
EAST YORKSHIRE SOLAR FARM

**East Yorkshire Solar Farm
EN010143**

Consultation Report

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Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
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Section 37(3)(c)
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Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	8
1. Introduction	11
1.1 Purpose of This Document	11
1.2 The Applicant.....	13
1.3 The Scheme	13
1.4 Consultation Context	15
1.5 Summary of Consultation Activities.....	17
1.6 Covering Letter and Completed Section 55 Checklist.....	19
2. Non-statutory consultation	20
2.1 Overview.....	20
2.2 Early Engagement	20
2.3 Approach to Consultation	23
2.4 Notification and Publicity.....	23
2.5 Consultation Materials and Events	24
2.6 Feedback Mechanisms.....	25
2.7 Consultation Outcomes	26
2.8 Issues Raised	26
2.9 Changes Made Since Non-Statutory Consultation.....	27
2.10 Ongoing Engagement (Prior to Statutory Consultation).....	29
3. Statutory Consultation.....	34
3.1 EIA Regulation Consultation	34
3.2 Overview of Statutory Consultation.....	38
3.3 The Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	40
3.4 Consultation Under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1)	85
3.5 Consultation Methodology for Section 42 Consultees	95
3.6 Section 46 (Notifying the Planning Inspectorate).....	100
3.7 Section 47 (Local Community Consultation).....	101
3.8 Section 48 (Newspaper Notices)	105
3.9 Publicity	110
3.10 Statutory Consultation Activity	113
3.11 Feedback Mechanisms.....	117
3.12 How the Applicant Responded to General Scheme Enquiries During Statutory Consultation	118
4. Consultation Responses	120
4.1 Structure of this Chapter	120
4.2 Overview.....	120
4.3 Feedback analysis methodology and recording.....	121
4.4 Responses received	131
4.5 Quantitative responses to response form	132
4.6 Summary of issues raised	144

4.7	Changes made to the Scheme as a result of consultation/ specific requests made and how these have been considered.....	146
5.	Engagement Following Statutory Consultation	151
5.1	Meetings held with key stakeholders	151
5.2	Ongoing technical engagement (via email) with key stakeholders post-statutory consultation	154
5.3	Engagement with elected representatives following statutory consultation .	156
6.	Targeted Consultation (Post statutory consultation)	157
6.1	Structure of Chapter	157
6.2	Overview of Targeted Consultation	157
6.3	Consultation Methodology for Section 42 Consultees	158
6.4	Community Consultation.....	164
6.5	Feedback Methodology and Recording	165
6.6	Engagement with elected representatives following statutory consultation .	175
7.	Summary of Responses to the Targeted Consultation	176
7.1	Structure of Chapter	176
7.2	Overview of Targeted Consultation responses.....	176
7.3	Feedback Analysis Methodology and Recording	178
7.4	Responses Received	181
7.5	By Consultee Type.....	182
7.6	Quantitative Responses to Response Form	182
7.7	Summary of issues raised	190
7.8	Changes made to the Scheme as a result of consultation/ specific requests made and how these have been considered.....	192
7.9	Engagement following targeted consultation	193
8.	Targeted Consultation with newly-identified Persons with Interest in the Land (PILs).....	195
8.1	Structure of Chapter	195
8.2	Consultation Methodology for newly-identified PILs under Section 42(1)(d).....	195
8.3	Consultation outcomes	198
9.	Conclusion	199
9.1	Compliance With Advice and Governance.....	199
9.2	Summary	200
10.	References.....	201
	Glossary of Frequently Used Terms	203
	Abbreviations.....	213

Figures

Figure 1-1. Order limits of the Scheme.....	14
Figure 1-2. Councils in relation to the location of the Scheme prior to 31 March 2023	15
Figure 1-3. Council boundaries of North Yorkshire Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council	16
Figure 2-1. Site boundary as presented to stakeholders prior to non-statutory consultation.....	21
Figure 2-2. Site boundary of solar PV site and representative potential cable route with possible environmental constraints from early environmental scoping work as presented to stakeholders prior to non-statutory consultation.....	22
Figure 2-3. Site boundary following the addition of fields 1g and 1h	29
Figure 3-1. Relevant 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' authorities for the Scheme	89
Figure 3-2. Primary consultation zone boundary at statutory consultation	103
Figure 3-3. Example post promoting the statutory consultation issued from the Applicant's Twitter account.....	112
Figure 4-1. Respondents interest in the Scheme	133
Figure 4-2. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or group?.....	133
Figure 4-3. Do you agree with the layout in our proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm?	134
Figure 4-4. Do you agree with our proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling?.....	135
Figure 4-5. Based on our updated proposal shared in this consultation, what are your views on East Yorkshire Solar Farm?	136
Figure 4-6. Ecology: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to ecological mitigation?	137
Figure 4-7. Landscape and views: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to landscape mitigation?	137
Figure 4-8. Traffic: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to traffic mitigation?	138
Figure 4-9. Noise and vibration: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation?	139
Figure 4-10. Cultural heritage: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation?	139
Figure 4-11. Flood risk: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to flood risk mitigation?	140
Figure 4-12. Do you have any comments on the information presented in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report? Please specify any environmental topic areas you are commenting on.	141
Figure 4-13. Please indicate which causes you feel the benefit fund should support. (Please tick as many boxes as needed).	142
Figure 4-14. How did you find out about our consultation?	142
Figure 4-15. Have you attended any of our consultation events?	143
Figure 4-16. How informative did you find our consultation materials?	144

Tables

Table 1-1. Summary of consultation activities.	17
Table 2-1. Early engagement meetings.	20
Table 2-2. Summary of press coverage July 2022	22
Table 2-3. Summary of communications issued to support the non-statutory consultation.....	23
Table 2-4. Non-statutory consultation events	25
Table 2-5. Stakeholder meetings to support non-statutory consultation	25
Table 2-6. Feedback comments at non-statutory consultation and the Applicant response	27
Table 2-7. Ongoing engagement with prescribed bodies between non-statutory consultation and statutory consultation	30
Table 3-1. Location of information in the PEI Report (Ref. 9) which demonstrates compliance with EIA Regulation 14(2) (Ref. 5).....	37
Table 3-2. Feedback received from Selby District Council during informal consultation on the SoCC.	41
Table 3-3. Amendments to the SoCC following formal consultation with the local authorities	44
Table 3-4. Placement of Section 47 notice in newspapers.	47
Table 3-5. SoCC compliance.....	48
Table 3-6. Identification of relevant local authorities.....	86
Table 3-7. Requirement of Regulation 4(3) of the APFP regulations (Ref. 4) and complied with by the Applicant.....	106
Table 3-8. Publication of Section 48 notice in newspapers.....	110
Table 3-9. Wards/divisions summary information shared with by council.	111
Table 3-10. Media outlets who received press release and coverage provided.	113
Table 3-11. Document inspection venues for statutory consultation.	114
Table 3-12. In person statutory public consultation events.....	115
Table 3-13. Details of online webinar events.....	116
Table 3-14. Key stakeholder events held in advance of and during public consultation.....	116
Table 4-1. Responses received by consultee strand.....	132
Table 4-2. Summary of issues raised at statutory consultation.....	144
Table 4-3. Changes made to the Scheme as a result of statutory consultation	146
Table 5-1. Ongoing engagement via meetings with stakeholders following statutory consultation.....	151
Table 6-1. Table outlining the 24 changes proposed at targeted consultation, with their respective Change Numbers, Location, Reason for Change and Description of Change	165
Table 7-1. Responses received by consultee strand.....	182
Table 7-2. What is your interest in the Scheme? (4).....	183
Table 7-3. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or group? (3).....	183
Table 7-4. Are you happy for us to contact you about your response if required? (2)	184
Table 7-5. Do you agree with the layout in our proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm? (3).....	184
Table 7-6. Do you agree with the proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling? (3).....	185
Table 7-7. Based on our updated proposal shared in this consultation, what are your views on East Yorkshire Solar Farm? (3).....	185

Table 7-8. Ecology: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to ecological mitigation? (3).....	186
Table 7-9. Landscape and views: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to landscape mitigation? (3).....	186
Table 7-10. Traffic: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to traffic mitigation? (2).....	187
Table 7-11. Noise and vibration: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation? (2).....	187
Table 7-12. Cultural heritage: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation? (2).....	188
Table 7-13. Flood risk: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to flood risk mitigation? (2).....	188
Table 7-14. Do you have any comments on the information presented in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report? (2).....	189
Table 7-15. Community benefit fund: Please indicate which causes you feel the benefit fund should support? (2).....	189
Table 7-16. How did you find out about our consultation? (3).....	190
Table 7-17. Have you attended any of our statutory consultation events? (1).....	190
Table 7-18. How informative did you find our consultation materials? (3).....	190
Table 7-19. Summary of issues raised at targeted consultation.....	191
Table 7-20. Changes made to the Scheme as a result of targeted consultation.....	192
Table 7-21. Meetings held with technical stakeholders following targeted consultation.....	193

Executive Summary

- ES1 This Consultation Report relates to the proposed East Yorkshire Solar Farm (the Scheme). The Scheme meets the criteria to be considered as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and therefore requires a Development Consent Order (DCO).
- ES2 This Consultation Report has been prepared in fulfilment of Section 37(3)(c) of the of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1). This requires the DCO application to be accompanied by a consultation report giving details of the matters specified in section 37(7).
- ES3 It explains how the Applicant has complied with the consultation requirements set out in the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (as well as the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (APFP Regulations) (Ref. 4) and Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations 2017)(Ref. 5).
- ES4 Its primary function is to provide evidence to the Planning Inspectorate about the Applicant's compliance with the requirements of the pre-application procedure and to demonstrate to people who responded to the consultation how regard has been had to their responses.
- ES5 The Applicant has conducted extensive pre-application consultation in preparing its DCO application across a period of around eighteen months. This included early engagement with stakeholders and the community to introduce the Scheme, a period of non-statutory consultation, a period of statutory consultation intended to meet the requirements set by the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), and targeted consultation in relation to changes made to the Scheme prior to the submission of a DCO application.
- ES6 Chapter 1 of this report sets out the purpose of the document, summarises the context for the consultation and provides an overview of the different stages of consultation which the Applicant carried out. It should be read alongside **Appendix A: Compliance checklist (supplementing Section 55 checklist), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- ES7 Chapter 2 summarises non-statutory consultation carried out by the Applicant in relation to the Scheme. This includes early engagement (set out in section 2.2), a period of non-statutory consultation from 3 to 30 October 2022 (set out in sections 2.3-2.9) and engagement carried out by the Applicant following the non-statutory consultation and prior to statutory consultation (set out in section 2.10). It should be read alongside **Appendix B: Non-statutory Consultation report, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- ES8 Chapter 3 sets out the consultation under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations 2017)(Ref. 5) (see section 3.1), including the context, request for scoping opinion, Section 48 compliance (duty to publicise) and consultation on the PEI Report (Ref. 9). This section is supported by **Appendix C: The Infrastructure Planning (EIA Regulations) 2017: Regulation 8(1) letter to**

Planning Inspectorate & acknowledgement, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]

- ES9** Chapter 3 sets out the process through which the Applicant developed its SoCC (**Appendix G: Published SoCC with location and date, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) (section 3.3). This includes how the Applicant developed the SoCC including through early engagement with the local authorities under s43(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (paragraphs 3.3.5 - 3.3.15), , how the Applicant consulted on the draft SoCC (paragraphs 3.3.16-3.3.18), details of local authority responses to the draft SoCC (paragraphs 3.3.19-3.3.20), the regard had by the Applicant to the responses (paragraphs 3.3.21-3.3.22), the contents of the draft SoCC (paragraphs 3.3.23-3.3.40) and details of the publication of the SoCC (paragraphs 3.3.41-3.3.46). **Table 3-5** in paragraph 3.3.49 outlines how the Applicant has complied with the SoCC (**Appendix G: Published SoCC with location and date, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) It should be read alongside **Appendix D: Copy of the draft SoCC provided to local authorities; Appendix E: Letter to local authorities for draft SoCC consultation; Appendix F: Response from local authorities on the draft SoCC; and Appendix G: Published SoCC with location and date, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- ES10** This report demonstrates that the Applicant has undertaken a consultation process which complies with the MHCLG guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015) (Ref. 2), as well as relevant advice from the Planning Inspectorate.
- ES11** Chapter 3 also reports on consultation carried out by the Applicant in fulfilment of statutory requirements over the period from 9 May to 23:59 on 20 June 2023. This includes an overview of the Statutory Consultation (section 3.2) and setting, consultation under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (sections 3.4-3.5), the notification of PINs under section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (section 3.6), consultation with the local community in accordance with the SoCC as prescribed by section 47(7) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (section 3.7), and publicity under section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (section 3.8). It should be read alongside **Appendix H: Lists of consultees identified and consulted; Appendix I: Section 42 letters and enclosures with date; Appendix J: Section 46 letter and the enclosures sent to Planning Inspectorate, Appendix K: Section 47 consultation material; Appendix L: Consultation notices; Appendix M: Promotion of consultation; and Appendix N: Promotion of consultation to elected representatives and forums, Appendix R Land Referencing methodology and questionnaires/site notices, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**. .
- ES12** Chapter 4 sets out responses to the statutory consultation and summarises the regard had to them by the Applicant. This includes responses from consultees under sections 42(1)(a), (aa)(b) 1(d) and section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1)(section 4.4). None of the consultees who responded identified themselves as specifically responding to the section 48 notice Chapter concludes with a summary of issues raised (section 4.6) and changes made to the Scheme as a result of the Statutory consultation (section 4.7) This chapter should be read alongside **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in**

- accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]..**
- ES13 Chapter 5 details engagement conducted by the Applicant following the statutory consultation and prior to the submission of the DCO application. This includes engagement with stakeholders following statutory consultation and prior to the targeted consultation discussed in Chapters 6 and 7.
- ES14 Chapter 6 details the methodology for the targeted consultation held between 1 September 2023 and 2 October 2023. The targeted consultation consulted sections 42(1)(a), (aa), (b) and selected (d) consultees of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) in relation to proposed changes to the Order limits (.). It should be read alongside **Appendix O: Targeted Consultation Appendices, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- ES15 Chapter 7 provides the results of the targeted consultation (sections 7.1-7.7), changes made to the Scheme as a result of the targeted consultation (section 7.8) and engagement between targeted consultation and the submission of the DCO application (section 7.9). It should be read alongside **Appendix Q: Tables evidencing regard had to targeted consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- ES16 Chapter 8 discusses the targeted consultation for newly identified landowners held between Wednesday 4 October 2023 to 23:59 on Friday 3 November 2023. No responses were received to the targeted consultation for newly identified landowners. It should be read alongside **Appendix S: Newly identified landowner consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- ES17 Chapter 9 concludes by confirming the Applicant's compliance with requirements and guidance for consultation (section 9.1) and a summary of the report (section 9.2)
- ES18 The Applicant considers that it has met the statutory requirements of the preapplication process. As set out in section 1.5, the Applicant has undertaken a programme of non-statutory and statutory consultation.
- ES19 At each stage, the Applicant has considered and complied with relevant advice and guidance as outlined in **Appendix A: Compliance checklist (supplementing Section 55 checklist), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- ES20 As well as preparing this report, the Applicant has set out how it has complied with guidance and advice on consultation in the **Section 55 checklist [EN010143/APP/1.4]** that is also part of the DCO application documents.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of This Document

- 1.1.1 This Consultation Report relates to East Yorkshire Solar Farm (the Scheme). In seeking the legal powers to construct, operate, maintain and decommission the Scheme, East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited, a Boom Power company (the Applicant) is making an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO application) to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (Secretary of State).
- 1.1.2 This Consultation Report sets out the Applicant's approach to stakeholder engagement and public consultation on the Scheme and explains how the Applicant has complied with the relevant guidance outlined in paragraphs 1.1.3 and 1.1.4.
- 1.1.3 The Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) requires the Applicant to undertake consultation on the Scheme before submitting its DCO application. Section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) requires the Applicant to submit a Consultation Report as part of its application.
- 1.1.4 Section 50 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) requires the Applicant to have regard to any statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State in respect of the pre-application process. As such, the Applicant has also complied with:
- a. the pre-application consultation requirements set out in the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
 - b. the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process (Ref. 2) published in March 2015 which sets out the requirements and procedures for the pre-application process and consultation for major infrastructure projects; and
 - c. the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Fourteen (2021) (Ref. 3) which states that the purpose of the Consultation Report is to explain how the Applicant has complied with the pre-application consultation requirements set down in the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1). Specifically, the Guidance notes that the Applicant should demonstrate compliance with:
 - i. The requirement to consult with prescribed consultees (Section 42);
 - ii. the requirement to consult with the community (Section 47);
 - iii. the requirement to publicise the proposed application (Section 48); and
 - iv. the requirement to have regard to consultation responses (Section 49).
 - v. the requirement to outline the non-statutory consultation that takes place outside the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).

- d. the Infrastructure Planning (Application: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the APFP Regulations) (Ref. 4);
- e. the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations) (Ref. 5);
- f. and the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Seven: Environmental Impact Assessment: Process, Preliminary Environmental Information and Environmental Statements (Ref. 6); and
- g. the Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 (Ref. 7)

1.1.5 This Consultation Report provides:

- a. An overview of the activities undertaken during the:
 - i. Non-statutory consultation between Monday 3 October and Sunday 30 October 2022 (Chapter 2); and
 - ii. Statutory consultation between Tuesday 9 May and Tuesday 20 June 2023 and later additional Statutory consultations (Chapter 3);
 - iii. Targeted consultation between Friday 1 September and Monday 2 October 2023 (Chapter 5)
 - iv. Newly identified land interest consultation (after the targeted consultation period) (Chapter 8).
- b. Specific details of the activities undertaken to comply with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), relevant secondary legislation and policies, guidance and advice published by Government and the Planning Inspectorate.
- c. A summary of the responses to the 2022 non-statutory consultation, a more detailed presentation of the feedback received in response to the 2023 statutory consultation and 2023 targeted consultation.
- d. Details of the regard given to all consultation responses, including how the development of the Scheme has been influenced by consultee feedback, how responses have been addressed, any changes made to address responses and an explanation as to why responses suggesting changes to the Scheme have not been taken forward where this is the case (these can be located in **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** for statutory consultation and **Appendix Q: Tables evidencing regard had to targeted consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** for the targeted consultation); and
- e. A summary of all supporting stakeholder engagement undertaken throughout the pre-application stage of the Scheme.

1.1.6 Copies of consultation documents, notices and materials produced for the statutory consultation and to support the non-statutory and targeted consultations are included in a series of appendices to this report.

1.2 The Applicant

- 1.2.1 The Applicant (East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited) is a wholly owned subsidiary of BOOM Developments Limited who specialise in non-subsidised solar and battery storage projects. BOOM Developments Limited was founded in 2020, and the name BOOM is an acronym for Build Own Operate Maintain. This reflects the organisation's intentions to be involved in sustainable energy projects from day one right the way through to operation.
- 1.2.2 The BOOM Managing Director and team have been responsible in previous roles for constructing more than 700 MW of solar developments in the UK between 2015 and 2017 and developing more than 850 MW of solar projects, including the UK's first NSIP solar PV project Cleve Hill which was granted a development consent order in 2020. In 2021, the UK based BOOM, partnered with the Pelion Green Future group of companies based across Australia, America and the European mainland.
- 1.2.3 BOOM is committed to making a positive and significant impact on climate change and the achievement of the UK Government's aim for a fully decarbonised, reliable and low-cost power system and net zero emissions by 2050.

1.3 The Scheme

- 1.3.1 The Scheme will comprise the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facility with a total capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW) and export connection to the national grid, at National Grid's Drax Substation.
- 1.3.2 It is expected that the Scheme will export up to 400 MW, with the capability of importing 1 MW for auxiliary supplies.
- 1.3.3 The design life of the Scheme is 40 years, with decommissioning to commence 40 years after final commissioning (currently anticipated to be 2027 to 2067).



Figure 1-1. Order limits of the Scheme

1.3.4 **Figure 1-1** shows the Order limits of the Scheme as presented in **Figure 1-2 ES Volume 3 [EN010143/APP/6.3]**.

1.3.5 As denoted by the solid red line, the Solar PV Site is located approximately 1.1 kilometres (km) northwest of Howden at the closest point, near to the villages of Wressle, Spaldington, Brind and Foggathorpe, and will contain the Solar PV Panels and associated infrastructure as well as areas of landscaping and habitat enhancement.

1.3.6 The Order limits are shown on the **Land Plan [EN010143/APP/2.1]**.

1.3.7 The Scheme will connect to National Grid’s substation at Drax (hereafter referred to as the National Grid Drax Substation), enabling the electricity generated to go directly into the national grid. The Grid Connection Corridor, within which the 132 kilovolt (kV) Grid Connection Cables will be installed linking the Scheme to the National Grid Drax Substation, is denoted by the single-dashed red line

1.3.8 The Scheme will generate approximately 400 megawatts (MW) of low-carbon electricity, enough to power around 100,000 homes and contributing to the government’s targets of reaching net-zero by the year 2050 and 70 gigawatts (GW) of solar-generated electricity by 2035.

1.3.9 The British Energy Security Strategy (Ref. 7) states that government expects a five-fold increase in solar deployment by 2035 (up to 70GW), which the Scheme will contribute to alongside other solar farms.

1.4 Consultation Context

- 1.4.1 The Scheme is located on land within the administrative areas of East Riding of Yorkshire Council and North Yorkshire Council (see **Figure 1-3**).
- 1.4.2 As part of local government reorganisation in North Yorkshire, Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council ceased to exist after 31 March 2023 and a new unitary authority, called North Yorkshire Council, came into operation on 1 April 2023. The Applicant's engagement with the local authorities has been mindful of the reorganisation and has continued with North Yorkshire Council. The Scheme's location in relation to the local authorities are shown in **Figure 1-2** and **Figure 1-3**.

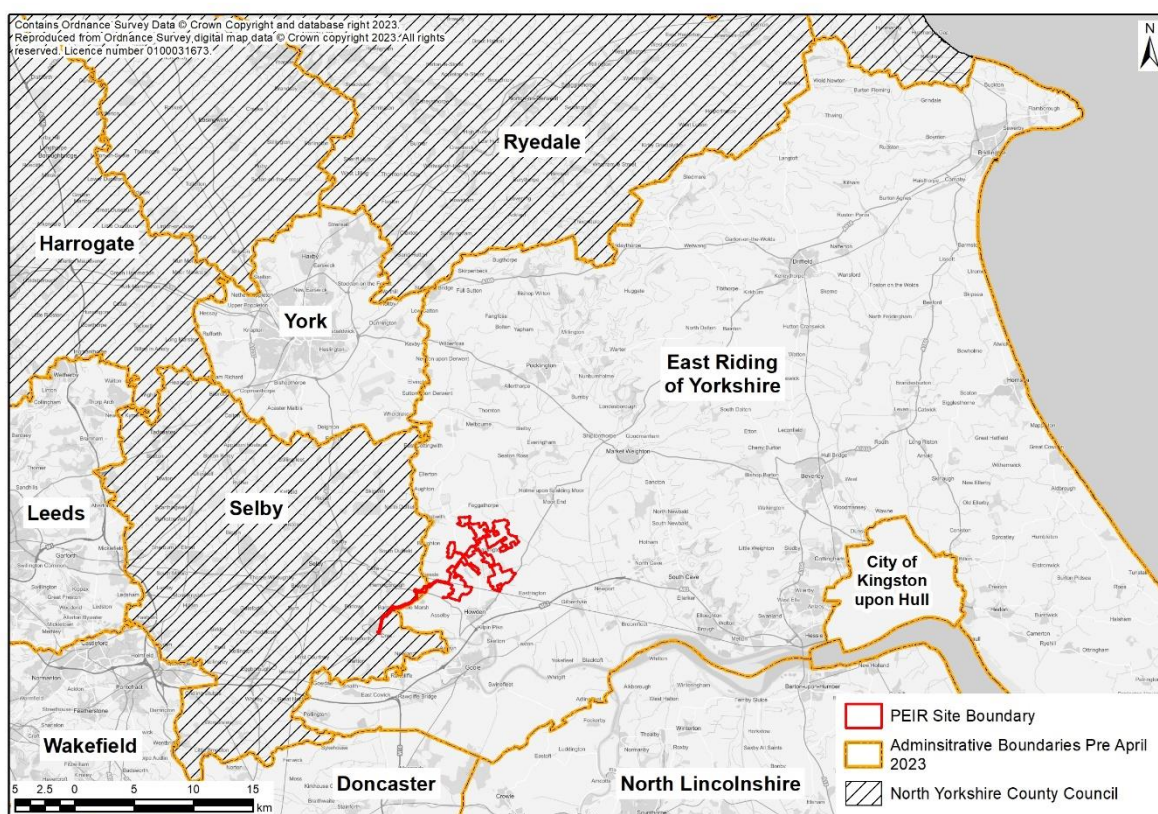


Figure 1-2. Councils in relation to the location of the Scheme prior to 31 March 2023

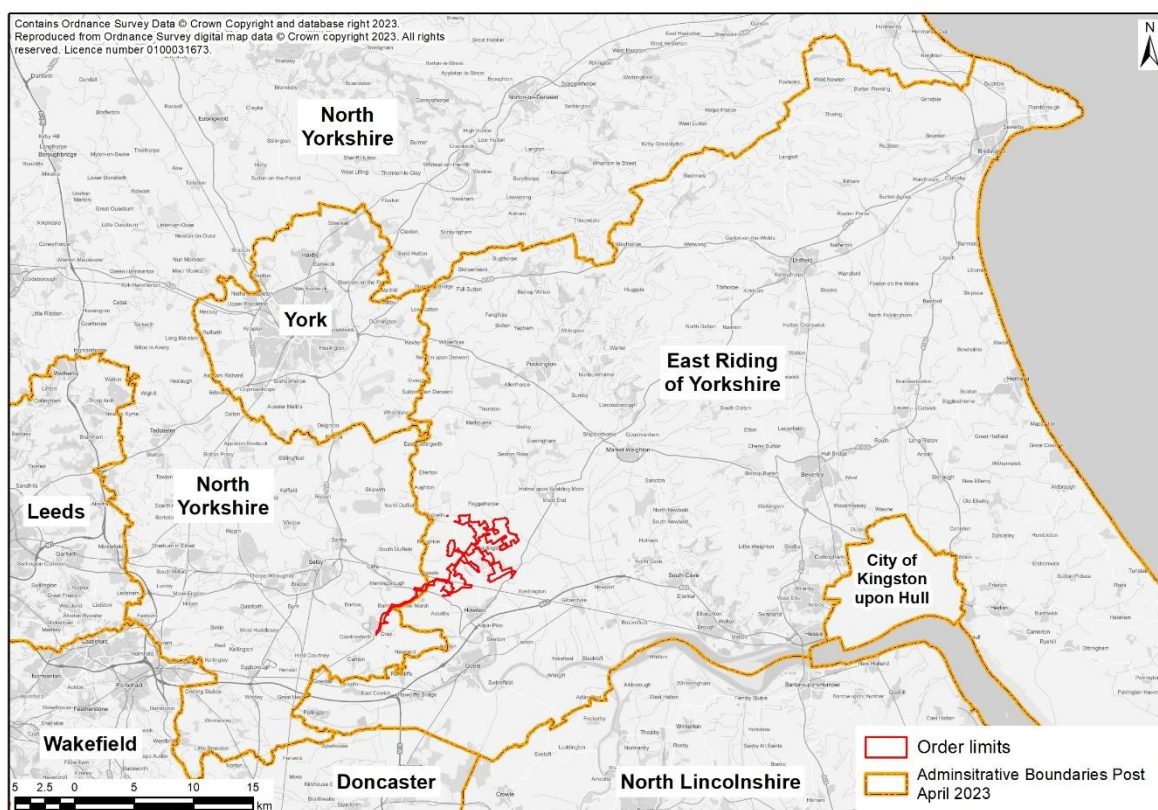


Figure 1-3. Council boundaries of North Yorkshire Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council

1.4.3 The Scheme falls within the following parishes:

- a. Bubwith;
- b. Eastrington;
- c. Foggathorpe;
- d. Hemingbrough;
- e. Long Drax;
- f. Spaldington; and
- g. Wressle.

1.4.4 Four additional parishes are close to the Scheme and have also been included in consultation:

- a. Barmby on the Marsh;
- b. Drax
- c. Holme Upon Spalding Moor; and
- d. Howden.

1.4.5 The Scheme is located on 1,276.5 hectares (ha) of agricultural land.

1.5 Summary of Consultation Activities

1.5.1 The Applicant carried out three rounds of consultation, one non statutory, the statutory consultation and a further targeted consultation. See **Table 1-1** for a summary of the consultation activities carried out.

Table 1-1. Summary of consultation activities.

Activities	Dates	Where is this presented?
Non-statutory consultation		
Initial early engagement with local authorities and elected members, site near neighbours and regional media.	May – 2 October 2022	Chapter 2, section 2.2
Non-statutory consultation (4 weeks)	Monday 3 October to Sunday 30 October 2022	Chapter 2, section 2.3
Ongoing stakeholder engagement	Monday 31 October 2022- Monday 8 May 2022	Chapter 2, section 2.10
The Statement of Community Consultation		
Informal consultation on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) with: East Riding of Yorkshire Council, North Yorkshire County Council, Selby District Council	Friday 11 November 2022 to Friday 9 December 2022	Chapter 3, section 3.3
Statutory consultation on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) with: East Riding of Yorkshire Council, North Yorkshire County Council, Selby District Council pursuant to Section 47(2) and (3) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1)	Thursday 9 February 2023 to Monday 13 March 2023	Chapter 3, section 3.3
Notice of availability of SoCC in the vicinity of the proposals as prescribed by Section 47(6) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (The Hull Daily Mail)	Thursday 27 April 2023	Chapter 3, paragraph 3.3.41
SoCC made available in vicinity of the proposal and online as prescribed by	Tuesday 9 May 2023	Chapter 3, paragraph 3.3.41

Activities	Dates	Where is this presented?
Section 47(6) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (The Hull Daily Mail)		
Statutory consultation		
Proposed application publicised as prescribed by Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (for Prescribed Consultees only)	Thursday 4 May 2023 (The Times, The Guardian, The London Gazette, The Hull Daily Mail) and Thursday 11 May 2023 (The Hull Daily Mail)	Chapter 3, paragraph 3.8.8
Notification of the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application as prescribed by Section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1)	Wednesday 3 May 2023	Chapter 3, section 3.6
Statutory consultation in accordance with the SoCC as prescribed under Section 47(7) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (six weeks)	Tuesday 9 May to Tuesday 20 June 2023	Chapter 3, paragraph 3.2.6
Consultation as prescribed under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1)	Tuesday 9 May to Tuesday 20 June 2023	Chapter 3, sections 3.3.47 and 3.5
Letters issued to consultees under Section 42 (1)(a), (b) and (d) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) notifying of consultation	Wednesday 3 May 2023	Chapter 3, section 3.5
Consultation letter issued to Section 47 consultees	Tuesday 9 May 2023	Chapter 3, paragraph 3.9.1
Consultation material available at document inspection points	Tuesday 9 May to Tuesday 20 June 2023	Chapter 3, paragraph 3.10.1
Public consultation events	Tuesday 16 May – Tuesday 13 June 2023	Chapter 3, paragraph 3.10.4
Targeted consultation		
Targeted consultation (four weeks and three days)	Friday 1 September 2023 to Monday 2 October 2023	Chapter 6, section 6.2
Letters issued to selected consultees under Section 42 (1) (d) of the Planning Act	Thursday 31 August 2023	Chapter 6, paragraph 6.3.4

Activities	Dates	Where is this presented?
2008 (Ref. 1) and regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) notifying of the targeted consultation		
Emails sent to selected consultees under Section 42 (1) (a) and (b) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) notifying of the targeted consultation	Friday 1 September 2023	Chapter 6, paragraph 6.3.4
Targeted consultation extension to 5 October granted to Yorkshire Water Services Limited; email resent to correct email address	Thursday 7 September 2023	Chapter 6, paragraph 6.3.9
Newly identified land interest consultation		
Newly identified land interest consultation (twenty-eight days)	Wednesday 4 October 2023 Friday 5 November 2023	Chapter 8, section 8.2
Letters sent to selected consultees under Section 42 (1) (d) and (b) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) notifying of consultation	Monday 2 October	Chapter 8, paragraph 8.2.9

1.6 Covering Letter and Completed Section 55 Checklist

- 1.6.1 A covering letter and section 55 checklist has been supplied as part of this application and can be found located in **Covering Letter [EN010143/APP/1.1] and Section 55 Checklist [EN010143/APP/1.4]**. The checklist outlines compliance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (EIA) 2017 (Ref. 5), APFP Regulations (Ref. 4), the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and the MHCLG pre-application guidance (Ref. 2).

2. Non-statutory consultation

2.1 Overview

- 2.1.1 **Chapter 2** outlines all engagement undertaken in advance of the statutory consultation. It provides an overview of early engagement on the Scheme, the non-statutory consultation held from Monday 3 October to Sunday 30 October 2022 at 11:59pm along with an overview of the main themes and summary of the feedback received (section 2.8) and the engagement which took place following non-statutory consultation.
- 2.1.2 This chapter is best read alongside the Non-Statutory Consultation Report, found at **Appendix B: Non-statutory Consultation report, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

2.2 Early Engagement

- 2.2.1 Engagement to support the development of the Scheme commenced in May 2022.
- 2.2.2 To support the early development of the Scheme, the Applicant engaged with the bodies listed in **Table 2-1** to arrange meetings to introduce the Scheme, create a point of contact and answer any questions. Further engagement with these stakeholders was then undertaken during the non-statutory consultation, the statutory consultation and the further targeted consultation (**Appendix B: Non-statutory Consultation report, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2], Chapter 3 and Chapter 5**).

Table 2-1. Early engagement meetings.

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
Selby District Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council	1 June 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Arrangements for initial meeting and discussion around PPA documents.
Selby District Council; East Riding of Yorkshire Council; and North Yorkshire County Council	4 July 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Introduction to Applicant and overview of proposals and current activities.
Planning Inspectorate	1 June 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Initial meeting with Planning Inspectorate to inform the Secretary of State about the forthcoming Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.

2.2.3 In the early engagement phase the Scheme description was as follows:

“The Scheme comprises the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) generating panels, associated electrical equipment, cabling and on-site energy storage facilities across a proposed site which lies between Selby and East Riding of Yorkshire (hereafter referred to as the ‘Solar PV Site’) together with grid connection infrastructure (hereafter referred to as the ‘Grid Connection Corridor’). The Scheme would allow for an anticipated export of approximately 400 megawatts (MW) electrical capacity.”

2.2.4 The Scheme plans used in these meetings are shown in **Figure 2-1** and **Figure 2-2**.

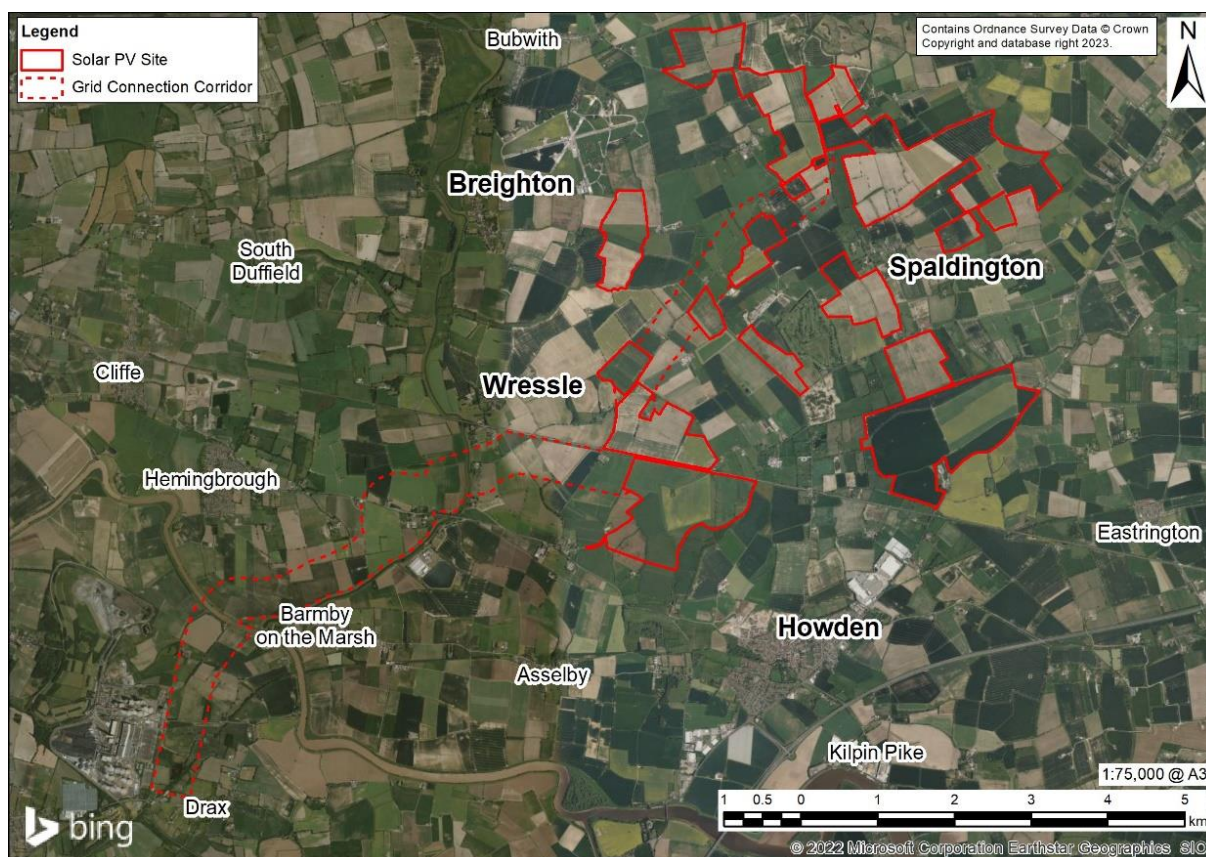


Figure 2-1. Site boundary as presented to stakeholders prior to non-statutory consultation

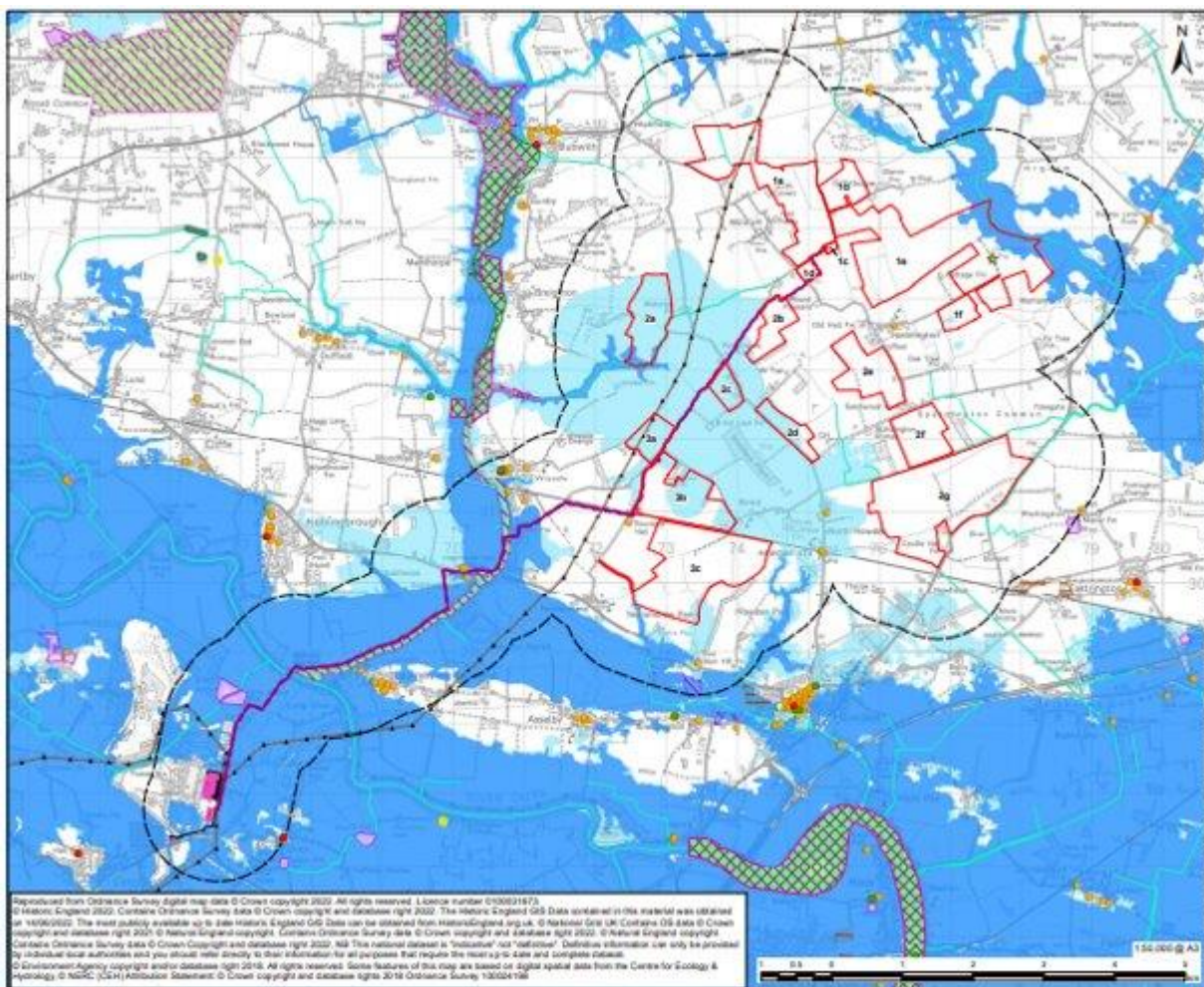


Figure 2-2. Site boundary of solar PV site and representative potential cable route with possible environmental constraints from early environmental scoping work as presented to stakeholders prior to non-statutory consultation

2.2.5 To support the early engagement period and help promote the Scheme, a press release was issued on 1 July 2022 (see **Appendix B6: Non-statutory consultation press release issued 1 July 2022, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**). This press release set out the projects NSIP status and the Applicant’s ambitions to achieve a development consent order for the project. Although it was written with a focus on the trade press it was also sent to local media outlets including the Goole Times, Hull Daily Mail, Yorkshire Post, northern correspondents at national broadsheet newspapers, local BBC and ITV news, and local BBC and independent radio stations.

2.2.6 **Table 2-2** contains a summary of the press coverage gained from the first press release.

Table 2-2. Summary of press coverage July 2022

Date	Publication	Article
1 July 2022	ReNews	UK developer unveils 400MW PV plans in Yorkshire

2.3 Approach to Consultation

- 2.3.1 A non-statutory consultation was held for four weeks, from Monday 3 October to 11:59pm on Sunday 30 October 2022.
- 2.3.2 The purpose of the non-statutory consultation was to seek the views of the local authorities, local community, landowners, local businesses and interest groups, and technical stakeholders on the proposals for the Scheme. The materials provided included the layout of the solar panels and the Grid Connection Corridor and the approach to EIA.
- 2.3.3 The Applicant set out a clear intention that the feedback received would help refine the Scheme proposals.
- 2.3.4 Two in person drop in events were supported by two online webinars to ensure that the plans were accessible to everyone who may have an interest in the Scheme.
- 2.3.5 The Scheme was described in the non-statutory consultation brochure as:
“The solar farm will have an anticipated export of approximately 400 megawatts of electricity helping to meet the country’s demand for low carbon energy and contributing to Government’s target of net zero by 2050. The solar farm will connect to National Grid Drax Substation, enabling the electric[sic] to go directly into the National Grid.”
- 2.3.6 The information presented by the Applicant at the consultation, which views and feedback were sought on included:
- The project and its chosen location;
 - The project benefits;
 - The project components including, solar PV modules, energy storage, inverter, switch gear, transformer, substation and security;
 - Design;
 - Impact and mitigations including during construction and operation; and
 - Climate change and ecology.

2.4 Notification and Publicity

- 2.4.1 A number of communications were issued to promote the scheme and advertise the non-statutory consultation, these are summarised in **Table 2-3** below. More information can be found in the Non-Statutory Consultation Report (**Appendix B: Non-statutory Consultation report, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

Table 2-3. Summary of communications issued to support the non-statutory consultation

Contact method	Stakeholder contacted	Date issued	Content
Email	Local Authority Leaders Rt. Hon. Nigel Adams (MP)	23 September 2022	Details of the two in person consultation events, the two

Contact method	Stakeholder contacted	Date issued	Content
	Rt. Hon. David Davis (MP)		virtual webinars, a link to the Scheme webpage and directions to the consultation booklet and response form and timescales for statutory consultation and DCO submission.
Email	Local Authority Leaders Ward Councillors Parish Councils Business groups Interest groups	29 September 2022	Consultation launch notification
Mail out	Consultation mailing zone	29 September 2022 (to land on or before 3 October 2022)	Consultation brochure including tear out response form
Social media	All interested parties	Throughout the consultation period	Link to webpage and information about consultation events
Scheme webpage	All interested parties	Throughout the consultation period	All consultation materials were made available
Press release	All interested parties	29 September 2022	Consultation launch announcement
Radio interview	BBC Radio Humberside	29 September 2022	Consultation launch announcement

2.5 Consultation Materials and Events

2.5.1 The following consultation materials were produced to support the non-statutory consultation:

- a. Consultation brochure with tear out response form
- b. Consultation display boards

2.5.2 To support the consultation, four events were held. The details of which can be found in **Table 2-4** below. More information on the format of these events

can be found at **Appendix B: Non-statutory Consultation report, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

Table 2-4. Non-statutory consultation events

Date	Time	Location	Attendees
Wednesday 5 October 2022	2pm to 8pm	Boothferry Golf Course	90
Tuesday 11 October 2022	7pm to 8pm	Microsoft Teams	1
Thursday 13 October 2022	2.30pm to 8pm	Howden Shire Hall	88
Wednesday 19 October 2022	6pm to 7pm	Microsoft Teams	6
Total			185

2.5.3 In addition to the events above, meetings were also arranged by request with key stakeholders which are listed in **Table 2-5** below.

Table 2-5. Stakeholder meetings to support non-statutory consultation

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
Selby District Council East Riding of Yorkshire Council North Yorkshire County Council	18 October 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Programme update including key milestones and design work. Update on current and upcoming consultation activities and initial feedback arising from the non-statutory consultation. Update regarding environmental baseline work and surveys being undertaken. Planning policy update.
Rt Hon David Davis, MP for Haltemprice & Howden	18 October 2022	In-person meeting	Introduction to the Scheme Update on current and upcoming consultation activities

2.6 Feedback Mechanisms

2.6.1 Consultees were invited to share their feedback via several channels:

- a. Feedback form (online and hard copy)
- b. Freepost (FREEPOST EAST YORKSHIRE SOLAR FARM)
- c. Project email (eastyorkshiresolarfarm@boom-power.co.uk)

2.6.2 Members of the public could also contact the Applicant with any queries using the methods above or via telephone 01964 782219 (open Monday–Friday 9–5pm, voicemail could be left at any time).

2.6.3 All enquiries received during the consultation period were responded to.

2.7 Consultation Outcomes

- 2.7.1 In total 193¹ responses were received in response to the non-statutory consultation, these were submitted in the following formats:
- a. 79 online response forms were completed;
 - b. nine hardcopy response forms were received via post;
 - c. 104 freeform email responses were received; and
 - d. One telephone call (transcribed)².
- 2.7.2 More information on who took part can be found at **Appendix B: Non-statutory Consultation report, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

2.8 Issues Raised

- 2.8.1 The following issues were raised in the feedback received, for more detail on these including the Applicant's feedback/response please see **section 2.9** below.
- a. Loss of agricultural land
 - b. Wildlife/environment
 - c. Visual impacts
 - d. Local character
 - e. Size/height
 - f. Existing infrastructure/traffic concerns
 - g. Rooftop solar
 - h. Impact on footpaths/bridleways
 - i. Proximity to residential properties
 - j. Brownfield solar
 - k. House prices
 - l. Alternative locations
 - m. Gribthorpe
 - n. Health and safety
 - o. Other developments in the area
 - p. Management of land
 - q. Consultation
 - r. Construction impacts
 - s. Opposition to solar power

¹ Please note the number of responses noted in the Statutory Consultation Brochure is 194, however the correct figure is 193.

² While other phone calls were received during the non-statutory consultation period this specific one was counted as a consultation response as this was requested by the respondent.

- t. Spaldington
- u. Return to natural landscape
- v. Operational impacts
- w. Community fund
- x. Flooding

2.9 Changes Made Since Non-Statutory Consultation

- 2.9.1 All comments provided in the non-statutory consultation responses were taken into consideration in the process of updating the Scheme design further.
- 2.9.2 A summary of changes suggested by the respondents and the Applicant's responses to these queries is presented in Table 2-6 below.
- 2.9.3 Table 2-6 below considers responses received across all response methods.

Table 2-6. Feedback comments at non-statutory consultation and the Applicant response

Feedback comments	How the Applicant considered feedback/response
The Scheme is too large	A total land area of 1,445 hectares (3,570 acres) has been identified for the Scheme, however not all the land will be used for solar PV panels and associated equipment. Additional land will be used for environmental mitigation in the form of separation buffers, planting and screening, and to address through design any flood risk and archaeological issues that which may be encountered.
Proximity to residential properties.	Buffer zones and screening planting were integrated into the site layout to provide separation between the nearest properties and the solar farm. Existing hedgerows will be retained to act as site boundaries. Additional environmental screening will be provided through planting of native shrubs and trees.
The fencing will be too high and will create a sense of being trapped.	Deer-proof fencing will be erected at a height of up to 2.2 m to the perimeter of the solar panels fields. The fencing is a mesh style fence with wooden posts and will have minimal disruption on views across the landscape.
Solar panels will be too high, blocking views of the local landscape.	During the non-statutory consultation, it stated that panels may be up to 4.8 m in height. Since the non-statutory consultation our design has evolved, and will now use tracker PV panels, which at maximum tilt, will be 3.5 m high. Panels only reach this height at sunrise and sunset, for the majority of the day, they will be lower than 3.5 m in height. At night, the panels are stored horizontally, at a height of approximately 2.3 m.

Feedback comments	How the Applicant considered feedback/response
Proximity of the site to Public Rights of Way and footpaths will cut off access and ruin the views from the paths.	<p>The solar farm has been designed to allow a minimum buffer zone of at least 20 m between the centreline of the Public Rights of Way and the boundary fencing where the panels are both sides of the public right of way, and 15 m where the panels are on one side. Any fencing installed along public rights of way will be of a clear mesh, maintaining uninterrupted views.</p> <p>The design of the Scheme includes the creation of new permissive paths which will increase access options, enhancing connectivity and maintaining views of the local landscape.</p>
The Scheme is taking valuable agricultural land out of production.	<p>Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) is a system used to grade the quality of land for agricultural farming, with grade 1 being the very best through to grade 5 being very poor agricultural land. The majority of the land in the area covered by the Scheme is grade 4 (poor quality), with a few smaller areas falling into grades 2 (very good quality), 3a (good quality) and 3b (moderate quality).</p> <p>Mapping undertaken by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) showed the provisional land classification for the area covered by the Scheme, however the Applicant has carried out soil sampling throughout the identified land and map the ALC grade distribution throughout the solar PV site more accurately. Based on the results, the design has been refined to avoid placing any 'hard standing' or fixed structures on higher grade land where possible.</p>
Wildlife will be unable to roam freely, with habitats and breeding grounds lost.	<p>The solar farm has been designed to protect habitats and minimise the environmental impact. Specifically, the design introduces three types of wildlife habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grassland habitat zones – sensitive planting of native grasses will enhance existing grasslands, protecting and enhancing habitats for animals, insects and birds.• Woodland habitat zones – sensitive planting of native trees and shrubs will be used to complement existing woodland, enhance existing hedgerows and provide screening.• An Ecology Mitigation Area will be provided which is an area of land in the north-east of the to be managed to provide good quality habitat for overwintering and migratory bird species, mitigating the loss of functionally linked land elsewhere in the Site.
The Scheme will increase flood risk in the area.	<p>Just over half of the land identified will be used for the solar PV areas and associated equipment. This provides flexibility in the design of the Scheme to address any flood risk encountered during construction. The presence of the solar farm will not increase the local flood risk. Drainage</p>

Feedback comments How the Applicant considered feedback/response

will be designed to mimic the natural drainage conditions within the site and thereby avoid impact on the flow in receiving surface water features.

Available land identified by landowners with few constraints and adjacent to the Solar PV Site

Additional land, areas 1g and 1h (see **Figure 2-3**) were incorporated into the Scheme. This additional land provides flexibility for designing the single axis tracker solar PV arrangement and for providing ecological and archaeological mitigation areas that may be needed but at the time were not yet known due to ongoing surveys.

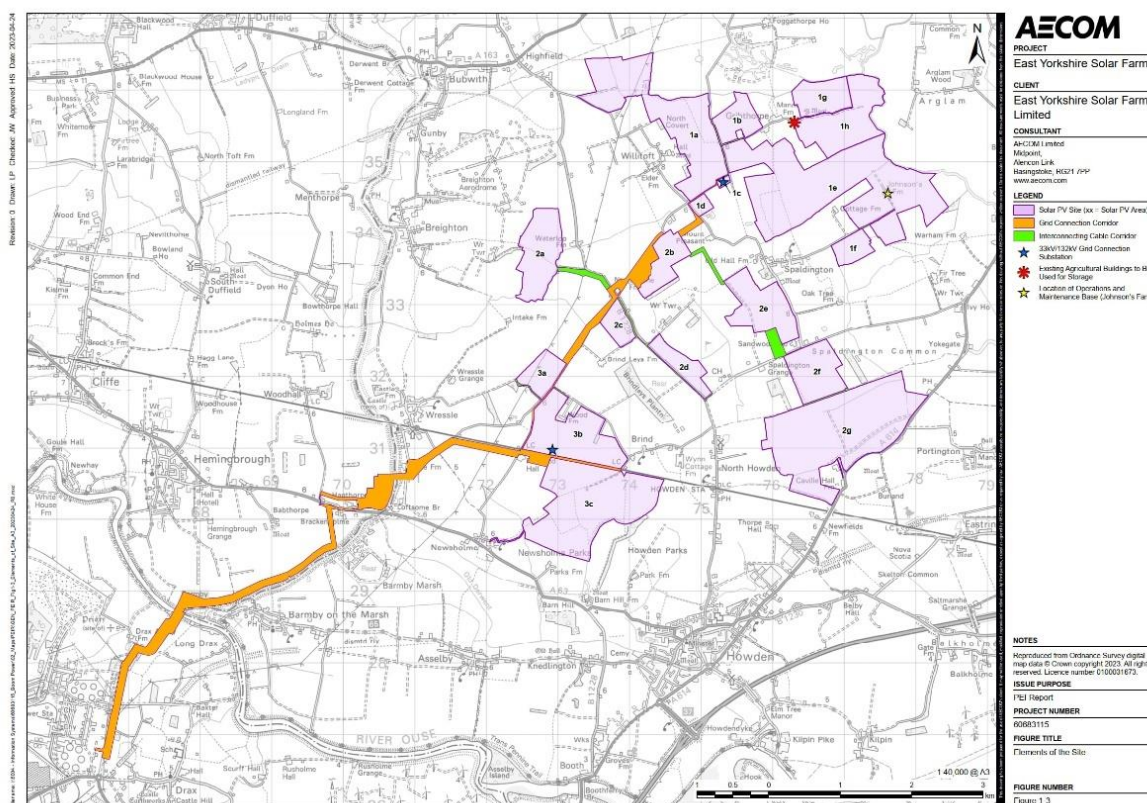


Figure 2-3. Site boundary following the addition of fields 1g and 1h

2.10 Ongoing Engagement (Prior to Statutory Consultation)

- 2.10.1 Prior to statutory consultation, the Applicant engaged with various stakeholders to support the development of the Scheme.
- 2.10.2 The following stakeholders were emailed on 31 January 2023 to update them on the Scheme and anticipated statutory consultation date:
 - a. Barmby-on-the-Marsh Parish Council;
 - b. Bubwith Parish Council;
 - c. Drax Parish Council;
 - d. Eastrington Parish Council;

- e. Foggathorpe Parish Council;
- f. Hemingbrough Parish Council;
- g. Howden Town Council;
- h. Long Drax Parish Council;
- i. Newland Parish Council;
- j. Spaldington Parish Council;
- k. Wressle Parish Council;
- l. North Yorkshire Council;
- m. Selby District Council;
- n. East Riding of Yorkshire Council;
- o. Rt Hon Nigel Adams MP; and Rt Hon David Davis MP.

2.10.3 Details of specific meetings and engagement activity which took place with a range of stakeholders in the lead up to the statutory consultation period are included in **Table 2-7**.

Table 2-7. Ongoing engagement with prescribed bodies between non-statutory consultation and statutory consultation

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
Friends of Lower Derwent Valley Conservation Trust (FLDVCT)	4 November 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting to introduce FLDVCT and East Yorkshire Solar Farm Ltd. And investigate the potential for FLDVCT's involvement in the management of Environmental Mitigation for the Scheme and provision of materials such as local source wildflower seed.
Planning Inspectorate	11 November 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting to discuss non-statutory consultation feedback and approaches to consultation. Programme update.
Network Rail	7 December 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Discussion on easement under railway.
Bubwith Parish Council Eastrington Parish Council Foggathorpe Parish Council Howden Town Council	7 December 2022	In person meeting hosted at Howden Town Hall. David Davis MP and Nigel Adams MP invited in addition to Parish Council representatives from:	Question and answer sessions for Parish Councils.

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
Spaldington Parish Council		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barmby-on-the-marsh • Bubwith • Drax • Eastrington • Foggathorpe • Hemingbrough • Howden • Long Drax • Spaldington • Wressle <p>Six people attended, representing five parish councils</p>	
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	12 December 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Public protection and public health – Health assessment methodology and initial baseline findings.
North Yorkshire County Council Selby District Council	15 December 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Public protection and public health – Health assessment methodology and initial baseline findings.
North Yorkshire County Council Selby District Council East Riding of Yorkshire Council	15 December 2022	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Consultation, SoCC, and design progress update.
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	11 January 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Presented slides on the Scheme, health methodology and baseline.
Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID)	18 January 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Presented slides on the Scheme, health methodology and baseline.
Network Rail	18 January 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Discussions regarding the business clearance process starting on the easement under railway. Details were

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
			shared of contacts for Section 42 letters.
Planning Inspectorate	25 January 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Programme update and update on plan for statutory consultation including anticipated date. Design, land, and environment updates.
East Riding of Yorkshire Council Environment Agency (EA)	3 February 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting with council flood team and EA to discuss impact on flood risk and climate change expectations.
Selby District Council East Riding of Yorkshire Council	9 February 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Update on consultation and SoCC. Design and environmental assessment update.
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	28 February 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting with Public Right of Way and Public Health teams to discuss proposed management of PRow during construction and operation, outdated PRow records, and proposed Permissive Path routes.
Environment Agency Yorkshire & Humber Drainage Internal Drainage Board East Riding of Yorkshire Council North Yorkshire County Council	15 March 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting to discuss the water environment baseline, water receptor importance clarification, and the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report Non-technical summary (Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) and scoping opinion. Ecological enhancement was also discussed.
North Yorkshire County Council Ouse and Derwent Internal Drainage Board	16 March 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting to discuss the water environment baseline, water receptor importance clarification, and PEI Report (Ref. 9)

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
			summary and scoping opinion. Ecological enhancement was also discussed.
Enso Energy	28 March 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting to discuss the work proposed around Drax as the Helios project (promoted by Enso energy) is also in that area. Discussed mutually keeping informed and a Statement of Common Ground.

2.10.4 On 14 November 2022, the Applicant was made aware of a special interest group representing local residents in opposition to the Scheme called Villagers Against Solar Threat (VAST). On 21 November 2022, the Applicant offered to meet with the group however the offer was declined.

3. Statutory Consultation

3.1 EIA Regulation Consultation

Context

- 3.1.1 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is the process of identifying, evaluating, and mitigating the likely significant environmental effects of a scheme or project.
- 3.1.2 The Scheme qualifies for mandatory EIA as it falls within the relevant thresholds of Regulation 4(1) and Schedule 2 paragraph 3(a) of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5). An EIA development requires an Environmental Statement (ES) to be submitted alongside the DCO application.
- 3.1.3 A summary of how the Applicant has fulfilled its statutory obligations in relation to carrying out consultation, publication and notification on the DCO application as required under the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5), is set out in this section.

Request for Scoping Opinion

- 3.1.4 The Applicant developed the EIA Scoping Report (**Appendix 1-1: EIA Scoping Report of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**) based on the Applicant's experience working on a number of other solar farm projects.
- 3.1.5 The Applicant submitted the EIA Scoping Report (**Appendix 1-1: EIA Scoping Report of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**) to the Planning Inspectorate on 9 September 2022 (**Appendix C: The Infrastructure Planning (EIA Regulations) 2017: Regulation 8(1) letter to Planning Inspectorate & acknowledgement, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) setting out the initial details of the Scheme and the proposed scope of the surveys and assessments to be undertaken during the EIA process.
- 3.1.6 A formal request for a Scoping Opinion was made to the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, as part of the written notification sent on 9 September 2022. This was made under Regulation 10(1) of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) and requested a written opinion with regard to the information required for inclusion within the **ES Volume 1 [EN010143/APP/6.1]**.
- 3.1.7 The Applicant also notified the Secretary of State under Regulation 8(1)(b) that they propose to provide an ES in respect of the Proposed Development, and by virtue of Regulation 6(2)(a) the Proposed Development is 'EIA development'.
- 3.1.8 The Scoping Report (**Appendix 1-1: EIA Scoping Report of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**) containing the information required under Regulation 10(3) of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) was submitted as part of the request. The Scoping Report (**Appendix 1-1: EIA Scoping Report of the ES**

[EN010143/APP/6.2]) accordingly provided, together with other information the Applicant thought relevant to the scoping exercise:

- a. A plan sufficient to identify the land;
- b. A description of the Scheme, including its location and technical capacity
- c. An explanation of the likely significant effects of the Scheme on the environment; and
- d. other information where necessary.

- 3.1.9 The Scoping Report (**Appendix 1-1: EIA Scoping Report of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**) also described the initial studies on the baseline environment and reported the surveys undertaken so far.
- 3.1.10 In accordance with Regulation 10(6) of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5), the Planning Inspectorate consulted the consultation bodies defined in Regulation 3(1) of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) prior to adopting its Scoping Opinion (**Appendix 1-2: EIA Scoping Opinion of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**). These bodies, as presented in Tables 1, 2 and 3 of the Regulation 11(1)(a) list included in **Appendix 1 of the EIA Scoping Opinion of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**, were notified under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) of the duty imposed on them to make information available to the Applicant relevant to the preparation of **ES Volume 1 [EN010143/APP/6.1]** for the Scheme.
- 3.1.11 The contents of the Scoping Report (**Appendix 1-1: EIA Scoping Report of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**) helped to inform the Scoping Opinion (**Appendix 1-2: EIA Scoping Opinion of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**), which was received on 20 October 2022 via email (see **Appendix C: The Infrastructure Planning (EIA Regulations) 2017: Regulation 8(1) letter to Planning Inspectorate & acknowledgement, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).
- 3.1.12 Appendix 1 of the Scoping Opinion (**Appendix 1-2: EIA Scoping Opinion of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**) provides a list of all bodies and organisations formally consulted as part of the preparation of the Scoping Opinion, and Appendix 2 of the Scoping Opinion (**Appendix 1-2: EIA Scoping Opinion of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**) provides copies of the responses of the consultees that responded within the statutory 28-day period. Late submissions were also received from ESP Utilities Group Ltd (11 October 2022) and the Forestry Commission (18 October 2022).
- 3.1.13 The EIA has been carried out in accordance with the content of the Scoping Opinion (**Appendix 1-2: EIA Scoping Opinion of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]**), the outcomes of which are reported within the **ES Volume 1 [EN010143/APP/6.1]**.
- 3.1.14 The **ES Volume 1 [EN010143/APP/6.1]** also identifies where issues raised by statutory consultees in the consultation responses contained within the Scoping Opinion have been considered and addressed as part of the EIA process. This information is held in **Appendix 1-3: Scoping Opinion Response of the ES Volume 2 [EN010143/APP/6.2]**.

Section 48 (Publicity) under the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1)

- 3.1.15 Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) states that where the proposed application for an order granting development consent is an application for EIA development, the applicant must, at the same time as publishing notice of the proposed application under Section 48(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), send a copy of that notice to the consultation bodies and to any person notified to the applicant by the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Regulation 11(1)(c).
- 3.1.16 In accordance with Regulation. 13, the Applicant sent a Section 48 notice to the consultation bodies on 3 May 2023 (a template of the letters sent with the notice are included in **Appendix I1: Section 42 (1)(a) letter; Appendix I2: Section 42 (1)(aa) letter; Appendix I3: Section 42 (1)(b) letter; and Appendix I4: Section 42 (1)(d) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**). A copy of the Section 48 notice can be found in **Appendix L1: Copy of Section 48 notice as included in Section 42(1) consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 3.1.17 Compliance with Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) is discussed further in section 3.8.

Consultation on the PEI Report (Ref. 9)

- 3.1.18 Under Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5), the applicant is required to set out in its SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) how it intends to publicise and consult on preliminary environmental information relating to the proposed development. Regulation 12 defines preliminary environmental information as being the information referred to in Regulation 14(2) which “has been compiled by the applicant; and is reasonably required for the consultation bodies to develop an informed view of the likely significant effects of the development (and of any associated development)”. This information was compiled by the Applicant into a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) (Ref. 9) and a Non-technical summary (**Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).
- 3.1.19 Regulations 12 and 14, and Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) set out the information which is to be included in the PEI Report (Ref. 9). Regulation 12(2) provides that “preliminary environmental information” means information referred to in Regulation 14(2) (as reproduced in **Table 3-1** below). In accordance with Regulation 12(2)(b), the PEI Report (Ref. 9) presented information which “is reasonably required for the consultation bodies to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the development (and of any associated development)”. **Table 3-1** identifies where the information defined by Regulation 14(2) could be found within the PEI Report (Ref. 9).
- 3.1.20 The PEI Report (Ref. 9) was published on 9 May 2023 as part of the statutory consultation process and presented the preliminary findings of the assessment of potential significant environmental effects of the Scheme at that time.
- 3.1.21 The feedback received from consultees during the statutory consultation period has been used to inform the EIA and the Scheme design. Where

relevant, technical chapters within the **ES Volume 1 [EN010143/APP/6.1]** detail how stakeholder engagement from the consultation process has been used to inform the development of the Scheme design on which the EIA has been undertaken.

Table 3-1. Location of information in the PEI Report (Ref. 9) which demonstrates compliance with EIA Regulation 14(2) (Ref. 5)

Specified information	Location within the PEI Report (Ref. 9)
A description of the proposed development comprising information on the site, design, size and other relevant features of the development;	Chapter 2: The Scheme, Volume 2
A description of the likely significant effects of the proposed development on the environment;	Chapters 6 to 16, Volume 2
A description of any features of the proposed development, or measures envisaged in order to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment;	Chapters 6 to 16, Volume 2
A description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the applicant, which are relevant to the proposed development and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the development on the environment;	Chapter 3: Alternatives and Design Evolution, Volume 2
A non-technical summary of the information referred to above; and	Non-Technical Summary, Volume 1
Any additional information specified in Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) relevant to the specific characteristics of the particular development or type of development and to the environmental features likely to be significantly affected.	Chapters 1 to 16, Volume 2

3.1.22 A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEI Report (**Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) was also prepared, which was written in non-technical language to aid people's understanding. A summary of the preliminary environmental information was also included in the statutory consultation booklet (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

3.1.23 The statutory consultation ran from Tuesday 9 May to 23:59 on Tuesday 20 June 2023, providing an opportunity for statutory consultees, the local

community and the wider public to review and provide comments on the Scheme and the information provided in the PEI Report (Ref. 9). Further details on how statutory consultees were consulted can be found in section 3.5.

- 3.1.24 On 3 May 2023, the Applicant sent all statutory consultees (Section 42(1)(a), Section 42(1)(aa), Section 42(1)(b) and those identified as Section 42(1)(d) consultees) a copy of the Section 48 notice (**Appendix L1: Copy of Section 48 notice as included in Section 42(1) consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**), enclosed within a letter notifying them of the consultation (see paragraphs 3.5.1–3.5.4), pursuant to Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5). In addition, email copies of the same letter, and Section 48 were sent via email on 9 May 2023 where applicable.
- 3.1.25 Chapter 4 and **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** summarise the matters raised by respondents to the statutory consultation, including those related to the PEI Report (Ref. 9).
- 3.1.26 Further details of the engagement undertaken with the consultation bodies defined in Regulation 3(1) of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) with regard to the development of each chapter of the EIA assessment are summarised in Chapters 6 to 16 of the **ES Volume 1 [EN010143/APP/6.1]**. This detail can be found within the consultation subsection of the Assessment Methodology section of each chapter.

3.2 Overview of Statutory Consultation

- 3.2.1 The purpose of the statutory consultation was to provide information to the local community, affected stakeholders and anyone with an interest in the Scheme and give them an opportunity to comment on the proposals at that stage. The consultation provided an opportunity for consultees to share their feedback on a more refined layout for the solar farm and route for the cable to the National Grid Drax Substation compared to what was shared during the non-statutory consultation. It enabled those interested to find out more detailed information on the plans. The statutory consultation continued to build awareness of the Scheme among the local community. The Applicant also provided an update on the progress made since the non-statutory consultation and how the Scheme has been developed.
- 3.2.2 The consultation sought feedback on the preliminary environmental information which had been compiled for the Scheme outlined in section 3.1.
- 3.2.3 The Grid Connection Corridor was refined (narrowed) between Scoping and Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report. The Applicant initially identified a 500 m wide Grid Connection Corridor. This was presented at the EIA Scoping Stage and Non-Statutory Consultation Stage and is shown in Figure 3-1, PEI Report Volume 3 (Ref. 9). After EIA Scoping and the Non-Statutory Consultation, the Grid Connection Corridor was refined from a 500 m wide corridor to an approximately 100 m wide corridor which was widened and narrowed as required to avoid sensitive receptors. This was based on environmental surveys, engineering and construction requirements as well as land constraints.

The Scheme

- 3.2.4 The Scheme as presented in the statutory consultation booklet (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) is described as:

“...a new solar farm with energy storage, known as East Yorkshire Solar Farm, situated between the villages of Gribthorpe, Spaldington and Wressle, and the town of Howden (the Scheme). The Scheme will generate approximately 400 megawatts (MW) of low-carbon electricity, enough to power around 100,000 homes and contributing to the government’s targets of reaching net-zero by the year 2050 and 70 gigawatts of solar generated electricity by 2035. The Scheme comprises solar photovoltaic (PV) panels; batteries to store some of the energy generated so that it can be released to meet peaks in demand; underground cabling between the areas of panels and the National Grid’s substation at Drax; areas of landscaping and biodiversity enhancement; and associated infrastructure. The land required for the Scheme (including the cable routes) covers an area of approximately 1,445 hectares.”

- 3.2.5 The Scheme was described in the following way in the PEI Report (Ref. 9):

“The Scheme will comprise the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of solar PV panels, BESS, and associated infrastructure. The BESS will be decentralised, with units located throughout the Solar PV Site rather than within a single compound. This arrangement is better suited to storing (and exporting) surplus energy produced by the solar farm (as opposed to if it were designed to import electricity from the grid). Subject to obtaining the necessary consents, construction is anticipated to commence in 2025, with a target of being completed ready for operation in 2027.

The Site comprises approximately 1,445 ha of land for solar PV, battery storage (BESS), a grid connection and associated infrastructure, along with landscaping and biodiversity measures. The Site is comprised of:

- a. *The Solar PV Site is approximately 1,275 ha in area. It is centred on approximate National Grid Reference SE 74632 33417 and comprises 18 Solar PV Areas that will contain the ground mounted solar PV panels and associated infrastructure, BESS, two Grid Connection Substations, and associated development. The Solar PV Site/Solar PV Areas will also incorporate areas of habitat creation/enhancement and landscaping;*
- b. *The Grid Connection Corridor describes the area outside of the Solar PV Site within which the 132 kilovolt (kV) Grid Connection Cables linking the Grid Connection Substations to National Grid’s Drax Substation (approximately 6.2 km south-west of the Solar PV Site) will be installed; and*
- c. *The Interconnecting Cable Corridor describes the area outside of the Solar PV Site and Grid Connection Corridor within which the 33 kV cables linking the Solar PV Areas to the Grid Connection Substations will be installed.*

At the closest point, the boundary of the Solar PV Site is located 1.1 kilometres (km) north-west of new residential developments in Howden and approximately 1.3 km west of the villages of Brighton and Wressle. The closest properties in Gribthorpe, Spaldington and Brind are approximately 20 metres (m) from Site Boundary, whilst the closest properties in Willitoft are approximately 120 m from the Site Boundary. Due to the provision of buffers, and land for landscaping and habitat enhancement, the actual distance of separation between residences and solar PV infrastructure will be greater than this.

The design life of the Scheme is expected to be at least 40 years, although it could be longer than this depending on the condition of equipment. If granted, the DCO will therefore not specify a decommissioning date for the Scheme.”

Timeline of the Statutory Consultation

- 3.2.6 The statutory consultation for the Scheme ran for a period of six weeks in Spring 2023, from 9 May to 23:59 on 20 June 2023. This provided a period in excess of the statutory minimum of 28 days to ensure that any instances of Section 42 letters being returned to the Applicant could be reissued within the statutory consultation period, thereby limiting the need to offer extensions after this period. The longer consultation period also ensured that consultees had sufficient time to understand and respond to the proposals.

3.3 The Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

Statutory Requirements and Guidance for Development of the SoCC

- 3.3.1 The Applicant's approach to the statutory consultation with the local community started with the preparation of a draft SoCC. The content of the SoCC was developed in accordance with the requirements set out by:
- a. Section 47(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) which outlines East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited's duty (as Applicant) to 'prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult about the proposed application with people living in the vicinity of the land';
 - b. Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5);
 - c. DCLG guidance on the pre-application process (Ref. 2) required by Section 50(3) of the Act, as last updated in March 2015; and
 - d. the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Fourteen: Compiling the Consultation Report, Version 3 (February 2021) (Ref. 3).
- 3.3.2 As required by Section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), the SoCC has been prepared in consultation with those relevant local authorities whose administrative area the Scheme lies within, as defined by Section 43(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).

Development of the SoCC

- 3.3.3 In accordance with Section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), the Applicant consulted all of the Section 43(1) local authorities on the proposed methods set out in the SoCC for consulting people living in the vicinity of the

Scheme (see paragraph 3.4.9). This took place through initial informal engagement on the draft SoCC and formal engagement on the final SoCC.

- 3.3.4 Analysis of the feedback received as part of the development of the non-statutory consultation was used to inform the development of the SoCC and to improve the approach to the statutory consultation, in particular by:
- a. Increasing the number of in-person consultation events, as these were well attended;
 - b. Increasing and widening publicity ahead of the statutory consultation in order to encourage more engagement and responses; and
 - c. Offering briefings for stakeholders, including MPs, local authorities, ward councillors, and parish councillors, ahead of the statutory consultation.

Informal Consultation on the Draft SoCC

- 3.3.5 The Applicant engaged informally with local authorities during the development of the SoCC. Holding an informal consultation while the SoCC is still in development allowed the applicant to incorporate feedback and guidance from the local authorities before formal consultation.
- 3.3.6 The informal engagement on the draft SoCC ran from 11 November 2022 to 9 December 2022. The local authorities consulted were:
- a. East Riding of Yorkshire Council;
 - b. North Yorkshire County Council; and
 - c. Selby District Council.
- 3.3.7 See **Figure 1-2** which demonstrates the location of the Scheme in relation to the local authorities and therefore demonstrates they are the relevant authorities as defined by Section 43(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
- 3.3.8 The early comments received through the informal consultation were considered by the Applicant in the continued development of the SoCC. Feedback was received from Selby District Council which is outlined in **Table 3-2** as well as a summary of how the Scheme responded to the feedback received.

Table 3-2. Feedback received from Selby District Council during informal consultation on the SoCC.

Local Authority comment	Scheme response
a. The suggestion of considering the Pontefract & Castleford Express for publishing statutory notices	Pontefract & Castleford Express was added to the list of potential publications for publishing statutory notices [see Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2] paragraph 4.11]
b. A request for more information about lessons learned from the non-statutory consultation	A new section on learnings from the informal consultation was included in the updated SoCC (see Appendix G1:

Local Authority comment

Scheme response

	<p>Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2], section 1.5)</p>
<p>c. Confirmation of the District Council's wards covered by the Scheme</p>	<p>The SoCC (Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) was updated to confirm Selby District Council wards of Derwent and Camblesforth & Carlton were covered by the scheme;</p>
<p>A request that the local MP, ward councillors and parish councils in the Selby District be offered briefings on the Scheme</p>	<p>Selby Councillors representing the Derwent and Camblesforth & Carlton wards were added to the list of consultees (see Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2], paragraph 3.2.1.f).</p>
<p>Clarification of the process by which the County Council and District Councils were being reorganised</p>	<p>A description of the reorganisation of County and District councils was added (see Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])</p>
<p>A number of suggestions regarding formatting of the document.</p>	<p>Suggestions for reformatting were adopted to make the document easier to read</p>
<p>3.3.9 East Riding of Yorkshire Council confirmed that they had read the document but did not have any comments to make.</p>	
<p>3.3.10 North Yorkshire County Council's Senior Policy Officer (Infrastructure) was sent the notification of informal consultation on the draft SoCC email on 11 November 2022.</p>	
<p>3.3.11 On 14 November 2022, Selby District Council responded to the informal consultation on the SoCC, referencing North Yorkshire County Council in the response and copying in North Yorkshire County Council's Senior Policy Officer (Infrastructure).</p>	
<p>3.3.12 The following week, on 15 November 2022, the Applicant received a bounce back notification for the invitation email from North Yorkshire County Council's Senior Policy Officer (Infrastructure), due to the size of the document preventing it from being received via email. The document was re-sent via WeTransfer on 15 November 2022, along with a separate email confirming that the document would be re-issued via WeTransfer.</p>	
<p>3.3.13 On 8 December 2022 a reminder email to respond was sent to North Yorkshire County Council's Senior Policy Officer (Infrastructure), which</p>	

included an extension of the informal SoCC consultation to 12 December 2022.

- 3.3.14 During a meeting with North Yorkshire County Council in January 2023, the Applicant was made aware that North Yorkshire County Council had not received the draft SoCC for informal consultation. The draft SoCC was issued as a PDF on (12 January 2023).
- 3.3.15 North Yorkshire County Council did not respond with any comments on the SoCC at this stage.

Formal Consultation on the Draft SoCC

- 3.3.16 The SoCC was then updated based on these comments and then sent to the local authorities by email on 9 February ahead of a formal consultation period on the updated draft SoCC, from 10 February 2023 to 13 March 2023. The local authorities were given 32 days to submit feedback, four more days than the required 28-day formal consultation period specified in accordance with Section 47(3) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1). In preparing the final version of the SoCC, the Applicant had regard to feedback submitted during the formal consultation.
- 3.3.17 The emails issued to local authorities formally requesting feedback can be found in **Appendix E: Letter to local authorities for draft SoCC consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 3.3.18 A copy of the draft SoCC issued with the requests can be found in **Appendix D: Copy of the draft SoCC provided to local authorities, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

Local Authority Responses to the Formal Consultation on the Draft SoCC

- 3.3.19 A joint response was received from North Yorkshire County Council and Selby District Council (as listed in paragraph 3.3.3). A copy of this response is provided within **Appendix F1: Joint response from North Yorkshire County Council and Selby District Council for draft SoCC consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 3.3.20 A response was received from East Riding of Yorkshire Council, acknowledging receipt of the SoCC and confirming they had no comments to make (see **Appendix F3: Response from East Riding of Yorkshire Council for draft SoCC consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

Regard Had to Local Authority Responses to the Draft SoCC

- 3.3.21 The Applicant's amendments to the SoCC are provided in **Table 3-3**.
- 3.3.22 The SoCC was amended following the feedback received below from the local authorities.

Table 3-3. Amendments to the SoCC following formal consultation with the local authorities

Local Authority	Section	Comment	Amendments
North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and Selby District Council (SDC) combined response	Paragraph 2.2.4	Are the dates listed correct – should it not read 9 February – 13 March 2023.	The listed dates were corrected to 9 February – 13 March 2023
North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and Selby District Council (SDC) combined response	Paragraph 3.2.4	Can clarification be provided on the nature and extent of the consultation beyond the core consultation mailing zone.	Clarification was made on the nature and extent of the consultation beyond the core consultation mailing zone.

Contents of the SoCC

- 3.3.23 The contents of the SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) commenced within Chapter 1, Introduction with ‘Section 1.1: About this document’. This section opened with a description of the Scheme to be consulted on at the statutory consultation, and an explanation of the DCO Planning process. The SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) then explained the development process of the SoCC, described the 2022 non-statutory consultation and the timeline for the statutory consultation.
- 3.3.24 ‘Section 1.2: About the Applicant’, described the Applicant and Boom Power and the company’s aims.
- 3.3.25 ‘Section 1.3 Scheme description’ provided a detailed Scheme description complete with a figure which showed the Site boundary presented in the Scoping report. The description also included an explanation of how the proposed battery storage would work at the site.
- 3.3.26 The following section ‘1.4 Consultation to date’ described the 2022 non-statutory consultation; how it was promoted (including a figure showing the mailing zone); the public events conducted and the feedback mechanisms through which people had been able to contact the Applicant. ‘Section 1.5 Learnings from the Non-Statutory Consultation’ explained how the Statutory Consultation would seek to improve on the non-statutory consultation by increasing the number of consultation events, increasing publicity and offering advanced briefings to key stakeholders.
- 3.3.27 ‘Chapter 2 The Planning Process’ began with ‘2.1 The Development Consent Order application process’ which explained the requirement for a DCO and the timeline. This section also detailed the requirement for consultation with the local community and how feedback would be considered and reported in this Consultation Report, submitted with the DCO application. This section continued by explaining the EIA process, including details of the production

- of the Scoping Report, receipt of the Scoping Opinion from PINS and the production of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) which would be consulted on as a material at Statutory Consultation.
- 3.3.28 'Section 2.2 Consultation with local authorities' outlined how local authorities must be both informally and formally consulted on the SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) ahead of it being published. This section provided dates of the informal and formal consultations of the draft SoCC (**Appendix D: Copy of the draft SoCC provided to local authorities, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) for the local authorities and confirmed that the SoCC had been updated following their feedback.
- 3.3.29 'Chapter 3 Statutory Consultation' commenced with the timeline for and purpose of the statutory consultation.
- 3.3.30 'Section 3.2 Who will be consulted?' outlined the prescribed consultees of the Scheme, described the mailing zone and confirmed that everyone within the mailing zone would be sent consultation brochures and feedback forms.
- 3.3.31 'Section 3.3. What will be consulted on?' confirmed that the following would be consulted on:
- a. The proposed layout of the Scheme;
 - b. The proposed route of the cable connecting the solar farm to the National Grid Drax Substation;
 - c. Impacts of the proposed solar farm and cable, including, but not limited to:
 - i. Environmental impacts
 - ii. Economic impacts
 - iii. Social impacts
 - d. How the construction and maintenance of the Project will be carried out;
 - e. Proposed mitigations for the anticipated impacts above;
 - f. The Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) (Ref. 9) and
 - g. PEI Report Non-Technical Summary (**Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**)
- 3.3.32 'Section 3.4 Statutory Consultation documents' detailed the consultation materials, their formats, and their availability at document inspection venues and on the project's website.
- 3.3.33 'Section 3.5 Consultation approach' explained the principles of the consultation.
- 3.3.34 'Section 3.6 Consultation events' outlined the dates and formats of the in person and online consultation events which would be held, and that these would undergo a disability assessment prior to booking.
- 3.3.35 'Section 3.7 Cancellations of changes' confirmed that should any events be suddenly cancelled or changed, that the Applicant should inform people as

soon as possible via the local media and social media providing, where possible, a substitute event.

3.3.36 'Chapter 4 Publicising The Consultation' explained the various mechanisms that would be used to promote the consultation, namely:

- a. the Scheme website;
- b. the Consultation brochure and letters;
- c. Statutory consultation letters;
- d. email notifications;
- e. Statutory Notices;
- f. Parish council notice boards, newsletters and websites;
- g. Ward councillor notifications;
- h. social media;
- i. media; and
- j. seldom heard groups.

3.3.37 Chapter 5 'Next Steps' commenced with 'Section 5.1 Responding to the consultation' which outlined the feedback mechanisms for the consultation, and the channels through which the project team could be contacted.

3.3.38 'Section 5.2 Consideration of responses' explained the due regard process for feedback, and that the feedback would be responded to in the Consultation Report which would be submitted with the DCO application. The section confirmed that any further targeted consultation needed would be undertaken in line with the principles and methods set out in the SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

3.3.39 The SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) closed with 'Section 5.3 GDPR and Data Privacy' which provided a link to a website where the Applicant's GDPR Policy could be inspected.

3.3.40 The following appendices were included in the SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**):

- a. Appendix A Map of Document Inspection Venues
- b. Appendix B Map Of The Locations Of The Statutory Consultation Events
- c. Appendix C Mailing Zone For Statutory Consultation
- d. Appendix D Mailing Zone For Non-Statutory Consultation.

Publication of the SoCC – Section 47 (Newspaper Notice)

3.3.41 In accordance with the requirements of Section 47(6) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), the Applicant published a Section 47 notice in the local newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the Scheme stating where and when the SoCC could be inspected.

- 3.3.42 A copy of the Section 47 notice as it appeared in the newspaper is provided in **Appendix L7: Copy of Section 47 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 27.04.2023, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** and details of when and where the notice appeared can be found in **Table 3-4**.
- 3.3.43 A review of the circulation figures of local newspapers was undertaken which concluded that the newspapers had the following distribution:
- a. The Goole Times (and sister publications the Selby Times and the Epworth Times) (circulation across all three publications 7,283);
 - b. The Pontefract & Castleford Express (circulation 4,624); and
 - c. The Hull Daily Mail (circulation 8,393).
- 3.3.44 The Applicant concluded that the Hull Daily Mail's circulation was largest, and that it would be used for the publishing of the Section 47 notice.

Table 3-4. Placement of Section 47 notice in newspapers.

Name	Region	Frequency	Circulation	Date
The Hull Daily Mail	Regional	Daily – Monday to Saturday	8,393	27/04/2023

- 3.3.45 The SoCC was made available on the Applicant's website free of charge via the Scheme web pages from Monday 8 May 2023. **Appendix G2: SoCC availability online, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** shows the location of the published SoCC when navigated from the project website, the full website address that the SoCC was published at and the phone number for queries during the consultation published in the SoCC.
- 3.3.46 The SoCC was also available at a series of deposit locations (which were located at places reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the Scheme) listed in **Table 3-11** from 9 May through to 20 June 2023 and at all public consultation events, as listed in **Table 3-12**.

SoCC Compliance

- 3.3.47 Section 47(7) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) requires the applicant to carry out consultation in accordance with the proposals set out in the SoCC.
- 3.3.48 The Applicant complied with all requirements set out in the SoCC as per **Table 3-5**.
- 3.3.49 **Table 3-5** identifies each of the commitments made in the SoCC and identifies where these have been met in the delivery of the consultation.

Table 3-5. SoCC compliance

Paragraph No. in SoCC	SoCC requirement	How the Applicant delivered this requirement
2.1.3	The Applicant is required to consult members of the local community before the Application is submitted.	Statutory consultation was undertaken between 9 May 2023 and 20 June 2023. See paragraph 3.2.6 for this confirmation.
2.1.3	The Applicant must demonstrate to PINS that adequate consultation has been conducted prior to submitting the DCO application.	Compliance with Section 55 can be found in the Covering Letter [EN010143/APP/1.1] and Section 55 Checklist [EN010143/APP/1.4] .
2.1.3	The Applicant will have regard to all responses received to the consultation which will be considered in the design evolution of the Scheme.	The methodological approach the Applicant used to consider and have due regard to all consultation responses is detailed in Chapter 4, paragraphs 4.3.33 to 4.3.44.
2.1.4	Details of any responses received during consultation and the account taken of those responses will be included in the Consultation Report.	All responses received to the statutory consultation can be found in the statutory consultation due regard tables Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2] . The Appendix also includes the Applicant's responses to comments received to demonstrate the due regard shown to them.
2.1.12	The PEI Report will be made publicly available online and at document inspection venues.	The hard copy PEI Report (Ref. 9) was printed and was displayed from 9 May 2023 to 20 June 2023 at the document inspection venues (see paragraphs 3.10.1 - 3.10.3 and Table 3-11). A digital copy was also made available on the Applicant's website from 9 May 2023 to 20 June 2023. See paragraphs 3.10.1 to 3.10.3 for reference. For details of the document inspection venues, please consult Table 3-11 in paragraph 3.10.3.
2.2.2	As part of local government reorganisation in North Yorkshire, Selby District Council and North	The Local Authorities set out under Section 42(1)(b) list was updated to reflect North Yorkshire Council. See paragraph 1.4.2 which explains this

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
 No. in
 SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

	<p>Yorkshire County Council will cease to exist after 31 March 2023 and a new unitary authority, called North Yorkshire Council, will come into operation on 1 April 2023. The Applicant's engagement with the local authorities has been mindful of the planned reorganisation and will continue after the end of March 2023.</p>	<p>reorganisation and illustrated in Figure 1-3 The Applicant's engagement with the local authorities has been mindful of the planned reorganisation and the new North Yorkshire Council has been engaged and consulted with.</p>
<p>3.1.1</p>	<p>The statutory consultation will run for a period of six weeks from 9 May to 20 June 2023.</p>	<p>Statutory consultation was undertaken between 9 May 2023 to 20 June 2023. See paragraph 3.2.6 for this confirmation.</p>
<p>3.1.2</p>	<p>The purpose of the statutory consultation is to provide information to the local community, affected stakeholders and anyone with an interest in the Scheme and give them an opportunity to comment on the proposals which will feature in the DCO application that will be submitted in the latter half of 2023</p>	<p>Paragraph 3.2.1 confirms that this was the purpose of the consultation.</p> <p>The Applicant produced a suite of consultation documents (see paragraph 3.7.17) to aid stakeholders in their understanding of the Scheme. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory consultation brochure – explaining the Scheme on which the Applicant was consulting (Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]). • Consultation feedback form – containing the specific questions on which the Applicant was seeking feedback (Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]). The feedback form was also available to complete online at the project webpage. • Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document – which gives answers to some of the frequently asked questions about the proposal

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

(Appendix K3: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])

- Plans of the proposed solar farm and grid connection and interconnecting cable routes showing the land within which all the required construction and permanent infrastructure was proposed to be located **(Appendix K4: Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])**
- Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) – which set out how and when the Applicant planned to consult with stakeholders **(Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])**
- Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report – detailed the results of environmental surveys undertaken and provided the preliminary assessment of the potential impacts of the solar farm and how the Applicant proposed to avoid or reduce these effects.
- Non-Technical Summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report – provided a summary of the environmental assessment findings **(Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])**

The Applicant promoted that the materials listed above could be made available in large print and alternative formats, to ensure that they could be read by as many people as possible (see paragraph 3.7.18).

Paragraph SoCC requirement No. in SoCC

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

The consultation materials (see paragraph 3.7.17) were made available in hard copy format at document inspection points (see paragraph 3.10.1), consultation events (see paragraph 3.10.4) and the consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were issued to all addresses in the mailing zones (see paragraph 3.9.1).

Digital copies of the materials were made available on the Applicant's website (see paragraph 3.9.7) which was compliant to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG2.0) (see paragraph 3.7.20).

The statutory consultation and the availability of the materials were promoted through a series of channels:

- Section 42 letters (see paragraph 3.5.1);
- Section 46 letter (see paragraph 3.6.1);
- Section 47 notice (see paragraph 3.3.41);
- Section 48 notices (see paragraph 3.8.1);
- emails to participants in the non-statutory consultation (see paragraph 3.9.2);
- emails to non-statutory consultees (see paragraph 3.9.3);
- emails to Parish Councils and ward/district councillors (see paragraph 3.9.5);

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

- Social media (see paragraph 3.9.9);
- Press release (see paragraph 3.9.10);

Information was shared during two online webinars which were recorded and uploaded to the Applicant's website (see paragraph 3.10.12).

Information was also shared with Parish Councils and ward councillors via advanced briefings (see paragraph 3.5.17). Meetings were also held with key stakeholders prior to and during the statutory consultation (see paragraph 3.10.13).

Respondents were able to provide their feedback through several feedback mechanisms (see paragraph 3.11.1):

- Hard copies of the response from via the Applicant's freepost address
- Free-form response hard copies to the Applicant's freepost address
- Completing the response form online via the Scheme website
- Sending a scanned version of the completed consultation form to the Applicant's email address
- Submitting a free-form email response to the Applicant's email address.

People were also able to discuss the statutory consultation proposals either at public consultation events (see paragraph 3.10.4) or by calling the Scheme's phone number (see paragraph 3.12.4).

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

As confirmed in paragraph 4.2.4 all responses have been read and due regard has been had to them by the Applicant.

3.1.3 The consultation will provide an opportunity for consultees to share their feedback on a more refined layout for the solar farm and route for the cable to the National Grid Drax Substation compared to what was shared during the non-statutory consultation. It will also enable those interested to find out more detailed information on the plans.

Paragraph 3.2.1 confirms that this was the purpose of the consultation.

The Applicant produced a suite of consultation documents (see paragraph 3.7.17) which were designed to aid stakeholders in their understanding of the Scheme proposals. The materials included more refined layout for the solar farm and route to the National Grid Drax Substation, compared to what was shared during the non-statutory consultation. Specifically, this information was available in:

- Statutory consultation brochure – explaining the Scheme on which the Applicant was consulting and a masterplan of the site (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).
- Plans of the proposed solar farm and grid connection and interconnecting cable routes showing the land within which all the required construction and permanent infrastructure will be located (**Appendix K4: Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**)
- Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report – detailed the results of environmental surveys to date, and provided the preliminary assessment of the potential impacts of the solar farm and how the Applicant proposes to avoid or reduce these effects
- Non-Technical Summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report – provided a summary of the environmental assessment

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

findings (**Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**)

Documents which provided further detailed information included:

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document – which gave answers to some of the frequently asked questions about the proposal (**Appendix K3: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**); and
- The Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) which set out how and when the Applicant planned to engage with stakeholders (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**)

3.1.4 The statutory consultation is also an opportunity to raise awareness of the Scheme among the local community and for the Applicant to provide an update on the progress made since the non-statutory consultation and how the Scheme has been developed.

Paragraph 3.2.1 confirms that this was the purpose of the consultation.

The consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) provided an update on the Scheme since the non-statutory consultation. It was made available in hard copy format at document inspection points (see paragraph 3.10.1), consultation events (see paragraph 3.10.4) and was issued to all addresses in the mailing zones (see paragraph 3.9.1).

A digital copy of the consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) was made available on the Applicant's website

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

(see paragraph 3.9.7) which was compliant to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG2.0) (see paragraph 3.7.20).

The statutory consultation and the availability of the materials were promoted to the local community through a series of channels:

- Section 47 notice (see paragraph 3.3.41);
- Section 48 notices (see paragraph 3.8.1);
- emails to participants in the non-statutory consultation (see paragraph 3.9.2);
- emails to non-statutory consultees (see paragraph 3.9.3);
- emails to Parish Councils and ward/ district councillors (see paragraph 3.9.5);
- Social media (see paragraph 3.9.9);
- Press release (see paragraph 3.9.10);

3.1.5 The Applicant will run a consultation that is compliant with the methods outlined in the SoCC and the Act.

Table 3-5 has been included in this report to demonstrate compliance with the SoCC. Paragraph 3.3.48 confirms that the Applicant has complied with all requirements set out in the SoCC. Compliance with Section 55 can be found in the **Covering Letter [EN010143/APP/1.1] and Section 55 Checklist [EN010143/APP/1.4]**.

3.2.1 The Applicant will contact the following groups to actively encourage them to participate in the statutory consultation:
a. Prescribed consultees

Section 42(1)(a) and Section 42(1) (aa) letters were sent out on 3 May 2023 by Royal Mail Tracked 24 service to arrive by 9 May 2023. See paragraph 3.5.1.

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

	<p>Section 42(1)(b) consultees are discussed in Host Local Authorities row below.</p> <p>Section 42(1)(d) consultee letters were sent out on 3 May 2023 by Royal Mail Signed For (a service which delivers letters the next working day, including Saturdays and requires a signature on delivery).</p>
b. Host Local Authorities	<p>Section 42(1)(b) (Host Local Authorities) letters were sent out on 3 May 2023 by Royal Mail Tracked 24 service to arrive by 9 May 2023. See paragraph 3.5.1.</p>
c. Elected MP's	<p>The Rt. Hon. David Davis MP was invited on 27 March 2023 to a briefing on the Scheme in advance of the statutory consultation as part of ongoing correspondence with his office. This meeting took place on 18 May 2023. This is outlined in paragraph 3.10.13.</p> <p>The Rt Hon. Nigel Adams MP was contacted on 30 March 2023 by email and offered a briefing in advance of the statutory consultation. This meeting took place via teams on 28 April 2023 with a member of the Rt. Hon. Nigel Adam's team. This is outlined in paragraph 3.10.13.</p>
d. East Yorkshire Councillors representing the Howden and Howdenshire wards	<p>An email was sent on the 17 April 2023 which encouraged Parish Councils and relevant ward/division councillors (from East Yorkshire, North Yorkshire and Selby) to participate in the consultation. The email also offered the Parish Councils and councillors briefings for the consultation (see paragraph 3.9.5). The Councillors received a copy of the Section 42(1)(a) (Appendix I1: Section 42 (1)(a) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) letter to arrive before the launch of statutory consultation (see paragraph 3.5.1). The</p>
e. North Yorkshire Councillors representing the Cliffe and North Duffield and Camblesforth and Carlton wards	
f. Selby Councillors representing the Derwent and Camblesforth and Carlton wards	

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

Councillors also received a copy of the Section 42(1)(a) email on sent on 9 May 2023 which provided detail on the consultation (see paragraph 3.5.5).

g. Parish Councils

The following Parish Councils received a copy of the Section 42(1)(a) **(Appendix I1: Section 42 (1)(a) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])** letter to arrive before the launch of statutory consultation (see paragraph 3.5.1).

- Holme Upon Spalding Moor Parish Council
- Spaldington Parish Council
- Howden Town Council
- Wressle Parish Council
- Bubwith Parish Council
- Foggathorpe Parish Council
- Eastrington Parish Council
- Barmby on the Marsh Parish Council
- Long Drax Parish Council
- Hemingbrough Parish Council
- Drax Parish Council

The parish councils also received a copy of the Section 42(1)(a) email on sent on 9 May 2023 which provided detail on the consultation (see paragraph 3.5.5).

3.9.5

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

h. Statutory environmental bodies	As Section 42(1)(a) consultees, Statutory Environmental Bodies received letters (Appendix I1: Section 42 (1)(a) letter , and Appendix I3: Section 42 (1)(b) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) promoting the consultation as per paragraph 3.5.1.
i. Local businesses	The Applicant emailed local businesses who were contacted at non-statutory consultation following desk-based research via Google (Appendix B4: List of local businesses notified of the non-statutory consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) on 9 May 2023 informing them of the launch of the consultation and to encourage them to attend one of the information events (see paragraph 3.9.3). Those businesses which fell within the consultation mailing zone (see paragraph 3.9.1) also received a consultation brochure (Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) and feedback form (Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]).
j. The local community	Addresses which fell within the consultation mailing zone (see paragraph 3.7.41) received a consultation brochure (Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) and feedback form (Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) which was issued on 9 May 2023. As per paragraph 3.9.3, emails (Appendix M2: Email notification to non-statutory consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) to promote the consultation were issued to non-

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

statutory consultees (**Appendix H2: List of non-prescribed consultees contacted, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) which included local businesses, interest groups and other stakeholders identified as having an interest in the Scheme.

Paragraphs 3.9.7 explains that the details of the statutory consultation and the consultation materials were made available on the Scheme website.

The Scheme twitter page (@EY_SOLARFARM) was used to promote details of the statutory consultation to the local community as per paragraph 3.9.9 with an example include as **Figure 3-3**.

The Applicant used press releases to promote the consultation to local communities. Press releases were issued to media outlets and coverage was received in the Hull Daily Mail, Goole times and the BBC Look North TV show and BBC Humberside Radio (see paragraphs 3.9.10 - 3.9.12).

The Applicant placed Section 47 and Section 48 notices in local and national publications to publicise the consultation to the community. See **Table 3-4** and **Table 3-8** for information on where the notices were placed. Copies of the notices as placed in the media outlets can be inspected in (**Appendix L2: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Times 04.05.2023; Appendix L3: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Guardian 04.05.2023; Appendix L4: Copy of Section 48 notice - The London Gazette 04.05.2023; Appendix L5: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 04.05.2023; Appendix L6: Copy of Section 48 notice -**

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

The Hull Daily Mail 11.05.2023; and Appendix L7: Copy of Section 47 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 27.04.2023, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) .

On 10 May 2023 the Applicant emailed those who responded to the non-statutory consultation and confirmed that they would be happy to be contacted about their response in the future (see paragraph 3.9.2). A copy of this notification can be found in **Appendix M1: Email to non-statutory consultation respondents who requested to be kept informed, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2].**

3.2.2 The consultation mailing zone will be expanded to take additional land to the northeast of the Scheme into account.

The non-statutory consultation mailing zone was determined as 1km from the Scheme boundary. As per paragraph 3.7.5, the consultation mailing zone at statutory consultation was expanded from the consultation mailing zone used at non-statutory to include additional land to the northeast of the Scheme. The mailing zone for the statutory consultation zone can be found in **Figure 3-2..** This mailing zone was agreed with the local authorities through their informal and formal reviews of the SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]).**

3.2.2 For non-statutory consultation, extensions will be made to the radius of the consultation mailing zone to include roads or hamlets if they fall just outside the 1 km radius limit.

As per paragraph 3.9.1, the consultation mailing zone at statutory consultation was expanded to include roads or hamlets if they fall just outside the 1 km radius limit. The mailing zone for the statutory consultation zone can be found in **Figure 3-2.**

3.2.3 The consultation mailing zone will receive a consultation brochure and feedback form.

Paragraph 3.9.1 confirms that addresses falling within the consultation mailing zone received a consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])** and feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory**

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2] which was issued on Tuesday 9 May 2023. The mailing zone for the statutory consultation zone can be found in **Figure 3-2**.

3.2.4 Beyond the consultation mailing zone, stakeholder groups will also be targeted and contacted directly by email.

On 10 May 2023 the Applicant emailed those who responded to the non-statutory consultation and confirmed that they would be happy to be contacted about their response in the future (see paragraph 3.9.2). A copy of this notification can be found in **Appendix M1: Email to non-statutory consultation respondents who requested to be kept informed, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

As per paragraph 3.10.13, a targeted online briefing was provided to the residents in Gribthorpe.

As per paragraph 3.9.3, emails (**Appendix M2: Email notification to non-statutory consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) to promote the consultation were issued to non-statutory consultees (**Appendix H2: List of non-prescribed consultees contacted, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) which included local businesses, interest groups and other stakeholders identified as having an interest in the Scheme.

3.3.1 Through the statutory consultation, the Applicant will ask for views on all elements of the Scheme. Feedback on all aspects of the Scheme will be welcome and considered, including but not limited to:

The structure of the feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) is shown in section 4.3

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

- proposed layout of the Scheme
- The proposed route of the cable connecting the solar farm to the National Grid Drax Substation
- Impacts of the proposed solar farm and cable, including, but not limited to:
 - i. Environmental impacts
 - ii. Economic impacts
 - iii. Social impacts
- How the construction and maintenance of the Project will be carried out
- Proposed mitigations for the anticipated impacts above
- The Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report)
- and PEI Report Non-Technical Summary

The form used questions to direct feedback on various elements of the Scheme outlined in the SoCC. In addition, 'Question 16. Further comments: Please share any further comments you have on East Yorkshire Solar Farm.' invited people to provide any other comments they may have on the materials presented at Statutory consultation. Feedback was received across all topics and has been reported in this consultation report.

Paragraph 4.3.33 confirms that written freeform responses were accepted in addition to the feedback forms.

3.4.1 The documents listed in paragraph 3.4.6 of the SoCC will be available to view throughout the consultation period.

Printed copies of the consultation materials listed in paragraph 3.4.6 of the SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were made available at document inspection venues from 9 May 2023 – 20 June 2023 (see paragraph 3.10.1). Digital copies of the consultation materials were made available on the Scheme's website from the 9 May 2023 (see paragraph 3.7.16). Printed copies of the consultation materials were also made available at the in-person consultation events, as per paragraph 3.10.8.

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

3.4.1	The documents listed in paragraph 3.4.6 of the SoCC, along with an online feedback form will be made available online via the Scheme's website.	Digital copies of the consultation materials (Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet; Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Appendix K3: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document; Appendix K4: Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route; Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary; Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]; PEI Report (Ref. 9); and were made available on the Scheme's website from the 9 May 2023 (see paragraph 3.7.16). As per paragraph 3.11.1b3.11.1b, respondents were also able to complete a response form online at the Scheme's website.
3.4.2	Printed copies of the materials will be made available at the in-person consultation events and at Document Inspection Venues in the area, outlined in the SoCC.	Printed copies of the consultation materials listed in paragraph 3.4.6 of the SoCC (Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) were made available at document inspection venues from 9 May 2023 – 20 June 2023 (see paragraph 3.10.1). Printed copies of the consultation materials were also made available at the in-person consultation events, as per paragraph 3.10.8.
3.4.2	A consultation brochure will be produced, which will provide in depth information about the Scheme, including the layout, a summary of the environmental effects and the construction phases and programme. It will also include information about the feedback from the non-statutory consultation and the changes made to the Scheme as a result of it.	The consultation brochure produced in Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2] includes all the information requested.
3.4.3	The brochure will be distributed to homes and businesses in the expanded mailing zone.	Paragraph 3.9.1 confirms that addresses falling within the consultation mailing zone received a consultation brochure (Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

[EN010143/APP/5.2]) and feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])** which was issued on Tuesday 9 May 2023. As per paragraph 3.7.5, the consultation mailing zone at statutory consultation was expanded from the consultation mailing zone used at non-statutory to include additional land to the North East of the Scheme. The mailing zone for the statutory consultation zone can be found in **Figure 3-2**.

3.4.3 Printed copies of the brochure and other consultation materials will be made available on request for no charge.

As per paragraph 3.5.4a, the Section 48 notice (**Appendix L1: Copy of Section 48 notice as included in Section 42(1) consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])** detailed how paper copies of the materials in paragraph 3.7.17 could be obtained free of charge, or for a cost of up to £0.35 per page for multiple paper copies of these consultation materials, or for large printing requests such as the PEI Report (Ref. 9) to cover printing and postage.

3.4.3 USB sticks with copies of the consultation materials preloaded will also be provided on request for a small charge.

As paragraph 3.10.2 explains, the Applicant also made USBs available at the document inspection points from which the consultation material could be downloaded from.

3.4.4 Consultation materials will be made available by request via clearly advertised channels. Requests will be considered on a case by case basis.

As per paragraph 3.5.4a, the Section 48 notice (**Appendix L1: Copy of Section 48 notice as included in Section 42(1) consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])** detailed how paper copies of the materials in paragraph 3.7.13 could be obtained free of charge, or for a cost of up to £0.35 per page for multiple paper copies of these consultation materials, or for large printing requests such as the PEI Report (Ref. 9) to cover printing and postage.

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

Digital copies of the consultation materials were made available on the Scheme's website from the 9 May 2023 (see paragraph 3.7.16).

Printed copies of the consultation materials listed in paragraph 3.4.6 of the SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were made available at document inspection venues from 9 May 2023 – 20 June 2023 (see paragraph 3.10.1). Printed copies of the consultation materials were also made available at the in-person consultation events, as per paragraph 3.10.8.

Paragraph 3.9.1 confirms that addresses falling within the consultation mailing zone received a consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) which was issued on Tuesday 9 May 2023. The mailing zone for the statutory consultation zone can be found in **Figure 3-2..** The consultation brochure provided a link to the Scheme website where the consultation materials could be inspected.

Paragraphs 3.5.1–3.5.4 detail the information contained in the Section 42(1) letters which promoted the availability of the consultation materials on the Scheme's website.

3.4.5 The Applicant is committed to providing an accessible approach to engagement and consultation on the Scheme, and therefore consultation documents will be made available for

Printed copies of the consultation materials listed in paragraph 3.4.6 of the SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were made available at document

Paragraph No. in SoCC requirement	How the Applicant delivered this requirement
members of the public to inspect at a range of local venues as close to the Scheme as possible.	inspection venues from 9 May 2023 to 20 June 2023 (see paragraph 3.10.1).
3.4.5 Howden Library and Selby Library, as accessible locations with a range of opening hours will be used, in addition to two small community-run venues in the immediate area – Bubwith Leisure Centre and Holme-on-Spalding-Moor Village Hall. Market Weighton Library will be used if Spalding Moor Village Hall is unavailable or unsuitable.	Howden Library, Selby Library, Bubwith Leisure Centre and Market Weighton Library were used as document information points. Table 3-11 details the availability of the consultation materials at the document inspection points listed.
3.4.5 The East Riding of Yorkshire Mobile Library service, which has stops in Bubwith, Eastrington, Holme-on-Spalding Moor and Howden will be asked to carry the documents	East Riding of Yorkshire Mobile Library service carried copies of the consultation materials. Table 3-11 details the availability of the consultation materials at the document inspection points listed.
3.4.5 A number of preloaded USBs containing the full suite of consultation documents will also be made available at these venues. This is subject to the agreement of the venue and is outlined in Table 1 and in Appendix B of the SoCC.	As paragraph 3.10.2 explains, the Applicant also made USBs available at the document inspection points from which the consultation material could be downloaded from.
3.4.5 In the event of a document inspection venue being closed at short notice, the Applicant will inform people as early as possible of alternative means of accessing documents via the Scheme website and on social media.	There were no instances of a document inspection venue closing during normal opening hours during the statutory consultation.
3.4.6 The documents that will be available to view during the statutory consultation, online at the Scheme	The consultation documents are listed in paragraph 3.7.17.

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

<p>website or at the nominated inspection locations, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consultation brochure, as described in 3.4.2;• Consultation Frequently Asked Questions ('FAQ') document;• Consultation response form;• Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route;• SoCC;• PEI Report; and• PEI Report Non-Technical Summary.	<p>Printed copies of the consultation materials listed in paragraph 3.4.6 of the SoCC (Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) were made available at document inspection venues from 9 May 2023 to 20 June 2023 (see paragraph 3.10.1). Digital copies of the consultation materials were made available on the Scheme's website from the 9 May 2023 (see paragraph 3.7.16). Printed copies of the consultation materials were also made available at the in-person consultation events, as per paragraph 3.10.8.</p>
<p>3.4.7 The statutory consultation documents will remain available to view after the statutory consultation has closed on the Scheme website, though respondents will not be able to provide consultation feedback after this time.</p>	<p>Digital copies of the consultation materials were made available on the Scheme's website from the 9 May 2023 (see paragraph 3.7.16) and have remained available for inspection.</p>
<p>3.5.1 The statutory consultation will use a mixture of methods to make accessing the consultation materials as simple as possible for local communities.</p>	<p>Printed copies of the consultation materials listed in paragraph 3.4.6 of the SoCC (Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) were made available at document inspection venues from 9 May 2023 to 20 June 2023 (see paragraph 3.10.1). Digital copies of the consultation materials were made available on the Scheme's website from the 9 May 2023 (see paragraph 3.7.16). Printed copies of the consultation materials and USBs containing digital</p>

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
 No. in
 SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

	<p>copies of all of the documents were also made available at the in-person consultation events, as per paragraph 3.10.8. Materials were made available in alternative formats on request.</p>
<p>3.5.3 The stakeholder engagement and consultation approach to be taken for the statutory consultation will be underpinned by the following principles: Early and ongoing engagement is to be undertaken to inform and influence the design process;</p>	<p>Early engagement for the Scheme development, along with non-statutory consultation is detailed in Chapter 2. Advance briefings were completed ahead of the statutory consultation (see paragraphs 3.1.16 to 3.5.18). Ongoing engagement following the statutory consultation can be inspected in Chapter 5.</p>
<p>Feedback will be sought in the iterative design process and be taken into consideration;</p>	<p>Feedback was taken onboard throughout non-statutory consultation, statutory consultation through and ongoing engagement before, during and following both consultations. The methods for how the Applicant has coded and had due regard to all consultation responses are detailed in Chapter 4, paragraphs 4.3.33 to 4.3.44. All responses received to the statutory consultation can be found in the statutory consultation due regard tables (Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]). The statutory consultation due regard tables also include the Applicant's responses to comments received to demonstrate the due regard taken.</p>
<p>Long-term relationships will be built with key stakeholders throughout the different stages of the Scheme to help better understand their views;</p>	<p>Long-term relationships have been built through ongoing engagement with parish councils, ERYC ward councillors and the Rt. Hon. David Davis MP, as the MP representing the area where most of the Scheme will be sited, to help better understand their views.</p>
<p>Stakeholder concerns will be addressed, where possible and practicable, through engagement;</p>	<p>Stakeholder concerns were addressed, where possible and practicable, through engagement. The Applicant provided a specific briefing to</p>

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

residents of the Gribthorpe hamlet to discuss the visual impacts of the Solar PV site, the impact on the roads and access to properties, and the community benefit scheme (see paragraph 3.10.13). The Applicant has also continued to meet with Section 42(1)(d) parties to seek to resolve concerns. Key concerns discussed include traffic management, measures to mitigate impact of livestock enterprise with specific reference to the cable route), and archaeological digs were moved to protect drainage schemes.

Appropriate statutory consultation is undertaken in compliance with requirements of the Act and EIA Regulations.

Applicant has complied with Chapter 2 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) as outlined in this report and in the **Section 55 Checklist [EN010143/APP/1.4]**. Compliance with Section 55 can be found in **Covering Letter [EN010143/APP/1.1]** and **Section 55 Checklist [EN010143/APP/1.4]**. The details of how the consultation has been undertaken in line with the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) can be found in section 3.1.

3.6.1 At least four in-person consultation events will be held during the statutory consultation. These will be drop-in style events designed for members of the public to attend, view the plans in more detail and engage directly with the project team.

Four in person consultation events were held on 16 and 24 May 2023 and 10 and 13 June 2023 (see paragraph 3.10.4 and **Table 3-12**).

Two online webinars were held on 25 May 2023 and 8 June 2023 (see paragraph 3.10.12).

3.6.2 Consultation boards will be displayed at each event to provide information about the scheme, including maps and images where appropriate. Printed copies of all consultation materials will be made available for people to inspect.

Consultation boards (**Appendix K6: Consultation event boards, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were displayed at the consultation events, along with all the consultation materials (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form; Appendix K3: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document; Appendix K4: Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route; Appendix K5: PEI**

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
 No. in
 SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]) and the PEI Report (Ref. 9)) – see paragraph 3.10.8.

3.6.3	A consultation response station will be in place at the events to allow people to fill out the consultation response form manually, or virtually via a tablet while they are at the event. A member of the project team will be able to assist with this if requested.	As per paragraph 3.10.9, a consultation response station was in place at events to allow people to fill out the consultation response form manually, or virtually via tablet. As confirmed in paragraph 3.10.4, staff were available at all events to answer questions.
3.6.3	Hard copies of the consultation response form will be available for attendees to take away and return in their own time via Royal Mail Freepost Address, (Freepost: East Yorkshire Solar Farm).	Hard copies of the consultation feedback form were made available for attendees to take away and return in their own time via Royal Mail Freepost Address, (Freepost: East Yorkshire Solar Farm) (as per paragraph 3.10.10).
3.6.4	The consultation events will be held on designated days across the consultation period, where possible at different times and on different days of the week to allow flexibility for attendees to take part – this will include an event on a weekend if venues allow	The consultation events took place on two Tuesdays, a Wednesday and a Saturday. All events were open from 2:00pm to 8:00pm to enable as many people as possible to attend the events and to allow flexibility for attendees. See Table 3-12 for further details of attendance at each event. Online webinar events were held on Thursdays between 6:00-7:00 pm and 7:00-8:00pm to allow for flexibility for those wishing to attend in the evenings. The timings of these events can be found in Table 3-13 .
3.6.4	The venues are subject to the agreement of the establishments; however, the number and locations of the event venues have been selected based on the level of attendance from the non-statutory	As outlined in paragraphs 3.10.6 to 3.10.7, the venues were agreed as per those outlined on the basis of the non-statutory consultation events and proximity to the Scheme .

Paragraph No. in SoCC requirement	SoCC requirement	How the Applicant delivered this requirement
	consultation events held in October 2022, and the proximity to the Scheme.	
3.6.5	Based on the learnings from the non-statutory consultation, more consultation events will be held during the statutory consultation to provide further opportunity for members of the community to attend and engage with the project team. The locations of the proposed consultation venues are listed in Table 2 of the SoCC.	At non-statutory consultation, two in person events were held, along with two online webinars (see paragraph 2.5.2). As per Table 3-12 , four in person events were held at statutory consultation which aligned with Table 2 of the SoCC (Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]).
3.6.6	Consultation venues will undergo an assessment prior to booking, which will determine the suitability of the location in terms of accessibility for people with disabilities or mobility issues.	Paragraph 3.10.7 confirmed that all venues were confirmed to be fully accessible and that a building risk assessment was conducted at each venue.
3.6.7	At least two online consultation events will also be held to enable those who cannot attend the physical events to engage with the consultation remotely. These will consist of a presentation reflecting the content of the exhibition boards, with time allowed for attendees to engage directly with the project team who will be present online	As per Table 3-13 two online webinars were held during the statutory consultation. These included a thirty-minute presentation and time for questions and answers.
3.6.9	The information presented at the in-person events will also be available at the online events and attendees will be able to engage directly with the project team online.	As per Table 3-13 two online webinars were held during the statutory consultation. These included a thirty-minute presentation and time for questions and answers. The webinar on 8 June 2023 was recorded and uploaded to the project website for those unable to attend
3.6.10	Communication channels such as telephone, email and freepost will be publicised on the consultation	Paragraph 3.11.2 confirms that details of communication channels were included in the Section 47 and Section 48 notices placed in newspapers

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

materials, and on the Scheme's website to allow people to contact the project team if they have further questions.

(Appendix L1: Copy of Section 48 notice as included in Section 42(1) consultees; Appendix L2: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Times 04.05.2023; Appendix L3: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Guardian 04.05.2023; Appendix L4: Copy of Section 48 notice - The London Gazette 04.05.2023; Appendix L5: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 04.05.2023; Appendix L6: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 11.05.2023; and Appendix L7: Copy of Section 47 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 27.04.2023, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])) as well as the letters sent to statutory and prescribed consultees (**Appendix I1: Section 42 (1)(a) letter; Appendix I2: Section 42 (1)(aa) letter; Appendix I3: Section 42 (1)(b) letter; and Appendix I4: Section 42 (1)(d) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

Communication channels were also advertised on the Scheme's website, in the consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) in the feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document (**Appendix K3: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

3.7.1 In the event of a booked venue suddenly becoming unavailable, changing Government guidelines due to COVID-19, or other unforeseen circumstances meaning the consultation events must be cancelled, the Applicant will inform people as early as possible of the cancellation and, where possible, give details

There were no instances of venues becoming unavailable.

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

	of a substitute event via the Scheme’s website, on social media, and through the local media.	
4.1.1	<p>The Applicant will publicise the consultation via:</p> <p>The Scheme website.</p> <p>Details of the upcoming statutory consultation launch, as well as the dates and addresses of the consultation events, will be published on the Scheme website. This will contain information for stakeholders, including contact information and a dedicated contact form.</p> <p>The consultation documents will be available to view and download from the Scheme website free of charge, including the SoCC (this document), PEI Report, PEI Report Non-Technical Summary, consultation brochure, consultation FAQ, map of the proposed solar farm and grid connection and interconnecting cable routes showing the land within which all the required construction and permanent infrastructure will be located, and the consultation response form.</p> <p>The Scheme website will signpost stakeholders to details of the consultation events.</p>	<p>The Applicant publicised the consultation via the Scheme website (see paragraph 3.9.7). Paragraph 3.9.7 confirms that the website signposted stakeholders to the details of the consultation events.</p> <p>As per paragraph 3.9.7 the website included contact information for stakeholders and a dedicated contact form.</p> <p>Paragraph 3.9.7 explains that the consultation documents were available to view free of charge on the project website.</p> <p>The Scheme webpage also contained a link to an online response form, allowing people to share their views online (see paragraph 3.9.8).</p>

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

There will also be a link to the online response form, allowing people to share their views on the Scheme online.

Consultation brochure and letters.

The consultation brochure and feedback form will be sent to residents and businesses around the proposed solar farm and along the proposed cable route, informing them of the upcoming statutory consultation and inviting them to the drop-in events.

The brochure will include the dates and times of the consultation events, as well as the details for the Scheme website and a summary of how to provide feedback.

An expanded 'core mailing zone' area (from the non-stat consultation) will be used to distribute the statutory consultation brochure and feedback form. The data used for addresses in the area will also be refreshed.

Statutory consultation letters.

Statutory letters will be issued to section 42 consultees via email and/or in the post. This letter will inform stakeholders that they are prescribed

The consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were sent to the consultation mailing zone as outlined in **Figure 3-2**. (see paragraph 3.9.1).

The consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) included the dates and times of the consultation events, as well as the details of the Scheme website and a summary of how to provide feedback,

As per paragraph 3.7.5, the consultation mailing zone at statutory consultation was expanded from the consultation mailing zone used at non-statutory consultation to include additional land to the northeast of the Scheme. The mailing zone for the statutory consultation zone can be found in **Figure 3-2**. The address data was also refreshed.

As per paragraph 3.5.1, Section 42(1)(a), Section 42(1)(aa) and Section 42(1)(b) consultees were sent letters (**Appendix I1: Section 42 (1)(a) letter; Appendix I2: Section 42 (1)(aa) letter; and Appendix I3: Section 42 (1)(b) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) to inform them of the start of the statutory

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

consultees, advise them of the consultation on the scheme and request their feedback.

This will also include sending letters to those with an interest in the land within the extent of the project (DCO boundary) and those that fall within category 3 (person who might be entitled to make a relevant claim if the DCO were made and fully implemented) as set out in section 44 of the Act.

consultation via Royal Mail Tracked 24 (a service which delivers letters within 24 hours, with the option to track delivery online). Section 42(1)(d) consultees were sent letters (**Appendix I4: Section 42 (1)(d) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) to inform them of the start of the statutory consultation via Royal Mail Signed for (a service which delivers letters the next working day, including Saturdays and requires a signature on delivery). These letters were posted on 3 May 2023 to arrive before the first day of the statutory consultation period (9 May 2023).

Paragraph 3.5.3 confirms the contents of the letter which informed stakeholders that they are prescribed consultees, advised them of the consultation on the scheme and requested their feedback.

Email notifications.

Non-statutory consultees will also be identified and sent a notification via email. Non-statutory consultees include local businesses, interest groups and other stakeholders identified as having an interest in the Scheme.

We will also recontact those who took part in the non-statutory consultation and gave their consent to be recontacted to notify them about this opportunity

As per paragraph 3.9.3, emails (**Appendix M2: Email notification to non-statutory consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) to promote the consultation were issued to non-statutory consultees (**Appendix H2: List of non-prescribed consultees contacted, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) which included local businesses, interest groups and other stakeholders identified as having an interest in the Scheme.

On 10 May 2023 the Applicant emailed those who responded to the non-statutory consultation and confirmed that they would be happy to be contacted about their response in the future (see paragraph 3.9.2). A

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

to take part in further consultation. All email communications will be sent from the Scheme email account: eastyorkshiresolarfarm@boom-power.co.uk

copy of this notification can be found in **Appendix M1: Email to non-statutory consultation respondents who requested to be kept informed, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

The Applicant noted that some non-statutory consultees who were contacted at Non-Statutory Consultation had been missed from the emails noted in 3.9.3 (**Appendix M2: Email notification to non-statutory consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**). These consultees were sent an email notifying them of the statutory consultation on 16 August 2023 (**Appendix M7: Belated Statutory consultation invitation to non-prescribed consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**). The Statutory Consultation period for these stakeholders was between 16 August 2023 and 15 September 2023. These consultees were:

- Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
- York & North Yorkshire LEP
- Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce
- West & North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce
- National Farmers' Union - North East Branch
- York Community Energy
- Country Landowners' Association
- CPRE - The Countryside Charity
- Climate Action East Yorkshire

Statutory notices.

A review of the circulation figures of local newspapers was undertaken which concluded that the newspapers had sufficient distribution:

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

Statutory notices to publicise the proposed DCO application and this SoCC will be published as follows:

1. Proposed DCO application publicity notice (Section 48 Notice) – once in The Times, The Guardian and the London Gazette and for at least two successive weeks in local newspapers. A review of circulation figures will be carried out to consider which local publications are most appropriate, and possible publications include:

- a. The Goole Times (and sister publications the Selby Times and the Epworth Times);
- b. The Pontefract & Castleford Express; and
- c. The Hull Daily Mail.

2. The SoCC notice (Section 47(6)(a) Notice) – once in local newspaper(s) selected above.

If for reasons outside of the Applicant's control it is not possible to run the Section 47 and 48 notices

- a. The Goole Times (and sister publications the Selby Times and the Epworth Times) (circulation across all three publications 7,283);
- b. The Pontefract & Castleford Express (circulation 4,624);
- c. The Hull Daily Mail (circulation 8,393).

The Hull Daily Mail was chosen as it had the highest circulation figures

As confirmed in paragraph 3.8.8, Section 48 notices were published on:

- 4 May 2023: Hull Daily Mail, The Guardian, The Times and the London Gazette (**Appendix L5: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 04.05.2023; Appendix L3: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Guardian 04.05.2023; Appendix L2: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Times 04.05.2023; and Appendix L4: Copy of Section 48 notice - The London Gazette 04.05.2023, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**)
- 11 May 2023: Hull Daily Mail (**Appendix L6: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 11.05.2023, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

A Section 47 notice advertising SoCC and events was placed in the Hull Daily Mail on 27 April 2023 (paragraph 3.3.42 and **Table 3-4**). A copy of the Section 47 notice can be found in **Appendix L7: Copy of Section 47 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 27.04.2023, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

an alternative newspaper or other publication with be chosen with an appropriate distribution area.

The statutory notices will include information on the proposed Scheme, details of the proposals and what documents will be available to view, where they can be inspected and the charge for documents. Information on the consultation launch, dates and addresses of the upcoming consultation events will be provided.

Instructions and the deadline for responding to the consultation will be given, alongside the different communication channels available to contact the Scheme. A link to the Scheme website will also be included in the notification.

Parish council notice boards, newsletters and websites - and - Ward councillor notifications.

Information will be submitted to local parish councils, with a request that they publish details of the statutory consultation in their newsletters, noticeboards, websites and any other communications channels to help publicise the statutory consultation. The Applicant recognises that it is out of their control whether each Parish Council decides to do this.

The information to be provided will include a

The statutory notices contained information on the proposed Scheme, details of the proposals and what documents were available to view, where they could be inspected and the charge for documents. Information on the consultation launch, dates and addresses of the upcoming consultation events was also provided.

Instructions and the deadline for responding to the consultation were given, alongside the different communication channels available to contact the Scheme. A link to the Scheme website was also included in the notification.

As per paragraph 3.5.1, all of the parish councils listed in the SoCC received a Section 42(1)(a) letter on 3 May 2023 which included a concise summary of the Scheme, the statutory consultation timescales, a link to the Scheme website and instructions for providing feedback including deadlines for submission.

As per paragraph 3.9.5, parish councils and ward councillors received briefings on the statutory consultation which were held via Microsoft Teams on 25 and 26 April 2023.

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

concise summary of the Scheme, the statutory consultation timescales, a link to the Scheme website, and instructions for providing feedback including deadlines for submission.

The parish councils that will be contacted are listed below:

- Barmby on the Marsh Parish Council
- Bubwith Parish Council
- Drax Parish Council
- Foggathorpe Parish Council
- Eastrington Parish Council
- Hemingbrough Parish Council
- Howden Parish Council (Howden Town Council)
- Long Drax Parish Council
- Spaldington Parish Council
- Wressle Parish Council.

This information will also be shared with councillors whose wards cover the area. For Selby District Council, this is the Derwent and Camblesforth & Carlton wards. For North Yorkshire this is the Cliffe & North Duffield and Camblesforth & Carlton divisions. For East Yorkshire this is the Howden and Howdenshire wards.

Social media.

The Applicant is aware that the following parish councils promoted the statutory consultation on their websites, social media or mentioned the consultation in their meeting minutes:

- Bubwith Parish Council
- Foggathorpe Parish Council
- Eastrington Parish Council
- Spaldington Parish Council
- Wressle Parish Council
- Howden Town Council

As per paragraph 3.9.5, this information was also sent to the ward/division councillors whose wards cover the area. This notification can be found in **Appendix N1: Request sent to Parish Councils to promote the Statutory consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

Social media posts were posted on the Scheme Twitter account (@EY_SOLARFARM) as per paragraph 3.9.9 . An example can be found

Paragraph No. in SoCC requirement

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

Social media content will be shared to publicise the statutory consultation and be scheduled in the run up to the statutory consultation to raise awareness of the upcoming events, and to generate interest around the Scheme.

in **Figure 3-3**. LinkedIn posts were also used to promote the statutory consultation from the account East Yorkshire Solar Farm during the consultation.

Social media channels to be used will include the Scheme Twitter (@EY_SOLARFARM). Social media content will include posts regarding the proposals, the consultation event schedule, how feedback can be left, and links to the Scheme website.

Media.

We will offer media briefings to local news outlets on the day of consultation launch to raise awareness of the consultation and share details of our proposals.

Paragraphs 3.9.10 - 3.9.13 discuss the invitation sent to media outlets for briefings on the day of consultation launch. A press release detailing information about the statutory consultation which was also issued to media outlets can be located in **Appendix M3: Statutory Consultation press release, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

Seldom heard groups.

To ensure that seldom heard or hard to reach groups are able to take part in the statutory consultation, the Applicant will prepare the materials so that they are accessible and clear. Additionally, the Applicant will also carry out the activities below.

All information was made available online on a website compliant to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG2.0)(Ref. 10) (see paragraph 3.7.20) and materials were prepared in an accessible and clear format (paragraph 3.7.13).

A non-technical summary of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) was provided (**see Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

<p>Work with the host local authorities to identify a range of hard-to-reach groups and individuals, including representatives of local seldom heard groups and inform them of the consultation and to see if they need any further assistance to enable their participation.</p> <p>Display the project contact information prominently on all materials to enable individuals to contact them with any questions or requests.</p> <p>Ensure that the consultation brochure can be made available in alternative forms on request.</p>	<p>The Applicant drafted the SoCC in collaboration with East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council via informal and formal consultation. The local authorities identified no hard-to-reach groups in the Scheme area.</p> <p>The Applicant conducted desk-based research to identify hard-to-reach groups prior to both non-statutory and statutory consultation but none were identified.</p> <p>As per paragraph 3.7.14, the project contact details were displayed clearly in the consultation material.</p> <p>It was advertised in the consultation materials that they could be made available in alternative formats but no requests from stakeholders were received (as confirmed in paragraph 3.7.18).</p>
<p>Where possible we will aim to hold events at venues that are accessible and can be reached by public as well as private transport. For anyone with specific additional requirements in relation to our consultation events please email EastYorkshireSolarFarm@Boom-Power.co.uk or phone 07917 986 094 (Should be land line).</p>	<p>Venues for consultation events and document inspection were selected for public accessibility and proximity to the area around the Scheme (see paragraph 3.10.7).</p> <p>No additional requests were received in relation to accessing the consultation events.</p>
<p>5.1.1 A consultation feedback form will be made available to help consultees provide comments on the Scheme. All consultation responses must be made in writing, unless transcription is needed.</p>	<p>Responses to the consultation were accepted via the following channels, which were stated in all of the promotional activities and consultation materials:</p>

Paragraph No. in SoCC requirement	How the Applicant delivered this requirement
<p>Comments made via phone calls will not be counted as official consultation responses, unless transcribed. Consultation responses can be provided via the following means.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Online response form via www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire. b. Email to EastYorkshireSolarFarm@Boom-Power.co.uk. c. Post to FREEPOST East Yorkshire Solar Farm. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Online response form via www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire. b. Email to EastYorkshireSolarFarm@Boom-Power.co.uk. c. Post to FREEPOST East Yorkshire Solar Farm. <p>This is outlined in paragraph 3.11.1</p>
<p>5.1.2 Contact with the project team during the statutory consultation can be made via the channels outlined below. A member of the project team will aim to respond to the inquiry within five working days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Email: EastYorkshireSolarFarm@Boom-Power.co.uk. b. Phone: 01964 782219 c. Postal address: FREEPOST East Yorkshire Solar Farm 	<p>Correspondence during the statutory consultation could be submitted by the following channels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Email: EastYorkshireSolarFarm@Boom-Power.co.uk. b. Phone: 01964 782219 c. Postal address: FREEPOST East Yorkshire Solar Farm <p>Where possible, the project team responded to the inquiry within five working days.</p>
<p>5.2.1 In accordance with Section 49 of the Act, all responses received will be carefully considered and accounted for as part of the design evolution whilst the proposals are in their formative stage</p>	<p>The Applicant reviewed and considered all responses received from both the non-statutory and statutory consultations as confirmed in paragraph 4.2.1. Set out in Table 2-6 is a summary of the Applicant's responses to the comments raised at the non-statutory consultation, supported by</p>

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

Appendix B: Non-statutory Consultation report, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]. Set out in **Table 4-2** are a summary Applicant's responses to the comments raised at statutory consultation, supported by **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2].**

5.2.1 Suggestions or recommendations for the layout of the solar farm or route of the cable will also be considered by the Applicant.

The Applicant reviewed and considered all responses received from both the non-statutory and statutory consultations as confirmed in paragraph 4.2.1, including recommendations for the layout of the solar farm or route of the cable. Set out in **Table 4-2** are a summary of the Applicant's responses to the comments raised at statutory consultation, supported by **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2].**

5.2.2 If, as a result of feedback from the statutory consultation or from our pre-consultation engagement, the proposals change to the extent that it is necessary to undertake further targeted consultation, this will be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC.

As per Chapter 6, a targeted consultation was carried out in September - October 2023. The methods outlined in section 6.1 are consistent with the principles set out in the SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and those adhered to in the statutory consultation.

5.2.3 The Applicant will summarise consultation responses in a Consultation Report, which will include a description of how the Applicant has had regard of those responses in developing the

As per section 4.6, responses from the statutory consultation were coded based on the matters raised in each question. A summary of the responses from the Applicant to the individual matters raised can be found in section 4.6 with detailed responses found in **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses**

**Paragraph SoCC requirement
No. in
SoCC**

How the Applicant delivered this requirement

	Scheme, and any changes made since the statutory consultation.	(in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]. Changes made to the Scheme as a result of these matters raised are listed in section 4.7.
5.2.3	The Consultation Report forms part of the DCO application which will be submitted to PINS as required by Section 37(3)(c) of the Act.	This document is the Consultation Report with supporting appendices.
5.2.3	Upon acceptance of the DCO application, the Consultation Report will be made available for consultees to review how their comments have fed into the process.	The Consultation Report will be published on the Planning Inspectorate's Scheme website (https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/east-yorkshire-solar-farm/) upon acceptance of the DCO application.

3.4 Consultation Under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1)

- 3.4.1 Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) specifies who the applicant must consult about the proposed application:
- Section 42(1)(a) – such persons as may be prescribed;
 - Section 42(1)(aa) – Marine Management Organisation (MMO) ;
 - Section 42(1)(b) – each local authority that is within Section 43;
 - Section 42(1)(c) – the Greater London Authority if the land is in Greater London; and
 - Section 42(1)(d) – each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
- 3.4.2 Section 42(1) (c) –Section 42(1)(c) is not applicable in this case as the Scheme is not located in Greater London.
- 3.4.3 A full list of consultees identified in accordance with Section 42(1)(a) (aa) and (b) is included in **Appendix H1: List of prescribed consultees identified and consulted, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**. The consultees are set out in the format of Schedule 1 to the APFP Regulations (Ref. 4). Recent changes to Schedule 1 to the APFP Regulations (Ref. 4) meant that some consultees who would previously have been consulted prior to the change were not due to be consulted. The Applicant has taken a precautionary approach and elected to consult these parties.
- 3.4.4 All consultees identified in accordance with Section 42(1)(d) are listed in **Appendix H3 List of prescribed consultees under Section 42 (1)(d), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 3.4.5 Further explanation of the Section 42 consultees and how they were identified is provided in the following subsections.

Identification of Consultees Under Section 42(1)(a) and (aa)

- 3.4.6 The Section 42(1)(a) prescribed consultees were identified through careful adherence to Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations (as amended) (Ref. 4). The Applicant also included the organisations consulted by the Planning Inspectorate on the EIA Scoping Report presented in **Appendix 1-1: EIA Scoping Report of the ES [EN010143/APP/6.2]** and considered and adhered to Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 3 which explains how the Planning Inspectorate identifies these consultees. In identifying those to consult, the Applicant applied the ‘Circumstances Test’ set out in Annex 1 of Advice Note 3. In identifying Prescribed Consultees, the Applicant also reviewed the list provided by PINS under EIA Regulation 11(1)(c) (Ref. 5) to identify any additional parties.
- 3.4.7 Some Section 42(1)(a) prescribed consultees were not identified as Section 42(1)(a) prescribed consultees at the beginning of the statutory consultation but had been notified of the consultation as they were also Section 42(1)(d) consultees (see paragraph 3.4.15). These consultees were sent a consultation letter under Section 42(1)(d). Following the omission of these consultees, they were sent Section 42(1)(a) letter and a Section 48 notice as

received by the Section 42(1)(a) consultees. These consultees were therefore fully and properly notified. Engagement with consultees who fell into this category is discussed in paragraph 3.5.7.

- 3.4.8 The MMO was consulted in accordance with Section 42(1)(aa) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) as a section of the River Ouse, which is a tidal river, is within the Order limits.

Identification of Consultees Under Section 42(1)(b)

- 3.4.9 Section 42(1)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) requires the applicant to consult with the local authorities identified as falling within the categories of an “A”, “B”, “C” or “D” local authority under Section 43 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
- 3.4.10 The relevant local authorities are identified as those whose administrative area the land within the Order limits (Order land) is situated within and those local authorities with neighbouring boundaries.
- 3.4.11 The following local authorities were identified as a category “B” authority (a “host” authority within whose area the Order land is situated and which is a unitary authority or lower-tier district council) for the purposes of Section 43 (shown in **Table 3-6** and **Figure 3-1**):
- a. East Riding of Yorkshire Council; and
 - b. North Yorkshire Council.
- 3.4.12 **Table 3-6** shows the local authorities which share a boundary with the “B” authorities and are therefore “A” authorities for the purposes of Section 43 (shown in **Table 3-6** and **Figure 3-1**).

Table 3-6. Identification of relevant local authorities.

Name	A, B, C or D Authority	Criteria for identification:
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	B	East Riding of Yorkshire Council is a unitary authority in which the Scheme is situated.
	A	East Riding of Yorkshire Council is a unitary authority which shares a boundary with a host ‘B’ authority (North Yorkshire Unitary Authority).
North Yorkshire Council	B	North Yorkshire Council is a unitary authority in which the development is situated – a host local authority.
	A	North Yorkshire Council is a unitary authority which shares a boundary with a host ‘B’ authority (East Riding of Yorkshire Council).
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council	A	Bradford Metropolitan District Council is a is a Metropolitan District Council which shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district ‘B’ council within whose area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).

Name	A, B, C or D Authority	Criteria for identification:
City of York Council	A	City of York Council is a unitary authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (East Riding of Yorkshire Council and North Yorkshire Council).
Doncaster Council	A	Doncaster Council is a Metropolitan District Council that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (East Riding of Yorkshire Council and North Yorkshire Council).
Durham County Council	A	Durham County Council is a unitary authority that shares a boundary with a host 'B' authority (North Yorkshire Council).
Hull City Council	A	Hull City Council is a neighbouring unitary authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (East Riding of Yorkshire Council).
Leeds City Council	A	Leeds City Council is a Metropolitan District Council that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
Middlesborough Council	A	Middlesborough Council is a unitary authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
North Lincolnshire Council	A	North Lincolnshire Council is a neighbouring local authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (East Riding of Yorkshire Council).
North York Moors National Park	A	The North York Moors National Park Authority is an authority which shares a boundary with a host 'B' authority (North Yorkshire Council).
Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	A	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council is a unitary authority which shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	A	Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council is a unitary authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose

Name	A, B, C or D Authority	Criteria for identification:
		area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
Wakefield Council	A	Wakefield Council is a Metropolitan District Council that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
Yorkshire Dales National Park	A	The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority is an authority which shares a boundary with a host 'B' authority (North Yorkshire Council).
Pendle Borough Council	A	Pendle Borough Council is a neighbouring local authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
Ribble Valley Borough Council	A	Ribble Valley Borough Council is a neighbouring local authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
Lancaster City Council	A	Lancaster City Council is a neighbouring local authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
South Lakeland District Council	A	South Lakeland District Council is a neighbouring local authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area development is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
Eden District Council	A	Eden District Council is a neighbouring local authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area the Order land is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
Darlington Borough Council	A	Darlington Brough Council is a unitary authority that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area the Order land is situated (North Yorkshire Council).
Lancashire County Council	A	Lancashire County Council is a county council that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area the Order land is situated (North Yorkshire Council).

Name **A, B, C or D** **Criteria for identification:**

Authority

Cumbria County Council A Cumbria County Council is a county council that shares a boundary with a unitary authority or lower-tier district 'B' council within whose area the Order land is situated (North Yorkshire Council).

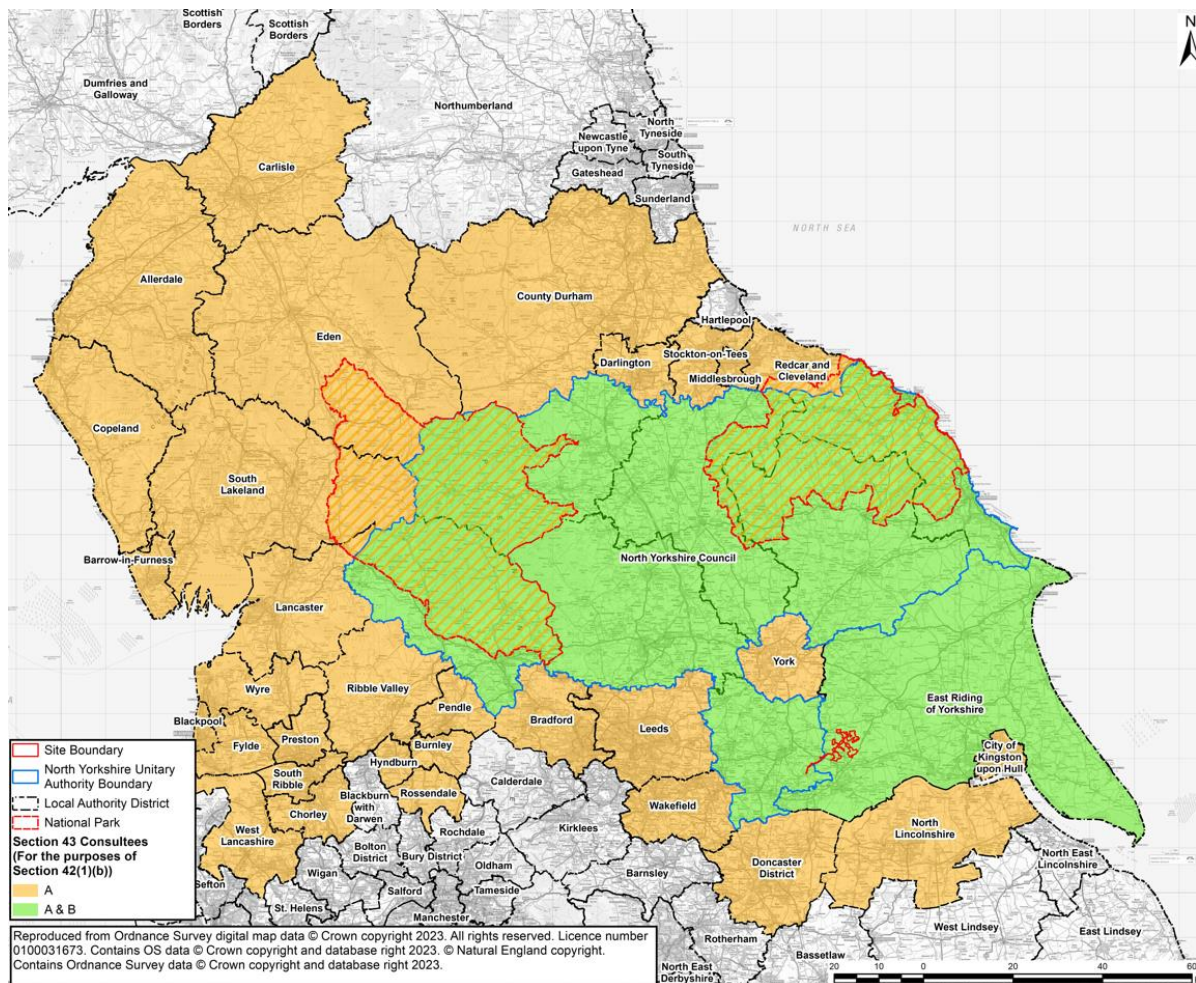


Figure 3-1. Relevant 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' authorities for the Scheme

- 3.4.13 As the Order land was not covered by a County Council, due to there being two unitary authorities as the host authorities, there were no "C" or "D" authorities identified.
- 3.4.14 In addition to the authorities outlined above, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and Yorkshire and Humber Councils were consulted. Whilst these authorities do not fall under any of the categories outlined above, they were considered to be authorities which the Order land is within or adjacent to and therefore have been consulted as non-prescribed consultees on a precautionary basis.

Identification of Consultees Under Section 42(1)(d)

Land Referencing overview

- 3.4.15 Section 42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) states that the Applicant must identify and consult each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
- 3.4.16 In preparing the DCO application, the Applicant has carried out diligent inquiry in order to identify all persons who, by virtue of the nature of the interest they have in land, and the location of that land in relation to the Applicant's Order limits, fall within the categories set out in Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) for the Scheme. Such persons identified at the point of submission of the DCO application are listed in the **Book of Reference [EN010143/APP/4.3]**. The categories are explained in paragraphs 3.4.17- 3.4.20 and the methods used to identify the persons with an interest in the land, are outlined fully in the **Land Referencing Methodology (Appendix R1: Land referencing methodology, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])**.

Category 1 and 2 Persons

- 3.4.17 Category 1 comprises owners, lessees, tenants (whatever the tenancy period) and occupiers of the land.
- 3.4.18 Category 2 comprises persons that are interested in the land or have the power to sell and convey, or to release, the land.
- 3.4.19 Category 1 and 2 persons were identified through diligent inquiry as having a legal interest in or rights over land which may be directly affected by the Scheme.

Category 3 Persons

- 3.4.20 Category 3, as prescribed by Section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), comprises persons who the applicant thinks would or might be entitled to make a "relevant claim" for compensation, if the order sought by the application were to be made and fully implemented. A "relevant claim" is defined in the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) as meaning a claim under Section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (CPA 1965) (Ref. 11), or under Part I of the Land Compensation Act 1973 (LCA 1973) (Ref. 12), or under Section 152(3) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).

Diligent Inquiry Process

- 3.4.21 In order to identify persons coming within Categories 1, 2 and 3, referencing limits were established, comprising the proposed land requirements (including all land within the Order limits), and properties within the area identified as having a potential increase in noise of at least 3dB.
- 3.4.22 Land referencing has been undertaken throughout the pre-application period to ensure that any changes in ownership or new interests have been identified, consulted and subject to engagement. The Order limits were submitted to HM Land Registry for a polygon plus service to identify all affected interested parties. Land referencing was also complimented via data validation using tools such as Trace IQ and the Royal Mail Address validator to ensure the Applicant sent post to the most recent address associated with contacts, reducing the likelihood of documents being issued to historic addresses. Further to this, the Applicant supported our understanding of land

ownership by creating unregistered site notices (see paragraph 3.4.25) and issuing documents known as Land Interest Questionnaires (LIQs) (see paragraph 3.4.26), this allowed the Applicant to validate the data received from HM Land Registry and to identify any non-registered interests in land.

- 3.4.23 HM Land Registry updates have also been checked periodically (generally at six monthly intervals or at key project milestones that would require an update) with the first search being completed in October 2022. Further detailed searches were completed in April 2023 just prior to the commencement of statutory consultation in May 2023. Following the statutory consultation, two further searches were completed in August 2023, and September 2023. Subsequently, official copies of the Registered Titles and Plans were examined to identify all registered land interests. This was further validated via the LIQs (see paragraph 3.4.26), which were issued to the most recent address for each registered contact. The Applicant attempted to contact registered interests where possible using contact information from open-source data and Trace IQ searches. Where these documents were returned, the Applicant validated the contact information, ownership and occupancy of land as well as identify interest who may not have had interests lodged with HM Land Registry. Approximately two weeks after issue of the LIQ the Applicant also issued reminder documents encouraging the return of the LIQ (see paragraph 3.4.26).
- 3.4.24 Land referencing has been undertaken throughout the pre-application period to ensure that any changes in ownership or new interests have been identified, consulted and subject to engagement. Land referencing has been undertaken by Ardent on behalf of the Applicant. Land referencing has been supplemented by ongoing one-to-one engagement with the affected land interests by the Applicant's appointed land agent, DDM Agriculture. HM Land Registry updates have also been checked periodically (generally at six monthly intervals or at key project milestones that would require an update). The cut-off date for land referencing was 29 September 2023 in order to provide a **Book of Reference [EN010143/APP/4.3]** for 6 October 2023.

Unregistered Land and Site Notices

- 3.4.25 On completion of the above initial desk-based exercise, the extent of unregistered land interests became known. In order to establish interests in unregistered land that falls within the referencing limits, public sources of information were used, including non-contact site observations, the Rural Payments Agency website, Natural England, the Companies House website, the relevant local highway authority, records held by statutory undertakers, electoral registers and online resources. Discussions were also held as part of the engagement meetings to attempt to identify owners and occupiers of unregistered land. Unregistered site notices (**Appendix R2: Unregistered site notices, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were erected two weeks prior to the statutory consultation and were monitored until statutory consultation closed on 20 June 2023 (56 days) or until owners were identified (if earlier).
- 3.4.26 Following the initial non-contact methods outlined above, persons identified as a Category 1, 2 or 3 interest were issued with a letter and Land Interest Questionnaire (LIQ) requesting return of information about their interests within the referencing limits. Copies of these materials are provided in **Appendix R3: Land Interest Questionnaire template, Consultation**

Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]. Where responses were not received, this was then followed up by telephone call, email, site visits and/or letter (**Appendix R4: Follow up letter template, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) contact to prompt a response, where appropriate.

- 3.4.27 Targeted consultations with newly identified land interests as a result of changes to the Order limits made after the close of statutory consultation are discussed in Chapter 6.

Assessment of Category 3 persons who may fall under Section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (CPA 1965) (Ref. 11) and/or Section 152(3) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1)

- 3.4.28 Identification of Category 3 persons was undertaken at the early stages of developing the Scheme, in order to inform the design and preparation of the DCO application. The process set out below was repeated each time the Order limits were amended as the Scheme has developed. For further information, see Land Referencing Methodology (**Appendix R1: Land referencing methodology, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

Assessment of Category 3 persons which fall under Part I of the LCA 1973 (Ref. 12)

- 3.4.29 In identifying potential claimants under Part I of the LCA 1973 (Ref. 12), physical factors arising from and impacts as a result of the Scheme were considered. Those identified include:
- a. Properties closest to the Scheme; and
 - b. Properties identified as a potential receptor as a consequence of the property being located outside the Order limits but in the vicinity of the Scheme.
- 3.4.30 The Applicant was provided with guidance from environmental specialists to identify those receptors potentially impacted by physical factors (noise, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, artificial lighting and discharge of solid/liquid substance onto land). This guidance was based on the topography of the land and the likely significant effects arising from the Scheme.
- 3.4.31 The physical factors were verified against the PEI Report (Ref. 9) to identify consultees for the statutory consultation. The Applicant has also conducted further checks against the **Environmental Statement - Volume 1: Main Text [EN010143/APP/7.8]**.
- 3.4.32 Based on the above information, professional judgement was used to ascertain whether a person may potentially be entitled to make a relevant claim under Section 44(6) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), based on a worst-case assessment on 13 March 2023 to identify consultees for the statutory consultation. This process was undertaken for all of the physical factors set out in Part I of the LCA 1973 (Ref. 12), and in each case the parties and properties assessed in terms of potential relevant claims for that factor.

Noise

- 3.4.33 The noise and vibration assessment presented in Chapter 11 (Noise and Vibration) of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) did not identify any significant adverse

noise effects during operation based on a reasonable worst case design scenario. Noise modelling calculations have confirmed that none of the noise levels at sensitive receptors within 500m of the Site boundary are above +3dB change from baseline. A 3dB change is the lowest perceptible change. A distance of 500m from the site boundary was used as a measurement following the Applicant's previous experience of solar farms where modelling has identified that adverse effects are unlikely at a distance greater than 500m.

Vibration

- 3.4.34 The noise and vibration assessment presented in Chapter 11 (Noise and Vibration) of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) confirmed there are no sources of vibration during operation with the potential to cause significant adverse effects. Solar farm infrastructure would not generate perceptible levels of vibration therefore no adverse vibration effects would occur during operation.

Smells

- 3.4.35 The operation of the Scheme is not anticipated to generate any smells.

Fumes

- 3.4.36 Chapter 16 (Air Quality) of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) set out that it is not expected that operational traffic would result in significant increases in local road traffic air quality concentrations. This is because there would be a very low number of vehicles to visit the site for operational maintenance purposes. There are no other likely significant air quality impacts predicted during operation from plant or machinery. Therefore, there are no anticipated significant adverse effects on sensitive receptors resulting from fumes arising from air emissions.

Smoke

- 3.4.37 The operation of the Scheme is not anticipated to generate any smoke as set out in Chapter 16 (Other Environmental Topics including Air Quality) of the PEI Report (Ref. 9).

Light emissions

- 3.4.38 Chapter 16 (Other Environmental Topics including Air Quality) of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) stated that due to the topography, existing surrounding vegetation and ability to plant vegetation, it is anticipated at this stage that there will be no significant effects arising as a result of Glint and Glare. Chapter 16 (Other Environmental Topics including Air Quality) of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) also noted that should significant effects be predicted following further modelling these can be mitigated as part of the design through screening, fencing and repositioning of panels. Chapter 2 (The Scheme) of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) stated that during operation of the solar farm areas of solar PV will not require artificial lighting other than during temporary periods of maintenance/repair. All routine maintenance activities, except panel cleaning, will be scheduled for daylight hours as far as is practicable, and therefore it is anticipated that focussed task specific lighting should only be required in the event of emergency works/equipment failure requiring night-time working or panel cleaning operations. It is estimated that the solar panels would be cleaned every two years. The panels would be cleaned at night when they are cool and not tracking and the preferred approach to lighting during this cleaning would be tractor mounted lighting

which is akin to that used during night-time arable harvesting operations. At the operations and maintenance hub at Johnson's Farm, and the barn/agricultural buildings in Solar PV Area 1h, task specific and fixed 'general' lighting may be required in winter periods (early mornings and evenings) to meet safety requirements. The operational measures for lighting will be controlled by the **Framework Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) [EN010143/APP/7.8]**. This will ensure a sensitive lighting scheme is developed to avoid lighting that would impact nearby properties.

Discharges on to the land in respect of which the claim is made of any solid or liquid substance –

- 3.4.39 During operation there would be limited discharges on to the land. These would likely arise from cleaning of panels. Chapter 2 (The Scheme) and Chapter 9 (Flood Risk, Drainage and Water Environment) of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) explained that cleaning of panels would not involve cleaning materials and only water and that foul water from the offices at Johnson's Farm will be drained to a septic tank and therefore there would be no discharge of foul water to a watercourse, and no discharge to the public foul sewer. Chapter 9 (Flood Risk, Drainage and Water Environment) of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) also explained that the operational Scheme design will include both tanks to provide water for firefighting and associated fire water containment storage should there be a fire within the BESS and therefore the risk that contaminated water may pollute nearby watercourses or land if it is not contained would be avoided. A Surface Water Drainage Strategy is also proposed to be developed to implement measures to control pollution during operation. This is proposed to be secured through a DCO requirement. As a result of the above assessments, the Applicant did not identify anyone that might be entitled to make a relevant claim as a result of these physical factors. All directly affected landowners were referenced through issuing Land Interest Questionnaires (**see Appendix R3: Land Interest Questionnaire template, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and further follow up letters to correctly identify the parties affected (**Appendix R4: Follow up letter template, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).
- 3.4.40 Further details about the environmental assessments undertaken can be found in Chapters 6 to 16 of the **ES Volume 1 [EN010143/APP/6.1]**.
- 3.4.41 As is standard practice, persons with enforceable rights and covenants were included at the initial land referencing stage, as these parties will be included as a Category 3 interest in the **Book of Reference [EN010143/APP/4.3]**, as having the potential to make a relevant claim. Land interests that hold such rights and the benefit of restrictive covenants were issued a Land Interest Questionnaire to confirm if these rights were still applicable to the said land within the Order Limits. The Applicant also issued Land Interest Questionnaires to all registered interests to ensure that any unregistered restrictive rights and covenants could be identified to be accounted for in the final **Book of Reference [EN010143/APP/4.3]**.
- 3.4.42 A list of Section 42(1)(d) consultees consulted at statutory consultation (and targeted consultation – see Chapter 6) can be found in **Appendix H3 List of prescribed consultees under Section 42 (1)(d), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

Unregistered Land and Site Notices

- 3.4.43 On completion of the above initial desk-based exercise, the extent of unregistered land interests became known. In order to establish interests in unregistered land that falls within the referencing limits, public sources of information were used, including non-contact site observations, the Rural Payments Agency website, Natural England, the Companies House website, the relevant local highway authority, records held by statutory undertakers, electoral registers and online resources. Discussions were also held as part of the engagement meetings to attempt to identify owners and occupiers of unregistered land. Unregistered site notices (**Appendix R2: Unregistered site notices, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were erected two weeks prior to the statutory consultation and were monitored until statutory consultation closed.
- 3.4.44 Following the initial non-contact methods outlined above, persons identified as a Category 1, 2 or 3 interest were issued with a letter and Land Interest Questionnaire (LIQ) requesting return of information about their interests within the referencing limits. Copies of these materials are provided in **Appendix R3: Land Interest Questionnaire template, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**. Where responses were not received, this was then followed up by telephone call, email, site visits and/or letter (**Appendix R4: Follow up letter template, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) contact to prompt a response, where appropriate.
- 3.4.45 Further information on the diligent inquiry process is provided in the Land Referencing methodology (**Appendix R1: Land referencing methodology, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).
- 3.4.46 At the end of September 2023, two new Section 42 (1) (d) parties were identified through diligent enquiry. Consultation with these parties is discussed in Chapter 8 of this report.

3.5 Consultation Methodology for Section 42 Consultees

Notifying Section 42 Consultees

- 3.5.1 The Applicant sent all Section 42(1)(a), Section 42(1)(aa), Section 42(1)(b) and those identified as Section 42(1)(d) consultees a letter on 3 May 2023 to inform them of the start of the statutory consultation (**Appendix I1: Section 42 (1)(a) letter; Appendix I2: Section 42 (1)(aa) letter; Appendix I3: Section 42 (1)(b) letter; and Appendix I4: Section 42 (1)(d) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**)
- 3.5.2 Section 42(1)(a), Section 42(1)(aa) and Section 42(1)(b) consultees were sent letters via Royal Mail Tracked 24 (a service which delivers letters within 24 hours, with the option to track delivery online). Section 42(1)(d) consultees were sent letters via Royal Mail Signed for (a service which delivers letters the next working day, including Saturdays and requires a signature on delivery). These letters were posted to arrive before the first day of the statutory consultation period (9 May 2023).
- 3.5.3 The letters provided an overview of the Scheme, explained that the Scheme was a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), EIA development, that the party to whom it was addressed was being formally consulted under

the requirements of Section 42(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and set out how to respond to the consultation. The letters specified to consultees that they were being consulted:

- a. as a consultee identified under Section 42(1)(a) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and Regulation 3 of the APFP Regulations (Ref. 4), a consultee identified under Regulation 11(1)(c) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (Ref. 5) or a consultee where it has been decided it would be appropriate to consult in any event;
- b. as the Marine Management Organisation in accordance with Section 42(1)(aa) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1);
- c. as a local authority under Section 42(1)(b) and section 43 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1);
- d. as a person or organisation who has an interest in the land which the Applicant is proposing to seek powers for under the DCO for the Scheme in accordance with section 42(1)(d) and section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).

3.5.4 The following information was enclosed within the Section 42(1)(a)(aa) and (b) letters:

- a. A copy of the Section 48 notice first published on 4 May 2023 (**Appendix L1: Copy of Section 48 notice as included in Section 42(1) consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) in accordance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5). The notice included information on how paper copies of the materials in paragraph could be obtained free of charge, or for a cost of up to £0.35 per page for multiple paper copies of these consultation materials, or for large printing requests such as the PEI Report (Ref. 9) to cover printing and postage. Electronic copies of the PEI Report (Ref. 9) on a USB memory stick could also be requested for a small charge to cover production and postage costs. Further information or other formats of the consultation material could be requested.
- b. The deadline for responses set out as 23:59 on 20 June 2023, providing a period of 42 days.
- c. Dates of the consultation period.
- d. Public consultation event dates, times and locations.
- e. Dates, times and link to the online webinar events.
- f. Details about the location and opening time of document inspection points where documents could be viewed in hard copy.
- g. The email, freepost address and contact number for the Scheme.
- h. A link to the Scheme's website which contained digital copies of the consultation materials listed in paragraph 3.7.17.

3.5.5 In addition to receiving a physical copy of the letter and Section 48 notice in the post, Section 42(1)(a), Section 42(1)(aa), Section 42(1)(b) consultees were sent a PDF copy of the letter and Section 48 notice referred to in

paragraph 3.5.1 via email on 9 May 2023 where email addresses for these consultees were known to the Applicant.

- 3.5.6 The following information was enclosed within the Section 42(1)(d) letters:
- a. A copy of the consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) providing a high-level overview of the proposed Scheme, as well as the community consultation that is taking place on the proposed Scheme;
 - b. A copy of the consultation feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**); and
 - c. A copy of the plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route (**Appendix K4: Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).
 - d. The deadline for responses set out as 23:59 on 20 June 2023, providing a period of 42 days.
 - e. Dates of the consultation period.
 - f. The email, freepost address and contact number for the Scheme.
 - g. A link to the Scheme's website which contained:
 - i. digital copies of the consultation materials listed in paragraph 3.7.17
 - ii. public consultation event dates, times and locations listed in **Table 3-12**
 - iii. dates, times and link to the online webinar events listed in **Table 3-13**; and
 - iv. details about the location and opening time of document inspection points where documents could be viewed in hard copy listed in **Table 3-11**.

Approach to Return to Senders and Consultation Extensions

Section 42(1)(a) consultees

- 3.5.7 As noted in paragraph 3.4.7, some Section 42(1)(a) prescribed consultees were not identified as Section 42(1)(a) prescribed consultees at the beginning of the statutory consultation but had been notified of the consultation as they were also Section 42(1)(d) consultees (see paragraph 3.4.15). Having been made aware of this, and taking a precautionary approach, the Applicant issued these consultees with a Section 42(1)(a) letter on 24 May or 13 June 2023 (enclosing a copy of the Section 48 Notice) to ensure that the consultees were made aware that they were being consulted due to having multiple interests in the Scheme. The Applicant did not provide extensions to these consultees as they had received the original notification of the consultation as planned and the Applicant had therefore

complied with its duty under s.42. The consultees latterly issued a Section 42(1)(a) letter are listed below:

- a. The Crown Estate (24 May 2023)
- b. Eastern Power Networks PLC (13 June 2023)
- c. National Gas Transmission PLC (13 June 2023)
- d. RWE Generation UK PLC (13 June 2023)
- e. UK Power Distribution Limited (13 June 2023)

3.5.8 On 1 June 2023, Active Travel England became a statutory consultee on all large planning applications and as such were consulted on this basis. Active Travel England were sent a Section 42(1)(a) email on the 14 June 2023 for a period of 28 days.

3.5.9 The Applicant noted that some Section 42(1)(a) consultees were not contacted in the original statutory consultation mail-out. These consultees were as follows:

- a. Leep Electricity Networks Limited
- b. Leep Gas Networks Limited
- c. NHS North Yorkshire and Humber
- d. Yorkshire Ambulance Service

3.5.10 These consultees were consulted under Section 42(1)(a) via letter delivered via courier service on 4 October 2023 including the same enclosures discussed in paragraph 3.5.4. See **Appendix I6: Section 42 (1)(a) second mailout letter template, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** for a copy of this letter template. The statutory consultation period for these consultees was from Wednesday 4 October – Friday 3 November 2023. These consultees were also invited to comment on the targeted consultation discussed in Chapter 6. No responses were received from these consultees.

Section 42(1)(d) consultees

3.5.11 Seven Section 42(1)(d) letters were returned to the Applicant between 11 and 26 May 2023.

3.5.12 All letters returned were investigated to determine why they had been returned and if any alternative methods of contacting the recipient could be identified. These letters have been tracked in **Appendix I5: Return to sender tracking, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**. New contact details were acquired through diligent inquiry, see Land Referencing Methodology (**Appendix R1: Land referencing methodology, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

3.5.13 Of the seven Section 42(1)(d) letters returned, confirmation was received that five of the recipients had received and signed for their letters at either a primary or secondary address.

3.5.14 One of the recipients, Cadent Gas, had recently confirmed on 4 May 2023 via email that they did not have an interest in the Scheme. The email included a map showing that the Scheme falls outside of their operational area. In the email, Cadent Gas requested that they be removed from the

Applicant's mailing list. In light of this, when the Section 42(1)(d) letter was returned to the Applicant, Cadent Gas were not re-issued a letter.

- 3.5.15 The remaining Section 42 (1)(d) recipient's letter was returned as it had not been signed for, and there was no alternative address. This letter was successfully delivered on 2 June 2023 via first class tracked mail, rather than signed for. As this recipient was inadvertently not offered an extension to the statutory consultation, they were contacted following the statutory consultation on 9 August 2023 and given 28 days from 11 August 2023 to 8 September 2023 to comment. The letter sent included the Section 42(1)(d) letter and enclosures originally sent to Section 42(1)(d) letters.

Advance Briefings for Statutory Consultation

- 3.5.16 A meeting with representatives of the planning department of East Riding of Yorkshire Council and North Yorkshire Council took place on 28 April 2023 to discuss the upcoming statutory consultation and update the local authorities on the ongoing environmental survey work and forthcoming technical officer meetings.
- 3.5.17 The parish councils named in paragraph 2.10.2, ward councillors representing the wards local to the Scheme (Howden, Howdenshire, Camblesforth and Carlton, and Cliffe and North Duffield), and the leaders of North Yorkshire Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council (Selby District Council joined North Yorkshire as a new unitary authority on 1 April 2023 so was no longer considered a separate stakeholder) were contacted on 17 April 2023 by email and offered briefings in advance of the statutory consultation to allow them an opportunity to raise any concerns or questions.
- 3.5.18 Four briefings took place over 25 April and 26 April 2023, with invites accepted by the following stakeholders:
- a. Howdenshire Ward;
 - b. Camblesforth and Carlton Ward;
 - c. Cliffe and North Duffield Ward;
 - d. Bubwith Parish Council;
 - e. Foggathorpe Parish Council;
 - f. Eastrington Parish Council;
 - g. Spaldington Parish Council;
 - h. Barmby-on-the-Marsh Parish Council;
 - i. Long Drax Parish Council;
 - j. Wressle Parish Council; and
 - k. Howden Town Council.
- 3.5.19 A range of dates were offered for these briefings. One of the ward councillors for Howdenshire declined a briefing, as did the leader of North Yorkshire Council.
- 3.5.20 Responses were not received from the leader of East Yorkshire Council, the ward Councillor for Howden, Hemingborough Parish Council, and Drax Parish Council.

- 3.5.21 Chaser emails were sent to the parish councils who did not respond a week after the first email.
- 3.5.22 Drax Parish Council were also offered alternative dates as the original meeting invitation sent to them contained the incorrect date. No response was received from Drax Parish Council to this follow up email.

3.6 Section 46 (Notifying the Planning Inspectorate)

- 3.6.1 The Applicant sent a letter via email to the Case Manager at the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State on 3 May 2023 to provide formal notification of the commencement of the statutory consultation for the Scheme. A copy of this letter is included in **Appendix J1: Section 46 letter to Secretary of State, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 3.6.2 In accordance with Section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), this letter had the following enclosed and therefore treated the Secretary of State as if it was consulting it for the purpose of complying with section 46:
- a. Example copies of covering letters to consultees identified under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1):
 - i. Section 42(1)(a) consultees (prescribed consultees) (**Appendix I1: Section 42 (1)(a) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - ii. Section 42(1)(aa) MMO (**Appendix I2: Section 42 (1)(aa) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - iii. Section 42(1)(b) consultees (local authorities) (**Appendix I3: Section 42 (1)(b) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - iv. Section 42(1)(d) consultees (land interests) (**Appendix I4: Section 42 (1)(d) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**); and
 - b. A copy of the Section 48 Notice pursuant to Regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (Ref. 5) (**Appendix L1: Copy of Section 48 notice as included in Section 42(1) consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - c. A copy of the consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) providing a high-level overview of the proposed Scheme, as well as the community consultation that is taking place on the proposed Scheme;
 - d. A copy of the consultation feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**); and
 - e. A copy of the plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route (**Appendix K4: Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

- 3.6.3 The letter confirmed that the following documents would be available on the project website from Tuesday 9 May 2023:
- a. Consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - b. Consultation feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - c. Consultation Frequently Asked Questions ('FAQ') document (**Appendix K3: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - d. PEI Report (Ref. 9) accompanied by a NTS (**Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - e. Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route; (**Appendix K4: Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**); and
 - f. SoCC (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).
- 3.6.4 The acknowledgement of the Section 46 notification letter received in response from the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) on 5 May 2023 is included in **Appendix J2: Acknowledgement of Section 46 letter from PINS, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

3.7 Section 47 (Local Community Consultation)

Identification of Consultees

- 3.7.1 Section 47(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) requires the preparation of “a *statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult, about the proposed application, those people living in the vicinity of the land*” (a SoCC). Section 3.3 provides details of the production of the SoCC.
- 3.7.2 A key part of the initial discussions with the relevant local authorities for the production of the SoCC focused on the identification of a primary consultation zone for community consultation.
- 3.7.3 To define the primary consultation zone, the Applicant used the mailing area set for the non-statutory consultation in October 2022 as a starting point. For non-statutory consultation, the Applicant had identified all parish council boundaries with the Grid Connection Corridor running through its boundary and then, where it felt this was necessary, also included the neighbouring parish councils. For example, where the boundary between two parishes was close to the site boundary, the parish not directly impacted by the Scheme would also be consulted. The mailing zone for non-statutory consultation comprised 1268 addresses.
- 3.7.4 The Local Planning Authorities were consulted on the mailing zone as part of the informal and formal SoCC consultations. At the informal consultation stage, Selby District Council requested more information be added to the SoCC on consultation outside the consultation zone. A joint response to the

formal consultation on the SoCC from Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council requested further information be included on the nature and extent of consultation outside the consultation mailing zone. The Applicant amended the SoCC to clarify that “Beyond the consultation mailing zone, stakeholder groups will also be targeted and contacted directly by email.”

- 3.7.5 The mailing area for the non-statutory consultation presented in **Appendix B: Non-statutory Consultation report, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**, consisted of properties within one kilometre of the proposed Solar PV Site or the indicative cable route. For statutory consultation this was expanded to take additional land to the north-east of the Scheme into account. As per the approach taken at the non-statutory consultation, extensions were made to the radius of the consultation mailing zone to include roads or hamlets if they fell just outside the 1km radius limit. The primary Consultation Zone is presented in **Figure 3-2.** below and comprised 1365 addresses.
- 3.7.6 Following the addition of Solar PV Areas 1g and 1h (see **Figure 2-3**) the consultation zone was expanded at statutory consultation to take in all homes and business within 1 km of the Site Boundary at PEI Reporting stage, with additional areas brought into the consultation zone around the Solar PV Site as required.
- 3.7.7 Whilst the Grid Connection Corridor was refined (narrowed) between EIA Scoping and preparing the PEI Report (Ref. 9), as the non-statutory consultation zone was based on a radius of 1km from the indicative route and the statutory consultation zone was defined as 1km from the Grid Connection Corridor, the consultation zone was larger at statutory consultation. This approach ensured that those consulted as part of the non-statutory consultation were also consulted at statutory consultation. The consultation zone was agreed with the Local Authorities as part of the informal and formal reviews of the SoCC.

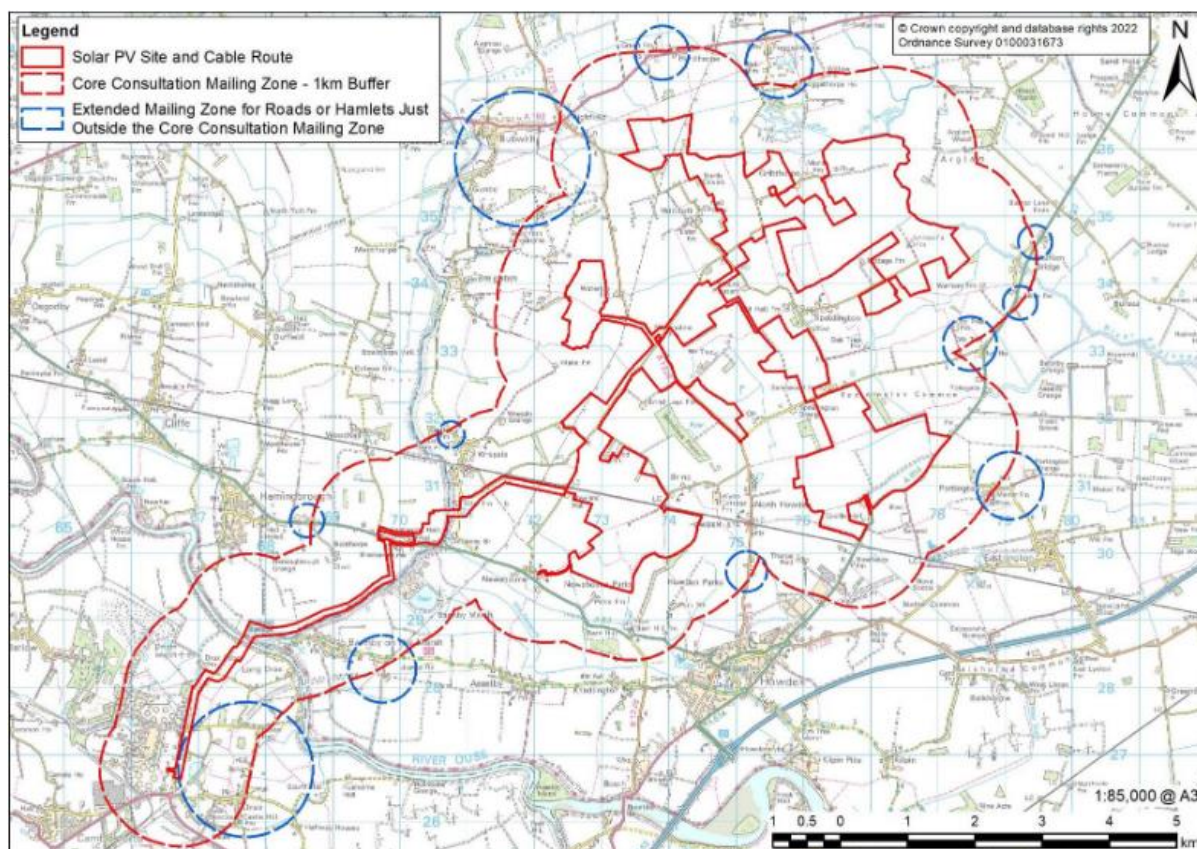


Figure 3-2. Primary consultation zone boundary at statutory consultation

3.7.8 In addition to those people living in the vicinity of the land, the Applicant also sought feedback on the proposals from businesses and business groups, environmental bodies, and members of the general public with an interest in the Scheme. These consultees were identified via desk-based research. They received invitations via email (**Appendix M2: Email notification to non-statutory consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) For a list of these consultees, please see **Appendix H2: List of non-prescribed consultees contacted, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**. The publicity to these groups is detailed in paragraph 3.9.3.

Hard to Reach Groups

3.7.9 The term “hard-to-reach groups” refers to people who are less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation techniques in comparison to other consultees. They may find it harder to get involved in consultation and need additional support to access materials.

3.7.10 The Applicant conducted desktop research from publicly available data to identify hard to reach groups in the vicinity of the Scheme. The Applicant was unable to identify any hard-to-reach groups or individuals from their research.

3.7.11 Prior to the non-statutory consultation, the Applicant contacted East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Selby District Council for any data they may hold on hard-to-reach groups and individuals in the vicinity of the Scheme. East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Selby District Council confirmed that there were no hard-to-reach groups that they were aware of in the vicinity of the

Scheme. The local authorities were informally and formally consulted on the draft SoCC following which no hard-to-reach groups were identified.

- 3.7.12 The Applicant made the consultation inclusive for hard-to-reach groups by sharing information on the project website and by offering to share consultation materials in other formats on request.
- 3.7.13 To ensure that seldom heard or hard-to-reach groups were able to take part in the statutory consultation, materials were prepared in an accessible and clear format.
- 3.7.14 The contact telephone number and email address for the Scheme was displayed in a prominent location on all published material, enabling individuals to contact the project's customer contact centre with questions and requests.
- 3.7.15 Where possible events, were held at venues that were accessible and could be reached by public as well as private transport. The SoCC requested that anyone with specific additional requirements in relation to the consultation events should contact the project team using the contact details outlined in paragraph 3.11.

Statutory Consultation Materials

- 3.7.16 To support the delivery of the consultation, the Applicant produced a variety of materials to explain the proposals and publicise the consultation. These set out the methods via which people could respond and included the date by which responses needed to be provided.
- 3.7.17 The materials below were made available on the Applicant's web page and were also available to view in hard copy at a number of Document Inspection Points (listed in **Table 3-11**) and at consultation events:
- a. Statutory consultation brochure – explaining the Scheme the Applicant was consulting on (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - b. Consultation feedback form – containing the specific questions on which the Applicant was seeking feedback (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**). The feedback form was also available to complete online at the project webpage;
 - c. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document – which gave answers to some of the frequently asked questions about the Scheme (**Appendix K3: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - d. Plans of the proposed solar farm and grid connection and interconnecting cable routes showing the land within which all the required construction and permanent infrastructure will be located (**Appendix K4: Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);
 - e. Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) – setting out how and when the Applicant planned to consult with people living in the vicinity of the land and other stakeholders (**Appendix G1: Published SoCC, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**);

- f. Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report – detailing the results of environmental surveys to date, and providing the preliminary assessment of the potential impacts of the solar farm and how the Applicant proposes to avoid or reduce these effects; and
 - g. Non-Technical Summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report – providing a summary of the environmental assessment findings (**Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).
- 3.7.18 To ensure the consultation was accessible to as many people as possible, the Applicant offered materials in large print and alternative formats. No requests for alternative formats were received.
- 3.7.19 The Applicant offered printed copies of materials and USBs containing copies of the statutory consultation materials which were available for a fee of £4.00.
- 3.7.20 The Applicant's website was designed to be accessible in line with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG2.0).
- 3.7.21 Details of the statutory consultation launch, as well as the dates and addresses of the consultation events, were published on the Applicant's website. The information included contact information and a general Boom Power contact form separate from the EYSF statutory consultation feedback form (which was only available during the statutory consultation). To enable people to access the range of consultation materials, the documents listed in paragraph 3.7.17 were available to download via the Scheme web pages throughout the consultation period and remain there at the time of writing. During the statutory consultation period, the Scheme web pages received a total of 2,157 views.

3.8 Section 48 (Newspaper Notices)

- 3.8.1 Section 48(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) requires the Applicant to publish a notice of the proposed DCO application in accordance with Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations (as amended by the Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2020) (Ref. 7).
- 3.8.2 The requirement for the Section 48 notice is for it to appear for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity of the Scheme; once in a national newspaper; and once in The London Gazette.
- 3.8.3 The Section 48 notice included information on the proposed Scheme; the consultation documents that were made available to view; where they could be inspected including the Scheme website; and the charge for hard copies of documents. Information on the consultation launch, dates and addresses of the upcoming consultation events were also provided.
- 3.8.4 The Applicant complied with the guidance in relation to Regulation 4(3) of the APFP regulations (Ref. 4), as per **Table 3-7** below.

Table 3-7. Requirement of Regulation 4(3) of the APFP regulations (Ref. 4) and complied with by the Applicant

Requirement	Text contained in Section 48 notice
The matters which the notice must include are— (a) the name and address of the applicant;	“EAST YORKSHIRE SOLAR FARM LIMITED (company number 14103404) of Unit 5E, Park Farm, Arundel, BN18 0AG (the Applicant)”
(b) a statement that the applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Commission;	“(the Applicant”) proposes to make an application (“the Application”) to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (as amended) for the abovementioned Development Consent Order (“DCO”).”
(c) a statement as to whether the application is EIA development;	“The Scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.” (Ref. 5)
(d) a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the proposed development;	“The Scheme is a nationally significant infrastructure project being proposed by the Applicant, as it will have a generating capacity exceeding 50 MW. The Scheme is proposed to be located on land northwest of the market town of Howden, near the villages of Spaldington, Brind and Wressle in the administrative area of East Riding of Yorkshire Council and will connect to the national grid at National Grid’s Drax substation in the administrative area of North Yorkshire Council. The Scheme will deliver enough low carbon electricity to power approximately 100,000 homes at a time of increased energy insecurity and will also contribute to the UK government’s target of reaching net-zero carbon by 2050.

The proposed DCO will, amongst other things, authorise:

- construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar PV electricity generating facility;
- associated and/or ancillary works including the construction of a BESS with an export capacity over 50 MW; substations and cabling to connect to the National Grid substation at Drax; the creation of environmental mitigation and enhancement areas; permissive paths; access tracks; construction compounds; and redevelopment of existing buildings to office, welfare and storage facilities;

Requirement	Text contained in Section 48 notice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• alterations to streets, including the creation and modification of temporary and permanent accesses, the temporary removal of street furniture and any necessary temporary diversion and/or temporary stoppings up of public rights of way;• the permanent compulsory acquisition and temporary possession (if required) of land and/or rights;• the overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land as well as the creation of restrictions where necessary;• the application and/or disapplication of legislation including, amongst other things, legislation relating to compulsory purchase and landlord and tenant matters; and• such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, licenses, property rights, permits and consents as are necessary and/or convenient for the purposes of the Scheme.”
<p>(e) a statement that the documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location of the Proposed Development are available for inspection free of charge on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant, including the address of the website; the place on the website where the documents, plans and maps may be inspected; and a telephone number which can be used to contact the Applicant for enquiries in relation to the</p>	<p>“All consultation materials can be found on the Applicant’s website www.boom-power.co.uk/east_yorkshire where they will be available for inspection, free of charge, during the consultation period with the final day being Tuesday 20 June 2023.”</p> <p>“If further information about this notice, the consultation materials, the consultation or the Scheme is required, please contact the project team by using one of these contact methods: Email: eastyorkshiresolarfarm@boom-power.co.uk Write: FREEPOST East Yorkshire Solar Farm Telephone: 01964 782219 between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday”</p> <p>:</p>

Requirement	Text contained in Section 48 notice
documents, plans and maps	
(f) the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection on the website	“All consultation materials can be found on the Applicant’s website www.boom-power.co.uk/east_yorkshire where they will be available for inspection, free of charge, during the consultation period with the final day being Tuesday 20 June 2023”.
(g)whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge;	“Single paper copies of each of the consultation materials will be made available on request. This request should be made during the consultation period to the Applicant using the contact details provided in this notice. For multiple copies of these documents requests will be considered on a case by case basis and there may be a charge of up to £0.35 per page or for large printing requests such as the PEIR to cover printing and postage costs. Digital copies of the consultation materials can be provided on USB memory stick as PDF files upon request for a small charge to cover production and postage costs. “
(h)details of how to respond to the publicity; and	“When providing your response, please include your name and address or, if you would prefer your comments to be anonymous, your postcode only. Please also confirm the nature of your interest in the Scheme and state the grounds of the response or representation. All responses must be made in writing by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Completing the online feedback form located on the Scheme website: www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshireb. Attending a consultation event and completing a paper copy feedback formc. Obtaining a paper copy of the consultation feedback form at one of our document deposit locations or by requesting one using the contact details in this notice, which can be returned via FREEPOST East Yorkshire Solar Farmd. Alternatively, feedback can be sent to us by:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Emailing: eastyorkshiresolarfarm@boom-power.co.uk orii. writing to us: FREEPOST East Yorkshire Solar Farm”

Requirement	Text contained in Section 48 notice
(i)a deadline for receipt of those responses by the applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published.	“Feedback Any person may comment on the proposals or otherwise respond to this consultation. Responses must be received by 11.59pm on 20 June 2023. Responses received after this time may not be considered.”
3.8.5	Instructions and the deadline for responding to the consultation were provided, alongside the different communication channels available to contact the Scheme. The deadline was 20 June 2023 more than 28 days following the date of the last publication of the notice.
3.8.6	Prior to publication of the first notice in the local and national newspapers it was identified that the address for the Scheme website was not consistent with the address listed in other consultation material. The Applicant ensured that the link featured in the section 48 notice took consultees to the same web pages so anyone accessing via this link was not disadvantaged. The Applicant therefore complied with the requirement to include in the notice the address of the website where the documents, plans and maps may be inspected.
3.8.7	As part of the feedback received on the SoCC from the local authorities, Selby District Council asked that the Pontefract and Castleford Express be considered to place notices in. The SoCC committed that the Applicant would review circulation numbers and consider The Goole Times (and sister publications the Selby Times and the Epworth Times); The Pontefract & Castleford Express; and The Hull Daily Mail. Following a review of circulation figures, The Hull Daily Mail was considered the best option.
3.8.8	Copies of the Section 48 notice as it appeared in the various newspapers can be found in Appendix L2: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Times 04.05.2023; Appendix L3: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Guardian 04.05.2023; Appendix L4: Copy of Section 48 notice - The London Gazette 04.05.2023; Appendix L5: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 04.05.2023; and Appendix L6: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 11.05.2023, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2] . This complies with paragraph 58 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1): Guidance on the pre-application process which states that “Where possible, the first of the two required local newspaper advertisements should coincide approximately with the beginning of the consultation with communities”.

Table 3-8. Publication of Section 48 notice in newspapers.

Name	Date (Week 1)	Date (Week 2)
National		
The Times	04/05/2023	Not required
The Guardian	04/05/2023	Not required
The London Gazette	04/05/2023	Not required
Local		
The Hull Daily Mail	04/05/2023	11/05/2023

3.9 Publicity

Consultation Mailing Zone

- 3.9.1 Addresses falling within the consultation mailing zone received a consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) issued on Tuesday 9 May 2023.

Emails to Previous Consultation Participants

- 3.9.2 Those who had asked to be kept up to date as part of their response to the non-statutory consultation were notified by email on 10 May 2023 (see **Appendix M1: Email to non-statutory consultation respondents who requested to be kept informed, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** for the notification that was sent to these stakeholders). A further email was issued on 11 May 2023 to a previous respondent who had requested to be kept up to date but was missed in the email sent on 10 May 2023; this allowed more than 28 days for them to respond to the consultation.

Emails to Non-statutory organisations

- 3.9.3 Non-statutory organisations were sent a notification via email on 9 May 2023. Non-statutory consultees who were specifically contacted included local businesses, interest groups and other stakeholders identified as having an interest in the Scheme (see **Appendix M2: Email notification to non-statutory consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** for the notification that was sent to these stakeholders and **Appendix H2: List of non-prescribed consultees contacted, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** for a list of non-statutory consultees).
- 3.9.4 The local interest group Villages Against Solar Panels (VAST) (see paragraph 2.10.4) contacted the Applicant on 20 April 2023 to request to be invited to a pre-consultation briefing to Parish Councils. On 24 April 2023 the Applicant in replying to VAST and confirmed the start date of the consultation. The reply stated that consultation briefings to Parish Councils were “... *being carried out in line with our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), which outlines the steps being taken to make sure the consultation is abiding by the requirements set out by the Planning Act 2008.*”

The SoCC will be published on our website when the statutory consultation starts on the 9th of May. (**Appendix M5: Email to VAST, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**). The Applicant held online webinars during the statutory consultation (see paragraph 3.10.12), which were open for all members of the public to attend, provided the details of the consultation and allowed participants to ask questions of the project team.

Briefings to Local Parish Councils and Ward/Division Councillors

- 3.9.5 In addition to the Section 42(1)(a) letters which were issued, advanced briefings on the statutory consultation were provided to local parish councils on 25 and 26 April 2023 via Microsoft Teams. The parish councils that were invited to attend are listed below:
- a. Barmby on the Marsh Parish Council;
 - b. Bubwith Parish Council;
 - c. Drax Parish Council;
 - d. Foggathorpe Parish Council;
 - e. Eastrington Parish Council;
 - f. Hemingbrough Parish Council;
 - g. Howden Parish Council;
 - h. Long Drax Parish Council;
 - i. Spaldington Parish Council; and
 - j. Wressle Parish Council.
- 3.9.6 These briefings were also extended to councillors whose wards cover the area as per **Table 3-9**. Following the reorganisation of local government in North Yorkshire, the boundaries and names of local wards consulted with had changed between the non-statutory consultation and statutory consultations.

Table 3-9. Wards/divisions summary information shared with by council.

Council	Ward / Division
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	Howden Howdenshire
North Yorkshire Council	Camblesforth & Carlton Cliffe and North Duffield

Scheme Website

- 3.9.7 The Scheme website hosted copies of the consultation materials detailed in paragraph 3.7.17, signposted stakeholders to details of the consultation events and the Applicant’s contact details.
- 3.9.8 The webpage contained a link to the online feedback form which replicated the hard copy feedback form in **Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**, allowing people to share their views on the Scheme online.

Social Media

- 3.9.9 Social media content was shared on the Scheme's Twitter page (@EY_SOLARFARM) and the LinkedIn account "East Yorkshire Solar Farm" in advance of, and during, the statutory consultation to raise awareness of the events, and to generate interest around the Scheme. Social media content included posts regarding the proposals, the consultation event schedule, how feedback could be left, and links to the Scheme website. An example post can be found in **Figure 3-3**.



Figure 3-3. Example post promoting the statutory consultation issued from the Applicant's Twitter account

Press

- 3.9.10 The Applicant offered media briefings to local news outlets on the day of consultation launch to raise awareness of the consultation and share details of the proposals (for a copy of the press release see **Appendix M3: Statutory Consultation press release, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**). The press release was issued to the outlets outlined in **Table 3-10**, and those listed in paragraph 3.9.13
- 3.9.11 A member of the project team was interviewed for BBC Humberside radio station on 6 June 2023 to support the consultation launch.

3.9.12 East Yorkshire Solar Farm was featured on BBC Look North TV programme, which included an audio interview with a member of the project team on 9 June 2023 to support the consultation launch.

Table 3-10. Media outlets who received press release and coverage provided.

Media outlet	Format	Coverage provided
Hull Daily Mail	Online and print	Yes
Goole Times	Print	Yes
BBC	Radio and online	Yes

3.9.13 The press releases were also issued to the following media outlets but did not receive coverage from them: Yorkshire Post, York Press, Pontefract Express, ITV, The Guardian (Northern Editor), The Financial Times (Northern Correspondent), The Times (Northern Editor), Solar Media. Inspiratia, Energy Rev, S&P Global, Sparksread, Planning Magazine, REA, Solar Energy UK, ReNews, The Planner, Solar Power Portal, Recharge News, Farmers' Guardian and Farmers' Weekly.

3.10 Statutory Consultation Activity

Document Inspection Venues

- 3.10.1 Copies of the consultation materials listed in paragraph 3.7.17 were available at the following locations throughout the statutory consultation period at the venues and times listed below in **Table 3-11**. Opening times were accurate at the time of the consultation brochure being published. During the statutory consultation there were no deviations of the opening times of the document inspection venues.
- 3.10.2 The Applicant also made USBs available at the document inspection points. The USBs were made available following data available on the East Riding of Yorkshire Council website (East Riding of Yorkshire Council's Customer Insight Postcode Segments (Ref. 13)) indicated that only two-thirds of households had access to high-speed internet which could restrict the accessibility of the materials.
- 3.10.3 The Applicant contacted each deposit location weekly to enquire as to whether the venues were running low on copies of the consultation materials. The Applicant replenished the consultation materials whenever this was required, through regular liaison with the deposit location point contacts. Replenishment was also undertaken when members of the public made the Applicant aware that it was needed. Where deposit locations had materials left over at the end of the consultation, the Applicant arranged to collect and recycle it.

Table 3-11. Document inspection venues for statutory consultation.

Document inspection venue	Opening hours
Howden Library & Customer Service Centre 69 Hailgate, Howden, East Yorkshire, DN14 7SX	Monday 9.30am to 4.30pm Tuesday Closed Wednesday 2.00pm to 7.00pm Thursday Closed Friday 9.30am to 2.30pm Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm Sunday Closed
Selby Library 52 Micklegate, Selby, North Yorkshire, YO8 4EQ	Monday 9.30am to 7.30pm Tuesday 9.30am to 5.30pm Wednesday 9.30am to 5.30pm Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm Friday 9.30am to 5.30pm Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm Sunday Closed
Bubwith Leisure Centre The Playing Fields, Main Street, Bubwith, East Yorkshire, YO8 6LX	Monday 5.00pm to 7.00pm Tuesday 5.00pm to 7.00pm Wednesday 5.00pm to 7.00pm Thursday 5.00pm to 7.00pm Friday 5.00pm to 7.00pm Saturday 9.00am to 12.00pm Sunday 9.00am to 12.00pm
Market Weighton Library & Customer Service Centre 14 Beverley Road, Market Weighton, YO43 3JP	Monday 9.30am to 4.30pm Tuesday Closed Wednesday 9.30am to 6.30pm Thursday Closed Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm Saturday 9.30am to 12:30pm Sunday Closed
East Yorkshire Mobile Library, Holme on Spalding Moor Village Hall Car Park, High Street, YO43 4EN	10:00am to 5:00pm on the following dates: Thursday 18 May Thursday 01 June Thursday 15 June
East Yorkshire Mobile Library, Bubwith Vicarage Close, off Brighton Road, YO8 6LL	1:30pm to 5:00pm on the following dates: Friday 19 May Friday 2 June Friday 16 June

Public Consultation Events

3.10.4 The Applicant hosted four in-person public events during the course of the statutory consultation at the venues listed in **Table 3-12**. Staff were available

at all events to explain the Scheme and answer any questions from members of the public.

3.10.5 In total, 305 people attended across the events as set out in **Table 3-12**.

Table 3-12. In person statutory public consultation events.

Date and Time	Venue	Attendees
Tuesday 16 May 2023 2:00–8:00pm	Loftsome Bridge Hotel, Station Lane, Wressle, Selby, YO8 6EN	68
Wednesday 24 May 2023 2:00–8:00pm	Boothferry Golf Course, Spaldington, East Yorkshire, DN14 7NG	65
Saturday 10 June 2023 2:00–8:00pm	Bubwith Leisure Centre, The Playing Fields, Main Street, Bubwith, East Yorkshire, YO8 6LX	44
Tuesday 13 June 2023 2:00–8:00pm	Howden Shire Hall, 13 Market Place, Howden, Goole, DN14 7BJ	128
Total		305

3.10.6 The locations for the consultation events were identified to make it as easy as possible for those likely to be affected or interested in the Scheme to attend. Venues were identified in each of the main communities in the vicinity of the Scheme.

3.10.7 The Howden Shire Hall and Boothferry Golf Course venues had been used successfully during the previous non-statutory consultation and were selected again for the statutory consultation exhibition events. All venues were checked to ensure they were fully accessible and at each location a building risk assessment was carried out. The locations of all of the events were consulted upon and agreed with the Local Authorities as part of the drafting of the SoCC.

3.10.8 At these public exhibition events the Applicant presented the consultation materials (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet; Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form; Appendix K3: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document; Appendix K4: Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route; Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and the PEI Report (Ref. 9), including exhibition boards (**Appendix K6: Consultation event boards, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) which illustrated details of the proposals and large plans of the Scheme.

3.10.9 A consultation response station was in place at the events to allow people to fill out the consultation feedback form manually, or virtually via a tablet while they were at the event.

3.10.10 Hard copies of the consultation feedback form were made available for attendees to take away and return in their own time via Royal Mail Freepost Address (Freepost: East Yorkshire Solar Farm).

3.10.11 Care was taken by the project team to ensure those in attendance at the public exhibition events from the project had sufficient knowledge of all Scheme aspects and technical disciplines.

Online Webinars

3.10.12 In order to make the consultation as accessible as possible to those unable to attend events in person, the Applicant hosted two online webinars via the project website. **Table 3-13** lists the timings and attendee numbers for these events. A total of 30 participants joined the webinars.

Table 3-13. Details of online webinar events.

Date and time	How to join	Attendees
Thursday 25 May 2023 6:00–7:00pm	Visitors joined on the project webpage and click on the webinar link.	22
Thursday 8 June 2023 7:00–8:00pm	Visitors joined on the project webpage and click on the webinar link.	8
Total		30

Consultation Event for Key Stakeholders

3.10.13 In addition to the public consultation events, targeted events were held for audiences who required one-to-one on engagement on specific topics as requested by attendees on a case-by-case basis. The meetings with the relevant constituency MPs were offered by the Applicant. The other two events were requested by the attendees and organised on a case-by-case basis. An overview of the attendees and principal areas of discussion for all these events can be found in **Table 3-14**.

Table 3-14. Key stakeholder events held in advance of and during public consultation.

Date	Venue/Format	Audience	Topics discussed
28 April 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Member of the Rt. Hon. Nigel Adams MP's team	The main topics discussed were generating capacity of the Scheme and the connection to national grid infrastructure, how the Scheme was funded, and community consultation
18 May 2023	In-person meeting at the House of Commons	The Rt Hon David Davis MP	The main topics discussed were the Scheme's programme schedule, environmental, landscape and visual impacts, and community consultation

Date	Venue/Format	Audience	Topics discussed
11 May 2023 6:00–7:00pm	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Residents of the hamlet of Gribthorpe. Eighteen residents registered to attend the meeting and twelve devices logged on during the meeting, although there were instances where several attendees joined via one device.	This meeting took place in response to the high quantity of feedback at the non-statutory consultation that specifically cited impact on Gribthorpe, as the settlement would have areas of the solar PV site on three sides under the proposals. Concern was expressed by residents of Gribthorpe as to the severity of the impact on the hamlet. The main topics discussed included the visual impacts of the Solar PV site around Gribthorpe, the impact on the roads and access to Gribthorpe properties, and the community benefit scheme.
05 July 2023 10:00–11:00am	In-person meeting at property of a local resident.	Local resident	The Applicant visited the property of a resident near to the Scheme to discuss specific concerns they had regarding impacts of the scheme to complex health issues which they had raised in correspondence. During the visit the Applicant discussed what possible mitigation measures would help alleviate the impacts and took measurements of the distance from their property to the scheme, so these could be considered in designing additional mitigation measures.

3.11 Feedback Mechanisms

3.11.1 From the start of the statutory consultation period on 9 May 2023 to the end of the consultation period at 23:59 on 20 June 2023, people were able to provide feedback on the Scheme in the following ways:

- a. by completing and handing in the response form available at public consultation events or returning them by post using the Freepost address: “Freepost East Yorkshire Solar Farm”;
- b. by completing and submitting the online response form available via the Scheme web pages;

- c. by downloading the response form available via the Scheme web pages, completing it and sending a digital copy via email to the Scheme email address (eastyorkshiresolarfarm@boom-power.co.uk) or posting a printed copy to the Freepost address provided; and
 - d. by submitting free form responses to the Scheme email address (eastyorkshiresolarfarm@boom-power.co.uk) or in writing to the Freepost address "Freepost East Yorkshire Solar Farm".
- 3.11.2 Information on how to provide responses was included in the Section 47 (**Appendix L7: Copy of Section 47 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 27.04.2023, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and Section 48 notices (**Appendix L2: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Times 04.05.2023; Appendix L3: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Guardian 04.05.2023; Appendix L4: Copy of Section 48 notice - The London Gazette 04.05.2023; Appendix L5: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 04.05.2023 and Appendix L6: Copy of Section 48 notice - The Hull Daily Mail 11.05.2023, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**), the consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**), the Applicant's website and the Section 42 letters sent to statutory and prescribed consultees (**Appendix I1: Section 42 (1)(a) letter; Appendix I2: Section 42 (1)(aa) letter; Appendix I3: Section 42 (1)(b) letter; and Appendix I4: Section 42 (1)(d) letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

3.12 How the Applicant Responded to General Scheme Enquiries During Statutory Consultation

- 3.12.1 The Scheme email address was made available to the public from the start of the non-statutory consultation (Monday 3 October 2022). This enabled people with any comments or questions on the Scheme to contact the project team directly.
- 3.12.2 The Scheme freepost address was set up at the start of the non-statutory consultation (3 October 2022) and remained available until after the statutory consultation which closed on 20 June 2023. No enquiries were received via the freepost address.
- 3.12.3 All enquiries were logged into a database for recording and monitoring response timeframes. As they were received, enquiries were categorised as either queries, which included any questions relating to the proposals, or as statements, which were used as feedback for the Scheme. The target time for responses to correspondence was ten working days. For any responses that required technical input, a holding response was issued, and the full response was issued as soon as practicably possible once the technical information had been gathered.
- 3.12.4 The project phone number also in operation from the start of the non-statutory consultation and remained available during the statutory consultation and through to the submission of the DCO application. People were able to call 01964 782219 Monday–Friday between 9–5pm to speak to a person who took down details of the enquiry. A voicemail system was

available outside these days and times for people to leave a message at any time.

- 3.12.5 During the statutory consultation period, all email correspondence which included a query was dealt with by the Applicant through the project inbox. An automated acknowledgement email (**Appendix M4: Automated acknowledgement email sent from inbox during statutory consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) thanked the stakeholder for their email, confirmed receipt of the feedback and outlined how it would be taken into consideration in the Consultation Report, if it was a consultation response. It also assured the recipient that, if their email contained specific questions, they would receive a reply in due course. Upon receipt, emails were reviewed to establish whether each was a response to the consultation, a request for information to enable the consultee to respond, or a piece of routine correspondence. Consultation responses were judged to be such if they contained a reference to the consultation, expressed an opinion on the Scheme or read as feedback on the proposals. Enquiries which required a response typically asked direct questions about the Scheme and requested a response from the Applicant. Email enquiries and routine communications were responded to within a ten-working day turnaround.
- 3.12.6 Following the consultation finishing, the automated acknowledgement email was replaced with a new message (**Appendix M6: Automated acknowledgement email sent from inbox following statutory consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) stating that the statutory consultation had finished, that all feedback had been logged, and that the Consultation Report would be published before the end of the year. The message also assured the stakeholder that if their email contained specific queries or was regarding another matter, they would receive a response in due course. The automated acknowledgement email was further updated to reflect the later targeted consultation described in Chapter 6.

4. Consultation Responses

4.1 Structure of this Chapter

- 4.1.1 This chapter provides an overview of the responses received during the statutory consultation in 2023 and sets out the methodology the Applicant has used to analyse them. This also includes an explanation of:
- a. The classification of the respondents.
 - b. The process for how changes proposed in the feedback that has been received have been considered.
- 4.1.2 This chapter also provides a statistical breakdown of responses received to closed questions, followed by a summary of the key comments arising.
- 4.1.3 **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** notes the type of consultee that raised the matter and their name where appropriate, where they requested a change to the Scheme, and how the Applicant has had regard to these comments in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
- 4.1.4 The chapter ends with an overview of changes to the Scheme following the statutory consultation (see **Table 4-3**).

4.2 Overview

- 4.2.1 The Applicant has considered a consultation response to be any written communication received during the statutory consultation period through the advised channels of email; post; or submitted via the response form (either online or through hard copies completed at these consultation events). Consultation responses were judged to be such if they contained a reference to the consultation, expressed an opinion on the Scheme or read as feedback on the proposals. The responses comprised:
- a. Responses via the response form (online and hard copy) – 250 (153 online and 97 hard copy)
 - b. Freeform responses received via email – 62
 - c. Freeform responses received via post – 0
- 4.2.2 The Applicant received 312 responses to the statutory consultation under sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1). These responses varied in length and detail; some were very technical, whilst others were brief (for example, simply expressing support for or an objection to the proposals).
- 4.2.3 Respondents were identified by consultee strand as part of the analysis process. The consultee strand refers to the section of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) pursuant to which they were consulted, either Section 42 (explained in section 3.4 of this report), Section 46 (explained in section 3.6) Section 47 (explained in section 3.7) or in response to the Section 48 publicity (explained in section 3.8).
- 4.2.4 In line with the requirements of Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), the Applicant has had regard to all relevant responses. Due to the multiple points raised across the responses, the Applicant has undertaken analysis in

accordance with the approach outlined in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Fourteen (Ref. 3) which states:

“If the level of response was significant it may be appropriate to group responses under headline issues. Care must be taken to ensure that in doing this the responses are not presented in a misleading way or out of context from the original views of the consultee. An explanation of the process by which consultation responses were grouped and organised (coded) is helpful, including any safeguards and cross checking that took place to ensure that the responses were grouped appropriately.”

- 4.2.5 The Applicant has analysed all statutory consultation responses it received by splitting each response into a number of constituent comments and associating these with a theme to allow them to be categorised and responded to. The application of themes allowed similar comments to be grouped by each theme/topic area. This approach was taken to summarise the findings systematically and coherently.
- 4.2.6 The Statutory consultation due regard responses (**Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) lists comments raised by Section 42 consultees verbatim and identifies consultees by name where appropriate. The Statutory consultation due regard responses as comprised of five separate documents, one for each consultee strand.
- 4.2.7 **Table 4-3** in section 4.7 provides a summary of design changes that occurred following the statutory consultation, taking into consideration the feedback received.

4.3 Feedback analysis methodology and recording

Structure of the questionnaire

- 4.3.1 The response form grouped the questions into the following sections “About you”, “Our proposal” and “Mitigations, enhancements and community benefit”.
- About you**
- 4.3.2 Under the “About you” section, the response form (found in **Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) invited consultees to respond to the following questions about the Scheme. It also asked a number of optional questions about respondents.
- 4.3.3 Question 1 asked respondents to provide the following details in free text boxes:
- Title
 - Name
 - Address
 - Postcode

- Email
 - Telephone number
- 4.3.4 Question 2 asked respondents “What is your interest in the Scheme?” Respondents could choose any of the following answers:
- a. Local resident
 - b. Local elected representatives
 - c. Local business owner
 - d. Landowner
 - e. Regular visitor to the area
 - f. Interested in solar power/renewable energy
 - g. Statutory organisation representative
 - h. Local interest group
 - i. Other (please specify).
 - i. If respondents chose this option, they were able to elaborate on their answer using a free text box.
- 4.3.5 Question 3 Part 1 asked respondents “Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or group and if so, please share the name of the organisation or group?”. Respondents could choose from the following answers:
- a. Yes
 - b. No
- 4.3.6 Question 3 Part 2 provided a free text box where the respondent could add the name of the group or organisation.
- 4.3.7 Question 4 asked respondents “Are you happy for us to contact you about your response if required?” Respondents could choose from the following answers:
- a. Yes
 - b. No
- Our Proposal**
- 4.3.8 Question 5 Part 1 asked respondents “Do you agree with the layout in our proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm?”. Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- a. Strongly agree
 - b. Agree
 - c. Neither agree or disagree
 - d. Disagree
 - e. Strongly disagree
- 4.3.9 Question 5 Part 2 asked respondents “Please provide any further comments and suggestions you may have on the masterplan.” Respondents were provided with a free text box to elaborate on their answer from Question 5 Part 1.

- 4.3.10 Question 6 Part 1 asked respondents “Do you agree with our proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling?”. Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Neither agree or disagree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
- 4.3.11 Question 6 Part 2 asked respondents “Please provide any further comments and suggestions you may have on the cable route.” Respondents were provided with a free text box to elaborate on their answer from Question 6 Part 1.
- 4.3.12 Question 7 asked respondents “Based on our updated proposal shared in this consultation, what are your views on East Yorkshire Solar Farm?”. Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- I am in favour of the proposal
 - I am undecided
 - I oppose the proposal
 - I am in favour of a solar farm but want further information before making a decision

Mitigations, enhancements and community benefit.

- 4.3.13 The section entitled “Mitigations, enhancements and community benefit” opened with the following introductory text:
- “We are committed to minimising the environmental impact of the scheme and have updated our proposals to include mitigations and enhancements across East Yorkshire Solar Farm. Based on feedback to our non-statutory consultation, we have updated our proposals to address concerns raised in the feedback and mitigate potential impacts. We describe these mitigations measure in our brochure (page 16-19).”*
- 4.3.14 Question 8 Part 1 asked respondents “Ecology: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to ecological mitigation?”. Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Neither agree or disagree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
- 4.3.15 Question 8 Part 2 asked respondents “Please provide any further comments and suggestions you may have on this topic.” Respondents were provided with a free text box to elaborate on their answer from Question 8 Part 1.

- 4.3.16 Question 9 Part 1 asked respondents “Landscape and views: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to landscape mitigation?”. Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Neither agree or disagree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
- 4.3.17 Question 9 Part 2 asked respondents “Please provide any further comments and suggestions you may have on this topic.” Respondents were provided with a free text box to elaborate on their answer from Question 9 Part 1.
- 4.3.18 Question 10 Part 1 asked respondents “Traffic: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to traffic mitigation?”. Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Neither agree or disagree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
- 4.3.19 Question 10 Part 2 asked respondents “Please provide any further comments and suggestions you may have on this topic.” Respondents were provided with a free text box to elaborate on their answer from Question 10 Part 1.
- 4.3.20 Question 11 Part 1 asked respondents “Noise and vibration: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation?”. Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Neither agree or disagree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
- 4.3.21 Question 11 Part 2 asked respondents “Please provide any further comments and suggestions you may have on this topic.” Respondents were provided with a free text box to elaborate on their answer from Question 11 Part 1.
- 4.3.22 Question 12 Part 1 asked respondents “Cultural heritage: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation?”. Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- Strongly agree
 - Agree

- c. Neither agree or disagree
 - d. Disagree
 - e. Strongly disagree
- 4.3.23 Question 12 Part 2 asked respondents “Please provide any further comments and suggestions you may have on this topic.” Respondents were provided with a free text box to elaborate on their answer from Question 12 Part 1.
- 4.3.24 Question 13 Part 1 asked respondents “Flood risk: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to flood risk mitigation?”. Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- a. Strongly agree
 - b. Agree
 - c. Neither agree or disagree
 - d. Disagree
 - e. Strongly disagree
- 4.3.25 Question 13 Part 2 asked respondents “Please provide any further comments and suggestions you may have on this topic.” Respondents were provided with a free text box to elaborate on their answer from Question 13 Part 1.
- 4.3.26 Question 14 Part 1 asked respondents “Do you have any comments on the information presented in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report? Please specify any environmental topic areas you are commenting on.” Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- a. Climate change
 - b. Social-economics and land use
 - c. Health
 - d. Soils and agricultural land
 - e. Air quality
 - f. Waste
 - g. Other (please specify)
 - i. If respondents chose this option, they were able to elaborate on their answer using a free text box.
- 4.3.27 Question 14 Part 2 provided respondents with a free text box to elaborate on their answer from Question 14 Part 1.
- 4.3.28 Question 15 asked respondents “Community benefit fund: As part of this scheme, we are exploring the use of a community benefit fund, and our aim is to work with organisations that will spend the money to support the projects to benefit the local community. We would like to understand what causes are important to you. Please indicate which causes you feel the benefit fund should support. (Please tick as many boxes as needed).” Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- a. Environment

- b. Community healthcare
 - c. Wildlife
 - d. Combating climate change
 - e. Education
 - f. Other (please specify)
 - i. If respondents chose this option, they were able to elaborate on their answer using a free text box.
- 4.3.29 Question 16 asked respondents “Further comments: Please share any further comments you have on East Yorkshire Solar Farm.” This question provided respondents with a free text box to write their answer in.
- 4.3.30 Question 17 asked respondents “How did you find out about our consultation?” Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- a. Received a letter / brochure
 - b. Saw it advertised in the media
 - c. Via a local community group
 - d. Word of mouth
 - e. Other (please specify)
 - i. If respondents chose this option, they were able to elaborate on their answer using a free text box.
- 4.3.31 Question 18 asked respondents “Have you attended any of our consultation events?” Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- a. Yes
 - b. No
- 4.3.32 Question 19 asked respondents “How informative did you find our consultation materials?” Respondents were able to choose the following options:
- a. Very informative
 - b. Quite informative
 - c. Not informative
 - d. Did not use

Analysis Methodology

- 4.3.33 In addition to the response form, written freeform consultation responses were also received and accepted.
- 4.3.34 All consultation responses, regardless of which consultee strand they were from or the format they were received in, were analysed in the same way.
- 4.3.35 All responses were logged within a consultation database, their consultee strand identified, and the consultee given a unique contact ID for identification purposes.
- 4.3.36 An online survey system was used to enable response forms to be completed and captured electronically, then uploaded into the consultation

database. Any responses received in paper copy or via email were manually inputted into the consultation database.

- 4.3.37 Once uploaded into the database, a process of coding began. Each response was read and dissected into individual, relevant comments. Each comment was assigned a theme.
- 4.3.38 This iterative process of categorising comments into discrete codes based on relevant themes enabled repeated comments to be grouped under an umbrella summary and accurate analysis to commence. These themes were driven by discipline area.
- 4.3.39 The themes are split into sub-themes to provide further detail on their sentiment and specific comments and are as follows:
- a. Community
 - i. Value of land and property
 - ii. Compensation
 - iii. Impact on local communities
 - iv. Pedestrian, cyclist and horse rider provision
 - b. Construction
 - i. Access routes
 - ii. Construction programme
 - iii. Construction traffic
 - iv. Ground conditions
 - v. Landscape impacts
 - vi. Noise and vibration
 - vii. Utilities
 - viii. Waste disposal
 - ix. Contractors
 - c. Consultation
 - i. Consultation documents
 - ii. Engagement
 - d. Decommissioning
 - i. Land Use
 - ii. Programme
 - e. Ecology
 - i. Ecological surveys
 - ii. Ecological mitigation
 - iii. Ornithology
 - f. Economy
 - i. Benefits
 - ii. Community benefit fund

- g. Environment
 - i. Biodiversity and wildlife
 - ii. Biodiversity net gain
 - iii. Climate change
 - iv. Construction impacts
 - v. Cultural Heritage
 - vi. Noise and Vibration
 - vii. Population and Health
 - viii. Opposition
- h. Flood risk, drainage and water environment
 - i. Flood risk modelling
 - ii. Flooding and drainage
- i. General
 - i. Comment on proposals
 - ii. Opposition
 - iii. Support
- j. Landscape and amenity
 - i. Glint and glare
 - ii. Landscape and visual
 - iii. Landscape mitigation
 - iv. Light pollution
 - v. Security
- k. Planning
 - i. Land use
 - ii. Location of the Scheme
 - iii. Other planned local developments
 - iv. Planning policy
- l. Scheme Design
 - i. Safety Concerns
 - ii. Battery Storage
 - iii. Buffer zone
 - iv. Cabling
 - v. Grid connection
 - vi. Size of the Scheme
 - vii. Leasing land
 - viii. Solar panels

- m. Soil and agricultural land
 - i. Soil quality
 - ii. Agriculture
 - n. Traffic
 - i. Air quality
 - ii. Increased traffic
 - iii. Safety
 - o. Transport and access
 - i. Access routes
 - ii. Traffic design
- 4.3.40 **Appendix P1: Section 42(1)(a); Appendix P2: Section 42(1)(aa); Appendix P3: Section 42(1)(b); and Appendix P4: Section 42(1)(d) Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** provides Section 42(1)(a), (aa) (b) and (d) consultee comments verbatim, organised by the themes detailed at paragraph 4.3.38 and identifies who raised each of these comments by consultee strand.
- 4.3.41 Comments from Section 47 consultees are reported in summary within **Appendix P5: Section 47 public consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** with similar comments pooled together - however all issues have been detailed and responded to. As per Advice Note Fourteen (Ref. 3) these have been checked to ensure that they are reflective of the comments raised, and checks were undertaken throughout the process.
- 4.3.42 Statutory consultees and organisations are named in **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** to provide clarity on which consultees raised specific matters. The identities of private individuals (Section 42(1)(d) land interests and Section 47 consultees) are not included in **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** for data protection purposes; land interests have been assigned a unique code. Similarly, responses have been anonymised where necessary to protect personal information (in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation implemented in England via the Data Protection Act 2018 (Ref. 14)).
- 4.3.43 This review and analysis process also meant that comments identified as requesting specific changes to the Scheme were highlighted for review. Regular reviews were undertaken to review comments which specifically requested changes to the Scheme. These were shared with the relevant technical teams for their consideration and logged. Where a request for a change has resulted in a change to the Scheme this has been marked as such within **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

- 4.3.44 Section 4.7 provides a summary of all the changes that were made as a result of taking into consideration feedback received from the statutory consultation.
- 4.3.45 As discussed earlier in this report, Advice Note Fourteen (Ref. 3) groups consultees into the following categories:
- a. Section 42(1)(a) and Section 42(1)(aa) – prescribed consultees
 - b. Section 42(1)(b) – relevant local authorities (those within whose boundaries the Scheme falls or bordering authorities)
 - c. Section 42(1)(d) – persons with an interest in land (those with interests in land affected by the Scheme or entitled to make a relevant claim)
 - d. Section 47 – the local community
 - e. Section 48 – responses to statutory publicity
- 4.3.46 In line with this advice and as referenced in the preceding sections of this report, the Applicant categorised each respondent within the strands detailed above.
- 4.3.47 The response form for the consultation asked people to provide their address, or at least their postcode, to help identify their consultee strand and to understand the reach of the consultation. However, the classification of consultees has been superseded by additional checks for identifying information within the content of the response, for example, checking their postcode against the Order limits to determine whether they would be classified as a Section 42(1)(d) consultee. Additionally, the form asked whether responses were being submitted on behalf of an organisation, business, or campaign group. It should be noted that the responses to these questions did not result in the comments being weighted or given any more priority than others.
- 4.3.48 Section 42 responses have been identified by the following methods:
- a. Respondent provided information, for example the organisation name, allowing cross reference with the statutory consultee Section 42(1)(a) (aa) and local authority Section 42(1)(b) lists.
 - b. Respondent identified themselves as an affected land interest on the response form.
 - c. Respondent provided full address details and/or postcode which were cross referenced against the Section 42(1)(d) list.
- 4.3.49 Where the Applicant could not positively identify a respondent to the statutory consultation as being a Section 42 consultee, they were identified as a Section 47 consultee.
- 4.3.50 Although Section 48 notices (**Appendix L1: Copy of Section 48 notice as included in Section 42(1) consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were sent to all Section 42 consultees, no respondent stated they were replying in response to the Section 48 notice.
- 4.3.51 Detailed written responses were received from a number of respondents and were processed in the same way as response forms as per the methodology outlined in paragraphs 4.3.35-4.3.38.

4.4 Responses received

- 4.4.1 310 responses were received during the statutory consultation period between 9 May and 20 June 2023.
- 4.4.2 On 10 August 2023, the Applicant received an email from Right Honourable David Davis MP, the MP for Haltemprice and Howden, providing a copy of one additional response to the statutory consultation from a Section 47 respondent, requesting that it be included in the analysis of statutory consultation responses. As this response was received after the close of the statutory consultation, it considered a late response.
- 4.4.3 The Applicant received a late response to the statutory consultation from East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 26 September 2023. The response is included within **Appendix P3: Section 42(1)(b), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**, which demonstrate the due regard which the Applicant has had to this response.
- 4.4.4 The Applicant has accepted these late responses to the consultation. The responses have been included in the overall analysis of the statutory consultation feedback discussed below, and the Applicant has had due regard to the comments provided in the responses.
- 4.4.5 A total of 312 responses (including the late responses from East Riding of Yorkshire Council and the Section 47 category stakeholder) were received in response to the statutory consultation.

By feedback method

- 4.4.6 In total 312 responses were received to the statutory consultation in the following formats:
- 153 online response forms were completed,
 - 97 hardcopy response forms were received via post or email
 - 62 freeform email responses were received and
 - 0 freeform responses were received via post.

By consultee type

- 4.4.7 **Table 4-1** provides a breakdown of the responses received under each consultee strand of the statutory consultation as described in section 4.2.3. In total, 64 responses were received from Section 42 consultees (of all categories) and 248 responses from Section 47 consultees. No respondents stated they were replying in response to the Section 48 notice (**Appendix L1: Copy of Section 48 notice as included in Section 42(1) consultees, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).
- 4.4.8 Where consultees fall into more than one consultee strand, they have only been counted once in **Table 4-1**. For the purposes of this table only, where consultees fall into more than one consultee strand, the numbers have been reported against the first strand they fall into.

Table 4-1. Responses received by consultee strand.

Consultee strand	Strand reference	Number of responses to the statutory consultation
Prescribed consultees	Section 42(1)(a)	26
The Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	Section 42(1)(aa)	1
Local authorities	Section 42(1)(b)	10
Land interests	Section 42(1)(d)	27
Local community	Section 47	248
Total		312

4.5 Quantitative responses to response form

- 4.5.1 This section provides a summary of the quantitative data provided by those who responded using the consultation response form (comprising hard copy or online submissions) which totals 250. The vast majority of those who provided feedback via the response form were members of the public/local community (classified as s47 consultees). A copy of the response form is in **Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** and the results which follow are in the same order of the questions as they appeared.
- 4.5.2 Question 2 asked respondents to state their interest in the Scheme. Respondents were able to tick more than one category for this question. 248 respondents using the response form answered the question. 2 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question. Where respondents selected other and specified this this has been back coded and included in the analysis below.
- 4.5.3 As shown in **Figure 4-1**, 93% of respondents (230) stated they were local residents, 8% of respondents (21) stated they were landowners, 8% of respondents (20) stated they were responding as a local business owner, 7% of respondents (17) stated they were a regular visitor to the area, 4% of respondents (9) stated they were a local interested group, 4% of respondents (9) stated they were interested in solar power/renewable energy, 2% of respondents (4) stated they were a locally elected representative, 1% of respondents (2) stated they were responding as a Statutory organisation representative and 1% of respondents (2) stated they had an “Other” interest in the Scheme but did not specify what this was.

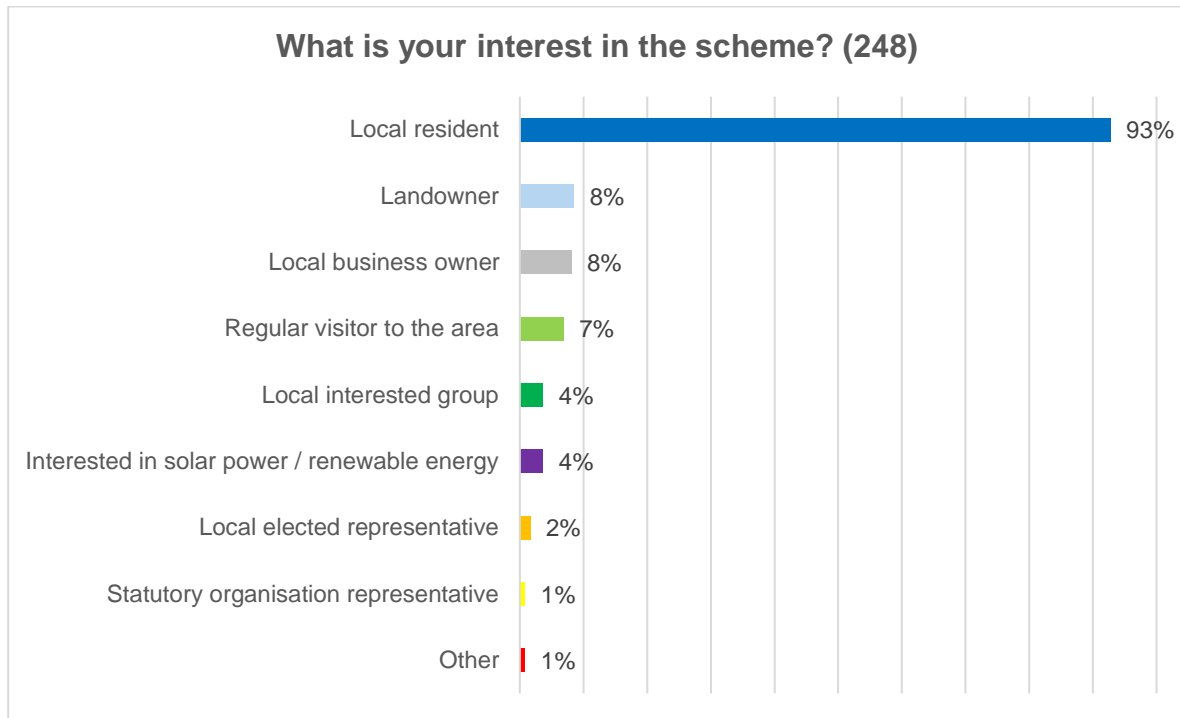


Figure 4-1. Respondents interest in the Scheme

4.5.4 Question 3 Part 1 asked respondents whether they were responding on behalf of an organisation. 246 respondents using the response form answered the question. 4 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.5 As shown in **Figure 4-2**, 4% of respondents (11) stated they were responding on behalf of an organisation or group, 96% of respondents (235) stated they were not responding on behalf of an organisation or a group.

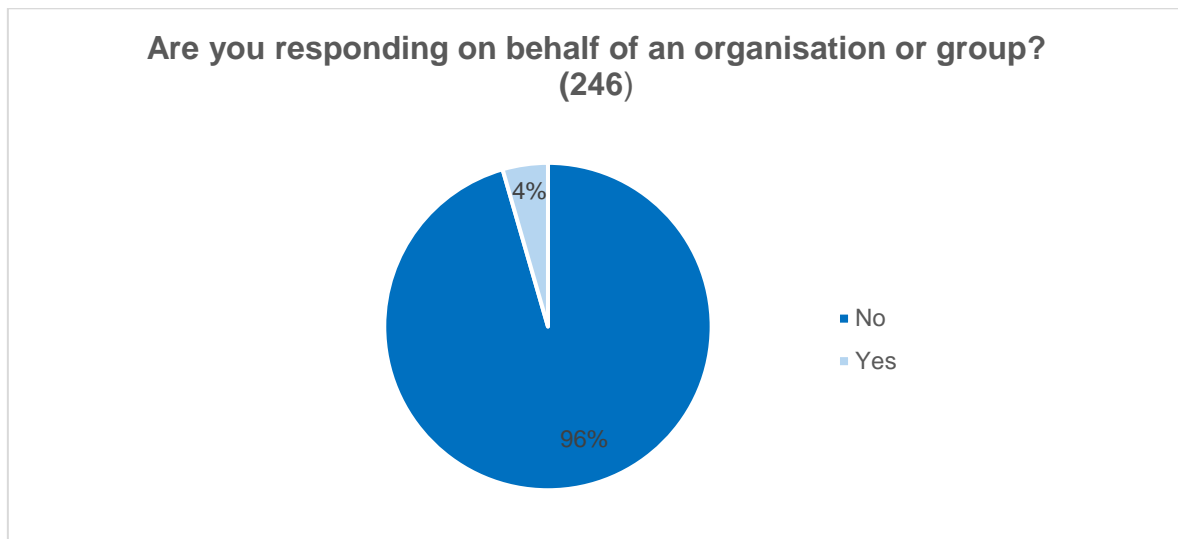


Figure 4-2. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or group?

4.5.6 Question 4 asked respondents whether they were happy to be contacted about their response if required. 245 respondents using the response form

answered the question. 5 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.7 86% of respondents (210) stated they would be happy to be contacted about their response, 14% of respondents (35) stated they were not happy to be contacted about their response.

4.5.8 Question 5 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the layout in the proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm. 246 respondents using the response form answered the question. 4 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.9 As shown in **Figure 4-3**, 4% of respondents (11) stated they strongly agreed, 7% of respondents (17) stated they agreed, 3% of respondents (7) stated they neither agreed or disagreed, 8% of respondents (20) stated they disagreed and 78% of respondents (191) stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm.

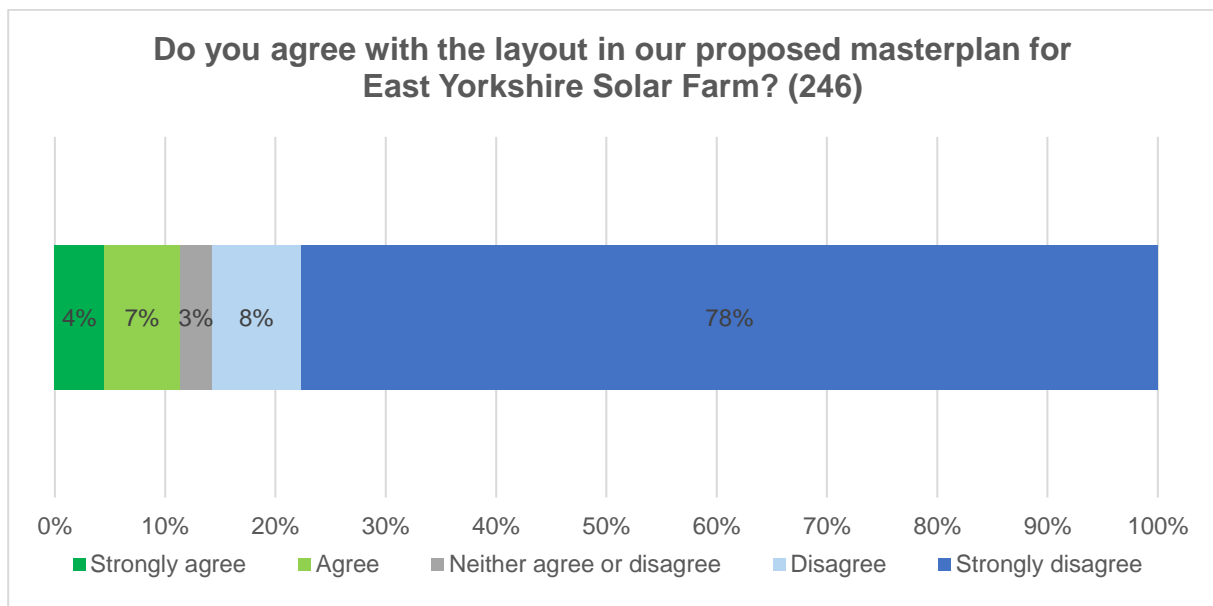


Figure 4-3. Do you agree with the layout in our proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm?

4.5.10 Question 6 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling. 245 respondents using the response form answered the question. 5 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.11 As shown in **Figure 4-4**, 5% of respondents (12) stated they strongly agreed, 8% of respondents (19) stated they agreed, 10% of respondents (25) stated they were neither agreed or disagreed, 17% of respondents (42) stated they disagreed and 60% of respondents (147) stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling.

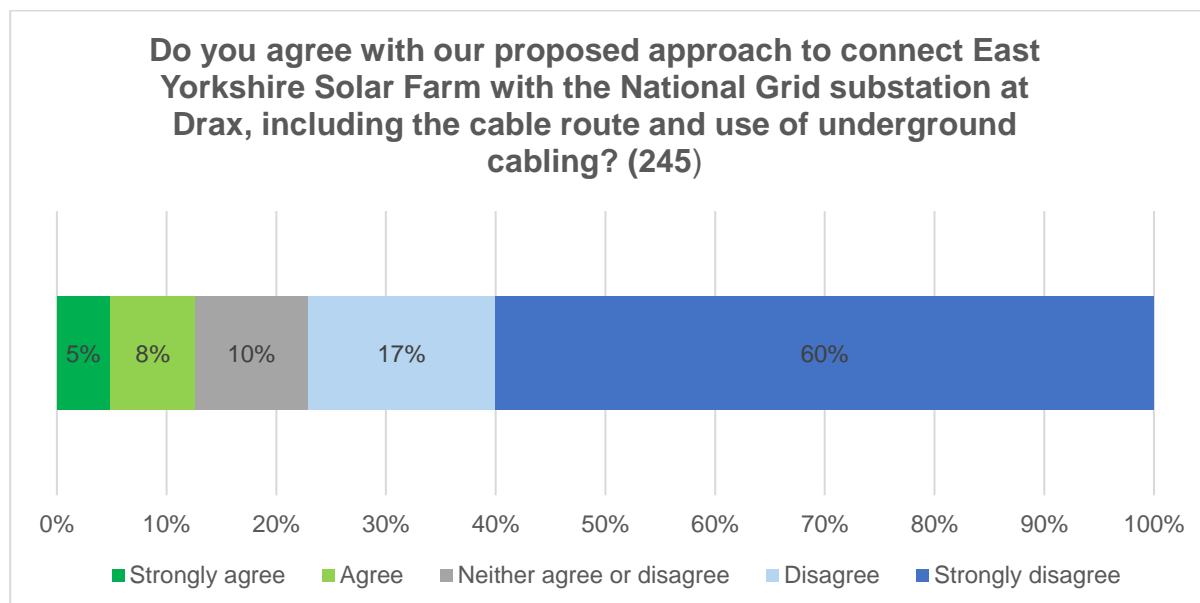


Figure 4-4. Do you agree with our proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling?

- 4.5.12 Question 7 asked respondents for their views on East Yorkshire Solar Farm Based on our updated proposal shared in this consultation. 247 respondents using the response form answered the question. 3 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.
- 4.5.13 As shown in **Figure 4-5**, 10% of respondents (25) stated they were in favour of the proposal, 4% of respondents (9) stated they were in favour of a solar farm but want further information before making a decision, 2% of respondents (6) stated they were undecided, 84% of respondents (207) stated they were opposed to the updated proposals shared in this consultation.

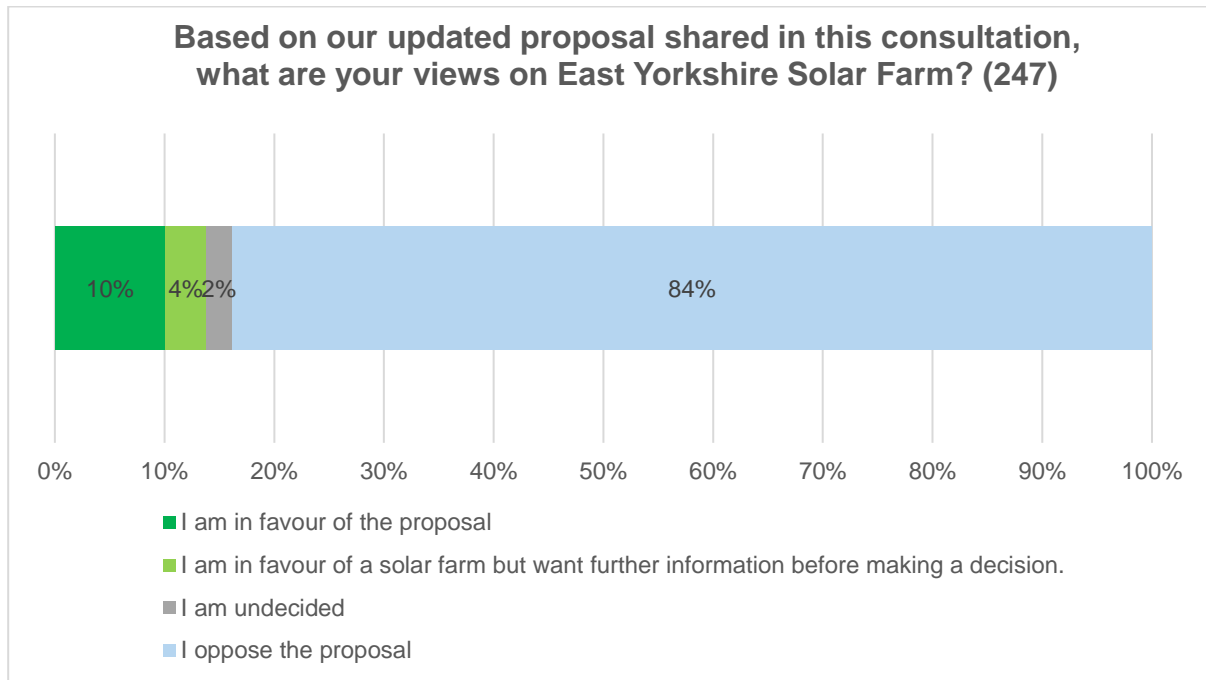


Figure 4-5. Based on our updated proposal shared in this consultation, what are your views on East Yorkshire Solar Farm?

4.5.14 Question 8 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to ecological mitigation based on the proposed information provided. 245 respondents using the response form answered the question. 5 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.15 As shown in **Figure 4-6**, 3% of respondents (8) stated they strongly agreed, 9% of respondents (23) stated they agreed, 9% of respondents (23) stated they neither agreed or disagreed, 10% of respondents (25) stated they disagreed and 68% of respondents (166) stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to ecological mitigation.

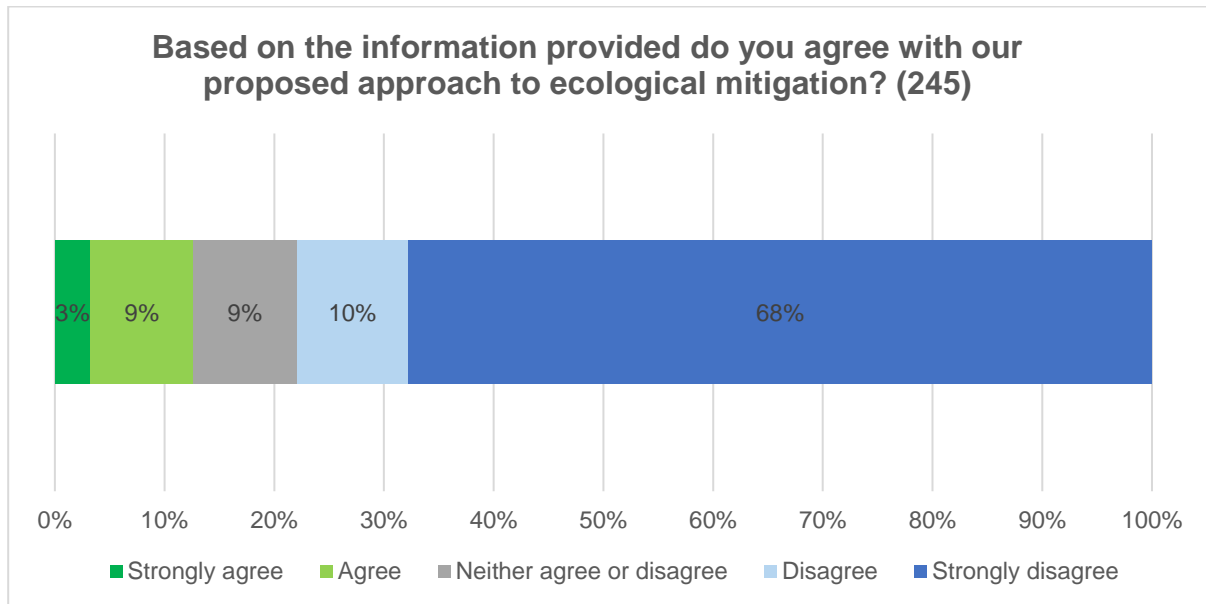


Figure 4-6. Ecology: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to ecological mitigation?

4.5.16 Question 9 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to landscape mitigation based on the proposed information provided. 245 respondents using the response form answered the question. 5 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.17 As shown in **Figure 4-7**, 3% of respondents (7) stated they strongly agreed, 9% of respondents (21) stated they agreed, 7% of respondents (18) stated they neither agreed or disagreed, 9% of respondents (23) stated they disagreed and 72% of respondents (176) stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to landscape mitigation.

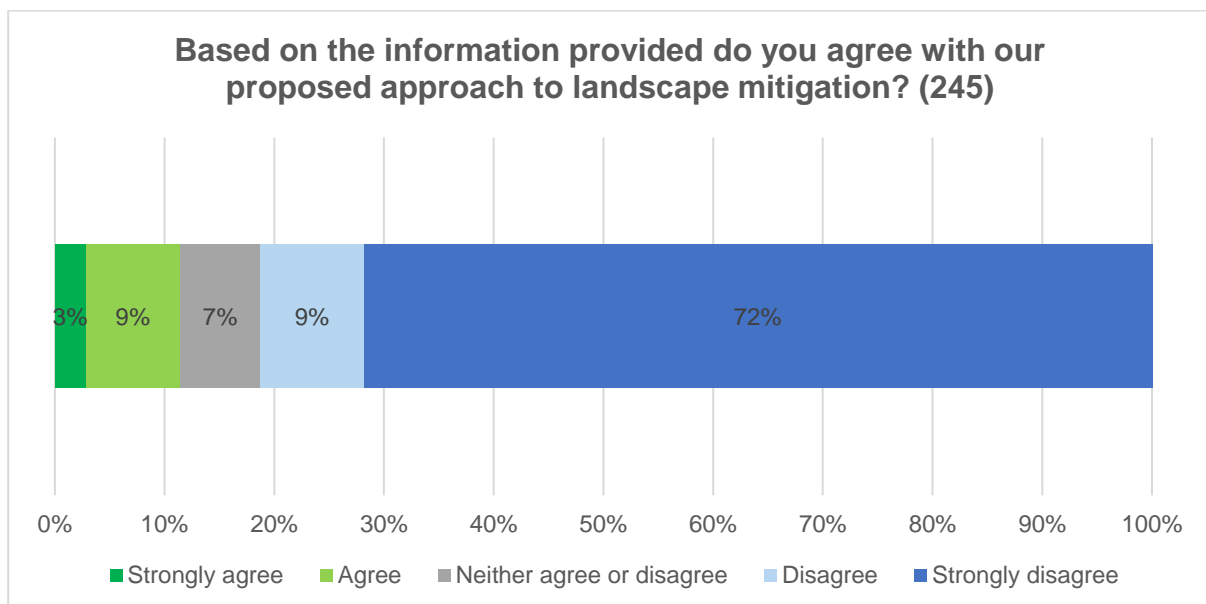


Figure 4-7. Landscape and views: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to landscape mitigation?

4.5.18 Question 10 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to traffic mitigation based on the proposed information provided. 244 respondents using the response form answered the question. 6 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.19 As shown in **Figure 4-8**, 2% of respondents (6) stated they strongly agreed, 7% of respondents (16) stated they agreed, 11% of respondents (27) stated they neither agreed or disagreed, 9% of respondents (21) stated they disagreed and 71% of respondents (174) stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to traffic mitigation.

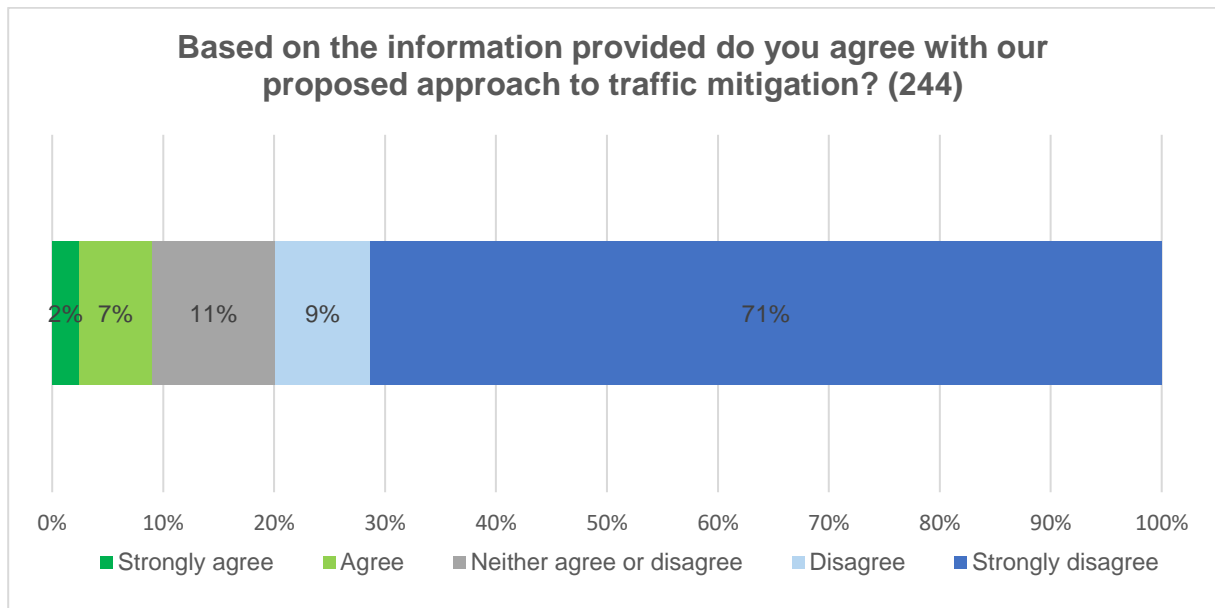


Figure 4-8. Traffic: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to traffic mitigation?

4.5.20 Question 11 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation based on the proposed information provided. 245 respondents using the response form answered the question. 5 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.21 As shown in **Figure 4-9**, 2% of respondents (4) stated they strongly agreed, 9% of respondents (21) stated they agreed, 15% of respondents (36) stated they neither agreed or disagreed, 11% of respondents (26) stated they disagreed and 64% of respondents (158) stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation.

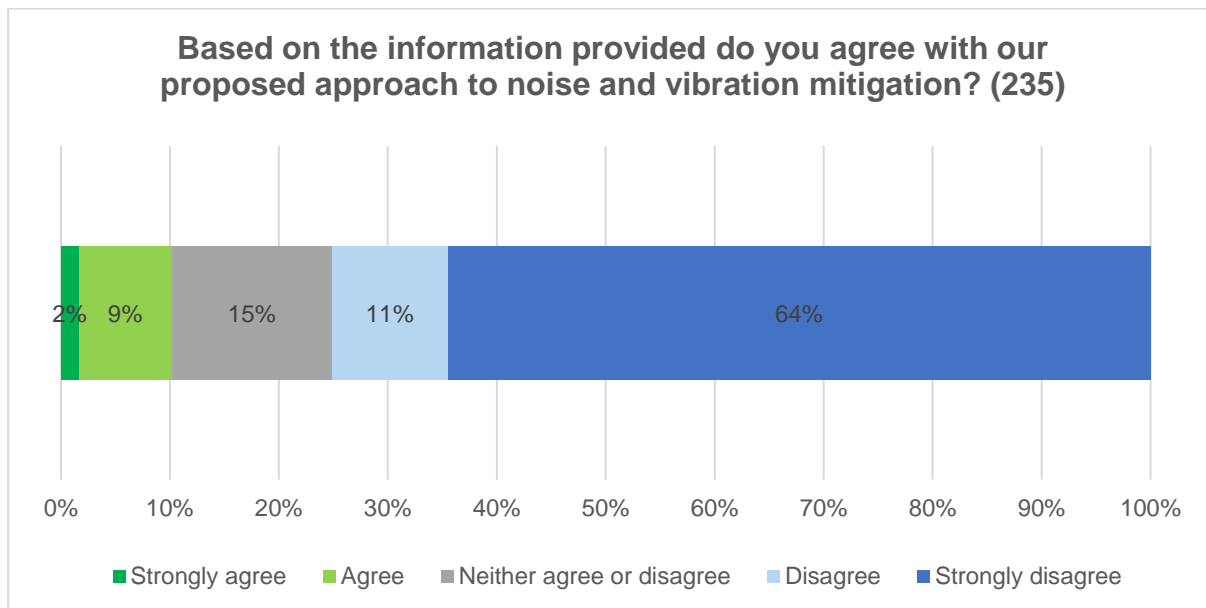


Figure 4-9. Noise and vibration: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation?

4.5.22 Question 12 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation based on the proposed information provided. 242 respondents using the response form answered the question. 8 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.23 As shown in **Figure 4-10**, 2% of respondents (6) stated they strongly agreed, 10% of respondents (23) stated they agreed, 17% of respondents (40) stated they neither agreed or disagreed, 9% of respondents (22) stated they disagreed and 62% of respondents (151) stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation.

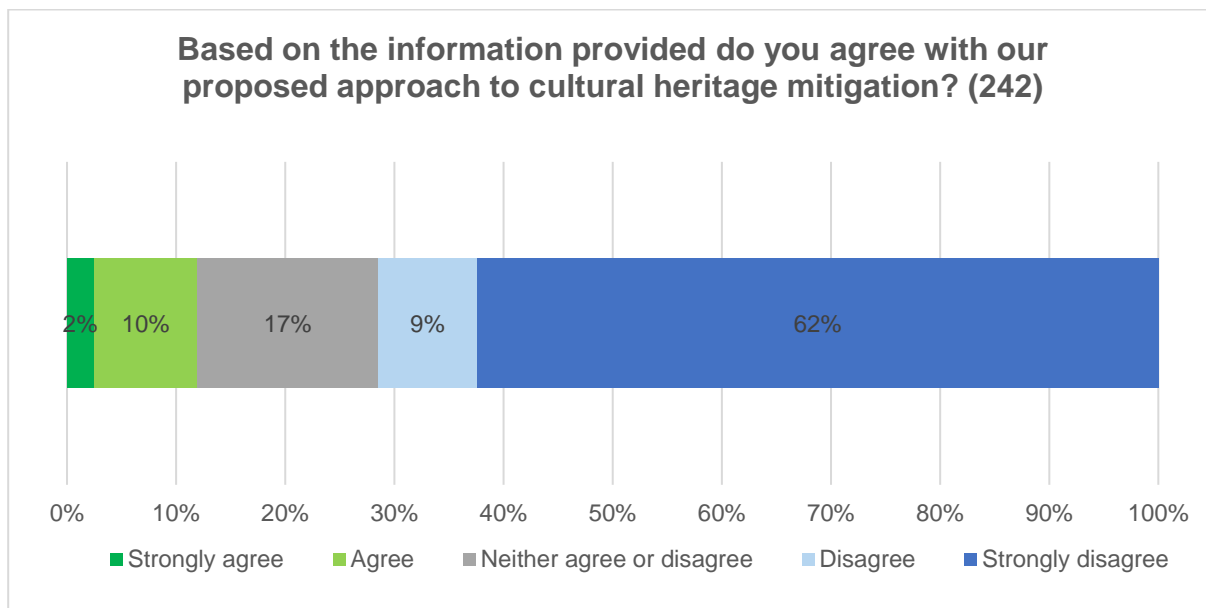


Figure 4-10. Cultural heritage: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation?

4.5.24 Question 13 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to flood risk mitigation based on the proposed information provided. 243 respondents using the response form answered the question. 7 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.25 As shown in **Figure 4-11**, 2% of respondents (6) stated they strongly agreed, 12% of respondents (29) stated they agreed, 24% of respondents (58) stated they neither agreed or disagreed, 9% of respondents (22) stated they disagreed and 53% of respondents (128) stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to flood risk mitigation.

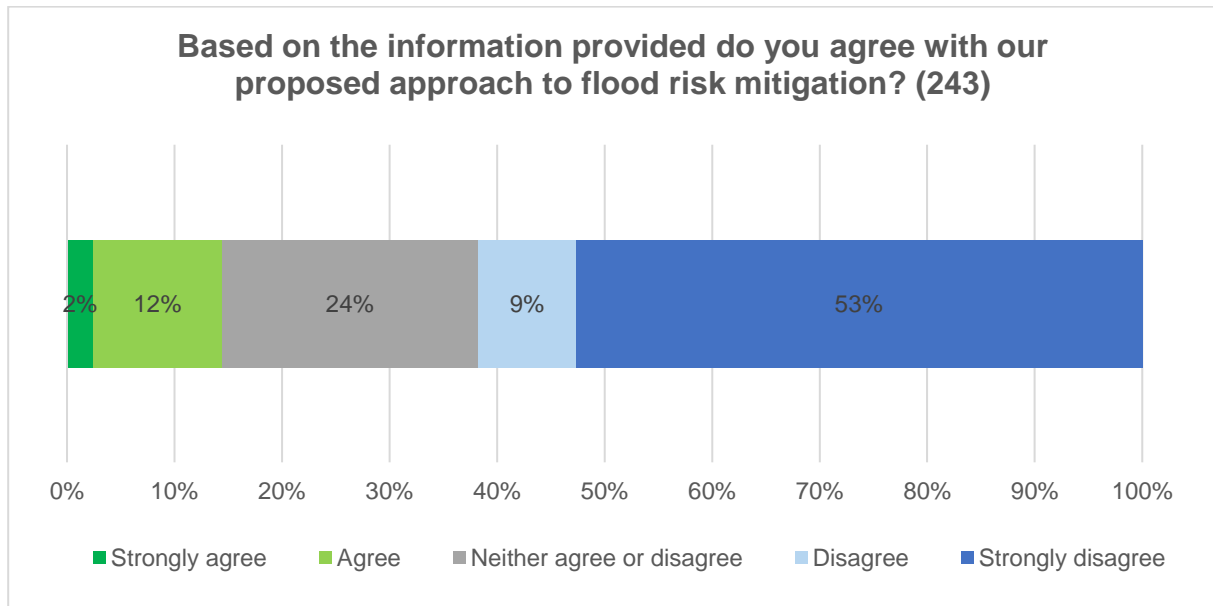


Figure 4-11. Flood risk: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to flood risk mitigation?

4.5.26 Question 14 Part 1 asked respondents whether they had any comments in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report and asked them to confirm the topics they were commenting on. 129 respondents using the response form answered the question. 121 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.27 As shown in **Figure 4-12**, 67% of respondents (87) stated they were commenting on soils and agricultural land, 61% of respondents (79) stated they were commenting on socio-economics and land use, 44% of respondents (57) stated they were commenting on health, 34% of respondents (44) stated they were commenting on climate change, 26% of respondents (34) stated they were commenting on waste, 19% of respondents (25) stated they were commenting on air quality, and 5% of respondents (7) stated they were commenting on Other issues.

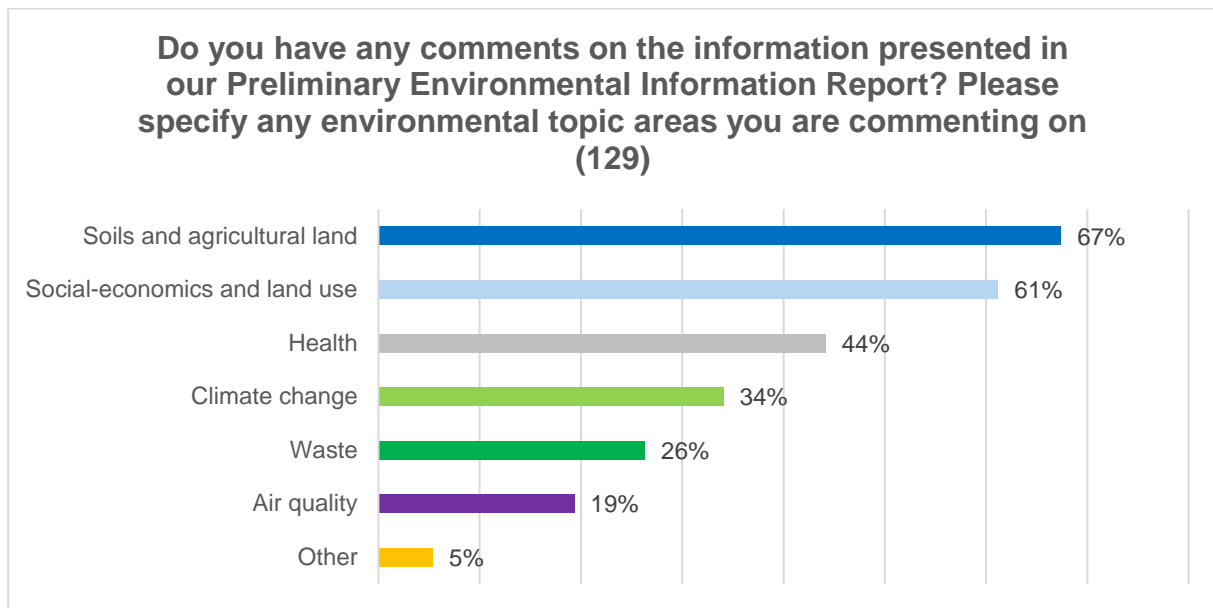


Figure 4-12. Do you have any comments on the information presented in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report? Please specify any environmental topic areas you are commenting on.

4.5.28 Question 15 asked respondents which causes they felt the community benefit fund (explained in the feedback form) should support. 160 respondents using the response form answered the question. 90 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.29 As shown in **Figure 4-13**, 68% of respondents (109) stated they felt wildlife causes should be supported, 61% of respondents (98) stated they felt environment causes should be supported, 51% of respondents (81) stated they felt community healthcare causes should be supported, 42% of respondents (67) stated they felt causes to combat climate change should be supported, 37% of respondents (59) stated they felt educational causes should be supported, and 18% of respondents (28) stated they felt other causes should be supported.

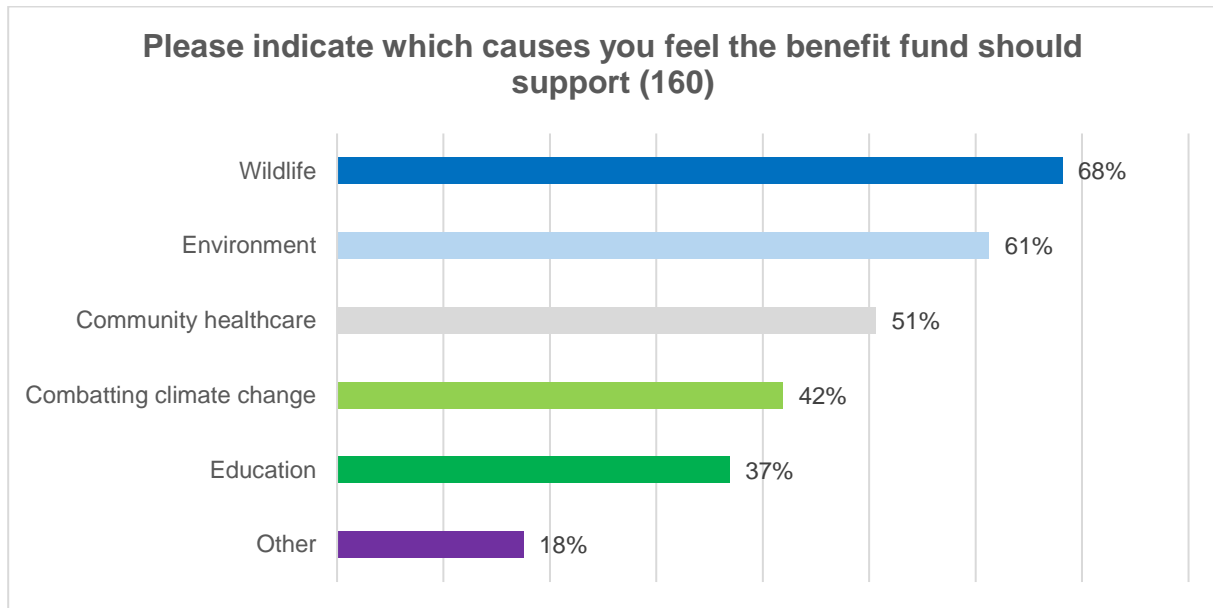


Figure 4-13. Please indicate which causes you feel the benefit fund should support. (Please tick as many boxes as needed).

4.5.30 Question 17 asked respondents how they found out about the consultation. 238 respondents using the response form answered the question. 12 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.31 As shown in **Figure 4-14**, 63% of respondents (149) stated they received a letter/brochure, 32% of respondents (77) stated they found out via a local community group, 25% of respondents (60) stated they found out about the consultation via word of mouth, 13% of respondents (32) saw the consultation advertised in the media, 4% of respondents (10) stated they found out about the consultation via other sources.

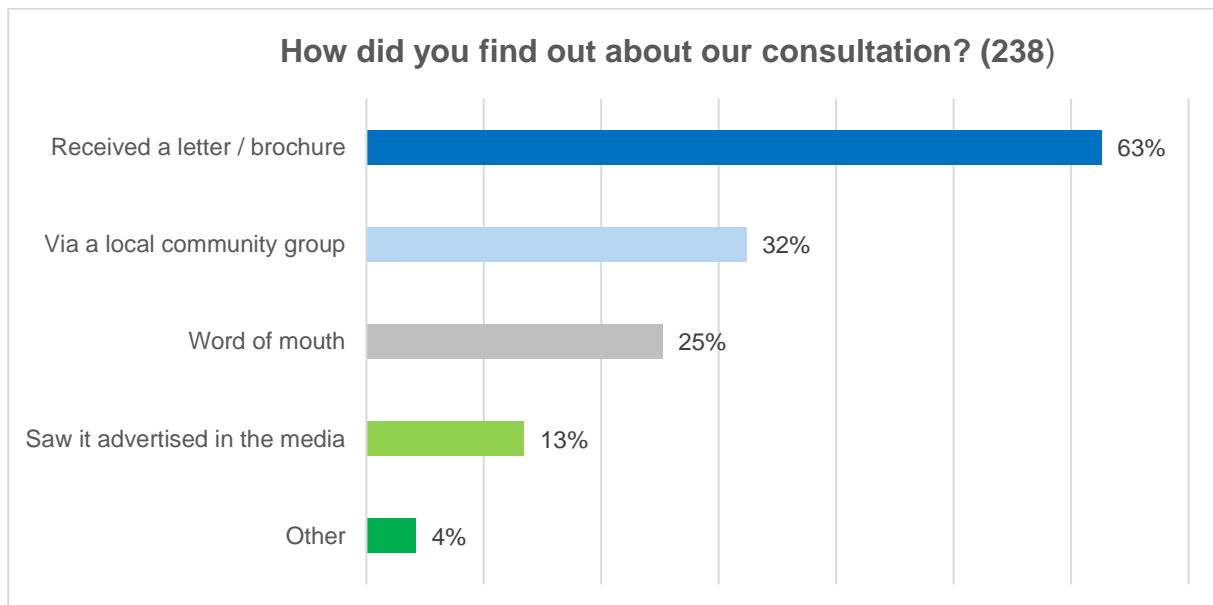


Figure 4-14. How did you find out about our consultation?

4.5.32 Question 18 asked respondent whether they had attended any of the consultation events. 240 respondents using the response form answered the question. 10 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question.

4.5.33 As shown in **Figure 4-15**, 71% of respondents (171) stated they had attended a consultation event, 29% of respondents (69) stated they had not attended a consultation event.

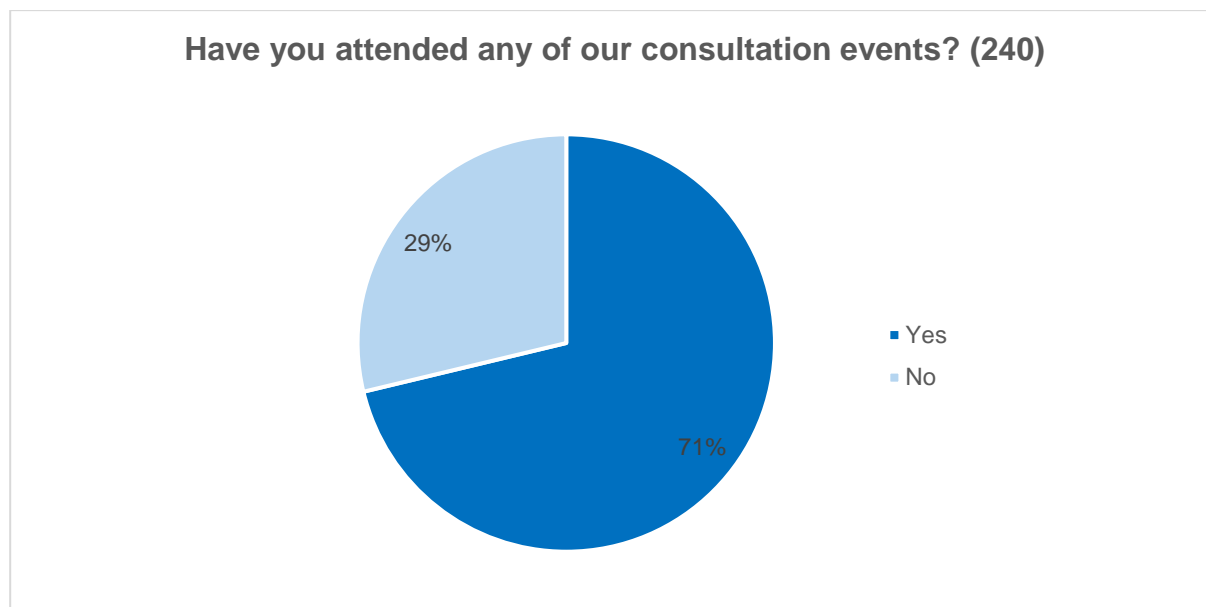


Figure 4-15. Have you attended any of our consultation events?

4.5.34 Question 19 asked respondents how informative they found the consultation materials. 235 respondents using the response form answered the question. 15 respondents who completed a form did not answer the question or provide a valid response.

4.5.35 As shown in **Figure 4-16**, 41% of respondents (94) stated they found the materials not informative, 40% of respondents (92) found the materials quite informative, 14% of respondents (33) stated they found the materials very informative, 6% of respondents (13) stated they did not use the materials.

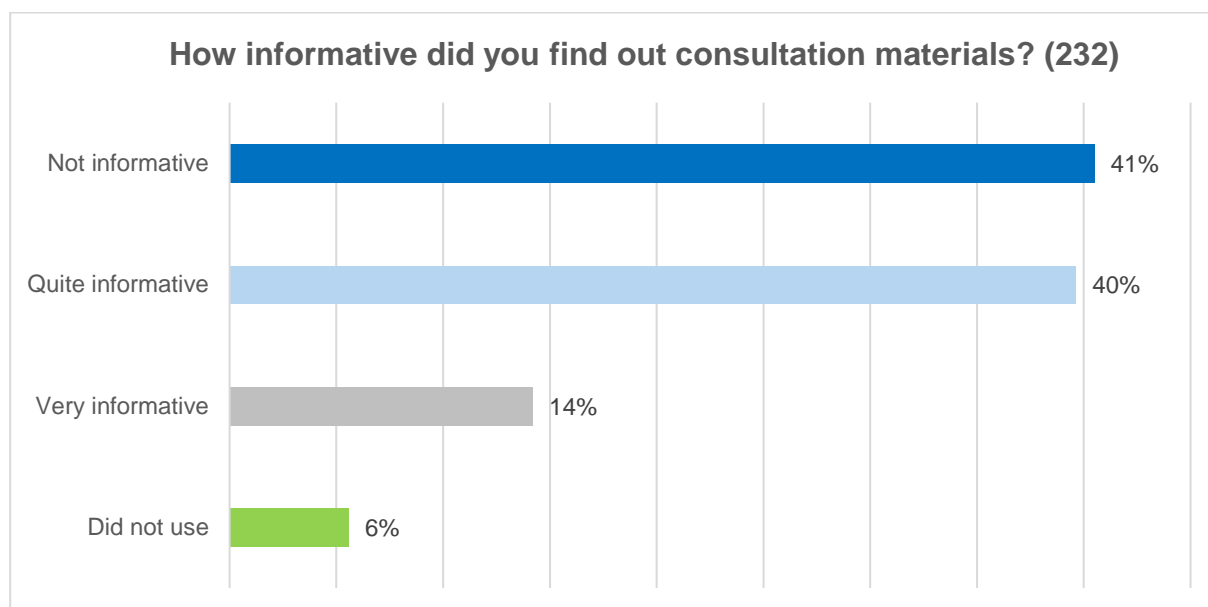


Figure 4-16. How informative did you find our consultation materials?

4.6 Summary of issues raised

- 4.6.1 As outlined in paragraph 4.3.37, responses were organised by themes, with similar responses pooled together. The Applicant has provided a summary of the comments received in **Table 4-2**, which considers comments across all feedback mechanisms.
- 4.6.2 **Appendix P: Tables evidencing regard had to statutory consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** provides the applicants responses to the issues raised by consultees and demonstrates the due regard had to them.

Table 4-2. Summary of issues raised at statutory consultation

Issues

Community

Concern from residents that land/property will lose value if the Scheme is built

Suggestion for further / additional forms of compensation to residents

Concern about the impacts to local employment

Construction

Concern that the roads are too small for construction traffic to access the site

Belief that the construction noise to be generated by the Scheme is unacceptable

Concern about the increase in traffic from construction vehicles will put additional pressure on local roads, which are already in poor condition

Comments and concern about decommissioning

Consultation

Dissatisfaction at consultation papers / events the individual has read / attended

Concern about misinformation/presentation of information in materials

Requesting further information and detail

Ecology

Disagreement with the Applicant's approach to ecological mitigation

Belief there is insufficient / unsuitable land included for ecological mitigation

Concern that the Scheme design removes an existing area used by deer for breeding and rutting

Economy

Concern that the Applicant is concerned only with profits

Unclear what the value of the community benefit of the fund will be

Environment

Concern that the Scheme will destroy wildlife habitats and food sources

Belief the operational noise to be generated by the Scheme is unacceptable

Concern regarding the impact on local health/well-being

Belief that areas of cultural heritage will be affected

Concern that the mitigation plans for noise and vibration are insufficiently detailed

Flood Risk, Drainage and Water Environment

Comment on poor drainage and a risk of flooding (due to heavy clay soil), which will be negatively impacted by the Scheme

Belief that farmland is less likely to flood than fields of solar panels

General

Opposition to the Scheme

Opposed to the degradation/industrialisation of the countryside

Support for solar energy

Landscape and Amenity

Concern that the views across the landscape / from Public Rights of Way will be blighted

Belief that the landscape screening will take too long to mature and is insufficient

Planning

Suggestion that alternative land types should be considered for the location instead of agricultural land

Belief that the Scheme should be relocated

Concern that the Scheme surrounds local villages

Scheme Design

Belief that the scheme is too large

Belief that the scheme is too close to residents

Comment that solar panels should be placed on the roofs of houses or commercial buildings instead

Soil and Agricultural Land

Belief that the land should continue to be used to harvest crops

Disagreement with the Applicant's statement that the quality of the soil is poor

Transport and Access

Belief that the plan for traffic is poorly designed

4.7 Changes made to the Scheme as a result of consultation/ specific requests made and how these have been considered

4.7.1 Following the statutory consultation, the Applicant made the following changes to the Scheme. The suggestions made from consultation responses and the changes made are outlined in **Table 4-3**.

Table 4-3. Changes made to the Scheme as a result of statutory consultation

Location	Feedback	Change made to design
Scheme wide	Concerns regarding battery safety	Whilst BESS technology has proven to be safe and is used on a number of other solar projects, the Applicant has removed the battery energy storage system from the Scheme due to engineering reasons pertinent to the Scheme Site.
Storage barns located, east of Gribthorpe	Concerns regarding increased crime and construction and operational traffic travelling through the hamlet of Gribthorpe to existing storage barns proposed to be used during construction and operation of the Scheme.	In response to the feedback received the Applicant has removed the storage barns from the Order limits. These are no longer proposed to be used and therefore removes construction and operational traffic through Gribthorpe and reduces the threat of increased crime.
Ecology Mitigation Areas 1g and 1h, east of Gribthrope	Concerns regarding the scale of the Scheme	In response to the feedback received to the statutory consultation and follow on discussions, the Applicant reviewed the generating output of the design and identified that solar PV infrastructure in Solar PV

Location	Feedback	Change made to design
		<p>Areas 1g and 1h (see Figure 2-3) can be removed. These are now Ecology Mitigation Areas 1g and 1h.</p> <p>This change reduces the scale of the solar PV infrastructure proposed for the Scheme and provides mitigation for overwintering birds as required by the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA). This habitat will be for Pink Footed Geese and Golden Plover bird species to meet HRA requirements.</p>
<p>Solar PV Area 1a, east of Willitoft Road, Willitoft</p>	<p>Construction of the Scheme will add additional traffic on local roads adversely impacting road capacity and the condition of the local roads.</p>	<p>In response to the feedback received the Applicant reviewed its construction access strategy and has proposed the inclusion of an internal track through Solar PV Area 1a to provide access to this area of the Solar PV Site from Willitoft Road thus limiting the HGV traffic on sections of local roads. This change has also required additional land to be included in the Order limits for the internal road to avoid veteran trees.</p>
<p>Field in the south of Solar PV Area 1e, directly north of the village of Spaldington</p>	<p>Land should continue to be used for arable farming</p> <p>Concerns regarding the scale of the Scheme</p>	<p>In response to the feedback received the Applicant has removed an area of land from the Order limits which is currently in arable use but was proposed to be planted grassland as part of the landscaping proposals for the Scheme. The Order limits are also set back from the northern residential dwellings in Spaldington.</p> <p>The Applicant reviewed the landscaping scheme presented at the statutory consultation and determined</p>

Location	Feedback	Change made to design
		<p>that existing screening further to the north of this field provides satisfactory screening for views from the south.</p>
<p>Spaldington property with sensitive receptor</p>	<p>Meeting with local residents with a neurodivergent family member regarding concerns about noise and change to views from their property</p>	<p>In response to the feedback received the Applicant reviewed the landscaping scheme presented at the statutory consultation and determined that additional landscaping can be provided to the south of the property boundary to further offset the proposed solar PV infrastructure and additional taller planting provided at their property boundary. A review of the location of noise generating equipment was undertaken and a commitment made for this location that Field Stations and Grid Connection Substations are not to be positioned within 350m of the property boundary.</p>
<p>Solar PV Area 2g, north of the A614</p>	<p>Land should continue to be used for arable farming</p> <p>Feedback and a meeting held with National Grid regarding the Scheme's interface with National Grid's consented Scotland to England Green Link 2 (SEGL2) project which will be constructing an electricity cable route through the middle of the original area presented at statutory consultation for Solar PV Area 2g.</p> <p>Concerns regarding scale of the Scheme</p>	<p>In response to the feedback received to the statutory consultation and follow on discussions with National Grid, the Applicant reviewed the generating output of the design and identified that the southern part of Solar PV Area 2g can be removed from the Order limits.</p> <p>This removes some areas of best and most versatile agricultural land which can remain in arable farming use; reduces the scale of the Scheme; and reduces the extent of easements required and the Scheme's interface with the SEGL2 project.</p>

Location	Feedback	Change made to design
Solar PV Area 3b	Concern regarding the location the Grid Connection Substation and noise generating from this.	In response to the feedback received to the statutory consultation, the Applicant reviewed the locations for the Grid Connection Substations and determined that the two Grid Connection Substations can be located together in Solar PV Area 1c. This removes the Grid Connection Substation from Solar PV Area 3b and reduces the potential for impacts of noise upon nearby residential receptors at Brind and along Rowlandhall Lane.
Solar PV Area 3c, east of Newsholme and south of Brind	<p>Land should continue to be used for arable farming</p> <p>Discussions with National Grid regarding the Scheme's interface with National Grid's proposed and consented Scotland to England Green Link 2 (SEGL2) project which will be constructing an electricity cable route through the middle of the original area presented at statutory consultation for Solar PV Area 2g.</p> <p>Concerns regarding scale of the Scheme</p> <p>Concern regarding the impact of the Scheme on public rights of way</p>	<p>In response to the feedback received to the statutory consultation and ongoing discussions with National Grid, the Applicant reviewed the generating output of the design and identified that the southern part of Solar PV Area 3c can be removed from the Order limits.</p> <p>This removes some areas of best and most versatile agricultural land which can remain in arable farming use; reduces the scale of the Scheme; reduces the extent of easements required and the Scheme's interface with the SEGL2 project; and removes solar PV infrastructure in close proximity of public rights of way which cross Solar PV Area 3c.</p>
Access to Solar PV Area 3c via Newsholme, adjacent to Beech Farm	Concerns regarding the use of an access off Main Road, Newsholme adjacent to Beech Farm and its suitability for construction and operational access.	In response to the feedback received, the Applicant reviewed its construction access strategy and identified an additional access off Rowlandhall Lane providing access to Solar PV Area 3c to the north of the village of

Location	Feedback	Change made to design
		Newsholme which avoids the village.
South of Wood Lane, near Wressle	Concern from a landowner regarding the area for the Grid Connection Corridor in this location	In response to feedback received during discussions with the landowner, additional land was included in the Order limits for the proposed Grid Connection Corridor, close to Wood Lane, to provide flexibility for the cable routing and construction in this area.
Land at Brackenholme	Natural England refers to the importance of avoiding impacts to the River Derwent Special Area of Conservation	In response to feedback received and through ongoing assessment work, the Applicant reviewed the use of the access track off the A63 at Brackenholme for the route of the Grid Connection Corridor and its use for access to construction compound D. Additional land was included and differing construction methods proposed including Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) to avoid and mitigate effects on this internationally designated ecological site.
Unnamed drain (DE53), North of the River Derwent, north of Barmby on the Marsh, south of Babthorpe	Request from Ouse and Derwent Internal Drainage Board for all crossings to be HDD	In response to feedback received, the Applicant reviewed the grid connection construction method at this location and confirmed HDD can be undertaken.
East of Drax Power Station, South of Pear Tree Avenue	Concern from Drax Power Station regarding the area for the Grid Connection Corridor and methods of construction for the grid connection cabling	In response to feedback received during discussions with Drax Power Station, the Grid Connection Corridor was expanded south of Pear Tree Avenue to provide flexibility for installing the cable and avoiding Drax Power Station's infrastructure. The proposed installation of the cable is also proposed to partly use HDD to minimise interaction with Drax Power Station's infrastructure.

5. Engagement Following Statutory Consultation

5.1 Meetings held with key stakeholders

5.1.1 After the completion of the statutory consultation on 20 June 2023, the Applicant continued to engage with elected and technical stakeholders to inform the Scheme's design and approach to the EIA. **Table 5-1** provides a summary of engagement with various stakeholders following the end of the statutory consultation.

Table 5-1. Ongoing engagement via meetings with stakeholders following statutory consultation.

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
Network Rail	26 June 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Discussed asset protection requirements. Network Rail raised the following potential issues that will need to be closed off: any cranes (none), vibration from drilling, ensuring no grounding on level crossing from project vehicles, glint and glare (none is anticipated). Action on Network Rail to advise on drilling depth and stand off. The Applicant asked to lift the standard letter of objection before end of August 2023 if possible.
East Riding of Yorkshire Council (planning officer)	29 June 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Update meeting with the planning officer to provide a summary of the feedback received in response to the statutory consultation; and explain the latest progress of environmental surveys and assessments.
Labour Party – Howden Branch	4 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting gave an overview of the Scheme followed by a Q&A session. The topics of questions included the DCO process, loss of farmland/ jobs, environmental impacts, and the community benefit fund.

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
North Yorkshire Council (planning officer)	7 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Update meeting with planning officers to provide a summary of feedback received in response to the statutory consultation; discussed the feedback received from North Yorkshire Council officers; and explained the latest progress of environmental surveys and assessments.
Planning Inspectorate	11 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Update meeting to run through the delivery of the statutory consultation and the feedback received and the latest progress with surveys and assessment work.
Foggathorpe Parish Council	17 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Post statutory consultation meeting for parish councils – discussion of future project programme.
Natural England East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ecology and planning officers)	17 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting held to discuss a summary of non-breeding bird data, rationale for determining functionally linked land and proposed mitigation.
Long Drax Parish Council	19 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Post statutory consultation meeting for parish councils – discussion of future project programme.
Howden Town Council Wressle Parish Council Bubwith Parish Council Foggathorpe Parish Council	20 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Post statutory consultation meeting for parish councils – discussion of future project programme.
Network Rail	25 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting held to discuss the design and next steps.

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
Historic England East Riding of Yorkshire Council (archaeology and built heritage officers)	26 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting to discuss Heritage and Archaeology. An overview of the Scheme and potential design changes following statutory consultation was provided. Discussion of feedback provided by the consultees on the PEI Report (Ref. 9) and an opportunity for discussion. Updates on trial trenching.
East Riding of Yorkshire council and North Yorkshire Council (Ecology officers)	27 July 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting to discuss Ecology. An overview of the Scheme and potential design changes following statutory consultation was provided. Discussion of feedback provided by the consultees on the PEI Report (Ref. 9) and an opportunity for discussion. Updates on ecological surveys and approach to Biodiversity Net Gain were also provided.
East Riding of Yorkshire council and North Yorkshire Council (Landscape officers)	01 August 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting to discuss landscape and visual matters. An overview of the Scheme and potential design changes following statutory consultation was provided. Discussion of feedback on the PEI Report (Ref. 9) and update on how the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) is being progressed including the proposed viewpoints and photomontage locations.
North Yorkshire Council (Public Health Officers)	02 August 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	Meeting to discuss Human Health Assessment, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions of short-term vs long-term effects • Sensitive populations • Safety along Public Rights of Way (PROWs)

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect on healthcare services and GP's <p>Traffic effects – Access to Open Space and Active Travel, Social Cohesion and Neighbourhoods.</p>
North Yorkshire Council (Highways Officers)	16 August 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	<p>Meeting to discuss access proposals within the North Yorkshire Council Authority area, specifically:</p> <p>two access points near Drax, and one from A63 near the Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Also discussed during the meeting were optioneering and visibility splay requirements.</p>
Ouse and Derwent IDB	17 August 2023	Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams)	<p>Meeting to discuss the Scheme design and effects, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effect of Solar Panels on catchpoint permeability Confirming that gravel access roads do not require a drainage strategy Confirming that field stations do not require a drainage strategy Suitability of proposed strategy for field 1c Suitability of proposed strategy for Johnsons' farm

5.2 Ongoing technical engagement (via email) with key stakeholders post- statutory consultation

5.2.1 In addition to the meetings listed above, following the statutory consultation the Applicant continued to engage with key stakeholders on technical matters via email and written correspondence as outlined in paragraphs 5.2.2–5.2.5 below. All of the following engagement continued to inform and develop the Scheme assessment.

Environment Agency

5.2.2 During this period, the Applicant continued to engage with the Environment Agency to discuss the flood modelling approach.

Natural England

5.2.3 The Applicant also continued to engage with Natural England to discuss the following topics:

- a. Licences for Great Crested Newts, Badgers, Bats, Otter and Water Voles;
- b. Survey locations and timings;
- c. Bird survey data, including greylag geese;
- d. Details of the routes and methodology for the walkover surveys that were undertaken;
- e. Tidal states on which surveys were undertaken;
- f. Non-breeding bird survey methodology;
- g. Provision of mitigation in Solar PV Areas 1e, 1g and 1h;
- h. Waterbird assemblages of Humber Estuary SPA and Lower Derwent Valley SPA; and
- i. Ecological surveys in the route corridors.

North Yorkshire Council

5.2.4 During this period, the Applicant continued to engage with North Yorkshire Council to provide an update on the status of the Scheme.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

5.2.5 During this period, the Applicant continued to engage with East Riding of Yorkshire Council provide an update on the status of the Scheme and to discuss:

- a. Fencing specifications for those adjacent to Public Rights of Way (PROW);
- b. Locations of access tracks and gates in relation to PROW;
- c. Cross sections of the proposed buffer areas along PROW;
- d. Maintenance of planted boundary along PROW and safety of users during maintenance activities;
- e. Buffer area adjacent to PROW;
- f. Latest update for council definitive map of designated routes/PROW;
- g. Responses to queries following a combined meeting with Natural England held on 17 July 2023;
- h. Non-breeding bird methodology and potential provision of mitigation in Solar PV Areas 1e, 1g and 1h;
- i. Differences between PROW mapping in ground/aerial views and the definitive map;
- j. An update on the progress of trial trenching; and
- k. Confirmation from East Riding of Yorkshire Council that there are no expected effects on local gypsy traveller communities as a result of the Scheme.

National Grid

- 5.2.6 The Applicant also met with National Grid's Scotland to England Green Link 2 (SEGL2) in May and September 2023.

5.3 Engagement with elected representatives following statutory consultation

Keir Mather MP

- 5.3.1 The Rt Hon. Nigel Adams, who previously held the Selby and Ainsty seat, stood down as a Conservative MP on 11 June 2023. In the by-election held on 20 July 2023, the seat was won by Kier Mather MP representing the Labour Party. The Applicant contacted Keir Mather MP via email on 25 July 2023 to invite him to a briefing and to direct him to the statutory consultation materials. A response was received to this invitation on 5 September 2023, during the Targeted Consultation outlined in section 6.5.

Rt Hon David Davis MP

- 5.3.2 The Applicant held a meeting with the Rt Hon David Davis MP during the targeted consultation period which is listed in section 6.5.

6. Targeted Consultation (Post statutory consultation)

6.1 Structure of Chapter

- 6.1.1 This chapter provides a summary of the Applicant's approach to the targeted consultation on the Scheme. It sets out an overview of the consultation undertaken between 1 September 2023 and 2 October 2023, which was carried out in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
- 6.1.2 It also summarises the approach taken to notifying consultees about the targeted consultation, including how the Section 42 consultees were identified and notified, in addition to PILs (Persons with Interest in the Land) and clarification of communication with these parties. Consultation with members of the public (Section 47 consultees) is also outlined, as well as the feedback methodology used which explains the design changes consulted on, when and how the Applicant carried out the consultation, the feedback mechanisms and management of correspondence and consultation responses during this period.

6.2 Overview of Targeted Consultation

- 6.2.1 Following the review of feedback from the statutory consultation, in addition to the progression of further design development and assessment work, a number of changes to the Site Boundary for the Scheme were identified (see **Table 6-1**). These changes related to minor additions to the Site boundary which resulted in a small increase in land required for the Scheme. Such changes were assessed and did not introduce any new significant environmental effects, so the findings of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) (Ref. 9) published at the statutory consultation remained valid.
- 6.2.2 However, as there was a change to the proposed Order limits, the Applicant contacted those who were identified as having an interest in the land affected by the changes and Section 42(1)(a) and Section 42(1)(b) consultees in a targeted consultation, which was undertaken from 1 September until 2 October 2023.
- 6.2.3 While the targeted consultation was non-statutory in nature, it was conducted having regard to the principles of pre-application statutory consultation set out in the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and in accordance with the DCLG³ guidance(Ref. 2). While the Applicant have considered all responses, a formal extension was also granted for one stakeholder (until 23:59 on 5 October 2023) – see paragraph 6.3.9. One late consultation response was received, from a Section 41(1)(a) consultee, which the Applicant considered and has due regard to in **Appendix Q1: Section 42(1)(a), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**. See paragraph 7.2.12 for further details.
- 6.2.4 The proposed approach to undertaking the targeted consultation was shared with the host local authorities (East Riding of Yorkshire Council and North

³ The department name is now Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

Yorkshire Council) who previously consulted on the SoCC, to notify them that the Applicant planned to carry out a targeted consultation on a number of changes that had been made to the Scheme (see paragraph 6.2.7).

The Scheme

- 6.2.5 The Scheme as presented in the targeted consultation brochure (**Appendix O1: Targeted consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) is described as:

“...a new solar farm with energy storage, known as East Yorkshire Solar Farm, situated between the villages of Gribthorpe, Spaldington and Wressle, and the town of Howden (the Scheme). A Grid Connection Corridor outside of the Solar PV Site will link the Scheme to National Grid’s Drax Substation (approximately 6.2 km south-west of the Solar PV Site).”

Timeline of the Targeted Consultation

- 6.2.6 The targeted consultation for the Scheme ran for a period of 32 days in Autumn 2023, from Friday 1 September to 23:59 on Monday 2 October 2023. This provided a longer period of the statutory minimum of 28 days to ensure that any instances of Section 42 letters being returned to the Applicant could be reissued within the targeted consultation period, thereby limiting the need to offer extensions after this period.

Delivering the Targeted Consultation

- 6.2.7 The Applicant’s proposed approach to delivering the targeted consultation was shared during meetings with the host local authorities: North Yorkshire Council on 28 June 2023 and East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 7 July 2023. The Applicant explained the proposed changes to the Scheme and the plan to consult affected parties through a targeted consultation. No concerns were raised by the host local authorities.

6.3 Consultation Methodology for Section 42 Consultees

Identification of Section 42 Consultees

- 6.3.1 The Applicant consulted with Section 42(1)(a), Section 42(1)(aa), Section 42(1)(b) and Section 42(1)(d) consultees, as defined by the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1). A full list of Section 42 consultees can be found in **Appendix H: Lists of consultees identified and consulted, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 6.3.2 This list was based on Section 42 consultees identified at the earlier statutory consultation through careful adherence to Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations (as amended) (Ref. 4) and inclusion of organisations consulted by the Planning Inspectorate on the EIA Scoping Report. As per statutory consultation, the Applicant also consulted with the local authorities identified as falling within the categories of an “A”, “B”, “C” or “D” local authority under Section 43 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1). See Section 3.4 for further details.

- 6.3.3 The Applicant ensured that the contacts identified at statutory consultation remained correct, and any email addresses identified as superseded were replaced with the most up-to-date contact details available.

Notifying Section 42 Consultees

- 6.3.4 The Applicant sent each of the Section 42 consultees an email or a letter notification to inform them of the start of the targeted consultation on 1 September 2023. The template of these emails and letters can be found in **Appendix O2: Section 42(1)(a)(aa)(b) and parish council email; Appendix O3: Section 42(1)(d) letters (existing land interests); and Appendix O4: Section 42(1)(d) letters (new land interests), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**. All consultees were given until Monday 2 October to respond to the targeted consultation - a period of 32 days.
- 6.3.5 Selected Section 42(1)(a), Section 42(1)(aa) and Section 42(1)(b) consultees received this notification via email only on the start day of targeted consultation (1 September 2023). Section 42(1)(d) consultees received this notification in a letter via the post only, which used Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed 1pm and were posted to arrive on 31 August 2023, which was before the first day of the targeted consultation period. This service provided guaranteed next day delivery by 1pm, as well as full tracking, a photo and signature confirmation upon delivery.
- 6.3.6 The email to selected Section 42(1)(a), Section 42(1)(aa) and Section 42(1)(b) consultees (**Appendix O2: Section 42(1)(a)(aa)(b) and parish council email, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) referred to the earlier statutory consultation and the newly proposed 24 changes to the Site Boundary for the Scheme. It noted that these changes were related to minor additions to the Site boundary which resulted in a small increase in land required for the Scheme. None of the changes changed the assessment provided in the PIE Report published at statutory consultation. The email also outlined the targeted consultation timeframe and attached the targeted consultation brochure (**Appendix O1: Targeted consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) which detailed the revisions.
- 6.3.7 This email also confirmed that the Applicant directly notified, via a letter, the Persons with Interest in the Land (PILs) who were affected by the proposed changes detailed in the consultation. The email noted the two different types of PIL, which were each sent a different letter, both of which were attached to the email notification sent to selected Section 42(1)(a), Section 42(1)(aa) and Section 42(1)(b) consultees for their information.
- 6.3.8 The email also contained information about how to respond to the consultation, noting that the feedback may be communicated to others as part of the Consultation Report, as well as how the Applicant will consider all responses with due regard, alongside the main themes and issues raised. The project email address and Freephone number (paragraph 6.5.3) were also provided as channels to respond to the consultation, as well as for general enquiries and to submit any requests for hard copies of the materials.

- 6.3.9 All Section 42(1)(a) consultees that were contacted were asked to respond as per the consultation deadline outlined in the email (**Appendix O2: Section 42(1)(a)(aa)(b) and parish council email, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**), however Yorkshire Water were granted a formal extension to respond by 23:59 on 5 October 2023. This was due to being advised by Yorkshire Water Services Limited that the Applicant's original targeted consultation notification should have been sent to an alternative email address at Yorkshire Water Services Limited.
- 6.3.10 In response, the project team re-directed this notification to the correct email address (**Appendix O5: Yorkshire Water email extension, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) three days after the consultation began and provided this consultee with an extension to the consultation deadline, granting this stakeholder three further days to consider and respond. Despite this, Yorkshire Water Services Limited still responded within the original consultation deadline timeframe.
- 6.3.11 There were some minor changes to the number of consultees who were contacted at the targeted consultation in comparison to the statutory consultation in May to June 2023, as follows:
- a. Twenty-eight newly identified s. 42(1)(d) consultees were identified in August 2023 through ongoing diligent inquiry into land interests affected by design changes to the Site Boundary for the Scheme. The targeted statutory consultation undertaken to engage with these landowners is described in paragraph 6.3.21 and 6.3.25.
 - b. Further ongoing diligent enquiry via His Majesty's Land Registry (HMLR) refreshes also led to the identification of two further s. 42(1)(d) consultees following a notification of newly registered land. These consultees were written to on 4 October 2023, and in accordance with s42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), were given a 32-day period to respond to the targeted consultation, with a deadline of Friday 3 November 2023. The targeted consultation approach to engage with these landowners is described in Chapter 8.
- 6.3.12 The Applicant did not receive any Return to Senders from any Section 42 consultees.

Identification of PILs

- 6.3.13 Under Section 42(1)(d) and section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), and in accordance with APFP Regulation 3 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the APFP Regulations)(Ref. 4), the Applicant contacted two different types PILs identified as having an interest in the land affected by the changes in the targeted consultation. The list of consultees which were categorised into both types of PIL is presented in **Appendix H3 List of prescribed consultees under Section 42 (1)(d), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

6.3.14 These two types of PILs were:

- a. PILs who had been newly identified as a result of the proposed changes and were therefore being consulted on a statutory basis.
- b. PILs who were previously contacted at statutory consultation and who the Applicant believed had land interests affected by the changes.

6.3.15 As outlined in 6.3.11, as a result of diligent inquiry prior to targeted consultation (see 6.3.16– 6.3.20 which outlines the process), the Applicant identified 28 newly impacted land interests following the proposed changes at targeted consultation.

6.3.16 In order to identify these 28 PILs, the Applicant undertook a thorough land referencing exercise. Once the additional areas of land required as a result of the incorporation of the 24 changes at targeted consultation had been agreed, the Order limits was updated to ensure spatial accuracy of data and identify the new PILs. Using the polygon data extracted from His Majesties Land Registry (HMLR), the Applicant was able to identify registered areas by running an intersect of titles that were directly affected by changes to the Site boundary for the Scheme.

6.3.17 Additionally, sub-soil interests were identified by creating a schedule of interest with the corresponding Change Area numbers. This listed the title register numbers that fronted onto the public highway, which were then purchased, and the information collated onto an internal database.

6.3.18 Furthermore, LineSearch checks (which identifies the location of utilities and assets) were undertaken to identify apparatus owned or occupied by Statutory Undertakers, as well as using pre-existing data from previous results. The Applicant also received data in the form of reports and plans identifying potential utilities apparatus and maintenance operators within the Scheme. This information was reviewed as part of the process to identifying Statutory Undertakers.

6.3.19 Any new contacts which were identified as a result of the Applicant's searches were subject to data validation checks, using Companies House, Trace IQ and Royal Mail address validation.

6.3.20 The Applicant was also able to identify unregistered land, thereby allowing the production of plans and notices which highlighted the extent of the boundaries in question. Using the data contained within the intersect, the Applicant was able to identify the PILs affected using an internal database which stored the data spatially. As such, a mailing list could be produced containing affected parties. The Applicant was then able to validate if contacts had previously received a Section 42 notice by checking against communication data. This therefore allowed the Applicant to target the contacts with the relevant consultation material.

Notifying Newly Identified PILs – Statutory Consultation

6.3.21 As there were two different types of PIL, a different letter was sent to each type (see **Appendix O3: Section 42(1)(d) letters (existing land interests), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** and **Appendix O4: Section 42(1)(d) letters (new land interests), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** for templates), alongside their bespoke

landownership plan (**Appendix O6: Bespoke landownership plan template, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**).

- 6.3.22 The letter sent to newly identified land interests outlined the Scheme, the purpose of the Applicant's earlier statutory consultation, the changes proposed at targeted consultation, the consultee's land interest details, in addition to the targeted consultation deadline. The Applicant invited the newly identified land interests to comment on the proposals for the Scheme as earlier statutory consultation, as well as the new changes as part of targeted consultation. The statutory consultation booklet (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and paper feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were enclosed with the targeted consultation letter and brochure to mirror what was shared at the statutory consultation. As per paragraph 6.3.4, newly identified PILs were given 32 days to respond to the consultation – 4 days in excess of the statutory minimum required period (28 days).
- 6.3.23 It also outlined the consultation materials which were shared as part of the statutory consultation and included the link for the Scheme webpage (<https://www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire/>) to view these materials online. The Applicant advised to use the contact details (paragraph 6.5.3) in the letter if any access issues were encountered on the webpage. Paper copies of the materials could also be requested during the consultation period, and free of charge if requested individually. Multiple copy requests were considered on a case-by-case basis with costs organised accordingly.
- 6.3.24 The Applicant also confirmed in this letter how to respond to the consultation, via the project email address or Freepost (see paragraph 6.5.3). Feedback could also be submitted via the statutory consultation feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) in relation to the earlier statutory consultation proposals. The privacy policy was also explained, which noted that the substance of comments could be shared, and personal details would be held securely. A link to the privacy notice was also provided on the Scheme's webpage (<https://www.boom-power.co.uk/privacy-policy/>).
- 6.3.25 In this letter, the Applicant also confirmed the next steps of the project, outlining the consultation feedback analysis process where responses would be considered within the body of the consultation report. The letter also outlined the DCO process with a hyperlink to the Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>). Lastly, the project contact details were confirmed, which included the Freephone and email address (see paragraph 6.5.3). Consultees could also use these contact details to request for more accessible formats of the consultation materials.

Notifying PILs who were previously contacted at Statutory Consultation

- 6.3.26 PILs who had previously been consulted at statutory consultation, but whom the Applicant believed to have had land interests affected by the changes at targeted consultation, received a letter similar to that outlined in paragraphs

6.3.22 to 6.3.25. These consultees were previously identified under Section 42(1)(d) as per the identification process at statutory consultation outlined in paragraphs 3.4.15– 3.4.24.

- 6.3.27 The letter which these PILs received noted that the Applicant had also written to them at the earlier statutory consultation. Since they had previously received information about the Scheme, only the key project details were outlined, which included a summary of the information provided at the statutory consultation and link to the Scheme webpage (paragraph 6.3.23) to revisit these materials. It also contained a section on the targeted consultation and changes proposed, in addition the consultee's land interest details and the consultation deadline. The remainder of the letter is as per paragraph 6.3.25. A hard copy of the targeted consultation brochure (**Appendix O1: Targeted consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) was included with the letter.

Clarification of communication with PILs

- 6.3.28 As outlined in paragraph 6.3.21, individual landownership plans were issued to both types of PIL, clarifying their land by Change Areas in relation to the site boundary for the Scheme. However, the individual plans for Change Areas 1 and 6 which the Applicant produced for the PILs only included the land interests located to the south of Carr Lane.
- 6.3.29 This meant that in some cases, for those parties which also had a land interest located north of Carr Lane (also within Change Area 1), this was not highlighted in their Individual Plan. The same applies for the land covered by Change Area 6 - any land interest that also appeared in Change Area 6 as a continuation from Change Area 1 (adjacent) was not shown. This error was initially highlighted by an individual Section 42(1)(d) consultee, which led to the Applicant undertaking a full review of the Change Areas shown on the Individual Plans supplied to all parties. Through this check, seven individuals in total were identified as having the same issue.
- 6.3.30 All seven parties had been previously consulted at the statutory consultation (see paragraph 6.3.26) and received the correct landownership plans previously, in addition to other information about the Scheme and its proposals.
- 6.3.31 In response to the above, the Applicant revised all individual land ownership plans for each of the above parties, ensuring that the plans highlighted all land interests affected by Change Area 1 and 6. Since these parties had received the latest information on the changes at targeted consultation, the Applicant took the view that this information provided as part of the initial targeted consultation notification, despite the land ownership plan error, was satisfactory to help inform a formal targeted consultation response. Although the Applicant re-issued land ownership plans, this did not hamper the seven impacted parties from commenting on the proposals, and so the original targeted consultation deadline (paragraph 6.3.26) remained.
- 6.3.32 The Applicant issued out a revised land ownership plan to the seven impacted parties, alongside a new cover letter which explained the changes to the plans for completeness. These were issued and delivered on 15 September 2023. See **Appendix O7: Letter to Section 42(1)(d) issuing**

revised land ownership plans, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2] for a template of this cover letter.

- 6.3.33 As described in 6.3.31, the issue was initially highlighted by one affected party – this correspondence was received via email. The Applicant responded to the PIL in question by email to confirm that a revised land ownership plan, new cover letter, as well as the original Targeted Consultation Land Interest letter had been issued to them. The Applicant requested that this PIL contacted the project team again in the case that they did not successfully receive this information by post. This email communication is presented in **Appendix O8: Bespoke email to a Section 42(1)(d) consultee issuing revised land ownership plans, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 6.3.34 In addition, one individual, with two different land title numbers, respective of their two different land types, received a letter containing the incorrect title number on their individual land ownership plans. The plans contained a title number for a different PIL, who had received the correct letter and landownership plan. The individual plan supplied to the landowner with these two land interests correctly highlighted the land interest affected by Change Area 16, however the plan for Change Area 14 was supplied incorrectly.
- 6.3.35 Upon closer inspection by the Applicant, one of the two land title numbers had been identified to having subsoil interests in land highlighted by Change Areas 13 and 15, which was not previously included in the individual plan supplied. This individual had been previously consulted at statutory consultation and so was aware of the Scheme, and the Site Boundary for the Scheme at the time of this earlier consultation in relation to their two land interests.
- 6.3.36 Subsequently, revisions were made to the individual plans concerning both title numbers, so that all sub-soil land interests identified in Change Areas 13, 15 and 16 were highlighted. The individual was issued revised landownership plans on 15 September 2023 by email, in addition to two cover letters which explained the land plan errors associated with the two affected title numbers. This email notification can be found in **Appendix O8: Bespoke email to a Section 42(1)(d) consultee issuing revised land ownership plans, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 6.3.37 For completeness, the Applicant undertook a robust check of all communications issued to each PIL at targeted consultation (paragraph 6.3.14). This identified that a plan for Change Area 9 should have also been supplied to one PIL, in addition to the Change Area 3 plan which they had correctly received. This Change Area 9 plan (**Appendix O9: Change area 9 plan, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) was issued out as part of the communications sent out to the other impacted PILs on 15 September 2023, as outlined in paragraph 6.3.32. This PIL had also been consulted at the earlier statutory consultation.

6.4 Community Consultation

- 6.4.1 Although the applicant did not take specific steps to notify the community about the targeted consultation, members of the public were free to take part in the consultation if they wished (in line with Section 47(1) of the Planning

Act 2008 (Ref. 1)). This meant that members of the wider public, including the people living in the vicinity of the Scheme, local businesses, community representatives and community groups could view the targeted consultation brochure via the Scheme webpage (<https://www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire/>), and in the Targeted Consultation brochure within the 'Documentation Library' section of the Scheme webpage (paragraph 6.3.23).

6.4.2 Members of the public could provide their feedback via the project email (EastYorkshireSolarFarm@Boom-Power.co.uk), project webform on the Scheme webpage under the 'Contact Us' section or Freephone ([01964 782219](tel:01964782219)) or Freepost (see paragraph 6.5.3). The Applicant therefore ensured that the consultation was made inclusive, as although members of the public were not directly notified, information about the changes to proposals were shared online on the Scheme webpage. The Applicant has had due regard to comments received from Section 47(1) consultees as outlined in **Appendix Q4: Section 47 public consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

6.5 Feedback Methodology and Recording

- 6.5.1 The feedback from Statutory Consultation was fully considered and further design work and assessments were carried out. As a result, 24 revisions to the Site Boundary for the Scheme were proposed and these changes are outlined in **Table 6-1** below.
- 6.5.2 The 24 proposed revisions detailed below have been assessed and do not introduce any new significant environmental effects. This means that the findings of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) (Ref. 9) published at the Applicant's statutory consultation have not changed.

Table 6-1. Table outlining the 24 changes proposed at targeted consultation, with their respective Change Numbers, Location, Reason for Change and Description of Change

Change number	Location	Reason for change	Description of change
1	East of Drax Power Station	Design and construction requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary has been identified for the Grid Connection Corridor close to the point of connection at the National Grid Drax Substation to provide flexibility for installing the cable and avoiding Drax Power Station's infrastructure.
2	Solar PV Area 1a east of Willitof Road, Willitof	Design and construction requirement	The Site Boundary has been increased in Solar PV Area 1a (see Site Boundary plan on page 2) to the east of Willitof Road to allow cabling and an internal access track to avoid veteran trees.

Change number	Location	Reason for change	Description of change
3	South of Wood Lane, near Wressle	Design and construction requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary has been identified for the proposed Grid Connection Corridor close to Wood Lane to provide flexibility in this area following consultation with the landowner.
4	Newsholme	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary has been identified to accommodate an access to Solar PV Area 3c (see Site Boundary plan on page 2) from Newsholme village. The proposed amendment includes the carriageway in the immediate vicinity of the access to allow for the proposed vehicles entering and exiting the current Site access location.
5	Pear Tree Avenue, Drax	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site, as well as pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
6	Carr Lane, Drax	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the land and carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable flexibility on potential access locations, verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site, as well as pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the

Change number	Location	Reason for change	Description of change
			carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
7	Hull Rd (A63), between Newsholme and Hemingbrough – east	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site, as well as pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
8	Hull Rd (A63), between Newsholme and Hemingbrough – west	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site; pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location; and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
9	Rowlandhall Lane, Newsholme – south	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary has been incorporated to allow for the option of an alternative access into Solar PV Area 3c (see Site Boundary plan on page 2 of the Targeted consultation booklet (Appendix O1: Targeted consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])). The amendment also allows for pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location, as well

Change number	Location	Reason for change	Description of change
			as temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
10	Rowlandhall Lane, Newsholme – north	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site, as well as pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
11	B1228, near Spaldington Airfield	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary is to include additional land in order to facilitate the upgrade of the existing access to cater for construction vehicles exiting off the B1228 and turning north into the Solar PV Area 2c (see Site Boundary plan on page 2 of the Targeted consultation booklet (Appendix O1: Targeted consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])).
12	Wood Lane / Street Lane junction, near Spaldington, west of Solar PV Area 2b	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary is to include an area to facilitate access for abnormal load construction vehicles transporting the proposed Grid Connection Substations equipment to Solar PV Area 1c (see Site Boundary plan on page 2 of the Targeted consultation booklet (Appendix O1: Targeted consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])).

Change number	Location	Reason for change	Description of change
13	Wood Lane near Spaldington, north of Solar PV Area 2b	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary is to include an area to facilitate access for abnormal load construction vehicles transporting the proposed Grid Connection Substations equipment to Solar PV Area 1c (see Site Boundary plan on page 2 of the Targeted consultation booklet (Appendix O1: Targeted consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])).
14	Ings Lane, Spaldington, north of Solar PV Area 1f	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site; pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location; and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
15	Willitoft Road, south of Spaldington, adjacent Solar PV Area 2e	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site; pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location; and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
16	Spaldington Road, south of	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been

Change number	Location	Reason for change	Description of change
	Spaldington, north of Solar PV Area 2f		incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site; pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location; and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
17	A614, northwest of Portington, east of Solar PV Area 2g	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site; pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location; and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
18	Tottering Lane, Spaldington, west of Solar PV Area 1c and east of Solar PV Area 1d	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site; pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location; and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
19	Street Lane (B1228), south-east of Brighton Airfield Industrial Estate	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge

Change number	Location	Reason for change	Description of change
			maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site; pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location; and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
20	Willitoft Road, Willitoft, adjacent to Solar PV Area 1a	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary includes the carriageway near the Site access location, which has been incorporated to enable verge maintenance during construction to ensure adequate visibility for construction vehicles entering and exiting the Site; pavement tie in and reinstatement works at the access location; and temporary traffic signals and signage to control the carriageway where traffic management is required to facilitate the construction works.
21	Highfield Road / Northfield Road junction	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary is to include an area to facilitate access for abnormal load construction vehicles transporting the proposed Grid Connection Substations equipment to Solar PV Area 1c (see Site Boundary plan on page 2 of the Targeted consultation booklet (Appendix O1: Targeted consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2])).
22	Access road within Drax Power Station – west	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary is to include an existing road within Drax Power Station to facilitate Site access.
23	Access road within Drax Power Station – east	Transport and access requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary is to include an existing road within Drax Power Station to facilitate Site access.

Change number	Location	Reason for change	Description of change
24	Grid Connection Cable crossing under Hull Road (A63)	Design and construction requirement	This proposed amendment to the Site Boundary at Brackenholme is to accommodate the installation of the Grid Connection Cable under Hull Road (A63) via a horizontal directional drilling (HDD) method which limits disruption to traffic.

Feedback Mechanisms

- 6.5.3 The targeted consultation provided the opportunity for people to comment on the revisions to the Scheme, as a result of changes to the order limits made after the close of statutory consultation and provide their views. Responses to the targeted consultation could be submitted via the following methods:
- By email: eastyorkshiresolarfarm@boom-power.co.uk
 - By post: FREEPOST East Yorkshire Solar Farm
 - The project team were also available via phone on 01964 782219 (Monday to Friday 9am until 5pm)
- 6.5.4 Responses received via these channels would be considered as feedback if received within the consultation deadline, outlined in paragraph 6.2.6.

Consultation Materials

- 6.5.5 To support the delivery of the targeted consultation, the Applicant produced a targeted consultation brochure (**Appendix O1: Targeted consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) to explain the proposals, which included the 24 changes since statutory consultation by location, what the Applicant was consulting on, the methods via which people could respond and the date by which responses needed to be provided. A reason for and description of each change was also outlined, as well as a note on the Applicant's Privacy Policy and next steps of the project. This brochure was posted to all PILs identified as being affected by the changes and was attached to the notification email sent to Section 42 (1)(a) and Section 42(1)(b) stakeholders (outlined in 6.3.5). The brochure was also made available on the Scheme webpage from 1 September 2023 under the 'Consultation' and 'Documentation Library' areas of the Scheme webpage.
- 6.5.6 Hard copies of the consultation materials were made available on request to those who required them. For more information, see paragraphs 6.5.8 to 6.5.10.
- 6.5.7 The Applicant retained the same documents it issued for the earlier statutory consultation on the Scheme webpage for review (in particular the newly identified PILs), including the PEI Report (Ref. 9). This was because the changes to the site boundary for the Scheme boundary did not significantly

alter the proposed Scheme's scale or effects reported in the PEI Report (Ref. 9), as outlined also in 6.5.2.

Requesting Hard Copy Documents

- 6.5.8 Throughout the targeted consultation period, people were able to request hard copies of the consultation materials from both the statutory and targeted consultations. Requests could be made via email, Freephone, Freepost and the Scheme webpage. Information on how to request hard copy documentation was also included in the letters to the PILs identified as being affected by the changes.
- 6.5.9 As outlined in paragraph 6.3.23, single paper copies of each of the consultation materials requested during the consultation period were made available free of charge. Requests for multiple copies of these documents would be considered on a case-by-case basis. The Applicant also provided the option to request for digital copy requests of the consultation materials via a USB memory stick. The Applicant also offered to provide the consultation materials in other more accessible formats, such as braille, although no requests were made.
- 6.5.10 The Applicant received a total of three requests for hard copy documentation during the targeted consultation period. One request was for the PEI Report Non-Technical Summary (**Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) provided at statutory consultation (see paragraph 3.1.22). The other two requests both were for a targeted consultation brochure. The Applicant issued out, free of charge, the PEI Report NTS (**Appendix K5: PEI Report Non-technical summary, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**), alongside a USB with Chapters 1 – 18 of the PEI Report (Ref. 9), in addition to Volume 3 and 4 with the Figures and Appendices for completeness. The two brochures were issued out to the addresses provided by the stakeholders using Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed 1pm™ (see paragraph 6.3.5 for details of this service).

Management of Correspondence and Consultation Responses During the Targeted Consultation Period

- 6.5.11 During targeted consultation, the Applicant responded to all correspondence with an automated acknowledgement email (**Appendix O10: Automated acknowledgement email sent during targeted consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**). This response thanked the stakeholder for contacting the project team and noted that they would shortly receive a response.
- 6.5.12 For those emails which contained targeted consultation feedback, the Applicant responded with a further bespoke response (**Appendix O11: Email acknowledging targeted consultation feedback, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**). This was standardised and thanked the stakeholder for submitting their consultation feedback. It outlined how feedback submitted within the consultation period would be considered as formal feedback and taken into consideration to help finalise proposals, through the Consultation Report, ahead of the Development Consent Order. It also informed the stakeholder that consultation material related enquiries

- should be submitted to the Applicant via one of the methods of contact listed in paragraph 6.5.3.
- 6.5.13 All enquiries were logged into a database for recording and monitoring response timeframes. Upon receipt of an email, project webform, Freepost or Freephone enquiry, each were categorised as either daily correspondence, which included any questions relating to the proposals, or as statements, which were used as consultation feedback for the Scheme.
- 6.5.14 Consultation responses were judged to be as such if they contained a reference to the consultation, expressed an opinion on the scheme or read as feedback on the proposals. Enquiries which required a response and considered as daily correspondence typically asked direct questions about the Scheme and requested a response from the Applicant.
- 6.5.15 The project team aimed to respond to email enquiries and routine communications within ten working days. Consultation responses were acknowledged and responded to as soon as possible, as per outlined the process in paragraph 6.5.12, either on the same day of receipt or the next working day.
- 6.5.16 For any responses that required technical input, a holding response was issued, and the full response was issued as soon as practicably possible once the technical information had been gathered.
- 6.5.17 The Scheme email address was made available to the public from the start of the non-statutory consultation (Monday 3 October 2022) and remained available during targeted consultation through to submission of the DCO application. This enabled people with any comments or questions on the Scheme to contact the project team directly. 24 general enquiries were received via the Scheme email address during the targeted consultation period. Three enquiries were also received via the project webform, available for use at any time via the Scheme webpage, as outlined in paragraph 6.4.2.
- 6.5.18 The Scheme Freepost address was also set up at the start of the non-statutory consultation (3 October 2022) and has remained open after the targeted consultation which closed on 2 October 2023. No general enquiries were received via the Freepost address during the targeted consultation period.
- 6.5.19 The Scheme Freephone was in operation from the start of the non-statutory consultation and remained available during the targeted consultation and through to the submission of the DCO application of which this report forms part of). The Scheme Freephone remains open. The phone line remained open Monday to Friday, between 9 to 5pm, and calls were answered by team members who took down details of the enquiry. A voicemail system was available anytime outside of these days and times, allowing callers to leave a message. This system was also available if a project team member was unable to answer the phone. This allowed the Applicant to return the stakeholder's call or respond back to them via an alternative means of contact provided within the message. In total, 13 general enquiries were received via the Freephone number during the targeted consultation period.

6.6 Engagement with elected representatives following statutory consultation

Keir Mather MP

- 6.6.1 Prior to the Targeted consultation, the Applicant contacted Keir Mather MP via email on 25 July 2023 to invite him to a briefing on the Scheme as a newly elected MP following a by-election held in the constituency of Selby and Ainsty on 20 July 2023.
- 6.6.2 Keir Mather MP also received a notification of the Targeted consultation on 1 September 2023.
- 6.6.3 A response to the invitation to the briefing was received on 5 September 2023 from office of Keir Mather MP, which expressed interest in meeting with the Applicant later in 2023. The Applicant responded confirmed that Keir Mather MP would be recontacted for a briefing later in 2023. The Applicant will be arranging the briefing during the acceptance period of the DCO application.

Rt Hon David Davis MP

- 6.6.4 Following correspondence regarding the Targeted Consultation, the Applicant met with the office of the Rt Hon David Davis MP on 13 September 2023. During the briefing, the Applicant discussed the Targeted Consultation with members of the Rt Hon David Davis MP's office, along with his work with his constituents and their views on the Scheme.

7. Summary of Responses to the Targeted Consultation

7.1 Structure of Chapter

- 7.1.1 This chapter provides an overview of the responses received during the targeted consultation in September to October 2023 and sets out the methodology the Applicant has used to analyse them. This also includes an explanation of:
- a. The classification of the respondents.
 - b. The process for how changes proposed in the feedback received have been considered.
- 7.1.2 This chapter also provides a statistical breakdown of responses received to closed questions from Persons with Interest in the Land (PILs) who had been newly identified as a result of the proposed changes and were therefore being consulted on a statutory basis. See 6.3.13 for further information. This was followed by a summary of the key comments arising.
- 7.1.3 **Appendix Q: Tables evidencing regard had to targeted consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** notes the type of consultee that raised the matter and their name where appropriate, where they requested a change to the Scheme, and how the Applicant has had regard to these comments in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
- 7.1.4 The chapter ends with an overview of changes to the Scheme following the targeted consultation (**Table 7-20**).

7.2 Overview of Targeted Consultation responses

Responses Received to the Targeted Consultation

- 7.2.1 The Applicant has considered a consultation response to be any written communication received during the targeted consultation period through the advised channels of email; Freepost; the paper feedback form provided with letters to some PILs. Although not an advised channel to provide feedback, the Applicant would also accept responses via the project webform.
- 7.2.2 Consultation responses were judged to be as such if they contained a reference to the consultation, expressed an opinion on the Scheme or read as feedback on the proposals.
- 7.2.3 The responses comprised:
- a. Responses via the paper feedback form (hard copy) through the Freepost – 3
 - b. Freeform responses received via email – 33
 - c. Freephone responses - 0
- 7.2.4 The Applicant received 36 responses to the targeted consultation. These responses varied in length and detail; some were very technical, whilst

- others were brief (for example, simply expressing support for or an objection to the proposals).
- 7.2.5 Respondents were identified by consultee strand as part of the analysis process. The consultee strand refers to the section of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) pursuant to which they were consulted, either Section 42 or Section 47 (being a member of the public or local community that responded to the targeted consultation as a result of it being publicised on the Scheme website) (explained in section 3.4).
- 7.2.6 As outlined in 6.3.13– 6.3.25, there were a number of PILS newly identified and notified during targeted consultation. The Applicant invited these consultees to comment on the proposals for the Scheme as at the earlier statutory consultation, as well as the new changes as part of targeted consultation. The statutory consultation brochure and paper feedback form were enclosed with the targeted consultation letter and brochure, to mirror what was shared at the statutory consultation. Therefore, the three responses received via the paper feedback form (paragraph 7.2.3) were from PILs contacted as new parties at targeted consultation. The open questions which generated qualitative data have been coded as part of **Appendix Q3: Section 42(1)(d), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** and the closed questions which generated quantitative data have been coded below in Section 7.6.
- 7.2.7 A total of nine PILs contacted as new parties at targeted consultation provided feedback, by both email and Freepost channels. The breakdown of the feedback mechanisms used by new PILs to respond to the targeted consultation is below:
- a. Email – 6 responses
 - b. Freepost – 3 responses
- 7.2.8 In line with the requirements of Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), the Applicant has had regard to all relevant responses. Due to similar points being raised across the responses, the Applicant has undertaken analysis in accordance with the approach outlined in the Planning Inspectorate’s Advice Note Fourteen (Ref. 3) which states:
- “If the level of response was significant it may be appropriate to group responses under headline issues. Care must be taken to ensure that in doing this the responses are not presented in a misleading way or out of context from the original views of the consultee. An explanation of the process by which consultation responses were grouped and organised (coded) is helpful, including any safeguards and cross checking that took place to ensure that the responses were grouped appropriately.”*
- 7.2.9 The Applicant has analysed all targeted consultation responses it received by splitting each response into a number of constituent comments and associating these with a theme to allow them to be categorised and responded to. The application of themes allowed similar comments to be grouped by each theme/topic area. This approach was taken to summarise the findings systematically and coherently.

- 7.2.10 **Appendix Q1: Section 42(1)(a); Appendix Q2: Section 42(1)(aa) ; and Appendix Q3: Section 42(1)(d), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** lists comments raised by Section 42 consultees verbatim and identifies consultees by name where appropriate). **Appendix Q: Tables evidencing regard had to targeted consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** is comprised of four separate documents, one for each consultee strand, including Section 47 consultees.
- 7.2.11 **Table 7-20** in section 7.8 provides a summary of design changes that occurred following the statutory consultation, taking into consideration the feedback received.

Late responses Received to the Targeted Consultation

- 7.2.12 On Friday 13 October 2023, the Applicant received an email from Openreach, providing a copy of one additional response to the targeted consultation. As this response was received after the close of the targeted consultation, it was considered a late response.
- 7.2.13 The Applicant responded to Openreach on Wednesday 18th October 2023, acknowledging their late response to the targeted consultation, and confirming that it would be considered as part of the targeted consultation feedback. The Applicant also provided further details on the proposed approach to engagement with Openreach on Protective Provisions for their assets, if required.
- 7.2.14 The response is included within **Appendix Q1: Section 42(1)(a), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**, which demonstrates the due regard which the Applicant has had to this response.

7.3 Feedback Analysis Methodology and Recording

- 7.3.1 This chapter outlines how the applicant considered consultation responses received through the advised channels including email, post, or via the feedback form (which was shared with newly identified PILs).
- 7.3.2 All responses to the targeted consultation were analysed using the same methodology as was used for the statutory consultation. This methodology is outlined in section 4.3.
- 7.3.3 This chapter also provides a statistical breakdown of responses received to closed questions from PILs who had been newly identified as a result of the proposed changes and were therefore being consulted on a statutory basis. See 6.3.13 for further information. This was followed by a summary of the key comments arising.
- 7.3.4 For those who responded via a statutory consultation paper feedback form, the structure of this questionnaire is outlined in paragraphs 4.3.1 to 4.3.32.

Analysis Methodology

- 7.3.5 In addition to the response form, written freeform consultation responses were also received and accepted.
- 7.3.6 All consultation responses, regardless of which consultee strand they were from or the format they were received in, were analysed in the same way.

- 7.3.7 All responses were logged within a consultation database, their consultee strand identified, and the consultee given a unique contact ID for identification purposes.
- 7.3.8 An online survey system was used to enable response forms to be completed and captured electronically, then uploaded into the consultation database. Any responses received in paper copy or via email were manually inputted into the consultation database.
- 7.3.9 Once uploaded into the database, a process of coding began. As outlined each response was read and dissected into individual, relevant comments. Each comment was assigned a theme.
- 7.3.10 This iterative process of categorising comments into discrete codes based on relevant themes enabled repeated comments to be grouped under an umbrella summary and accurate analysis to commence. These themes were driven by discipline area.
- 7.3.11 The themes are split into sub-themes to provide further detail on their sentiment and specific comments and are as follows:
- Community
 - Impact on local communities
 - Construction
 - Access routes
 - Construction programme
 - Construction traffic
 - Utilities
 - Consultation
 - Consultation documents
 - Engagement
 - Ecology
 - Ecological mitigation
 - Environment
 - Biodiversity and wildlife
 - Climate change
 - General
 - Opposition
 - Planning
 - Land use
 - Other planned local developments
 - Policy guidelines
 - Scheme Design
 - Size of the Scheme

- Transport and access
 - Access routes
- 7.3.12 **Appendix Q1: Section 42(1)(a); Appendix Q2: Section 42(1)(aa) and Appendix Q3: Section 42(1)(d), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** provides Section 42(1)(a), (aa) and (d) consultee comments verbatim, organised by the themes detailed at paragraph 7.3.11 and identifies who raised each of these comments by consultee strand.
- 7.3.13 Comments from Section 47 consultees are reported in summary within **Appendix Q4: Section 47 public consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** with similar comments pooled together - however all issues have been detailed and responded to. As per Advice Note Fourteen (Ref. 3) these have been checked to ensure that they are reflective of the comments raised, and checks were undertaken throughout the process.
- 7.3.14 Statutory consultees and organisations are named in **Appendix Q1: Section 42(1)(a) and Appendix Q2: Section 42(1)(aa), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** to provide clarity on which consultees raised specific matters. The identities of private individuals (Section 42(1)(d) land interests and Section 47 consultees) are not included in **Appendix Q3: Section 42(1)(d), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2] and Appendix Q4: Section 47 public consultation, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** for data protection purposes; land interests have been assigned a unique code. Similarly, responses have been anonymised where necessary to protect personal information (in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations).
- 7.3.15 This review and analysis process also meant that comments identified as requesting specific changes to the Scheme were highlighted for review. Regular reviews were undertaken to review comments which specifically requested changes to the Scheme. These were shared with the relevant technical teams for their consideration and logged. Where a request for a change has resulted in a change to the Scheme this has been marked as such within **Appendix Q: Tables evidencing regard had to targeted consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 7.3.16 Section 7.8 provides a summary of all the changes that were made as a result of taking into consideration feedback received from the targeted consultation.
- 7.3.17 As discussed earlier in this report, PINS Advice Note Fourteen (Ref. 3) groups consultees into the following categories:
- a. Section 42(1)(a) and s42(aa)– prescribed consultees
 - b. Section 42(1)(b) – relevant local authorities (those within whose boundaries the Scheme falls or bordering authorities)
 - c. Section 42(1)(d) – persons with an interest in land (those with interests in land affected by the Scheme or entitled to make a relevant claim) who had been newly identified as a result of the proposed changes and were therefore being consulted on a statutory basis.

- d. Section 42(1)(d) – persons with an interest in land (those with interests in land affected by the Scheme or entitled to make a relevant claim) who were previously contacted at statutory consultation and who the Applicant believed had land interests affected by the changes.
 - e. Section 47 – the local community.
- 7.3.18 In line with this advice and as referenced in the preceding sections of this report, the Applicant categorised each respondent within the strands detailed above. For targeted consultation, no responses were received from Section 42(1)(b) consultees.
- 7.3.19 The response form for the consultation asked people to provide their address, or at least their postcode, in order to help identify their consultee strand and also to understand the reach of the consultation. However, the classification of consultees has been superseded by additional checks for identifying information within the content of the response, for example, checking their postcode against the Order limits to determine whether they would be classified as a Section 42(1)(d) consultee.
- 7.3.20 Additionally, the form asked whether responses were being submitted on behalf of an organisation, business, or campaign group. It should be noted that the responses to these questions did not result in the comments being weighted or given any more priority than others.
- 7.3.21 Section 42 responses have been identified by the following methods:
- a. Respondent provided information, for example the organisation name, allowing cross reference with the statutory consultee Section 42(1)(a) (aa) and local authority Section 42(1)(b) lists.
 - b. Respondent identified themselves as an affected land interest on the response form.
 - c. Respondent provided full address details and/or postcode which were cross referenced against the Section 42(1)(d) list.
- 7.3.22 Detailed written responses were received from a number of respondents and were processed in the same way as response forms as per the methodology outlined in section 4.3.33.

7.4 Responses Received

- 7.4.1 A total of 36 responses (including the late response from Openreach) were received to the target consultation between September to October 2023.
- 7.4.2 The Applicant has had due regard to the comments provided in the responses, these tables can be found in **Appendix Q: Tables evidencing regard had to targeted consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.

By Feedback Method

- 7.4.3 The 36 responses were received to the targeted consultation in the following formats:
- 3 via the paper feedback form (hard copy) through the Freepost,
 - 33 freeform email responses and,
 - 0 freeform responses were received via post.

7.5 By Consultee Type

- 7.5.1 **Table 7-1** provides a breakdown of the responses received under each consultee strand of the targeted consultation as described in section 7.3.17. In total, 31 responses were received from Section 42 consultees (of all categories) and five responses from Section 47 consultees.
- 7.5.2 Where consultees fall into more than one consultee strand, they have only been counted once in **Table 7-1**. For the purposes of this table only, where consultees fall into more than one consultee strand, the numbers have been reported against the first strand they fall into.

Table 7-1. Responses received by consultee strand

Consultee strand	Strand reference	Number of responses to targeted consultation
Prescribed consultees	Section 42(1)(a)	14
The Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	Section 42(1)(aa)	1
Land interests	Section 42(1)(d)	16
Local community	Section 47	5
Total		36

7.6 Quantitative Responses to Response Form

- 7.6.1 This section provides a summary of the quantitative data provided by those who completed a consultation response form which totals three. Those who provided feedback via the response form were members of the public/local community (classified as Section 47 consultees). The response form for the targeted consultation followed the same format as the statutory consultation response form, as outlined in section 4.3. A copy of the response form is in **Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** and the results which follow are shown in the same order as they appeared in the response form.
- 7.6.2 Question 2 asked respondents to state their interest in the Scheme. Respondents were able to tick more than one category for this question. All three respondents who completed a response form answered the question.

7.6.3 As shown in **Table 7-2**, two respondents stated they were local residents and two respondents stated they were landowners. There were four responses to this question as one respondent selected two options on the hard copy form.

Table 7-2. What is your interest in the Scheme? (4)

What is your interest in the Scheme?	(n)
Local resident	2
Local elected representative	-
Local business owner	-
Landowner	2
Regular visitor to the area	-
Interested in solar power / renewable energy	-
Statutory organisation representative	-
Local interest group	-
Other	-
Total responses	4

7.6.4 Question 3 Part 1 asked respondents whether they were responding on behalf of an organisation. All three respondents who completed a response form answered the question.

7.6.5 As shown in **Table 7-3**, three respondents stated they were not responding on behalf of an organisation.

Table 7-3. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or group? (3)

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or group?	(n)
Yes	-
No	3
Total responses	3

7.6.6 Question 4 asked respondents whether they were happy to be contacted about their response if required. Two respondents who completed a response form answered the question. One respondent who completed a response form did not answer the question.

7.6.7 As shown in **Table 7-4**, two respondents stated they would be happy to be contacted about their response.

Table 7-4. Are you happy for us to contact you about your response if required? (2)

Are you happy for us to contact you about your response if required?	(n)
Yes	2
No	-
Total responses	2

7.6.8 Question 5 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the layout in the proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm. All three respondents who completed a response form answered the question.

7.6.9 As shown in **Table 7-5**, two respondents stated they strongly disagreed, and one respondent stated they neither agreed or disagreed with the proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm.

Table 7-5. Do you agree with the layout in our proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm? (3)

Do you agree with the layout in our proposed masterplan for East Yorkshire Solar Farm?	(n)
Strongly agree	-
Agree	-
Neither agree or disagree	1
Disagree	-
Strongly disagree	2
Total responses	3

7.6.10 Question 6 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling. All three respondents who completed a response form answered the question.

7.6.11 As shown in **Table 7-6**, two respondents stated they neither agreed or disagreed, and one stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling.

Table 7-6. Do you agree with the proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling? (3)

Do you agree with the proposed approach to connect East Yorkshire Solar Farm with the National Grid substation at Drax, including the cable route and use of underground cabling?	(n)
Strongly agree	-
Agree	-
Neither agree or disagree	2
Disagree	-
Strongly disagree	1
Total responses	3

7.6.12 Question 7 asked respondents for their views on East Yorkshire Solar Farm Based on our updated proposal shared in this consultation. All three respondents who completed a response form answered the question.

7.6.13 As shown in **Table 7-7**, two respondents stated they were in favour of a solar farm but want further information before making a decision, and one stated they were opposed to the updated proposals shared in this consultation.

Table 7-7. Based on our updated proposal shared in this consultation, what are your views on East Yorkshire Solar Farm? (3)

Based on our updated proposal shared in this consultation, what are your views on East Yorkshire Solar Farm?	(n)
I am in favour of the proposal	-
I am undecided	-
I oppose the proposal	1
I am in favour of a solar farm but want further information before making a decision	2
Total responses	3

7.6.14 Question 8 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to ecological mitigation based on the proposed information provided. All three respondents who completed a response form answered the question.

7.6.15 As shown in **Table 7-8**, one respondent stated they agreed, one respondent stated they neither agreed or disagreed, and one strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to ecological mitigation.

Table 7-8. Ecology: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to ecological mitigation? (3)

Ecology: Based on the information provided do you agree with (n) our proposed approach to ecological mitigation?

Strongly agree	-
Agree	1
Neither agree or disagree	1
Disagree	-
Strongly disagree	1
Total responses	3

7.6.16 Question 9 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to landscape mitigation based on the proposed information provided. All three respondents who completed a response form answered the question.

7.6.17 As shown in **Table 7-9**, one respondent stated they agreed, one respondent stated they neither agreed or disagreed, and one strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to landscape mitigation.

Table 7-9. Landscape and views: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to landscape mitigation? (3)

Landscape and views: Based on the information provided do (n) you agree with our proposed approach to landscape mitigation?

Strongly agree	-
Agree	1
Neither agree or disagree	1
Disagree	-
Strongly disagree	1
Total responses	3

7.6.18 Question 10 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to traffic mitigation based on the proposed information provided. Two respondents who completed a response form answered the question. One respondent who completed a response form did not answer the question.

7.6.19 As shown in **Table 7-10**, two respondents stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to traffic mitigation.

Table 7-10. Traffic: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to traffic mitigation? (2)

Traffic: Based on the information provided do you agree with (n) our proposed approach to traffic mitigation?

Strongly agree	-
Agree	-
Neither agree or disagree	-
Disagree	-
Strongly disagree	2
Total responses	2

7.6.20 Question 11 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation based on the proposed information provided. Two respondents who completed a response form answered the question. One respondent who completed a response form did not answer the question.

7.6.21 As shown in **Table 7-11**, one respondent stated they agreed, and one stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation.

Table 7-11. Noise and vibration: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation? (2)

Noise and vibration: Based on the information provided do (n) you agree with our proposed approach to noise and vibration mitigation?

Strongly agree	-
Agree	1
Neither agree or disagree	-
Disagree	-
Strongly disagree	1
Total responses	2

7.6.22 Question 12 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation based on the proposed information provided. Two respondents who completed a response form answered the question. One respondent who completed a response form did not answer the question.

7.6.23 As shown in **Table 7-12**, one respondent stated they agreed, and one stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation.

Table 7-12. Cultural heritage: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation? (2)

Cultural heritage: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to cultural heritage mitigation? (n)

Strongly agree	-
Agree	1
Neither agree or disagree	-
Disagree	-
Strongly disagree	1
Total responses	2

7.6.24 Question 13 Part 1 asked respondents whether they agreed with the proposed approach to flood risk mitigation based on the proposed information provided. Two respondents who completed a response form answered the question. One respondent who completed a response form did not answer the question.

7.6.25 As shown in **Table 7-13**, one respondent stated they disagreed, and one stated they strongly disagreed with the proposed approach to flood risk mitigation.

Table 7-13. Flood risk: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to flood risk mitigation? (2)

Flood risk: Based on the information provided do you agree with our proposed approach to flood risk mitigation? (n)

Strongly agree	-
Agree	-
Neither agree or disagree	-
Disagree	1
Strongly disagree	1
Total responses	2

7.6.26 Question 14 Part 1 asked respondents whether they had any comments in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report and asked them to confirm the topics they were commenting on. Two respondents who completed a response form answered the question. One respondent who completed a response form did not answer the question.

7.6.27 As shown in **Table 7-14**, one respondent stated they were commenting on soils and agricultural land, and one respondent stated they were commenting on other issues presented in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report. The respondent who chose to comment on 'other' issues did not pertain to the question that was asked.

Table 7-14. Do you have any comments on the information presented in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report? (2)

Do you have any comments on the information presented in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report?	(n)
Climate change	-
Social-economics and land use	-
Health	-
Soils and agricultural land	1
Air quality	-
Waste	-
Other	1
Total responses	2

7.6.28 Question 15 asked respondents which causes they felt the community benefit fund (explained in the feedback form) should support. Respondents were able to choose from options provided in the response form. Two respondents who completed a response form answered the question. One respondent who completed a response form did not answer the question.

7.6.29 As shown in **Table 7-15**, two respondents stated they felt other causes (from those provided in the boxes) should be supported. Neither of these responses pertained to the question that was asked.

Table 7-15. Community benefit fund: Please indicate which causes you feel the benefit fund should support? (2)

Community benefit fund: Please indicate which causes you feel the benefit fund should support?	(n)
Environment	-
Community healthcare	-
Wildlife	-
Combating climate change	-
Education	-
Other	2
Total responses	2

7.6.30 Question 17 asked respondents how they found out about the consultation. All three respondents who completed a response form answered the question.

7.6.31 As shown in **Table 7-16**, two respondents stated they found out about the consultation via other sources, and one stated they received a letter / brochure. Neither respondent who chose to provide 'other' sources pertained to the question that was asked.

Table 7-16. How did you find out about our consultation? (3)

How did you find out about our consultation?	(n)
Received a letter / brochure	1
Saw it advertised in the media	-
Via a local community group	-
Word of mouth	-
Other	2
Total responses	3

7.6.32 Question 18 asked respondent whether they had attended any of the statutory consultation events. One respondent who completed a response form answered the question, the other two respondents who completed a response form did not answer the question.

7.6.33 As shown in **Table 7-17** one respondent stated they had not attended a statutory consultation event.

Table 7-17. Have you attended any of our statutory consultation events? (1)

Have you attended any of our statutory consultation events?	(n)
Yes	-
No	1
Total responses	1

7.6.34 Question 19 asked respondents how informative they found the consultation materials. All three respondents who completed a response form answered the question.

7.6.35 As shown in **Table 7-18**, one respondent stated they found the materials very informative, one respondent stated they found the materials quite informative, and one respondent stated they found the materials not informative.

Table 7-18. How informative did you find our consultation materials? (3)

How informative did you find our consultation materials?	(n)
Very informative	1
Quite informative	1
Not informative	1
Did not use	-
Total responses	3

7.7 Summary of issues raised

7.7.1 As outlined in paragraph 7.3.11, responses from Section 47 consultees were organised by themes, with similar responses pooled together. The Applicant has provided a summary of the comments received in **Table 7-19**, which

considers comments across all feedback mechanisms from all consultee strands.

7.7.2 **Appendix Q: Tables evidencing regard had to targeted consultation responses (in accordance with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]** provides the applicants responses to the issues raised by consultees and demonstrates the due regard had to them.

7.7.3 Several statutory undertakers responded with regard to their assets and protection during construction and operation.

Table 7-19. Summary of issues raised at targeted consultation

Issues

Community

Belief that the Scheme will negatively impact the area

Belief that the Scheme is opposed by the local community

Belief that the Scheme will cause local employment to suffer

Construction

Concern over how access to the site will be achieved

Concern over timescales of construction and impact on access routes

Concern that the Scheme will negatively impact existing infrastructure such as Northern Gas Networks

Consultation

Concern about misinformation

Belief that the plans provided by the Applicant are not clear

Belief that not enough information has been provided

Concern that the consultation process has not engaged everyone who will be impacted

Ecology

Concern that the mitigation plans for ecology are insufficiently detailed

Environment

Concern that the hedgerows will need to be removed to construct the Scheme

Belief that the solar farm will impact the biodiversity of the area

Concern that the full environmental impact hasn't been considered and/or mitigated

General

Opposition to the degradation/industrialisation of the countryside

Planning

Concern that the proposal, alongside the wind farm development at Spaldington will have a cumulatively negative effect

Belief that the Scheme takes up land which is food producing

Concern that the proposals do not align with wider UK governmental policy

Scheme Design

Issues

Belief that the project infrastructure is too large

Transport and Access

Query about construction impacts on roads

7.8 Changes made to the Scheme as a result of consultation/ specific requests made and how these have been considered

7.8.1 Following the targeted consultation, the Applicant made the following changes to the Scheme. The suggestions made from consultation responses and the changes made are outlined in **Table 7-20**.

Table 7-20. Changes made to the Scheme as a result of targeted consultation

Location	Feedback	Change made to design
Private Address Spaldington Lane	Concerns regarding views from this property	In response to the feedback received the Applicant reviewed the landscaping scheme presented at the statutory consultation and determined that additional landscaping can be provided along the northern boundary of this property to screen open views to the north. A location-specific planting scheme with hedgerow enhancement have been developed to further mitigate southern views.
Unregistered land location	Concern from a landowner regarding the use of their land at this location.	In response to the feedback received the Applicant reviewed the use of this land and removed the land from the Order limits.
Private address at the junction of the B1228 and Wood Lane to the north of Solar PV Area 2c.	Concerns regarding permanent rights being sought for construction access	In response to feedback received, the Applicant has changed the rights being sought as this address from permanent to temporary.

7.9 Engagement following targeted consultation

7.9.1 After the completion of the targeted consultation on 2 October 2023, the Applicant continued to engage with elected and technical stakeholders to inform the Scheme's design and approach to the EIA. **Table 7-21** provides a summary of engagement with various stakeholders following the end of the statutory consultation.

Table 7-21. Meetings held with technical stakeholders following targeted consultation

Stakeholders	Dates	Engagement methods	Scheme elements discussed
Natural England	13/09/2023	Meeting	Meeting held to discuss non-breeding bird surveys undertaken in 2022/23. The appropriateness of undertaking transect surveys as opposed to vantage point surveys was discussed and concerns about disturbing or flushing birds during the survey were addressed. Natural England requested a more detailed explanation of the survey methods to resolving any remaining concerns over the methods used.
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	04/10/2023	Meeting	Meeting held to review ongoing trial trenching
North Yorkshire Council	12/10/2023	Meeting	Meeting held to discuss proposed access designs.

7.9.2 During this period the Applicant continued to engage with key stakeholders on technical matters as outlined in paragraphs 7.9.3-7.9.5 below.

Natural England

7.9.3 The Applicant conducted ongoing engagement via written communication (letter/email) with Natural England to discuss the review of the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) and bird transect survey routes.

North Yorkshire Council

7.9.4 The Applicant conducted ongoing engagement via written communication (letter/email) with North Yorkshire Council to discuss proposed access designs.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

7.9.5 During this period, the Applicant conducted ongoing engagement via written communication (letter/email) with East Riding of Yorkshire Council to discuss:

- a. Areas of trial trenching to be deferred until post-determination
- b. Set up of meeting relating to drainage context
- c. Access designs and traffic numbers using each access

8. Targeted Consultation with newly-identified Persons with Interest in the Land (PILs)

8.1 Structure of Chapter

- 8.1.1 This chapter outlines the Applicant's approach to a targeted consultation with newly-identified Persons with Interest in the Land (PILs) on the Scheme undertaken between Wednesday 4 October 2023 to 23:59 on Friday 3 November 2023, which was carried out in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
- 8.1.2 It summarises the approach taken to notifying consultees about the targeted consultation, including how the newly-identified PILs (who are Section 42(1)(d) consultees) were identified and notified.
- 8.1.3 The methodology for processing feedback is also explained, as are the consultation materials provided for comment, when and how the Applicant carried out the consultation, the feedback mechanisms and management of correspondence and consultation responses during this period.

8.2 Consultation Methodology for newly-identified PILs under Section 42(1)(d)

Identification of newly-identified PILs under Section 42(1)(d)

- 8.2.1 Ongoing diligent enquiry via HMLR refreshes (as outlined in paragraphs 6.3.16- 6.3.20) led to the identification of two Section 42(1)(d) consultees (the newly-identified PILs) following a notification of newly registered land. The HMLR refreshes indicated that two land parcels 'pending first registration' had now been processed and confirmed by the HMLR.
- 8.2.2 Following the HMLR refresh, the Applicant conducted a statutory consultation for the newly-identified PILs under Section 42(1)(d) and section 44 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1).
- 8.2.3 The newly-identified PILs identified as a result of the Applicant's searches were subject to data validation checks, using Companies House, Trace IQ and Royal Mail address validation.
- 8.2.4 The Applicant was also able to identify unregistered land, thereby allowing the production of plans and notices which highlighted the extent of the boundaries in question. Using the data contained within the intersect, the Applicant was able to identify the newly-identified PILs affected using an internal database which stored the data spatially. As such, a mailing list could be produced containing affected parties. The Applicant was then able to validate whether the newly-identified PILs had previously received a Section 42 notification by checking against communication data. This therefore allowed the Applicant to target the contacts with the relevant consultation material.

The Scheme

- 8.2.5 No changes were made to the Scheme design for this targeted consultation of the newly-identified PILs, therefore the Scheme description outlined in section 6.2.5 remains valid.
- 8.2.6 The Applicant confirmed that the two newly-identified PILS as part of the registration of these land parcels were unaffected by the changes detailed in the targeted consultation outlined in Chapter 6. The newly-identified PILs land exists within the original Site Boundary which the Applicant had consulted on previously at the earlier statutory consultation, but they had only been identified at a later date via a recent update in the HMLR refresh. Both land titles had previously been pending first registration, and as such, the Applicant was only able to provide verification of the contacts following this refresh during targeted consultation.

Timeline of the newly-identified PILs Targeted Consultation

- 8.2.7 The targeted consultation for the Scheme ran from Wednesday 4 October 2023 to 23:59 on Friday 3 November 2023. This provided a period of 30 days, which is above the statutory minimum of 28 days, to ensure that any instances of Section 42 letters being returned to the Applicant could be reissued within the targeted consultation period, thereby limiting the need to offer extensions after this period. This consultation period also ensured that consultees had sufficient time to understand and respond to the targeted consultation plans.

Delivering the newly-identified PILs Targeted Consultation

- 8.2.8 The Applicant followed the same approach to delivering the targeted consultation with newly-identified PILs as the approach outlined in section 6.3 which was agreed with East Riding of Yorkshire Council and North Yorkshire Council.

Notifying newly-identified PILs – Statutory Consultation

- 8.2.9 The Applicant sent the newly-identified PILs, outlined in 8.2.1, a hand-delivered letter notification to inform them of the start of the targeted consultation on 4 October 2023. The template of this letter can be found in **Appendix S1: Newly identified landowner consultation Section 42(1)(d) consultee letter, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**. All consultees were given until 3 November 2023 to respond to the targeted consultation – a period of 30 days.
- 8.2.10 The letter sent to newly-identified PILs outlined the Scheme, the purpose of the Applicant's earlier statutory consultation and the consultee's land interest details. The Applicant invited the newly-identified PILs to comment on the statutory consultation proposals for the Scheme. The statutory consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and paper feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) were enclosed with the letter to mirror the materials shared at the statutory consultation.

- 8.2.11 The letter issued to newly-identified PILs also outlined the consultation materials which were shared as part of the statutory consultation and included the link for the Scheme webpage (<https://www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire/>) to view these materials online. The Applicant advised to use the contact details (see section 3.11) in the letter if any access issues were encountered on the webpage. Paper copies of the materials could also be requested during the consultation period, and free of charge if requested individually. Multiple copy requests were to be considered on a case-by-case basis with costs organised accordingly, although no requests were made.
- 8.2.12 The Applicant also confirmed in this letter how to respond to the consultation, via the project email address or Freepost (see section 3.11). Feedback could also be submitted via the statutory consultation feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) which was also enclosed with the letter as per the statutory consultation. The privacy policy was also explained, which noted that the substance of comments could be shared, and personal details would be held securely. A link to the privacy notice was also provided (<https://www.boom-power.co.uk/privacy-policy/>).
- 8.2.13 In this letter, the Applicant also confirmed the next steps of the Scheme, outlining the consultation feedback analysis process where responses would be considered within the body of the consultation report. The letter also outlined the DCO process with a hyperlink to the Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>). Lastly, the project contact details were confirmed, which included the Freephone number and email address (see section 3.11). Consultees could also use these contact details to request for more accessible formats of the consultation materials.

Consultation Materials

- 8.2.14 To mirror the statutory consultation undertaken earlier in 2023 the Applicant sent hard copies of the statutory consultation brochure (**Appendix K1: Statutory Consultation booklet, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) and feedback form (**Appendix K2: Statutory Consultation feedback form, Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**) to the two newly-identified PILs. The brochure (and all other statutory consultation materials (see section 3.7.17) also remained available on the Scheme webpage under the 'Consultation' and 'Documentation Library' areas of the Scheme webpage. Consultees were able to request hard copy or alternative format versions of consultation materials.

Management of Correspondence and Consultation Responses During the Targeted Consultation Period

- 8.2.15 Correspondence during the consultation period was managed as per the methodology set out in section 3.12.

8.3 Consultation outcomes

- 8.3.1 No responses were received as a result of the targeted consultation with newly-identified PILs.

9. Conclusion

9.1 Compliance With Advice and Governance

- 9.1.1 The Applicant held a non-statutory consultation from Monday 3 October to Sunday 30 October 2022. The purpose of the non-statutory consultation was to seek the views of the local authorities, local community, landowners, local businesses and interest groups, and technical stakeholders on the proposals for the Scheme. The approach to consultation, feedback and changes made since the non-statutory consultation can be found in Chapter 2.
- 9.1.2 The Applicant carried out comprehensive pre-application statutory consultation on the Scheme between Tuesday 9 May and Tuesday 20 June 2023. The statutory consultation process met the requirements of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5) and the APFP Regulations (Ref. 4), and has followed relevant advice and guidance published by the Planning Inspectorate and UK Government, as set out in the compliance checklist at **Appendix A: Compliance checklist (supplementing Section 55 checklist), Consultation Report Appendices [EN010143/APP/5.2]**.
- 9.1.3 For the pre-application statutory consultation, the Applicant prepared a draft SoCC which set out how it proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the Scheme about the proposed application in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations (Ref. 5). In accordance with Section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1), the Applicant consulted the following local authorities on the contents of the draft SoCC: East Riding of Yorkshire Council, North Yorkshire County Council, and Selby District Council (the latter two later becoming part of the new unitary council, North Yorkshire Council) pursuant to Section 47(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) (for more information see, section 3.3).
- 9.1.4 The Applicant had regard to the comments made by these local authorities and published the finalised SoCC on 27 April 2023. The pre-application statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the commitments set out in the SoCC, and in compliance with Section 42, Section 47 and Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and the APFP Regulations (Ref. 4) from Tuesday 9 May and Tuesday 20 June 2023 as set out in Chapter 3.
- 9.1.5 The Applicant received 312 responses to the statutory consultation. Respondents raised a wide range of matters which were categorised according to a series of themes which capture those matters. These principal themes are described in Chapter 4. The Applicant has complied with Section 49 of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) by demonstrating in Chapter 4 of this report that it has had regard to all of the statutory consultation responses received and the comments raised within them.
- 9.1.6 Taking into consideration the responses received in response to the statutory consultation, and further scheme development, a number of changes were made to the Scheme proposals. Therefore, the Applicant carried out a targeted consultation, which was took place from Friday 1 September 2023 to Monday 2 October 2023 and to which the Applicant received 36 responses (for more information see Chapter 7). While this consultation in relation to the Scheme was not statutory in nature, it was conducted having

regard to the principles of pre-application statutory consultation set out in the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and in accordance with DCLG guidance 'The Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process' (Ref. 2). Consultees were provided with 32 days within which to respond to the consultation (which is longer than the statutory minimum of 28 days). The proposed approach to undertaking the targeted consultation was shared with the host local authorities (East Riding of Yorkshire Council and North Yorkshire Council) who were previously consulted on the SoCC, to notify them that the Applicant planned to carry out a targeted consultation on a number of changes that had been made to the Scheme (see paragraph 6.2.7).

- 9.1.7 As a result of diligent enquiry (and land registry refresh) the Applicant identified two newly identified PILs for the Scheme. Therefore, the Applicant held an additional targeted statutory consultation with two newly identified PILs for the Scheme from Wednesday 4 October to Friday 3 November 2023. Letters were sent to two consultees under Section 42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1). The consultees were given 30 days to respond to the consultation (see Chapter 8).

9.2 Summary

- 9.2.1 In conclusion, the Applicant has fully met the statutory consultation requirements of the pre-application process. This report describes the phased consultation process undertaken by the Applicant in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 (Ref. 1) and the SoCC issued for the statutory consultation stage.
- 9.2.2 A wide range of stakeholders have been engaged. They have influenced the evolution of the Scheme throughout its development, including via non-statutory consultation in 2022, and statutory and targeted consultations in 2023.
- 9.2.3 Non-statutory and statutory consultations served as the primary means of gaining feedback on the proposals. The summary of these activities is set out in **Table 1-1** of this report. Throughout the consultation process the Applicant has had regard to the responses received and this is demonstrated in the development of the Scheme through the pre-application stage.
- 9.2.4 A summary of the changes made to the Scheme as a result of the statutory consultation is set out in Chapter 4 (section 4.7) and summarised in **Table 4-3**. A summary of the changes made to the Scheme as a result of the targeted consultation is set out in Chapter 7 (section 7.7) and summarised in **Table 7-20**.
- 9.2.5 As demonstrated through the number and types of comments summarised in this report, consultation has proven effective in securing valuable feedback which has informed the Scheme proposals submitted for development consent.
- 9.2.6 This report has been prepared in accordance with DCLG guidance (Ref. 2) and relevant Advice Notes published by the Planning Inspectorate. The Applicant recognises and fully appreciates the time taken by those who have engaged in the consultation process and provided their views on the Scheme.

10. References

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- Ref. 3 The Planning Inspectorate (2021) Advice Note Fourteen: Compiling the Consultation Report Republished February 2021 (version 3). Available at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-fourteen-compiling-the-consultation-report/> [Accessed 17 November 2023]
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- Ref. 5 His Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO) (2017) Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations 2017) Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/572/contents/made> [Accessed 17 November 2023]
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- Ref. 7 His Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO) (2020) Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/764/pdfs/uksiem_20200764_en.pdf [Accessed 17 November 2023]
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- Ref. 9 BOOM East Yorkshire Solar Farm Preliminary Environmental Information Report: <https://www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire/#eysf-planning-docs>

- Ref. 10 World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) (2008) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. Available at: <https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#guidelines> [Accessed 17 November 2023]
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- Ref. 12 HM Government (HMSO) (1973) Land Compensation Act 1973. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1973/26/contents> [Accessed 17 November 2023]
- Ref. 13 East Riding of Yorkshire Council (2023) Customer Insight Postcode Segments. Available at: <https://intel-hub.eastriding.gov.uk/customer-insight/> [Accessed 17 November 2023]
- Ref. 14 His Majesty's Stationery Office (2018) Data Protection Act. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted> [Accessed 17 November 2023]

Glossary of Frequently Used Terms

Term	Definition
Abnormal Indivisible Load	An abnormal load that cannot be broken down into smaller loads for transport.
Abnormal Load	A vehicle that has a weight of more than 44,000kg, an axle load of more than 10,000kg for a single non-driving axle and 11,500kg for a single driving axle, a width of more than 2.9 metres or a rigid length of more than 18.65 metres.
Access Points	A location connection a construction site to the public highway
Access Routes	Public highway used by construction traffic to access a construction site
Additional measures	Further measures required in order to achieve the anticipated outcome. These may be implemented as part of the development consent or through inclusion in ES Volume 1 [EN010143/APP/6.1] . These are referred to as 'secondary measures' in accordance with Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) guidelines.
Agricultural Land Classification (ALC)	The standard method for classifying agricultural land according to its versatility, productivity and workability, based upon inter-related parameters including climate, relief, soil characteristics and drainage. These factors form the basis for classifying agricultural land into one of five grades (with Grade 3 land divided into Subgrades 3a and 3b), ranked from excellent (Grade 1) to very poor (Grade 5). ALC is determined using the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales: Revised guidelines and criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land, 1988.
Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Places where air quality objectives are not likely to be achieved. Where an AQMA is declared, the local authority is obliged to produce an action plan in pursuit of the achievement of the air quality objectives.
Amenity	The ability of human receptors to achieve enjoyment and/or quality of life.
Associated development	Development which is associated with a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), as defined in the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance.
Automatic Traffic Count	A traffic count which is undertaken automatically such as through the installation of a temporary or permanent electronic traffic recording device.
Background Noise Level $L_{A90,T}$	The A-weighted sound pressure level of the residual noise at the assessment position that is exceeded for 90% of a given time interval, T, measured using the fast time weighting, F, and quoted to the nearest whole number.

Term	Definition
Baseline	The situation prevailing at the point of data collection (the current baseline), and also to the situation that would prevail in the future without the Scheme (the projected future baseline).
Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land	Land of excellent (Grade 1), very good (Grade 2) and good (Subgrade 3a) agricultural quality. BMV land is afforded a degree of protection against development within planning policy as it can support a variety of consistently high-yielding crops. Moderate, poor and very poor-quality land is restricted to a narrower range of agricultural uses and is not BMV land. It is designated Subgrade 3b or Grades 4 and 5, respectively.
Biodiversity	The biological diversity of the earth's living resources. The total range of variability among systems and organisms at the following levels of organisation: bioregional, landscape, ecosystem, habitat, communities, species, populations, individuals, genes and the structural and functional relationships within and between these different levels.
Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	Development that improves the biodiversity value of a site and can involve developers working with local governments, wildlife groups, land owners and other stakeholders to support priorities for nature conservation.
Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) equivalent	Number of metric tons of CO ₂ emissions with the same global warming potential as one metric ton of another greenhouse gas.
Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	A site-specific plan developed to ensure that appropriate environmental management practices are followed during the construction phase of a project.
Cumulative effects	There are two types of effect, intra-project effects and cumulative effects. The former occurs as a result of two or more impacts acting together (i.e. combined), to result in a new or changed effect on a single receptor. The latter arise as a result of the Scheme in combination with other developments or projects on a single receptor.
Decibel (dB)	The decibel is a logarithmic ratio of two values of a variable. The range of audible sound pressures is approximately 2×10^{-5} Pa to 200 Pa. Using decibel notation presents this range in a more manageable form, 0 dB to 140 dB.
Demographic	Relating to the structure of populations.
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	The Government department responsible for policy and regulations on environmental, food and rural issues. The department's priorities are to grow the rural economy, improve the environment and safeguard animal and plant health.

Term	Definition
Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP)	A specific plan developed to ensure that appropriate environmental management practices are followed during the decommissioning phase of a project.
Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB)	A series of 15 volumes authored by National Highways that provide standards, advice notes and other published documents relating to the design, assessment and operation of trunk roads, including motorways in the United Kingdom.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	Where the Secretary of State (SoS) proposes to grant consent for a NSIP, this will be through a DCO which is in the form of a statutory instrument – a form of secondary legislation. The DCO not only provides planning consent for the Scheme but may also incorporate other consents and include authorisation for the compulsory acquisition and temporary use of land.
Direct effects	Direct effects are those that result directly from the Scheme.
Direct employment	Employment generated by direct activity on site.
Drinking Water Protected Area	Drinking Water Protected Areas (Surface Water) are, within the WFD, where raw water is abstracted from rivers and reservoirs. Raw water needs to be protected to ensure that it is not polluted which could lead to additional purification treatment. To do this water companies and the Environment Agency identify raw water sources that are ‘at risk’ of deterioration which would result in the need for additional treatment. These zones are areas where the land use is causing pollution of the raw water. Action is targeted in these zones to address pollution so that extra treatment of raw water can be avoided.
Effects	For the purposes of the EIA, the term ‘effects’ are the consequences of changes (e.g. habitat becomes degraded by changes in drainage pattern).
Embodied carbon	Greenhouse gas emissions arising from the manufacturing, transportation, installation, maintenance, and disposal of building materials.
Environmental effect	The consequence of an action (impact) upon the environment such as the decline of a breeding bird population as a result of the removal of hedgerows and trees.
Environmental impact	The change in the environment from a development such as the removal of a hedgerow.

Term	Definition
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	An EIA is a tool for systematically examining and assessing the impacts and effects of a development on the environment. The objective of the EIA is to identify any likely significant effects which may arise from the Scheme and identify measures to prevent, reduce or offset any adverse effects.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations	Regulations that give planning authorities a means of ensuring that they can take account of the environmental, economic and social implications of individual developments in their decisions on planning applications. For the Scheme, the relevant regulations are the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.
Environmental Product Declaration	Communicates the environmental performance or impact of a product or material over its lifetime.
Environmental Statement (ES)	The outcome of the EIA process is reported within a document called an ES.
European site	The term 'European site' refers to any site designated for the purposes of the Habitats Regulations (previously sometimes referred to as "Natura 2000" sites).
Flood Zone	Flood Zone definitions are set out in the National Planning Policy Guidance. There are three flood zones which refer to the probability of river and sea flooding, not taking into account the presence of flood defences.
Flood Zone 1	Land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding (<0.1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)).
Flood Zone 2	Land assessed as having between 1 in 100 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding (>0.1% AEP to <1% AEP).
Flood Zone 3	Land assessed as having 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1% AEP).
Frequency (Hz)	The number of cycles per second (i.e. the number of vibrations that occur in one second); subjectively this is perceived as pitch.
Functionally Linked Land	Elements of the Site would be considered as functionally linked if qualifying migratory species from a European site were found using them (e.g., evidence of birds going between parts of the Site and SPA).
Future baseline	This is the theoretical situation that would exist in the absence of the Scheme. This is based upon extrapolating the current baseline using technical knowledge of likely changes over the identified period (for example anticipated habitat change over time, climate change projections, traffic and waste volume growth over time, etc.).

Term	Definition
Geographical Information Systems	GIS is a framework for gathering, managing and analysing data. It analyses spatial location data and organises layers of information into visualisations on maps.
Grid Connection Corridor	Land required for the laying of the grid connection cable between the substations and the National Grid Drax Substation (for export of electricity from the Scheme to the National Grid).
Ground mounted solar PV panel arrays	Solar photovoltaic (PV) modules attached to structures that are fixed to the ground.
Habitats Regulations	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV)	A vehicle that has a weight over 3.5 tonnes.
Impacts	For the purposes of the EIA, the term 'impacts' is used to describe the changes that arise as a result of the Scheme
Key characteristics	Combinations of elements which are particularly important to the current character of the landscape and help to give an area its particularly distinctive sense of place.
Land Interest Questionnaire	Questionnaires sent to people thought to have an interest in land to obtain the most up-to date information about land ownership in the area
Land cover	The surface cover of the land, usually expressed in terms of vegetation cover or lack of it. Related to but not the same as land use.
Land use	What land is used for, based on broad categories of functional land cover such as urban and industrial use and the different types of agricultural and forestry.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, the character of which is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	A tool used to identify and assess the likely significance of the effects of change resulting from development both on the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right and on people's views and visual amenity.
Landscape Character	A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another.
Landscape Effects	Effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right.
Landscape Receptors	Defined aspects of the landscape resource that have the potential to be affected by the Scheme.
Light Goods Vehicles	A vehicle that has a weight below 3.5 tonnes that is specifically designed to carry goods.
Local Nature Reserve	Sites dedicated by the local authority under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 for nature conservation which have wildlife or geological features that are of special interest locally.

Term	Definition
Local planning authority	The public authority whose duty it is to carry out specific planning functions for a particular area
Local Road Network	Consists of roads managed by the local authority.
Magnitude of change	A term that combines judgements about the size and scale of the effect, the extent of the area over which it occurs, whether it is reversible or irreversible and whether it is short or long term in duration.
Main river	Usually larger rivers and streams that the Environment Agency maintain and improve to manage flood risk.
Member of Parliament MP	The representative of the voters to the UK parliament for their relevant constituency.
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government is now called Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities supports communities across the UK to thrive, making them great places to live and work.
Mitigation	The action of reducing the severity and magnitude of change (impact) to the environment. Measures to avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate for significant adverse effects.
National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) ('National Grid')	National Grid operate the national electricity transmission network across Great Britain and own and maintain the network in England and Wales, providing electricity supplies from generating stations to local distribution companies. National Grid does not distribute electricity to individual premises, but its role in the wholesale market is vital to ensuring a reliable, secure and quality supply to all.
Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)	NSIPs are developments (relating to energy, transport, water, or waste) which are identified in the Planning Act 2008 and require a type of consent known as "development consent".
Noise	Unwanted or unexpected sound.
Non-statutory consultation	Engagement with members of the public, local groups or stakeholders which is not determined or governed by statutory requirements.
Order Limits	The limits shown on the land plans and works plans within which the authorised development may be carried out and land acquired or used.
Permanent effects	These are effects that will remain even when the Scheme is complete, although these effects may be caused by environmental changes that are permanent or temporary.
Permissive Paths	Permissive paths are routes which the landowner permits the public to use, with the intention that it should not become a public right of way.
Phase 1 habitat survey	A standardised system for classifying and mapping wildlife habitats.

Term	Definition
Photovoltaic (PV)	The process of converting sunlight to electrical energy.
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)	Information that was compiled by the applicant to support statutory consultation held in advance of submitting an application for development consent. The Preliminary Environmental Information Report should contain information reasonably required for the consultation bodies to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the development and any associated development.
Priority habitat	Habitats which have been deemed to be of principal importance for the purpose of conserving biodiversity, being listed in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.
Protected species	Species which are protected by law.
Public Rights of Way (PRoW)	These are designated routes under the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000, which the public can use at any time.
Receptor	A component of the natural or man-made environment such as water or a building that is affected by an impact.
Scheduled Monument	A 'nationally important' archaeological site or historic building, given protection against unauthorised change and included in the Schedule of Monuments kept by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. The protection given to scheduled monuments is given under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.
Scheme	East Yorkshire Solar Farm - comprising the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of a solar PV electricity generating facility with a total capacity exceeding 50 MW and export connection to the national grid, at National Grid's Drax Substation.
Scoping	The process of identifying the issues to be addressed by an EIA. It is a method of ensuring that an EIA focuses on the likely significant effects and avoids those that are considered to be unlikely to be significant.
Scoping Opinion	A Scoping Opinion is requested from the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State, to inform the requirements of EIA process and ultimately ES Volume 1 [EN010143/APP/6.1] which will be submitted as part of the application for development consent. Through the scoping process the views of the statutory consultees and other relevant organisations on the proposed scope of the EIA are sought.

Term	Definition
Secondary (undifferentiated) aquifer	Assigned in cases where it has not been possible to attribute either category A or B to a rock type. In most cases, this means that the layer in question has previously been designated as both minor and non-aquifer in different locations due to the variable characteristics of the rock type.
Secondary A Aquifer	Secondary A aquifers comprise permeable layers that can support local water supplies and may form an important source of base flow to rivers.
Secondary B Aquifer	Predominantly lower permeability layers which may store and yield limited amounts of groundwater due to localised features such as fissures, thin permeable horizons and weathering. These are generally the water-bearing parts of the former non-aquifers.
Section 47 (s47) notice	A notice published pursuant to section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, advising that a Statement of Community Consultation has been published.
Section 48 (s48) notice	A notice prepared pursuant to section 48 of the Planning Act 2008, required to publicise the proposed application for a nationally significant infrastructure project.
Sensitivity	A term applied to specific receptors, combining judgements of the susceptibility of the receptors to the specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor
Setting	The surroundings within which a heritage asset is experienced and any element, which contributes to the understanding of its significance.
Severance	The separation of people from places and other people and places or impede pedestrian access to essential facilities.
Significance	A measure of the importance or gravity of the environmental effect, defined by significance criteria specific to the environmental topic.
Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level (SOAEL)	The average response level above which, as an average response, significant adverse effects on health and quality of life occur.
Site	All land within the Order limits.
Site Fabric	The term 'Site Fabric ' are areas that do not support designated features of a designated site or their function, and are never expected to do so. Areas of site fabric are often included for reasons of administrative convenience to avoid odd or excessively fragmented, designated site boundaries.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	An area of land designated by Natural England as of special interest by reason of its flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features.

Term	Definition
Source Protection Zone	Zones which show the level of risk to a groundwater source from contamination. This could be from any activity that might cause pollution in the area. For example, storing pollutants like petrol underground, soakaways from septic tanks to the ground. The closer the activity, the greater the risk.
Stakeholder	An organisation or individual with a particular interest in a development project.
Statement of Common Ground	A written statement prepared jointly by the applicant and another party or parties, setting out any matters on which they agree. In some cases, statements of common ground will also identify areas where agreement has not been reached.
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	A document detailing how an applicant of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project intends to undertake consultation on its proposals.
Statutory bodies	Organisations and bodies that are defined by a formal law or a statute.
Statutory consultation	Engagement with stakeholders determined or governed by statutory requirements.
Statutory consultee	Organisations and bodies, defined by statute, which must be consulted on relevant planning matters.
Strategic Road Network (SRN)	The network of motorways and trunk roads in England managed by National Highways
Subsoil	Layer (or horizon) of soil immediately beneath the surface topsoil. Generally, less structurally developed and less nutrient rich than the topsoil.
Susceptibility	The ability of a defined landscape or visual receptor to accommodate the specific proposed development without undue negative consequences.
Swept Path Analysis	The calculation and analysis of the movement and path of different parts of a vehicle when that vehicle is undertaking a turning manoeuvre.
Targeted consultation	Engagement with specific stakeholders not determined or governed by statutory requirements.
Temporary effects	These are effects that are related to environmental changes associated with a particular activity and that will cease when that activity finishes.
Topsoil	Natural topsoil or manufactured topsoil, varies in depth with soil type but usually covering the top 20-30 cm in which plants can grow healthily.
Tranquillity	A state of calm and quietude associated with peace, considered to be a significant asset of landscape.
Transformers	Transformers control the voltage of the electricity generated across the site before it reaches the electrical infrastructure.

Term	Definition
Visibility Splays	A drawing that visualises the angle and distance from which drivers emerging from an access can see and be seen by drivers proceeding along the priority road.
Visual Effect	The change in the appearance of the townscape as a result of the development. This can be positive or negative.
Visual Receptors	Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by the Scheme impacting on their views.
Visualisation	Computer generated visualisation, photomontage, or other technique to illustrate the appearance of the Scheme from a known location.
Water Framework Directive	The Water Framework Directive (“WFD”) introduced a new system for monitoring and classifying the quality of surface and ground waters. The Directive requires that Environmental Objectives be set for all surface waters and groundwater to enable them to achieve Good Ecological Potential/Status by a defined date.

Abbreviations

Abbreviation/Term Definition

AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability
ALC	Agricultural Land Classification
APFP	Application: Prescribed Forms and Procedure
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
BMV	Best and Most Versatile
BNG	Biodiversity Net Gain
DCO	Development Consent Order
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
dB	Decibel
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DCO	Development Consent Order
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DEMP	Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
EA	Environment Agency
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ERYC	East Riding Yorkshire Council
ES	Environmental Statement
EYSF	East Yorkshire Solar Farm
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FLDVCT	Friends of Lower Derwent Valley Conservation Trust
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GW	gigawatts
ha	hectares
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
HMLR	His Majesty's Land Registry
HRA	Habitats Regulation Assessment

Abbreviation/Term Definition

ID	Identification
km	Kilometres
kV	Kilovolt
LCA	Land Compensation Act
LEP	Local Enterprise Partnership
LIQs	Land Interest Questionnaires
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
m	metres
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
MPs	Member of Parliament
MW	megawatts
NGET	National Grid Electricity Transmission
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
NTS	Non-Technical Summary
NYCC	North Yorkshire County Council
NYC	North Yorkshire Council
OEMP	Operational Environmental Management Plan
PEI	Preliminary Environmental Information
PILs	Persons with Interest in the Land
PRoW	Public Right of Way
PV	Photovoltaic
SDC	Selby District Council
SEGL2	Scotland to England Green Link 2
SOAEL	Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SoS	Secretary of State
SPA	Special Protection Area
SRN	Strategic Road Network
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
UK	United Kingdom
VAST	Villagers Against Solar Threat

Abbreviation/Term Definition

WCAG	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines
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WFD	Water Framework Directive
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