
EAST YORKSHIRE SOLAR FARM

**East Yorkshire Solar Farm
EN010143**

Consultation Report Appendix

**Appendix D Copy of the Draft SoCC Provided to Local Authorities
Document Reference: EN010143/APP/5.2**

Regulation 5(2)(q)
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
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BOOM-POWER.CO.UK

BOOM
POWER

Prepared for:

East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited

Prepared by:

AECOM Limited

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Table of Contents

Appendix D – Copy of the draft SoCC provided to local authorities.....	1
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Appendix D – Copy of the draft SoCC provided to local authorities

Statement of Community Consultation

East Yorkshire Solar Farm

East Yorkshire Solar Farm Ltd

9 February 2023

Prepared for:

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Table of Contents

1.	Introduction.....	4
1.1	About this document	4
1.2	About The Applicant	5
1.3	Scheme description.....	5
1.4	Consultation to date	6
1.5	Learnings from the Non-Statutory Consultation.....	8
2.	The Planning Process	8
2.1	The Development Consent Order application process	8
2.2	Consultation with local authorities.....	10
3.	Statutory Consultation	10
3.2	Who will be consulted?	11
3.3	What will be consulted on?	11
3.4	Statutory Consultation documents	12
3.5	Consultation approach	14
3.6	Consultation events.....	15
3.7	Cancellations or changes.....	17
4.	Publicising The Consultation	18
5.	Next Steps.....	23
5.1	Responding to the consultation.....	23
5.2	Consideration of responses	23
5.3	GDPR and Data Privacy	23
	Appendix A Map of the Solar Farm and Cable Route	24
	Appendix B Map of Document Inspection Venues	25
	Appendix C Map Of The Intended Locations Of The Statutory Consultation Events	26
	Appendix D Mailing Zone For Statutory Consultation	27
	Appendix E Mailing Zone For Non-Statutory Consultation.....	28

Figures

Figure 1: Site boundary as presented in the Scoping Report. Fields outlined in red are areas for the placement of PV panels, associated infrastructure and habitat enhancement, the dashed red area represents the initial area of investigation for the routing of the Grid Connection Corridor.	6
Figure 2: The area used for the non-statutory consultation mailing zone, constituting 1,268 addresses. An enlarged version of this figure is provided in Appendix E.....	7

Tables

Table 1: Document inspection venues	13
Table 2: Statutory consultation event venues	16

1. Introduction

1.1 About this document

- 1.1.1 East Yorkshire Solar Farm (the Scheme) is a proposed solar farm development that would produce over 50 MW of electricity from photovoltaic (PV) panels on land northwest of the market town of Howden, near the villages of Spaldington, Brind and Wressle in East Yorkshire, and for a cable to connect the solar farm to the National Grid at Drax Power Station in North Yorkshire. The Scheme would deliver enough carbon-free electricity to power approximately 100,000 homes at a time of increased energy insecurity, and would also contribute to the UK government's target of reaching net-zero carbon by 2050. The Scheme is being brought forward by East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited (the Applicant).
- 1.1.2 As the solar farm would produce over 50 MW of electricity, the Scheme is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), and therefore requires planning consent by way of a Development Consent Order (DCO) for it to be built.
- 1.1.3 The Scheme is currently in the 'pre-application' stage. Following this stage an application for a DCO will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). There will then follow a period of up to 28 days for PINS, on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, to decide whether or not the application meets the standards required to be accepted for examination and the pre-examination stage, which takes approximately four months. PINS will then appoint an Examining Authority to hold an examination into the Scheme, which must be completed in six months. The Examining Authority will then prepare a report on the application, including a recommendation, for the Secretary of State, within three months of the close of the examination. The Secretary of State then has a further three months to make the decision on whether to grant or refuse the DCO.
- 1.1.4 This Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) has been produced in accordance with the requirements set out by Section 47(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act), 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', Regulation 12 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations), and the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the Regulations). The SoCC has been prepared in consultation with those relevant local authorities, as required by Section 47(2) of the Act, whose administrative area the Scheme lies within, as defined by Section 43(1) of the Act, and having regard to the DCLG guidance on the pre-application process required by Section 50(3) of the Act, as last updated in March 2015¹.

1

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418009/150326_Pre-Application_Guidance.pdf

- 1.1.5 The approach to consultation set out in this SoCC was prepared in consultation with the host local planning authorities. Their advice and recommendations were taken into consideration when finalising the proposed consultation activities.
- 1.1.6 This document outlines the Applicant's proposed approach to consulting the local community. A statutory consultation will be held for six weeks in Spring 2023 from 9 May to 20 June; this follows a non-statutory consultation that ran between Monday 3 October 2022 and Sunday 30 October 2022.
- 1.1.7 The purpose of the non-statutory consultation was to seek the views of the local community, landowners, local businesses and interest groups, and statutory consultees on the proposals for the Scheme, including the layout of the solar panels and the route of the cable.

1.2 About The Applicant

- 1.2.1 The Applicant is East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited, a Boom Power company. Boom Power specialises in building non-subsidised solar infrastructure projects, producing clean energy that contributes to a sustainable economy and aids in the repair of our planet through a biodiversity net gain approach.
- 1.2.2 Boom Power wishes to promote solar farm technology to enable and encourage the transition towards net-zero carbon, which the UK Government aims to achieve by 2050.

1.3 Scheme description

- 1.3.1 The Scheme is a proposed new solar farm which would allow for an anticipated export of approximately 400 megawatts (MW) electrical capacity to the National Grid. This is the equivalent of the electricity needs of approximately 100,000 homes.
- 1.3.2 Figure 1 and Appendix A show the boundary of the Scheme as presented in the Scoping Report (the Scoping Boundary). As denoted by the solid red line, the Solar PV Site is located approximately 1.4 kilometres (km) northwest of the market town 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. The initial area of investigation for the routing of the Grid Connection Corridor linking the Scheme to the National Grid Drax Substation is denoted by the single-dashed red line. It is noted that these boundaries will be updated within the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report (see section 2.1.11), especially the Grid Connection Corridor, which will be refined and narrowed around a preferred route. The boundary presented with the PEI Report will also include the Interconnecting Cable Corridor, in which the cables connecting the different Solar PV Areas (the Interconnecting Cables) will be laid. This was not known at Scoping (see section 2.2).

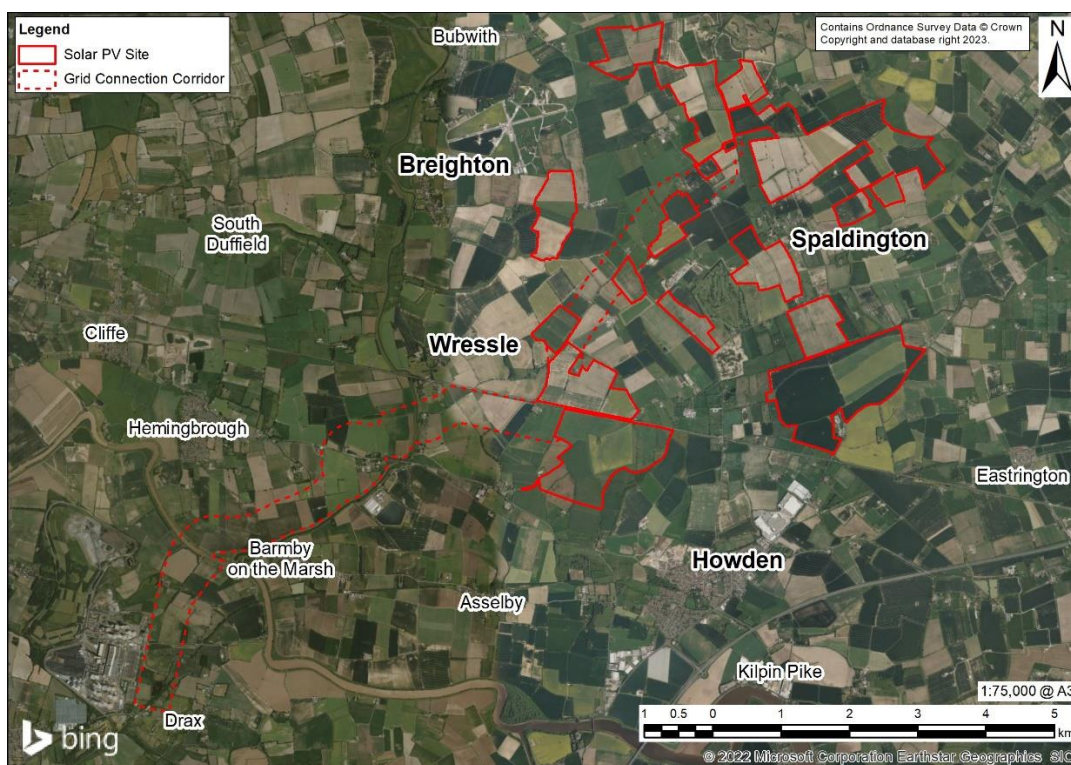


Figure 1: Site boundary as presented in the Scoping Report. Fields outlined in red are areas for the placement of PV panels, associated infrastructure and habitat enhancement, the dashed red area represents the initial area of investigation for the routing of the Grid Connection Corridor.

- 1.3.3 The Scheme will connect to National Grid Drax Substation, enabling the electricity generated to go directly into the National Grid.
- 1.3.4 Battery storage will be used at the solar farm to allow generated electricity to be accumulated and released throughout the day and into the night, regardless of light levels and weather. The battery storage will be distributed throughout the solar farm, rather than being contained within a single compound.

1.4 Consultation to date

- 1.4.1 A non-statutory consultation was held for four weeks, from Monday 3 October to Sunday 30 October 2022. This first phase of consultation introduced the Scheme, and sought feedback from the local community, landowners, local businesses, interest groups, and statutory consultees on the proposals for the Scheme, including the layout of the solar panels and the route of the cable.
- 1.4.2 Brochures were sent to properties within one kilometre of the Scheme – the ‘core consultation mailing zone’. This radius was extended to include roads or hamlets if they fell just outside the radius limits. In total, 1,268 brochures were sent. The area used for this mailing is shown in Figure 2.

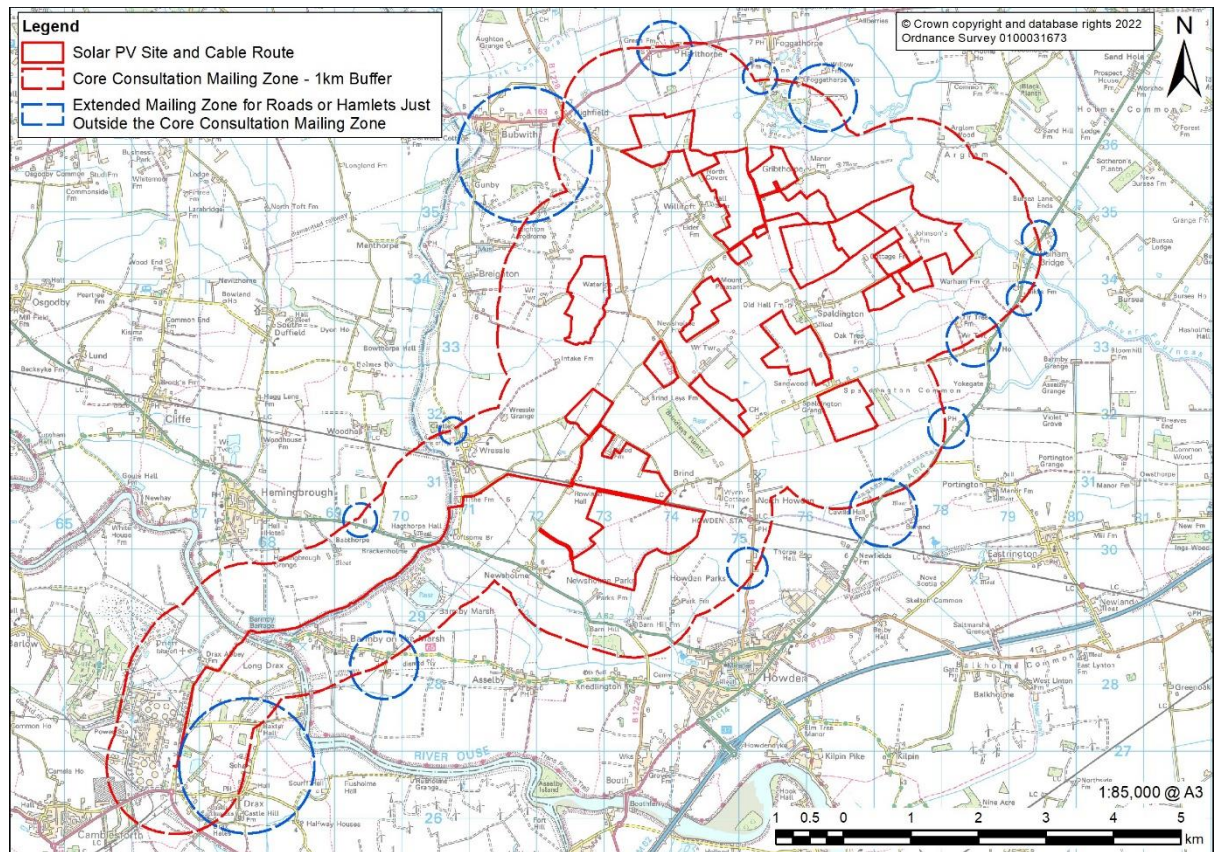


Figure 2: The area used for the non-statutory consultation mailing zone, constituting 1,268 addresses. An enlarged version of this figure is provided in Appendix E

- 1.4.3 Press releases were sent to local media outlets, including the Goole Times, Hull Daily Mail, BBC and local radio stations. The project was featured on BBC Radio Humberside at the start of the consultation, with a project representative interviewed about the Scheme. Copies of the press releases are available on the Boom Power website: www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire
- 1.4.4 Four public events were held; two of these were in person and two were online to allow those who were unable to or did not wish to travel to take part. One of the online meetings was recorded and made available online.
- The details of the events held are listed below:
- Wednesday 5 October from 2pm to 8pm at Boothferry Golf Course;
 - Tuesday 11 October from 7pm to 8pm (online);
 - Thursday 13 October from 2.30pm to 8pm at Howden Shire Hall; and
 - Wednesday 19 October from 6pm to 7pm (online).
- 1.4.5 A dedicated telephone number and email address were made available, and advertised throughout the consultation, for members of the public to send in feedback, request further information or to ask questions.

1.5 Learnings from the Non-Statutory Consultation

- 1.5.1 The approach to statutory consultation has been influenced by the learnings from the non-statutory consultation.
- 1.5.2 Analysis of the feedback received as part of the development of the non-statutory consultation has been used to inform the development of this 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.
- 1.5.3 There were 191 responses to the non-statutory consultation.
- 1.5.4 The project team recorded the number of attendees at each consultation event. In total, there were 179 attendees across the four events, with the highest attendance at the in-person events.

2. The Planning Process

2.1 The Development Consent Order application process

- 2.1.1 The Scheme is classified as a NSIP under Sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Act and will therefore require consent via a DCO.
- 2.1.2 Following the statutory consultation, the Applicant intends to submit its DCO application in the latter half of 2023.
- 2.1.3 In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2 of the Act, the Applicant is required to consult members of the local community before the application is submitted. The Applicant must demonstrate to PINS that adequate consultation has been conducted prior to submitting the DCO application. The Applicant will have regard to all responses received to the consultation which will be considered in the design evolution of the Scheme, in line with Section 49 of the Act.
- 2.1.4 Details of any responses received during consultation and the account taken of those responses will be included in the Consultation Report, which will be submitted as part of the DCO application.
- 2.1.5 More information on the DCO process can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website:
[https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/Environmental Impact Assessment](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/Environmental%20Impact%20Assessment)

- 2.1.6 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is the process of identifying, evaluating, and mitigating the likely significant environmental effects of a scheme or project.
- 2.1.7 Owing to its size, nature and location, the Scheme is likely to have significant effects on the environment and therefore is considered to constitute an EIA development requiring an Environmental Statement (ES) to be submitted alongside the DCO application.
- 2.1.8 The Applicant submitted a Scoping Report to PINS in early September 2022 setting out the initial details of the Scheme and the proposed scope of the surveys and assessments to be undertaken during the EIA process.
- 2.1.9 The Scoping Report also described the initial studies on the baseline environment and reported the surveys undertaken so far. The Scoping Report is available on the PINS website and can be read at the following link: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010143/EN010143-000015-EYSF%20EIA%20Scoping%20Report.pdf>.
- 2.1.10 The Scoping Report was reviewed by PINS and a range of statutory consultees including, but not limited to, Natural England, the Environment Agency, National Highways, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, North Yorkshire County Council and Selby District Council. The consultees provided feedback on the information provided in the Scoping Report, including the proposed assessment methodologies and the topics to be included (scoped in) or excluded (scoped out) from further assessment. On behalf of the Secretary of State, and taking the comments of the statutory consultees into account, PINS then prepared a written Scoping Opinion detailing the scope and level of detail of the information which is to be provided in the ES. The Scoping Opinion is available on the PINS website and can be read at the following link: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/east-yorkshire-solar-farm/?ipcsection=docs>.
- 2.1.11 The Applicant is planning and/or undertaking the surveys, assessments, and consultation processes outlined in the Scoping Report, and taking into account the Scoping Opinion. The Applicant is also preparing a PEI Report, in line with Regulation 12(2) of the EIA Regulations, to inform the statutory consultation process. The aim of the PEI Report is to provide sufficient information to enable stakeholders to develop an informed view of the likely significant effects of the Scheme. As described in PINS' Advice Note 7 the PEI Report is a compilation of the environmental information available at the point in time the PEI Report was produced and does not constitute a complete assessment (which will be undertaken within the ES).
- 2.1.12 The PEI Report will be made publicly available online and at document inspection venues, see section 3.4.5

2.2 Consultation with local authorities

- 2.2.1 Section 47(2) of the Act outlines the obligation for the Applicant to consult host local authorities² on the SoCC, including county councils and district councils. In the case of East Yorkshire Solar Farm, the host local authorities are:
- a. East Riding of Yorkshire Council;
 - b. North Yorkshire County Council; and
 - c. Selby District Council.
- 2.2.2 As part of local government reorganisation in North Yorkshire, Selby District Council and North 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.
- 2.2.3 A period of informal consultation with local authorities took place between 11 November 2022 and 9 December 2022, during which initial feedback on the draft SoCC was collected.
- 2.2.4 The SoCC was then updated based on these comments ahead of a formal 28-day consultation period on the updated draft SoCC, from 30 January to 27 February 2023. In preparing the final version of the SoCC, the Applicant has had regard to feedback submitted during the formal consultation.

3. Statutory Consultation

- 3.1.1 The statutory consultation for the Scheme will run for a period of six weeks in Spring 2023, from 9 May to 20 June 2023.
- 3.1.2 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.
- 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.
- 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.

² The applicant must consult each local authority that is within section 43(1) about what is to be in the statement. Local authorities are included in that section if the land is within its area

- 3.1.5 The Applicant is committed to running a consultation that is compliant with the methods outlined in the SoCC and the Act. Effective stakeholder engagement and consultation is intrinsic to the Act and fundamental to the success of the Scheme, and therefore it is important to raise awareness of the Scheme and provide further opportunity for local communities and stakeholders to engage with and influence the development of the proposals prior to submission.

3.2 Who will be consulted?

- 3.2.1 The consultation process is open to anyone who may be interested in, or in any way feels that they are impacted by, the Scheme. In line with the Act, the following groups will be contacted in order to actively encourage them to participate in the statutory consultation:

- a. Prescribed consultees;
- b. Host Local Authorities;
- c. Elected MPs;
- d. East Yorkshire Councillors representing the Howden and Howdenshire wards;
- e. North Yorkshire Councillors representing the Cliffe & North Duffield and Camblesforth & Carlton wards;
- f. Selby Councillors representing the Derwent and Camblesforth & Carlton wards;
- g. Parish Councils;
- h. Statutory environmental bodies;
- i. Local businesses;
- j. The local community.

- 3.2.2 The core consultation mailing zone described in section 1.4.2 and Figure 2, consisting of properties within one kilometre of the proposed Solar PV Site, the Interconnecting Cable Corridor, or the Grid Connection Corridor, will be expanded to take additional land to the North East of the Scheme into account. As for the 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 1km radius limit.

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

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

3.3 What will be consulted on?

- 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 below.

- 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) and PEI Report Non-Technical Summary

3.4 Statutory Consultation documents

- 3.4.1 The documents listed in paragraph 3.4.6 will be available to view throughout the consultation period. These will be made available online, along with an online feedback form, via the Scheme's website: www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire. Printed copies of the materials will be made available at the in-person consultation events, and at Document Inspection Venues in the area (see 3.4.6 for more details).
- 3.4.2 A consultation brochure will be produced to provide in depth information about the Scheme, including the layout, a summary of the environmental effects and the construction process 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.
- 3.4.3 The brochure will be distributed to homes and businesses in the expanded mailing zone (as described in Appendix D), and printed copies of this and the other consultation materials will be made available on request (for no charge). USB sticks with copies of the consultation materials preloaded will also be provided on request for a small charge.
- 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.
- 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 members of the public to inspect at a range of local venues as close to the Scheme as possible. 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. 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. 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. In the event of the 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.

Table 1: Document inspection venues

Document inspection venue	Address	Opening hours (correct at the time of publication)	
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,	May: 18 th June: 01 st , 15 th	

Document inspection venue	Address	Opening hours (correct at the time of publication)
	High Street, YO43 4EN	Thursday 10.00am to 5.00pm
East Yorkshire Mobile Library, Bubwith	Vicarage Close, off Brighton Road, YO8 6LL.	May: 19 th June: 02 nd , 16 th Friday 1.30pm to 5.00pm

3.4.6 The documents that will be available to view during the statutory consultation, online at the Scheme website or at the nominated inspection locations, are listed below:

- a. Consultation brochure, as described in 3.4.2;
- b. Consultation Frequently Asked Questions ('FAQ') document;
- c. Consultation response form;
- d. Plans of the proposed solar farm and cable route;
- e. SoCC (this document);
- f. PEI Report
- g. PEI Report Non-Technical Summary.

3.4.7 The statutory consultation documents will remain available to view after it has closed on the Scheme website, though respondents will not be able to provide consultation feedback after this time: www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire.

3.5 Consultation approach

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.

3.5.2 Effective stakeholder engagement and consultation provides a mechanism to understand the objectives and requirements of key stakeholders and to build trust and a productive relationship through an open, transparent and collaborative approach. Consultation is also essential to give stakeholders opportunities to be involved in the DCO process, allowing for an appropriate platform to provide feedback which can help inform the development of more detailed proposals.

3.5.3 The stakeholder engagement and consultation approach to be taken for the statutory consultation will be underpinned by the following principles:

- a. Early and ongoing engagement is to be undertaken to inform and influence the design process;
- b. Feedback will be sought in the iterative design process and be taken into consideration;

- c. Long-term relationships will be built with key stakeholders throughout the different stages of the Scheme to help better understand their views;
- d. Stakeholder concerns will be addressed, where possible and practicable, through engagement;
- e. Appropriate statutory consultation is undertaken in compliance with requirements of the Act and EIA Regulations.

3.6 Consultation events

- 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.
- 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.
- 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. 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).
- 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 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 consultation events held in October 2022, and the proximity to the Scheme.
- 3.6.5 Based on the learnings from the non-statutory consultation (see section 1.5), 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.
- 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.
- 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.

3.6.8 More details on the event dates, areas covered, and addresses can be found in Table 2 below. A map of the locations of the consultation event venues can also be found in Appendix D.

Table 2: Statutory consultation event venues

Date	Time	Venue
16/05/2023	2.00pm to 8.00pm	Loftsome Bridge Hotel, Station Ln, Wressle, Selby, YO8 6EN
24/05/2023	2.00pm to 8.00pm	Boothferry Golf Course, Spaldington, East Yorkshire, DN14 7NG
25/05/2023	6.00pm to 7.00pm	Virtual Webinar Event
08/06/2023	7.00pm to 8.00pm	Virtual Webinar Event
10/06/2023	2.00pm to 8.00pm	Bubwith Leisure Centre, The Playing Fields, Main Street, Bubwith, East Yorkshire, YO8 6LX
13/06/2023	2.00pm to 8.00pm	Howden Shire Hall, 13 Market Pl, Howden, Goole, DN14 7BJ

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. If required (due to physical events not being possible) the Applicant may host additional online events.

3.6.10 Communication channels such as telephone, email and freepost will be publicised on the consultation materials, and on the Scheme's website to allow people to contact the project team if they have further questions.

3.7 Cancellations or changes

- 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 of a substitute event via the Scheme's website, on social media, and through the local media.

4. Publicising The Consultation

- 4.1.1 The Applicant has identified several methods to publicise the statutory consultation, in accordance with Section 47 and 48 of the Act, and Section 4 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009. This will ensure the Scheme's stakeholders have ample opportunities to participate in the consultation and provide feedback on the Scheme.

Method	Detail
Scheme website	<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, www.boom-power.co.uk/east-yorkshire. 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>There will also be a link to the online response form, allowing people to share their views on the Scheme online.</p>
Consultation brochure and letters	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>As part of the non-statutory consultation, brochures were distributed to residents and businesses within 1 km of the proposed solar farm and grid connection cable route – this area is described as ‘the core mailing zone’. As described</p>

Method	Detail
	<p>in section 1.4.2 and Figure 2, this area was extended on a case-by-case basis to take in settlements just outside of the 1 km boundary. An expanded area will be used to distribute the statutory consultation brochure and feedback form. The data used for addresses in the area will also be refreshed.</p>
<p>Statutory consultation letters</p>	<p>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 consultees, advise them of the consultation on the scheme and request their feedback.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Email notifications</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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 to take part in further consultation. All email communications will be sent from the Scheme email account: eastyorkshiresolarfarm@boom-power.co.uk</p>
<p>Statutory Notices</p>	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the proposed DCO application and this SoCC will be published as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>A review of circulation figures will be carried out to consider which local publications are most appropriate, and possible publications include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Goole Times (and sister publications the Selby Times and the Epworth Times); The Pontefract & Castleford Express; and

Method

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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 an alternative newspaper or other publication will 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

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 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

Method	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Drax Parish Council • Spaldington Parish Council • Wressle Parish Council. <p>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.</p>
Social media	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Media	<p>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.</p>
Seldom heard groups	<p>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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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. 2. Display the project contact information prominently on all materials to enable individuals to contact them with any questions or requests. 3. Ensure that the consultation brochure can be made available in alternative forms on request.

Method

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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.

5. Next Steps

5.1 Responding to the consultation

5.1.1 A consultation response 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. Comments made via phone calls will not be counted as official consultation responses, unless transcribed. Consultation responses can be provided via the following means.

- 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.

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.

- a. Email: EastYorkshireSolarFarm@Boom-Power.co.uk.
- b. Phone: 07917 986 094
- c. Postal address: FREEPOST East Yorkshire Solar Farm

5.2 Consideration of responses

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

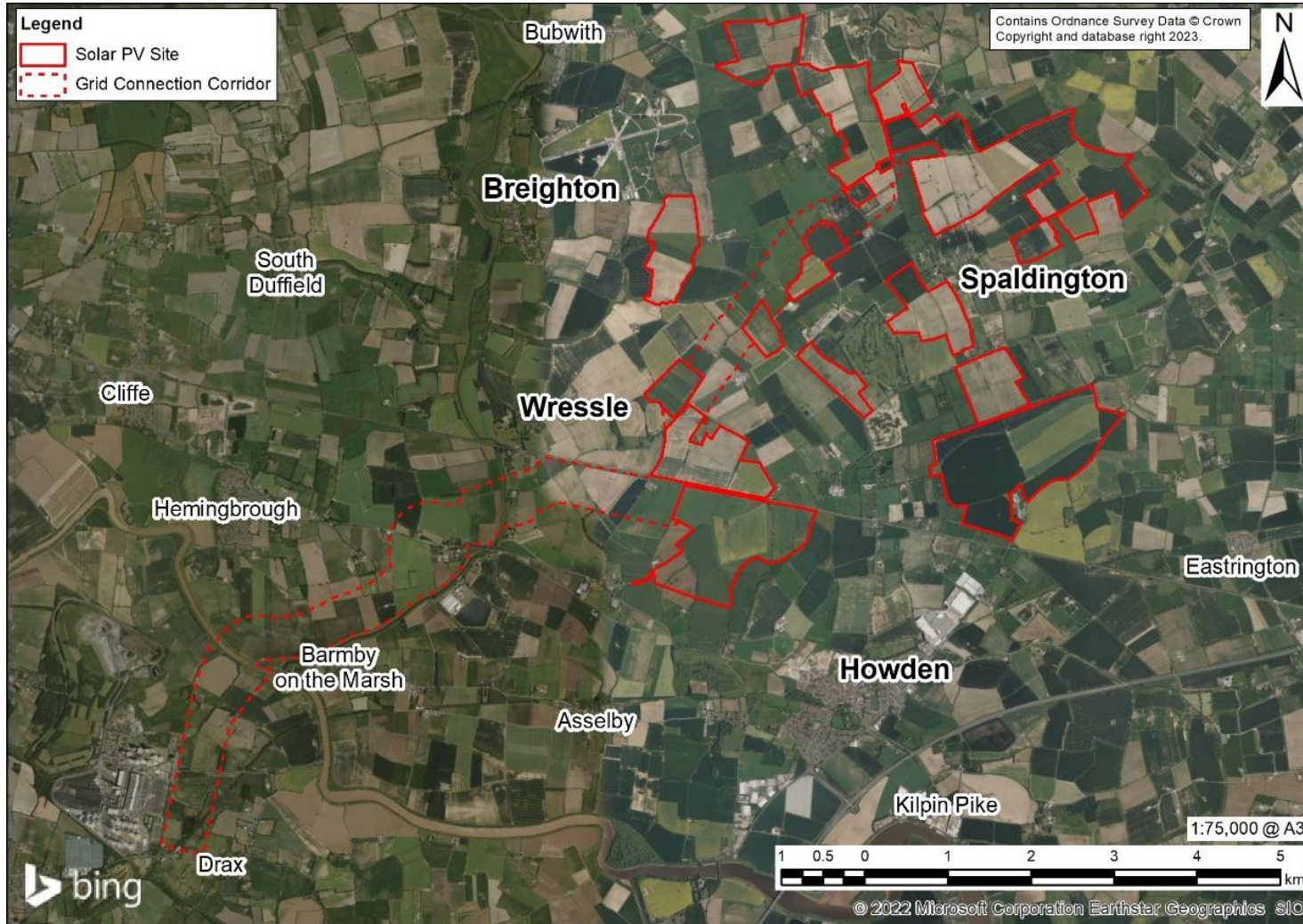
5.2.2 If, as a result of feedback from the statutory consultation or from our pre-consultation engagement, the proposals change to the extent that it is necessary to undertake further targeted consultation, this will be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the principles and methods set out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

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 Scheme, and any changes made since the statutory consultation. 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. Upon the acceptance of the DCO application the report will be made available for consultees to review how their comments have fed into the process.

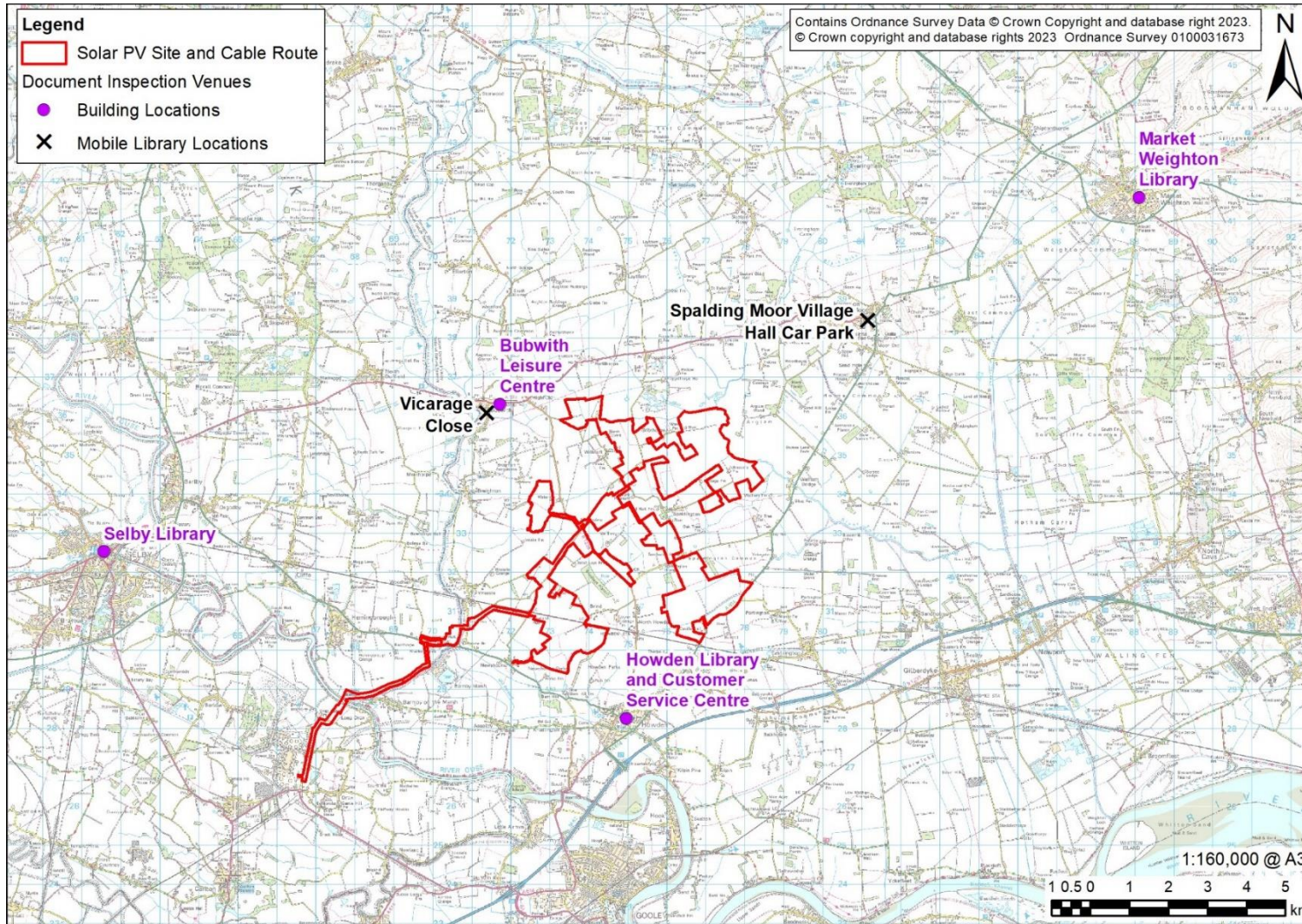
5.3 GDPR and Data Privacy

5.3.1 Boom Power's GDPR Policy can be read on their website at <https://www.boom-power.co.uk/privacy-policy/>.

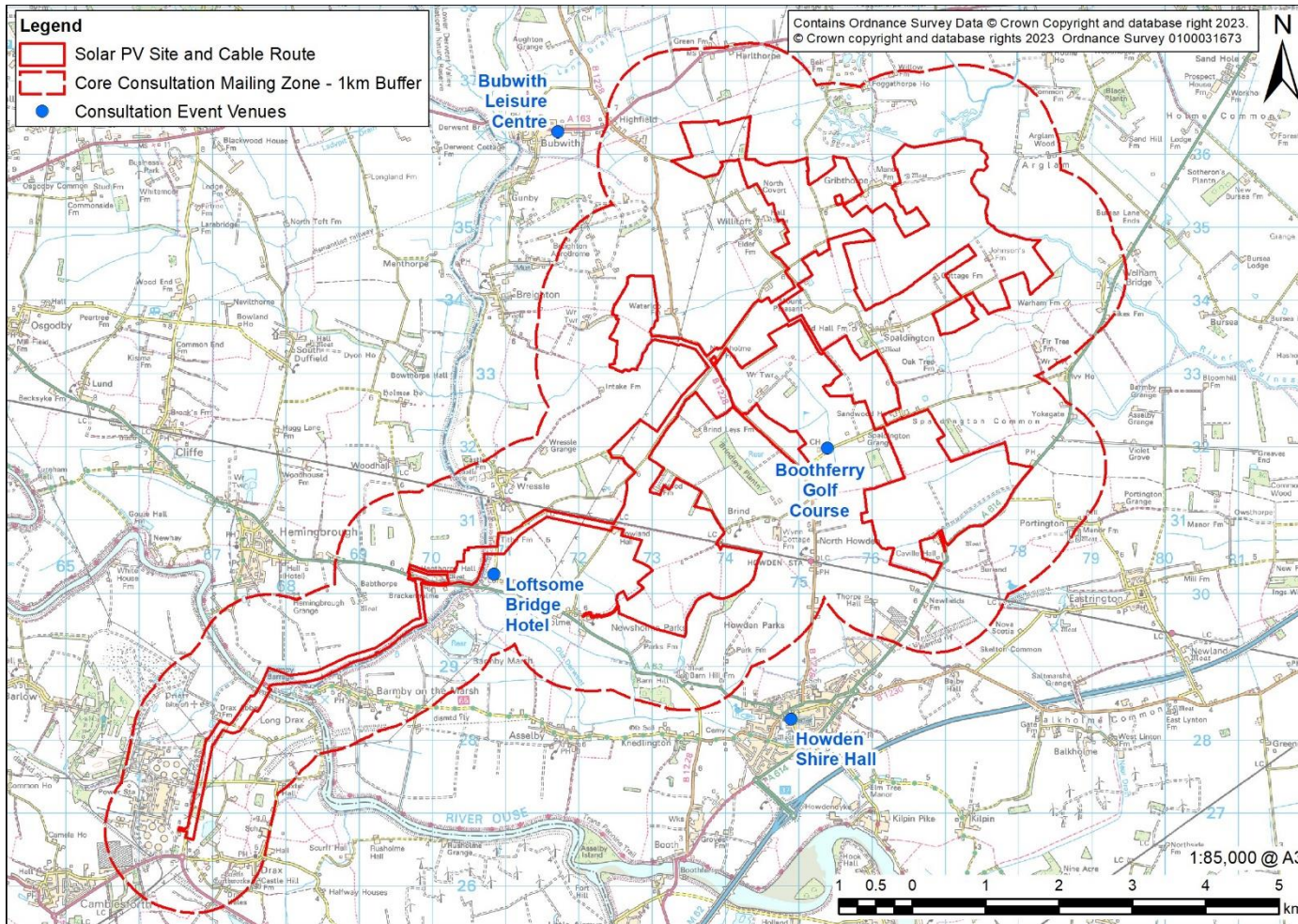
Appendix A Map of the Solar Farm and Cable Route



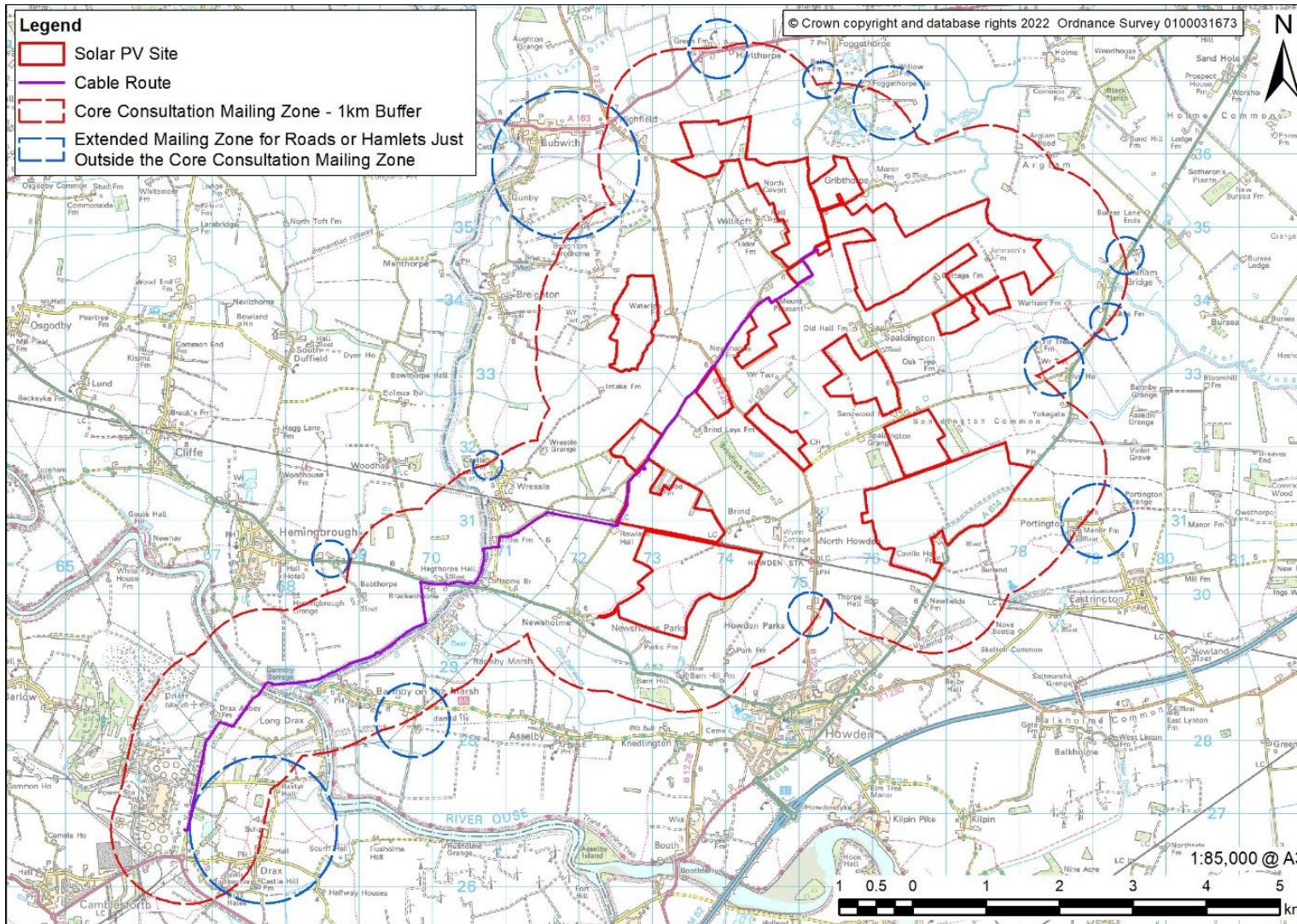
Appendix B Map of Document Inspection Venues



Appendix C Map Of The Intended Locations Of The Statutory Consultation Events



Appendix D Mailing Zone For Statutory Consultation



Appendix E Mailing Zone For Non-Statutory Consultation

