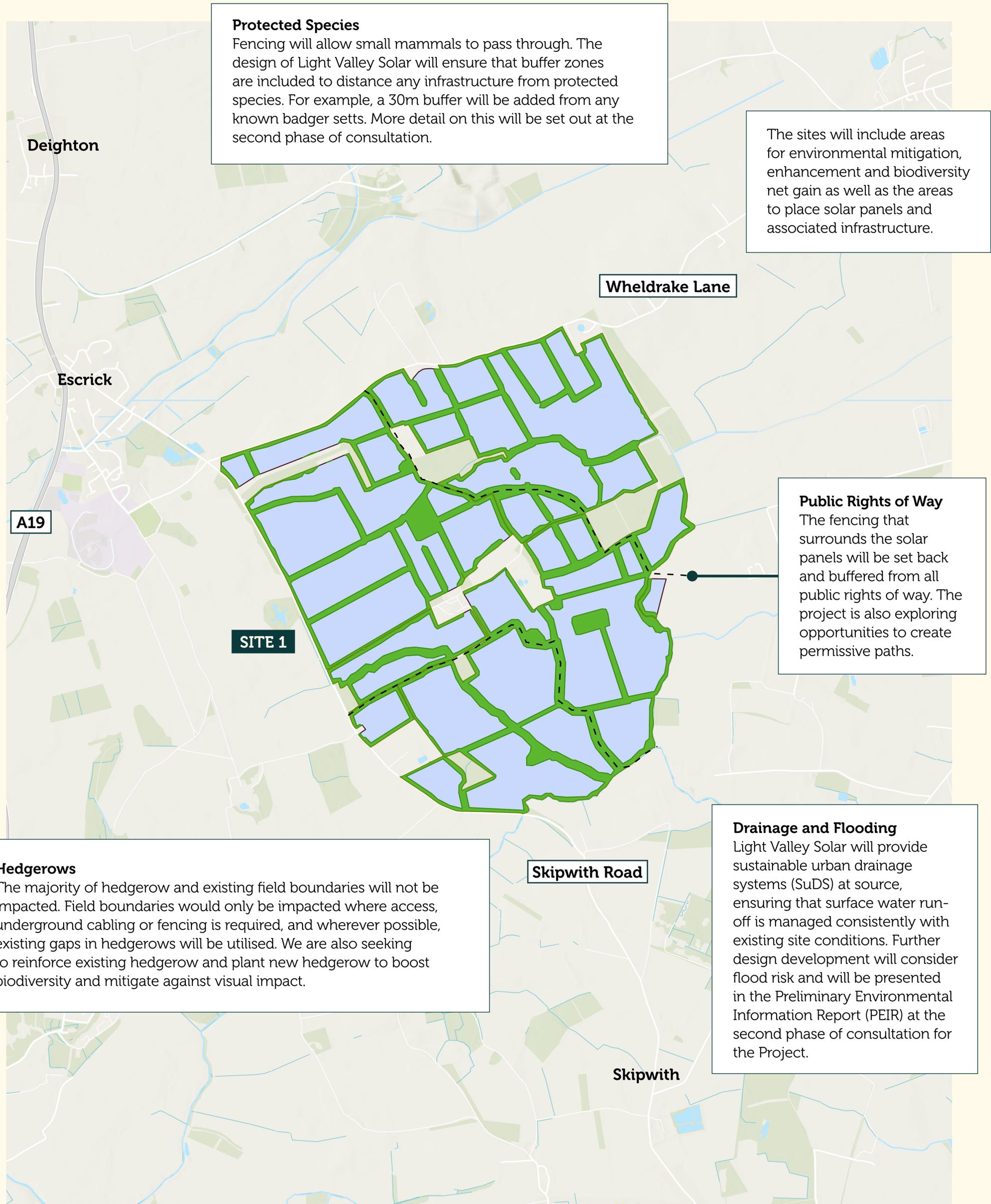
Light Valley
Solar 

Island
GREEN
POWER 



9 Phase One Concept Plans

Plan of the Northern Site Area



Protected Species
 Fencing will allow small mammals to pass through. The design of Light Valley Solar will ensure that buffer zones are included to distance any infrastructure from protected species. For example, a 30m buffer will be added from any known badger setts. More detail on this will be set out at the second phase of consultation.

The sites will include areas for environmental mitigation, enhancement and biodiversity net gain as well as the areas to place solar panels and associated infrastructure.

Wheldrake Lane

Public Rights of Way
 The fencing that surrounds the solar panels will be set back and buffered from all public rights of way. The project is also exploring opportunities to create permissive paths.

SITE 1

Hedgerows
 The majority of hedgerow and existing field boundaries will not be impacted. Field boundaries would only be impacted where access, underground cabling or fencing is required, and wherever possible, existing gaps in hedgerows will be utilised. We are also seeking to reinforce existing hedgerow and plant new hedgerow to boost biodiversity and mitigate against visual impact.

Drainage and Flooding
 Light Valley Solar will provide sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) at source, ensuring that surface water run-off is managed consistently with existing site conditions. Further design development will consider flood risk and will be presented in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) at the second phase of consultation for the Project.

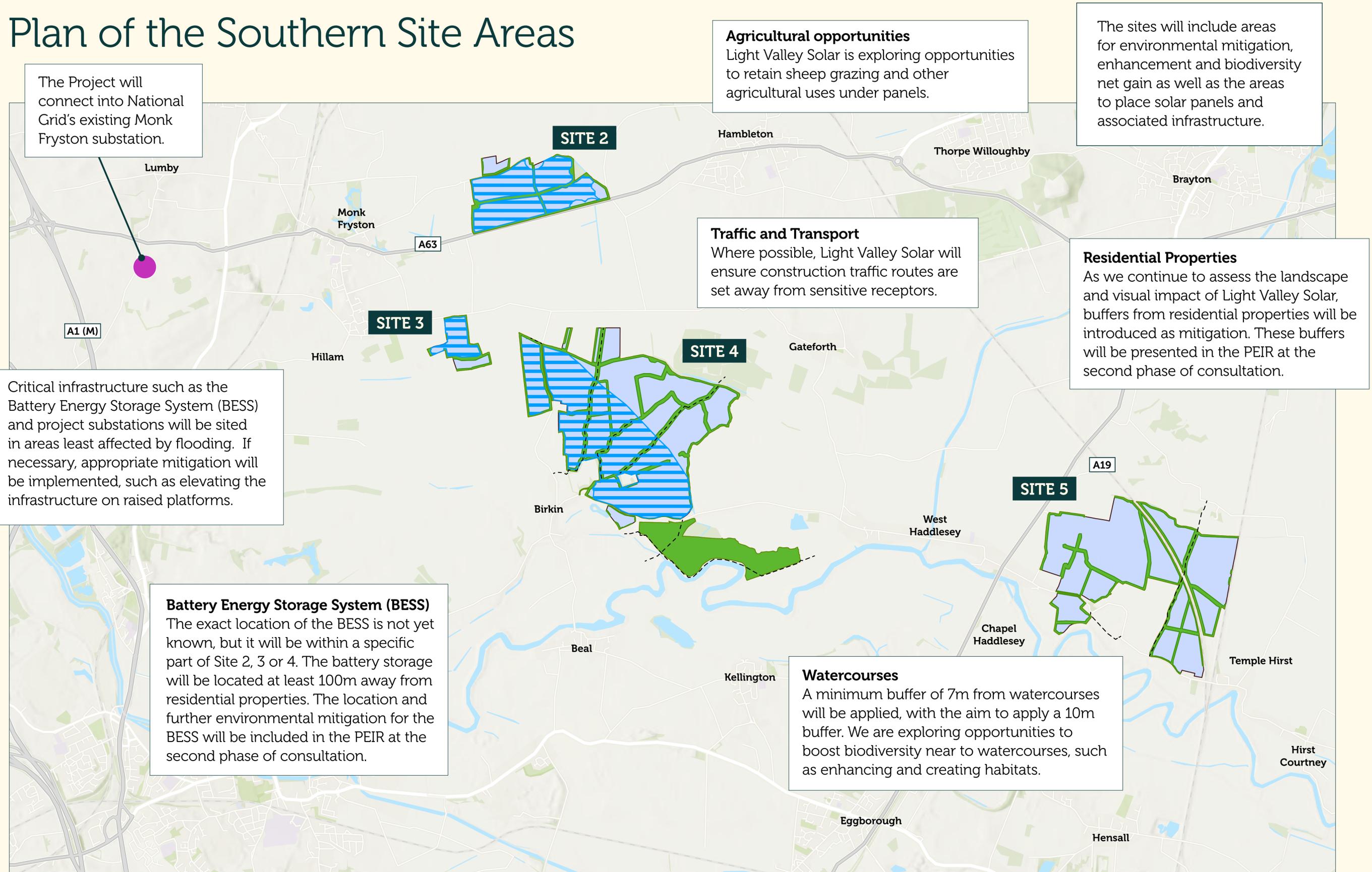
Skipwith Road

Skipwith

Key

- Retained Areas/Potential Areas for Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement
- Potential Solar Development Area
- Public Right of Way

Plan of the Southern Site Areas





10 Phase One Press Release



EMBARGOED UNTIL 24 OCTOBER 2024

Consultation launched on proposals for new solar farm in North Yorkshire

Island Green Power (IGP), a leading developer of renewable energy projects, has today launched the first stage of its public consultation on its proposals for Light Valley Solar. If built, the new solar farm would generate 500 megawatts (MWac) of electricity, enough clean energy to power approximately 115,000 homes annually.

Light Valley Solar (the “Project”) is proposed in areas between Monk Fryston, Hambleton and Escrick and would include solar panels and a battery energy storage system (BESS). Energy generated would be distributed to the National Grid’s existing Monk Fryston substation via underground electricity cables. The BESS will store any excess energy generated and release it to the National Grid as demand increases, acting as an important way of balancing supply that will reduce power outages.

The generation capacity of Light Valley Solar means that it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and must apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO). As part of this planning process, there will be several stages of public consultation during which IGP will ask for feedback on its proposals from the community, the local authority and wider stakeholders. This will be used to develop proposals before they are submitted for examination.

Annette Lardeur, Senior Project Development Manager for Light Valley Solar, said:

“We are excited to share early-stage proposals for Light Valley Solar, which if built, would provide a significant amount of clean ‘home grown’ energy that will support the national ambition to achieve net zero while securing a reliable, affordable source of electricity.

“We are committed to developing our proposals with the local community and are pleased to launch the first stage of our consultation that will run until Thursday 5 December 2024. The feedback we receive will help us develop our proposals so that the final designs meet the ambition for the project and will deliver benefits to the local area – from enhancing the environment to providing direct funding for important causes.



From 8 November onwards, IGP will be hosting five in-person sessions where anybody interested in the development is invited to meet the project team and find out more. These events are taking place as follows:

- **Friday 8 November 2024** – 15:00 to 19:00 – Riccall Village Institute, 12 Station Rd, Riccall, York, YO19 6QJ
- **Saturday 9 November 2024** – 11:00 to 15:00 - Hambleton Village Hall, Station Rd, Hambleton, Selby, YO8 9HS
- **Tuesday 12 November 2024** – 15:00 to 19:00 – Eggborough Village Hall, 57 Selby Rd, Eggborough, Goole, DN14 0LJ
- **Saturday 16 November 2024** – 11:00 to 15:00 – Monk Fryston and Hillam Community Centre, Old Vicarage Ln, Monk Fryston, Leeds, LS25 5EA
- **Monday 18 November 2024** – 11:30 to 15:30 – Escrick Village Hall, Main St, Escrick, York YO19 6LQ

For those unable to attend in person, an online webinar will be held between **18:00 and 19:30** on **Wednesday 20 November 2024** via Zoom. For more details on the events, including how to sign up for the webinar, can be found at: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk. People can also sign up here for regular updates about the project.

The first phase of consultation is running until **Thursday 5 December 2024**. A second phase of consultation, where details of the design and how it has been informed by this first stage of consultation, is anticipated for Summer 2025.

ENDS

Notes to editors

For media enquiries, please contact the project community relations team by emailing www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk or calling 0808 281 4784.

About Island Green Power

Established in 2013, Island Green Power (IGP) is a leading developer of renewable energy projects, with a focus on utility-scale solar farms and battery energy storage systems. Their mission is to help the UK increase its solar energy usage, making more renewable energy possible whilst drastically reducing carbon emissions.

IGP is committed to responsible land use and believes that the development and delivery of solar farms and battery storage systems can be achieved in harmony with their environment. For additional information about IGP visit www.islandgp.com



About Light Valley Solar – the development process

With a secured grid connection, the Project has the potential to generate up to 500 megawatts (MW) and provide 115,000 homes per year with clean, affordable electricity. It will make a significant contribution to the UK government's target to triple solar power to 50 gigawatts (GW) by 2030 and achieve net zero by 2050.

As the potential generation capacity of the Project is more than 50 MW, the Project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). This means that a Development Consent Order (DCO) application, as outlined in the Planning Act 2008, will need to be submitted to construct, operate and decommission the Project.

For energy-related NSIPs, the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), will carry out an examination of the application and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State on whether to grant consent for the Project. Consent is then determined by the Secretary of State.

The planning process – from preparing and submitting the DCO application through to its examination and determination – is expected to take between two and three years. The DCO application is expected to be submitted to PINS in 2026.

Project Information

Please find enclosed a copy of the '**Light Valley Solar – Project Search Area**'.

The Project website (www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk) is live. Any interested parties can get in touch with the project team by email or phone.

Email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Freephone: 0808 281 4784

Freepost: FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR (no stamp or further address details required)



11 Phase One Community Webinar Slides



Light Valley Solar

Phase One Consultation

Online Community Webinar

Wednesday 20th November 2024

Today's agenda

1. Welcome and introductions – meet the team
2. Our Proposals and the need for Light Valley Solar
3. Considerations and opportunities
4. Environmental impact assessment
5. The DCO Process
6. Timeline and next steps
7. Get in touch and have your say
8. Your questions



Housekeeping

Thank you for joining this evening's Phase One consultation community webinar for Light Valley Solar.

The project team will provide a short presentation followed by a Q&A session.

Please post your comments either during or after the presentation in the **Q&A box** at the bottom of your screen. We will answer these in the order we receive them.

Please note you will not be on camera or be able to use your microphone during this session.



Who we are: Island Green Power



We have successfully delivered over 34 solar projects worldwide, totaling more than one gigawatt of capacity. This includes 17 solar projects in the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

We recently secured consent for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) in Lincolnshire.

Committed to responsible land use, we believe that the development and delivery of utility-scale solar farms can be achieved in harmony with their surroundings.

For more information, please visit the Island Green Power website at: www.islandgp.com

Light Valley Solar will be supported by an experienced project team



Why do we need Light Valley Solar?

Solar energy is essential for addressing climate change, rising energy costs, and ensuring the UK's energy security.

Light Valley Solar will generate a significant amount of low-carbon, affordable, and dependable electricity, making a critical and timely contribution to regional and national targets.

Helping To Meet UK Targets



The Government plan for a cheaper, zero carbon electricity system by 2030 aims to save £93 billion for UK households and cut energy bills for good.



To achieve the mission by 2030, the Government plans to more than triple the UK's solar power generation to 50 gigawatts (GW) helping to deliver energy security, making the UK energy independent, creating new jobs.



Our proposals for Light Valley Solar

- The proposals include five site development areas, located to the north and west of Selby. These sites are between Monk Fryston, Hambleton, Eggborough and Escrick.
- This includes space for panels, electrical infrastructure, mitigation and ecological enhancement.
- The proposal also includes underground cabling, both on and off-site, to connect between the sites and to National Grid's transmission network.
- The project is anticipated to have a capacity of 500 megawatts (MW), delivering 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 connection has been agreed.



The Project is anticipated as having a generation capacity of **500 megawatts (MW)**



This is enough clean affordable electricity to power **115,000 homes**



The site

The sites will include areas for environmental mitigation, enhancement and biodiversity net gain as well as the areas to place solar panels and associated infrastructure.

The project will connect into the existing Monk Fryston substation.

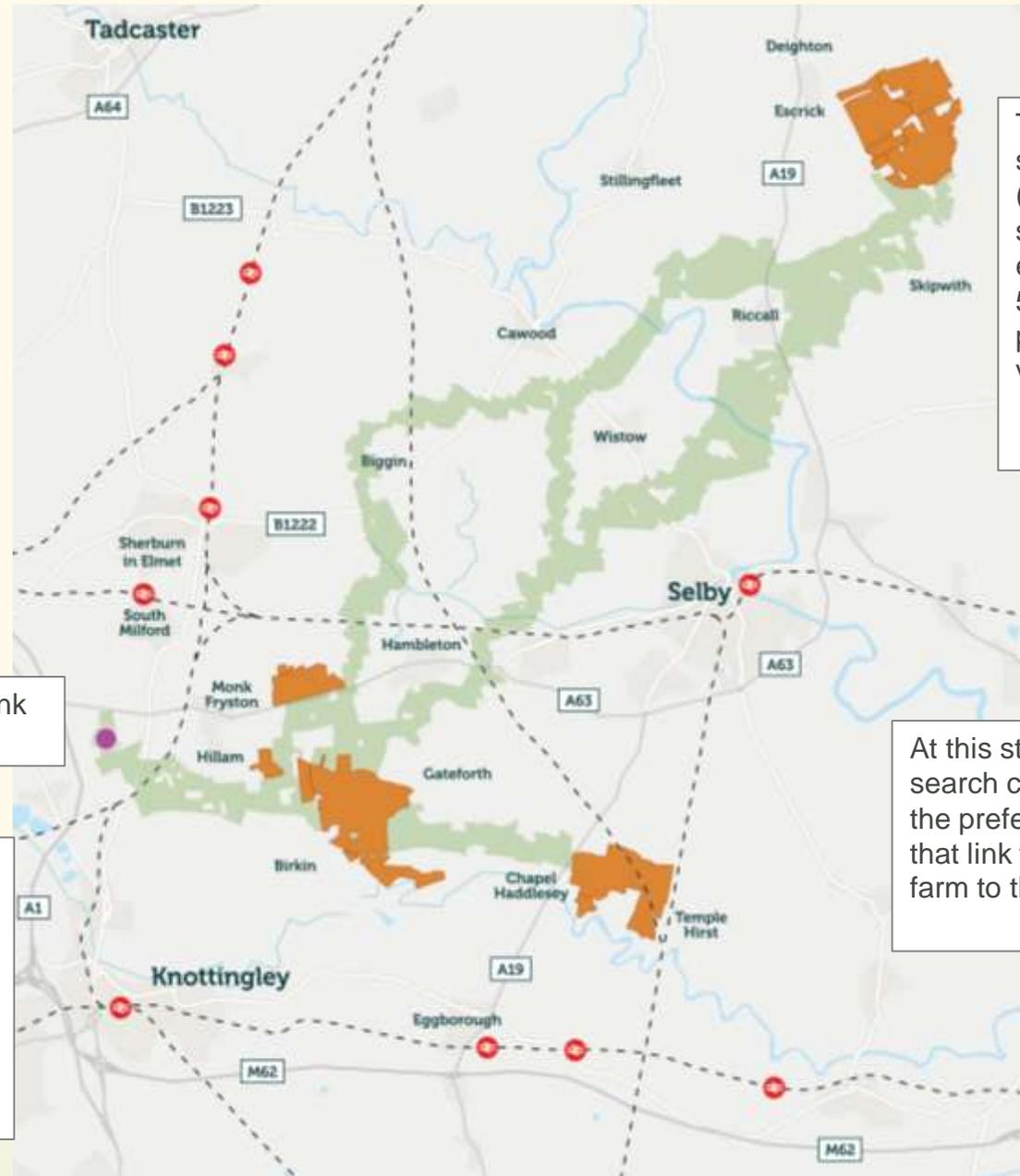
Light Valley Solar will include energy storage as part of the proposals. The location of the energy storage site is yet to be determined due to ongoing environmental assessments, although the area will be located in one of the sites closest to the connection point at Monk Fryston substation.

Key

 Solar Development Area

 National Grid's Monk Fryston Substation

 Cable Route Search Corridor



The orange areas are being proposed for solar infrastructure, including the equipment (panels, inverters, transformers and project substations), as well as mitigation and enhancement measures needed to deliver 500 megawatts as well as new wildflower planting, trees and hedgerows to protect visual amenity and enhance local biodiversity.

At this stage, we have shown a wide cable search corridor on the maps, whilst we assess the preferred route for these. These cables, that link the sites together and link the solar farm to the National Grid, will be underground.



Plan of the northern site area

Key



Retained Areas/Potential Areas for Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement



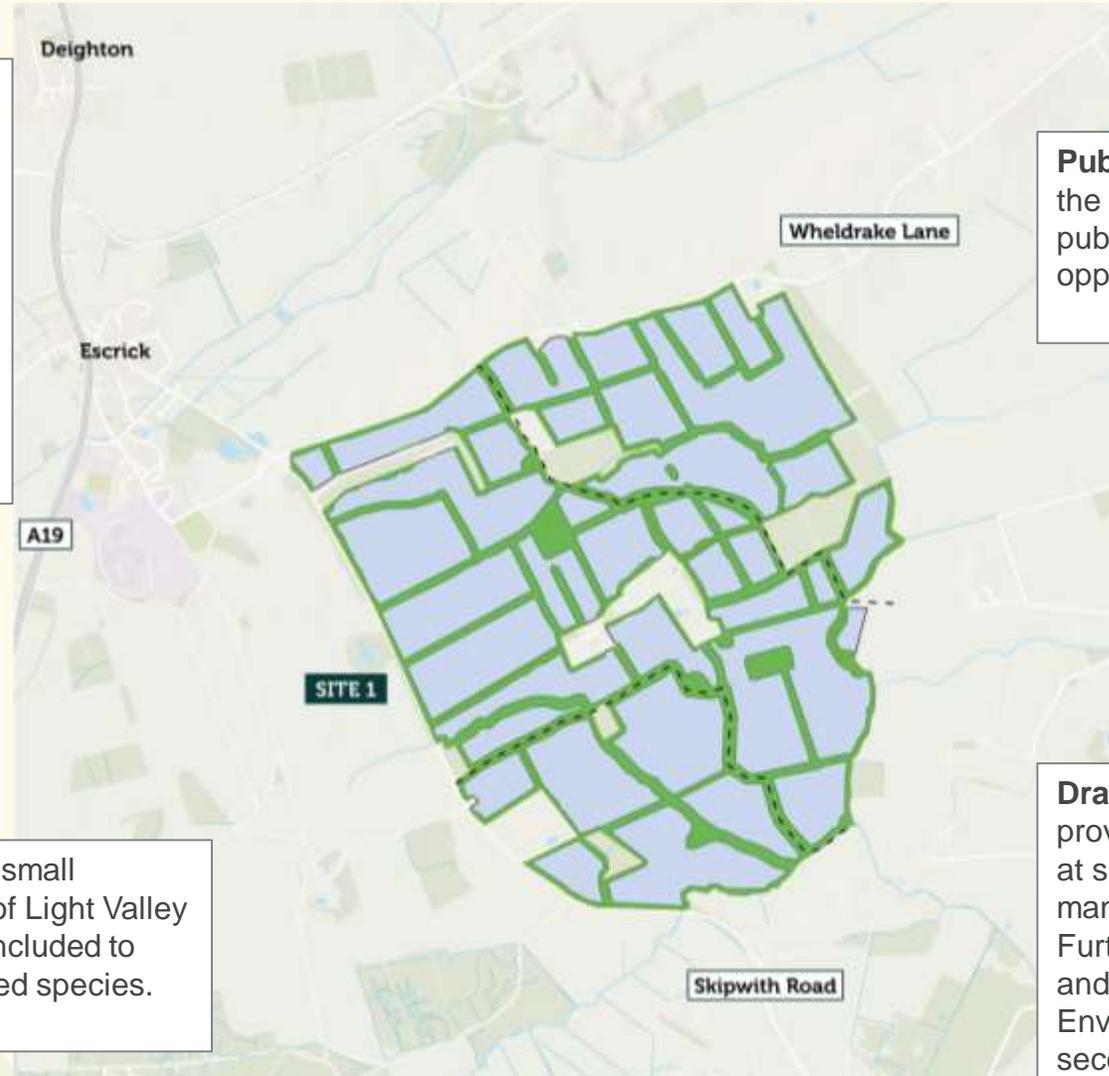
Potential Solar Development Area



Public Right of Way

Hedgerows - The majority of hedgerow and existing field boundaries will not be impacted. Field boundaries would only be impacted where access, underground cabling or fencing is required, and wherever possible, existing gaps in hedgerows will be utilised. We are also seeking to reinforce existing hedgerow and plant new hedgerow to boost biodiversity and mitigate against visual impact.

Public Rights of Way - The fencing that surrounds the solar panels will be set back and buffered from all public rights of way. The project is also exploring opportunities to create permissive paths.



Protected Species - Fencing will allow small mammals to pass through. The design of Light Valley Solar will ensure that buffer zones are included to distance any infrastructure from protected species.

Drainage and Flooding - Light Valley Solar will provide sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) at source, ensuring that surface water runoff is managed consistently with existing site conditions. Further design development will consider flood risk and will be presented in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) at the second phase of consultation for the Project.

Plan of the Southern Site Areas



Key

- Retained Areas/Potential Areas for Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement
- Potential Solar Development Area
- National Grid's Monk Fryston Substation
- Public Right of Way
- Potential area for Battery Energy Storage System (BESS is not proposed on all of this area)



Considerations and opportunities

Community focus

We are eager to develop the project in collaboration with local communities and stakeholders, ensuring that those closest to the development have a say in defining the community benefits.

This could look like:

- Exploring potential on-site and off-site initiatives.
- The possibility of supporting initiatives to make improvements to existing community amenities, such as sports facilities, children's playground, and village halls.
- Enhancing existing footpaths with educational walk-boards, wildflower meadow planting and seating or bird watching areas, as well as exploring opportunities to introduce new permissive paths.

Environmentally-led design

Our goal is for the project to protect and enhance local wildlife, including delivering net gains in biodiversity. For example:

- Protection of existing ecological features such as woodland, hedgerows and ponds.
- Maintaining existing wildlife corridors.
- Ecological enhancement and wildflower planting.
- Allowing livestock grazing within developments so farming practices can continue.



Environmental impact assessment

Light Valley Solar is classified as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development.

EIA is the iterative process in which the assessment of potential environmental impacts is carried out in parallel with the development design process.

It is used as a tool to identify the potential environmental, social and economic effects our Project might have through a series of technical assessments, so we can identify how we can reduce those impacts.

We will be conducting extensive environmental surveys and consulting with a range of stakeholders to identify the potential impact of our proposed development across a range of topics.



The development process

- Light Valley Solar is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) because the amount of electricity it could generate exceeds 50MW.
- The consenting regime for an NSIP comes under the Planning Act 2008. This means we need to submit an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) rather than the local planning authority. North Yorkshire Council will be a key consultee in this process.
- We anticipate that the development process through DCO submission and examination will take between two and three years. We are anticipating submitting our DCO application to PINS in early 2026. Subject to achieving consent from the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) construction could start in 2028.

Further information about the DCO application process can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website

infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk



Timeline and Next Steps

The application process for Light Valley Solar is a multi-phased process.

We are currently holding a phase of non-statutory consultation on our early-stage proposals.

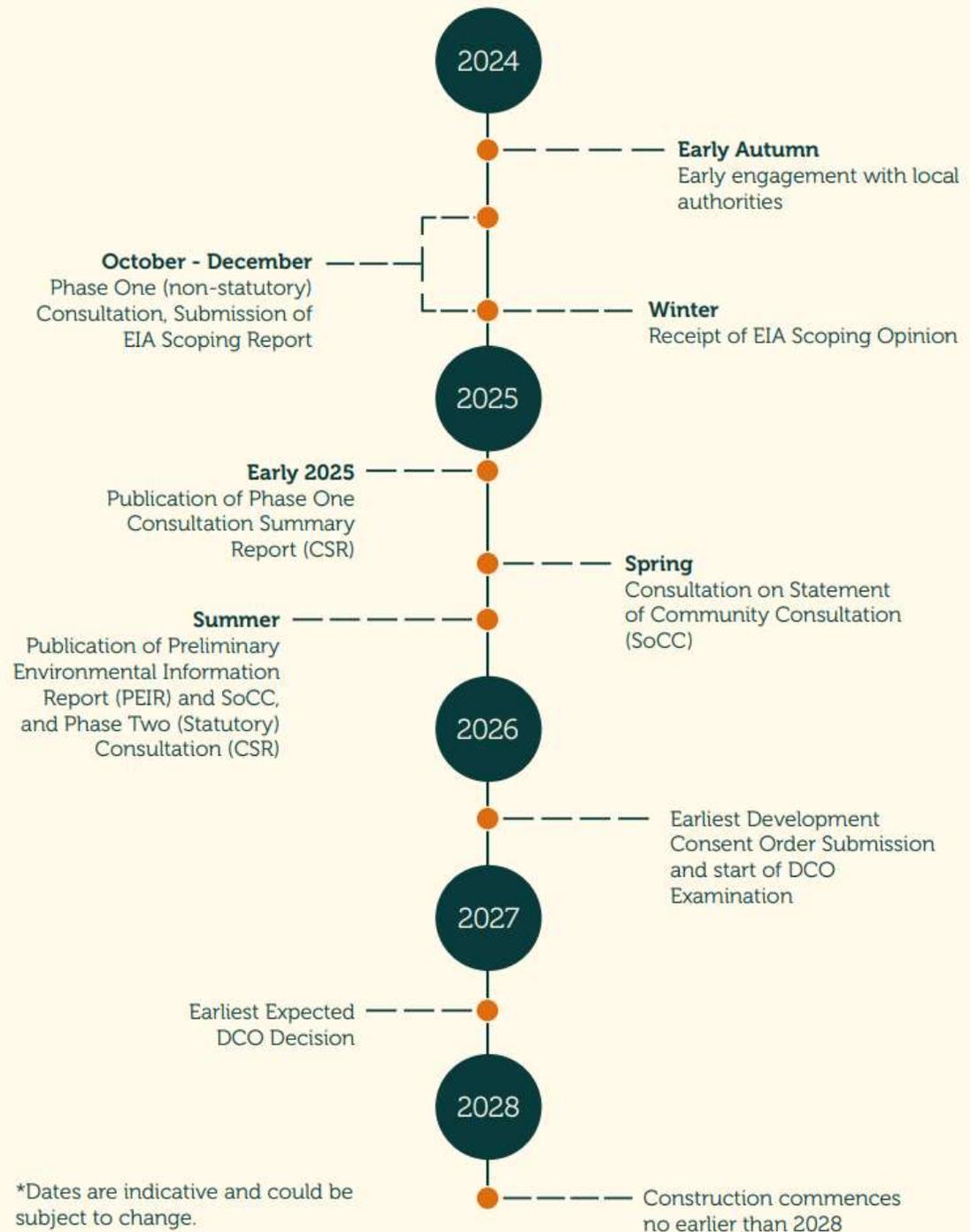
We have also recently submitted our EIA Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate.

Next steps

Following this, we will consider the feedback we receive and continue to undertake environmental assessments.

This process will inform the refinement of our proposals, which we plan to share for further consultation next year.

A full Consultation Report and Environmental Statement will then be prepared for submission as part of our Development Consent Order application.



Get in touch and have your say

We encourage your feedback and are keen to hear your thoughts on this initial phase of consultation.

The deadline for feedback to this consultation is Thursday 5th December 2024.

To get in touch or have your say:

Call us on: 0808 281 4784

Email us on: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Send a letter to: FREEPOST Light Valley Solar (no stamp or further address details required)

Visit our website: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Light Valley **Solar**



Q&A