

Kingston Solar Farm

Statement of Community Involvement



CONTENTS

1. Introduction.....	3
2. Purpose of this Statement of Community Involvement.....	3
3. Community and Stakeholder Mapping.....	5
4. Consultation	6
5. Feedback and Applicant’s Response.....	11
6. Conclusion.....	20
Appendices	21

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. A Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) has been produced for the proposed 49.9MW Kingston Solar Farm and associated infrastructure (the “Proposed Development”) on lands circa 1.3km south of Gotham and c. 0.75km northwest of East Leake, Nottinghamshire (the “Application Site”).
- 1.2. This SCI has been prepared by the Applicant to provide a comprehensive record of the pre-application public consultation undertaken on the Proposed Development.
- 1.3. As well as detailing the stakeholders and community the Applicant has consulted with during the pre-application period, it also details the various consultation methods used.
- 1.4. The SCI goes on to summarise feedback from stakeholders and the community and how this feedback has been taken into account regarding the design of the Proposed Development.

2. INTRODUCTION

Background

- 2.1. This SCI accompanies the planning application for a proposed 49.9MW solar farm and associated infrastructure (the “Proposed Development”) on lands circa 1.3km south of Gotham and c. 0.75km northwest of East Leake, Nottinghamshire (the “Application Site”).
- 2.2. Please refer to **Figure 4 of Volume 2: Planning Application Drawings** for the layout of the Proposed Development.

Development Description

- 2.3. The Proposed Development will consist of the construction of bi-facial solar photovoltaic (“PV”) panels mounted on metal frames, new access tracks, underground cabling, perimeter fencing with CCTV cameras and access gates, two temporary construction compounds, substation and all ancillary grid infrastructure and associated works.
- 2.4. The Proposed Development will result in the production of clean energy from a renewable energy resource (daylight) and will also involve additional landscaping including hedgerow planting and improved biodiversity management.

3. PURPOSE OF THIS STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 3.1. This Statement of Community Involvement has been prepared by the Applicant to provide a comprehensive record of the pre-application public consultation undertaken on the Proposed Development.
- 3.2. Conducting an early and transparent pre-application public consultation is consistent with the guidance within the NPPF (2019). Paragraph 39 of the NPPF states that
“Early engagement has significant potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties. Good quality pre-application discussion enables better coordination between public and private resources and outcomes for the community”

- 3.3. The NPPF goes on to state that
- “[Local Authorities] should also, where they think this would be beneficial, encourage any applicants who are not already required to do so by law to engage with the local community and, where relevant, with statutory and non-statutory consultees, before submitting their applications.”*
- 3.4. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act of 2004 ensures Local Authorities develop strategies to engage the local community in the planning process. These strategies, called a “Statement of Community Involvement”, must be aimed at all sections of society - including identified “hard to reach” groups - and encourage engagement in the planning process. The aim is to encourage “ownership” of the planning process by the community.
- 3.5. As a result, this SCI also fulfils a formal recommendation of Rushcliffe Borough Council, as the Local Planning Authority (LPA), to provide people with an opportunity to feed into the design process of a scheme.
- 3.6. Rushcliffe Borough Council’s Statement of Community Involvement¹ sets out how early community consultation should take place on planning issues. Paragraph 1.2 states:
- “The aim is to ensure that all groups in the Borough are involved in the process early enough for people to be able to have an input, and to address the needs of those groups of people who traditionally have not been involved in the process but may have specific needs to be met or addressed. It is important that all views are sought, not just those of people with a direct interest in a land use proposal.”*
- 3.7. It goes on to note:
- “At the pre-application stage we consider that developers can have a crucial role in engaging local communities with the planning process.”*
- “If a proposal is likely to prompt significant community interest, we recommend and would encourage early involvement with the community before submitting a planning application, particularly for larger developments”*
- 3.8. In addition to the above, the Applicant recognises that local people can make a valuable contribution to the proposals by offering their local knowledge and raising issues that may not have been considered by the Applicant or project team, in many cases resulting in a stronger proposal.
- 3.9. Consistent with advice in the LPA’s Statement of Community Involvement, this document forms a consultation supporting statement that summarises the consultation activities undertaken by the Applicant, a summary of comments received, and issues raised, and how the Applicant has had regard to these comments.
- 3.10. The approach to community consultation as presented in this SCI reflects the LPA’s advice for community consultation. Throughout the pre-application public consultation, the Applicant has:
- Invited comments at a time when they can inform the process;
 - Provided sufficient information to describe the subject matter of the consultation;
 - Given notice of consultations in advance;
 - Clearly described how to submit comments;
 - Considered the representations received prior to submitting the planning application; and

¹<https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/planningpolicy/localplan/communityinvolvement/#:-:text=The%202019%20Statement%20of%20Community,th e%20determination%20of%20planning%20applications.>

- Acknowledged representations that have been received electronically and physically.

4. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

4.1. This section details the key local stakeholders on which the Applicant focused during the pre-application public consultation process. Prior to the start of the consultation, the Applicant undertook detailed desktop research to develop a comprehensive understanding of the key stakeholders to engage with during pre-application public consultation. This research involved identifying local stakeholders located around the site of the Proposed Development.

4.2. The stakeholder groups identified included:

- The local population around the Application Site, including Gotham, West Leake and East Leake villages and nearest neighbours; and
- Locally elected political representatives.

4.3. Although the Application Site is located in a very rural setting, it is punctuated with some individual farmsteads and residential properties. A radius of approximately 500m was applied identifying 36 near neighbours to the Application Site. See area shaded blue in image 1 below. Three of the nearest properties, Cuckoo Bush Farm (northeast corner of Field 6 - (see **Figure 3 of Volume 2: Planning Application Drawings** for field numbers)), Stone House (southern corner of Field 12) and The Cottage (east of Field 14) are owned by the landowner and occupied by long-term tenants. Image 1 below shows the Application Site and 500m buffer used to identify the nearest neighbours to the Proposed Development.

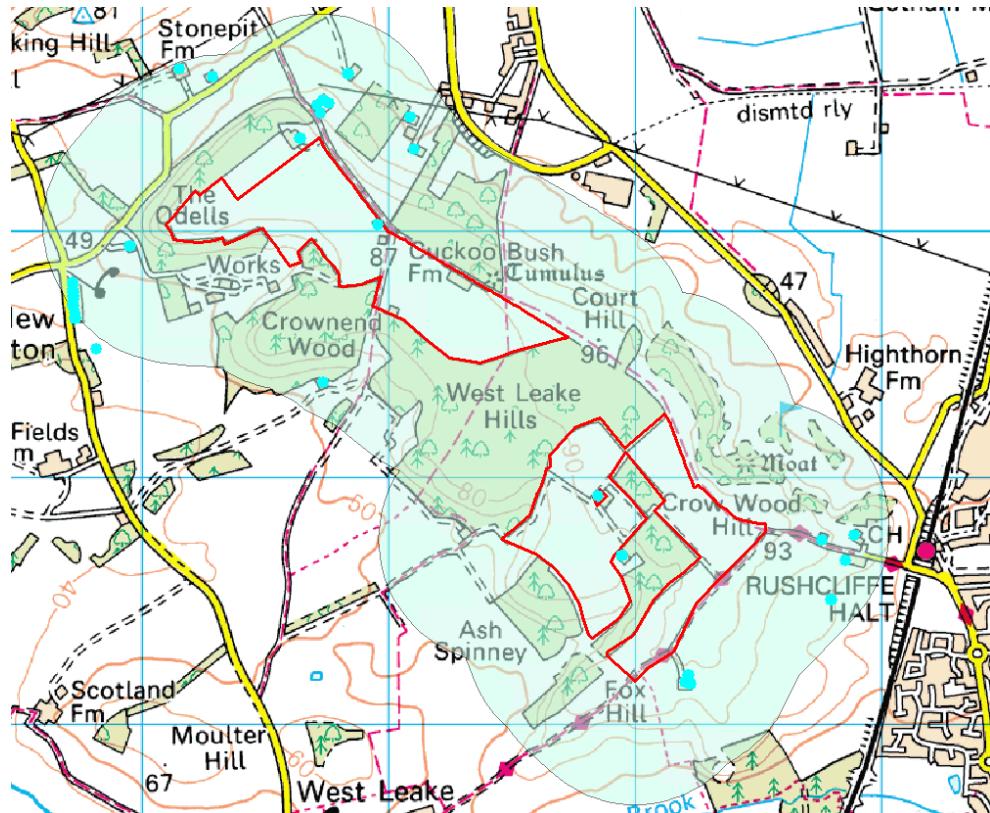


Image 1

4.4. Locally elected political representatives from the following Ward and Parish Councils were also contacted and this is discussed later in this SCI.

- Gotham Parish Council;
- East Leake Parish Council;
- West Leake Parish Meeting;
- Kingston on Soar Parish Council;
- Relevant Ward Councillors from Gotham Ward (Cllr Rex Walker) and Leake Ward (Cllr Kevin Shaw, Cllr Carys Thomas and Cllr Lesley Way)
- Nottinghamshire County Councillors from the Leake and Ruddington Division (Cllr Reg Adair and Cllr Matt Barney).

5. CONSULTATION

5.1. The pre-application public consultation began on the 31 March 2021. During the pre-application public consultation, a range of communication methods were used to provide information about the Proposed Development and ensure that the local community had the opportunity to provide their feedback. These methods included:

5.1.1 Introductory letter to host parish council and parish meeting

On 31 March 2021, the Applicant wrote to the clerk of Gotham Parish Council and the clerk to West Leake Parish Meeting to advise them that they were investigating the potential for a solar farm development at the site location. The letter also invited the parties to contact the Applicant if they wished to arrange a meeting to discuss the proposal. A copy of the letter can be found at **Appendix A**.

5.1.2 Introductory letter to elected members, adjoining parish councils and nearest neighbours

On 7 May 2021, the Applicant wrote to all district and county councillors, Kingston on Soar Parish Council, East Leake Parish Council and nearest neighbours, to advise them that they were investigating the potential for a solar farm development at the site location and would be holding an online public exhibition in due course. The letter also invited these parties to contact the Applicant if they wished to arrange a meeting to discuss the proposal. A copy of the letter can be found at **Appendix B**. A follow-up letter to the letter sent on 31 March 2021, was also sent to the clerk of Gotham Parish Council and the clerk to West Leake Parish Meeting.

5.1.3 Project Website

A project website was launched at www.kingston-solarfarm.co.uk containing information on the project as well as contact details for the Applicant's project team.

The project website was advertised in all correspondence from 7 May 2021 and was used to host the online public exhibition.

The project website continues to be updated regularly and will also be updated when the planning submission is made, to include links to all planning application documentation.

5.1.4 Pre-Exhibition Mailing

On 17 May 2021, a newsletter detailing information about the Proposed Development with the Applicant's contact details and details of an online exhibition, was distributed to 205 properties identified within a 1km radius (see Image 2 below) of the Application Site (see **Appendix C** for the newsletter).

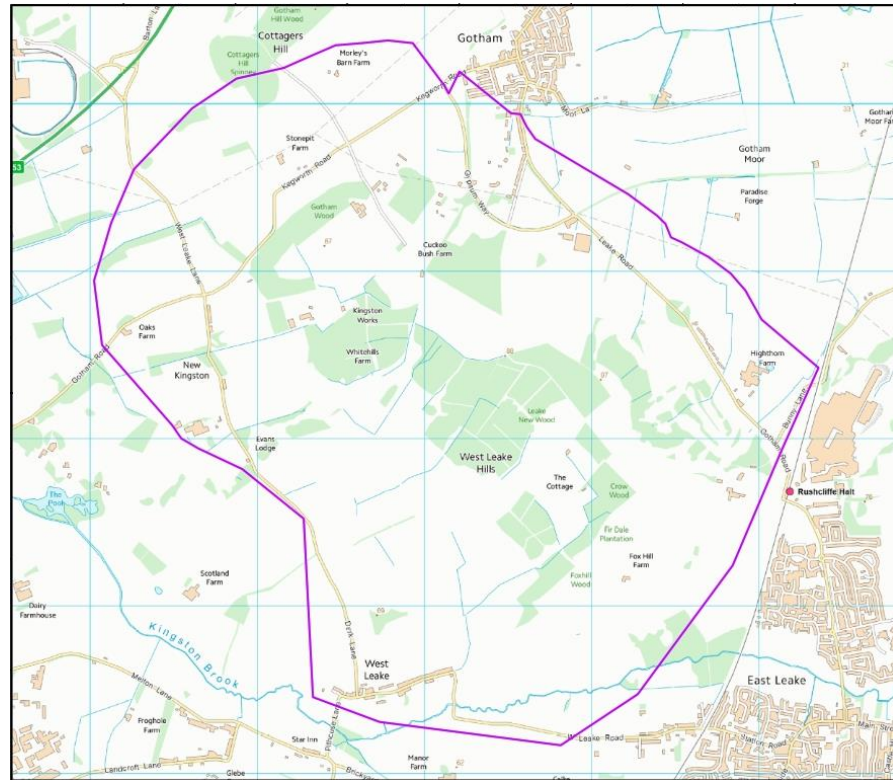


Image 2

An update including a copy of the newsletter was also sent to district and county councillors and parish councils. The update included an invitation to arrange a video/telephone call, to discuss the project.

An email was sent to Rushcliffe Golf Club with a copy of the newsletter with an invitation to arrange a meeting to discuss the project.

An email was sent to Gotham Primary School with a copy of the newsletter and an invitation to a meeting to discuss the project and potential educational benefits and opportunities that could be shared with the school.

5.1.5 Pre-Exhibition Advertising

The applicant placed an advertisement in the Loughborough Echo, on Wednesday 19 May to inform the wider community of the online public exhibition. A copy of the advertisement can be found at **Appendix D**.

5.1.6 Online Public Exhibition

An online public exhibition took place on Thursday 27 May 2021. Further information on the project was published on the project website. Screenshots of the project information can be found at **Appendix E**.

For people without internet access, hard copies of the exhibition were available upon request. One request for hard copies were received from a local resident.

Individual telephone and video call appointments were offered between 10am - 2pm and 4pm - 8pm as part of the event. These timings enabled a wide cross section of the local community and stakeholders the opportunity to attend a telephone or video call appointment, if requested. One video meeting was held at 18:00 with a local resident. The meeting was held on Microsoft Teams and attended by the local resident, three representatives from the Applicant and one representative from Neo Environmental, the Applicant's environmental consultant.

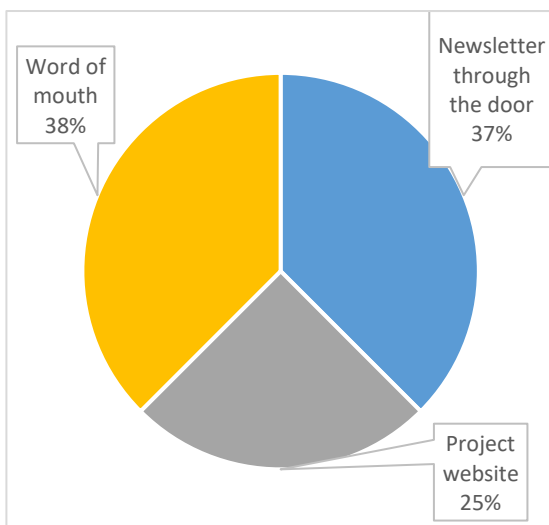
A comments form was provided as part of the online public exhibition to encourage feedback from attendees about renewable energy in general, as well as the project design specifically, and was made available as an online form or as a downloadable Microsoft Word document. A copy of the comments form can be found at **Appendix F**.

People who requested a hard copy of the exhibition material were also provided with a hard copy of the comments form. Visitors to the online public exhibition were advised that the closing date for comments was 4th June 2021 and that comments could still be submitted after this time but may not be considered in relation to the design development. The same information was provided in the hard copy exhibition pack.

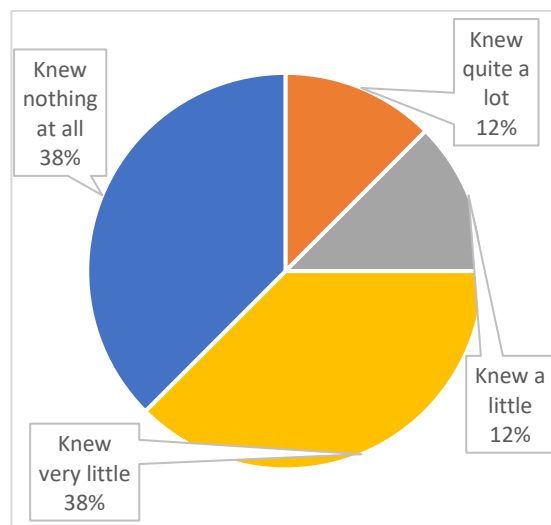
Eight completed comments forms were received by the Applicant with 62.5% of visitors stating their knowledge of the project had increased a lot, or quite a lot, after visiting the online public exhibition. Below is a full summary of the answers received to the questions on the comments form.

At all stages of the consultation process the Applicant clearly set out the purpose of the consultation. Throughout the process the Applicant also emphasised that the comments made were not representations to the determining authority (Rushcliffe Borough Council) and that there would be the opportunity for representations to the determining authority once the planning application was submitted.

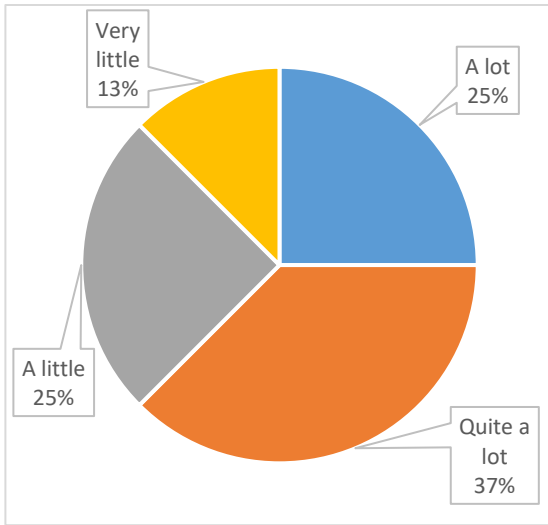
How did you find out about our online exhibition?



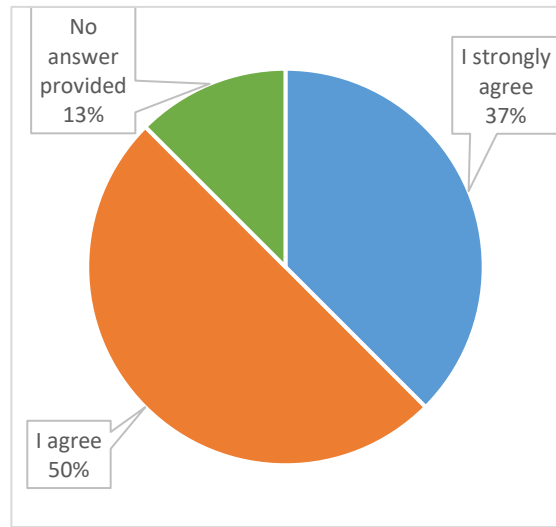
Before visiting the online exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Kingston Solar Farm?



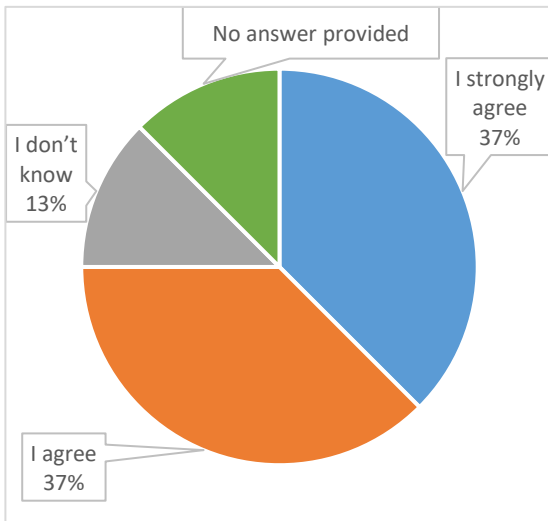
Having visited the online exhibition, to what extent do you feel you have increased your understanding about the proposed Kingston Solar Farm?



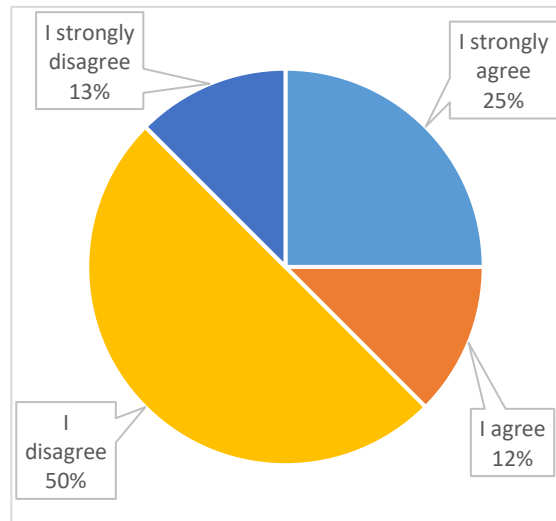
Do you agree that we are facing a global climate change emergency?



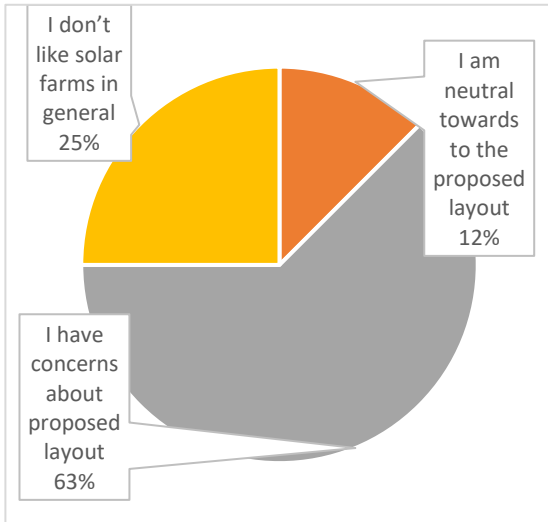
Do you agree that generating electricity from renewable sources, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change?



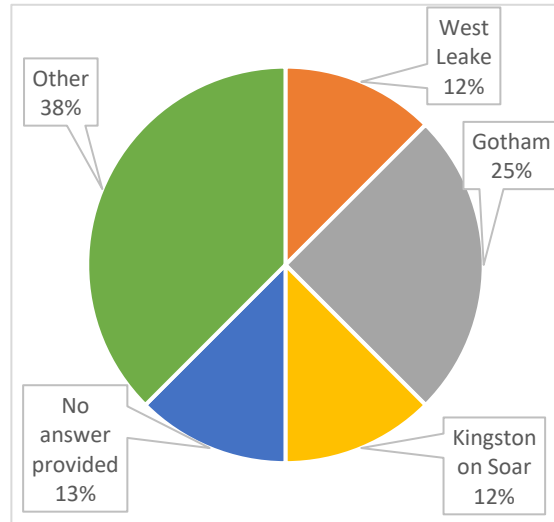
Do you agree that we need to continue developing large scale solar sites which can generate electricity efficiently and at least cost to consumers?



What do you think about the proposed layout of Kingston Solar Farm?



Which Parish Council represents your area?



5.1.7 Online Meetings

An online meeting was held with the head teacher of Gotham primary school on 25 May 2021.

A virtual assembly was held with 3 classes from Gotham primary school on 13 July 2021. Ahead of the assembly, the children provided a suite of questions, which were answered as part of the assembly. A copy of the presentation can be found at **Appendix G**.

Three online meetings were held with representatives from The British Horse Society and Rushcliffe Ramblers on 28 June 2021, 1 July 2021 and 17 November 2021.

5.1.8 Other Correspondence

In addition to the activities outlined above, the Applicant has been receiving and responding to enquiries and comments from the local community, via telephone and video calls and email.

To date, correspondence has been received, and responded to, from eleven local residents. The Applicant will continue to respond to any queries received in relation to the project from the local community, stakeholders and statutory consultees throughout the determination process.

5.1.9 In-Person Meetings

Following the easing of restrictions relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person meetings were held with two near neighbours on 8th September 2021 and 11th September 2021. The meetings were held at the near neighbour's properties and attended by two representatives of the Applicant.

An in-person meeting was also held with members of East Leake Parish Council, at the East Leake Parish Council Offices on 9th September 2021. The meeting was

attended by five parish members, one member of the public and two representatives from the Applicant.

An in-person meeting was held with Gotham Parish Council, at Gotham Memorial Hall on 10th September 2021. The meeting was attended by six Gotham parish members, a parish member from Thrumpton Civil Parish, the local ward councillor and a county councillor.

A copy of the presentation made at the above-mentioned parish council meetings, can be found at **Appendix H**.

- 5.2. All feedback received during the consultation has been considered by the Applicant throughout the design iteration and pre-planning stages of the Proposed Development. A summary of feedback, issues and concerns raised, together with the Applicant’s response to each can be found in section 6.

6. FEEDBACK AND APPLICANT’S RESPONSE

Issue/Concern Raised	Applicant’s Response
<p><u>Need for Solar</u></p> <p>Put them on roofs, we have loads of new houses in East Leake. We don't want them on the land.</p> <p>Use existing roof spaces, not agricultural land</p> <p>I would prefer to see Urban Solar Farms created first using all available flat, or near flat, roof spaces</p> <p>You do not quantify why it needs to be as large as you propose.</p>	<p>The Committee on Climate Change² have concluded that around 40GW of solar will be needed by 2030 to stay on track with net zero ambitions.</p> <p>Solar Energy UK³ has published an analysis estimating that, residential and commercial development is expected to account for nearly 37% (15GW) of the total 2030 solar PV deployment with the remaining 63% (25GW) coming from large scale ground mounted solar farms.</p> <p>New analysis on electricity generation costs published by BEIS⁴ has indicated that large-scale solar PV will be the cheapest electricity generating technology available in the next few years.</p>
<p><u>Biodiversity and Ecology</u></p> <p>The impact of solar farms are unknown with regards to the impact on soil and vegetation and the carbon capturing release process.</p> <p>The impact on eliminating even a small bit of improved grassland is hugely negative, as this</p>	<p>An Ecological Assessment has been undertaken for the proposed solar farm, to assess the potential impacts on local ecology as a result of the development. The short-term disturbance resulting from the Proposed Development will not be significant. With the proposed mitigation undertaken and, with the implementation of pre-commencement surveys, there will be no significant adverse</p>

² <https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/CCC-Accelerated-Electrification-Vivid-Economics-Imperial-1.pdf>

³ <https://solarenergyuk.org/resource/lighting-the-way-making-net-zero-a-reality-with-solar-energy/>

⁴ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911817/electricity-generation-cost-report-2020.pdf

<p>provides a huge source of biodiversity for plants insects and animals.</p> <p>Hedgerow reinforcement - what does this involve? [Is it] high security fencing to keep deer etc out?</p> <p>On which sections of the site boundary will you carry out hedgerow reinforcement; and with what species; and to what planted and eventual height?</p> <p>Impact on extensive wildlife in the site.</p>	<p>effects upon protected or notable species. For more information see Volume 3 TA2: Ecological Assessment.</p> <p>Accompanying the planning application is a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) which sets out the Applicant’s proposals to maintain and enhance biodiversity on the project. Measures include planting of native trees and species-rich hedgerows to provide a plentiful source of food and shelter for a range of fauna, developing species-rich grassland across the site and installing dormouse, bat and bird boxes, hedgehog houses, invertebrate hotels and bee banks. Our proposals would lead a biodiversity net gain of 44.88%, which includes the creation of 1.3ha of new woodland.</p> <p>Creating hedgerows will benefit a range of local species including Priority Species such as terrestrial mammals and newts. If the correct species are planted and maintained correctly, a hedgerow’s potential can be maximised, providing food and shelter throughout the year, as well as connecting existing green infrastructure and wildlife movement corridors.</p> <p>Where possible, measures have been implemented as part of the iterative design process to prevent potential impact on sensitive ecological features. Such measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5m buffer from hedgerows, • 2m drainage ditch buffer, • Tree buffers, • 10m buffer from woodland, • 15m buffers from locally designated sites, <p>More details can be found at Volume 3 TA2: EcA.</p> <p>A Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) accompanies the planning application and provides detail on where hedgerow reinforcement is proposed, including the location and detail of any new planting (see</p>
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	<p>Figure 1.14 of Volume 3 TA 1: LVA). The LEMP also provides further details on measures to protect existing vegetation, proposed species and specifications for new vegetation, and any standards to be adhered to. In addition, the LEMP will provide information on the timings and aftercare regime for all planting.</p> <p>The project has been designed in such a way that just 5.33% of the land is physically occupied by the solar infrastructure. This allows remaining land to be accessible for plant growth, wildlife enhancements and complementary agricultural activities such as grazing.</p>
<p><u>Public Rights of Way (PRoW)</u></p> <p>Being on top of a hill the visual impact will be more “local” and predominately from the footpath/bridleway network. These paths are well use by walkers and horse riders.</p> <p>We do not want tracks to become wider and flatter - more likely to have motorbikes - retaining as much grass as possible.</p> <p>Avoid closing bridleways [during the construction phase].</p> <p>The bridleway Stocking Lane and its extensions to Gotham and West Leake (the latter being part of the Midshires Way) are much used by many of the public every day of every week for walking/running exercise and dog walking and pedal cycling and horse-riding.</p> <p>Will RoW users see merely the panels as depicted in aerial pictures of solar farms, or see also the structure on which they are mounted?</p> <p>The proposed solar farm will be very intrusive on the visual amenity of the PRoWs. As well as re-siting the wildflower meadows and providing picnic areas as above, the PRoWs are in some places in a state of disrepair. Locals would appreciate these being improved (and maintained properly in the future).</p>	<p>The Applicant is very aware of the value of the PRoW to the local community and users, and PRoW Management Plan (Volume 3 TA11), accompanies the planning application. As well as summarising any potential impacts on the PRoW, it clearly details mitigation and enhancement measures proposed and how the Applicant intends to manage these.</p> <p>At its early stages, the Proposed Development extended southeast and incorporated another large field to the east of the Midshires Way This was later removed in order to avoid enclosure of this route and reduce any potential adverse visual impacts towards East Leake.</p> <p>Other design changes were implemented which incorporate feedback received by the Applicant from the RoW officer, members of the local community, outdoor recreation groups and both statutory and non-statutory consultees. These changes include removing solar panels from the southeast corner of Field 15 (Figure 3 of Volume 2: Planning Application Drawings for field numbers), increasing buffers and moving inverters to be further from PRoW.</p> <p>Buffers, woodland planting, hedgerow planting and grassland strips are proposed along sections of the PRoW to ensure</p>

Whilst i appreciate the hedges and attempts at keeping things natural/minimising impacts this farm will irreversibly alter the landscape. We will lose local agriculture, footpaths will be narrowed and it will be a much less pleasant and much less natural environment.

You have mitigated the visual impacts of the solar farm for all of the dwellings in the area with the native tree planting around those locations. However, you have done nothing for the visual impact of the solar farm for PRow users - why for example would you site the wildflower meadows almost as far away as possible from the PRow. Wouldn't it be more sensible to locate the wildflower meadows alongside some of the PRowS. For an additional small outlay you could also create picnic areas in these locations.

Do you have any issues with horses and PV panels?

What evidence is RES planning to produce with regard to the reaction of horses to hearing the noise on a section of the bridleway where hitherto there is none?

It is not apparent how structures will be set back from bridleways within and adjacent to the site to ensure visual amenity is not significantly affected.

It is well known that these users appreciate the bridleways' rural views of the attractive countryside and adjacent agricultural fields because they are the best for miles around.

In winter there is less 'masking' vegetation.

Will the Kingston panels all point in the same direction? And in which direction(s)?

We enjoy the open views and the sunsets visible from Stocking Lane.

openness is not compromised, landscape character is maintained, and to reduce potential visual impact. The Applicant is also proposing the installation of a new permissive path linking existing Bridleways 12, 11 and 10.

In addition, the Applicant proposes a number of additional enhancements across the site which aim to enhance the enjoyment of those using the PRow network. These include wildflower meadows which have been moved closer to the PRow and interpretation boards with information about the area.

The Applicant explored the installation of picnic benches at the site, however, due to concerns raised around the potential anti-social and environmental impact of littering this measure has been discounted.

As part of pre-application consultation, the Applicant has consulted with members of the British Horse Society (BHS) as well as a representative of the ramblers' association. Their feedback, and the British Horse Society advice on solar farms⁵ has informed the design for the Kingston Solar Farm, particularly with regard to the bridleway widths to be maintained and set-back buffers from inverters.

All PRow widths will stay in accordance with the definitive map, with a minimum corridor of 5m allowed. There will then be a series of buffers applied between the solar farm infrastructure and PRow. For example, a buffer between solar panels and perimeter fence, the perimeter fence and the hedgerows, and then another buffer between the hedgerow and the PRow. Cross section drawings of this can be found in **Figure 14 of Volume 2: Planning Application Drawings**.

Potential visibility of the solar farm from the wider area would be largely limited by the existing surrounding woodland, hedgerows and landform.

⁵ <https://www.bhs.org.uk/advice-and-information/free-leaflets-and-advice>

	<p>From all main settlements within the wider area the Proposed Development would be largely screened from view by the mature woodlands which surround the site.</p>
<p><u>Access</u></p> <p>Access via Wood Lane - I don't think it would be possible to make this wide enough for lorries and horses all the way up.</p> <p>What are the contingency plans for minimising dust in dry weather and mud in wet weather?</p> <p>What are the vehicle entry and departure routes for the installation?</p> <p>What are the provisions for maintenance and repair of the easily damaged access routes, especially the public bridleways? Will there therefore be a databank of photos taken at the outset to set the restoration standard?</p> <p>Safeguarding of public safety during installation.</p> <p>Does RES deem Stocking Lane suitable?</p> <p>What about Installation noise and days/hours of work?</p> <p>Stocking Lane is used continuously by private access traffic and public pedestrian and pedal cyclists and equestrian users from dawn to dusk every day of every week. Peak times is an irrelevant concept.</p> <p>Will responsibility for the maintenance of the bridleways' surface pass from Kingston Estate to RES?</p> <p>What are the plans for reinstatement of access route(s)?</p>	<p>Feedback from the Applicant's consultation and engagement with local residents regarding the suitability of Stocking Lane as an access route, has been taken into account and, as a result, Wood Lane is proposed as the preferred option for construction and operational traffic. Further information can be found in Volume 3 TA5: Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP).</p> <p>During the construction phase, the Applicant propose to widen Wood Lane to 4.5 metres with an area cordoned off for ProW users only. Priority will be given to bridleway users at all times, and where it is necessary for construction traffic to cross a bridleway, banksmen will be used.</p> <p>The CTMP itemises expected traffic movements and hours of operation. The safety of the local community is of paramount importance and the CTMP and the ProW Management Plan also outlines measures to ensure the safety of all ProW users, at all times.</p> <p>Hours of operation and traffic movements will be limited to avoid morning and evening peak times. There will also be a dedicated Community Liaison Officer to engage with local residents, throughout the construction and operational phases.</p> <p>A pre- and post-construction condition survey of all access roads and tracks will be undertaken and the Applicant will be liable to restore all routes to their pre-construction condition. See Volume 3 TA5: Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) for further information.</p> <p>Operational traffic movements are generally low, on average once a month for maintenance purposes, and site inspections.</p>

	<p>Active monitoring is carried out by the Operations & Maintenance (O&M) team and site manager which can reduce site attendance through early fault detection.</p>
<p><u>Security</u></p> <p>Unruly elements of society are already behaving illegally on and around the bridleways on Kingston Estate and Rushcliffe Golf Club land. If the deer fencing fails to prevent vandalism/sabotage, will it be replaced by security fences, warning signs and cameras?</p> <p>There is no proof that CCTV cameras always act as a deterrent - so if/when they don't, then what will RES do to stop vandalism?</p> <p>Will any RoW users appear on any of your CCTV cameras?</p> <p>What is the CCTV monitoring procedure and storage duration?</p> <p>How many CCTV cameras will be installed at Kingston?</p> <p>Will 'thieves' warning notices be hung off the deer fencing?</p>	<p>CCTV is a requirement for the solar farm, however, all cameras will be inward-facing and there is no lighting proposed except security lighting at the substation compound. There will be a need for some emergency signage but the Applicant would seek to position such signs sensitively.</p> <p>The CCTV cameras would only pick up any person that is trying to breach the perimeter fence.</p> <p>The CCTV monitoring procedure would be agreed following construction, with Rushcliffe Borough Council, should the project be consented, in line with the relevant guidance at the time and Government code of practice⁶.</p> <p>The Applicant proposes that perimeter fencing will be in the form of deer fencing, with security fencing to be installed around the substation compound only.</p>
<p><u>Land Use</u></p> <p>What acreage will be turned from agricultural to industrial?</p> <p>If Kingston is approved, will land usage thereby change from agricultural to brownfield, or remain unchanged?</p> <p>Will an approved Solar Panel 'Farm' in effect turn what is currently farmland into brownfield land on which RES can potentially build in future?</p> <p>Will an approved Solar Panel 'Farm' allow RES to build battery sheds to store energy for the National Grid?</p>	<p>All of the area proposed for the solar farm is in the Green Belt. It is considered that the benefits of renewable energy production and net biodiversity gain from the development will outweigh any potential negative impacts on the Green Belt as demonstrated in the 'Very Special Circumstances' section of the Planning Statement in Volume 1. Any potential effects on the Green Belt are anticipated to be largely localised with recreational routes preserved and, where practicable, enhanced. See Volume 3 TA11 PRow Management Plan for further information.</p>

⁶https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/282774/SurveillanceCameraCodePractice.pdf

<p>Are any parts of the Kingston site not in the Green Belt?</p>	<p>The Applicant is applying for temporary consent for dual purpose - maintained agricultural use and solar. It should be noted that the project is fully reversible, and the site can therefore be reinstated back to its current greenfield state following the operational period.</p> <p>Solar farms, in general, are expected to have negligible impact, with just 0.2%⁷ of land in the UK expected to be required in order to meet the target of 40GW of solar by 2030 compared with 28% and 29% for arable and livestock respectively.</p>
<p><u>Operational Phase</u></p> <p>How is the grassland between and around each panel maintained?</p> <p>How many remedial visits per annum can be expected in addition to the maintenance checks?</p>	<p>The Applicant proposes that low intensity sheep grazing will be used to maintain grassland during the operational phase.</p> <p>Operational visits are generally low, on average once a month for maintenance purposes, and site inspections. Active monitoring is carried out by the O&M team and site manager which can reduce site attendance through early fault detection.</p>
<p><u>Consultation</u></p> <p>How will local residents be kept informed?</p> <p>With which Parish Councils is RES liaising?</p> <p>It is very good to be asked to consider the plan and we very much appreciate being informed early in the process.</p>	<p>The Applicant has undertaken a comprehensive pre-application engagement programme in order to proactively inform and engage with the local community and key stakeholders. This process has allowed the Applicant to identify and respond to local issues and potential concerns. Of the issues raised during the consultation, issues relating to visual impact, local ecology and biodiversity and traffic and transport were of particular importance to the community. Constructive comments on these topics were taken into consideration by the Applicant before the submission of the planning application.</p> <p>As part of the pre-application consultation, the Applicant has consulted with the parish councils of East Leake, Kingston on Soar and Gotham plus the parish meetings of West Leake and Thrumpton.</p>

⁷ <https://solarenergyuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/The-Natural-Capital-Value-of-Solar-2019-1.pdf>

	<p>The Applicant remains committed to maintaining open communication and would be very happy to arrange telephone/video calls with anyone in the community who wishes to discuss the proposals. The website will also be kept up to date throughout the process.</p>
<p><u>Property Value</u></p> <p>The property value will decrease if the solar farm goes ahead.</p>	<p>Property value is subjective and can be affected by a range of factors. There is no firm evidence on whether UK solar farms do or do not affect house prices.</p> <p>The Applicant is aware of residents close to other renewable energy projects, who enjoy having renewable energy projects close by and believe that they add value to their community.</p> <p>Potential impact on local properties, in terms of noise, visibility and glint and glare, have been assessed as part of the preparation of this planning application and design changes and mitigation measures have been adopted where appropriate to minimise any potential impacts.</p>
<p><u>Tourism</u></p> <p>We consider the remote countryside to be a USP of our property as a tourism destination.</p> <p>This is a beautiful scenic area with magnificent views enjoyed by the lovers of the countryside, walkers, riders, cyclists, bird watchers. Just the wrong place for solar.</p>	<p>A number of studies have been carried out in order to assess and mitigate any potential impacts of the development on the local area. These studies include ecology, noise, glint and glare and landscape and visual assessments and considered local residents, settlements and all other users of the road and PROW network. Together with feedback from the local community and key stakeholders, these studies have helped develop a sensitively designed project that aims to minimise any potential impacts on the local area.</p> <p>The PRoW Management Plan (Volume 3 TA11) has been produced to address the interactions between the PRoW and the Proposed Development.</p>
<p><u>Health Impacts</u></p> <p>Concerns over noise from inverters.</p>	<p>An assessment against absolute limits, in line with WHO guidance and BS 8233, as agreed with the Rushcliffe Borough Council</p>

From the research we've undertaken ourselves it would appear solar panels themselves are safe, however there are concerns around the conversion process / inverters / dirty electricity?

The panels contain compounds such as cadmium and lead, extremely toxic metals. There are a number of other toxic and hazardous materials used in the production of solar panels.

Environmental Health Department, demonstrates that noise limits are met at all of the properties considered in the assessment. For further information please see **Volume 3 TA 6 Acoustic Assessment**.

It is expected that, if consented, there will a planning condition indicating that the solar farm must operate within agreed noise limits.

The solar panels and all ancillary equipment operate at extremely low frequency (ELF), therefore, would cause no measurable increase in electromagnetic fields.

PV technologies employ few toxic chemicals and WEEE⁸ regulations ensure safe disposal at end of life.

A Glint and Glare assessment has been carried out and considers the potential impacts on ground-based receptors such as roads, rail and residential dwellings as well as aviation assets. The effects of glint and glare and their impact on local receptors has been analysed in detail and once mitigation measures have been introduced there is predicted to be **No effect** on all non-landowner residential and road receptors. Two landowner properties are anticipated to have Low effects following the introduction of mitigation, which is not significant. Aviation receptors are expected to receive **Low but acceptable impacts**. This was confirmed during consultation with an Aerodrome Safeguarding Officer at East Midlands Airport. More information can be found at **Volume 3 TA7: Glint and Glare Assessment**.

⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/environment/topics/waste-and-recycling/waste-electrical-and-electronic-equipment-weee_en

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1. This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) has provided an overview of the engagement and consultation activities that have been, and continue to be, undertaken by the Applicant on the Proposed Development.
- 7.2. The Applicant has undertaken a comprehensive pre-application engagement programme in order to proactively inform and engage with the local community and key stakeholders. This process has allowed the Applicant to identify and respond to local issues and potential concerns. Of the issues raised during the consultation, issues relating to visual impact, local ecology and biodiversity and traffic and transport were of particular importance to the community. Constructive comments on these topics have been taken into consideration by the Applicant before the submission of the planning application.
- 7.3. This feedback has resulted in the Applicant undertaking an iterative design process in order to integrate the Proposed Development into the surrounding site as sensitively as possible, while taking account of comments received during the pre-application consultation.
- 7.4. Design iterations that have been made throughout the pre-application process include the decision to remove sections of Fields 13 and 15, remove the field to the south-east of bridleway 5 (The Midshires Way), increase buffers from bridleways, and increase the amount of screening proposed around the Application Site boundary (in the form of woodland and hedgerow planting, as well as grassland strips) to further reduce visual impact. In addition, a number of biodiversity enhancement measures are proposed such as bee banks and wildflower meadows, as well as creation of 1.3ha of new woodland, leading to a net gain for habitat biodiversity of 44.88%. More details can be found in the PRoW Management Plan (**Volume 3 TA11**) and the LEMP (**Figure 1.14 of Volume 3 TA 1: LVA**).
- 7.5. The Applicant is committed to continuing the open dialogue it has established with the local community during pre-application public consultation as the application process continues, as outlined within this SCI.

APPENDICES

Appendix A	Introductory letter to Gotham Parish Council and West Leake Parish Meeting
Appendix B	Introductory letter to other stakeholders and nearest neighbours
Appendix C	Exhibition newsletter
Appendix D	Exhibition advertisement
Appendix E	Exhibition website screenshots
Appendix F	Exhibition comments form
Appendix G	Virtual assembly with local primary school
Appendix H	Presentation for in-person stakeholder meetings

Appendix A



31 March 2021



RE: Kingston Solar Farm Proposal, Kingston Estate

I am writing to advise you that RES is exploring the potential for a solar farm on Kingston Estate, West Leake.

RES, a British company, is the world's largest independent renewable energy business active in onshore and offshore wind, solar, energy storage and transmission and distribution. At the forefront of the industry for over 39 years, RES has delivered more than 19 GW of renewable energy projects across the globe.

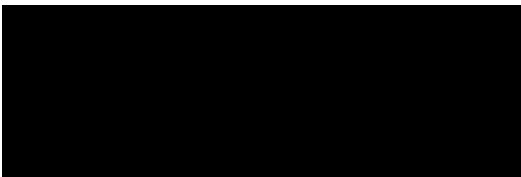
We are currently undertaking detailed assessments for the proposed solar farm and are seeking pre-application planning advice from Rushcliffe Borough Council. An Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Screening Opinion request has also been submitted to the council, with a view to submitting a planning application later this year.

As we transition to a net-zero future, reducing the impacts of climate change both locally and globally, it is imperative that we continue to seek to deliver clean, green, low cost electricity. Solar PV is the fastest growing source of renewable energy due to cost, speed of deployment and versatility.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss the proposed scheme in more detail with the Parish Council members and receive your feedback. We note Gotham Parish Council has a planning committee meeting on 20th April if this was a suitable opportunity for us to present further information on the proposed scheme.

I look forward to hearing from you shortly, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries.

Yours sincerely,



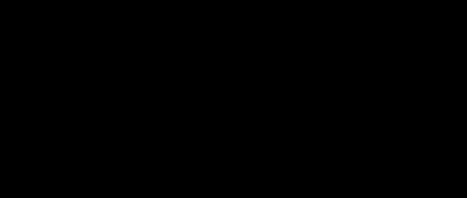
Sarah Rocks

Development Project Manager


D +44 282 8440615 | **M** +44 797 9202995

E: sarah.rocks@res-group.com

Appendix B



7 May 2021



RE: Kingston Solar Farm Proposal, Kingston Estate

I am writing to advise you that RES is exploring the potential for a solar farm on Kingston Estate, West Leake.

RES, a British company, is the world's largest independent renewable energy business active in onshore and offshore wind, solar, energy storage and transmission and distribution. At the forefront of the industry for over 39 years, RES has delivered more than 20 GW of renewable energy projects across the globe.

As we transition to a net-zero future, reducing the impacts of climate change both locally and globally, it is imperative that we continue to seek to deliver clean, green, low cost electricity. Solar PV is the fastest growing source of renewable energy due to cost, speed of deployment and versatility.

We are liaising with Rushcliffe Borough Council to discuss the detailed survey work that we are planning to undertake to help us develop the design prior to submitting a planning application later this year. The survey work will look at any potential impacts on the environment, landscape, heritage and local residents and the findings will be written up in a number of detailed documents which would accompany the planning application. We are also seeking a pre-application advice meeting with the Council.

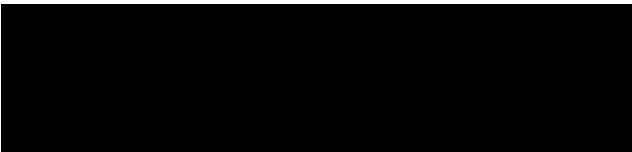
RES believes in meaningful and effective consultation and we aim to also engage early with the local community and key stakeholders in order to facilitate constructive dialogue. This helps to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which we can then consider when refining the design of the proposal. We recognise that undertaking a face-to-face public event isn't possible at this time, but we propose to hold an online public exhibition later in May in order to present further information on the proposal and engage with the local community. We will provide further information on this event in due course.

In addition, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss the proposed scheme in more detail with the parish members and would be happy to set up a telephone/video call at a convenient time.

We have also launched a website for the proposed solar farm at <http://www.kingston-solarfarm.co.uk/> which will be updated regularly.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Chamberlain
Assistant Development Project Manager
E: claire.chamberlain@res-group.com

Appendix C

Kingston Solar Farm Proposal



RES is exploring the potential for a 49.9MW solar farm on Kingston Estate, approximately 1.3km south of Gotham and 0.75km northwest of East Leake.



Why Here?

- The site has good solar irradiation levels with fields located on a gentle southern slope and potential visibility of the proposed solar farm is largely limited by the existing surrounding woodland and hedgerows.
- The closest settlement area lies 0.75km south, with few residences within close proximity and would lie outside of any statutory environmental, archaeological and landscape designations.
- The site has also been chosen for its proximity to a viable grid connection.

	Low cost renewable electricity
	Equivalent to supplying 14,000 ² homes
	Approximately 64,000MWh of clean, green electricity produced every year
	Over 28,000 ³ tonnes of carbon emissions saved every year

¹ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911817/electricity-generation-cost-report-2020.pdf

² The 14,000 homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (based on RES assessments Kingston has a predicted capacity factor of 11.5%) and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,578 kWh (2020).

³ Carbon reduction is calculated by multiplying the anticipated total amount of electricity generated by Kingston per year by the number of tonnes of carbon which fossil fuels would have produced to generate the same amount of electricity using the BEIS "all fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 446 tonnes of carbon dioxide per gigawatt hour (GWh) of electricity supplied in Table 5E of the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (July 2020)

Ecological Benefits

The solar farm is expected to have minimal impact on ecology and we propose a number of biodiversity enhancement measures. This will include the creation of new habitats offering food and shelter to wildlife resulting in a net gain for biodiversity.



Online Public Exhibition

We are holding an **Online Public Exhibition** on **Thursday 27th May**, to inform the local community about the project and gather comments on the proposal.

The Public Exhibition will be hosted on the Kingston Solar project website at www.kingston-solarfarm.co.uk. Hard copies of materials will be available on request.

RES will be offering individual telephone or video call appointments between 10am - 2pm and 4pm - 8pm, on the day, for anyone wishing to discuss the proposal further or ask specific questions.

Appointments must be booked in advance with RES by emailing carey.green@res-group.com or by calling **01872 226 931**.



For more information about the project please visit www.kingston-solarfarm.co.uk or contact Claire Chamberlain, Project Manager, at claire.chamberlain@res-group.com.

Please note that comments submitted to RES at the Public Exhibition are not representations to the determining authority (Rushcliffe Borough Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should a planning application be submitted.

In line with current Government guidance, the Public Exhibition is being held online due to the current covid-19 pandemic.

Appendix D



Kingston Solar Farm

Online Public Exhibition



RES is exploring the potential for a 49.9MW solar farm on Kingston Estate, approximately 1.3km south of Gotham and 0.75km northwest of East Leake.

We are holding an **Online Public Exhibition** on **Thursday 27th May**, to inform the local community about the project and gather comments on the proposal.

The online event will be hosted on the Kingston Solar project website at www.kingston-solarfarm.co.uk. Hard copies of materials will be available upon request.



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Please note that comments submitted to RES at the Online Public Exhibition are not representations to the determining authority (Rushcliffe Borough Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should a planning application be submitted.

In line with current Government guidance, the Public Exhibition is being held online due to the current Covid-19 pandemic.

Appendix E

Online Public Exhibition - 27th May 2021

Thank you for visiting our online public exhibition today. The video below provides an introduction to the exhibition from RES.



This online exhibition is designed to inform the local community about the proposed Kingston Solar Farm and gather people's views. A range of project information, as well as information on how to submit comments to RES on the proposal is provided below.

If you would like to make a comment on the proposal please complete the comments form [here](#).

We are also holding individual telephone/video call appointments throughout the day, for anyone wishing to ask us specific questions. If you would like to book an appointment, please [contact us](#).

Why Solar?		
<p>Tackling Climate Change by supporting the UK's target of net zero by 2050.</p> <p>Diversification of Farmland.</p> <p>Biodiversity and Habitat Enhancement.</p>		<p>Renewable Energy at Lowest Cost to the Consumer!</p> <p>Quick to Deploy.</p> <p>Continued Agricultural Use.</p>

What Would the Solar Farm Look Like?		
<p>We are seeking to develop a sensitively designed project whilst maximising the generation of low carbon, low cost electricity.</p>		<p>Click on the image in the centre to see a preliminary layout plan of the solar farm infrastructure.</p>

Ecological Benefits		
<p>We propose a number of biodiversity enhancement measures, including the planting of native trees and hedgerows to provide a plentiful source of food and shelter for a range of fauna.</p> <p>Click here to see a preliminary Landscape and Ecological Management Plan which outlines some proposed enhancement measures. Further updates will be made to this, informed by survey work and feedback from the community.</p>		<p>The project has been designed in such a way that only a small percentage of the land is physically occupied by the solar infrastructure.</p> <p>This allows agriculture, in the form of sheep grazing, to continue on around 95% of the site during operation.</p>

Environmental Benefits		
<p>Renewable energy at lowest cost to the consumer¹</p> <p>Approximately 64,000MWh of clean, green electricity produced each year.</p> <p>Equivalent to the electricity usage of around 14,000² homes each year.</p>		<p>Approximately 28,000 tonnes of carbon emissions saved each year³</p> <p>Valuable contribution to the UK's renewable energy targets and helping tackle climate change.</p>



Economic Benefits

We believe that solar schemes should provide significant benefits locally and we are inviting input from the local communities on the priority aims and projects in their area, which we may be able to support.

If consented, we estimate the Kingston Solar Farm would deliver £164,000 in business rates annually, supporting vital local services.



RES is committed to ensuring that, wherever reasonably practicable, local contractors and employees are used in all aspects of developing our renewable energy projects.

The main opportunities arise during the construction phase when suitably qualified local firms are invited to bid for different aspects of construction, such as haulage, on-site welfare facilities, refuse and recycling facilities, transport and local accommodation for construction workers.

Please click [here](#) for more information.

Public Rights of Way

Careful and detailed surveys will be carried out to assess any impacts from the solar farm on local Public Rights of Way and bridleways.

A section of the site to the south was removed early in the design process to reduce impact on the Midshires Way.



We propose mitigation measures including native species hedgerow planting along sections of the site boundary to reduce visibility.

Options for path improvement and installation of interpretive information boards, relating to the proposed solar farm and the local area, are also being explored.

Commenting on the Proposal

Comments on the proposal should be provided in writing by filling out our online comments form (please click [here](#)). You may also download a comments form, which can be returned to us by email or post, by clicking [here](#).

Please note that any comments submitted to RES are not representations to the determining authority (Rushcliffe Borough Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

¹ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911817/electricity-generation-oad-report-2020.pdf

² The 14,000 homes figure has been calculated by taking the predicted annual electricity generation of the site (based on RES assessments Kingston has a predicted capacity factor of 11.5%) and dividing this by the annual average electricity figures from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) showing that the annual UK average domestic household consumption is 3,578 kWh (Dec 2020).

³ Carbon reduction is calculated by multiplying the anticipated total amount of electricity generated by Kingston per year by the number of tonnes of carbon which fossil fuels would have produced to generate the same amount of electricity, using the BEIS "oil fossil fuels" emissions statistic of 446 tonnes of carbon dioxide per gigawatt hour (GWh) of electricity supplied in Table SE of the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (July 2020).

Appendix F

RES believes in meaningful and productive consultation and we aim to engage early with the local community and key stakeholders in order to facilitate constructive consultation. This helps to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which we can then consider when developing the design of the proposal.

Feedback from the local community is an important part of our pre-application consultation and we would be grateful if you would take time to fill out this comments form with your feedback. The closing date for comments is 4th June 2021. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development. Please note that any comments submitted to RES are not representations to the determining authority (Rushcliffe Borough Council) and that there will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

1 Online exhibition

1.1 How did you find out about our online exhibition?

- Newsletter through the door
- Advert in local newspaper
- Project website - www.kingston-solarfarm.co.uk
- Word of mouth
- Other (please specify)

1.2 Before visiting the online exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Kingston Solar Farm?

- Knew a lot
- Knew quite a lot
- Knew a little
- Knew very little
- Knew nothing at all

1.3 Having visited the online exhibition, to what extent do you feel you have increased your understanding about the proposed Kingston Solar Farm?

- A lot
- Quite a lot
- A little
- Very little
- Nothing at all

1.4 Do you have any suggestions for ways we could have improved our online exhibition?

2 Climate change and renewables

2.1 Do you agree that we are facing a global climate change emergency?

- I strongly agree
- I agree
- I don't know
- I disagree
- I strongly disagree

If you disagree or strongly disagree please explain why:

2.2 Do you agree that generating electricity from renewable sources, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change?

- I strongly agree
- I agree
- I don't know
- I disagree
- I strongly disagree

If you disagree or strongly disagree please explain why:

2.3 Do you agree that we need to develop solar sites to help reduce our carbon emissions??

I strongly agree

I agree

I don't know

I disagree

I strongly disagree

If you disagree or strongly disagree please explain why:

3 Kingston Solar Farm Proposal

3.1 What do you think about the proposed layout of Kingston Solar Farm?

I am happy with proposed layout

I am neutral towards to the proposed layout

I have concerns about proposed layout

I don't like solar farms in general

Further Comments:

3.2 Please provide us with any further suggestions or comments regarding the design of the proposed Kingston Solar Farm

4 Local benefit

4.1 Which Parish Council represents your area? _____

4.2 We firmly believe that solar schemes should provide benefits locally and we are inviting input from the local communities on their priority projects and aims in the area, which we may be able to support.

5 Your details

Please provide your name and contact details below.

Your contact details will be treated by RES with the strictest of confidence, in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018. We may at times share your contact details, in confidence, with third parties who we employ to help process your comments or update you on the project and by providing your details below you consent to this. You may write to RES at any time to ask that your contact details be removed from our records and from any third parties we work with.

Name	
Email	
Address	

If you would like to be kept up to date with the project, please tick this box

When you have completed the comments form, please send by email to carey.green@res-group.com or by post to: Kingston Solar Farm Project Team, RES, Beaufort Court, Egg Farm Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8LR.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this comments form, your feedback is important to us

Appendix G

What do we need electricity for?



Types of Renewable Energy



Our Company and Other Projects



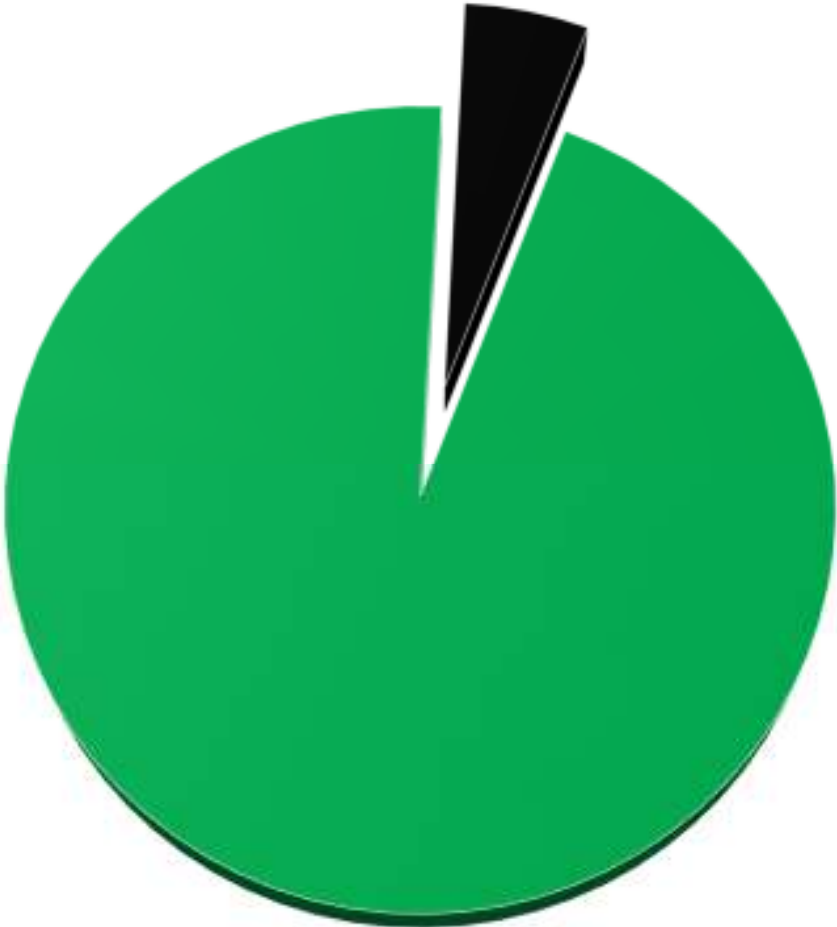
Why Solar?



Why are Solar Farms Good?



Why are Solar Farms Good?



Why are Solar Farms Good for Biodiversity?

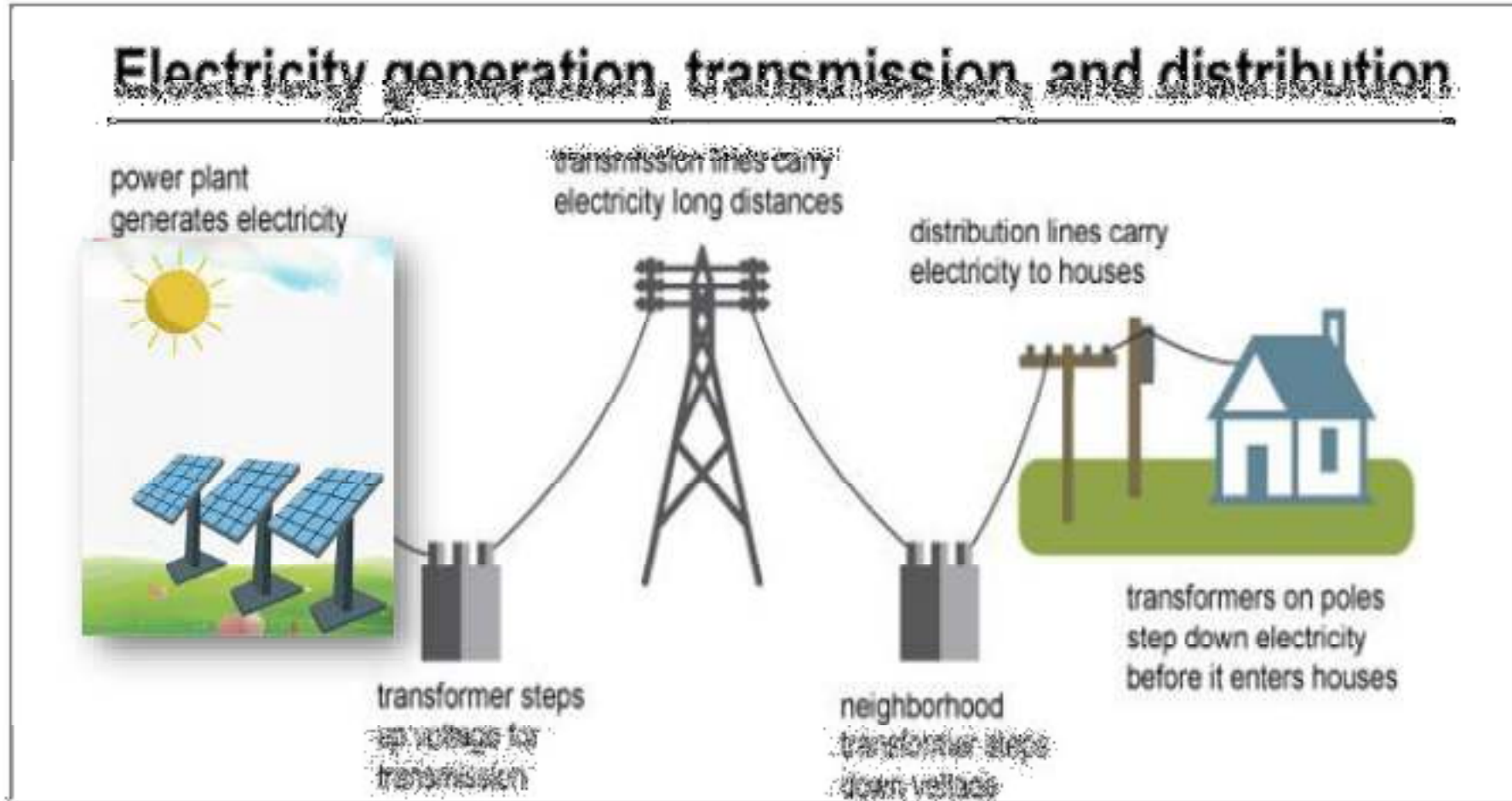


Video

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0004qvb/maddies-do-you-know-series-3-4-day-and-night-and-solar-panel>

07:18 to 10:20

How Does Electricity Get to Your Home?



How Much Electricity Will be Produced?



5,000 Houses



10,000 Houses



14,000 Houses



How Much Does a Solar Panel Cost?



£50.00



£70.00



£100.00



Operating a Solar Farm



Climate Change



Thank you!



Appendix H

Kingston Solar Farm Proposal

September 2021



Agenda



- Introductions
- Project Information
- Q&A
- Any Other Business



RES Overview



21_{GW}

PROJECT
PORTFOLIO

39

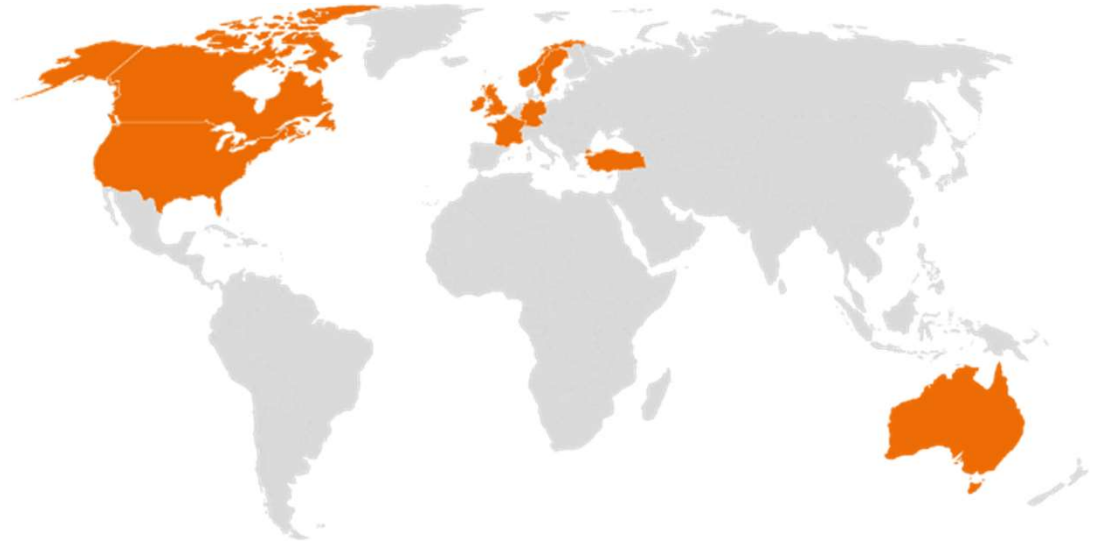
YEARS OF
EXPERIENCE

7.5_{GW}

OF OPERATIONAL
ASSETS SUPPORTED

3,000

EMPLOYEES



ACTIVITIES



DEVELOP



CONSTRUCT



OPERATE

TECHNOLOGIES



WIND



SOLAR



STORAGE

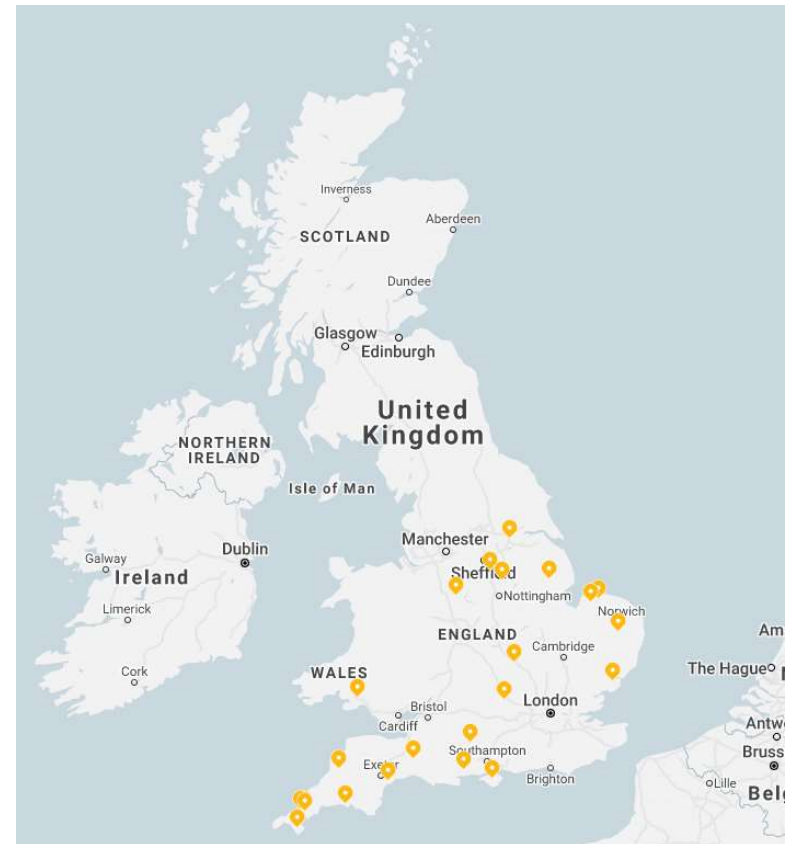


T&D

RES in the UK&I

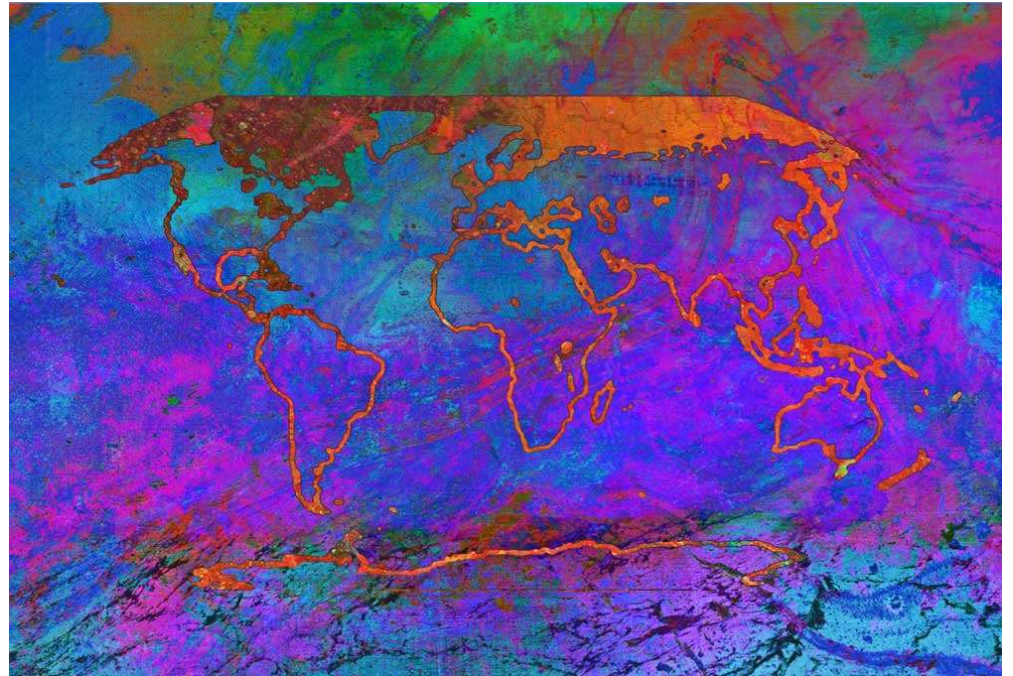


- 23 new projects ranging from 12MW to 120MW under development
- Over 240MW of ground mounted solar developed and/or constructed
- 200MW in operation
- RES' head office is located in Kings Langley, Hertfordshire established in 1981

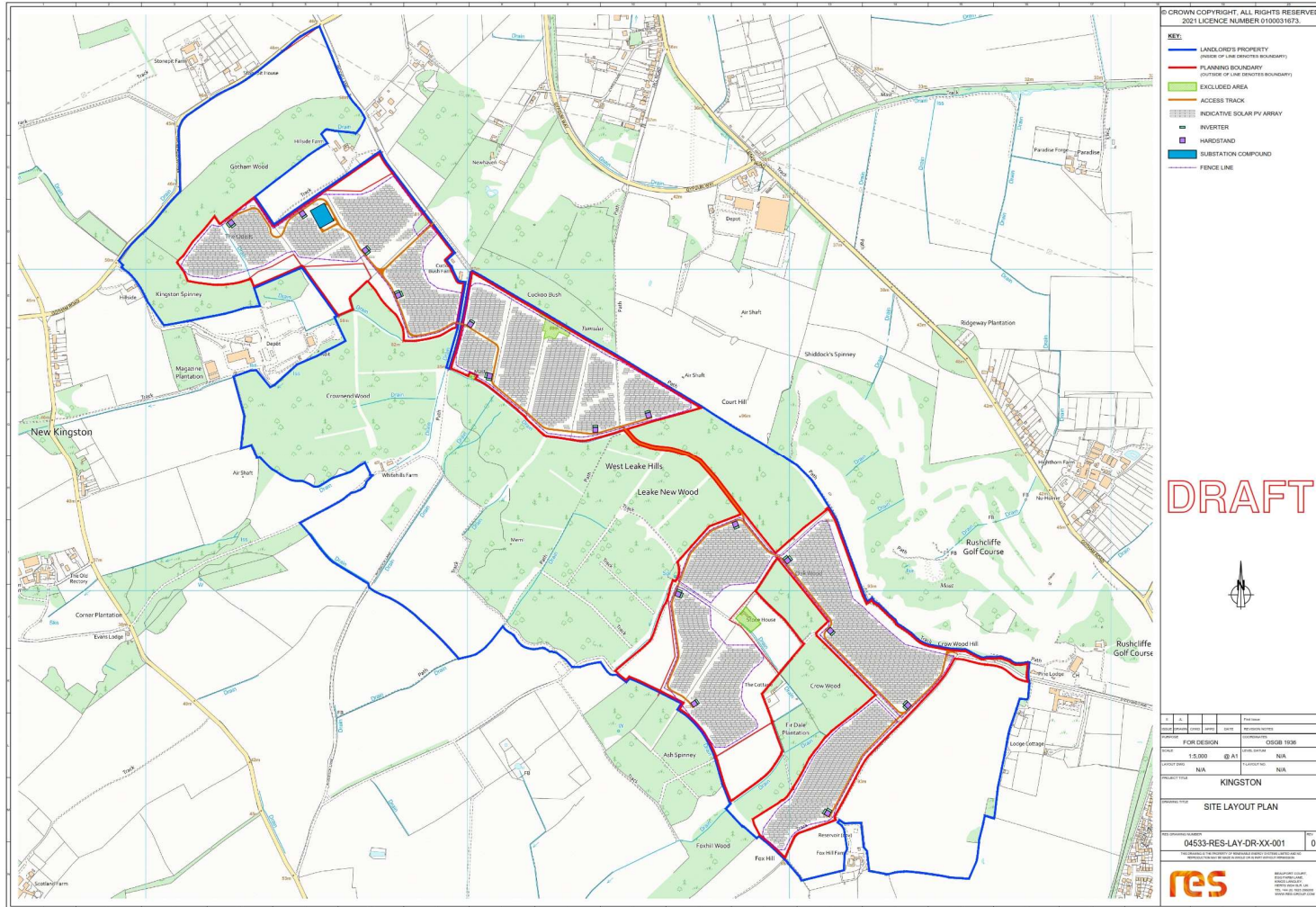


The Need for Solar

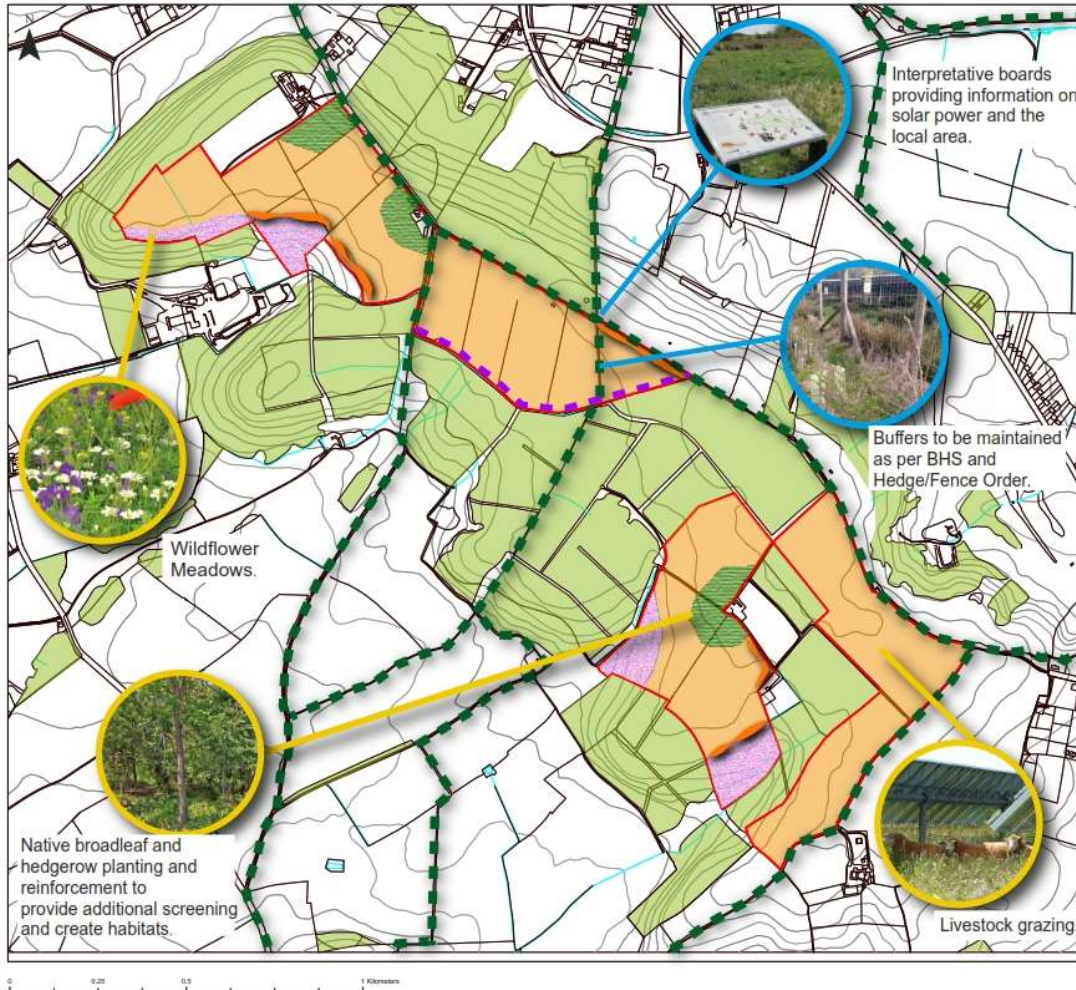
- Central role in the reduction of carbon emissions
- Solar deployment in the coming years



Kingston Solar Farm - Indicative Layout



Kingston Solar Farm - Landscape and Ecological Management Plan



Kingston Solar Farm
Indicative LEMP

- Development Boundary
- Existing vegetation
- Existing PRow
- Proposed permissive path
- Proposed mixed use of land around panels
- Proposed wildflower meadow
- Initial proposed hedgerow reinforcement
- Proposed native tree planting

Interpretative boards providing information on solar power and the local area.

Buffers to be maintained as per BHS and Hedge/Fence Order.

Wildflower Meadows.

Native broadleaf and hedgerow planting and reinforcement to provide additional screening and create habitats.

Livestock grazing.



Date: 14/05/2021
 Drawn By: Jamie McGhee
 Scale (A3): 1:10,000
 Drawing No: NEO00763/0081/A



Public Rights of Way



Kingston Solar Farm - Consultation

- Committed to engaging early to facilitate constructive consultation
- Stakeholder and Community Consultation
- Feedback considered during design phase



Kingston Solar Farm - Benefits



Ecological Benefits

- Biodiversity enhancement
- Approximately 95% of the land available for agricultural use

Environmental Benefits

- Renewable energy at lowest cost to the consumer
- Approximately 64,000MWh of clean, green electricity produced each year
- Approximately 28,000 tonnes of carbon emissions saved each year

Economic Benefits

- £164k in business rates annually
- Supply chain opportunities
- Local benefits



Any questions?

