

Calderdale Energy Park

Section 51 Advice Log Version: 15 July 2026

This document comprises a record of the s51 advice that has been given by the Planning Inspectorate to the applicant (Calderdale Wind Farm Limited) during the pre-application stage. It will be updated by the Planning Inspectorate after every interaction with the applicant within which s51 advice has been given.

The applicant will always be given the opportunity to comment on the Planning Inspectorate's draft record of the s51 advice given before it is published on the relevant project page on the [Find a National Infrastructure Project website](#).

The role of the advice log at the acceptance stage

Section 55(4) of the PA2008 requires the Planning Inspectorate to consider, amongst other things, the extent to which the applicant has had regard to the s51 advice given by the Planning Inspectorate in connection with the application when deciding if the application can be accepted for examination. Section 51 advice includes:

- advice given about applying for an order granting development consent
- advice given about making representations about an application for an order granting development consent

The applicant will use this advice log as the tool for demonstrating:

- regard to the s51 advice given to the applicant by the Planning Inspectorate
- regard to any s51 advice given to others by the Planning Inspectorate

The applicant will submit a final version of this advice log which demonstrates regard to all s51 given by the Planning Inspectorate at the pre-application stage as part of the application.

Calderdale Energy Park – Applicant meeting index

Date of meeting	Meeting overview
15 July 2025	Inception Meeting • Site Location and context • Grid connection options • Consenting programme and introduction to the pre-application programme document • Environmental constraints and issues • Environmental surveys • Consultation
29 October 2025	Section 51 Advice – Pre-application prospectus update
26 January 2026	Project Update Meeting • General Project Update - Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) • Update on next round of consultation • DCO Schedule • Stakeholder Engagement including LPA engagement and PPAs • Programme Document
22 June 2026	Project Update Meeting • Statutory consultation feedback • Update on key issues • Programme update
15 July 2026	Email advice - Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025

Calderdale Energy Park – Log of s51 given to the applicant

Meeting date: 15 July 2026

Topic	s51 advice given	Applicant regard to s51 advice given
Site Location and context	The applicant confirmed it is working through all the relevant guidance and working alongside Natural England (NE) and the Environment Agency (EA). The Inspectorate suggested discussions are held at future project update meetings to discuss advice received from Natural England and how any concerns are being addressed. The Inspectorate suggested it is important that the applicant documents how it has taken on board feedback, especially if it resulted in any changes to the design of the project.	
Grid connection options	The applicant explained it is preparing and submitting two applications for a connection through the Gate 2 process. The Inspectorate advised the applicant that if connection optionality remained at the point of DCO application submission	

	it could add significant complexity to the examination process. The applicant confirmed by the application submission it is hoping to have clarity on point of connection.	
Consenting programme and introduction to the pre-application programme document	The Inspectorate advised the applicant must provide the GIS shapefile at least ten days prior to the submission of an EIA Scoping Report. The pre-application fee must also be paid beforehand.	
Environmental constraints and issues	The Inspectorate advised the applicant on the importance of clearly explaining the site selection process, including approach to alternatives, in both the consultation and application documents.	
Environmental surveys	The Inspectorate emphasised the importance of agreeing baseline or survey methodology with ecologists in the relevant agencies and LPAs. The applicant confirmed it has been consulting with Natural England and the Environment Agency regarding ecology surveys. The Inspectorate also advised the applicant to ensure that evidence of	

	agreements is included in the application documents in due course.	
Consultation	The Inspectorate advised the applicant to clearly explain any community benefits within consultation documentation. The Inspectorate also commented on the importance of recording how consultation was carried out adequately and proportionately. The applicant should also evidence any engagement with action groups. The Inspectorate advised the applicant, upon submission of the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone Statement (AoCM), to highlight any concerns raised about consultation undertaken and detail how concerns have been addressed. The Inspectorate asked the applicant if it has an evidence plan process in relation to Habitats Regulations assessment issues and timescales. The applicant confirmed an evidence plan process has been discussed with Natural England and it is very likely that a derogation case will be submitted as part of the DCO application. The Inspectorate emphasised the need for close working with Natural England.	

Calderdale Energy Park – Log of s51 given to the applicant

Meeting date: 29 October 2025

Topic	s51 advice given	Applicant regard to s51 advice given
Email Advice	IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT UPDATES TO OUR PRE-APPLICATION SERVICES Following a 6-month review of our services, our Pre-application Prospectus has been updated: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus. The update log at the bottom of the page summarises the changes and clarifications that have been applied. As an applicant with a live project at the pre-application stage of the process, please familiarise yourself with the update and consider how it might affect your pre-application programme and interaction with our services. Please note in particular: the establishment of land and rights negotiations tracking as a primary service feature – this means it is now expected for all applicants to develop and share a land and right negotiations tracker in 1 of 2 available templates, irrespective of	

	the service tier they have subscribed to clarified expectations of applicants when preparing to interact with the Inspectorate at meetings – including clarified rights for the Inspectorate to delay or refuse service where pre-meeting expectations are not upheld e.g. an updated programme document or issues tracker is not provided, on time, to inform a meeting agenda	
Meeting date: 26 January 2026		
Topic	s51 advice given	Applicant regard to s51 advice given
General Project Update - Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)	The Planning Inspectorate noted from the issues tracker that bespoke mitigation and compensation measures for the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA), as well as some of the environmental surveys may not be completed/agreed with statutory consultees by the DCO application submission date. The applicant confirmed it is working through survey requirements for HRA compensation land.	

	The Inspectorate advised the applicant that incomplete surveys or any queries relating to the baseline or methodology can result in time taken to resolve during examination and introduce additional complexity. The Inspectorate advised that survey work is fully integrated into the project timeline and that the applicant continues to progress these matters, seeking as much agreement as possible in advance of submission. The applicant stated that it intended to reach agreement with Natural England and aim to have this completed before submission.	
Update on next round of consultation	The Inspectorate noted that the Stop Calderdale Group submitted multiple submissions of the same content during scoping. The applicant stated that it had engagement with the Stop Calderdale Group. The Inspectorate advised that if required that the applicant work with the case team to encourage participation in a meaningful manner. The Inspectorate encouraged positive collaboration and engagement with the action group and any other participants.	

	The Inspectorate reminded the applicant that before statutory consultation starts the Section 46 notice is to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate to be published.	
DCO Schedule	The applicant confirmed that the Development Consent Order (DCO) anticipated submission date is November 2026. The Inspectorate advised that if the submission date is pushed back to avoid submitting close to Christmas to ensure that all stakeholders have sufficient opportunity to comment. The Inspectorate asked that it is kept updated on the anticipated submission date. The Inspectorate noted that the applicant's proposed timeline doesn't show when the draft documents will be submitted. The applicant stated that its intention is not to submit draft documents as although it can recognise the benefit of the review of draft documents prior to submission, it has an experienced team who are familiar with the DCO process and is therefore unlikely to be producing draft documents prior to submission. The Inspectorate advised that it would be preferable for the Inspectorate to see a draft or skeleton DCO prior to submission due to	

	the nature of the project and period since last an Onshore Windfarm project had been submitted. The applicant asked that this is something that the Inspectorate and the applicant can discuss in future meetings.	
Stakeholder Engagement including LPA engagement and PPAs	The applicant queried on whether the Inspectorate offer advice sessions or can attend multi-party meetings with local authorities. The Inspectorate advised that the Suffolk County Council webpage is a useful resource for local authorities and host authorities to understand more about working on Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. The Planning Inspectorate has also published a series of advice pages that are intended to inform applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of process matters in relation to the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). The Calderdale Energy Park Case Team can also provide advice on the process. The applicant stated that there has been an offer of workshops for local authorities as well as signposting to advice pages.	
Programme Document	The applicant informed the inspectorate that the Programme Document is to be updated	

	to reflect the latest design updates of the project. The Inspectorate advised that once the Programme Document is updated to check that the Planning Inspectorate's project webpage reflects the latest position of the project. The Inspectorate advised that it is useful to include key issues in the applicants Programme Document. The Inspectorate advised that a detailed issues tracker is submitted prior to submission regarding Statement of Common Ground, to identify potential issues that could occur in examination if the project is accepted.	
Meeting date: 22 June 2026		
Topic	s51 advice given	Applicant regard to s51 advice given
Statutory consultation feedback	In response to the applicant's overview of statutory feedback, the Inspectorate queried whether survey extents have been agreed with the host authorities. The applicant confirmed that Calderdale Council had provided feedback on surveys in their statutory consultation response and that it had engaged with	

	Pendle Borough Council and Lancashire County Council, regarding access corridors and had also been seeking engagement with Bradford Council. The Inspectorate noted the applicant's submission date of November 2026 and emphasised that the survey extents and survey work should be agreed and be as complete as possible prior to submission. The Inspectorate further advised strongly that engagement is continued with local authorities to ensure front loading of the application is carried out prior to submission, particularly because the Examining Authority will have key questions for local authorities during examination, including the expectation of the submission of Statements of Common Ground (SoCG), if this project was to be accepted into examination. The Inspectorate strongly advised that agreements are sought on impacts to peat and flood risk prior to examination with the Environment Agency (EA) and Natural England (NE), noting these as likely being key topics of discussion during examination. More specifically, the Inspectorate advised that the methodology used to undertake the flood risk assessment is agreed with the EA as this is an issue that has previously	
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	occurred in examinations and can impact progression of matters. The applicant confirmed that it was actively engaging with the EA on peat and flood risk and that to date it is not aware of any major issues with the flood risk model that have been raised by the EA. The applicant informed the Inspectorate that they are actively engaging with NE regarding Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). It has identified numerous compensation sites and has taken initial guidance on ratios; this has been shared with NE. The Inspectorate advised the applicant to consider whether any compensation put forward will require HRA itself.	
Update on key issues	The Inspectorate sought clarification on the designated landscapes to be assessed by the applicant. The applicant confirmed that there were four designated landscapes, Yorkshire Dales National Park, Forest of Bowland National Landscape, the Peak District National Park and Nidderdale National Landscape.	

	Noting the requirement to furthering the purpose of designated landscapes as set out in the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023. The Inspectorate queried whether the applicant is clear on how it is assessing this and whether this has been agreed with the relevant bodies. The Inspectorate advised that the applicant should seek agreement where possible on the impact of the national landscapes with the relevant organisations as well as reaching as much agreement on methodology of assessing these prior to examination, if this project was to be accepted. The applicant confirmed that it is aware of this and that all four designations are being considered and are presented in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) it is also looking at feedback in response to the PEIR as well as furthering engagement on these issues. The Inspectorate advised that any survey works not undertaken are clearly justified in the Environmental Statement and that agreement is sought with relevant bodies on the chosen approach. Should the applicant intend to rely on survey work to be undertaken post consent justification should be provided in the application	
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	documentation and be included in the Development Consent Order (DCO). The Inspectorate advised the applicant that updated guidance for the assessment and rating of wind turbine noise consultation has been published this week. The Inspectorate advised that the applicant should provide evidence of compliance with this guidance in their application documents.	
Programme update	The applicant informed the Inspectorate that it is going to provide further information to the public around feedback of consultation and design updates. The Inspectorate advised that engagement with the Inspectorate is crucial going forward, supported by regular updates on the project's development and the provision of the relevant materials as appropriate. The Inspectorate queried whether the applicant intends to submit draft documents prior to submission. The applicant confirmed that they will look at submitting key documents for review by the Inspectorate but are not looking to submit a full-scale set of draft documents including the Environmental Statement. It will confirm which key	

	documents it will be submitting for draft document review at the next meeting. The Inspectorate advised that if the applicant's programme doesn't allow for a full-scale review, then seeing key documents such as the draft DCO prior to submission is useful to raise key issues and is offered as part of the standard tier service. The Inspectorate asked that the applicant could provide an updated issues tracker prior to the next meeting, it is crucial that the issues tracker is detailed to allow the Inspectorate to provide detailed advice and the right technical input. The Inspectorate advised that the degree of risk associated with each issue identified in the tracker should be allocated a 'RAG' (red, amber, green) status and that the intention of asking for the issues tracker at pre-application stage is to focus down the issues and address these in pre-application where possible. The applicant noted that the issues tracker is currently being updated to reflect feedback from Statutory Consultation, the responses for which were still being processed at the time of the meeting.	
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Meeting date: 15 July 2026		
Topic	s51 advice given	Applicant regard to s51 advice given
Email Advice - Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025	In light of the amended legal framework which will be introduced from 24 July 2026 by the Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025, the Planning Inspectorate issued written advice to the applicant on 15 July 2026 requesting for: - evidence within the submitted application in relation to duties under s46 and s48 of the PA2008 to be provided as an appendix to any engagement summary document that the applicant may choose to submit or, where the applicant chooses not to submit such a document, as a discrete document titled 'Section 46 and section 48 information' - evidence within the submitted application in relation to new s55(4)(e) of the PA2008 to be provided in a submission version of this expanded advice log template.	

Calderdale Energy Park – Log of s51 advice given to others		
Person s51 advice given to	s51 advice given	Applicant regard to s51 advice given