HELIOS RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT

PINS Document Number:
EN010140/APP/6.1.13

Pursuant to:
APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

Environmental Statement Chapter 13: Socio-Economics

June 2024

13. Socio-Economics

13.1. Introduction

13.1.1. This chapter of the Environmental Statement provides an assessment of the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development with respect to socio-economics.

13.1.2. The following Figures support this chapter:

- **Figure 13.1: Local and Wider Study Area [EN010140/APP/6.2.13.1]**; and
- **Figure 13.2: Non-Domestic Rateable Properties in the Local Study Area [EN010140/APP/6.2.13.2**]; and
- An Employment and Skills Plan is provided at **Appendix 13.1. [EN010140/APP/6.2.13.1].**

13.2. Planning Policy Context

National Planning Policy

National Policy Statement (NPS) for Energy (EN-1)

13.2.1. The Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) (November 2023)[1] ('NPS EN-1') which was designated in 17 January 2024, recognises that the construction, operation and decommissioning of energy infrastructure may have socio-economic impacts at local and regional levels. Specifically, paragraph 5.13.4 requires applicant's assessment to consider all relevant socio-economic impacts, which may include:

- *'The creation of jobs and training opportunities…;*
- *The contribution to the development of low-carbon industries at the local and regional level as well as nationally;*
- *The provision of additional local services and improvements to local*

[1] Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (November 2023) Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1), [Available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/overarching-national-policy-statement-for-energy-en-1]. Accessed January 2024.

infrastructure, including the provision of educational and visitor facilities;

- *Any indirect beneficial impacts for the region hosting the infrastructure, in particular in relation to use of local support services and supply chains;*
- *Effects (positive or negative) on tourism; and*
- *The impact of a changing influx of workers during the different construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the energy infrastructure. This could change the local population dynamics and could alter the demand for services and facilities in the settlements nearest to the construction work (including community facilities and physical infrastructure such as energy, water, transport and waste). There could also be effects on social cohesion depending on how populations and service provision change as a result of the development.'*

13.2.2. The socio-economic impacts assessed within this chapter meet the requirements of NPS EN-1.

13.2.3. Paragraph 5.13.5 of NPS EN-1 states that '*Applicants should describe the existing socio-economic conditions in the areas surrounding the proposed development and should also refer to how the development's socio-economic impacts correlate with local planning policies.'* This chapter outlines baseline socio-economic conditions for an identified local and wider study area (defined later in this chapter) and relates the assessment to local planning policies.

13.2.4. Paragraph 5.13.6 recognises that *'socio-economic impacts may be linked to other impacts, for example visual impacts'* which may have an impact on tourism and local businesses. This chapter cross-references the assessments presented in ES Chapters 7, 10 and 11 and the findings that relate to socio-economic receptors.

National Policy Statement (NPS) for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3)

13.2.5. The Overarching National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) (November 2023)[2] ('NPS EN-3') states (paragraph 2.6.2) that applicants should "*assess the likely worst-case environmental, social and economic*

[2] Department for Energy Security & Net Zero (November 2023) Overarching National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3), [Available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-policy-statement-for-renewable-energy-infrastructure-en-3]. Accessed January 2024

effects of the proposed development to ensure that the impacts of the project as it may be constructed have been properly assessed."

National Planning Policy Framework ('NPPF')

13.2.6. The NPPF (December 2023)[3] is underpinned by the principle of sustainable development, with three overarching objectives: economic, social and environmental.

13.2.7. The economic objective seeks *'to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure'* (paragraph 8).

13.2.8. The social objective seeks to *'support strong, vibrant and healthy communities' and 'by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being'* (paragraph 8).

13.2.9. Paragraph 38 of the NPPF requires planning authorities to work proactively with applicants to secure developments that will improve the economic, social and environmental conditions of the area. Furthermore, paragraph 85 states that:

'Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development. The approach taken should allow each area to build on its strengths, counter any weaknesses and address the challenges of the future. This is particularly important where Britain can be a global leader in driving innovation, and in areas with high levels of productivity, which should be able to capitalise on their performance and potential'.

13.2.10. Specifically in relation to the rural economy, paragraph 88(b) of the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should enable *'the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses.'*

[3] Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (December 2023) National Planning Policy Framework. [Available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf]

Local Planning Policy

13.2.11. Although NYC is now the administrative authority in which the Site is located, the relevant local planning policy for this assessment remains the Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan (adopted 2013)[4] and the emerging Selby District Local Plan, Publication Version Consultation 2022[5].

Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan (2013)

13.2.12. The adopted Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan identifies a number of key issues and challenges across Selby District that the Plan seeks to address up to 2027. It acknowledges that Selby District provides a high-quality environment for those living and working in the area, and for visitors, and such elements which contribute to this character need to be safeguarded whilst at the same time ensuring that development needs are met (paragraph 2.54).

13.2.13. It also states that the *'Council wises to ensure that future development is 'sustainable' – that is to enable all people to enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life for future generations; as well as ensuring that the potential impacts of climate change are managed in line with the Government's overarching aims.'* (paragraph 3.3)

13.2.14. Objectives of the Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan relevant to socio-economics are:

- Objective 2: '*Supporting rural regeneration in ways which are compatible with environmental objectives, and which deliver increased prosperity for the whole community*.'
- Objective 3: '*Concentrating new development in the most sustainable locations, where reasonable public transport exists, and taking full account of local needs and environmental, social and economic constraints*.'
- Objective 9: '*Developing the economy of the District by capitalizing on local*

[4] Selby District Council (October 2013) Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan. [Available athttps://www.northyorks.gov.uk/planning-and-conservation/planning-policy/planning-policy-your-local-area/selby-planning-policy/selby-development-plan/selby-core-strategy-2013/selby-district-core-strategy-local-plan]. Accessed June 2023.

[5] Selby District Council (2022) Local Plan Publication Version Consultation. [Available at https://democracy.selby.gov.uk/documents/s16614/Appendix%201%20Publication%20Local%20Plan.pdf]. Accessed June 2023.

strengths, nurturing existing business, supporting entrepreneurs and innovation, and promoting diversification into new growth sectors.'

- Objective 10: *'Protecting and enhancing the existing range of community facilities and infrastructure and ensuring additional provision is made to meet changing requirements and to support new development.'*

13.2.15. The Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan's objectives are carried forward into local policies. Its policies relevant to this socio-economic assessment are as follows:

- Policy SP12: Access to Services, Community Facilities and Infrastructure, seeks to '*protect, enhance and better join up existing Green Infrastructure, as well as creating new Green Infrastructure will be strongly encourages, in addition to the incorporation of other measures to mitigate or minimize the consequences of development*.'
- Policy SP13: Scale and Distribution of Economic Growth, seeks to develop and revitalize the local economy. In rural areas, Policy SP13 states *that 'sustainable development which brings sustainable economic growth through local employment opportunities or expansion of businesses and enterprise will be supported' including 'the diversification of agriculture and other land based rural businesses.'* The policy also states that *'in all cases, development should be sustainable and be appropriate in scale and type to its location, not harm the character of the area, and seek a good standard of amenity.'*
- Policy SP15: Sustainable Development and Climate Change, outlines a number of requirements to ensure development is sustainable and contributes to reducing carbon emissions, including *'sustainable design and construction techniques, including for example, solar water heating storage, green roofs and re-use and recycling of secondary aggregates and other building materials, and use of locally sourced materials.'*
- Policy SP17: Low Carbon and Renewable Energy requires all development proposals for new sources of renewable energy to meet the following criteria:

  i. 'Are designed and located to protect the environment and local amenity or

  ii. Can demonstrate that the wider environmental, economic and social benefits outweigh any harm caused to the environment and local

amenity, and

iii. Impacts on local communities are minimized.'

- Policy SP18: Protecting and Enhancing the Environment, seeks to conserve *'assets which contribute most to the distinct character of the District and realizing the potential contribution that they can make towards economic regeneration, tourism, education and quality of life.'*

Selby Local Plan Revised Publication 2024

13.2.16. Prior to its abolishment and incorporation into the NYC unitary authority, Selby District Council had commenced work on a new local plan, publishing a consultation version of the Local Plan in 2022. The decision to proceed with the Selby Local Plan for the former Selby District area was approved by NYC on 23 February 2023 and 21 February 2024 and on 8 March 2024 commenced a six-week consultation on the Pre-Submission Revised Publication Selby Local Plan. Whilst this emerging Local Plan has not been formally adopted, it provides an indication of the spatial approach for new growth in the District up to 2040.

13.2.17. The emerging Local Plan echoes the same aims and objectives as the adopted Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan (2013) but recognises in the Vision that there has been *'a significant shift in employment sectors as a result of the former Selby district area's role as a key driver in the reduction of carbon emissions through carbon capture technologies and the skills in the local workforce from mining and energy production will be built upon to support the success and expansion of clean industries and jobs in the low-carbon and renewable energy sectors.'* (page 21).

13.2.18. The emerging Local Plan aligns with the 'Local Industrial Strategy for York and North Yorkshire'[6] which recognises the potential the region has to deliver a nationally significant contribution to the UK's ambition to be carbon neutral by 2050.

13.2.19. The emerging Local Plan's objective for the economy includes supporting *'the importance of agriculture and rural diversification;'* and *'positively respond to opportunities for growth and promote new emerging sectors which will build a strong*

[6] York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise (March 2020) Local Industrial Strategy for York and North Yorkshire. [Available at https://www.ynylep.com/Portals/0/adam/HtmlNewApp/ZOtLSXVWiUWotGAd9HROiQ/Body/LIS-YNY-BOARD-SIGN-OFF-13032020.pdf] Accessed June 2023.

and sustainable local economy, with a focus on clean growth and low carbon sectors' (page 24).

13.2.20. The emerging Local Plan's objective for the natural environment includes ensuring that *'development pressures do not threaten the green assets of the former Selby district area which contribute to the attractive, tranquil and rural nature of the countryside and the setting of its settlements with benefits to health and well-being, climate change mitigation and flood resilience*' (page 25).

13.2.21. Emerging policies of relevance to the socio-economic assessment include:

- Policy SG4 – Development in the Countryside, seeks to ensure that 'the former *Selby district area remains a special place to live by supporting development which protects and enhances the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, recognising the important role it plays in the local economy, for the health and well-being of local residents and as a biodiversity resource.'*
- Policy SG10 – Low Carbon and Renewable Energy states that proposals should demonstrate *'the delivery of environmental, social and economic benefits and how relevant concerns will be addressed/mitigated for.'*
- Policy EM3 – Economic Development, requires new employment development to not cause harm to local amenity.
- Policy IC3 – Protection and Creation of New Open Space, Sport, and Recreation Provision, puts in place measures for ensuring recreational uses are retained.
- Policy IC7 – Public Rights of Way, states that development which *'may have an impact on a Public Right of Way network will only be supported where it can be demonstrated that a) satisfactory and alternative routes are provided, with adequate signage and the new access is of the same or better standard; and b) where appropriate and viable, all reasonable opportunities for enhancement have been taken up.'*
- Policy NE4 – Protecting and Enhancing Landscape Character, supports development which *'protects, enhances or restores the landscape character of the former Selby district area and the setting of settlements for its own intrinsic value and benefit to the economic, environmental and social well-being of the Plan Area.'*

13.3. Assessment Methodology

Technical Scope

13.3.1. The scope of this socio-economic assessment is in accordance with the EIA Scoping Report submitted by the Applicant PINS (refer to **Appendix 2.1 [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.1]** of the ES), the subsequent EIA Scoping Opinion adopted by PINS (refer to **Appendix 2.2 [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.2]** of the ES), and the statutory consultation responses as discussed in Table 13.1.

13.3.2. Likely significant effects during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development on the following social and economic receptors have been assessed:

Construction and decommissioning phases:

- Job creation (direct and indirect);
- Economic contribution (measured in Gross Value Added ('GVA');
- Workforce expenditure; and
- Local amenities (residential properties, tourism, recreation and businesses).

Operational phase:

- Contribution to renewable energy generation; and
- Local amenities (residential properties, tourism, recreation and businesses).

Consultation

13.3.3. Table 13.1 summarises the consultation undertaken in respect of the socio-economic assessment.

Table 13.1: Consultation Summary

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
EIA Scoping Opinion			
PINS	EIA Scoping Opinion (14th July 2022)	Agreed that impacts on energy generation during the construction and decommissioning phases can be scoped out of the assessment.	Noted, scoped out of the ES.
		Subject to confirmation of the number and types of jobs created during operation, content to scope out operational phase employment and associated workforce expenditure on the basis that effects are unlikely to be significant.	Once the Proposed Development is complete and operational, it is anticipated that employment will be limited to a maximum of five part-time jobs to monitor the Proposed Development and undertake maintenance and cleaning of the solar PV panels and landscape management of the Site; on this basis, effects on employment during the operational phase are not anticipated to be significant and therefore are scoped out of the ES.
		Content to scope out of the assessment the likely significant effects on PRoWs given that no existing PRoWs are proposed to be closed or diverted and that the amenity value of the PRoWs will still be considered in the Landscape and Views chapter.	Scoped out of the Socio-Economics chapter, and considered within **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7].**
		Stated that new census data was published on 28th June 2022 and this should be used to inform baseline data and the ES assessment.	The 2021 Census data published on 28th June 2022 comprised headline findings only (population by age and total household) for local authority districts. Since 28th June 2022, further 2021 Census data has been published and is presented in the baseline and has subsequently been used to inform this assessment, as detailed in Table 13.2 and

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
			presented in Section 13.4 of this chapter.
		Accepts that mitigation measures described in other chapters will reduce the potential for adverse socio-economic effects. However, requires the ES to explain whether such measures avoid what would otherwise be significant socio-economic effects and how they are secured by the DCO.	**Chapters 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]**, **10 Transport & Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]** and **11 Noise and Vibration [EN010140/APP/6.1.11]** of the ES have not identified any significant adverse effects which require mitigation; however, these chapters refer to a number of 'best practice' measures that will be implemented to ensure adverse effects are limited. These include: the implementation of a CEMP, landscape planting, and traffic management measures, including signage and Road Safety Audit.
		A worst-case scenario for construction worker numbers should be presented and the potential impacts on the availability of local accommodation and services should be described.	It is anticipated that up to 200 direct full time equivalent ('FTE') jobs could be supported by the Proposed Development during the construction phase as detailed within this assessment. Until a contractor is appointed, it is not known where the labour will be sourced from. A realistic, yet worst-case scenario for assessing employment effects is to assume that the labour will not be sourced from within the Wider Study Area. This worst-case scenario has been adopted within this assessment and as a result, the potential impacts on the availability of local accommodation is now incorporated (refer to section 13.5 'Likely Significant Effects' of the chapter).

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
Statutory Consultation (addressed in the ES)			
NYC	15/12/2023	Requested that a separate population and human health chapter be produced to clearly set out how the proposal will impact on the population's health.	In their Scoping Opinion, PINS agreed that a '*standalone chapter on human health is not required on the basis that the Proposed Development will be designed to minimise any impact on human health and where there are interactions with human health these will be assessed within the Noise and Transport aspect chapters of the ES. Impacts to human health may extend beyond the Traffic and Access and Noise Chapters proposed and the ES should clearly set out potential impacts to human health from the Proposed Development during construction, operation and decommissioning and cross reference where impacts are assessed within the ES e.g. Landscape and Visual, Land Contamination and Socio-Economics'*. This is also agreed as a proportionate approach by the UK Health Security Agency in their scoping response (04 July 2022). As referred in Table 2.8 of **Chapter 3 EIA Methodology [EN010140/APP/6.1.3]** of the ES, further to discussion with NYC, a Population and Human Health Technical Note has been produced (refer to **Appendix 2.6 [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6**] to summarise the findings of the ES related to human health.

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
		Requested that effects on population and human health be assessed through consideration of the IEMA methodology or other industry standard, which should be agreed with the Director of Public Health for the locality.	The IEMA guidance referenced by NYC ('*Effective Scoping of Human Health in Environmental Impact Assessment*'[7]) (the 'IEMA guidance') states that an EIA health chapter is required where: either other EIA technical topics have been scoped in to assess likely and potentially significant effects to human receptors, community amenities or services, and there are likely and potentially significant population health implications from such assessments; or there is likely to be a change due to the project in a wider determinant of health not covered by other EIA technical topics, and this change is potentially significant for population health. The PEIR finds that there are no 'likely and potential significant population health implications', therefore a chapter assessing potential effects to human health is not required. The Population and Human Health Technical Note (**Appendix 2.6 [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6]**) has been written with consideration to the criteria set out for the determinants of health in the IEMA guidance, and has summarised the findings of the ES against each of these criterium.

7 IEMA (2022) 'Effective Scoping of Human Health in Environmental Impact Assessment'

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
		Requested that vulnerable population groups (including the ageing population) and sensitive receptors such as schools, nurseries, housing for older people be distinctly addressed in the chapter, specifically in relation to air quality, visual intrusion and health.	The age profile of residents (including both children and older people) is considered in section 13.4 both in respect of the existing number and how this is expected to change over the coming years (future baseline). The Population and Human Health Technical Note considers other vulnerable population groups (**Appendix 2.6 EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6]**). No significant effects are anticipated in respect of air quality and on this basis, the topic has been scoped out of the ES. Effects on the population in respect of visual intrusion is addressed in ES **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]** and effects on human health are summarised in the Population and Human Health Technical Note **Appendix 2.6 [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6].**
		There is a general lack of baseline health information, including consideration of mental health and wellbeing and requested that a longitudinal study to consider the health issues of those living within an agreed radius of the Proposed Development is undertaken.	A longitudinal study is outside the scope of the ES and DCO; however, the Population and Human Health Technical Note (**Appendix 2.6 [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6]**) presents a comprehensive baseline in respect of human health and summarises effects on human health identified within ES technical chapters.
		Requested that consideration should be given to the cumulative impact of multiple factor changes across all potential impacts in respect of human health.	ES **Chapter 15 Cumulative Effects [EN010140/APP/6.1.15]** addresses inter- and intra-project effects.
		The PEIR identified that a number of PRoW cross the Site and therefore the presence of construction work has the potential to impact upon enjoyment of these routes and deter	ES **Chapter 10 Transport and Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]** advises that access to the existing PRoWs will be maintained through all phases of the Proposed Development;

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
		participation in actively utilising these routes. Impacts upon an individual's ability to enjoy or participate in physical activity should implement appropriate mitigation, including consideration of a Health fund. Visual changes during the operational phase should be considered as fencing and solar panels can generate concerns of safety and intimidation on those routes.	should temporary closures be required to ensure the safety of PRoW users, these will be for a short period during construction and decommissioning and alternate routes will be provided. ES Chapter 10 also identifies that effects to pedestrian delay would be negligible during all project phases. ES **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]** advises that the Landscape Strategy aims to minimise the visual impact of the Proposed Development on visual receptors including the users of PRoWs. In some instances, screening planting has not been provided alongside PRoW to maintain a degree of openness within and/or across the Site. In such locations, the Proposed Development's solar PV arrays have been set back a minimum distance of 15m from the PRoW, and the buffers will be planted with a tussock forming grassland mix that will be allowed to grow to a substantial sward, helping to integrate the Proposed Development within the landscape. Permissive paths have also been proposed during the operational lifetime of the development so as to formalise access between PRoWs and therefore encourage use. This assessment is also summarised in the Population and Human Health Technical Note. No significant adverse residual effects are identified.

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
		States that there is a notable omission of data in relation to human health and health inequalities within PEIR Chapter 13 Socio-Economics and requests omission to be addressed.	The Population and Human Health Technical Note (**Appendix 2.6 [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6]**) presents a comprehensive baseline in respect of human health and health inequalities.
		Do not consider that 100% leakage assumption as applied in the PEIR socio-economic chapter, suggesting all workforce will be sourced from outside the Wider Study Area, is acceptable. Considers that the Proposed Development has potential benefit to upskill the local workforce and provide employment for people who are currently unemployed. On this basis, NYC insist that a minimum threshold be applied to a local labour market i.e. 30% to 40% of employment be provided for local people within the study area.	The ES is required to assess a worst-case scenario as required by the EIA Regulations. For employment, the worst-case is to assume that no employment opportunities are created in the Wider Study Area. For this reason, the socio-economic assessment presented in the ES continues to apply a 100% leakage assumption. However, a separate Employment and Skills Plan (refer to **Appendix 13.1 [EN010140/APP/6.3.13.1]**) has been produced to demonstrate the Applicant's commitment to supporting employment and upskilling opportunities in the local area and the mechanisms that will be used to facilitate this.

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
		Account has not been taken that an application that generates this amount of traffic may deter the uptake of active lifestyle choices. This should be considered and appropriate mitigation identified, for example, a commitment to provide enhanced walking and cycling routes once decommissioning has ceased.	This is addressed in **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]**, **Chapter 10 Transport and Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]**, and is summarised in **Appendix 2.6 Population and Human Health Technical Note [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6]** no significant adverse residual effects are identified. As identified in Chapter 10 Transport and Access *'the level of pedestrian, cyclist and equestrian activity on the roads surrounding the Site is very low and therefore the sensitivity of the receptor is low. However, it is acknowledged that the addition of HGVs to the network will affect the relative pleasantness of any pedestrian, cyclist and equestrian journey in the area*.' Chapter 10 finds the effects to Pedestrian Delay (including Cyclist and Equestrian Delay) and Pedestrian Amenity (including fear and intimidation, Cyclist Amenity, and Equestrian Amenity) are negligible to minor adverse, which are not significant. The minor adverse effects stated are identified during the construction and decommissioning phases only, and are therefore temporary; effects are negligible during operation. Adverse effects to the uptake of active lifestyle choices are therefore not anticipated. As stated in Chapter 10, several mitigation measures are proposed which include a

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
			Construction Traffic Management Plan, a Travel Plan, a Public Right of Way Management Plan, and a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit at all access junctions. These will be implemented and enforced throughout the construction and decommissioning phases to ensure potential effects to pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians are mitigated. The Landscaping Strategy, as described in Chapter 7 Landscape and Views, will enhance the PRoW network on-Site, to encourage public use, through the provision of screening planting or by offsetting the proposed PV arrays by 15m from the PRoW, with a buffer of grassland grown to a substantial sward to integrate the Proposed Development within the landscape. Post-decommissioning the Site will be returned to agricultural use.
		The non-significant adverse effect on visual amenity during the construction phase can have an impact upon the mental and physical health of the population and should be appropriately considered and mitigated.	The potential effects to visual amenity are assessed in ES **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]**, and are considered in relation to human health in **Appendix 2.6 Population and Human Health Technical Note [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6]**.
		Requests that consideration of how the influx of workers will impact on local GP and healthcare facilities.	This is discussed within **Appendix 2.6 Population and Human Health Technical Note [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6]**.

Consultee	Type and Date	Summary of Consultation Response	Response to Consultee: ES
		Consider that anxiety and worries about the local environment resulting from the Proposed Development will have a potential impact on health (mental wellbeing) and meaningful community engagement may alleviate concerns and potential impacts upon mental health.	This is summarised within **Appendix 2.6 Population and Human Health Technical Note [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6].**
Hirst Courtney and West Bank Parish Council	07/12/2023	Concerned that the Proposed Development will risk encouraging further crime in the area.	This is discussed within **Appendix 2.6 Population and Human Health Technical Note [EN010140/APP/6.3.2.6]**. ES **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]** outlines the planting strategy which maintains a degree of openness to alleviate concerns of safety on PRoWs. This is considered further in the Population and Human Health Technical Note. Security measures in place on-site to reduce opportunities for theft of equipment for example.

Spatial Scope

13.3.5. The likely significant effects of the Proposed Development have been assessed at varying spatial levels, dependent on the socio-economic receptor.

13.3.6. A Wider Study Area comprising the whole of the Yorkshire and The Humber ('YTH') region has been used to assess economic related effects of the Proposed Development (comprising employment, economic and renewable energy generation and workforce expenditure).

13.3.7. A Local Study Area comprising the three electoral wards of: Camblesforth and Carlton; Brayton and Barlow; and Thorpe Willoughby and Hambleton, has been used to assess social related effects of the Proposed Development (comprising effects on local amenities including residential properties, tourism, recreation and businesses). These three electoral wards have been selected because they encompass the main settlements within closest proximity to the Site, including Camblesforth, Drax, Carlton, Hirst Courtney, Temple Hirst and Barlow, which provide such local amenities.

13.3.8. Figure 13.1 illustrates the Wider and Local Study Areas used within the socio-economic assessment.

Baseline Data Sources

13.3.9. The data sources used to establish the existing socio-economic baseline are detailed in Table 13.2.

Table 13.2: Baseline Socio-Economic Data Sources

Socio-Economic Indicator	Data Source
Homes	Office for National Statistics ('ONS'), 2021 Census Table RM204[8]
Resident Population	ONS, 2021 Census Table TS007[8] ONS, 2018-based Sub National Population Projections ('SNPP')[9]
Economic Activity of Residents	ONS, 2021 Census Table TS066[8]

[8] Available at**:** Dataset Selection - Query - Nomis - Official Census and Labour Market Statistics (nomisweb.co.uk). Accessed February 2024.

[9] Available at: Subnational population projections for England: 2018-based - Office for National Statistics. Accessed June 2023.

Socio-Economic Indicator	Data Source
Skills and Occupation Profile of Residents	ONS, 2021 Census Tables TS063 and TS0067[8]
Commuting (Travel to Work Patterns)	ONS, 2011 Census Table WU01UK[8] ONS, 2021 Census Table ODWP01EW_LTLA[10]
Jobs by Industrial Sector (Workplace-based)	ONS, 2022 Business Register and Employment Survey ('BRES')[8]
Business Enterprises	ONS, 2023 UK Business Counts[8] Valuation Office Agency ('VOA'), Non-domestic Rating: Stock of Properties as of 31st March 2021[11]
GVA	Oxford Economics, UK Local Area District Forecasts January 2024[12]
Convenience Expenditure	Experian, Retail Planner 2021, Total Convenience Expenditure Per Person[13]
Renewable Energy Generation	Department for Energy Security & Net Zero ('DESNZ'), Renewable Electricity by Local Authority 2014-2022[14]
Tourism	Visit Britain, Domestic Overnight Survey (GBTS) and Domestic Day Visits Survey (GBDVS) April 2021 to March 2023[15] Visit Britain, Accommodation Occupancy 2023[16]

Topic Specific Methodologies

13.3.10. The methodology used for each identified effect is as follows:

Job Creation

13.3.11. The number of direct on-site jobs anticipated to be supported during the construction phase has been informed by the transport assessment (**Chapter 10 Transport and Access of the ES [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]**) and the number sense-checked against employment levels reported on other solar projects across the UK.

[10] Office for National Statistics (ONS), 2021 Census, Table ODWP01EW. Available at https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/. Accessed February 2024.

[11] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/non-domestic-rating-stock-of-properties-including-business-floorspace-2021. Accessed June 2023.

[12] Available at: https://www.oxfordeconomics.com/. Accessed February 2024.

[13] Available at: https://www.experian.co.uk/economics/economic-forecasts/index.html. Accessed June 2023.

[14] Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics 2. Accessed February 2024.

[15] Available at: https://www.visitbritain.org/research-insights/great-britain-domestic-overnight-and-day-trips-subnational-data. Accessed February 2024.

[16] Available at: https://www.visitbritain.org/accommodation-occupancy-latest-results. Accessed February 2024.

13.3.12. Guidance from the Homes and Communities Agency ('HCA') Additionality Guide[17] and the more recently published HM Treasury's Green Book for Economic Appraisal and Evaluation[18] ('the Green Book') establishes that direct jobs created by developments may be subject to a degree of 'displacement' (the level of existing employment likely to be lost, moved or adversely affected by the employment created as a result of the Proposed Development); 'leakage' (referring to the number of jobs likely to be taken up by people who live outside of the Wider Study Area), and; 'multiplier effects' (the additional economic benefit that will be created as a direct result of the income earned by the new employment as an indirect result of the supply chain linkages). These factors are collectively known as 'additionality' and have been applied to the total number of direct jobs created by the Proposed Development. This has enabled the quantification of the employment effect to the Wider Study Area, comprising the net increase in the number of employed Wider Study Area residents attributable to the Proposed Development.

13.3.13. For this assessment, displacement has been assumed to be zero, as it is not anticipated that the Proposed Development would displace existing jobs from elsewhere in the Wider Study Area due to the specialised nature of the Proposed Development and the nature of the construction workforce moving from one job to the next. Furthermore, existing employment on the Site related to the current agricultural uses will not be displaced or lost as detailed later within this chapter.

13.3.14. Labour containment[19] within the Wider Study Area is 94% (as established in section 13.4 'Baseline Conditions' of this chapter), identifying a leakage factor of 6% from the Wider Study Area (representing the proportion of jobs in the Wider Study Area that are undertaken by people who live outside of the Wider Study Area). Until a contractor is appointed, it is not known from where the construction workforce will be sourced. Whilst there is the potential for a proportion of the construction workforce to be sourced from the Wider Study Area, it is unlikely that 94% of the Proposed Development's construction workforce will be sourced from the Wider Study Area, given the specialised nature of the Proposed Development. A more realistic scenario

[17] HCA (2014), *Additionality Guide, 4th Edition*. Accessed June 2023.

[18] Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/938046/The_Green_Book_2020.pdf. Accessed June 2023.

[19] Defined as the proportion of the workforce who live and work in the same area.

would be for the appointed contractor to bring in its own team of workers for the duration of the construction period who are likely to originate from outside of the Wider Study Area. A realistic, yet 'worst-case' scenario for assessing employment effects is to therefore assume that the labour will not be sourced from within the Wider Study Area. On this basis, a leakage factor of 100% has been applied to calculate the likely significant effects on construction employment.

13.3.15. With regards to multipliers, the Green Book classifies employment sectors as either tradable (their outputs are delivered mainly outside the Wider Study Area) and non-tradeable (their outputs are delivered mainly inside the Wider Study Area). Outputs delivered by the Proposed Development will be tradeable. For example, the energy created by the Proposed Development will feed into the national grid. High, central and low place-based employment multipliers are provided by the Green Book to reflect a different extent of supply-chain 'spin-off' employment effects. The reasonable 'worst-case' scenario has been derived from application of the 'low' employment multipliers for the tradable sector (applying 0.1 to establish non-tradeable indirect jobs and 0.3 to establish tradeable indirect jobs supported by the Proposed Development), those being the multipliers that result in the lowest level of 'spin-off' employment in the supply chain and in turn, results in the lowest representation of indirect job creation.

Economic Contribution

13.3.16. Economic contribution is measured through the creation of GVA. GVA is a measure of economic impact, distributed through retained profit and wages. All GVA estimates are sourced from Oxford Economics, as detailed in Table 13.2.

13.3.17. GVA resulting from the net additional employment effect to the Wider Study Area from the Proposed Development has been calculated by applying the average GVA per worker for the Wider Study Area, to net additional employment supported in the Wider Study Area that is created by the Proposed Development.

Workforce Expenditure

13.3.18. Workforce expenditure is based on average annual convenience goods expenditure per person for the Wider Study Area sourced from Experian (refer to Table 13.2), applied to the number of direct jobs created by the Proposed Development.

Specifically, expenditure on food and non-alcoholic beverages is utilised as a proxy for workforce expenditure, which typically involves buying lunch.

Contribution Towards Renewable Energy Generation

13.3.19. The Proposed Development's contribution towards energy generation has been assessed using the capacity (MW) of the Proposed Development within the context of the existing installed capacity (MW) of solar PV across the Wider Study Area and England, according to the DESNZ data (refer to Table 13.2) established in section 13.4 'Baseline Conditions' of the chapter.

Local Amenities

13.3.20. The Proposed Development's effect on local amenities has primarily been assessed in other chapters of the ES; the effects of noise have been assessed in ES C**hapter 11 [EN010140/APP/6.1.11]**; visual effects have been assessed in ES **Chapter 7 [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]**; and traffic effects have been assessed in ES **Chapter 10 [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]**. However, these are appropriately considered in this chapter to assess the socio-economic effect on local amenities that could be caused by these effects in-combination.

Determining the Significance of Effects

13.3.21. There are no technical significance criteria relating to the assessment of socio-economic effects from a proposed development on human populations other than those that relate specifically to other technical areas such as noise, etc. and these are dealt with in separate ES chapters and cross-referenced within this chapter where appropriate.

13.3.22. Accordingly, the approach adopted for the socio-economic assessment has been based on professional experience, having regard to the existing baseline position and the planning policy context described within this chapter.

13.3.23. The identified sensitivity of the socio-economic receptors takes account of the importance attached to each receptor in policy terms and draws on measurable indicators such as the scale of these receptors identified in the baseline, to gauge the receptor's sensitivity. Table 13.3 details the sensitivity criteria that have been applied to this socio-economic assessment.

Table 13.3: Sensitivity Criteria for Socio-Economic Receptors

Sensitivity	Criteria
High	Evidence of direct and significant socio-economic challenges relating to receptor. The receptor is of significant importance to the Wider/Local Study Area economy and/or accorded a high priority in local or national policy.
Medium	Some evidence of socio-economic challenges linked to receptor, which may be indirect. The receptor is of some importance to the Wider/Local Study Area economy and/or has medium priority in local or national policy.
Low	Little evidence of socio-economic challenges relating to receptor. The receptor is of little/no importance to the Wider/Local Study Area economy and/or accorded a low priority in local or national policy.
Very Low	No socio-economic issues relating to receptor. Receptor is not considered a priority in local and national policy.

13.3.24. The magnitude of change upon each receptor has been determined by considering the change experienced from the baseline conditions. The criteria used for the assessment of magnitude of change, which can either be positive (beneficial) or negative (adverse) is detailed in Table 13.4.

Table 13.4: Magnitude of Change Criteria for Socio-Economic Receptors

Magnitude	Criteria
High	The Proposed Development would cause a large change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute and/or percentage change.
Medium	The Proposed Development would cause a moderate change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute and/or percentage change.
Low	The Proposed Development would cause a minor change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute and/or percentage change.
Very Low	The Proposed Development would cause minimal/no change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute and/or percentage change.

13.3.25. The level of effect attributed to each socio-economic receptor has been assessed based on the evaluation of the sensitivity of the affected receptor (set out in Table 13.3) and the magnitude of change due to the Proposed Development (set out in Table 13.4) and using the significance of effect matrix detailed in Table 13.5.

Table 13.5: Significance of Effect Criteria (Socio-Economics)

Magnitude	Sensitivity			
	High	Medium	Low	Very Low
High	Major Adverse / Beneficial	Major Adverse / Beneficial	Moderate Adverse / Beneficial	Minor Adverse / Beneficial
Medium	Major Adverse / Beneficial	Moderate Adverse / Beneficial	Minor Adverse / Beneficial	Negligible
Low	Moderate Adverse / Beneficial	Minor Adverse / Beneficial	Negligible	Negligible
Very Low	Minor Adverse / Beneficial	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

13.3.26. Effects which are moderate or major beneficial or adverse are considered as significant. Where effects are established as significant adverse, appropriate mitigation measures have been identified to inform the assessment of the Proposed Development's residual effects.

Limitations and Assumptions

13.3.27. The assessment relies on secondary survey data published by various third parties as detailed in Table 13.2. Each data source has methodological limitations related to data collection and surveys only represent the socio-economic context at a specific point in time.

13.3.28. Although Selby District no longer exists as an administrative authority (now incorporated within NYC), the 'Baseline Conditions' section of this chapter presents data for the former Selby District given that the relevant local planning policy for this assessment remains the Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan (adopted 2013).

13.3.29. Decommissioning of the Proposed Development will generate further direct and indirect socio-economic effects similar to those during the construction phase. However, the scale of these impacts is not possible to assess quantitatively due to the uncertainty over the nature and costs of this activity, particularly as the energy sector and associated engineering technologies are expected to evolve over the lifetime of the Proposed Development. Effects during the decommissioning phases are therefore assumed to be the same as those assessed during the construction phase.

13.3.30. Other assumptions made within the assessment are described at the relevant

juncture in the chapter.

13.4. Baseline Conditions

Homes

13.4.1. The 2021 Census reported that there are 2,477,946 homes within the Wider Study Area, of which 41,179 are in the former Selby District and of those 8,361 are in the Local Study Area.

13.4.2. There are no homes on the Site but there are a number of residential properties located in close proximity to the Site which have been assessed as Noise Sensitive Receptors ('NSRs') in **Chapter 11 Noise and Vibration [EN010140/APP/6.1.11]** of the ES (refer to Figure 11.3 Noise Sensitive Receptors).

Resident Population

13.4.3. According to the 2021 Census, circa 5.48 million people reside in the Wider Study Area, which is equivalent to 10% of England's population. Of those people, 91,990 reside in the former Selby District and of those, 18,800 reside in the Local Study Area.

13.4.4. The Local Study Area has an older age profile than the Wider Study Area and England, with a higher proportion of the population aged 65+ years (24% compared to 19% and 18% respectively) and a lower proportion of children (17% compared to 19% respectively) as shown in Table 13.6.

13.4.5. Within the Wider Study Area there are circa 3.42 million aged 16 to 64 years (of working age) which is equivalent to 62% of the total population. The working age population represents 59% of the total population of the Local Study Area and 63% of England's total population.

13.4.6. The population age profile of the former Selby District, the Wider Study Area and England are comparable.

Table 13.6: Resident Population Profile by Broad Age Group

Age (years)	Local Study Area	Wider Study Area		England
		Total	Within Former Selby District	
0 to 15	3,173 (17%)	1,020,475 (19%)	16,556 (18%)	19%
16 to 64	11,143 (59%)	3,419,312 (62%)	56,662 (62%)	63%
65+	4,485 (24%)	1,040,987 (19%)	18,772 (20%)	18%
Total	**18,801 (100%)**	**5,480,774 (100%**	**91,990 (100%)**	100%

Economic Activity of Residents

13.4.7. The 2021 Census recorded that there are circa 2.61 million residents in the Wider Study Area aged 16 years and over who were classified as economically active (this includes all those people in employment or available to work, for example the unemployed). This is equivalent to 59% of the population aged 16 and over in the Wider Study Area, which is marginally lower than the average for England (61%). The equivalent rate for the former Selby District is 63% (47,832 people) and the Local Study Area is 61% (9,466 people).

13.4.8. Of those economically active residents in the Wider Study Area, circa 2.46 million are in employment which is equivalent to 55% of 16+ year olds; again, lower than the national average (57%). The equivalent rate for the former Selby District is 61% (46,121 people) and the Local Study Area is 59% (9,173 people).

13.4.9. 151,379 economically active residents of the Wider Study Area are unemployed. This represents 3.4% of all residents aged 16+ years, which is marginally lower than the proportion of unemployed residents in England (3.5%). The equivalent rate for the former Selby District is 2.2% (1,711 people) and the Local Study Area is 1.9% (293 people).

Skills and Occupational Profile of Residents

13.4.10. A higher proportion of residents of the Wider Study Area (21% of all 16+ year olds) have no qualifications compared to the national average (18%) according to the 2021 Census. However, the proportion of residents with no qualifications is smaller in the former Selby District (16%) and the Local Study Area (15%).

13.4.11. Similarly, a smaller proportion of residents of the Wider Study Area are also educated to degree level or higher (30%) compared to the average for England (34%). Furthermore, despite being lower than the national average, the proportion of residents aged 16+ years in the former Selby District (32%) and the Local Study Area (31%) educated to degree level or higher, is greater than the proportion in the Wider Study Area (30%).

13.4.12. The occupational profile of residents in employment in the Wider Study Area is comparable to the national average, the former Selby District and the Local Study Area, as shown in Table 13.7. The largest proportion of residents in all four comparator areas work in professional occupations, although the proportion is marginally lower in the Wider Study Area, the former Selby District and the Local Study Area (all 18% respectively) compared to the national average (20%).

Table 13.7: Occupational Profile of Residents

Occupation	Local Study Area	Wider Study Area		England
		Total	Within Former Selby District	
Managers, directors and senior officials	1,402 (15%)	275,517 (11%)	6,840 (15%)	13%
Professional occupations	1,638 (18%)	445,150 (18%)	8,419 (18%)	20%
Associate professional and technical occupations	1,334 (15%)	302,214 (12%)	6,274 (14%)	13%
Administrative and secretarial occupations	918 (10%)	222,600 (9%)	4,263 (9%)	9%
Skilled trades occupations	1,063 (12%)	272,789 (11%)	5,162 (11%)	10%
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	732 (8%)	239,674 (10%)	3,713 (8%)	9%
Sales and customer service occupations	626 (7%)	204,822 (8%)	3,360 (7%)	7%
Process, plant and machine operatives	726 (8%)	207,067 (8%)	3,794 (8%)	7%
Elementary occupations	733 (8%)	291,535 (12%)	4,302 (9%)	10%
Total	**9,172 (100%)**	2,461,368 (100%)	46,127 (100%)	100%

13.4.13. Overall, residents of the Local and Wider Study Areas have a varied skill set.

However, residents of the Local Study Area and Selby District tend to work in higher skilled occupations, such as managers, directors and senior officials (both 15% respectively) than the Wider Study Area and national average (11% and 13% respectively). In contrast, a smaller proportion of residents of the Local Study Area and the former Selby District (8% and 9% respectively) work in lower skilled elementary occupations (consisting of simple, routine tasks) compared to the Wider Study Area and national average (12% and 11% respectively).

Number of Jobs by Industrial Sector (Workplace-based)

13.4.14. The 2022 BRES estimates there to be circa 2.56 million jobs in the Wider Study Area, of which 38,500 are within the former Selby District and 5,485 within the Local Study Area. Table 13.8 provides a breakdown of these jobs by broad industrial sector.

Table 13.8: Employment by Broad Industrial Sector

Occupation	Local Study Area	Wider Study Area		England
		Total	Within Former Selby District	
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10 (>1%)	39,000 (2%)	1,750 (5%)	1%
Mining, quarrying and utilities	1,010 (18%)	29,000 (1%)	1,500 (4%)	1%
Manufacturing	460 (8%)	285,000 (11%)	8,000 (21%)	7%
Construction	545 (10%)	125,000 (5%)	2,250 (6%)	5%
Motor trades	130 (2%)	55,000 (2%)	800 (2%)	2%
Wholesale	65 (1%)	103,000 (4%)	1,000 (3%)	4%
Retail	315 (6%)	228,000 (9%)	2,500 (6%)	8%
Transport and storage (including postal)	395 (7%)	138,000 (5%)	4,000 (10%)	5%
Accommodation and food services	320 (6%)	185,000 (7%)	2,250 (6%)	8%
Information and communication	40 (1%)	67,000 (3%)	450 (1%)	5%
Financial and insurance	25 (>1%)	74,000 (3%)	300 (1%)	3%
Property	40 (1%)	38,000 (1%)	400 (1%)	2%

Occupation	Local Study Area	Wider Study Area		England
		Total	Within Former Selby District	
Professional, scientific and technical	255 (5%)	166,000 (6%)	3,000 (8%)	10%
Business administration and support services	580 (11%)	221,000 (9%)	3,000 (8%)	9%
Public administration and defense	30 (1%)	117,000 (5%)	900 (2%)	4%
Education	785 (14%)	225,000 (9%)	2.500 (6%)	8%
Health	365 (7%)	372,000 (15%)	3,000 (8%)	13%
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	115 (2%)	92,000 (4%)	900 (2%)	4%
Total	**5,485 (100%)**	**2,559,000 (100%)**	**38,500 (100%)**	**100%**

13.4.15. The largest employing industrial sector in the Wider Study Area and England is health (15% and 13% respectively). In the former Selby District, it is manufacturing (21%) and in the Local Study Area, it is mining, quarrying and utilities (18%).

13.4.16. The key industries that are relevant to the assessment of the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development comprise construction; accommodation and food services; and mining, quarrying and utilities.

13.4.17. Construction accounts for 5% of all employment in the Wider Study Area (circa 125,000 jobs), which is comparable to national average. Of the 125,000 construction jobs in the Wider Study Area, 2,250 are within the former Selby District and of those, 545 are within the Local Study Area.

13.4.18. Accommodation and food services accounts for 7% of all employment in the Wider Study Area (circa 185,000 jobs), which is comparable to the national average (7%). Of these 181,000 jobs, 2,250 are within the former Selby District and of those, 320 are within the Local Study Area.

13.4.19. Mining, quarrying and utilities accounts for 1% of employment in the Wider Study Area (circa 29,000 jobs), which is again, comparable to the national average. Of these 29,000 jobs, 1,500 are within the former Selby District and of those, 1,010 are

within the Local Study Area.

13.4.20. The Site is currently predominantly agricultural farmland and represents 15% of the total land held by the existing farmers that farm the land within the Site. In total, 19 labourers are currently employed by the existing farmers, comprising a mix of full-time (nine people) and part-time/seasonal/contract workers (10 people minimum).

Commuting (Travel to Work Patterns)

13.4.21. Travel to work data from the The 2021 Census identifies that 95% of jobs within the Wider Study Area are undertaken by people who also live in the Wider Study Area, indicating a high level of labour self-containment; however, the 2021 Census was undertaken during the COVID-19 pandemic, when a large proportion of the population were working from home, as advised by the Government. Therefore, the identified number of people who live and work in the Wider Study Area according to the 2021 Census is thought to be high and not necessarily representative of the longer-term trends pre- and post-pandemic. For this reason, data from the 2011 Census is also considered.

13.4.22. Data from the 2011 Census identifies that 94% of jobs within the Wider Study Area were undertaken by people who also lived in the Wider Study Area, indicating a comparable high level of labour self-containment to the 2021 Census data. This would suggest that 2021 Census travel to work data was less affected by the COVID-19 pandemic at the scale of the Wider Study Area.

13.4.23. Labour self-containment is less prominent within Selby District. The 2011 Census data identifies that 52%, and the 2021 Census only 47%, of jobs within the former Selby District are undertaken by people who also live in the former Selby District. The remaining jobs are taken up by people who live elsewhere, including East Riding of Yorkshire, Wakefield, Leeds and Doncaster. This would suggest that the industrial profile of employment in Selby District (for example, 21% of employment in the manufacturing sector) tends not to facilitate home working and is therefore less affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

13.4.24. The 2011 Census is considered to be more representative of longer-term travel to work patterns and is therefore used to inform the assessment.

Businesses

13.4.25. Employment across the Wider Study Area is supported by 192,325 business enterprises, according to the ONS 2023 estimate. Table 13.9 provides a count of business enterprise by broad industrial sector. Data for the Local Study Area is not available from this source. However, data from the VOA provides data on businesses within the Local Study Area and is presented in Table 13.10.

Table 13.9: Business Enterprises by Broad Industrial Sector

Industry	Wider Study Area		England
	Total	Within Former Selby District	
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	10,635 (6%)	430 (11%)	4%
Mining, quarrying & utilities	1,170 (1%)	40 (1%)	1%
Manufacturing	12,585 (7%)	235 (6%)	5%
Construction	26,100 (14%)	535 (14%)	14%
Motor trades	7,210 (4%)	150 (4%)	3%
Wholesale	8,150 (4%)	155 (4%)	4%
Retail	16,785 (9%)	245 (6%)	8%
Transport & storage (inc postal)	11,980 (6%)	270 (7%)	5%
Accommodation & food services	14,925 (8%)	225 (6%)	6%
Information & communication	8,565 (4%)	170 (4%)	7%
Financial & insurance	3,545 (2%)	65 (2%)	2%
Property	7,625 (4%)	140 (4%)	4%
Professional, scientific & technical	23,970 (12%)	550 (14%)	16%
Business administration & support services	14,545 (8%)	295 (8%)	9%
Public administration & defense	645 (>1%)	40 (1%)	>1%
Education	3,175 (2%)	60 (2%)	2%

Industry	Wider Study Area		England
	Total	Within Former Selby District	
Health	8,270 (4%)	110 (3%)	4%
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	12,445 (6%)	195 (5%)	7%
Total	**192,325 (100%)**	**3,910 (100%)**	**100%**

13.4.26. Approximately 14% of all business enterprises in the Wider Study Area are within the construction industry, comparable to the former Selby District and the national average (also both 14% respectively). The construction industry represents the highest proportion of enterprises in the Wider Study Area whereas in the former Selby District and England, professional, scientific and technical industries represent the higher proportion of enterprises (14% and 16% respectively). It is of importance to note that the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry represents 11% of all enterprises in the former Selby District; significantly higher than the average for the Wider Study Area (6%) and England (4%).

13.4.27. Across the Wider Study Area there are a total of 27,370 enterprises associated with the 'tourism' industry (defined as comprising of the accommodation and food services and arts, entertainment and recreation industries). Of those, 420 tourism enterprises are located within the former Selby District. Tourism enterprises represent 14% of all enterprises in the Wider Study Area; a high proportion than compared to the former Selby District (11%) and the national average (13%).

13.4.28. Data from the VOA provides data of businesses within the Local Study Area. According to the VOA, in 2021, there were 226 non-domestic rateable properties in the Local Study Area. Table 13.10 provides a breakdown of these properties by the VOA detailed description and Figure 13.2 shows the location of these properties in relation to the Site. Please note that the dots on Figure 13.2 may represent more than one property.

13.4.29. Nearly half of the non-domestic rateable properties in the Local Study Area consist of either warehouses & stores (30%) or offices (18%). These categories include trade workshops and land used for storage related to farming activities.

Table 13.10: Non-Domestic Rateable Properties in the Local Study Area

Description	Number of properties	% of Properties in the Local Study Area
Warehouses & stores	68	30%
Factories, mills & workshops	40	18%
Other Shops	27	12%
Offices	21	9%
Other commercial	17	8%
Garages & petrol stations	9	4%
Hotels etc.	9	4%
Community centres & halls	8	4%
Other educational, training and cultural	7	3%
Sports grounds, golf courses etc	7	3%
Other Properties	5	2%
Advertising rights	2	1%
Medical facilities	2	1%
Other leisure	2	1%
Pubs & wine bars	2	1%
Total	**226**	100%

GVA

13.4.30. Average GVA in the Wider Study Area between 2016 and 2020 was £123,470 million per annum contributing 7% of the UK's total GVA. This equates to an average GVA per worker of £45,445 per annum, which is lower than the national average GVA per worker of £54,171 per annum. GVA data for the former Selby District and the Local Study Area is not available.

13.4.31. Average GVA (total and per worker) for industries relevant to the Proposed Development are detailed in Table 13.11.

Table 13.11: Average GVA (2016 to 2020) Per Annum

Industry	Wider Study Area		UK
	Total GVA	GVA per worker	GVA per worker
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	£2,291.8m	£231,342	£203,310
Construction	£7,876.8m	£44,391	£52,785
Accommodation and food services	£3,317.2m	£19,390	£22,791

Industry	Wider Study Area		UK
	Total GVA	GVA per worker	GVA per worker
Arts, entertainment and recreation	£1,412.0m	£20,703	£27,094
'Tourism'*	£4,729.2m	£19,765	£24,062
All industries	£123,470.0m	£45,445	£54,171

Note: * Tourism industry defined as accommodation and food services, arts, entertainment, and recreation combined.

13.4.32. Average GVA per worker generated by the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning sector is significantly higher than the average for all industries. This sector has the second highest GVA per worker of all sectors in both the Wider Study Area and the UK (real estate activities have the highest), indicating it is a valuable sector to the economy. The electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply sector contributes 1.9% of the Wider Study Area's total average GVA; higher than the proportion the sector contributes to the national average (1.6%).

13.4.33. Similarly, the construction sector is also an important sector to the Wider Study Area and national economies, contributing 6.4% to the total average GVA in both areas respectively. Average GVA per worker for the construction industry is £44,391 per annum in the Wider Study Area, lower than the national average of £52,785 per worker per annum.

13.4.34. The tourism sector in the Wider Study Area generates a lower average GVA per worker compared to the UK average (£19,765 compared to £24,062 per worker), and the value per worker is one of the lowest of all sectors.

Expenditure

13.4.35. Retail expenditure data published by Experian, estimates that in the year 2021, residents of the Wider Study Area on average spent £2,577 per annum on convenience goods (including items bought frequently such as staples for example, food, drink and newspapers). Convenience expenditure in the Wider Study Area is lower than the national average (£2,723 per person per annum).

13.4.36. 64% of the total convenience spend in the Wider Study Area (equivalent to £1,656 per person per annum) is specifically spent on food and non-alcoholic beverages, which is lower than the national average (£1,847 per person per annum).

13.4.37. Expenditure on food and non-alcoholic beverages is considered appropriate to use as a proxy for workforce expenditure, which typically involves buying lunch. The average number of days spent working by a FTE worker is 260 days per annum. Applied to the annual average spend on food and non-alcoholic beverages per person in the Wider Study Area (£1,656) this equates to £6.37 per day. However, an independent survey undertaken by Moneypenny (2021)[20] reports that the average UK worker spends between £15 and £20 a week on lunch, which suggests a daily expenditure of between £3 and £4 per worker. To assess a worst-case scenario, a daily expenditure of £3 per worker has been applied within this assessment, which is equivalent to £780 per annum (on the basis that the average FTE worker works 260 days per annum).

13.4.38. The BRES estimates there to be circa 2.56 million jobs in the Wider Study Area, this would suggest a current workforce expenditure of £2.0bn per annum in the Wider Study Area, of which £30.0m is within the former Selby District (on the basis of 38,500 jobs) and £4.3m within the Local Study Area (on the basis of 5,485 jobs).

Renewable Energy Generation

13.4.39. DESNZ reports than in 2022, solar PV capacity in the Wider Study Area was circa 681MW, contributing 5% of the UK's solar PV capacity (14,651MW). The former Selby District provides 27MW of the solar PV capacity in the Wider Study Area (equivalent to 4%).

13.4.40. Solar PV represents 9% of all renewable energy capacity in the Wider Study Area (7,749MW); lower than the national average (27%).

Tourism

13.4.41. In addition to the tourism economy data already presented within this section (within business enterprises and GVA analysis), data published by Visit Britain identifies that between 2021 and 2023, 6.01 million trips were taken each year to the Wider Study Area, equating to a total spend of £1,382 million per annum. It should be noted that the data is from April 2021 to March 2023 during which there were some

[20] **https://www.moneypenny.com/uk/resources/blog/the-uks-favourite-work-lunch/**. Accessed February 2024

restrictions on travel stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic and associated lockdowns.

13.4.42. Visit Britain data also identifies that in December 2023 serviced accommodation within the Wider Study Area was operating at 80% occupancy. This compares to the national average of 83%. Data is unavailable for the Local Study Area. There is seasonal fluctuation, with occupancy rates varying in different months of the year as illustrated in Table 13.12. Over the last 12-months, the serviced accommodation occupancy rate in the Wider Study Area peaked at 84% (in July 2023) with a low of 66% (in January 2023).

Table 13.12: Serviced Accommodation Occupancy Rates

	Wider Study Area	England
December 2023	72%	73%
November 2023	79%	78%
October 2023	80%	80%
September 2023	84%	83%
August 2023	80%	81%
July 2023	84%	84%
June 2023	80%	83%
May 2023	77%	78%
April 2023	80%	77%
March 2023	76%	75%
February 2023	75%	73%
January 2023	66%	65%

Future Baseline Conditions

13.4.43. In the absence of the Proposed Development being implemented, the Site would remain in its existing condition (predominantly arable farming with a small proportion of cattle/ sheep grazing).

13.4.44. Construction of the Proposed Development is anticipated to commence from 2027. The ONS, 2018-based SNPP project that from the current baseline year (2021 Census), the Wider Study Area's population will increase by +3.2% by 2027. This is a slower rate of population growth than projected for England (+3.6% by 2027). The SNPP are not available for the Local Study Area; However, the SNPP suggest that the former Selby District's population will grow by +5.3% by 2027.

13.4.45. The SNPP also indicate that the population is projected to age over the coming years. This is a trend seen locally and nationally. The Wider Study Area's population aged 65+ years is projected to increase by +13.0% between 2021 and 2027, which is a lower rate of growth than the national (+14.6%) and former Selby District (+18.0%) averages.

13.4.46. In contrast, the working age population in the Wider Study Area is projected to increase by just +1.0% between 2021 and 2027, but nonetheless, this rate of growth is higher than both the average for England (+0.9%) and former Selby District (+0.9%).

13.4.47. Oxford Economics forecast that employment in the Wider Study Area will increase by +6.8% from the current baseline to 2027, lower than the national average (+8.2%). Forecasts for the former Selby District and the Local Study Area are not available.

13.4.48. Similarly, Oxford Economics forecast that GVA within the Wider Study Area will increase over the coming years. The average GVA per worker across all sectors is forecast to increase by +10.6% from the current baseline to 2027, lower than the national average (+11.0%).

13.4.49. Without the Proposed Development, the future baseline in respect of tourism and recreation by 2027 is anticipated to remain the same as the current baseline.

13.5. Likely Significant Effects

Embedded Mitigation

13.5.1. Mitigation measures described in other chapters of the ES (for example, **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]**, **Chapter 10 Transport and Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]**, and **Chapter 11 Noise and Vibration [EN010140/APP/6.1.11]**) will serve to reduce the potential for adverse effects on socio-economic aspects, such as the amenity impact of the Proposed Development, and are not repeated here.

Construction Phase

Effects on Job Creation

13.5.2. Baseline conditions identified that the Site currently supports employment for 19 people, with further contract labourers employed temporarily during the peak season. **Appendix 14.2 Farm Reports [EN010140/APP/6.3.14.2]** of the ES identifies that existing employment on the Site will not be lost as a result of the Proposed Development. The Site comprises approximately 15% of the total land owned by the existing farmers and therefore existing employees will be retained in employment to farm the remainder of the wider land holding.

13.5.3. The construction phase will generate employment directly associated with the construction of the Proposed Development. It is estimated within **Chapter 10 Transport and Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]** of the ES that employment for 200 construction workers will be supported during the construction phase (direct jobs).

13.5.4. As explained in section 13.3 'Assessment Methodology' of this chapter, it is not considered that the Proposed Development will displace jobs from elsewhere in the Wider Study Area.

13.5.5. The direct on-site construction jobs would be required for land preparation, installation and grid connection and therefore will provide employment for a range of occupation and skill levels. The Applicant will endeavor to source local labour where possible and baseline conditions identified that there is a resident labour supply within the Wider Study Area with a range of skills, occupations and industries to meet this demand. However, a realistic 'worst-case' scenario for construction employment assumes that all of the construction workforce will be sourced from outside of the Wider Study Area and therefore a 100% leakage factor is applied within this assessment.

13.5.6. In addition to those jobs created as a direct effect of the construction and management of the Proposed Development, further indirect employment will be supported as a result of spin-off and multiplier effects in the supply-chain, for example, in the manufacturing and supply of the solar PV panels. Whilst it is acknowledged that the solar PV panels themselves may be produced and imported

from outside of the UK, there will be further indirect employment effects within the Wider Study Area once the panels arrive in the UK, associated with transportation, for example.

13.5.7. Application of the Green Book low employment multipliers, detailed earlier in section 13.3 'Assessment Methodology' of this chapter, to the direct number of jobs created by construction of the Proposed Development, estimates that a further 80 indirect jobs will be supported during the construction phase. The indirect jobs could be within supporting supply chains across the Wider Study Area and nationally.

13.5.8. It is therefore considered that the Proposed Development will support up to 200 direct and up to 80 indirect jobs during the construction phase. The supporting Employment and Skills Plan (refer to **Appendix 13.1 [EN010140/APP/6.3.13.1]**) demonstrates the Applicant's commitment to creating employment and upskilling opportunities in the local area and the mechanisms that will be used to facilitate this. Therefore, whilst endeavours will be made to ensure that a proportion of these jobs will be available to residents of the Wider Study Area, until a contractor is appointed the exact number of local jobs that will be supported cannot be guaranteed. Therefore, to avoid over-reporting, a worst-case scenario assumes that none of these jobs will provide employment for residents of the Wider Study Area and therefore there will be a zero net employment effect to the Wider Study Area from the Proposed Development during the construction phase.

13.5.9. The sensitivity of construction employment in the Wider Study Area is considered to be moderate, noting that there are 125,000 construction jobs in the Wider Study Area currently, representing 5% of all employment, of which 2,250 are within Selby District and 545 within the Local Study Area. The magnitude of change is considered to be very low in the context of zero net employment effect to the Wider Study Area despite the Proposed Development supporting up to 200 direct and up to 80 indirect jobs, based on an assumption that they will be filled by labour sources from outside the Wider Study Area (worst-case scenario). As such, the Proposed Development is considered to have a temporary negligible effect on employment in the Wider Study Area during the construction phase, which is **not considered significant**.

Effects on GVA (Economic Output)

13.5.10. Jobs supported by the Proposed Development during the construction phase will generate GVA totaling approximately £14.9 million per annum as detailed in Table 13.13. This figure is derived by applying the average GVA per worker for the construction industry to the direct jobs and average GVA per worker for 'all industries' to the indirect jobs (as established in Table 13.11) because the indirect jobs will be supported through the supply chain and therefore could be in any industry. UK average GVA per worker figures are used because both the direct and indirect jobs supported by the Proposed Development are assumed (worst-case) to be outside of the Wider Study Area.

Table 13.13: GVA Created by the Proposed Development's Construction Jobs

Industry	Number of Workers	GVA per Worker per annum (UK average)	GVA per annum
Construction	200	£52,785	£10.6m
All industries	80	£54,171	£4.3m
Total	280	n/a	£14.9m

13.5.11. The sensitivity of economic output during the construction phase is considered to be medium in the Wider Study Area, noting that the construction industry contributes 6.4% of the Wider Study Area's total GVA. The magnitude of change is considered to be very low because despite the Proposed Development creating GVA of £14.9m per annum, it is assumed that this GVA will be created outside of the Wider Study Area (as a worst-case). On this basis, the Proposed Development is considered to have a negligible effect on economic output in the Wider Study Area during the construction phase, which is **not considered significant**.

Effects on Workforce Expenditure

13.5.12. The Proposed Development's 200 direct construction workers will spend money in local shops purchasing food, for example, whilst working on the construction of the Proposed Development.

13.5.13. Baseline conditions identified that an individual worker in the Wider Study Area, could generate convenience expenditure of £780 per annum. Applied to the 200 direct jobs supported by the Proposed Development, this equates to a workforce expenditure of £156,000 per annum over the duration of the construction period. Further expenditure could be generated from the construction workforce via

accommodation costs, should the workforce be required to stay locally to the Site.

13.5.14. The sensitivity of workforce expenditure is considered to be medium noting that convenience expenditure per person in the Wider Study Area is lower than the national average. The magnitude of change is considered to be low in the context of the Proposed Development's creation of £156,000 of expenditure per annum, increasing current workforce expenditure in the Wider Study Area of £2.0Bn per annum by just 0.01% and increasing current workforce expenditure in the Local Study Area of £30.0m per annum by just 0.5%. On this basis, the Proposed Development is considered to have a temporary minor beneficial effect on workforce expenditure in the Wider and Local Study Areas during the construction phase, which is **not considered significant**.

Effects on Local Amenity

13.5.15. Given that the realistic worst-case scenario for construction employment is to assume that all of the direct construction workers will originate from outside of the Wider Study Area, it is anticipated that the construction workforce will have to temporarily relocate to within proximity of the Site, thereby placing demand on accommodation within the Local Study Area. Baseline conditions (Tables 13.9 and 13.10) identified that there are 27,370 business enterprises located within the Wider Study Area related to accommodation and food services, with 420 of these located within Selby District. A total of nine hotels have been identified within the Local Study Area. Furthermore, baseline conditions also identified that serviced accommodation within the Wider Study Area typically operates at between 66% and 84% occupancy across a 12-month period, thereby indicating that there is stock, with capacity, to accommodate the Proposed Development's construction workforce should that be required.

13.5.16. **Chapter 11 Noise and Vibration [EN010140/APP/6.1.11]** of the ES reports predicted construction sound levels at a statistically representative selection of NSRs which lie adjacent to the Site. The chapter identified (Table 11.10) that noise levels at these NSRs are not predicted to exceed the adopted 65 dB(A) limit and reported a negligible to minor adverse effect from construction noise which is not considered significant. As the NSRs which lie adjacent to the Site are considered to represent a worst-case, being that noise levels will be greatest at these NSRs, it is therefore also

considered that there will be a negligible to minor adverse effect on local amenity in the Local Study Area from construction noise, which is not considered significant.

13.5.17. **Chapter 10 Transport and Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]** of the ES assesses the likely significant effects on pedestrian amenity (including cyclists and equestrian users). Whilst the addition of HGVs to the local network is recognised as affecting the relative pleasantness of any pedestrian, cyclist and equestrian journey in the area, the chapter identified that pedestrian, cyclist and equestrian activity on the roads surrounding the Site was very low and therefore reported a minor adverse effect on pedestrian amenity which is not considered to be significant.

13.5.18. **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]** of the ES considers changes to the landscape that will have an effect on visual amenity during the construction phase. Likely significant moderate negative (but not significant) effects to residents, walkers and cyclists, who live and are using roads and PRoWs immediately adjacent to the Site are identified due to open partial views of construction activities. However, significant visual effects diminish rapidly with distance from the Site.

13.5.19. **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]** of the ES has identified a moderate negative (but not significant) effect on visual receptors (and therefore for the socio-economic assessment, local amenity), effects are identified as impacting amenity immediately adjacent to the Site. Furthermore, the implementation of best practice measures in accordance with the CEMP will seek to reduce the visual effects.

13.5.20. Therefore, in light of the findings of ES **chapters 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]**, **10 Transport and Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]** and **11 Noise and Vibration [EN010140/APP/6.1.11]**, it is considered that the effect of the Proposed Development on local amenity in the Local Study Area during the construction phase will be negligible to minor adverse, which is **not considered significant**.

Operational Phase

Effects on Renewable Energy Generation

13.5.21. The Proposed Development will have an export capacity of 190MW.

13.5.22. Baseline conditions identified that currently the solar PV capacity in the Wider Study Area is circa 681MW and all types of renewable energy is 14,651MW. Therefore, the Proposed Development will increase solar PV capacity in the Wider Study Area by 28% and will increase all types of renewable energy generation in the Wider Study Area by 1.3%.

13.5.23. The sensitivity of renewable energy in the Wider Study Area is considered to be high, noting the UK government's commitment towards renewable energy generation. The magnitude of change is considered to be medium in the context of the Proposed Development increasing renewable electricity capacity (across all forms of renewable energy) in the Wider Study Area by 1.3%. On this basis, it is considered that the Proposed Development will have a major beneficial effect on renewable energy generation in the Wider Study Area during the operational phase, which is considered **significant**.

Effects on Local Amenity

13.5.24. **Chapter 11 Noise and Vibration [EN010140/APP/6.1.11]** of the ES reports that the during the operational phase noise will be generated from the Proposed Development's equipment; however, the chapter assesses a 'low impact' at the NSRs during both the daytime and night-time periods and therefore reports a negligible effect, which is not significant.

13.5.25. **Chapter 10 Transport and Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]** of the ES reports that traffic movements to and from the Site during the operational phase will be limited (less than one trip per day on average) and therefore there will be a negligible effect on pedestrian amenity which is not significant.

13.5.26. **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]** of the ES identifies a likely significant moderate negative (but not significant) effect to residents, walkers and cyclists, who live and are using roads and PRoWs immediately adjacent to the Site due to open partial views of the Proposed Development.

13.5.27. **Chapter 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]** of the ES has identified a moderate negative (but not significant) effect on visual receptors (and therefore for the socio-economic assessment, local amenity), immediately adjacent to the Site. As with the construction phase, negative visual effects diminish rapidly with distance from the Site. Furthermore, planting proposals and their ongoing maintenance will reduce the visual effects on local amenity over the lifetime of the Proposed Development, therefore the effects will not be significant.

13.5.28. In light of the findings of ES **Chapters 7 Landscape and Views [EN010140/APP/6.1.7]**, **10 Transport and Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]**, and **11 Noise and Vibration [EN010140/APP/6.1.11]**, it is considered that the effect of the Proposed Development on local amenity in the Local Study Area during the operational phase will be negligible, which is **not significant**.

Decommissioning Phase

13.5.29. As stated in the 'limitations and assumptions' section of this chapter, decommissioning of the Proposed Development is assumed to generate the same socio-economic effects as those identified during the construction phase.

13.5.30. Direct jobs will be created on-Site through the requirement to remove all of the solar PV infrastructure, including modules, mounting structures, cabling inverters and transformers. There is also the potential for indirect jobs to be created resulting from the disposal/ recycling of the solar PV infrastructure, dependent on the best practice requirements and market conditions at that time. Whilst it is not possible to quantify job creation during the decommissioning phase, it is not anticipated that the number of jobs will be higher than the number created during the construction phase. On this basis, it is considered that there will be a temporary, negligible effect on job creation in the Wider Study Area during the decommissioning phase which is **not significant**.

13.5.31. On the basis that the number of jobs created during the decommissioning phase will be comparable to the construction phase, it is anticipated that the effects on economic contribution (GVA) and workforce expenditure will be the same during the decommissioning phase and in the construction phase; for economic contribution (GVA) this is a temporary, negligible effect in the Wider Study Area which is not significant; and for workforce expenditure, this is a temporary, minor beneficial effect

in the Local Study Area which is **not significant**.

13.5.32. Effects on local amenity during the decommissioning phase will be negligible to minor adverse, which is **not considered significant**, as accommodation, noise, traffic and visual effects will again be comparable in the decommissioning to the construction phase.

13.6. Mitigation Measures

13.6.1. No significant adverse socio-economic effects have been identified during the construction, operational or decommissioning phases and therefore no further mitigation beyond the mitigation identified in other technical ES chapters (noise and vibration, landscape and views and transport and access) is required.

13.7. Residual Effects

13.7.1. The residual effects for all socio-economic receptors remain as follows:

Construction phase:

- Negligible effect on job creation which is **not significant**;
- Negligible effect on economic output which is **not significant**;
- Minor beneficial effect on workforce expenditure which is **not significant**;
- Negligible to minor adverse effect on local amenity which is **not significant**;

Operational phase:

- Major beneficial effect on renewable energy generation which is **significant**;
- Negligible effect on local amenity which is **not significant**;

Decommissioning phase:

- Negligible effect on job creation which is **not significant**;
- Negligible effect on economic output which is **not significant**;
- Minor beneficial effect on workforce expenditure which is **not significant**; and
- Negligible to minor adverse effect on local amenity which is **not significant**.

13.8. Cumulative Effects

Construction Phase

13.8.1. There is likely to be a beneficial cumulative effect associated with direct and indirect employment opportunities, economic output and workforce expenditure during the construction phase from the identified cumulative schemes and the Proposed Development combined. Further details on the cumulative schemes are set out in **Chapter 15 Cumulative Effects [EN010140/APP/6.1.15]** of the ES.

13.8.2. A review of the supporting documentation submitted alongside the planning application or DCO application for each of the cumulative schemes identifies that such socio-economic effects are not quantified consistently (or in some cases, at all) within the documentation. For this reason, it is not possible to quantify the cumulative effect on job creation, economic output and workforce expenditure.

13.8.3. Furthermore, it is not known whether the construction phase of the cumulative schemes will overlap with each other or the Proposed Development. To provide a worst-case assessment for employment, economic output, and workforce expenditure (that being the scenario which results in the fewest jobs created and the least economic output and workforce expenditure), it is assumed that the construction phases do not overlap and therefore the same construction workforce could work on the Proposed Development and the cumulative schemes. On this basis, it is considered that the cumulative schemes and the Proposed Development combined during the construction phase will have a temporary, negligible cumulative effect on job creation and economic output and a temporary, minor beneficial cumulative effect on workforce expenditure in the Wider Study Area, which is **not considered significant**.

13.8.4. However, there may be temporary adverse cumulative effects on local amenity resulting from noise, traffic and visual impacts of the cumulative schemes and Proposed Development combined. However, it is expected that any potential adverse effects related to this will be mitigated by each individual scheme via a CEMP and therefore any adverse effects would **not be significant**.

Operational Phase

13.8.5. Five of the identified cumulative schemes[21] will produce renewable energy and therefore when combined with the Proposed Development there will be a **significant** major beneficial cumulative effect on renewable energy generation in the Wider Study Area during the operational phase.

13.8.6. The potential for adverse cumulative effects on local amenity resulting from noise and visual impacts of the cumulative schemes and Proposed Development combined, will be mitigated by each individual scheme and therefore any adverse effects would **not be significant**.

Decommissioning Phase

13.8.7. Similar to the assessment of the construction phase for the Proposed Development, it is anticipated that the socio-economic cumulative effects during the decommissioning phase will be the same as those assessed for the construction phase, that being: a temporary, negligible cumulative effect on job creation and economic output and a temporary, minor beneficial cumulative effect on workforce expenditure in the Wider Study Area, which is **not considered significant** and the potential for temporary adverse cumulative effects on local amenity resulting from noise, traffic and visual impacts but which would **not be significant**.

13.9. Summary

13.9.1. The socio-economic assessment has considered the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development on: job creation; economic contribution (measured through the creation of GVA); workforce expenditure; and local amenity (residential properties, local businesses, tourism and recreation uses).

13.9.2. The existing agricultural use of the Site will temporarily cease for the 40-year modelled operational lifespan of the Proposed Development. However, the Site only represents 15% of the total land held by the existing farmers that farm the land within

[21] Land South of A645, Wade House Lane, Drax (Ref: 2023/0128/EIA); East Yorkshire Solar Farm NSIP (PINS Ref: EN010143); Land North and South of Camela Lane, Camblesforth (Ref: 2021/0788/EIA); Newlands Farm, Turnham Lane, Cliffe, Selby (Ref: 2021/0348/SCN); and Land near Osgodby Grange, South Duffield Road, Osgodby, Selby (Ref: 2021/0978/FULM).

the Site and therefore the 19 labourers currently working on the Site will be retained by the farmers to work on the wider land holding. No existing employment will therefore be lost as a result of the Proposed Development.

13.9.3. Additional employment opportunities will be created by the Proposed Development. During construction, 200 FTE jobs will be supported directly through construction of the Proposed Development related to land preparation, installation and grid connection. Such roles will require a varied occupation and skill set. However, it is anticipated that the majority, if not all, of these jobs will be sourced from outside of the Wider Study Area by the appointed contractor. In addition to the up to 200 direct jobs, up to a further 80 indirect jobs will be supported as a result of spin-off and multiplier effects in the supply chain. Whilst the solar PV panels themselves will be produced and imported perhaps from outside the UK, indirect employment will be supported once the panels arrive in the UK, associated with transportation to the Site. In the context of the number of jobs created and existing employment levels, it is considered that the Proposed Development will have a temporary, negligible effect on job/employment creation at the Wider Study Area level during the construction phase which is not considered significant.

13.9.4. The jobs supported by the construction of the Proposed Development will generate economic output in the form of GVA. It is estimated that the Proposed Development would create GVA of £14.9m per annum over the 12-month construction period. However, as GVA is aligned with employment, a worst-case scenario assumes that this GVA will created outside of the Wider Study Area. On this basis, it is considered that construction of the Proposed Development will have a temporary, negligible effect on economic output at the Wider Study Area level during the construction phase which is not considered significant.

13.9.5. The 200 FTE direct construction workers working on the Site will generate estimated expenditure of £156,000 per annum through spending on food. Such spending will also support local services to the Site, including shops and eateries. The Proposed Development will therefore have a minor beneficial effect on workforce expenditure during the construction phase.

13.9.6. It is anticipated that the construction workforce will temporarily relocate to the area whilst working on the Proposed Development, placing additional demand on local

accommodation. However, effects on local amenity in respect of accommodation services are not anticipated to be significant, given that an extensive stock of accommodation facilities, operating with capacity, has been identified.

13.9.7. Effects on local amenity during the construction phase from noise and traffic will be negligible to minor adverse in light of the technical assessments presented in **Chapters 10 Transport and Access [EN010140/APP/6.1.10]** and **11 Noise and Vibration [EN010140/APP/6.1.11]** of the ES. Visual effects on local amenity are anticipated to be moderate negative (but not significant), immediately adjacent to the Site. However, negative visual effects rapidly diminish with distance from the Site and therefore within the Local Study Area there is not considered to be any likely significant negative effects on local amenity.

13.9.8. Once operational, the Proposed Development will have a moderate beneficial effect on renewable energy generation in the Wider Study Area increasing the solar PV capacity in the Wider Study Area by 28% and increasing all types of renewable energy generation in the Wider Study Area by 1.3%.

13.9.9. Decommissioning of the Proposed Development will generate similar socio-economic effects to those during the construction phase.

13.9.10. Table 13.14 contains a summary of the preliminary assessment of the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development.

Table 13.14: Table of Significance –Socio-Economics

Potential Effect	Nature of Effect*	Significance **	Secondary mitigation/ Enhancement Measures	Geographical Importance ***						Residual Effects ****
				I	UK	E	R	UA	L	
Construction Phase										
Job Creation	Temporary	Negligible	Not required				X			Negligible (**not significant**)
Economic Output	Temporary	Negligible	Not required				X			Negligible (**not significant**)
Workforce Expenditure	Temporary	Minor beneficial	Not required					X	X	Minor beneficial (**not significant**)
Local Amenity	Temporary	Negligible to minor adverse	Not required						X	Negligible to minor adverse (**not significant**)
Operational Phase (accounting for Embedded Mitigation)										
Renewable Energy Generation	Permanent	Moderate beneficial	Not required				X			Moderate beneficial (**significant**)
Local Amenity	Permanent	Negligible	Not required						X	Negligible (**not significant**)
Decommissioning Phase										
Job Creation	Temporary	Minor beneficial	Not required				X			Minor beneficial (**not significant**)
Economic Output	Temporary	Minor beneficial	Not required				X			Minor beneficial (**not significant**)

Potential Effect	Nature of Effect*	Significance **	Secondary mitigation/ Enhancement Measures	Geographical Importance ***						Residual Effects ****
				I	UK	E	R	UA	L	
Workforce Expenditure	Temporary	Minor beneficial	Not required					X		Minor beneficial (**not significant**)
Local Amenity	Temporary	Negligible to minor adverse	Not required						X	Negligible to minor adverse (**not significant**)
Cumulative Effects										
Construction Phase										
Job Creation	Temporary	Negligible	Not required				X			Negligible (**not significant**)
Economic Output	Temporary	Negligible	Not required				X			Negligible (**not significant**)
Workforce Expenditure	Temporary	Minor beneficial	Not required					X		Minor beneficial (**not significant**)
Local Amenity	Temporary	Negligible to minor adverse	Not required						X	Negligible to minor adverse (**not significant**)
Operational Phase										
Renewable Energy Generation	Permanent	Major beneficial	Not required				X			Major beneficial (**significant**)
Local Amenity	Permanent	Negligible	Not required						X	Negligible (**not significant**)
Nature of Effect * Significance** Geographical Importance *** Residual Effects ****	Permanent or Temporary Short-term, Medium-term, or Long-term Major/ Moderate/ Minor/ Negligible Beneficial/ Adverse I = International; UK = United Kingdom; E = England; R = Regional; UA = Unitary Authority; L = Local Major / Moderate / Minor / Negligible Beneficial / Adverse									