



Longfield Solar Farm

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Consultation Report Appendices

Appendices M-1 to M-2

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Longfield Solar Energy Farm Ltd

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Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
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Appendix M-1: Compliance with MHCLG guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015)

M-1.1 The Applicant has undertaken a consultation process which complies with the MHCLG guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015), as well as relevant advice from the Planning Inspectorate.

M-1.2 **Table M-1** evidences how the Applicant has complied with MHCLG guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015):

Table M-1 Compliance with MHCLG guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015)

Para:	Requirement:	Evidence of compliance:
17	“When circulating consultation documents, developers should be clear about their status, for example ensuring it is clear to the public if a document is purely for purposes of consultation.”	Documents produced as part of the consultation clearly stated their status. Letters issued to consultees as part of the s42 and s47 consultations set out that they contained details of statutory consultation. The status of the consultation booklet is set out in its page 4, and the status of the consultation questionnaire on its page 3. Copies of these documents can be found in Appendix G-3 and G-4 [EN010118/APP/8] .
18	“Early involvement of local communities, local authorities and statutory consultees can bring about significant benefits for all parties...”	The Applicant engaged early with local communities, local authorities, and statutory consultees, including a round of non-statutory consultation from 2 November 2020 to 14 December 2020. Early engagement is summarised in sections 3.2 and 3.7 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1] .

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“The pre-application consultation process is crucial to the effectiveness of the major infrastructure consenting regime. A thorough process can give the Secretary of State confidence that issues that will arise during the 6 months examination period have been identified, considered, and – as far as possible – that applicants have sought to reach agreement on those issues...”

The Applicant has conducted a thorough consultation process which has allowed it to identify, consider and, as far as possible, seek to reach agreement on issues likely to arise during the examination. The early engagement and non-statutory consultation set out in chapter 3 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]** provided the opportunity to identify and consider issues early in the development of the scheme. The statutory consultation set out in chapter 6 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]** built on this understanding and further identified and considered issues likely to arise. **Appendices J-1 to J-2 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/5.11]** includes evidence of how the Applicant has considered issues raised through the statutory consultation. Where appropriate, the Applicant is progressing Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) with relevant statutory consultees to demonstrate areas of agreement and matters under discussion.

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“Experience suggests that, to be of most value, consultation should be:

- Based on accurate information that gives consultees a clear view of what is proposed including any options;
- Shared at an early enough stage

For both the non-statutory consultation and statutory consultation, the Applicant shared information at an early enough stage to allow the proposal to be influenced, while being sufficiently developed to provide some

	<p>so that the proposal can still be influenced, while being sufficiently developed to provide some detail on what is being proposed; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Engaging and accessible in style, encouraging consultees to react and offer their views.”	<p>detail on what is being proposed. In each consultation, the Applicant developed a clear scope for what could be influenced by consultees. For the non-statutory consultation, this was to support design development and the process of environmental impact assessment by gathering feedback from consultees on the initial Scheme for Longfield Solar Energy Farm. For the statutory consultation, this was to feed back on the proposed Longfield Solar Energy Farm, the Scheme design, and the initial outcomes of the EIA as set out in the PEIR. For each consultation, the Applicant published a booklet written in an engaging and accessible style, setting out what it was possible to influence at that stage, providing accurate information that gave consultees a clear view of what was proposed, and encouraging them to react and offer their views. A copy of the booklet produced for the non-statutory consultation is included with Appendix A-3 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.2]. A copy of the booklet produced for the statutory consultation is included in Appendix G-4 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.2].</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>“Consultation should be thorough, effective and proportionate. Some applicants may have their own distinct approaches to consultation,</p>	<p>The Applicant has conducted a thorough, effective and proportionate consultation. The period provided to</p>

perhaps drawing on their own or relevant sector experience, for example if there are industry protocols that can be adapted. Larger, more complex applications are likely to need to go beyond the statutory minimum timescales laid down in the Planning Act to ensure enough time for consultees to understand project proposals and formulate a response. Many proposals will require detailed technical input, especially regarding impacts, so sufficient time will need to be allowed for this. Consultation should also be sufficiently flexible to respond to the needs and requirements of consultees, for example where a consultee has indicated that they would prefer to be consulted via email only, this should be accommodated as far as possible.”

comment for consultation under s42, s47, and s48 of the PA 2008 was significantly greater than the 28 calendar days required to be provided for comments as prescribed by s45(2) of the PA 2008.

The Applicant has also been conscious of the need to be sufficiently flexible to respond to the needs and requirements of consultees. As set out in 6.4.13-16 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]**, the Applicant provided a variety of means to respond to the statutory consultation, including completing a questionnaire online, completing and returning a hard copy of the questionnaire, submitting comments by letter, or submitting comments by email. The Applicant also provided a variety of means of finding out about the proposal, including sending a copy of the consultation booklet to all addresses in consultation zone 1 alongside a consultation questionnaire and pre-addressed Freepost envelope, a virtual and in-person public exhibition, webinars, telephone surgeries, and accepting enquiries by Freephone, email or Freepost. Details of this are set out in section 6.4 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]**.

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“The Planning Act requires certain bodies and groups of people to be consulted at the pre-application

The Applicant has identified and consulted with parties prescribed by s42, s43, and

stage but allows for flexibility in the precise form that consultation may take depending on local circumstances and the needs of the project itself. Sections 42 – 44 of the Planning Act and Regulations set out details of who should be consulted, including local authorities, the Marine Management Organisation (where appropriate), other statutory bodies, and persons having an interest in the land to be developed. Section 47 in the Planning Act sets out the applicant’s statutory duty to consult local communities. In addition, applicants may also wish to strengthen their case by seeking the views of other people who are not statutory consultees, but who may be significantly affected by the project.”

s44 of the PA 2008, as well as the local community as prescribed in s47 of the PA 2008 and defined in the SoCC. Details of how the Applicant consulted in accordance with each of these sections of the PA 2008 are set out in **Chapter 6 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]**. In addition, the Applicant sought the views of a range of groups which were not statutory consultees but were deemed to have a potential interest. Details of these are set out in **Appendix H-1 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.9]**.

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“The Planning Act and Regulations set out the statutory consultees and prescribed people who must be consulted during the pre-application process. Many statutory consultees are responsible for consent regimes where, under section 120 of the Planning Act, decisions on those consents can be included within the decision on a Development Consent Order. Where an applicant proposes to include non-planning consents within their Development Consent Order, the bodies that would normally be responsible for granting these consents should make every effort to facilitate this. They should only object to the inclusion of such non-planning consents with good reason, and after careful consideration of reasonable alternatives. It is therefore important that such bodies are consulted at an early stage. In addition, there will be a range of national and other interest groups who could be make an

Statutory consultees such as the Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England were engaged with early in the development of the Scheme, prior to the non-statutory consultation. Early engagement is set out in Table 3-1 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]**. These bodies continued to be engaged in the period between this and the statutory consultation as set out in Table 3-14 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]**. They were then consulted under s42 of the PA 2008 as set out in section 6.2 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]**. In addition, the Applicant sought the views of a range of groups which were not statutory consultees but were deemed

	<p>important contribution during consultation. Applicants are therefore encouraged to consult widely on project proposals.”</p>	<p>to have a potential interest. Details of these are set out in Appendix H-1 [EN010118/APP/5.9].</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>“Applicants will often need detailed technical input from expert bodies to assist with identifying and mitigating the social, environmental, design and economic impacts of projects, and other important matters. Technical expert input will often be needed in advance of formal compliance with the pre-application requirements. Early engagement with these bodies can help avoid unnecessary delays and the costs of having to make changes at later stages of the process. It is equally important that statutory consultees respond to a request for technical input in a timely manner. Applicants are therefore advised to discuss and agree a timetable with consultees for the provision of such inputs.”</p>	<p>The Applicant sought technical input from relevant expert bodies at each stage of the Scheme development. This included through the early engagement set out in Table 3-1 and the ongoing engagement set out in Tables 3-14 and 8-1, as well as during the statutory consultation set out in chapter 6 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1].</p>
<p>38</p>	<p>“The role of the local authority in such discussions should be to provide expertise about the make-up of its area, including whether people in the area might have particular needs or requirements, whether the authority has identified any groups as difficult to reach and what techniques might be appropriate to overcome barriers to communication. The local authority should also provide advice on the appropriateness of the applicant’s suggested consultation techniques and methods. The local authority’s aim in such discussions should be to ensure that the people affected by the development can take part in a thorough, accessible and effective consultation exercise about the proposed project.”</p>	<p>The Applicant engaged early with host local authorities to seek expertise on these issues. This included early engagement set out in Table 3-1 and the ongoing engagement set out in Tables 3-14 and 8-1 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]. This included engagement on community consultation methods, and the Applicant shared a draft of the SoCC on an informal basis before consulting with the host authorities formally. As prescribed by s47 of PA 2008, the Applicant prepared a SoCC setting out how it proposed to consult, about the</p>

		<p>proposed application, people living in the vicinity of the land and consulted with each local authority that is within s43(1) of the PA 2008 on the SoCC. The regard that the Applicant had to responses received as part of this consultation is set out in Appendix C-4 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.4].</p>
<p>41</p>	<p>“Where a local authority raises an issue or concern on the Statement of Community Consultation which the applicant feels unable to address, the applicant is advised to explain in their consultation report their course of action to the Secretary of State when they submit their application.”</p>	<p>The regard that the Applicant had to responses received from local authorities as part of the consultation on the draft SoCC is set out in Appendix C-4 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.4].</p>
<p>50</p>	<p>“It is the applicant’s responsibility to demonstrate at submission of the application that due diligence has been undertaken in identifying all land interests and applicants should make every reasonable effort to ensure that the Book of Reference (which records and categories those land interests) is up-to-date at the time of submission.”</p>	<p>The Applicant has diligently sought to identify all land interests and ensure that the Book of Reference [EN010118/APP/4.3] remains up to date. Details of this are set out in 6.2.5 – 6.2.16 and the Book of Reference [EN010118/APP/4.3]</p>
<p>54</p>	<p>“In consulting on project proposals, an inclusive approach is needed to ensure that different groups have the opportunity to participate and are not disadvantaged in the process. Applicants should use a range of methods and techniques to ensure that they access all sections of the community in question. Local authorities will be able to provide advice on what works best in terms of consulting their local communities</p>	<p>The Applicant has adopted an inclusive approach to consultation to ensure that different groups have the opportunity to participate and are not disadvantaged in the process. The SoCC included proposals to support the participation of hard-to-reach groups in the consultation, and the Applicant incorporated local authority feedback on this subject into the SoCC. Details of</p>

given their experience of carrying out consultation in their area.”

compliance with the approach set out in the SoCC are included in **Appendix D-3 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.5]** and details of the regard the Applicant had to local authority comments on this area are included in **Appendix C-4 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.4]**.

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“Applicants must set out clearly what is being consulted on. They must be careful to make it clear to local communities what is settled and why, and what remains to be decided, so that expectations of local communities are properly managed. Applicants could prepare a short document specifically for local communities, summarising the project proposals and outlining the matters on which the view of the local community is sought. This can describe core elements of the project and explain what the potential benefits and impacts may be. Such documents should be written in clear, accessible, and non-technical language. Applicants should consider making it available in formats appropriate to the needs of people with disabilities if requested. There may be cases where documents may need to be bilingual (for example, Welsh and English in some areas), but it is not the policy of the Government to encourage documents to be translated into non-native languages.”

For each consultation, the Applicant published a booklet written in an engaging and accessible style, setting out what it was possible to influence at that stage, providing accurate information that gave consultees a clear view of what was proposed, and encouraging them to react and offer their views. A copy of the booklet produced for the non-statutory consultation is included with **Appendix A-3 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.2]**. A copy of the booklet produced for the statutory consultation is included in **Appendix G-4 [EN010118/APP/5.8]**. These were supplemented by consultation materials designed to present consultation information in other, interactive formats. At the statutory consultation, this included a virtual exhibition and webinars. Copies of consultation materials were available in alternative formats on request.

<p>57</p>	<p>“The Statement of Community Consultation should act as a framework for the community consultation generally, for example, setting out where details and dates of any events will be published. The Statement of Community Consultation should be made available online, at any exhibitions or other events held by applicants. It should be placed at appropriate local deposit points (e.g. libraries, council offices) and sent to local community groups as appropriate.”</p>	<p>As set out in 5.4.1 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1], the Applicant included a framework for community consultation in the SoCC, including where details and dates of events would be published. The SoCC was made available on the consultation website from 1 June 2021 in accordance with Government guidance during the coronavirus pandemic.</p>
<p>58</p>	<p>“Applicants are required to publicise their proposed application under section 48 of the Planning Act and the Regulations and set out the detail of what this publicity must entail. This publicity is an integral part of the public consultation process. Where possible, the first of the 2 required local newspaper advertisements should coincide approximately with the beginning of the consultation with communities. However, given the detailed information required for the publicity in the Regulations, aligning publicity with consultation may not always be possible, especially where a multi-stage consultation is intended.”</p>	<p>The Applicant publicised the proposed application under s48 of the PA 2008 as set out in Table 6-6 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]. The dates of these insertions coincided as closely as possible with the start of consultation given the publication schedules of the relevant local newspapers.</p>
<p>68</p>	<p>“To realise the benefits of consultation on a project, it must take place at a sufficiently early stage to allow consultees a real opportunity to influence the proposals. At the same time consultees will need sufficient information on a project to be able to recognise and understand the impacts.”</p>	<p>For both the non-statutory public consultation and statutory consultation, the Applicant shared information at an early enough stage to allow the proposal to be influenced, while being sufficiently developed to provide sufficient information on what is being proposed to enable consultees to recognise and understand its</p>


impacts. This is visible in regard had to responses by the Applicant – shown in Table 3-13 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]** for the non-statutory consultation and **Appendices J-1 to J-5 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.11]** for the statutory consultation.

In each consultation, the Applicant developed a clear scope for what could be influenced by consultees. For the non-statutory consultation, this was to support design development and the process of environmental impact assessment by gathering feedback from consultees on the initial Scheme for Longfield Solar Energy Farm. For the statutory consultation, this was to feed back on the proposed Longfield Solar Energy Farm, the Scheme design, and the initial outcomes of the EIA as set out in the PEIR.

For each consultation, the Applicant published a booklet written in an engaging and accessible style, setting out what it was possible to influence at that stage, providing accurate information that gave consultees a clear view of what was proposed, and encouraging them to react and offer their views. A copy of the booklet produced for the non-statutory consultation is included with **Appendix A-3 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.2]**. A copy

		<p>of the booklet produced for the statutory consultation is included in Appendix G-4 [EN010118/APP/5.8].</p>
<p>72</p>	<p>“The timing and duration of consultation will be likely to vary from project to project, depending on size and complexity, and the range and scale of the impacts. The Planning Act requires a consultation period of a minimum of 28 days from the day after receipt of the consultation documents. It is expected that this may be sufficient for projects which are straightforward and uncontroversial in nature. But many projects, particularly larger or more controversial ones, may require longer consultation periods than this. Applicants should therefore set consultation deadlines that are realistic and proportionate to the proposed project. It is also important that consultees do not withhold information that might affect a project, and that they respond in good time to applicants. Where responses are not received by the deadline, the applicant is not obliged to take those responses into account.”</p>	<p>The period provided to comment for consultation under s42, s47, and s48 of the PA 2008 was significantly greater than the 28 calendar days required to be provided for comments as prescribed by s45(2) of the PA 2008.</p>
<p>73</p>	<p>“Applicants are not expected to repeat consultation rounds set out in their Statement of Community Consultation unless the project proposals have changed very substantially. However, where proposals change to such a large degree that what is being taken forward is fundamentally different from what was consulted on, further consultation may well be needed. This may be necessary if, for example, new information arises which renders all previous options</p>	<p>The Applicant conducted targeted statutory consultation in relation to changes to the Order limits from 26 October to 23 November 2021 and 11 January 2022 to 8 February 2022 as set out in section 8.3 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1].</p>

	<p>unworkable or invalid for some reason. When considering the need for additional consultation, applicants should use the degree of change, the effect on the local community and the level of public interest as guiding factors.”</p>	
77	<p>“Consultation should also be fair and reasonable for applicants as well as communities. To ensure that consultations is fair to all parties, applicants should be able to demonstrate that the consultation process is proportionate to the impacts of the project in the area that it affects, takes account of the anticipated level of local interest, and takes account of the views of the relevant local authorities.”</p>	<p>The Applicant has sought to ensure that the consultation process is proportionate to the impacts of the project in the area that it affects, takes account of the anticipated level of local interest, and takes account of the views of the relevant local authorities. Prior to both the non-statutory and statutory consultation, the Applicant engaged with relevant local authorities to seek their views on whether its proposals for consultation were proportionate and took into account the likely level of local interest. Details of the regard the Applicant had to local authority comments are included in Appendix C-4 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.4].</p>
84	<p>“A response to points raised by consultees with technical information is likely to need to focus on the specific impacts for which the body has expertise. The applicant should make a judgement as to whether the consultation report provides sufficient detail on the relevant impacts, or whether a targeted response would be more appropriate. Applicants are also likely to have identified a number of key additional bodies for consultation and may need to</p>	<p>As set out in Table 8-1 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1], the Applicant continued to engage with a number of stakeholders following the close of consultation, particularly where it felt agreeing a SoCG was likely to be helpful.</p>



continue engagement with these
bodies on an individual basis.”

Appendix M-2: Compliance with the Planning Inspectorate’s Advice note fourteen: Compiling the Consultation Report

M-2.1 The Applicant has also considered the advice given in the Planning Inspectorate’s *Advice note fourteen: Compiling the Consultation Report*. Details of compliance with this text is included in **Table M-2**.

Table M-1 Compliance with Advice note fourteen: Compiling the Consultation Report

Advice:	Evidence of compliance:
<p>Introductory text should provide an overview including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A summary of the consultation activities undertaken; and - a table or timeline summarising both statutory and non-statutory consultation in chronological order. <p>This section should explain the relationship between any initial strategic options stage, any subsequent non-statutory consultation that may have taken place, and the statutory consultation carried out under the PA2008.</p>	<p>This is provided in sections 2.1 – 2.4 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1].</p>
<p>Where the pre-application consultation included more than one stage of statutory consultation then it is usually helpful to reflect this in the structure of the report. In this way, each stage of consultation can be presented and explained chronologically in a separate chapter or section of the report, including any non-statutory consultation that took place. This can also include separate summary schedules of consultation responses.</p>	<p>Within the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1], Chapter 3 outlines the non-statutory consultation and Chapter 6 outlines the statutory consultation.</p>
<p>The report should include a list of all persons and bodies that were consulted, and when they were consulted.</p>	<p>A list of persons and bodies consulted under s42(1)(a) and (b) is provided in Appendix E-1 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.6]. A full list of land interests consulted under</p>

<p>It is helpful if the list is arranged according to the strand of section 42 consultee set out below, alongside the dates they were consulted. Specific advice about the nature of the information to be provided in respect of each strand is also set out below.</p>	<p>s42(1)(d) during the statutory consultation which took place from 1 June to 13 July 2021 can be found in Appendix E-2 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.6]. All those consulted as part of the targeted consultation which took place initially from 26 October 2021 to 23 November 2021 and then from 11 January 2022 to 8 February 2022 are listed in Appendix K-2 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.12].</p>
<p>The list of the prescribed organisations should follow the order they are presented in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations). Any variations between the Applicant's list of prescribed consultees and the list of organisations set out in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations should be robustly justified.</p> <p>Where relevant, the list of prescribed consultees should also include the Marine Management Organisation – s42(1)(aa) and the Greater London Authority – s42(1)(c).</p>	<p>This has been adhered to.</p> <p>The Greater London Authority have been included as it is a regional governance body which shares a boundary with a C authority, Essex County Council.</p>
<p>A short description of how s43 of the PA2008 has been applied in order to identify the relevant local authorities should be included. This could be supported by a map showing the site and identifying the boundaries of the relevant local authorities.</p>	<p>This can be found in 6.2.3-6.2.4 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/5.1]. Maps are provided as Figures 6-1 and 6-2.</p>
<p>The Applicant must demonstrate that diligent enquiry was undertaken to identify persons under s44 of the PA2008 and to ensure that an up-to-date Book of Reference is submitted. In that context, it is useful to set out the methodology for identifying persons in</p>	<p>The Applicant has diligently sought to identify all land interests and ensure that the Book of Reference [EN010118/4.3] remains up to date. Details of this are set out in 6.2.5 – 6.2.9 and the Book of Reference [EN010118/4.3].</p>

<p>Category 3 (those who may make a relevant claim).</p> <p>The Consultation Report should explain how many persons with an interest in land were consulted, under which category and when. It is not necessary to list the names of all individuals identified in the Book of Reference.</p> <p>If additional persons with an interest in land were added and consulted following changes to the project boundary during the Pre-application stage, it is useful to describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How many additional persons with an interest in land were consulted; - when they were consulted; - how they were consulted; and <p>what information they were consulted with.</p>	<p>A full list of land interests consulted under s42(1)(d) both during the statutory consultation period of 1 June to 13 July 2021 as well as subsequent targeted statutory consultation from 26 October 2021 to 23 November 2021 and 11 January 2022 to 8 February 2022 can be found in Appendix E-2 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.6].</p>
<p>The Secretary of State needs to be satisfied that the Applicant has complied with the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) preparation process. Evidence should be submitted as part of the Consultation Report which shows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Which local authorities were consulted about the content of the draft SoCC; - what the local authorities' comments were; - confirmation that the local authorities were given 28 days to provide their comments; and - a description about how the Applicant had regard to the local authorities' comments. 	<p>This is provided within Chapter 5 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Section 5.5: Which local authorities were consulted about the content of the draft SoCC; - Section 5.6: what the local authorities' comments were; - Section 5.5: confirmation that the local authorities were given 28 days to provide their comments; and - Section 5.7: a description about how the Applicant had regard to the local authorities' comments.
<p>Following the coming into force of The Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 (the 2020 Regulations) Applicants no longer need to place paper copies of the SoCC on deposit at locations in the</p>	<p>The SoCC was made available on the consultation website as set out in section 5.8 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1].</p>

<p>vicinity of the Proposed Development. Instead, Applicants should make the SoCC available for inspection online. Evidence that this has been done should be provided in the Consultation Report.</p>	
<p>Copies of the published SoCC notice as it appeared in the local press should be provided along with confirmation of which local newspapers it was published in and when.</p> <p>A scanned copy of the s48 notice as it appeared in the local and national newspapers and journals, clearly showing the publication's name and date of publication, should be included in the report.</p>	<p>Newspaper notices for the statutory consultation and the published s48 notices can be seen in Appendix I-1 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.10].</p> <p>Table 6-6 within the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1] summarises the publication of s48 notices.</p>
<p>Where there are any inconsistencies between the SoCC and the consultation carried out this should be clearly explained and justified e.g. where additional consultation took place that was not included in the SoCC or SoCCs.</p>	<p>The Applicant conducted additional consultation over and above that set out in the SoCC. This included seven public consultation events which the Applicant was able to host in compliance with Government guidance regarding COVID 19 in force at the time. Further details are set out in section 6.6 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1].</p>
<p>In circumstances where statutory consultees were informed of non-material changes to the project, this should also be reported. It would also be helpful to provide a brief rationale about why the changes were considered to be non-material and an explanation of how consultees were informed. Where only some consultees were selected to be informed about a change, please justify the approach taken.</p>	<p>The Applicant conducted targeted statutory consultation from 26 October 2021 to 23 November 2021 and then from 11 January 2022 to 8 February 2022. This is summarised in section 8.3 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1].</p>
<p>Appendices should be used to provide evidence that demonstrates compliance with the requirements of the PA2008. Careful consideration should be given to the structure and</p>	<p>The appendices for the report have been structured logically and clearly and they are signposted clearly at the beginning of the Consultation</p>

<p>logic of the appendices so that they can be clearly signposted in the main body of the report.</p> <p>If a large volume of consultation responses were received and reported on, then it usually makes sense to include the summary response tables in an appendix or appendices.</p>	<p>Report [EN010118/APP/5.1] and then throughout the text.</p> <p>Responses to the consultation and the regard had to them are summarised in Chapter 7 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1], with further detail provided in Appendices J-1 to J-5 [EN010118/APP/5.11].</p>
<p>A summary of the individual responses received should be provided and categorised in an appropriate way.</p> <p>The summary of responses, if done well, can save a significant amount of explanatory text.</p> <p>The summary of the responses should identify comments that are relevant (directly or indirectly) to changes made to the project during the Pre-application stage. For example, changes to siting, route, design, form or scale of the scheme itself, or to mitigation or compensatory measures proposed.</p> <p>It is also necessary to explain why responses have led to no change, including where responses have been received after deadlines set by the Applicant.</p>	<p>The summary of responses in Chapter 7 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1] distinguishes between s42 prescribed consultees, s47 community consultees, and s48 responses to statutory publicity. Details of whether comments have led to changes, or no change are set out in Appendices J-1 to J-5 [EN010118/APP/5.11].</p>
<p>Where virtual consultation methods were deployed as a reaction to external circumstances then it is important that the views of the relevant local authorities are captured in the Consultation Report. If no review and update of the SoCC took place under the provisions of the PA2008, then this should be justified in the Consultation Report with reference to the views of the relevant local authorities about the approach adopted.</p> <p>In general, where virtual consultation methods are planned then the SoCC should explain any mitigation measures put in place for digitally disadvantaged members of the</p>	<p>A number of virtual consultation methods were employed throughout the consultation period - holding virtual events, hosting a virtual public exhibition online, offering telephone and online briefings, and accepting responses to the consultation in a variety of formats. These were included in the draft SoCC as summarised in 5.4.1 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1].</p> <p>The Applicant engaged with the relevant local authorities prior to the production of the draft SoCC specifically to understand the local authorities' views on the measures it</p>

community e.g. the use of telephone surgeries.

planned to include in relation to the COVID 19 pandemic, including virtual consultation (5.3.3 to 5.3.7 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]**). Following consultation on the draft SoCC, the Applicant had regard to local authority responses as set out in 5.7.2 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]** and **Appendix C-4 of the Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.4]**.

The statutory consultation included a mixture of virtual methods and direct forms of engagement such as telephone surgeries and in-person consultation events held in compliance with public health guidance in force at the time. These are summarised in sections 6.4 and 6.6 of the **Consultation Report [EN010118/APP/5.1]**.