



# **Botley West Solar Farm**

**Consultation Report Appendix 5.1.2**

**Phase One Consultation Materials**

**November 2024**

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APFP Regulation 5(2)(g); Planning Act 2008; and Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations

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# 1 Phase One Stakeholder Briefing Pack



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# **Botley West Solar Farm**

Stakeholder Briefing Pack

**November 2022**

## Introduction

**Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP) is proposing a new solar farm in the west of Oxfordshire called Botley West Solar Farm.**

*Botley West Solar Farm (Botley West) could deliver 840 MW of clean affordable power to the National Grid and provides a real opportunity to contribute to the UK's climate goals and to help deliver Oxfordshire's Energy Strategy and transition to net-zero.*

The project is split into three site areas, connected by underground cables, located across the administrative areas of Cherwell, West Oxfordshire, and Vale of White Horse. Together, these site areas would generate enough clean electricity to power approximately 330,000 homes. For context, that's enough to power every home in Oxfordshire.

This briefing pack has been produced to share with you our plans for Botley West at this early stage and explains how your local communities can get involved in our consultation.

## Who We Are

PVDP GmbH is a developer of solar power projects. It has an 18-year track-record of delivering large-scale solar projects in Europe and Japan - over 1000 megawatts (MW) to date.

Our approach is to design solar projects, and manage these from inception to generation, employing experts to advise on planning, environment, ecology and the law.

We are engaging with local stakeholders to explore benefits for local communities and support Oxfordshire's energy policy and renewable targets.

## Why Solar?

The UK is seeing the effects of climate change like never before – only recently experiencing the hottest day on record<sup>1</sup>. The UK Government has committed to clear targets for decarbonising our electricity system<sup>2</sup>. Demand for electricity is increasing and there is an urgent need to reduce household bills. A secure, low carbon, low-cost electricity supply is needed.

Solar is the most affordable renewable energy in the UK<sup>3</sup>. It does not require any subsidies, so there are no extra costs to the taxpayer. The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has identified abundant, cheap renewable resources in the UK, namely solar and wind, as the long-term, sustainable solution to high energy prices and to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels<sup>4</sup>.

The security of energy supply for the UK has recently come into sharp focus<sup>5</sup>. Homegrown clean electricity at scale is key to securing a reliable source of power for UK homes and businesses.

Oxfordshire is leading the way in the fight against climate change, with ambitious targets that can make a real difference. The Oxfordshire Energy Strategy<sup>6</sup>, signed up to by all councils within Oxfordshire, includes:

- **Calls for a 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030**
- **A five-fold increase in solar energy by 2030.**

The Oxfordshire Energy Strategy sets out that “The majority of the low carbon energy needed in Oxfordshire is likely to be met by solar PV.” Botley West will contribute significantly to this target, helping both the county and the nation reduce the impacts of climate change and deliver a secure supply of low carbon power.

<sup>1</sup><https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/press-office/news/weather-and-climate/2022/red-extreme-heat-warning-ud>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/net-zero-strategy>

<sup>3</sup><https://solarenergyuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Briefing-Fact-Checker-1.pdf>

<sup>4</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1098100/review-electricity-market-arrangements.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1098100/review-electricity-market-arrangements.pdf)

<sup>5</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/british-energy-security-strategy/british-energy-security-strategy>

<sup>6</sup>

## Botley West Solar Farm

**We are developing proposals for a site area of approximately 1400 hectares, excluding connecting cable routes, within the administrative areas of West Oxfordshire, Cherwell and Vale of White Horse.**

The proposals are being developed through agreement with supportive landowners with a genuine connection to the local area, including Blenheim Estate and Merton College. By working with these landowners, Botley West will be developed to align with their long-term strategies for sustainably managing their estates.

The project has secured a grid connection from National Grid to connect 840 MW of clean electricity at a new National Grid substation, which will connect to the existing Walham – Cowley 400kV overhead line.

Some areas of the sites are within Oxfordshire's green belt. Green belt land is important, and only through demonstrating very special circumstances should it be used for development. We recognise this policy, and we are developing the project to demonstrate how these special circumstances will be addressed.

The sites for Botley West avoid statutory landscape designations and are on relatively low lying or undulating land with high solar irradiation. The sites provide the opportunity to enhance and maintain local wildlife habitats, achieving a net gain for biodiversity.

Botley West presents a fantastic opportunity to bring about environmental gains in Oxfordshire. Botley West will not only mitigate any potential biodiversity losses that may arise but will also bring a biodiversity net gain to the site area.

The project will be designed and developed in response to community and stakeholder feedback. We will undertake multiple phases of consultation during the design process, which will include discussing potential opportunities for greater connectivity around the sites and environmental enhancements.

## Benefits of Botley West Solar Farm



Botley West could generate enough clean, renewable electricity to power approximately **330,000<sup>1</sup>** homes.



Botley West will contribute to **decarbonising** our electricity network and deliver **secure homegrown** power. Solar is one of the cheapest forms of electricity generation in the UK, helping to address rising energy prices.



Botley West will add to Oxfordshire's **biodiversity** by helping to protect and rebuild habitats on land currently used for agriculture.



Botley West will significantly help deliver Oxfordshire's **transition to net-zero**, by **removing 14.4 million tonnes of carbon<sup>2</sup>** over its operational lifetime.



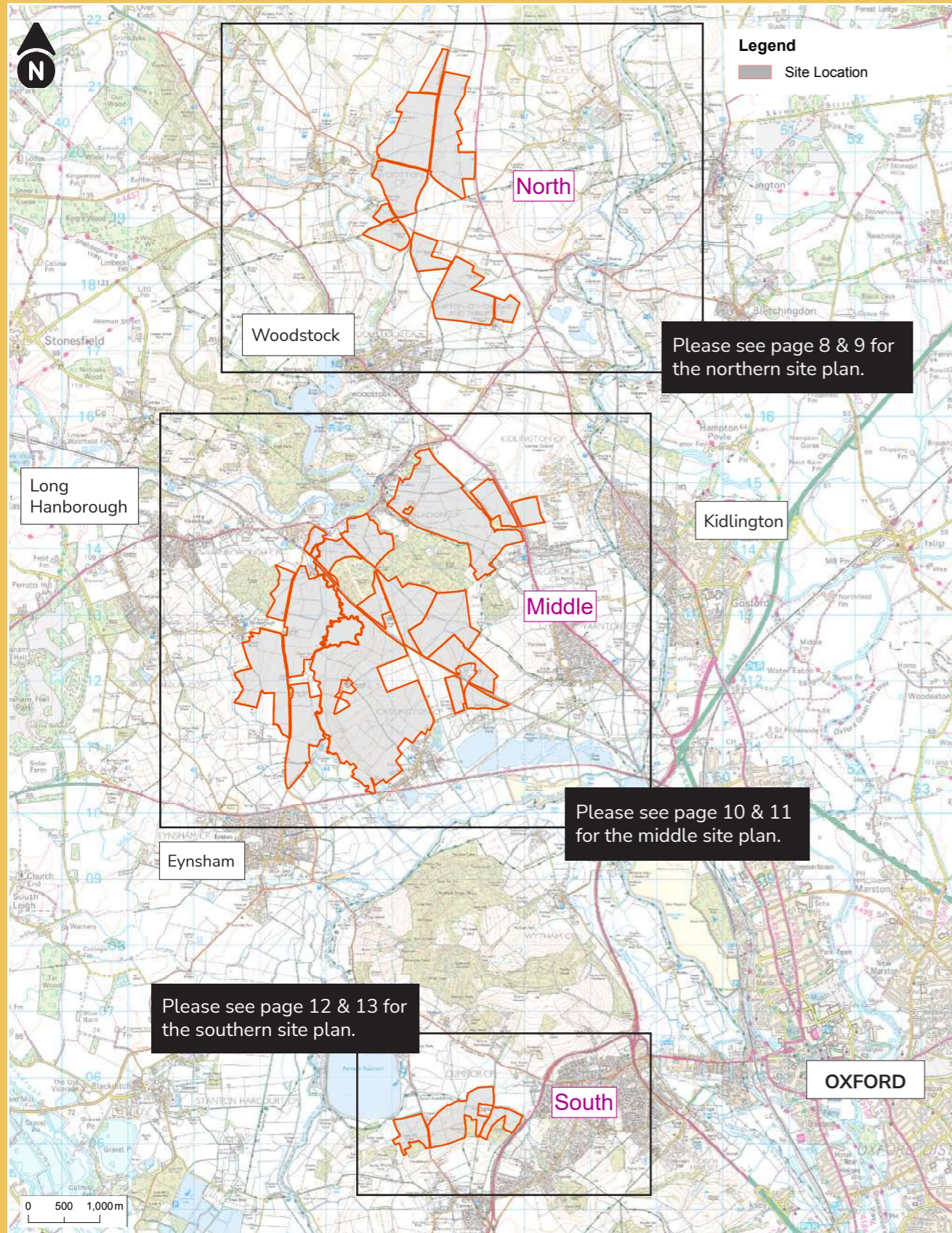
Botley West will lead the way in **achieving Oxfordshire's Energy Strategy<sup>3</sup>** agreed target of 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030, and 100% net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

<sup>1</sup> You can see how we calculated this figure on our website

<sup>2</sup> Based on Solar Trade Association's statistic that for every 5 MW installed, a solar farm will save 2,150 tonnes of CO2

<sup>3</sup>

## Overview Site Location Plan



## Our Proposals

We want to illustrate how Botley West could look, once developed. These plans can be found on pages 8 - 13 and on our website.

Throughout the proposed site we intend to build in measures to avoid or minimise any adverse environmental effects, and to secure as many public or environmental improvements as is reasonably possible.

To that end, the current concept already:

- Provides 5 - 10 metre buffers for existing trees, hedgerows and woodland, and a 15 metre buffer for ancient woodland areas.
- Provides significant buffer zones in areas close to roads, nearby properties and other sensitive receptors.
- Is proposed within a project area that has been refined having regard to the local area and neighbouring properties.



Seeks to avoid adverse impacts on designated heritage assets.



Assumes the retention of existing field patterns and the protection of existing trees, hedgerows and woodland. Where possible, we will enhance existing landscape and ecological features, including the planting of new woodland.

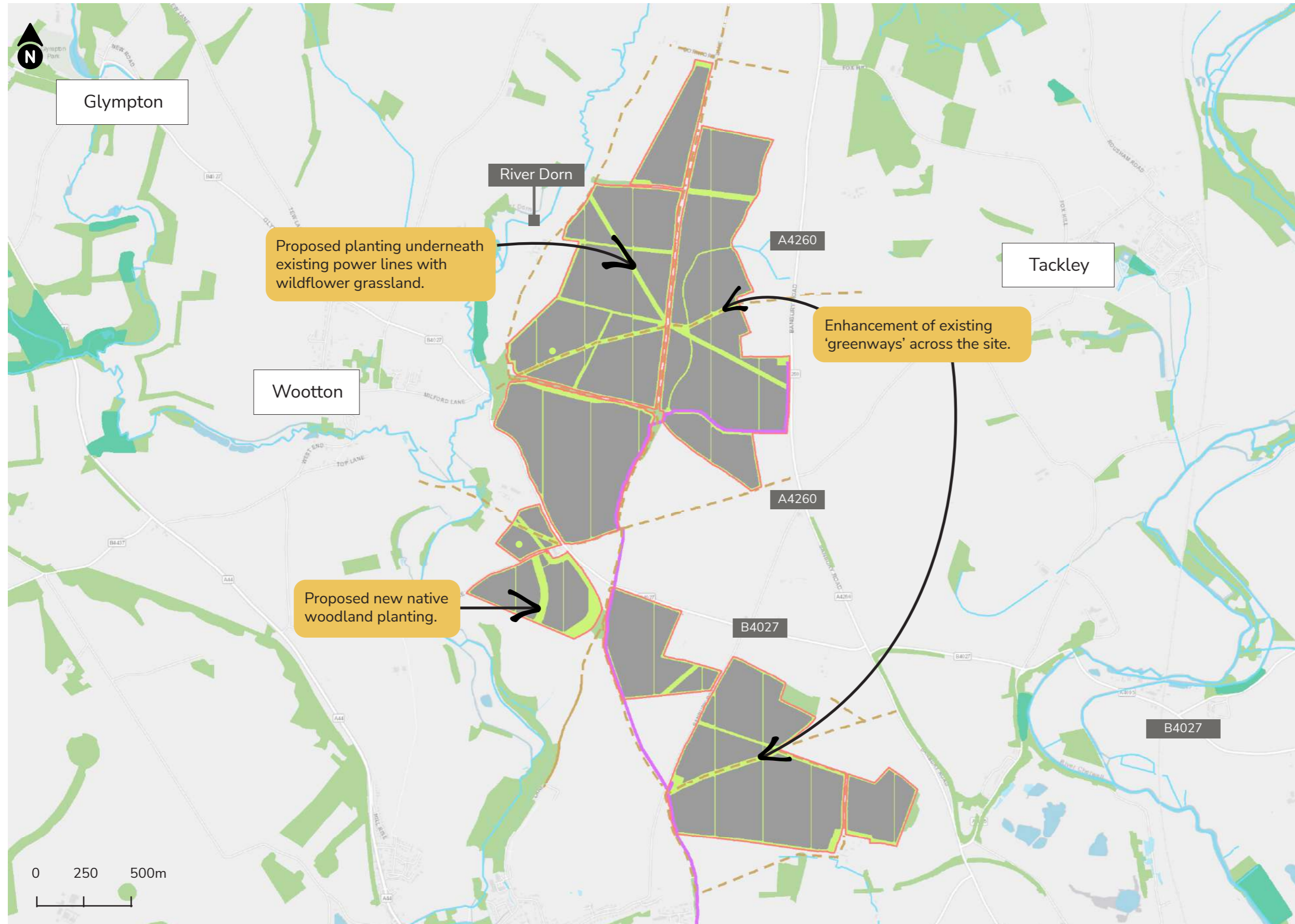


Provides the opportunity for continued agricultural use. This could include sheep grazing, bee keeping, allotments and community gardens.



Assumes the height of the panels we intend to use will be between 1.8m and 2.5m, keeping the height of the panels as low as possible whilst allowing opportunities for sheep grazing.

### Our Proposals: Northern Site Area

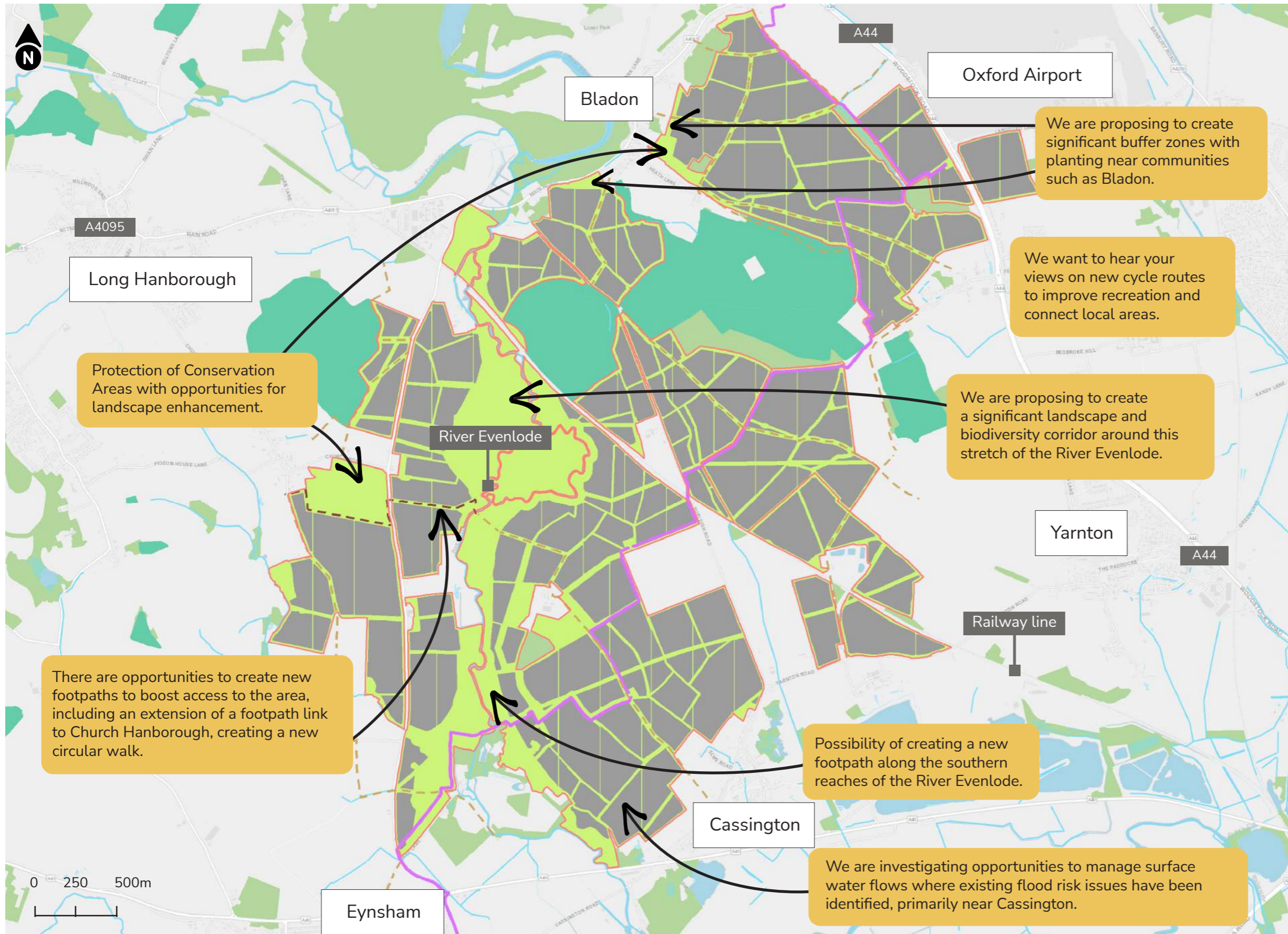


#### Legend

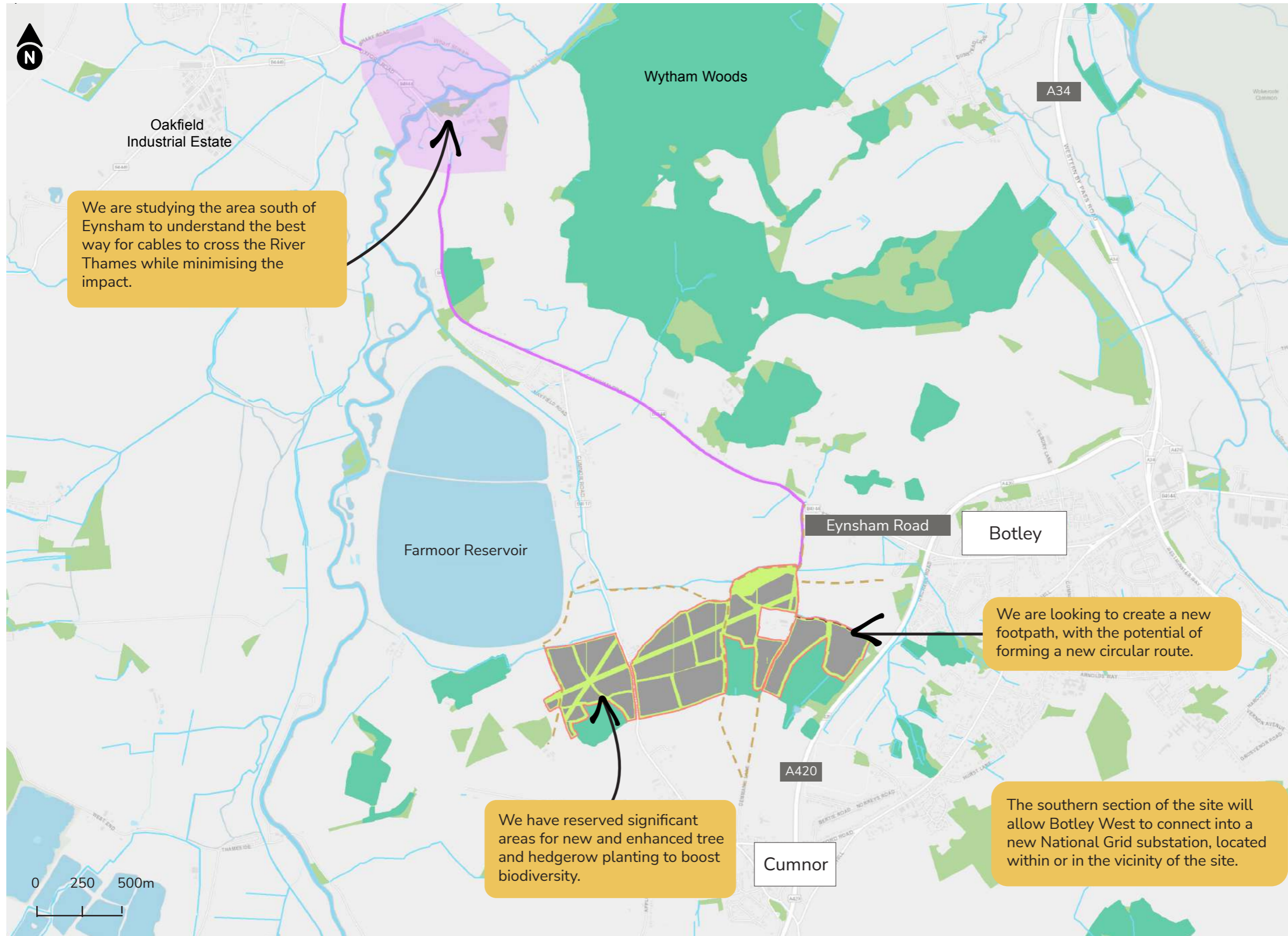
- Site Location
- Installation Area
- Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Areas
- Indicative Cable Route
- Ancient Woodland
- Other Woodland
- Watercourse



### Our Proposals: Middle Site Area



### Our Proposals: Southern Site Area



**Legend**

- Site Location
- Installation Area
- Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Areas
- Cable Route Study Area
- Indicative Cable Route
- Public Right of Way - Existing
- Public Right of Way - Proposed
- Ancient Woodland
- Other Woodland
- Watercourse

We are studying the area south of Eynsham to understand the best way for cables to cross the River Thames while minimising the impact.

We are looking to create a new footpath, with the potential of forming a new circular route.

We have reserved significant areas for new and enhanced tree and hedgerow planting to boost biodiversity.

The southern section of the site will allow Botley West to connect into a new National Grid substation, located within or in the vicinity of the site.



## The Local Environment

There is a need to act on increasing biodiversity in the UK. The UK has seen a 50% loss of biodiversity since the start of the Industrial Revolution, impacting the health of our ecology, animals and ourselves in the future. Botley West Solar Farm will not only mitigate any potential biodiversity losses that may arise but will also aspire to bring a biodiversity net gain to the site area.

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be carried out for Botley West. Through this process we will identify and develop appropriate ways of mitigating potential impacts caused by the project, as well as potential opportunities and enhancements.

Well-designed solar farms have the potential to deliver major benefits to the environment. The development of our proposals for Botley West will be guided by our **design principles**.

## Design Principles



We want Botley West to be developed in a way that respects existing wildlife, heritage assets and other important natural features.



We want Botley West to blend in with the local area.



We want our proposals for Botley West to include opportunities for the local community, environment, and wildlife.



We want Botley West to make a vital and timely contribution to our transition towards a renewable, reliable, and homegrown energy supply.

## Our Consultation Process

Botley West will be developed through iterative consultation with local communities and stakeholders, providing opportunities to get involved and share thoughts and ideas. We will undertake at least two rounds of public consultation, where communities can provide their feedback on our proposals.

Through consultation we will develop an understanding of issues that need to be addressed in the development of Botley West and opportunities that should be explored. This could include improved recreational access, local amenities, and educational opportunities.

In between the rounds of consultation, we will continue to share information and be on hand to respond to enquiries, ensuring local communities understand how their feedback is shaping our proposals.

Ahead of our formal second round of consultation, we will consult host local authorities on our draft Statement of Community Consultation to ensure we deliver a successful and meaningful consultation with local residents.

We will shortly be holding in-person public consultation events for the project. These events will provide a great opportunity for communities to view the proposals, provide feedback and talk to members of the project team.

All feedback received to the consultation will be considered in the design and development of our plans. A full report of our consultation will also be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the project.

## Our Phase One Consultation

**Our first phase of public consultation on Botley West Solar Farm will commence on 3 November 2022, and will be open for six weeks until 15 December 2022.**

**Our Phase One Consultation will comprise the following activities:**



### Community consultation events

We will hold a series of consultation events across the consultation area to provide an opportunity for local residents to meet with members of the project team and have their questions answered.



### Dedicated project website

Our dedicated consultation website, [www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk), will host all consultation documents and information so that they are freely available.



### Consultation leaflet

Our consultation leaflet will be sent to over 22,500 properties in the area, providing information on how people can provide feedback during the consultation period.



### Communications lines

A freephone information line, project email address, and freepost address are available for anyone wishing to get in touch with the project team. These details are available at the end of this document.



### Local media

We will advertise our Phase One Consultation and consultation events in local newspapers and media publications to inform local communities.

## The DCO Process

**As the capacity of Botley West Solar Farm will exceed 50 megawatts (MW), the project is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).**

We must apply for consent through the Development Consent Order (DCO) process. Applications are made to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), who then recommends to the Secretary of State for BEIS, who will make the final decision on whether to grant consent to Botley West Solar Farm.

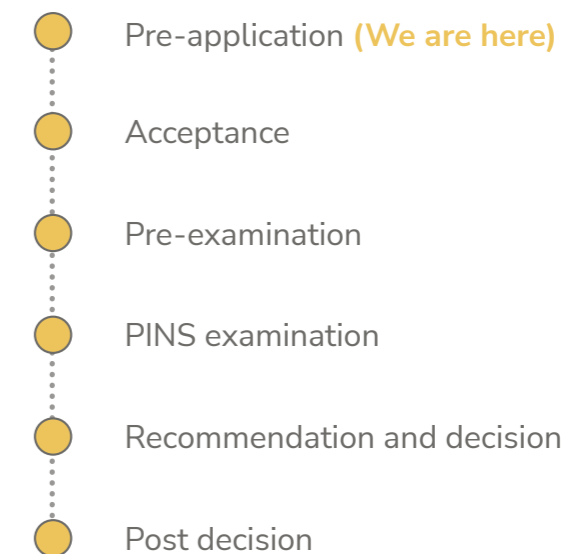
Once PINS has received the DCO application they will consider whether to accept the application for examination. To be accepted, we must satisfy PINS that our pre-application consultation, both with statutory consultees (such as the local planning authorities and Natural England) and local communities, has been undertaken fairly and in compliance with relevant legislation.

To help demonstrate this to PINS, we will submit a Consultation Report alongside the DCO application, outlining how the consultation process has been carried out in accordance with the Planning Act 2008. This report will contain details of the consultation methodology and the feedback submitted in response to the consultation. It will also show how feedback has influenced our proposals for Botley West.

If the application is accepted, it will enter a six-month examination period. During the examination, either a single inspector, or a panel of inspectors appointed by PINS, will evaluate the application, and ask questions of us as the developer, and of statutory consultees. The inspector(s) will also consider the representations of all stakeholders and community members who have made representations.

Following PINS' examination, there will be a determination of the application by the Secretary of State. If the application is approved, the DCO will be granted, subject to Requirements (equivalent to planning conditions), and authorisation given to begin construction and operation of Botley West Solar Farm.

For more information regarding PINS and the DCO process, please visit the PINS website here: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/>



## Project Timeline

- **Autumn 2022** Phase One Community Consultation on initial proposals
- **Winter 2022/23** Scoping Report submitted to PINS
- **Winter 2022/23** Consultation with local authorities on draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)
- **Spring 2023** Phase Two Consultation on more detailed design proposals and Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)
- **Winter 2023** DCO application submission
- **2024** DCO examination process
- **Early 2025** Anticipated DCO decision from Secretary of State
- **Summer 2025** Start of Construction

All future dates are indicative and may change.



## Contact us



**Email:** [info@botleywest.co.uk](mailto:info@botleywest.co.uk)



**Freephone Information Line: 0808 175 3085**

Available Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Voicemails can be left outside of these hours



**Freepost: BWSF**

You will not need a stamp to send any correspondence to the freepost address



**Website:** [www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)

## 2 Phase One Consultation Extension Postcard



**We are extending the consultation period for the first phase of community consultation for Botley West Solar Farm to **Thursday 22nd December 2022.****

Since we launched our first phase of community consultation for Botley West Solar Farm, we have been encouraged by the high level of engagement and feedback that we have received.

We are therefore extending the consultation period by a week to allow additional time for the community to provide feedback on our proposals.





**Our online feedback form will remain open until the end of the consultation period. Following the conclusion of the consultation period, all other communications channels will remain open for any enquiries relating to the project.**

## Contact Us



**[www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)**

You can view our online feedback form and all consultation materials, including maps and exhibition displays, on the Document Library on our website



**[info@botleywest.co.uk](mailto:info@botleywest.co.uk)**



**0808 175 3085**

Available Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm  
Voicemails can be left outside of these hours



**FREEPOST: BWSF**

You will not need a stamp to send any correspondence to the freepost address

Return address:  
5th Floor, St James House,  
Vicar Lane,  
Sheffield  
S1 2EX

### 3 Phase One Community Consultation Leaflet



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# **Botley West Solar Farm**

Phase One Community Consultation Leaflet

**November 2022**

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## Introduction

**Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP) is proposing a new solar farm in the west of Oxfordshire called Botley West Solar Farm.**

Botley West Solar Farm (Botley West) could deliver 840 Megawatts (MW) of clean affordable power to the National Grid. The project presents a real opportunity to contribute to achieving the UK's climate goals and to help deliver Oxfordshire's Energy Strategy and transition to net-zero.

The 840 MW of electricity that could be delivered by Botley West is equivalent to powering approximately 330,000 homes. For context, that's enough to power every home in Oxfordshire<sup>1</sup>.

This consultation leaflet introduces who we are, our proposals for Botley West, and how you can get involved in our Phase One consultation.

Details on how to get in touch and find out more about Botley West Solar Farm can be found on the back cover of this leaflet.

## Who We Are

Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP) is a developer of solar power projects. We have an 18-year track-record of delivering large-scale solar projects in Europe and Japan.

Our approach is to design solar projects and manage these from inception, generation, and through to decommissioning.

PVDP will therefore be the Applicant for this project.

## Why 'Botley West'?

Botley West Solar Farm will connect into a new National Grid substation, proposed to be built and located west of Botley, hence the name Botley West.

<sup>1</sup>You can see how we calculated this figure on our website

## Our Phase One Consultation

We are at an early stage of developing the proposals for Botley West. The design of the solar farm will be informed by feedback we receive and the results of our ongoing Environmental Impact Assessment process.

Our Phase One consultation starts on **3 November 2022**. It will run for **six weeks**, closing on **15 December 2022**. A further consultation event is planned in Spring 2023.

During this time, you can engage with our proposals in a number of ways:



### Attend one of our community information events

We are holding a series of 'drop-in' events across the area. These events provide an opportunity to view materials and discuss the proposals with members of the project team.

Details of our information events can be found on **page 18**.



### Visit our project website

Our dedicated website ([www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)) provides the latest project information, including relevant documents and answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ's). Here you can view and download all consultation documents and information.



### Contact our team

A freephone information line, project email address, and freepost address are available for anyone wishing to get in touch. These details are listed on the back page of this leaflet.



### Provide your feedback

We want to hear any views you may have on our proposals. You can submit your feedback via our website, by completing a feedback form at one of our events, by writing to us, or by email. Please get in touch with us if you're not sure how best to provide your feedback.

## Location

We are developing proposals for a site area of approximately 1400 hectares, excluding connecting cable routes, within the administrative areas of West Oxfordshire, Cherwell and Vale of White Horse. Within the site area we will be installing solar panels and other infrastructure on approximately 1000 hectares, leaving significant areas for mitigation and enhancements for the local landscape, wildlife and recreational use.

### Why here?

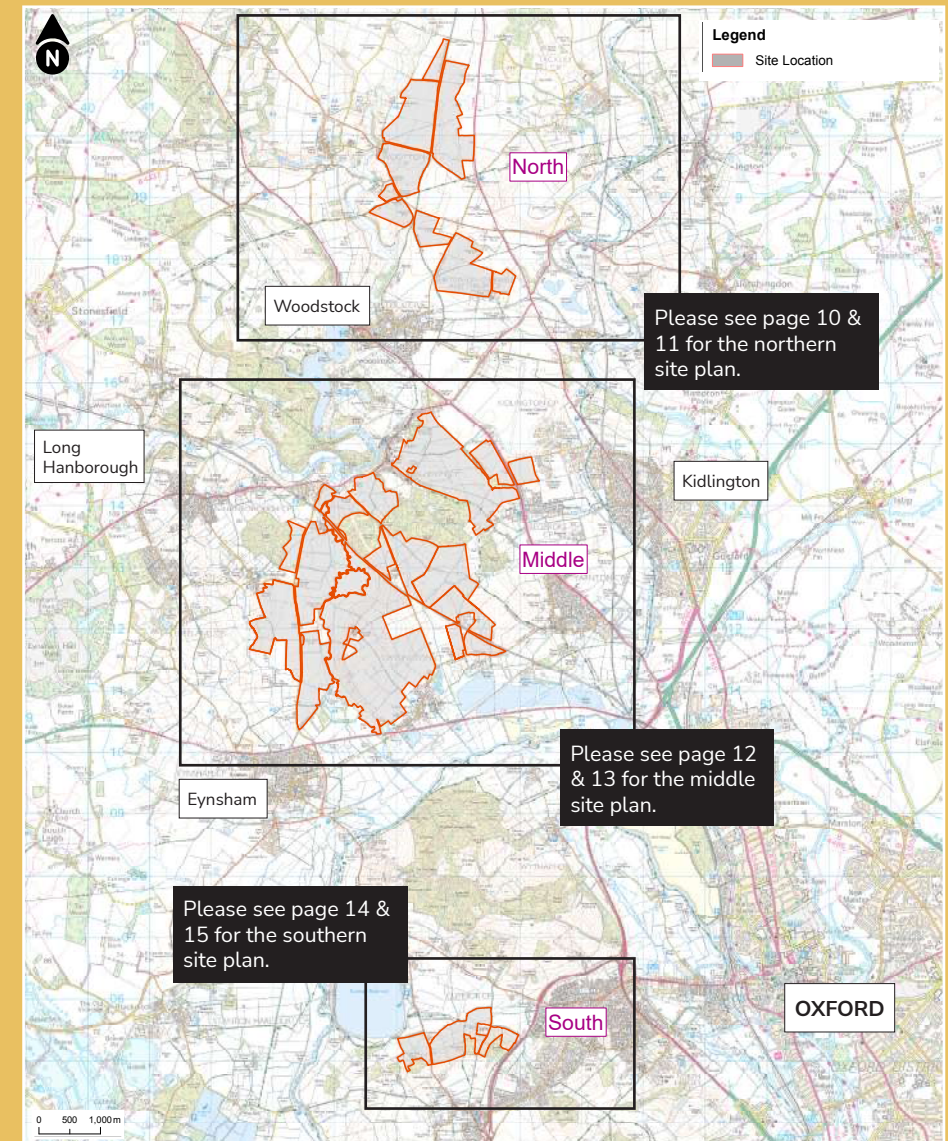
The location of the proposed site was driven by a number of different factors. Discussions were held with National Grid to identify where their priorities were to meet demand and manage the UK electricity supply network. As a result PVDP became aware that National Grid had decided to invest in reinforcing and extending the grid network in the area, partly in response to Oxfordshire's fast-growing economy and the increasing demand for electricity. Following these discussions, a high-level site search exercise was undertaken by PVDP to consider the availability and suitability of land to accommodate a solar farm.

Those elements in combination led to focus on land in Oxfordshire and ultimately to the proposed application site. The precise project boundaries and overall size of the project have been influenced by landownership, commercial viability and availability of a grid connection. The boundaries have been continually refined based on known or assumed physical and environmental constraints.

The proposals are being developed through agreement with supportive landowners with a genuine and long-standing connection to the local area, including Blenheim Estate and Merton College. By working with these landowners, Botley West will be developed to align with their long-term strategies for sustainably managing their estates.

Ambitious climate targets have been set at both the national and local level, with Oxfordshire Authorities leading the charge with their climate goals. Botley West will make a significant contribution towards achieving these.

## Overview Site Location Plan



## The Opportunity

**Solar energy is key to decarbonising the UK's economy. Botley West will significantly contribute to this, helping to deliver local and regional targets.**

### Fighting climate change

The UK is seeing the effects of climate change like never before – recently experiencing the hottest day on record<sup>2</sup>. The UK Government has committed to clear targets for decarbonising our electricity system<sup>3</sup>. A secure, low carbon, low-cost electricity supply is needed.



Botley West will contribute to **decarbonising** our electricity, significantly helping to deliver Oxfordshire's **transition to net-zero**, by **removing 14.4 million tonnes**<sup>4</sup> of carbon over its operational lifetime.

### Securing our energy supply

The security of the UK's energy supply has recently come into sharp focus<sup>5</sup>. Homegrown clean electricity at scale is key to securing a reliable source of power for UK homes and businesses.



Botley West will deliver **secure homegrown** power directly to the National Grid, helping to reduce our reliance on imported energy.

### Providing affordable, low-carbon energy

Demand for electricity is increasing alongside household bills. Solar is the most affordable renewable energy in the UK<sup>6</sup>. The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has identified solar and wind as the main renewable resources to tackle high energy prices and reduce our reliance and fossil fuels in the long term.



Botley West could generate enough low-cost clean and renewable electricity to power approximately **330,000** homes.

### Supporting Oxfordshire's ambitious climate targets

Oxfordshire is leading the way in the fight against climate change, with ambitious targets that can make a real difference. The Oxfordshire Energy Strategy<sup>7</sup>, signed up to by all councils within Oxfordshire, has been adopted to act against climate change.



Botley West will lead the way in **achieving Oxfordshire's Energy Strategy** agreed target of 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030, and 100% net zero carbon emissions by 2050.



<sup>2</sup> Met Office, 'Record breaking temperatures for the UK', July 2022

<sup>3</sup> UK Government, 'Net Zero Strategy', October 2021

<sup>4</sup> Based on Solar Trade Association's statistic that for every 5 MW installed, a solar farm will save 2,150 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>

<sup>5</sup> UK Government, 'British Energy Security Strategy', April 2022

<sup>6</sup> Solar Energy UK, 'Everything Under the Sun: The Facts About Solar Energy', March 2022

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/sites/default/files/uploads/Oxfordshire%20Energy%20Strategy.pdf>

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## Boosting biodiversity and respecting the local environment

Botley West presents a rare and fantastic opportunity to bring about significant environmental gains in Oxfordshire. Our proposals are being developed to deliver a meaningful net gain in biodiversity across the site area. This could be achieved through enriching existing landscape and ecological features, improving soil quality, and introducing new habitats to provide an attractive area for a variety of wildlife.



Botley West will add to Oxfordshire's **biodiversity** by helping to protect and rebuild habitats on land currently used for agriculture.

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## Contributing to Oxfordshire's economy

As a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, Botley West represents an investment in the area. We will be developing a Supply Chain, Skills and Employment Plan to set out how this investment may provide opportunities to the local economy.



Botley West will provide **supply chain and employment opportunities** during the construction and operational phases.

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## Protecting the land

Solar farms are temporary in their nature and are quick to build, as well as quick to remove. Typically, solar farms have a lifespan of between 35 and 40 years.



Following the end of Botley West's operation, the solar equipment will be removed, and the site will be returned to agricultural use.

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## Our Proposals

We want to illustrate how Botley West could look, once developed. These plans can be found on pages **10 - 15** and on our website.

Throughout the proposed site we intend to build in measures to avoid or minimise any adverse environmental effects, and to secure as many public or environmental improvements as is reasonably possible.

To that end, the current concept already:

- Provides 5 - 10 metre buffers for existing trees, hedgerows and woodland, and a 15 metre buffer for ancient woodland areas.



- Provides significant buffer zones in areas close to roads, nearby properties and other sensitive receptors.
- Provides protection for potentially vulnerable locations, as we have removed certain areas from the development boundary.



Seeks to avoid adverse impacts on designated heritage assets.



Assumes the retention of existing field patterns and the protection of existing trees, hedgerows and woodland. Where possible, we will enhance existing landscape and ecological features, including the planting of new woodland.

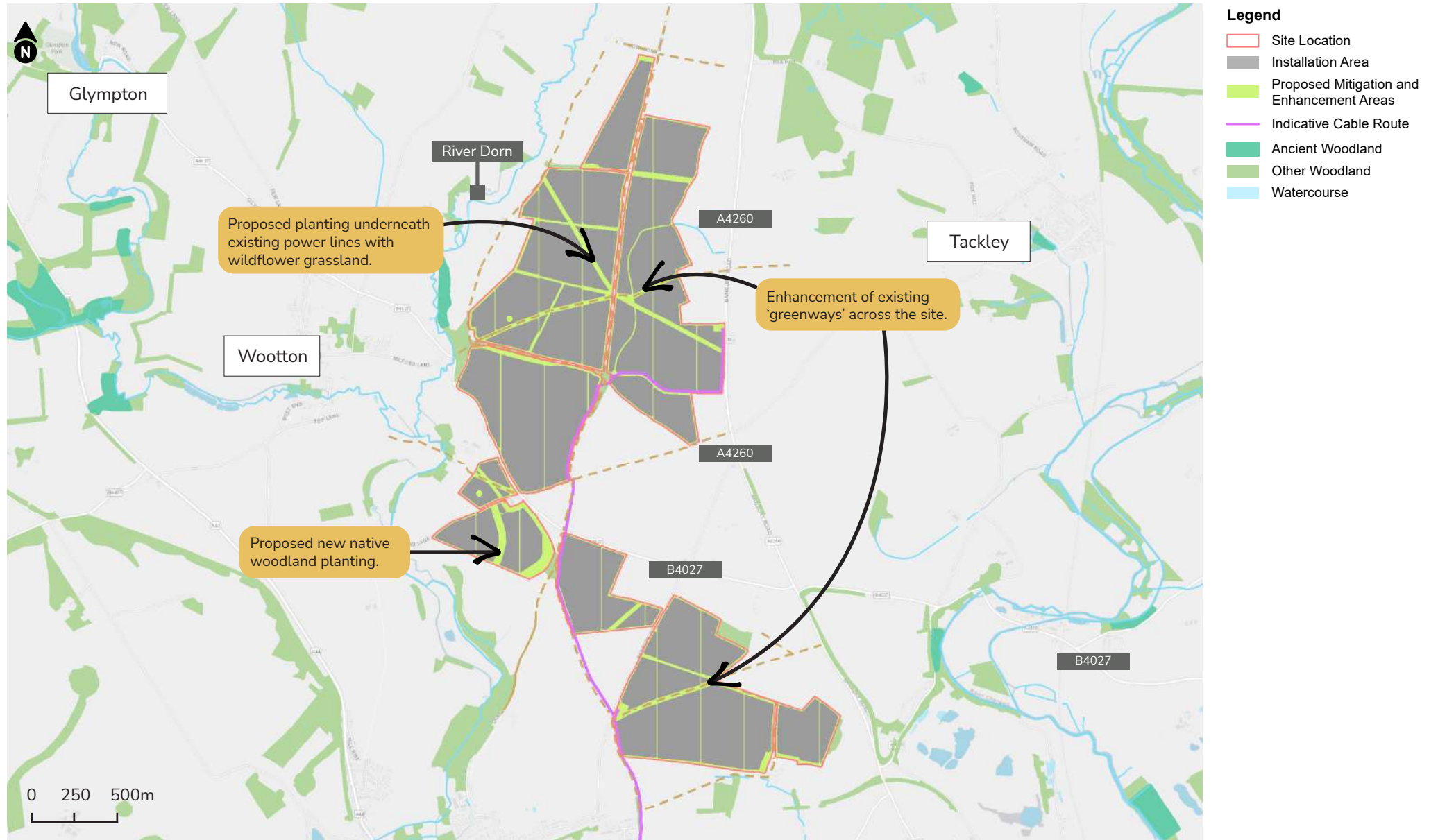


Provides the opportunity for continued agricultural use. This could include sheep grazing, bee keeping, allotments and community gardens.



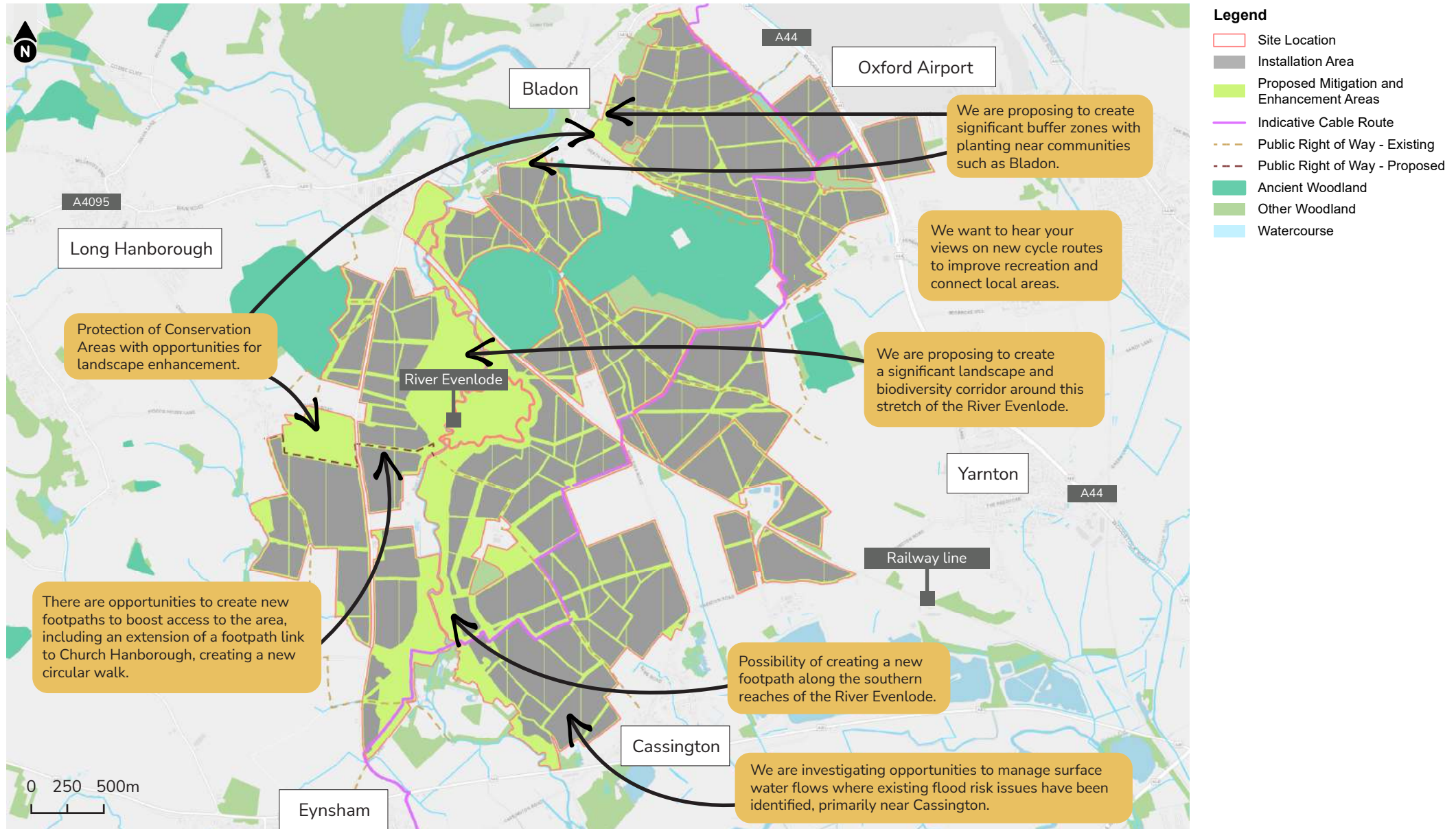
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## Our Proposals: Northern Site Area

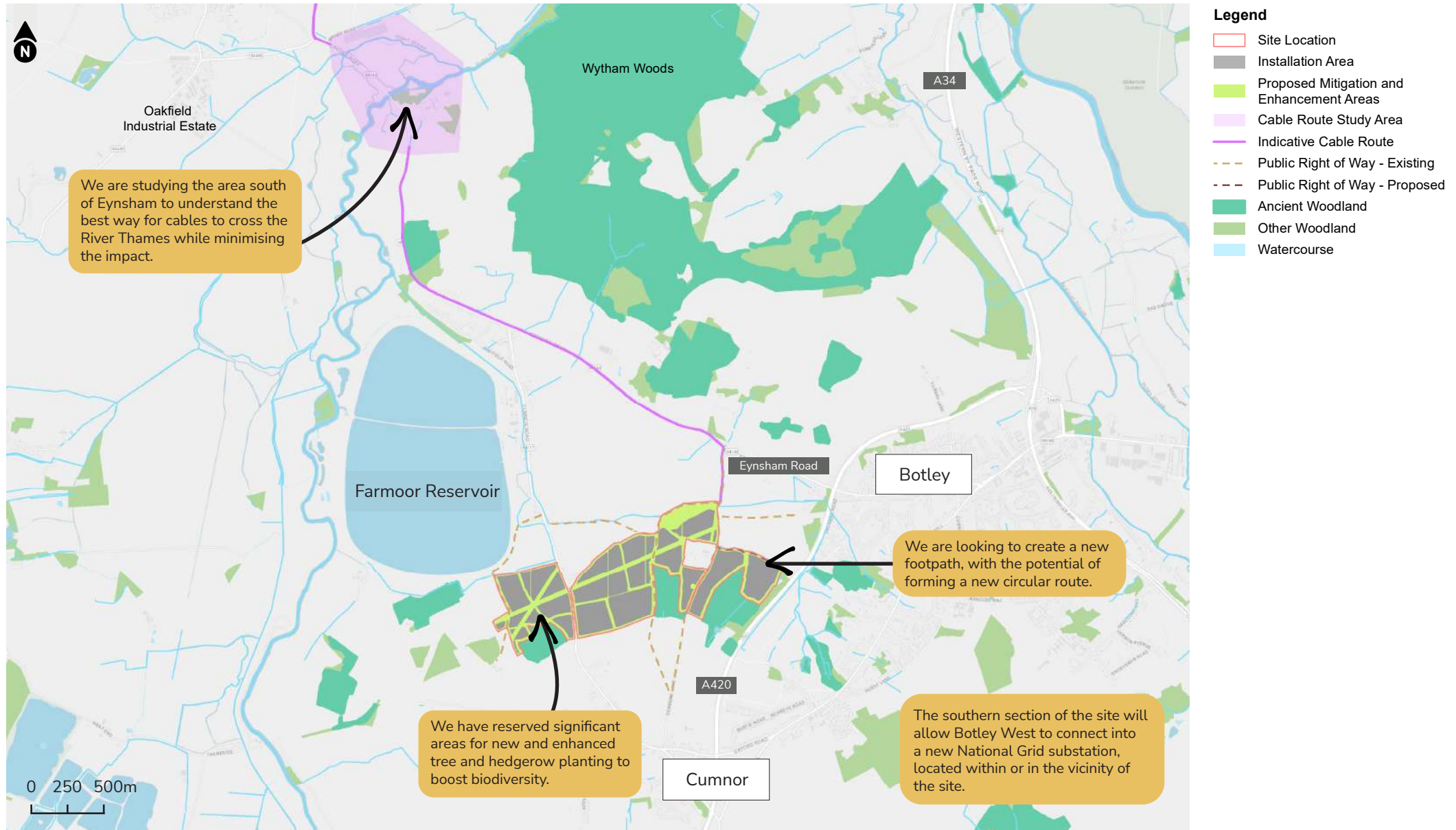




## Our Proposals: Middle Site Area



## Our Proposals: Southern Site Area



## The Planning Process

The amount of clean energy that could be produced by Botley West means that the solar farm is classed as a **Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)**.

Therefore, the development can only be authorised by submitting a Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Local councils play an important role as consultees in this process.

PINS will review the application and conduct a robust examination of the application before providing a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. The Secretary of State will then make the final decision on whether to grant the consent for the Botley West Solar Farm.

For our application to be accepted, we will need to demonstrate how we have properly assessed the environmental aspects of the scheme and that we have undertaken meaningful consultation with stakeholders and local communities.

You can read more about the DCO planning process by viewing the PINS website here: [infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process)

## Our Consultation Process

We will carry out at least two rounds of consultation with local communities and stakeholders as our proposals develop. We want your feedback to help us understand the most important issues to address and the best opportunities to explore.

This is our first phase of consultation on our initial proposals. We intend to hold a second phase next year, once we have more detailed designs and preliminary environmental information available.

Our second phase of consultation will include sharing the findings of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which will set out any identified potential environmental effects, and the mitigation measures that we will introduce to manage these.

In between rounds of consultation, we will continue to share information and be on hand to respond to enquiries to show how your feedback is shaping our proposals.

Ahead of our second phase of consultation, we will consult with your local planning authorities and publish a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), describing how we are engaging throughout the project, and how we will seek and collect your feedback to shape our proposals.



## Information Events

Please come and meet the team at one of our community information events.

These events will be an opportunity for you to view our early-stage proposals and directly discuss them with members of the project team. We encourage anyone with an interest in our proposals to come along. You are welcome to drop-in at any point during the opening hours.

Location	Date
<b>Woodstock Community Centre</b> New Road, OX20 1PB	<b>Saturday 19 November</b> 11am – 4pm
<b>Hanborough Pavilion &amp; Village Hall</b> Roosevelt Road, OX29 8JG	<b>Wednesday 23 November</b> 12.30 pm – 4.30pm
<b>Cassington Village Hall</b> The Green, OX29 4AX	<b>Friday 25 November</b> 1pm – 5pm
<b>Tackley Village Hall</b> Medcroft Road, OX5 3AH	<b>Saturday 26 November</b> 11am – 3pm
<b>Cumnor Village Hall</b> Leys Road, OX2 9QF	<b>Wednesday 30 November</b> 1.30pm – 5.30pm
<b>Community Webinar</b>	<b>Monday 5 December</b> 5.30pm – 7pm

Details on how to access our Community Webinar can be found on our website:  
[www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)

## Indicative Project Timeline

- **Autumn 2022** Phase One Community Consultation on initial proposals
- **Winter 2022/23** Scoping Report submitted to PINS
- **Winter 2022/23** Consultation with local authorities on draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)
- **Spring 2023** Phase Two Consultation on more detailed design proposals and Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)
- **Winter 2023** DCO application submission
- **2024** DCO examination process
- **Early 2025** Anticipated DCO decision from Secretary of State
- **Summer 2025** Start of Construction

All future dates are indicative and may change.

## Contact us



**Email:** [info@botleywest.co.uk](mailto:info@botleywest.co.uk)



**Freephone Information Line: 0808 175 3085**

Available Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Voicemails can be left outside of these hours



**Freepost: BWSF**

You will not need a stamp to send any correspondence to the freepost address



**Website:** [www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)

If anyone needs this document in large print, audio or braille formats, please contact us using the details above.

Please note that all graphics and maps in this document are for illustrative purposes.

## 4 Phase One Newspaper Advert

# Botley West Solar Farm



## Phase One Consultation

### Come and find out more about Botley West Solar Farm during our community information events.

Our team will be presenting our proposals for a new solar farm located in the west of Oxfordshire within the three administrative areas of West Oxfordshire, Cherwell and Vale of White Horse.

The Botley West Solar Farm team will be available to discuss the project and answer your questions at the events below:

Location	Date and time
Woodstock Community Centre New Road, OX20 1PB	Saturday 19 November 11am – 4pm
Hanborough Pavilion & Village Hall Roosevelt Road, OX29 8JG	Wednesday 23 November 12.30 pm – 4.30pm
Cassington Village Hall The Green, OX29 4AX	Friday 25 November 1pm – 5pm
Tackley Village Hall Medcroft Road, OX5 3AH	Saturday 26 November 11am – 3pm
Cumnor Village Hall Leys Road, OX2 9QF	Wednesday 30 November 1.30pm – 5.30pm
Community Webinar Online (via Zoom)	Monday 5 December 5.30pm – 7pm

Details on how to access our Community Webinar can be found on our website: [www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)

### If you have any questions about our community consultation, please get in touch using the communication lines below:



Email: [info@botleywest.co.uk](mailto:info@botleywest.co.uk)



Website: [www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)



Freepost: FREEPOST BWSF  
You do not need a stamp to send any correspondence to the Freepost address.



Freephone Information Line: 0808 175 3085  
Available Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm.  
Voicemails can be left outside of these hours.

## 5 Phase One Feedback Form



# Botley West Solar Farm



## Phase One Consultation Feedback Form

**Community Consultation: Thursday 03 November to Thursday 15 December 2022**

**We want to hear your thoughts on our proposals.**

You can provide your feedback using this form, through our consultation website, by contacting us by email, freephone or freepost:



Email: [info@botleywest.co.uk](mailto:info@botleywest.co.uk)



Freephone information line: 0808 175 3085



Freepost: FREEPOST BWSF

Please note that the deadline for the submission of feedback is Thursday 15 December 2022 (on or before this date).

**Please feel free to include additional sheets of paper alongside this form if you require more space to fully complete your answers fully. All feedback received will be considered.**

**You do not have to supply personal details, however, if you do it may help the project team to better understand your feedback, as well as allowing us to contact you regarding your feedback, if necessary. Your personal details will be stored in compliance with the GDPR by Counter Context, acting on behalf of the Botley West Solar Farm project team, and will not be shared with any third parties.**

## About you

Name:  Date:

Organisation: (if applicable)

Address:

Postcode:  Telephone:

E-mail address:

## Introduction

### 1) How would you describe your interest in Botley West Solar Farm?

Local resident

Local representative

Landowner

Local business owner

Regular visitor

Local interest group member (if so, please name)

Statutory organisation

Other (please specify):

**2) In principle, what is your view of installing ground-mounted solar infrastructure in the UK?**

I agree with the need to install ground-mounted solar infrastructure

I do not feel I understand enough about the need to install ground-mounted solar infrastructure

I do not agree there is a need to install ground-mounted solar infrastructure

**3) Our proposals for Botley West involve three main areas of land labelled as North, Middle and South on the map pictured here. We recognise, however, that you may be interested in a specific area of the project.**

**Please confirm the area(s) of our proposals to which your feedback applies:**

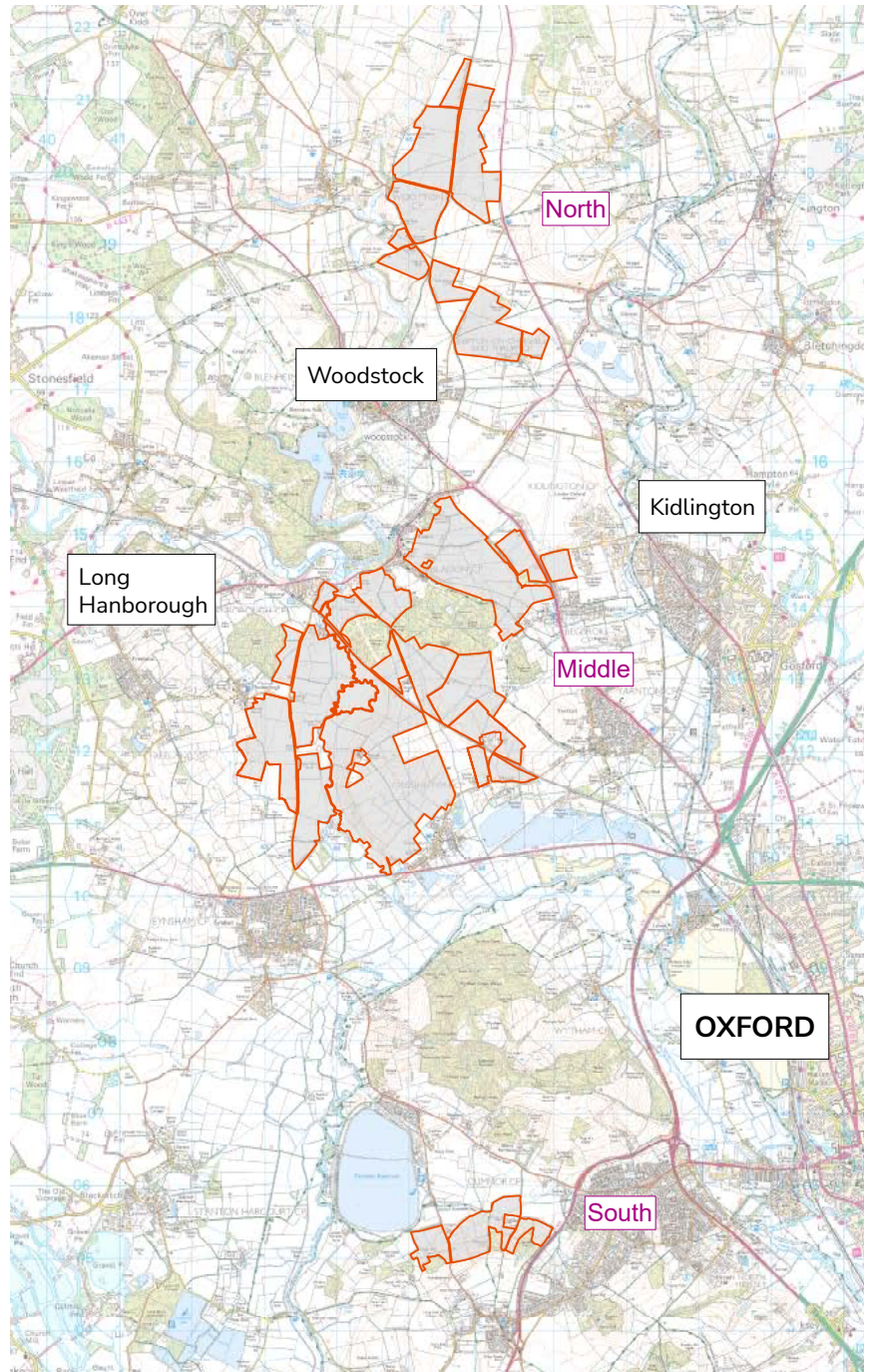
**(Please tick all areas that you are interested in.)**

All of Botley West Solar Farm

Northern Section

Middle Section

Southern Section



## Project specific feedback

### 4) Which aspects of the project are most important to you?

Our team will be developing the proposals for Botley West by considering a range of different topic areas. This will involve undertaking a thorough environmental assessment and exploring various mitigation measures and opportunities which could be delivered.

Please note that our initial proposals look to address these topics and are available to view in our Community Consultation Leaflet, on our website and at our information events.

In the following table, please tick the topic areas you consider to be most important. Please provide any additional comments on specific opportunities or issues you would like our team to consider.

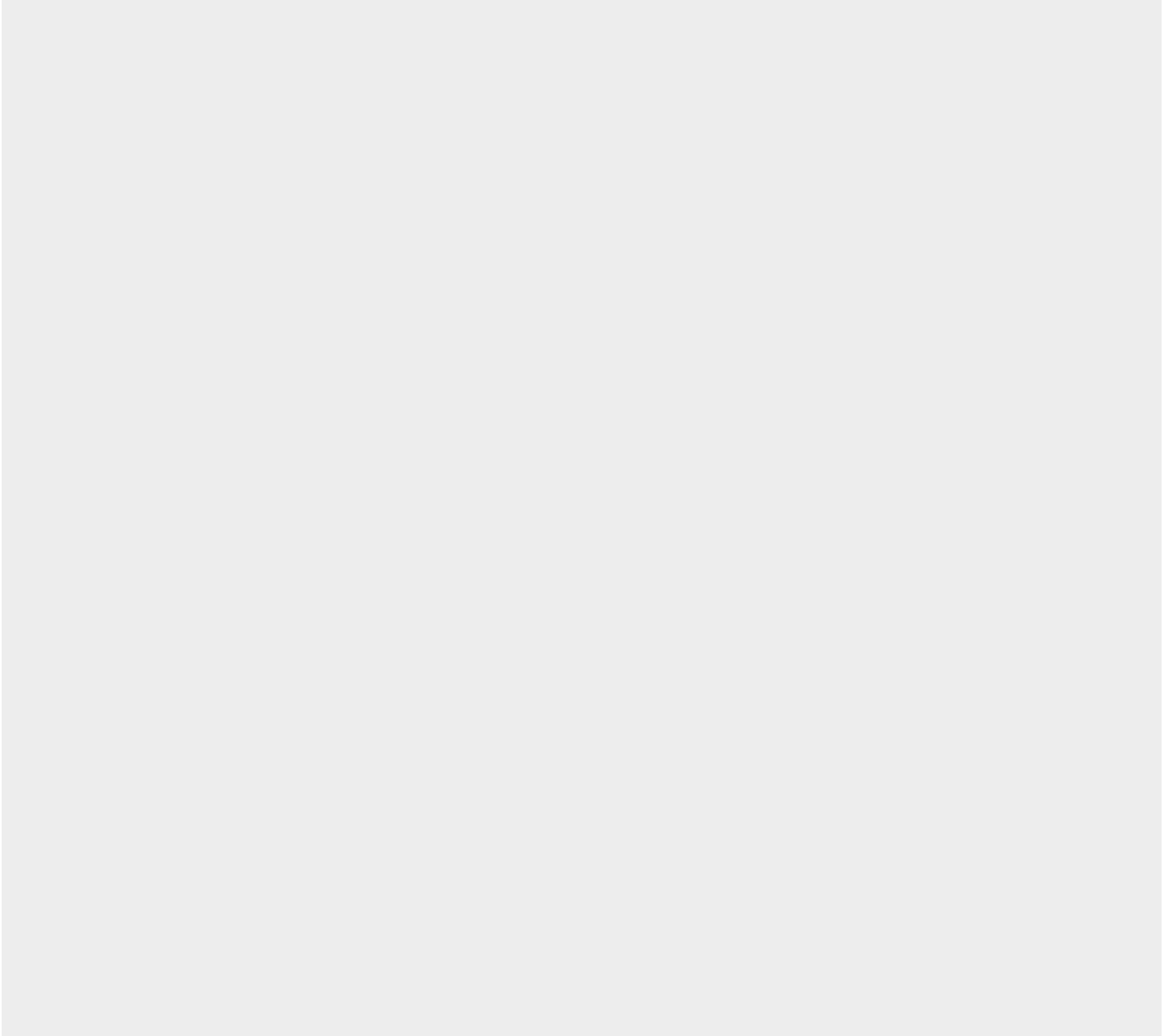
Tick box	Topic area	Further comments (please provide specific examples where possible)
	<p><b>Local ecology</b></p> <p>For example, please suggest opportunities to improve ecology and biodiversity across the site, and / or provide us with details of existing flora and fauna you would like us to consider.</p>	
	<p><b>Landscape and visual</b></p> <p>For example, please indicate any local public viewpoints particularly important to you or opportunities for improved public access you would like us to consider.</p>	
	<p><b>Archaeology and local heritage</b></p> <p>For example, please share any thoughts you have on how these proposals may interact with local sites and how best to share any findings from our investigations.</p>	
	<p><b>Traffic, access and construction</b></p> <p>For example, please indicate local routes or areas you think we need to consider when planning our construction works.</p>	

Tick box	Topic area	Further comments (please provide specific examples where possible)
	<p><b>Land use and agriculture</b></p> <p>For example, please provide any suggestions for how you think we can best use and manage the land during the operation of the solar farm.</p>	
	<p><b>Hydrology and flood risk</b></p> <p>For example, please let us know of any specific flood issues to consider in the area.</p>	
	<p><b>Recreation and amenity</b></p> <p>For example, please let us know of any areas of the site that are currently well used for recreation, and / or any further opportunities to improve public access across the site area. This could include new footpaths or cycle routes – please see our concept plans for details.</p>	
	<p><b>Supply Chain and Employment Opportunities</b></p> <p>For example, please let us know of opportunities you would like to see offered to local people and businesses during the construction and operation of Botley West.</p>	
	<p><b>Other (please detail)</b></p> <p>Please list any other key topics that you would like our team to consider.</p>	

**5) Please provide any suggestions for further initiatives or benefits.**

In addition to generating low carbon electricity, Botley West could provide further benefits to local communities. These could include improving public connectivity across the site, providing new wildlife habitats, or offering educational opportunities while it is operational.

Please let us know of any specific opportunities or initiatives that would like us to consider.



**6) Based on our early-stage proposals, what are your views on Botley West Solar Farm?**

I strongly support the proposals for Botley West

I support the proposals for Botley West, but would like changes to be made

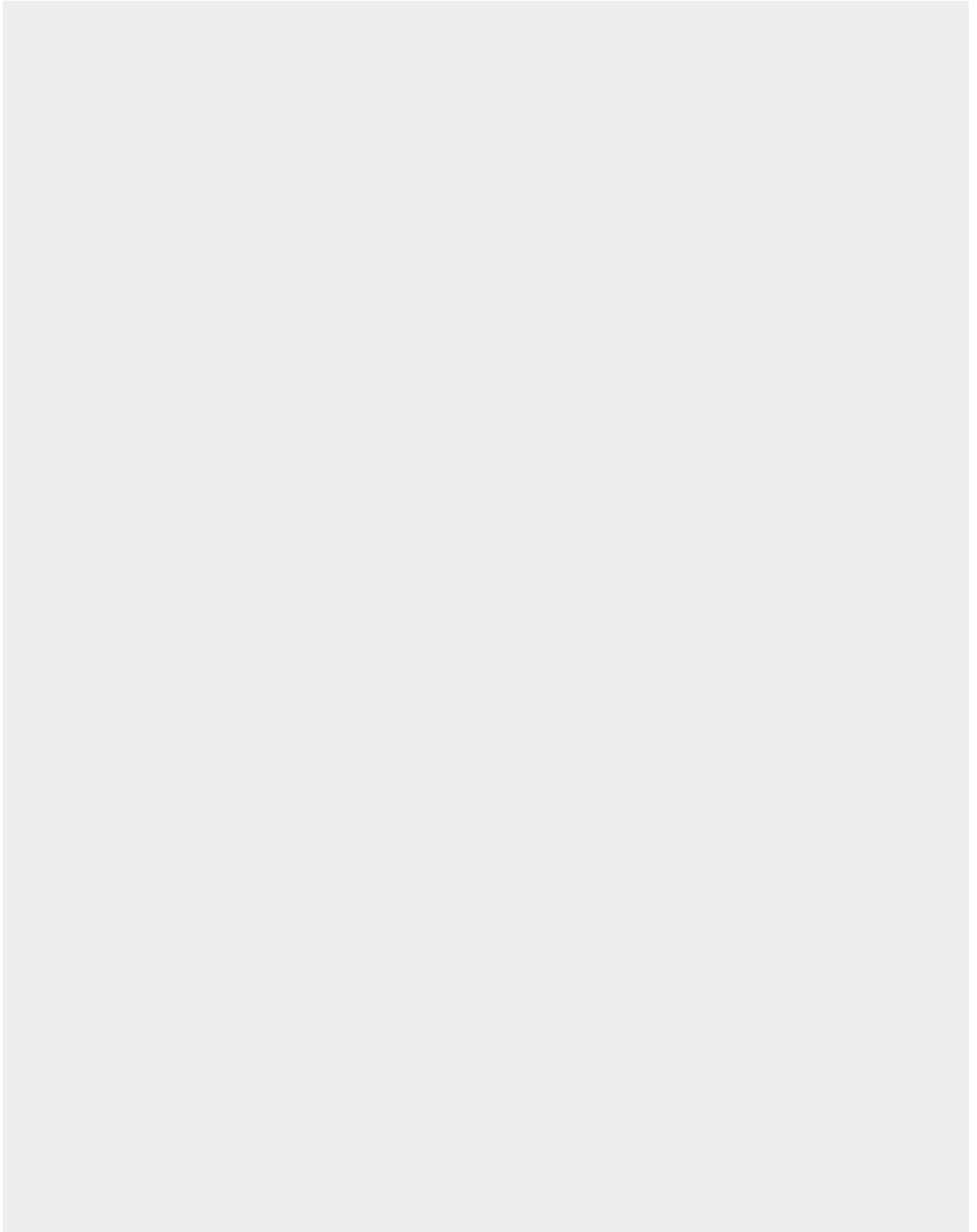
I am neither supportive nor unsupportive

I oppose the proposals for Botley West

I strongly oppose the proposals for Botley West

I need to see more detailed proposals to come to a judgement

**7) Please provide any further comments on our early-stage proposals for Botley West. If possible, please explain your answer to Q6.**



## Our consultation process

### 8) How did you find out about this consultation?

I received a leaflet

I saw it advertised  
in the media

Word of mouth

Other (please specify):

### 9) Have you attended one of our information events?

Yes

No (*find out about our consultation events or  
virtual exhibition at [www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)*)

### 10) Do you prefer to view information online (e.g. our website) or in person (e.g. at our events)?

Online

In-person

A combination of both

### 11) How informative have you found the materials we have shared as part of this first phase of consultation?

Very informative

Quite informative

Not informative

No opinion

### 12) Is there anything you would like us to consider for future consultations?

### 13) Would you like us to keep you updated?

Please let us know if you agree for us to contact you with any future updates regarding the project. This may include sharing the results of this phase of consultation with you and notifying you of any future consultation opportunities.

If you agree to being contacted, please provide your postal and/or email address in the 'About you' section of this feedback form and confirm your preferred contact method below.

Post

Email

---

## What happens next?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form and provide us with your feedback.

Our team will be working hard to consider all of the comments received during this first phase of consultation.

Feedback will be considered alongside our ongoing environmental assessments and technical design work. Collectively, this will inform our updated proposals for Botley West.

We will be carrying out a further consultation next year, once we have developed our proposals and we have more detailed information to share.

---

## Get in touch

To return your completed feedback form, put the form in an envelope and address it to: FREEPOST BWSF. You will not need a stamp.

Alternatively, you can answer the same questions via our website:  
[www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk).

You can contact our team by:



**Emailing: [info@botleywest.co.uk](mailto:info@botleywest.co.uk)**



**Calling our Freephone information line: 0808 175 3085**



**Writing to: FREEPOST BWSF**

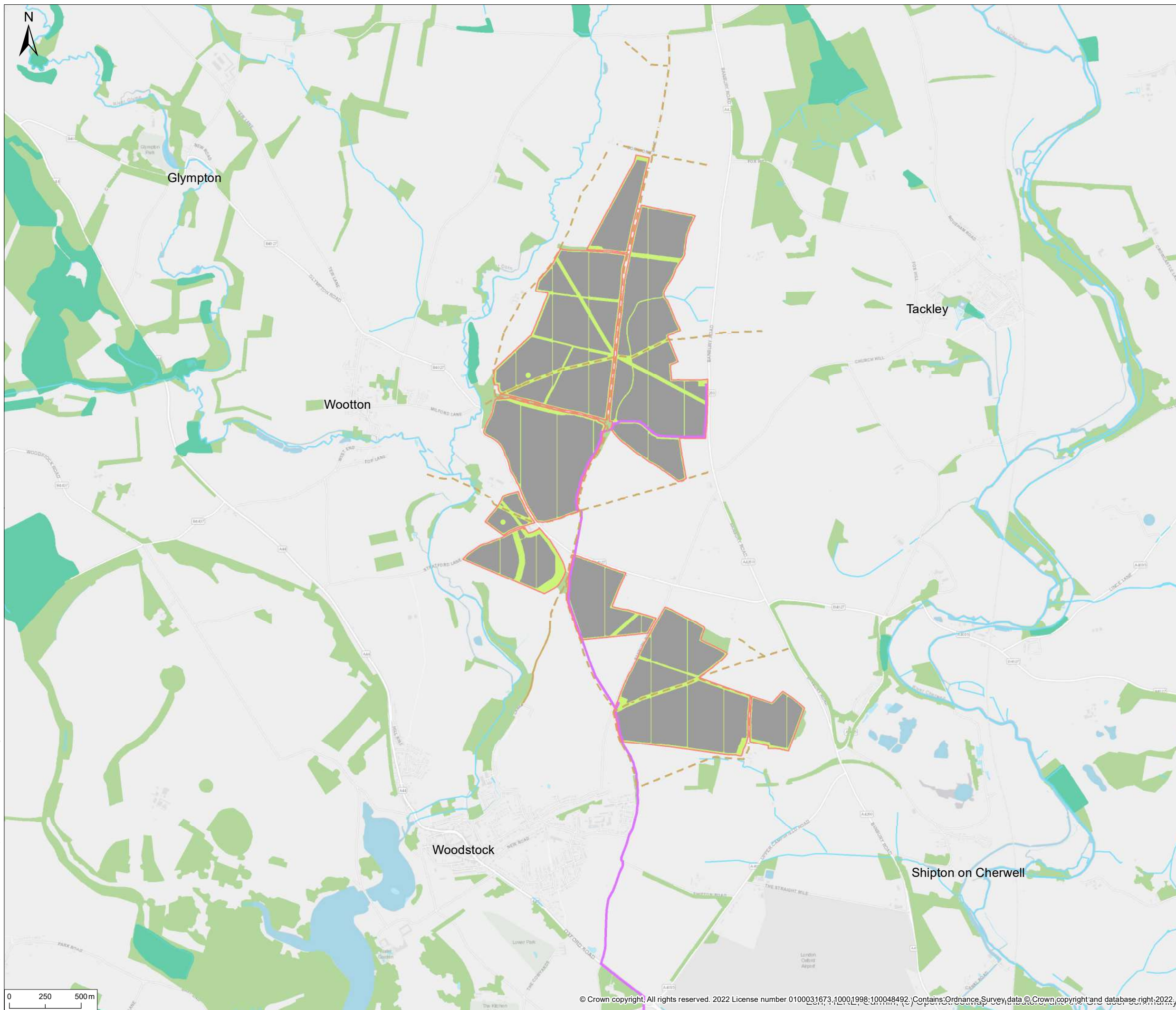


**Visiting our website: [www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)**

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## 6 Phase One Consultation Concept Plan



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 Notes  
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 2. If received electronically it is the recipient's responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

- Legend**
- Site Location
  - Installation Area
  - Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Areas
  - Cable Route Study Area
  - Indicative Cable Route
  - Public Right of Way - Existing
  - Public Right of Way - Proposed
  - Ancient Woodland
  - Other Woodland
  - Watercourse

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date

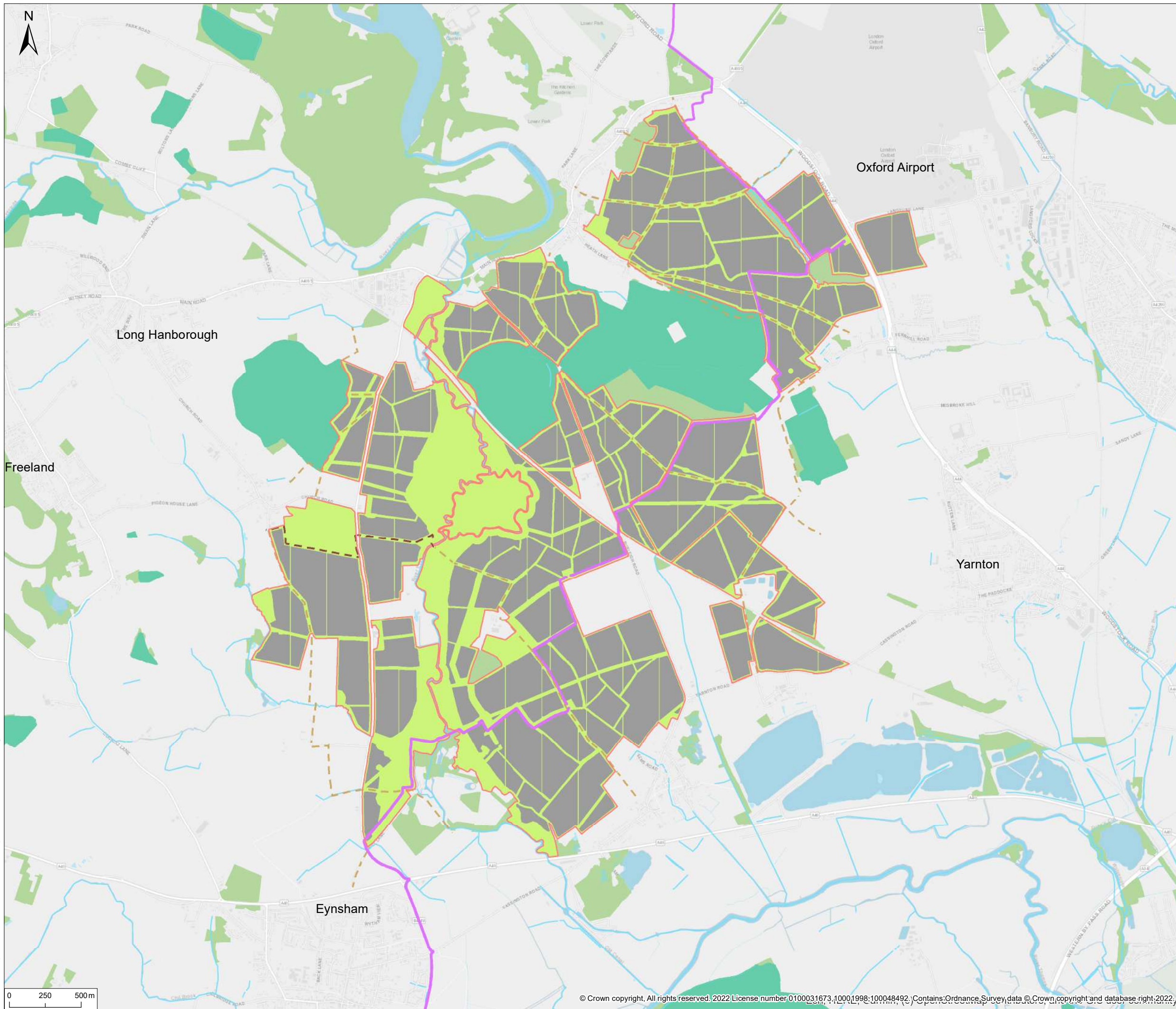


Client -  
 Project **Botley West Solar Farm**  
 Title **Concept Plan - North**

Status **DRAFT**      Drawn By **JM**      PM/Checked By **CL**  
 Project Number **OXF12426**      Scale @ A3 **1:25,000**      Date Created **OCT 2022**

Figure Number **1**      Rev **-**

O:112426 Proposed DCO Scale Solar Development 860mw\Tech\Drawings\12426-0025-05.mxd



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- Legend**
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  - Indicative Cable Route
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  - Ancient Woodland
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  - Watercourse

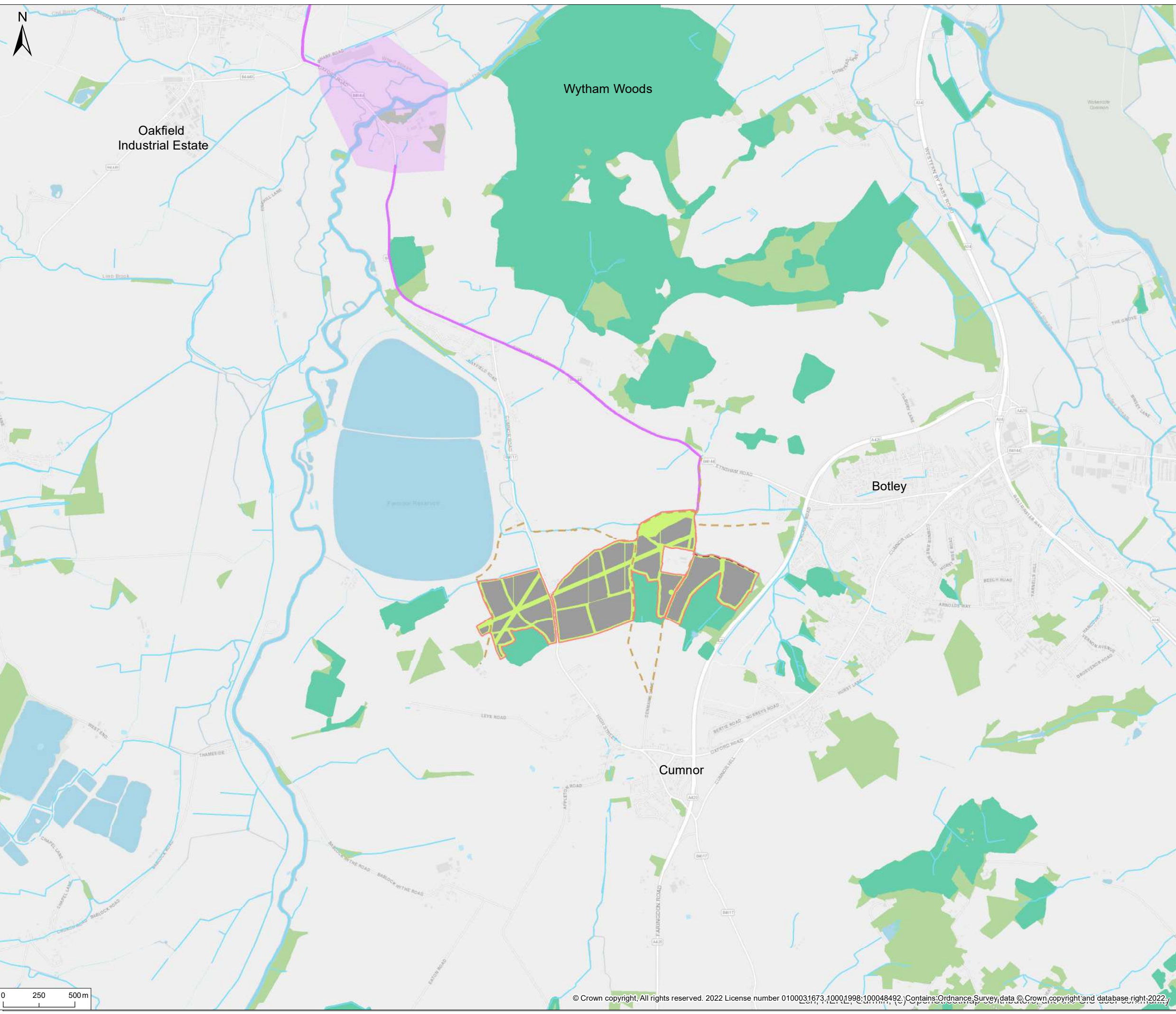
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -  
 Project **Botley West Solar Farm**  
 Title **Concept Plan - Middle**

Status <b>DRAFT</b>	Drawn By <b>JM</b>	PM/Checked By <b>CL</b>
Project Number <b>OXF12426</b>	Scale @ A3 <b>1:25,000</b>	Date Created <b>OCT 2022</b>
Figure Number <b>1</b>		Rev <b>-</b>

O:\12426 Proposed DCO Scale Solar Development 860mw\Tech\Drawings\12426-0025-05.mxd



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- Legend**
- Site Location
  - Installation Area
  - Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Areas
  - Cable Route Study Area
  - Indicative Cable Route
  - Public Right of Way - Existing
  - Public Right of Way - Proposed
  - Ancient Woodland
  - Other Woodland
  - Watercourse

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



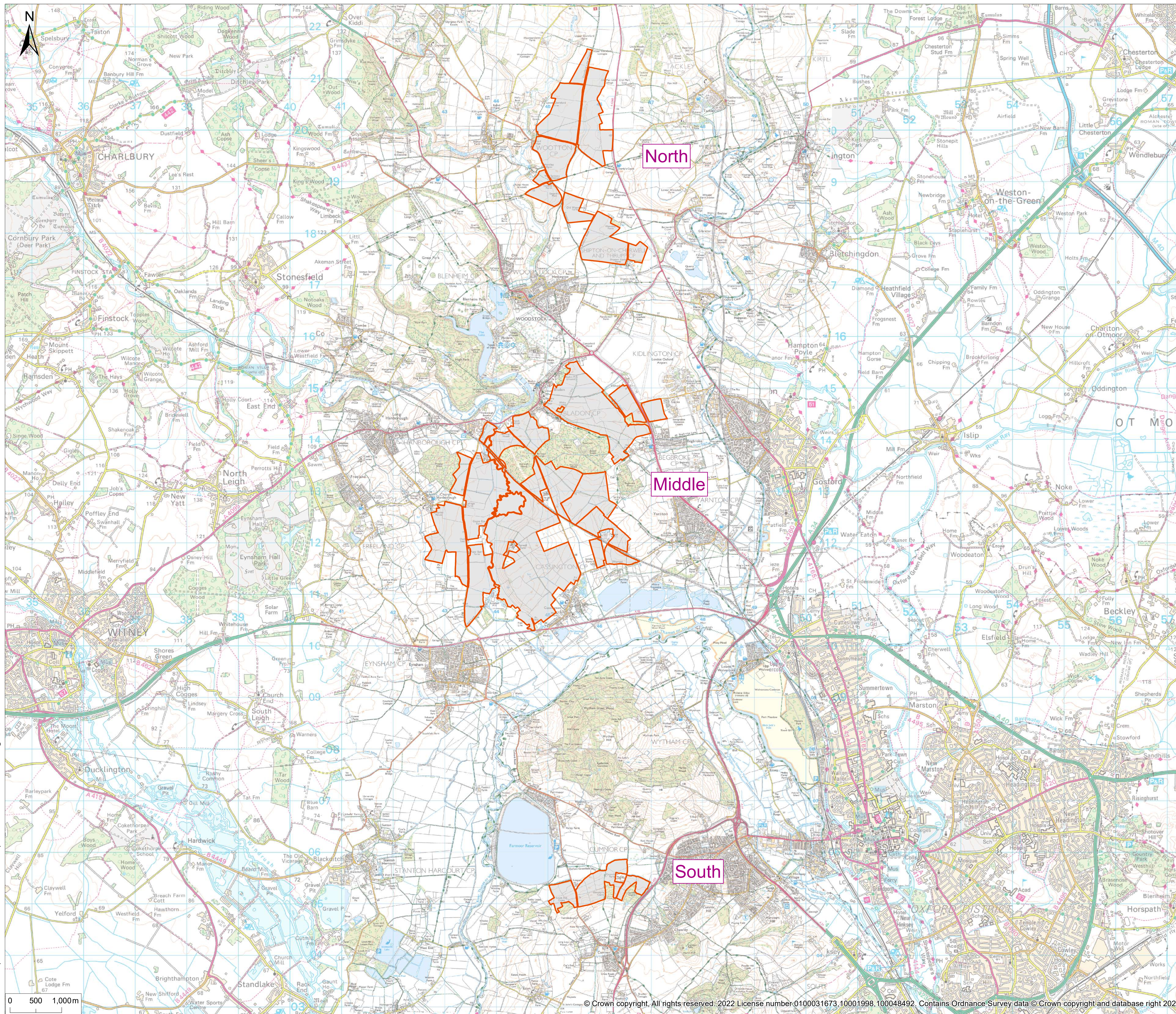
Client -  
 Project **Botley West Solar Farm**  
 Title **Concept Plan - South**

Status **DRAFT**      Drawn By **JM**      PM/Checked By **CL**  
 Project Number **OXF12426**      Scale @ A3 **1:25,000**      Date Created **OCT 2022**

Figure Number **1**      Rev **-**

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## 7 Phase One Site Location Plan



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**Legend**  
 Site Location

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -  
 Project Botley West Solar Farm  
 Title Site Location Plan Overview  
 Status **DRAFT** Drawn By JM PM/Checked By CD  
 Project Number OXF12426 Scale @ A1 1:35,000 Date Created OCT 2022  
 Figure Number **1** Rev -

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## 8 Phase One Information Event Boards



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# Welcome to our information event

Thank for attending today's event. Please have a look around and speak to members of our team. Remember to please fill in a feedback form so that we can record your feedback.



Scan the QR code to view our online feedback form.



**PHOTOVOLT**  
**DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

---

## Who We Are

Photovolt Development Partners (PVDP) is a developer of solar power projects. We have an 18-year track-record of delivering large-scale solar projects in Europe and Japan.

Our approach is to design solar projects and manage these from inception, generation, and through to decommissioning.





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# Botley West Solar Farm

We are proposing a new solar farm in the west of Oxfordshire called **Botley West Solar Farm**.

Our aim is to deliver a significant amount clean, home-grown energy alongside improvements to the local environment and biodiversity.

## Our project at a glance:



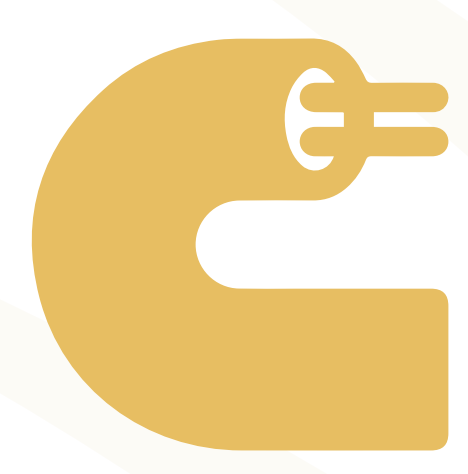
A new solar farm which could provide up to 840 MW of clean, affordable power to the National Grid.



Botley West Solar Farm could generate enough clean, affordable, electricity to power the equivalent of 330,000 households. For context, that's enough to power every home in Oxfordshire.



The project covers three main sites across the administrative areas of Cherwell, West Oxfordshire, and the Vale of White Horse.



New underground cables to connect the three site areas.



Located on approximately 1400 hectares of land, our initial proposals show approximately 1000 hectares being used for solar panels and other equipment, leaving significant areas for mitigation and enhancements for the local landscape, wildlife and recreational use.

## Why Botley West?

Botley West Solar Farm will connect into a new National Grid substation, proposed to be built and located west of Botley, hence the name Botley West.

Electricity will be supplied through a connection to a new National Grid substation, which will link to the existing Walham – Cowley 400kV overhead line.

# The Location

We are developing proposals on land within the administrative areas of West Oxfordshire, Cherwell and Vale of White Horse.

There are a number of different factors that have determined the location of Botley West.

## The demand for electricity

We want to generate energy close to where it is needed and where there is capacity to connect to the National Grid.

National Grid is investing in reinforcing and extending the grid network in the area, partly in response to Oxfordshire's fast-growing economy.

## The site

A core design principle is that we want Botley West to blend into the landscape as much as possible, and the three site areas allow for this. We are able to design the project around existing landscape features that will help screen the solar panels and we do not intend to remove any hedgerows, trees or woodland.

Botley West presents a fantastic opportunity to bring about environmental gains in Oxfordshire. Botley West provides the opportunity to increase the variety and value of wildlife habitats, delivering a net gain for biodiversity.

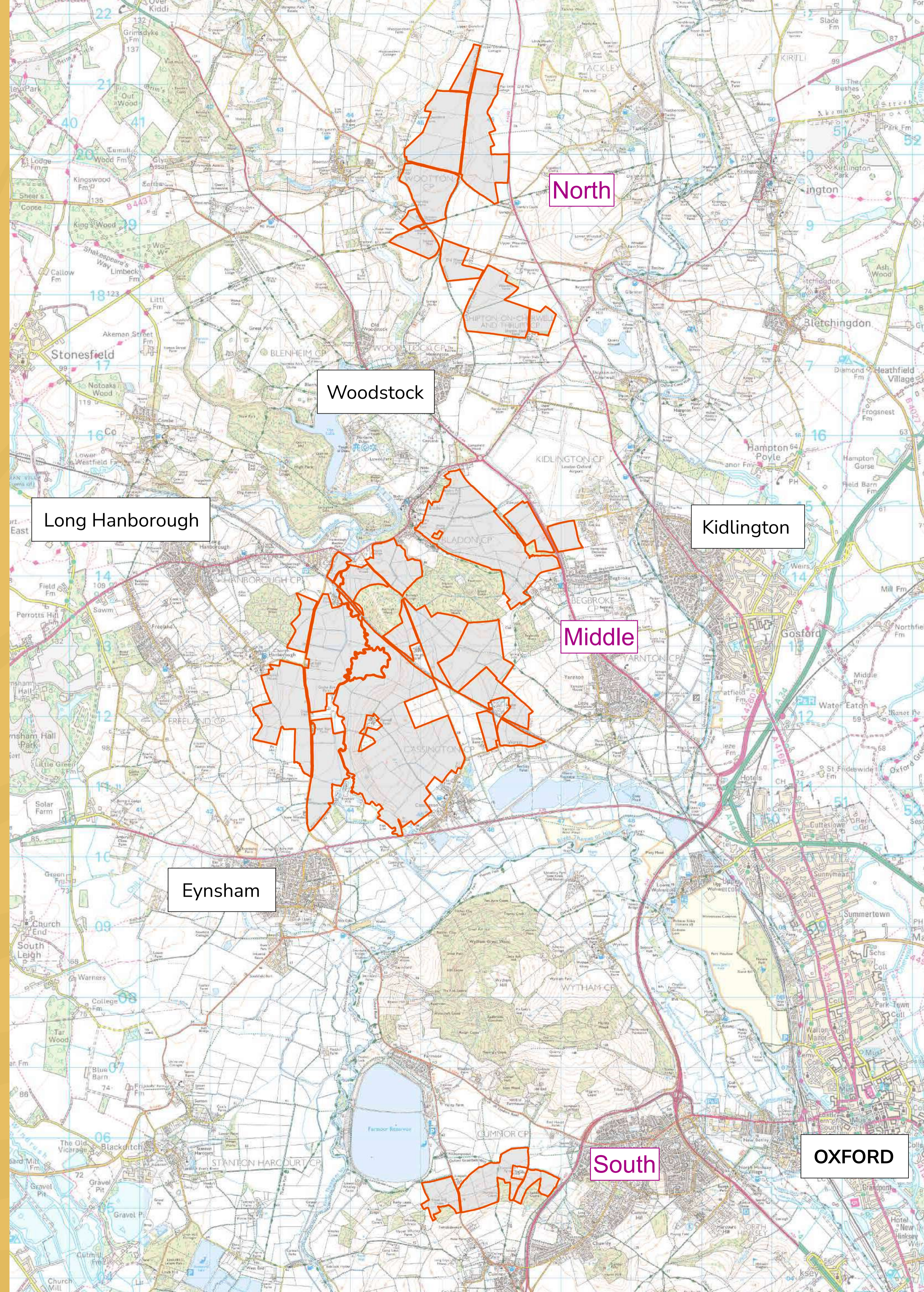
## Available land

Botley West presents a great opportunity to work with supportive landowners with long-standing connections to the local area. By working with these landowners, Botley West will be developed to align with their long-term strategies for sustainably managing their estates.

## Contributing to Oxfordshire's Bold Climate Targets

Ambitious climate targets<sup>1</sup> have been set at both the national and local level, with Oxfordshire Authorities leading the charge with their climate goals. Botley West will make a significant contribution towards achieving these.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/sites/default/files/uploads/Oxfordshire%20Energy%20Strategy.pdf>

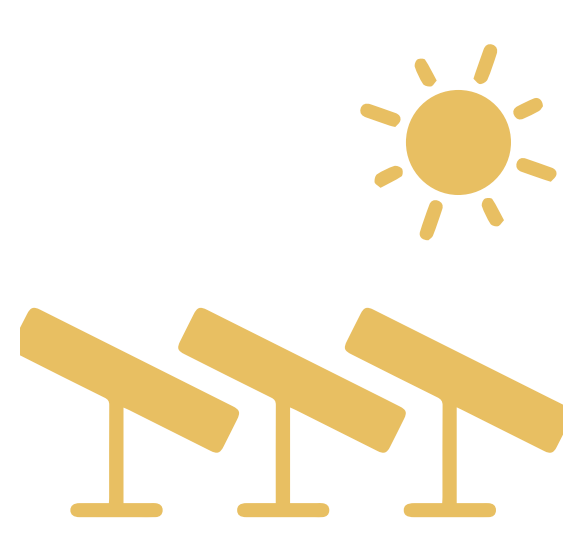


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# The opportunity

We are proposing a new solar farm in the west of Oxfordshire called **Botley West Solar Farm**.

Our aim is to deliver a significant amount clean, home-grown energy alongside improvements to the local environment and biodiversity.



## Fighting climate change

Botley West will contribute to **decarbonising** our electricity, significantly helping to deliver Oxfordshire's **transition to net-zero** by **removing 14.4 million tonnes<sup>1</sup>** of carbon over its operational lifetime.



## Securing our energy supply

Botley West will deliver **secure homegrown power** directly to the National Grid, helping to reduce our reliance on imported energy.



## Providing affordable, low-carbon energy

Botley West could generate enough low-cost, clean and renewable electricity to power approximately **330,000 homes<sup>2</sup>**.



## Supporting Oxfordshire's ambitious climate targets

Botley West will lead the way in **achieving Oxfordshire's Energy Strategy<sup>3</sup>** agreed target of a 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030, and 100% net zero carbon emissions by 2050.



## Boosting biodiversity and respecting the local environment

Botley West will add to Oxfordshire's biodiversity by helping to **protect, rebuild and create new habitats** on land currently used for agriculture.



## Contributing to Oxfordshire's economy

Botley West will provide **supply chain and employment opportunities** during the construction and operational phases.



## Protecting the land

Following the end of Botley West's operation, the solar installation will be removed, and the site can be returned to agricultural use.

<sup>1</sup>Based on Solar Trade Association's statistic that for every 5 MW installed, a solar farm will save 2,150 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>

<sup>2</sup>You can see how we calculated this figure on our website

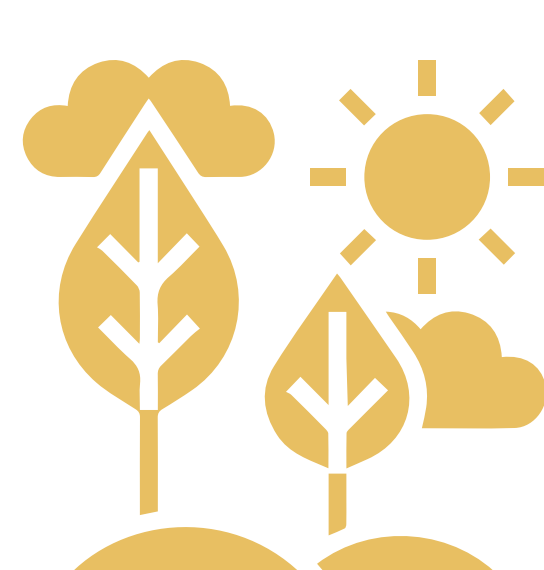
<sup>3</sup><https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/sites/default/files/uploads/Oxfordshire%20Energy%20Strategy.pdf>

---

# Our Proposals

There are a number of design principles that we are intending to incorporate into the design across the site. This will help avoid or mitigate any adverse environmental effects and provide a framework for enhancement too.

## Our design principles intend for:



Botley West to blend in with the local area.



Botley West to be developed in a way that respects existing wildlife, heritage assets and other important natural features.



Botley West to include opportunities for the local community, environment and wildlife.



Botley West to make a vital and timely contribution to our transition towards a renewable, reliable and homegrown energy supply.

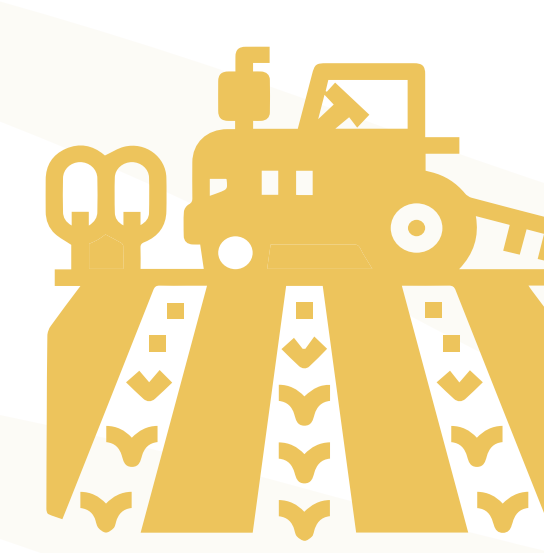
## Our design principles intend to:



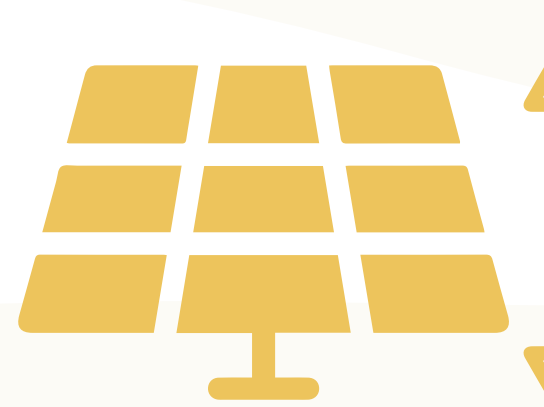
Seek to avoid adverse impacts on designated heritage assets.



Retain existing field patterns, protect existing trees, hedgerows and woodland and we will also enhance existing landscape and ecological features, by reinforcement and new planting.



Provide the opportunity for continued agricultural use. This could include sheep grazing, bee keeping, new allotments as well as the provision of community gardens.



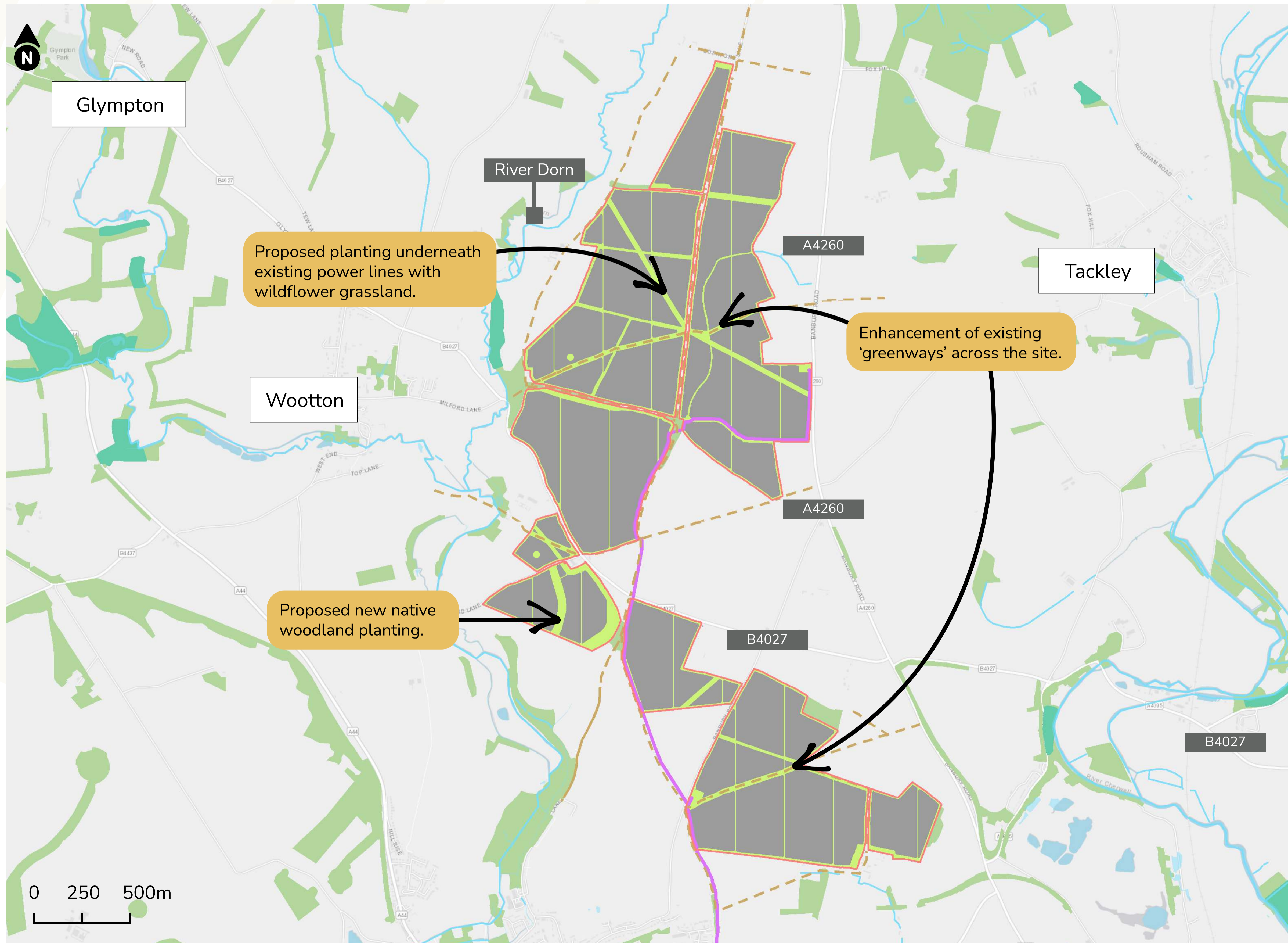
Assume that the height of the panels we intend to use will be between 1.8 metres and 2.5 metres, keeping the height of the panels as low as possible whilst allowing opportunities for sheep grazing.



Apply 5-10 metre buffers away from existing trees, hedgerows and woodland, and a 15-metre buffer from ancient woodland areas.

Will be designed so that panels are set back to avoid areas close to roads, nearby properties and other sensitive receptors.

# Our Proposals: Northern Site Area



## Legend

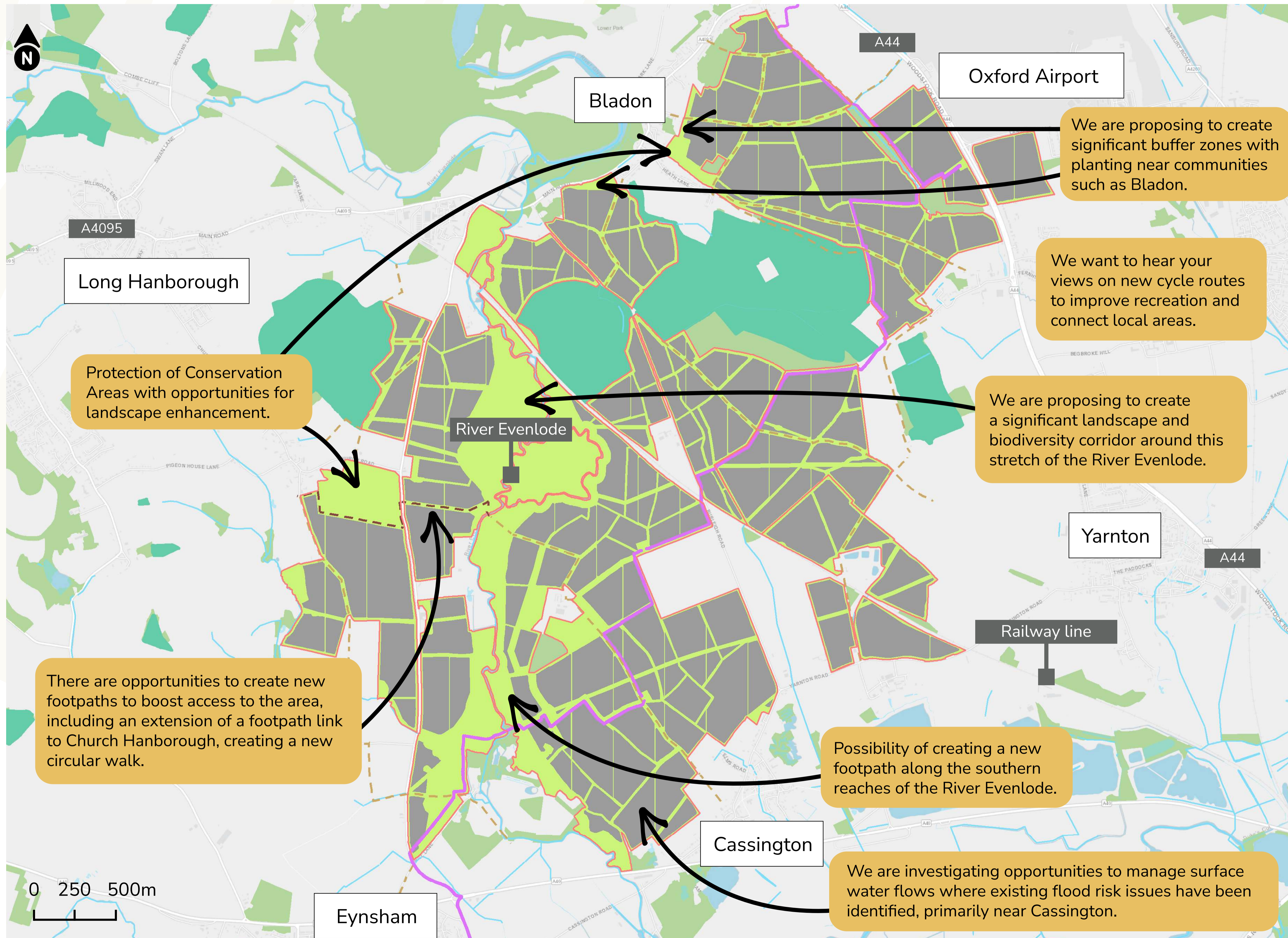
- Site Location
- Installation Area
- Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Areas
- Indicative Cable Route
- Ancient Woodland
- Other Woodland
- Watercourse

Proposed planting underneath existing power lines with wildflower grassland.

Enhancement of existing 'greenways' across the site.

Proposed new native woodland planting.

# Our Proposals: Middle Site Area

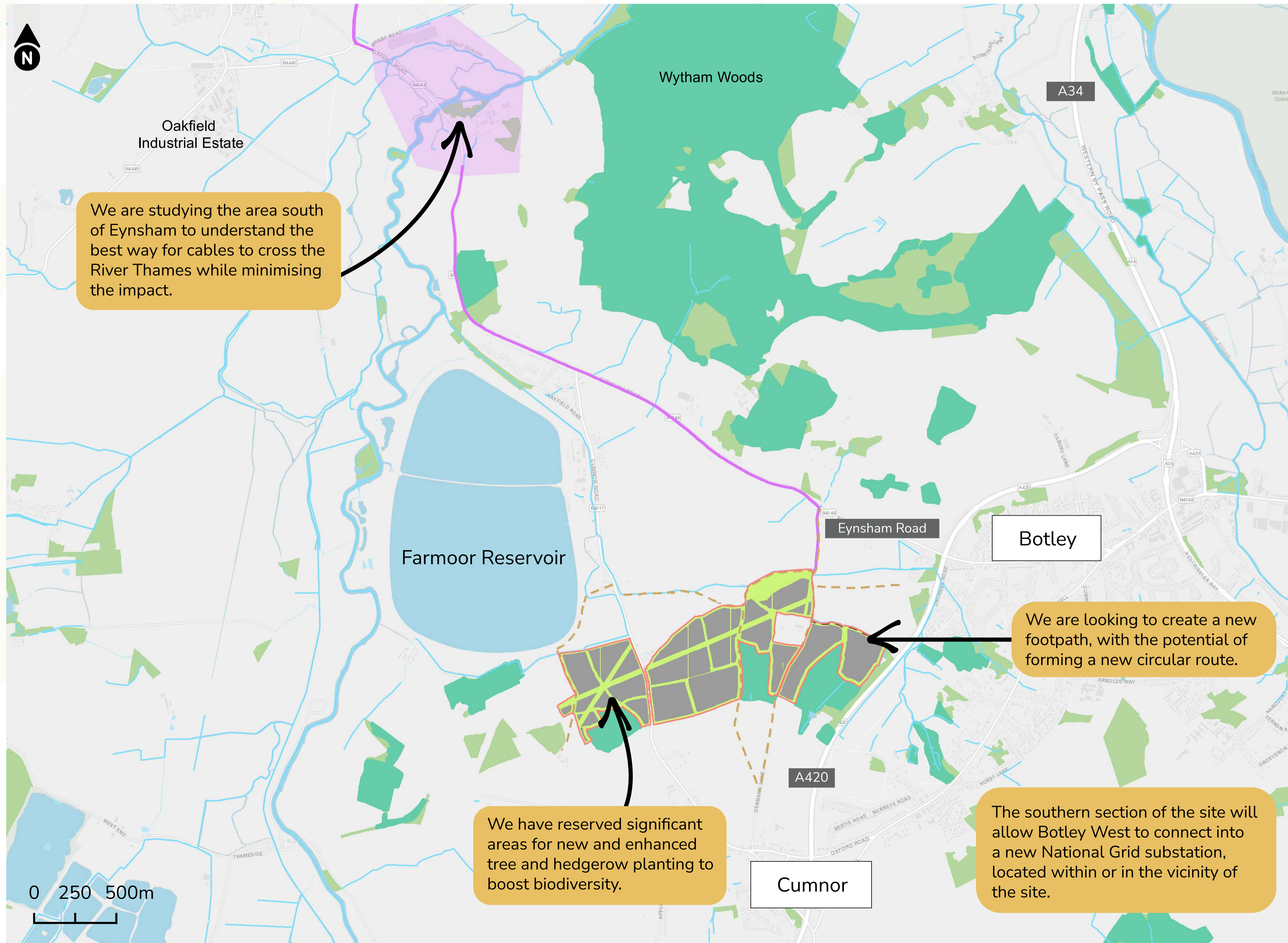


## Legend

- Site Location
- Installation Area
- Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Areas
- Indicative Cable Route
- Public Right of Way - Existing
- Public Right of Way - Proposed
- Ancient Woodland
- Other Woodland
- Watercourse

0 250 500m

# Our Proposals: Southern Site Area



## Legend

- Site Location
- Installation Area
- Proposed Mitigation and Enhancement Areas
- Cable Route Study Area
- Indicative Cable Route
- Public Right of Way - Existing
- Public Right of Way - Proposed
- Ancient Woodland
- Other Woodland
- Watercourse

We are studying the area south of Eynsham to understand the best way for cables to cross the River Thames while minimising the impact.

We are looking to create a new footpath, with the potential of forming a new circular route.

We have reserved significant areas for new and enhanced tree and hedgerow planting to boost biodiversity.

The southern section of the site will allow Botley West to connect into a new National Grid substation, located within or in the vicinity of the site.


---

# Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be undertaken for Botley West Solar Farm. Through this process we will be able to identify and develop appropriate ways of mitigating potential impacts caused by the project, as well as identify potential opportunities and enhancements to explore.

The EIA consists of environmental surveys such as:

- Local ecology and wildlife
- Landscape and visual
- Archeology and local heritage
- Traffic, access and construction
- Air quality
- Hydrology and flood risk
- Climate change
- Noise and vibration
- Land use and agriculture
- Socio-economics

A photograph showing a solar farm with rows of solar panels in a green field. Several sheep are grazing in the foreground. The background features a line of trees under a cloudy sky.

The preliminary findings of the environmental surveys and assessment will be presented within the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) that will be made available during our Phase Two consultation, which we intend to hold in the Spring or early summer of 2023.



# Important environmental considerations

## Agricultural land use

We recognise the importance of agricultural land and we are developing our plans to manage potential impacts.

Our proposals present an opportunity to improve the condition of agriculture and land quality within the site area, as well as increasing the amount of carbon stored in soils.

Through ongoing environmental and technical assessments, we are working to fully understand the current condition of the land and soil quality. This includes working with local farmers and landowners, to find ways to incorporate relevant land management and farming practices.

Our findings will help us to develop our proposals for the solar farm.

## Climate change

Botley West will deliver national benefits by making a material contribution to the UK's climate policy targets.

We will be assessing carbon emissions associated with the project's construction, including when it comes to selecting supply chains, equipment and materials.

We are undertaking holistic assessments of the impacts Botley West will have on the climate crisis, accounting for periods of construction, operation, and decommissioning. This is to ensure that the development will be fit for purpose and able to withstand a changing climate, maximising how effective it will be in the combat against climate change.

## Ecology

The UK has experienced great losses in biodiversity since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution – it is our aim to secure net gains.

Botley West is committed to delivering a biodiversity net gain by delivering significant mitigation and enhancement measures, with the aim of these measures benefiting the site during and after the operation of the solar farm.

As well as maintaining – and where possible reinforcing – existing features such as trees and hedgerows, Botley West could:

- Create new habitat areas for a number of different species, such as wetlands, woodlands and hedgerows.
- Create a significant landscape and biodiversity corridor along the River Evenlode.
- Protect Conservation Areas, with opportunities for landscape and biodiversity enhancement.

# Important environmental considerations

## Hydrology

We are undertaking assessments to fully understand the current risk of flooding across the site area. We will ensure that any critical electrical infrastructure is located in a low flood risk area.

Our proposals will include mitigation measures to ensure we are not increasing the risk of flooding. We will also be considering opportunities for Botley West to help manage existing issues, such as identified flood risk around Cassington.

This will involve working hand-in-hand with our ecological mitigation and enhancement plans, with the aim of aligning biodiversity enhancements with reducing wider flood risk.

## Recreational and economic opportunities

Botley West presents a fantastic opportunity to deliver new recreational opportunities.

There are a number of ways we could achieve this within the site, including by creating nature and education trails that highlight historical areas and habitats.

Outside the site area, Botley West will deliver supply chain and employment opportunities. We want to promote jobs locally and encourage collaboration across a number of suppliers.

## Landscape

A core design principle for Botley West is for it to blend into the landscape. We are seeking to mitigate potential impacts and complement the existing landscape where possible. The solar panels will be between 1.8 metres and 2.5 metres in height to allow for sheep grazing beneath, and this scale of developed can effectively be screened by carefully positioned new planting, the strengthening of existing, plus effective landscape management.

We are looking to work with the existing trees, hedgerows and woodland to shield the solar development from view. We will also plant new trees and hedges where necessary. This allows Botley West to integrate into its surroundings and create a biodiversity rich landscape.

We are also seeking to increase accessibility and connectivity across the site area and beyond by connection existing rights of way and introducing new ones.

---

# The planning and consultation process

The amount of clean energy that could be produced by Botley West means that the solar farm is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

Therefore, PVDP will submit an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), who act on behalf of the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Local councils will play an important role as consultees in this process.

For our application to be accepted, we will need to demonstrate how we have properly assessed the environmental aspects of the scheme and that we have undertaken meaningful consultation with stakeholders and local communities.

We will carry out at least two rounds of consultation with local communities as our proposals. We want your feedback to help us understand the most important issues to address and the best opportunities to explore.

Our second phase of consultation will include sharing the findings of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which will set out any significant environmental effects, and the mitigation measures that we will introduce to manage these.



All future dates are indicative and may change.

---

# Have Your Say

We want to hear your feedback on Botley West Solar Farm.

Our phase one consultation is running for six weeks, between Thursday 03 November and 15 December 2022.

To have your say, you can:

- Complete our online feedback form at [www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk)
- Return a written feedback form or letter to FREEPOST BWSF. You do not require a stamp.
- Tell us your comments via email at [info@botleywest.co.uk](mailto:info@botleywest.co.uk)

All information regarding Botley West Solar Farm can be found on our website [www.botleywest.co.uk](http://www.botleywest.co.uk).

To find out more, please contact a member of our team using any of our communications lines:



[info@botleywest.co.uk](mailto:info@botleywest.co.uk)



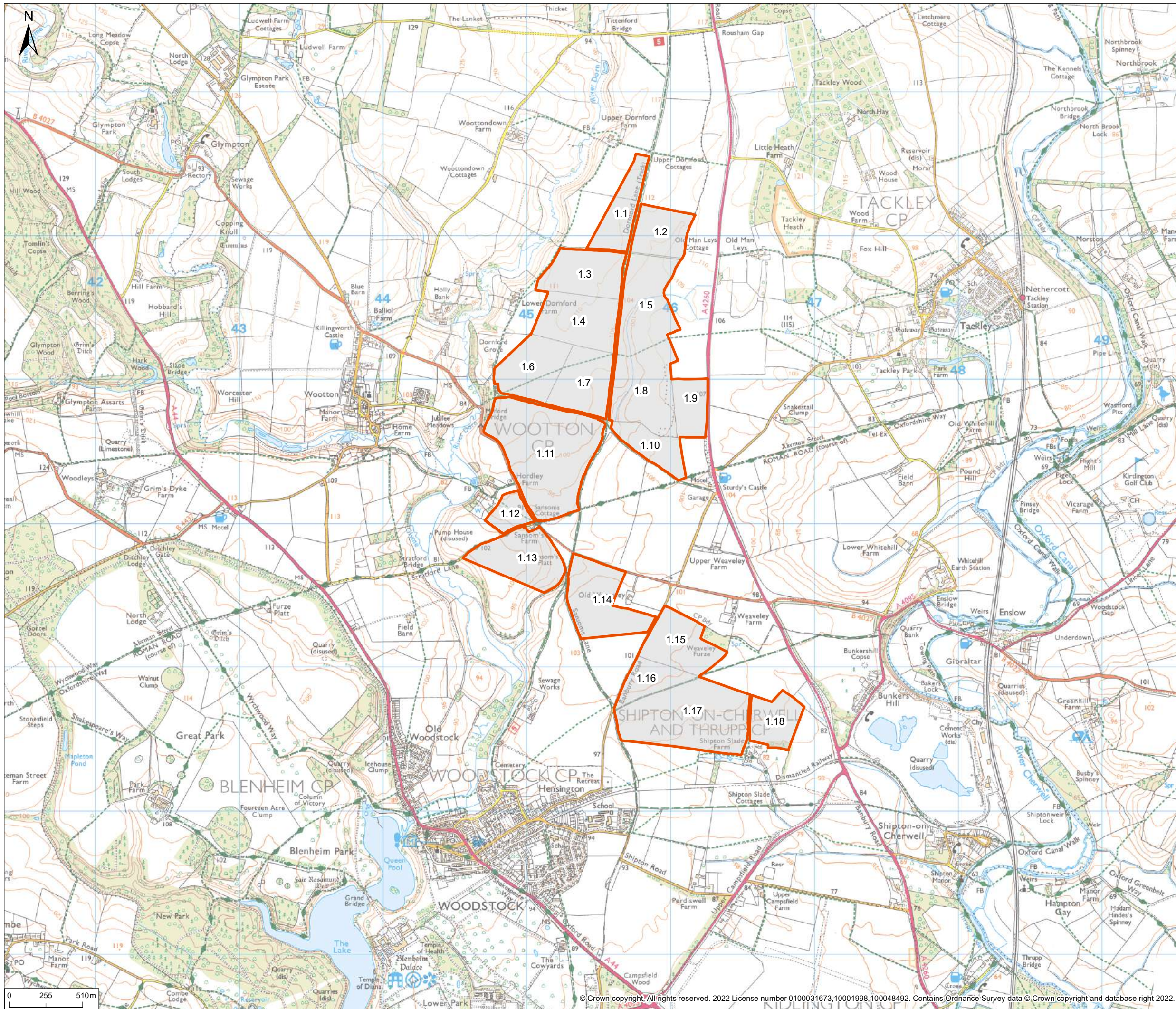
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FREEPOST BWSF



## **9 Phase One Updated Site Location Plan with field numbers**



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**Legend**

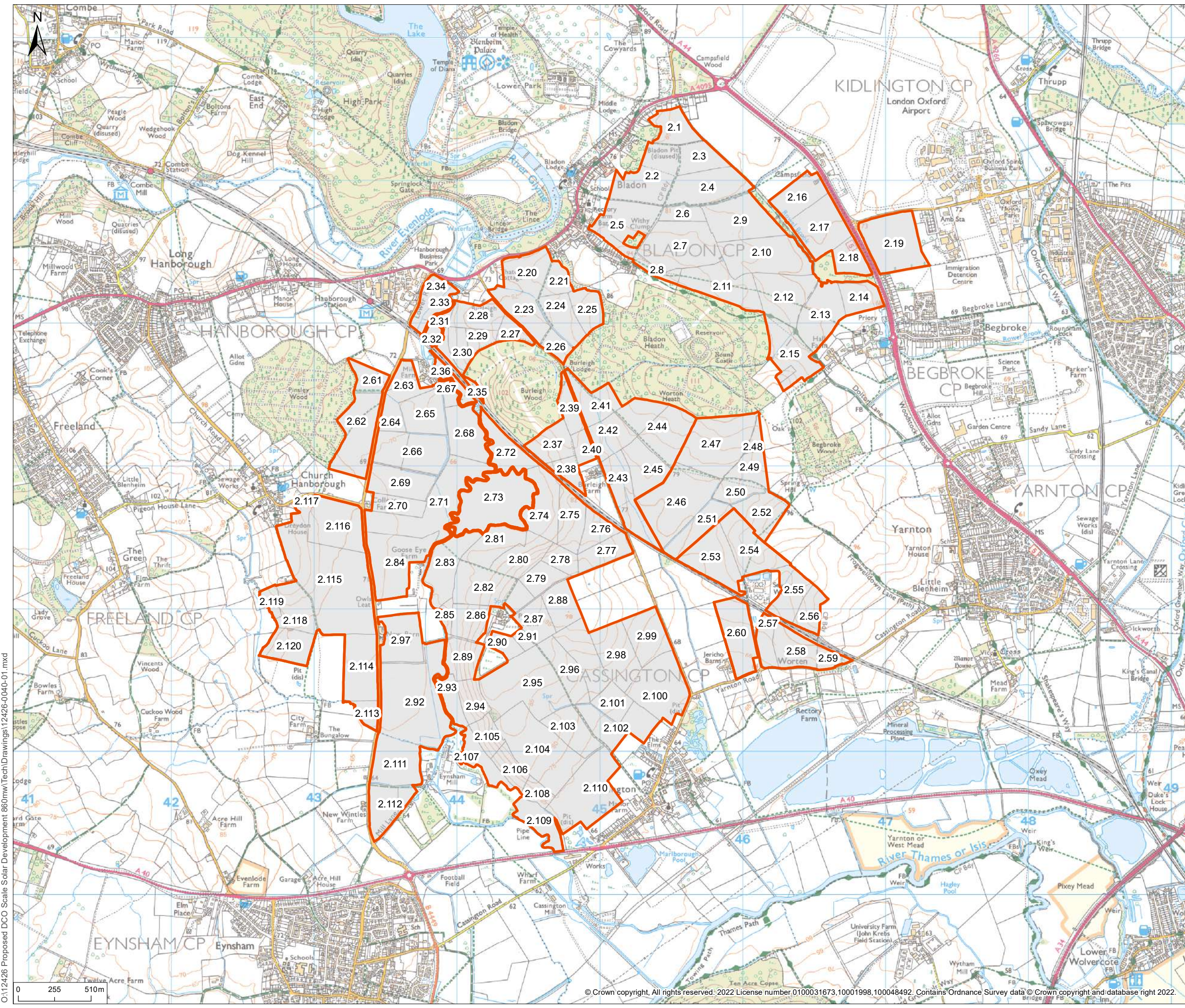
 Site Location

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -  
 Project Botley West Solar Farm  
 Title Site Location Plan - North  
 Status **DRAFT** Drawn By **JM** PM/Checked By **CD**  
 Project Number **OXF12426** Scale @ A3 **1:25,000** Date Created **NOV 2022**  
 Figure Number **1** Rev -

O:\12426 Proposed DCO Scale Solar Development\860mw\Tech\Drawings\12426-0040-01.mxd



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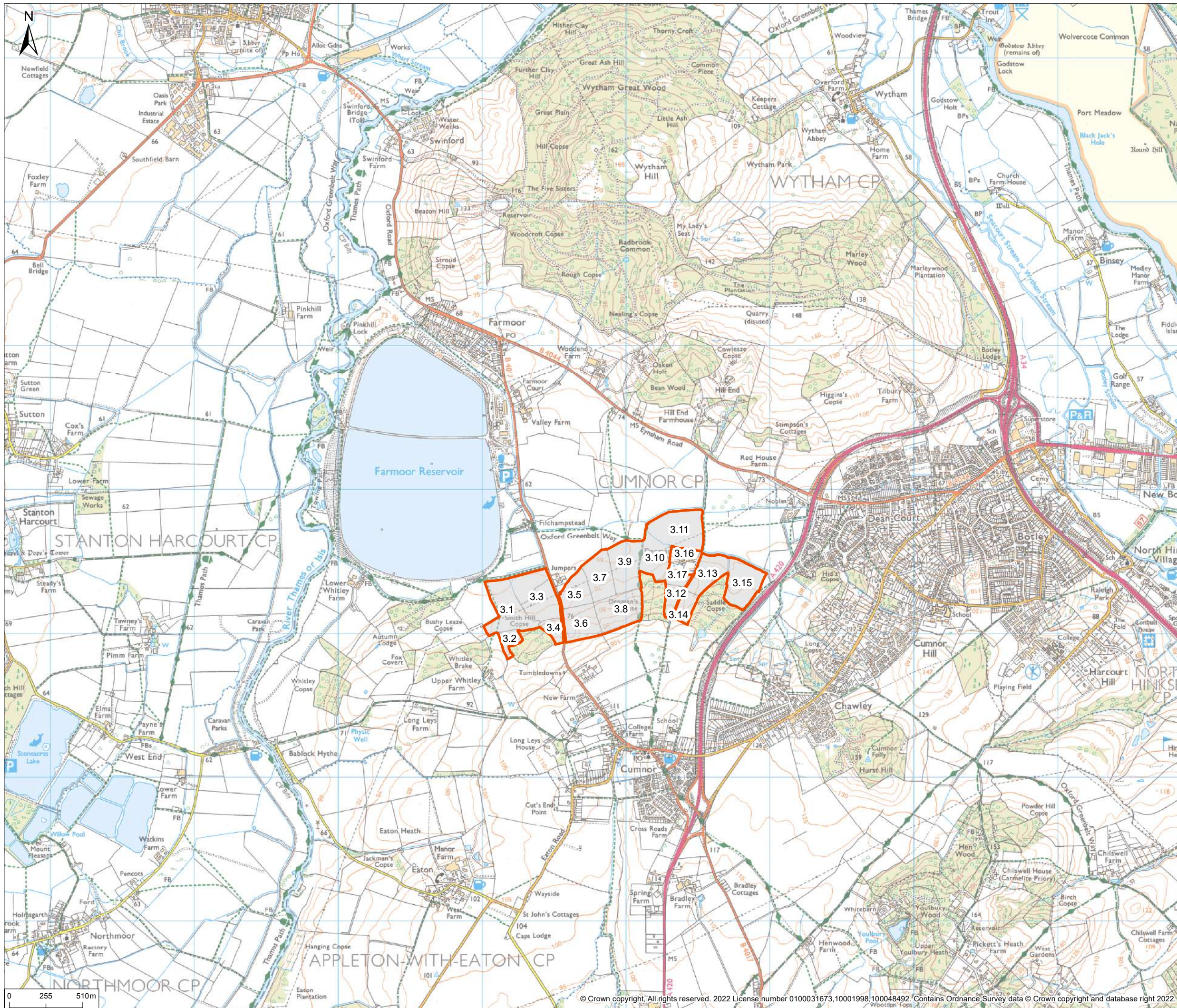
**Legend**  
 Site Location

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -  
 Project Botley West Solar Farm  
 Title Site Location Plan - Middle  
 Status **DRAFT** Drawn By **JM** PM/Checked By **CD**  
 Project Number **OXF12426** Scale @ A3 **1:25,000** Date Created **NOV 2022**  
 Figure Number **1** Rev -

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**Legend**

 Site Location

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



**PHOTOVOLT  
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

Client	-	Drawn By	JM	PM/Checked By	CD
Project	Botley West Solar Farm	Scale @ A3	1:25,000	Date Created	NOV 2022
Title	Site Location Plan - South	Figure Number	1	Rev	-

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## 10 Phase One Preliminary Masterplan Overview



North (section 1 of 2)

North (section 2 of 2)

Middle (section 1 of 4)

Middle (section 2 of 4)

Middle (section 3 of 4)

Middle (section 4 of 4)

South (section 1 of 1)

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**Legend**

 Site Location

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



**PHOTOVOLT  
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

Client -

Project **Botley West Solar Farm**

Title **Preliminary Masterplan - Overview**

Status <b>DRAFT</b>	Drawn By <b>JM</b>	PM/Checked By <b>CL</b>
Project Number <b>OXF12426</b>	Scale @ A3 <b>1:65,000</b>	Date Created <b>NOV 2022</b>
Figure Number <b>1</b>	Rev <b>-</b>	

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0 625 1,250m

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- Legend**
- Site Location
  - Proposed Infrastructure Design Elements**
  - Indicative Cable Route
  - Indicative Solar Array Layout
  - Indicative Power Converter Station
  - Indicative Location for Project Substation
  - Vehicular Access Locations
  - Fence
  - Indicative Maintenance Road
  - Existing Landscape Elements**
  - Overhead Line
  - Existing Public Right of Way
  - Watercourse
  - Ancient Woodland
  - Proposed Landscape Elements**
  - Reinforced Hedgerow
  - New Hedgerow
  - Opportunities for Enhancement
  - Installation Areas
  - Woodland
  - Indicative Location and Number of Skylark Plots
  - Tree Planting

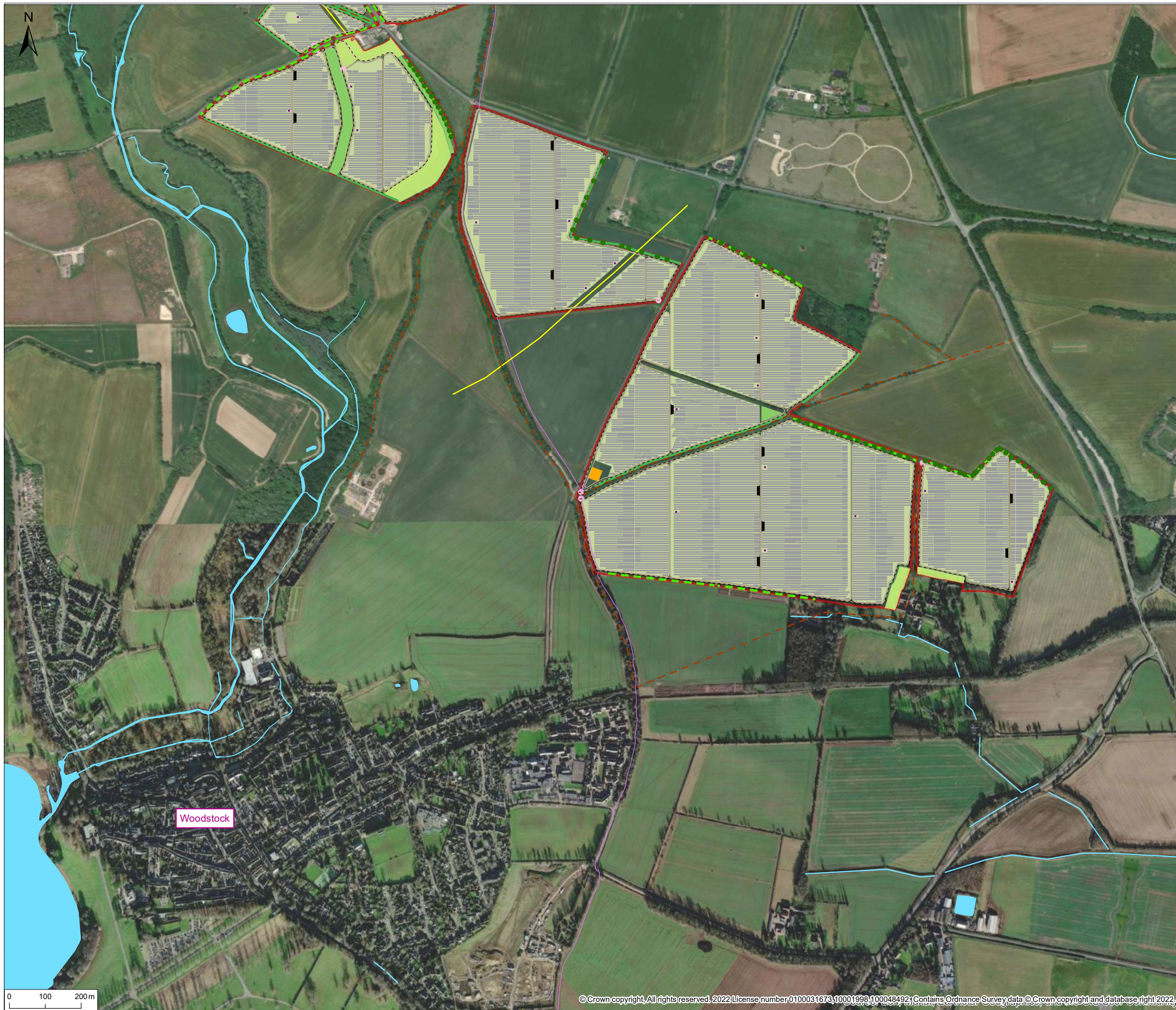
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -  
 Project **Botley West Solar Farm**  
 Title **Preliminary Masterplan - North (section 1 of 2)**

Status <b>DRAFT</b>	Drawn By <b>JM</b>	PM/Checked By <b>CL</b>
Project Number <b>OXF12426</b>	Scale @ A3 <b>1:10,000</b>	Date Created <b>NOV 2022</b>
Figure Number <b>1</b>	Rev <b>-</b>	

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- Legend**
- Site Location
  - Proposed Infrastructure Design Elements**
  - Indicative Cable Route
  - Indicative Solar Array Layout
  - Indicative Power Converter Station
  - Indicative Location for Project Substation
  - Vehicular Access Locations
  - Fence
  - Indicative Maintenance Road
  - Existing Landscape Elements**
  - Overhead Line
  - Existing Public Right of Way
  - Watercourse
  - Proposed Landscape Elements**
  - Reinforced Hedgerow
  - New Hedgerow
  - Opportunities for Enhancement
  - Installation Areas
  - Woodland
  - Indicative Location and Number of Skylark Plots
  - Tree Planting

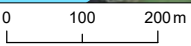
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -  
 Project Botley West Solar Farm  
 Title Preliminary Masterplan - North (section 2 of 2)

Status <b>DRAFT</b>	Drawn By <b>JM</b>	PM/Checked By <b>CL</b>
Project Number <b>OXF12426</b>	Scale @ A3 <b>1:10,000</b>	Date Created <b>NOV 2022</b>
Figure Number <b>1</b>	Rev <b>-</b>	

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- Legend**
- Site Location
  - Indicative Solar Array Layout
  - Indicative Power Converter Station
  - Vehicular Access Locations
  - Fence
  - Indicative Maintenance Road
- Existing Landscape Elements**
- Overhead Line
  - Existing Public Right of Way
  - Watercourse
  - Ancient Woodland
- Proposed Landscape Elements**
- Reinforced Hedgerow
  - New Hedgerow
  - Opportunities for Enhancement
  - Installation Areas
  - Woodland
  - Indicative Location and Number of Skylark Plots
  - Tree Planting

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -

Project **Botley West Solar Farm**

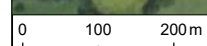
Title **Preliminary Masterplan - Middle (section 1 of 4)**

Status **DRAFT**      Drawn By **JM**      PM/Checked By **CL**

Project Number **OXF12426**      Scale @ A3 **1:10,000**      Date Created **NOV 2022**

Figure Number **1**      Rev **-**

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- Legend**
- Site Location
  - Proposed Infrastructure Design Elements**
  - Indicative Cable Route
  - Indicative Solar Array Layout
  - Indicative Power Converter Station
  - Indicative Location for Project Substation
  - Vehicular Access Locations
  - Fence
  - Indicative Maintenance Road
  - Existing Landscape Elements**
  - Overhead Line
  - Existing Public Right of Way
  - Watercourse
  - Ancient Woodland
  - Proposed Landscape Elements**
  - Reinforced Hedgerow
  - New Hedgerow
  - Opportunities for Enhancement
  - Installation Areas
  - Indicative Location and Number of Skylark Plots
  - Tree Planting

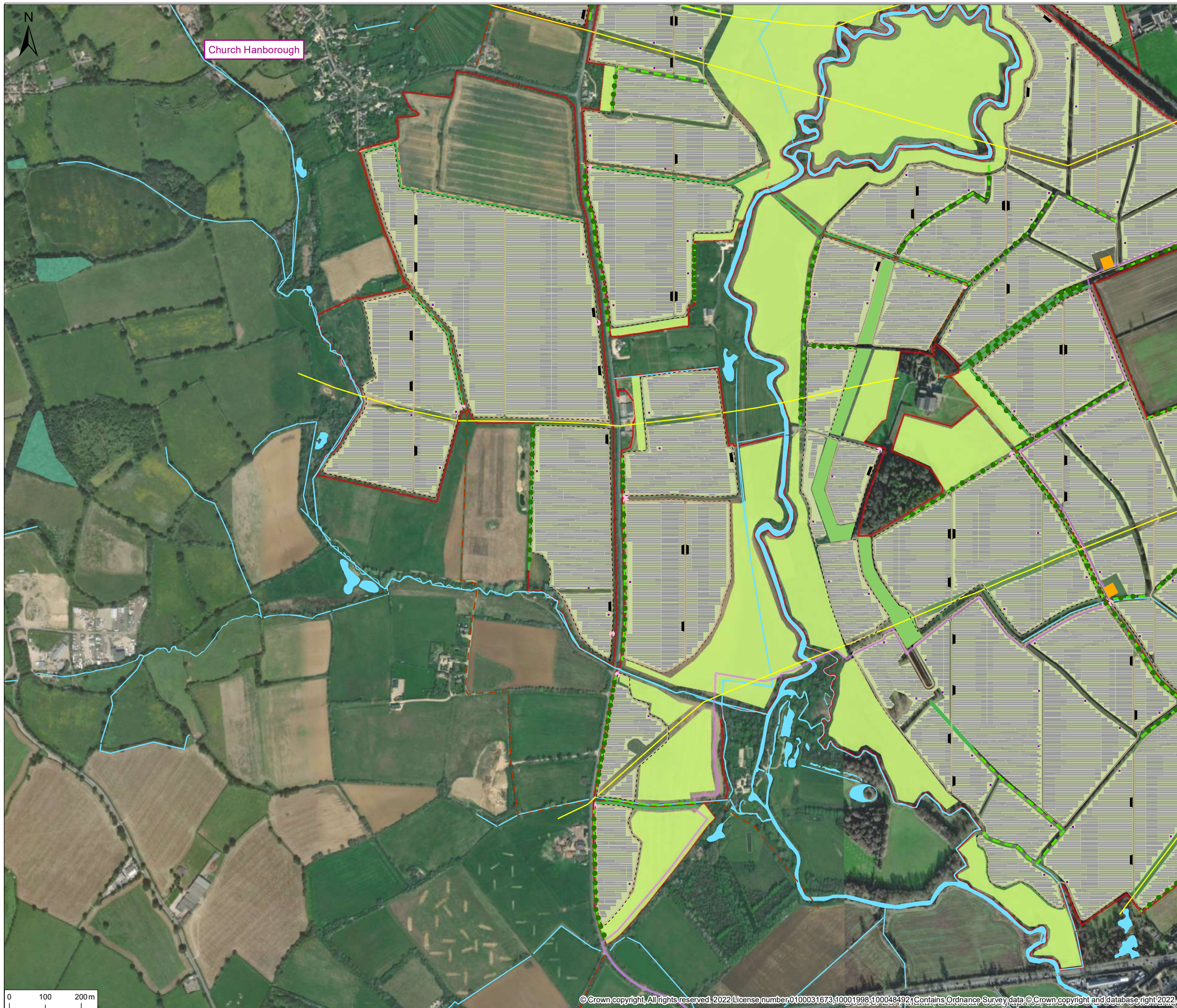
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -  
 Project **Botley West Solar Farm**  
 Title **Preliminary Masterplan - Middle (section 2 of 4)**

Status <b>DRAFT</b>	Drawn By <b>JM</b>	PM/Checked By <b>CL</b>
Project Number <b>OXF12426</b>	Scale @ A3 <b>1:10,000</b>	Date Created <b>NOV 2022</b>
Figure Number <b>1</b>	Rev <b>-</b>	

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Church Hanborough

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**Legend**

- Site Location
- Proposed Infrastructure Design Elements**
- Indicative Cable Route
- Indicative Solar Array Layout
- Indicative Power Converter Station
- Indicative Location for Project Substation
- Vehicular Access Locations
- Fence
- Indicative Maintenance Road
- Existing Landscape Elements**
- Overhead Line
- Existing Public Right of Way
- Watercourse
- Ancient Woodland
- Proposed Landscape Elements**
- Proposed Public Right of Way
- Reinforced Hedgerow
- New Hedgerow
- Opportunities for Enhancement
- Installation Areas
- New Bridge
- Woodland
- Indicative Location and Number of Skylark Plots
- Tree Planting

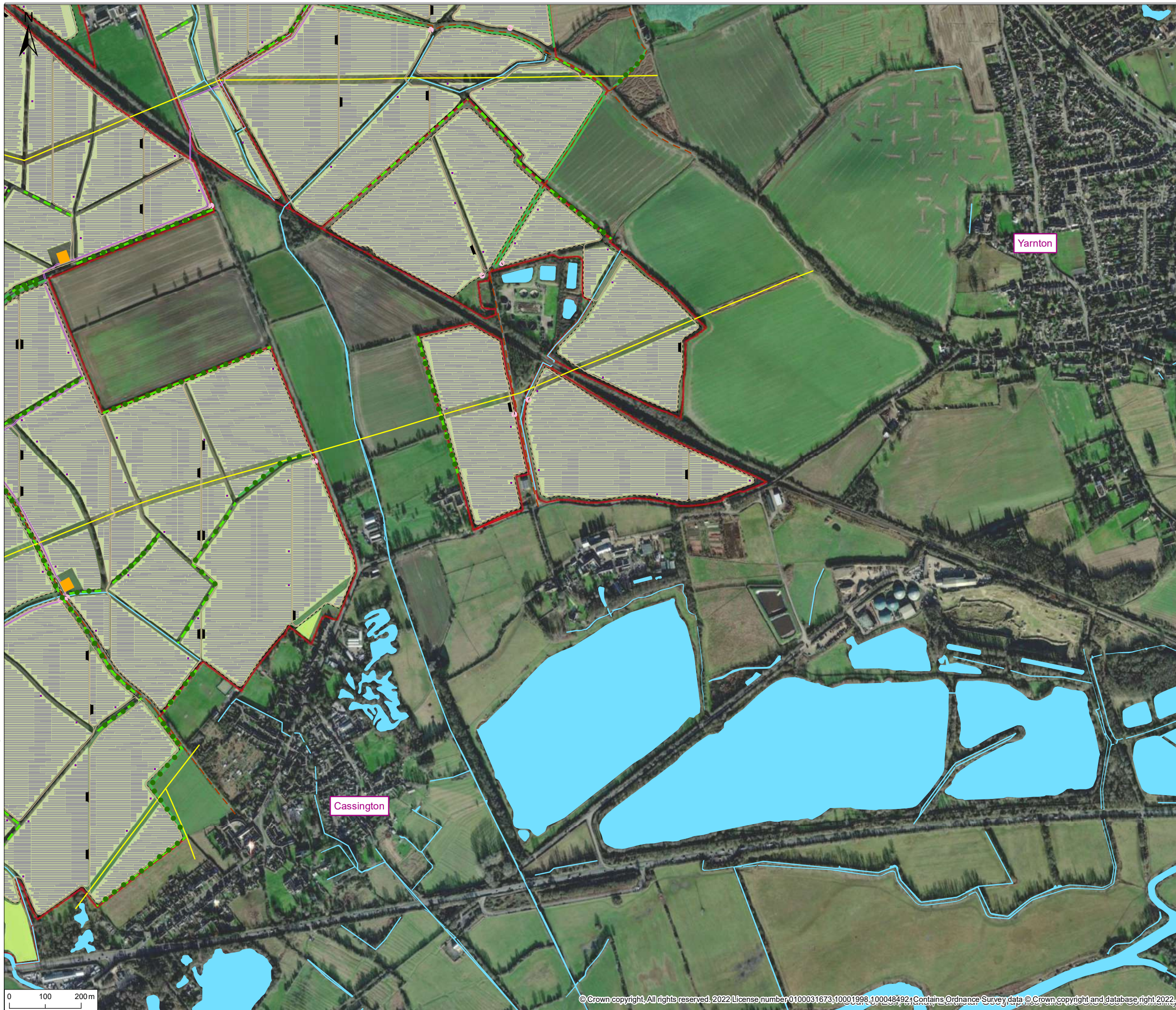
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -  
 Project **Botley West Solar Farm**  
 Title **Preliminary Masterplan - Middle (section 3 of 4)**

Status <b>DRAFT</b>	Drawn By <b>JM</b>	PM/Checked By <b>CL</b>
Project Number <b>OXF12426</b>	Scale @ A3 <b>1:10,000</b>	Date Created <b>NOV 2022</b>
Figure Number <b>1</b>	Rev <b>-</b>	

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- Legend**
- Site Location
  - Proposed Infrastructure Design Elements**
    - Indicative Cable Route
    - Indicative Solar Array Layout
    - Indicative Power Converter Station
    - Indicative Location for Project Substation
    - Vehicular Access Locations
    - Fence
    - Indicative Maintenance Road
  - Existing Landscape Elements**
    - Overhead Line
    - Existing Public Right of Way
    - Watercourse
    - Ancient Woodland
  - Proposed Landscape Elements**
    - Reinforced Hedgerow
    - New Hedgerow
    - Opportunities for Enhancement
    - Installation Areas
    - Indicative Location and Number of Skylark Plots
    - Tree Planting

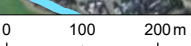
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



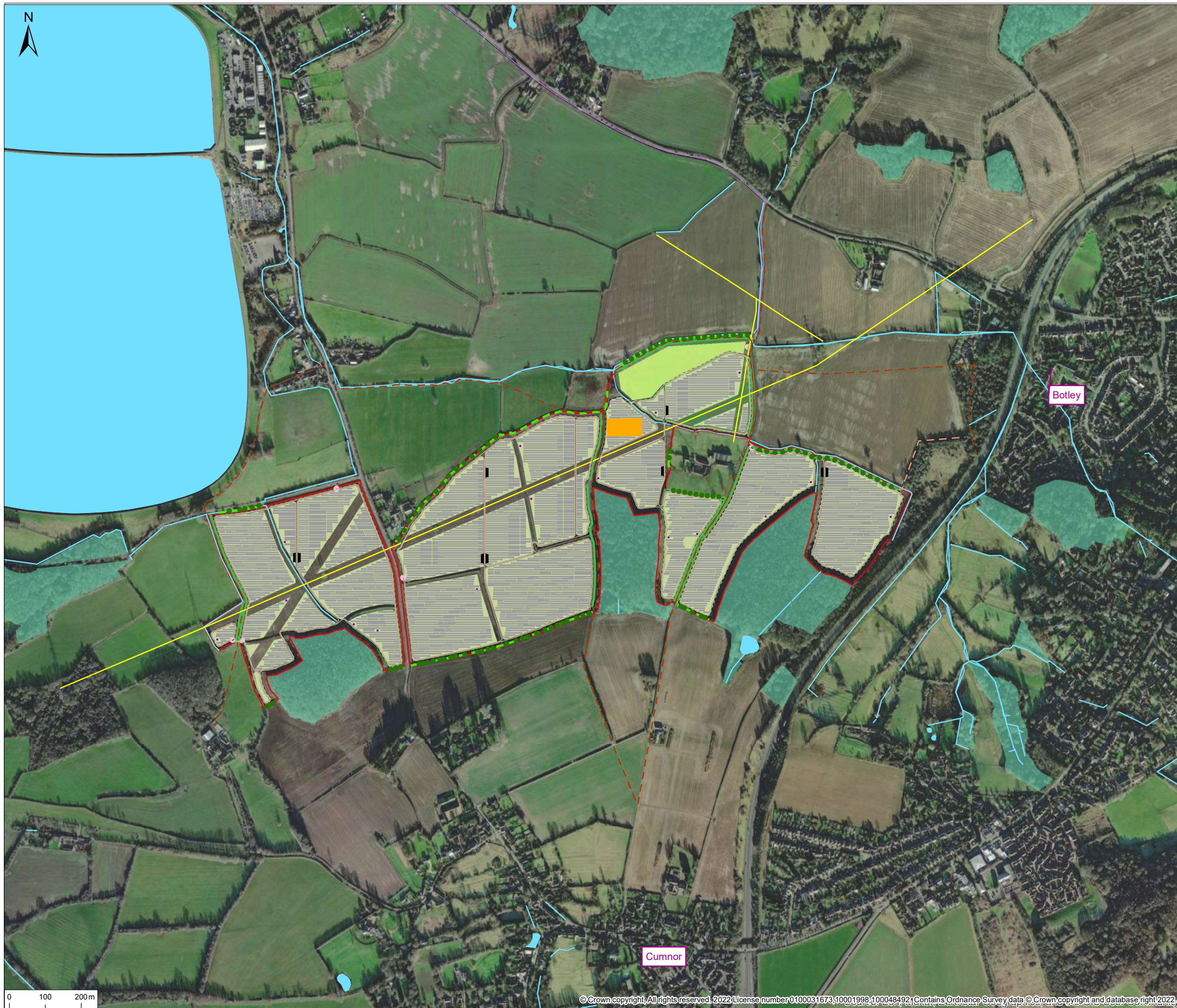
Client -  
 Project Botley West Solar Farm  
 Title Preliminary Masterplan - Middle (section 4 of 4)

Status <b>DRAFT</b>	Drawn By <b>JM</b>	PM/Checked By <b>CL</b>
Project Number <b>OXF12426</b>	Scale @ A3 <b>1:10,000</b>	Date Created <b>NOV 2022</b>
Figure Number <b>1</b>	Rev <b>-</b>	

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- Legend**
- Site Location
  - Proposed Infrastructure Design Elements**
  - Indicative Cable Route
  - Indicative Solar Array Layout
  - Indicative Power Converter Station
  - Indicative Location for Project Substation
  - Vehicular Access Locations
  - Fence
  - Indicative Maintenance Road
  - Existing Landscape Elements**
  - Overhead Line
  - Existing Public Right of Way
  - Watercourse
  - Ancient Woodland
  - Proposed Landscape Elements**
  - Proposed Public Right of Way
  - Reinforced Hedgerow
  - New Hedgerow
  - Opportunities for Enhancement
  - Installation Areas
  - Indicative Location and Number of Skylark Plots
  - Tree Planting

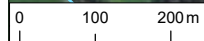
Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



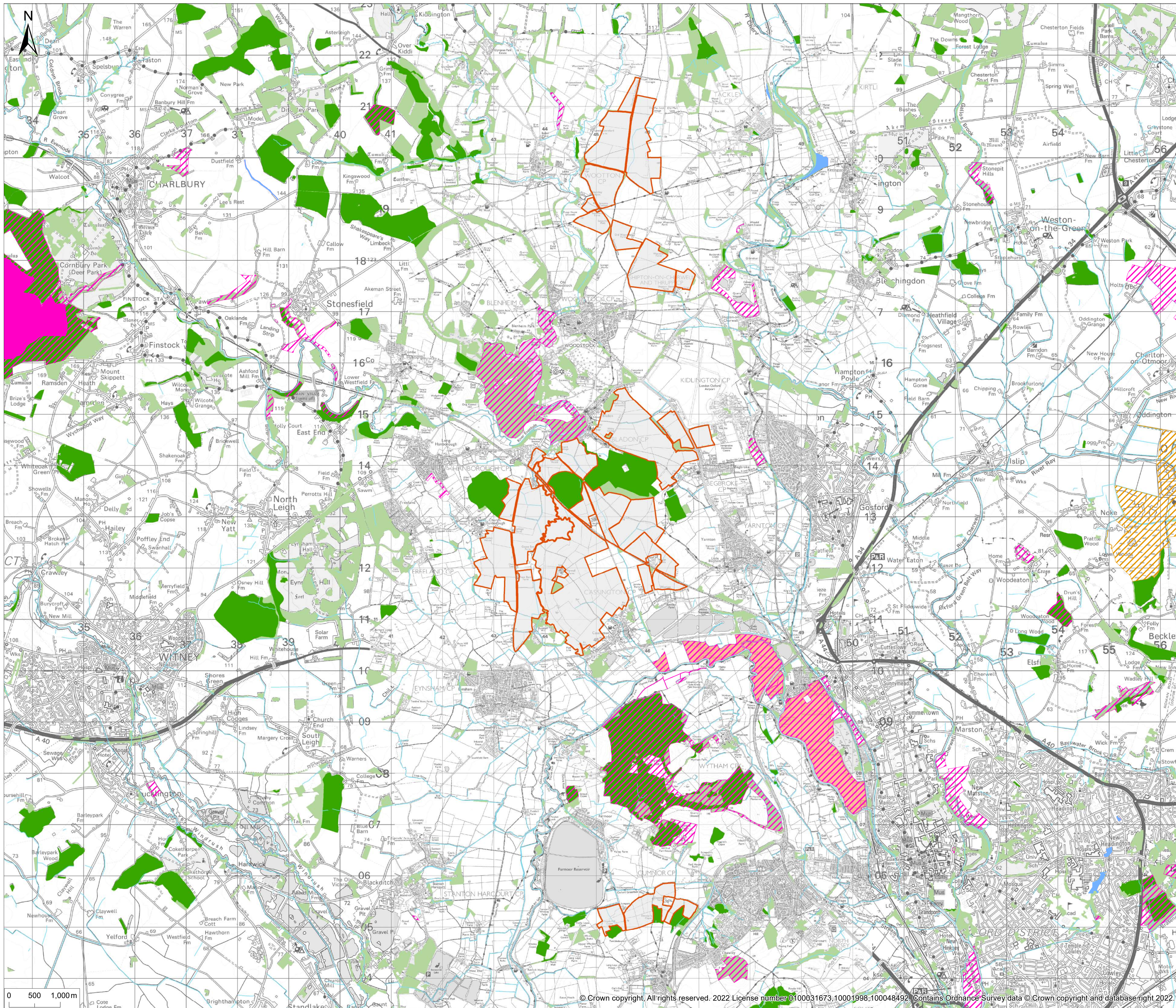
Client -  
 Project **Botley West Solar Farm**  
 Title **Preliminary Masterplan - South (section 1 of 1)**

Status <b>DRAFT</b>	Drawn By <b>JM</b>	PM/Checked By <b>CL</b>
Project Number <b>OXF12426</b>	Scale @ A3 <b>1:10,000</b>	Date Created <b>NOV 2022</b>
Figure Number <b>1</b>	Rev <b>-</b>	

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## 11 Phase One Ecology Constraints Map



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- Legend**
- Site Location
  - Local Nature Reserve
  - National Nature Reserve
  - Site of Special Scientific Interest
  - Special Area of Conservation
  - Ancient Woodland
  - RSPB Reserves
  - Non-Ancient Woodland

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



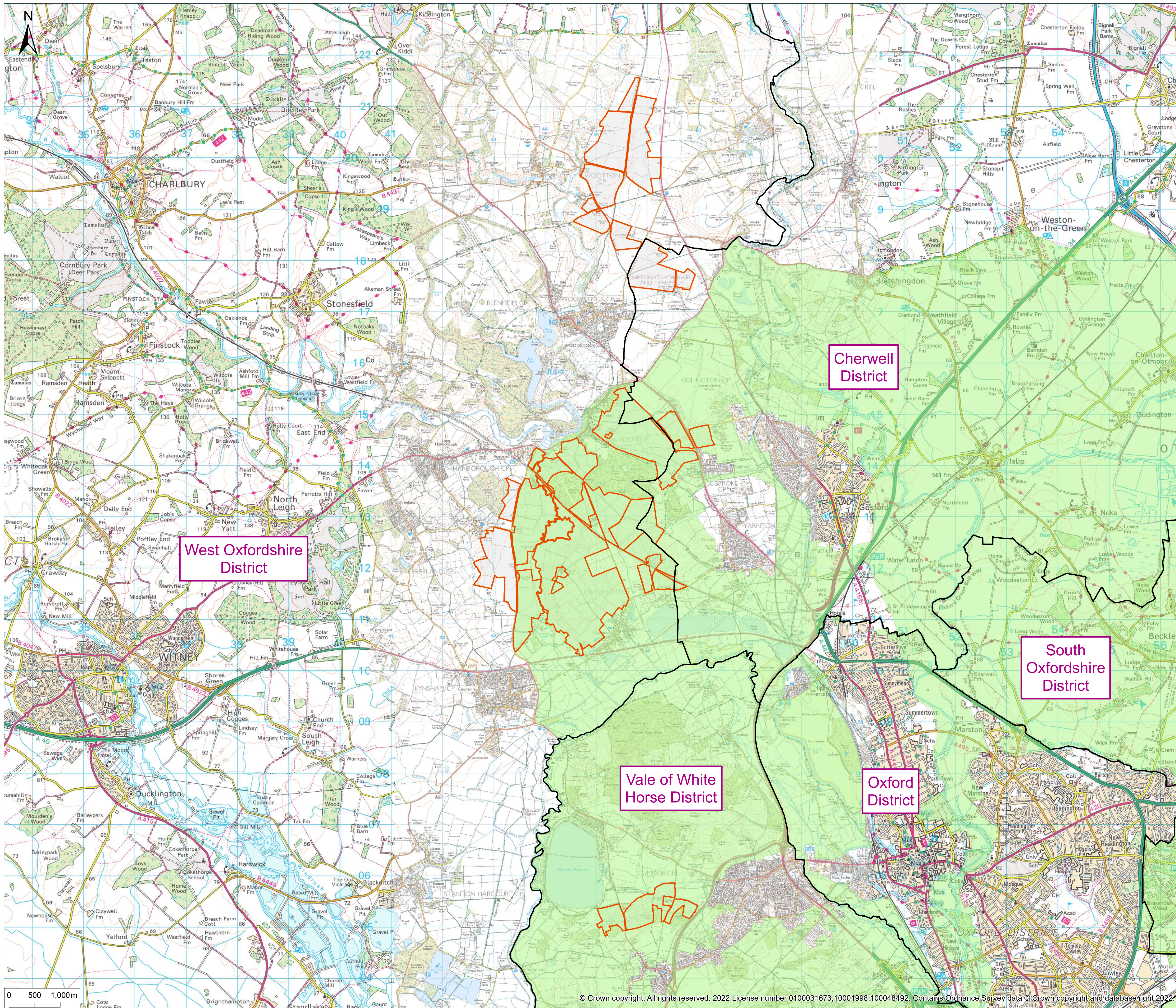
Client -  
 Project Botley West Solar Farm  
 Title Baseline Ecology Data Plan - Overview  
 Status DRAFT  
 Project Number OXF12426  
 Figure Number 1

Drawn By JM  
 Scale @ A1 1:35,000

PM/Checked By CL  
 Date Created OCT 2022  
 Rev -

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## 12 Phase One Greenbelt and Boundaries Constraints Map



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**Legend**

- Site Location
- District Boundary
- Green Belt

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date

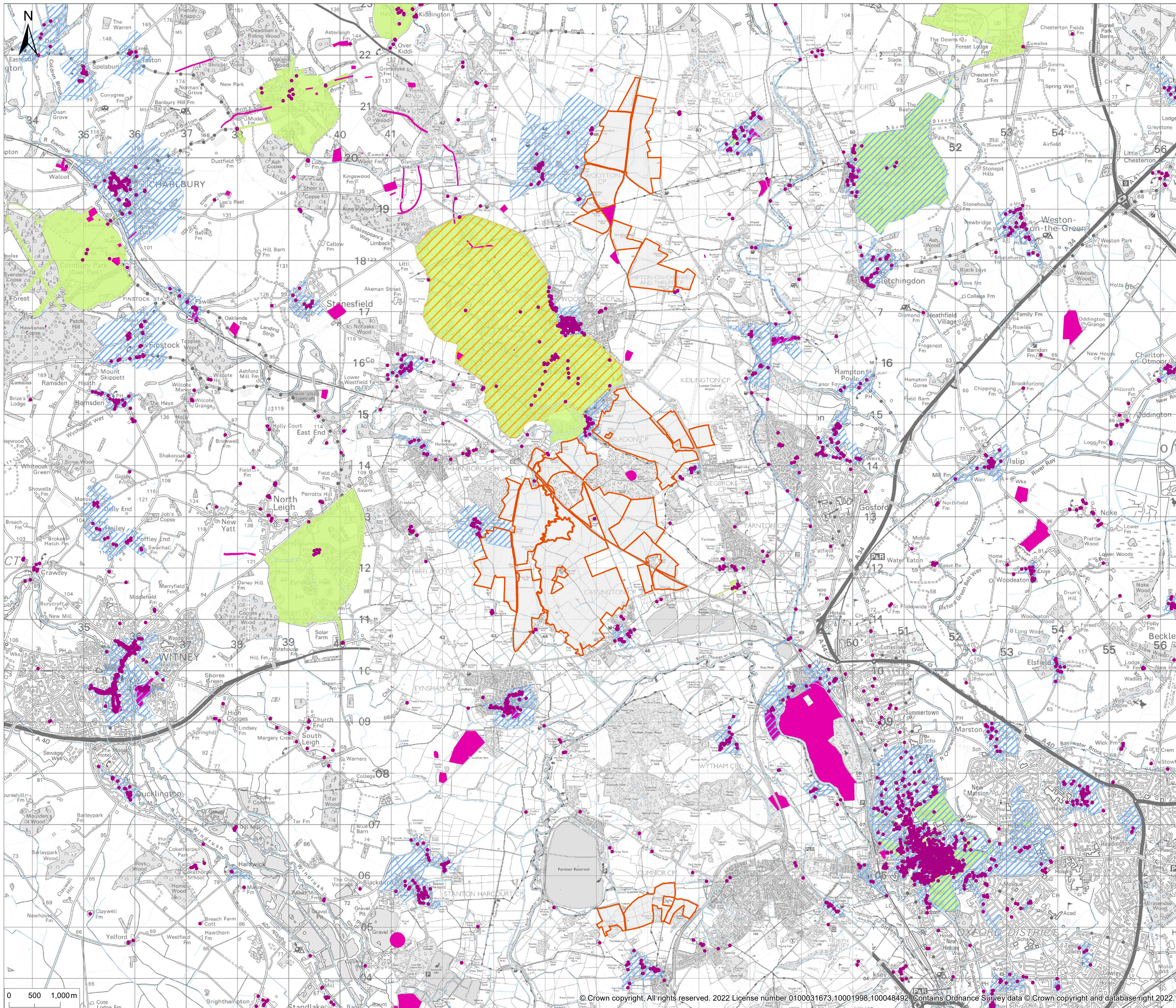


Client	-	PM/Checked By	CD
Project	Botley West Solar Farm	Date Created	OCT 2022
Title	Green Belt & District Boundaries - Overview	Figure Number	1
Status	DRAFT	Scale @ A1	1:35,000
Drawn By	JM	Rev	-





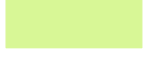

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## 13 Phase One Heritage Constraints Map



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- Legend**
-  Site Location
  -  Conservation Area
  -  Scheduled Monument
  -  World Heritage Site
  -  Parks and Gardens
  -  Listed building

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



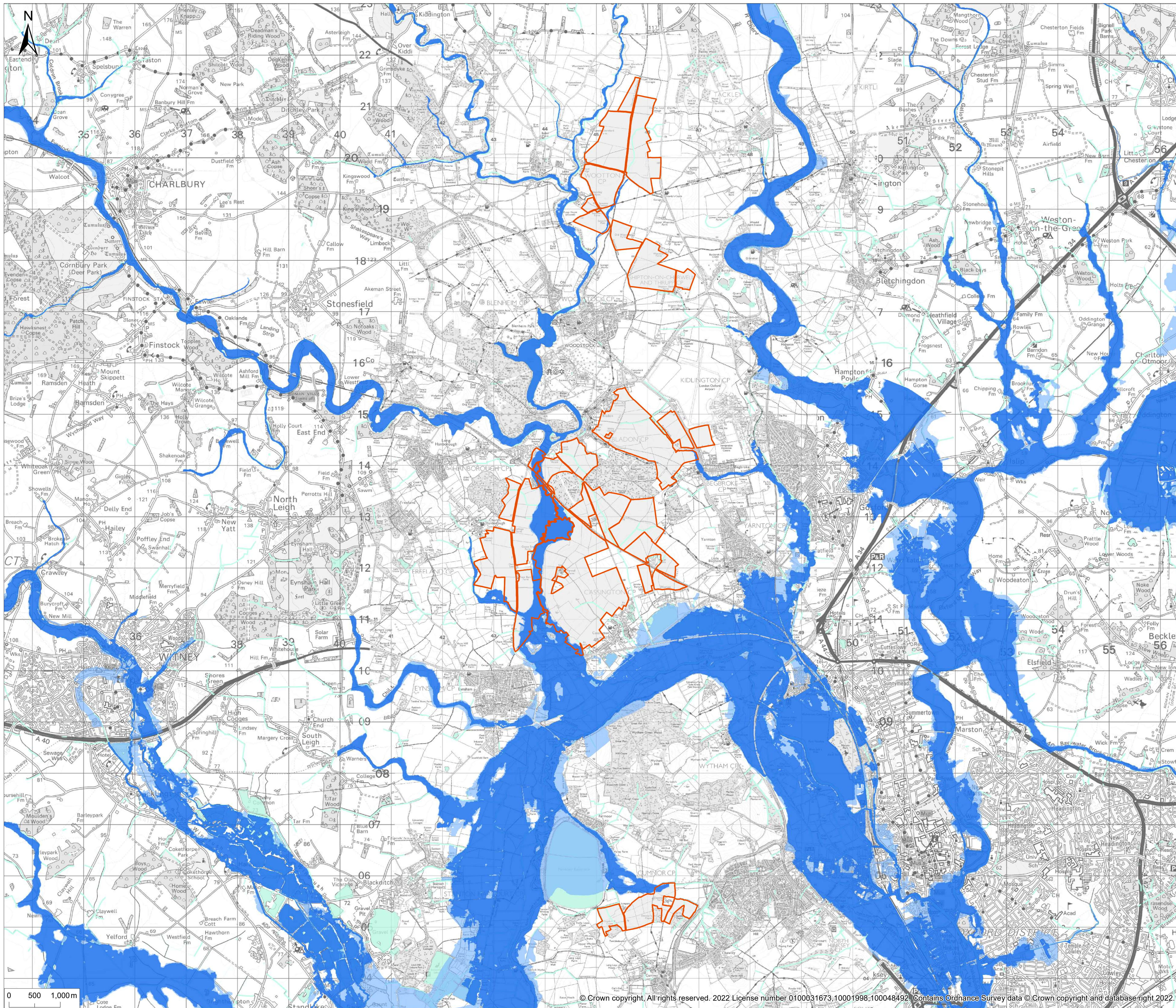
**PHOTOVOLT  
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

Client	-		
Project	Botley West Solar Farm		
Title	Baseline Heritage Data Plan - Overview		
Status	DRAFT	Drawn By	PM/Checked By
		JM	CL
Project Number	OXF12426	Scale @ A1	Date Created
		1:35,000	OCT 2022
Figure Number	1		Rev
			-


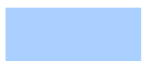

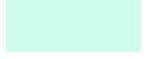
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## 14 Phase One Hydrology Constraints Map





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- Legend**
-  Site Location
  -  Flood Zone 2
  -  Flood Zone 3
  -  Watercourse

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date

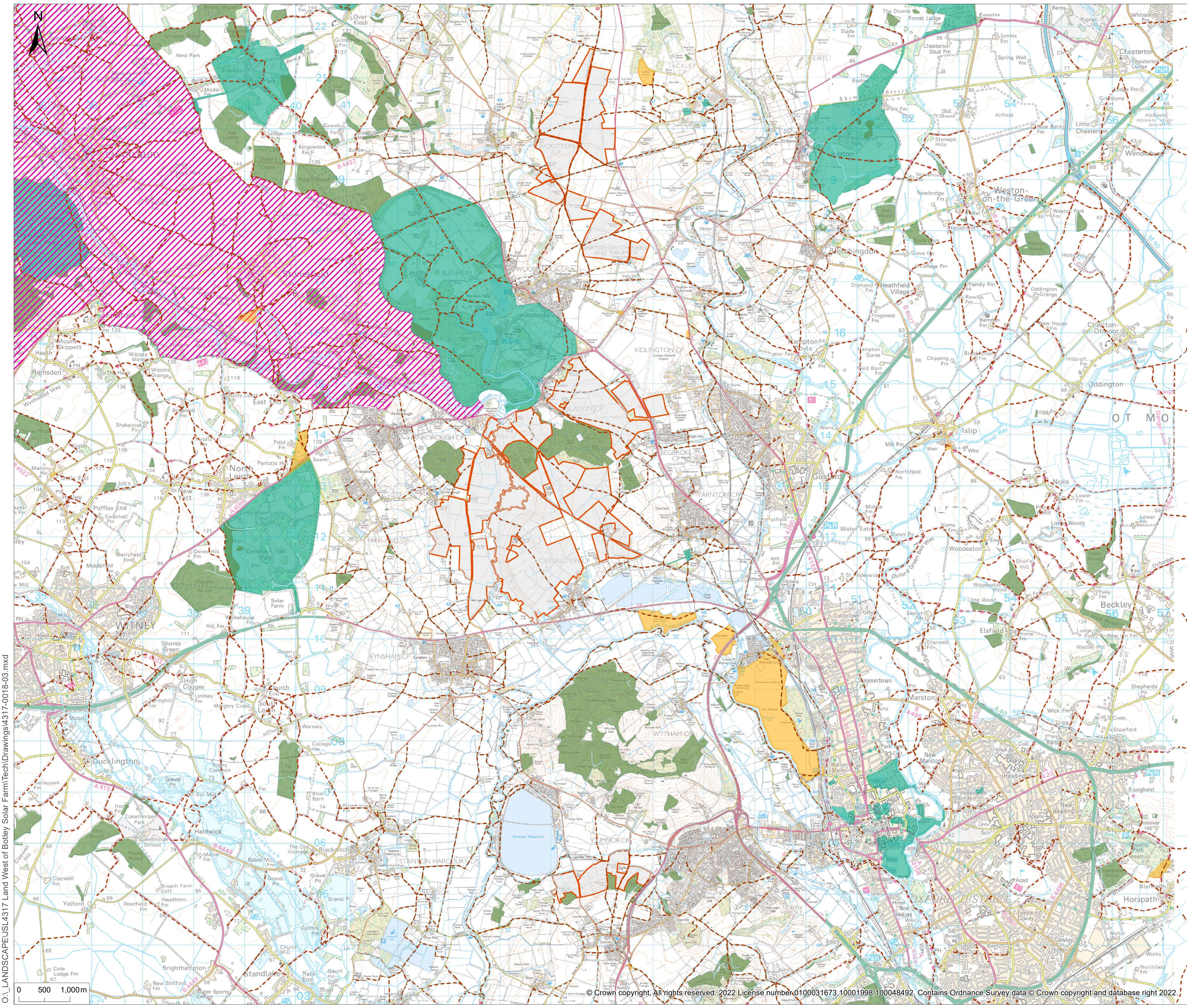


**PHOTOVOLT  
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**










Client -  
 Project Botley West Solar Farm  
 Title Baseline Hydrology Data Plan  
 - Overview  
 Status **DRAFT** Drawn By JM PM/Checked By CL  
 Project Number OXF12426 Scale @ A1 1:35,000 Date Created OCT 2022  
 Figure Number 1 Rev -

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## 15 Phase One Landscape Constraints Map



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- Legend**
-  Site Location
  -  Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
  -  Public Right of Way
  -  Ancient Woodland
  -  Other Woodland
  -  Contours
  -  Watercourse
  -  CRoW Access Land
  -  Parks and Gardens

Rev	Description	By	CB	Date



Client -  
 Project Botley West Solar Farm  
 Title Landscape Resources Plan Overview  
 Status **DRAFT** Drawn By **JM** PM/Checked By **CD**  
 Project Number **OXF12426** Scale @ A1 **1:35,000** Date Created **OCT 2022**  
 Figure Number **1** Rev -

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