Light Valley Solar

Archaeological Mitigation Strategy

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Light Valley Solar

DCO Submission

Archaeological Mitigation Strategy

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview and purpose of the document

1.1.1 This Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS) has been prepared on behalf of Light Valley Solar Limited (the 'Applicant') in relation to an application (the Application) for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning of Light Valley Solar (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development').

1.1.2 The AMS details the overarching methodology for undertaking a programme of archaeological mitigation within the Proposed Development.

1.1.3 The AMS has been updated post submission and during the Examination process, following the completion of the programme of final geophysical survey in the Cable Route Corridor, which has informed decisions on the need for any further archaeological mitigation areas within the Cable Route Corridor.

1.1.4 The Proposed Development comprises a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating station of over 100 megawatts (MW) and 'associated development' comprising a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), grid connection infrastructure and other infrastructure integral to the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases.

1.1.5 The main element of the Proposed Development comprises seven Solar Development Sites (Solar Development Sites 1-4 and 6-8) that will accommodate the Solar PV Panels. A BESS Compound will be located within Solar Development Site 2.

1.1.6 The Cable Route Corridor is the area within which the export connection cables (hereafter referred to as the 'Grid Connection Cables') would be located to connect the Solar PV Sites to the National Grid at the existing Monk Fryston Substation (hereafter referred to as the 'Existing National Grid Monk Fryston Substation') and the area within which cables connecting the Solar Development Sites would be located (hereafter referred to as 'Interconnecting Cables') (refer to Figure 2.1: Illustrative Site Layout Plan (ES Volume 2) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.02.01**].

1.1.7 Further details of the Proposed Development are presented in Chapter 2: The Proposed Development (ES Volume 1) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.01.02**] and the design envelope for the Proposed Development is set out in the Design Parameters and Commitments Document [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/05.06**] and the limits of deviation shown on the Works Plans [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/02.03**].

1.1.8 This AMS has been informed by the results of archaeological desk-based assessment (Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage (ES Volume 1) [**EN0110012/APP/06.01.08**]; Appendix 8.1: Cultural Heritage Baseline (ES Volume 3) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.01**]; Appendix 8.2: Cultural Heritage Gazetteer (ES Volume 3) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.02**];

Appendix 8.5: Statements of Significance and Impact Assessments (ES Volume 3) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.05**]), geophysical survey of the Solar Development Sites and Cable Route Corridor (Appendix 8.3: Geophysical surveys (ES Volume 3) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/0.6.03.08.03**]) and archaeological evaluation (Appendix 8.4: Archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) (ES Volume 3) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.04**]).

1.1.9 This AMS also takes into account the results of consultation and engagement undertaken with the Archaeological Officer for North Yorkshire Council and Historic England, throughout these stages of work. These consultations are summarised in Table 8-8 Chapter 8: Cultural Heritage (ES Volume 1) [**EN0110012/APP/06.01.08**].

1.1.10 The proposed mitigation strategy detailed in this AMS provides for a programme of 'strip, map and sample', two additional trial trenches and archaeological monitoring, based on the location of identified archaeological remains where there is considered to be potential for such remains to be impacted by the Proposed Development. The design of the Proposed Development allows for the preservation of archaeological remains *in situ* where practicable through the use of non-intrusive construction methodology (such as surface mounted pre-cast concrete feet or other non-ground penetrative technique which is a standard accepted approach to removing the impact of solar mounts upon potential archaeological sub-surface remains, and the removal of specific areas from any Proposed Development works).

2 Site location and description

2.1 Site location

2.1.1 The Proposed Development comprises seven Solar Development Sites (Solar Development Sites 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8), which are located to the east of Escrick and north and south-east of Monk Fryston and cover a combined area of approximately 900 ha. The landscape within and surrounding the Solar Development Sites comprises predominantly agricultural fields and rural villages and hamlets, including Escrick (approximately 575 m west of Solar Development Site 1), Hillam (approximately 850 m north-west of Solar Development Site 3), Birkin (approximately 240 m south-west of Solar Development Site 4), Monk Fryston (approximately 500 m south of Solar Development Site 6) South Milford (approximately 540 m west of Solar Development Site 6) and Hambleton (approximately 700 m south-west of Solar Development Site 8). The town of Selby is located approximately 5.45 km east of Solar Development Site 8.

2.1.2 Details of the size, location, and current land-use for each of the Solar Development Sites in provided in Table 2-1 below:

Table 2-1 Details of Solar Development Sites

Solar PV Site	Area (ha)	Centroid	Current land-use
1	344.8	465431, 441943	The main current land use within Solar Development Site 1 is agricultural. Additionally, there are small areas of woodland both within the site and predominately outside the Order Limits.
2	83.3	452865, 430272	The main current land use within Solar Development Site 2 is agricultural. There is an existing access track running down the centre.
3	19.9	452104, 428564	The main current land use within Solar Development Site 3 is agricultural. There are no hedgerows along the boundary
4	283.8	453953, 427665	The main current land use within Solar Development Site 4 is agricultural.
6	99.6	451312, 431186	The main current land use within Solar Development Site 6 is agricultural. The Milford Curve rail line runs along the western edge slewing north and east to join the Leeds to Selby Line (HUL3) to the north of the site.
7	8.7	450783, 431665	The main current land use within Solar Development Site 7 is agricultural.
8	60.0	454083, 431949	The main current land use within Solar Development Site 8 is agricultural.

2.1.3 The Cable Route Corridor totals approximately 328.5 ha of largely arable land and lies within the parishes of Burton Salmon CP, Monk Fryston CP, Hillam CP, South Milford CP, Hambleton CP, Thorpe Willoughby CP, Selby CP, Wistow CP, Riccall CP, Skipwith CP and Escrick CP. The Highways Improvements Areas (HIA) are sections of the highway network that will contain localised improvements.

2.2 Geology and topography

2.2.1 The underlying solid geology within Proposed Development spans three distinct areas of bedrock geology: the Brotherton Formation (Limestone, Dolomitic), Roxby Formation (Mudstone, Calcareous) and Sherwood Sandstone Group (Sandstone).

2.2.2 The Brotherton Formation underlies Monk Fryston Substation, the western part of Cable Route Corridor (CRC) 4-POC (Point of Connection), Solar Development Site 7, CRC 6-7 and the western part of Solar Development Site 6. In these areas, the bedrock is intermittently overlain by superficial deposits of Harrogate Till and Hemingbrough Glaciolacustrine, which comprise laminated clays, silts and sands.

2.2.3 The Roxby Formation underlies Solar Development Site 3, part of CRC 2-4, CRC 2-6, CRC 3-4, CRC 3-4a and CRC 4-POC, the western part of Solar Development Site 2, eastern part of Solar Development Site 6 and the northern part of Solar Development Site 4. The remainder of the Proposed Development sits atop the Sherwood Sandstone Group. Superficial deposits of Beighton Sand Formation and Hemingbrough Glaciolacustrine Formation are recorded across both of these bedrock geologies.

2.2.4 Many of the superficial deposits which cover the land within the Proposed Development were laid down by the glacial Lake Humber. They support fertile, loamy soils, with large areas of peaty fen and bog; these soils flood regularly and maintained by drainage, to produce a range of root crops and cereals.

2.2.5 Despite covering an extended area, the topographic profile of the Study Area remains largely consistent. This is due to the majority of the Proposed Development being located within National Character Area (NCA) 39 - the Humberhead Levels; a flat, low-lying and large-scale agricultural landscape.

2.2.6 The topography across the Proposed Development ranges from 4-10 m above Ordnance Datum (AOD), with gradual elevation in height from Hillam Lane to the Monk Fryston Substation, as the underlying geology changes, and at the northern extent of Solar Development Site 1, towards Escrick.

2.2.7 Details of the geology, soil morphology and topography for each of the Solar Development Sites, Cable Route Corridor and HIAs is provided in Appendix 8.1 Cultural Heritage Baseline (ES Volume 3) **[EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.01]**:

3 Archaeological baseline

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The information provided below is a summary of the baseline detailed in full within Appendix 8.1: Cultural Heritage Baseline (ES Volume 3) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.01**], Appendix 8.3: Geophysical surveys (ES Volume 3) **[EN0110012/APP/LVS/0.6.03.08.03]** and Appendix 8.4: Archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) (ES Volume 3) **[EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.04]**.

3.2 Designated Heritage Assets

3.2.1 No designated heritage assets are located within Solar Development Sites 1-4, 6-8, or the Cable Construction Compounds. One designated heritage asset is located within the Order Limits of Cable Route Corridor (CRC) 2-4. This is the Grade II listed Milestone approximately 0.5 miles east of Junction with Lowfield Road [NHLE 1148541].

3.2.2 A total of 124 designated heritage assets are located within the Study Area. These comprise:

1) Four scheduled monuments (Steeton Hall medieval magnate's residence and manorial centre [NHLE 1015504]; Danes Hills Square barrow cemetery on Crook Moor [NHLE 1016619]; Thorpe Hall moated monastic grange [NHLE 1017460]; and World War II bombing decoy control building 270 m south of Scalm Park Cottages [NHLE 1020499]).
2) Three Grade I listed buildings (Church of Saint Mary [NHLE 1316671]; Church of Saint Wilfrid NHLE 1296769]; and Church of Saint Mary [NHLE 1316671]).
3) Six Grade II* listed buildings (Gateforth Hall [NHLE 1132514]; Former Coach House and Stables Adjoining Escrick Park to the rear right [NHLE 1148489]; Monk Fryston Hall [NHLE 1148544]; Escrick Park, NHLE 1167878]; Church of St Helen [NHLE 1167966]; and Prebendal House [Monk Fryston, NHLE 1296762]).
4) 75 Grade II listed buildings (detailed in full within Appendix 8.2: Cultural Heritage Gazetteer (ES Volume 3) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.03.08.02**]).
5) Four conservation areas (Escrick, Hillam, Monk Fryston, and Riccall).
6) 32 potential military aircraft crash sites, protected under The Protection of Military Remains Act (1986) (Ref 1). It should be noted that the locations provided for many of these sites are either approximate or estimated from contemporary sources and therefore remains within the Proposed Development cannot be completely discounted.

3.2.3 There are no World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields or protected wreck sites within the Proposed Development or Study Area.

3.3 Potential Heritage Assets

3.3.1 435 heritage assets and 17 findspots are recorded within the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (NYHER) and York City Historic Environment Record (YCHER) throughout the Order Limits and Study Area. A further 215 potential heritage assets have been identified through:

1) Geophysical survey of the Solar Development Sites (44 potential assets);
2) Geophysical survey of the Cable Route Corridor (15 potential assets);
3) Desk-top historic map and LiDAR survey (127 potential assets);
4) Walkover survey (10 potential assets);
5) Important hedgerow assessment (three potential assets); and
6) Archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) of Solar Development Sites 1-4 and 6-8 (17 potential assets).

3.3.2 No heritage assets from the YCHER are located entirely or partially within the Order Limits.

Solar Development Site 1

3.3.3 The NYHER records 40 heritage assets within Solar Development Site 1. Primarily relating to historic ponds and agricultural features. A further 37 potential heritage assets have been identified through geophysical survey (17 potential assets), desktop historic map and LiDAR survey (11 potential assets), walkover survey (two potential assets), important hedgerow assessment (two potential assets) and archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) (five additional potential assets). Archaeological evaluation has confirmed the presence of a number of isolated potential settlement or agricultural sites of Iron Age or Romano-British date.

Solar Development Site 2

3.3.4 The NYHER does not currently record any heritage assets within Solar Development Site 2.

3.3.5 Two potential heritage assets have been identified through geophysical survey (one potential asset), walkover survey (one potential asset) and archaeological evaluation (three potential assets). Archaeological remains have been confirmed as present in Field 2.3 only (see Figure 2.3: Field Numbering Plan (ES Volume 2) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.02.03**]), with an area of settlement and agricultural activity, including two probably kilns, of Romano-British date.

Solar Development Site 3

3.3.6 The NYHER does not currently record any heritage assets within Solar Development Site 3.

3.3.7 Geophysical survey did not identify any areas of definite archaeological interest, although several linear and curvilinear trends are present across Solar Development Site 3. One potential heritage asset was observed during walkover survey. Archaeological evaluation confirmed the presence of historic field boundaries with no other remains identified.

Solar Development Site 4

3.3.8 The NYHER records four potential heritage assets within Solar Development Site 4, including the approximate find spot of a Roman Coffin, which is recorded as being located in the south-east corner of Solar Development Site 4. This was removed to a local churchyard at unrecorded date, and the location is estimated only.

3.3.9 A further ten potential heritage assets have been identified through geophysical survey (four potential assets), archaeological evaluation (five potential assets) and desk-top historic map and LiDAR survey (one potential asset). Archaeological evaluation confirmed the presence of two known moated sites (identified within the NYHER) and two additional areas of potential Romano-British agricultural and settlement activity.

Solar Development Site 6

3.3.10 The NYHER records nine potential heritage assets within Solar Development Site 6. A further five potential heritage assets have been identified through geophysical survey (three potential assets), important hedgerow assessment (one potential asset) and archaeological evaluation (two potential assets). A probable late Iron Age or Romano-British agricultural system was identified during archaeological evaluation including a likely Iron Age ring ditch.

Solar Development Site 7

3.3.11 The NYHER does not currently record any heritage assets within Solar Development Site 7. One potential heritage asset of possible agricultural origin was identified through archaeological evaluation (trial trenching). No diagnostic material was recovered from this feature.

Solar Development Site 8

3.3.12 The NYHER records one heritage asset within Solar Development Site 8. In addition, eight potential heritage assets have been identified through geophysical survey (one potential asset), desktop historic map and LiDAR survey (six potential assets) and archaeological evaluation (one potential asset). A ditch and ditch-terminus containing Romano-British pottery were identified during evaluation in the far north of the site.

Cable Route Corridor

3.3.13 The below summary includes all assets identified as of 20 July 2026. A total of 290.38 ha of land within the Cable Route Corridor was considered to be suitable for geophysical survey, which was completed in June 2026. Of this 290.38 ha, 231.04 ha were surveyed. The remaining 59.34 ha of land was excluded from the survey due to a variety of constraints, which are further detailed in paragraph 0.

CRC 1-4 and CRC 1-4a (Solar Development Site 1 to Solar Development Site 4)

3.3.14 The NYHER records 17 heritage assets and two findspots within CRC1-4 and CRC1-4a. Geophysical survey identified eight potential heritage assets and desktop historic mapping, and LiDAR survey identified three potential assets.

CRC 2-8 (Solar Development Site 2 to Solar Development Site 8)

3.3.15 The NYHER records no heritage assets or findspots within CRC 2-8. No potential heritage assets were identified through any of the survey methods previously described.

CRC 3-4 and CRC 3-4a (Solar Development Site 3 to Solar Development Site 4)

3.3.16 The NYHER records no heritage assets or findspots within CRC 3-4 or CRC 3-4a). Geophysical survey of CRC 3-4a identified one potential heritage asset.

CRC 2-4 (Solar Development Site 2 to Solar Development Site 4)

3.3.17 The NYHER records no heritage assets of findspots within CRC 2-4. No potential heritage assets were identified through any of the survey methods previously described.

CRC 4-POC (Solar Development Site to National Grid Monk Fryston)

3.3.18 The NYHER records nine heritage assets and no findspots within CRC 4-POC. Geophysical survey identified five potential heritage assets, and desktop historic map and LiDAR survey identified one potential asset.

CRC 2-6 (Solar Development Site 2 to Solar Development Site 6)

3.3.19 The NYHER records no heritage assets and no findspots within CRC 2-6. Two potential heritage assets have been identified through walkover survey, and one potential heritage asset has been identified through geophysical survey.

CRC 6-7 (Solar Development Site 6 to Solar Development Site 7)

3.3.20 The NYHER records no heritage assets and no findspots within CRC6-7. No potential heritage assets were identified through any of the survey methods previously described.

Highways Improvements Areas

3.3.21 The NYHER records four heritage assets and no findspots within the HIAs. Desktop historic mapping and LiDAR survey has identified 12 potential assets.

Construction Compounds

Construction Compounds

3.3.22 Three of the heritage assets and three of the potential heritage assets within the Solar Development Sites (Site 1, Site 6, and Site 8) are located within the proposed Construction Compounds. No other heritage assets or potential heritage assets identified within any of the Solar Development Sites interact with the Construction Compounds.

Cable Construction Compounds

3.3.23 One of the heritage assets within CRC 4-POC also extends within a Cable Construction Compound (Compound 5). No other heritage assets of potential heritage assets identified within the Cable Route Corridor interact with the Cable Construction Compounds.

4 Research aims

4.1 Aims and objectives

4.1.1 The overall aim of this AMS is to mitigate against the loss of any archaeological remains that may be impacted upon by the Proposed Development. Where practicable, there is a preference to conserve buried archaeological deposits through mitigation by design which will preserve them in situ (either through removal of areas from the Proposed Development or through non-intrusive construction methodologies such as concrete ground anchors). Where this is not achievable, mitigation by record will be undertaken in the form of archaeological excavation and/or archaeological monitoring. This will be achieved through the following objectives:

1) To establish the spatial extent, date, character, condition and significance of the archaeological activity in the proposed archaeological mitigation areas;
2) To recover information relating to the nature and function of past human activity represented by the surviving archaeological remains;
3) To identify areas where the conservation of archaeological features can be achieved by preservation in situ;
4) Where preservation of archaeological features in situ cannot be achieved, to excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance;
5) To assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence;
6) To interpret the nature of human activity within the Order limits and to place identified archaeological remains in their local, regional and national context as appropriate;
7) Assess the site formation processes and the effects that these may have had on the survival and integrity of the archaeological features and deposits;
8) Undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features;
9) Undertake sufficient post-excavation analysis of artefacts and environmental samples to interpret their significance;
10) Report and publish the results of the excavation and post-excavation analysis and place them within their local, regional and national context; and
11) Compile and deposit a site archive at a suitable repository and provide information for the North Yorkshire HER to ensure the long-term survival of the excavated data.

4.2 Research framework

4.2.1 The programme of archaeological investigation has the potential to contribute to research priorities identified in the Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: Research Agenda (Ref 2), South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework (Ref 3), and West Yorkshire Research Agendas (Ref 4).

4.2.2 Given the size of the Proposed Development, it is possible that evidence may be identified that can inform the objectives of the research agenda across a wide range of strategic objectives and periods. Information acquired from baseline information collated for the Proposed Development at the time of writing has been used to inform the strategic objectives identified in Table 4-1 below. These objectives will be reviewed and updated as the archaeological evaluation works proceed.

Table 4-1 Strategic research objectives

Objective	Research agenda	Research theme	Project potential
General research objectives			
Enhancing the quality of data generated by recent commercial projects.	1.3 (Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: Research Agenda, Ref 2)	Data collection	Data generated by all archaeological investigations conducted for the Proposed Development will be gathered and synthesised in accordance with industry best practice (see paragraphs 9.8.10 to 9.8.14).
Collating information concerning Yorkshire's human resources and allowing all interested parties to access this systematically on both a geographical and thematic basis	1.10 (Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: Research Agenda, Ref 2)	Data dissemination	All information gathered by the archaeological investigations conducted for the Proposed Development will be synthesised into grey literature reports, which will be uploaded to the Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations (OASIS), an online system for reporting investigations into the historic environment (Ref 5). The online entry to OASIS will facilitate the public availability of the reports on the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)

Objective	Research agenda	Research theme	Project potential
			website. Once the investigations have been finalised, public dissemination of the findings will be generated through public outreach (see Section 10.7).
For the Iron Age we have a still more chronologically-refined picture than for any of the previous periods, yet the aforementioned issue of the classification of late-prehistoric landscape features, notably enclosures, needs rationalisation; the east-west split in data density across the region limits understanding, notably in relation to mortuary practices; the interplay of pastoral and agricultural regimes needs more careful examination; and surplus extraction from rural production needs to be related to the development of social hierarchies across Yorkshire	2.5 (Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: Research Agenda, Ref 2)	Iron Age and Romano-British	Evidence from archaeological investigation has the potential to contribute to our understanding of the Iron Age in Yorkshire.
In the Romano-British period, increased chronological resolution shows some clear changes to Iron Age trajectories, but more often in pockets of development rather than across the board. The challenge is to move beyond purely military and political dynamics in explaining this diversity of response; to understand any continuity with pre-Roman trajectories in terms other than simply 'native'.	2.6 (Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: Research Agenda, (Ref 2))	Iron Age and Romano-British	Evidence from archaeological investigation has the potential to improve our understanding of the transition from the Iron Age to the Romano-British period on a local scale.
In the High Medieval period, the dearth of sites in the west with concerns beyond purely agrarian production requires detailed investigation and interpretation, as part of a more	2.8 (Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: Research Agenda, Ref 2)	Later Medieval	Evidence from archaeological investigation contributes to the understanding of the later medieval period in Yorkshire.

Objective	Research agenda	Research theme	Project potential
general study of medieval landscape contexts which the region is admirably placed to take forward. For a range of the larger settlements across Yorkshire, existing documentation should be collated as a starting point for understanding urban hierarchies, further augmented by deposit modelling based on desk-top studies, borehole data and environmental evidence, and by studying finds assemblages to elucidate types of economic activity and to characterise a town's 'footprint' on the landscape			
Project-specific strategic research objectives			
ow can we test the reliability of the assumed Iron Age and/or Romano-British settlement pattern?	QSY0022 (South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework, Ref 3)	Settlement	Archaeological investigation could provide evidence of Iron Age and/or Romano-British settlement, which could in turn provide further information on settlement patterns.
Can any clear traditions of the internal use of space within roundhouses and rectangular buildings be identified?	QSY0044 (South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework, Ref 3)	Settlement	As the presence of roundhouses has been indicated by evaluative works across the Proposed Development, evidence of their internal space could be identified.
How can we better understand depositional patterns within and around roundhouses?	QSY0046 (South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework, Ref 3)	Settlement	As the presence of roundhouses has been indicated by evaluative works across the Proposed Development, evidence of their internal and external depositional patterns could be identified.
What was the purpose of small Iron Age / Romano-British subcircular and sub-rectangular enclosures?	QSY0050 (South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework, Ref 3)	Settlement	Evidence from archaeological investigation could contribute to the understanding of Iron

Objective	Research agenda	Research theme	Project potential
			Age/Romano-British subcircular and sub-rectangular enclosures.
Can we shed further light upon the development of field and boundary systems?	QSY0026 (South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework, Ref 3)	Agricultural Landscape	Evidence from archaeological investigation could provide evidence of the development of field and boundary systems.
What may we deduce from studies of linear boundaries with respect to changes in the agrarian landscape?	QSY0028 (South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework, Ref 3)	Agricultural Landscape	Evidence from archaeological investigation could provide evidence of the changes in the agrarian landscape.
Can we identify more tangible physical traces of past human and animal movements through the landscape?	QSY0042 (South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework, Ref 3)	Agricultural Landscape	Evidence from archaeological investigation could provide evidence of past human and animal movements through the landscape.
How can we investigate the hypothesis that ditched field systems went out of use in the 3rd century?	QSY0136 (South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework, Ref 3)	Agricultural Landscape	Evidence from archaeological investigation could contribute to our understanding of ditched field systems; if securely dated, they could help investigate this hypothesis.
Can we examine cereals, accompanying weed seeds and other crop-related debris to gain information on methods of husbandry?	QSY0138 (South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework, Ref 3)	Food Production	Evidence from archaeological investigation could contribute to the understanding of husbandry methods.
How can we better establish the survival of medieval archaeological deposits, their depth, and their potential and date range?	South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework (Ref 3)	Moated Manorial Sites	Evidence from archaeological investigation could contribute to the understanding of medieval archaeological deposits.
How did manorial sites develop, how did they function, and how were they laid out?	South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework (Ref 3)	Moated Manorial Sites	Evidence from archaeological investigation could contribute to the understanding of manorial sites.

Objective	Research agenda	Research theme	Project potential
How can we investigate the internal layouts and development of moated sites?	South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework (Ref 3)	Moated Manorial Sites	Two medieval moated sites have been recorded within Solar Development Site 4. Evidence from the archaeological evaluation could contribute to our understanding of their internal layouts and overall development.
How can we assess and harness the palaeoenvironmental potential of medieval moats?	South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework (Ref 3)	Moated Manorial Sites	Two medieval moated sites have been recorded within Solar Development Site 4. Palaeoenvironmental evidence from the archaeological evaluation will be assessed.
What was the extent and nature of field systems associated with known medieval villages?	South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework (Ref 3)	Agricultural Landscape	Evidence from archaeological investigation could contribute to the understanding of field systems associated with known medieval villages.

5 Standards and guidance

5.1.1 All archaeological mitigation works will be undertaken to fully meet the requirements of all nationally recognised guidance for such work, including standards laid down by the former English Heritage (EH) (now Historic England (HE)) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

5.1.2 The programme of archaeological mitigation and post-excavation work will be managed in line with the standards laid down in the Historic England guideline publication Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Managers Guide (Ref 6) and the MoRPHE Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation (PPN3) (Ref 7), as well as to meet the requirements of Paragraph 5.9.19 of NPS EN-1 (Ref 8) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF; Chapter 16: 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment'; Ref 9).

5.1.3 Guidance of particular relevance to the programme of works are:

1) Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (Ref 10)
2) Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (Ref 11)
3) Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Code of Conduct (Ref 12)
4) Standard for archaeological monitoring and recording (Ref 13)
5) Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording (Ref 14)
6) Standard for archaeological field evaluation (Ref 15)
7) Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation (Ref 16)
8) Standard for archaeological excavation (Ref 17)
9) Universal guidance for archaeological excavation (Ref 18)
10) Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: PPN3: Archaeological Excavation (Ref 7)

6 Scope of mitigation fieldwork

6.1.1 The programme of archaeological mitigation will comprise the following elements:

1) Preservation in situ;
2) Two targeted trial trenches;
3) Archaeological Excavation; and
4) Archaeological Monitoring (Watching brief).

6.1.2 The form of mitigation has been determined based on an assessment of the potential for archaeological remains to survive within specific areas of the Proposed Development based on all archaeological information obtained during previous stages of archaeological investigation, together with the assessed potential character and significance of any such remains, and the potential impact that the Proposed Development could have on these. The detailed methodology for undertaking the various elements of the archaeological mitigation fieldwork is provided in Section 7.5 of this AMS. The mitigation work will be followed by a programme of post-excavation assessment, analysis, reporting, publication and dissemination (see Sections 8 and 9).

6.1.3 Archaeological mitigation strategies for specific areas are outlined in Table 6-1. below and the areas are marked in plan on Figure 8.4: Archaeological Mitigation Areas (ES Volume 2) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.08.04.02**].

6.1.4 Where features in Site 1 have been excluded from the Proposed Development to be used for environmental mitigation, any works involving the removal of topsoil, such as the creation of scrapes, will be archaeologically monitored by the Archaeological Contractor.

6.1.5 The final mitigation approach for each field identified in Table 6-1, based on Section 3 of this document, will be agreed as a WSI with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council prior to commencement of any archaeological mitigation works, which will take place prior to the commencement of the Proposed Development within that field (including other permitted preliminary works as defined in the draft DCO Application that are not archaeological mitigation works).

6.1.6 In finalising the mitigation approach in Solar Development Sites 3 and 4, the Applicant will make efforts to seek to co-ordinate with any fieldwork or mitigation approaches (and associated research aims and approach to recording, sampling, reporting, dissemination and archiving) proposed to be undertaken by other projects on those sites (noting that such coordination will be dependent on the other parties engaging with the Applicant), and the Applicant's efforts in this regard (where they are required) will be set out in the WSI.

Table 6-1 Archaeological mitigation strategies

Site	Field nos.	Mitigation area ref.	Archaeological potential	Proposed mitigation type	Other ref.	Indicative area (ha)
Solar Development Sites						
1	1.13	-	Possible ditched enclosure	Two additional evaluation trenches	GS_S1_17	2 x 50 x 2 m trenches
1	1.16	-	Possible Iron Age/Romano-British settlement	Preservation *in situ* (concrete feet or other non-ground penetrative techniques)	GS_S1_14	0.67
1	1.17	-	Possible Iron Age/Romano-British settlement	Preservation *in situ* (concrete feet or other non-ground penetrative techniques)	GS_S1_15	0.74
1	1.25	SDS_SMS_ Area_A	Iron Age rectilinear enclosure	Strip, Map, Sample	GS_S1_18	0.16
1	1.28	SDS_SMS_ Area_B	Iron Age/Romano-British features. Possible extension of settlement [GS_S1_19] in 1.29	Strip, Map, Sample	GS_S1_19 (part of)	0.03
1	1.28	-	Iron Age/Romano-British features. Possible settlement	Preservation *in situ* (concrete feet or other non-ground penetrative techniques)	GS_S1_21	0.6
1	1.29	SDS_SMS_ Area_C	Iron Age/Romano-British features. Possible settlement	Strip, Map, Sample	GS_S1_20	0.32
1	1.29	-	Possible Iron Age/Romano-British settlement	Preservation *in situ* (concrete feet or other non-ground penetrative techniques)	GS_S1_19 (part of)	0.56
1	1.37	SDS_SMS_ Area_D	Iron Age/Romano-British features	Strip, Map, Sample	GS_S1_25 (part of)	0.21

Site	Field nos.	Mitigation area ref.	Archaeological potential	Proposed mitigation type	Other ref.	Indicative area (ha)
1	1.39	-	Intercutting features indicative of nucleated Iron Age/Romano-British settlement	Excluded from Proposed Development.	GS_S1_25 (part of)	0.42
1	1.40	-	Intercutting features indicative of nucleated Iron Age/Romano-British settlement	Excluded from Proposed Development.	GS_S1_26	0.17
1	1.45	-	Intercutting features indicative of nucleated Iron Age/Romano-British settlement	Excluded from Proposed Development.	GS_S1_27	0.54
2	2.3	-	Romano-British field system, settlement and industrial area (pottery kilns)	Preservation *in situ* (concrete feet or other non-ground penetrative techniques)	GS_S2_1	3.73
4	4.5	-	Medieval moated site	Preservation *in situ* (concrete feet or other non-ground penetrative techniques)	GS_4_1; MNY9905	1.09
4	4.12	-	Medieval moated site	Preservation *in situ* (concrete feet or other non-ground penetrative techniques)	GS_4_2; MNY9907	0.44
4	4.12	SDS_SMS_Area_E	Romano-British features	Strip, Map, Sample	GS_4_3	1.33
4	4.14	-	Romano-British field system and settlement.	Excluded from Proposed Development and reserved for non-intrusive mitigation.	GS_S4_5	3.97
6	6.3	SDS_SMS_Area_F	Iron Age/Romano-British field system and ring ditch	Strip, Map, Sample	GS_S6_2; GS_S6_4	0.60

Site	Field nos.	Mitigation area ref.	Archaeological potential	Proposed mitigation type	Other ref.	Indicative area (ha)
8	8.2	SDS_SMS_Area_G	Romano-British features	Strip, Map, Sample	GS_S8_1	0.003
Cable Route Corridor						
CRC 1-4	CR23	CRC_SMS_Area_A	Ring ditch	Strip, Map, Sample	CGS_C1-4_6	0.14
CRC 1-4	CR40	CRC_SMS_Area_B	Field system	Strip, Map, Sample	CGS_C1-4_1	0.58
CRC 4-POC	CR418	CRC_SMS_Area_C	Partial enclosure	Strip, Map, Sample	CGS_C4POC_1	0.59
CRC 4-POC	CR387	CRC_SMS_Area_D	Iron Age/Romano-British field system and ring ditch. This group of assets lies within a potential important complex of ritual activity, which includes two cropmarks representing possible hengiform monuments; these are located c.100m southwest of the Order Limits. The double-ditched trackway and ring ditch within this field system may instead represent a continuation of the ritual complex.	Strip, Map, Sample	CGS_C4POC_2	4.2
CRC 4-POC	CR365	CRC_SMS_Area_E	Partial enclosure	Strip, Map, Sample	CGS_C4POC_3	0.82

6.1.7 Within the Cable Route Corridor, following the development of the final project design and refinement of areas of impact within the Order Limits, the size of areas subject to strip, map and sample may be revised.

Solar Development Site 8 Access (Scalm Lane)

6.1.8 Access to Solar Development Site 8 will be refined post-consent and may require additional mitigation due to the presence of the following heritage assets recorded on the North Yorkshire HER:

1) Possible most south-west of Low Rest Park Farm [MNY17167], within the Order Limits;
2) Moat, Sherburn-In-Elmet [MNY10342], within Order the Limits;
3) Enclosure, Sherburn-In-Elmet [MNY10320], 120 m from the Order Limits;
4) Enclosure, Sherburn-In-Elmet [MNY10321], 75 m from the Order Limits; and
5) Enclosures in Rest Park [MNY17170] 85 m from Order the Limits.

6.1.9 If access to Solar Development Site 8 utilises the Scalm Lane route, advance consultation will be undertaken with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire to determine appropriate mitigation which may involve archaeological monitoring or strip, map and sample excavation. Any mitigation will be agreed with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire.

Highways Improvements Areas

6.1.10 Where topsoil stripping is confirmed as required for access improvement works, advance consultation will be undertaken with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire, confirming the extent and depth of impacts, to determine where archaeological monitoring of these works will be undertaken.

7 Fieldwork Methodology

7.1 Personnel

7.1.1 The archaeological mitigation works, and post-excavation assessment and analysis of the results, will be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced professional archaeological contractors, that will adhere to the CIfA Code of Conduct (Ref 12) and all appropriate standards and guidance (Ref 13, Ref 14, Ref 15, Ref 16, and Ref 17).

7.1.2 Details of the CVs of the appointed contractor's key personnel and specialists will be provided to the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council in advance of the commencement of fieldwork, following appointment of the archaeological contractor. The appointed archaeological contractor's Project Manager for the project must be able to demonstrate competence and experience of managing archaeological projects of a similar size, nature and complexity. The appointed archaeological contractor will ensure they have the required capacity to deliver the works.

7.2 Project Initialisation

7.2.1 The Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council will be informed at least one week in advance of the commencement of any fieldwork, or stages of fieldwork, within the Proposed Development.

7.2.2 Prior to the commencement of archaeological fieldwork, the appointed archaeological contractor will familiarise themselves with all existing documentation and reports relating to previous stages of archaeological investigation within the Proposed Development and any other relevant documents as necessary.

7.2.3 The appointed archaeological contractor will be provided with all available information relating to health and safety within the Order Limits, including any mapped utilities and any other constraints that may affect the mitigation works.

7.2.4 All works will be archived under the accession number obtained from the appropriate archives. The appointed archaeological contractors will complete all archive deposition forms as required.

7.2.5 Before fieldwork commences, an Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations (OASIS) online record will be initiated, and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creator forms.

7.3 Preservation in situ

7.3.1 Where practicable, areas of potentially extensive or significant archaeological remains will be preserved *in situ*.

7.3.2 Four areas containing probable extensive remains identified by non-intrusive survey and confirmed by trial trenching within the Proposed Development will be

excluded from any development (see Table 6-1 above and Figure 8.4: Archaeological Mitigation Areas (ES Volume 2) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.08.04**]). The management of these excluded areas is detailed in the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan **[EN010168/APP/LVS/07.12]**.

7.3.3 A further seven areas (see Figure 8.4: Archaeological Mitigation Areas (ES Volume 2) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.08.04**]) have been identified within the Solar Development Sites through non-intrusive investigations and confirmed by evaluation trenching (Ref 19, Ref 20, Ref 21, Ref 22, Ref 23 and Ref 24), as containing archaeological features. Although impacts on any such remains from the Solar PV Mounting Structures would be limited, the potential for any impact will be mitigated through the use of non-intrusive construction methodology (such as surface mounted pre-cast concrete ground anchors, which is a standard accepted approach to removing the impact of Solar PV Mounting Structures upon potential archaeological sub-surface remains), or through locating piles to avoid archaeology or cause minimal disturbance. The use of a non-intrusive methodology will depend on the final design. If a non-intrusive methodology is deemed unsuitable, a strip map and sample approach will be considered as a suitable alternative in accordance with the final design with the final approach agreed with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

7.4 Additional surveys

Trial trench evaluation

7.4.1 Archaeological evaluation has identified the presence of a possible ditched enclosure within Field 1.13 of Solar Development Site 1. Based on current evidence, these remains do not appear to be extensive or potentially significant enough to warrant Strip, Map and Sample excavation, or preservation in situ. Two trial trenches will be employed, in order to clarify the true extent of the remains.

7.4.2 The trenches will measure 2 m by 50 m. Overburden will be stripped mechanically under the supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist, until the natural geology or archaeological horizon (whichever comes first) is reached. The stripped surface will be kept clean and free of loose spoil until fully archaeologically investigated and recorded.

7.4.3 Where depth of excavation is required to be greater than 1 m, suitable stepping will be employed.

7.4.4 All archaeological features and deposits revealed will be cleaned and excavated by hand in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to establish their extent, form, date, function and relationship to other features.

7.4.5 Where it is established that the trenches do not contain archaeological remains, these areas will be signed-off to allow for siting of solar panels within this area of Solar Development Site 1, following agreement with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

7.5 Archaeological excavation

7.5.1 'Strip, Map and Sample' excavation will be employed where archaeological evaluation has identified potential archaeological remains, that, based on current evidence, do not appear to be extensive or potentially significant enough to warrant Open-Area excavation.

Mechanical excavation

7.5.2 Topsoil or overburden across the mitigation excavation areas (see Table 6-1) will be stripped using 360° tracked excavators fitted with a toothless, flat bladed, grading bucket, down to the first significant archaeological horizon or natural sub-soil.

7.5.3 All mechanical excavation will be undertaken under direct archaeological supervision, by a suitably experienced and qualified archaeologist, with one archaeologist responsible for monitoring each excavator.

7.5.4 All areas of excavation will be scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) prior to ground works commencing. Necessary measures will be taken to avoid disturbing any services.

7.5.5 Mechanical excavators will work backwards from the starting point of the excavation to avoid tracking over stripped areas.

7.5.6 Mechanical excavators and other plant will not track or drive over an area that has been stripped until an archaeologist has confirmed that no archaeological remains are present, or that any features have been fully archaeologically recorded.

7.5.7 The stripped surface will be kept clean and free of loose spoil until fully archaeologically investigated and recorded.

7.5.8 If required, areas of archaeological remains will be fenced-off to prevent accidental damage.

7.5.9 Spoil from mechanical excavation will be scanned by eye and by metal detector to aid the recovery of finds.

7.5.10 Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately. Excavated topsoil will be redeposited at a location to be determined in agreement with the principal contractor and the Applicant. All spoil will be stored and managed safely in line with the standards of the Construction Code of Practice for Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites (Ref 27). Soils will be reinstated in order, i.e. subsoil first than subsoil, in line with the Good Practice Guide for Handling Soils (Ref 28).

7.5.11 Where depth of excavation is required to be greater than 1m, suitable stepping will be employed.

7.5.12 Once exposed, archaeological features will be hand excavated and recorded in line with strategy detailed below.

Hand excavation and recording

7.5.13 There are seven areas containing archaeological remains within the Solar Development Sites, identified through evaluation trenching (see Figure 8.4: Archaeological Mitigation Areas (ES Volume 2) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.08.04**]) in which 'Strip, Map and Sample' excavation will be employed. These areas either contain significant archaeological remains or are located where extensive groundworks are proposed, such as for substations or the BESS.

7.5.14 There are five areas containing probable archaeological remains identified by non-intrusive survey within the Cable Route Corridor (see Figure 8.4: Archaeological Mitigation Areas (ES Volume 2) [**EN0110012/APP/LVS/06.02.08.04**]) in which 'Strip, Map and Sample' excavation will be employed.

The geophysical survey was completed within the Cable Route Corridor in Summer 2026: of the 328.5 ha of land within the Cable Route Corridor, only 290.38 ha were considered to be surveyable. Within the 290.38 ha of surveyable land, geophysical survey was carried out within 231.04 ha, with 23.47 ha excluded from the survey due to its inclusion within previous archaeological investigation for the Monk Fryston Substation development; the remaining 35.87 ha of land was unavailable to survey. This land was not surveyed due to various constraints which prohibited the use of geophysical survey equipment, such as the presence of dense woodland, difficult vegetation, water courses, crops which were too high to allow survey, and unsafe topography.

7.5.15 Following machine topsoil excavation, a pre-excavation plan of identified potential archaeological features will be produced. This plan will be used to agree an excavation sampling strategy with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council, in order to decide which features, require hand excavation and the 'sample' of how much of these features should be excavated.

7.5.16 An indicative sampling strategy is provided below, but if archaeological remains are identified of either a lesser or greater extent / significance than anticipated, this may be subject to a change in scope following liaison with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

1) 100% excavation of all stake-holes;
2) 100% excavation of all structural, funerary or ritual features;
3) 100% excavation of all post-holes and pits with a diameter of less than 0.4 m;
4) 50% excavation of pits between 0.4 m and 1.5 m in diameter;
5) 25% excavation of pits with a diameter of over 1.5 m. This will include a complete section across the pit to recover its full profile;
6) 20% excavation of all linear features, up to 5 m in length; and

7) Reduced percentage excavation of longer linear features, to be agreed with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

7.5.17 All archaeological features and deposits revealed will be cleaned and excavated by hand in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to establish their extent, form, date, function and relationship to other features. All features will be investigated to understand the full stratigraphic sequence down to naturally occurring deposits.

7.5.18 Any excavation, by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be demonstrably worthy of preservation in situ. No machine excavation of archaeological deposits or features will be undertaken without agreement from the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

7.5.19 There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits will be established across the site.

7.5.20 During the Strip, Map and Sample excavation, where it has been established that areas of the site under investigation do not contain archaeological remains, these areas will be signed-off to allow for construction groundworks to proceed, following agreement with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

7.6 Archaeological monitoring

7.6.1 Archaeological monitoring (a 'watching brief') will be undertaken on specific areas of groundworks where topsoil stripping is required as part of the construction process Monitoring will be undertaken on scrapes undertaken as part of the Bird Mitigation Area within Site 1 and on topsoil stripping associated with Site 8 Access should the Scalm Lane option be taken forward (subject to final design and the agreement of the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council).

7.6.2 Where topsoil stripping is required as part of HIAs or where geophysical survey cannot be undertaken as part of the CRC, any requirement for archaeological monitoring will be agreed in consultation with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

7.6.3 All topsoil or overburden stripping across these areas will be undertaken using 360° tracked excavators fitted with toothless, flat bladed, grading buckets, down to the first significant archaeological horizon or natural sub-soil. All machine stripping will be undertaken in line with the methodology in paragraphs 7.5.2 to 7.5.11 of this AMS.

7.6.4 A suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist will monitor groundworks in the specified areas and record any features in line with the recording methodology for excavation detailed above. The archaeological monitoring of construction groundworks will include the following:

1) Archaeological inspection of overburden / topsoil removal;

2) Inspection of subsoil for archaeological features; and

3) Excavation, recording and environmental sampling of features necessary to determine their date and character.

7.6.5 The principal contractor, or any other groundworks contractors operating on site, will allow sufficient time for any archaeological features to be excavated, sampled and recorded to meet the requirements of this AMS.

7.6.6 Every effort will be made to implement the archaeological monitoring without affecting the construction timetable, however, some limited suspension of groundworks in specific areas of the Proposed Development under investigation may be required in order to record and sample any archaeological evidence uncovered (in line with the 'Strip, Map and Sample' methodology provided in this AMS). The length of stoppage time will be determined by the nature of archaeological features or deposits identified.

7.6.7 Where it can be demonstrated that survival conditions are such that archaeological potential is negligible, the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council will be informed and as agreed, the archaeological monitoring suspended in specific areas.

7.6.8 The results of the archaeological monitoring will be fully integrated with results of the excavation stage and the overall post-excavation assessment and analysis.

8 Recording and sampling of archaeological remains

8.1.1 All archaeological features and deposits revealed will be excavated by hand in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to establish their extent, form, date, function and relationship to other features.

8.1.2 All features will be investigated to understand the full stratigraphic sequence down to naturally occurring deposits. Where depth of excavation is required to be greater than safe working depth, suitable stepping will be employed.

8.1.3 Metal detector searches will take place at all stages of the mitigation fieldwork, over archaeological features and excavated spoil in accordance with the Historic England guidance Our Portable Past. Guidance for Good Practice (Ref 32). Any metal finds will be located using a survey-grade Global Positioning System (GPS) and metal detectors will be set not to discriminate against iron. Metal detecting will also be conducted over the surface of all exposed features before the end of each working day as a countermeasure to 'nighthawking'.

8.1.4 The stripped surface will be kept clean and free of loose spoil until fully archaeologically investigated and recorded. Wherever possible, spoil arising during hand-cleaning and hand-excavation will be piled beyond the limits of excavation.

8.1.5 A full written, drawn and photographic record will be made of all features revealed during the course of the archaeological mitigation works.

8.1.6 All archaeological features or deposits encountered will be described fully on pro-forma individual context recording sheets, using standard methods of the archaeological contractor appointed.

8.1.7 Plans will be completed at a scale of 1:20 with a site plan at 1:100 (as appropriate), with section drawings at a scale of 1:10. All plans will be tied in with the Ordnance Survey National Grid with levels given to above OD using cm accurate survey grade GPS equipment.

8.1.8 A photographic record, utilising high resolution digital photography of a minimum of 12 megapixels and unprocessed (in a raw, unedited form), will be maintained during the course of the fieldwork and recorded in a photographic register. This will include:

1) The site prior to commencement of fieldwork;
2) The site during work, showing specific stages of fieldwork; the layout of archaeological features within the site;
3) Individual features and, where appropriate, their sections; and
4) Groups of features where their relationship is important.

8.1.9 All photography will follow industry best practice (Ref 29). Images will be converted to uncompressed baseline v.6 TIFF for archiving. All images will have

accompanying metadata specifying; photo ID, capture device, converting software, colour space, bit depth, resolution, date of capture, photographer, caption, and any alterations made to the image.

8.2 Finds recovery

8.2.1 All identified finds will be collected and retained and bagged and labelled according to their context. Finds of significant interest will be given a 'special finds' number, and information on their location in three dimensions will be entered on a separate pro-forma sheet.

8.2.2 No finds will be discarded without assessment by an appropriate finds specialist, and/or the approval of the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

8.2.3 It is anticipated that unstratified 20th and 21st century material will be noted, spot dated as required and discarded.

8.2.4 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner during the excavation stage. Finds will be exposed, lifted, bagged, conserved and stored in accordance with the guidelines set out in the CIfA guidelines Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (Ref 11).

8.2.5 The provisions of the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended) (Ref 30), and the Treasure (Designation) Order 2002 (Ref 31) will be followed with regard to any finds that might fall within its purview. All finds of gold and silver, and associated objects, will be reported to the coroner according to the procedures under the Treasure Act 1996 (and the Act's amendment of 2003 to include prehistoric objects such as Bronze Age metalworking hoards and other non-precious metal items), after discussion with the Applicant, the landowner, the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council and the Finds Liaison Officer.

8.3 Paleoenvironmental sampling

8.3.1 The paleoenvironmental sampling strategy will be identified prior to each stage of construction works with consideration to identifying a targeted approach that links to site-specific aims and objectives. In line with English Heritage guidelines Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (Ref 33), the sampling strategy will be aimed at identifying:

1) The nature of biological remains present;
2) The preservation of identified remains;
3) Any patterns in concentration and distribution; and
4) The significance of identified remains

8.3.2 Soil samples will be taken from all suitable features or deposits for palaeoenvironmental sampling. This will comprise the removal of a bulk sample from every securely sealed and hand-excavated context, excepting those with

excessive levels of residuality or those with minimal 'soil' content (such as building rubble).

8.3.3 Bulk samples will comprise representative 40 litre samples, or more if appropriate. Where a context does not yield 40 litres of material, smaller samples will be taken (generally the maximum amount of material that it is practicable to collect). Bulk samples will be used to recover a sub-sample of charred macroplant material, faunal remains and artefacts. Suitable deposits will also be sampled for industrial residues.

8.3.4 If buried soils or other deposits are encountered, column samples may be taken for micromorphological and pollen analysis. Environmental material will be stored in controlled environments and specialists will be consulted during the course of the work as necessary.

8.3.5 Depending on the nature of deposits being sampled, a qualified and experienced palaeoenvironmental specialist will be consulted. If required, they will undertake site visits to discuss the sampling strategy and assist in any required fieldwork. The advice of the Historic England Regional Science Advisor will be sought as appropriate.

8.3.6 All environmental work will be undertaken in accordance with English Heritage guidelines Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (Ref 33).

8.4 Human remains

8.4.1 The Ministry of Justice and the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council will be informed if human remains are found. The contractor will comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act 1981 or other Burial Acts, as amended by the draft DCO Application, regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains.

8.4.2 If human remains are encountered, they will be cleaned with minimal disturbance, prior to recording and removal, following receipt of the required Ministry of Justice licence. The burials will only be lifted by, or under supervision of, suitably experienced specialist staff and in accordance with the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England (APABE) and English Heritage (EH) guidance Science and the dead: A guide for the Destructive Sampling of Archaeological Human Remains for Scientific Analysis (Ref 34) and Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England (2nd Edition) (Ref 35) and the Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains (Ref 36). If required a qualified and experienced osteoarchaeologist will undertake site visits to discuss the preservation in situ and recording and assist in the later removal of any human skeletal remains. Assessment of excavated human remains will be undertaken in line with Human Bones from archaeological sites: Guidelines for the production of assessment documents and analytical reports (Ref 37).

8.4.3 The archaeological contractor will comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the method of removal, re-interment, or disposal of the remains or associated items. Every effort will be made, at all times, not to cause offence to any interested parties.

8.4.4 If required, a qualified and experienced osteoarchaeologist will undertake site visits to discuss the recording and assist in the removal of any human skeletal remains (Ref 38).

8.5 Strategy review

Unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries

8.5.1 Should unexpectedly extensive, complex or significant remains be uncovered that warrant, in the professional judgment of the archaeologists on site, more detailed recording or extensive excavation than is appropriate in the terms of this AMS, the scope of the AMS will be reviewed.

9 Reporting, dissemination and archiving

9.1 Post-excavation assessment

9.1.1 Upon completion of the archaeological fieldwork, the finds, soil samples and stratigraphic information will be assessed for their potential and significance for further analysis.

9.1.2 An assessment report on the fieldwork will be produced within an agreed timetable following the completion of the fieldwork, which will inform the production of an Updated Project Design (UPD) detailing the methodology for the analysis and publication stage if necessary.

9.2 Finds processing

9.2.1 All finds will be treated in a proper manner during the post-excavation stage and to standards agreed in advance with the appropriate archives. Finds will be cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and stored in accordance with the guidelines set out in the CIfA guidelines Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (Ref 11).

9.2.2 In accordance with the procedures outlined in Guidelines on the X-radiography of archaeological metalwork (Ref 39), x-radiography will be undertaken on metalwork where required to clarify object morphology, which has been obscured by the process of deterioration / burial.

9.2.3 All material will be packed and stored in optimum conditions, as described in First Aid for Finds (Ref 40). Waterlogged organic materials will be dealt with in line with the Historic England guidance documents, Waterlogged Organic Artefacts. Guidelines on their Recovery, Analysis and Conservation (Ref 41) and Waterlogged Wood. Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood (Ref 42), as well as with consideration to the draft version of Waterlogged Wood, which is currently being consulted on (Ref 43).

9.2.4 The finds assessment will be reported in the overall post-excavation assessment report and include proposals for full analysis to be incorporated into the UPD.

9.2.5 Finds for dating will be submitted to specialists promptly, so as to ensure that results are available to aid development of the UPD for the analysis stage.

9.2.6 For ceramic assemblages, recording will be carried out in a manner compatible with existing typological series in local pottery reference collections. Reporting on ceramic artefacts and pottery should follow the guidance given in ‘A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology’ (Ref 44) and endorsed by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group, the Study Group for Roman Pottery, and the Medieval Pottery Research Group.

9.3 Environmental sample processing

9.3.1 The processing of all palaeoenvironmental samples will be undertaken in line with the requirements of the English Heritage publications 'Archaeological Science at PPG16 Interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists' (Ref 45) and 'Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation' (Ref 33).

9.3.2 The samples will be processed, and ecofacts collected and assessed with regard to the potential for detailed analysis of pollen, charred plant macrofossils, land molluscs, faunal remains (including small mammals and fish) and soil micromorphology. Samples suitable for radiocarbon, or other dating methods, will also be identified. The environmental assessment will be reported within the overall post-excavation assessment report and include proposals for full analysis to be incorporated into the Updated Project Design (UPD). Unprocessed sub-samples will be stored in conditions specified by the appropriate specialists.

9.3.3 Samples for dating will be submitted to specialists promptly, so as to ensure that results are available to aid development of the UPD for the analysis stage.

9.4 Human remains processing

9.4.1 If discovered, human remains will be processed following national standards and guidance, including 'Human Bones from Archaeological Sites: Guidelines for Producing Assessment Documents and Analytical Reports' (Ref 37), 'Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains' (Ref 36), and 'Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England' (2nd edition) (Ref 35). Processing will be undertaken by experienced specialists trained in the identification of human remains and who are familiar with delicate areas of the skeleton that need careful preservation, important areas required for an individual identification (e.g. age and sex), as well as potentially pathologically altered bones.

9.4.2 Where specialist processing may be required, for example where samples may be required for DNA analysis, specialist advice will be sought to minimise potential contamination. The human remains will be placed in breathable bags and labelled and boxed protected by polyethylene 3 mm foam sheeting and in line with any specific archive requirements.

9.4.3 Cremation burials will be processed by removing the fill of the vessel in 5 mm to 10 mm spits, recording the distribution and density of the bone per spit following guidance by Mitchell and Brickley (Ref 36). Fills will be wet sieved over a 1 mm mesh with retrieval of burnt bone, pyre debris such as charcoal and botanical remains, and the remains air-dried and hand-sorted.

9.5 Conservation

9.5.1 If required at the assessment stage or earlier, conservation will be undertaken by approved conservators in line with the 'First Aid for Finds guidelines' (Ref 40). Material considered vulnerable will be selected for stabilisation after specialist

recording. Where intervention is necessary, consideration must be given to possible investigative procedures (e.g. glass composition studies, residues in or on pottery, and mineral preserved organic material).

9.6 Assessment report

9.6.1 The results of the fieldwork and post-excavation assessment stage will be presented in an integrated assessment report to allow an informed decision to be made on the future analysis and publication of the project.

9.6.2 As a minimum the assessment report shall contain the following information:

1) A title page, with the name of the project, the name of the author(s) of the report, the title of the report and date of the report;
2) A non-technical summary of the scope, methodology and results of the work;
3) Introduction which includes site code/project number, planning reference number and dates when the fieldwork took place, grid reference;
4) Description of the aims, methodology and extent of fieldwork completed;
5) Factual assessments of stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental evidence;
6) Factual assessment of stratigraphic evidence to include interpretation, covering phasing of the site sequence and integrating spot-dating of ceramics or other material;
7) Factual assessment of the artefactual evidence, where applicable including inspection of X-radiographs of all iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including coins) and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy;
8) Factual assessment of the environmental evidence;
9) An assessment of the archaeological potential of the stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental records;
10) Proposals for the selection of samples or sub-samples for further analysis and reporting;
11) Identification of interim and long-term conservation and storage requirements;
12) UPD detailing proposed programme for analysis and publication;
13) Proposed format for analysis reporting and publication of the results;
14) Conclusions;
15) Details of archive location and destination (with accession number(s)), together with a catalogue of what is contained in that archive;
16) Copy of the OASIS entry form and any entry updates;

17) Appendices, illustrations and figures, as appropriate; and

18) References and bibliography of all sources used.

9.6.3 Copies of the draft assessment report will be provided in both MS Word and PDF formats and submitted to the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council for comment.

9.6.4 All survey data will be provided in PDF/A format at a suitable scale, together with AutoCAD DWG files or Esri Shapefiles, as required.

9.6.5 A digital copy of the final assessment report will be provided to in PDF/A format to:

1) The Applicant;

2) North Yorkshire Council HER;

3) Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council for dissemination to the Local Planning Authority; and

4) Historic England Regional Science Advisor.

9.6.6 Digital copies of the final assessment report will also be submitted to OASIS and ADS to allow the results to be accessible on-line to the wider archaeological community and general public.

9.6.7 The assessment report will be used to inform the scope of UPD detailing the methodology for further analysis and dating of artefacts, soil samples and stratigraphic information. This will include a selection strategy in order to establish what records and finds will be retained as part of the final archaeological archive, in line with CIfA guidance (Ref 10).

9.7 Post-excavation analysis

9.7.1 The scope of work for the analysis stage will be detailed in the UPD and a detailed publication quality report produced following the results of the analysis as required.

9.7.2 The analysis stage will also draw on the results of all previous archaeological investigations within and adjacent to the Proposed Development, to produce a coherent and comprehensive record of the archaeological resource.

9.7.3 The following is provided as a guide to the potential content of the analysis report, but this will be reviewed within the UPD as necessary. As a minimum, the analysis report shall contain the following information:

1) A title page, with the name of the project, the name of the author(s) of the report, the title of the report and date of the report;

2) A non-technical summary of the scope, methodology and results of the work;

3) Introduction which includes site code/project number, planning reference number, dates when the fieldwork took place, grid reference;

4) A description of, and a background to, the works and its aims and objectives;
5) A description of the site location and the archaeological and historical context for the area;
6) An account of the methods and results of the fieldwork, describing both structural data and associated finds and/or environmental data recovered;
7) The results and interpretation of specialist analysis of stratigraphic records, artefacts, environmental and scientific samples, as necessary and based upon the requirements identified at the assessment stage and detailed in the UPD;
8) An analysis of the archaeological significance of the deposits identified, in relation to other sites in the region;
9) Details of archive selection strategy
10) Conclusions;
11) Details of archive location and destination (with accession number) together with a catalogue of what is contained in that archive; and
12) Appendices and figures, as appropriate, including a copy of the updated project design; and References and bibliography of all sources used.

9.7.4 Digital copies of the report will be provided in draft form in MS Word and PDF format to the Applicant and the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council. Two iterations of the draft analysis report based on consultee and Applicants comments will be allowed for.

9.7.5 The appointed archaeological contractor shall rectify any defects and make any amendments as identified by the Archaeological Clerk of Works (ACoW), the Applicant and the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council and shall subsequently submit the final report within an agreed programme, following receipt of any comments.

9.7.6 Final copies of the analysis report (in PDF/A format) will be produced, and submitted to the following, together with all other digital information in industry standard formats as required:

1) North Yorkshire Council HER;
2) Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council to distribute to the Local Planning Authority; and
3) Historic England Regional Science Advisor.

9.7.7 Digital copies of the final analysis report and the digital archive will be submitted to OASIS and ADS to allow the results of the work to be accessible on-line to the wider archaeological community and general public.

9.7.8 The preparation of a publication report for an appropriate journal (or in another agreed form) will be required if the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire

Council considers the results significant enough to warrant dissemination to a wider audience.

9.7.9 Provision will be made for publicising the results of the work locally, e.g. by presenting a paper at village halls, talking to local societies etc.

9.8 Archiving and data management

Archive content

9.8.1 The Archaeological Fieldwork Contractor will contact Yorkshire Museum in advance of commencing any fieldwork to determine the preparation, and deposition of the archive and finds, and agree any additional accession numbers for all archaeological works.

9.8.2 The archive will be prepared in accordance with the CIfA guidelines detailed in Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (Ref 10).

9.8.3 The preparation of the archive will also be informed by the Guidelines for the preparation of archives for long-term storage (Ref 46), Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections (Ref 47), and in accordance with the Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy for Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber (Ref 48). Provision will be made for the stable storage of paper records and their long-term storage.

9.8.4 The landowner will be encouraged to transfer ownership of the finds to the relevant archive. The archive will be presented to Yorkshire Museum within six months of completion of all fieldwork, unless alternative arrangements have been agreed in writing with North Yorkshire Council (NYC).

9.8.5 Adequate resources will be provided during fieldwork to ensure that all records are checked and internally consistent. Archive consolidation will be undertaken immediately following the conclusion of fieldwork and will include the following work:

1) The site record will be checked, cross-referenced and indexed as necessary;
2) All retained finds will be cleaned, conserved, marked and packaged in accordance with the requirements of Yorkshire Museum;
3) All retained finds will be assessed and recorded using pro forma recording sheets, by suitably qualified and experienced staff.
4) Initial artefact dating will be integrated within the site matrix; and
5) All retained environmental samples will be processed by suitably experienced and qualified staff.

9.8.6 The archive will consist of paper records and digital data, as well as finds and samples as selected. Not all material collected or created during the course of the works will require preservation in perpetuity, and the final contents of the

archive will be subject to selection prior to the accession of the archive to the Yorkshire Museum, in line with a Selection Strategy agreed with Light Valley Solar Ltd and NYC.

9.8.7 The selected contents of the archive will be appropriate to establish the significance of the results of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities. Selection will be focused on selecting what is to be retained to support these future needs. Methods for disposing of de-selected material will be agreed with the landowner and other relevant stakeholders.

9.8.8 A copy of the digital archive will be submitted to NYC on completion of all work, for integration into the HER.

9.8.9 An OASIS form will be completed for the project and an electronic copy of the final report and the digital archive deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).

Data Management

9.8.10 A Data Management Plan will be created and managed by the appointed archaeological contractor on commencement of the project, which will outline the strategy for the sharing and preservation of the project's digital data.

9.8.11 The Data Management Plan will be produced in line with CIfA standards (Ref 11 and Ref 10) and guidance produced by the ADS (Ref 49), and will include:

1) Details of data that will be generated during the work;
2) Type of file formats to be used (e.g. .doc, .pdf., .dwg., .shp, etc.);
3) Methods of data collection or capture (e.g. GPS/Total
4) Station/digitising from hard copies);
5) File naming conventions (e.g. ADS naming conventions);
6) Metadata, standards and quality assurance measures;
7) Plans for sharing data;
8) Ethical and legal issues or restrictions on data sharing (e.g. client confidentiality etc.);
9) Copyright and intellectual property rights of data;
10) Data storage and back-up measures;
11) Data management roles and responsibilities; and
12) Costing or resources needed (ADS archiving costs etc).

9.8.12 The digital archive will be produced using industry standard file formats, with a clear file structure that allows these to be easily shared with all stakeholders and allows the data to continue to be preserved and shared with the public through, for example, the HER.

9.8.13 The data comprising the digital archive will comply with the English Heritage (now Historic England) guidance on historic environment data standards, Monument Inventory Data Standard (MIDAS) Heritage; the UK Historic Environment Data Standard (Ref 50).

9.8.14 It is anticipated that the repositories to which the digital archive are submitted (i.e. HER/Yorkshire Museum) will have in-house Data Management Plans to allow for the long-term preservation of the digital archive data, including plans for data back-up and migration to new digital formats as these emerge.

10 General requirements

10.1 Strategy review

10.1.1 The strategy for the archaeological fieldwork will be held under continuous review, and a final version will be developed prior to the commencement of construction.

10.1.2 Should no archaeological remains, or remains of low significance, be identified within the trial trenches detailed in paragraph 7.4.1, then it is anticipated that, following agreement with the Archaeological Advisor to the Local Planning Authority, these areas can be 'signed-off' and used to site solar PV panels without the use of non-ground penetrative techniques. Should substantial archaeological remains be revealed, the Archaeological Contractor should inform the ACoW as soon as possible, who will in turn consult with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council, as to whether a programme of Strip, Map and Sample excavation, or archaeological monitoring is needed, or if non-ground penetrative techniques should be employed.

10.1.3 If archaeological remains are identified of either a lesser or greater extent / significant than anticipated during the Strip, Map and Sample excavation and archaeological monitoring detailed in Section 7.5, this may be subject to change in scope following liaison with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

10.1.4 Where areas of the Proposed Development have been shown to contain no archaeological remains following stages of archaeologically monitored top-soil stripping, or where specific areas of the Proposed Development have been fully archaeologically excavated, agreement will be sought with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council to allow for construction groundworks to proceed in these specific areas.

10.1.5 Should the strategy be considered unsuitable at any time by the appointed archaeological contractor, an alternative strategy will be proposed for agreement with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

10.2 Staffing

10.2.1 A suitably qualified and experienced ACoW will be responsible for overseeing the archaeological mitigation works as detailed in the AMS.

10.2.2 All archaeological fieldwork and post-excavation works will be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced professional archaeological contractor, that will adhere to the CIfA Code of Conduct and all appropriate standards and guidance.

10.2.3 Details of the CVs of key personnel and specialists will be provided to the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council in advance of the commencement of fieldwork, following appointment of the archaeological contractor. The appointed archaeological contractor's Project Manager for the

project must be able to demonstrate competence and experience of managing archaeological projects of a similar size, nature and complexity.

10.2.4 Assessment and analysis of finds, environmental samples and human remains will be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced specialists.

10.3 Project timetable

10.3.1 A timetable for the programme of archaeological mitigation fieldwork and post-excavation assessment reporting will be agreed between the appointed archaeological contractor, the Applicant, and the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council prior to the commencement of fieldwork. The appointed archaeological contractor will ensure they have the required capacity to deliver the works.

10.3.2 The Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council will be informed of the proposed start date for the project as soon as practicable, and at least one week before commencement of fieldwork.

10.3.3 An appropriate amount of time should be allowed within the programme for the archaeological excavation and recording, and no construction work will begin before areas have been signed off by the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

10.3.4 The appointed archaeological contractor will provide at least weekly progress reports on the progress of fieldwork via email to the ACoW, and regular site meetings will be held between the archaeological contractor, the ACoW, the principal contractor, the Applicant and the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council.

10.3.5 A draft assessment report will be provided to the Applicant and the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council within an agreed timeframe following completion of fieldwork, with a final version to be submitted to the Applicant and the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council following receipt of any comments within the agreed timeframe.

10.3.6 A draft analysis report will be submitted to Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council within a programme agreed in the UPD, informed by the results of the post-excavation assessment. This will be followed by a final report following any comments, and the publication of the results of the report in a suitable format.

10.4 Monitoring

10.4.1 The Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council will monitor the implementation of the archaeological mitigation works and evaluate the scope and progress of the work against the methodology detailed in the AMS.

10.5 Communication

10.5.1 The appointed archaeological contractor will provide at least weekly updates to the ACoW via email and/or telephone. Any issues that arise on site or during the

post-excavation stages should first be addressed by the archaeological contractor directly to the ACoW, who will then liaise with the Applicant, Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council and any other stakeholders in order to resolve the matter.

10.5.2 In the event of issues arising regarding the implementation of this AMS, or the scope or methodology of the excavation, these will be resolved in the first instance by contacting the ACoW who will liaise with the Applicant and Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council to determine a solution. Should the issue not be resolved remotely a meeting will be held between key stakeholders to facilitate discussion of the issues and identification of a suitable strategy for progress to be agreed by all parties.

10.6 Decommissioning

10.6.1 Decommissioning methodologies remain undefined however, it is anticipated that access tracks, works footprints and methodologies will be largely the same as those used during the construction and operation phases. In order to limit impacts to archaeological remains, cables may be left in-situ, or, if necessary, be removed through less intrusive techniques (such as opening up the ground at intervals along the route and 'pulling' lengths of cable through the extraction point, rather than re-opening the entire cable route).

10.6.2 An Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (oDEMP) **[EN0110012/APP/LVS/07.04]** has been prepared to support the Application.

10.6.3 A Detailed Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP) will outline relevant archaeological mitigation measures, to the extent that they are necessary which will be agreed by North Yorkshire Council prior to decommissioning. This will be sufficient to safeguard any archaeological remains during the decommissioning phase.

10.7 Public engagement

10.7.1 It is recognised that community engagement both fosters public understanding and support for the historic environment and adds value to archaeological work.

10.7.2 A programme of public outreach and engagement will be developed during the archaeological mitigation and post-excavation stages of the project, depending on the character and form of any archaeological remains encountered, in liaison with the Archaeological Advisor to North Yorkshire Council, Historic England and/or any other interested community groups.

10.7.3 The programme of public outreach and engagement could include, for example, provision of talks and presentations, guided walks, arranging conferences, exhibitions, open days and living history events, providing school project work and learning resources, offering work experience and volunteering opportunities, and supporting community archaeology projects.

10.8 Copyright and publicity

10.8.1 Copyright of the documentation prepared by the appointed archaeological contractor and specialist sub-contractors should be the subject of additional licences in favour of the Applicant, the ACoW, and the appropriate HER to use such documentation for their commercial, statutory or educational functions, and to provide copies to third parties.

10.8.2 Under the Environmental Information Regulations (Ref 51), information submitted to the HER becomes publicly accessible, except where disclosure might lead to environmental damage, and reports cannot be embargoed as 'confidential' or 'commercially sensitive'.

10.8.3 It is recognised that the Proposed Development may identify remains which are of interest to the public, and these may be publicised through appropriate media. Any publicity for the Proposed Development proposed by the archaeological contractor should be approved by the Applicant. The appointed contractor will not issue any information on the work through media, internet or social media without prior agreement of the Applicant.

10.8.4 Care will be taken to ensure that any publicity does not compromise the security of archaeological remains that may have been identified or recovered.

10.9 Health and safety

10.9.1 The management of all health and safety, and welfare provision, on site during the excavation phase will be the responsibility of the principal contractor or the appointed archaeological contractor, depending on the stage and nature of the work being undertaken.

10.9.2 All works will be undertaken by the principal contractor or appointed archaeological contractor in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) and all applicable regulations and Codes of Practice.

10.9.3 All archaeological staff will undertake their operations in accordance with safe working practices. At least one First Aider will be present on site at all times.

10.9.4 A site-specific risk assessment and method statement (RAMS) will be produced by the appointed archaeological contractor, prior to the commencement of work on site.

10.9.5 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided to all staff by the archaeological contractor, including hi-visibility coats/vests, hard hats, safety boots and gloves, as well as safety glasses if required.

10.9.6 All staff will receive a health and safety induction prior to starting work on site to be provided by the principal contractor and/or the appointed archaeological contractor.

10.9.7 Regular audits of health and safety practices will be carried out during the course of the project by the archaeological contractor in consultation with the site workforce.

10.9.8 Toolbox talks on health and safety issues will be conducted at minimum weekly intervals and/or after changes in working practices or identification of new threats/risks. The risk assessment will be updated, and control measures will be implemented as required in response to specific hazards.

10.9.9 Safe working will take priority over the desire to record archaeological features or remains, and where it is considered that recording is dangerous, any such features will be recorded by photography at a safe distance.

10.9.10 All areas of excavation will be scanned with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) prior to ground works commencing. Necessary measures will be taken to avoid disturbing any services.

10.9.11 Where open excavations are left unattended overnight, these will be surrounded by suitable safety / security fencing, to be fitted with suitable warning signage. The responsibility for site security / safety fencing will lie with the lead contractor on site (i.e. either the Principal Contractor or the appointed archaeological contractor, depending on the nature and stage of work).

10.9.12 Plant operators will be required to produce evidence of qualification within an industry accepted registration scheme. Sub-Contractors health and safety performance will be kept under review and action taken if necessary.

10.9.13 All spoil will be stored and managed safely in line with the standards of the Construction Code of Practice for Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites (Ref 27).

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