

Light Valley Solar

Consultation Report Appendix 4: Statement of Community Consultation Materials

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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 4: Statement of Community Consultation Materials

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Light Valley Solar

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1 Draft SoCC

Light Valley Solar

Draft Statement of Community Consultation
For consultation with North Yorkshire Council
and City of York Council

April 2025

A stylized graphic in the bottom left corner consisting of a large yellow semi-circle representing a sun, and several overlapping green shapes representing rolling hills or fields.

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 Project'), located on land between Escrick, Monk Fryston, Hambleton, Chapel Haddlesey and South Milford.
- 1.2. The Project 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 Project 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 Project'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. We are anticipating our Phase Two (statutory) consultation to take place over a minimum of six weeks in Summer 2025. Indicatively, we are anticipating for consultation to 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 is being sought 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 will be considered by the Applicant when preparing a final SoCC for publication.
- 1.9. The final SoCC will then be publicised and made available for inspection. It is anticipated that this will take place two weeks in advance of statutory consultation, launching in Summer 2025. 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. It is anticipated that that 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 Project 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 Project and our methods of consultation. A community consultation postcard was sent to over 12,500 households and businesses, and the Project 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.



2. THE PROJECT

- 2.1. The Light Valley Solar draft site boundary (known as the ‘Order Limits’) consist of seven Solar Development Sites (‘Sites’) and approximately 30 km of below ground cable connectors for solar photovoltaic (‘PV’) modules (‘Cable Corridors’) 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 draft Order Limits will also include environmental mitigation and enhancement areas.
- 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 draft Order Limits will include areas for environmental mitigation, enhancements and biodiversity net gain.
- 2.4. Currently, the draft Order Limits include a wide ‘Cable Corridor Options Area’ 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 design, this corridor will be further refined ahead of submitting the DCO application.
- 2.5. The draft Order Limits are shown in Figure 1. This map shows the extent of the land that is currently expected to be required for the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the Solar Development Sites and the connection into the National Grid at Monk Fryston substation.
- 2.6. 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.



2.7. Subject to being consented, the Project has the potential to:

- Provide capacity of up to 500 MW AC of clean, affordable energy into the National Grid.
- Store up to 1,000 MWh (megawatt-hours) of energy in the BESS, based on a two-hour duration.
- 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.

2.8. The design life of the Project is expected to be up to 60 years. At the end of the Project'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.

2.9. 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.

2.10. Further information on the DCO process can be found here: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/decision-making-process-guide>

2.11. Environmentally led design

2.12. The Project 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.

2.13. The design of the Project is an iterative process, based on environmental assessments and consultation with statutory and non-



statutory consultees. Therefore, the design of the Project will aim to avoid environmental impacts where possible and to integrate into the wider landscape from the outset. The design will be informed by understanding the environmental constraints within and outside the draft Order Limits and steering development away from sensitive areas, whilst including land suitable for mitigation requirements.

2.14. The Applicant has developed a number of design principles for the Project. These are:

- Contribute to Decarbonisation and Energy Security
- Environmentally-led design
- Nature Recovery and biodiversity net gain
- Design flexibility
- Community benefit and increased social value
- Efficient 'fit for purpose' infrastructure & ethical supply chain
- Sustainability, Durability, and Reversibility
- Commitment to Mitigation

2.15. These design principles are set out in more detail in Section 2.5.1.5 of the Project's Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') Scoping Report, and they will be consulted on part of the Phase Two consultation.

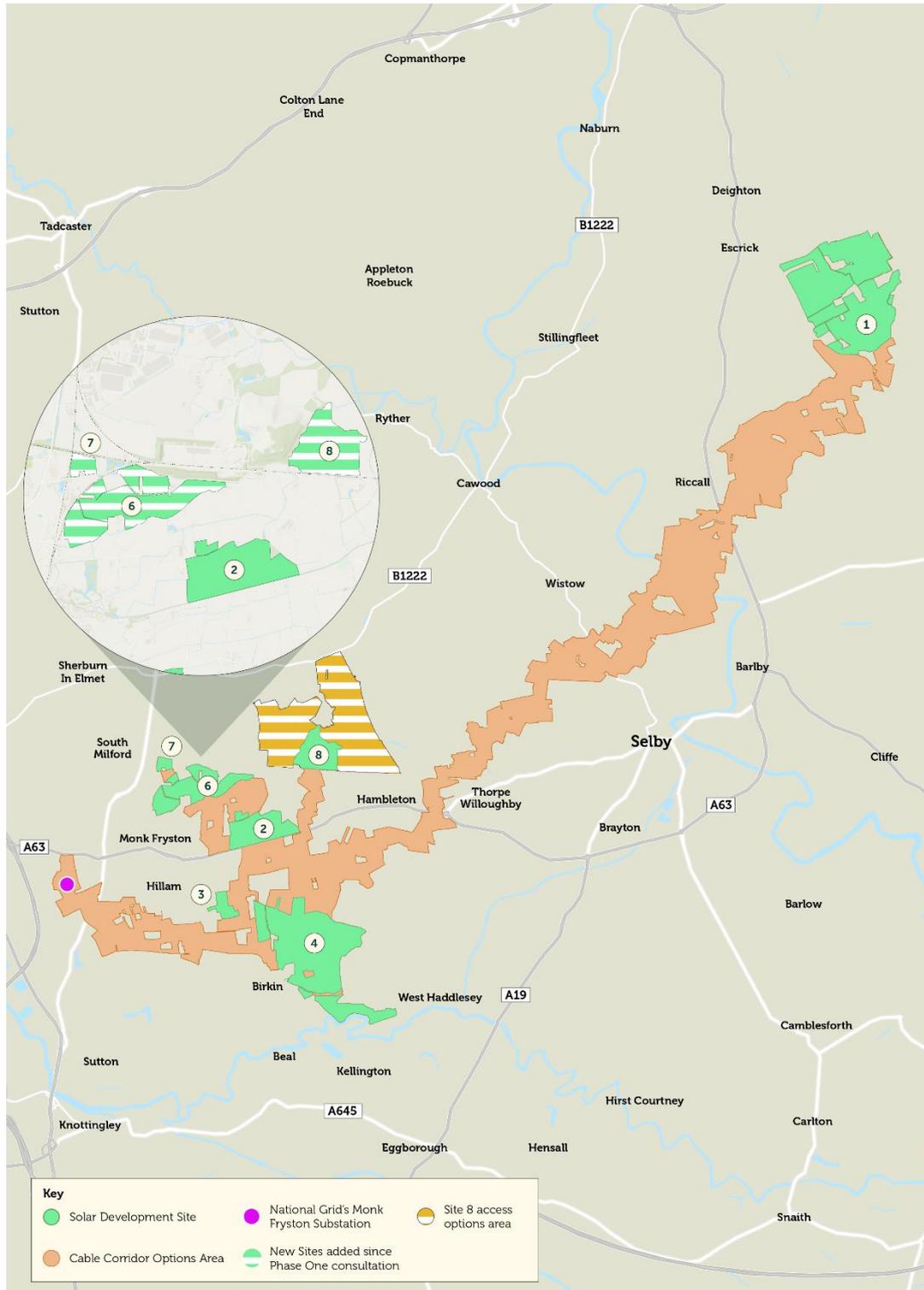


Figure 1. The draft Order Limits



3. ABOUT US

- 3.1. The Project 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.



4. OUR CONSULTATION PROCESS

4.1. The proposed approach is an iterative two-phase consultation process for the Project whereby feedback and information received in response to consultation will inform the refinement of the Project 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 Project and emerging proposal to inform design refinement.
- Identify local schemes or initiatives the Project could support or deliver to benefit those communities closest to the Project.
- 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. 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 Project proposals and the consultation so local communities have the opportunity to understand the Project, 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 Project 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 Project.



- Ensure that everyone who has an interest in the Project is made aware of the examination process and provided with information explaining how they can participate in that process.

4.4. In carrying out Phase One Consultation on the emerging proposals for the Project, the Applicant sought to help stakeholders and local communities understand the Project 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 Project team has considered all feedback received during Phase One Consultation. This process has informed further updates to the proposals for the Project.

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 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 Project DCO application. The Consultation Report will describe, and evidence consultation undertaken, the level of engagement with this consultation,



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 Project. 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 Project. This also encompasses those working and visiting areas within the vicinity of the Project.
- 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 Project 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
- 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 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, local and regional media channels; and meetings/briefings (see **Section** Error! Reference source not found.).

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 Project.

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 indicative list of in-person information event venues is stated in **Section 8** of this document.

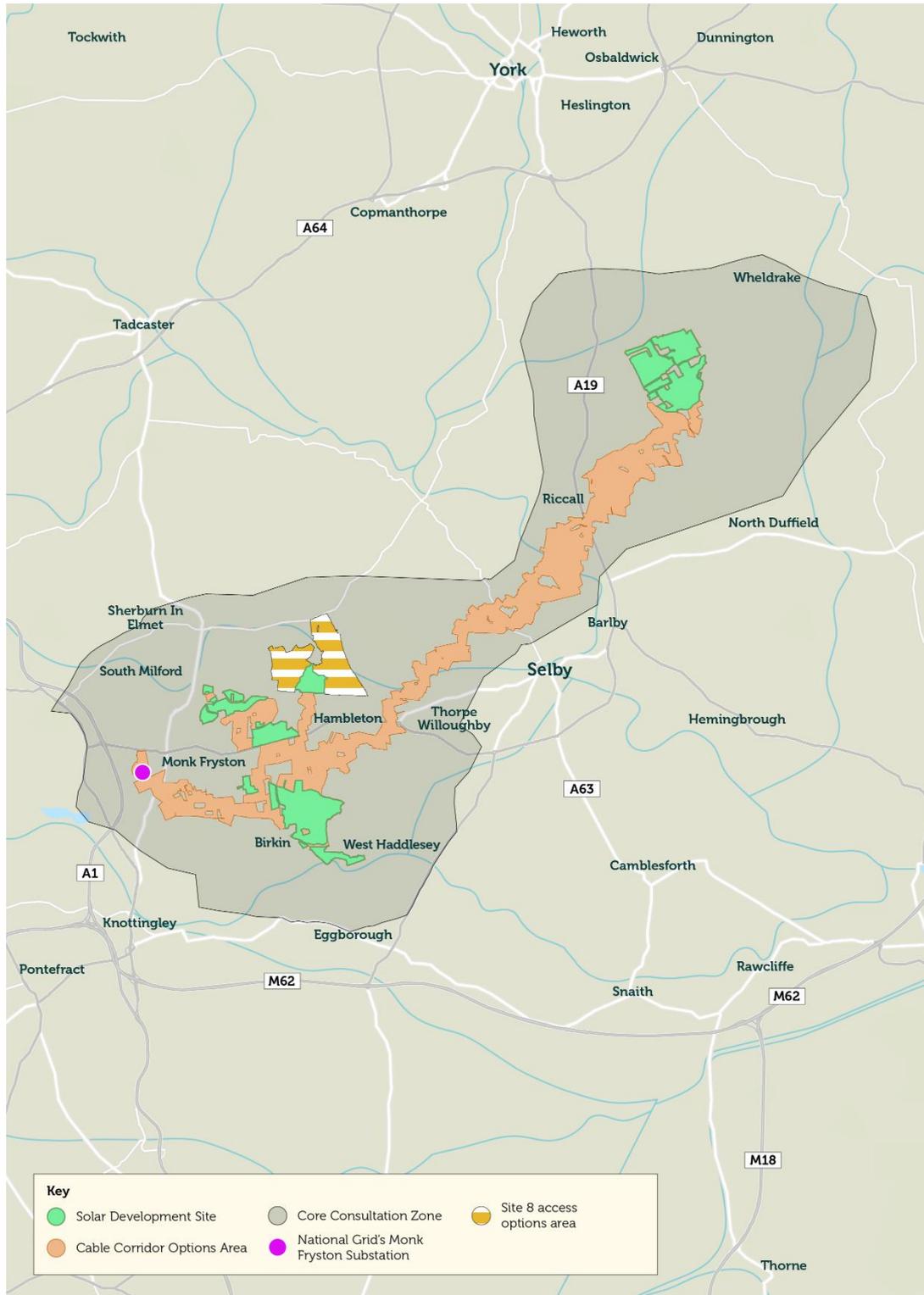


Figure 2. Draft Order limits and core consultation zone



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 Project about consultation;
- Publish a Section 48 notice in the local and national press and London Gazette;
- Publish consultation materials online via the Project 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 project boundary, 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.



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.



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 Project and how we are intending to manage these.
- 7.6. The draft Order Limits 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 Project detailed in the PEIR which sets out the results of our preliminary environmental assessments and associated mitigation;
 - The timescales and next steps for the Project; and
 - Anything else consultees think we need to consider.



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 Project and the opportunities to provide feedback.
- 8.3. While acknowledging that some aspects of the Project 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. 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 Project by submitting feedback to the statutory consultation via easy to use and accessible methods.
- 8.5. Design Workshops**
- 8.6. Prior and during Phase Two consultation, the Applicant is intending to engage with parish councils 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 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 feedback formally through the channels provided.

8.9. The Project team will be writing to parish councils, and relevant local interest and community groups to invite them to workshops to be held up to two weeks before the start of consultation, or during the first week of consultation.

8.10. Design workshops may be held in-person or online. The dates and times of these workshops will be confirmed with the relevant stakeholders closer to the time of consultation.

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 Project's Environmental Impact Assessment ('EIA') Scoping and Programme documents that are available to view on the PINS website for the Project.

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.

8.16. It will continue to provide a facility for people to register their contact details with the Project so they can receive future updates directly within and beyond defined periods of consultation.



8.17. Direct communications

8.18. Direct communications – via a leaflet or 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 Project by post.

8.19. The communication 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 Project 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 Project 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 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 Project Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') will be published at the start of the Phase Two consultation period. This document will provide details of the Project 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 Project, 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 Project 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 final SoCC will include specific prices for requesting a full printed copy of the PEIR.

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 Project 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.

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. Consultation Information Events

8.39. We intend to hold at least five in-person public information events during the Phase Two consultation.

8.40. We intend to schedule 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.

8.41. Events will be held across different days of the week and cover a range of times to accommodate different working hours and care schedules

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>



to promote accessibility and attendance. This will include holding an event on a Saturday and events running into the evening.

- 8.42. At events attendees will be able to find out information about the Project and what we are consulting on. Members of the Project team will be present to discuss the proposals and answer questions.
- 8.43. 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 and to take away).
 - Event display panels and boards (for display only).
 - Maps of the project (for display only).
 - Project Information Booklet (for reference and to take away).
 - Copies of the Feedback Form (for reference and to take away).
 - The PEIR and accompanying NTS (for reference only).
- 8.44. 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.
- 8.45. 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 Project 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 Project website after the session.
- 8.46. Based on the indicative 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.
- 8.47. An indicative 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. A confirmed



schedule of information events will be included in the final SoCC and published ahead of Phase Two Consultation commencing.

Table 1: Provisional Information Event Schedule

The provisional schedule outlined below is subject to availability and may be subject to change.

Venue	Date & Time
Eversley Park Centre, Sherburn-in-Elmet Eversley Park Centre, Low St LS25 6BA	Friday 4th July 2025 3pm – 7pm
St Margaret’s Chapel, Queen Margaret's School Escrick, Main Street, York YO19 6EU	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

8.48. Community Access Points

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

8.50. CAPs have been selected based on their public accessibility, including their proximity to the Project. The definitive list of CAPs will be published in the final SoCC.

8.51. We welcome any suggestions on where may be suitable to be used as a CAPs for the Project.



8.52. Table 2 below indicates potential CAPs that could 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 Project 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 Project website.

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

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/Leaflet	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No Online access: Yes
Project Information Booklet	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes



Document	In-person information events	Project website*	On request	Direct mailed	Community Access Points
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 Project website:
<https://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/documents>.

8.59. Open Communication

8.60. The Project 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.

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

- Submitting an online feedback form through the Project 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)

8.62. All feedback must be received by 23:59 on the closing date. To account for postage delays, feedback received after this date via freepost may be considered.

8.63. Questions and requests for information can be made using the communications channels above and by calling the Project 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). Feedback via telephone is not being accepted, except by prior arrangement.

8.64. Section 48 Notice

8.65. 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 Project for two consecutive weeks, and a national newspaper and the London Gazette for one week.

8.66. 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.

8.67. 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.



8.68. Media, Advertising and Publicity

8.69. To raise awareness about the Project 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 Project, including dates of information events (online and in-person) and the deadline for receipt of feedback to the consultation.

8.70. 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).

8.71. 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. The list of parish councils that will be contacted is provided in **Appendix 3** of this document.

8.72. Changes to consultation activities

8.73. 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.

8.74. Coordination with other NSIP developers

8.75. 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 Project.



and how regard has been had to feedback received. More information on this is described in **Section 9** of this document.



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



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 Project.
- 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 Project website:
www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk/privacy-policy
- 9.6. Comments will be shared with relevant members of the Project 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 Project 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 Project to the Planning Inspectorate in Q1 2026.



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.
- 10.2. The EIA Process is described in Table 4 below.
- 10.3. 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 4: The EIA Process

Scoping Report
<p>Our Scoping Report was published on 08 November 2024 and described the Project 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 Project website (www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk) and the Planning Inspectorate's website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110012</p>
Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR')
<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>



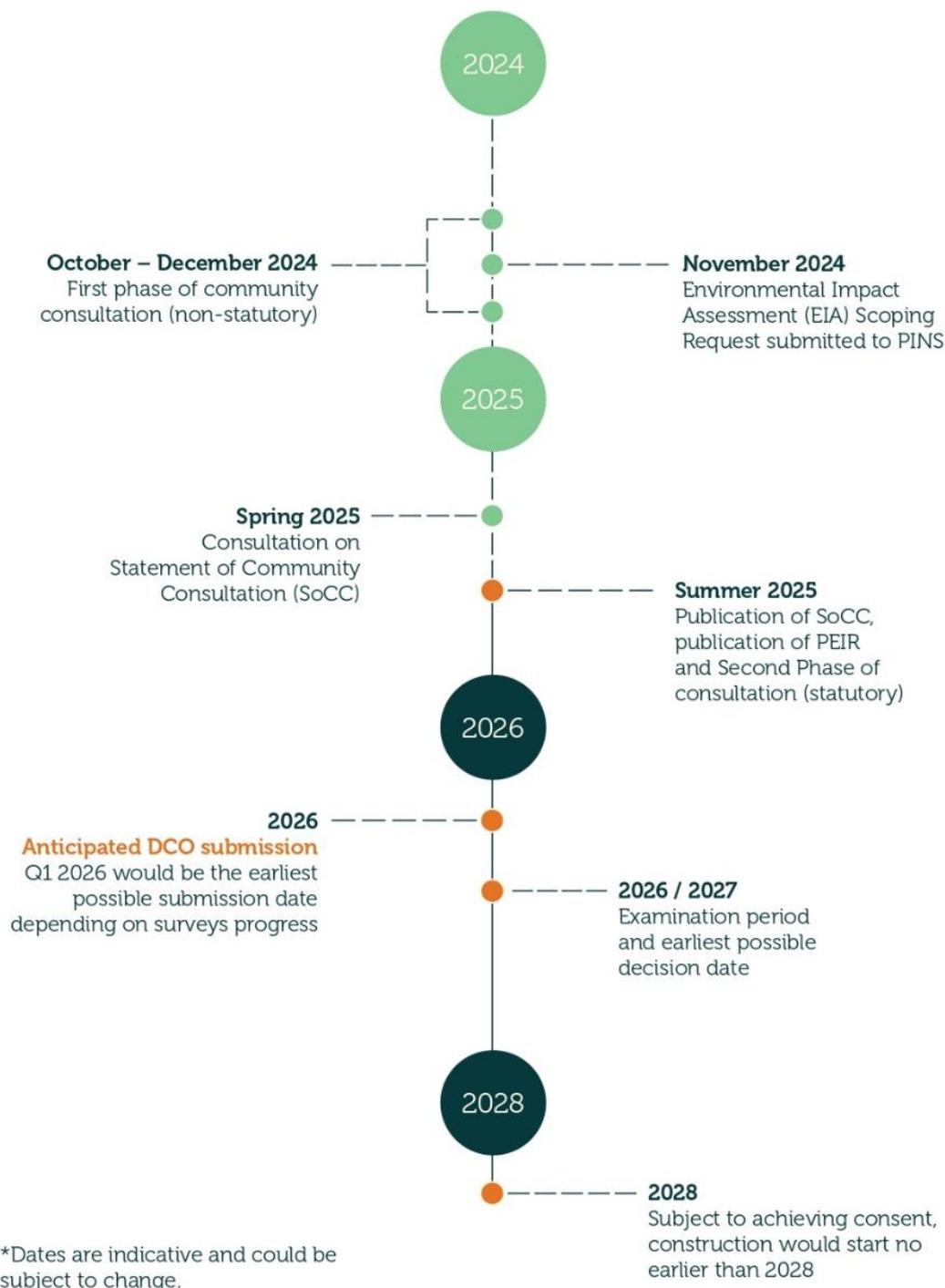
Environmental Statement ('ES')

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 Project.

The ES will form part of the DCO application for submission.



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
SYPKO
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
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)
York Travellers Trust
Religious Groups
Christian Science Society
Christians Against Poverty
Pocklington Christian Fellowship
York Muslim Association



Goole & Selby Methodist Circuit
Mental Health
The big communi-tea
Live Well York
The Dan Rhodes Foundation
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
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



Appendix 2: Community interest groups and voluntary organisations

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
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)



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 draft Order Limits	
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



2 Email to LPAs (North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council) regarding Draft SoCC

From: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk
Sent: Mon, 24 Mar 2025 09:54:13 +0000
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Bcc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Consultation on Statement of Community Consultation

Dear City of York Council,

On behalf of Light Valley Solar, I am writing to you regarding an upcoming consultation on our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

We ran our first phase of community consultation in November and December of last year, with over 250 people attending our information events and receiving over 125 pieces of feedback. We are now considering that feedback alongside our ongoing environmental assessments to inform a refined and updated design, which we will be presenting at our second phase of consultation, anticipated to launch in June.

As our second phase of consultation is statutory under Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, we are required to consult with host authorities as part of the project. We will be formally sharing our draft SoCC with you for comment, and we will be providing you with a minimum 28-day window to provide comment on our methodology for our second phase of consultation.

We are intending to formally to consult on the SoCC with you for a couple of reasons. Firstly, a number of properties within our Core Consultation Zone, an area around the site that will receive a direct communication from the project, are within your boundary. Furthermore, a preferred access route, whilst only indicative at this stage, may result in an extension in the draft Order Limits to include areas located within your boundary. Therefore, we will be inviting you to comment on our draft SoCC. We will be inviting North Yorkshire to comment on our draft SoCC at the same time.

We anticipate that we will be sharing the SoCC with you for comment in the next week or two. If you would like a Teams briefing to informally discuss the project and our approach to consultation, we are happy to facilitate this. At the same time, please could you provide the email addresses of anyone at the council that you would like to be invited to the call, and we will ensure that they are invited.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please let me know.

Kind regards,

Annette Lardeur

Project Development Manager



Light Valley **Solar**

Email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Freephone Information Line: 0808 281 4784

Freepost: FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR

Website: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk

From: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk
Sent: [REDACTED] 14:42:32 +0000
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] ar: Section 47 Planning Act (2008) Consultation on Draft Statement of Community Consultation with Local Planning Authorities
Attachments: Light Valley Solar_draft Statement of Community Consultation.pdf

Dear Linda,

Light Valley Solar Limited ('the Applicant') is developing plans for a utility scale solar and battery energy storage system (BESS) on land near Selby in North Yorkshire.

Light Valley Solar (hereafter referred to by 'the Project') would comprise the installation of ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and a BESS with infrastructure that connects the Project to the existing Monk Fryston substation.

The Project is anticipated as being able to deliver up to 500 megawatts (MW) of electricity. Accordingly, it will be classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and must comply with the Development Consent Order (DCO) regime as defined in the Planning Act 2008 ('2008 Act').

As part of our duty to consult the local community on the proposals for the Project, we have prepared a draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). The draft SoCC outlines how communities can engage throughout the development process and explains how we intend to consult with communities in the vicinity of the Project.

Local authorities have an important role in the 2008 Act process. In accordance with Section 47(2) of the 2008 Act, the Applicant is required to consult with host local authorities on the draft SoCC, as set out under Section 43(1) of the 2008 Act. The Applicant is seeking the views from local authorities with an administrative boundary that our proposed core consultation zone extends to – this includes North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council.

We recognise that effective and appropriate consultation is of critical importance to this Project. As a local authority, the Applicant strongly welcomes your local knowledge and insight to advise how best to conduct community consultation. The Applicant invites you to comment on any aspect of the draft SoCC you consider appropriate.

Section 47(3) of the 2008 Act states that statutory 28 days for comments must be provided, however, the Applicant has extended the timeframe of formal consultation on the draft SoCC by just over a week, due to the Easter bank holidays falling during this period. The consultation period will commence on the day after the local authority receives the draft SoCC. The Applicant kindly request all comments to the draft SoCC to be received no later than **Friday 9 May 2025**.

Following receipt of all comments from the local authorities, the Applicant will seek to incorporate comments and suggestions and as required in Section 47(5) of the 2008 Act, demonstrate the regard had to all comments received.

The Applicant intends to publicise the SoCC in June 2024. The SoCC will be publicised across the Project's core consultation zone and wider consultation are through local media, local notices and online via the dedicated website.

Shortly after publicising our SoCC, we intend to launch our Phase Two (statutory) consultation. This will be further publicised in line with the methods set out in the SoCC, including sending direct communications to an agreed consultation zone. This 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.

The Applicant invites all comments to the attached draft SoCC to be received no later than **Friday 9 May 2025** through the following contact details:

Email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Postal address: FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with the team at any time using the details provided or via our Freephone information line, which can be viewed at the bottom of this email.

Kind regards,

Annette Lardeur

Project Development Manager, Light Valley Solar



Light Valley **Solar**

Email: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Freephone Information Line: 0808 281 4784

Freepost: FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR

Website: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk



3 Published SoCC

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.



Visit our website at:
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.



Visit our website at:
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

1.9. 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



Visit our website at:
Lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Email us at:
info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Call our Freephone line:
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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.



Visit our website at:
Lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Email us at:
info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Call our Freephone line:
0808 281 4784



Write to us at:
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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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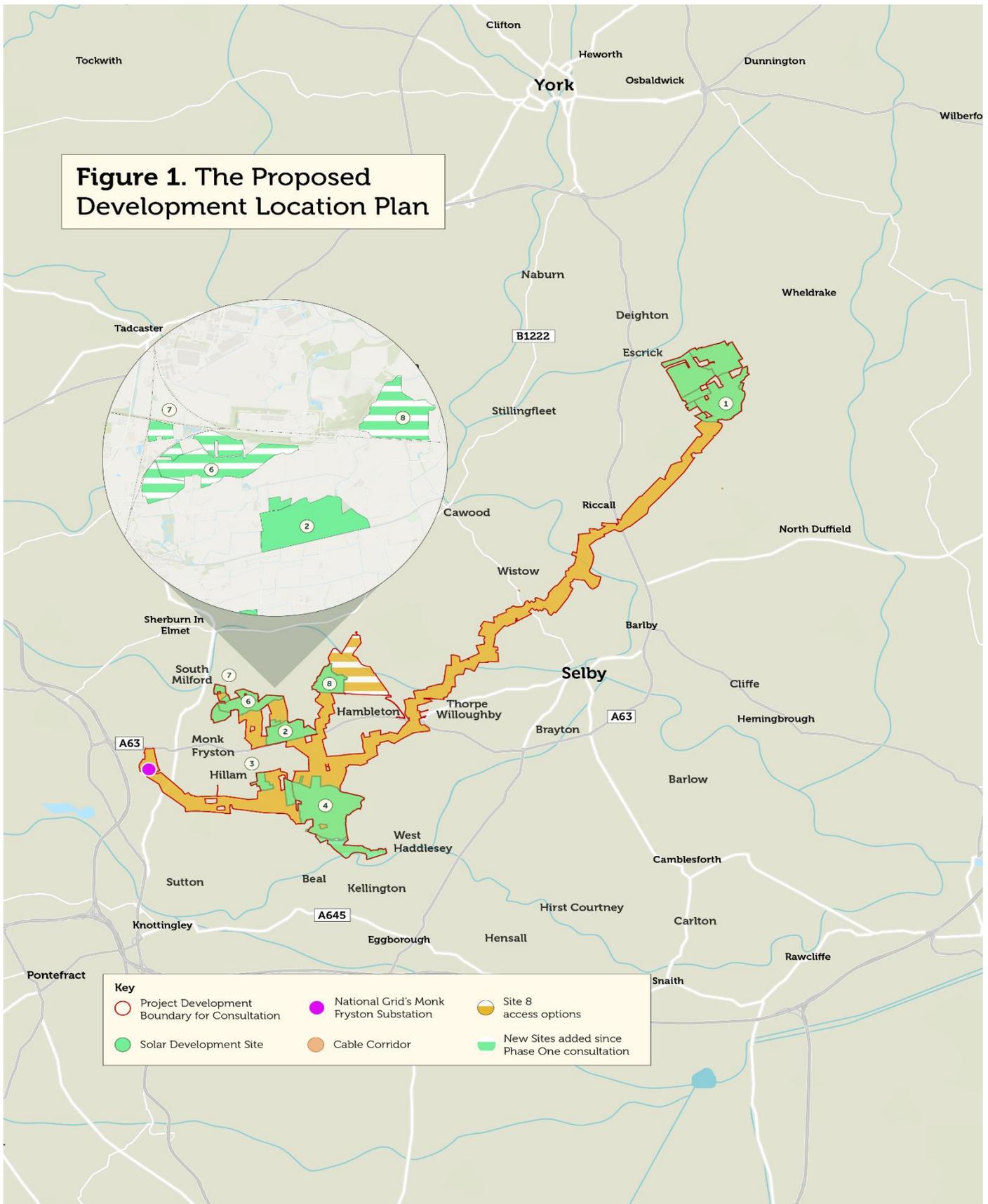


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Figure 1. The Proposed Development Location Plan



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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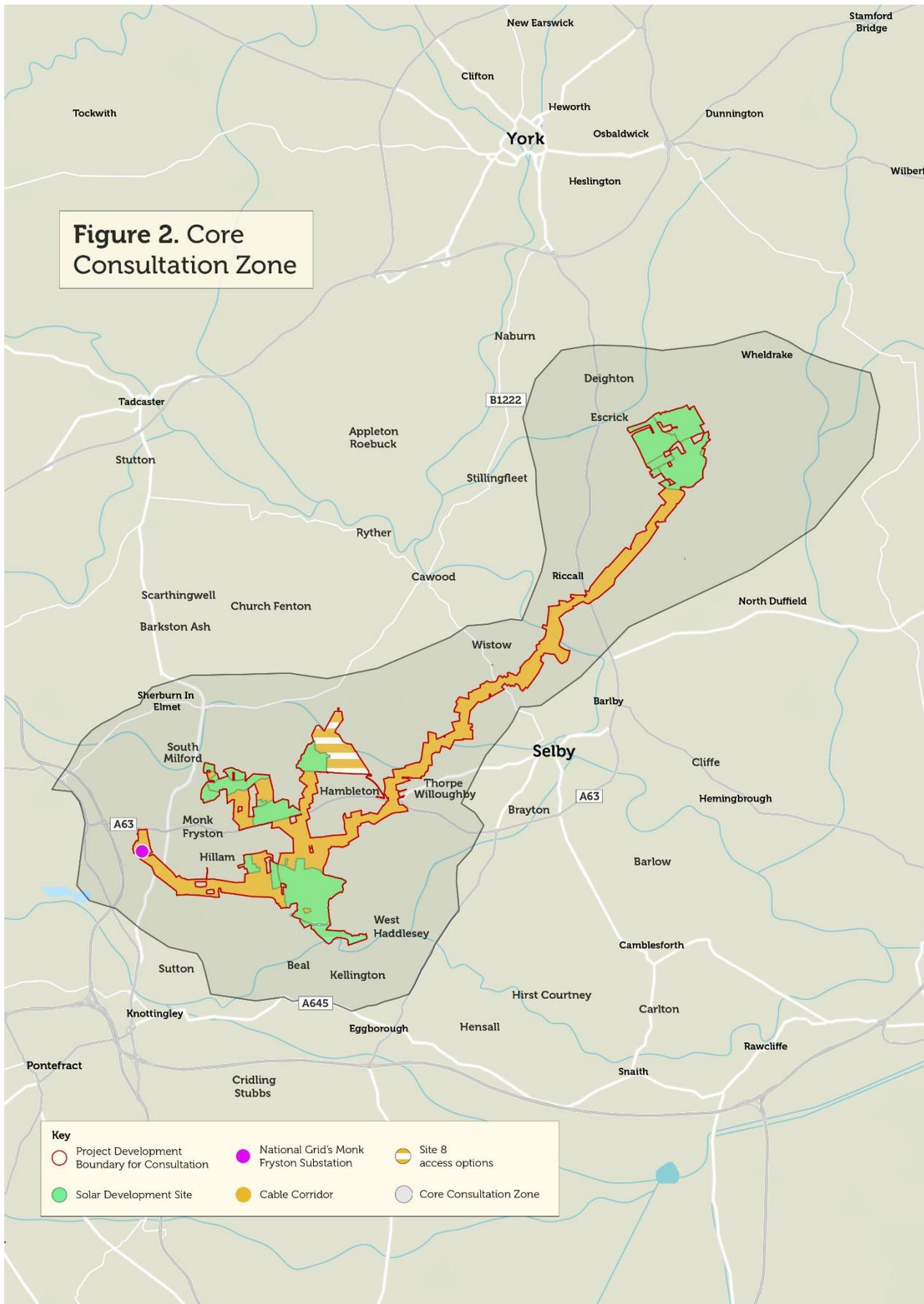


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Figure 2. Core Consultation Zone



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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Lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Email us at:
info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Call our Freephone line:
0808 281 4784



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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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Lightvalleysolar.co.uk



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info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



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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>.



Visit our website at:
[Lightvalleysolar.co.uk](https://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk)



Email us at:
info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



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Write to us at:
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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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lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Email us at:
info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Call our Freephone line:
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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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Email us at:
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Call our Freephone line:
0808 281 4784



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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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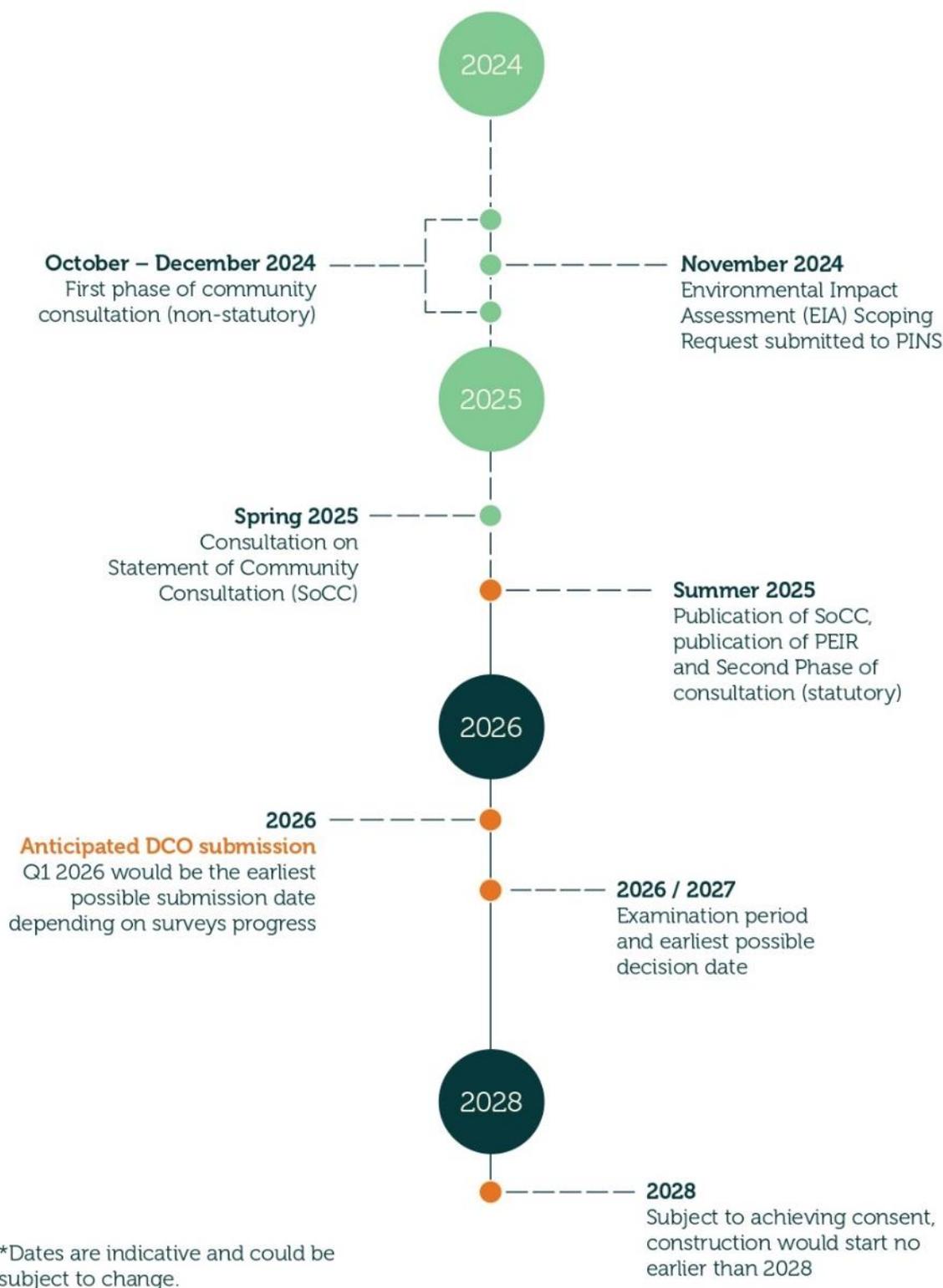


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11. INDICATIVE PROJECT TIMELINE



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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Email us at:
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Write to us at:
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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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Lightvalleysolar.co.uk



Email us at:
info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk



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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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4 Evidence of final SoCC hosted on website document library

Contact us

Register for



[Home](#)

[About Us](#)

[The Project](#)

[The Consultation Process](#)

[PEIR](#)

[Documents](#)

Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) materials

- [Light Valley Solar – Statement of Community Consultation](#)
- [Light Valley Solar – Section 47 Notice](#)

Phase One consultation materials

- [Light Valley Solar Phase One Community Consultation Leaflet](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase One Feedback Form](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase One Concept Plans](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase One Event Materials](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase One Community Consultation Postcard](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase One Information Poster](#)

- [Light Valley Solar Project Update Newsletter and Phase One Consultation Summary Report](#)

Programme Materials

- [Light Valley Solar Programme Document](#)

Phase Two Consultation materials

- [Light Valley Solar Phase Two Project Information Booklet](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase Two Feedback Form](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Outline Environmental Masterplans](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase Two Information Event Materials](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Additional Event Maps](#)
- [Light Valley Phase Two Community Postcard](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase Two Information Poster](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase Two Section 48 Notice](#)
- [Light Valley Solar Phase Two Webinar Presentation](#)

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

- The PEIR and associated technical documents can be found in the '[PEIR](#)' section of the website

EIA Scoping Report Materials

- [Light Valley Solar EIA Scoping Report](#)
- [Light Valley Solar EIA Scoping Report – Figures Part 1](#)
- [Light Valley Solar EIA Scoping Report – Figures Part 2](#)
- [Light Valley Solar EIA Scoping Opinion](#)

The EIA Scoping Report materials can also be accessed via the [Planning Inspectorate page for Light Valley Solar](#).



5 Section 47 Notice

NOTICE PUBLICISING A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (SOCC) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 47(6) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008. NOTICE PUBLICISING A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (SOCC) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 47(6) OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008.



Notice is hereby given that Light Valley Solar Limited (Company registration number **13290180**) of **Unit 25.7 Coda Studios 189 Munster Road, London, England, SW6 6AW** (the Applicant), has produced a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008.

The Project

The Applicant is part of Island Green Power (IGP) and is proposing a solar and energy storage project located near Selby in North Yorkshire. Light Valley Solar (the Scheme) is expected to produce approximately 500 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy, support regional and national targets for reducing carbon emissions to net zero, contribute to improvements to local ecology and biodiversity, and deliver affordable energy. The Applicant will work closely with stakeholders and the local community to develop the project, having regard to the feedback received during public consultation.

Light Valley Solar is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), as it has a proposed generation capacity of over 50MW. As an NSIP, the Scheme must submit an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008.

Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

As part of the Light Valley Solar proposal, the Applicant has a duty to consult the local community under Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008. The Applicant has therefore prepared a SoCC that explains how people living in the vicinity of the proposed Scheme boundary will be consulted throughout the pre-application process, and how it intends to consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), prepared as the proposals are Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") development, that will inform the final Environmental Statement (ES). The consultation process is designed to provide information about Light Valley Solar and give local communities the opportunity to have their say and help develop the final design for the Scheme.

This notice provides formal notification of the publication of the SoCC which can be viewed, free of charge, in the document library at www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk. Printed reference copies of the SoCC are also available to view at the community access points listed below from 12 June 2025.

The Statutory Consultation Process

The Applicant will be holding its statutory consultation between 26 June and 7 August 2025. The Applicant will host a series of consultation activities, which will be available and accessible to all interested members of the local community.

A copy of the PEIR, together with a PEIR Non-Technical Summary (NTS), the SoCC, and other consultation documents, plans and maps explaining the consultation process and details of the nature and location of Light Valley Solar can be found on the Applicant's website in the document library at www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk. These documents will be free to read and download from the Applicant's website from 18 June 2025.

Hard copies of the SoCC (from 12 June until 7 August 2025) and PEIR NTS (from 26 June until 7 August 2025) will be available for inspection free of charge at the following Community Access Points (CAPs):

Location	Current Opening Times
Selby Library 52 Micklegate, Selby, YO8 4EQ	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 Howden Road, Barlby, Selby YO8 5JE	Monday: closed Tuesday & Wednesday: 2pm – 5pm Thursday: closed Friday: 2pm – 5pm Saturday: 10am – 12pm Sunday: closed
Sherburn & Villages Community Library Finkle Hill, Sherburn in Elmet, Leeds LS25 6EA	Monday & Tuesday: 9.30am – 5pm Wednesday: closed Thursday: 9.30am – 5pm Friday: 9.30am – 1pm Saturday: 9.30am – 12.30pm Sunday: closed

Hard copies of the Phase Two Project Information Booklet, and the Phase Two Feedback Form will be available to take away free of charge.

Electronic copies of all the consultation documents may be viewed on a computer at the above community access points from 26 June until 7 August 2025. While access to computers at these information points is free of charge, the venues may require visitors to show proof of identity to use an on-site computer. More information is available at www.northyorks.gov.uk/leisure-tourism-and-culture/libraries. We recommend contacting the venues to check the opening times prior to visiting.

Requests for a printed hard copy of the PEIR will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. To cover printing and postage costs, a reasonable charge of up to £750 may apply.

Hard copies of all other consultation materials may be requested during the consultation period by contacting the Applicant on FREEPHONE 0808 281 4784 or by email at info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk. Requests for consultation 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 will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Requests for multiple copies of these documents will be considered on a case-by-case basis and a reasonable charge may apply to cover printing and postage costs.

Feedback can be provided through the consultation feedback form on the Applicant's website at www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk. Hardcopy feedback forms will also be available at the community access points listed above and at the in-person public information events taking place.

The consultation feedback form, responses to the consultation or other representations in respect of Light Valley Solar can also be sent to the Applicant by email to info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk or by post to FREEPOST LIGHT VALLEY (no stamp or further details required).

Any response or representation in respect of the proposed DCO application must be received by the Applicant on or before 23.59 on Thursday 7 August 2025.

Public Information Events

The Applicant will be hosting public information events to provide further opportunities for interested parties to view the consultation documents as well as to speak with members of the project team. The details of the events are as follows:

Date and time	Location
Eversley Park Centre, Sherburn-in-Elmet Eversley Park Centre, Low Street LS25 6BA	Friday 4th July 2025 3pm – 7pm
St Margaret's Chapel, Queen Margaret's School Escrick, Main Street, York YO19 6EU	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 Road, 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 Lane LS25 5EA	Saturday 19th July 2025 11am – 3pm
Community Webinar Via Zoom	Monday 21st July 2025 6pm – 7.30pm

Get in touch by

Emailing at: info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk

Calling our Freephone: **0808 281 4784**

Writing to us at: **FREEPOST Light Valley Solar** (no stamp or further details required)

Visiting our website at: www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk