

The Drovers Solar Farm

Consultation Report Appendix F: Statutory Consultation Under Section 47 of the Act - Supporting Material - Part 1

Prepared by: Copper Consultancy

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APFP Regulation Reg 5(2)(q)

Planning Act 2008

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





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1 Consultees engaged under Section 47 of the Act

Consultee group	Consultee
Norfolk County Council (Members)	<p>Cabinet Member for Economic Growth</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport</p> <p>Chair of Planning (Regulatory) Committee</p> <p>Deputy Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste/Highways, Infrastructure and Transport</p> <p>Deputy Leader of the Council</p> <p>Deputy Leader of the Independent Group</p> <p>Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Strategy and Governance, Chair of Employment Committee</p> <p>Planning and Highways Delegations Committee</p> <p>Vice Chair of Planning (Regulatory) Committee</p>
Breckland District Council (Members)	<p>Cabinet Member, Executive Member for Health and Communities</p> <p>Cabinet Member, Executive Member for Waste, Environmental Health, Licensing & Sustainability</p> <p>Chair of the Planning Committee</p> <p>Deputy Leader of the Council, Executive Member for Strategic & Operational Planning</p> <p>Deputy Leader of the Independent & Green Group</p> <p>Executive Support Member for Planning Policy</p> <p>Leader of the Council</p> <p>Members of the Planning Committee</p> <p>Member of the Planning Committee (Substitute), Chairman of the Council</p> <p>Member of the Planning Committee, Leader of the Independent and Green Group</p> <p>Member of the Planning Committee, Leader of the Labour Group</p> <p>Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee, Nar Valley Ward Councillor</p>
Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk (Members)	<p>Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Biodiversity</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Development & Regeneration</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Property & Corporate Services</p> <p>Leader of the Council</p> <p>Member of the Environment & Community Panel, Member of the Planning Committee</p> <p>Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee, Member of the Planning Committee Sifting Panel</p>
Members of Parliament (MP)	<p>MP for Bury St. Edmunds and Stowmarket</p> <p>MP for Ely and East Cambridgeshire</p>

Consultee group	Consultee
	MP for Mid Norfolk MP for North East Cambridge MP for South West Norfolk MP for Waveny Valley MP for West Suffolk
Parish Councils (Councillors)	Castle Acre Parish Council East Walton Parish Meeting Holme Hale Parish Council Little Dunham Parish Council Narborough Parish Council Narford Parish Meeting Necton Parish Council Newton by Castle Acre Parish Meeting North Pickenham Parish Council Pentney Parish Council South Acre Parish Meeting Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council Swaffham Town Council West Acre Parish Council
Environmental Groups	Regional groups Climate Norfolk Get Norfolk Greener National Farmers Union Norfolk and Norwich Bat Group Norfolk Beekeeper's Association Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service Norfolk Birding Norfolk Butterfly Conservation Norfolk Young Farmers and National Farmers Union (NFU) / Countrysiders Club Norwich Friends of the Earth Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association Young Activist Network - Environmental Campaign Group Local groups Breckland Local Group Brecklands Flora Group Extinction Rebellion Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Gaywood Valley Conservation Group Kings Lynn Climate Concern

Consultee group	Consultee
	<p>Kings Lynn u3a Climate Change Group</p> <p>Mid Norfolk Conservation Volunteers</p> <p>Nar Valley Ornithological Society</p> <p>Ramblers Association – Mid Norfolk group</p> <p>Swaffham Climate Change and Environment Group</p> <p>The Breckland Farmers Wildlife Network</p> <p>West Norfolk and King's Lynn Beekeepers' Association</p> <p>West Norfolk Conservation Volunteers</p>
Community and Interest Groups	<p><i>Sport and leisure</i></p> <p>Active Norfolk</p> <p>Breckland Walkers Group</p> <p>British Horse Society - East of England</p> <p>Castle Acre Coronation Bowls Club</p> <p>Castle Acre Cricket Club</p> <p>Castle Acre Playing Field Association</p> <p>Castle Acre Swifts Football Club</p> <p>Community Action Norfolk (CAN)</p> <p>Cycling Club Breckland</p> <p>Dereham Round Table</p> <p>Dereham Runners AC</p> <p>Dereham Town Football Club</p> <p>Dereham Trefoil Guild</p> <p>Dereham Walkers are Welcome</p> <p>Kings Lynn Cycling Club</p> <p>Mid Norfolk Singers</p> <p>Nar Valley Long Distance Walkers Association</p> <p>Nar Valley Ornithological Society</p> <p>Norfolk Hang Gliding and Paragliding Club</p> <p>Rugby Union Football Club</p> <p>Swaffham Bell Ringers</p> <p>Swaffham Cricket Club</p> <p>Swaffham Golf Club</p> <p>Swaffham Town Bowls Club</p> <p>West Norfolk Artists Association</p> <p>West Norfolk Aviation Society</p> <p>West Norfolk Walking for Health</p> <p>WI Norfolk Federation</p> <p><i>Civic and history groups</i></p> <p>Breckland Christian Fellowship</p> <p>Swaffham Heritage</p>

Consultee group	Consultee
	<p>The Breckland Society</p> <p>West Norfolk & King's Lynn Archaeological Society</p> <p><i>Churches local to the Scheme</i></p> <p>Fountain of Life Ashill</p> <p>Kings Lynn Civic Society</p> <p>Nar Valley Group</p> <p>Our Lady of Pity RC (Swaffham)</p> <p>St Nicholas Ashill</p> <p>St Peter & St Paul (Swaffham)</p> <p>St. Mary's (Sporle)</p> <p>Swaffham Baptist</p> <p>Swaffham Methodist Church</p> <p><i>Carers</i></p> <p>ASD Helping Hands</p> <p>Carers Matter Norfolk</p> <p>Caring Friends for Cancer</p> <p>Young Carers Matter Norfolk</p> <p><i>Community Support</i></p> <p>Community Action Norfolk (CAN)</p> <p>Norfolk Community Foundation</p> <p>Norfolk Good Neighbours</p> <p>Norfolk Local Access Forum</p> <p><i>Educational Establishments (within PCZ)</i></p> <p>Castle Acre Church of England V.C. Primary School</p> <p>Heartwood Church of England Primary School (Swaffham)</p> <p>Little Pedlars Nursery (Swaffham)</p> <p>Narborough Church of England V.C. Primary School</p> <p>OneSchool Global, Swaffham Campus</p> <p>Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Swaffham)</p> <p>Sporle Church of England Primary School</p> <p>Sporle Pre School</p> <p>Swaffham Church of England Primary School</p> <p>Swaffham Pre-school Playgroup</p> <p>Teenie Icen's Day Nursery</p> <p>The Nicholas Hamond Academy</p>
Seldom Heard Groups	<p><i>Elderley</i></p> <p>Age Concern Swaffham & District</p> <p>Age UK Norfolk</p> <p><i>Disability Groups</i></p> <p>Alzheimer's Society Norfolk</p>

Consultee group	Consultee
	<p>ASD Helping Hands</p> <p>Asperger East Anglia</p> <p>Caring Friends for Cancer</p> <p>Dereham Deaf Social Club</p> <p>Disability Network Norfolk Group</p> <p>Equal Lives</p> <p>Hear for Norfolk (NDA)</p> <p>MS Society (Norwich and District Group)</p> <p>Norfolk Learning Disability Partnership</p> <p>Vision Norfolk</p> <p>West Norfolk Autism Group</p> <p>West Norfolk Deaf Association</p> <p>West Norfolk Disability Information Service</p> <p><i>Other religious groups</i></p> <p>West Norfolk Islamic Centre</p> <p><i>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual (LGBTQIA+) community</i></p> <p>LGBTQ+ Project (Supporting Norfolk and Waveney)</p> <p>OASIS Norfolk</p> <p>Queer Norfolk</p> <p><i>Travellers</i></p> <p>Friends, Families and Travellers</p> <p>One Voice Travellers</p> <p><i>Young People</i></p> <p>1st Swaffham Scouts</p> <p>Brownies and Rainbows Norfolk Girlguiding</p> <p>Kings Lynn Youth Club</p> <p>Norfolk Federation of Young Farmers Club</p> <p>Norfolk Youth Parliament</p> <p>South West Norfolk Division – GirlGuides</p> <p>Swaffham and District Young Farmers' Club</p> <p><i>Parent Groups</i></p> <p>Gingerbread Norfolk (single parent support)</p> <p>Just One Norfolk</p> <p>Norfolk Early Childhood and Family Service (ECFS)</p> <p><i>Mental Health, well-being and recovery support groups</i></p> <p>Arts for Health- Creative Arts East</p> <p>MAP Young People</p> <p>Matthew Project</p> <p>MensCraft</p>

Consultee group	Consultee
	<p>Mind- Norfolk and Waverney</p> <p>One to One Project- West and North Norfolk</p> <p>Swaffham and District Mental Health Association</p> <p>Time Norfolk</p> <p><i>Socio-economic support groups</i></p> <p>Better Together Norfolk</p> <p>Dereham Food Cabin</p> <p>Norfolk Strategic Housing Partnership</p> <p>Nourishing Norfolk Network</p> <p><i>Military</i></p> <p>Help for Heroes</p> <p>Scotty's Little Soldiers</p> <p>SSAFA Norfolk</p> <p>The Royal British Legion- Swaffham Branch</p>

2 Communications to stakeholders regarding consultation briefing meetings

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Drovers Solar Farm: Statutory Consultation Briefing Sessions – April/May 2025

As part of the pre-application process for The Drovers Solar Farm Development Consent Order (DCO), we are holding briefing sessions for key stakeholders ahead of our statutory consultation, which is scheduled to take place between 21 May and 2 July 2025.

These sessions will provide an opportunity to learn more about the project, our approach to consultation, and how you can engage with the process. Members of the project team will give a short presentation, followed by a question-and-answer session.

If you are interested in attending one of these sessions, please provide your availability for a one hour meeting, during the times listed below. We will then arrange invitations based on expressions of interest.

- Tuesday 29 April, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Wednesday 30 April, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Monday 5 May, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Tuesday 6 May, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Thursday 8 May, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

If you would like to attend, please confirm your availability by responding to this email.

We look forward to your participation.

Kind regards,
Harman Sond
Project Development Manager – Island Green Power

Sophie Moss

From: Info (Droves solar Farm)
To: Info (Droves solar Farm)
Subject: RE: Invitation to The Droles Solar Farm Briefing Meeting

From: Info (Droves solar Farm) <info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk>
Sent: 26 March 2025 16:20
To: Info (Droves solar Farm) <info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk>
Subject: Invitation to The Droles Solar Farm Briefing Meeting

Good afternoon,

I hope you are well.

Thank you to those who have responded to our invitation to a briefing meeting on The Droles Solar Farm, ahead of the launch of our statutory consultation.

If you would like to attend, please reply to this email with your date and time preferences, **by 5pm on Friday 28 March 2025.**

We will then share the finalised dates and times of the briefings, along with a meeting link.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Sophie
Community Relations

Dear Sir/Madam,

19 June 2025

The Drovers Solar Farm: Invitation to a Statutory Consultation Meeting

As you may be aware, our seven-week statutory consultation for The Drovers Solar Farm opened on 21 May 2025 and will run until 23:59 on 9 July 2025. During this period, we are encouraging people to share their feedback on our design proposals, including our preliminary environmental assessments and measures being taken to reduce the Project's impact.

We have identified your organisation as a stakeholder that may wish to submit feedback.

To support your response, we would like to extend an invitation to a meeting with our Project team to discuss the proposals, and any questions or concerns you may have. Members of the Project team will give a short presentation, followed by a question-and-answer session.

If you would like to meet with us, please provide your availability for a one hour virtual meeting in the weeks commencing Monday 23 June, Monday 30 June and Monday 7 July.

We encourage you to take a look at our consultation information materials to inform your feedback and any questions you may wish to bring to the meeting. All materials are available on the Documents page of our website, here: <https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/#documents>.

Alternatively, information about where you can view printed copies of our materials can be found here: <https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/#consultation>. Hard copies of our documents or alternative formats, such as braille, are available on request.

We look forward to your participation.

Kind regards,

Harman Sond
Project Development Manager – Island Green Power

3 Invitation to participate in statutory consultation

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing on the behalf of Island Green Power (IGP), a leading developer of renewable energy projects, exploring the potential for a solar farm with battery energy storage located on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk.

Following on from our non-statutory consultation held in autumn 2024, we are now able to present our updated design proposals and rationale to the community. We are therefore launching our seven week statutory consultation period, which will take place from 21 May until 9 July 2025.

The consultation will include the following events:

- **Saturday 31 May, 11:00-17:00:** Sporle Community Centre, 78 The Street, Sporle, King's Lynn, PE32 2DR
- **Monday 2 June, 10:00-14:00:** Narborough Community Centre, Chalk Lane, Narborough, PE32 1SR
- **Wednesday 11 June, 12:00-19:00:** Swaffham Assembly Rooms, 1 Market Place, Swaffham, PE37 7AB
- **Friday 20 June, 10:00-14:00:** Westacre Theatre, River Road, West Acre, King's Lynn, PE32 1UA

We will also be hosting two online webinars for those who cannot attend an in-person event:

- **Thursday 5 June, 12:30-13:30:** Microsoft Teams
- **Wednesday 25 June, 18:30-19:30:** Microsoft Teams

These events will provide an opportunity for the community and stakeholders to view our plans, speak with the project team, and share feedback on the proposals.

We will be publishing all consultation materials on our Project website, which will also contain an online Feedback Form. Feedback can also be submitted via email, or we can organise for hard copy forms to be delivered.

If you would like to speak to the project team, please do get in touch using the below information. To find out more about the Project, please visit our website [here](http://www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk).

Email: info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk

Freephone: 0800 0129 154

Kind regards

The Drovers Solar Community Relations team

4 Press release and coverage

Sophie Moss

From: Info (Droves solar Farm)
Sent: 14 May 2025 10:48
Cc: Info (Droves solar Farm)
Subject: Island Green Power launches statutory consultation for The Droves Solar Farm
Categories: Press

Good morning,

I hope this email finds you well.

We are writing to you on behalf of Island Green Power, who are about to launch a statutory consultation on The Droves Solar Farm project in Norfolk. Please find below a press release to this effect.

The consultation period will take place from 21 May to 9 July 2025. If you have any questions, you can reach us via email at info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk or on 0800 0129 154.

“Island Green Power (IGP), a leading developer of renewable energy projects, has launched its statutory consultation for The Droves Solar Farm, a proposed solar farm with battery energy storage, located on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk.

If consented, The Droves Solar Farm could generate approximately 500 MWac (Megawatt Alternating Current) of renewable energy, enough to power approximately 115,000 homes annually. The battery energy storage component would store surplus energy and supply it to the national grid when needed.

As the proposed generation capacity for The Droves Solar Farm is anticipated to be 500 MWac, it exceeds the 50 MW threshold to be classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). The consenting regime for NSIPs comes under the Planning Act 2008 and requires The Droves Solar Farm Limited, a subsidiary of IGP, to apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO). The Droves Solar Farm Limited expects to submit the DCO application to the Secretary of State later this year.

Harman Sond, Project Manager for The Droves Solar Farm commented: “We are delighted to launch our statutory consultation for The Droves Solar Farm. IGP is a community-led developer, and every one of our projects has been shaped and improved by feedback from local communities.

“We encourage anyone with an interest in the Project to attend one of our public consultation events or webinars to learn more and share their views. We also welcome suggestions on how we can work together with community groups, organisations, and charities to deliver meaningful benefits for the short and long-term.

“IGP’s vision is for The Droves Solar Farm to support the UK’s transition to decarbonised, low-cost renewable energy while leaving a positive legacy for the people of Breckland and its natural environment.”

The statutory consultation will run for seven weeks, from 21 May to 9 July 2025. Further information on how to respond to the consultation, including details of consultation events and materials, can be found on the Project website <https://drovessolarfarm.co.uk/> and in hard copy format at Swaffham Library, for the duration of the statutory consultation period.

ENDS

Note to editors:

For more information please contact:

Kate Bullock, Community Relations, at: info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk
0800 0129 154

About IGP

IGP has successfully delivered 36 projects worldwide with a total of more than 2.5GW of energy capacity. This includes 20 projects in the UK. These range in size from below 5MW to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) such as Cottam Solar Project, currently the UK's largest consented solar farm, which will generate 600MW of clean, renewable and secure electricity including 600MW of Battery Storage.

Their mission is to deliver renewable energy solutions that create lasting value for the communities they serve, protecting the environment while fostering economic growth and energy independence.

Recently, IGP's Cottam and West Burton projects have received DCOs . The Cottam Solar Project was granted development consent by the Secretary of State on 5 September 2024. The West Burton Solar Project was granted development consent by Secretary of State on 24 January 2025.

Kind regards

The Drovers Solar Farm team



Island Green Power launches public consultation on solar farm plans big enough to power 115,000 homes for Swaffham and Castle Acre

By [Lucy Carter](#)

- [@iliffepublishing.co.uk](#)

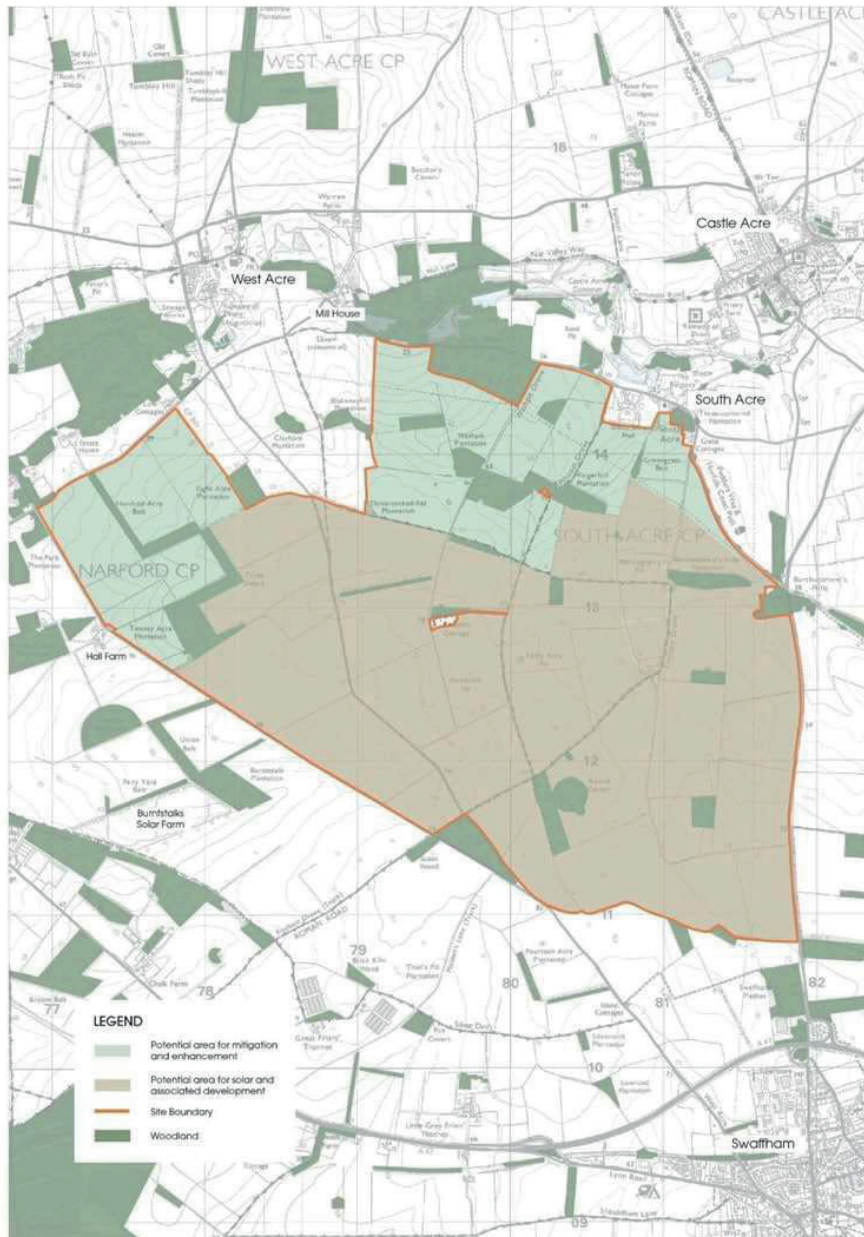
Published: 06:00, 21 May 2025

A public consultation has opened today, giving residents the chance to have their say on solar farm plans for the area.

Island Green Power (IGP), a developer of renewable energy projects, has launched its statutory consultation for The Drovers Solar Farm, a proposed facility with battery energy storage, located on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre.

If you need to spend time on your computer, this game is a must in 2025![Top Strategy Game 2025 | Sponsored](#)

If approved, The Drovers Solar Farm could generate approximately 500 MWac (Megawatt Alternating Current) of renewable energy - enough to power approximately 115,000 homes annually.



Initial designs for farmland around Swaffham and Castle Acre. Picture: Island Green Power

The battery energy storage component would store surplus energy and supply it to the national grid when needed.

Island Green Power is one of several developers wanting to bring solar farms to the area. [RWE wants to bring a solar farm](#) to parts of Swaffham, Necton, Ashill and Narborough, big enough to power 363,000 homes.

Harman Sond, project manager for The Drovers Solar Farm, said: "We are delighted to launch our statutory consultation for The Drovers Solar Farm. IGP is a community-led developer, and every one of our projects has been shaped and improved by feedback from local communities.

"We encourage anyone with an interest in the project to attend one of our public consultation events or webinars to learn more and share their views.

"We also welcome suggestions on how we can work together with community groups, organisations, and charities to deliver meaningful benefits for the short and long term.

"IGP's vision is for The Drovers Solar Farm to support the UK's transition to decarbonised, low-cost renewable energy while leaving a positive legacy for the people of Breckland and its natural environment."

The statutory consultation will run for seven weeks from today until July 9. Further information on how to respond to the consultation, including details of consultation events and materials, can be found on the [project website](#).

A hard copy of the consultation can be obtained from Swaffham Library

5 Consultation Website



The Drovers Solar Farm

Our seven-week statutory consultation is now live and will run from 21 May until 23:59 on 9 July 2025.

We want to hear your feedback on our design proposals, including our preliminary environmental assessments and measures being taken to reduce the Project's impact.

Find out more about the statutory consultation, including the dates and locations of our consultation events [here](#).

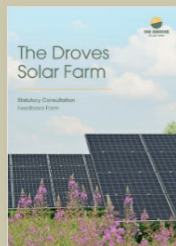
The online Feedback Form can be found [here](#).

[Manage consent](#)

Statutory Consultation Materials



Consultation Information Booklet



Feedback Form



Castle Acre Consultation Event Leaflet



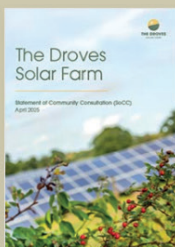
Statutory Consultation Leaflet



Statutory Consultation Newsletter



Statutory Consultation Poster



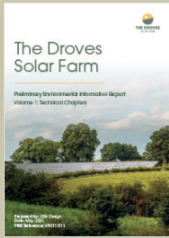
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)



Exhibition Banners

PEIR

Volume 1



EN0110013 The Droles
Chapters 1-5-1



EN0110013 The Droles
Chapter 6 Landscape
and Visual-1



EN0110013 The Droles
Chapter 7 Ecology and
Biodiversity-1



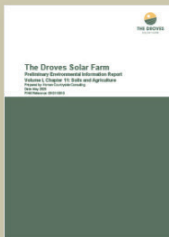
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Chapter 8 Cultural
Heritage and
Archaeology-1



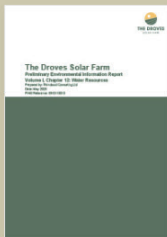
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Chapter 9 Transport and
Access-1



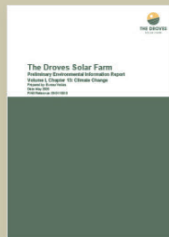
EN0110013 The Droles
Chapter 10 Noise and
Vibration-1



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Chapter 11 Soils and
Agriculture-1



EN0110013 The Droles
Chapter 12 Water
Resources-1



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Chapter 13 Climate
Change-1



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Chapter 14 Socio-
economics and Human
Health-1



EN0110013 The Droles
Chapter 15 Other
Environmental Matters-1

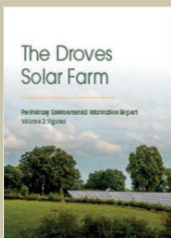


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Chapter 16 In-
Combination Effects-1



EN0110013 The Droles
Chapter 17 Summary of
Effects-1

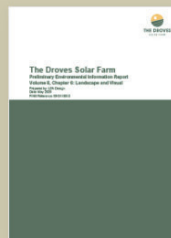
Volume 2



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Chapters-3-Figures-1



EN0110013 The Droles
Chapters 4 Figures-1



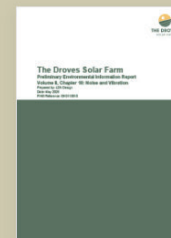
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Chapter 6
Figures-1



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Chapter 7 Figures-1



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Chapter 9
Figures-1



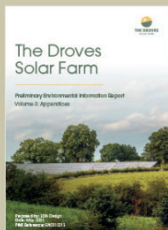
EN0110013 The Droles
Chapter 10 Figure-1





EN0110013 The Droves
Chapter 12 Figures-1

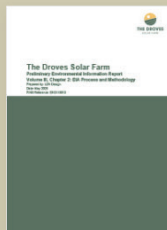
Volume 3



EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 2.1 EIA
Scoping Opinion
Request-1



EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 2.2
Scoping Opinion-1



EN0110013 The Droves_A
ppendix 2.3 Scheme
Response to Scoping
Opinion-1



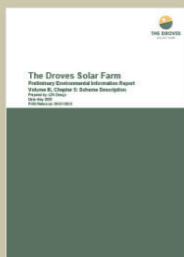
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Droves_Appendix 2.4
Cumulative Schemes-1



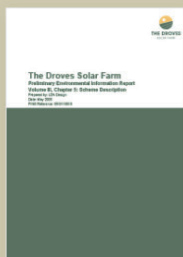
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Droves_Appendix 4.1
Planning Policy for
Reasonable Alternatives-
1



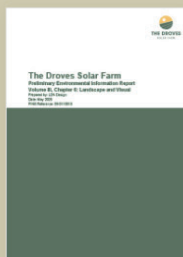
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Droves_Appendix 5.1
Concept Masterplan-1



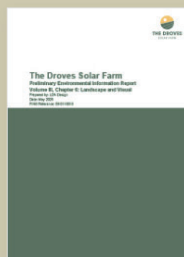
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Droves_Appendix 5.2
Masterplan Strategies-1



EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 5.3
Design Principles-1



EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 6.1-6.9
Landscape and Visual
Appendix-1



EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 6.10
Consultation and
Legislation-1



EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 7.1
Consultation and
Legislation-1



EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 7.2
Habitat Survey-1



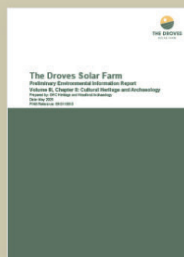
EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 8.1
Consultation and
Legislation-1



EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 8.2
Designated Heritage_Ass
ets-1



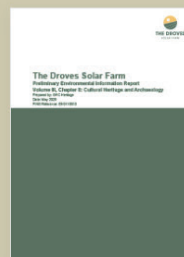
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EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 8.4
Geophysical Survey
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EN0110013 The
Droves_Appendix 8.5 Air
Photo Services Report-1



EN0110013 The
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Stage 1 and 2 Settling
Assessment-1



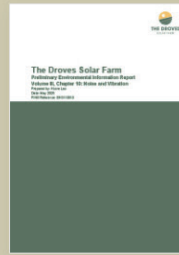
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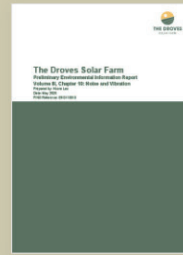
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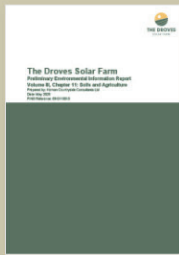
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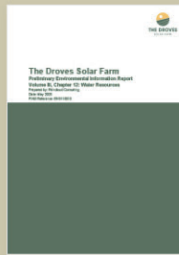
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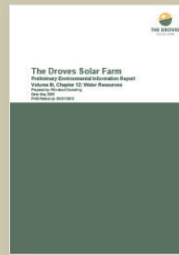
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EN0110013_The Drovers_Appendix 11.2 ALC Report-1



EN0110013_The Drovers_Appendix 12.1 Consultation and Legislation-1



EN0110013_The Drovers_Appendix 12.2 Flood Risk Assessment-1

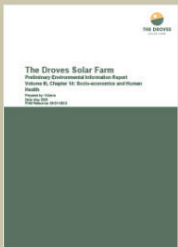


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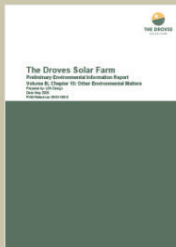


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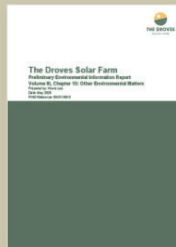
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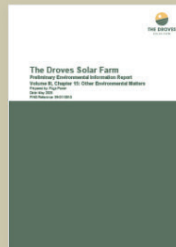
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EN0110013_The Drovers_Appendix 15.1 Consultation and Legislation-1



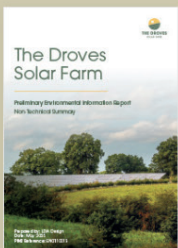
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EN0110013_The Drovers_Appendix 15.3 Glint and Glare Assessment-1



EN0110013_The Drovers_Appendix 15.4 EMF Assessment-1



EN0110013_The Drovers_Non Technical Summary-1

6 Consultation Newsletter

The Droves Solar Farm



Newsletter

The Droves Solar Farm Limited, a subsidiary of Island Green Power (IGP) is bringing forward proposed plans for a solar farm with battery energy storage located on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk.

If consented, The Droves Solar Farm ("the Project") could generate approximately 500 MWac (Megawatt Alternating Current) of renewable energy, enough to power approximately 115,000 homes, annually. The battery energy storage component would store surplus energy and supply it to the national grid when needed. The Applicant for The Droves Solar Farm will be The Droves Solar Farm Limited, a subsidiary of IGP.

This newsletter explains how we will consult and gain feedback on our proposals for The Droves Solar Farm.

The consultation process

We will launch a seven-week statutory consultation that starts on **21 May and runs until 9 July 2025**. During this period, we encourage you to share your feedback on our design proposals, including our preliminary environmental assessments and measures being taken to reduce the Project's impact.

This feedback is important to us and will be used to shape our final designs. This newsletter provides more information about the consultation, upcoming events, and how to take part. If you have any further queries, please contact us using the details provided on this page.

The planning process

As the proposed generation capacity for The Droves Solar Farm is anticipated to be 500 MWac, it exceeds the 50 MW threshold to be classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). The consenting regime for NSIPs comes under the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act") and requires The Droves Solar Farm Limited to apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

Unlike planning applications under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA), DCO applications must be submitted to the Secretary of State (SoS) through the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). We are therefore required to apply to the SoS for a DCO, in accordance with the Act. The application will be examined by an independent Examining Authority appointed by PINS, who would then make a recommendation on the application to the SoS. The SoS for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) makes the final decision on a DCO application.

How to contact us

@ Email us at:
info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk

☎ Community Relations Freephone:
0800 0129 154 (Our phone lines are monitored 09:00–17:30 Monday to Friday, with an answerphone facility available outside of these hours)

About The Droves Solar Farm

The Droves Solar Farm would cover approximately 825 hectares of land, situated north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk.

As we are still in the early stages of design, survey work is ongoing to determine the exact areas within the Site that will be allocated for environmental mitigation, solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, and associated development.

If consented, the Project would generate approximately 500 MWac of renewable energy, providing enough electricity to power approximately 115,000 homes annually. The battery storage component would store surplus energy and supply it to the national grid when needed.

Our vision for The Droves Solar Farm

Our vision is for The Droves Solar Farm to support the UK's transition to decarbonised, low-cost renewable energy while leaving a positive legacy for the people of Breckland and its natural environment.

IGP has developed the following Design Principles. These Design Principles are being used by the The Droves Solar Farm team to help guide the Project.

The Droves Solar Farm will:



Maximise its clean energy generation potential, contribute to energy security and help deliver the UK's 2050 net zero targets, by providing secure, reliable, affordable and home-grown energy.



Make a positive contribution to the local environment, by creating new habitats and delivering measurable biodiversity net gain throughout operation.



Provide additional benefits in consultation with the local community, minimise disruption to Public Rights of Way during all phases, and improve local walking routes and paths where possible.



Reduce potential environmental impacts and control any adverse effects during construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning.



Maximise operational efficiency, ensuring consistent energy output and minimal losses through advanced, ethically sourced technologies and an optimised site layout.



Be temporary and fully reversed, if necessary, with minimal impact to the environment, allowing for the delivery of sustainable energy.



Be functional, adaptable and resilient, with the flexibility to incorporate innovative technologies and respond to climate change.



Minimise impacts on versatile and high-quality land, while considering the surrounding landscape and protecting local heritage sites.

Who is Island Green Power?

Established in 2013, Island Green Power (IGP) is a leading developer of utility-scale solar projects and battery energy systems. IGP delivers renewable energy solutions that create lasting value for the communities it serves, protecting the environment while fostering economic growth and energy independence.

IGP operates in the UK, Spain, Italy, Australia and New Zealand. Since launch, it has successfully delivered more than 34 solar projects worldwide that have generated more than 2 GW of energy capacity. This includes 20 solar projects in the UK and Republic of Ireland. These range in size from below 5 MW to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects such as Cottam Solar Project, currently the UK's largest consented solar project. Cottam Solar Project will generate 600 MW of clean, renewable and secure electricity and includes 600 MW of Battery Storage that will store then release energy as needed.

Our early-stage consultation

In September and October 2024, we held a series of workshops with technical specialists, councillors and community stakeholders, to better understand the local area and what is important to the community.

Each session included an introductory presentation, followed by a question-and-answer session, and an interactive 'masterplanning' session, where attendees could provide local insight and work with the project team to share feedback. This format allowed attendees to actively participate in the early-stage design process.

A report summarising the feedback received was published in December 2024. The report included the information presented and key themes from the comments received. It also set out how this feedback will be factored into the masterplanning process for The Drovers Solar Farm. This report was shared with key stakeholders and community groups, and has been made publicly available on our website.

We also submitted our Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report to the PINS, in November 2024. This report forms part of the process used to evaluate the potential environmental effects of a project before it proceeds; it identifies and assesses measures to reduce any significant impacts on the environment.



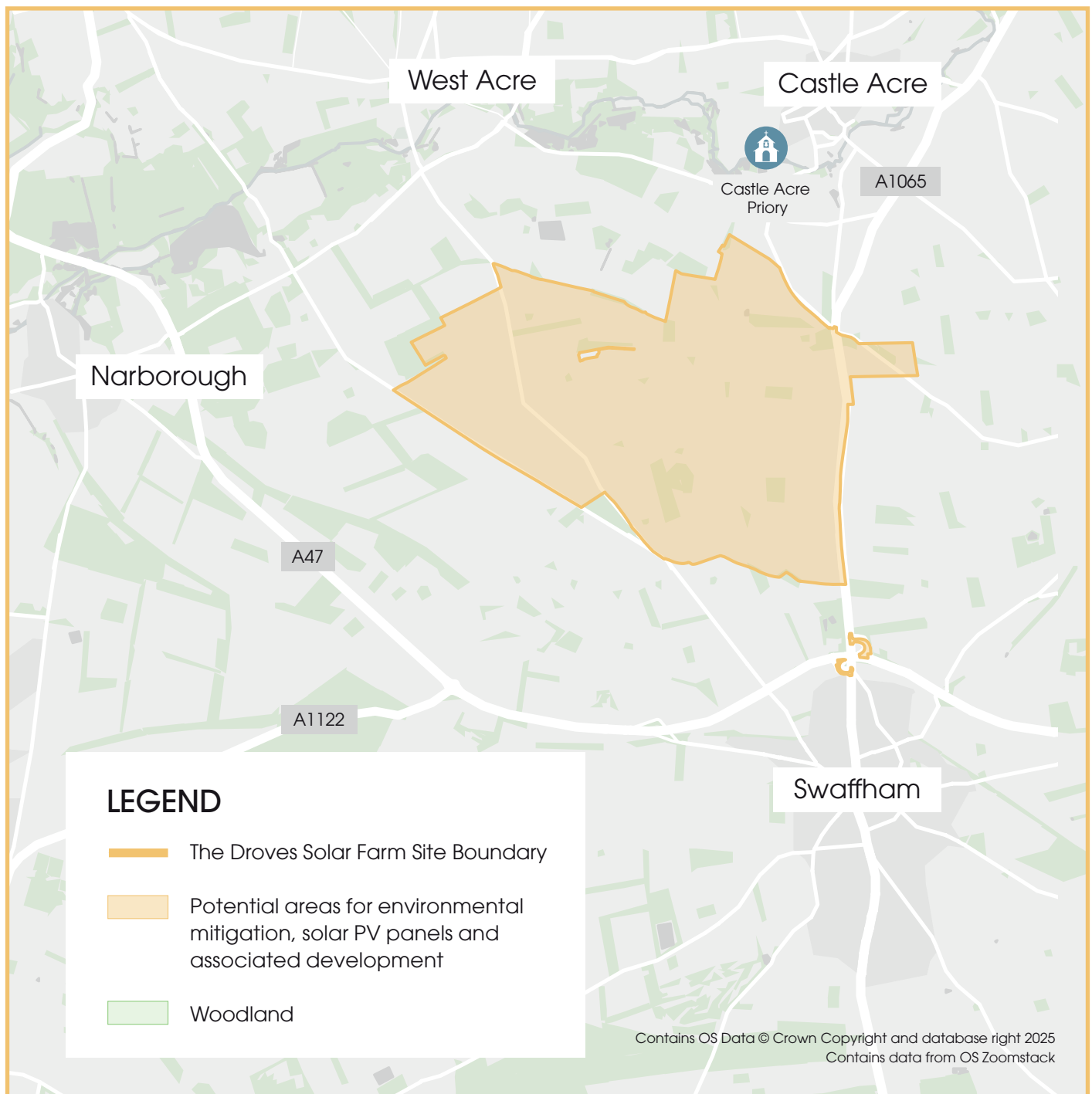
The location of our proposals

The Droves Solar Farm would be located on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk.

Throughout the consultation period, an Indicative Masterplan will be available to view on our Project website and in our Consultation Information Booklet. The booklet can be found on our website www.drovesolarfarm.co.uk and in print at our Local Information Point.

(See page 6 for details).

The Indicative Masterplan provides more detail on the Project, including the areas currently under consideration for solar PV panels, associated infrastructure and mitigation and enhancement measures.



Statutory consultation

We are now inviting you to take part in our statutory consultation which will take place between **21 May and 9 July 2025**.

As part of this consultation, we are providing updated information, including our Indicative Masterplan for the Site, a Project description, and a summary of key environmental topics in the Consultation Information Booklet.

We have also provided a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEIR, which describe the initial results of the environmental surveys that were undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

The PEIR and NTS are designed to help you understand the potential environmental effects of The Drovers Solar Farm and the mitigation measures proposed.

We recommend viewing our detailed plans in the PEIR and NTS alongside the Consultation Information Booklet.

In preparation for the statutory consultation, we also prepared a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), which sets out how we intend to consult on proposals during the development of the Project. The draft statement was shared with local planning authorities and they provided feedback.

All these documents will be available on our website throughout statutory consultation: **www.drovesolarfarm.co.uk**.

Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and Feedback Form will also be available at our consultation events, local information point and can be provided on request.

Have your say

Your feedback is important to us and will be used to help us develop and refine our proposals. You can share your feedback in the following ways:



Visit our website to access the latest information, including all statutory consultation documents, and complete our Feedback Form online at: **www.drovesolarfarm.co.uk**.



Attend our consultation events to meet the project team, learn about our plans, and complete a Feedback Form. Return the completed form to: **FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM**.



Visit one of our local information point to view hard copies of the consultation materials and pick up a Consultation Information Booklet and Feedback Form.



Contact us via phone, post or email, to request a form, share feedback, or ask questions about the consultation. If you require materials in an alternative format (for example, large print or braille) please let us know.

Our events

We are holding a series of events as part of our statutory consultation where people can view and discuss our plans for The Drovers Solar Farm with members of the project team.

We encourage anyone with an interest in our Project to attend these events. We are also holding webinar events for those unable to attend in person.

The statutory consultation events will be held at the following times and locations:

Date	Time	Location
Saturday 31 May	11:00–17:00	Sporle Community Centre, 78 The Street, Sporle, King's Lynn, PE32 2DR
Monday 2 June	10:00–14:00	Narborough Community Centre, Chalk Lane, Narborough, PE32 1SR
Wednesday 11 June	12:00–19:00	Swaffham Assembly Rooms, 1 Market Place, Swaffham, Norfolk, PE37 7AB
Friday 20 June	10:00–14:00	Westacre Theatre, River Road, West Acre, Norfolk, PE32 1UD

Online webinars:

Date	Time	Location
Thursday 5 June	12:30–13:30	Online
Wednesday 25 June	18:30–19:30	Online

You can register for our webinars in advance by visiting our website: www.drovesolarfarm.co.uk

Local information point

Visit our local information point, where you can view (but not take away) a hard copy of the PEIR, NTS and SoCC. You can also collect a Consultation Information Booklet and Feedback Form.

Venue	Materials available to take away	Reference materials
Swaffham Library, The Pightle, Swaffham PE37 7DF	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consultation Information Booklet• Feedback Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PEIR• NTS• SoCC

We recommend contacting the library before visiting to check how they can assist you.

Community collection points

Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and Feedback Form can also be collected from the following locations. Please note that these locations hold reference copies of the NTS and SoCC, but not the PEIR.

Venue	Materials available to take away	Reference materials
Narborough Community Centre Chalk Lane, Narborough, PE32 1SR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consultation Information Booklet• Feedback Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NTS• SoCC
Westacre Theatre River Road, West Acre, PE32 1UD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consultation Information Booklet• Feedback Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NTS• SoCC

We recommend contacting these venues before travelling to confirm their opening times and availability of materials.

Navigating our consultation documents

We are following a consultation process on the development of our proposals for The Drovers Solar Farm, which has been designed in accordance with the Planning Act 2008. To help you find out more and get support on how to provide feedback, we have prepared a range of documents and materials that explain our proposals in more detail.

All consultation materials will be available to view and download free of charge on our website throughout the statutory consultation period:
www.drovesolarfarm.co.uk/#documents

Document guide

Consultation Information Booklet –

This document provides detailed information about the Project, the planning process, how our plans have evolved, and a map of the proposed Site. This booklet will be available on our website, local information point and in hard copy at our events.

Feedback Form – You can complete this questionnaire to ensure your feedback will be reviewed. This can be completed on our website. You can also collect it from our events or local information point, or by request over email, post or the phone.

Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) – The SoCC sets out how we intend to consult people ahead of our application for development consent for the Project. The SoCC can be found on our website, at our local information point, or in hard copy at our events.

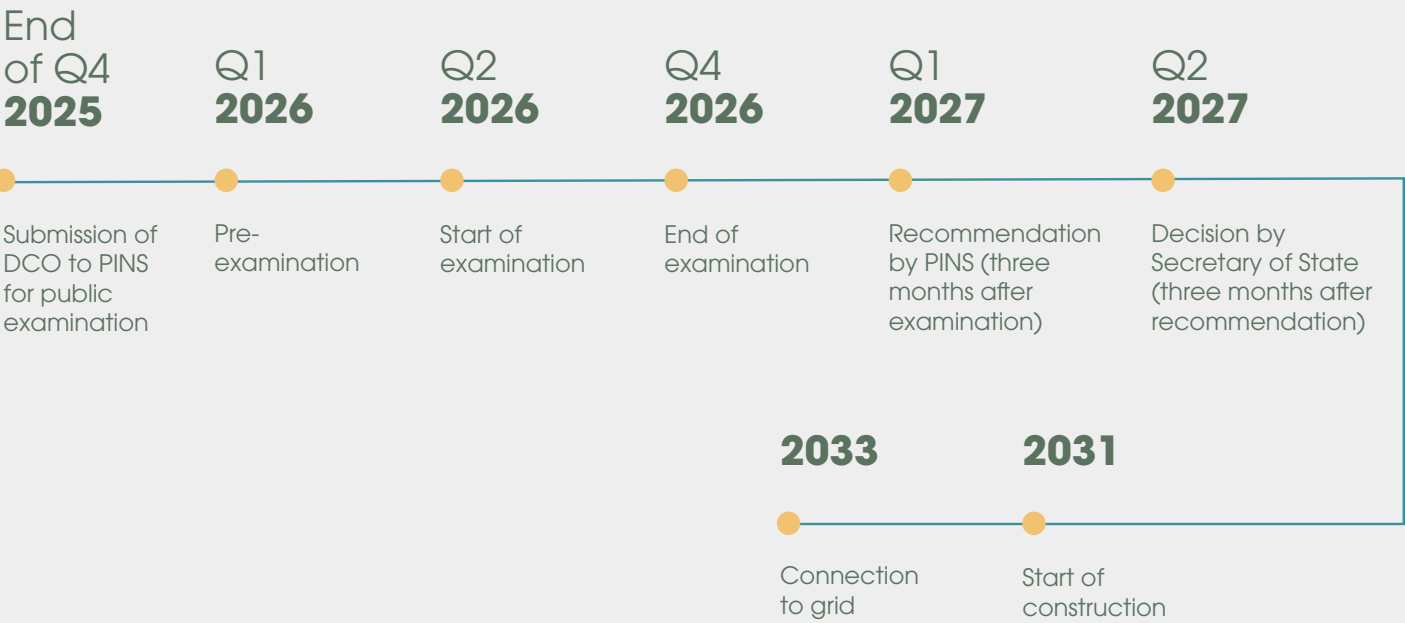
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) –

This is a technical report which outlines the impacts we believe the Project could have on the environment and what measures we are proposing to mitigate these. This includes the main report, figures, maps and plans. It can be accessed on our website, or as a reference copy at our local information point and events.

Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEIR – This summary of the PEIR is available to view on our website, at our local information point and at our consultation events.

Maps and plans – A series of maps and plans for the Project will also be available on our website and at our consultation events.

Timeline



How to contact us

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to be kept up to date on the Project, please contact our Community Relations Team using the details below.

@ **Email us at:** info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk

📞 **Community Relations Freephone:** 0800 0129 154
(Our phone lines are monitored 09:00–17:30 Monday to Friday, with an answerphone facility available outside of these hours)

Our communication lines will remain open during working hours (Monday–Friday 09:00–17:30) throughout the statutory consultation period, between 21 May and 9 July 2025.

It is important to complete the Feedback Form before the deadline.

More information



Scan the QR code to learn more about The Drovers Solar Farm.
You can find the Feedback Form and our other documents on our website: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk

7 Consultation Leaflet

The Droves Solar Farm



Island Green Power (IGP) is a leading developer of utility-scale solar energy projects.

The Droves Solar Farm Limited, a subsidiary of IGP, is bringing forward proposed plans for a solar farm with battery storage.

If consented, The Droves Solar Farm ("the Project") could generate approximately 500 MWac (Megawatt Alternating Current) of renewable energy, enough to power approximately 115,000 homes, annually.

About The Droves Solar Farm

The Droves Solar Farm would cover approximately 825 hectares of land, situated north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk. As we are still in the early stages of design, survey work is ongoing to determine the exact areas within the Site that will be allocated for environmental mitigation, solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, and associated development.

Our vision is for The Droves Solar Farm to support the UK's transition to decarbonised, low-cost renewable energy while leaving a positive legacy for the people of Breckland and its natural environment.

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Scan the QR code to learn more about the Project.

We are now inviting you to take part in our seven-week statutory consultation. **More details can be found overleaf.**

How to get involved

We are now inviting you to take part in our seven-week statutory consultation that **starts on 21 May and runs until 9 July 2025**.

Our events

We are holding a series of events as part of our statutory consultation where people can view and discuss our plans for The Drovers Solar Farm with members of the project team. We are also holding webinar events for those unable to attend in person.

The statutory consultation events will be held at the following times and locations:

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You can register for our webinars in advance by visiting our website:

www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk

Date	Time	Location
Thursday 5 June	12:30–13:30	Online
Wednesday 25 June	18:30–19:30	Online

Local information point

Visit our local information point, where you can view (but not take away) a hard copy of the Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEIR, and the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). You can also collect a Consultation Information Booklet and Feedback Form.

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All consultation materials will be available to view and download free of charge on our website throughout the statutory consultation period.

Find out more

To find out more about our consultation, visit www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk, or contact our Community Relations Team at info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk or **0800 0129 154**.

8 Consultation Poster

The Drovers Solar Farm



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All consultation materials will be available to view and download free of charge on our website throughout the statutory consultation period.

Find out more

To find out more about our consultation, visit www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk, or contact our Community Relations Team at info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk or **0800 0129 154**.

9 Site notice and location plan

Site notice

Notice publicising a proposed application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a solar photovoltaic (PV) generating station, with a generating capacity of more than 50 megawatts and associated infrastructure on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk.

1. Notice is hereby given that The Drovers Solar Farm Limited ("the Applicant") (Company registration number 14684480) of Unit 25.7 Coda Studios, 189 Munster Road, London, England SW6 6AW, proposes to apply to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for a Development Consent Order for The Drovers Solar Farm ("the Application").
2. The Drovers Solar Farm will cover a combined area of approximately 825 hectares of land ("the Site"). The Site is located south of South Acre, West Acre and Castle Acre. River Road bisects the Site, routing in a general south-northwest direction. West Acre Road and Narford Lane border the Site along the southern and south-western boundary. The Site's north-eastern boundary routes parallel to the south of South Acre Road to the junction to the A1065. Castle Acre Road (merging into the A1065) runs in a general north-south direction routing parallel along the eastern boundary of the Site.
3. The Drovers Solar Farm will consist of:
 - a) The solar array sites, which will include solar panels, conversion units and inverters.
 - b) A Customer Substation, which comprises electrical infrastructure such as transformers, switchgear and metering equipment required to facilitate the export of electricity up to 400kV (kilovolt) from The Drovers Solar Farm to the National Grid Substation.
 - c) A 400kV National Grid Substation operated by National Grid Electricity Transmission and associated electrical infrastructure and other ancillary works required to facilitate the export of electricity from The Drovers Solar Farm to the National Grid.
 - d) A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) area.
 - e) Associated infrastructure, mitigation and enhancement measures and other ancillary works, for example, enclosures and fencing, security, drainage, earthworks, highways and access works, mitigation and enhancement measures, temporary works compounds and work sites.
 - f) Cable Route Corridor – underground cabling connecting the solar array sites and Conversion Units to the BESS and the Customer Substation.
 - g) Grid Connection Corridor – cabling connecting the Customer Substation to the National Grid Substation point of connection to transfer the energy generated to the national grid system, which may be underground or via overhead lines.
 - h) Grid Connection Infrastructure – Underground and/or overhead lines, including the construction of new pylons between the National Grid Substation and the point of connection.
4. The proposed DCO will, among other things, authorise:
 - Construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the solar PV electricity generating station and associated development including grid connection and energy storage facility;
 - Compulsory acquisition of land, including interests in land, rights over land and imposition of restrictions, powers to override, suspend or extinguish rights over land and powers for the temporary use of land;
 - The application, modification and/or discontinuation of legislation including legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant; and
 - Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient.
5. The Drovers Solar Farm is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that the proposed works constitute development for which an EIA is required and the proposed application for a DCO will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement. The Environmental Statement will provide a detailed description of The Drovers Solar Farm and assess its likely significant environmental effects. Information compiled so far about The Drovers Solar Farm's likely significant environmental effects is set out for consultation in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (the PEIR) and summarised in a Non-Technical Summary (NTS).

Statutory consultation

6. The Applicant is undertaking a statutory consultation on the proposals for The Drovers Solar Farm between Wednesday 21 May 2025 and Wednesday 9 July 2025.
7. A copy of the PEIR, together with the PEIR NTS, the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), and other consultation documents, plans and maps explaining the consultation process and details of the nature and location of The Drovers Solar Farm can be found on the Applicant's website in the documents library at www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk. These documents will be free to read, download and print from **Wednesday 21 May 2025 to Wednesday 9 July 2025**.
8. Hard copies of the PEIR, PEIR NTS, SoCC, maps and plans will be available for inspection free of charge from Wednesday 21 May 2025 and Wednesday 9 July 2025 at the information point below. Hard copies of the Consultation Information Booklet and the Consultation Feedback Form will be available to take away free of charge from the information point below.
9. Electronic copies of the SoCC, PEIR and NTS can also be viewed on the library's computer. While access to the computer at the library is free, a membership for the library may be required. We recommend contacting the library to check the opening times prior to visiting.

Venue	Address	Opening times	Contact details
Swaffham Library	Swaffham Library, The Pigstie, Swaffham, PE37 7DF	<p>During staffed hours, a membership is not required to access the library.</p> <p>Staffed hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10am-7pm Friday 1 pm-7pm Saturday 10am-4pm</p> <p>During open access hours, a membership is required to access the library.</p> <p>Open access hours: Monday: 8am to 7pm - Open Library access Tuesday: 8am to 10am - Open Library access Wednesday: 8am to 7pm - Open Library access Thursday: 8am to 10am - Open Library access Friday: 8am to 1pm - Open Library access Saturday: 8am to 10am - Open Library access Sunday: 10am to 4pm - Open Library access</p> <p><i>Please note: Membership is free, and we recommend getting in touch with the library for more details.</i></p>	Email: libraries@norfolk.gov.uk Phone: 01760 721513

10. The Applicant will host public information events to provide interested parties with the opportunity to view the consultation materials as well as speak with members of the project team. The details of the events can be found below.
11. These consultation events offer an opportunity to find out more about The Drovers Solar Farm. Attendees do not need to register in advance to attend an in-person consultation event.

Venue	Date and Time
Sporle Community Centre 78 The Street, Sporle, King's Lynn, PE32 2DR	Saturday 31 May 2025 11:00- 17:00
Narborough Community Centre Chalk Lane, Narborough, PE32 1SR	Monday 2 June 2025 10:00- 14:00
Swaffham Assembly Rooms 1 Market Place, Swaffham, PE37 7AB	Wednesday 11 June 2025 12:00- 19:00
Westacre Theatre River Road, West Acre, King's Lynn, PE32 1UD	Friday 20 June 2025 10:00- 14:00

12. The Applicant will also host two webinars for interested parties to join via telephone or online via Livestorm, a conferencing platform.

Date	Time
Thursday 5 June 2025	12:30- 13:30
Wednesday 25 June 2025	18:30- 19:30

13. We will require attendees to register for these online events in advance via a registration form. The link to the registration form will be available on The Drovers Solar Farm website, which will also provide joining instructions.
14. For further information or queries, please call **FREEPHONE 0800 0129 154** (free of charge); write by letter to **FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM** (no stamp or further details required); email info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk or visit www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk.

To obtain hard copies of the consultation documents

15. Hard copies of all other consultation materials, including the PEIR, may be requested during the consultation period by contacting the Applicant on **FREEPHONE 0800 0129 154** or by email to info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk.
16. Requests for consultation materials in an alternative format such as large print or audio for those with visual impairments or in an alternative language for those who do not speak English as their first language will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Requests for multiple copies of these documents will be considered on a case-by-case basis and a reasonable charge may apply to cover printing and postage costs.
17. A printed hard copy of the PEIR will cost £750 (which includes printing and postage costs).

Have your say

18. Feedback can be provided through the Consultation Feedback Form on the Applicant's website at www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk. Hardcopy feedback forms will also be available at the information point detailed above and at the in-person consultation events.
19. The Consultation Feedback Form, responses to the consultation or other representations in respect of The Drovers Solar Farm can also be sent to the Applicant by email to info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk or by post to **FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM** (no stamp or further details required).
20. Any response or representation in respect of the proposed DCO must be received by the Applicant on or before 23:59 on Wednesday 9 July 2025.

The Applicant will consider and have regard to all responses to consultation and publicity when developing its DCO application. Individual responses may be made publicly available, or made available to the Secretary of State, the Planning Inspectorate and other relevant statutory authorities, in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 and data protection legislation.

Respondents do not have to provide any personal information, but this information will help the Applicant to understand the range of responses and enable the Applicant to send you further information relating to The Drovers Solar Farm. Personal information will be kept confidential where possible. Please refer to our Privacy Notice for more details on The Drovers Solar Farm website: www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk



10 Consultation Feedback Form



THE DROVES
SOLAR FARM

The Drovers Solar Farm

Statutory Consultation
Feedback Form



The Drovers Solar Farm

The Drovers Solar Farm Limited, a subsidiary of Island Green Power (IGP), is bringing forward proposed plans for a solar farm with battery energy storage located on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk.

If consented, The Drovers Solar Farm ("the Project") could generate approximately 500 MWac (Megawatt Alternating Current) of renewable energy, enough to power approximately 115,000 homes, annually. The battery energy storage system (BESS) component would store surplus energy and supply it to the national grid when needed.

We are now seeking feedback on our updated design proposals.

Your feedback is important to us and will help us to develop and refine our proposals.

We encourage you to be as specific as possible in your comments.

Our statutory consultation will run from Wednesday 21 May until 23:59 on 9 July 2025.

It is important that you submit your feedback to us before the closing date, so that it can be considered as part of our design process.

Feedback submitted after the closing date may not be considered.

Useful information

To see how we have responded to the feedback received from our early-stage engagement, please refer to pages 10-11 in our Consultation Information Booklet.

Before completing the form, we recommend that you read our consultation information materials, including our **Consultation Information Booklet** and the **Non-Technical Summary (NTS)** of the **Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)**.

All consultation materials can be found:

- On our website **www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk**.
- At our local information point, Swaffham Library.

Additional space for feedback can be found at the end of this form.

How to complete this form

Visit our website to access the latest information, including all statutory consultation documents, and complete our Feedback Form online at: **www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk**.

Complete this Feedback Form and return to: **FREEPOST THE DROVES SOLAR FARM**. Alternatively, please send a scanned copy of your form to **info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk**

If you would like help completing this form, or further information about our proposals, you can contact our Community Relations Team using the details below.

@ Email us: **info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk**

📞 Community Relations Freephone: **0800 0129 154**

If you require materials in an alternative format (for example, large print or braille) please let us know.

Section 1: General questions

Your response to questions in this section will help us to understand more about your views on solar development.

1(a). How supportive are you of the development of solar farms to help meet the UK Government's commitment to boosting energy security and achieving net zero emissions by 2050?

- ☐ Supportive
- ☐ Supportive, but I have some concerns
- ☐ Unsupportive, but I would like to find out more
- ☐ Completely against
- ☐ Unsure

1(b). How supportive are you of solar farm development in Norfolk?

- ☐ Supportive
- ☐ Supportive, but I have some concerns
- ☐ Unsupportive, but I would like to find out more
- ☐ Completely against
- ☐ Unsure

1(c). Based on the consultation materials, how supportive are you of the proposals presented for The Drovers Solar Farm?

- ☐ Supportive
- ☐ Supportive, but I have some concerns
- ☐ Unsupportive, but I would like to find out more
- ☐ Completely against
- ☐ Unsure

1(d). Please tell us your reasons for your response to the questions above and add any other comments.

Section 2: Project design

We are interested to understand your thoughts on our **Project Level Design Principles**, and **Masterplanning Strategies**, which will continue to guide the design and development of the Project throughout its lifecycle.

To find out more about our design process and view the **Indicative Masterplan**, please refer to pages 14-25 in our **Consultation Information Booklet**.

Project Level Design Principles

2(a). Based on our consultation materials, please indicate the extent to which you agree that our proposals for The Droves Solar Farm align with our Project Level Design Principles, at this stage.

To view the full list of Project Level Design Principles under each theme listed below, please refer to pages 14-17 in our Consultation Information Booklet.

Project Level Design Principle - key theme	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Require more information
Environmentally led design	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Efficient infrastructure & ethical supply chain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social value & community benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Design flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decarbonisation & energy security	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biodiversity net gain & nature recovery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability, durability & reversibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2(b). Please tell us your reasons for your response to question 2(a) and add any other comments about our Project Level Design Principles.

Masterplanning Strategies

2(c). Based on our consultation materials, please indicate how far you agree that our design proposals align with our Masterplanning Strategies, at this stage.

Masterplanning Strategy	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Require more information
Place – Reinforcing the character and identity of the local area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Movement – Improving access for walking and active travel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biodiversity – Supporting nature recovery across the Site and surrounding landscape.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2(d). Please tell us your reasons for your response to question 2(c) and add any other comments about our Masterplanning Strategies.

Indicative Masterplan

The Indicative Masterplan provides more detail on the Project, including the areas currently under consideration for solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, associated development, and mitigation and enhancement measures.

Please refer to our Indicative Masterplan to support your response below.

2(e). Please provide your comments on the proposed layout.

You can comment on the areas under consideration for solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and/or associated infrastructure. Please refer to specific components of the Project infrastructure and/or locations where possible.

Section 3: Local environment

We will continue to carry out environmental surveys to support the design process and inform our proposed mitigation and enhancement measures.

Your answers to questions in this section will help us to consider how we can best mitigate, protect and enhance wildlife and nature across the Site.

Where applicable, please specify which section and/or paragraph of the **Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)** or **Non-Technical Summary (NTS)** of the **PEIR** you are referring to in your comments.

**3(a). What environmental issues relating to the proposals are most important to you?
Please tick the relevant boxes below.**

☐

Ecology and biodiversity

☐

Glint and glare

☐

Agriculture

☐

Cultural heritage

☐

Hydrology, drainage and flood risk

☐

Transport and access

☐

Landscape and visual

3(b). Please tell us more about your selection for 3(a).

Use this box to suggest any additional mitigation, enhancement or protection measures you would like to see as part of our proposals. You can also suggest additional surveys you think it would be beneficial for us to undertake.

Section 4: Community benefits

We are keen to support local communities and work in partnership to deliver initiatives which will have a positive impact.

Community benefit initiatives can take the form of on-site infrastructures (e.g. new green spaces), or off-site initiatives (e.g. educational opportunities), and have the potential to make a lasting difference.

4(a). Do you have any suggestions for on-site infrastructure that could be delivered as part of The Drovers Solar Farm?

4(b). Do you have any suggestions for off-site initiatives that could be delivered as part of The Drovers Solar Farm?

Section 5: Statutory consultation

We would like to understand more about your experience of our statutory consultation.

5(a). How did you hear about the consultation?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Received a Consultation Leaflet | <input type="checkbox"/> Received The Drovers Solar Farm newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Received a letter from The Drovers Solar Farm | <input type="checkbox"/> Word of mouth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saw it advertised in a local newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |

5(b). Did you attend one of our in-person or online consultation events?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – both in-person and online | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – an online event |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – an in-person event | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

5(c). Please rate the information included as part of this consultation in terms of how clearly it was presented and how easy it was to understand.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> Very poor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Average | |

Section 6: Additional space for feedback

Please use this section for any further comments or suggestions you would like us to consider as part of our consultation.

Section 7: About you

Title	<input type="text"/>	Postcode	<input type="text"/>
Name	<input type="text"/>	Telephone	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>	Email	<input type="text"/>

How would you describe your interest in our proposals? (Please tick all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local resident | <input type="checkbox"/> Regular visitor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local representative | <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory organisation (please name) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landowner | <input type="checkbox"/> Local interest group (please name) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local business owner | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work locally | |

If you have named an organisation above, please confirm if you are submitting this feedback on behalf of the organisation, and that you have authorisation to do so.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I am responding on behalf of an organisation (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I am not responding on behalf of an organisation |
|---|---|

Age range:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 and under | <input type="checkbox"/> 36–50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Over 65 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 19–35 | <input type="checkbox"/> 51–65 | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |



You do not have to supply personal details. However, if you do, it will enable us to contact you regarding your feedback, if necessary. Your personal details will be stored in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation by Copper Consultancy, acting on behalf of The Drovers Solar Farm Limited. The Project's privacy policy can be viewed via the website **www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk**.

- ☐ Please tick if you would like to receive email updates regarding the Project following this statutory consultation.



Contact us

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to be kept up to date on the Project, please contact our Community Relations Team using the details below.

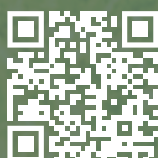
@ **Email us at:** info@drovessolarfarm.co.uk

📞 **Community Relations Freephone:** 0800 0129 154
(Our phone lines are monitored 9:00–17:30 Monday to Friday, with an answerphone facility available outside of these hours)

Our communication lines will remain open during working hours (Monday–Friday 09:00–17:30) throughout the statutory consultation period, between 21 May and 9 July 2025.

It is important to complete the Feedback Form before the deadline.

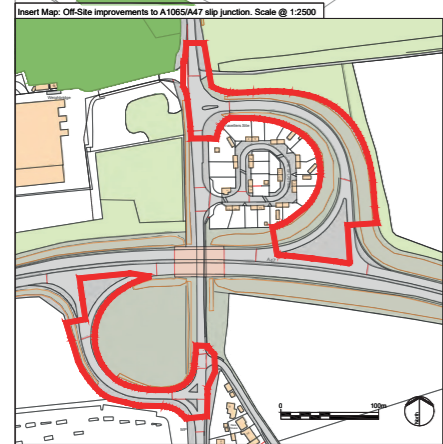
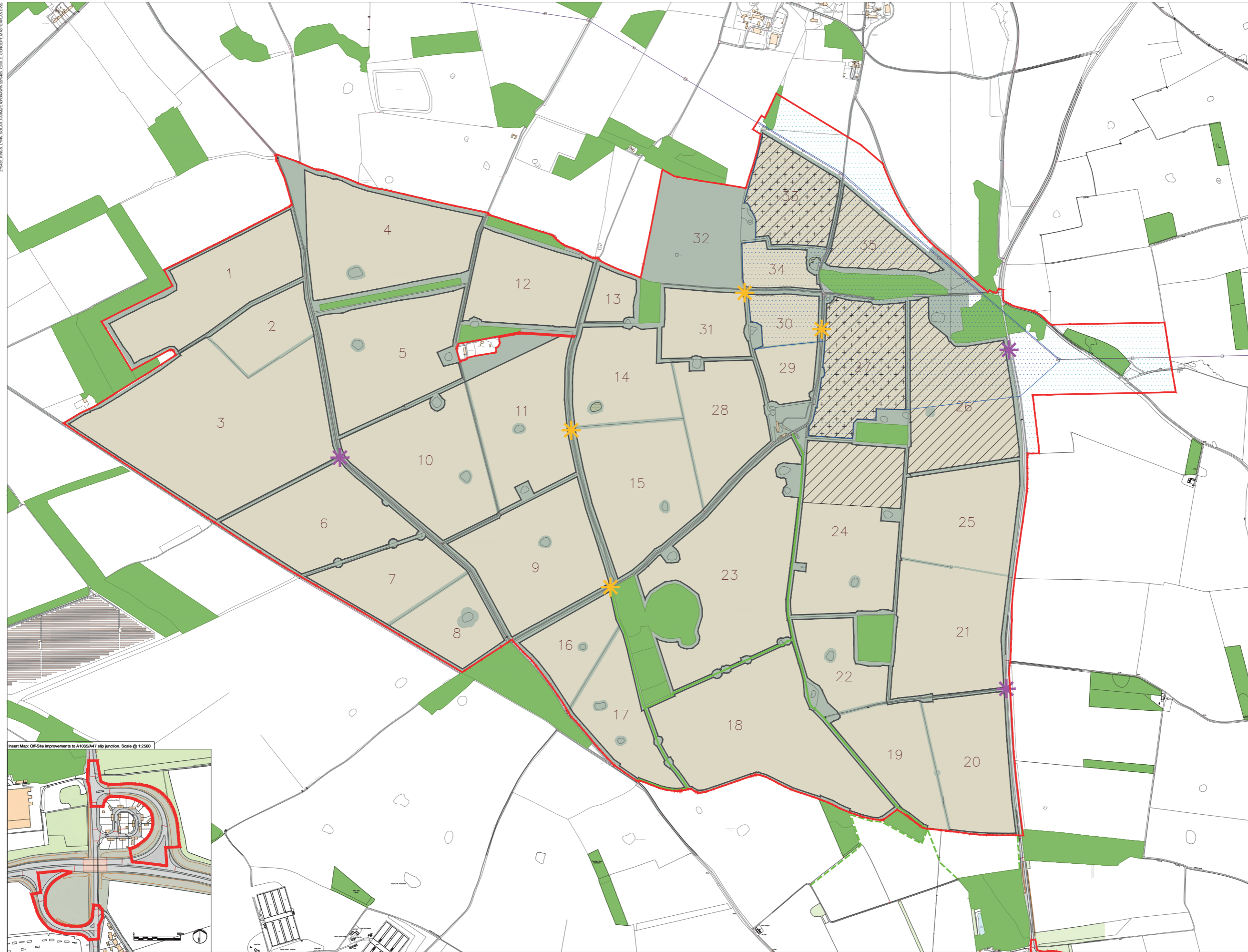
More information



Scan the QR code to learn more about The Droles Solar Farm.
You can find the Feedback Form and our other documents on our website: **www.drovessolarfarm.co.uk**

11 Exhibition Materials

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THE DROVES
SOLAR FARM

CONCEPT MASTERPLAN

Volume III
PIER Appendix 5.1
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

LEGEND:

- Site Boundary
- Grid Connection Infrastructure
- Potential temporary working area for grid connection infrastructure
- Indicative area for Solar PV site
- Indicative area for mitigation, enhancement and/or retained agricultural land/buildings
- Indicative siting zone for Customer Substation & BESS
- Indicative siting zone for National Grid Substation
- Existing 400kv Overhead Utilities
- Existing Woodland
- Potential on site permissive route (indicative alignment)
- Potential off site permissive link (indicative alignment)
- Indicative site access or crossing from public highway
- Indicative crossings of Public Rights of Way

Notes:

- The location of features shown are indicative only. Exact locations to be confirmed on site.
- Additional features may be present on site that have not been identified on the topographical plan.
- Linework based on OS Mastermap information

Sources:


Ordnance Survey, Natural Green Power (NGP), WFP, Natural England, Norfolk County Council, National Forestry Commission

Infrastructure Planning (Application: Private Farm and Precinct) Regulations 2009 - Part 8 (12)

DWG. NO. 9485_0250_D

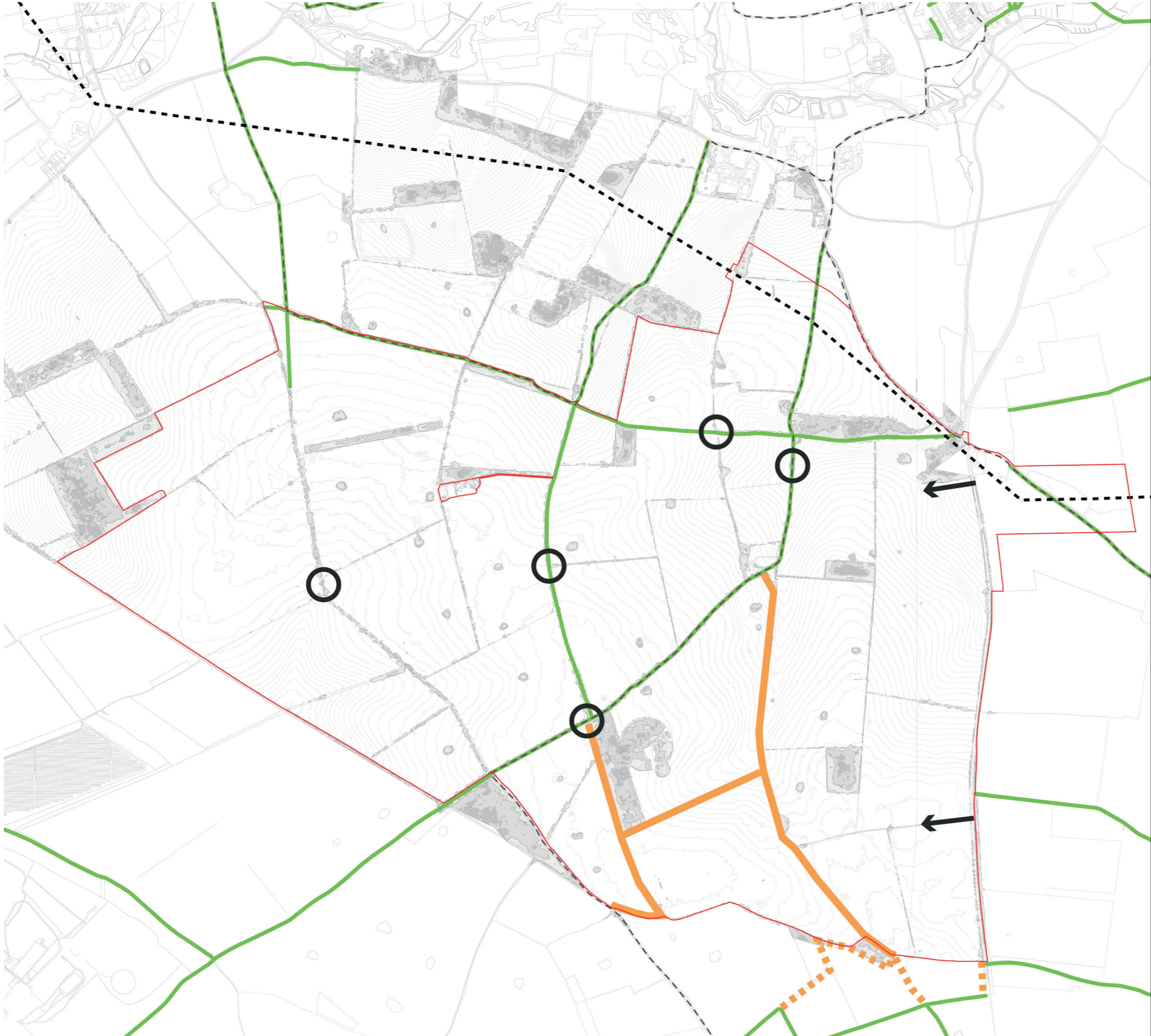
DATE	MAY 2025	DRAWN	HW
SCALE	AS SHOWN	CHECKED	CM
STATUS		APPROVED	RP

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All dimensions are to be checked on site.
Area measurements for indicative purposes only.
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DRAWING TITLE:
Access Strategy

DOCUMENT:
**PEIR Masterplan Strategies
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)**

- LEGEND
- Site boundary
 - 400kv Overhead Power Line
 - Existing Public Right of Way
 - Existing promoted routes including:
Castle Acre Circular Walk; Rebellion Way Cyle Route; Peddars Way & Norfolk Coast Path National Trail; Nar Valley Long Distance Trail
 - Potential on site permissive route (indicative alignment)
 - Potential off site permissive link (indicative alignment)
 - Primary access off A1065 (indicative location)
 - Key crossing of Public Right of Way and River Road (indicative location)
- Sources: Ordnance survey, Natural England; National Forest Inventory, Island Green Power, WSP, Norfolk County Council, National Trails, Cycling UK.

DWG. NO. 9485_0270

DATE	28.04.25	DRAWN	CMi
SCALE@A3	NTS	CHECKED	CMi
STATUS	Final	APPROVED	RP

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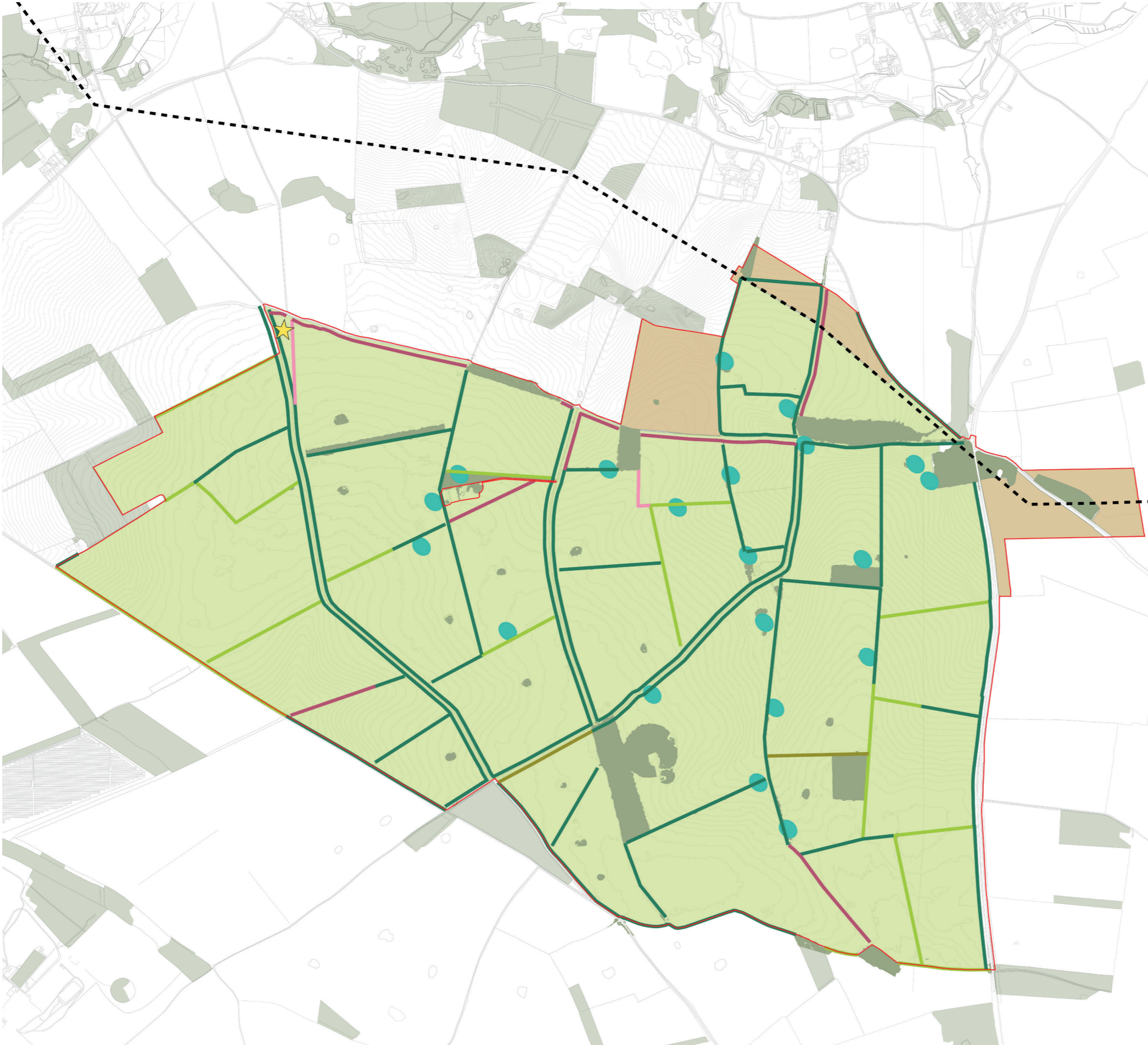
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DRAWING TITLE:
Green Infrastructure Strategy

DOCUMENT:
**PEIR Masterplan Strategies
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)**

LEGEND

- Site boundary
- Existing woodland & tree groups (retained)
- Retained arable
- Proposed grassland
- 400kv Overhead Power Line
- Existing hedgerow (retained & gapped up)
- Existing hedgerow with hedgerow trees / tree line (retained & gapped up)
- Existing hedgerow to be strengthened with hedgerow trees
- Proposed hedgerow
- Proposed hedgerow with hedgerow trees
- Existing marl pit / pond / tree group incorporated within Green Infrastructure corridor
- Potential for publicly accessible amenity space

Sources: Ordnance survey, Natural England; National Forest Inventory, Island Green Power, WSP, National Library of Scotland, Aspect Ecology.

DWG. NO. 9485_0271

DATE	28.04.25	DRAWN	CMi
SCALE@A3	NTS	CHECKED	CMi
STATUS	Final	APPROVED	RP

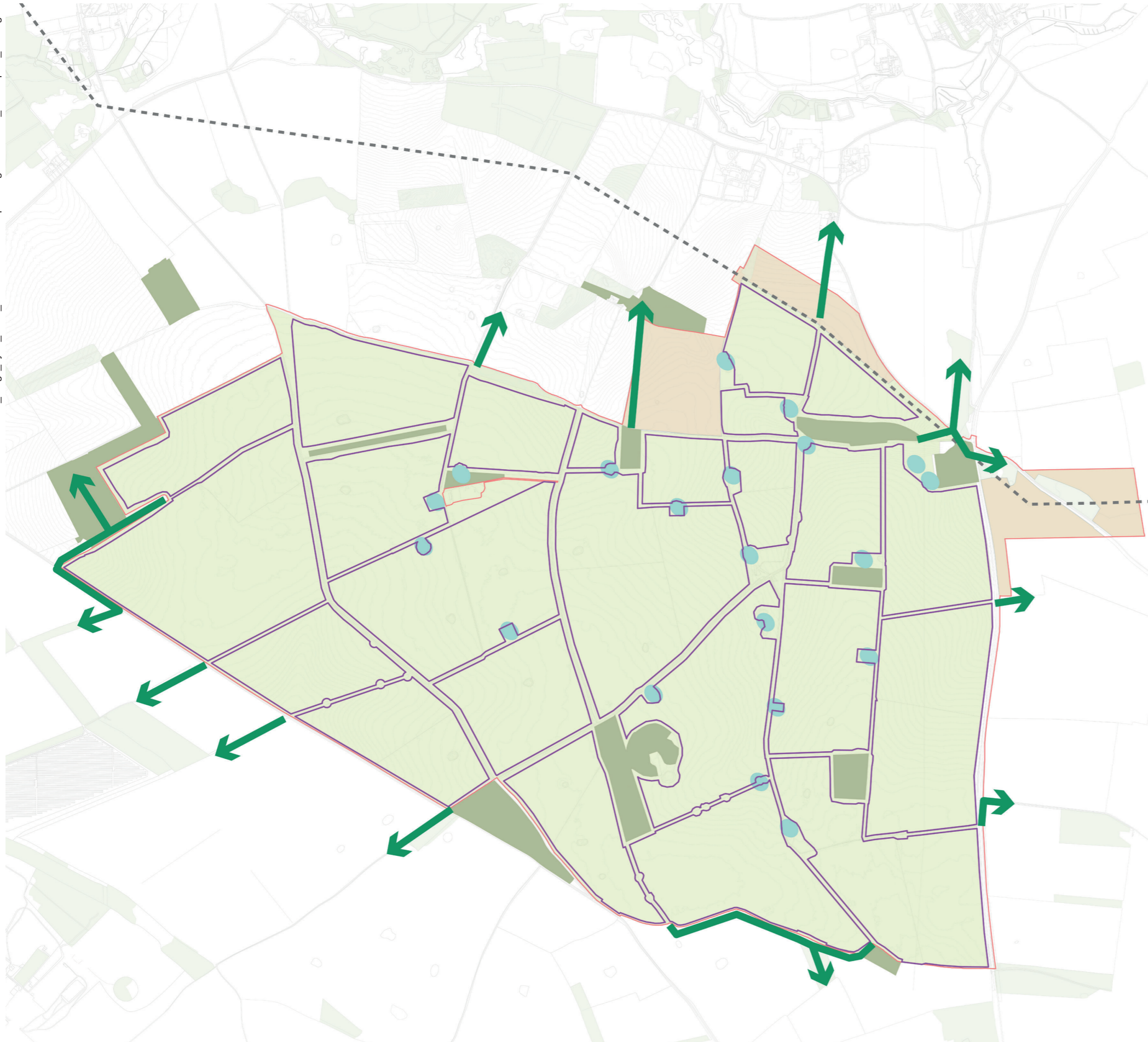
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DRAWING TITLE:

Fencing Strategy

DOCUMENT:

PEIR Masterplan Strategies
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

LEGEND

- Site boundary
- Indicative fence line
- Link to offsite hedgerow and woodland, providing continuation of wildlife corridor beyond the Site boundary
- Existing woodland & tree groups (retained)
- Retained arable
- Proposed grassland
- 400kv Overhead Power Line
- Existing marl pit / pond / tree group incorporated within Green Infrastructure corridor

Sources: Ordnance survey, Natural England; National Forest Inventory, Island Green Power, WSP, National Library of Scotland, Aspect Ecology.

DWG. NO. 9485_0272

DATE	28.04.25	DRAWN	CMi
SCALE@A3	NTS	CHECKED	CMi
STATUS	Final	APPROVED	RP

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Welcome

**Welcome to our statutory consultation event for
The Drovers Solar Farm (“the Project”).**

We are here today to share our design proposals for the Project.
We invite you to look around, view our consultation materials and
share your feedback.

The Project team is on hand to answer any questions you may have.

You can find more information and details of the Project at:

www.drovesolarfarm.co.uk



Your feedback is important to us and will be used to
help shape our final designs. Scan the QR code to
be taken to our digital Feedback Form.

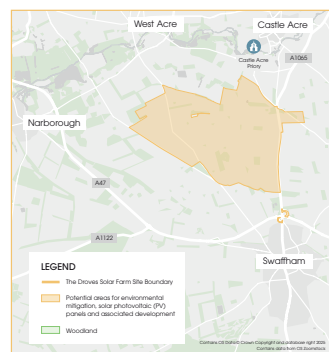
**Our statutory consultation runs for seven
weeks from 21 May to 23:59 on 9 July 2025.**



About The Drovers Solar Farm

The Drovers Solar Farm Limited, a subsidiary of Island Green Power (IGP), is bringing forward proposed plans for a solar farm with battery energy storage, located on land north of Swaffham and south of Castle Acre, West Norfolk.

If consented, The Drovers Solar Farm could generate approximately 500 MWac (Megawatt Alternating Current) of renewable energy, enough to power approximately 115,000 homes, annually. The battery energy storage system (BESS) component would store surplus energy and supply it to the national grid when needed.



Who is Island Green Power?

Established in 2013, Island Green Power (IGP) is a leading developer of utility-scale solar projects and battery energy systems. IGP delivers renewable energy solutions that create lasting value for the communities it serves, protecting the environment while fostering economic growth and energy independence.

Since launch, it has successfully delivered more than 34 solar projects worldwide that have generated more than 3 GW of energy capacity. This includes 20 solar projects in the UK. These range in size from below 5 MW to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects such as Cottam Solar Project, currently the UK's largest consented solar project. Cottam will generate 600 MW of clean, renewable and secure electricity and includes 600 MW of battery storage that will store then release energy as needed.



Our consultation to date

In autumn 2024 we conducted our early-stage engagement for The Drovers Solar Farm.

We continued to engage with the community via Project communication channels, and held a series of briefing meetings and workshops with invited stakeholders to better understand key issues and potential constraints in the local area.

We have used feedback gathered from local representatives, community organisations and technical specialists during our early-stage engagement, to shape our design proposals ahead of this consultation.

In response to feedback received, we have:

- Removed field 32, comprising entirely Agricultural Land Classification Grade 1 and Grade 2 land, from consideration for solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and associated infrastructure
- Engaged with stakeholders, including Norfolk Wildlife Trust, to discuss our mitigation strategies and gather local insights
- Continued to explore potential wildlife corridors within the Project's design to facilitate the movement of animals such as badgers, foxes and deer
- Committed to ensuring views of and from heritage assets are preserved
- Maintained an ongoing dialogue with RWE regarding their High Grove Solar Farm proposal, to ensure that cumulative impacts in the local area are fully assessed and communicated effectively
- Committed to retaining all Public Rights of Way (PRoW) during the operational phase of the Project, ensuring that popular routes would remain open.

You can find out more about our early-stage engagement on **page 6–11 of the Consultation Information Booklet.**



Project Level Design Principles

Our vision is for The Drovers Solar Farm to support the UK's transition to decarbonised, low-cost renewable energy, while leaving a positive legacy for the people of Breckland and its natural environment.

Our design approach is guided by a set of Project Level Design Principles that prioritise:

-  Environmentally led design
-  Efficient infrastructure & ethical supply chain
-  Social value & community benefit
-  Design flexibility
-  Decarbonisation & energy security
-  Biodiversity net gain & nature recovery
-  Sustainability, durability & reversibility.

We are interested to hear your thoughts on our Project Level Design Principles, which can be viewed in full on **page 14-17 of our Consultation Information Booklet.**



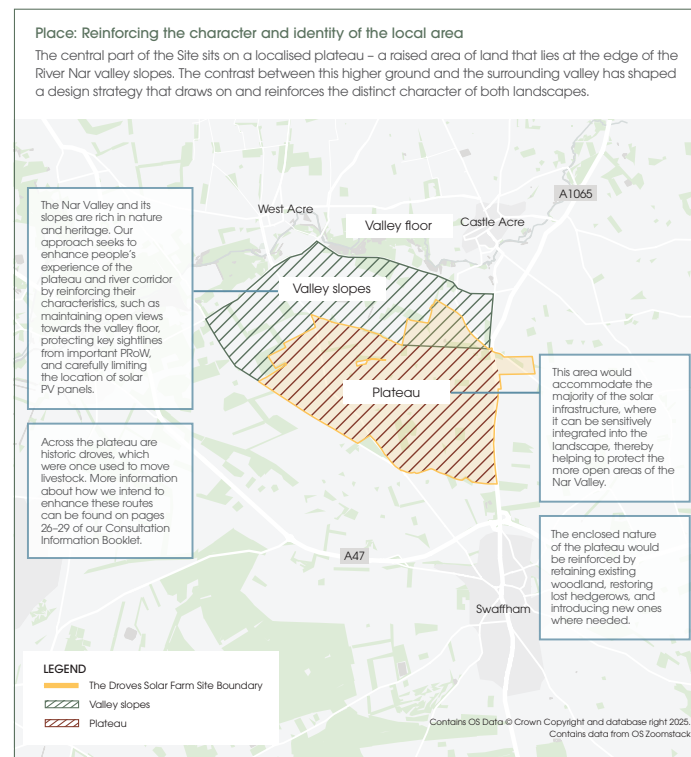
Scan the QR code to be
taken to our Feedback Form.



Masterplanning Strategies

We have developed a set of key Masterplanning Strategies that underpin the Indicative Masterplan.

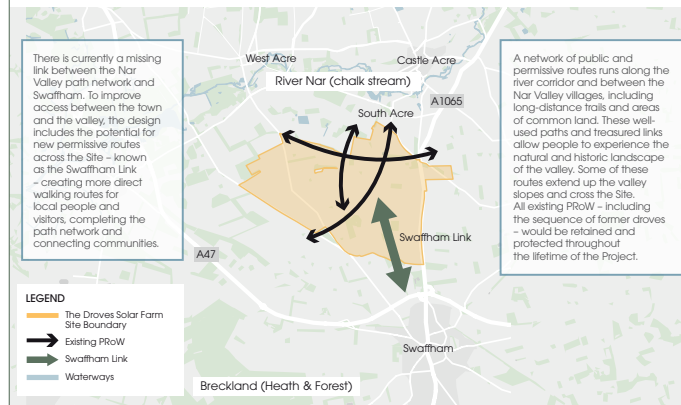
These strategies outline how we intend to implement our Project Level Design Principles through a Site-specific approach.



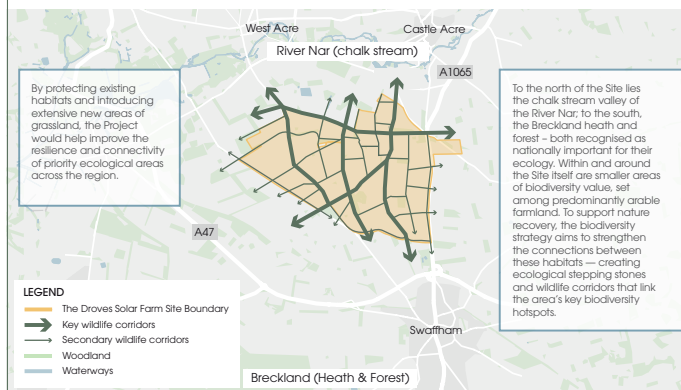
Masterplanning Strategies

Movement: Improving access for walking and active travel

The Project aims to protect existing paths and introduce new links across the Site – improving access between Swaffham, the Nar Valley, and surrounding villages.



Biodiversity: Supporting nature recovery across the Site and surrounding landscape



[illegible]