

**Oaklands Farm Solar Scheme Deadline 8
17 December 2024**

Submission by Derbyshire County Council

PINS Reference EN010122

Summary statement regarding matters previously raised that have not been satisfactorily resolved.

Trees in TPOs and ancient and veteran trees:

Derbyshire County Council maintains the view that all ancient and veteran trees should be considered an irreplaceable resource and afforded absolute protection in recognition of their contribution to the landscape and ecology.

DCC also maintains that SDDC should retain powers regarding prior approval of works affecting trees in TPOs. Although the ExA has suggested that prior approval should be required for works affecting veteran and ancient trees, DCC consider that this prior approval should be extended to trees within a TPO, with a 28 day determination period unless otherwise agreed in writing.

LPA Resources:

The matter of LPA resources remains under discussion, with the possibility of DCC utilising DCHLG capacity fund underspend and additional funding from the applicant through a joint PPA with SDDC, to support the discharge of requirements and monitoring.

Comments on the Deadline 7 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for Deadline 8

Construction Traffic:

The Highway Authority (DCC) and applicant have agreed that details of the exact routing and potential impacts of the abnormal indivisible loads cannot be fully considered until the exact specification of the vehicles used is known. This information will be available nearer to the construction phase and will be considered by the Highway Authority in route planning. This position is reflected in the Statement of Common Ground.

Decommissioning Fund

Regarding the ExA's schedule of changes to the dDCO at A33, DCC agree with the applicant that the wording should allow for sufficient scope for the applicant to identify the most appropriate and efficient financial mechanism to provide surety regarding decommissioning. It is suggested that this is described as 'other means of a financial guarantee'.

Statement of Common Ground:

Derbyshire County Council has agreed its position in relation to the Statement of Common Ground and officers are seeking authority for this to be formally signed.