

# Light Valley Solar

## Consultation Report Appendix 5: Design Workshop Materials

**Document Reference: EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.01.05**

February 2026

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN0110012  
APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)



## Infrastructure Planning

### Planning Act 2008

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

## Light Valley Solar

### DCO Submission

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# Consultation Report Appendix 5: Design Workshop Materials

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<b>Regulation Reference</b>	APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)
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<b>Author</b>	Light Valley Solar Limited

Version	Date	Status of Version
1.0	February 2026	DCO Submission



Light Valley Solar

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# 1 Design workshop invitation

**From:** info@lightvalleysolar.co.uk  
**Sent:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] o consultation Design Workshops  
**Attachments:** Light Valley Solar Design Workshops - Further Information .pdf

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

On behalf of Light Valley Solar, we are writing to invite you to our upcoming design workshops ahead of the Project's Phase Two Consultation in June.

Light Valley Solar is a proposed 500 MW solar and energy storage project, brought forward by Island Green Power, located on land near Selby in North Yorkshire. The Project will consist of a new solar electricity generating station and associated battery energy storage system (BESS). More information on the project can be found at [www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk](http://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk).

## **Design Workshops**

Ahead of our upcoming Phase Two consultation – starting in late June 2025 – we are holding design workshops with key local and technical stakeholders. We are writing to you in your capacity as an organisation with a potential interest in the Project.

These workshops are a great opportunity for key stakeholders to have more focused engagement with the project team on the Project and play an important role in shaping its evolving design.

During the workshops, we will be presenting updated designs for the Project, which we will be consulting on during our Phase Two consultation (add consultation period).

This will be the first opportunity for you to see these updated designs, and to speak with different members of the project team and provide feedback on areas of the Project where the design can be influenced, as well as an opportunity to provide vital local knowledge. To note, we will also be inviting you to formally submit your comments during our upcoming consultation period.

The workshops will provide a general update on the Project, including information on the upcoming statutory consultation period and activities, followed by discussions led by the project team on a wide variety of environmental topics that are most important to you.

The two design workshops will be held in June on the following dates:

- **Wednesday 18 June 2025**, 13:00 – 16:00 – Riccall Village Institute, 12 Station Road, Riccall, York YO19 6QJ
- **Tuesday 24 June 2025**, 13:00 – 16:00 – Hambleton Village Hall, Station Road, Hambleton, Selby YO8 9HS

We kindly ask to provide your availability for both sessions, if possible. Please note that you are not required to attend both sessions. Unlike our upcoming 'drop-in' style events, we kindly ask that you arrive promptly for the start of the session to allow the presentation to begin on time.

The design workshops will be 3 hours long and will include a **presentation**, followed by an **open discussion** with the Project team and other workshop attendees. The workshop discussions will be topic-led by technical specialists. We will want to focus on the areas where stakeholders can feedback on design as much as possible.

**We kindly ask that you confirm both your area of interest, and your attendance at either workshop by responding to this email by Friday 6 June 2025.** To manage attendance numbers, representation will be limited to **no more than two individuals** from each group. We will then write to you prior to 18th June to confirm which workshop we ask you to attend.

If you have any questions about these workshops, please get in touch by email or phone using the details below. We have also included some more information attached, which provides further background on the Project and the design workshops.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Kind regards,

Annette Lardeur

**Project Development Manager**

**Light Valley Solar**



Light Valley **Solar**

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## **2 Design workshop presentation slides (18 June 2025)**



# Light Valley Solar

Phase Two Consultation - Design Workshops

June 2025

# Today's Agenda

## **Welcome and presentation: 1:00pm**

1. Introduction to Island Green Power
2. Project update – where we are now and summary of DCO process
3. Engineering / technology details
4. Environmentally Led Design and EIA update
5. Environmental Masterplan

## **BREAK**

## **Breakout discussions: 2:00pm**

1. Introduction to workshop discussions
2. Topic-led discussions
3. Summaries and end of event (3.45pm)



# Workshop format

**Purpose:** We are holding two workshops ahead of our upcoming Phase Two consultation. Each workshop will focus on ‘design’ aspects of the project, as will be presented during our consultation.

**Format:** We will begin with a presentation, which will provide an overview of our updated proposals. We’ll then have a break before opening up to open topic-led discussions.

**Participation:** We want these sessions to be interactive and a two-way discussion. There will be opportunities to listen to updates on the project and provide comments.

**Upcoming activities:** Our consultation will be an opportunity to formally provide your comments. This includes holding a series of in-person and online events – where the same level of information will be presented.



# Team introductions

Light Valley  
**Solar** 

Island  
**GREEN  
POWER** 

**ARUP**



**DALCOUR  
MACLAREN**

 **avian  
ecology**

**counter  
context**





# Who we are

# Island Green Power

Established in 2013, Island Green Power (IGP) is a leading developer of renewable energy projects and battery storage systems.

## What We Do

We deliver renewable energy solutions that create lasting value for the communities we serve, protecting the environment while fostering economic growth and energy independence.

Since launch, we have successfully delivered **more than 34 solar projects** worldwide that have generated more than 3 GW of energy capacity. This includes 20 solar projects in the UK.



## Net Zero

We are committed to help the UK decarbonise and meet net zero goals. Our mission is to help the UK increase its solar energy generation, making more renewable energy possible while drastically reducing carbon emissions.

## Land Use

We are equally committed to responsible land use, developing projects that work in harmony with local communities and the environment, while delivering bespoke benefits and enhancements best suited to the surroundings.



# Island Green Power

## Ownership

When a project receives consent, it will either be constructed by IGP or sold to a specialist firm who will build the solar project to be operated and managed by a long-term owner through its lifecycle.

Light Valley Solar is an IGP subsidiary company and IGP are a UK based company. Macquarie Asset Management, a leading global asset manager, acquired 50% of IGP in 2022, increasing its stake to 100% in 2025.

As a developer, we oversee the entire development process from sourcing land, securing grid connections and obtaining planning consents.





# Light Valley Solar

## The Project

# Light Valley Solar – The Project

- Light Valley Solar is a proposed solar project located between Escrick, Monk Fryston, Hambleton, Chapel Haddlesey, and South Milford.
- The project will include a solar electricity generating station plus a battery energy storage system (BESS).
- Expected to deliver around 500 MW of electricity, operating for up to 60 years.
- Clean energy will be supplied to the National Grid via the Monk Fryston substation, with an agreed 500 MW AC connection.
- 500 MW AC capacity can power roughly 115,000 homes annually.
- Due to its size, Light Valley Solar is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
- The project will submit its application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), on behalf of the Secretary of State, who will ultimately decide whether to grant the project a development consent order (DCO).



# Project Update

Since the first phase of consultation, there have been a number of changes in the land parcels that are being used for Light Valley Solar. Some areas have been removed from the project, and new land has been added into the project.

## Land Removed

- Light Valley Solar is committed to environmentally-led design and as a result of our initial environmental assessments, **Site 5 has been removed from the project.**
- This was the area near Temple Hirst. The decision to remove Site 5 from the project was reached following ongoing design work, and **assessments indicating a high level of flood risk**, making this area unsuitable for the installation of solar panels.

## Land Added

- New land has now been added to the scheme, north of the existing Site 2 area, near to the village of South Milford. These areas are labelled as **Sites 6, 7 and 8** on the map.

The scheme will continue to deliver 500 MW of clean electricity to the National Grid.



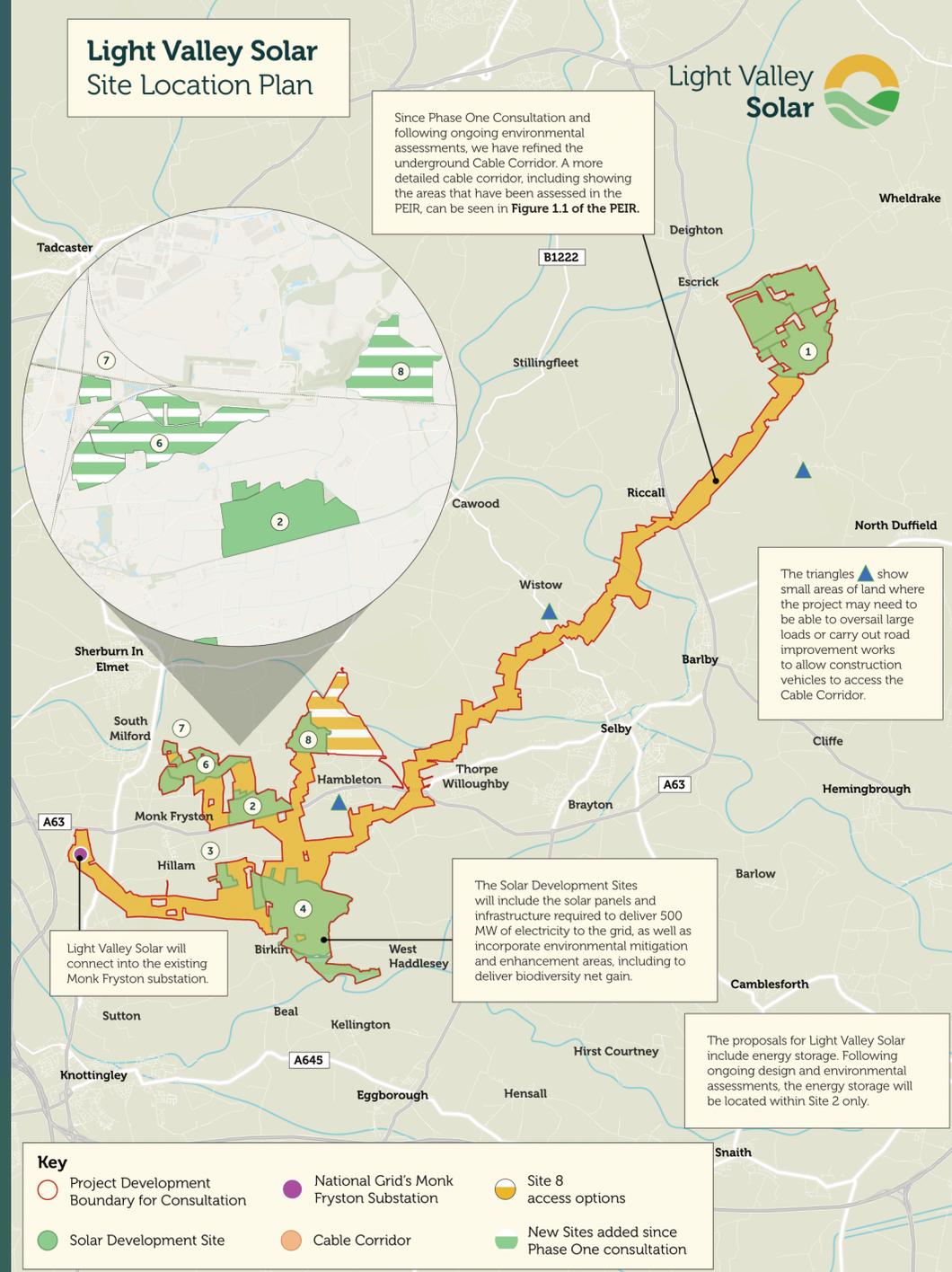
## Cable Corridor

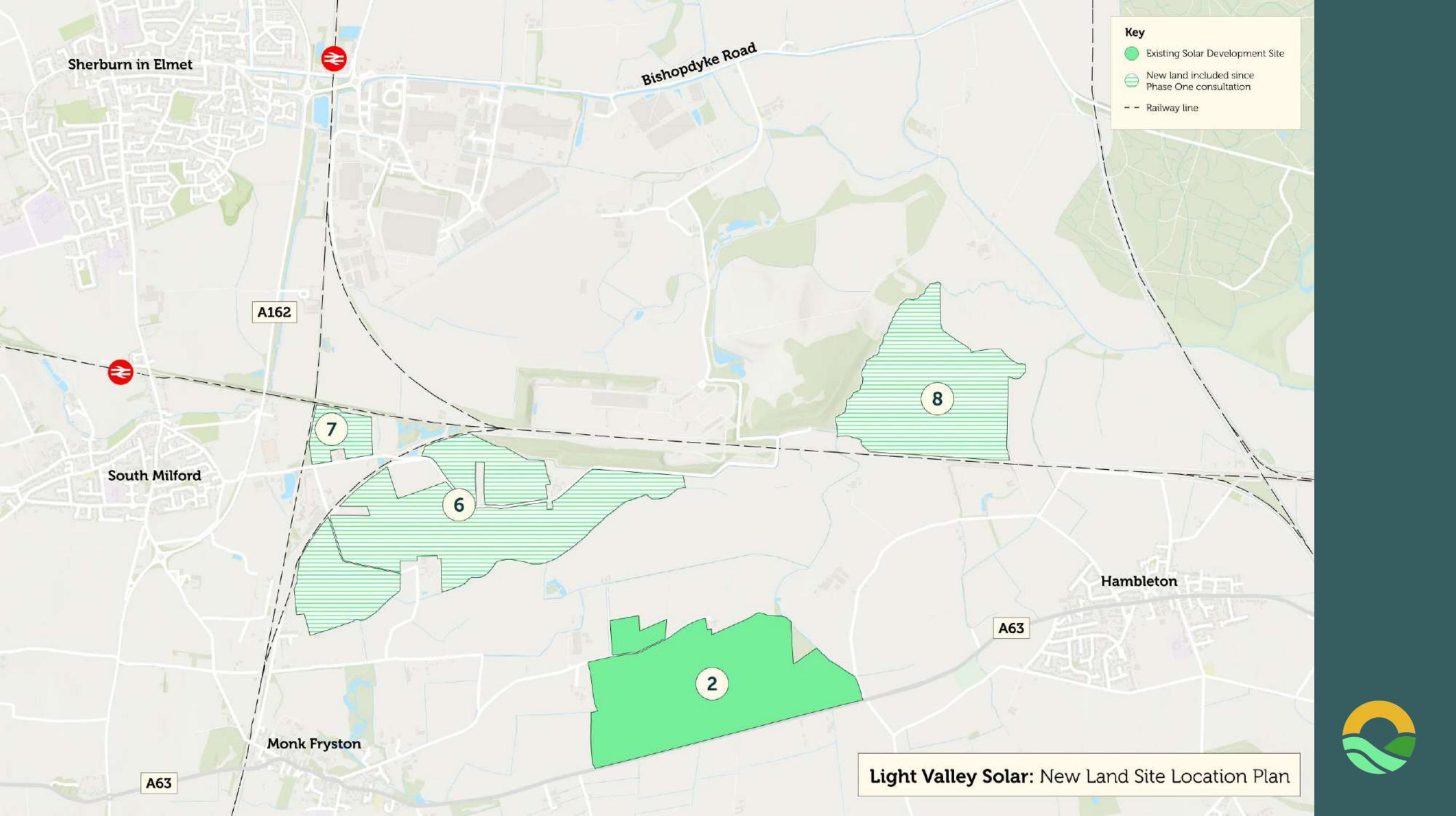
Since Phase One Consultation and following ongoing environmental assessments, we have refined the underground Cable Corridor, removing a number of cable route options throughout the project site area.

A more detailed cable corridor, including showing the areas that have been assessed in the PEIR, will be published in the PEIR as **Figure 1.1** from 26<sup>th</sup> June.

## Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

The BESS is proposed at Site 2 after consideration of the assessment findings.





**Key**

- Existing Solar Development Site
- New land included since Phase One consultation
- Railway line

**Light Valley Solar: New Land Site Location Plan**



# Summary of DCO process

- **Light Valley Solar capacity:** Light Valley Solar is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) due to its 500MW capacity, exceeding the 50MW threshold to qualify as a NSIP.
- **NSIP classification:** Governed by the Planning Act 2008, requiring a Development Consent Order (DCO) application rather than local planning permission.
- **Application process:** DCO submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), representing the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.
- **Examination:** PINS reviews the application and recommends a decision to the Secretary of State, who grants final consent.
- **Local involvement:** North Yorkshire Council and stakeholder groups will be consulted during the process, although the local authority will not decide on the DCO application.



# Indicative project timeline





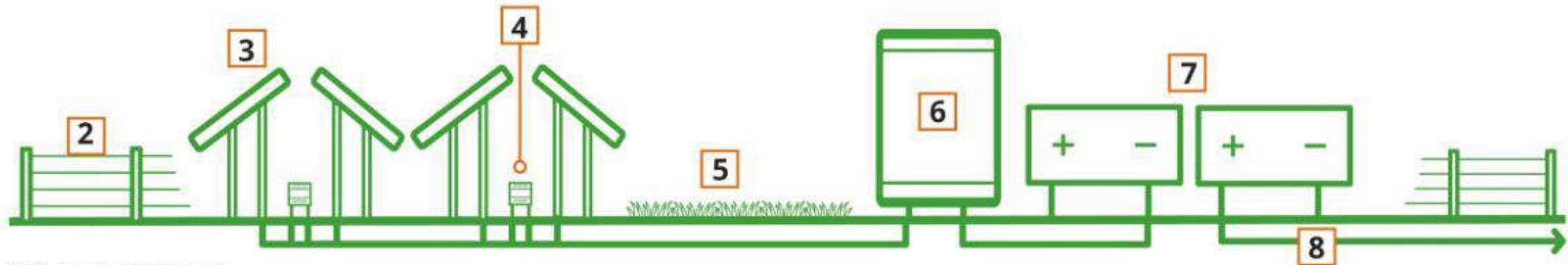
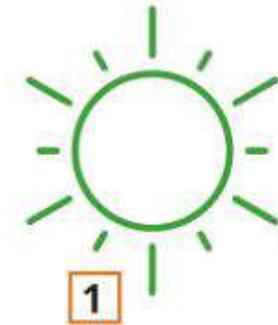
# Engineering / technology details

# Engineering / Technology Details

## How a solar farm works

### Components of a typical solar farm

1. Solar energy
2. Fencing
3. Solar panels
4. Inverter (DC to AC power converter)
5. Landscape area
6. On-site substation
7. Battery storage
8. Underground cable



\* Diagram not to scale



# Component Parameters – Assessment Envelope

The full set of parameters are set out in **Table 2-1 of the PEIR.**

Components	Parameters
Solar Panels	Both fixed and tracked panels assessed. <b>Maximum height:</b> 3.5 metres (fixed) 4.5 metres (tracked) <b>Minimum clearance from ground:</b> 0.4m
Fencing	Deer wire mesh and wooden post security fence with wooden posts. <b>Maximum height:</b> 2.5m
Central conversion units (inverters)	<b>15m by 5m</b> <b>Maximum height:</b> 3.5m
Underground cabling (for sites)	<b>Typical width:</b> 1.2m Can go up to 7m where there are multiple cables <b>Depth:</b> up to 2m



Typical tracking solar PV mounted arrays.



Typical fencing around Sites.



# Component Parameters – Assessment Envelope

The full set of parameters are set out in **Table 2-1 of the PEIR**.

Components	Parameters
33 kV switch rooms	<b>Maximum compound area:</b> 0.5ha <b>Maximum height:</b> 4m
275 kV on-site substations	<b>Maximum compound area:</b> 5ha (up to 8ha on site 4 only) <b>Building area:</b> 15m by 48m, height: 4m <b>Maximum height:</b> 13m (communications tower: 15m)
BESS	<b>Maximum compound area:</b> 10.5ha Approximately <b>420 containers</b> assessed <b>Maximum height:</b> 3.2m
Cabling (to National Grid)	<b>Width:</b> up to 2m <b>Depth:</b> up to 2m



Indicative photo of BESS equipment.





# Environmentally Led Design and EIA update

# The Environmental Impact Assessment process

## Scoping Report

- Submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024.
- Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

## Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

- To be published at the start of Phase Two Consultation on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025.
- The full PEIR will be available to view on the project website [[www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk](http://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk)] and at the six in-person information events

## Environmental Statement (ES)

- The ES will form part of the DCO application for submission, anticipated to be submitted in Q1 2026



# Environmental Impact Assessment - baseline context

- **Agricultural land** (Sites 1-4), c. 2% confirmed as ALC Grade 1 and c. 18% Grade 2, c. 34% Subgrade 3a and 46% Subgrade 3b.
- Natural England's provisional ALC mapping suggests that the majority land in Solar Development Sites 7 and 8 is anticipated to be of Subgrade 3b quality.
- **Nationally designated ecological sites:** 4 within 2 km of the PEIR Assessment Area.
- **Local Nature Reserves** (LNR): none within 2 km of the PEIR Assessment Area.
- **Non-statutory locally designated sites:** 30 within 2 km of the PEIR Assessment Area including Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and Candidate SINC.
- **Designated heritage assets:** 132 within 2 km of the Solar Development Sites and 500 m of the Cable Corridor Options Area and Construction Compound locations.
  - 89 Listed Buildings, five Scheduled Monuments, four Conservation Areas, 34 potential military aircraft crash sites.
- **Landscape designations:** none within PEIR Assessment Area or landscape study area.
- **Locally Important Landscape Areas:** 3 within the study area.
- **Birds:** Designated sites located near to the PEIR Assessment Area include the Lower Derwent Valley SPA and Ramsar site and the associated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site and associated SSSIs, Skipwith Common SSSI and National Nature Reserve and Fairburn and Newton Ings SSSI.
  - Bird species have been recorded within the PEIR Assessment Area at numbers indicating that parts of the Proposed Development footprint may serve as functionally linked land (FLL) that supports non-breeding birds (wintering and passage)



# Environmental Impact Assessment - baseline context, continued

- **Tourism and recreation:** The Selby area offers some 117 accommodation establishments. Within 1km of the solar Development Sites and 100m of the Cable Corridor Options Area, there are some 24 recreational facilities.
- **Public Rights of Way:** there are 22 footpaths and bridleways that travel through the Solar Development Sites or Cable Corridor Options Area.
- **Highways:** the surrounding strategic road network is busy; the local network is mostly quiet rural roads. Traffic surveys undertaken at the beginning of 2025 indicate varying levels of usage with an existing element of about 10% Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) use on all routes.
- **Main Rivers within 1km:**
  - River Aire flows to the east at closest 30m to the south of Site 4.
  - Fox Dike and Upper Fox Drain meet at a confluence forming Selby Dam, closest point 380m of Site 8.
  - Mill Dike closest point 280 m west of Site 7.
  - River Ouse crosses Cable Corridor 1, 1.5 km south of Riccall;
  - Cockret Dike is on the northern side of Selby near Cable Corridor 1;
  - Selby Dam which crosses Cable Corridor 1, 400 m north of Thorpe Willoughby.
- **Fluvial flood risk:** primarily from the River Aire to the south of Solar Development Site 4; the Fleet through Solar Development Sites 3 and 4; Stillingfleet to the north of Solar Development Site 1; and Riccall Dam to the south of Solar Development Site 1 and through the Cable Corridor Options Area.
- **Ancient woodland or veteran / ancient trees:** none impacted by the Solar Development Sites.



# Environmental Impact Assessment approach - surveys

Baseline survey work on the Solar Development Sites – in addition to baselining from on-line sources – has enhanced understanding of the environmental baseline, and potential environmental sensitivities which has informed design development.

Topic	Surveys Completed	Ongoing Survey Work
Landscape and visual	Walkover of Sites. Winter photography.	Cable routes following in Summer 2025. Summer photography.
Heritage	Heritage walkover. Geophysical survey.	Cables routes following in Summer 2025. Geophysical survey for Cable routes ongoing. Trial trenching following over summer.
Agriculture	Agricultural land classification completed for Sites.	Will be completed in Summer 2025, if required.
Noise and vibration	Noise monitoring for Sites.	No further surveys required.
Transport	Traffic count surveys for Sites.	Traffic survey work for cable routes will be completed in Summer 2025.
Ecology	Habitat, breeding birds, bats, badgers, otters, aquatic surveys.  Ornithology surveys.	Surveys for cable routes scheduled for summer. Following survey work being completed – Great Crested Newts, Water Vole, Fish, River MoRPh survey. Ongoing ornithological survey work (Spring and autumn passage surveys; breeding bird; and breeding bird habitat surveys).
Arboriculture	Survey of trees, woodlands and hedges completed for Sites.	Cable routes following in Summer 2025.
Water	Walkover of assets and water receptor sensitivity survey.	No further surveys required.



# Environmental Impact Assessment – design development

- Design parameters have been set – taking account of environmental receptors
  - Avoiding key environment features, where possible, such as flood risk zones, BMV, source protection zones (SPZs)
  - Setting buffers to key habitats including watercourses, designated sites, ponds, trees and hedgerows, etc.
  - Setting buffers to residential receptors and community receptors for noise and vibration and fire safety reasons
  - Setting buffers to Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and utilities.
- Optioneering work around location of compounds, BESS and substations, considered key environmental constraints and receptors including landscape and visual impacts, ecology, heritage, noise and vibration, ground conditions, access and utilities.



# Potential impacts and effects identified in the PEIR

- Positive effects on:
  - Arable field margin habitats as a result of grassland habitat creation in place of cropland beneath the solar panels.
  - Employment opportunities during construction and operation.
- No significant effects identified in relation to:
  - Construction traffic impacts on the road network.
  - Noise and vibration effects during operation.
- Potential impacts on:
  - Approximately 1% of the likely best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land in Selby (0.07% for Yorkshire and the Humber Region) .
  - Setting of Birkin House and Escrick Park Estate assets (which includes the Escrick Park and Wheldrake Lodge) during construction.
  - Temporary landscape and visual effects during construction.
  - Small number of visual effects at year 15 of operation for one residential receptor and PRowS that run through the Solar Development Site 1 and along the NE edge of Site 4.
  - Potential non-significant effects on Birkin Fisheries.
  - Potential for glint and glare effects



# Environmental Impact Assessment approach - mitigation

- The PEIR identifies additional steps to ensure mitigation through design where potential significant effects have been identified. For example:
  - Glint and glare: exploration of potential changes to the layout of panels and/or panel technology.
  - Birkin Fisheries: identification, through the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan, of site-specific measures to reduce potential effects during construction.
  - Otters and Water Voles: recommendation for a pre-commencement requirement for further surveys.
- The PEIR includes a commitments register which lists all the embedded and additional mitigation committed to as part of the Proposed Development.





# Light Valley Design Principles and Environmental Masterplan

# Light Valley Solar – Our Design Vision

The Design Vision for the Proposed Development is:

*“Light Valley Solar will provide a substantial contribution towards the UK’s net zero carbon ambitions and energy security.*

*Rooted in the landscape of North Yorkshire, the project will deliver lasting environmental and community benefits by enhancing green corridors, promoting biodiversity, and connecting people with nature. It aims to leave a positive, enduring legacy for local communities through thoughtful, environmentally-led design and sustainable development.”*



# Design Opportunities

The design opportunities outlined below are integral to realising the vision for Light Valley Solar, ensuring the delivery of lasting environmental and community benefits. Site-specific opportunities are detailed in the following slides, reflecting our commitment to sustainable development and community engagement.

## Environmentally-led design



### Landscape restoration

The design prioritises the retention of existing trees and hedgerows. Appropriate buffer zones would be incorporated to protect these features, ensuring their long-term health. Opportunities to enhance existing hedgerow would be encouraged to create a connected landscape pattern.



### Protected species

The Proposed Development would provide appropriate buffers between proposed infrastructure and habitats known or likely to support protected species, to help safeguard their conservation.

## Biodiversity and Nature Recovery



### Habitat connectivity

Where possible, the Proposed Development would retain and enhance existing hedgerows and watercourses to strengthen ecological connectivity across the Site. Existing woodlands could function as stepping-stone habitats contributing to a more connected network.



### Habitat creation

The design seeks opportunities to incorporate areas to support local bird and mammal populations.

## Social value and community



### Minimising visual impact on local communities

Separation distances from Solar Development Areas to residential properties would be designed to minimise landscape and visual effects. The proposed design layout incorporates buffers and visual screening to reduce visual impact on local communities.

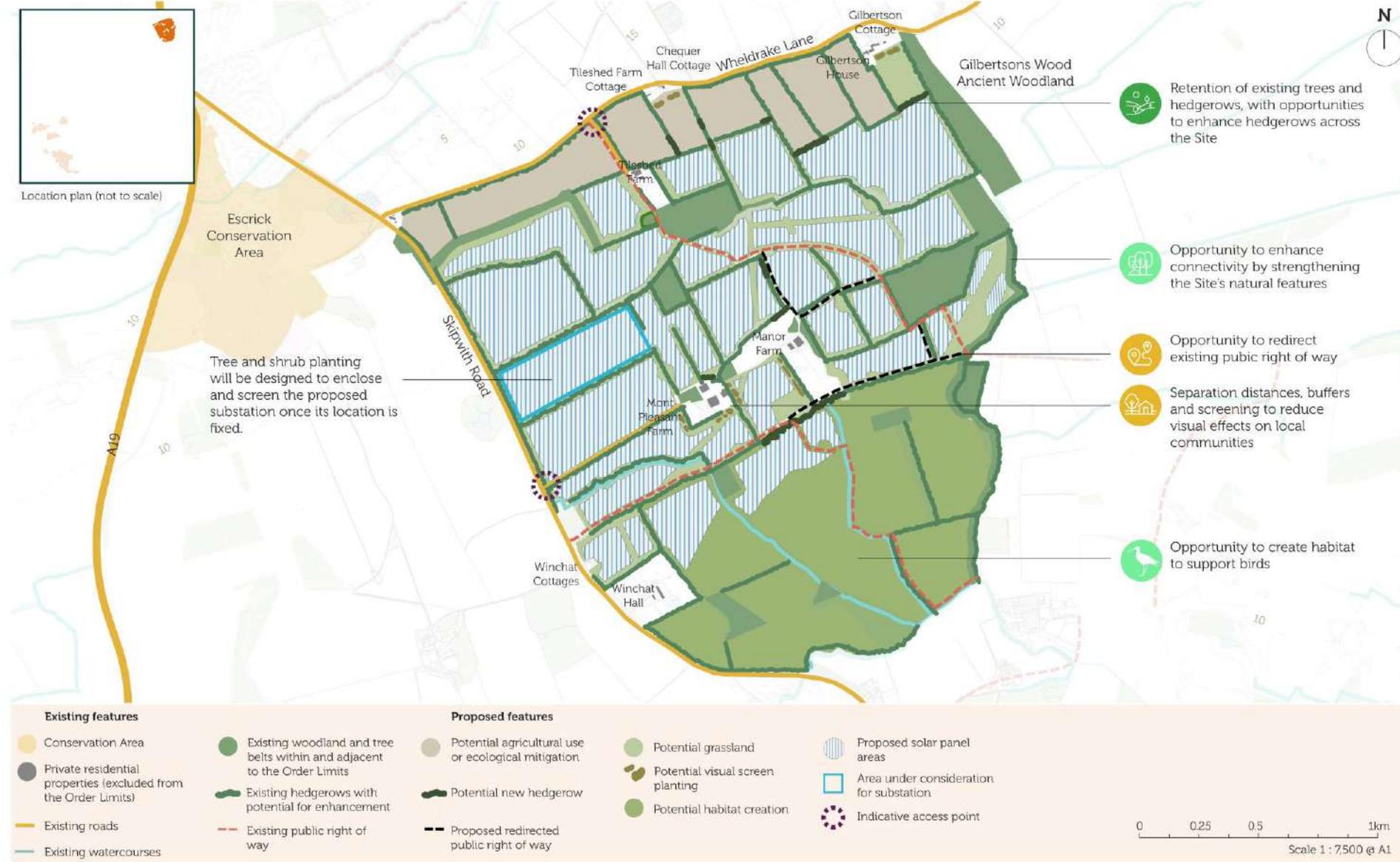


### Enhancement to local walking routes

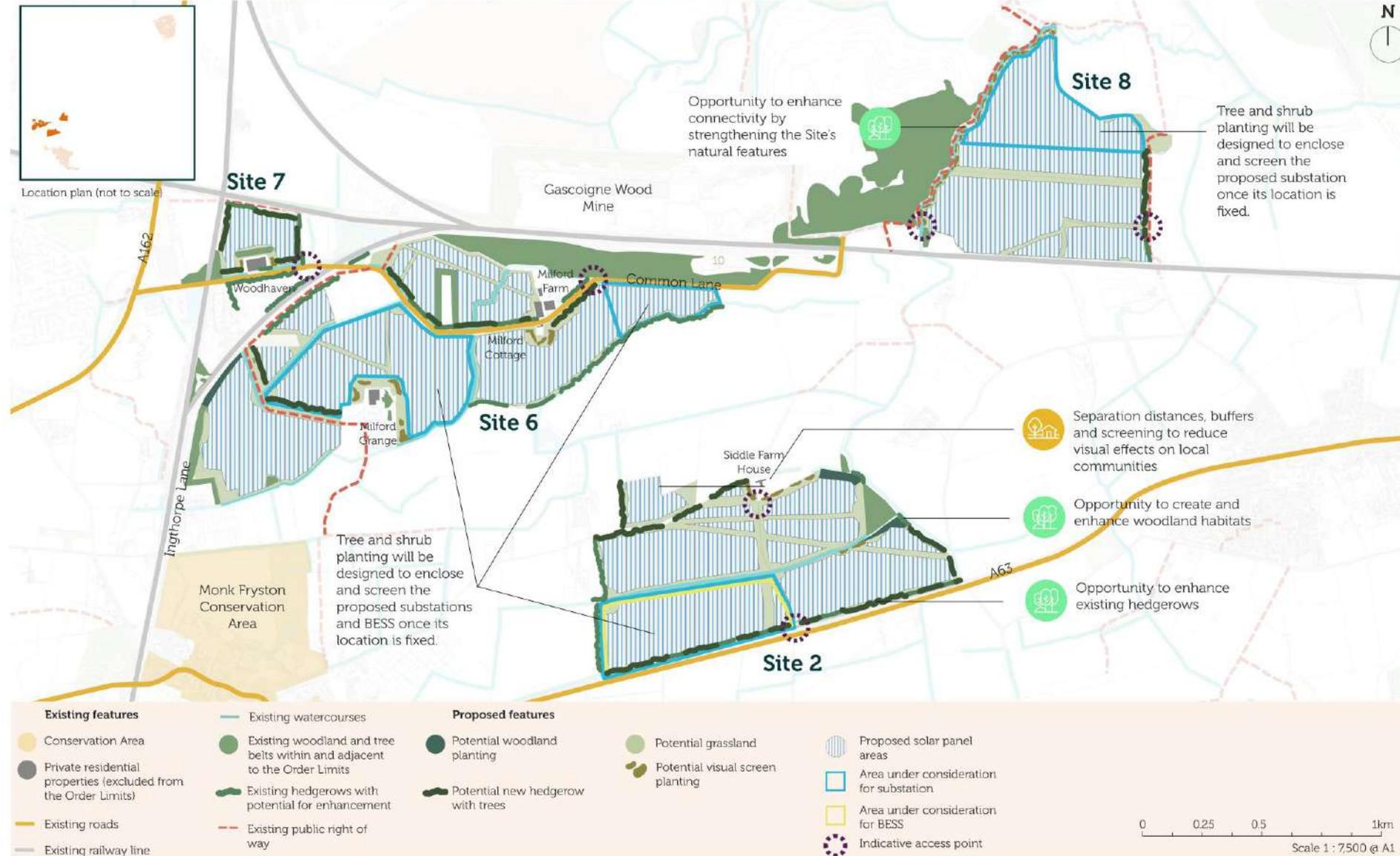
Opportunities could be explored to divert existing public rights of way where they currently bisect fields or lack a clear destination. Where feasible, routes will be aligned with surfaced tracks and field boundaries to improve accessibility and integration with the wider public rights of way network, enhancing local walking routes.



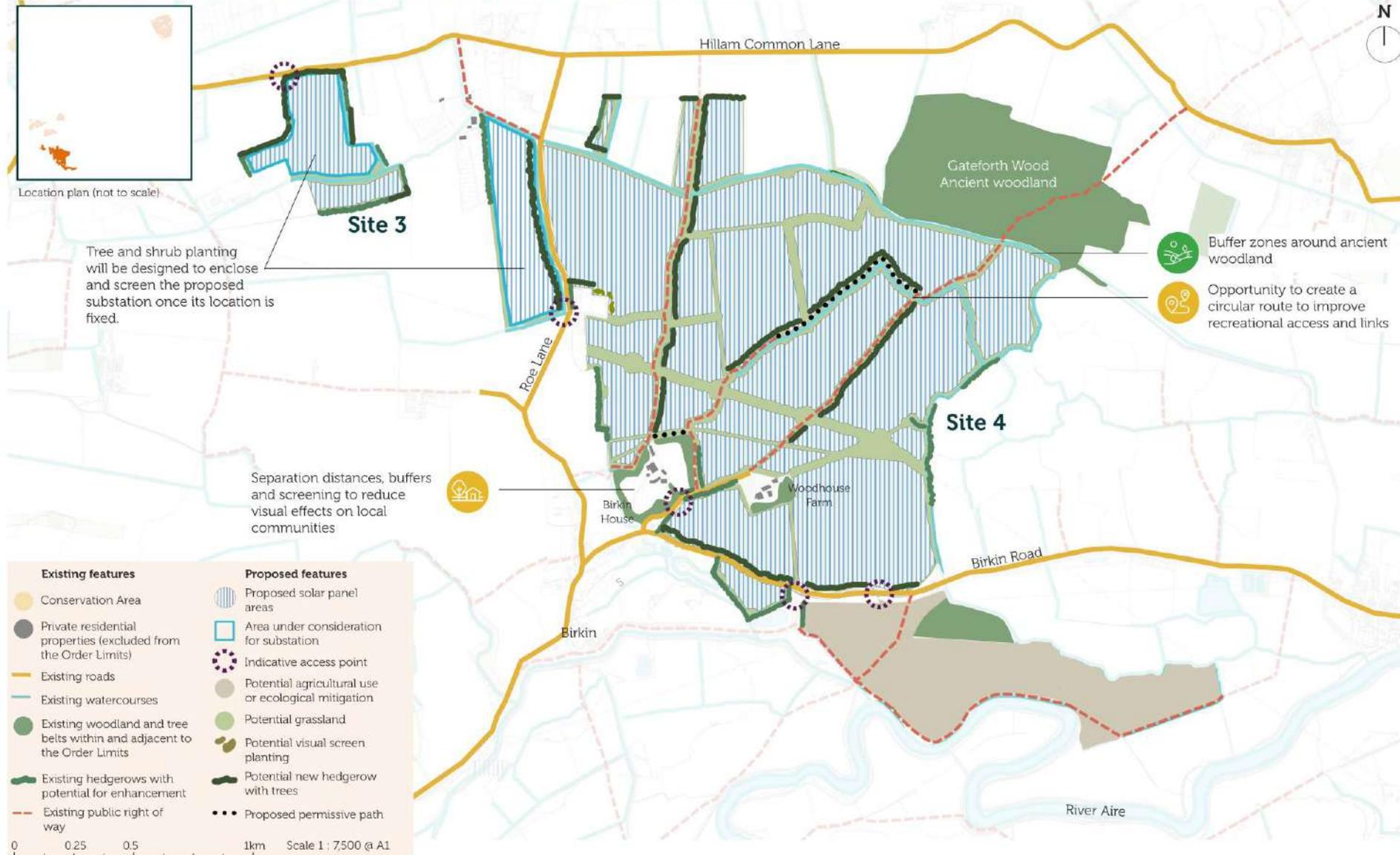
# Outline Environmental Masterplan - Site 1



# Outline Environmental Masterplan - Sites 2, 6, 7 and 8



# Outline Environmental Masterplan - Sites 3 and 4





# Break

Please feel free to help yourself to the light refreshments before the discussions begin.



# Introduction to workshop discussions



# Break out groups

**Goal:** with your input, build on our existing proposals and find opportunities to have a meaningful and positive impact.

We want these sessions to be interactive and a two-way discussion. There will be opportunities to listen to updates on the project and provide comments (via comment sheets and writing directly onto maps and plans in the room)

Topics for discussion (2 groups):

1. Access and communities – facilitator [REDACTED]
2. Biodiversity and communities – facilitator [REDACTED]
3. Landscape and communities – facilitator [REDACTED]

## Materials

1. Our emerging Outline Environmental Masterplans and Site Location Plan
2. Drawings of cross-sections of project
3. Environmental designations plans and construction route map (PEIR volume 2)
4. Comment sheets and other materials to provide feedback



# Questions to consider during the discussions

1. What are your key priorities regarding the design for Light Valley Solar?
2. Are there any key issues that you would like us to consider during the ongoing design process for the Proposed Development?
3. Do you have any local insights or suggestions that we will find helpful in progressing the design for Light Valley Solar



# Closing out the discussions

A summary of feedback from each group.

We encourage you to provide any feedback today via the comment sheets provided.



## Next steps

- Our second phase of consultation is running from 26<sup>th</sup> June, for six weeks until 7<sup>th</sup> August 2025.
- During this time, we will be publishing our updating proposals publicly, including the full PEIR.
- We encourage you to provide your written feedback to this consultation, as well as for the design workshop held today. You may wish to use today's workshop as part of your consultation feedback submission.
- We will also be holding a series of public information events, which can be viewed on our website: [www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk](http://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk)





Thank you

# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Environmentally-Led Design

1. Follow a joined up and collaborative approach
  - o Close integration between teams for successful design and problem solving.
2. Retain and protect existing habitats and replace those removed to facilitate construction as far as practicable
  - o Loss of mature trees, woodland and hedgerow to be avoided where possible.
  - o Where temporary habitat loss will occur, such as the removal of sections of hedgerow to accommodate cable routes, these features will be reinstated following construction as far as practicable.
3. Provide appropriate buffers between proposed infrastructure and sensitive habitats and features
  - o Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).
4. Locate development to reduce potential flood risk, where possible
  - o Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Environmentally-Led Design

### 5. Manage water sustainably

- Utilise sustainable urban drainage solutions (SuDS) at source, such as bioswales and retention ponds, ensuring that surface water run-off is managed appropriately.
- Utilise permeable surfacing for internal access tracks.
- Incorporate fire-water containment in BESS Development areas.

### 6. Minimise landscape and visual impact to residents

- Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).

### 7. Celebrate designated heritage assets

- Maximise opportunities for better understanding of the history of the area.
- Disseminate new archaeological data and knowledge gathered.
- Reinforce existing hedgerows in poor condition with new planting where feasible to strengthen landscape pattern and historic landscape character.

### 8. Minimise adverse impacts of construction works

- As far as practicable, route construction traffic away from sensitive receptors (including residents, schools, hospitals, places of worship, public rights of way and outdoor amenity spaces).
- Construction compounds to be located on low diversity habitat where practicable and as far as practicable from sensitive receptors.



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Biodiversity net gain & nature recovery

1. Locate development away from areas for nature conservation where possible
  - Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).
  
2. Improve the connectivity of existing habitat by strengthening with new planting
  - Reinforce existing hedgerows in poor condition where feasible.
  - Extend and connect areas of woodland and watercourses within the Order limits, for example at Sites 2-8 connect to Bishop Wood to the north.
  - At Site 1, strengthen woodland corridors and watercourses, particularly along the eastern side of the site to create an enhanced corridor integrated into a wider green infrastructure network.
  - Establish species-rich grassland beneath solar panel arrays and in buffer strips.
  
3. Minimise disturbance to mammal transit through the Proposed Development
  - Design fencing of the Solar Development Sites to let small mammals pass through.



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Biodiversity net gain & nature recovery

4. Create new habitats and manage the land in ways that support local bird and mammal populations
  - Provide habitat areas for ornithological mitigation, including creating and enhancing wet grassland habitats in Solar Development Site 1.
  
5. Safeguard spaces for nature with a balance between public access and nature conservation
  - Consider use of planting to screen and discourage access away from the public right of way and permissive path network within the Order limits.



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Social value and community

1. Provide buffers between Proposed Development and footpaths
  - Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).
2. Improve the public rights of way (PRoW) network to enhance use and enjoyment for local communities and visitors
  - Explore options to create new permissive paths providing a mixture of short and long circular walking routes combined with PRoW.
  - Where necessary, divert existing PRoWs (Solar Development Site 1) and
  - where feasible, align new routes with existing surfaced tracks and field boundaries to improve accessibility and integration with the wider public rights of way network, enhancing local walking routes.
  - Make routes accessible to multiple users where practicable.
  - Explore improving access to and within green spaces and areas of interest, such as Gateforth Wood (Site 4) and Gascoigne Wood (Site 8).
  - Provide resting points along permissive paths at intervals.
  - Provide balance between new planting for visual screening, where required and openings to provide viewpoints.
3. Encourage responsible enjoyment of nature
  - Provide bird viewing places, including bird hides in Site 1
  - Implement fencing/ defensible planting to discourage access to areas specifically for nature conservation.



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Social value and community

### 4. Incorporate interpretation and wayfinding

- Provide timber finger posts at key entry points and intersections with the proposed permissive paths to improve legibility of the landscape.
- Provide interpretation and map boards at key entry points to the Proposed Development where it joins the public right of way and permissive path network to explain the Proposed Development, as well as habitats and heritage features.

### 5. Understand and collaborate with our neighbours

- Consider the needs of the adjacent communities through consultation.
- Maintain transparency during consultation stage as to how LVS will deliver local benefits.
- Respect the quiet enjoyment of the setting for neighbours.

### 6. Enhance placemaking

- Through consultation, gather suggestions for design proposals to promote sense of place.
- Identify opportunities for enhanced recreational opportunities, including picnic areas on public rights of way and permissive paths.
- Careful design of interfaces to settlements to integrate within wider context.

### 7. Mitigate impact of photovoltaic glint and glare

- Provide screening to solar reflection, with vegetation or fencing, for aviation activity, road safety, residential amenity and railway operations.





## **3 Design Workshop Presentation Slides (24 June 2025)**



# Light Valley Solar

Phase Two Consultation - Design Workshops

June 2025

# Today's Agenda

## **Welcome, introductions and presentation: from 1:00pm**

1. Introduction to Island Green Power
2. Project update
3. Engineering / technology details
4. Environmentally Led Design and EIA update
5. Design Principles and Outline Environmental Masterplan

## **BREAK**

## **Breakout discussions: from 2:00pm**

1. Introduction to workshop discussions
2. Topic-led discussions
3. Summaries and end of event (3.45pm)



# Workshop format

**Purpose:** We are holding two workshops ahead of our upcoming Phase Two consultation. Each workshop will focus on 'design' aspects of the project, as will be presented during our consultation.

**Format:** We will begin with a presentation, which will provide an overview of our updated proposals. We'll then have a break before opening up to open topic-led discussions.

**Participation:** We want these sessions to be interactive and a two-way discussion. There will be opportunities to listen to updates on the project and provide comments.

**Upcoming activities:** Our consultation will be an opportunity to formally provide your comments. This includes holding a series of in-person and online events – where the same level of information will be presented.



# Team introductions

Light Valley  
**Solar** 

Island  
**GREEN**  
**POWER** 

**counter**  
**context**

**ARUP**

 **DALCOUR**  
**MACLAREN**





# Who we are

# Island Green Power

Established in 2013, Island Green Power (IGP) is a leading developer of renewable energy projects and battery storage systems.

## What We Do

We deliver renewable energy solutions that create lasting value for the communities we serve, protecting the environment while fostering economic growth and energy independence.

Since launch, we have successfully delivered **more than 34 solar projects** worldwide that have generated more than 3 GW of energy capacity. This includes 20 solar projects in the UK.



## Net Zero

We are committed to help the UK decarbonise and meet net zero goals. Our mission is to help the UK increase its solar energy generation, making more renewable energy possible while drastically reducing carbon emissions.

## Land Use

We are equally committed to responsible land use, developing projects that work in harmony with local communities and the environment, while delivering bespoke benefits and enhancements best suited to the surroundings.



# Island Green Power

## Ownership

When a project receives consent, it will either be constructed by IGP or sold to a specialist firm who will build the solar project to be operated and managed by a long-term owner through its lifecycle.

Light Valley Solar is an IGP subsidiary company and IGP are a UK based company. Macquarie Asset Management, a leading global asset manager, acquired 50% of IGP in 2022, increasing its stake to 100% in 2025.

As a developer, we oversee the entire development process from sourcing land, securing grid connections and obtaining planning consents.





# Light Valley Solar

## The Project

# Light Valley Solar – The Project

- Light Valley Solar is a proposed solar project located between Escrick, Monk Fryston, Hambleton, Chapel Haddlesey, and South Milford.
- The project will include a solar electricity generating station plus a battery energy storage system (BESS).
- Expected to deliver around 500 MW of electricity, operating for up to 60 years.
- Clean energy will be supplied to the National Grid via the Monk Fryston substation, with an agreed 500 MW AC connection.
- 500 MW AC capacity can power roughly 115,000 homes annually.
- Due to its size, Light Valley Solar is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
- The project will submit its application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), on behalf of the Secretary of State, who will ultimately decide whether to grant the project a development consent order (DCO).



# Project Update

Since the first phase of consultation, there have been a number of changes in the land parcels that are being used for Light Valley Solar. Some areas have been removed from the project, and new land has been added into the project.

## Land Removed

- Light Valley Solar is committed to environmentally-led design and as a result of our initial environmental assessments, **Site 5 has been removed from the project.**
- This was the area near Temple Hirst. The decision to remove Site 5 from the project was reached following ongoing design work, and **assessments indicating a high level of flood risk**, making this area unsuitable for the installation of solar panels.

## Land Added

- New land has now been added to the scheme, north of the existing Site 2 area, near to the village of South Milford. These areas are labelled as **Sites 6, 7 and 8** on the map.

The scheme will continue to deliver 500 MW of clean electricity to the National Grid.



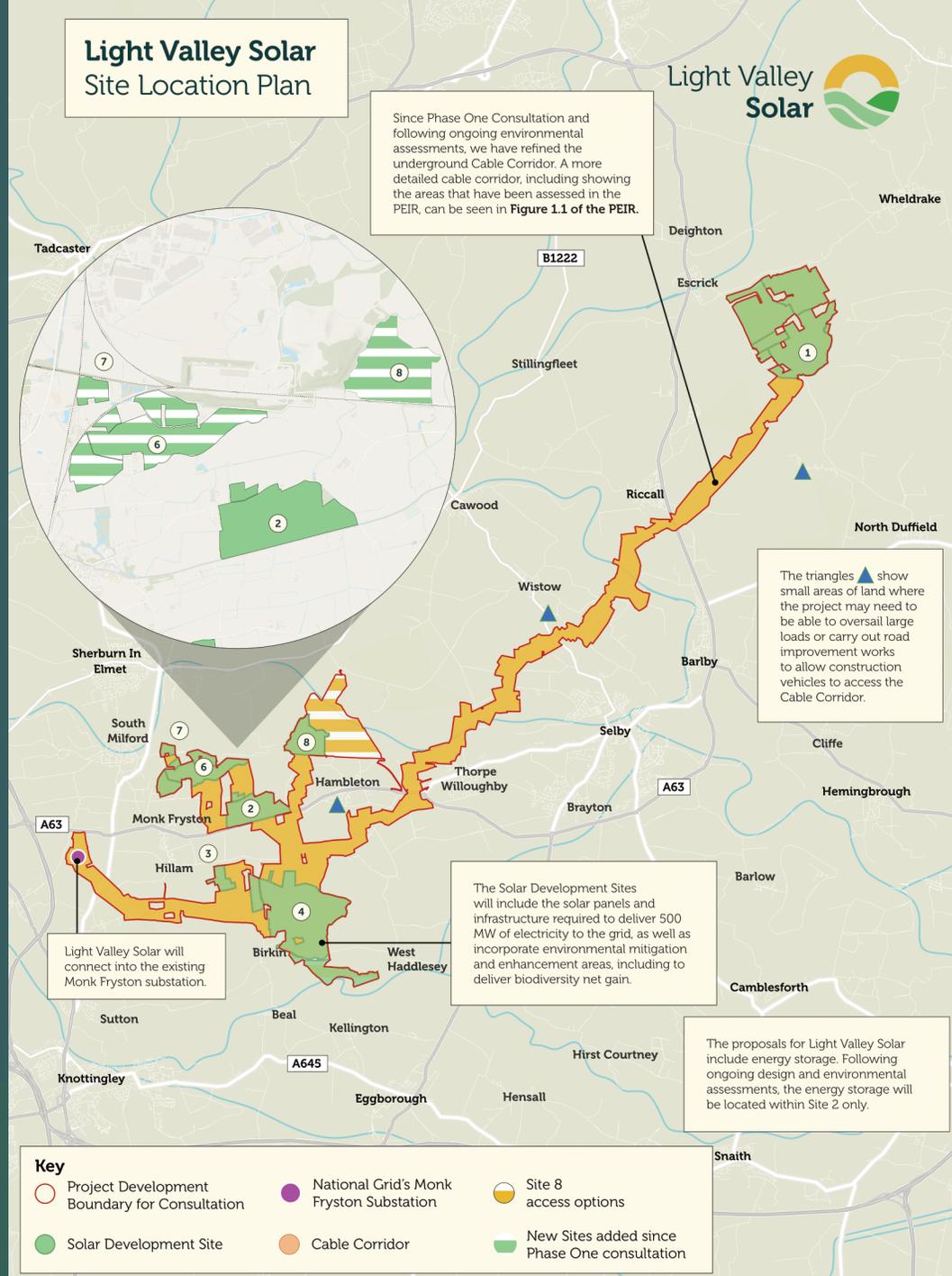
## Cable Corridor

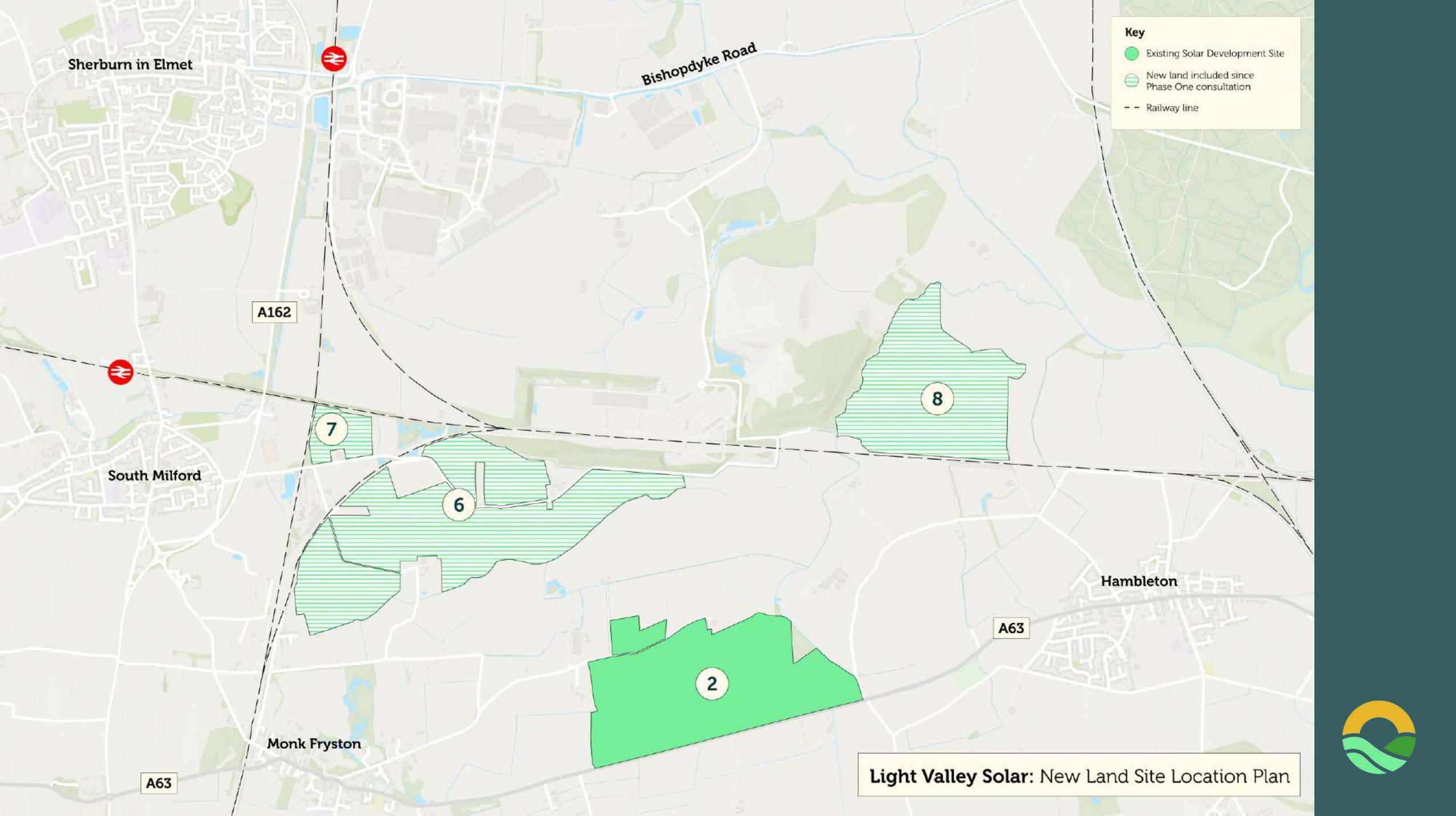
Since Phase One Consultation and following ongoing environmental assessments, we have refined the underground Cable Corridor, removing a number of cable route options throughout the project site area.

A more detailed cable corridor, including showing the areas that have been assessed in the PEIR, will be published in the PEIR as **Figure 1.1** from 26<sup>th</sup> June.

## BESS

The BESS is proposed at Site 2 after consideration of the assessment findings.





**Key**

- Existing Solar Development Site
- New land included since Phase One consultation
- Railway line

**Light Valley Solar: New Land Site Location Plan**



# Summary of DCO process

- **Light Valley Solar capacity:** Light Valley Solar is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) due to its 500MW capacity, exceeding the 50MW threshold to qualify as a NSIP.
- **NSIP classification:** Governed by the Planning Act 2008, requiring a Development Consent Order (DCO) application rather than local planning permission.
- **Application process:** DCO submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), representing the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.
- **Examination:** PINS reviews the application and recommends a decision to the Secretary of State, who grants final consent.
- **Local involvement:** North Yorkshire Council and stakeholder groups will be consulted during the process, although the local authority will not decide on the DCO application.



# Indicative project timeline





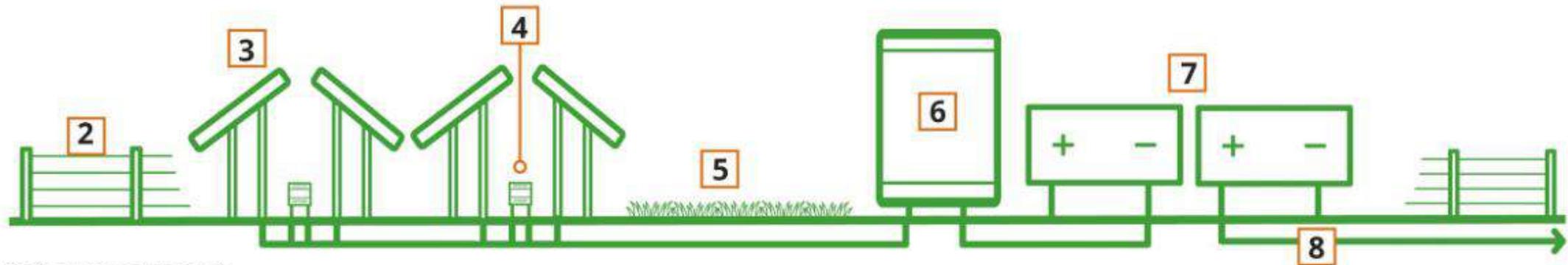
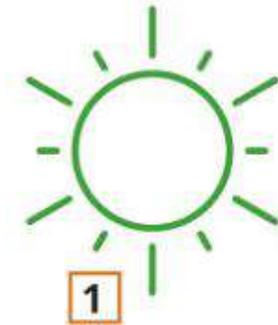
# Engineering / technology details

# Engineering / Technology Details

## How a solar farm works

### Components of a typical solar farm

1. Solar energy
2. Fencing
3. Solar panels
4. Inverter (DC to AC power converter)
5. Landscape area
6. On-site substation
7. Battery storage
8. Underground cable



\* Diagram not to scale



# Component Parameters – Assessment Envelope

The full set of parameters are set out in **Table 2-1 of the PEIR.**

Components	Parameters
Solar Panels	Both fixed and tracked panels assessed. <b>Maximum height:</b> 3.5 metres (fixed) 4.5 metres (tracked) <b>Minimum clearance from ground:</b> 0.4m
Fencing	Deer wire mesh and wooden post security fence with wooden posts. <b>Maximum height:</b> 2.5m
Central conversion units (inverters)	<b>15m by 5m</b> <b>Maximum height:</b> 3.5m
Underground cabling (for sites)	<b>Typical width:</b> 1.2m Can go up to 7m where there are multiple cables <b>Depth:</b> up to 2m



Typical tracking solar PV mounted arrays.



Typical fencing around Sites.



# Component Parameters – Assessment Envelope

The full set of parameters are set out in **Table 2-1 of the PEIR**.

Components	Parameters
33 kV switch rooms	<b>Maximum compound area:</b> 0.5ha <b>Maximum height:</b> 4m
275 kV on-site substations	<b>Maximum compound area:</b> 5ha (up to 8ha on site 4 only) <b>Building area:</b> 15m by 48m, height: 4m <b>Maximum height:</b> 13m (communications tower: 15m)
BESS	<b>Maximum compound area:</b> 10.5ha Approximately <b>420 containers</b> assessed <b>Maximum height:</b> 3.5m
Cabling (to National Grid)	<b>Width:</b> up to 2m <b>Depth:</b> up to 2m



Indicative photo of BESS equipment.





# Environmentally Led Design and EIA update

# The Environmental Impact Assessment process

## Scoping Report

- Submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024.
- Scoping Opinion issued by the Planning Inspectorate on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

## Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

- To be published at the start of Phase Two Consultation on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025.
- The full PEIR will be available to view on the project website [[www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk](http://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk)] and at the six in-person information events

## Environmental Statement (ES)

- The ES will form part of the DCO application for submission, anticipated to be submitted in Q1 2026



# Environmental Impact Assessment - baseline context

- **Agricultural land** (Sites 1-4), c. 2% confirmed as ALC Grade 1 and c. 18% Grade 2, c. 34% Subgrade 3a and 46% Subgrade 3b. Natural England's provisional ALC mapping suggests that the majority land in Solar Development Sites 7 and 8 is anticipated to be of Subgrade 3b quality.
- **Nationally designated ecological sites:** 4 within 2 km of the PEIR Assessment Area.
- **Local Nature Reserves** (LNR): none within 2 km of the PEIR Assessment Area.
- **Non-statutory locally designated sites:** 30 within 2 km of the PEIR Assessment Area including Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and Candidate SINCs.
- **Ancient woodland or veteran / ancient trees:** none impacted by the Solar Development Sites.
- **Birds:** Designated sites located near to the PEIR Assessment Area include the Lower Derwent Valley SPA and Ramsar site and the associated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site and associated SSSIs, Skipwith Common SSSI and National Nature Reserve and Fairburn and Newton Ings SSSI.
  - Bird species have been recorded within the PEIR Assessment Area at numbers indicating that parts of the Proposed Development footprint may serve as functionally linked land (FLL) that supports non-breeding birds (wintering and passage)
- **Designated heritage assets:** 132 within 2 km of the Solar Development Sites and 500 m of the Cable Corridor Options Area and Construction Compound locations.
  - 89 Listed Buildings, five Scheduled Monuments, four Conservation Areas, 34 potential military aircraft crash sites.
- **Landscape designations:** none within PEIR Assessment Area or landscape study area.
- **Locally Important Landscape Areas:** 3 within the study area.



# Environmental Impact Assessment - baseline context, continued

- **Tourism and recreation:** The Selby area offers some 117 accommodation establishments. Within 1km of the solar Development Sites and 100m of the Cable Corridor Options Area, there are some 24 recreational facilities.
- **Public Rights of Way:** there are 22 footpaths and bridleways that travel through the Solar Development Sites or Cable Corridor Options Area.
- **Highways:** the surrounding strategic road network is busy; the local network is mostly quiet rural roads. Traffic surveys undertaken at the beginning of 2025 indicate varying levels of usage with an existing element of about 10% Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) use on all routes.
- **Main Rivers within 1km:**
  - River Aire flows to the east at closest 30m to the south of Site 4.
  - Fox Dike and Upper Fox Drain meet at a confluence forming Selby Dam, closest point 380m of Site 8.
  - Mill Dike closest point 280 m west of Site 7.
  - River Ouse crosses Cable Corridor 1, 1.5 km south of Riccall;
  - Cockret Dike is on the northern side of Selby near Cable Corridor 1;
  - Selby Dam which crosses Cable Corridor 1, 400 m north of Thorpe Willoughby.
- **Fluvial flood risk:** primarily from the River Aire to the south of Solar Development Site 4; the Fleet through Solar Development Sites 3 and 4; Stillingfleet to the north of Solar Development Site 1; and Riccall Dam to the south of Solar Development Site 1 and through the Cable Corridor Options Area.
- **Flood modelling:** extensive flood modelling undertaken to inform decisions regarding site suitability and layouts.
- **Glint and Glare:** receptors include local airfields, railway, road and river users and households.



# Environmental Impact Assessment approach - surveys

Baseline survey work on the Solar Development Sites – in addition to baselining from on-line sources – has enhanced understanding of the environmental baseline, and potential environmental sensitivities which has informed design development.

Topic	Surveys Completed	Ongoing Survey Work
Landscape and visual	Walkover of Sites. Winter photography.	Cable routes following in Summer 2025. Summer photography.
Heritage	Heritage walkover. Geophysical survey.	Cables routes following in Summer 2025. Geophysical survey for Cable routes ongoing. Trial trenching following over summer.
Agriculture	Agricultural land classification completed for Sites.	Will be completed in Summer 2025, if required.
Noise and vibration	Noise monitoring for Sites.	No further surveys required.
Transport	Traffic count surveys for Sites.	Traffic survey work for cable routes will be completed in Summer 2025.
Ecology	Habitat, breeding birds, bats, badgers, otters, aquatic surveys.  Ornithology surveys.	Surveys for cable routes scheduled for summer. Following survey work being completed – Great Crested Newts, Water Vole, Fish, River MoRPh survey. Ongoing ornithological survey work (Spring and autumn passage surveys; breeding bird; and breeding bird habitat surveys).
Arboriculture	Survey of trees, woodlands and hedges completed for Sites.	Cable routes following in Summer 2025.
Water	Walkover of assets and water receptor sensitivity survey.	No further surveys required.



# Environmental Impact Assessment – design development

- Design parameters have been set – taking account of environmental receptors
  - Avoiding key environment features, where possible, such as flood risk zones, BMV, source protection zones (SPZs)
  - Setting buffers to key habitats including watercourses, designated sites, ponds, trees and hedgerows, etc.
  - Setting buffers to residential receptors and community receptors for noise and vibration and fire safety reasons
  - Setting buffers to Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and utilities.
- Optioneering work around location of compounds, BESS and substations, considered key environmental constraints and receptors including landscape and visual impacts, ecology, heritage, noise and vibration, ground conditions, access and utilities.



# Potential impacts and effects identified in the PEIR

- Positive effects on:
  - Arable field margin habitats as a result of grassland habitat creation in place of cropland beneath the solar panels.
  - Employment opportunities during construction and operation.
- No significant effects identified in relation to:
  - Construction traffic impacts on the road network.
  - Noise and vibration effects during operation.
- Potential impacts on:
  - Approximately 1% of the likely best and most versatile (BMV) agricultural land in Selby (0.07% for Yorkshire and the Humber Region) .
  - Setting of Birkin House and Escrick Park Estate assets (which includes the Escrick Park and Wheldrake Lodge) during construction.
  - Temporary landscape and visual effects during construction.
  - Small number of visual effects at year 15 of operation for one residential receptor and PRowS that run through the Solar Development Site 1 and along the NE edge of Site 4.
  - Potential non-significant effects on Birkin Fisheries.
  - Potential for glint and glare effects



# Environmental Impact Assessment approach - mitigation

- The PEIR identifies additional steps to ensure mitigation through design where potential significant effects have been identified. For example:
  - Glint and glare: exploration of potential changes to the layout of panels and/or panel technology.
  - Birkin Fisheries: identification, through the outline Construction Environmental Management Plan, of site-specific measures to reduce potential effects during construction.
  - Otters and Water Voles: recommendation for a pre-commencement requirement for further surveys.
- The PEIR includes a commitments register which lists all the embedded and additional mitigation committed to as part of the Proposed Development.





# Light Valley Design Principles and Environmental Masterplan

# Light Valley Solar – Our Design Vision

The Design Vision for the Proposed Development is:

*“Light Valley Solar will provide a substantial contribution towards the UK’s net zero carbon ambitions and energy security.*

*Rooted in the landscape of North Yorkshire, the project will deliver lasting environmental and community benefits by enhancing green corridors, promoting biodiversity, and connecting people with nature. It aims to leave a positive, enduring legacy for local communities through thoughtful, environmentally-led design and sustainable development.”*



# Design Opportunities

The design opportunities outlined below are integral to realising the vision for Light Valley Solar, ensuring the delivery of lasting environmental and community benefits. Site-specific opportunities are detailed in the following slides, reflecting our commitment to sustainable development and community engagement.

## Environmentally-led design



### Landscape restoration

The design prioritises the retention of existing trees and hedgerows. Appropriate buffer zones would be incorporated to protect these features, ensuring their long-term health. Opportunities to enhance existing hedgerow would be encouraged to create a connected landscape pattern.



### Protected species

The Proposed Development would provide appropriate buffers between proposed infrastructure and habitats known or likely to support protected species, to help safeguard their conservation.

## Biodiversity and Nature Recovery



### Habitat connectivity

Where possible, the Proposed Development would retain and enhance existing hedgerows and watercourses to strengthen ecological connectivity across the Site. Existing woodlands could function as stepping-stone habitats contributing to a more connected network.



### Habitat creation

The design seeks opportunities to incorporate areas to support international and local bird and mammal populations.

## Social value and community



### Minimising visual impact on local communities

Separation distances from Solar Development Areas to residential properties would be designed to minimise landscape and visual effects. The proposed design layout incorporates buffers and visual screening to reduce visual impact on local communities.

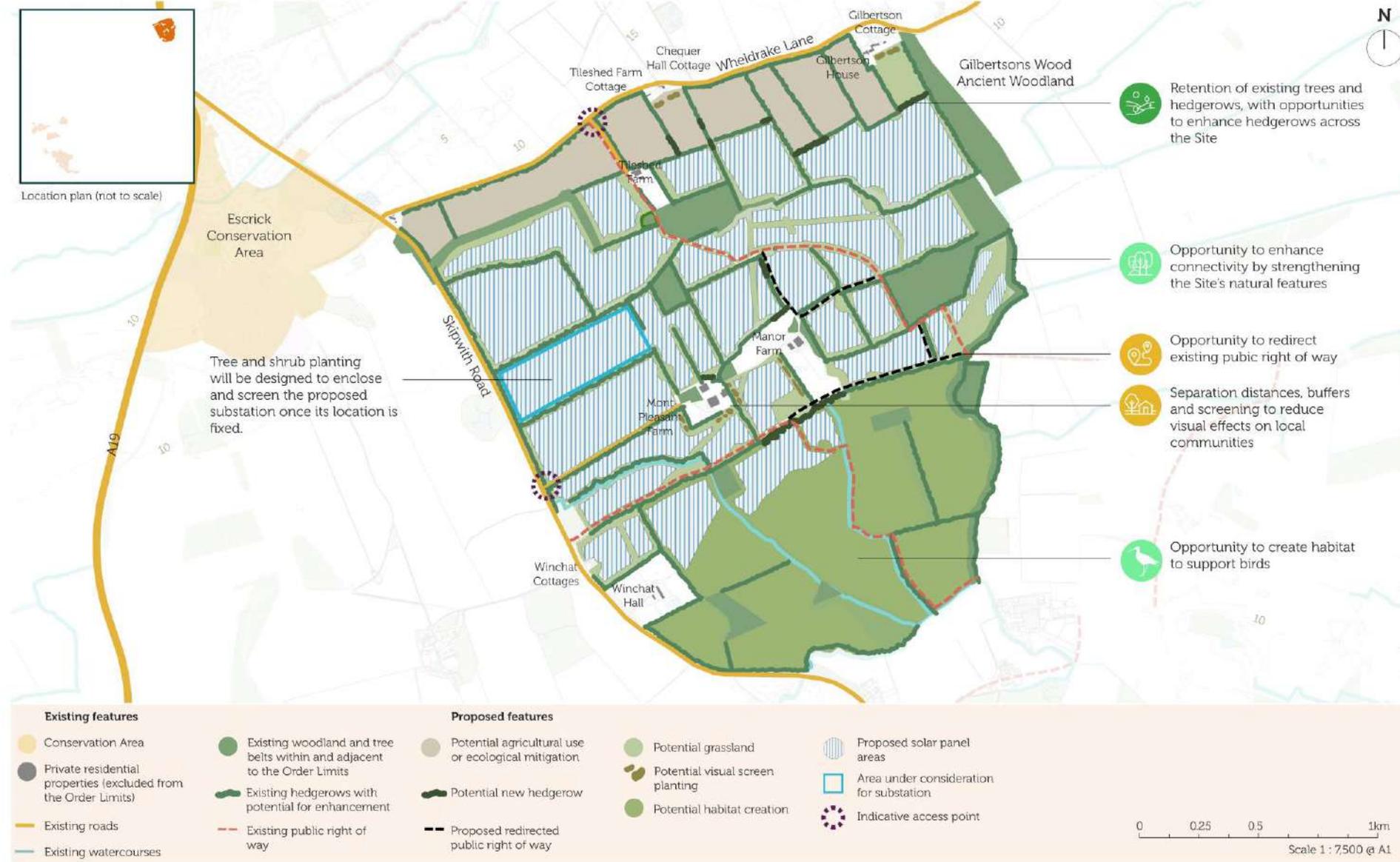


### Enhancement to local walking routes

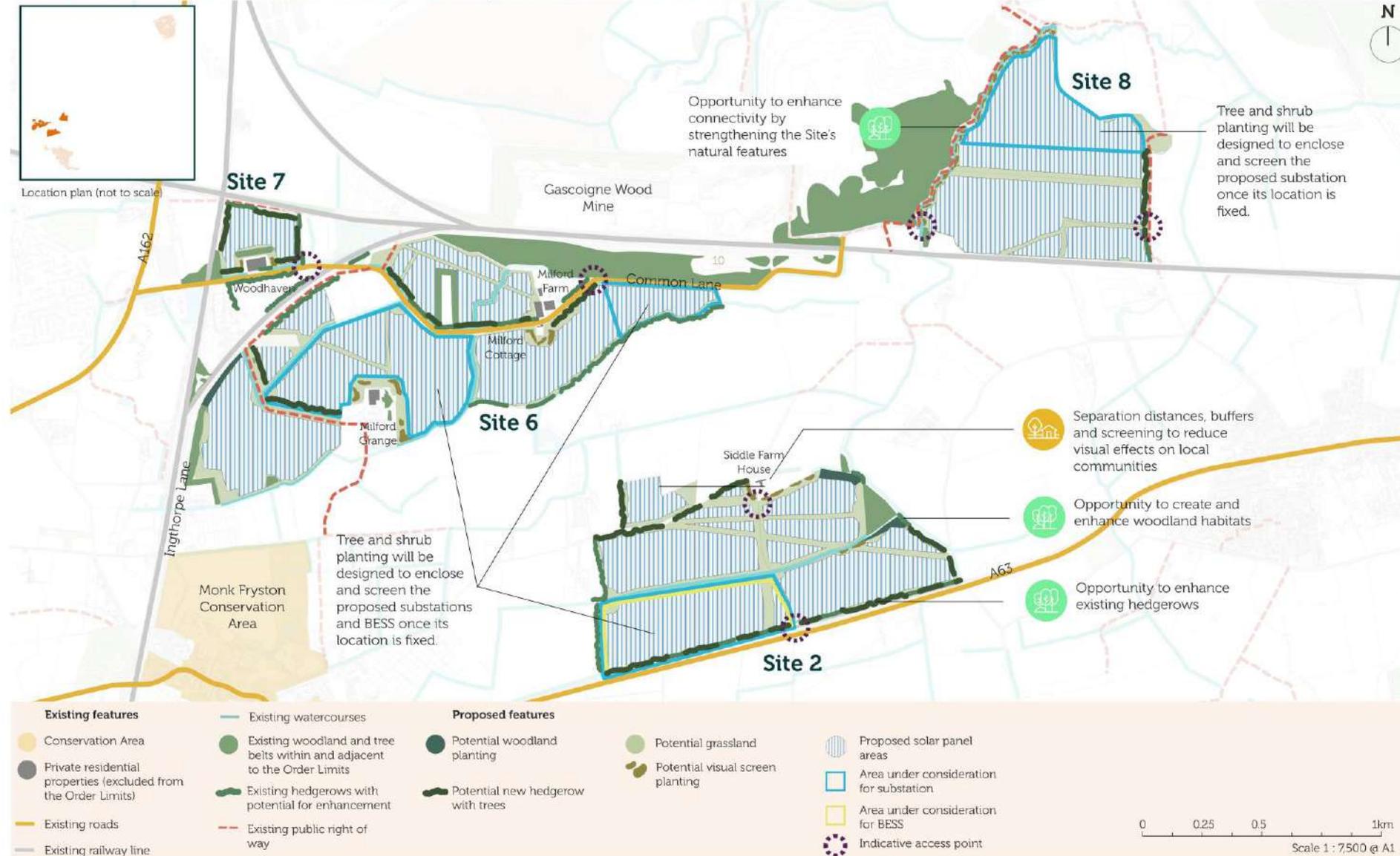
Opportunities could be explored to divert existing public rights of way where they currently bisect fields or lack a clear destination. Where feasible, routes will be aligned with surfaced tracks and field boundaries to improve accessibility and integration with the wider public rights of way network, enhancing local walking routes.



# Outline Environmental Masterplan - Site 1



# Outline Environmental Masterplan - Sites 2, 6, 7 and 8

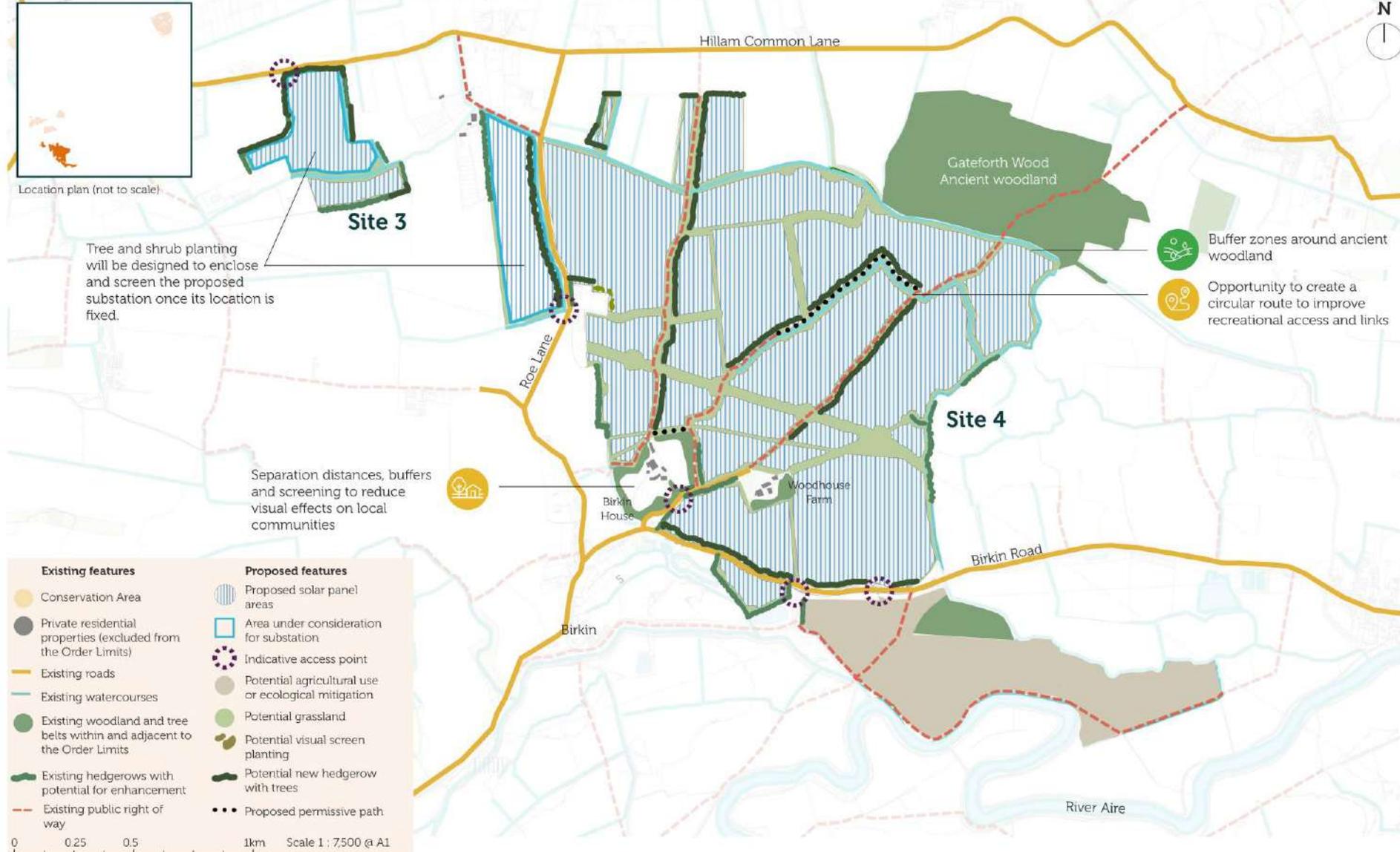


Existing features		Proposed features		
Conservation Area	Existing watercourses	Potential woodland planting	Potential grassland	Proposed solar panel areas
Private residential properties (excluded from the Order Limits)	Existing woodland and tree belts within and adjacent to the Order Limits	Potential new hedgerow with trees	Potential visual screen planting	Area under consideration for substation
Existing roads	Existing hedgerows with potential for enhancement			Area under consideration for BESS
Existing railway line	Existing public right of way			Indicative access point

0 0.25 0.5 1km  
Scale 1 : 7,500 @ A1



# Outline Environmental Masterplan - Sites 3 and 4



# Break out groups

**Goal:** with your input, build on our existing proposals and find opportunities to have a meaningful and positive impact.

We want these sessions to be interactive and a two-way discussion. There will be opportunities to listen to updates on the project and provide comments (via comment sheets and writing directly onto maps and plans in the room)

Topics for discussion (2 groups):

1. Access and communities – facilitator [REDACTED]
2. Landscape, biodiversity and communities – facilitator [REDACTED]

## Materials

1. Our emerging Outline Environmental Masterplans and Site Location Plan
2. Drawings of cross-sections of project
3. Environmental designations plans and construction route map (PEIR volume 2)
4. Comment sheets and other materials to provide feedback





# Break

Please feel free to help yourself to the light refreshments before the discussions begin.



# Introduction to workshop discussions

# Break out groups

**Goal:** with your input, build on our existing proposals and find opportunities to have a meaningful and positive impact.

We want these sessions to be interactive and a two-way discussion. There will be opportunities to listen to updates on the project and provide comments (via comment sheets and writing directly onto maps and plans in the room)

Topics for discussion (2 groups):

1. Access and communities – facilitator [REDACTED]
2. Landscape, biodiversity and communities – facilitator [REDACTED]

## Materials

1. Our emerging Outline Environmental Masterplans and Site Location Plan
2. Drawings of cross-sections of project
3. Environmental designations plans and construction route map (PEIR volume 2)
4. Comment sheets and other materials to provide feedback



# Questions to consider during the discussions

1. What are your key priorities regarding the design for Light Valley Solar?
2. Are there any key issues that you would like us to consider during the ongoing design process for the Proposed Development?
3. Do you have any local insights or suggestions that we will find helpful in progressing the design for Light Valley Solar



# Closing out the discussions

A summary of feedback from each group.

We encourage you to provide any feedback today via the comment sheets provided.



## Next steps

- Our second phase of consultation is running from 26<sup>th</sup> June, for six weeks until 7<sup>th</sup> August 2025.
- During this time, we will be publishing our updating proposals publicly, including the full PEIR.
- We encourage you to provide your written feedback to this consultation, as well as for the design workshop held today. You may wish to use today's workshop as part of your consultation feedback submission.
- We will also be holding a series of public information events, which can be viewed on our website: [www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk](http://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk)

Venue	Date & Time
Eversley Park Centre Sherburn-in-Elmet Low Street, LS25 6BA	Friday 4th July 3pm – 7pm
Escrick & Deighton Club 59 Main Steet, Escrick, York, YO19 6LQ	Tuesday 8th July 3pm – 7pm
Riccall Village Institute 12 Station Road, York, YO19 6QJ	Wednesday 9th July 3pm – 7pm
Haddlesey Church Community Hall Millfield Road, Chapel Haddlesey, YO8 8QF	Friday 11th July 1pm – 5pm
Hambleton Village Hall 3 Station Road, Selby, YO8 9HS	Tuesday 15th July 3pm – 7pm
Monk Fryston & Hillam Community Centre Old Vicarage Lane, LS25 5EA	Saturday 19th July 11am – 3pm
Community Webinar Via Zoom - register your attendance here: <a href="http://www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk">www.lightvalleysolar.co.uk</a>	Monday 21st July 6pm – 7:30pm





Thank you

# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Environmentally-Led Design

1. Follow a joined up and collaborative approach
  - o Close integration between teams for successful design and problem solving.
2. Retain and protect existing habitats and replace those removed to facilitate construction as far as practicable
  - o Loss of mature trees, woodland and hedgerow to be avoided where possible.
  - o Where temporary habitat loss will occur, such as the removal of sections of hedgerow to accommodate cable routes, these features will be reinstated following construction as far as practicable.
3. Provide appropriate buffers between proposed infrastructure and sensitive habitats and features
  - o Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).
4. Locate development to reduce potential flood risk, where possible
  - o Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Environmentally-Led Design

### 5. Manage water sustainably

- Utilise sustainable urban drainage solutions (SuDS) at source, such as bioswales and retention ponds, ensuring that surface water run-off is managed appropriately.
- Utilise permeable surfacing for internal access tracks.
- Incorporate fire-water containment in BESS Development areas.

### 6. Minimise landscape and visual impact to residents

- Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).

### 7. Celebrate designated heritage assets

- Maximise opportunities for better understanding of the history of the area.
- Disseminate new archaeological data and knowledge gathered.
- Reinforce existing hedgerows in poor condition with new planting where feasible to strengthen landscape pattern and historic landscape character.

### 8. Minimise adverse impacts of construction works

- As far as practicable, route construction traffic away from sensitive receptors (including residents, schools, hospitals, places of worship, public rights of way and outdoor amenity spaces).
- Construction compounds to be located on low diversity habitat where practicable and as far as practicable from sensitive receptors.



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Biodiversity net gain & nature recovery

1. Locate development away from areas for nature conservation where possible
  - Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).
2. Improve the connectivity of existing habitat by strengthening with new planting
  - Reinforce existing hedgerows in poor condition where feasible.
  - Extend and connect areas of woodland and watercourses within the Order limits, for example at Sites 2-8 connect to Bishop Wood to the north.
  - At Site 1, strengthen woodland corridors and watercourses, particularly along the eastern side of the site to create an enhanced corridor integrated into a wider green infrastructure network.
  - Establish species-rich grassland beneath solar panel arrays and in buffer strips.
3. Minimise disturbance to mammal transit through the Proposed Development
  - Design fencing of the Solar Development Sites to let small mammals pass through.



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Biodiversity net gain & nature recovery

4. Create new habitats and manage the land in ways that support local bird and mammal populations
  - Provide habitat areas for ornithological mitigation, including creating and enhancing wet grassland habitats in Solar Development Site 1.
  
5. Safeguard spaces for nature with a balance between public access and nature conservation
  - Consider use of planting to screen and discourage access away from the public right of way and permissive path network within the Order limits.



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Social value and community

1. Provide buffers between Proposed Development and footpaths
  - Please refer to table 3.2 Design Parameters for Sites in the Preliminary Information Report (PEIR).
2. Improve the public rights of way (PRoW) network to enhance use and enjoyment for local communities and visitors
  - Explore options to create new permissive paths providing a mixture of short and long circular walking routes combined with PRoW.
  - Where necessary, divert existing PRoWs (Solar Development Site 1) and
  - where feasible, align new routes with existing surfaced tracks and field boundaries to improve accessibility and integration with the wider public rights of way network, enhancing local walking routes.
  - Make routes accessible to multiple users where practicable.
  - Explore improving access to and within green spaces and areas of interest, such as Gateforth Wood (Site 4) and Gascoigne Wood (Site 8).
  - Provide resting points along permissive paths at intervals.
  - Provide balance between new planting for visual screening, where required and openings to provide viewpoints.
3. Encourage responsible enjoyment of nature
  - Provide bird viewing places, including bird hides in Site 1
  - Implement fencing/ defensible planting to discourage access to areas specifically for nature conservation.



# Light Valley Solar Design Principles



## Social value and community

### 4. Incorporate interpretation and wayfinding

- Provide timber finger posts at key entry points and intersections with the proposed permissive paths to improve legibility of the landscape.
- Provide interpretation and map boards at key entry points to the Proposed Development where it joins the public right of way and permissive path network to explain the Proposed Development, as well as habitats and heritage features.

### 5. Understand and collaborate with our neighbours

- Consider the needs of the adjacent communities through consultation.
- Maintain transparency during consultation stage as to how LVS will deliver local benefits.
- Respect the quiet enjoyment of the setting for neighbours.

### 6. Enhance placemaking

- Through consultation, gather suggestions for design proposals to promote sense of place.
- Identify opportunities for enhanced recreational opportunities, including picnic areas on public rights of way and permissive paths.
- Careful design of interfaces to settlements to integrate within wider context.

### 7. Mitigate impact of photovoltaic glint and glare

- Provide screening to solar reflection, with vegetation or fencing, for aviation activity, road safety, residential amenity and railway operations.





# Biodiversity Net Gain and Nature Recovery



# Social value and community

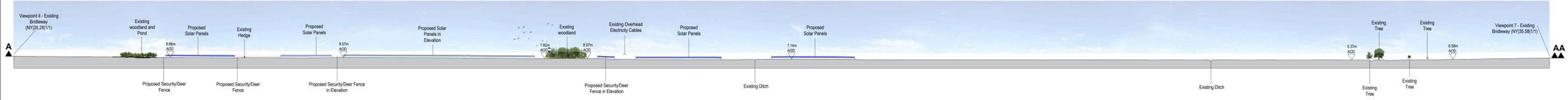


## 4 Design workshop maps

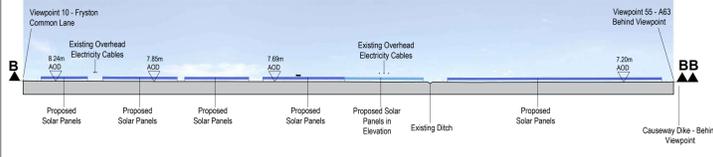
**KEY**

- Solar Development Sites
- Cross Section Cut Line
- 60m AOD
- Above Ordnance Datum (AOD)

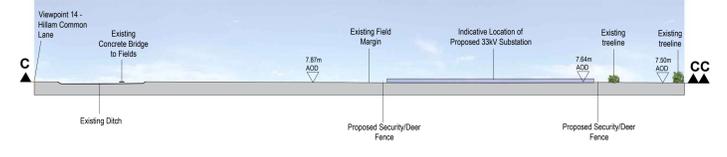
**Cross Section A-AA across Site 1 - between viewpoints 4 and 7**



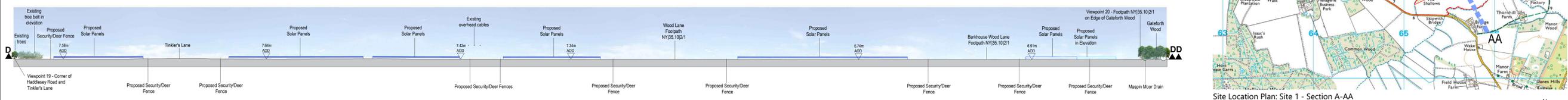
**Cross Section B-BB across Site 2 - between viewpoints 10 and 55**



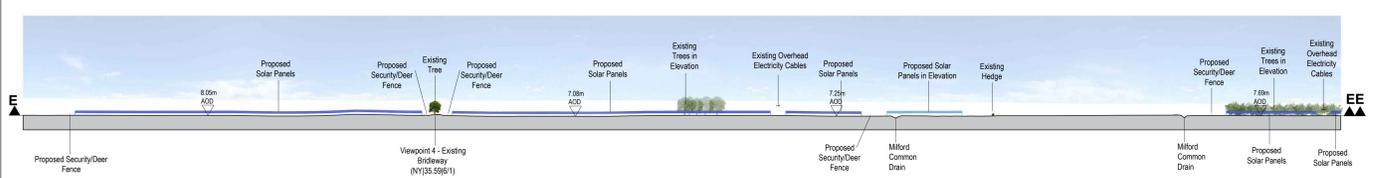
**Cross Section C-CC across Site 3 - from viewpoint 14**



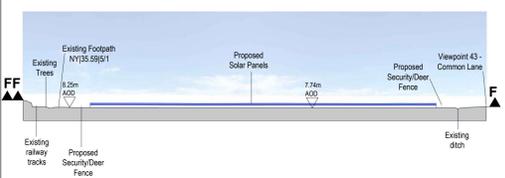
**Cross Section D-DD across Site 4 - between viewpoints 19 and 20**



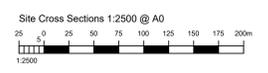
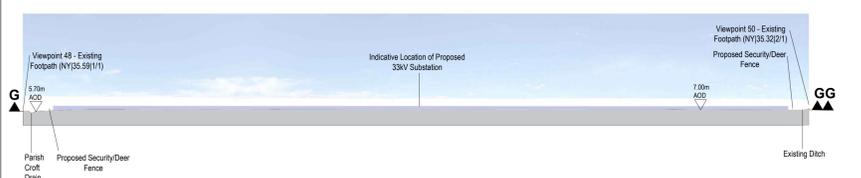
**Cross Section E-EE across Site 6 - from viewpoint 45**



**Cross Section F-FF across Site 7 - from viewpoint 43**



**Cross Section G-GG across Site 8 - between viewpoints 48 and 50**



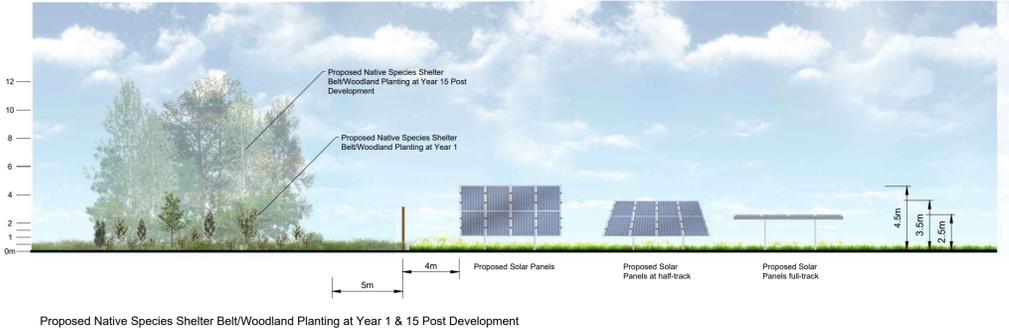
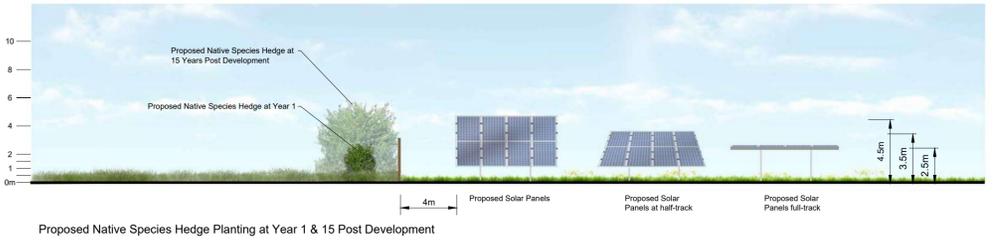
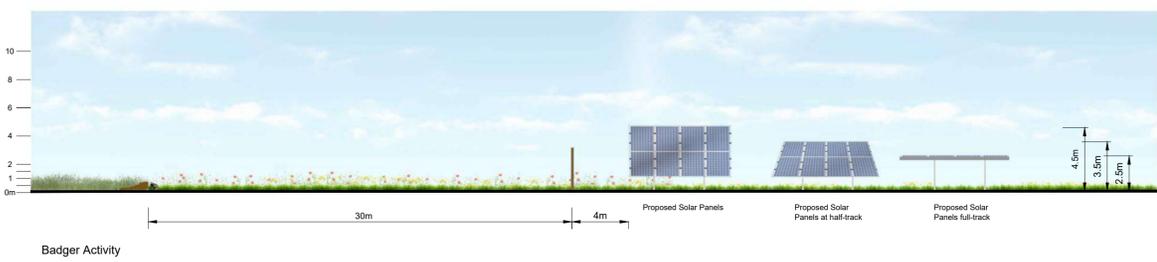
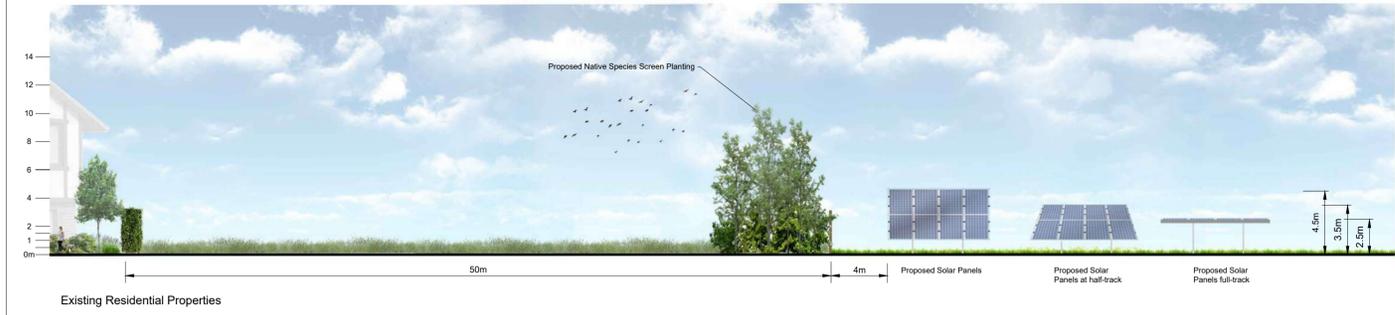
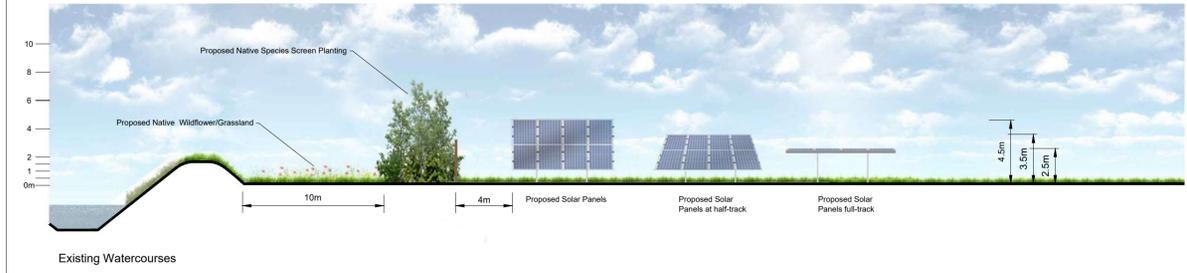
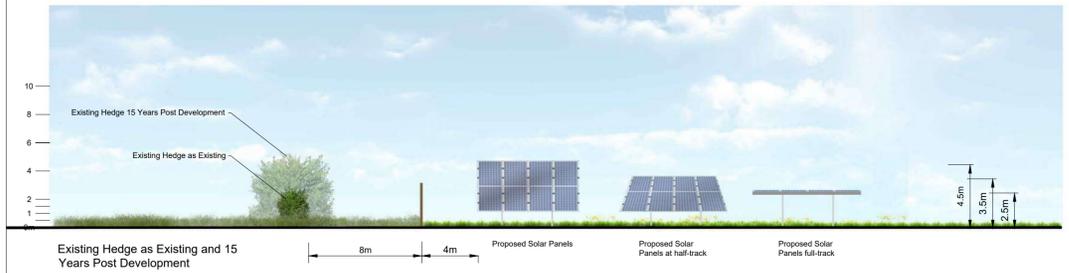
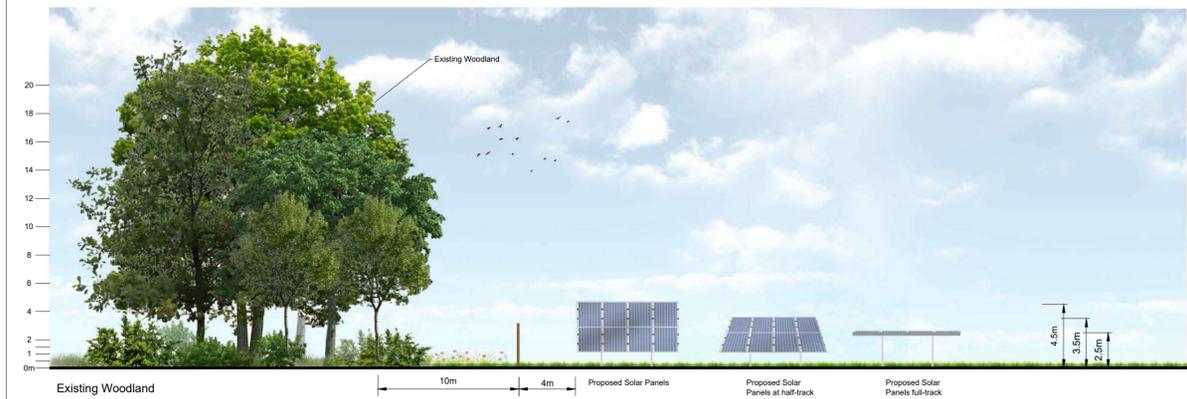
**Drawing Note:**

These cross sections were produced using topographical survey data from 2025. The resulting sections illustrate the indicative spatial parameters defined at this stage of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). It provides illustrative details of the Proposed Development based on initial spatial parameters embedded into the design at PEIR stage. The cross sections demonstrate where the development is currently being considered, its spatial arrangement in the landscape and information relative to Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) height.

The cross sections are representative of, and should be read in conjunction with the viewpoints set out in Appendix 10.4 of chapter 10.0 of the PEIR Report (Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment).

PHS Ref: EN0110012  
Detailed Figure Reference number: 6045-LAN-XX-DR-L-Figure 1 - Illustrative Cross Sections-P02

Scale: As Shown @A0

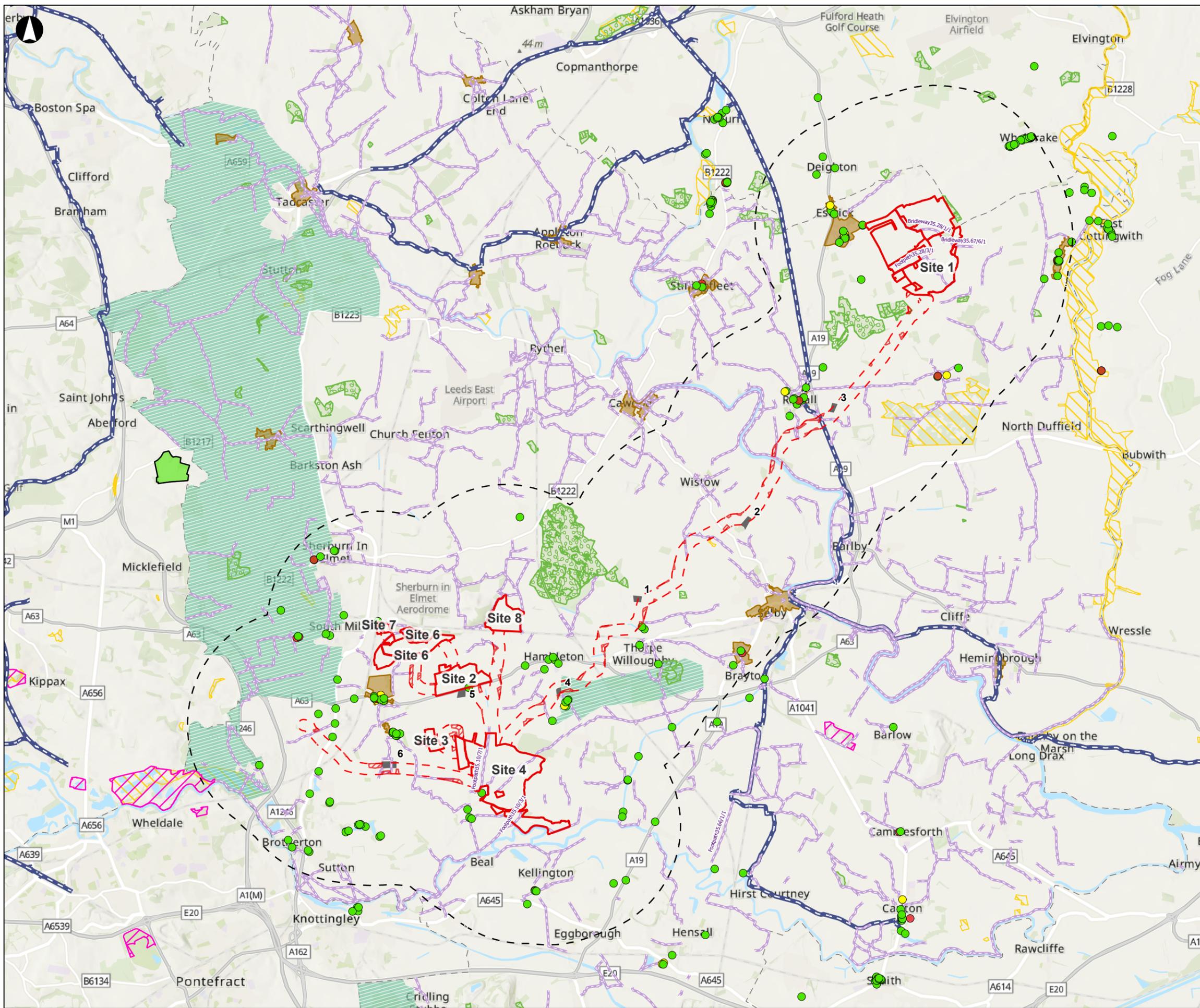


Drawing Note:  
 These cross sections were produced to illustrate detailed spatial parameters and mitigation likely to be used for the Proposed Development.  
 The cross sections are illustrative only at this stage to help visualise how the effects of the Proposed Development could be mitigated on site.  
 FIG Ref: ENE13012  
 Detailed Figure Reference number: GDS-LAN-00-00-DR-G-Figure 2 - Illustrative Cross Sections of Indicative Landscape Mitigation (P1)

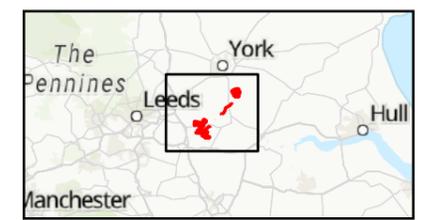
Scale: 1:250 @A1



**LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR**  
**Figure 2**  
 Illustrative Cross Sections  
 of Indicative Landscape Mitigation



- PEIR Assessment Area**
- Solar Development Sites
  - Cable Corridor Options Area
  - Cable Corridor Construction Compound
  - Land Not Used or Acquired for Proposed Development
  - LVIA Study Area (3km)
- Listed Building (Grade)**
- I
  - II\*
  - II
- Public Rights Of Way
- National Cycle Network
- Conservation Areas
- Local Nature Reserves
- Ancient Woodland
- SSSI
- Locally Important Landscape Area
- Country Parks



Coordinate System: British National Grid

World Topographic Map: Esri UK, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS

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Metres

0      2,000      4,000

P01	05/06/2025	CMCK	ACAR	ACOX	KHAR
Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appd	Authd



Drawing Title  
**Figure 10.2  
 Environmental Designations  
 Sheet 1 of 5**

Client  
**Light Valley Solar Limited**

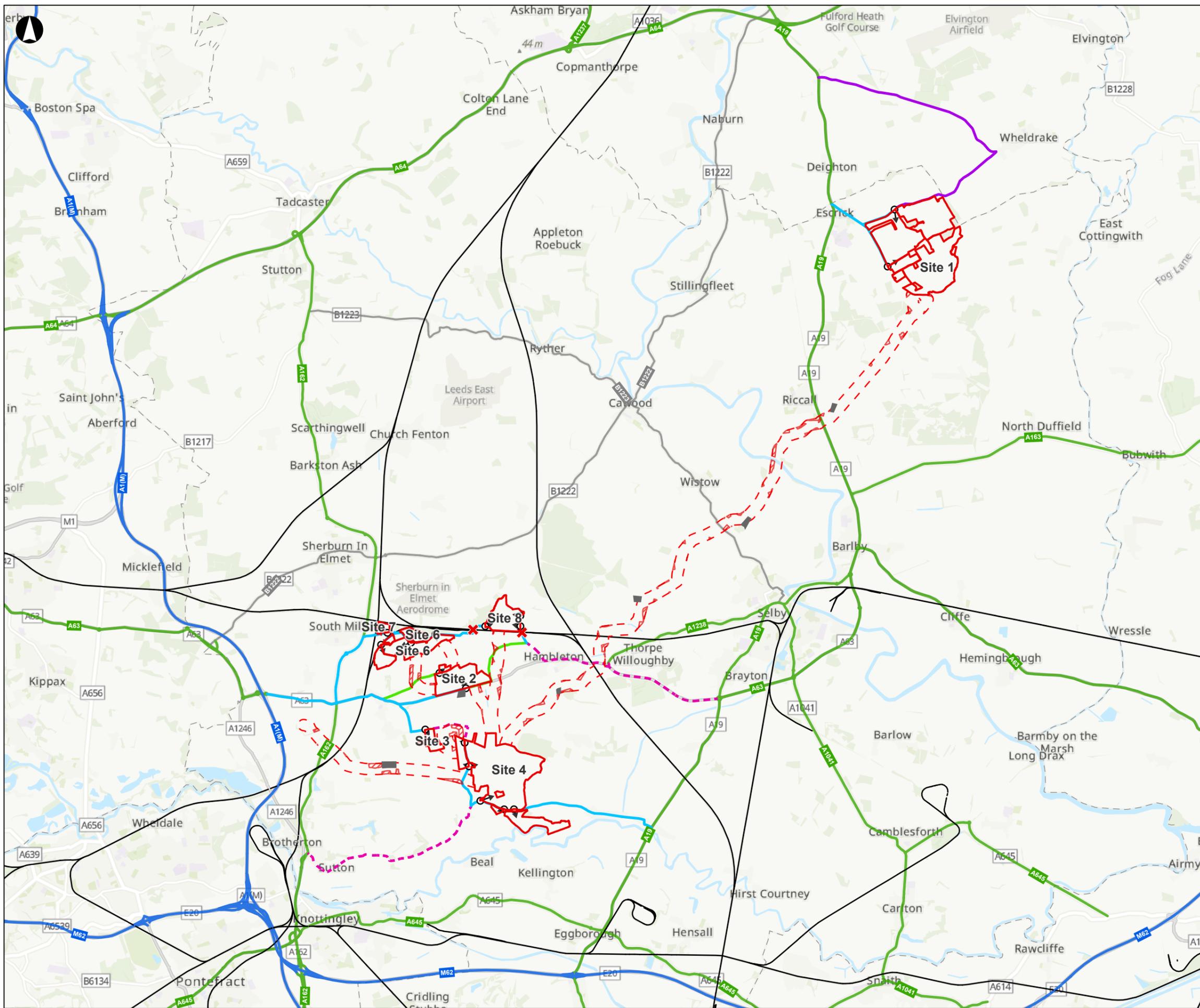
Project Name  
**Light Valley Solar**

Scale at A3  
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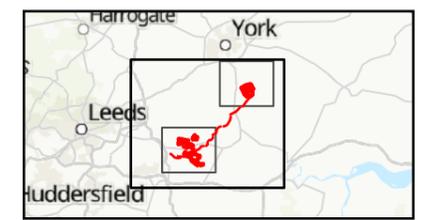
Project Number  
**302939-00**

Rev  
**P01**

Drawing Number  
**LVS-302939-501**



- PEIR Assessment Area**
- Solar Development Sites
  - Cable Corridor Options Area
  - Cable Corridor Construction Compound
  - Land Not Used or Acquired for Proposed Development
- Construction Routing**
- Access Point
  - Access Route
  - Alternate Route
  - Entry Only
  - ✕ Level Crossing
  - HGV Access
- Road and Rail Networks**
- Railway
  - Motorway
  - A Road / Primary Road
  - B Road
  - Minor Road



Coordinate System: British National Grid  
 Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2025. World Topographic Map: Esri UK, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS



P01	04/06/2025	CWILL	ACAR	ESTO	KHAR
Rev	Date	By	Chkd	Appd	Authd



Drawing Title  
**Figure 14.4  
 Construction Routing  
 Sheet 1 of 3**

Client  
**Light Valley Solar Limited**

Project Name  
**Light Valley Solar**

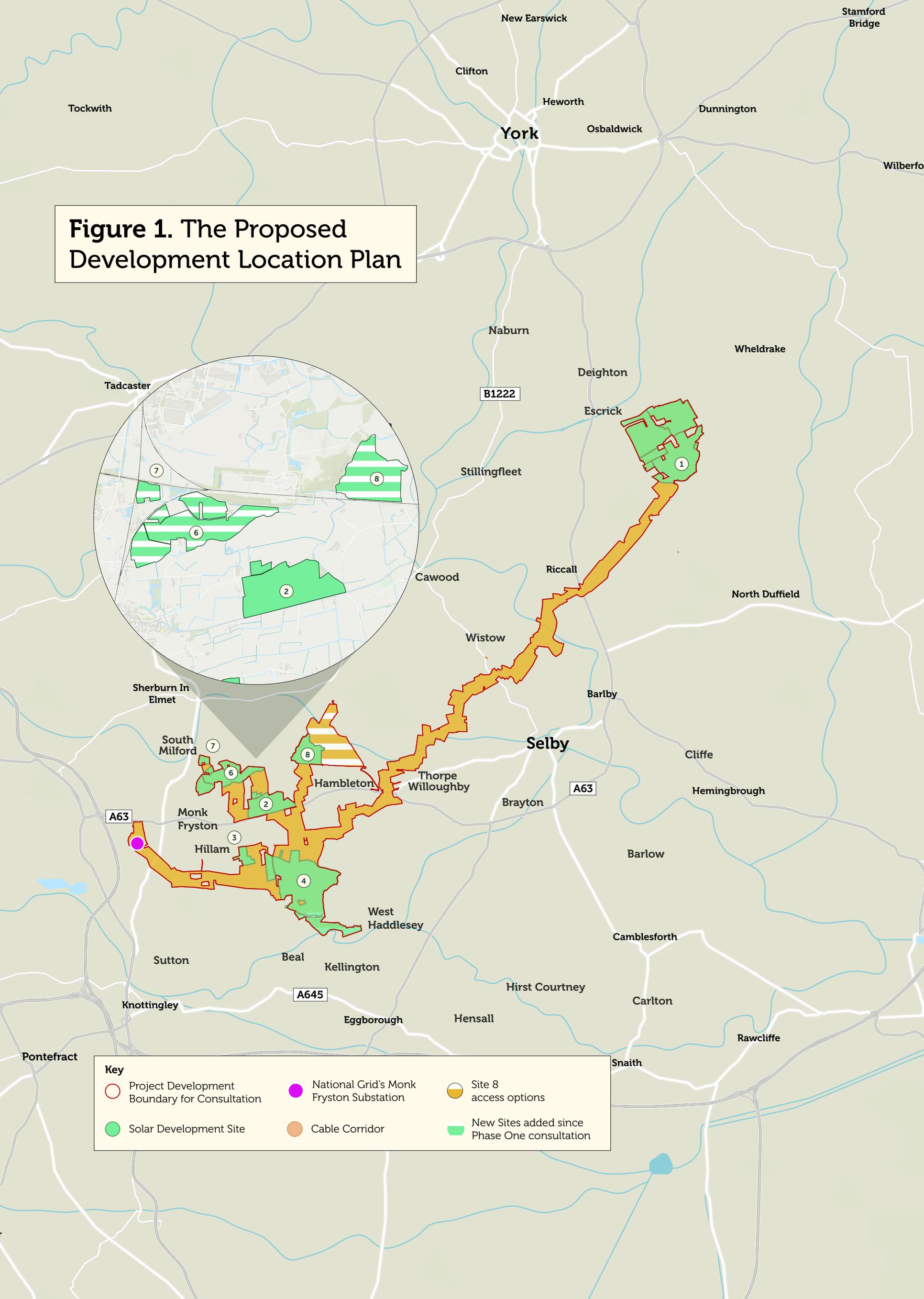
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Project Number  
**302939-00**

Drawing Number  
**LVS-302939-496**

Rev  
**P01**

**Figure 1. The Proposed Development Location Plan**



# LIGHT VALLEY SOLAR

## Outline Environmental Masterplan - Site 1



 Retention of existing trees and hedgerows, with opportunities to enhance hedgerows across the Site

 Opportunity to enhance connectivity by strengthening the Site's natural features

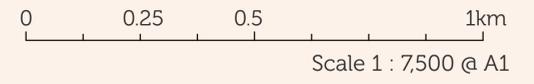
 Opportunity to redirect existing public right of way

 Separation distances, buffers and screening to reduce visual effects on local communities

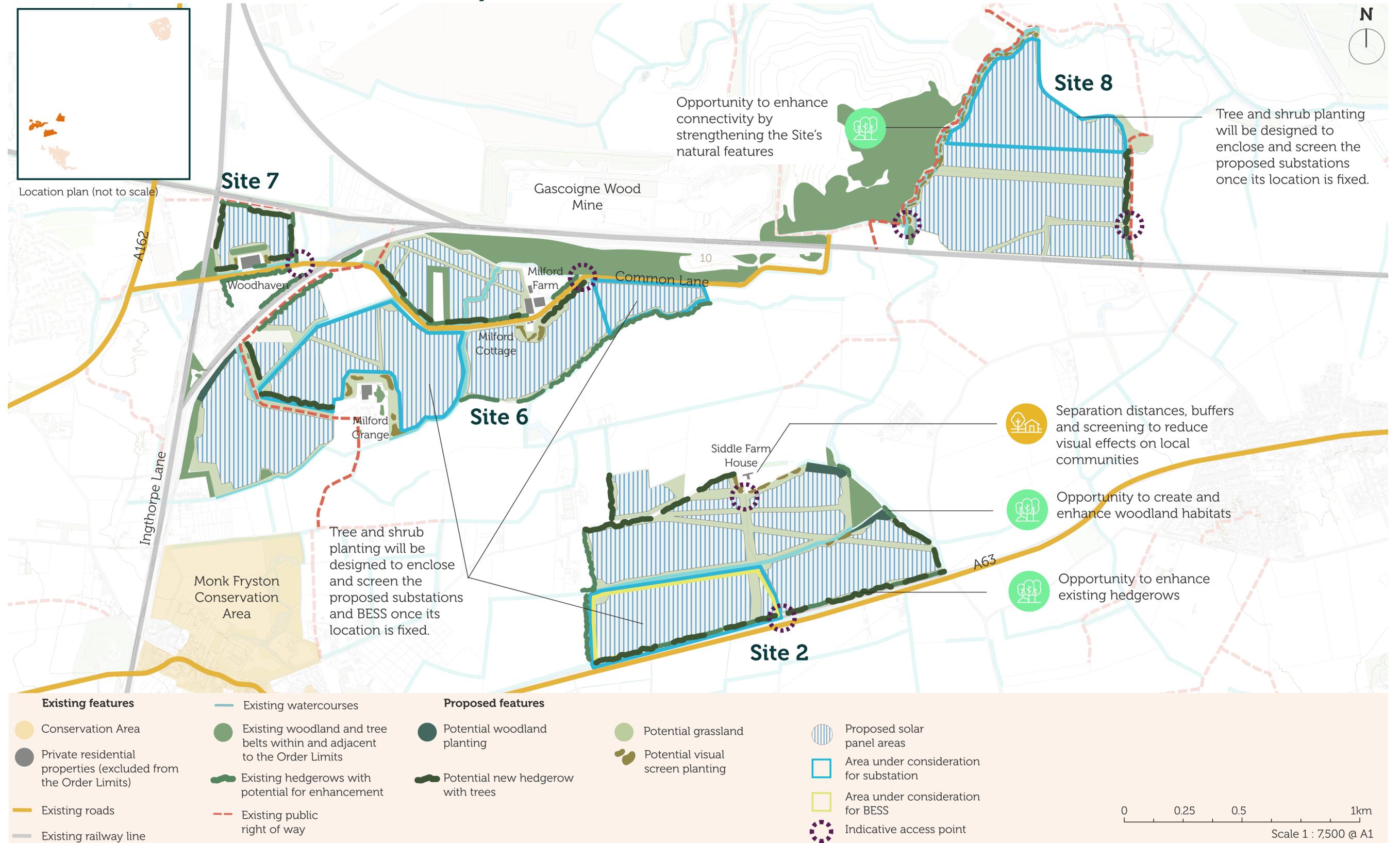
 Opportunity to create habitat to support birds

Tree and shrub planting will be designed to enclose and screen the proposed substation once its location is fixed.

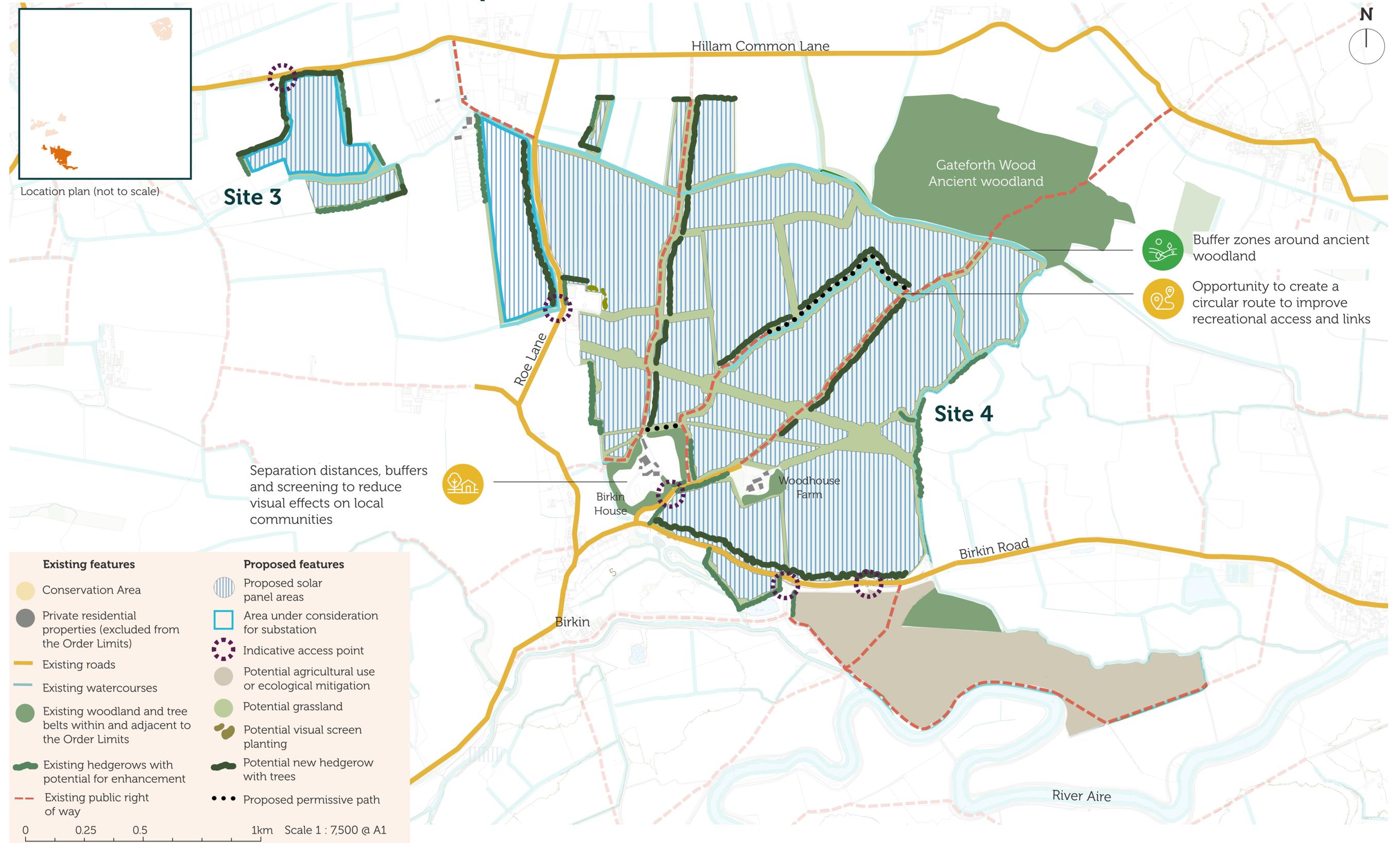
Existing features		Proposed features		
 Conservation Area	 Existing woodland and tree belts within and adjacent to the Order Limits	 Potential agricultural use or ecological mitigation	 Potential grassland	 Proposed solar panel areas
 Private residential properties (excluded from the Order Limits)	 Existing hedgerows with potential for enhancement	 Potential new hedgerow	 Potential visual screen planting	 Area under consideration for substation
 Existing roads	 Existing public right of way	 Proposed redirected public right of way	 Potential habitat creation	 Indicative access point
 Existing watercourses				



# Outline Environmental Masterplan - Sites 2, 6, 7 and 8



# Outline Environmental Masterplan - Sites 3 and 4





## 5 Design workshop comment sheets

# Light Valley Solar – Design Workshop

## Comment sheet



Name: .....

Organisation: .....

We are running our second phase of consultation for Light Valley Solar between 26th June and 7th August 2025. As well as providing comments today at our design workshop, we invite you to take part in this second phase of consultation and provide your feedback on our updated proposals for Light Valley Solar.

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

Please tick the areas of interest that are most important to you:

- Agricultural land and soils
- Climate change
- Cultural heritage and archaeology
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Landscape and visual
- Noise and vibration
- Ornithology
- Recreation and amenity
- Site selection
- Socioeconomics
- Traffic and transport
- Water resources and flood risk
- Other (please detail):  
.....

Following the design workshop today, please feel free to provide your comments on the following:

- What are your key priorities regarding the design for Light Valley Solar?
- Are there any key issues that you would like us to consider during the ongoing design process for the Proposed Development?
- Do you have any local insights or suggestions that we will find helpful in progressing the design for Light Valley Solar

We greatly value your feedback today, and we encourage you to provide any further written feedback during our Phase Two Consultation.